



AHAD is an initiative of the
World Hindu Council of America



DHARMA
CIVILIZATION FOUNDATION



Hindudvesha

(Systemic Hinduphobia)

January 24, 2021

Sponsoring Organizations



AHAD

American Hindus Against
Defamation

Mission

We will be a grassroots movement that will shed light on acts arising out of ignorance of Hindu dharma, it's deities, practices, culture, customs, and icons. We will overcome Hinduphobia and hatred towards Hindu dharma.

AHAD is an initiative of the World Hindu Council of America (VHPA):
www.vhp-america.org



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Mission

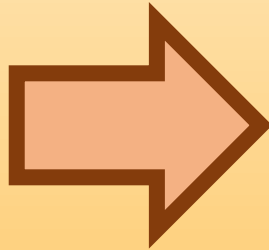
To establish the systematic study of Dharma, its interpretation and application through the creation of academic and intellectual infrastructure and institutions

What is a Phobia?

- **An extreme or irrational fear of or aversion to something: Some Examples are:**
 - **Claustrophobia, fear of confined or crowded spaces;**
 - **Acrophobia, fear of heights;**
 - **Arachnophobia, fear of spiders;**
 - **Autophobia, fear of solitude;**
 - **Islamophobia, fear of Islam;**
 - **Hinduphobia, fear of Hindus or Hinduism;**

Is there a widespread “Fear” of Hindus?

**What is there to
be so scared
about the
Hindus?**



Hindus have not

- **Historically threatened anyone;**
- **Launched proselytizing missions**
- **Sought to convert the entire world;**
- **Tried to replace other religions, philosophies, and ideologies;**
- **Conquered or Colonized the world;**
- **Enslaved or exterminated whole peoples**

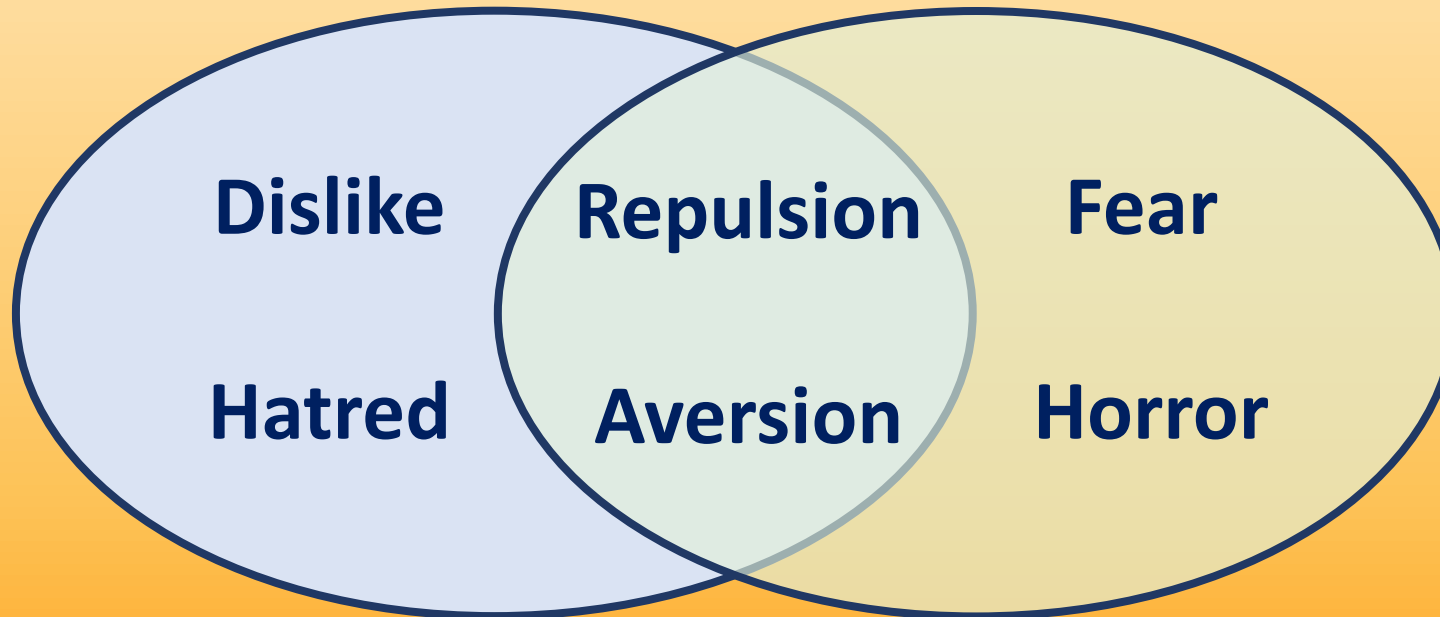
Dvesha versus Phobia

Sanskrit

Dvesha

Greek

Phobia



Hindudvesha – A Definition

- Dvesha is a Sanskrit word meaning "aversion", "repulsion" or "hatred" – a deep-rooted emotional response that negatively influences one's perception of the world, or something or some phenomena in one's world.
- Hindudvesha, like systemic racism or anti-Semitism, is an ambient, all-encompassing discourse that denigrates and delegitimizes Hinduism and the Hindu people as it relentlessly problematizes, dehumanizes, and demonizes them.
- Its accusatory rhetoric treats Hindus as objects or patients to be examined and diagnosed. It presupposes and concludes that something about the Hindus and Hinduism is irredeemably bad and wrong, evil, and demonic.

