

India's Response to Terrorist Attack

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By

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India is an old culture. It has weathered many storms, invasions and atrocities over thousands of years, yet it has come through in its pristine spiritual essence. It is like a lotus flower. A Lotus blossoms in marshy and muddy waters, but never loses its purity and purpose to beautify its environment and be worthy of being offered to the Gods at the altar. A Lotus is a symbol of the Self. It must endure the marshy and muddy waters of the life. The events in India offer us a challenge and an opportunity to crystallize our Lotus Nature. We must endure the darkness and the shadow of our own nature and the collective and yet respond from our Lotus nature - from a place of Hope and Compassion for the victims and the perpetrators who are so disconnected from their Soul.

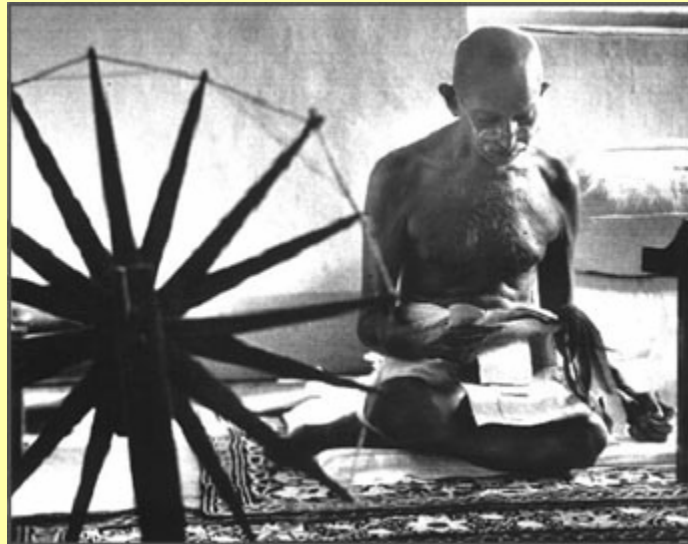
As a Hindu, an Indian, as an American Citizen of Indian Origin, and as a citizen of this small planet with a few Billion humans, it saddens me deeply to see the brutal and soulless attack on my quaint, old, peaceful, democratic homeland. The peoples of India and the rest of the civilized world should respond to these atrocities with all the political might of a global community and do all within its powers to bring the terrorists and their sponsors to justice. The Indian Government should do all that is humanly possible to secure its boundaries and deter future attacks.

What India and the rest of the civilized world should resist doing, however justified it may seem, is to respond to terrorist in kind with violence and force. This brings us to their low ground, rather than to respond from high moral ground. It snags our ego to respond from our dark and muddy side, rather

than out of our Lotus nature. It legitimizes the terror as an instrument of exchange in civil society and gives the dark side the power to dictate the mode of dialogue. Let us not give that power to the terror mongers. Even if we get evidence that the rogue aspects of a foreign regime are collusive with these atrocities, let us collaborate with their more pristine elements and bring the debate to a higher threshold. This is India's response. This is a response of the land of Krishna, Buddha, Tagore, Maulana Azad, Kabir and Mahatma Gandhi. This is our Lotus Nature. Let the sacrifice of the victims not go in vain. Let the blood shed by the great sacrifice of those who were murdered be the elixir of peace for the rest of humanity.

"This is my blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many,"

Mark 14: 17-25



Shanti

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Trained in India, Great Britain and the US, he is interested in the emerging frontiers of Spirituality and Healing and the synapses of the Mind, Body, Soul and Spirit. He is author of the book, Path to the Soul, Weiser Books, 2000, Awaken the Slumbering Goddess: The Latent Code of the Hindu Goddess Archetypes, Booksurge Publishers, 2007 and the coauthor of Retire Your Family Karma, Nicholas-Hays, Inc. 2003, These and his other upcoming presentations can be previewed at his website www.pathtotheshoul.com

Ashok Bedi has been in practice in Milwaukee for over twenty-five years and specializes in Adult Psychotherapy and Jungian Psychoanalysis. He regularly presents lectures and seminars in India, Great Britain, Ireland and USA on the topic of the Spiritual and analytic dimensions of treatment, healing and personal growth. Over the last several years, he has been the International Association of Analytical Psychologists liaison person for developing Jungian training programs in India and travels annually to India to teach, train the consult with the Jungian Developing groups at several centers in India including Ahmedabad & Bangalore. He leads the annual "In the Footsteps of Carl Jung in India" study group to several centers in India under the auspices of the New York Jung Foundation.

