

Mullah Maulana Barkati Threatens Tarek Fatah

[“Your throat will be slit.”](#) Glaring at me across the TV monitor, the red-bearded Mullah smirked as he delivered a death threat on India’s most-watched national news network, Zee News.

The remark stunned the host and the panel who were discussing a ‘fatwa’ against Prime Minister Narendra Modi by the very same Islamic cleric when out of nowhere Maulana Barkati made me the target of his anger.

As a vocal critic of Islamism and the Muslim Brotherhood as well as its sister organizations cultivating radical Islam across the world, I am quite accustomed to death threats, but never this direct and so public.

The same Islamic cleric had earlier issued a fatwa on my friend Taslima Nasreen, offering 50,000 Indian Rupees to anyone who would behead her. He is also known for organizing a funeral prayer for Osama Bin Laden in Kolkata, West Bengal.

And if you believe such death threats happen only in faraway India or in the Middle East, then you are missing out on the risks ordinary Muslims take in fighting Islamists right in our backyard, across Canada.

Nearly 10 years ago, I and a colleague were the subject of a telephonic death threat. In March 2007, a message was left on the voice mail of the secretary general of the Muslim Canadian Congress (MCC) warning that my colleague and I [Tahir Gora](#).

Again, nothing came about and even though police identified the teenager who had threatened me, they decided she was not serious and didn’t lay any charges.

So if the Kolkata Police don't charge Mullah Barkati, don't feel it's Third World lawlessness. We Canadians too have our apologists who see Islamophobia as the real threat, not Islam-inspired terrorism or death threats to writers.