Police Matters

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Glossary

**Bandobast / bundobast**: Preparatory security arrangements.

**Dravidian**: Of the South. Usage of the term draws on overlapping linguistic and racial knowledge formations of the nineteenth century, contrasting Aryan / Sanskritic North India to Dravidian South India.

**Hartal**: Public protest that calls for shutting down establishments.

**Karnam**: Village accountant.

**Kaval**: A precolonial and colonial rural policing system that skirted the line between pillage and protection.

**Kavalgar**: A person, usually belonging to the Thevar or Naicker caste, who participated in the kaval system.

**Kusba**: A small town centered on a market.

**Lathi**: A heavy wooden stick used as police weapon.

**Panchayat**: “Council of Five” / village leadership.

**Panchayatdar**: Member of the village council.

**Ramayana**: One of the two major Hindu epics.

**Talayari**: Village watchman.

**Serai**: An inn.