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ANNUAL REVIEW

Hate Speech

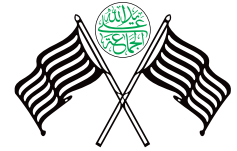
Halal Certification Controversy

Surge in anti-Muslim sentiment over Israel-Palestine conflict

Resurrection of Hijab Controversy

JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT OF MINORITIES

(A Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind Initiative)



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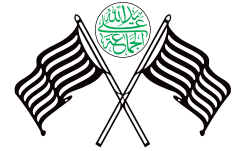
Executive Summary

In 2023, minorities in India, particularly Muslims faced relentless harassment characterized by verbal, physical, and psychological attacks. A concerning trend was the inventive use of language to stigmatise community, with a particular focus on exploiting the term ‘Jihad’ for its perceived negative connotations. Outmoded forms of aggression continued against Muslim and their property. The term ‘Jihad’ has been exploited with negative connotations to systematically target the Muslim community through both conventional and social media platforms. Examples include the unfounded concept of ‘Love Jihad’, alleging the entrapment of Hindu girls and ‘Population Jihad’, blaming Muslims for a perceived population explosion. The absurdity extends to other forms of hate crimes like the hate campaign

against Halal Certification or halal product which further led to Hindu-Muslim animosity.

Regrettably, these assaults continued to reflect a collaboration between Far Right Hindu elements and the state machinery, creating a toxic and potent alliance that spread fear among minorities. The complicity of the media exacerbated the situation, as it consistently acted as a mouthpiece for the state, neglecting its duty to challenge questionable narratives. The media’s irresponsibility extended to fabricating stories detrimental to minorities, especially Muslims. Additionally, minorities fell victim to intolerable abuse and misinformation through social media channel.

It becomes evident that a well-coordinated action is being meticulously executed by individuals on the ground, with strategic direction coming



from senior representatives of the national organization, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The actors involved in these activities target Dalits, Adivasis, and Christians, but it is apparent that a distinctive treatment is meted out on the Muslim community. Disturbingly, the atrocities are carried out with such fervor and hostility that they exceed the intended scope. All of these actions are purportedly in the name of Hindutva Nationalism, serving as a symbolic display of loyalty to their leaders and further solidifying their grassroots support.

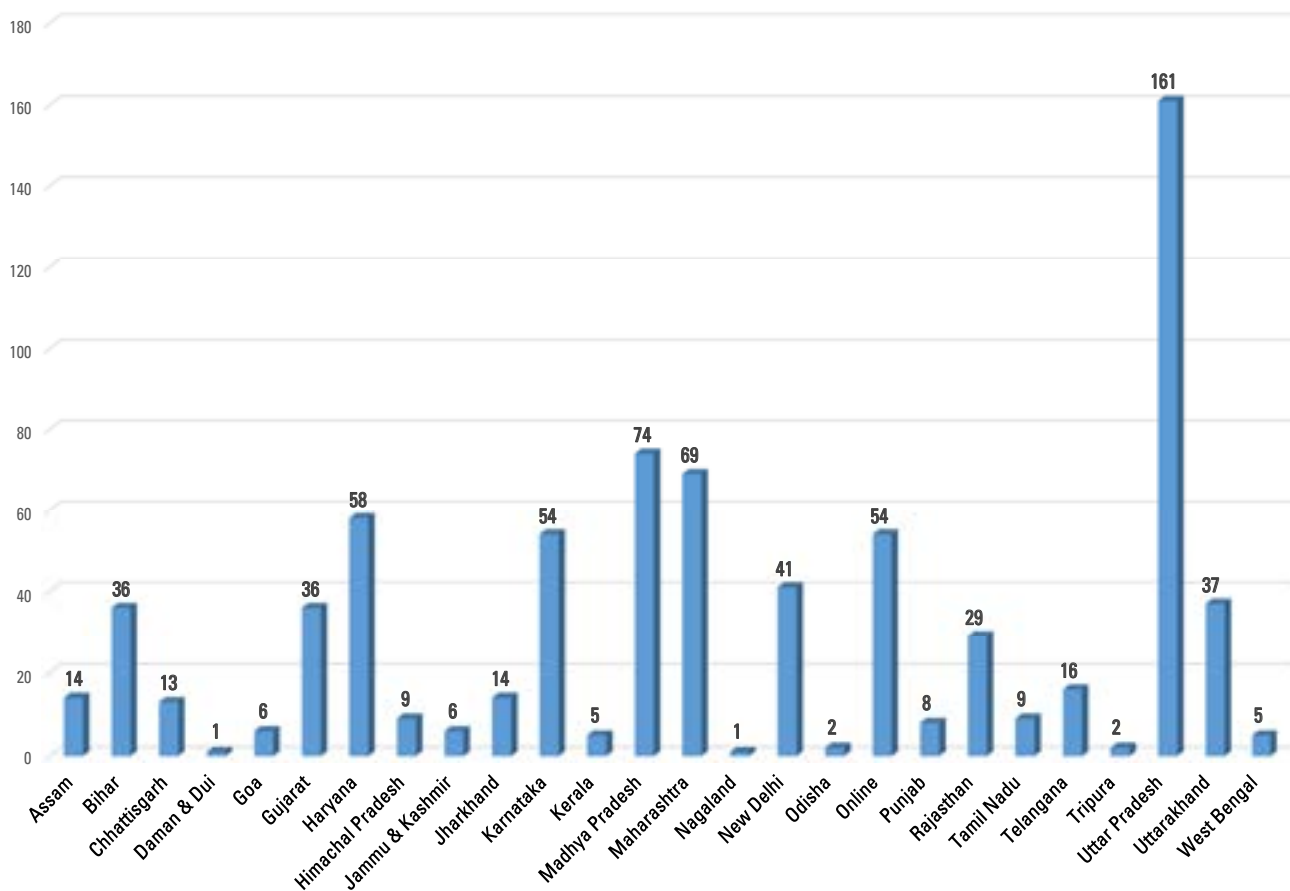
As far as hate speech against Muslim community in India is concerned, the initial half of 2023, India experienced a disturbing average of more than one incident per day involving attacks or incidents against minorities. A notable concentration of such incidents in states where upcoming elections were imminent, suggesting a potential correlation between political events and the occurrence of these attacks. This data underscores the importance

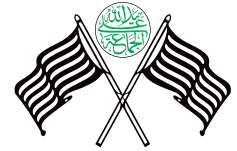
of scrutinizing the intersection of political dynamics and communal tensions to address and mitigate the root causes of violence against minority communities.

Similarly, the data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) provides crucial insights into the prevailing societal trends. According to the latest findings, there has been a significant 45% increase in incidents of hate speech and other activities intensifying and fostering animosity between various groups based on factors such as language, religion, race, and place of birth. Over the past two years, the NCRB data reveals a worrisome escalation in actions that contribute to the exacerbation of discord among communities. Instances falling under IPC (153A), which pertain to offenses involving the promotion of enmity on grounds of language, religion, race, and place of birth, have witnessed a notable surge. This statistical upswing underscores the pressing need for comprehensive efforts to address and mitigate the underlying factors fuelling such divisive behavior in society.

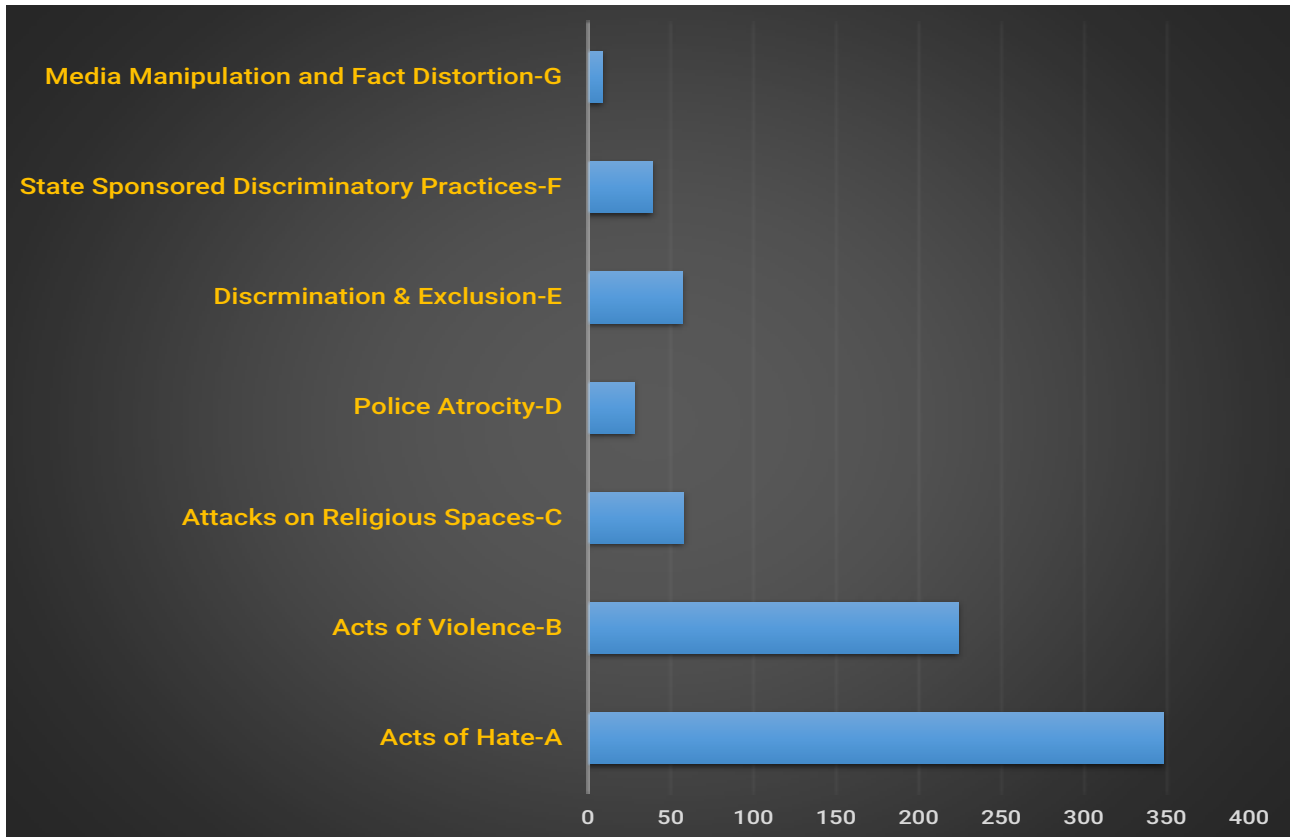
A total of 760 Hate Crimes against Minorities, including Dalits occurred during the year 2023

Statewise Hate Crime cases reported in the year 2023

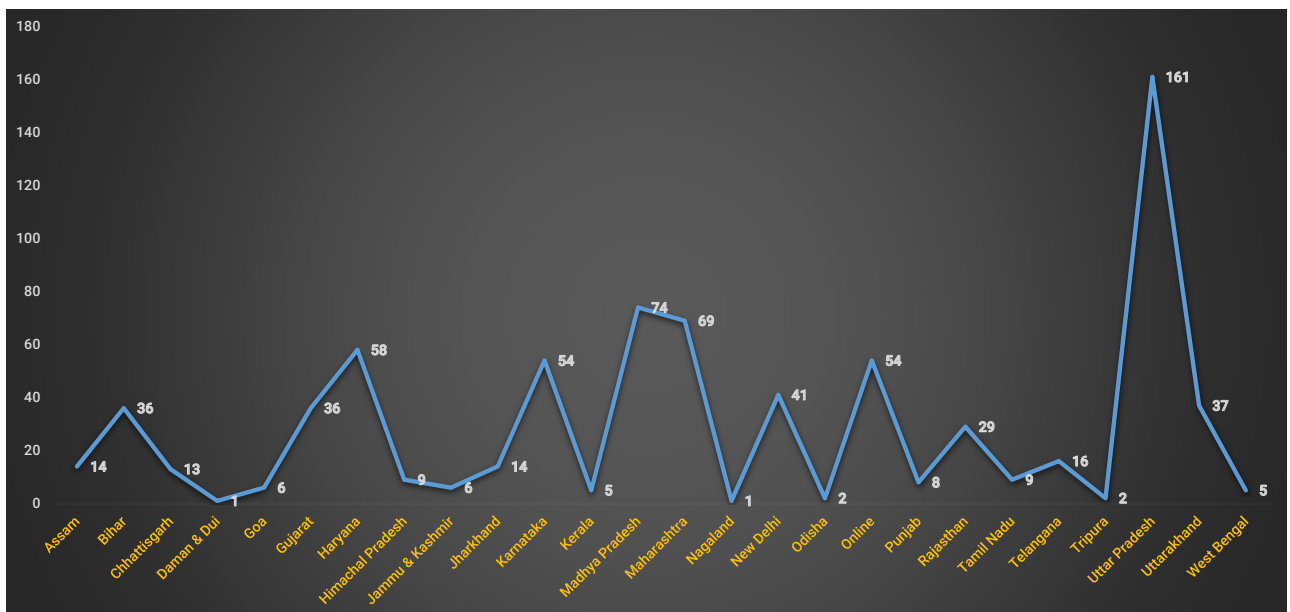




Categorywise incidents of Hate Crime cases report in 2023



Trends of Hate Crime Cases in 2023

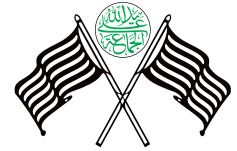


2023: At A Glance

In the first quarter of 2023, India witnessed a total of 176 verified hate crime cases, unveiling a disturbing trend in the systematic targeting of minorities. A systemic analysis of mainstream activities during this period exposes a well-coordinated and skillfully executed program, primarily orchestrated by senior representatives of the national organization, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The actors on the ground, under the influence of the RSS, systematically targeted Dalits, Adivasis, Christians, with a particularly evident bias against the Muslim community.

Various forms of discrimination, including dog whistling, hate speech, hate crimes, and overtly Islamophobic attacks, were

employed as part of this initiative. A troubling aspect emerging from this pattern is the involvement of similar organizations associated with the RSS in carrying out these reprehensible acts. Alarming insights from our research resonate with observations from civil rights organizations such as the Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP) and Human Right Watch, indicating that the RSS delegates these tasks to lesser-known entities like the Karni Sena, Vishwa Shriram Sena, Hindu Rashtra Sena, Hindu Janjagruti Samiti, Hindu Pratisthan, Janjati Suraksha Manch, Sakal Hindu Samaj, and Gauraksha Samitis. These organizations appear to be charged with translating evident animosity on the ground against minority groups, with the goal of showcasing loyalty and



attaining promotions within their organizational structures.

In the initial month of 2023, there were 48 confirmed cases of hate crimes, provided some interim relief. However, this optimism was short-lived as disturbing statistics regarding Muslim girls attending government schools in Karnataka were unveiled. The data, disclosed by the *Indian Express*, indicated a significant decline in the enrolment of Muslim girls in Class XI (Pre-University College or PUC

in Karnataka). The decline, exceeding 50% between 2021 and 2022, was primarily attributed to the Hijab Ban imposed in the state for Muslim girls attending government schools. The significant numbers revealed a decrease from 388 Muslim student

applications in the 2021-2022 academic year to a mere 186 in 2022-23. Moreover, gender-specific figures were even more disheartening, with only 91 Muslim girls enrolling in government colleges this academic year compared to 178 in the 2021-22 academic year.

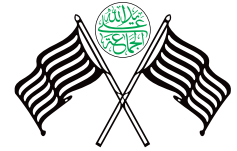
The second quarter of 2023 witnessed an alarming surge in incidents of violence and propaganda against minorities, coupled with the propagation

of insignificant issues aimed at stirring discord. During this period, the United Christian Friends (UCF) reported that 400 hate crimes were committed against Christians in India within the first 190 days of the year. Ironically, in most cases, instead of being treated as victims, the victims faced police cases filed against them, leveraging recently introduced controversial laws related to anti-conversion. In a defense case related to the Christian community in the Tamil Nadu High Court, the central government dismissed most of these figures as fictitious.

Similarly, Dalits experienced a rise in cases of atrocities against them during this quarter. The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

(USCIRF) released its annual report, criticizing the Indian government for its poor human rights record and targeting minorities. In response, the Indian government dismissed the report as biased. Former U.S. President Barack Obama echoed similar sentiments, urging President Biden to address India's track record regarding minorities, especially Muslims, during the upcoming





initiated the previous year on revising the school curriculum, particularly books related to Indian History and Political Science for school-level students, resurfaced. The central government issued new directives to eliminate more chapters related to events and personalities deemed objectionable to it.

visit of the Indian Prime Minister to the U.S.

The quarter also witnessed unwarranted controversies surrounding the oldest seminary in India, Darul Uloom, Deoband. False allegations claimed that the institute was unwilling to teach the English language to its students, whereas Darul Uloom had merely advised its students not to enrol in privately-run coaching centers for English learning. The debate

Furthermore, a new controversy emerged during this quarter regarding the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code in the country. This proposal bypasses the Personal Laws of various religious minorities, including Sikhs, Parsis, Jains, Buddhists, and particularly Muslims.

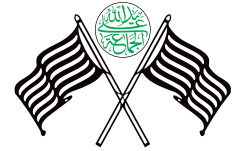
During the third quarter of 2023, a significant upswing in Hate Crimes and Hate Speeches unfolded in the country. In July, there were 101 verified cases,

followed by 114 cases in August. To provide context, in 2022, these two months had recorded only 35 and 29 cases, respectively. Notably, the impoverished district of Nuh-Mewat in Haryana, located just 80 km from the national capital, experienced a widespread anti-Muslim campaign during these two months. This communal unrest led to seven deaths and, in a distressing aftermath labeled as ‘Bulldozer Justice,’ 300 properties, including houses, owned by Muslims were demolished.

September brought a slight reduction in Hate Crimes, totalling 48 incidents. However, the month was marked by several controversies initiated by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its ideological source, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The first controversy revolved

around the characterization of Hinduism as Sanatan Dharma, followed by a proposal to rename India as Bharat. Subsequently, a statement proclaiming all Indians as Sanatanis stirred further debate. September also witnessed the introduction of Hate Speech into India’s parliamentary debates, as a BJP Member of Parliament shamelessly targeted a Muslim MP with derogatory and racial slurs within the new parliament building.





On a positive note, the Justice and Empowerment of Minorities (JEM) Team reported a decline in Hate Crimes against minorities, with only 117 verified cases, offering a temporary relief from the persistent threat of

This un-parliamentary and hateful behavior drew condemnation from a unified opposition. In addition to these incidents, minor Muslim students in various states continued to be targeted by their fellow students, seemingly influenced by school teachers. This troubling phenomenon raises questions about whether it is orchestrated at someone's command or is a manifestation of hate infiltrating even the noble profession of teaching.

The period from October to December 2023 presented a mixed narrative in our societal landscape.

hatred. However, this relief was overshadowed by the unfolding tragedy in the Middle East. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict, sparked by Hamas strikes on Israel, led to an extensive Israeli offensive against Palestinians in Gaza. In the Indian context, right-wing Hindu elements seemed to align with the Israeli government, contributing to a troubling surge of anti-Muslim sentiments on social media.

