

India’s Daughter



CRIME FEATURED NEWS

By Alexander Baron



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This BBC documentary has been banned in India, and apparently due to pressure by the Indian Government it was shown here in the UK sooner than promised. Or perhaps that should be threatened? Whatever, there is no way any important documentary can be banned in practice today, and there will surely be several if not many uploads of it to Youtube and other video sites followed shortly by many millions of pageviews.

While **the murder of this young woman** was truly shocking, there are three positive things that can be said: it was a crime of exceptional brutality; in spite of the troglodyte attitudes of certain Indian men towards women and girls, only the tiniest minority would even contemplate committing a crime of this nature. The second thing is that the police were on the ball, and brought all the perpetrators to book in double quick time. The third is that attitudes *are* changing.



One of the five convicted of the crime – Mukesh Singh, Credits: BBC Documentary

Worryingly though the documentary highlighted two even bigger problems than that of sex crimes. One is what was called the imbalance of the sexes; for some bizarre reason (ie insurance against old age) girls are regarded as a burden on a family whereas sons are regarded as assets. Therefore with modern technology being able to predict the sex of a baby before its birth, women have been aborting female foetuses in record numbers. When the women's liberation movement coined the ludicrous mantra "A woman's right to choose", they couldn't have foreseen this, but *karma* always was a bitch.

The other problem is corruption, specifically within the criminal justice system. Ironically, the British established the rule of law in Imperial India, but the Indian legal system has been going slowly down the toilet in similar fashion to the English one, albeit for entirely different reasons and in different ways. We hear from many English-speaking Indians about what is wrong and what needs to be done. The first thing that needs to be done is to execute the rapist/murderers starting with Mukesh Singh, the man who thinks 80% of girls are suitable prey for monsters like him. Singh says he did not participate in the rape, and only drove the bus. Clearly he hasn't heard of either joint enterprise or depraved indifference, because if he had, he'd realise that even if he were telling the truth, that would not matter.

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