

A large, ornate statue of Lord Ganesha is the central focus of the cover. The statue is seated in a meditative posture, with its four arms holding various symbolic objects. It is adorned with a tall, golden crown and multiple necklaces. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a soft, glowing light that illuminates the statue and the sky. The statue is positioned in the center-right of the frame, with its head and upper body prominently displayed. The overall mood is serene and spiritual.

That's So Hindu Newsletter

A publication of the
Hindu American Foundation

APRIL 2022

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All about education.

From the classroom to lived experiences

Over the past year, our Education team has been in overdrive producing materials for the classroom as well as the real world. We continue to train teachers and students on Hinduism with continuously updated and accurate content. Alongside our various educational

toolkits and primers, we've produced some unique products such as our Dharmic Days and Hindu Holidays Calendar. We also partnered with Google as they launched .day—a top level domain similar to the familiar .com and .org. Finally, our strong relationship

with interfaith leaders allowed us to partner with the American Jewish Committee (AJC) and the Interfaith Council of Metropolitan Washington to produce a brochure called “Swastika: Use and Abuse of a Sacred Symbol.”

Dharmic Days and Hindu Holidays Calendar

January 2022

Visit www.hinduamerican.org/hindu-holidays-guide



Holi.day and Yoga.day

January 2022

Visit www.holi.day

Visit www.yoga.day



Swastika: Use and Abuse of a Sacred Symbol

November 2021

Visit www.hinduamerican.org/swastika



Content is king.

All about our podcasts and blog posts.

If you haven't subscribed to our That's So Hindu Podcast, you've missed topics across the spectrum— from yoga in the wilderness (no goats involved), to Hinduism and LGBTQ+ equality, to the status of the ongoing conflict with the extremist Khalistan movement.

But, if it's reading material you seek, check out our That's So Hindu Blog. We started our Hindu poets series that feature the likes of Kabir and Meerabai. Our Hinduism Beyond India blog series showcases Hinduism's global influence in places not so obvious. We even

tugged at heartstrings with romantic Hindu tales of love (and the consequences of lust).

Either way, That's So Hindu materials will fill in the gap of Hinduism in application throughout the world.

That's So Hindu Podcast

Some of our top podcasts in the last year.

Visit www.hinduamerican.org/podcast

- Episode 60: Autobiography of a Yogi, with Phil Goldberg
- Episode 51: Focus, Dandapani
- Episode 48: Homophobia, Ankit Bhupani
- Episode 45: Hinduphobia is Real, Parth Parihar
- Episode 44: Modernizing Mantras, Shivali Bhammer

How Yoga Helped Me Survive While Lost in the Frigid Wilderness

with Jolly Yogi Bose

We've Forgotten That Hindu Teachings Give Trans People Equal Status

with Anjali Rimi

Where is the Khalistan Movement Now

with Terry Milewski

Hinduism Beyond India

Hinduism's influence can be seen all over the world, not just India. Our Hinduism Beyond India series explores places like Bali, Trinidad & Tobago, and more!

All About Kabir

We kicked off our Hindu poets series with a post that was all about Kabir.

5 Stories of Love and Lust in Hinduism

We all know Cupid and Valentine's Day, but do you know about Kamadeva?

That's So Hindu Blog

Some of our top blog posts in the last year.

Visit www.hinduamerican.org/blog

- Hindu Roots of Yoga
- 5 Things Dharmic Faiths Have in Common
- Purpose of the Bindi
- What It's Like Growing Up African American, and Hindu
- 5 Things About the Swastika
- Sri Sarada Devi: The Universal Mother

Remember their cause.

For Hindus in America and beyond.

Hindus around the world face daily human rights violations from state and civil society actors, often without support from the local or international community. Often, these human rights violations are minimized or ignored by the international community to the detriment of Hindus, religious freedom, and human rights as a whole.

For those who currently live with the abuse and violence, who are deemed insignificant, who are lost in the noise ... they deserve to be heard.

Throughout the years, HAF has given voice to the voiceless. We launched three major campaigns in just the past two years: the Kashmir

Exodus, Bengali Hindu Genocide, and the saving Pakistan's stolen girls.

Our resources about the tragedies faced by Hindus all over the world are your guide to keeping their hopes alive.

Learn the history.
Share their stories.
Raise their cause.