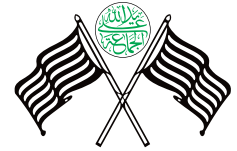
As we moved into November, the decline in hate crimes took a backseat due to a new controversy surrounding Halal Certification. The actions taken by the Uttar Pradesh



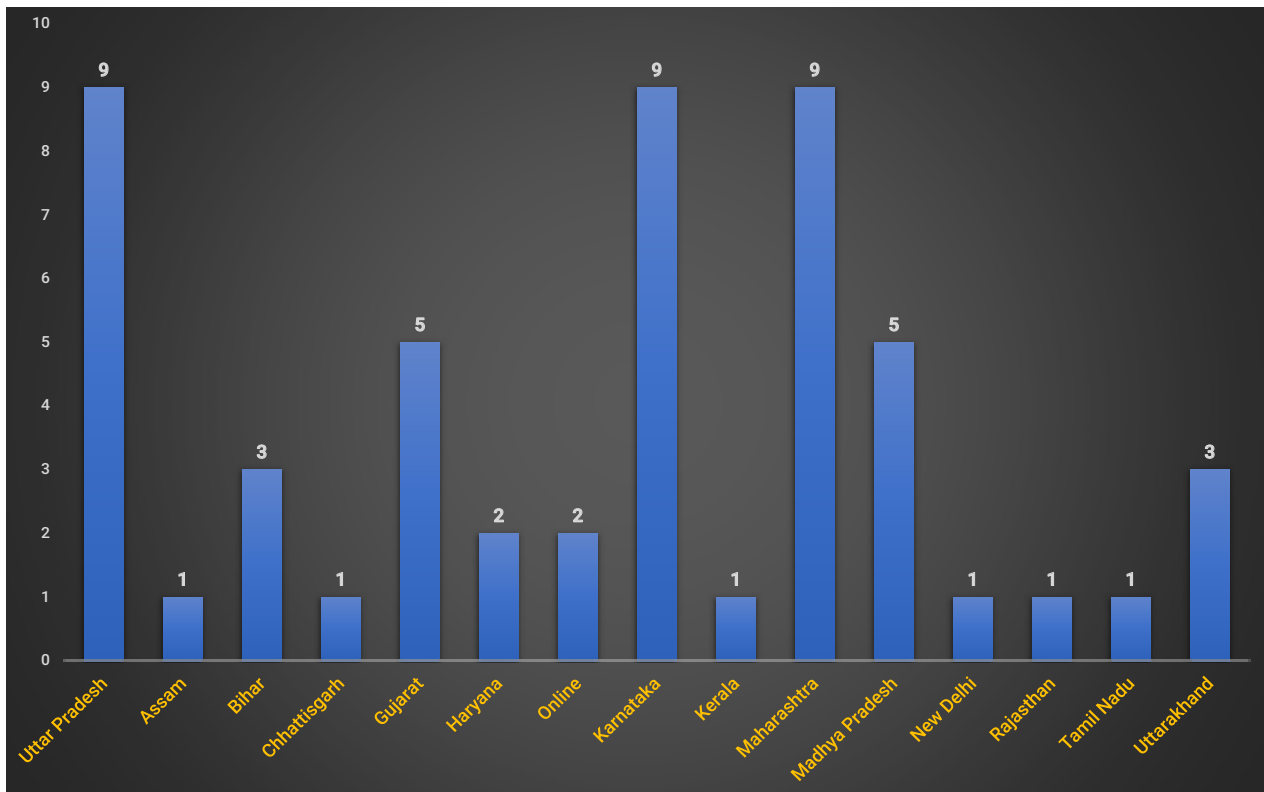
Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) December 2022 report revealed a troubling 45% increase over the past two years. Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra reported the highest numbers, while the North-eastern states exhibited the highest rates per lakh of population. Political polarisation and varied definitions

government against entities accused of exploiting religious sentiments opened a Pandora's Box. Unfortunately, certain news channels exacerbated the situation by framing it as a conflict between Hindu and Muslim communities. The government's response, seemingly justifying its actions without addressing misinformation, raises concerns about the authenticity of Halal certification. Examining the state of hate speech, the National

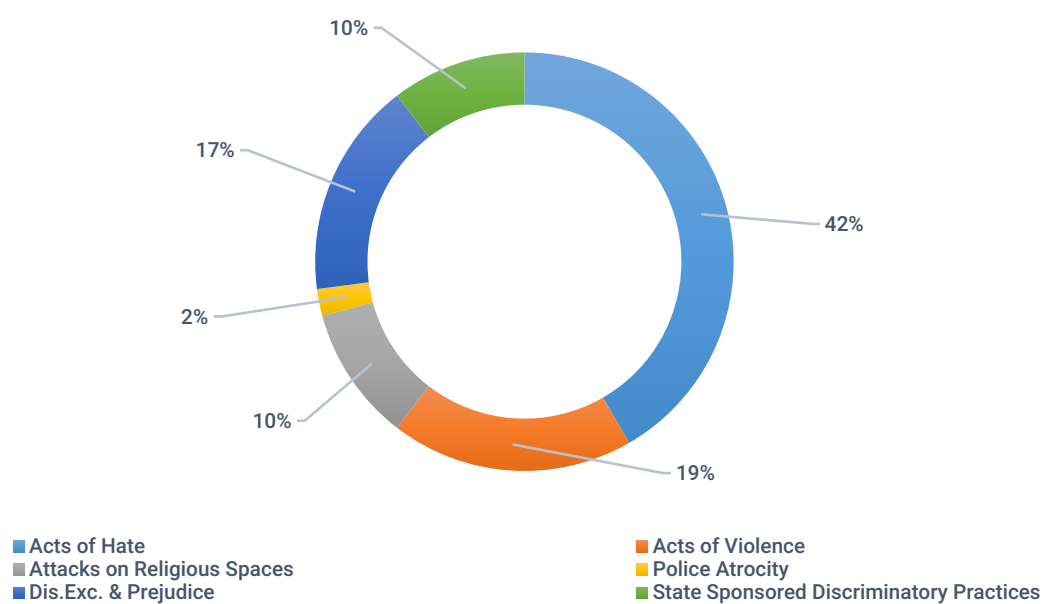
of hate speech contributed to concerns of underreporting in extreme cases. On the legislative front, Union Home Minister announced provisions for the death penalty in cases of mob lynching in the Lok Sabha on December 6, 2023. While aimed at combating mob violence, concerns persist about potential impacts on minorities and the need for vigilance to prevent misuse or selective enforcement.

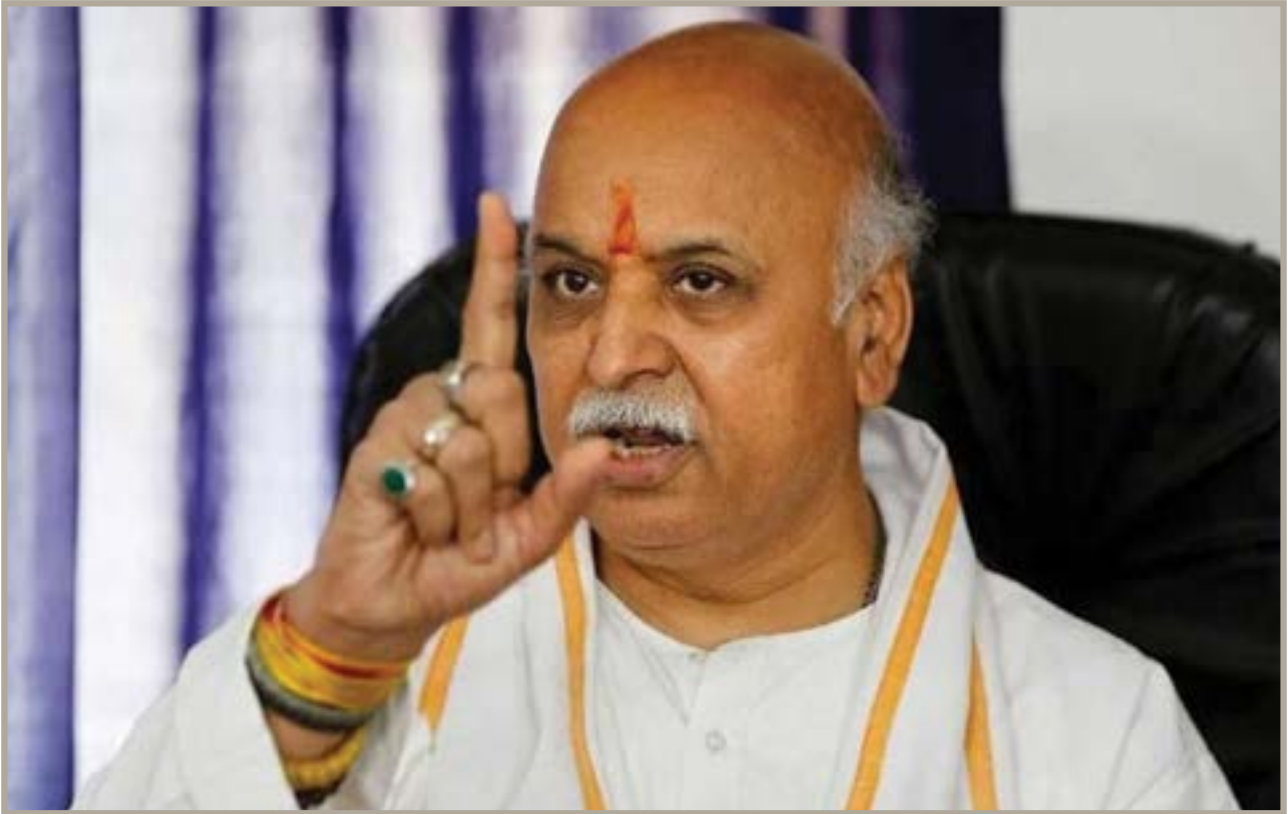


Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in January 2023



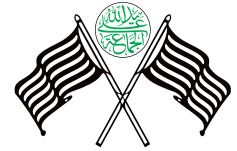
Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in January 2023





During the month of January 2023, a series of incidents unfolded across India, reflecting a concerning pattern of religious tensions, hate-mongering, and communal strife. In early January, various reports highlighted incidents across different states. Amid these incidents, in Dakshina Kannada District of Karnataka, a Muslim man named Hafeez was reportedly beaten up for talking to a girl of a different faith, showing instances of inter-community tension. In Palanpur, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, a

Hindu extremist group advocated violence at a massive public rally despite police presence, raising concerns about public safety. Several incidents also reflected a rising tide of Islamophobia and communal tension. Controversial statements made by Hindu leader Praveen Togadia during a public rally in Gadarpur, Uttarakhand, further fueled concerns as he claimed that once the BJP attains absolute power, the Constitution would be rewritten, leaving no place for Muslims in the envisioned Bharat Rashtra.



conversions. Reports from Brahampuri in North-East Delhi revealed provocative posters calling on Hindu landlords not to sell or rent properties to Muslims, adding to concerns about discrimination and segregation.

On January 14th, *Zee News* reported

Notably, during an interview with *Organiser* magazine, RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat acknowledged a societal “war” and defended aggression within the Hindu society, contributing to the ongoing discourse on the political landscape of India. In addition to these incidents, a former BJP MLA in Belgavi, Karnataka, raised objections to a house being converted into a mosque, adding another layer to the ongoing debates around religious

from Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, where a Muslim trader traveling on the Delhi-Moradabad express train was violently attacked and stripped naked by fellow passengers for refusing to chant ‘Jai Shri Ram.’ Continuing the disturbing trend, on January 15th, *The Hindu* newspaper highlighted a fresh controversy in Gurugram, Haryana, where anti-social elements vandalized a local Eidgah following the previous Hindu-Muslim row over holding Namaaz



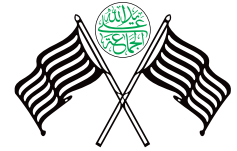
unsettling incident, [Indiapost.com](http://indiapost.com) reported on January 15th that Gudiya from Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, alleged foul play in the death of her husband, Kafeel. She claimed he was taken away by two plainclothes policemen, and she later received news of his death

at open spaces. Maulana Saleem Qasmi, president of Gurugram's Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind chapter, called for legal action against the perpetrators.

Adding to the distress, livehindustan.com reported on January 15th that the historic Saidabad Shahi Masjid in Handia, Allahabad, was bulldozed in the presence of Public Works Department (PWD) officials, allegedly under the pretext of widening the GT Road. In another

on the phone from the police station. Further exacerbating tensions, *The Print* reported on January 17th that authorities in the BJP-ruled state of Assam demolished hundreds of homes, predominantly belonging to Muslims, over allegations of "illegal encroachments" in Karimganj.

On January 17th, indiatoday.com reported that MS University in Vadodara, Gujarat, barred religious prayers at university



premises after a video of a girl offering Namaaz on campus sparked controversy. In Behat, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh, *livehindustan.com* reported on January 18th that Bajrang Dal activists took out a procession, urging the SDM to ban organizations involved in attacks on Bajrang Dal activists.

allegedly being demolished in Kutch, Gujarat, under the pretext of unauthorized constructions. On January 19th, *cjp.org.in* reported from Shivamoga, Karnataka, that Bajrang Dal activists raised slogans outside a mosque without provocation. Tragically, theprint.in reported on January 19th that a Muslim postgraduate student in

Highlighting the spread of hate speech, *cjp.org.in* reported on January 18th that a Hindu leader, Shankar Gaikar, delivered an anti-Muslim hate speech at the Shaurya Path Sanchalan event in Boisar, Thane, Maharashtra. The distressing trend continued on January 18th, as reported by *The Siasat Daily*, with six Madarassas and 36 commercial establishments





the previous month. The unsettling chain of events persisted into January 21st, with *indiatoday.in* reporting from Haridwar, Uttarakhand, that seven mosques were fined for violating permissible sound levels while delivering the Azaan through loudspeakers. On January 23rd, Zee News reported from

Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh, was thrashed by miscreants, who cited prior sexual assault allegations against the victim.

Adding to the discriminatory incidents, *The Hindustan Times* reported on January 19th that girl students wearing burqas were denied entry to Hindu College in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh. Turning to January 20th, *cjp.org.in* reported from Banda, Uttar Pradesh, that local Bajrang Dal activists vowed retaliation, stating “An eye for an eye” following the killing of one of their members in Assam violence

Aurangabad, Maharashtra, about a mock terror attack drill conducted by local police authorities. The exercise included the use of slogans like ‘Allah Hu Akbar’ to identify terrorists, causing unrest among local Muslims, who filed a case against the police practice. Moving to January 24th, *sabrangindia.com* reported from Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh, that a rally organized by right-wing Hindu organizations marched through Muslim localities, raising provocative and communal slogans to instill fear



among the Muslim residents.

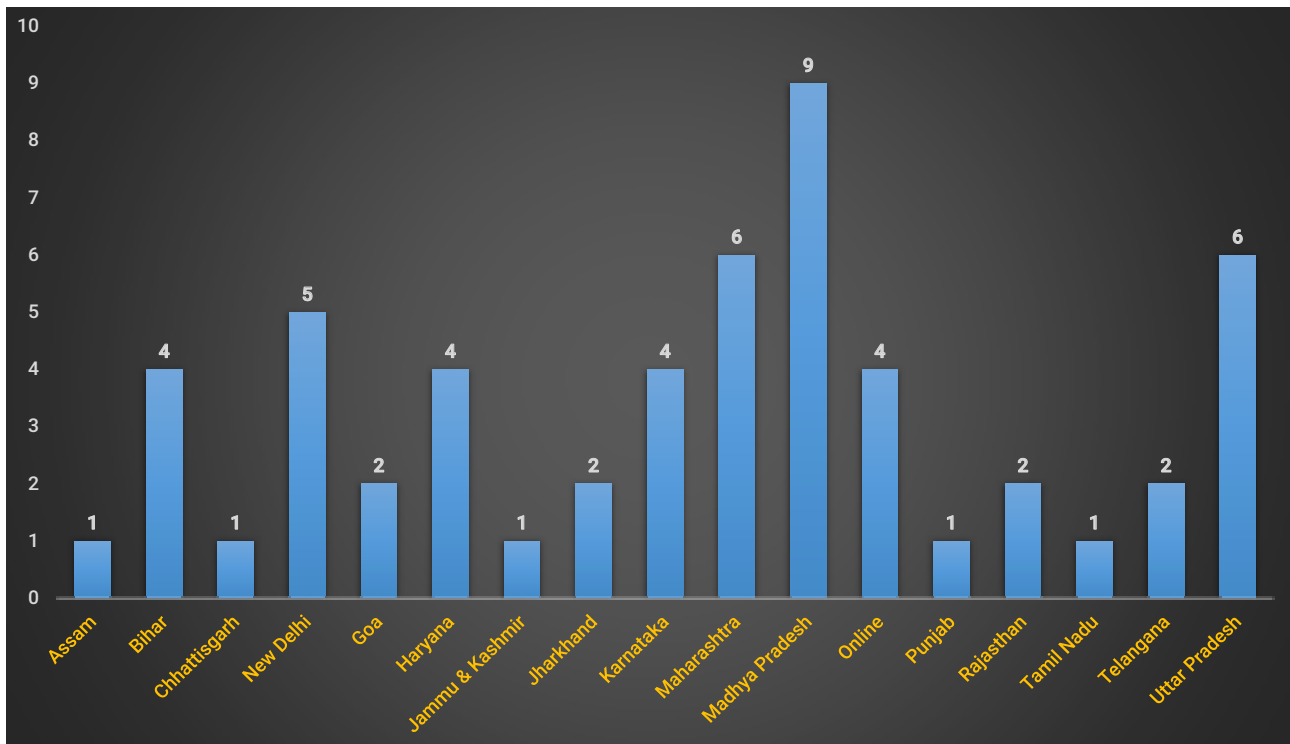
Simultaneously, *Times Now* reported from Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka, that a Muslim shopkeeper running a store near Panchalingeshwara Temple was forced to shut down and relocate by right-wing Hindu elements, citing its proximity to a Hindu temple. In another alarming incident on January 24th, *hindutvawatch.org* reported from Bapunagar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, that Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) distributed tridents (Trishuls) among 1100 people, calling for the transformation of India into a Hindu Rashtra, accompanied by provocative statements against the Muslim community. *The Urdu Times* reported on January 30th that the suspended BJP MLA T Raja made objectionable remarks at a public rally, yet faced no repercussions for the hate speech. In

another incident on January 30th, a rally in Dadar, Mumbai sought a law against 'Love Jihad' and religious conversions, according to a report on *scroll.in*.

