

PHOTOS THAT LIE, INFLAME, and KILL

A PHOTO, taken in Lashio, Burma/Myanmar, which many people and news agencies held up as proof and evidence that Burma has extremist, nationalist, racist, genocidal Buddhist mobs on the rampage WAS DOCTORED - TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE A VIOLENT ARMED MOB



The photo was taken by **Mohamed Gemunu Amarasinge**, a Muslim from Malaysia. He is a so-called photojournalist, being paid generously by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). For a couple of years he has been reporting and photographing, with a severe bias, to demonize and falsely accuse the Buddhists, and to make the Muslims appear as innocent victims who never cause or start any of the violence between Muslims and Buddhists.

Fortunately, he made a big mistake. He shot some photos on fast burst mode, and he released two of those photos, but he only doctored one of them. The doctored photo was the one sent to the news agencies - BBC, CNN, New York Times, The Guardian, etc. He might have forgotten that the un-doctored photo was somewhere on the internet.

Notice all the sticks below, but in the other photo, a half second later, where are the sticks?



Here is the more full street scene (below).



You start to see that it is a normal traffic scene, in the bustling small city of Lashio. But, Mohamed Gemunu Amarasinge saw an opportunity to manipulate this scene. By cropping the photo tightly and highlighting the motorcyclist and rider in front, he could make it look like they were 'leading a mob', and by inserting weapons into the hands of other riders, he could make them all look like AN ARMED GANG OF EXTREMIST THUGS.



This doctored-photo of a supposedly rioting Buddhist mob on their motorbikes during the recent anti-Muslim race riots in Burma was shown on major news outlet all over the world.

It was designed to make people dislike and demonize Burmese Buddhists, or more accurately it was designed to make people hate Burmese Buddhists. And, in the Muslim world that is what it did - it made Muslims hate and even more so, hate and demand that Burmese Buddhists be killed - all of them - and that the Muslim God would approve it and even reward those who did that.

Sheikh Bilal al-Masri, in Syria, called on Muslims to attack Buddhists and their interests:

"I decree that every person who can get to a Buddhist should kill him,"

Jama'at-e-Islami (JI), the largest Islamist political party in Bangladesh, published the threat: ***"We will kill all the Malauns (infidels) and Bangladesh will be 'Banglstan' like Pakistan"***



Mohamed Gemunu Amarasinge, and article in Malay language. Headline: "Monks Pledge To Drive Out Muslims".

Mohamed Gemunu Amarasinge's articles and photos are most popular in his own country - Malaysia. Following his completely one-sided articles and doctored photos around a dozen Burmese Buddhists living and working in Malaysia were killed - by Muslim mobs, none of which have been arrested yet. Survivors of some of the brutal slaughters affirm that most of the killers are Bengali Muslims (a.k.a. Rohingya) from Burma, and some are Malay Muslims. These Muslims show the real extremist, militant, racist, and intolerant mentality and aggression that the Rakhine Buddhists, and also the Burmese Buddhists have to deal with.

Many Burmese returning from Malaysia believe that he was one of the main instigators behind the killings of Burmese Buddhists in Malaysia recently - due to his inflammatory and hateful articles and photos.

His reporting on Meiktila was blatantly biased. Instead of truthful (or even slightly honest) reporting of actual events he picked out only the stories and photos that exaggeratedly depicted Buddhist attacks on seemingly hapless Muslims. He completely omitted the main triggering event of the violence that erupted in Meiktila - the horribly brutal slaughter of the Buddhist monk, Shin Thawbitta.

There are also questions about: why was he in remote Lashio at that time. Was he and the Muslim man (Ne Win) who set the Buddhist woman on fire, (igniting the violence that followed), working together to create situations for exploiting the Burmese response, and continuing the Muslim attack on Buddhism?

Special Minister for Peace Negotiations, U Aung Min, publicly alleged that authorities learned that Ne Win was trying to incite riots in the other towns of Shan State but did not succeed until he came to Lashio and severely burned the Buddhist woman, who is still painfully recovering in a hospital. Was 'photojournalist' Mohamed Gemunu Amarasinghe following Ne Win all over Shan State too?

Hoping to take more photos to kill Buddhists with?