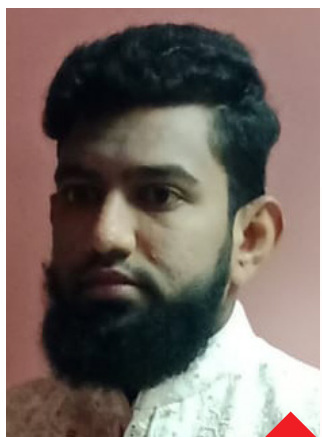


# Cow vigilantism, hate crimes & a trail of fear



Days after Lok Sabha poll results were announced on 4 June, 2024, India saw a rise in hate crimes, including lynchings and demolitions targeting minorities. Salar News recalls some of these cases:



**CHIKHODRA, GUJARAT (22 JUNE)**

**1 DEAD, 2 INJURED**

A 23-year-old man, Salman Vohra, who went to watch a cricket match, was beaten to death by a mob angered by Muslim men's participation in the tournament. The deceased's wife was a month pregnant. His attackers reportedly almost bit his ear off and a knife wound damaged the kidney. At least 11 people were arrested.



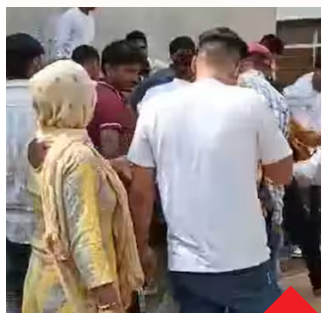
**ALIGARH, UTTAR PRADESH (18 JUNE)**

**1 DEAD**  
 Mohammad Fareed, 35, was reportedly forced to chant "Jai Shri Ram" and beaten to death by a mob over theft allegations. He sustained 22 injuries. Fareed, the sole breadwinner of his family, and eight others were later charged with theft following a complaint from the mother of one of the lynching suspects, who claimed Fareed had robbed their home.



**SHAMLI, UTTAR PRADESH (4 JULY)**

**1 DEAD**  
 Firoz aka Kala Qureshi, was beaten to death by three men — Pinky, Pankaj and Rajendra — on suspicion of breaking into their house. Following this, UP police booked journalist Zakir Ali Tyagi for allegedly promoting enmity on grounds of religion through "malicious" posts on X over the incident.



