

Stop mass murderer Narendra Modi from visiting the UK!



Barry Gardiner: Withdraw your invitation to the 'butcher of Gujarat'!

**Protest: Monday 9 September 2013, 11:30am-1pm
at Barry Gardiner's MP's surgery, Brent Civic
Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley HA9 0FJ**

Nearest Tube Station: Wembley Park (see map <http://www.brent.gov.uk/your-council/brent-civic-centre/your-visit-to-the-civic-centre/>)

- Narendra Modi is the Chief Minister of Gujarat, the Prime Ministerial candidate of the Hindu supremacist Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) and an avowed admirer of Hitler and his policies.
- In 2002, Modi presided over the genocidal attacks in which over 2,000 men, women and children from Gujarat's Muslim minority community were systematically killed.
- This is the man whom Labour MP for Brent North Barry Gardiner has invited to come and address the House of Commons on the subject of 'The Future of Modern India'.

What happened in Gujarat in 2002 has been amply documented and there is clear evidence that the violence was orchestrated and sponsored by the state. The police had been instructed not to intervene while Hindu supremacist mobs linked to the BJP murdered and raped, selectively targeting the addresses occupied by Muslim families. According to a leaked report by the British High Commission in India the violence 'had all the hallmarks of ethnic cleansing and that reconciliation between Hindus and Muslims is impossible while the chief minister [Narendra Modi] remains in power' and that 'far from being spontaneous' it was 'planned, possibly months in advance, carried out by an extremist Hindu organisation with the support of the state government.'

Modi is currently making a bid to become India's next Prime Minister and has launched a campaign using openly fascistic and anti-minority rhetoric. At the same time he is claiming that he has been absolved of wrong doing in connection with the massacres of 2002 by the Supreme Court of India. This is untrue, see for example.

While in the wake of the 2002 genocide and the clear evidence and documentation of Modi's role in coordinating and sponsoring it, the UK, EU and US were compelled to distance themselves from Modi, more recently the British government is rehabilitating him. At a recent meeting with Modi in Ahmedabad, the Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Hugo Swire made it clear that this was in 'the UK's national interests', meaning the interests of British big business.

Modi claims to have brought 'development' to Gujarat – but the reality is that nutritional poverty is higher than all-India levels and there is a huge and growing gap between rich and poor in the state. The people of Gujarat are paying the price for Modi's policies, in which swathes of land and coastline have been converted into Special Economic Zones or 'Special Investment Regions' and handed over to corporates heavily subsidised by the state. Recent official figures show 44.6% of children under 5 are malnourished in Gujarat – figures comparable only to the poorest states in India.

Now Barry Gardiner on behalf of the 'Labour Friends of India' has invited Modi to come and address the House of Commons on the subject of 'The Future of Modern India'. The Conservative Friends of India have supported this invitation. This is purely an attempt to help British corporates sell their products and services in Gujarat in the interests of larger profits. It makes a mockery of human rights and ignores the three British citizens who were murdered during the genocide and whose families are yet to receive justice.

Modi's past visits to the UK have been used to raise extensive funds and support for communal violence. A visit at this time is particularly dangerous and must be stopped.

We condemn this collusion in Modi's attempts to deny his role as a mass murderer.

We demand that the invitation to Modi is withdrawn!

www: southasiasolidarity.org, facebook: Stop Mass Murderer Narendra Modi UK

<https://www.change.org/petitions/david-cameron-and-ed-miliband-stop-the-visit-of-mass-murderer-narendra-modi-to-the-uk>

Organised by South Asia Solidarity Group. Supported by: Council of Indian Muslims, Brent Trades Council, Foil Vedanta, Islamic Human Rights Commission, Southall Black Sisters, Indian Workers Association, Birmingham, South Asian Alliance, Asian Rationalist Society, Freedom Without Fear Platform

