

Mumbai Attack.

The attacks were carried out by 10 gunmen who were believed to be connected to Lashkar-e-Taiba, a Pakistan-based terrorist organization. Armed with automatic weapons and hand grenades, the terrorists targeted civilians at numerous sites in the southern part of Mumbai, including the Chhatrapati Shivaji railway station, the popular Leopold Café, two hospitals, and a theatre. While most of the attacks ended within a few hours after they began at around 9:30 PM on November 26, the terror continued to unfold at three locations where hostages were taken—the Nariman House, where a Jewish outreach centre was located, and the luxury hotels Oberoi Trident and Taj Mahal Palace & Tower.

By the time the standoff ended at the Nariman House on the evening of November 28, six hostages as well as two gunmen had been killed. At the two hotels, dozens of guests and staff were either trapped by gunfire or held hostage. Indian security forces ended the siege at the Oberoi Trident around midday on November 28 and at the Taj Mahal Palace on the morning of the following day. In all, at least 174 people, including 20 security force personnel and 26 foreign nationals, were killed. More than 300 people were injured. Nine of the 10 terrorists were killed, and one was arrested.

Mumbai terrorist attacks of 2008

TERRORIST ATTACKS, MUMBAI, INDIA

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Mumbai terrorist attacks of 2008, multiple terrorist attacks that occurred on November 26–29, 2008, in Mumbai (Bombay), Maharashtra, India.



Targets of the November 2008 terrorist attack in Mumbai, India.

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Events Of November 26–29

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The Chhatrapati Shivaji railway station in Mumbai, India, after a terrorist attack, November 2008.

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The Attackers

Amid speculation regarding the identity of the terrorists, an unknown group calling itself Mujahideen Hyderabad Deccan claimed responsibility for the attacks in an e-mail; however, the e-mail was later traced to a computer in Pakistan, and it became obvious that no such group existed. The way the terrorists had reportedly singled out Western foreigners at both of the luxury hotels and at the Nariman House led some to believe that the Islamic militant group al-Qaeda was possibly involved, but this appeared not to be the case after the lone arrested terrorist, Ajmal Amir Kasab, provided substantial information regarding the planning and execution of the attacks. Kasab, a native of Pakistan's Punjab province, told investigators that the 10 terrorists underwent prolonged guerrilla-warfare training in the camps of Lashkar-e-Taiba. He further revealed that the team of terrorists had spent time at the headquarters of a second and related organization, Jamaat-ud-Dawa, in the city of Muridke before traveling from Punjab to the port city of Karachi and setting out for Mumbai by sea.

Lashkar-e-Taiba

This Pakistan-based Islamic militant group is alleged to have links to the Mumbai terrorist attacks.

- Began late 1980s, early 1990s
- Name means "Army of the Pure"
- Military wing of Markaz Dawa-ul-Irshad (MDI), formed to oppose the Soviet presence in Afghanistan
- Strength Several thousand mainly Pakistanis, Afghan; support from other terror groups
- Targets Indian troops, civilians in Kashmir; high profile attacks in India

Goals India out of Kashmir; restore Islamic rule in SE Asia

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Source: U.S. State Department, South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP), ESF





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What was the intention of Lashkar-e-Taiba in Mumbai attack? Answer briefly.

Why was Kasab chosen to be the part of this horrific act? Answer briefly.

How this attack brought India and Pakistan on a brink of a war? Answer briefly.

How this attack changed the relationship between India and Pakistan politically and socially? Answer briefly.
