

MAGAZINE ON

Acid Attack

A BURNING ISSUE IN INDIA



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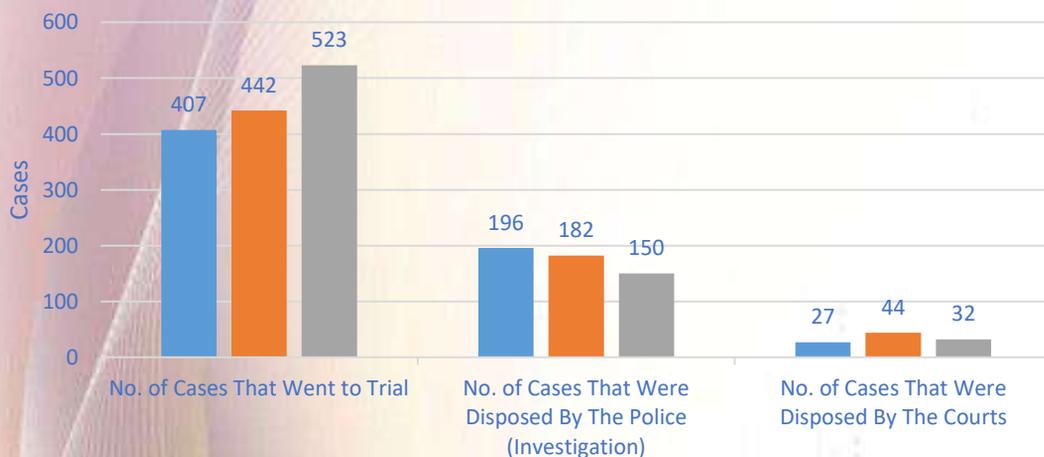
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Meaning of Acid Attack

'Acid attack' or 'vitriol attack' means to throw corrosive substance such as hydrochloric acid or nitric acid to target the face of the victim with the intention of disfiguring, torturing or killing them. It is an inhuman heinous act.

After 74 years of independence our country has made development in terms of communication, health, education and defence but has failed to change the patriarchal society and its conservative thinking. The incidence of acid attack is a blot on our country. After every few days, such an incident is reported. According to a report of USA Today, every year 300 cases are reported in India. Mostly the victims of acid attacks are women or girls. 70-80% of these victims are between the age of 14 to 30 years.

Number and Disposition of Cases of Acid Attacks 2016 - 2018*



* Source: National Crime Records Bureau (India), Reports of 2016 , 2017, 2018

■ 2016 ■ 2017 ■ 2018

These statistics reveal two things: first, 90% of acid attack cases reported in one year do not reach trial until the following year and second, investigations and dispositions of cases by the courts are slow in India. An acid attack case on an average takes up to five to ten years to be disposed of completely by the courts which contributes to the low conviction rates. In 2016, 2017, and 2018 convictions rates were negligible at 2.45%, 3.39%, and 3.36% respectively.



We will Protest Against it

PLEASE STOP

Don't tell the sufferers that you are spoiled. Make them strong and stand beside them

This is not a Right way to take Revenge

Don't Throw Acid On "Humanity"

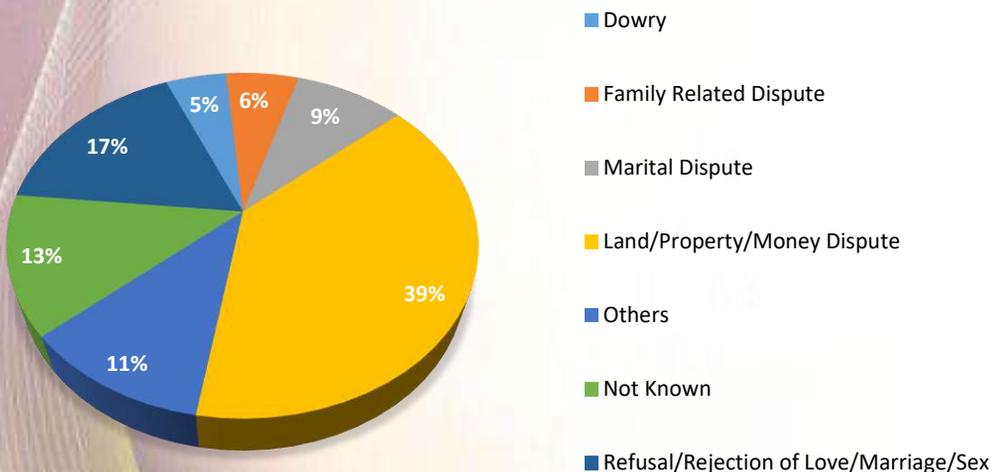
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Reasons Behind The Acid Attack

