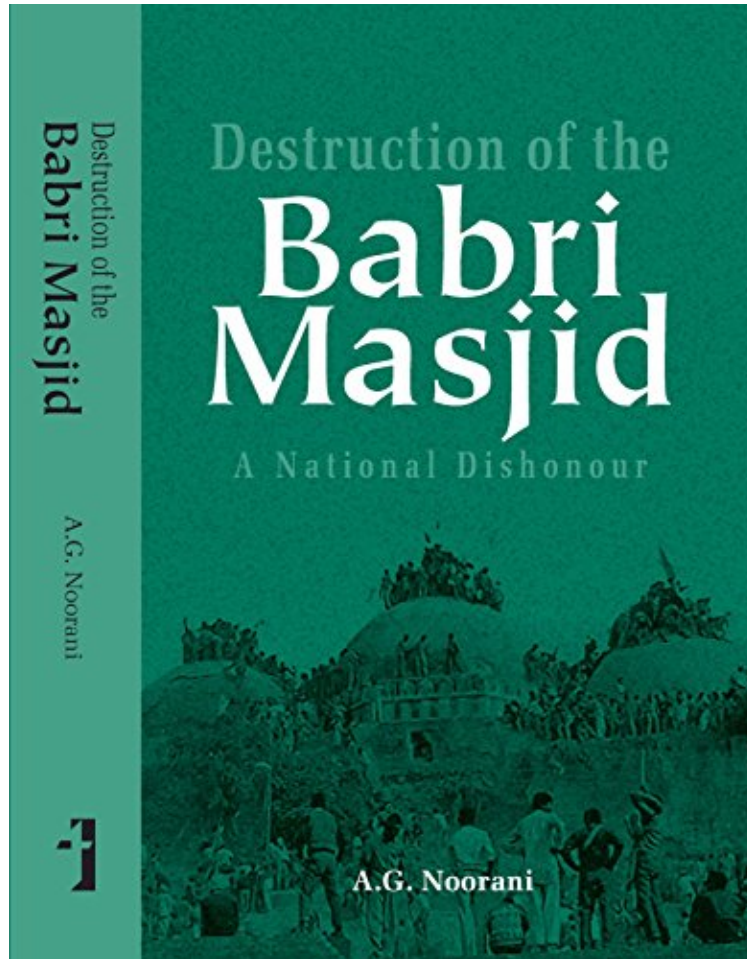


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Destruction of the Babri Masjid: A National Dishonour

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Destruction of the Babri Masjid: A National Dishonour is a sequel to The Babri Masjid Question 1528 2003: A Matter of National Honour , published in 2003 in two volumes a compilation by A.G. Noorani of documents and primary source material on various aspects of the Ram Janmabhoomi Babri Masjid dispute, covering the demolition of the Masjid on 6 December 1992, and the legal proceedings in the civil suits and criminal cases up to mid-2003. The present volume brings the narrative up to date. It covers the three Allahabad High Court judgments, the Liberhan Commission Report, the tortuous course of the criminal cases, and disclosures and developments in the last decade

from 2003 till the end of 2013. An Introduction surveys the events before and after the demolition of the Babri Masjid, and analyses the judgments delivered by the three judges of the Allahabad High Court in 2010. In the courts of law and justice, the civil and criminal cases concerning the title to the Babri Masjid and accountability for its destruction, on 6 December 1992, have all but run their course. Neither legality nor justice has been conspicuous in the proceedings or in the many judgments delivered. On past form, there is little hope for redress in legal proceedings after that grave and utterly wasteful crime. . . . The forces of India's secularism can ignore the challenges ahead only at the nation's peril. At stake is the survival of India's democracy and its corollary, secularism. (From the author's preface)

Noorani's treatment of the Allahabad High Court decision of September 30, 2010 is indeed remarkable.... Noorani also puts together documents, investigative stories in newspapers and news portals to tell us, once again, the story of how the demolition was planned and the details were known to the Union Government at that time.... This book is an important addition especially in terms of the documents that are reproduced and will be of immense help to scholars, researchers and anyone interested in knowing one of the tragic events that contemporary India witnessed. (V. Krishna Ananth *The Hindu*)

About the Author A.G. Noorani is an Advocate, Supreme Court of India, and a leading constitutional expert and political commentator. He is a regular columnist for *Frontline* and the author of numerous books, including *The Destruction of Hyderabad* (2013), *The Kashmir Dispute 1947-2012*, in two volumes (2013), *Islam, South Asia and the Cold War* (2012), *Article 370: A Constitutional History of Jammu and Kashmir* (2011), *Jinnah and Tilak: Comrades in the Freedom Struggle* (2010), *India-China Boundary Problem 1846-1947: History and Diplomacy* (2010), *Indian Political Trials 1775-1947* (2006), *Constitutional Questions and Citizens Rights* (2006), *The Muslims of India: A Documentary Record* (editor, 2003), and *Islam and Jihad: Prejudice versus Reality* (2003).