Hindudvesha – A colonial era example

- Hindus are “imperfect, barbaric, savage, wild, vague, wavering, obscure, rude, primitive, regressive, frivolous, wretched, imbecile, mean, absurd, base, gross, monstrous, superstitious, stupid, degraded, hierarchical, oppressive, immoral, disorderly, violent, selfish, corrupt, deformed, disgusting, groveling, ridiculous, inconsistent, incoherent, ignorant, credulous, timid, dirty, weak, given to exaggeration and flattery, engulfed in darkness and confusion, and hardly different from monkeys.”

James Mill, History of British India, 1819

The Colonial Roots of Hindudvesha

Exploiter

Exploiter

The British extracted some \$ 45 Trillion US in current day terms over a 200-year period from India – profoundly impoverishing India and destroying its society



British



But they also rewrote the History of India, to represent India as a “doomed” civilization, which could not be redeemed, without a European intervention

Exploited

Exploited

What happened?

The Discourse about what happened?

The Two Sources of Hindudvesha

Christian Theology

- Christianity is the “True” Religion
- All others are “False” Religions
- Hinduism is a “Heathen”, “Pagan” Religion, that needs to be eliminated
- Hindus need to be saved or emancipated from Hinduism’s devilish, satanic beliefs

Enlightened Modernity

- Modernity supersedes Tradition
- Reason supersedes Revelation
- Science supersedes Superstition
- Hindus need to be saved or emancipated from Hinduism’s backwardness and primitivity

To kinds of Hindudvesha

Hindudvesha

Blatant Hindudvesha

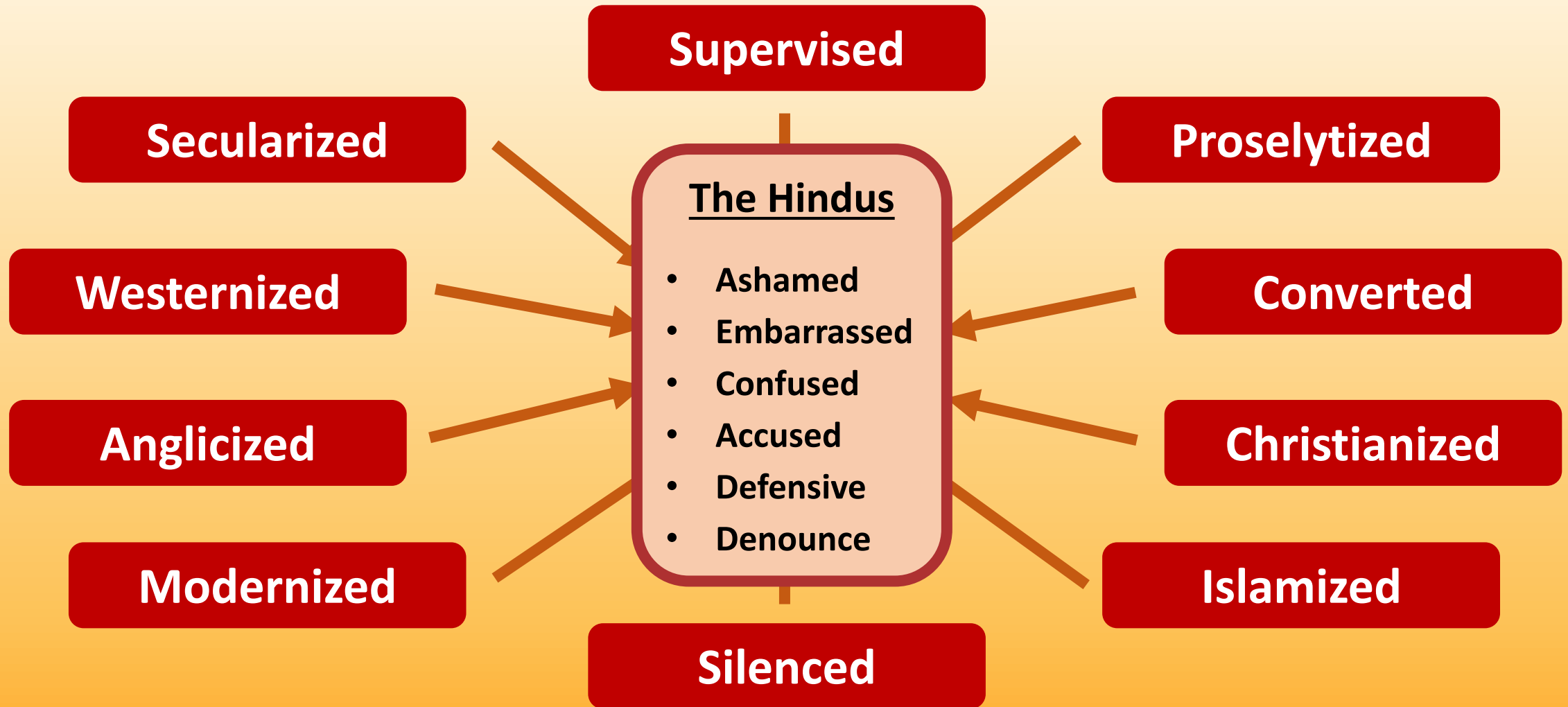
Conscious and Explicit

Blind Hindudvesha

Unconscious and Implicit

Hindudvesha represents itself as unbiased, objective truth about the Hindus, and relentlessly “abuses” the Hindus and Hinduism, either deliberately and consciously or unconsciously and repetitively.