The primary reasons of acid attack in India are:

- Personal conflict regarding intimate relationships.
- Racial motivations.
- Sexual jealousy and lust.
- Social, political and religious motivations.
- Gang violence and rivalry.
- Attack against minorities.
- Conflicts over land ownership, farm animals, housing and property.
- Revenge for refusal to sexual advances, proposals of marriage and demands for dowry.

Acid Attack Statistics: The Reasons



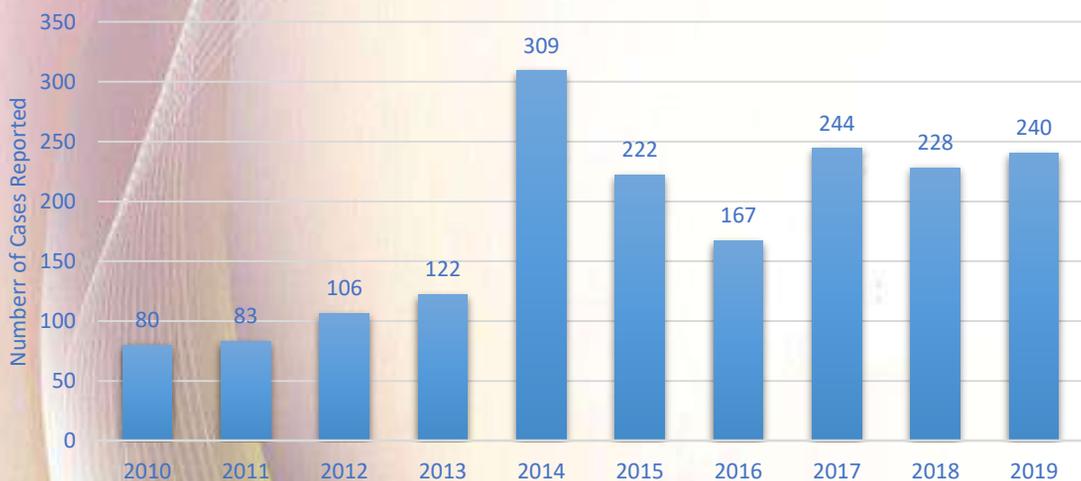


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How Are The Victims Treated By The Society After Attack?

