

JejuMUN 8

Background Guide

Hotel Mumbai

Agenda

Finding a solution to get the guests of hotel Mumbai safely out of the hotel, where they have been taken as hostages.

SDG: 16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

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Committee Introduction

Greetings, welcome to the Hotel Mumbai Crisis Committee. In this committee, the delegates will be mainly focusing on solving, or, finding out a way to survive the Mumbai attack.

In this committee, we would be dealing with the agenda of surviving the Mumbai attack including escaping from terrorists and thwarting their plans. As the terror is spreading quickly among the delegates trapped in the hotel along with the terrorists who are closing in, it is the utmost priority to negotiate quick decisions and escape the hotel alive. There may be certain sacrifices along the way but the ultimate aim of the committee as a whole is to get as many people out of the hotel safely.

It is considered crucial to be aware of the Rules Of Procedures of crisis committees as it differs from the General Assemblies Committees. Instead of drafting resolutions, delegates will be drafting private and public directives regarding the crisis. Directives are shorter resolutions that briefly explain the action that would be immediately enforced to resolve the issue. Private directives are drafted by individual delegates and sent to the chairs, whereas public directives are drafted under the collaboration of multiple delegates willing for the same cause. There also will be crisis updates announced to the delegates that introduce a new event or a change of events regarding the crisis. Delegates will address the crisis updates and draft directives in response to them.

The main difference between a General Assembly committee and a crisis committee is that the delegates' actions would be enforced immediately, inducing the course of events to change quickly. Unexpected twists and turns may happen in the committee. A crisis committee works to solve the issue while the process of taking the crisis updates into account as well. It is essential to stick to one's stance despite the rapid changes and emphasize what the delegate believes is just. Please be aware that it is the delegate's priority to resolve the main crisis under the regards of resolving crisis updates on the way, too.

The chairs look forward to seeing the delegates working diligently to work through the crisis and resolve upcoming issues.

P.S, Delegates are not required to watch the Hotel Mumbai movie to be part of the committee.

Agenda Introduction

The Hotel Mumbai attack, also called the 26/11 terror attack, all started out with a small group of terrorists from a group known as Lashkar-e-Taiba passing the Indian border from Karachi, Pakistan on a small boat November 22nd, 2008. They later arrive at a location on sea 7 kilometers away from Mumbai, a reduced group separating from the rest that sailed with them and traveling the remaining distance to reach South Mumbai by themselves.

The terrorists proceeded to attack more than five attraction spots across Mumbai, which included the Taj Mahal Palace hotel. Four of the armed men entered the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, immediately opening fire as they stepped into the lobby. 20 people were already dead within the first few minutes. They initiated a hostage situation as many of the frightened guests locked themselves inside their rooms, even capturing some of the workers and guests of the hotel themselves.

It is now up to the delegates' decisions to find a way to survive through the alarming circumstances until the Indian National Guards come and suppress the attack, or find a safe escape route out of the hotel. Keep in mind that the Taj Mahal Palace hotel consists of six stories with two wings; the heritage wing having 290 rooms and the Taj Towers having 275. The gunned terrorists could be anywhere within the spacious luxury of the hotel. Delegates must work in a collaborative manner to structure a consecutive plan to escape the hotel overcoming the current circumstances given to them.

Letter from the Chairs

Our greatest welcome to the esteemed guests of The Taj,

Greetings to the fellow delegates of the **Hotel Mumbai Crisis Committee**, we are Jiwun, Dorothy, Hugo, and Anna. It is our dearest pleasure to serve as your chairs for this JejuMUN 8 conference. All four of us are from Korean International School Jeju as active members of the MUN club.

The Taj, or officially known as the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, is an extravagant, 5 star-rated hotel located on the glittering sea shore of Mumbai, India. Often called the 'Diamond by the Sea', the Taj is where our committee will be set for the conference. Based on a tragically true story and the adapted movie Hotel Mumbai, the committee will set forth on a suspenseful and electrifying mission within the grand walls of the hotel. Your role as a delegate in our committee is simple: escape the terrorized hotel in one piece. This might sound simple in words, but you must not let your guard down. A group of heavily armed men are lurking behind all the eccentric luxury of the hotel. When caught, they will spare no one. Amongst the 560 rooms and 44 suites of the beautiful Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, there is no knowing where these terrorists will jump in on you.

