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Parsi Publications and the Nineteenth-Century Violence Over Alleged Blasphemy

Original reporting by **Swati Goel Sharma**



The Bhendi Bazaar.

CASE SUMMARY

1851 publication	A Parsi-run Gujarati weekly published a profile and illustration of Islam's founder in October 1851.
17 October 1851	An unidentified person pasted the newspaper cutting outside Bombay's Jama Masjid.
1851 police response	Former Bombay police commissioner S M Edwardes wrote that police arrested 85 rioters and troops were then called in.
1857 Bharuch violence	The Bombay Presidency gazetteer attributed the violence to a longstanding feud between Parsis and Muslims. The immediate trigger is unknown.
13 February 1874	People leaving Bombay's Jama Masjid attacked Parsis and their homes and businesses.

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Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma in July 2022. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.