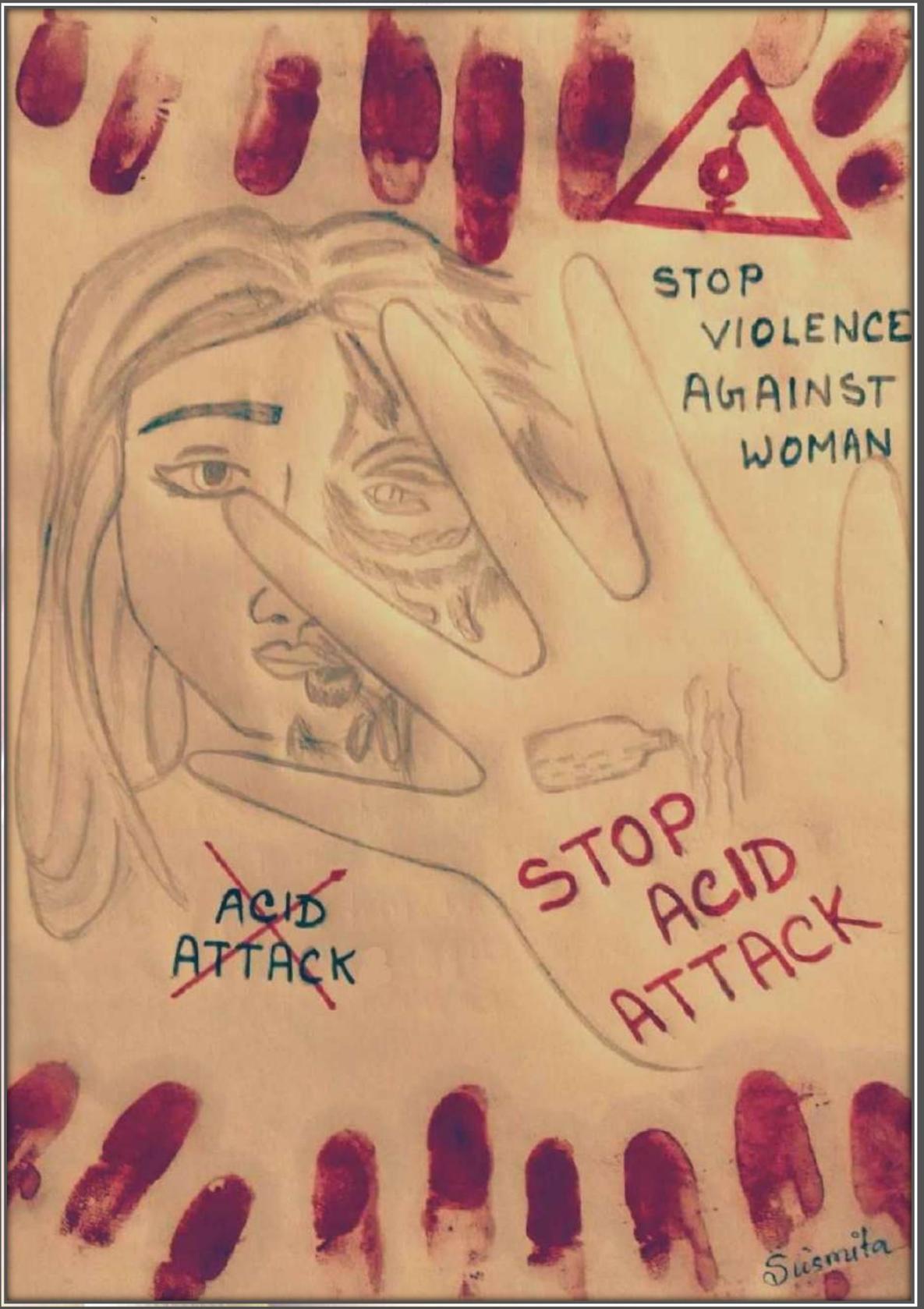
The victim's life is a living hell. We cannot imagine the sheer amount of pain they go through. Their face/body is disfigured, they are in constant pain, some go blind or deaf, some are unable to breathe or eat normally because of the damage on the face. In addition to all these, they are rejected by the society. Friends and relatives stop supporting/talking to their families. Their parents have to see their children in constant pain. The medical expenses are very high and most of the times the families cannot afford the treatment. We just cannot imagine how difficult it is to live life in this way. It is painful, depressing and horrifying to know that there are some people living in the world who are unfit to be called humans because they can be so wicked towards another person.

Acid Attack in India 2010 - 2019*



* Source: National Crime Records Bureau (India), Reports of 2014-2019

These figures do not reflect the whole picture of acid attack in India because 60% of the incidents are never reported. Many victims are reluctant to report because they feel ashamed and are stigmatized and lack resources to fight for their justice.



