

**melee** [melee melees] *BrE* ['meɪlɪ] <sup>m</sup> *NAmE* ['meɪlɪ] <sup>m</sup> noun singular (from French)

a situation in which a crowd of people are rushing or pushing each other in a confused way

- Several people were hurt in the melee.
- I lost hold of her hand in the melee of people rushing towards the entrance.

Word Origin:

mid 17th cent.: from French *mêlée*, from an Old French variant of *meslee* 'melee', based on medieval Latin *misculare* 'to mix'.

**melee**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **11443**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **12139**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **11k** MELEE <sup>395</sup>

melee <sup>379</sup>

melees <sup>16</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

<sup>325</sup> **37352**<sup>379</sup> *nn1*