Timeline

| Year | Event | Authority | | Notes |
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| 1941 | Registration of Native Vessels Ordinance | | Colony of Aden | Registration of dhows or “native vessels” understood to be “outward appearance of native build” and manned by a crew who belong to the Indian Ocean, Gulf of Aden, Red Sea or Persian Gulf.    All different types of dhows were now under this category and required to register with British authorities. |
| 1939-  1945 | World War II | |  | Expansion of dhow trade across Indian Ocean as they became feeders and important connectors across ports |
| 1947 | Independence for India and Pakistan | |  |  |
| 1948 | Sailing Vessels Committee formed | | India | Government undertakes research for one year to understand to assess how dhows could be utilized to “sustain and develop the Economy of the country” |
| 1949 | Sailing Vessel Committee report published | | Ministry of Commerce, India | Importation of wet and dry dates was exclusively restricted to dhows or as they were known “country crafts,” rather than steam or containerized ships    Ports of Mundra, Mandvi, Jangi, Jakhau, Koteshwar, and Lakhpat to be developed for “country crafts” to act as feeders for major port at Kandla    Sought to encourage the local shipbuilding industry, which they saw as an artisanal form of trade. For example, cite Mandvi as having a long tradition of ship building. |
| 1955 | Registration of Indian dhows in Muscat and Muttrah and issuance of Seaman’s Identity Cards | | Ministry of External Affairs India and Indian Consulate, Muscat | 50% of trade between India and Muscat on dhows,  Dhow captains must report to Indian Consulate. The Ministry emphasizes the use of these vessels for international trade. |
| 1970 | Issuance of Loans for ship building | | Ministry of Shipping and Transport, India | Loans issued to encourage building of mechanized sailing vessels |
| 1979 | Revolution in Iran | | Iran |  |
| 1990-1991 | The Gulf War (Operation Desert Storm) | | U.S., Iraq, Kuwait |  |
| 1990 | Fall of Siad Barre and central Government | | Somalia |  |
| 1991 | Economic Liberalization | | India, WTO, IMF | Reservation of cargo for country crafts ends. |
| 2006 | Piracy in Somalia | | Somalia |  |
| 2008 | Mumbai ports closed for vahans | | India | Vahans can now ply only through ports in Gujarat |
| 2011 | Ban on charcoal trade from Somalia | | Somalia, Kenya, AMISOM, United Nations | Charcoal exports from Somalia banned |
| 2014 - | War in Yemen | | Yemen |  |
| 2018 | Export of goats banned | | India | Tuna port in Gujarat bans exports of goats |
| 2020 | COVID-19 Pandemic | | Worldwide |  |