**Hindus Are Targets of Army Terror in an East Pakistani Town**

**The following dispatch was written by a New York Times correspondent who was expelled from East Pakistan Wednesday.**

**BY SYDNEY H. SCHANBERG**

FARIDPUR, Pakistan, June 29—The Pakistan army has painted the yellow “H” on the Hindu shops still standing in this town to identify the property of the minority eighth of the population that has made its special targets.

Members of the Moslem majority—who, though not exempt from the army’s terror, feel safer than the Hindus—have painted on their homes and shops such signs as “All Moslem House.”

The small community of Christians, mostly Baptists, have put crosses on their doors and stitched crosses in red thread on their clothes.

Compared with some towns in East Pakistan, Faridpur, which sits in the central part of the province 83 miles by road and ferry west of the capital, Dacca, suffered only moderate physical damage when the army struck here in April. The attack was part of the offensive begun March 25 to crush the Bengali autonomy movement.

Although thousands of “antistate” Bengali Moslems have been killed by the army, the Hindus became particular scapegoats as the martial-law regime tried to blame Hindu India and her agents in East Pakistan for the autonomy movement.

In Faridpur—and the situation was much the same throughout East Pakistan—there was no friction to speak of between Hindu and Moslem before the army came.

The army tried to drive a wedge between them. In April, as a public example, two Hindus were beheaded in a central square in Faridpur and their bodies were soaked in kerosene and burned. When some Hindus, trying to save their lives, begged to convert to Islam, they were shot as unworthy nonbelievers (in some cases, however, converts are being accepted).

The army also forced Moslems friendly to Hindus to loot and burn Hindu houses; the Moslems were told that if they did not attack Hindus, they themselves would be killed. Most of the Hindu houses in the region around Faridpur—some say 90 per cent—were burned as a result.

Still, there is no sign of a hate-Hindu psychology among the Bengali Moslems. Many have taken grave risks to shelter and defend Hindus; others express shock and horror at what is happening to the Hindus but confess that they are too frightened to help.

Many Bengalis, in fact, feel that the army has only succeeded in forging a tighter bond between Hindu and Moslem in East Pakistan.

**Published: July 4, 1971**