



# Communal Violence in Jharkhand

## Why in News?

**Hindu and Muslim communities clashed in Jharkhand's Hazaribagh district** 26th February 2025 over decorations for **Maha Shivaratri** and the installation of loudspeakers.

- During the violent confrontation, both sides pelted stones, set several shops on fire, and torched multiple vehicles.

## Key Points

- **Communal Clash in Hazaribagh:**
  - The clash occurred in Dumroan village. Several people sustained injuries and were taken to Hazaribagh Sadar Hospital for treatment.
  - According to the police, **Muslims protested against fixing Maha Shivaratri flags and installing sound systems** at Hindustan Chowk.
  - **Arguments between both communities escalated**, leading to stone pelting from a nearby **madrasa**.
    - In retaliation, Hindus also threw stones at the opposing side.
- **Official Statements:**
  - The officials **urged people to maintain peace** and celebrate Maha Shivaratri with brotherhood.
  - They assured that police are stationed at the site, the situation is under control, and **legal action will be taken against those responsible**.

## Communal Violence

- **The Indian Penal Code (IPC)** defines **communal violence** as any act that promotes enmity between different groups on grounds of **religion, race, place of birth, residence, language**, etc., and does acts prejudicial to the maintenance of harmony.
- **BNS Provisions on Communal Violence:**
  - **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Section 196** aims to **prevent and punish actions that promote enmity and hatred** between different groups based on various grounds.
  - It seeks to maintain social harmony by penalizing such acts with imprisonment and fines, especially when these actions occur in places of worship or during religious gatherings.