# **Dharma Tradition In North America and its Academic Propaganda**

Uberoi Foundation north America, VHP north America, DANAM/dharma academy of north America, Dharma Civilization Foundation North America has been already working in north America for this new creative idea among north American scholars. Read their web links below section 3-6.

## **<u>1.</u>** RSS criticizes minority status to Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists:

### Times of India Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014 news

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhopal/RSS-criticizes-minority-status-to-Jains-Sikhs-and-Buddhists/articleshow/39528702.cms

### TNN | Aug 3, 2014, 09.31 AM IST

BHOPAL: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has strongly criticized categorization of Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists as minority communities and termed it a conspiracy to divide Hindu society. On the third day of its think-tank meeting at Thengadi Bhavan here, RSS debated philosophy of Hindutva during which orators pointed out that Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists cannot be considered minority communities because they are part of the Hindu society.

About 25 organisational 'pracharaks' made presentations on Saturday after which RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat and Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) international working president Praveen Togadia addressed the gathering of 190 saffron thinkers.

Addressing the gathering Bhagwat said RSS does not consider Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists as different from Hindus. He argued Hinduism is not a religion but a way of life and concept of Hindu 'rashtra' (nation) and nationality comes from our ancient culture and tradition. He, however, pointed out that Hinduism has always bonded with other cultures and accepted different traditions. Hinduism teaches to bond with people.

While Bhagwat's address was stately and exalted, Togadia gave a fiery speech. His discourse stretched from Indo-Pakistan relations, terrorism, Ram Mandir construction in Ayodhya to the promises made in BJP manifesto. Once a close friend and now bete noire of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Togadia reminded BJP manifesto promised construction of a Ram temple, revoking article 370 from Kashmir and uniform civil code. He said he trusted the new government and the party will fulfill these promises.

Later, RSS national campaign chief Manmohan Vaidya called a press conference on Saturday afternoon stating that activists from not just RSS but allied saffron organizations like the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), VHP, BJP were also participating in the six-day meet. He said the next meet of the RSS intellectuals is scheduled for Lucknow before Diwali.

# 2.Everybody Living In India Is Hindu Mohan Bhagwat chief Rashrtria Sewak Sangh January 7 TH 2014.

http://www.khalsanews.org/newspics/2014/01%20Jan%202014/08%20Jan%2014/08%20Jan%2014%20%20Everyone%20in%20Ind ia%20is%20Hindu%20-%20RSS%20Bhagwat.htm

# भारत में रहने वाला हर व्यक्ति हिन्दू : भागवत

भास्कर न्यूज नेटवर्क | जबलपुर ७ Jan 2014

राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ के प्रमुख डॉ. मोहन भागवत ने कहा कि



भारत में रहने वाला हर नागरिक हिन्दू है। फिर चाहे वह किसी भी धर्म, संप्रदाय या जाति का हो। यहां के मुसलमानों को हिन्दू मुसलमान एवं ईसाइयों को हिन्दू ईसाई कहा जाता है। जबलपुर में आयोजित

महाशिविर में उन्होंने कहा कि भारत के विश्व शक्ति बनने की बात हो रही है। लेकिन इसमें क्या रखा है। विश्व शक्ति इंग्लैंड, जापान जैसे कई देश बन चुके हैं। हिन्दुस्तान का प्रयोजन महाशक्ति बनने का नहीं, बल्कि दुनिया का आध्यात्मिक देश बनने का है। समृद्ध और शक्तिशाली बनने का विरोध भी नहीं है। धर्म देश में संतुलन देता है। भारत ने पहले भी विश्व का मार्गदर्शन दिया है। आगे भी देगा। भारत को विश्वगुरु बनाने के लिए हमें समाज को जगाना होगा।