We cannot possibly put in words on how delighted we are to have all of you to join us on this rather wild mission. The chairs have tried their very best to make this conference a unique opportunity for every single one of our delegates; never hesitate to take risks, despite the fact that some of them might be pretty absurd. Embrace the crisis, and most importantly, have fun - enjoy yourselves! If you have any further questions, comments, or concerns feel free to contact any of us via email.

We hope you enjoy your stay here with us at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel.

Best of luck,

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Key Terms

Lashkar-e-Taiba

A Pakistan based organization that has planned the terrorist attacks in Mumbai. The group carried out 12 gun mass shootings and terrors in different areas in Mumbai including the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel. Lashkar-e-Taiba acted on religious reasons and beliefs that they would have to spread the Islamic religion and the word of god by killing people who didn't believe in Islam.

M.V. Kuber

A fishing trawler which the terrorists of the Lashkar-e-Taiba came across on their way to Mumbai at approximately 1500 hours on sea. The Indian-registered fishing vessel had five crew members on board at that time. Four of them were moved and later killed on the Al-Husseini, the boat where the ten selected terrorists were traveling. The captain of M.V. Kuber, Amar Singh Solanki, was the only one left alive so he could navigate the vessel with the terrorists along the remaining 550 nanometers to Mumbai.

Mumbai

A Major Indian coastal metropolitan city located in the state of Maharashtra. The city has the 2nd largest population in India after Delhi, the capital city of India. Alongside being one of the most populous cities in the world, Mumbai is also the most developed city in India, known to the world as the Indian capital of finance, economy, and entertainment. The development of Mumbai was able to earn itself the title of 'Alpha world city', a prestigious title given only to the cities that play an important role in the global economic network.

Mumbai Police

Easy to tell from its name, the Mumbai police is the police department of city Mumbai. Established in the 17th century, with the motto 'To protect the good and to destroy the evil'. However, during the time of the attack, the Mumbai police were neither trained nor equipped to respond to a large-scale terrorist attack that occurred in Mumbai. Thus, although the polices can be considered as a method of rescue for the delegates, they are not to be relied on as the sole method of rescue.

Islam

A religion that believes that there is only one god in the world, the god Allah. As the second largest religion in the world, Islamic beliefs are widespread in all areas in the world including Pakistan. They believed all of the prophets were aiming to send a central message by god Allah of monotheism. This was not the major religion in India but was the religion believed by the Lashkar-e-Taiba, resulting in religious conflicts.

Sikhism

A religion found in the Punjab region in India. Sikhism is the world's 5th large religion. Their beliefs are rooted from the idea of equality and service to others. It is often that prayers are for the "wellbeing of the world" and the religion is based on charity. The normal practice of sikhism in clothing is by wearing a turban covering men's hair. As a turban is defined as one of the Sikh identities, it is an act against religion and a huge dishonor when taking it off.

Hinduism

The world's third largest religion, and the biggest religion in India. Hinduism believes in many gods and goddesses and the religion is based on the thought of karma or how one's actions in life affects the after life. The Indian-Pakistan War in 1965's major causes were because of the religious clashes between Hinduism and Islamic religion. The religious conflicts between Hinduism and Muslim continues till now and it is essential for the delegates to study and address the effects of religion in the Hotel Mumbai Terror.

National Security Guards

The National Security Guards are elite unit of soldiers trained specifically for tackling terrorism in India. The National Security Guards were involved in the situation in order to rescue the hostages. However, it required time for the National Security Guards to reach the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel and during the duration, many civilians were killed. The National Security Guards' help is essential to be utilized in order to survive from the Hotel terror.

Taj Mahal Palace Hotel

One of the many locations that were attacked by the Islamic extremist group, Lashkar-e-Taiba. The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel is a five star luxury hotel built in the Colaba area of Mumbai, located near the historical architecture, the Gateway of India. The hotel is made up of two different buildings, the Taj Mahal Palace and the Taj Mahal tower. The building has 560 rooms, 44 suits and employs around 1500 staff members. Over the course of its history, the Hotel has received esteemed guests from Political heads to business leaders.