The Ambient Pressure exerted by Hindudvesha



Recognizing Hindudvesha – A Checklist

Ser #	Questions	Blatant Hindudvesha	Blind Hindudvesha
1	Are the Hindu People a legitimate people? Do they have a right to live as Hindus?	No. Never.	May be – with an appropriate Oversight
2	Do Hindu traditions and culture have a legitimate place in contemporary society?	Not at all. They need to be destroyed.	May be – But they need to be saved or reformed.
3	Can the Hindu speak up as a Hindu? Or does the Hindu have to be coopted in order to be legitimate?	No. The Hindu voice must be silenced.	May be if they agree and conform
4	To what extent have the problems in Hindu society been caused by Invasions and Colonization?	Not even a little. Such questions are taboo.	Either willfully or blindly never asked.
5	Do all problems in Hindu society today, need to be traced back to some essential aspect of Hinduism?	Yes. Absolutely. It is a core commitment.	Seems like Hinduism is the main problem.
6	Can the problems in Hindu society be addressed by applying principles from within Hinduism?	No. Hinduism needs to be exterminated.	May be. But not without major reform.
7	Are Hindu efforts to recover and restore their lost or damaged traditions, texts and culture legitimate?	No. These efforts must be eliminated.	Only to the extent that they reform & conform.
8	Is there anything positive or valuable that Hinduism has contributed to the world?	Everything positive has to be appropriated.	Very little if anything – mostly accidental.



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Hindudvesha

In the Academia

Academia and Hindudvesha

Academia is thought to be a place of

- Deep philosophical reflections
- Dispassionate search for truth...with no bias or agenda
- Due consideration for diverse viewpoints

Unfortunately, majority of Western academics engaged in Hindu studies come across as cabal of the worst kind

Western Indology = Hindudvesha

Colonial period...

The Hindoo like the eunuch, excels in the qualities of a slave... dissembling, treacherous, mendacious (**James Mill, 1818**)

The ancient religion of India is totally doomed. If Christianity doesn't step in, whose fault will it be? (**Max Mueller, 1868**)

Its gods are the misshapen, wild, cruel, lascivious (**Oldenburg, 1907**)

Mission: Destruction of Hindu social structure by any means possible



Western Indology = Hindudvesha

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Now...

Rama's nightmare is that Sita will be unchaste, and the sexually voracious ogresses that lurk inside every Good Woman in Ramayan expresses that nightmare (**Wendy Doniger, Univ of Chicago**)

Ramakrishna was a child molester... forced homosexual activities upon Vivekananda (**Jeffery Kripal, Emory Univ**)

Ganesa remains celibate so as not to compete erotically with his father, a notorious womanizer (**Paul Courtright, Emory Univ**)

Western Indology – Another Flavor



Sheldon Pollock
Columbia University

Holocaust is Sanskrit's fault...

- Europe cannot be blamed for excesses of colonialism or Nazism

They were merely building on socio-political poisons inherent in Sanskrit language

- Western intellectuals have responsibility to actively intervene... to destroy the built-in social poisons in Sanskrit

***For such an oxymoron as Western Indology to survive, someone has to be a moron
- Prof Arvind Sharma, McGill Univ***

How can they get away with it?

“Western Echo Chamber”

- **Rigidly defined framework for Hindu studies and discourse**
- **Noncompliant approaches declared unsound and unacceptable**
- **Hindu intellectuals shunned as “too biased”**

In other words:

- **They make the rules**
- **They act as referees**
- **We are not allowed to play**

Why worry about academia?

Academia has strong influence on

- School textbooks
- News media
- Social media
- Entertainment industry
- Online resources - Wikipedia

**Academia plays a huge role in
how we are perceived in society
and professional ecosystem**



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Hindudvesha

Activism and Social Media

Equality Labs and Social Media Champions of Hindu Hatred



Modes of Promoting Hindu-Hatred Employed by Equality Labs

The three modes

1. Produce propaganda reports, articles, and hate-oriented artwork
2. Leverage social media to spread its hateful propaganda
3. Motivate and inspire its social media followers and political allies to weaponize the organization's hateful propaganda

Examples of Propaganda Material Used by Equality Labs

- A dubious 2018 caste report that demeans Hindus and Hinduism
 - Its Conclusion: **There is nothing more to Hinduism than caste**

“Caste is a structure of oppression that affects over 1 billion people across the world. It is a system of religiously codified exclusion that was established in Hindu scripture.”

- Report includes false and highly-charged accusations about Hindu culture, religion and society

“Caste like race is a social category created in order to exploit a particular group of people. While it shares characteristics that are analogous to class and racial systems of oppression it is quite distinct because of its religious origins and the connections it makes between purity, profession, and skin color.”