**CHARKHI DADRI, HARYANA (27 AUGUST)**

**1 DEAD**

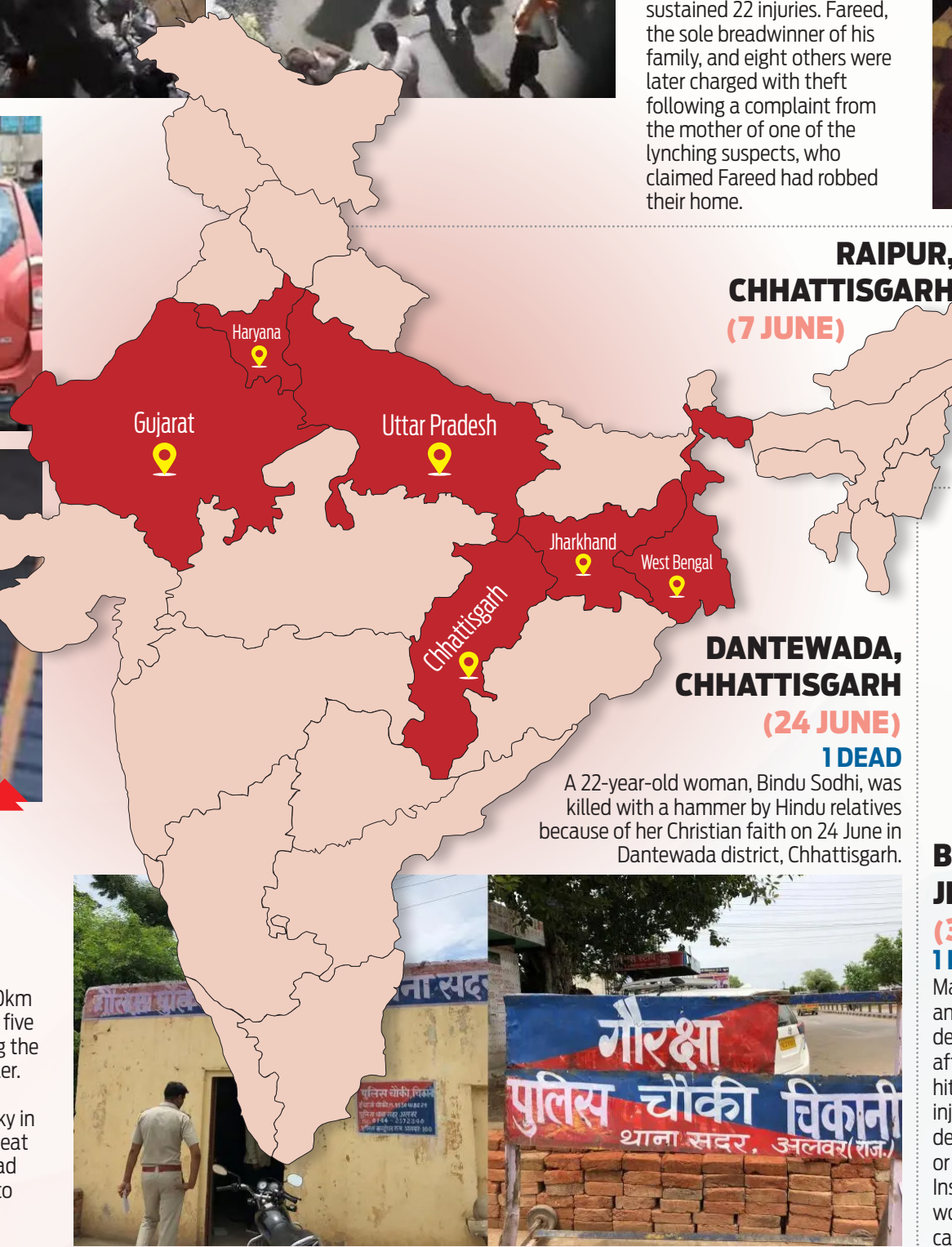
A 26-year-old scrap collector from West Bengal was beaten to death by a mob in Haryana's Charkhi Dadri district over suspicions of consuming beef. The victim, identified as Sabir Malik, was lured to a local bus stand by three men over the pretence of selling scrap. He was then targeted by a crowd who accused him of eating beef.



**FARIDABAD, HARYANA (27 AUGUST)**

**1 DEAD**

A Class 12 student, Aryan Mishra, was chased for 30km in a car and shot dead by five cow vigilantes, suspecting the boy to be a cattle smuggler. Aryan went out with his friends Harshit and Shanky in a car around midnight to eat noodles. But the Faridabad police has so far refused to confirm this theory of mistaken identity.



**RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH (7 JUNE)**

**3 DEAD**  
 3 cattle transporters Guddu Khan, Chand Miyan and Saddam Qureshi were allegedly lynched by 14 people over cow smuggling suspicion. The former two died immediately while Qureshi succumbed to injuries on 18 June. However, SIT in its chargesheet claimed that they "jumped" to their deaths and were neither assaulted nor confronted by cow vigilantes. The police had earlier invoked assault and attempted murder charges in the FIR.

**DANTEWADA, CHHATTISGARH (24 JUNE)**

**1 DEAD**

A 22-year-old woman, Bindu Sodhi, was killed with a hammer by Hindu relatives because of her Christian faith on 24 June in Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh.

**BHANGAR, WEST BENGAL (8 JULY)**

**1 DEAD**

Azgar Molla, 50, was allegedly tied up and beaten to death on suspicion of theft in South 24 Parganas' Bhangar market, 500m away from the police station, as people watched the incident without interfering. No case was filed by the family.