IED (Improvised Explosive Device)

Improvised Explosive Devices, often referred to as the abbreviated term IED starting from the 2003 Iraq War, is another name for a homemade bomb. It is normally made out of either military or nonmilitary components. IEDs are frequently used by criminals, vandals, suicide bombers, or insurgents who intend offense. These explosives can vary in form and size, ranging from a miniscule bomb all the way to an intricate gadget capable of compelling colossal destruction and the loss of countless lives. Improvised explosive devices can be transported and activated through a variety of methods, some including but not limited to being physically carried, moved via vehicle, hidden on a roadside, or thrown by someone.

Historical Background

The Hotel Mumbai attack, also called the 26/11 terror attack, all started out with the terrorists passing the Indian border from Karachi, Pakistan on a small boat November 22nd, 2008. These men were sworn members of the Lashkar-e-Taliba, an Islamist militant group. The ten selected members of the organization later move onto a larger boat they come across on sea, Al-Husseini. Al-Husseini was already occupied by seven other members of the LeT.

November 23rd, approximately 1500 hours up on sea, the terrorists spot another boat next to theirs; the MV Kuber. MV Kuber was an Indian registered fishing vessel. Eager for a larger ride, the terrorists seize MV Kuber, killing four of the five crewmembers and sparing only the captain to navigate the remaining 1018 kilometers to their destination. Here, the ten terrorists assigned with the Mumbai attack, each of them provided with a bag filled with essentials such as pistols, hand grenades, and dry fruit. The chosen terrorists were also given bags of IED (improvised explosive device).

When the troops reached a point 7 kilometers on sea away from Mumbai, the group leader Ismail Khan contacted their handler back in Pakistan. The handler gives the kill order to Khan to eliminate the captain of MV Kuber, Singh Solanki. Soon after taking on the handler's order, the selected terrorists move on board an inflatable dinghy with the explosives and weapons. They proceed to travel the last 7 kilometers to Mumbai on their own with the span of 85 minutes, finally docking at the Badhwar Park in South Mumbai.

Upon their arrival at Mumbai, the ten terrorists are separated into five assigned groups. The attacks commence as Mohammed Ajmal Amir Kasab and Ismail Khan launches on CST Railway Station at about 9:20 P.M. Hafiz Arshad and Naser take the Leopold Cafe and Bar using AK-47 assault rifles and a grenade. These two later merge in with Shoaib and Javed and make their way towards the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel.

The terrorizing of the hotel officially begins when the first pair enters the main lobby at 9:38 P.M. and opens fire, killing 20 people in the first few minutes.

With the right amount of quick thinking, wise decisions, and cunning moves, this crisis just might be able to result in gallant survival. Or else, there won't be much left other than debris.

Current State of Affairs

Members of Lashkar-e-Taiba attacked Mumbai in several places today on November 26th, 2008 in railroad stations, the Cama Hospital and more. As the hospitals were attacked, it is currently unavailable for healing casualties. With the people running to seek shelter from the terror going on, the terrorist hide amongst the group and has entered the Taj Hotel, launching their attacks and opening fire arms causing mass killings. Each individual possesses automatic rifles and hand grenades to launch further killings of people hiding out. Currently, 22 guests are trapped in the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel trying to figure out how to survive and escape the Taj Hotel to safety. Police have surrounded the Taj Hotel barricading the way for the terrorists to go out but also trapping the delegates and holding them hostage of the terrorists.

Anti-terrorist units are unfortunately unable to go into the Taj Hotel due to the lack of personnel and weapons. The local police have already requested the assistance of the national Security Guard for counter-terrorism units yet it takes more than half a day for them to arrive. The 900 hotel rooms, the dining room and the VIP lounge are where the delegates are situated.