More Examples

**Hate-oriented
art that subtly
promotes
violence
against Hindus**



Leveraging Social Media to Promote Hate Propaganda

Equality Labs has managed to brainwash influential figures in the social media world to fortify its propaganda



Weaponizing Hate on Social Media



Samples of Hindudvesha On Social Media

Forms

- Demeaning and insulting Hindu society and religion
- Calling for extermination of Hindus via genocide
- Debasing sacred Hindu Deities

Social Media **facilitates and propagates Hindudvesha by:**

- Falsely designating Hindudvesha as a legitimate social justice and human rights discourse
- Stereotyping Hindus as privileged oppressors thereby justifying the hatred and violence directed at them

High Profile Media Personalities Demean and Insult Hindus, their Culture and Religion

NPR producer Furkan Khan equates Hinduism with piss drinking and dung worshipping



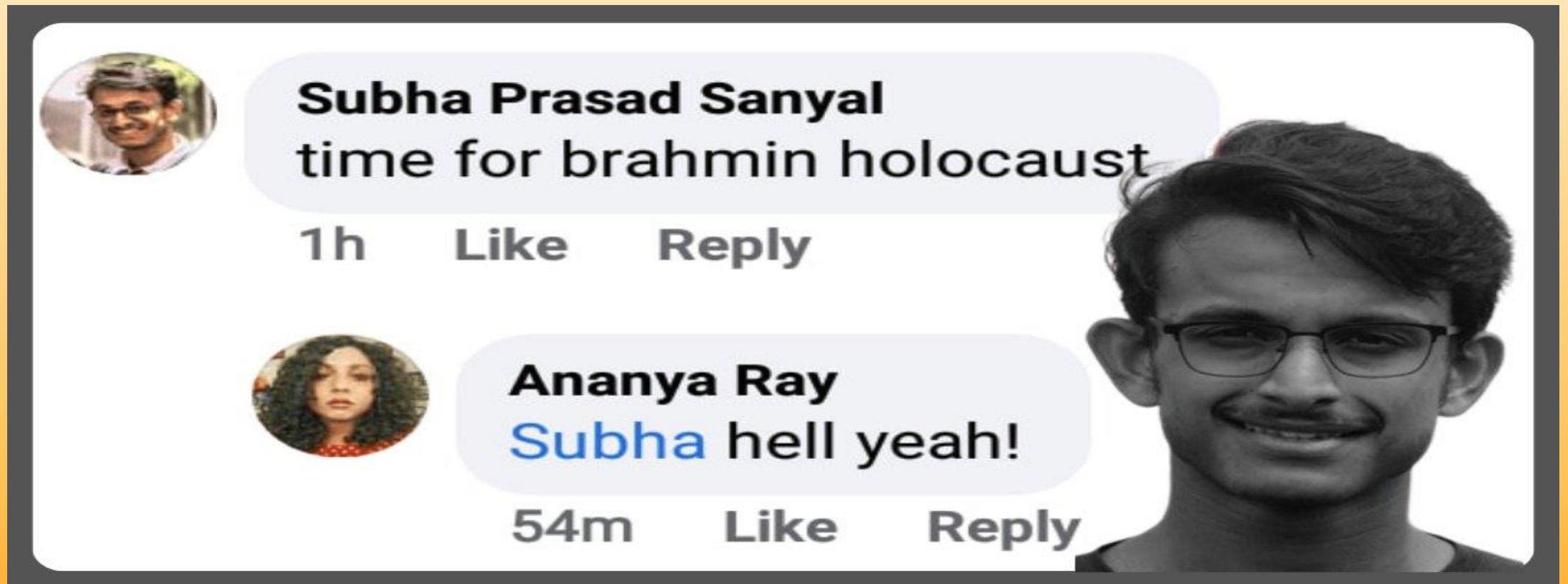
Furkan Khan
@Furkan_Khan

Replying to @KrishKT01

If Indians give up.hinduism, they will will also be solving most of their problems what with all the piss drinking and dung worshipping.

Call for Hindu Holocaust

Subha Prasad Sanyal Penguin Random House Award Winner calls for a Hindu Genocide



Vulgar Display & Descriptions of Hindu Deities





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Hindudvesha

In the Mass Media

**Does mass
media
influence
public
opinion ???**



Social Science Experts Say... YES

1. Juluri, Vamsee. "Music Television and the Invention of Youth Culture in India." *Television & New Media* 3, no. 4 (November 2002): 367–86.
2. Kubrak, Tina. "Impact of Films: Changes in Young People's Attitudes after Watching a Movie". *Behav. Sci.* 10, no. 5 (2020): 86
3. Pautz, Michelle. "'Argo' and 'Zero Dark Thirty': Film, Government, and Audiences." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 48, no.1 (2015) pp 120-128.

What is Mass Media...

Mass Media may include:

- **Movie Industry**
- **Soap Operas**
- **Streaming Service – Netflix; Amazon Prime**
- **Stand-up Comedy**
- **Books, Newspapers, Magazines**
- **Internet**

