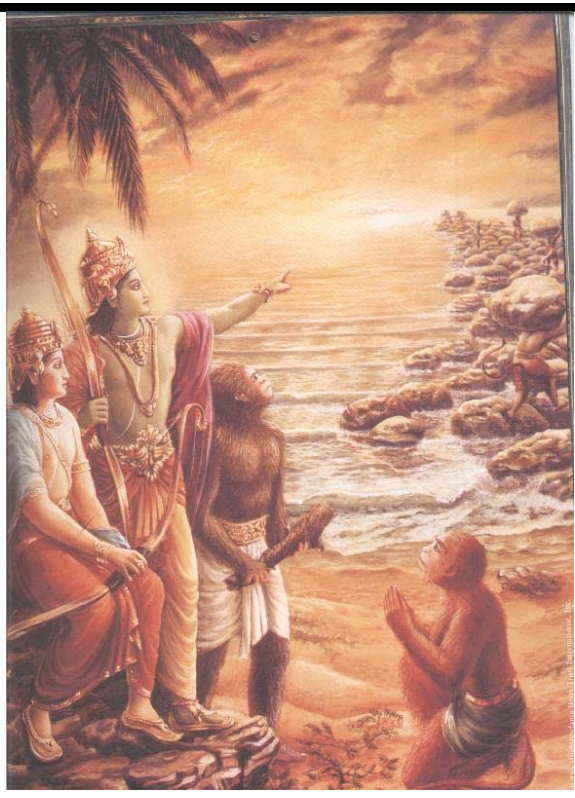
# SANDESH BHARATI

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## THE RAMAYANA IS A HISTORY, NOT A MYTH...

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संघशक्तिर्विजेत्रीयं कृत्वास्मद्धर्म रक्षणम्।
परमं वैभवं प्राप्तुं समर्थास्तु तवाशिषा ॥

**The vision**

- Pinnacle of glory

**Through the mission**

- Of collective strength
- Of ever victorious endeavour
- Of sustaining and safeguarding Dharma

# A Humble Appeal to all Hindus…….
# DON'T USE THE WORD MYTHOLOGY TO DESCRIBE THE HINDU RELIGION OR SCRIPTURES

When the British ruled over India, they mischievously described our scriptures and faith as *mythology* – now the word mythology is derived from the word *myth* and what does a myth mean? Two definitions of the word myth given in the Webster dictionary are, "a usually traditional story of ostensibly historical events……", and " a person or thing having only an imaginary or unverifiable existence"

Thus, while mythology may mean historical events, it could very well also mean imaginary events

Hindus must make their position clear to each other and to all non-Hindus. We do not pray in temples to something imaginary, nor do we worship someone that might have existed or might not have existed – we believe that all the events described in our scriptures DID TAKE PLACE

Hindus believe in Lord Ram, Lord Krishna, Lord Shiva, Lord Ganesha, Mother Lakshmi, Mother Durga, Mother Saraswati, etc – they are all FACTS, not fiction

They are not akin to JK Rowling characters – no sane person will build a temple for Harry Potter – therefore, Lord Ram is not some imaginary hero, but a real hero.

**So, the next time, we use to describe the Ramayana or the Mahabharat, we must always use the word HINDU HISTORICAL TEXTS; always, our holy books must be referred with respect as HINDU SCRIPTURES** – *let us not ape the atheists or biased historians who call them as mythology.*

# PRAVASI BHARATIYA
# A warm welcome to HSS in Mauritius

Shri Shankar Rao Tatwawadi, International Co-ordinator of the Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, in his Indian Ocean tour of Mauritius, Reunion, Madagascar and Seychelles, was received at 'Le Chateau de Reduit,' the State House, previously the official residence of colonial governors. The President of the Republic of Mauritius, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, received Shri Tatwawadi. The President came to know of the different types of activities conducted by the Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh in Mauritius and in 40 different countries actively involved in the Sangh work.

