




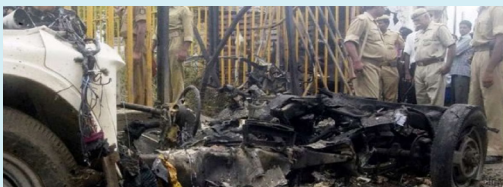


# MANDIR-MASJID

# THE GREAT INDIAN DIVIDE

SALAR 360

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Ram temple opened in Ayodhya after years of conflict. Here is how the controversial temple saw the light of day

<b>1528:</b> Babri Mosque was constructed by Mughal ruler Babur	<b>1885:</b> Mahant Raghuraj Das files first case in Faizabad Court seeking to build temple next to mosque	<b>1949:</b> Ram idols 'appear' or are 'placed' in the mosque	<b>1950:</b> Hindu sides file suits seeking land	<b>1959:</b> Nirmohi Akhara seeks land possession	<b>1961:</b> UP Sunni Wakf board seeks possession of land	<b>1984:</b> Rise of Vishwa Hindu Parishad. LK Advani becomes face of Ram Movement and popularises the slogan 'Mandir Wahin Banega'	<b>1986:</b> Hindus allowed to perform poojas	<b>1989:</b> PM Rajiv Gandhi allows Shilanyas (consecration) by VHP	<b>1990:</b> Advani starts rath yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya. First attempt to demolish Babri masjid. UP CM Mulayam Singh Yadav asks cops to open fire at Hindutva mob marching towards the mosque. 16 karsevaks killed. Lalu Yadav arrests Advani in Bihar, leading to collapse of VP Singh government at Centre after BJP withdraws support.					
<b>1992:</b> Karsevaks bring down mosque and put up a makeshift temple on 6 Dec	<b>16 Dec, 1992:</b> Liberhan Commission formed by PM Narasimha Rao to probe demolition. After 16 years, the Commission submitted report to PM Manmohan Singh and it said that the demolition was neither spontaneous nor unplanned, and found Advani, Vajpayee, Murli Manohar Joshi, Uma Bharti guilty		<b>1993:</b> State acquires 67.7 acres of Ayodhya land. Acquisition of Certain Areas at Ayodhya Act, 1993, passed	<b>1994:</b> Ismail Faruqui Judgment upheld constitutionality of Ayodhya Act	<b>2002:</b> Allahabad HC begins hearing in Ayodhya title dispute			<b>2003:</b> ASI claims it found 10th century Hindu Temple at mosque site	<b>5 July 2005:</b> 5 terrorists attacked the makeshift Ram temple and were shot dead in an encounter with CRPF, while 1 civilian died in the grenade attack that the attackers launched to breach the cordoned wall	<b>2010:</b> Allahabad HC splits land between Sunni Wakf board, Nirmohi Akhara and Ram Lalla Virajman	<b>May 2011:</b> SC stays Allahabad High Court's "strange" ruling.	<b>2014:</b> BJP came to power and for 2019 poll, it promised to build Ram Temple on the site of demolished Babri Masjid	<b>August, 2017:</b> 3 judge SC bench starts hearing.	<b>Feb - July 2018:</b> Petitioners argue SC ought to refer the 1994 Ismail Faruqui judgment to a 7-judge bench.
<b>2 September, 2018:</b> SC refuses to form larger bench		<b>8 January, 2019:</b> CJI Gogoi forms 5 judge bench anyway		<b>8 March, 2019:</b> Supreme Court orders mediation	<b>9 Nov 2019:</b> SC finally ordered the land to be handed over to Ram Janmabhoomi trust	<b>2020:</b> Govt forms 15-member trust for construction of Ram Temple								

### BABRI DEMOLITION

On 6 Dec 1992, 1.5L karsevaks listened to speeches by LK Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi, and Uma Bharat and others at Masjid. Allegedly their speeches called for the fall of Babri. FIR was filed against Advani, Joshi and Bharti and a probe found 68 responsible but they were exonerated by SC. PM Narasimha Rao faced criticism for not stopping Babri's falling. Rao blamed UP CM Kalyan Singh, who had promised that Babri wouldn't be touched. In 1994, SC sent Singh to jail for one day. RSS was banned the following day

### RIOTS

In 1992, 2,000 people were killed in 166 communal riots. In Mumbai, 900 were killed (mainly Muslims). Shiv Sena allegedly organised riots, which led to 1993 bombings — the first terror attack in India. Violence also spread to Bangladesh and Pakistan with Hindu temples being demolished



### 1998-2002

In 1998, BJP won LS polls on promise of building a Mandir. PM Vajpayee set up an 'Ayodhya cell' in 2002 and appointed Shatrughan Singh to hold talks with Hindu & Muslim leaders. BJP excluded Ram temple from its UP polls manifesto. After VHP sets a deadline of 15 March for construction hundreds of volunteers meet on site. A train carrying karsevaks was set on fire, killing 58. It led to Gujarat riots, that claimed 1,926 lives. Narendra Modi was accused of condoning violence