**Recognize the
Hindudvesha pattern in
the next few slides**



Movie Industry - Hindudvesha



Streaming Services

LUDO



AASHRAM



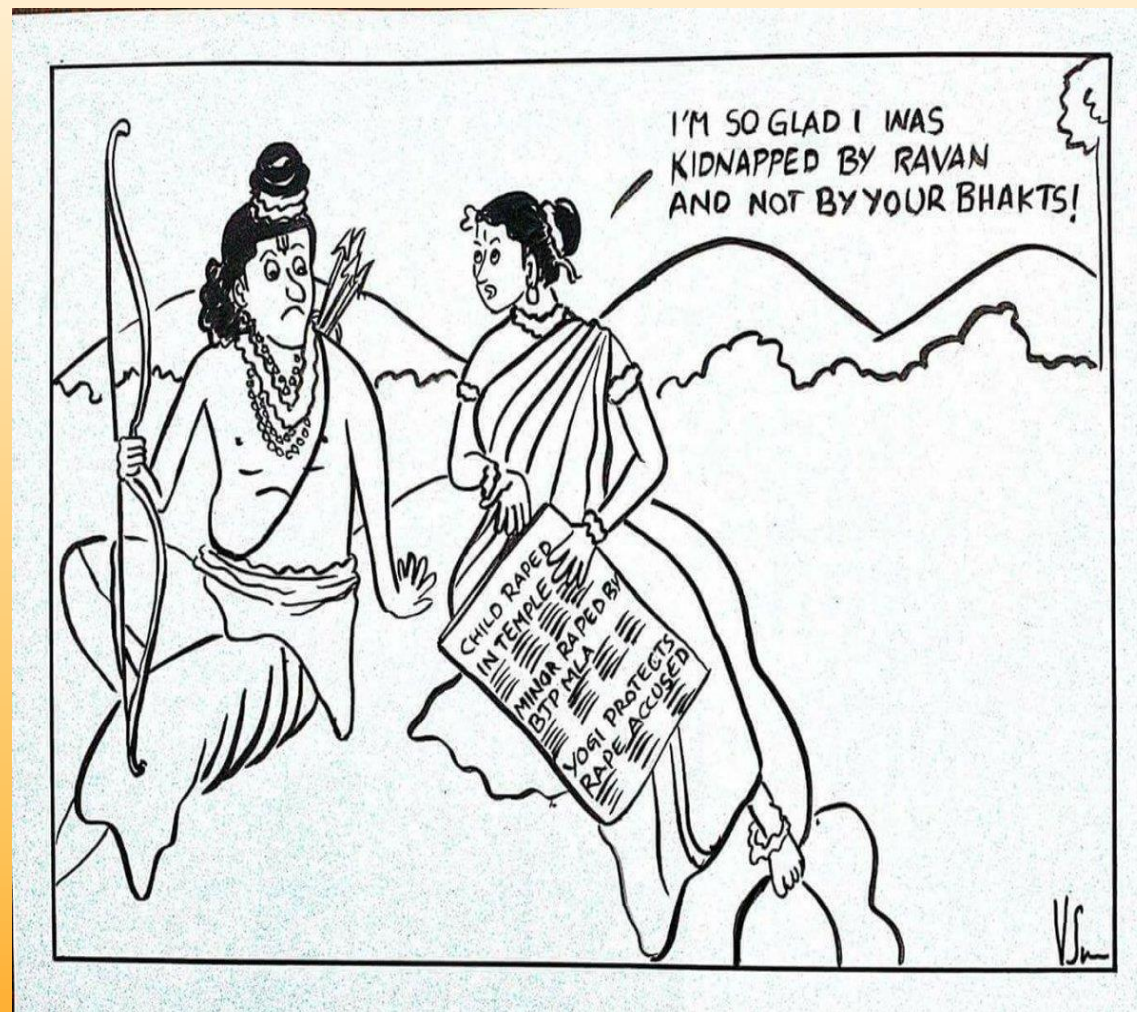
KRISHNA
& HIS
LEELA



TANDAV



Cartoons & Comedy



Mass Media's role in creating Hindudvesha

- Semiotic analysis reveals strategic use of symbolism in creating racial, hateful stereotypes and narratives against Hindus
- Systemic creation of tropes to promote Hindudvesha and stereotypes about Hindus
- Blatant mockery of Hindu tradition and practices which reinforces inferiority complex among younger generations of Hindus, promoting them to distance themselves from the culture
- Dubious and Obvious ways of injecting Hindudvesha into viewers mind

Why does this happen ?

- **Lack of awareness (in fact support) among Hindus**
- **Lack of reaction due to fear of labeling**
- **Systemic, well-funded approach to create institutions & networks with the aim to spread Hindudvesha**
- **Hindudveshis' confidence over lack of consequences (legal & civilian)**

What Can We Do ?

- **Recognize and call out Hindudvesha**
- **Contribute in efforts to expose Hindudvesha**
- **Express dissent in democratic way**
- **Educate ourselves and create awareness**
- **Continue to be part of future webinars in this series**



