

Mob Lynching in India: An Analytical Study

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Abstract: *In our nation, the prioritisation of the safety and protection of cows often seems to surpass that of women. The escalating occurrences of mob lynching under the guise of cow protection have grown distressingly prevalent, garnering frequent media attention. However, in the middle of this uncomfortable pattern, a thought-provoking issue emerges: How do these individuals who claim to be vigilantes unite under the same goal of protecting cows in the name of a “national cause”? Which mechanisms contribute to the creation of these violent mobs? Furthermore, how could individuals forsake their inherent human qualities to engage in acts of violence that cannot be justified? Mob lynching instances in India usually arise from two main causes: the protection of cows and allegations of kid abduction, witchcraft, and other similar reasons. This article explores the psychological foundations of mob formations and outlines the frequent patterns of lynching around the country.*

The widespread dissemination of false information through social media platforms is a major component that contributes to the increase in mob lynching instances. Social media, a powerful technology capable of influencing the attitudes of millions with a simple click, frequently acts as a trigger for provoking mob violence.

Moreover, the article seeks to provide valuable insights on possible preventive methods to effectively reduce these abhorrent acts. The author aims to uncover the psychological factors that fuel mob mentality and violence in order to pinpoint practical measures that may be implemented to reduce the frequency of mob lynching instances. Efforts focused on encouraging community debate, cultivating empathy, and improving media literacy can be crucial in tackling the underlying reasons for mob violence and establishing a society that values tolerance and respect for human life.

This research aims to analyse the intricate dynamics of mob lynching episodes in India, specifically examining the influence of psychology, social media, and politics. The author’s objective is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the elements that contribute to the creation of mobs and acts of violence. In order to effectively combat the problem of mob lynching, it is crucial to acknowledge that a comprehensive strategy is needed, which includes addressing the social, political, and psychological aspects.

Keywords: Mob Lynching, Psychology, Social Media Influence, Preventative Measures