



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 9

**Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related  
forms of intolerance, follow-up and implementation  
of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

### **Written statement\* submitted by Global Welfare Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[7 February 2022]

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\* Issued as received, in the language of submission only. The views expressed in the present document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials.



## Physical assaults

From the last few years, the world has seen an increase in the number of physical assaults, baseless complaints, abuse and threats and humiliation of innocent people by Hindu mobs and Hindu nationalists in India. The Indian government looks helpless in the face of Hindu nationalists.

Hindu mobs beat up Dalits and Tribal Groups often, with impunity while pro-BJP supporters filed baseless complaints against critics, especially religious minorities. In January 2021, a stand-up comic, Munawar Faruqui, and five of his associates were arrested by Indore city police on a baseless complaint brought by the son of Indore city's mayor and BJP politician, who accused him of hurting Hindu sentiments through jokes that Faruqui apparently did not say. Police subsequently admitted that they had no evidence of the performance.

In October 2021, over 200 men and women allegedly belonging to the BJP youth wing and affiliated Hindu nationalist groups Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang Dal attacked a church in Uttarakhand state, vandalising property and injuring several churchgoers. The attack came soon after the VHP allegedly threatened to demolish churches in Madhya Pradesh state's Jhabua district, claiming they were doing illegal religious conversions. Hindu nationalist groups also attacked churches in Chhattisgarh state.

Several states enacted or amended laws ostensibly to prevent forced religious conversions, but these laws have been largely used to target minority communities, in particular Christians, Muslims, Dalits, and Adivasis.

On 15 June 2021, a Dalit woman farm labourer was slapped and humiliated by Hindu upper-caste landowners in Matti village, Punjab's Mansa district. In another incident, Dalit woman journalist Meena Kotwal is facing online abuse and threats since December 2021 to date from Hindu Nationalists.

On 21 January 2022, in Kannauj city of Uttar Pradesh, A Dalit woman, who went to stop the illegal occupation of her land, was physically assaulted and humiliated by the Hindu mob.

My organisation urges this council to ask the Indian government to stop its physical assaults, baseless complaints, abuse, threats and humiliation of Dalits, Tribal Groups and religious minorities by Hindu mobs and Hindu nationalists.

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