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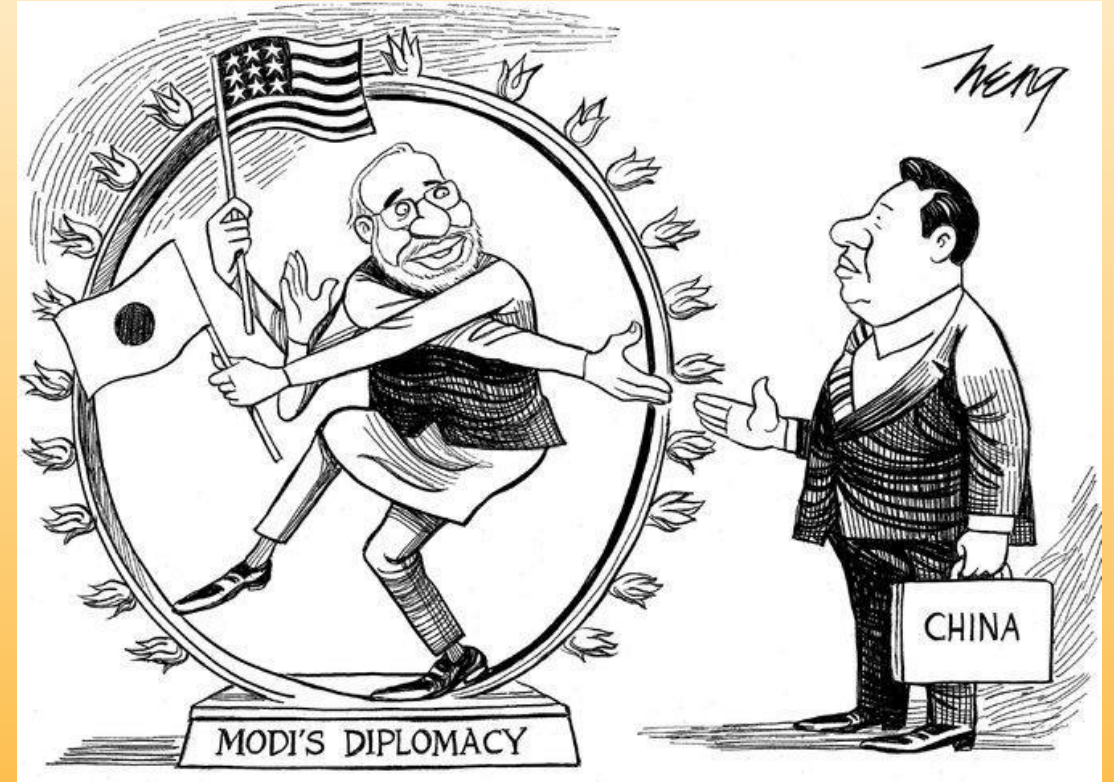
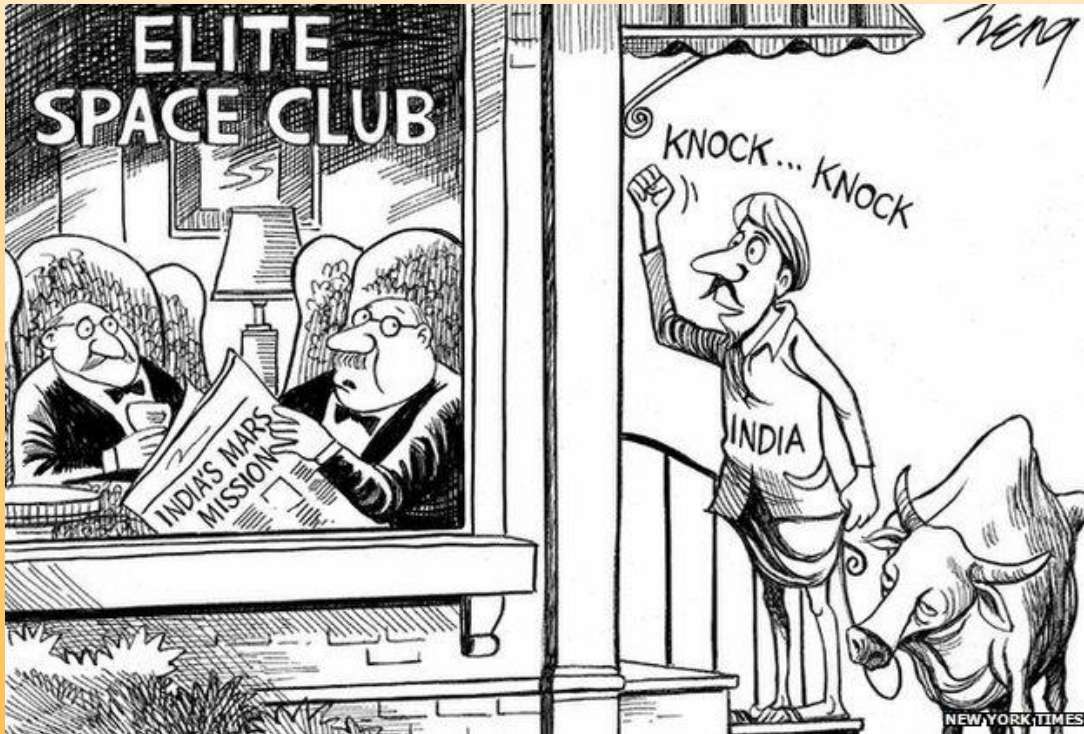
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Hindudvesha

In the News Media

Hindudvesha in News Media: NYT Cartoons



CNN “Believer” Episode on Hindu Dharma

- “Hinduism I was looking for” - Reza Aslan, show producer.
- First episode on Hindu Aghoris.
- Subsequent episodes:
 - Doomsday cult in Hawaii
 - Vodou in Hawaii
 - Scientology
 - Santa Muerte (Mexico City)
 - Ultra-orthodox Jews in Israel



Time Magazine Covers of Two Leaders: Modi Vs Erdogan



Leader of Terror
outfit ISIS

A democratically
chosen leader

ShankhNaad



Obituaries

~~Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi,~~
austere religious scholar
at helm of Islamic State,
dies at 48



Global Opinions

Meet the militant monk
spreading Islamophobia
in India



Hindudvesha in News Media: Festivals

DIWALI IS "FESTIVAL OF FATS"

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Subscribe Get APP

PANACHE
ETPrime

Festival of fats: From diyas to deep-fried delicacies, Diwali is a celebration of oil



Agencies

Diwali food is rich in oil with deep-fried goodies like karanji or gulgule, or ghee-soaked ones like halwa and lehyam.

CHRISTMAS HAS "DELICACIES INDIA LOVES"

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Subscribe Sign In

A sugary, sweet X'mas: Kerala Rum cake, Goa's Bebnica and other delicacies India loves during Christmas




THE DAILY SWITCH

WHAT SORT OF SECULARISM IS THIS?

