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Hinduism is a minority religion in Punjab.

During the Khalistan movement, the minority Hindus and Jains were subjected to several attacks. Hindu and Jain temples were frequently vandalized and desecrated. This thread documents a few instances.

## **Thread**

Durgiana Mandir is one of the oldest temples of Amritsar. According to the regional Hindu tradition, the temple was built on the spot where Lava and Kusha bound Hanuman. The temple annually attracts millions of Hindus from all over the country.

Amristsar has a very ancient Hindu history.

According to the regional Hindu tradition recorded in the "Survey of Amritsar", Amritsar got its name from Amrit immersed by Lava and Kusha in a pond.

Durgiana Mandir was rebuilt in 1921.

It was used to house the Murtis of Vishnu and Durga which were thrown out from the Parikrama of Harmandir Sahib in 1905.

Because of its presence in Amritsar, it became a frequent target of radicals during the Khalistan movement.

In 1982, in what was a completely unprovoked attack, the Dal Khalsa "activists" threw a severed cow head inside Durgiana temple.

Mahakali temple of Patiala is a very famous temple. It was built by Maharaja Bhupinder Singh of Patiala. The Murti of Kali was brought from Bengal.

In 1982, Khalistani radicals hung tail of a cow inside the Mahakali temple of Patiala. Devotees were shocked to see the tail of a cow hung inside the Garba Griha of the temple.

Dal Khalsa, an organization which claims that it strives to establish an independent Khalsa state, not only took responsibility for these attacks but also declared their intention of repeating them.

Ram Tirath is one of the oldest temples of Amritsar. According to the Hindu tradition, Ram Tirath was the place where Goddess Sita gave birth to Lava and Kusha.

On December 3 1983, Khalistani activists sprinkled petrol on the Murtis of Krishna, Subhadra and Balrama inside the Garba Girha of Ram Tirath temple and set the Murtis on fire.

It is to be noted that all these incidents happened prior to the Operation Blue Star carried out by Congress Government in 1984.

The attacks of Hindu temples were not confined to just Punjab. The radicals crossed over Punjab into Haryana and bombed Hindu temples.

Panchmukhi Hanuman Mandir is a very famous temple of Haryana.

Coins of ancient Yaudheyas dating back to 100 BC have been found at this ancient temple.

On November 21 1983, two bombs were thrown on this temple. A damaged section was later rebuilt by funds collected from devotees

Even the Jain temples were not spared.

On May 5, 1984 Jain temple in Amritsar was looted and desecrated.

Because the Jains are a very affluent community, Jain temples were seen by radicals as a great source for loot.

On February 28 of the same year, another Jain temple was looted.

While Jain temples were a great source for loot, Hindu processions typically had a large congregation.

They bombed Hindu fairs like Shivaratri & Ramnavami where Hindus gathered in large numbers to ensure maximum Hindu killings.

Shivala temple of Amritsar was bombed on Shivaratri

During the Shivala temple bombing on February 29 1984, 3 people were killed and 32 injured.

The damaged section of the temple could not be rebuilt until 2005!

Brahmins were a favorite target of Khalistani activists. Bhindranwale's rhetoric frequently centred on anti Brahmanism.

On 25th June 1983, a Pujari of a temple in Sultanpur was killed with a sharp knife.