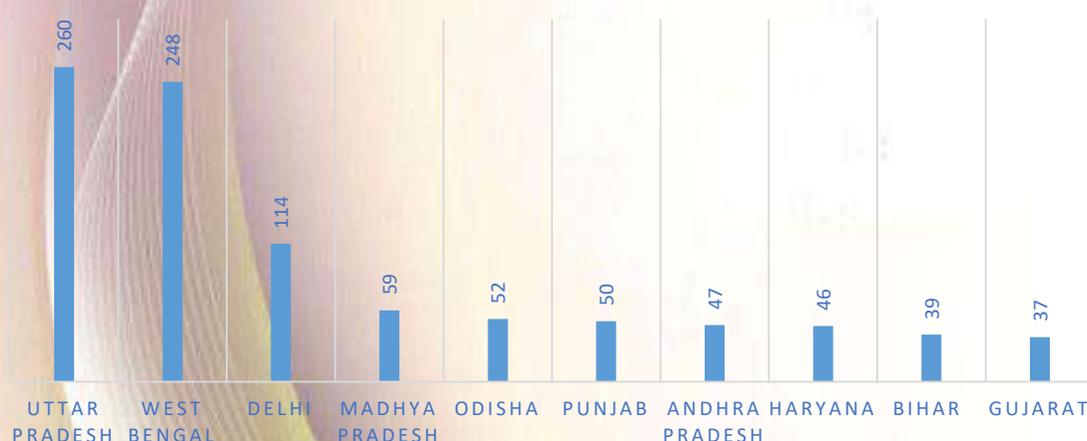
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How To Prevent This Attack?

The preventive measures to stop acid attack are:

- ❑ Education system of India should be modified to include a compulsory course on violence on women and its prevention.
- ❑ Gender discrimination must be stopped.
- ❑ Legislative reforms by making stringent laws and imposing heavy fines as penalty.
- ❑ Regulating sale and purchase of acid in India, in many places acid is sold at Rs. 20 per litre openly. The government must execute and implement laws properly.
- ❑ Role of NGOs – many NGOs give free legal counselling, treatment and monthly support to the victims.
- ❑ Long-term imprisonment – since the accused usually get bail and are freed after such a heinous crime, it does not generate fear about such a crime. Section 326A of Indian Penal Code provides that an acid attacker gets imprisoned for at least 10 years or for life.

THE 10 MOST TOXIC STATES IN INDIA WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF ACID ATTACK 2014 - 2018



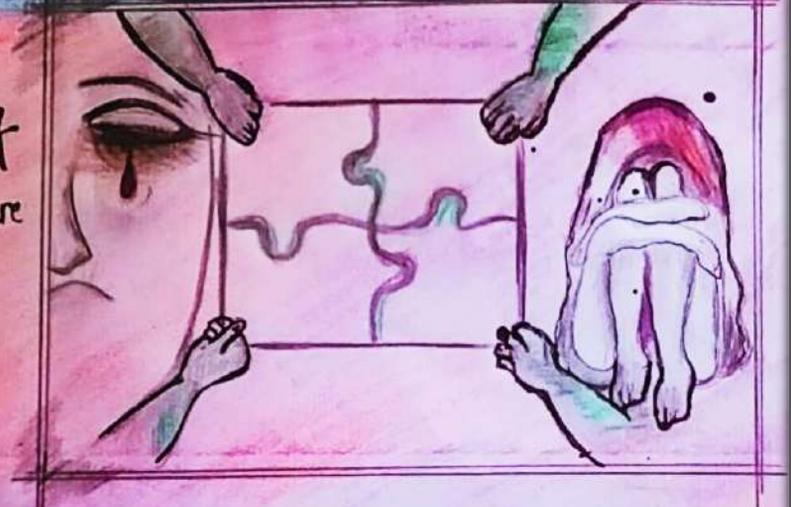
FIGURES INCLUDE 'ACID ATTACKS' AND 'ATTEMPT TO ACID ATTACK'

* SOURCE: NATIONAL CRIME RECORDS BUREAU (INDIA)

Stop Acid Attack
Please



Save my
dignity
I am your
daughter



The Only Way to End
Acid Attack is
To Ban the sale
of Acids —

Priyasa Samaddar , Sanskrit Honours , 2nd Semester

Conclusion

We want to make India neither a 'patriarchal' nor a 'matriarchal' society but we demand an egalitarian society or a civilized society where rights of men and women are equal and they have equal participation in decision making. Acid attack on women is the result of patriarchal conservative thinking. Love means sacrifice, not revenge. Finally, we would like to conclude by saying, "if you like someone, throw your efforts, not acid".

STOP ACID ATTACK!!



You will hear
and you will
be told
that the
face you
burned
is the
face
I love
now

You will
know that
I am alive,
free and
thriving
and living
my dreams



STOP
ACID
ATTACK

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