HuffPost India
@HuffPostIndia


Blog | Patriarchy always has a feast on Karva Chauth huffp.st/EsNdMjR



10:00 PM · 06/10/17 · SocialFlow


HuffPost India
@HuffPostIndia

BLOG | Easter should be a time for Christians and Muslims to bond huffp.st/5X0hi25




HuffPost India
@HuffPostIndia

Jallikattu is a cruel practice, but a court ban is not the answer huff.to/2jG2upc




HuffPost India
@HuffPostIndia


Eid Ul Adha: Muslims around the world celebrate the feast of sacrifice huff.to/2cSQ6Ak




Hindudvesha in News Media: Festivals


**The Quint**
13 Apr at 5:05 PM • 🌐

This Navratri, know how fasting affects your body and whether it's healthy or not. Read the full story here: <http://bit.ly/2k0wbm4> (via Fit)




**The Quint**
@TheQuint


Answer now: Should we allow kids to unlea terror on the streets in the name of Holi?




Poll: Holi, Kids & Water Balloons – Innocent Fun or Harassment?
Take our Holi poll and tell us what you feel about the kids on the prowl, looking ! unsuspecting victims.
thequint.com


**The Quint** ✓
@TheQuint

Opinion | What's so religious about firecrackers? They were never even a part of the traditional Diwali celebrations, @PushpeshPant explains.




**The Quint**
5 hrs • 🌐


The physical affects of fasting are quite prominent – in fact, Science suggests that we make fasting a part of our daily lives. (Via Fit)

**Fit**
5 hrs • 🌐


LIKE PAGE

This #Ramadan, know why fasting is as good as physical exercise for the brain. #HappyRamadan




**scroll.in** ✓
@scroll_in


What that #Diwali smog did to your lungs, heart and body bit.ly/2gCluEu




**scroll.in** ✓
@scroll_in


As India gets ready for Holi, a reminder of our dire water problems bit.ly/1XLRlry




**scroll.in** ✓
@scroll_in

Every Diwali, several education campaigns, health warnings and even SC orders go up in smoke.



**scroll.in** ✓
@scroll_in

[Archives] Photo feature: Mumbai's goat market celebrates #EidAlAdha bit.ly/2gtxBUR





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Hindudvesha
Hindu Awareness

Hindudvesha –Informal Stratified Online Survey

84 respondents

- majority were between ages 35-64.
- 03 percent were under 18.
- 65 percent – male
- 33 percent female.
- 51 percent - Hindu Americans living in the USA.
- 19 percent – from India
- 14 percent - from the indentured Indian diaspora;
- 7 percent from Canada

Findings

- 15 percent - Hindus had a **great deal/a lot of awareness** of Hindudvesha as expressed in words, writings, actions and behaviors
- 25 percent said the awareness was **moderate**
- 55 % said Hindus had **little awareness** of the phenomenon
- 10 percent said they had **no awareness**.

Hindudvesha – Words and Writings

Intolerant

saffron-terrorists

Coolie

idol worshipper

filthy brahmin

devil-worshipper

Hindutva

RSS

Bhakt

Sativrata

curry munchers

- Marxist/Leftist/conversion writings
- delinking Hinduism from Yoga.
- Pakistani textbooks
- American academy demonizing Hindu deities and civilization
- American school textbooks and misrepresentations

Hindudvesha – Behaviours and Actions

- Racial Oppression
- Job discrimination
- Attacks on tangible Hindu expressions – mandirs, murtis – in India and other countries
- Bullying
- Making fun of the deities/vulgar images
- Hindu genocide in Pakistan through rape and forced conversion
- American interference in India's policies – congressional hearings and state resolutions

Hindudvesha has led and leads to Genocide

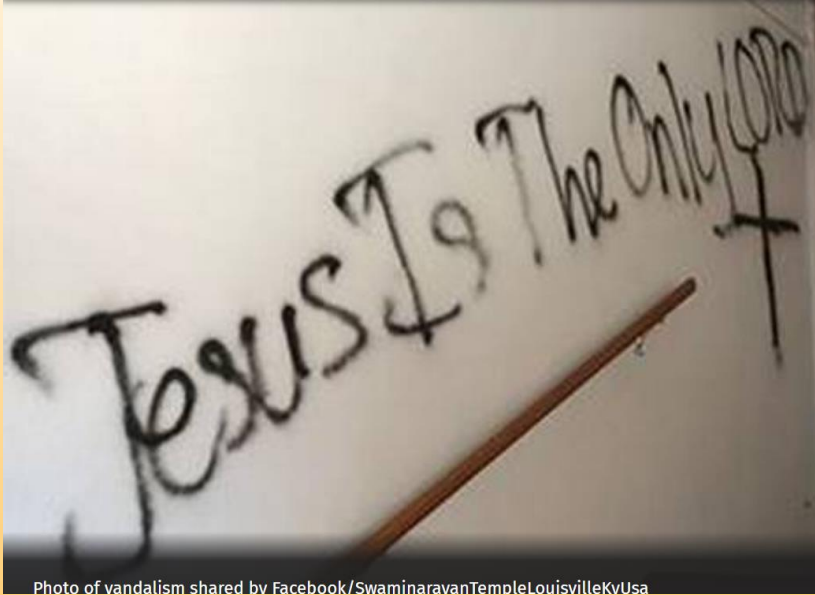
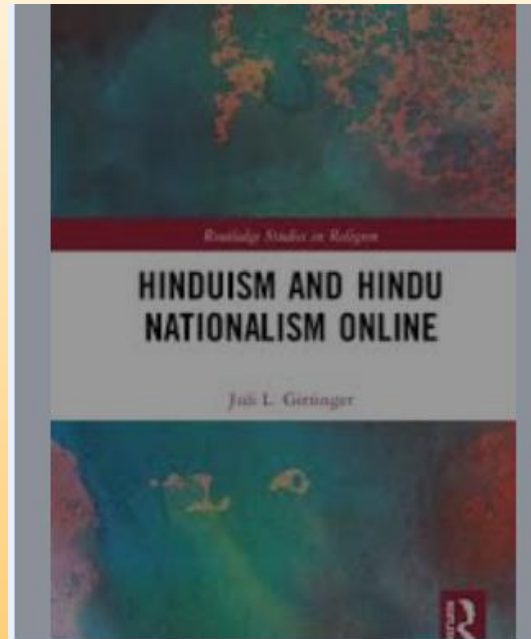


