

jem Newsletter

October 2023

From the Director's Desk

In October 2023, the number of hate crimes against Minorities was considerably low. The JEM Team reported only 43 verified cases of Hate Crime this month, bringing a sigh of relief after a long time.

However, we do not feel overjoyed due to the lesser number of such crimes, instead, the beginning of the month saw the unfolding of yet another global tragedy, when after the Hamas strikes on Israel, the Israeli government started an all-out attack against the Palestinians living in Gaza, besides pushing for a ground offensive.

The sympathies of Muslims all across the world are with the Muslim citizens of Palestine, a state illegally occupied by an illegally created country. But in the Indian context what becomes rather worrisome is the manner in which the right-wing Hindu elements found a rather newly found friend in the Israeli government led by right-wing Benjamin Netanyahu.

The manner in which the barrage of anti-Muslim hate was shown on different social media platforms by right-wing Hindu sympathisers, who

in reality don't have a clue about the decades-old Palestinian cause, coupled with the reporting by various TV channels, whose reporters just parroted the narratives provided by IDF, shows the level to which the anti-Islam hate has seeped into the society at every level, globally.

What was more appalling, instead of fighting for the cause of children and women being killed in the Israeli offensive against the unarmed Palestinian citizens of Gaza, the social media users in India made use of fake news to spread the anti-Islam narrative in India.

I feel that the political leadership of the country needs to address this rather unnerving issue in a resolved manner by educating the masses about the real conflict here and to continue supporting the Palestinian cause, as has been the long-standing policy of the various Indian governments in the past.

Mahmood Asád Madani
Director, JEM

Hate Crime and Hate Speech Cases, October 2023

Hajipur. VHP's general secretary Milind Parand used disinformation and conspiracy theories to target Muslims in his speech.



On 2nd October, web portal siasat.com reported an incident from Chandigarh's Indra Colony, Punjab where a group of cow vigilante Gau Raksha Dal, accompanied by police personnel, allegedly raided a house in Chandigarh on suspicion of storing and selling beef. The video of the incident, in which members of a cow vigilante group were seen entering the house and taking out

Web portal hindutvawatch.org on 1st October reported a case of religious conversion from Maharajpur, Ghaziabad, UP. Hindu Raksha Dal leader Pinky Chaudhry conducted a religious conversion ceremony for two Muslim families, but no action was taken against either the organisers or those involved in the incident.

a refrigerator, was widely shared on social media. The incident prompted many social media users to question the authority of cow vigilantes raiding a house. Many expressed concerns over the incident, as the police accompanied the cow vigilantes in raiding the house.

On 1st October, a Muslim man [Altaf Ansari](#) while returning from his in-law's home was accosted by 4 Hindu men, who after starting an altercation with Altaf started beating him mercilessly. After days of battling for life in a hospital in Patna, he succumbed to injury. A complaint was submitted at the local police station about the incident, but no action has been taken by the police to nab these men, so far. However, police denied the charge of mob lynching by the family. As per the police, the deceased died due to the accident.

On 2nd October Shahzad [Palanpuri's X](#) handle reported a tragic mob lynching incident that took place in Gujarat's Ahmedabad, where a Muslim man Mohammad Shahroz was waylaid by the right-wing goons and asked to chant Jai



On 1st October, the web portal hindutvawatch.org shared a video of a Hate Speech delivered by a VHP leader at an event in Bihar's



Shree Ram. When he refused to chant, they started chasing him till he reached the factory, but they did not stop there, they entered the factory forcefully and attacked him with a knife and stick. As shown in the video, a Policeman was seen taking statements from the victim before initiating an investigation to nab the culprits.

Web portal siasat.com on 3rd October reported yet another incident highlighting the growing Islamophobia and hate against minorities, as per reports, a few radically motivated men allegedly barged into a wedding function and tore pages of the Holy Quran in Jaipur, Rajasthan. According to the report, at least five men, raising Jai Shree Ram slogans, barged into the venue.

On 6th October, web portal cjp.org.in reported a case of Hate Speech delivered by a VHP leader at an event in Uttarakhand's Khatima city, of Udham Singh Nagar district. An unidentified VHP leader was witnessed peddling conspiracy theories against Muslims and openly advocating for violence against them. To jubilant shrieks and calls of the crowd, the leader said, "Coming generations will ask us, when this Devbhumi (god's land) would be freed of rakshasas (demons), love jihadi, land jihadi – the future generation will ask us what we were

doing. If the future generation asks us about love jihadis, those who do forced religious conversion, we should be able to answer all these questions expected from the future generation. We should be able to tell them that we were involved in kicking out those who eat cow meat, and those who convert our brothers and sisters."