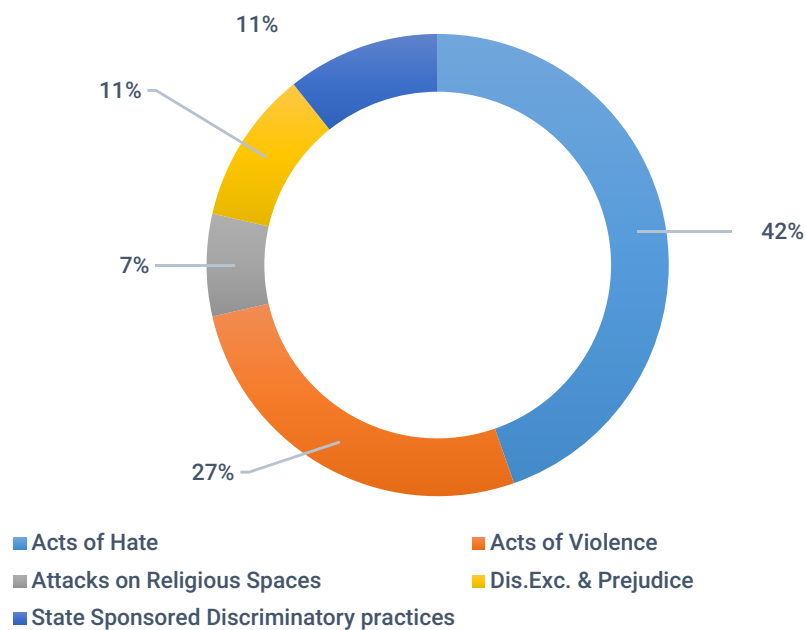
The month ended with a report from *The Hindu* on January 30th, detailing an assault by Bajrang Dal activists on a Muslim youth in Mudigere, Karnataka, over alleged beef selling. Despite registering a case against the attackers, the police took Gaiur Rahman into custody on charges of selling beef.

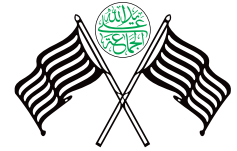


Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in February 2023



Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in February 2023





In February, the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind (JUH) petitioned the Supreme Court, seeking the consolidation of pleas against anti-conversion laws from various High Courts. Meanwhile, discussions on combatting fake news, inspired by the Japanese government's initiative, gained traction in India. On February 2nd, an incident in Telangana's Vikarabad district involved a mob of Shiva devotees attacking a Dalit youth, raising concerns about entrenched discrimination. Additionally, the controversial renaming of Bhopal's

Islam Nagar village to Jagdishpur sparked debates over historical significance.

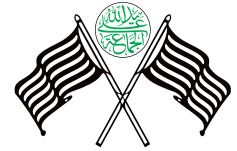
The month witnessed disturbing hate speeches: Baba Ramdev's remarks against Muslims in Barmer, Rajasthan, and Yati Narsinghanand's call to eradicate Islam. Incidents like the attack on Kashmiri vendors in Lucknow, vandalism at Jantar Mantar, and violent actions advocated by Suraj Pal Amu highlighted a concerning trend. Reports from various states, including Uttar Pradesh,



Khandwa, M.P., a Hindu mob entered a Muslim's home, leading to clashes and vandalism. Protests against a Muslim cemetery in Andheri, Mumbai, and the torching of a church in Narmadapuram, M.P., highlighted religious discord.

Chhattisgarh, and Karnataka, underscored instances of assault, harassment, and protests against religious communities, amplifying the urgent need for addressing communal tensions and ensuring social harmony. Incidents of religious tension and communal strife unfolded across various states in India. Right-wing groups like Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal distributed tridents in Kanpur, U.P., pledging to protect Hinduism and Bharat Rashtra. In

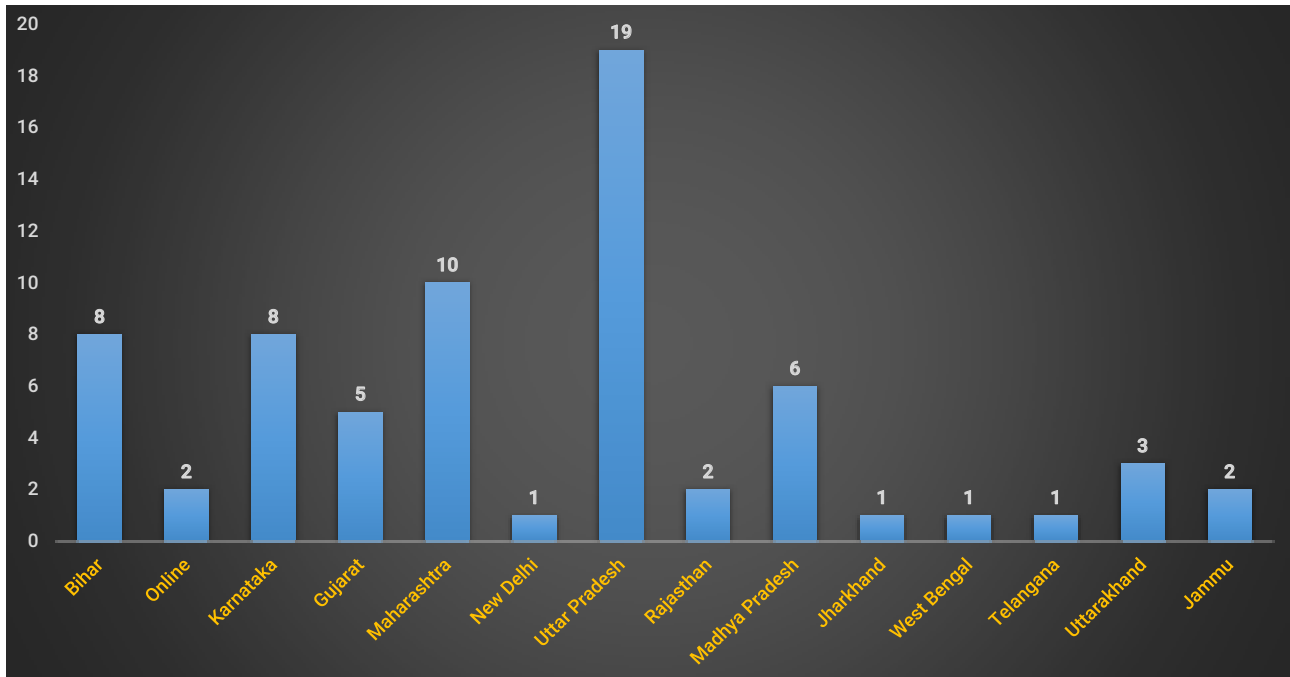
Hate speeches continued, with Bajrang Dal's national convener peddling anti-Muslim conspiracy theories in Ahmedabad, and Hindu leaders promoting divisive rhetoric in Pune and Nandurbar, Maharashtra. Incidents of violence included the lynching of three Muslim men in Diha Village, Gaya, Bihar, and the burning of an Islamic shrine in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, by a Hindu mob. Communal clashes erupted in Palamu, Jharkhand, over Maha Shivratri preparations,



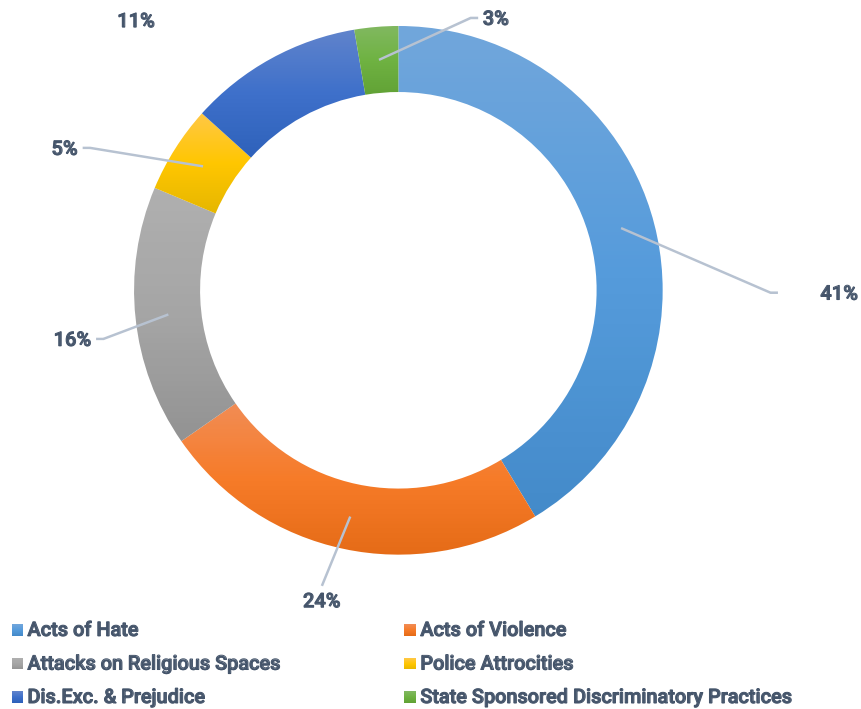
while provocative statements from Karnataka's state BJP chief fueled tensions. In Rajasthan, alleged cow vigilantes burned two Muslim men alive in Bharatpur. The central government's move to take over Waqf properties in Delhi drew sharp criticism from the Muslim community. Controversial figures like Baba Ramdev and Bajrang Muni made polarizing statements,

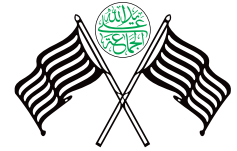
while incidents of assault on Muslims in Haryana and Bihar and the removal of Muslim voters from Bengaluru's list raised concerns about discrimination. The month ended with rallies against 'Love Jihad' in Navi Mumbai and an attack on a Muslim youth in Khandwa, M.P., emphasizing the ongoing challenges related to communal harmony in India.

Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in March 2023



Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in March 2023





In the month of March, disturbing incidents across various states in India painted a grim picture of rising communal tensions and religious intolerance. In Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, a pastor and his wife were arrested based on allegations of religious conversion by a Bajrang Dal functionary. In Bihar, a spate of violence targeted at Muslims unfolded, with reports of lynching and assault emerging from different districts. Additionally, far-right Hindu leaders were reported promoting hate speeches

and campaigns against religious minorities, such as the ‘Mazaar Mukti’ campaign in Uttarakhand, aimed at demolishing Muslim shrines. Amidst this troubling backdrop, incidents of violence against individuals based on religious identity continued, ranging from the beating of a truck driver in Mathura on suspicions of cow smuggling to the assault of a Muslim man in Delhi by cow vigilantes. Notably, instances of discrimination against Muslim vendors, a demand to ban the wearing of Hijab during exams



Uttar Pradesh, reports from *latestly.com* and *thehindustangazette.com* revealed that a Hindu Mahasabha rally advocated for the revocation of minority status for Muslims and the declaration of India as a Hindu nation. Simultaneously, in Bhilwara, Rajasthan, Hindutva activists set a truck ablaze on suspicion of its

involvement in transporting cows, as reported by *Dainik Bhaskar*. Such incidents of religious polarization continued to emerge, highlighting the fragile communal landscape.

in Karnataka, and the targeting of Muslim women during public events were also reported. These incidents underscored the urgent need for efforts to foster religious harmony and curb the spread of hate speech and violence across different communities in India.

On the 20th of March, *India Today* reported a case in Maharashtra where a Muslim youth, Mohammad Momin, faced legal consequences for praising Mughal emperor Aurangzeb on his WhatsApp status. In another distressing event

In the wake of escalating communal tensions, a series of disturbing incidents unfolded across various regions of India. On the 18th of March in Muzaffarnagar,

On the 20th of March, *India Today* reported a case in Maharashtra where a Muslim youth, Mohammad Momin, faced legal consequences for praising Mughal emperor Aurangzeb on his WhatsApp status. In another distressing event



reported by *Amar Ujala*, Hindutva activists recited Hanuman Chalisa in front of a church in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, allegedly to harass the local Christian community. As tensions further escalated, a clash erupted in Siwan, Bihar, leading to the tragic death of a Muslim man, Allaudin, who was beaten by Hindus over allegations of crop theft. These incidents underscored the rising religious friction and the need for societal harmony.

The latter part of March witnessed a surge in communal incidents with religious and political undertones. In Karnataka, Bajrang Dal activists disrupted a long-standing Christian prayer meeting in Shivamoga, falsely accusing them of forcible

conversions. Additionally, in Himachal Pradesh, Christians residing in a rented accommodation in Shahpur faced harassment from locals over accusations of religious conversions. In Uttar Pradesh, the police claimed to have detained an individual accused of converting a group of women to Christianity



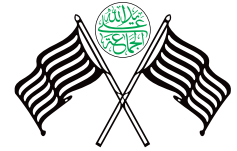


(UCF), 400 hate crimes were reported against Christians in India during the first 190 days of the year. Ironically, instead of being treated as victims, Christians faced police cases under controversial anti-conversion laws. The central government, in defense, dismissed these figures as fictitious. Similarly, the Dalit community

in Gorakhpur. The multifaceted nature of these incidents underscores the complex challenges surrounding religious harmony in contemporary India.

In the second quarter of 2023, there was a disturbing surge in anti-minority violence and propaganda, accompanied by the amplification of inconsequential issues targeting minorities. According to a report by the United Christian Friends

experienced an increase in atrocities against them during this period. The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) released its annual report, criticizing the Indian government for its human rights record, especially concerning minorities. The government countered, labeling the report as partisan. Former U.S. President Barack Obama urged President Biden to address India's treatment



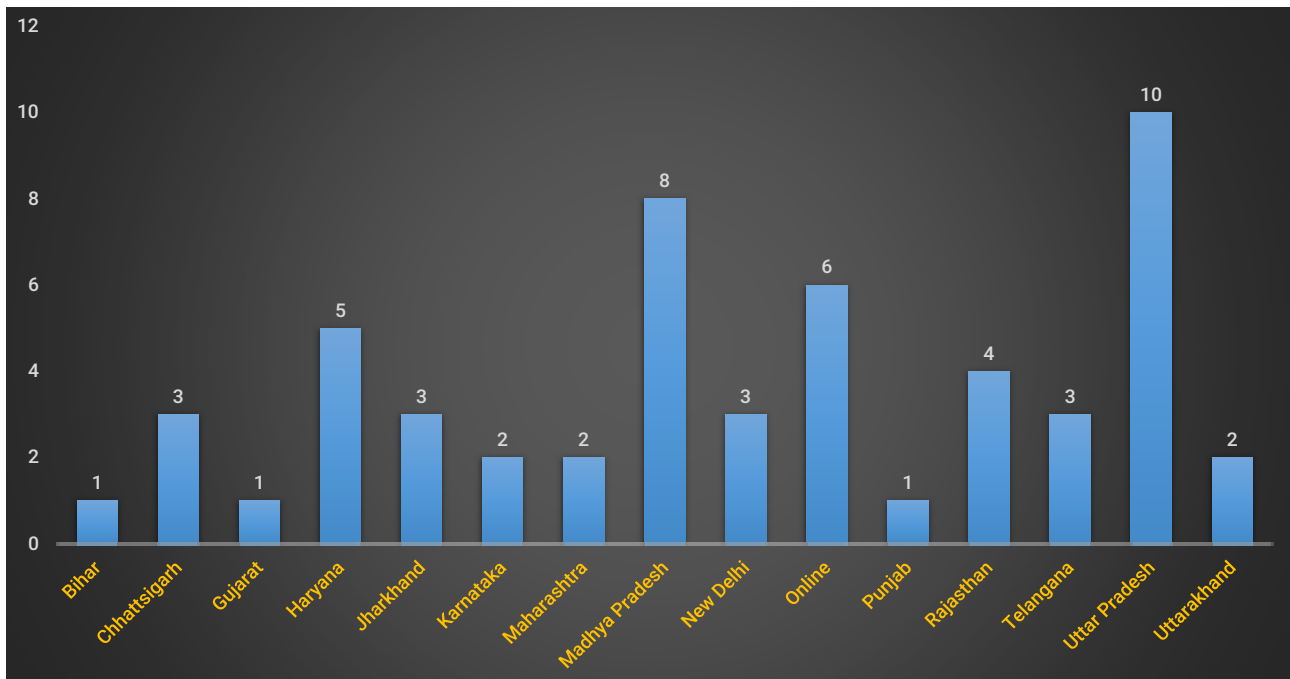
of minorities, particularly Muslims, during the Indian Prime Minister's upcoming visit to the U.S. Controversies also surrounded the oldest Indian seminary, Darul Uloom (DU), Deoband, falsely accusing it of not teaching English. The ongoing debate on altering school curricula, especially history and political science books, resurfaced with new directives from the central government to delete chapters deemed objectionable.

A fresh controversy emerged in April regarding the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code, affecting religious minorities like Sikhs, Parsis, Jains, Buddhists, and particularly Muslims. This quarter

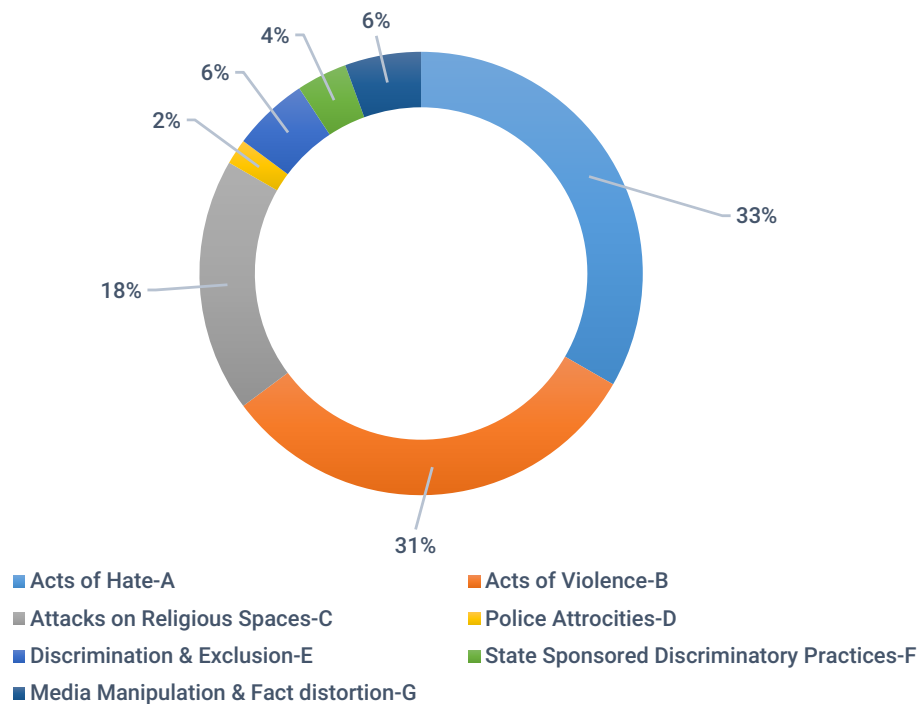
marked the beginning of an alarming controversy shaping the interpretation of history in textbooks, emphasizing a right-wing perspective and deleting parts considered secular. Academics and historians condemned the changes, describing them as guided by a divisive agenda.

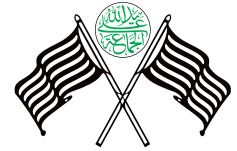


Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in April 2023



Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in April 2023





In April, a series of alarming incidents unfolded across India, underscoring escalating communal tensions and acts of violence involving various religious communities. The incidents ranged from forcible entries into religious spaces to inflammatory speeches and Hate Crimes. April witnessed a disturbing array of communal incidents, encompassing religious spaces, educational institutions, and public forums. Hate speeches, violence, and disruptive actions added to the existing challenges of fostering harmony and coexistence

among diverse communities in India. The need for comprehensive measures to address these issues and promote understanding and tolerance is evident.