1971 Bengali Hindu Genocide: Remembering the Lost, Celebrating Survival.

March 2021

Visit www.genocide1971.org

On March 25, 1971, the Pakistan military began a 10-month campaign of genocide against the ethnic Bengali and Hindu religious communities in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) to stop the movement to liberate Bangladesh. Pakistan was defeated by India, but not before hundreds of thousands were raped and millions were killed. This genocide is rarely taught in classrooms or discussed in foreign policy circles.

Save Pakistan's Stolen Girls

November 2021

Visit www.savepakistansgirls.org

Experts estimate since 2011, more than 10,000 Hindu and Christian girls across Pakistan have been kidnapped from their families. Once abducted, the girls face a continuous barrage of violence including forceful conversion to Islam, forced marriage, and rape.

In November, we officially launched the "Save Pakistan's Stolen Girls" campaign. We created one place for you to learn about their tragedy and ways in which you can help bring them closer to freedom.

#iheartkashmir

January 2020

Visit www.kashmirexodus1990.org

On January 19, 1990, a Pakistan-sponsored campaign of violence reached fevered pitch resulting in the cleansing of 95% of the Kashmiri Hindu population from their ancestral homeland. January 19 is known as Exodus Day.

On the 30th anniversary, we launched #iheartkashmir to amplify the voices of so many of you who joined us in advocating for their right to return without fear or persecution. You've shared our Kashmir lesson plans, gathered at vigils, used our action alerts, and much more.

A spotlight for you.

Exemplifying the spirit of generosity.

Without the support from people like you, there would be no podcasts or Dharmic calendar. We wouldn't be able to run our popular Dharma Ambassadors program (it fills up every time!). Education on Hinduism would be left to chance as teacher training and classroom materials

would not exist. And violations of the rights of Hindus around the world continue unchecked.

Every one of you contributes to the success of Hinduism's progress in American society, and beyond. You bring strength to building our community.

You give hope to the Hindus living in fear and persecution around the world.

Today, we'd like to celebrate two incredible couples who exemplify this spirit of seva with their lifetime contributions to HAF exceeding \$1M!

Shekar and Shylaja Reddy

Real-life secret Santas



Shekar and Shylaja have dedicated their lives to service in their home state of Florida and beyond. Every year, they visit local department stores and pay off families' layaway purchases for the holiday.

Real-life secret Santas!

They are founders of the Gummakonda Reddy Foundation, a non-profit charity organization that provides assistance to people in need. The foundation supports children's education and health in underdeveloped nations, helps children with underlying medical conditions gain access to treatment, supplies meals to the South Florida community hospitality industry, fosters rescue efforts to help furry friends find loving homes, and more.

Their support of Hindu organizations expands beyond HAF to Ekal Vidyalaya, the International Hindu University, and Hindu temples in South Florida. In 2018, they received HAF's Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of their local and national Hindu American advocacy efforts.

Tanvi Jhaveri and Mihir Meghani, MD

California power couple



Tanvi and Mihir are a California power couple.

When Mihir is not saving lives in the ER, he's serving on HAF's Board of Directors and leading the HAF Advisory Committee.

Alongside owning her own jewelry line, Tanvi is also a highly sought Bombay Jam fitness instructor who hosted a COVID virtual class for HAF supporters.

For decades, the couple has spent countless hours championing the HAF cause by hosting the annual Northern California gala, building relationships with interfaith leaders, and supporting a number of local and national nonprofits. Their tradition of giving a percentage of their annual income to charity is not only inspiring, but it's also infectious!

Law of the instrument.

If all you have is a hammer, you'll treat everything like a nail.

Hindus are one of the most successful groups here in the United States. We are active members in our communities. We raise our children here. We participate in threading the fabric of America.

When we see Hinduism being tarnished on social media, or offensive articles from major publications, or poorly written classroom textbooks—it makes us angry, and rightfully so!

Our religion ought to be seen for the goodness it instills, and not defined by stereotypes or Indian politics.

And so, it can be easy to get caught up in the emotion of these situations. It may leave you wondering if there is something we can do legally. Sometimes there are grounds for legal action; often times, however, there are not. You can talk to a group that treats everything like a nail, or ...

You can bring it to HAF.

Simply put, there is no other Hindu organization that has the expertise to help our community the way we can, and have already done.

Our team has the qualifications and the real-world experience to protect our community with the proper guidance when considering legal action.

We have four lawyers on our national team.

Two of them are staff—in all a combined 100+ years of experience available at a moment's notice, plus support from our full-time staff and network of contacts. Additionally, our expertise spans across a wide variety of topics including non-profit and compliance law, civil rights issues, constitutional law, contracts law, religious accommodation, and more.