Web portal hindutvawatch.org on 6th October reported another case of Hate speech from UP's Katra

Kutti Ayodhya Dham. In a video shared on X by HW, A Bajrang Dal leader can be seen delivering hate speech, demonizing Muslims, and advocating violence.

On 6th October, a video went viral on [social media](http://socialmedia) where a Bajrang Dal worker from Bihar's Motihari district was seen openly delivering hate speech and demonises Madrassas.

On 6th October, web portal sabrangindia.in reported a case of caste discrimination and humiliation from Thangad, Gujarat. As per reports, four Dalits were forced to dig a well at a village, when they refused to oblige they were chained, beaten, and abused, for refusing to work in inhuman conditions. A young boy and his family were also beaten for having taken a stand against caste abuse against Dalits. The authorities taking swift action apprehended the culprits Kathat and Vanraj,





the owner of a coalmine in the same village and his accomplice. The police have so far booked three accused in relation to the incident on charges including voluntarily causing harm, wrongful confinement, and sections of the ST&SC (Prevention of Atrocities) Act of the Indian Penal Code.

On 6th October a video was shared on [X](#) in which a Muslim woman from Gujarat's Selamba was seen giving an interview to a local journalist, claiming that a few days ago, violence broke out during a procession organised by Hindutva groups, she recorded a video of Bajrang Dal members pelting stones. Later, these rioters looted her husband's shop and set it on fire, and the local police arrived at her home in the dead of night to get that video clip deleted from her phone in a very intimidating manner.

Web portal [cjp.org.in](#) on 9th October reported another case of Hate Speech from U.P.'s Sandila, Hardoi. In a video, a far-right leader delivered an incendiary speech and gave threats to take over the revered Dargah at Ajmer. During the speech, the leader was also seen chanting Jai Shree Ram, and said, 'If you become Raheem, then they will call you Krishna Kanhaiya and sing. But here, children of Mohammed, you will be drowned

in Yamuna.' And ended with saying, "This country is not of Babur, Ghoris, and Ghaznis, it belongs to the Hindus."

Web portal [sabrangindia.in](#), reported on 9th October, that Deputy Collector Nisha Bangre who resigned earlier this year due to facing discrimination being a Dalit, began a 300 km march to protest the non-acceptance of her resignation,

as she wanted to contest the Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections, after being relieved of her duties. However, Nisha was detained by the police, Nisha took to X and posted a picture from the police station holding a torn picture of Dr BR Ambedkar. The photo caption stated that Nisha alleged that her clothes and the photo of Dr B R Ambedkar were torn during the confrontation with the police.

Web portal [thehindustangazette.com](#) reported on 10th October, yet another incident of Hate Speech from Maharashtra's Vasia, Palgarh. BJP Member of Parliament, Pragya Singh Thakur delivered the Hate Speech and targeted the non-Hindus, especially the Muslim community. She was seen targeting the Muslim community by mocking Emperor Akbar and discussing the achievements of Maharana Pratap and other





Hindu kings and warriors. She concluded her speech by threatening the community while saying: “If our daughters are not safe, then yours won’t be safe either.”

Web portal hindutvawatch.org reported on 10th October, a Hate Speech case from Dhruva, Ranchi, Jharkhand. At the VHP-Bajrang Dal event, a right-wing leader was seen peddling anti-Muslim propaganda. He said, “If you want to live in this country, you have to say Bharat Mata Ki Jai.”

Web portal hindutvawatch.org on 11th October reported yet another case of provocation from U.P.’s Khaga, Fatehpur district, where a right-wing leader delivered a provocative speech targeting the Muslim community at an event jointly organised by the VHP and Bajrang Dal. He said, “This country doesn’t belong to those who give Azaan i.e. Muslims.”

Web portal sabrangindia.in, on 11th October, reported an incident of religious attack from U.P.’s Jaunpur district, where the largest church of Jaunpur, Jeevan Jyoti Church, was demolished by the local administration.