In the initial days of April, reports from Indore highlighted an incident where Hindu far-right activists disrupted a Christian prayer meeting, alleging religious conversions. Subsequently, a clash in Hyderabad during Ramadan evening prayers intensified tensions, prompting the local police to file a case. The second

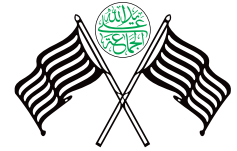


mosque break-in in Hazaribagh and the demolition of mazars in Lutyen's Delhi, added to the growing concerns. Additionally, cases of violence against individuals based on suspicions and

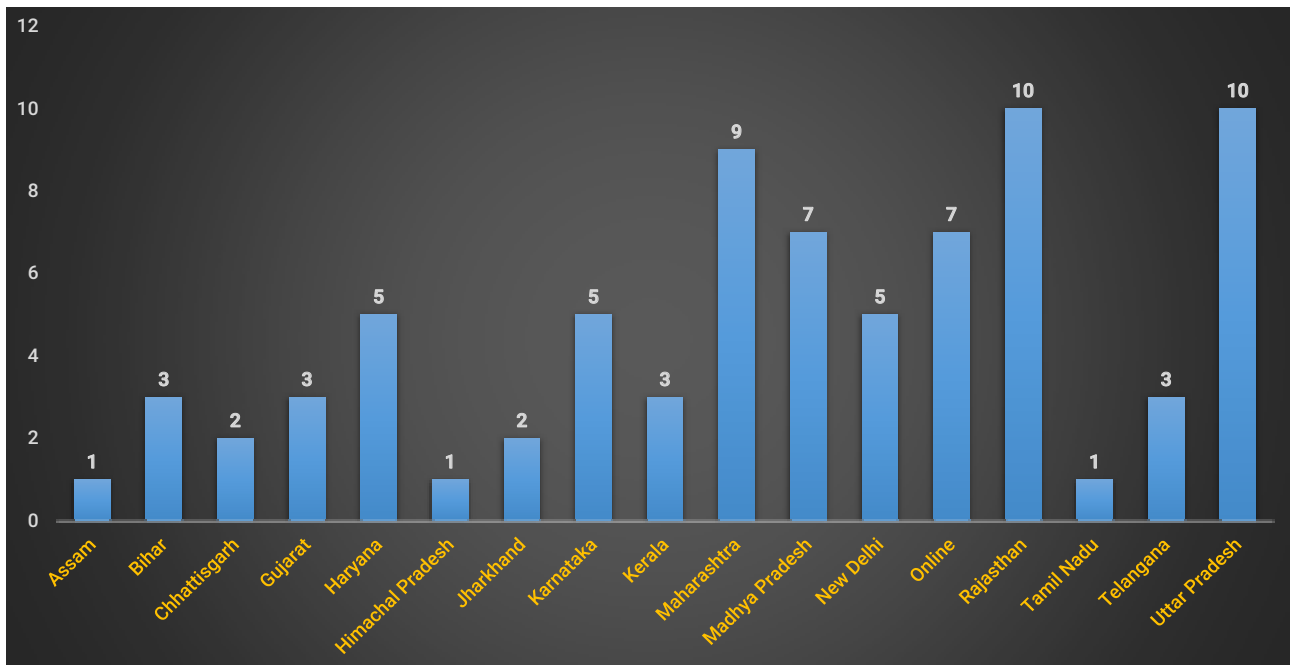
week of the month witnessed Hate Speeches and provocative events. Sadhvi Prachi's hate speech in Jharkhand and Kajal Hindustani's remarks in Gujarat fueled communal tension. The airing of false news with communal undertones in Bulandshahar and the lynching of a cattle trader in Karnataka further aggravated the situation. Inflammatory speeches by Yati Narsinghanand in Noida and the disruption of religious practices in various locations, such as preventing namaz in Haldwani and assaulting a Muslim man in Ujire were also recorded. The incidents involving attacks on religious spaces, like the attempted

accusations, as seen in the lynching of a Muslim youth in Ranchi and the burning of Asif Painter in Ujjain, raised alarm.

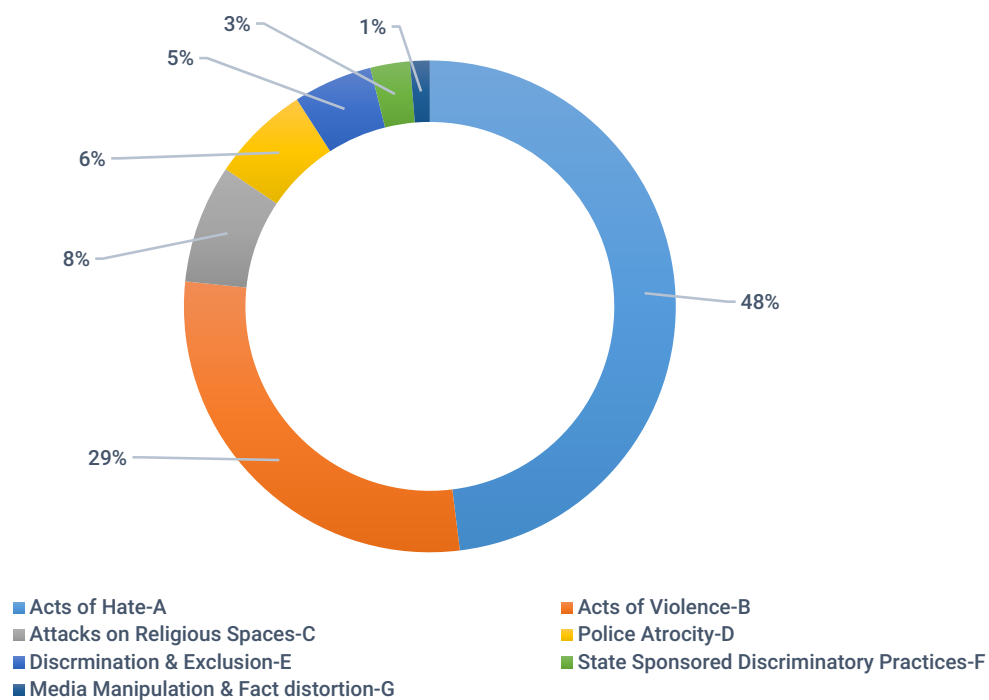
The concluding days of April brought attention to troubling incidents in educational institutions and public forums. The disturbance at Sri Chaitanya Techo School in Dehradun and the Trishul distribution event in Dablana, Rajasthan, orchestrated by VHP and Bajrang Dal, demonstrated a worrisome trend. The involvement of police personnel in the cow vigilante incident in Latur also highlighted concerns about law enforcement.



Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in May 2023



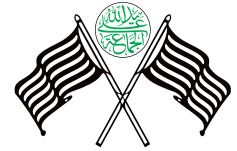
Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in May 2023





In May 2023, a series of disturbing communal incidents unfolded across various states in India, reflecting a troubling trend of rising religious tensions and hate speech. These incidents were reported through various media outlets, highlighting instances of Islamophobia, communal speeches, violence against religious minorities, and the misuse of religious sentiments for political purposes. The month began with reports of an outrageously Islamophobic comment on Twitter by a user named Abhishek

Godara. Subsequently, there were speeches by Sadhvi Saraswati in Maharashtra and Suresh Chavhanke in Uttar Pradesh, both targeting Muslims and advocating violence in the name of religion. Hate speeches continued in various states, including Rajasthan and Karnataka, where right-wing leaders demonized Muslims and Christians, further contributing to communal tensions. In May, Twitter faced criticism for allowing online hate speech by users manipulating language to evade content removal. The month of June witnessed



high-handed actions by right-wing Hindu organizations in Purolia, Uttarakashi district, Uttarakhand, ordering Muslim traders to leave and close their businesses. This move garnered covert support from the BJP leadership. The region, declared as “Dev Bhoomi” or Land of Gods, witnessed a campaign to remove Muslim residents, leading to tensions and calls for a Grand Assembly (Maha Panchayat), which was eventually restrained by the state High Court. *Hindustan Times* editorialized that such situations are incompatible with a modern secular democracy, urging the top court to address hate speeches promptly.

Instances of violence against minorities were reported from different parts of

the country. A Muslim youth named Tarique was killed in Uttar Pradesh under unclear circumstances. In Karnataka, a Muslim youth, Mohammed Faris, alleged a brutal attack by Bajrang Dal activists for socializing with a Hindu female friend. Incidents of attacks on Christians, including disruption of Sunday prayers,

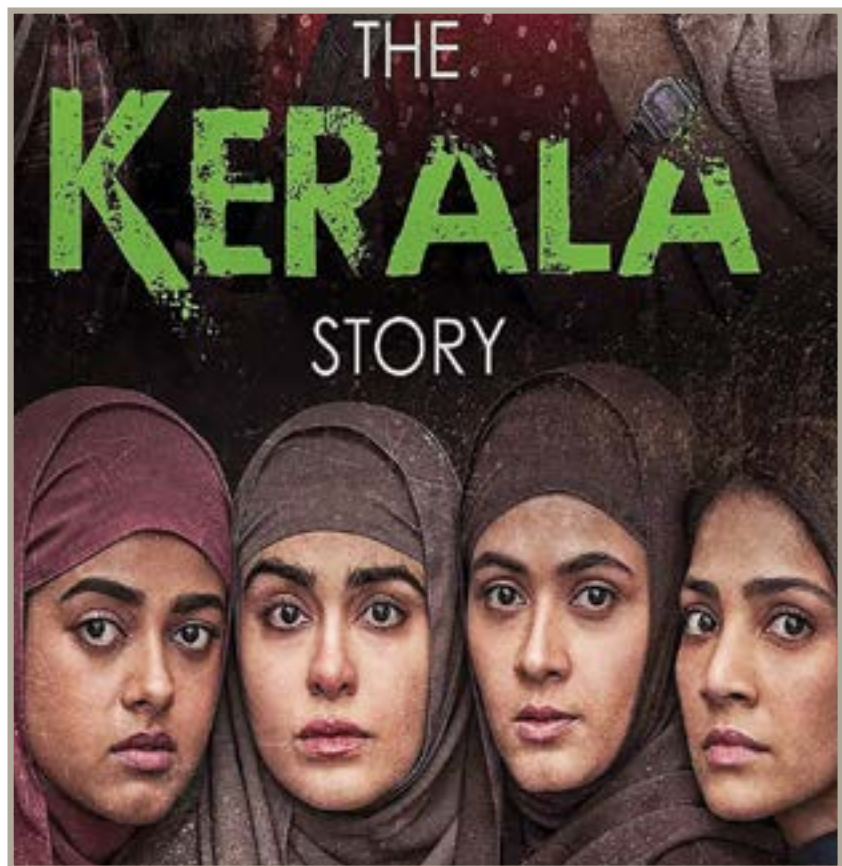


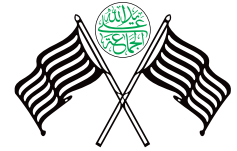
were reported in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. Cow vigilantism continued, leading to a fatal accident in Nashik, Maharashtra, during a high-speed chase to stop a pick-up truck suspected of transporting cattle for slaughter. In Faridabad, Haryana, allegations surfaced against a Bajrang Dal leader, Bittu Bajrangi, involving land encroachment and extortion from meat shops.

Political figures and media outlets played a role in furthering communal polarization. The controversy surrounding the movie “The Kerala Story” resulted in a reward announcement in Kerala and the withdrawal of tax-free status in Madhya Pradesh. Politicians, including Assam’s Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma,

accused the opposition Congress party of attempting to create communal tension in Karnataka. Furthermore, threats and attacks against journalists, such as Alt News’ Editor Mohammed Zubair, highlighted the challenges faced by those reporting on communal issues.

Despite the gravity of the reported incidents, there were

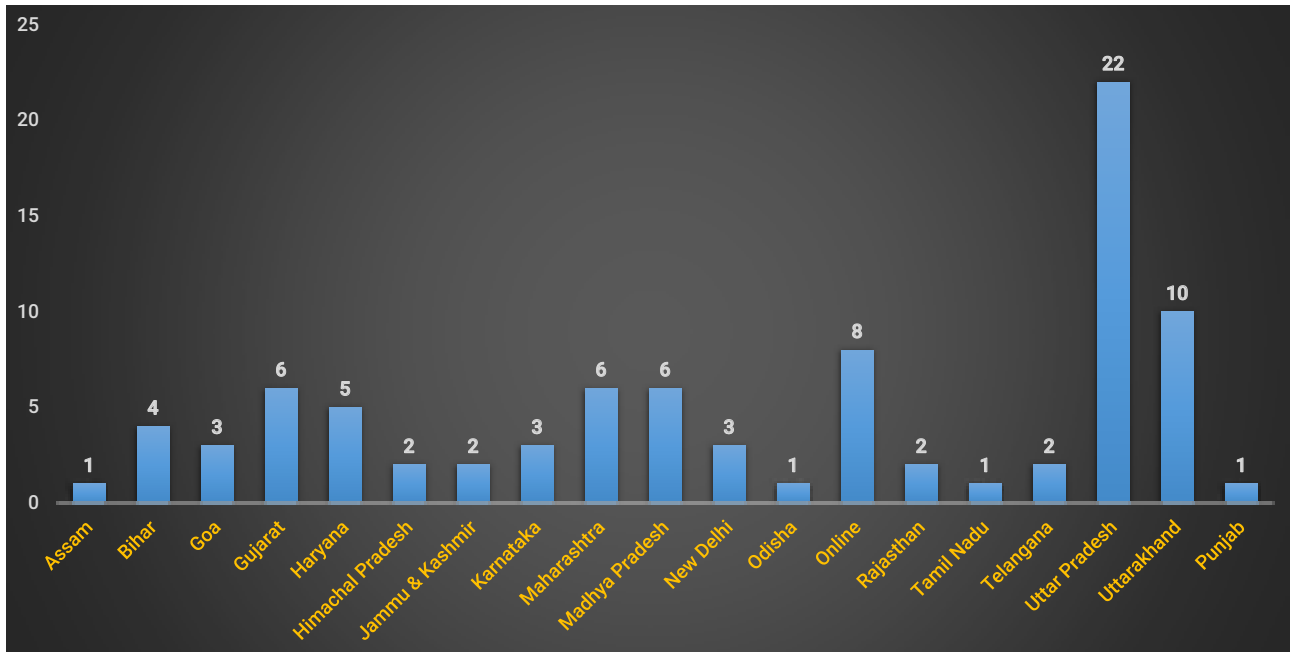




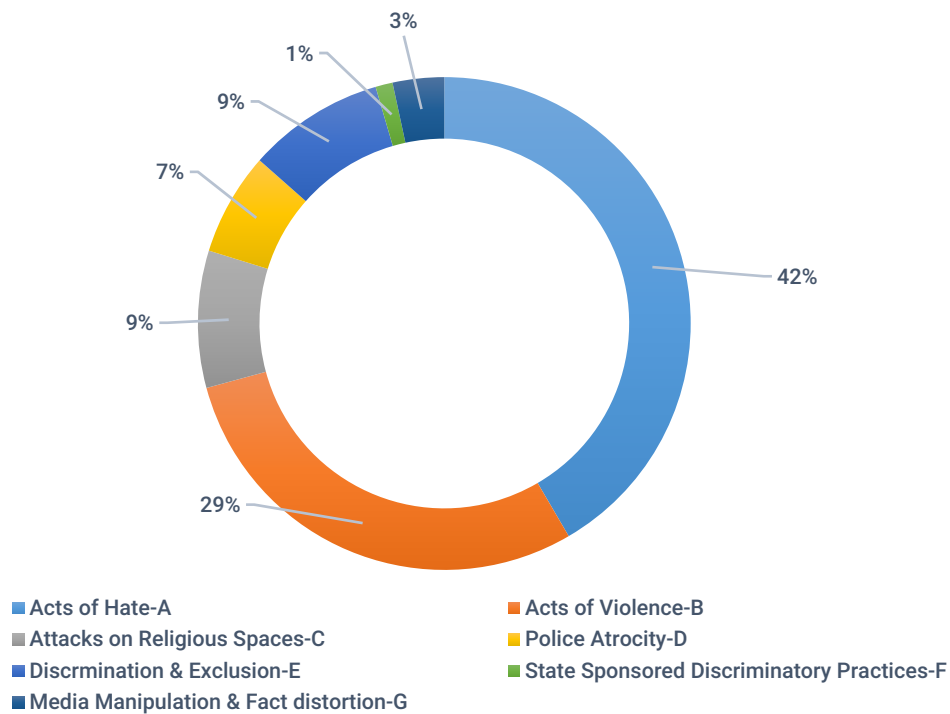
instances where legal actions were taken. FIRs were registered against individuals delivering hate speeches, including Sadhvi Prachi and Suresh Chavhanke. However, concerns remained about the effectiveness of law enforcement in addressing communal tensions, as some cases involved police misconduct, such as the alleged beating of a Muslim man in Gurugram and the assault on a Dalit woman in Sitamarhi,

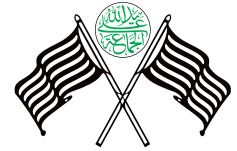
Bihar. The incidents reported in May 2023 underscore the urgent need for comprehensive measures to address rising communal tensions, hate speech, and violence against religious minorities. A collective effort from law enforcement, media, and political leaders is essential to curb the propagation of divisive narratives and ensure the safety and harmony of diverse communities in India.

Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in June 2023



Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in June 2023





June 2024 witnessed a series of alarming communal incidents across India, underscoring the deep-rooted challenges of religious intolerance and discrimination in the country. From physical assaults to inflammatory remarks, the incidents unfolded in various states, painting a grim picture of social harmony. The month began with a shocking incident in Mangalore, Karnataka, where three Muslim boys were viciously attacked while walking with their female Hindu friends. Miscreants confronted the group, escalating

a verbal exchange into a physical assault. Four arrests were made, including a minor, in connection with the attack. In Mota town, Gujarat, a Dalit man faced brutal violence on June 2nd, merely for wearing sunglasses. The victim, Jigarbhai Kanubhai Shekhaliya, bravely filed a FIR against the assailants. Seven individuals were subsequently detained in connection with the assault.

The communal tension escalated in Purola town, Uttarakhand, over allegations of 'Love Jihad.'

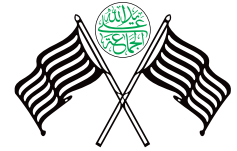


The month saw a surge in misinformation on social media platforms, amplifying communal tensions. Ashok Pandit's film teaser insinuating violence and false claims related to the Balasore railway tragedy fueled concerns, emphasizing the

role of responsible reporting in maintaining societal harmony. A demonstration in Kolhapur turned violent as Hindutva organizations protested against WhatsApp posts honoring historical figures. Slogans of 'Love Jihad' and 'The Kerala Story' filled the air, culminating in stone-throwing and damage to property. Police intervention was required to disperse the unruly crowd.

Preceded by posters instructing Muslim businessmen to leave, the town witnessed forced migration, causing distress among the Muslim community. Even a Muslim BJP functionary was not spared during this troubling period. In Lingasuguru, Karnataka, a police officer arrested an RSS worker, Raju Tambak, for disseminating offensive social media remarks against Muslim women. The arrest aimed to curb the spread of Islamophobia and protect the dignity of minority communities.

Videos surfaced showing the violent assault on a Muslim cattle



trader by Bajrang Dal workers in Greater Noida and a horrifying incident in Palanpur, Gujarat, where ‘upper caste’ men allegedly chopped off a Dalit man’s thumb during a cricket match. These incidents underscored the alarming prevalence of violence against minority communities.