40 हजार वर्ष पहले हिन्दू का डीएनए : संघ प्रमुख ने अपने कहा कि इंडो-ईरानियन सभ्यता के पहले लगभग 40 हजार वर्ष पहले से व्यक्तियों में हिन्दू का डीएनए है। हम सब शुरुआत से ही हिन्दू हैं। अपने-आप को हिन्दू कहने में आज कुछ लोग शर्म महसूस करते हैं तो कुछ आधे मन से कहते हैं। तो कुछ लोग होते हिन्दू हैं, लेकिन मानते नहीं हैं। हमारे समाज को हिन्दू शब्द की महत्ता को समझना होगा। विश्व के दूसरे देश में रहने वाले लोगों से पूछो कि उन्हें अपनी पहचान बताने के लिए क्या करना पड़ता है। विदेश में रहने वाले हिन्दू तो जाग गए हैं, अब यहां रहने वाले लोगों को जागना होगा।

Comments: What else proof one needs to know that there is no place of Minorities Independent religions in India.

# 3. Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America, Inc

# VHP OFFICIAL WEB SITE

Click on <a href="http://www.vhp-america.org/aboutus/">http://www.vhp-america.org/aboutus/</a>

Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America, Inc. World Hindu Council A Non-Profit Tax Exempt Organization

- To promote unity among Hindus through a network of chapters and likeminded organizations
- To establish VHP as the voice of Hindus everywhere and represent Hindu organizations and institutions on matters of Hindu interests
- To raise Hindu awareness through seminars, conferences, publications, media and audio-visual aids
- To cultivate a spirit of self-respect in Hindu way of life and respect for the people of all colors, creeds, races and

#### religions

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America aims to create a dynamic, vibrant, visible and effective Hindu society based on and inspired by the eternal values of Dharma, and the lofty ideal of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, "the entire creation is one family." VHPA works to preserve, protect and promote the Hindu way of life. <u>The Parishad is of the view that Hindus are those who believe, practice and respect the spiritual and religious principles and practices having roots in India. Thus, Hindus includes Jaina, Baudhha, Sikha and people of different sects and traditions within the Hindu ethos.</u>

- To establish world-wide contacts with Hindus through need-based projects and programs
- To provide community service to people in distress without consideration of race, religion and nationality
- To create a team of dedicated, assertive volunteers for community service
- To create opportunities for imbibing Hindu values based on Hindu scriptures and heritage through Bala Vihars, camps, Satsanga, family retreats and educational institutions

# 4. Uberoi foundation fellowships and their objectives

http://www.umassd.edu/indic/uberoi/

http://jain.claremontlincoln.org/news-events/jain-studies-receives-grant-from-uberoi-foundation-2/

https://www.umassd.edu/media/umassdartmouth/centerforindicstudies/uberoifoundation2013.pdf

#### **Uberoi Foundation Fellowship**

#### Introduction

What is "Dharma"? What is "the dharma"? Considering how central the concept of Dharma is to the belief systems of billions of people, it is startling how few Americans actually know what Dharma means. An unofficial poll conducted sporadically over the last twenty years, asked hundreds of Americans. Many people reply, "Doesn't it have something to do with 'karma'?" Or, "It's something like Karma, isn't it?" But Dharma? They're lost from there... Everyone knows what karma is, you reap what you sow... so you gotta' follow the golden rule, and don't harbor vengeful thoughts because in the end, they'll get theirs... But Dharma?

Dharma is a living concept and the central philosophical orientation for over half the religions on Earth. Dharma is the primary ethical guide used by almost two billion human beings to plan practical and productive lives based on moral and compassionate ideals and daily practices that will develop higher consciousness and God-like virtues of awareness, generosity, kindness, and forgiveness. Dharma is philosophically rich, with a vast assortment of fascinating metaphysical, spiritual, and practical categories and meanings- both abstract and concrete.

In general, Dharmic traditions have their honorary origins in the geographical region known as the Indian Subcontinent. Dharmic faiths are currently practiced by well over a billion people throughout the world, including Hindus, Jains, Buddhists, and Sikhs. These faiths that are now known as Dharmic, evolved and developed through several millennia. The history of the development of the Dharmic traditions spans thousands of years, from primordial Hindu images unearthed by archeologists at sites in Baluchistan dating from 8,000 BCE up through colonial era documents, actual historical records about the founding fathers of Sikhism, their military encounters, and involvement in international politics. Study of Dharma incorporates elements of philosophy, history, linguistics, geography, politics, anthropology, and other areas of academic and societal interest.