The famous Jeevan Jyoti Christian Religious Prayer Centre, located in Bhulandih village in Jaunpur district, has been a sore point with the state government. During a recent survey by the state’s Revenue Department, some illegal construction on encroached land was confirmed on the land of the village society and a mausoleum. Pursuant to this, the local administration pasted a Demolition Notice at the property deeming it to be an ‘illegally constructed prayer hall’. As per another report of Tejas Today, a local Hindi newspaper, the notice claimed that the Christian Prayer Centre carried out the said construction by encroaching on government land.

Web portal hindutvawatch.org on 12th October, reported yet another hate-filled speech from Karnataka’s Bantwal. Sadhvi Saraswati one of the right-wing leaders, in a video, was seen propagating conspiracy theories against Muslims, calling for arming Hindus, and advocating violence. She was heard saying “anyone who dares to harm the existence of Hindus, we will wipe off their colonies.”

Web portal hindutvawatch.org on 12th October reported another Hate



Speech from Bihar's Motihari district. A video that was shared by HW on X showed a VHP-Bajrang Dal leader delivering a Hate Speech demonising Muslims and Christians. He was also heard propagating violence against them.

Web portal siasat.com on 12th October reported a provocative video that was uploaded on social media from Telangana's Hyderabad. With elections approaching Telangana, cow vigilantes have increased their activities and are indirectly campaigning for the saffron party. Kalu Singh, president of Telangana Gau Raksha Dal, in the past two days, waylaid and caught four trucks for allegedly illegally transporting the cattle to the slaughterhouse. In the video, Kalu Singh said, "In coming days all gau rakshaks will unite and take measures to stop cow slaughter. I am warning the people who slaughter cows to stop it, else we will make them obey us through the language they understand."

Web portal hindutvawatch.org on 12th October, reported yet another case of Hate Speech at an event organised

at Pathankot, Punjab. At the Vishwa Hindu Parishad event, a Hindu right-wing leader could be seen misinterpreting the Holy Qur'an to fulfill the malicious agenda and calling for replacing Muslim places of worship with temples.

Web portal hindutvawatch.org on 13th October reported yet another case of Hate Speech from Karnataka's

Udupi. In a video, a BJP leader and Madhya Pradesh Minister of State, Mahamandaleshwar Swami Akhileshwaranand Giri delivered a communal speech at the VHP-Bajrang Dal event.

The Free Press Journal on 15th October reported that a 20-year-old man from Karnataka's Hospet district was arrested on 12th October for allegedly putting up a WhatsApp status "supporting" Palestine and using "provocative" slogans that he uploaded. The man identified as Alam Basha is a resident of the Hospet district. He was arrested by Vijayanagar Police for allegedly putting up "provocative" slogans in support of Palestine. The boy has been taken into custody and will be produced before the magistrate.





and fear amongst the attendees.

On 16th October, web portal hindutvawatch.in reported yet another case of hate-mongering from Delhi's Dwarka colony. The Joint General Secretary of VHP, Surendra Jain, was seen targeting the Muslim community in his speech by mentioning distorted and manipulative facts

On 16th October, The Times of India reported a Hate Speech from U.P.'s Meerut city. According to TOI, former BJP MLA Sangeet Som while attending a gathering of Rajputs in the Saket colony of the city was seen targeting students of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) for supporting the Palestine cause. He said, "Students of AMU supported Hamas, an alleged terrorist organisation, in response to Israel's retaliatory action. Such institutions only seem to react when a terrorist incident happens and which should be condemned." He further alleged that Muslim vendors in the local market in the area were forced to pay Rs. 100 to Muslim collectors who support and give these funds to promote terrorism.

of Indian History during the Mughal period in India.

The Indian Express on 16th October reported another incident of state-sponsored practices from U.P.'s Hamirpur city, where an Imam was arrested for "promoting enmity" by allegedly supporting the Palestinian citizens on social media.

The arrested Imam has been identified as Suhail Ansari. On Friday, Ansari and another Imam, Atif Chowdhary, were booked under Sections 153-A (promoting enmity between two groups) and 505(2) (statements creating or promoting enmity, hatred or ill will between

Web portal hindutvawatch.in on 16th October reported an incident of incendiary remarks against the Muslim community from Himachal Pradesh' Mandi district. A Hindutva leader, while addressing the Shaurya Jagran Yatra organised by VHP-Bajrang Dal, was allegedly reported peddling the conspiracy theories of land jihad and love jihad and promoting violence





communities) of the IPC in the same case.