A communal altercation over road usage in Godhra town, Panchmahal district, resulted in serious injuries. Ten individuals were detained, and FIRs were filed in response to accusations from both communities, highlighting the complex nature of communal tensions. A distressing video from Greater Noida’s Sector Beta 2 depicted a group assaulting a 22-year-old Dalit

boy, revealing the involvement of police officers. Jitendra Kumar was detained, and a FIR was filed under relevant sections of the IPC, shedding light on the abuse of power. The Quint reported an anti-Muslim demonstration in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, where Hindutva groups protested



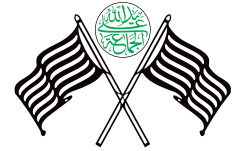


Gujarat, over road usage, resulting in serious injuries and police detentions. Hate Speech incidents were reported, with T. Raja Singh delivering a provocative speech in Telangana, urging Hindu women to avoid befriending Muslim girls. In Assam, Chief Minister Himanta

against WhatsApp posts honoring Aurangzeb and Tipu Sultan. Stone-throwing ensued, leading to property damage and police intervention.

Instances of violence against minorities continued in different parts of the country. In Palanpur, Gujarat, a Dalit man's thumb was allegedly chopped off by upper-caste men over a trivial incident during a cricket match. Communal altercations erupted in Godhra,

Biswa Sarma linked a rise in diseases to "fertilizer jihad," invoking unnecessary religious sentiments. In Haridwar, a Hindu priest advocated violence against Muslims during a Dharam Sansad. Religious discrimination emerged in Tamil Nadu, where Dalits were barred from a temple in Karur, leading to protests. In Kashmir, Muslim girls alleged denial of school access for wearing headscarves, highlighting religious restrictions.



Instances of police brutality were reported in Uttar Pradesh, where a Muslim man was thrashed for requesting police personnel to remove their shoes before entering a mosque in Kokhraj. Another case involved the death of a Muslim man, Dilshad Khan, in police custody in Ghaziabad, with allegations of severe assault. Hate incidents also included misleading information spread by Sudarshan News, attempting to create animosity against Muslims under the guise of “Love Jihad.” A disturbing video from Haldwani, Uttarakhand, showed a Muslim boy being harassed and a subsequent attack on Muslim properties by right-wing groups.

Mob lynching incidents were reported, including

the case of Lukman Ansari in Maharashtra, allegedly lynched by cow vigilantes. A college principal in Malegaon, Maharashtra, faced suspension for reciting Qur’anic verses during a seminar, leading to communal tensions.

Uttarakhand’s head of the Bajrang Dal, Arun Walia, allegedly





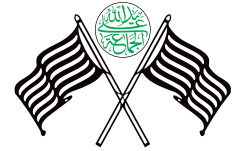
has been taken against him. A Dalit family in Chainpur, Bareilly district of U.P., faced an attack and arson by unidentified assailants on June 13, with no arrests made despite a police complaint. Mob lynching incidents persisted, as reported in Jaunpur, U.P., on June 16, where two

made anti-Muslim remarks during a gathering, announcing plans for a Mahapanchayat to handle Muslims and invoking contentious issues like Love Jihad and Ghazwa-e Hind.

In Uttarakhand, Suresh Chavankhe, a notorious hate-monger, targeted the Muslim community on Twitter, urging the expulsion of infiltrators from the region. Despite inflammatory statements, no government action

Muslim males were attacked by alleged cow vigilantes. The police initiated an investigation but had not made any arrests. In Jabalpur, M.P., a Hindutva activist associated with the Hindu Religious Army delivered a provocative speech, encouraging Hindu youths to marry Muslim girls for a reward.

Caste discrimination surfaced in Jaunpur, U.P., with a minor Dalit girl sharing her painful experience of discrimination by upper-caste



teachers in a video. On June 17th, Kapol Vidyanidhi International School in Mumbai faced religious prejudice, dismissing a Muslim educator allegedly for reciting Azaan during the morning assembly. In Junagadh, Gujarat, a video showed Muslims protesting against the demolition notice for Geban Shah Masjid, allegedly served by plain-clothed police officers. Hate speech at the “Vaishvik Hindu Rashtra Mahotsav” in Goa on June 17th by Ranjit Savarkar called for an economic boycott of the Muslim community, sparking concerns.

On June 18th, a shocking case from Bulandshahr, U.P., revealed the torture of a Muslim daily wage worker, Sahil Khan, by radical Hindus

over a false theft claim. The police arrested the victim instead of the perpetrators, leading to the suspension of the SHO of Kakod Police Station. Economic boycott targeting Muslim traders occurred in Kaalsi, Uttarakhand, with the arrest of Rudra Sena founder Rakesh Tomar. Haridwar, Uttarakhand, witnessed exclu-

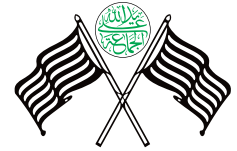




delivered another provocative speech against Muslims at an event in Dasna, Ghaziabad, U.P., on June 21. Bajrang Dal activists openly displayed arms during a training workshop in Punjab's Sangrur District, raising questions about state patronage.

sionary behavior by radical Hindu youth, threatening and asking Muslims to leave the Ghat immediately. A video from Sangareddy, Telangana, showcased atrocities against Dalits, a husband and wife beaten, tied with chains, and hanged on a tree over suspicions of witchcraft. In Sharanpur, U.P., Bajrang Dal members harassed a Muslim boy and a Hindu girl, using 'Love Jihad' as a justification for the attack. Hate preacher Yati Narsinghanand

The Indian Express reported a horrifying incident in Bikaner, Rajasthan, on June 21, where a 21-year-old Dalit girl was raped and murdered by two police personnel and an unknown assailant. Despite the suspension of the constables, the third accused remained at large, and no arrests had been made as of the report. Several disturbing incidents unfolded across India, highlighting the escalating religious tensions and hate crimes.



On June 22nd, a video surfaced on Instagram, posted by Monu Manesar associated with Bajrang Dal, showing the brutal beating of a Muslim youth. This incident raised concerns, particularly as Monu had previously showcased sophisticated weapons in videos, emphasizing the challenges law enforcement faces in apprehending him. Additionally, on June 25th, a Muslim cleric named Shaukat Ali was arrested in Ghaziabad, U.P., under charges of religious conversion, despite the fact that all students at the coaching center where he taught were from the Muslim community.

Communal tensions flared in various regions. On June 26th, a mob lynching

occurred in Maharashtra's Nashik district, where two Muslim men were attacked by cow vigilantes. Tragically, one victim lost his life, prompting the filing of an FIR against the perpetrators. Another concerning incident took place in Himachal Pradesh's Chamba, where right-wing organizations staged protests, giving Muslims an



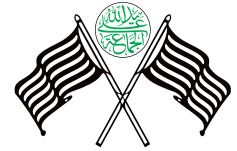


attacking Muslims and promoting a campaign against Halal Certification. On June 30th, a controversial priest in Saharanpur, U.P.,

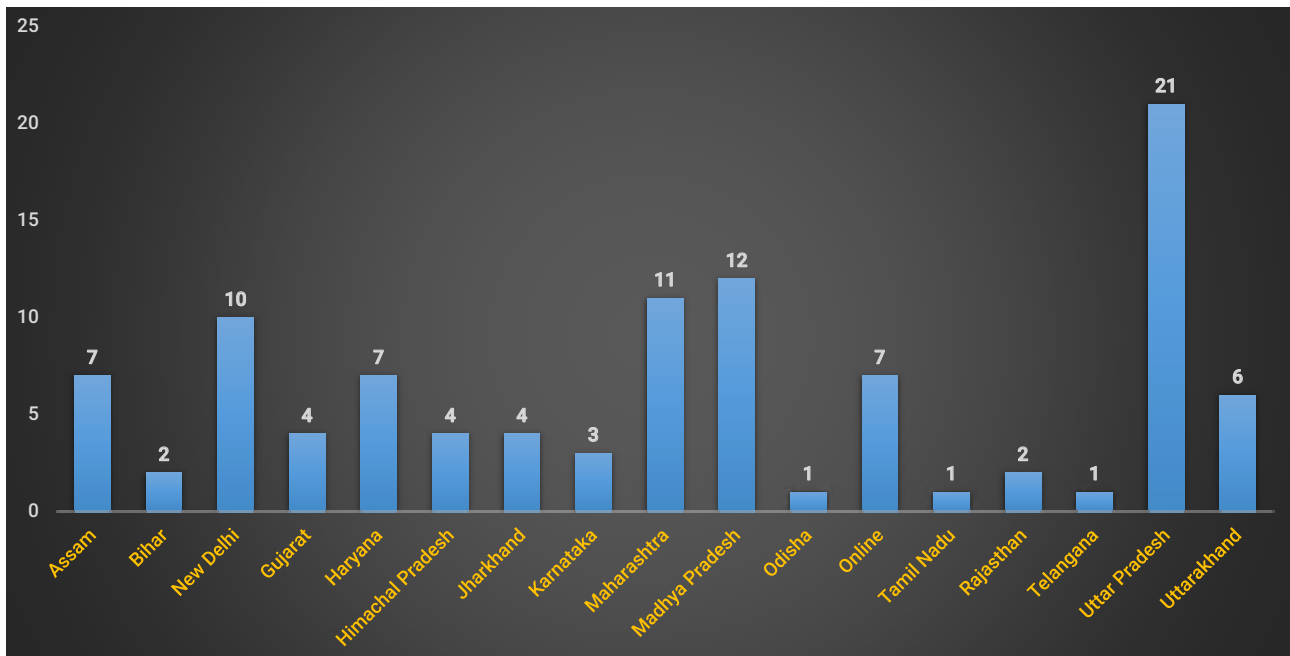
ultimatum to leave the state within 30 days after a murder. Additionally, an incident in Faridabad, Haryana, on June 28th involved the radical Hindu group Bajrang Dal manhandling an interfaith couple in a hotel, showcasing instances of moral policing.

June also saw instances of hate speech and attempts to defame the Muslim community. Hate preacher Kapil Mishra delivered a provocative speech in Goa,

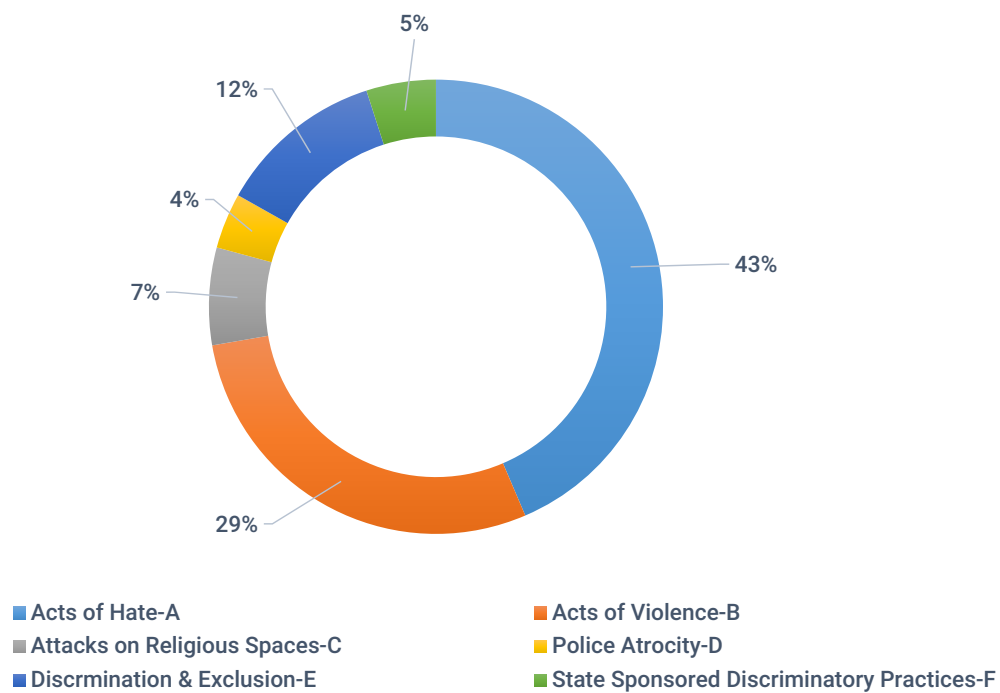
made inflammatory remarks, raising issues like 'love jihad' and 'land jihad.' Furthermore, Kajal Hindustani, a repeat hate preacher, shared posts on June 30th promoting the 'Love Jihad' conspiracy, contributing to the concerning trend of spreading communal hatred and misinformation. These incidents underscore the urgent need for comprehensive efforts to promote religious harmony and address the root causes of such tensions.



Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in July 2023



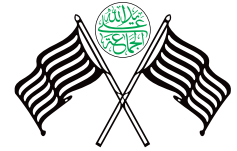
Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in July 2023





During the third quarter of 2023, an alarming surge in Hate Crimes and Hate Speeches gripped the nation. In July, there were 101 verified cases, a significant escalation from the 35 cases in 2022. August followed with 114 cases, compared to the previous year's 29. In a disconcerting series of events reported during the first ten days of July 2023, incidents of hate, discrimination, and violence against minority communities unfolded across various states in India. The incidents encompassed

a range of issues, from false accusations to physical assaults, reflecting a disturbing trend of rising intolerance. Starting in Mumbai's New Panvel, a housing society secretary, Eknath Kawde, was arrested for falsely linking a Muslim flat owner to a banned organization, PFI. The incident revealed the extent to which personal disputes could escalate into attempts to tarnish an individual's reputation based on religious identity. Meanwhile, in Pune, a school principal faced assault for allegedly forcing



students to recite Christian prayers, shedding light on institutional discrimination.

Cases of vigilante violence were reported from Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad, where Hindu activists targeted individuals on suspicion of transporting cow meat. Instead of taking action against the attackers, the police booked the victims under controversial laws. Communal tensions were further fueled in Assam's Silchar, where cow vigilante groups engaged in violence during Eid-ul Adha, prompting the administration and police to intervene. Instances of intolerance surfaced in Karnataka's Hassan District, where Hindutva activists protested against a

school celebrating Eid-ul Adha. Despite the school's clarification of promoting diversity and peace, the incident underscored the challenges posed by religious inclusivity in educational institutions.

Tragically, in Uttar Pradesh's Baghpat, a Muslim man named Sajjad Abbasi died in police



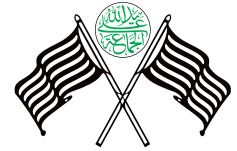


a minor girl named Naghma was allegedly kidnapped by Satish and friends. The incident involved suspicions of family involvement, and though an FIR was lodged, there were reported lapses in police action. Meanwhile, in Anand, Gujarat, Kajal Shingala, also known as Kajal Hindustani, delivered a hate speech against Muslims,

promoting anti-Muslim theories.

custody under questionable circumstances. The family claimed he was brutally beaten, highlighting concerns about custodial violence. Additionally, distressing incidents of mob assault were reported in Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Telangana, where individuals were physically harassed, forced to chant slogans, or subjected to degrading acts based on their religious identity. In Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh,

On July 12th, in Mangalore, Uttarakhand, Kanwariyas vandalized a car and attacked the driver. Despite police denial of communal motives, tensions rose. In Bhilwara, Rajasthan, a Muslim man was beaten and forced to chant 'Jai Shri Ram' on July 8th, leading to a case against seven individuals with an ongoing investigation. Additionally, in Chennai, Tamil



Nadu, the mysterious death of Sridhar after police questioning raised concerns, with the family questioning the circumstances. On July 12th, in Sonkatch, Madhya Pradesh, Sarva Hindu Samaj organized a rally against a shop, alleging encroachment, highlighting religious tensions. In New Delhi, an event at Talkatora Stadium organized by AHP-International Hindu Parishad on July 12th featured hate speeches, with leaders calling for violence against Muslims and promoting Hindu unity. The incidents in Dhanbad, Jharkhand, showcased protests by Hindu Janajagruti and Tarun Hindu against the Waqf Board Act, demanding its repeal and the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code.

The period from July 13th to 21th witnessed a series of disturbing incidents across various regions, including assaults, hate speeches, vandalism, and discriminatory actions against the Muslim community. These incidents, ranging from attacks on individuals to communal clashes and inflammatory speeches,

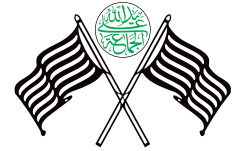




underscore the urgent need for attention to communal harmony, effective law enforcement, and promotion of understanding among diverse communities in the country. Numerous incidents across India highlighted rising communal tensions and instances of violence targeting religious minorities. In Assam's Nagaon district, Assam police opened fire on poor Muslim flood victims, resulting in the death of Rahima Khatoon and injuries to three

others during a confrontation with forest department officials. In Uttar Pradesh's Agra, a leader of the Rashtriya Hindu Parishad delivered a hate speech against the Muslim community, adding to the atmosphere of religious animosity.

