RASHTRA JYOTI

ANALYSIS BRIEF
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Pakistan · From the reporting archive

Islamabad Temple Hostility Echoes Pakistani Hindu Refugees' Fear

Original analysis by **Swati Goel Sharma**

The author argues that opposition to the proposed Islamabad temple illustrates why Pakistani Hindu refugees can remain wary of worshipping publicly even after moving to India. The article cites threats against the temple, refugees' accounts of restrictions on worship in Sindh, and aid workers' observations at Delhi camps where residents have begun to install idols.



A temple at a refugee camp at Signature Bridge, New Delhi/picture provided by Sudhanshu Singh

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- A refugee woman described the destruction of her community's temple in Pakistan, with its idols allegedly thrown into a well.
- Construction of the proposed Islamabad temple stopped after fierce opposition, despite government clearances; the report also documented threats against the Hindu community.
- Rehabilitation activist Hari Om Sahu observed that refugees initially avoided public celebrations and attempts to build shared places of worship in India.
- At the Signature Bridge camp, Sudhanshu Singh linked residents' decision to build a temple with their discovery of religious freedom in India.

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SCAN TO SUPPORT

Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma in July 2020. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.