There are currently 22 guests trapped in the hotel in the VIP lounge. Due to Chef Oberoi's quick response and Arjun, and Dilip's knowledge about the hotel, they were able to quickly and safely move from the dining room to the secure VIP Lounge with barricaded doors. The VIP lounge has supplies like wine, and cooking materials, with a small kitchen. Yet, the supplies are limited and can only last 2 days in the VIP lounge without moving to supply all of the delegates. The access to mobile devices is limited due to the crashed network server yet there are three walkie talkies supplied by a battery that can last 2 days stashed somewhere in the VIP lounge. The only mobile device access is given to the reporter, Houssam.

The government has panicked with the amount of attacks that have arisen. With numerous attacks across the city Mumbai, the government's current priority lies within curing the people who are hurt from the terrorist attacks. It is only now that they have become aware of the situation of guests and staff being held hostages in the Taj Hotel. The government has officially requested for National Security Guards to arrive at the Taj Hotel and continue their mission in the Taj Hotel rescuing individuals. Yet it takes more than 1 day for them to arrive from New Delhi to Mumbai with the massive amount of traffic blocking their ways. Within the span of approximately 48 hours, delegates need to find a way to survive from the terrorists.

Stances of Parties

Arjun Laghari

Arjun Laghari is Sikh waiter in the hotel who works under head chef Oberoi. He has a small family of his own with a loving wife and a newborn son. As a prideful member of the Hotel Mumbai staff, Arjun has a strong, accommodating mindset of "Guest is God". He is one of the most humanistic and sympathetic individuals, caring deeply for everyone. Arjun is willing to do anything for his guests' comfort, and will not hesitate to risk his own life in order to keep his guests away from danger.

David Thelson

As an announced architect, David has thorough knowledge in types of structures and house materials. He really isn't the best extrovert; he dislikes too much interaction with outsiders. David's main focus of life revolves around his family and his job. David is deeply endorsed in his current plan for building his own house for his wife and newborn child; he only came on the trip to Mumbai under his wife Zahra's persistence to take his mind off his work for a while and refresh.

Zahra Kashani

Zahra Kashani, married to David Thelson, is the daughter of an influential family with extreme wealth in India. Originally intended to have a nice and comfortable trip with her husband, her child and babysitter in one of the most advanced cities in India, her family was forced to be entangled in the mess that was the result of the terrorist attack.

Chef Hermant Oberoi

Chef Hermant Oberoi, a skilled 5 star ranked chef is hired as the executive chef of Taj Hotel for 10 years. With his outstanding cooking skills, he is known as India's premier cooking star. With his calm and soothing manner, his priority remains with the safety of the guests staying at Taj Hotel and never thinks to abandon them even during potential danger. Chef Oberoi is, as his title suggests, skilled in cooking and can be helpful for survival when gathering ingredients and for cooking.

Dilip

Dilip is a diligent worker being the assistant chef at Taj Hotel for 5 years. He has a small rivalry with Chef Hermant Oberoi as without Oberoi he would be the executive chef of the Taj restaurant. He is married and has two children. As he makes his family's living, he needs to get out of the hotel alive. Yet at the same time, he values the guests safety highly too which leads to internal conflicts. He has been placed as assistant chef for his ability to utilize knives and other cooking tools efficiently.

Vasili Volkov

Vasili Volkov is a well-paid businessman from Voronezh, Russia. He works as an aerospace manufacturer. His inhospitable and rather bitter personality has kept him away from any sort of intimate relationship for a while, keeping him unmarried even in his mid forties. He enjoys traveling alone, and has a special interest in tasting all kinds of alcoholic beverages around the world. Recently receiving the news that the Taj Mahal Hotel's bar is famous for its palm wine, Volkov takes his annual vacation as a chance to pay a visit to Mumbai, India.

Sally Owens

Sally is a meticulous woman fresh out of college. With a childhood dream of opening her very own perfume parlor in New York, she is working to save up enough money. Sally got introduced to David and Zahra through her former roommate a month back, and received the offer to babysit their baby, Cameron, on the couple's vacation in Mumbai for a generous pay. Despite her fear of flights, Sally decides to accept the offer and board herself on the plane headed to Mumbai with the family; she needs all the money she can get. Sally is thankfully told that she can remain in the hotel room with Cameron while the couple goes sightseeing around the city. She plans to enjoy a bit of restful time herself with her eyes on the baby.