Photo of vandalism shared by Facebook/SwaminarayanTempleLouisvilleKyUsa

On Walls of Swaminarayan temple,
Louisville, KY, Jan. 2019



Hindutva and "hate speech"
taylorfrancis.com



Sacred Thread of Brahmins cut off
(2018)

Decimation of population
by conversion, fear,
deception, manipulation
and assault on leadership

**PAKISTANI
HINDUS:
A FORGOTTEN
GENOCIDE**

**UK Schools spread Misinformation about
Hinduism, Resulting in Bullying and Racial
Hate Crime** – Report by INSIGHT UK
(Jan. 16, 2021) - Hindu Press International



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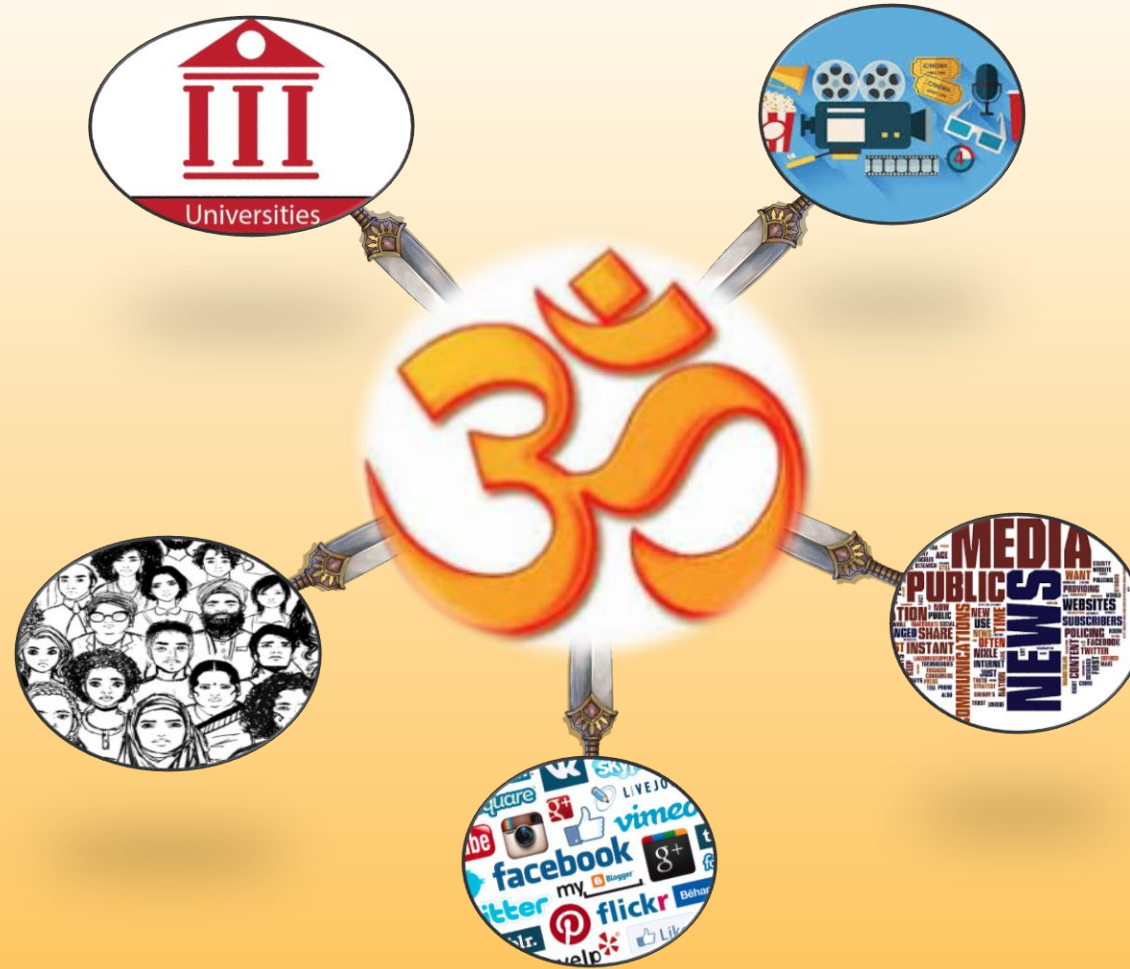


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Closing Remarks

Closing Remarks



Hindu Identity is under sustained attack from many directions

Closing Remarks



**By and large, Hindu community
remains unaware or
unconcerned**

Closing Remarks



Our mission is simple:
**To raise awareness of growing threat to
Hindu identity**

Stay tuned for next set of webinars to learn about:

- Historical roots of Hindudvesha
- Hindudvesha in schools and college campuses
- Ways to counter
- ...and many more



AUM Thank You