**BARAKATHA, JHARKHAND (30 JUNE)**

**1 DEAD**

Maulana Shahabuddin, an imam, was beaten to death by a group of men after his bike allegedly hit a woman, causing her injuries. The police denied any mob lynching or communal angle. Instead, they stated they would investigate the case as an accident.



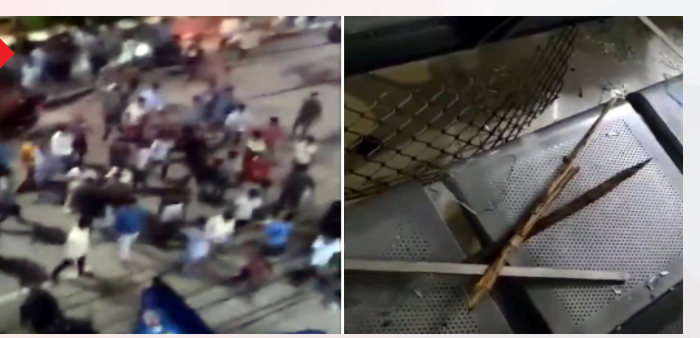
## Delhi civic body razes mosque VANDALISM, STONE-PELTING, ARSON & MORE...

Despite assuring Delhi High Court that the civic body would not demolish mosques or religious property, it razed the historic Jannat-ul-Firdaus Mosque and a madrasa citing legal violations, on 23 June. Following this, Hindutva leader Preet Sirahi in a video vowed to continue targeting "illegal" mosques in Delhi.



**Medak, Telangana**

A mob of RSS workers attacked Miraj-ul-Uloom Madrassa over rumours of cattle sacrifice on 16 June. When the injured were taken to the hospital, the mob re-grouped and pelted stones there too.



**Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh**

Two brothers Tanzeem & Faizan were thrashed by a mob on 3 July over an argument with a shopkeeper who refused to exchange a product. The two were later arrested for "breaching peace".

**Mewat, Haryana**

On 15 June, cow vigilantes armed with guns raided Mewat village and assaulted two Muslim men over alleged cattle slaughter and selling beef.

**Khordha, Odisha**

A mob chanting "Jai Shri Ram" barged into a Muslim house and seized all the meat from their fridge on 16 June. This incident took place shortly after Eid-Al-Adha.

**Mandla, Madhya Pradesh**

Homes of 11 people were bulldozed after police allegedly found beef in their refrigerators and cows in their backyards on 14 June. Two more houses of Muslims were razed on 27 June in Noorabad three days after Bajrang Dal workers demanded the same.

**Nahan, Himachal**

A mob of 400-500 people looted and ransacked a garment shop of one Javed in the alleged presence of police. The video was widely shared on social media. The mob accused Javed of posting a video of cow slaughter during Eid-Al-Adha.

**Balasore, Odisha**

Curfew was imposed in Balasore after members of one community attacked villages and pelted stones on the houses of another community and set them on fire over "cow slaughter". There were no reports of FIR being registered.

**Nashik, Maharashtra**

Ashraf Ali Sayyed Hussain, 72, native of Jalgaon, Maharashtra, was slapped and assaulted by three co-passengers on Dhule-Mumbai CSMT Express in Nashik over the suspicion of carrying beef.

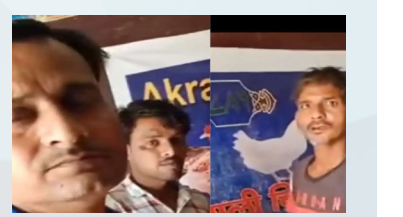


**Faridabad, Haryana**

On 18 June, a Hindu mob barged into a meat shop and assaulted the Muslim owner. The mob also beat 2 Hindu customers who were buying meat there "for eating non-vegetarian on Tuesday".

**Pakri, Bihar**

A rickshaw driver was assaulted by Bajrang Dal cow vigilantes over the suspicion of carrying beef on 19 June.



**KAITHAL, Haryana**

Sikh man Sukhwinder Singh was attacked with bricks by two men on a motorcycle. The attackers hurled slurs like "Khalistani" at him before assaulting.