KHULNA'S DAYS OF TERROR

From Our Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Feb. 2.—Inhuman brutalities coupled with cold-blooded murder, rape, looting and arson that was let loose by the barbarous Pakistan Army upon the innocent citizens of Khulna during their nine months reign of terror have strengthened the public demand to bring the culprits to book. The voices of the people of Khulna during this period.

According to evidence available from various sources all these officers right from the ranks of Lt. Col down to second lieutenants were solely responsible and are engaged in abetting atrocities upon the people in a planned manner. These officers were also instrumental in encouraging Rakhais, the non-Bengali population and other collaborators in organising murder, looting, arson and lootings in Khulna and elsewhere which silently witnessed his torture and brutal massacres against humanity.

The army crackdown began in Khulna on the night of 25th March when Lt. Col. Shams, the Commanding Officer of the Army, called a meeting of officers and men which concluded with a resounding “We will not let the line be broken,” whenordered to Quota Mills was imprisonment by the Army before the operation in the mills testifies that the Bengali workers in the mills were hunted like rabbits. Everyone seems to move was shot or hanged.

The discovery of human skeletons of thousands of men and women slaughtered in cold blood by the barbarous army all over the city leaves testimony of most heinous atrocity that was perpetrated upon humanity in sheer hatred against a nation and its culture and tradition.

In Khulna those officers and collaborators of the barbarous army who conducted massacres and brutality upon the people were Lt. Col. Shams, Lt. Col. J.J. Din, Major Babur, Major Naser, Capt. Sultan, Afzal, Tariq, Mohammed Fazlur Rahman, Capt. Fasr, Mohsin, Gulfaraj, Lt. Sayeed and Lt. Quaran.

Major Babur and Naser Capt. Gulfaraj and Lt. Quaran and Commander Gulzar of the Pakistan Navy were the most heinous culprits who dealt with the Bengali and Bengali culture and pioneered the mass genocide of Bengalees in Khulna.

Major Naser, later promoted to colonel involved in the famous Agartala conspiracy case and engineered the torture of the accused of the so-called conspiracy case for extracting evidence, Capt. Gulfaraj and Lt. Quaran physically participated in rape, torture and murder of intelligenzia in Khulna Capt. Gulfaraj himself performed the barbarous torture of respected political leader Mr. Abdul Jabbar, Advocate who was also the Vice-President of NAP (Bhashant) and brutally killed him at Gallamara.

They also conducted several torture chambers set up at Khulneshwur Circuit House and other places of the city where innocent civilians including officers, employees, labourers and neutral workers were tortured in a most inhuman manner. In view of these crimes against humanity the people of this district feel that all these officers posted in Khulna during their reign of terror must be brought to trial in order to uncover the stories of the world's most heinous genocide unleashed upon a nation and its culture.

Main culprits

Later, describing the scene to me, Mr. Haider then SP, Khulna said that it appeared to have fallen into the hands of the Pakistan Army as captured prey and they had settled upon it with unusual violence and brutality. Shots from machineguns rang out at intervals all over the city and screaming of helpless victims.

Around The City

Dr. S.A. Ahsan, P.S.O., Atomic Energy Centre, Dacca, President of the Khulna Regional Association, Mr. Mohammad Ali Mousa, Secretary General, Bangladesh National Union, and Mr. Md. Noorul Islam, President of the Khulna Teachers Association, are among the shocked people of Khulna.

Girls’ high school to be set up in Ullapara

By A Staff Correspondent

A meeting of the local people of Salan Union under Ullapara Police Station of Pabna district, under the chairmanship of Sree Shibendra Nath Bhowmik, a veteran educationist and philanthropist, resolved to establish a girls’ high school and a full fledged adult education institution.

Missing

By A Staff Correspondent

Mr. Mohammad Ali Mousa, Secretary General, Bangladesh National Union, and Mr. Md. Noorul Islam, President of the Khulna Teachers Association, are among the shocked people of Khulna.