Lady Wynn

Lady Wynn is a rather strict Jewish woman. With her own fashion empire named Wynn Fashions, she is one of the influential people in the area of fashion and business. She has visited the hotel for a grand opportunity made by the hotel to host a fashion show in terms of entertainment for the guests. She has the ability to adapt to any situation given to her. Some of her talents are the usage of sewing and cutting objects and she can utilize any tool that is given to her to create magnificent items out of scratch.

Abdullah

Abdullah has been a faithful worker in Hotel Mumbai. He worked his way up to being the head director of housekeeping, resulting in him having a very serene personality with great decision making skills. Abdullah has also been one of the longest serving workers in Hotel Mumbai, and he knows all the routes of this old hotel that even some of the workers have never been to. He does not like to be disturbed by the presence of other people since he likes to work in silence, however he is a great source of information inside the hotel.

Houssam

Houssam works as a newsreader for a small local Mumbai news platform. He is a single dad with a 4 year old daughter. Despite having his dream job, Houssam is on the verge of losing it as the company is close to being bankrupt. As the platform

Houssam broadcasts for is not necessarily receiving a lot of attention from the public, it has been difficult for them to pay every member of the staff. Houssam is desperate not to be one of the 20 workers who are going to be let go at the end of the month; he is willing to risk everything he has to catch a good story that might catch the eye of both his boss and the public.

Imran

Imran has visited the Taj Hotel with means of meeting and trading with the Russian businessman Vasili Volkov. Imran was originally working as a young worker at the Taj Hotel, aiming to get his role as head chef but however was fired due to numerous complaints of the guests who have tasted his dish. Looking for a way to sustain his family having an elderly mother, Imran was pushed to choose the path as a foreign arms dealer. However, being one of the most successful arm dealers, he is not regretful of his decision yet his dreams still remain with the Taj Hotel's head chef position. Imran is skilled in dealing with arms and has the will to fight the terrorists risking his life to return home safely to unite with his family. Imran is skilled in dealing with weapons such as

Rashid

Rashid is a businessman working in the marketing department for a furniture company in the city of Thana. With his job as a digital engineer, he is skilled in BASIC(Beginner's All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code) and is well-knowledged in professional programming. He is married with a pair of twins living together in a small apartment back in Thana. Working onWith a short vacation and small promotion he has earned with the recent advertisement hit, Rashid is visiting his cousin in Mumbai, who works as a lifeguard in the Taj's outdoor pool.

Richard Flores

Two and a half years into the International Field department for NBC News, Richard is an aspiring man in his late 20s. Accommodating to his job as the foreign correspondent of his department, Richard is fluent in over 6 languages, one of them being Hindi. He was originally positioned in his stay at the Taj to write an article about the recent renovations and the visitation rate of the hotel when he receives the sudden news of the attack.

Officer D.C. Vam

D.C. Vam works at Mumbai's local police station. Although he is a mere uniformed police officer, Vam will not hesitate to throw himself into danger for those who need his help. Despite being in his early 40s, Vam is unmarried; he enjoys the solitude. Vam is rather independent and assertive. He likes to be in charge when going on a mission, not minding to even go alone at some occasions. He is normally

the one to stay the latest at the station working on his night shift, answering all the emergency calls that come through at that hour.

Prashant Potkar

Prashant Potkar is a security guard employed in the luxurious hotel palace. Prashant Potkar has been working in the hotel for about 3 years, thus having a very good understanding of the overall structure of the hotel and all of its emergency exits. Although Prashant isn't wealthy like the guests he serves in the hotel, he definitely lives a very happy life, he is married to a diligent wife who was able to bore him a lovely boy, who is now 3 years old. Finishing the job to go home and play with his young boy had been the only thing that was able to keep him motivated during work.

Sun Weidong

Sun Weidong was born in September, 1996 at Jiangsu, China, particularly in the city of Xuzhou. He was a professor at the China Foreign Affairs University for seven years starting from 1989 to 1996, later joining the Foreign Service and serving mostly in Southeast Asia. He displays a rich career in the Chinese Embassy in India, and the Asian Department in the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After his time as the Chinese ambassador to Pakistan and as the director of the Department of Policy Planning of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he was finally appointed as the ambassador for Pakistan in 2019. Hearing great things about the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel from his daughter, Sun Weidong decides to book a room at the famous hotel for a short vacation away from his work.