#### **Objectives**

Coverage of Dharmic traditions in American schools is limited primarily because of the lack of appropriate teaching materials, and the unfortunate shortage of teacher training in that neglected area of study. <u>The Uberoi Foundation has provided funding to the Center for Indic Studies at UMass Dartmouth to offer financially supportive fellowships in order to fund the attendance of secondary level Social Studies teachers at the <u>Educational Seminars on the Dharmic Traditions.</u> One of our main immediate goals for this educational experience is that the participants will work together to create lessons in which they can introduce ideas from the Dharma workshop into different areas of their courses and to various groups of students.</u>

#### Center of indic studies, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Click

http://www.umassd.edu/indic/

### 5. MISSIONSTATEMENT DANAM (DHARMA ACADEMYOF NORTHAMERICA) AND THEIR OBJECTIVES

Click on http://www.danam-web.org/missionpage3.htm

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Dharma Academy of North America (DANAM) is to identify methodologies for intersubjective understanding of, reflection on, and critical-constructive interpretations of Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh traditions— what DANAM has termed the Dharma Traditions— in reference to the contemporary global era. We seek to foster scholarship that simultaneously works with the common ground and interconnected histories of these traditions, and uncover the rich diversity of Dharma philosophy and theology, within the context of common or similar categories of theology, philosophy, observance, and practice. DANAM aims to cultivate methods for the study of these traditions using hermeneutics indigenous to these traditions within the framework of internationally accepted standards of scholarship. We further seek to examine the complexities caused by the juxtaposition of religious and national identities within given cultural contexts by using the category of Dharma, in contrast to that of 'Religion,' as the lens through which to view the

Dharmic systems of thought and tradition. DANAM seeks to cultivate discourse on new approaches to pedagogy, epistemology, spiritual practices, theology, arts, ethics, and hermeneutics of the Dharma

Traditions. It is hoped that DANAM can explore the possibility that the academic study of these traditions can begin to view the conventions of descriptive methodologies not as limitations but as starting points in order to engage the conceptual depth and intellectual applicability of these traditions in an inclusive forum. Since 2002, DANAM has supported cultivation of a new field of inquiry that we call Dharma Studies. This endeavor is rooted in the hope that the dialogue, debate, and mutual illumination between these related but unique traditions that have marked their interrelated histories can be honored and continued under these auspices.

Comments: Sikh tradition name removed from this web as we reminded this web site about The Misinterpretation and Misrepresentation of Sikhism

# **6. The Dharma Civilization Foundation**

#### Click http://www.dharmacivilizationfoundation.org/Default.aspx

# The Dharma Civilization Foundation promotes the study and interpretation of Indic Civilization and Dharma traditions (Hindu, Sikh, Jain & Buddhism) from:

(1) indigenous epistemological perspectives and approaches and

(2) their relevance to contemporary issues and life.

Accordingly, the Foundation is involved in supporting the creation of Visiting Professorships, Endowed Chairs, and Centers for the Study of Indic Civilization and Religions.

#### Foundation seeks collaboration with other institutions working in the civilizational field. Here are some of our partner organizations:

- Uberoi Foundation
- Hindu Mandir Executives' Conference (HMEC)

#### **Recent Key Initiatives**

- Swami Vivekananda Visiting Professorship in Hindu Studies at University Of Southern California (USC).
- Swami Vivekananda Fellowship in Dharma Studies at University of Irvine, California (UCI).
- Center for Dharma Studies at Claremont Lincoln University.

