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**Ghettoization of Identity: Paradigms of Violence in Shashi Tharoor's  
*Riot***

The theme of violence informs the very core of all human experiences. Lives at individual, society, national and international levels are continuously forged and reforged by their engagement with multiple aspects of violence. One way of making sense of it is by framing it in the narratives of history, mythology and literature. In recent times the world is grappling with manifold mutation of this dreaded phenomenon which has managed to evade all simplistic theories and assumptions about its nature, cause and possible antidotes. No part of the globe is completely insulated from the sinister shadow of violence. In this context my paper attempts to take cognizance of essential fluidity of the nature of violence and posits the view that even before its physical manifestation which is often the last stage, violence pervades ideology, memory and notions which constitute the idea of self. The present paper further argues that the often the most vulnerable target group suffer from multiple jeopardy of cultural, political and sometimes sexual marginalization. The measures taken to prevent them from being the subject of abuse often prescribes alienation which in turn makes them further vulnerable to sociological and psychological violence.