In Jharkhand's Chatra, a video circulated on social media showing radical Hindus raising communal slogans in a Muslim-majority area, threatening communal harmony. Similarly,

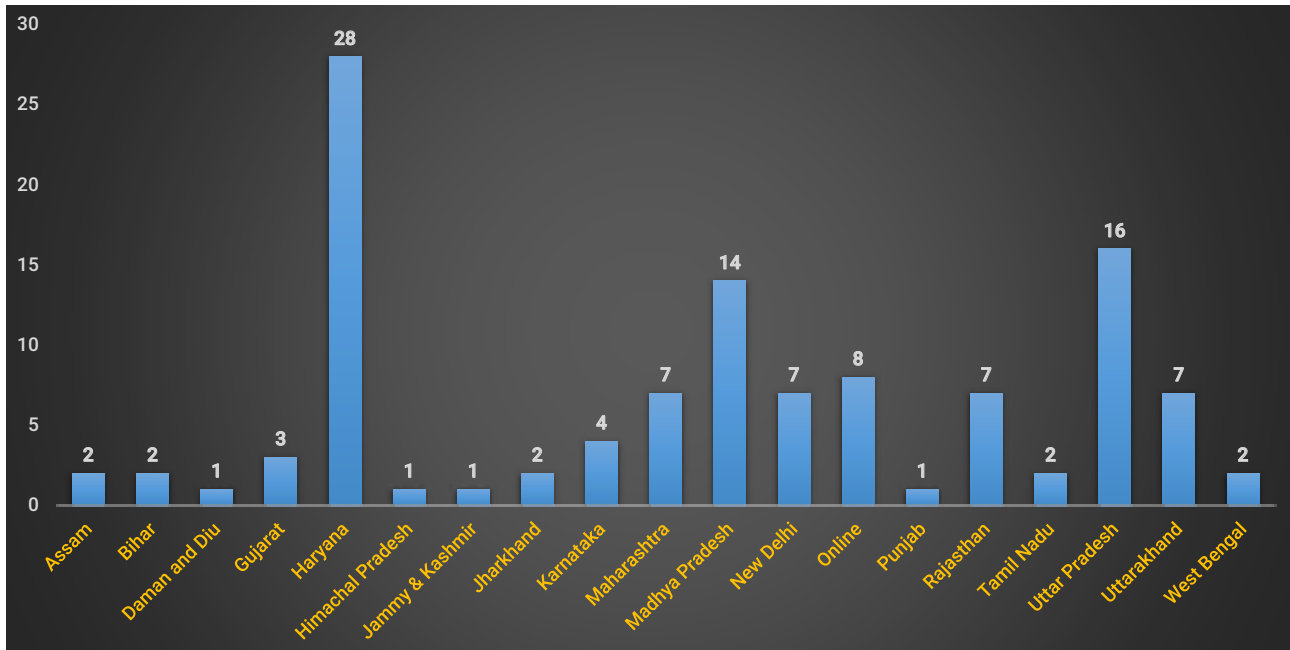


in Uttarakhand's Almora district, right-wing groups rallied against renting houses to Muslims, issuing eviction threats and inciting potential violence. Furthermore, the demolition of parts of two mosques in Delhi sparked controversy, with the railway authorities citing encroachments as the reason, while the mosque administrations insisted on their legality. Madhya Pradesh

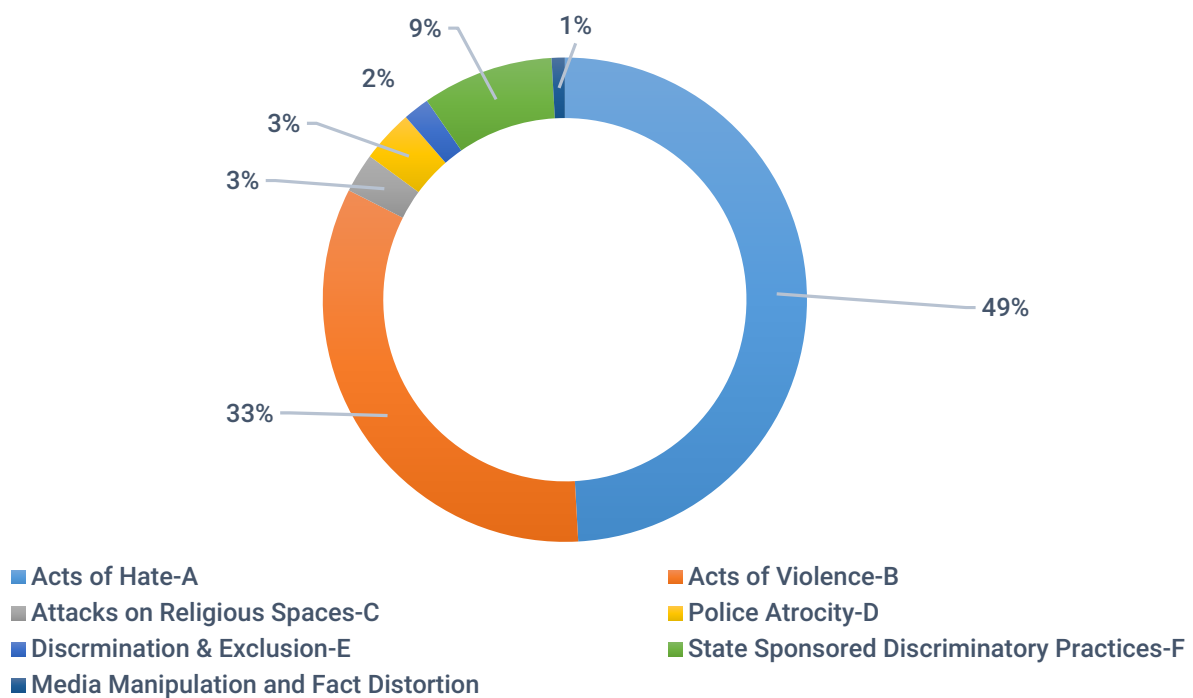
witnessed a disturbing incident where police allegedly beat Muslim youth who sought action against a Hindutva activist posting offensive remarks against Allah on social media. In Uttarakhand's Kotdwar, Haldwani, a group of radical Hindu youth brutally attacked a Muslim boy involved in an interfaith relationship, illustrating the dangers of religious intolerance.

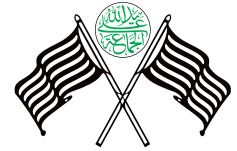


Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in August 2023



Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in August 2023





In August 2023, a series of distressing incidents unfolded across various regions in India, marking a concerning trend of hate speech, violence, and discrimination against the Muslim community. Hate speeches delivered by figures like Suresh Chavhanke and Bittu Bajrangiset the tone for escalating tensions. Videos from different locations depicted the targeting of Muslim shops, vandalizing properties, and calls for violence

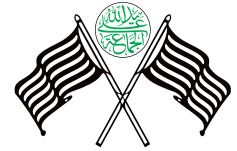
against the community. Leaders from Hindu Jagran Manch, BJP MLAs, and self-styled cow vigilantes continued to spread hate messages, creating a divisive atmosphere. Disturbingly, political figures like U.P. Minister Raghuraj Pratap Singh and BJP leader Jai Bhagwan Goyal advocated for encounters and physical harm against Muslims, raising questions about the authorities' role in curbing such incidents. The hate-filled



On August 1st, a hate speech by Suresh Chavhanke, reported by hindutvawach.org, revealed explicit plans to take over Gyanvapi masjid in Varanasi, while Bittu Bajrangi, a self-styled cow vigilante, delivered another hate speech in Faridabad, Haryana. These incidents marked the beginning of a troubling trend.

atmosphere extended to physical attacks, moral policing incidents, mob lynching, forced evictions, and vandalism targeting Muslim communities in various cities and villages. Threatening letters circulated in Haryana villages warned against Muslim traders, while mosques were attacked in Tauru, Nuh District. Rallies, protests, and provocative speeches by VHP leaders and Hindutva activists further fueled communal tensions.

The situation escalated with videos from various locations depicting the targeting of Muslim shops, vandalizing properties, and promoting violence. Leaders from Hindu Jagran Manch in Himachal Pradesh, BJP MLA and school principal in Sultanpur, and Suresh Chavhanke continued to spread hate messages. Disturbingly, calls for encounters and physical harm against Muslims by political figures like U.P. Minister Raghuraj



Pratap Singh and BJP leader Jai Bhagwan Goyal raised concerns about the authorities' role in curbing such incidents. The hate-filled atmosphere extended to physical attacks, with reports of a Muslim auto driver brutally thrashed by BJP leaders in Sultanpur. The incidents ranged from moral policing in Mumbai, where Muslim girls were allegedly denied entry into a college due to their attire, to instances of mob lynching in Uttar Dinajpur district of West Bengal. Moreover, the hate speeches and calls for violence during rallies and protests in places like Gurugram, Dehradun, and Kurukshetra indicated a disturbing trend of organized hatred.

An incident reported by The Free Press Journal on August 12th detailed the harassment of a Dalit man in M.P.'s Bhind District. Allegedly beaten and coerced by individuals from the Thakur community, the victim was forced to recite religious slogans. This incident, captured on video, heightened concerns

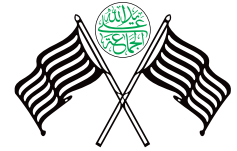




in Aligarh, U.P., on fabricated charges of forced conversion. The incident resulted from protests by Bajrang Dal workers. Subsequent investigations revealed no evidence, leading to the Imam's release a day later. These events underscored the dangers of baseless accusations leading to religious tensions.

about rising sectarianism. Web portal Dalit Times highlighted another case on the same day, involving a physical assault and caste-based slurs against a Dalit family in U.P.'s Sonbhadra district. The family faced violence from upper-caste Hindus for protesting against their urinating in front of their house. The police initiated an investigation into this disturbing incident. On August 13th, Times of India reported the false detention of an Imam

Political controversy ensued on August 13th, with the former Bhopal Mayor and Vice President of Madhya Pradesh's BJP state unit, Alok Sharma, allegedly intimidating Muslim voters during a convention in Ratlam district. Sharma's speech, urging Muslim voters not to participate if they did not support the BJP, raised concerns about psychological intimidation of minority communities. Incidents

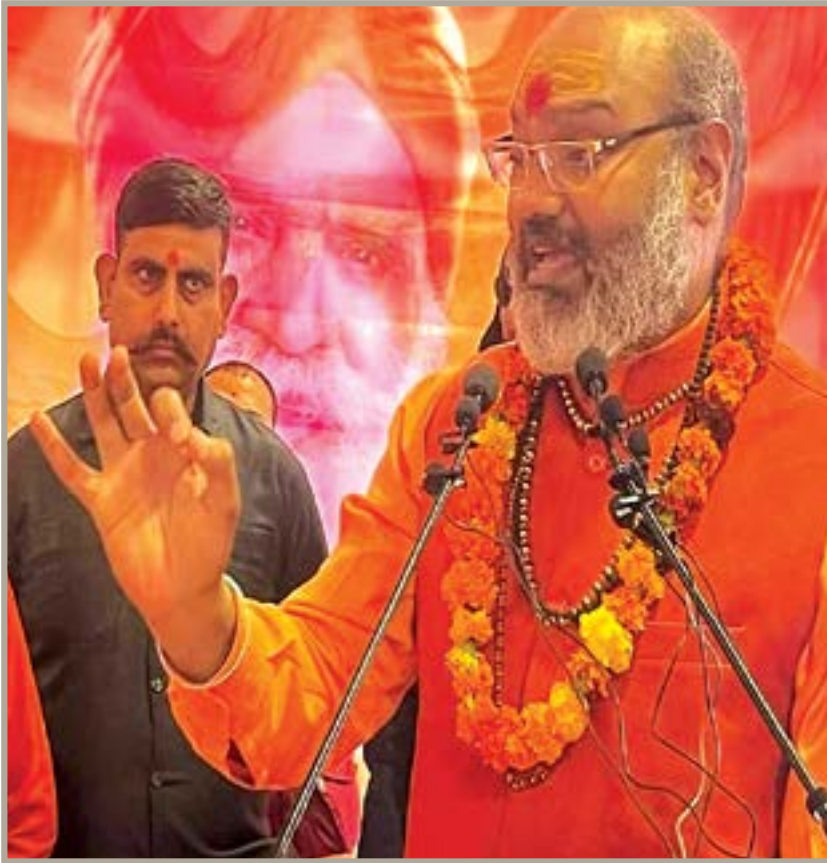


of physical attacks also continued, as reported on August 14th by web portal *indiatoday.in*, where a Dalit man in Lalitpur, U.P., was assaulted for refusing to provide free chicken. The police registered a case under the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act against the accused. On August 21st, RSS, VHP, and Bajrang Dal members were reported to have attacked Christian devotees during Sunday prayers in GTB Nagar, New Delhi. The assailants not only physically assaulted the worshippers but also attempted to strip them, chanting “Jai Shree Ram.” The victims sought refuge in a local police station, and an FIR was lodged in connection with the incident, highlighting the brazenness of religiously motivated violence.

Another disturbing

episode occurred in Bagalkot, Karnataka, as reported by web portal *sabrangindia.in* on the same day. During a Hindu Jagaran Vedike event, a right-wing leader delivered an incendiary speech, and other speakers hinted at violence against minorities. One speaker even called for a return to the events of Gujarat in 2002, adding a troubling dimension to the communal discourse. On August 21st, YouTube



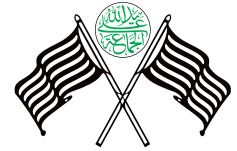


from Ujjain, M.P. Two Muslim men, Wasim and Zubair, were allegedly thrashed by a mob in the presence of police officers. A video circulating on social media depicted the distressing scene, emphasizing the urgency of addressing rising communal tensions and vigilantism. In another shocking

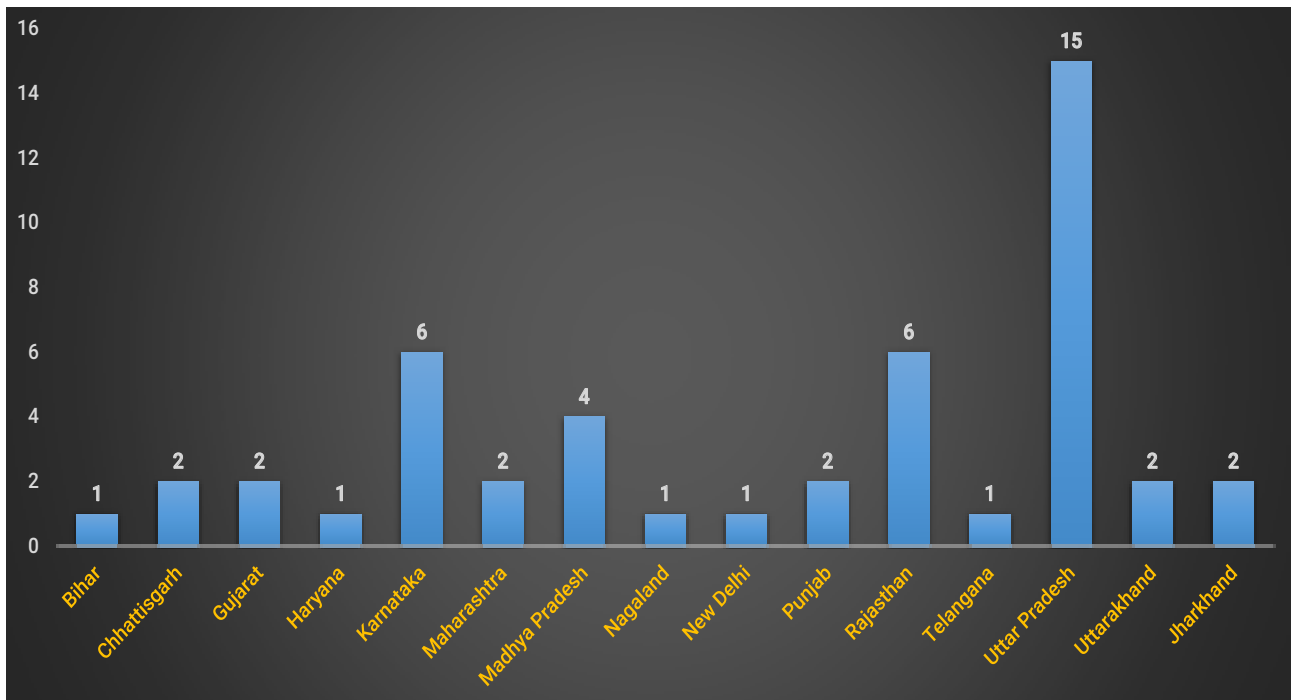
channel *lallanpost* reported an Islamophobic incident involving Yati Narsinghanand, who made inflammatory remarks against Muslims during a TV debate. His statement about the potential appointment of a Muslim Prime Minister in 2029 raised concerns about the propagation of hate speech fueling religious divisions.

The Free Press Journal reported on August 22nd another case of violence linked to “Love Jihad”

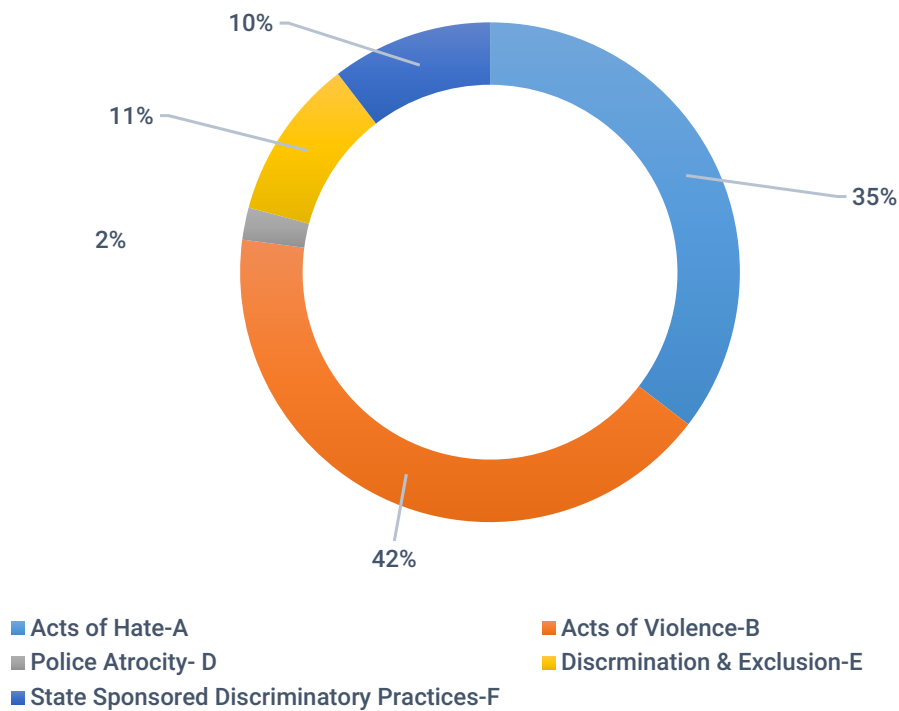
incident reported by web portal Sabrang India on August 22nd, a Muslim pizza delivery boy in Ghatkopar, Mumbai, was brutally assaulted by a group of far-right activists. The attackers, with apparent religious biases, targeted the victim, Shahid, and attempted to force him to recite names of Hindu deities. This incident underscored the escalating intolerance and bigotry prevailing in certain segments of society.



Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in September 2023



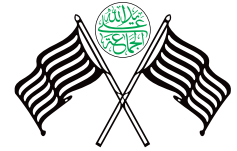
Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in September 2023





In the month of September, India witnessed a series of disturbing incidents that highlighted religious discrimination, hate speech, and violence against various communities. These incidents, spanning across different states, reflect a concerning trend of communal tension and intolerance. Cases of religious discrimination and intimidation, including allegations against a Pastor for religious conversion in U.P's Puranpur. It also mentions

incidents of religious bigotry in Karnataka, where a government school teacher targeted Muslim students, and discrimination in a government residential school in Hassan, Karnataka. Incidents of police action, hate speech, and physical attacks were also reported from various part the country. It includes cases like the Madhya Pradesh Police parading Muslim men in a half-naked state and a physical attack against a Muslim man in Rajasthan. An



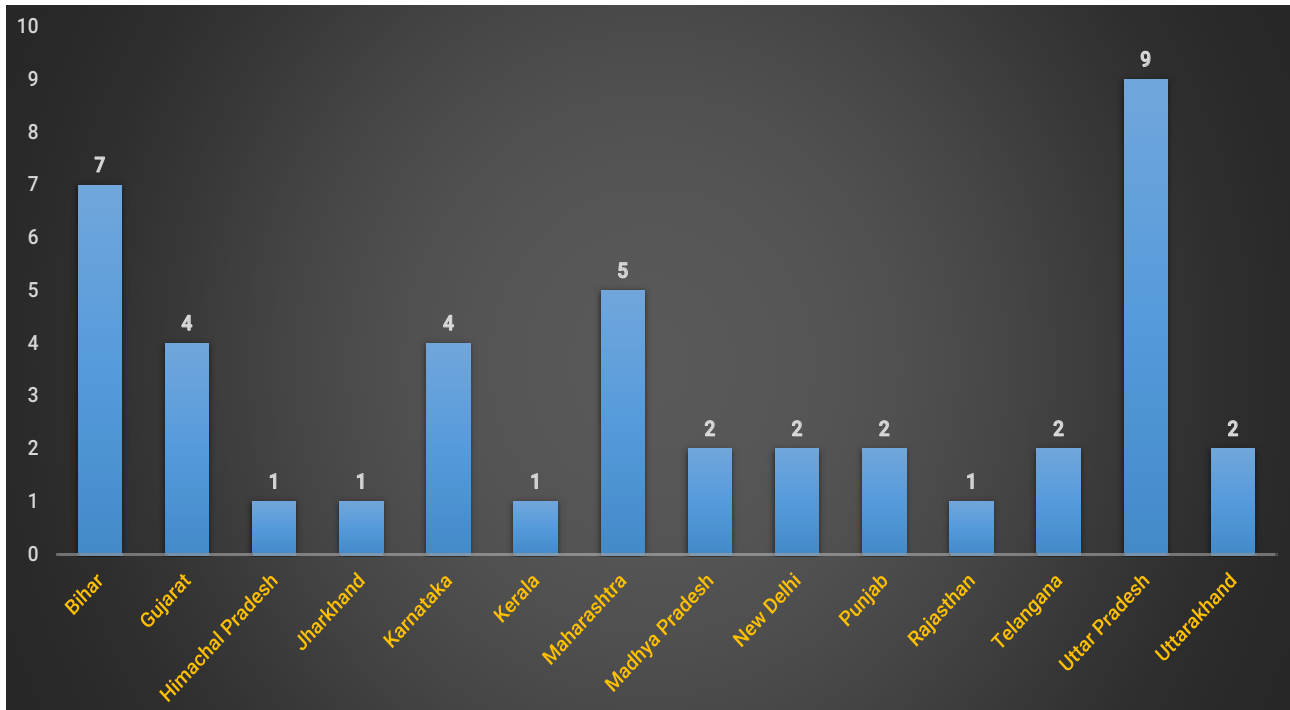
incident involving unidentified men attempting to install an idol in a disputed area in Madhya Pradesh was also surfaced.