On 17th October, web portal hindutvawatch.in reported another incident of provocative Hate Speech from Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district. Suspended BJP MLA and repeated hate monger from Telangana, T Raja Singh was once again seen instigating the crowd for violence by saying that if you want to defeat and teach a lesson to Jihadis and Cow smugglers, then join Bajrang Dal.

The Hindustan Times on 18th October reported a case of stigmatising Muslims from M.P.'s Ujjain where the local organisers of the Garba dance banned the participation of non-Hindus in the event to allegedly "prevent love jihad". Members of the organising committee defended their decision, claiming that they are "not against any religion but want to put an end to love jihad and restrict entry to those trying to spread animosity". The local police S.P. Sachin Sharma said, "It is their private function and they have issued passes for

entry to the event. What is the objection on this?"

On 19th October, *Mid-Day* reported a shocking incident of alleged hate crime from Maharashtra's Padgha in Thane district, which occurred on 15th October. As per the report, two Muslim men Azim Sayyed and Shaikh from Virar were going

to Malegaon on a bike when a masked man, later identified as Suraj Devram Dhokare - a Maharashtra Police constable, riding a motorcycle asked them for the route to Padgha. Since the cousins were headed in that direction, they asked him to follow them. According to Wasim (the deceased's brother), after following the duo for nearly 12 km, Dhokare asked them to stop their two-wheeler, as he wanted to answer nature's call, and soon after, he opened fire on them. Before his death on Sunday afternoon, Azim stated to Padgha police that as soon as they stopped, the masked man came closer to them and asked for their names. After hearing their names he took out a



pistol tucked in his trousers and opened fire on them. The Police formed multiple teams to track down the assailant, Suraj Dhokare (37), and arrested him later in the day.

On 21st October 2023, the Urdu Daily *Inquilab* reported an incident of mob lynching from New Delhi's Karala Village. A Muslim man Mohammad Salman was attacked by a group of radical individuals when he went to Karala Village for some business. As per the victim's account, when the group confirmed my identity, they started beating me and forced me to drink urine and chant Jai Shree Ram. When the victim fell unconscious, the culprits thought he had died and left the spot after taking away 90 thousand rupees, from his pocket. A police complaint has been filed, but the police did not register an FIR. So far no arrest has been Local Jamiat Unit president contacted the victim and assured him of assistance.

The Indian Express on 22nd October reported a case of state-sponsored discriminatory practice from U.P.'s Lucknow. As per the report, the headmistress of a government school



was suspended and departmental action was ordered against two teachers after some Hindu outfit leaders protested at the school over students offering namaaz inside the "prayer area" of the school. According to officials, Hindu outfit leaders allegedly created a ruckus at the school and argued with the headmistress. The majority of students at the primary government school for Classes 1-5 belong to the Muslim community. An official letter, issued by Lucknow Basic Shiksha Adhikari Arun Kumar, said headmistress Meera Yadav was suspended, while departmental action would be taken against two teachers – Mamta Mishra and Tehzeeb Fatima.

On 23rd October, the web portal hindutvawatch.in reported an incident in Gujarat, per which a cow vigilante group was seen harassing an elderly Muslim man on the allegation of carrying beef in front of his two daughters.

Web portal theobserverpost.com on 23rd October recorded an incident of physical attack carried out by the police in Hyderabad's Rasoolpura locality. As per the details, a police patrol team conducting





the Quint's report, Sagar Kumar, a journalist with Sudarshan News – a channel that has been called out multiple times for spreading misinformation – shared the video with a caption saying, "Save my Uttarakhand." According to the Police the person was a Hindu and not a Muslim and had been arrested as the matter was sensitive and could disrupt peace in the state.

a routine round around the locality, found the victim, Sami Khan, sitting at a lonely spot, and without asking anything the police team thrashed him brutally. His family later took the victim to Osmania Hospital for medical treatment and demanded strict action against the police constable responsible for the incident.

Web portal hindutvawatch.in on 24th October reported that members of Bajrang Dal forcibly got the shops owned by Muslims shut on the occasion of Navratri in Bihar's Raxaul District.

