

News Item

India hunts 'fake news' spreaders after anti-Muslim attacks | The Guardian

By Agence France-Presse in Delhi November 8, 2021

Police in India are seeking the owners of about 100 social media accounts accused of sharing "fake news" after mob attacks on mosques in the north-east of the country.

Last month's violence in Tripura state erupted on the sidelines of a rally for hundreds of followers of a rightwing Hindu nationalist group. The incident appeared to be a revenge attack prompted by the killing of several Hindu worshippers across the border in Muslim-majority Bangladesh.

Four mosques were vandalised and several Muslim-owned homes and businesses were ransacked.

According to police, people aiming to whip up further violence shared misleading images on social media after the incident.

"The accounts identified were spreading rumours, fake news, fake videos and fake photographs that were not even linked to Tripura," a senior police officer in the state said on condition of anonymity.

"It is still too early but everyone will be identified and arrested for such fabrications."

[...]

Source: India hunts 'fake news' spreaders after anti-Muslim attacks | The Guardian