5 AUG 2020

Prime Minister Narendra Modi performs Bhoomi Pooja for the temple

## THE TEMPLE

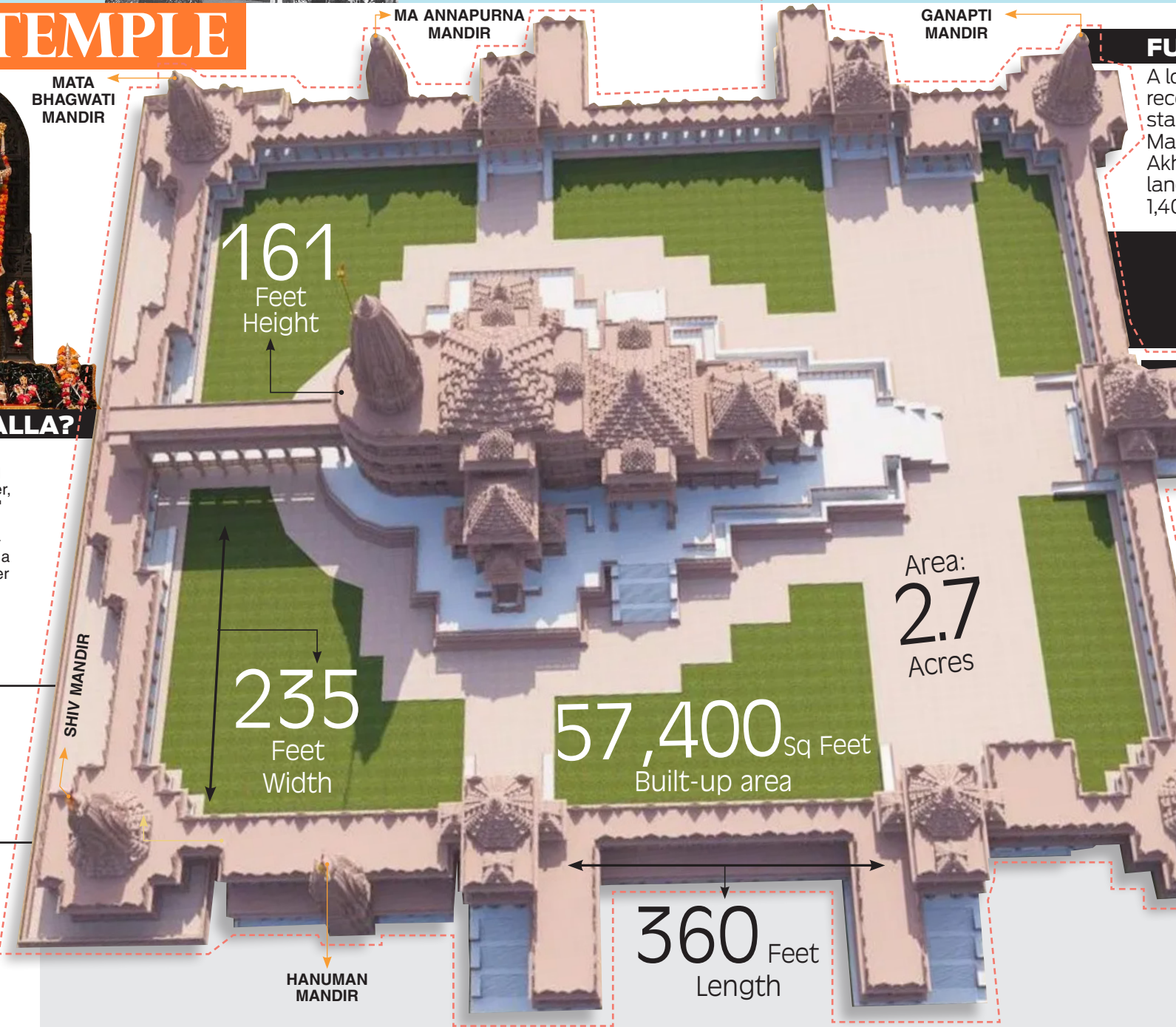


### WHY RAM LALLA?

The idol was initially named Ram Lalla as it represented the infant form of Ram. Later, it was renamed 'Balak Ram' as it depicts the deity as a five-year-old boy in a standing posture. Ram Lalla was a litigant in the court case over the disputed site in 1989, being considered a "juristic person" by the law. He was represented by Triloki Nath Pandey

**4,000** labourers worked on construction

**70%** of the 70 acre plot will be left vacant for plants



### FUNDS FOR THE TEMPLE

A lot of the money for the temple was received as 'donations'. VHP had started a donate 'Rs 1 for a Ram Mandir brick' campaign. Nirmohi Akhara, one of the 3 claimants in the land case, said VHP swindled Rs 1,400 crore from the donations.