Kenneth Juster

Kenneth Juster serves as the 25th American ambassador to India. Before being appointed for his current role, Juster was the president's deputy assistant specifically for international economic affairs. His career ranges wide, including past positions in the National Security Council, the National Economic Council, and the State Department. Juster also previously worked as the undersecretary of commerce and under Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger as well. Juster visited India for his final participation in a meeting held in the Ministry of External Affairs before his term of office is over. He is making a temporary stay at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel before his flight to New Delhi in two days.

Bree Walker

Bree is an active PMC agent who is currently on her annual vacation. Bree is considered as one of the best brains in the PMC. Her intellectual brain has guided her fellow agents to many successful field work and has pride in what she does. However, since she is always the only strategist in her team, she will never compromise her opinion with anyone else, as she has faith that her decisions are right. As her stubbornness has saved her team many times on field. As stressed as she was when

she left for her vacation, Bree would like her vacation to stay peaceful for the last few days as she will be enjoying her leisure in Hotel Mumbai.

Amara

Amara is a cordial woman in her mid thirties that works as the head clerk at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel's front desk. She has a fiance whom she is planning to get married to in the winter. Amara has been working at the front desk for the longest out of all her colleagues. Her easy-going personality and bright smile is loved by all of her colleagues as well as the hotel's guests. She never thinks twice to assist a frazzled guest or fill in for a fellow clerk. In fact, Amara was happily substituting for a younger clerk who had to rush home to her sick parrot when she heard the very first gunshots.

Shahrukh Khan

Shahrukh Khan was born in New Delhi, India on November 2nd, 1965. He is married with two sons and a single daughter. More known as the nickname "King Khan", Khan has starred in more than 50 Hindi movies along with 13 Filmfare awards, which are better known as the "Bollywood Oscars". Khan is the biggest movie star in the Hindi cinema and is practically the global face of Bollywood itself, too. He holds 3.5 billion fans all over the world. His movies never miss the top 10 charts in the US. He recently flew to Mumbai to visit his sick mother-in-law, and is making his stay at the Taj.

Amrit Singh

Amrit Singh is the youngest daughter of the Indian prime minister, Manmohan Singh. She has grown up abundantly; everything served to her on a silver platter ever since she made her entrance into this world. Being the youngest daughter of the Singh family, she was unconditionally loved by her parents and siblings. Thanks to the guaranteed support, Amrit grew up with a confident personality and outgoing nature. Though kind to those close to her, she is easily bitter to those who aren't, as she has crossed paths with too many people who tried to benefit off of her wealth. Amrit aspires to be a human rights lawyer one day after graduating high school in a few months. The fierceness she inherited from her father has always driven her to speak up for what she stands for, mesmerizing crowds. Amrit visits the Taj for a relaxing holiday with a friend before she starts to prepare for her senior finals when she is abruptly trapped inside the hotel under the terror.

Sundar Pichai

Sundair Pichai is an indian-american business executive. Earning his M.S degree from Stanford University, he began his career as an engineer and grew as a businessman and grew to a position where he was considered to be a CEO of Microsoft. Sundar Pichai is one of the most successful businessmen in the world, and came to the Hotel Mumbai to give a seminar representing his company, Alphabet Inc.

His ability to adapt to any situation that he faces is one of his many strengths along with his technical engineering skills to fix any mechanical problems that he faces.

Questions to Consider

1. Should the delegates report to the reporters using mobile devices?
2. What weapons are being used by the members of the terrorists?
3. Is there a possibility that some of the guests are one with the terrorists?
4. How many terrorists are in close proximity? If none are, how many are in which part of the hotel?
5. Are there secret passages in this hotel?
6. Why are we stuck here in the first place?
7. Do the delegates have enough power to take down the terrorists?
8. What kind of speciality does the delegate have that can get the team out of the hotel?
9. How will the delegates communicate effectively with one another?

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