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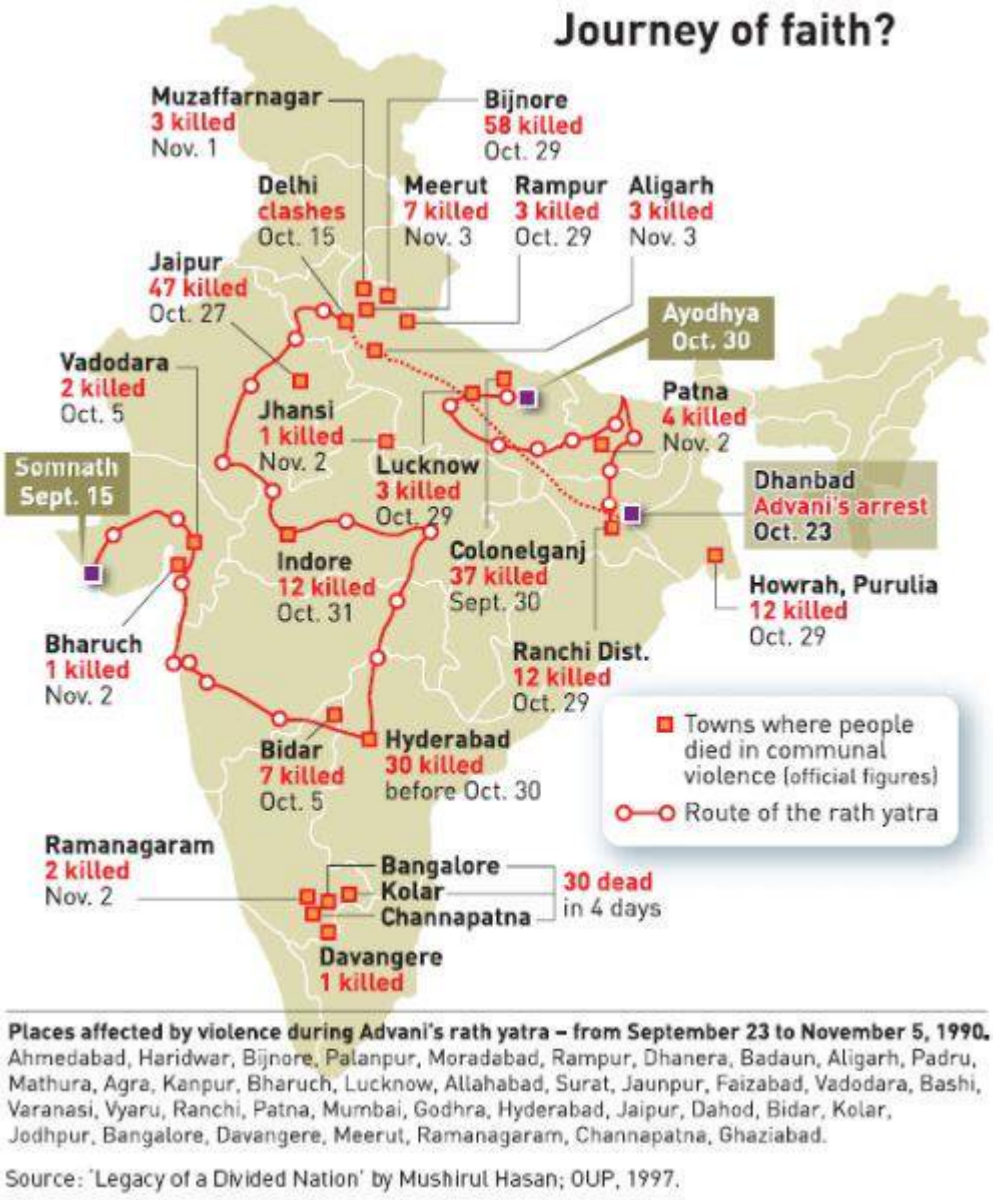
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BJP is planning to undertake 'Rath Yatra' in Delhi's riot-affected areas to seek donations for Ram Temple on Feb 1. In 1990, L.K. Advani had launched Rath Yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya.