Incidents of communal clashes, cow vigilantism, and hate speech, such as the communal clash in Satara District, Maharashtra, and the assault on a truck driver for transporting cattle in Gurugram, Haryana. It also mentions the case of a Dalit youth beaten to death in Sultanpur, U.P., and instances of hate speech delivered by political leaders. During the month of September, cases of mob lynching, custodial death, and further hate speech, including the tragic mob lynching of a Muslim man in Alwar, Rajasthan, and a case of custodial death in Bulandshahr, U.P. It also reports provocative statements by a repeated hate preacher in U.P.

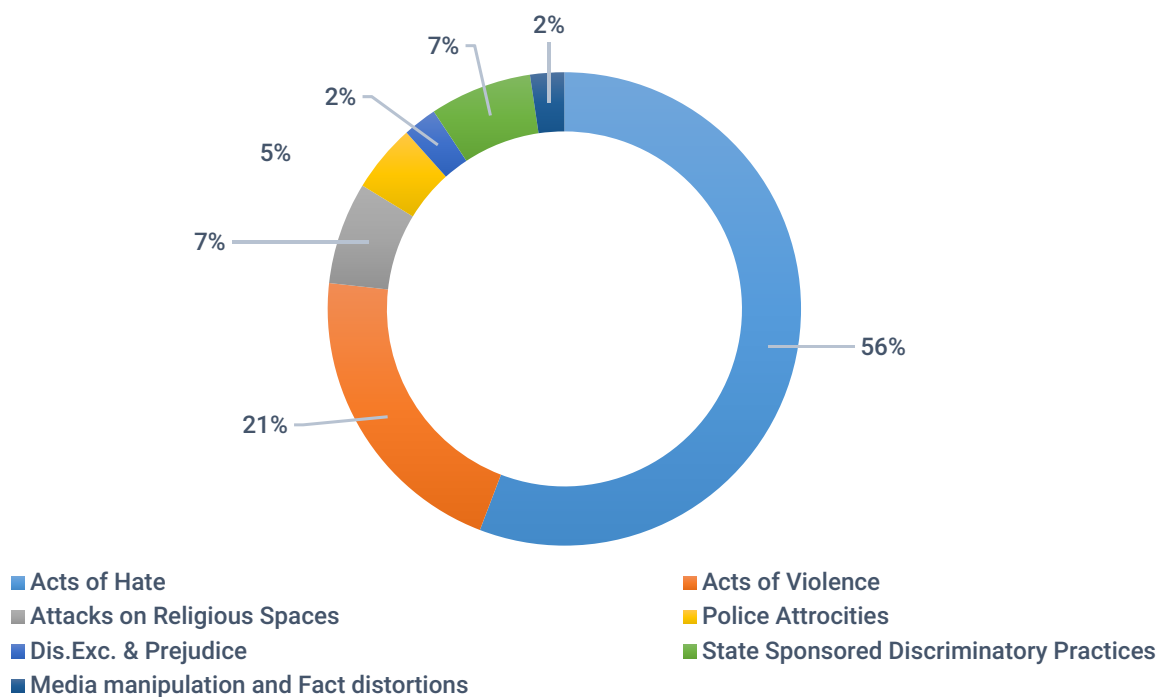
targeting Muslims. The month ended with incidents of assaults on Muslim women, covering an attack in Jharkhand and communal tensions in Hyderabad during Ganesh Visarjan. It includes instances of mob lynching, covering the brutal beating and death of a Muslim youth in Delhi, and concludes with instances of hate speech and stigmatization in Rajasthan, Karnataka, and U.P.



Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in October 2023



Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in October 2023





From October to December 2023, there was a decline in hate crimes against minorities, with 117 verified cases reported by the Justice and Empowerment of Minorities (JEM) Team. From October 1st to October 16th, a disturbing series of incidents across India has highlighted a concerning rise in religious tensions and hate speech. The events reported include cases of religious conversion, mob lynching, Hate Speeches by

leaders, cow vigilante activities, and attacks on minorities, particularly Muslims. These incidents span across various states, raising questions about the authorities' response and the overall atmosphere of communal harmony in the country.

On October 1st, *hindutvawatch.org* reported a religious conversion in Ghaziabad, UP, led by Hindu Raksha Dal leader Pinky Chaudhry. However, no action

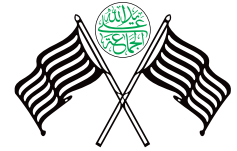


Chandigarh, prompting concerns about the role of law enforcement in such incidents. On October 2nd in Gujarat's Ahmedabad, a Muslim man, Mohammad Shahroz, faced a tragic mob lynching after refusing to chant "Jai Shree Ram." In Jaipur, Rajasthan, a wedding function was disrupted by men tearing pages of the Holy Quran, raising

was taken against the organizers. On the same day, a brutal attack on a Muslim man, Altaf Ansari, resulted in his death in Patna. The police denied it was a mob lynching, attributing the incident to an accident. The following days witnessed Hate Speeches, with leaders from the VHP and Bajrang Dal using inflammatory language against Muslims in Bihar, Punjab, and Uttarakhand. Cow vigilante activities, accompanied by police personnel, were reported in

religious tensions.

Cases of caste discrimination and humiliation were reported in Thangad, Gujarat, where Dalits were forced to dig a well and faced violence for refusing. Additionally, a Muslim woman in Gujarat's Selamba reported violence during a procession organized by Hindutva groups, resulting in her husband's shop being looted and set on fire. From October 16th to October 31st, a series of alarming



incidents have been reported across various regions in India, showcasing a persistent rise in hate speech, communal tensions, and discriminatory actions. On October 16th, hindutvawatch.org highlighted an incident in Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district, where a Hindutva leader at a Shaurya Jagran Yatra allegedly propagated conspiracy theories of land jihad and Love Jihad, fostering violence and fear among the audience. Another case on the same day involved Surendra Jain, the Joint General Secretary of VHP, targeting the Muslim community during a speech in Delhi's Dwarka colony, distorting historical facts.

The Indian Express reported on October 16th an incident

in U.P.'s Hamirpur city where an Imam was arrested for allegedly "promoting enmity" by supporting Palestinian citizens on social media. On October 17th, hindutvawatch.org reported another provocative hate speech from Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district, featuring suspended BJP MLA T Raja Singh instigating

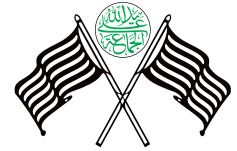




raised concerns, and the police arrested Dhokare on the same day. On October 21st, mob lynching was reported from New Delhi's Karala Village, involving a Muslim man named Mohammad Salman who was attacked, forced to drink urine, and compelled to chant "Jai Shree Ram."

violence by urging people to join Bajrang Dal. Furthermore, on October 18th, an incident of stigmatizing Muslims occurred in M.P.'s Ujjain, where Garba dance organizers allegedly banned non-Hindus to "prevent Love Jihad." A horrifying case of an alleged hate crime was reported on October 19th from Maharashtra's Padgha, where a police constable, Suraj Devram Dhokare, reportedly shot and killed two Muslim men, Azim Sayyed and Shaikh. The incident

On October 22nd, *The Indian Express* highlighted a case of state-sponsored discrimination in Lucknow, where the headmistress of a government school was suspended and action was taken against two teachers after Hindu outfit leaders protested students offering namaaz in the school's prayer area, primarily attended by Muslim students. This incident underscores a concerning pattern of religious bias impacting the educational environment.



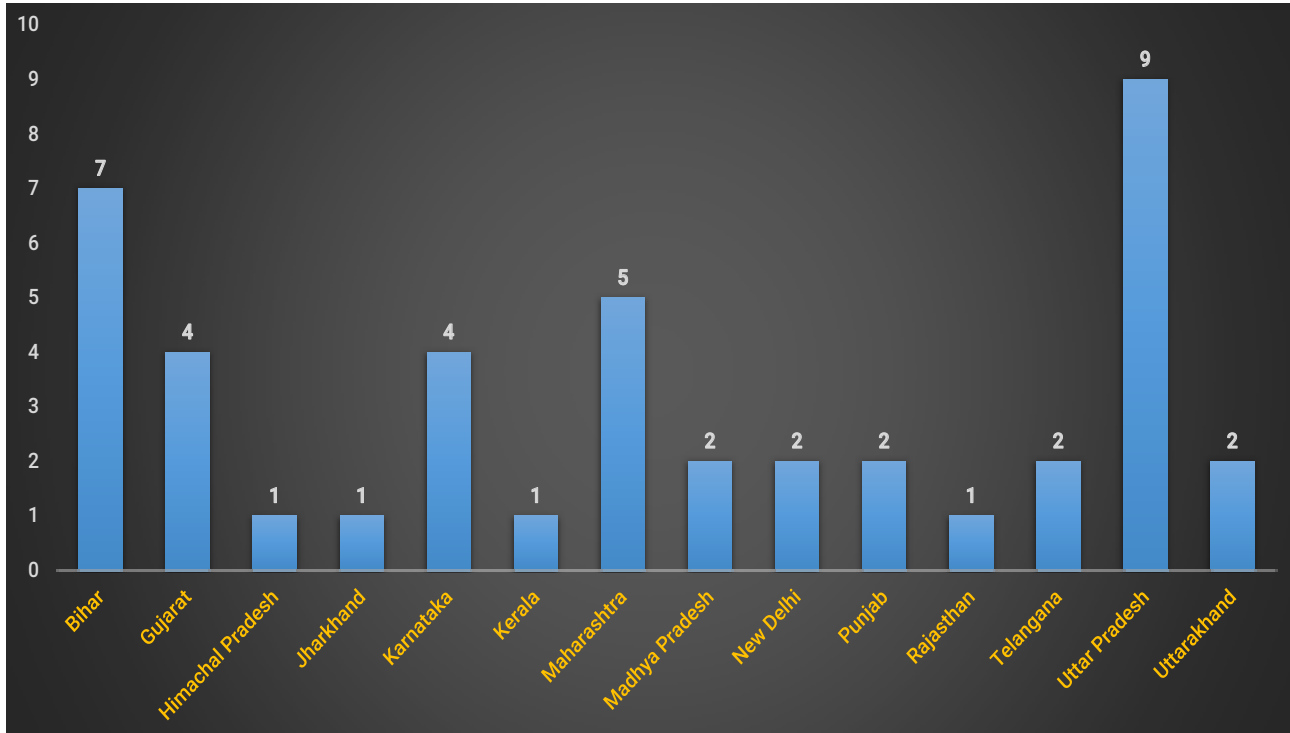
Subsequent reports reveal a string of alarming events, including cow vigilante harassment in Gujarat, police brutality in Hyderabad, forced shop closures by Bajrang Dal during Navratri in Bihar, and media manipulation leading to communal tensions in Uttarakhand. The incidents also involve a tragic case of mob lynching in Hapur, Uttar Pradesh, where Irshad Mohammad lost his life following an argument during Dussehra festivities. Additionally, controversial statements by BJP's Giriraj Singh in Bihar and physical assault on an Imam, Mohd Sharafat Khan, during Garba festivities in Mumbai further exemplify the escalating hostility and Islamophobia in different parts of the country during this period.

In yet another hateful incident,

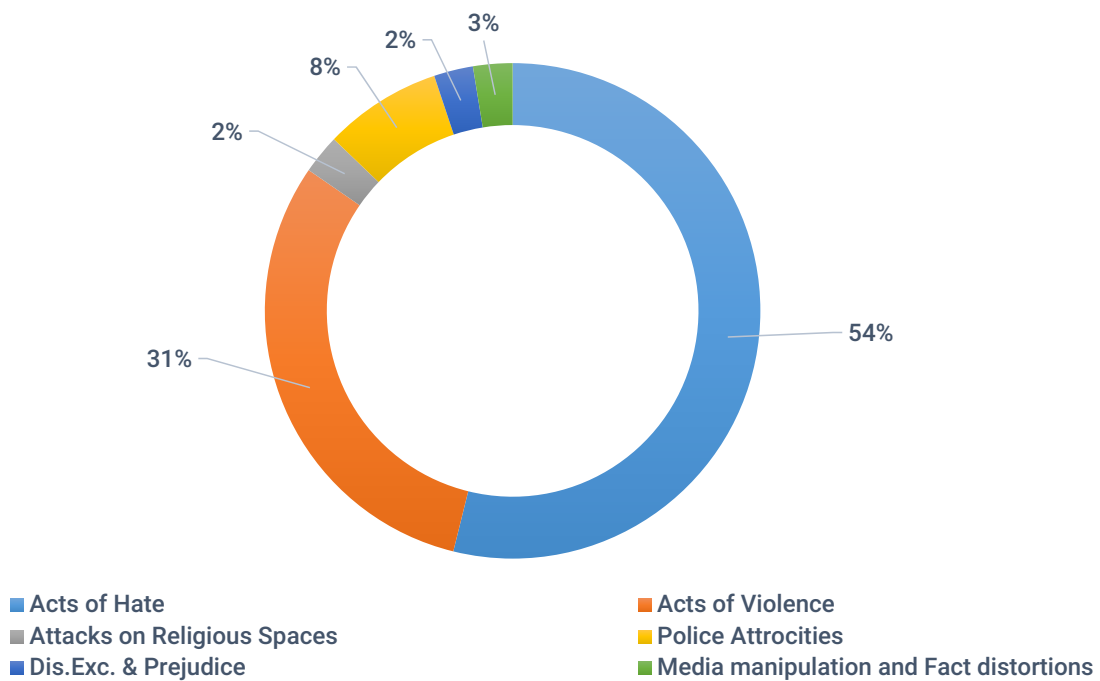
Adam Bidapa, son of fashion stylist Prasad Bidapa, faced charges in Bengaluru for rash driving and abusing a Muslim cop. In a separate incident in Kasargod, right-wing forces allegedly spread anti-Muslim propaganda on social media, misrepresenting a protest by Khansa Women's College students as an attempt to impose Sharia laws on a Hindu woman. Altnews.in verified the misinformation.

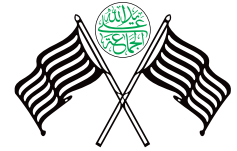


Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in November 2023



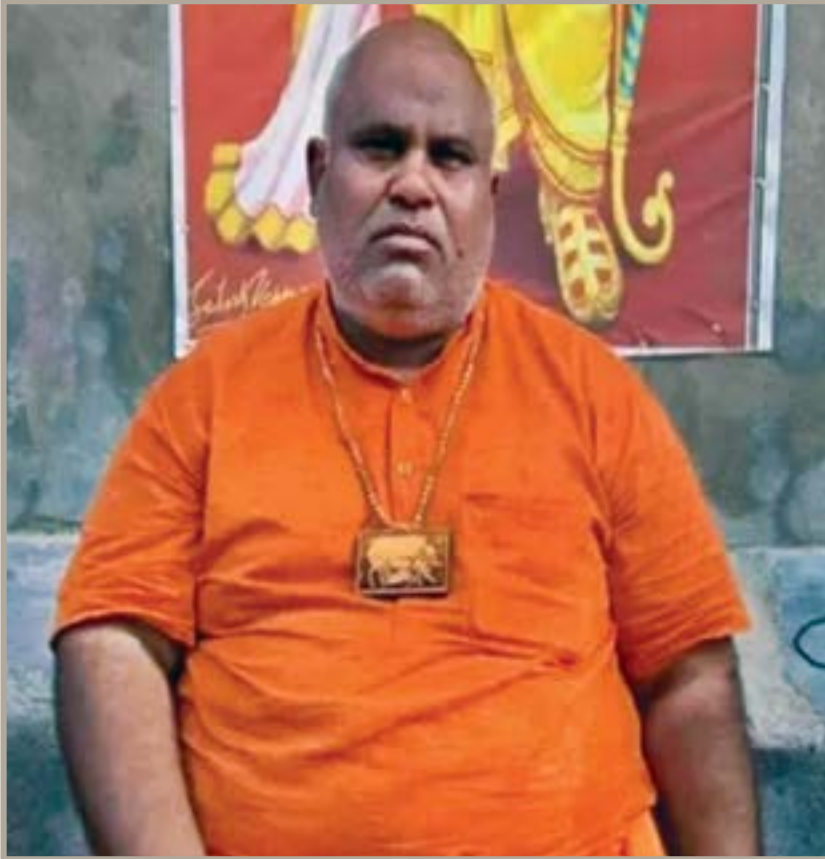
Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in November 2023





In November 2023, a series of unsettling incidents occurred in different parts of India, revealing concerning trends of hate speech, religious insensitivity, and violence. The first set of incidents involved inflammatory remarks made by prominent figures, including Surdarshan News Editor-in-Chief Suresh Chavhanke, former BJP candidate Sandeep Dayma, and Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath. These individuals

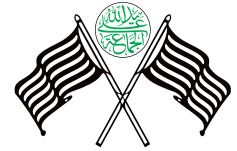
were criticized for making anti-Muslim comments, promoting divisive narratives, and engaging in hate speech, raising questions about the need for responsible political discourse. These incidents highlighted instances of physical assault and harassment against the Muslim community. In Maharana Pratap Nagar, Madhya Pradesh, members of the Bajrang Dal physically attacked two Muslim men based on accusations of spending time with



Recently, controversial statements made by individuals like Yati Narsinghanand, Dharendra Krishna Shastri, and Rajvardhan Singh Parmar. These figures were accused of delivering hate speeches that targeted the Muslim community, associating Islam with negative stereotypes and promoting economic and social

a Hindu woman. The assailants not only used violence but also questioned the victims about the woman's religious identity. Similar incidents were reported in Faridabad, Haryana, where a Bajrang Dal leader, Raj Kumar (Bittu Bajrangi), delivered a hate speech calling for the boycott of Muslim businesses during Diwali celebrations. These incidents pointed to attempts to promote animosity and discrimination against the Muslim community.

boycotts against Muslims. These incidents collectively highlighted the urgent need for addressing religious intolerance, hate speech, and discriminatory behavior within the societal and political spheres in India. Sudarshan TV's Suresh Chavhanke delivered hate speech in Kanpur, distorting facts about the Taj Mahal's origin, targeting and demonizing the Muslim community. Kanpur Police denied hate elements. On Diwali



night in Ghaziabad, UP, a Muslim man, Afzal, lost his life in a mob attack using an explosive-filled iron rod. Investigation ongoing; accused Pradeep evading arrest.