# 7. Hindu Mandir Executives'Conference (HMEC) – Co-ordinated by Vishav Hindu Parishad North America Click on

#### http://myhmec.org/

**8th Annual Hindu Mandir Executives'Conference to Be Held September 20-21 in Toronto** TORONTO, CANADA, June 10, 2013 (Press Release): The 8th annual Hindu Mandir Executives' Conference (HMEC 2013) will be held in Toronto from September 20-21, 2013. HMEC is the largest annual conference for Hindu Organizations in North America with an average of 100 temples participating across the USA and Canada. The theme of this years' conference is "The Role of Temples in Sustaining Dharma in America." The growth of Hindu Dharma in America critically depends on the extent to which our next generations remain anchored in our timeless traditions. Ensuring this requires our collective thought, action and commitment. HMEC 2013 will be a venue where this important question is deliberated upon for strategic planning and execution. Click source above for more information and registration.

# 8.<u>RSS Chief ਮੋਹਨ ਭਾਗਵਤ ਨੇ ਸਿੱਖਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਹਿੰਦੂਆਂ ਦਾ</u> <u>ਹਿੱਸਾ ਦਸਿਆ</u>

http://www.punjabspectrum.com/2014/08/413620#sthash.7fQX4rYv.dpbs

ਭੋਪਾਲ, 3 ਅਗੱਸਤ : ਭਾਜਪਾ ਦੇ ਮੁੜ ਸੱਤਾ ਵਿਚ ਆਉਣ ਦੀ ਦੇਰ ਸੀ ਕਿ ਇਸ ਦੇ 'ਮਾਈ-ਬਾਪ' ਸੰਘ ਨੇ ਅਪਣਾ ਹਿੰਦੂਤਵੀ ਰੰਗ ਫਿਰ ਵਿਖਾਉਣਾ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਕਰ ਦਿਤਾ ਹੈ।

ਰਾਸ਼ਟਰੀ ਸਵੈਮ ਸੇਵਕ (ਆਰਐਸਐਸ) ਯਾਨੀ ਸੰਘ ਦੇ ਮੁਖੀ ਮੋਹਨ ਭਾਗਵਤ ਨੇ ਇਥੇ ਚਿੰਤਨ ਬੈਠਕ ਵਿਚ ਕਿਹਾ ਕਿ ਸਿੱਖ, ਜੈਨ ਅਤੇ ਬੁਧ ਧਰਮ ਦੇ ਲੋਕ ਹਿੰਦੂ ਹੀ ਹਨ। ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਕਿਹਾ ਕਿ ਸਿੱਖਾਂ, ਜੈਨੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਬੋਧੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਘੱਟਗਿਣਤੀ ਦਸਣਾ ਸਾਜ਼ਸ਼ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਸੰਘ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਹਿੰਦੂਆਂ ਤੋਂ ਅੱਡ ਨਹੀਂ ਮੰਨਦਾ। ਭਾਗਵਤ ਨੇ ਹਿੰਦੂ ਰਾਸ਼ਟਰਵਾਦ ਬਾਰੇ ਗੱਲ ਕਰਦਿਆਂ ਕਿਹਾ,' ਭਾਰਤ ਵਿਚ ਰਾਸ਼ਟਰ ਦਾ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਸਾਡੀ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਪਛਾਣ ਤੋਂ ਬਣਿਆ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਇਹ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਸ ਵਿਚ ਜੋੜਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸੰਘ ਦੇ ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਪ੍ਰਵੀਨ ਤੋਗੜੀਆ ਨੇ ਭਾਰਤ-ਪਾਕਿ ਰਿਸ਼ਤਿਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਅਤਿਵਾਦ ਬਾਰੇ ਜੋਸ਼ੀਲੇ ਅੰਦਾਜ਼ ਵਿਚ ਗੱਲ ਕੀਤੇ। ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਕਿਹਾ ਕਿ ਵਾਦੀ ਵਿਚ ਧਾਰਾ 370 ਖ਼ਤਮ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਵਾਅਦਾ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਸੀ ਅਤੇ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਉਮੀਦ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਭਾਜਪਾ ਇਹ ਵਾਅਦਾ ਪੂਰਾ ਕਰੇਗੀ।

- See more at: http://www.punjabspectrum.com/2014/08/413620#sthash.7fQX4rYv.dpuf