Web portal thequint.com on 25th October reported a case of media manipulation and fact distortion from Uttarakhand's Haridwar. A video that was shared by Sudarshan News' journalist Sagar Kumar on X, showed a man identifying himself as Javed Hussain and passing communally charged remarks against the Hindu community to disturb the communal harmony. Later, the person in the video was identified as Dilip Baghel, a resident of Agra, U.P., who was seen passing communal remarks in the video. As per

Web portal scroll.in on 26th October reported yet another horrifying incident of mob lynching from U.P.'s Hapur city. Irshad Mohammad was beaten to death after his motorbike hit a person who was part of a group attending Dussehra festivities near Luhari village in the city. The accident led to a heated argument, after which the attendees assaulted Mohammad with a stone. According to the Police, another man named Wasim, who tried to save Mohammed, was also injured. Mohammed was later taken to the hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. The police registered an FIR against six persons under sections 302 and 148 of the IPC, based on a complaint by Irshad Mohammad's father Imam Uddin Mohammed.





two constables to escort me to pass through the area but even they failed in front of the mob and the police couldn't control them." He further added that "in front of the police, they started hurling Islamophobic slurs and raised slogans such as Kato Mullo ko, Mulley Katey Jayenge, and Jai Shree Ram and manhandled me, I was almost killed by them." The Police did not file an FIR even after family members including the victim

Web portal theobserverpost.com on 27th October reported a controversial statement given by BJP's union Minister Giriraj Singh from Begusarai, Bihar. Singh stated, "Our ancestors made a grave mistake for which we are paying a heavy price today. I spent 28 days in prison during the 1992 Ayodhya movement. If all the Muslims had chosen to go to Pakistan at that time (i.e. 1947), India would not have been in this position, today." He further said "Even today, the Bihar government is implementing appeasement policies. They are favouring one community over the others. It is a matter of grave concern for the Hindus".

registered a formal complaint at the Trombay Police Station.

On 27th October, [Deccan Herald](http://DeccanHerald) reported an anti-Muslim incident from Karnataka's Bengaluru city, where Adam Bidapa, son of Prasad Bidapa, a well-known fashion stylist, was booked for rash driving and abusing a Muslim cop. A video that went viral on social media, in which Adam can be heard saying "Hey, Ghouse, Ghouse Pasha, a Muslim, Musalmaan na....". A case has been registered against Bidapa under IPC's Sections 279 (rash driving or riding on a public way), 341 (wrongful restraint), 504 (intentional

Web portal maktoobmedia.com on 27th October reported an incident of physical assault from Mumbai's Trombay locality. An Imam, Mohd Sharafat Khan, of the Masjid Islamiya has alleged that he was targeted, abused, and physically harassed by a Hindu mob during the Garba festivity in the city. The reported incident occurred on 22nd October. While speaking to Maktoob Media he said, "I called the police station and they sent



insult with intent to provoke breach of peace), and 506 (criminal intimidation). Further investigation is underway.

Web portal altnews.in on 28th October reported a case of an anti-Muslim communal campaign on social media by the right-wing forces using an incident that occurred in Kerala's Kasargod to fan communalism. A video of a group of women clad in burqa on a bus engaged in an altercation with a woman in a sari went viral with the claim that the Muslim women were forcing their religious views on a Hindu woman. Verification by altnews found that some students of the Khansa Women's College protested against buses not stopping at the bus stop near their college. A clip from the said protest went viral with users falsely claiming that some burqa-clad women were trying to impose Sharia laws on a Hindu woman.

Web portal hindutvawatch.in on 29th October reported another instance of Hate Speech from Bihar's Patna city. A video went viral



on X showing habitual Hate Preacher Yati Narsinghanad addressing an event Hindu Swabhiman, where he could be saying, "These people (Muslims) if not stopped will enter your house and rape your sister and murder them the way these (Muslims) people are doing with Israelis." Thus, linking two completely unrelated and false events to further his hate agenda.

Web portal theobserverpost.com on 31st October, reported yet another case of physical and verbal assault on a minor Muslim girl from Indian Oil Colony, Shivaji Nagar, Mumbai Maharashtra.

As per the report, a 12-year-old Muslim girl, Mariam Fatima, and her family were allegedly assaulted by a group of Hindu assailants while making Islamophobic remarks. According to the victim, "I was playing in the compound when a woman and her son came and told me that her son wanted to play there. I gave them the space and asked them if it was free after half an hour or so, that's when she started to abuse me, saying: You Muslims are bad; you should be fed pig meat." The incident left Mariam and her family traumatised.

