



## Shillong - A Racist Arena since 41 years

Nabanipa Bhattacharjee, Delhi University, 11th July 2020

I know it is heartless to say I am neither surprised nor shocked by the attack and lynching of the young boys of non-tribal origin at Lawshotun, Shillong few days ago. But we, who were born and raised in Shillong 1970s onwards, have been forced to become what we are. For 41 years now the non-tribals of the city have not found a single reason to hope and expect justice from the government and its law and order agencies.

These attacks are, and I stress this, ethno-racist in character and qualify as nothing but purely evil hate crime. The progressive sections of civil society in Shillong and other cities of India have tactically kept quiet on this matter. And we know why. This time too, the situation is no different. I will be surprised but happy if the state government attempts to be non-partisan this time and do justice, as per rule of law, to the victims of the recent ethno-racist attack.