**REBUILDING AYODHYA**  
₹1,800 cr Temple budget | ₹5,500 cr Donations

₹1,450 cr Airport cost: (Maharishi Valmiki International Airport)

₹430 cr Railway cost

### TOURISM BOOST

- 40-50 million tourists expected to visit annually
- Hospitality industry to witness the biggest growth
- 3 new upscale hotels to come up

### INVESTMENTS

Stocks related to airline, retail holding and travel services have skyrocketed. UP gov't has invested Rs 85,000 crore for Ayodhya redevelopment till 2031

- 20 times increase in land prices
- At least 14,000 people expected to get employed

### TEMPLE POLITICS

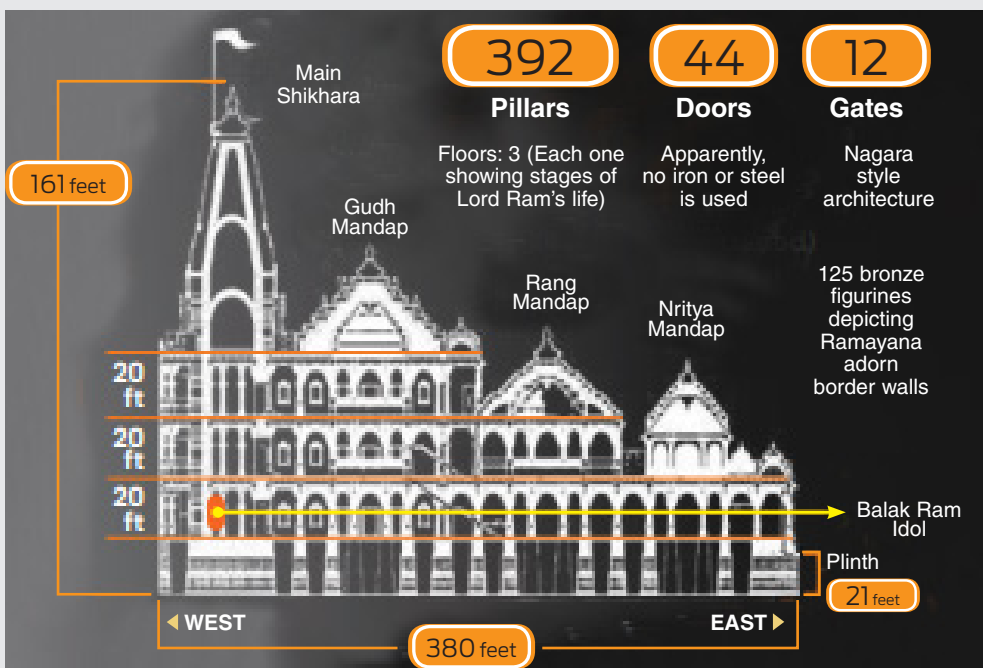
The top four Shankaracharyas who are heads of 4 major Hindu mutts refused to attend the consecration ceremony as it was not done according to Sanatan Dharma and the temple construction was incomplete. Opposition parties declined BJP's invitation to the ceremony and dubbed it as a politically driven one. CPI(M) slammed BJP and RSS for converting a religious ceremony into a state-sponsored event involving Modi, Yogi Adityanath. Rahul Gandhi said that Modi and RSS "captured" the event and turned it into an "election function". Meanwhile, TMC said, "We don't believe in mixing politics with religion."

### KARNATAKA CONNECT

Arun Yogiraj, a fifth generation sculptor from Mysuru, sculpted the 5-year-old Ram idol. Yogiraj was among the three shortlisted sculptors who were asked to carve the idol. The idol was sculpted using Krishna Shila stone sourced from an active quarry in Gujgewadanapura near Mysuru. The rock used is the oldest rock from South India

### MODERN AMENITIES

- Bank/ATM
- Bathing area, washrooms
- Emergency medical facilities
- Ramps/lifts for senior citizens
- Medical and locker facility for 25,000
- Sewage treatment plant, water treatment plant, water supply for fire safety and an independent power station
- TV/cinema/AV based show theatre
- ray hall, a lecture hall, an educational facility, museum and cafeteria



Research: Amina Afaq, Saptarshi Chakraborty, Aarati Krishna, Shreshtha Dutta, Graphics: Mahesh Kini



- Brass-ware from UP
- Teakwood from Maharashtra
- Foundation has soils of 2,587 regions such as Jhansi, Shivaji Fort, Golden Temple and Thailand.
- 'Shaligram' rocks from Nepal