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MODI TO OPEN FLASHPOINT TEMPLE SYMBOLISING HIS CHANGING INDIA

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Channel News Asia (22 January 2024)

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Monday (Jan 22) attend the inauguration of a temple that embodies the triumph of his muscular Hindu nationalist politics, in an unofficial start to his re-election campaign this year.

Tens of thousands of chanting and dancing devotees waving flags, honking horns and beating drums have converged on the northern town of Ayodhya, with roads clogged, trains packed full and the rest marching in on foot.

The 50m tall house of worship for the deity Ram was built on grounds where a mosque stood for centuries before it was torn down in 1992 by Hindu mobs incited by members of Modi's party.

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