Equally important as experience are our successes.

We've represented Hindu Americans at the US Supreme Court.

Our team has sat in front of SCOTUS to uphold the separation of church and state. We've partnered with organizations such as Americans United to successfully combat

religious discrimination. We've fought for the religious freedom rights of Hindu American homeowners to display the Swastika on their front doors. We even have experience with matters related to copyrights and intellectual property—just as when we got university logos taken off the hateful Dismantling Global Hindutva website. These examples are just the tip of the iceberg of the breadth of knowledge we have, real-world experience we build on, and critical and creative thinking our team employs. We don't try to hammer everything; we utilize the right tools for the situation.

There is no other Hindu organization that can help our community the way we can.

So please consider making a donation to the Hindu American Foundation. Visit www.hinduamerican.org/donate. You may also send your donation check in the pre-addressed envelope included in this newsletter to set up a one-time or recurring donation. Your support ensures you have the most effective and powerful voice standing up for the rights of Hindu Americans.

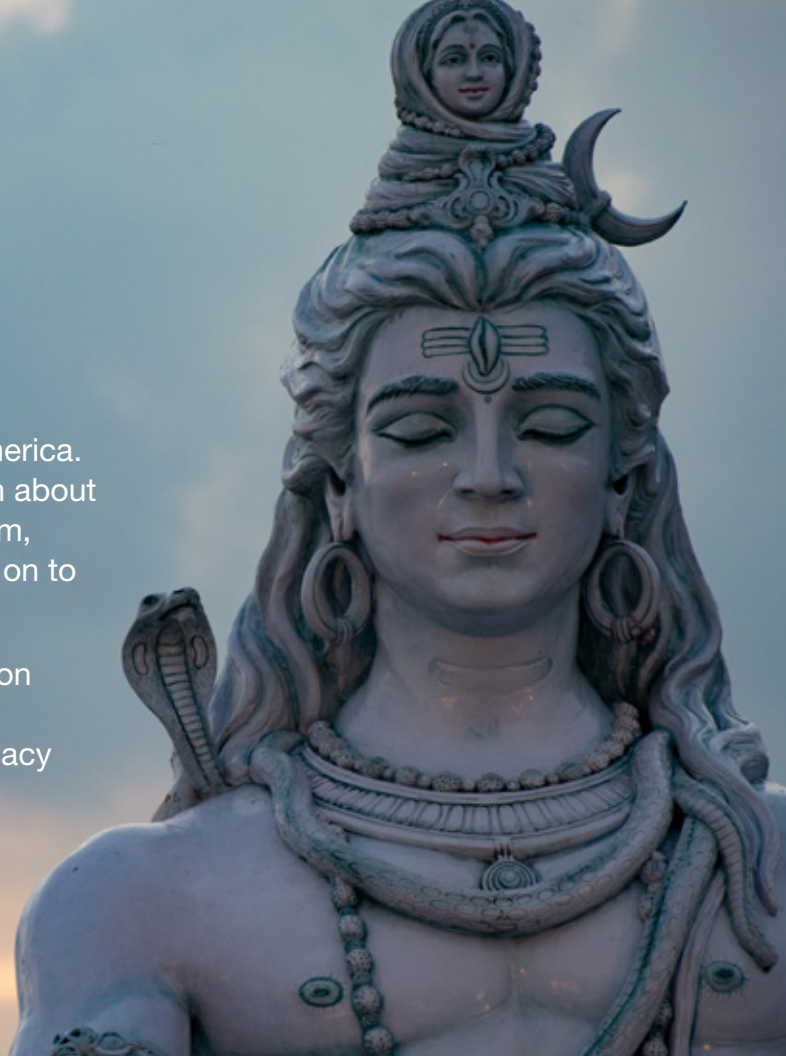
Visit www.hinduamerican.org/donate

What's your legacy?

Imagine how you want Hindus to be viewed in America. Imagine what you want future generations to learn about Hinduism in school. Imagine the values of pluralism, dignity, and mutual respect that you want to pass on to your loved ones.

Your planned gift to the Hindu American Foundation will secure the future of Hinduism in America by strengthening and sustaining our important advocacy efforts. It will ensure that future generations remain proud of their Hindu heritage.

For more details about estate planning at HAF, please email us at info@hinduamerican.org.



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hinduamerican.org/donate

HAF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

