



Central Mosque Closed on Shab-e-Baraat

Why in News?

Authorities closed Srinagar's central mosque, [Jama Masjid](#), to prevent nightlong prayers on [Shab-e-Baraat](#).

Key Points

- **Chief Cleric Under House Arrest:**
 - It is alleged that the authorities placed Kashmir's chief cleric under house arrest, preventing him from carrying out his religious duties.
- **Criticism of the Decision:**
 - The decision was criticized, stating that **repeated restrictions on religious gatherings hurt public sentiments** and infringe upon [fundamental religious rights](#).
 - It lamented that worshippers frequently find the grand mosque forcibly closed during significant religious occasions.
 - Jammu and Kashmir [Chief Minister](#) termed the sealing of Jama Masjid on Shab-e-Baraat as unfortunate.
 - He argued that the decision reflected a lack of confidence in both the people and law enforcement, asserting that Srinagar's residents deserved better.

Shab-e-Barat

- It is also known as the '**Night of Emancipation**' and is observed on the night falling between the **14th and 15th day of the month of Shaban**.
- The **destiny of every person is determined on this night**.
- **Imam Muhammad Al-Mahdi**, the twelfth imam is credited with ridding the world from oppression and injustice.