This thread covers the large scale killing which took place during the Yatra and it's impact.

Between April 1989 and April 1990, 262 people died in Gujarat, mostly were Muslims. In October 1990, days after Advani’s yatra began, 41 were killed in Ahmedabad. The same month, 52 were killed in Jaipur, 20 in Jodhpur, 33 in Lucknow, over 100 in Delhi, 37 in Assam,

[1]



Places affected by violence during Advani's rath yatra – from September 23 to November 5, 1990.
Ahmedabad, Haridwar, Bijnore, Palanpur, Moradabad, Rampur, Dhanera, Badaun, Aligarh, Padru, Mathura, Agra, Kanpur, Bharuch, Lucknow, Allahabad, Surat, Jaunpur, Faizabad, Vadodara, Bashi, Varanasi, Vyaru, Ranchi, Patna, Mumbai, Godhra, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Dahod, Bidar, Kolar, Jodhpur, Bangalore, Davangere, Meerut, Ramanagaram, Channapatna, Ghaziabad.

Source: 'Legacy of a Divided Nation' by Mushirul Hasan; OUP, 1997.

18 in Patna and 165 in Hyderabad. Also in October, a pogrom against Muslims in Bhagalpur, Bihar, saw 960 killed in which 900 were Muslims. In November, 31 were killed in Agra, again mostly Muslim and 13 in Indore. In Dec, 60 were killed in Karnataka and 134 in Hyderabad.

[2]

Many parts of India remained tense for long periods of time. Between April and May 1990, three riots in Kanpur killed 30; between May and November 1991 more than 50 were killed in Varanasi. In May 1991, 26 including 24 Muslims were killed in Vadodara.

[3]

In October 1992, 44 were killed in Sitamarhi. On 6 December 1992, immediately after the Babri Masjid was destroyed, pogroms against Muslims broke out in Surat where 200 died, of whom some 95 per cent were Muslims. In Bhopal in December, 143 were killed.

[4]

Bombay riots broke out in which more than 1000 killed; again the majority were innocent Muslims.
The reward of mass killings was a doubling of the BJP's vote share. In the general elections held in mid-1991, the BJP got 20 per cent of the total vote and won 120 seats.

[5]

From 1951 to 1990 Bharatiya Jana Sangh which formed BJP in 1980 could not win a single state. The first elections after demolition of Babri Mosque were held in 1996. The BJP won 161 seats. BJP's success was built on the corpses of Muslims and cemented with their blood.

[6]

Over 3,400 Indians were killed in the violence triggered by Advani's campaign and it brought the BJP to the doorstep of power. In the 1984 elections, the BJP won only two Lok Sabha seats but in the 1991 general elections after the Rath Yatra, the BJP won 120 seats.

[7]

In July 1992, L.K. Advani said in the Lok Sabha Speaker's chamber: "You must recognise the fact that from two seats in Parliament in 1985 we have come to 117 seats in 1991. This has happened primarily because we took up this issue [Ayodhya]."

[8]

On June 18, 1991, L.K. Advani said: "Had I not played the Ram factor effectively, I would have definitely lost from the New Delhi constituency."

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi played a leading role in the first stage of Advani's Rath Yatra.

[9]



Rajeshwari writes in “Communal Riots in India: A Chronology 1947-2003”:

‘The mobilisation campaign for kar sevaks to construct the proposed Ram Janma Bhoomi Temple at Ayodhya on 30 October 1990 aggravated the communal atmosphere in the country.

[10]

Communal riots occurred in the wake of L.K. Advani’s Rath Yatra wherever it went. These riots were led by RSS-BJP men to consolidate the “Hindu” vote bank. They were widespread over almost all the states from Assam to West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh,

[11]

Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Delhi.’

Reference:
Aakar Patel, Our Hindu Rashtra