In Ghasauli, Amroha, UP, seven Muslims faced religious discrimination accusations for performing namaz outside a house. Three arrested after an FIR. Similarly, On November 16th, Union Home Minister Amit Shah fueled Islamophobia in Bemetara, Chhattisgarh, during an election rally, discussing 'Love Jihad' and accusing the region of being a hub. Sabrang India, on November 18th, reported multiple hate speeches by BJP leaders in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, violating election

conduct guidelines, targeting Muslims, and promoting divisive narratives.

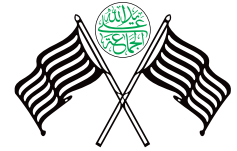
On November 20th, reports from Maktoob Media and english.jagran.com highlighted a police atrocity in Rampur district, UP, where Uttar Pradesh Police allegedly killed



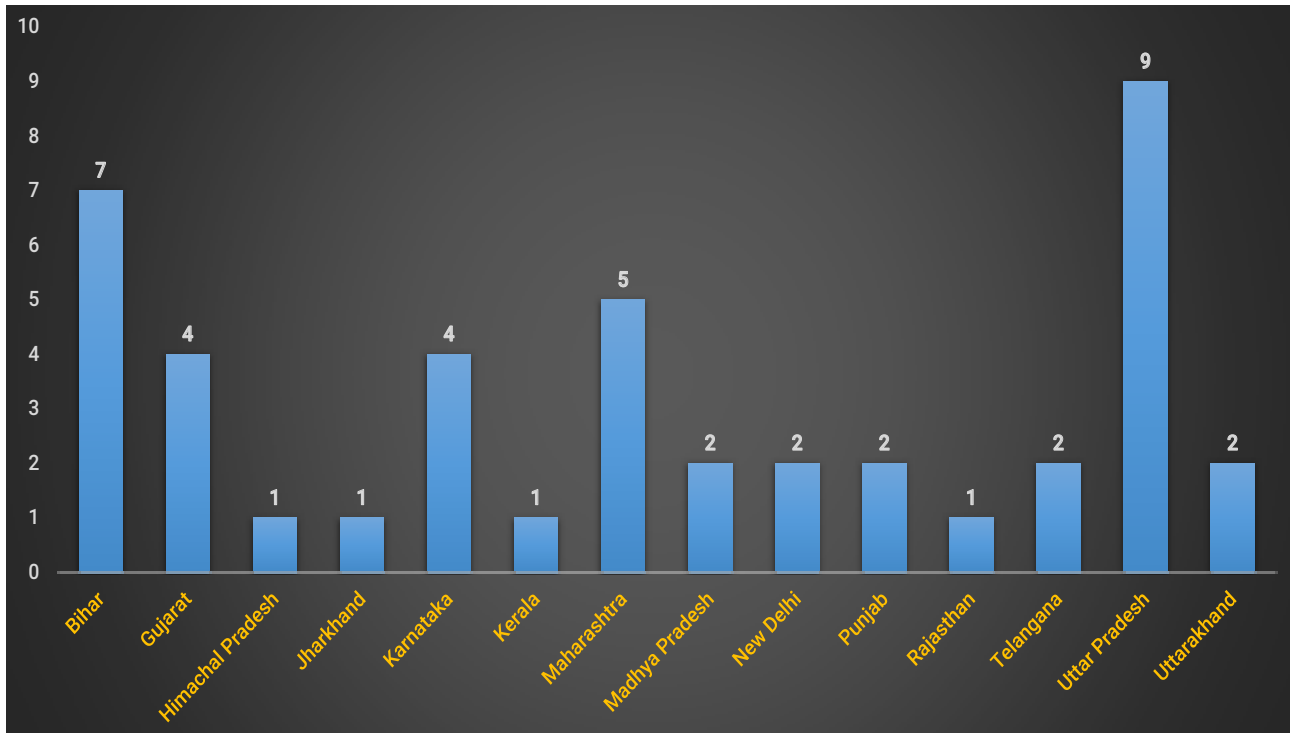


Sajid Qureshi, a 23-year-old Muslim, and injured another youth, Babloo, in Patwai. A case under section 302 of the IPC was registered. On the same day, *Muslim Mirror* reported a protest in Goa against Halal-certified products, with Bajrang Dal, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, and Hindu Janajagruti Samiti urging a ban, aligning with Uttar Pradesh's decision. The organizations submitted a

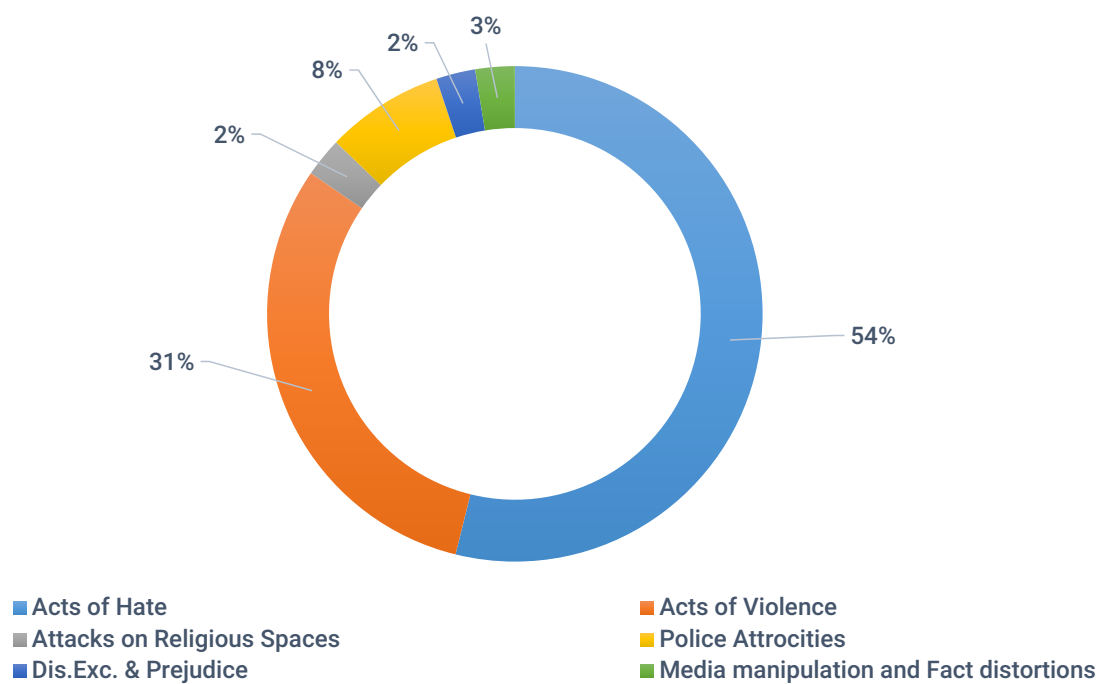
memorandum at Ponda police station, urging the prohibition of Halal product production, storage, and sale in Goa. On November 29th, *The Times of India* reported arson and tension in Satna District, MP, after an alleged rape by a Muslim man. Hindutva groups protested, setting fire to the accused's father's shop, escalating communal tensions. No action was taken against the arsonists.



Hate Crime Case against Minorities in India in December 2023



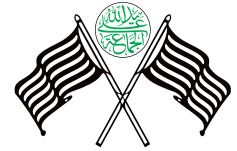
Category-wise cases of Hate Crime reported in December 2023





In December 2023, various disturbing hate crime cases unfolded across various regions of India, raising concerns about rising religious tensions and discriminatory practices. In the Jamui district of Bihar, Khushboo Panday, also known as “Hindu Sherni,” delivered an inflammatory speech targeting the Muslim community, calling for actions similar to those taken by Israel against Masjids. Despite the provocative nature

of the speech, no reported action was taken by the Bihar Police, underscoring the need for authorities to address such situations promptly. Another incident in Gangavathi, Karnataka, highlighted religiously motivated violence, where an elderly Muslim man, Hussain Sahab, was allegedly brutally attacked by individuals associated with Hindutva groups for refusing to chant “Jai Shri Ram.” The refusal of police



stations to register a complaint, citing jurisdictional issues, emphasized the challenges victims face when seeking justice amid bureaucratic obstacles.

In Jaipur, Rajasthan, economic discrimination targeted Muslim shop owners following the BJP's victory. Elected BJP MLA Balmukund Acharya issued a directive to close non-vegetarian food stalls, predominantly owned by Muslims, raising concerns about the impact of discriminatory policies on religious freedoms and the livelihoods of minority communities. These incidents collectively highlight the urgent need for authorities to address religiously motivated violence, discrimination,

and hate speech to ensure the protection of fundamental rights and social harmony in the country.

In Maharashtra's Nagpur, a state-sponsored discriminatory practice emerged as Dr. Manisha Kayande urged Chief Minister Eknath Shinde to ban illegal Halal Certificates, leading to



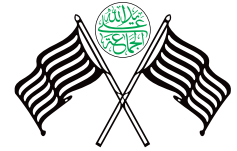


by Bajrang Dal for allegedly damaging a Ganesh idol. These incidents collectively emphasize the need for careful investigation, prevention of assumptions based on religion, and a comprehensive approach to address religious tensions and discrimination in India. At New Delhi's Jantar Mantar on

an inquiry due to potential misuse and concerns about misleading product information. In Modinagar, Uttar Pradesh, a physical assault against Muslim councillor Salman occurred after affixing "Shri" to his nameplate, escalating into clashes between councillors and members of the Hindu Yuva Vahini. Additionally, an incident in Madhya Pradesh highlighted the consequences of assuming religious affiliations, as a man was wrongly targeted

December 21st, Rajvardhan Singh Parmar, chief of the Maharana Pratap Sena, stirred controversy by advocating for a "Muslim-free Delhi" and a "madrassa-free" and "mazar-free" environment, drawing criticism for promoting hate speech. Parmar's past arrest for rape added to concerns about impunity for inflammatory remarks.

On the same day, *The Observer Post* reported alleged police



brutality in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, where clashes erupted in Mudhapande as police reportedly assaulted Muslims protesting the expansion of a Hindu shrine. The incident resulted in FIRs against 34 individuals, underscoring the challenges surrounding religious spaces and the need for conflict resolution. In Telangana's Parigi on December 22nd, Muslim Mirror reported Islamophobia related to the approval of an Islamic congregation, with BJP's Bandi Sanjay Kumar criticizing the event, highlighting ongoing tensions surrounding religious events and resource allocation.

Discrimination based on Muslim identity was documented on December 23rd by *The Observer*

Post, revealing instances of housing discrimination in Mangalore, Noida, and other locations, raising concerns about societal inclusivity. Tragic incidents of mob lynching occurred in West Bengal on December 24th, reported by *The Observer Post* and Maktoob Media, involving attacks on Ruhul Amin

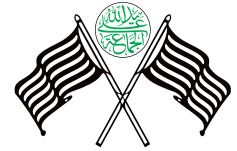




by *HindutvaWatch*, highlighted the urgent need to address such rhetoric for communal harmony. On December 28th, concerns were raised about Monger Yati Narsinghanand's hate

Sheikh and two Muslim men on suspicion of theft and cow theft. These incidents underscored the need to address vigilantism and uphold the rule of law. In Tripura on December 24th, *Deccan Herald* reported attacks on the Muslim community in Rajyabari, emphasizing the urgency of swift action to safeguard the rights and safety of affected communities. Instances of hate speech in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra on December 25th, reported

speech in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, contributing to communal tensions. *The Observer Post* documented a case on December 29th, involving the physical assault of Muslim teenagers in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, allegedly motivated by radical beliefs, underscoring the challenges faced by minority communities and the imperative for a robust response from law enforcement to ensure justice and deter future acts of violence.



These incidents collectively underscore the challenges of religious tensions, Hate Speech, and communal discord that persist in various parts of the country. They emphasize the urgent need for collective efforts to foster an environment of inclusivity, tolerance, and understanding, ensuring the nation moves toward unity

and harmony. Navigating these complex challenges requires political leadership to address underlying issues, educate the masses, and foster an environment that upholds inclusivity and understanding. Only through collective efforts can we aspire to build a society free from the shackles of hate and misinformation.



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January 2023

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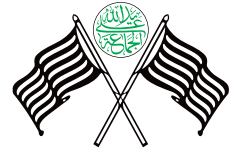
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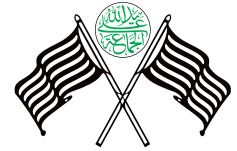
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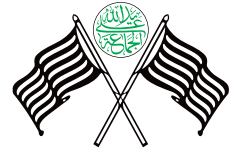


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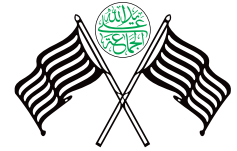
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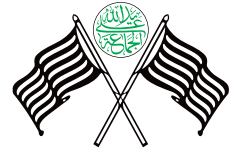
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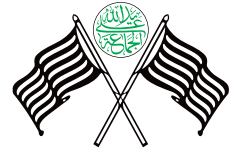


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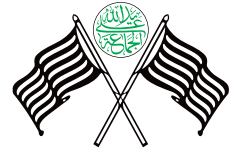


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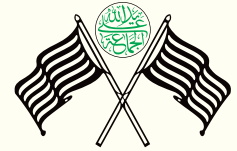
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Conclusion

The situation highlighted in the report paints a distressing picture of rising communal tensions, hate crimes, and discrimination against minorities, particularly Muslims, in India during 2023. The coordinated efforts of certain groups, including those associated with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), have contributed to a toxic environment. The complicity of the state machinery and media in perpetuating biased narratives further exacerbates the situation. The data indicates a disturbing increase in hate crimes, hate speech, and targeted actions against various minority communities.

The reported decline in hate crimes during certain periods offers temporary relief, but the overall narrative reveals a sustained and pervasive campaign against minorities. The intertwining of political events, such as elections, with the occurrence of attacks underscores the complex dynamics at play. Additionally, the discriminatory measures, such as the Hijab Ban affecting Muslim girls' education and controversies surrounding religious practices, highlight the multifaceted challenges faced by minority communities.

The report suggests a dire need for comprehensive efforts to address and mitigate the root causes of such divisive behavior. The role of influential organizations and their affiliates in orchestrating these actions underscores the importance of a nuanced and empathetic approach to ensure the protection of human rights, social justice, and communal harmony in the country. It is crucial for stakeholders, including the government, civil society, and international organisation, to engage in dialogue and take meaningful steps to counteract the trends described and promote an inclusive and tolerant society.



Reporting Hate Crimes by JEM

JEM Team pursues a verifiable and fact-based checking of the Hate Crimes in India, based on its past data collection and analysis it can deduce that anecdotal evidence, as well as its experience of verifying Hate Crimes, would suggest that most incidents of Hate Crimes go unreported - both at the local administration (Police complaint, FIR, etc.) and the public level.

Media reporting of Hate Crimes is heavily tilted towards covering the more shocking and gruesome cases of violence, thereby ignoring the more everyday forms of violence. The lack of a legislative and legal framework to specifically address violence against religious minorities further discourages reporting and increases the lack of credible official data.

Despite our best efforts to cull reports from the national and regional news platforms, the numbers shown here are, at best, representative of the scale of the problem. The JEM Data is a fair accounting of all reported incidents of hate crimes against religious minorities in India, but it is by no means a complete accounting of all such hate crimes happening in the country. Here we also have to understand that through the total number of cases reported may seem miniscule in a country of over a billion people, but we have to understand the amplification of these Hate Crimes through various social media platforms and TV channels, which plays a considerable active role in reporting and painting a false narrative.

Methodology for Data Collection and Publication: **JEM Team** relies on online news portals, which are widely trusted and considered credible. These include websites of national dailies, local dailies, and other credible online news portals of Urdu, Hindi and English languages only. e.g. *The Hindu*, *The Times of India*, *The Hindustan Times*, *The Indian Express*, *The Wire*, *The Wire (Urdu)*, *The Print*, *News18*, *India TV*, *NDTV*, *India Today*, *FirstPost*, *The Scroll*, *The Quint*, *Free Press Journal*, *News18* etc.

JEM Team also analyses newspapers reporting and uses newspaper clippings, in addition to form a archives. These include national dailies and local dailies, both in English, Hindi and Urdu languages. These clippings are collected, scanned, and archived.

JEM Team also takes into consideration various civil society and fact-finding reports done by various organisations like CJP, HindutvaWatch, CHRI etc.

Issues covered in the quarterly reviews: The subjects of the database are the affected individuals/class/group of people who belong to religious minorities (Christians, Muslims, Sikhs, Jains, Zoroastrian (Parsis) and Buddhists), besides the Dalits or the backward communities.

Entry and Publication Process: Identification: Every potential entry is identified and fact checked from various places including news web portals, Internet searches, Social Media Platforms and Offline archives.

Fact-checking/Source: The input received from the previous step is crosschecked from various platforms and in some cases verification is also done from local sources like local activists and community leaders and Jamiat cadre from across India.

Scrutiny by the Editorial Team: Once an incident is reported, it is recorded and managed by the Editor. The entry at this stage faces scrutiny and the incident may or may not be approved depending on the veracity and accuracy of the entry made. The entry made can be checked for its status (approved, rejected, or pending) by the person who has made the entry.

Approval: In continuation with the previous step, if the Editorial Team finds the entry to be credible, it gets approved and is used for the Quarterly and Annual Reviews. The rejected entries are also recorded and remain with the Editor.

Limitations: **JEM Team** only takes secondary Source Reports gathered from secondary sources into consideration, as it does not have its own staff collecting reports from the ground.

JEM Team records violence only against religious minorities. Hate crimes against SCs/STs/OBCs for their caste identity and targeted violence against women for their gender identities do not form a separate part of the database. Political vendetta and/or personal attacks on politicians are also excluded from the subject matter of the database.

Justice and Empowerment of Minorities (JEM) is an initiative of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, the country's oldest and largest socio-cultural organisation of Indian Muslims.

JEM's mission is to safeguard the human rights of country's minorities while countering hate speech targeted against them. It endeavours to collect, collate and present cases of harassment, in any form, perpetrated against the minorities by right-wing elements. Its aim is to promote Rule of Law and access to justice, equal rights, citizen's security and human rights, in addition to defending and empowering religious minorities, marginalised and persecuted individuals, groups and communities through Advocacy.

JEM's aim is to empower and provide justice and judicial assistance to the victims of such crimes, which could be categorised under 'Hate Crimes'. It further aims to strengthen the constitutional edifice of the country, which guarantees the rights and dignity of minority groups, apart from helping to build a vibrant, thriving and affluent India.

JEM publishes four Quarterly Reviews and an Annual Review every year, highlighting the hate crimes against minorities, and additionally responding to marginalisation and persecution of minorities, in addition to ensuring implementation of equal rights, justice and peace, religious tolerance and coexistence in the country.



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