Visibly charmed by the discipline and positive contribution of swayamsevaks, the President alluded to the Mauritian model, the Sewa Samiti of the Bissoondoyal brothers in the forties. The Sewa Samiti under the leadership of Professor Basdeo Bissoondoyal had galvanised the Hindus for decades on end into adopting sober living, pride in their own culture, shunning de-regulated lives and, in so doing, led the country to self-discipline and self-respect. The eminent visitor briefed the President, Sir Anerood

Jugnauth, on the existence of 350 shakhas outside Bharat and active work in 40 countries, out of a total of 150 countries having known Indian settlement. He presented to the President books on the founder of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, Dr Keshav Baliram Hedgewar entitled The Epoch Maker, a title that kindled. His Excellency's interest in knowing more of the Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh.

Viewing the other book presented to him, Inspirer of a New Era on the second Sarsanghachalak Shri M.S. Golwalkar, the President of the Republic, remarked: "It is a book worth reading." With an avalanche of information put before him, he became inquisitive and asked, "Is Sangh progressing?" It was a historic meeting between two eminent persons, the President of the Republic of Mauritius and a much-learned polyglot, Shri Tatwawadi, a leader with impressive credentials with his post-doctoral studies in USA, and who spoke effectively a suave and charming English, Hindi and Marathi at public gatherings there. Earlier Shri Tatwawadi, the Reader of Pharmaceutics and Head of Department at the Banaras Hindu University, who had retired earlier to the retirement time to serve the HSS cause, paid his respects to the 83-year-old Shri Baldeo Doomunji, the first Sanghchalak of the Mauritius Swayamsewak Sangh, at Long Mountain.

It is a village retaining the nostalgia of the contribution of Indian sepoys, fighting alongside British soldiers and defeating the French. Consequently, the remarkable contribution of these sepoys in the battle earned them the

opportunity to hoist the British flag at the peak of Long Mountain. Shri Baldeo Doomun remains in history the pioneering Mauritian to hold the Bhagwa Dwaj of the Sangh and lead the organisation forward at a time Madhav Da was Pracharak in the island. After all, he was groomed in the hard school of the Bissoondoyal brothers, in the Sewa Samiti, an emanation of the revivalist movement, Jan Andolan, that heralded the coming of all Hindus together! Shri Doomunji spoke with full vigour to recount the episodes of his life as a member of the Sewa Samiti. "B. Ramlallah, later Editor of Mauritius Times, and Mohabeer Foogooa, later parliamentarian, formed part of the group pedalling bicycles to far-off areas, like Lalmatie, to participate in the Great Awakening called Jan Andolan," he said. It all seemed to him, as if it was only a day before that the Bissoondoyal era had existed, so precise and detailed was his description. The first Sanghchalak of Mauritius Swayamsevak Sangh felt his bosom full of genuine pride when he revealed the participation of his three grandsons in the historical route march of the Sangh organised in the streets of Port-Louis, only a month earlier. His son, a product of the Mauritius Swayamsevak Sangh and particularly of Madhav Da, the Pracharak, has succeeded in bagging LL.B and LL.M degrees, another acquisition to honour the family!

In his round of goodwill meetings, he sat over a cup of tea with Raj Meetarbhan, Editor of L'Express, one of the most-circulated papers in Mauritius, and the subject broached was about the deplorable state of Hindu youth. "I do not totally lose hope," said Tatwawadi, "it is happening almost

everywhere. The younger generation is cut off from Hindu values. When international terrorism with fundamentalist attitude prevails, then liberal attitude suffers." In short, he said, the unrest in the world as a result of conflicting tendencies makes one think of resolving this problem into something positive. Tolerance needs to replace intolerance, sharing with others as a better approach instead of having everything for oneself, and in the same line of thinking, love and affection to the weak and needy instead of indifference to them. *(FOC)*

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# FASTING ON KRISHNA JANMASHTMI – by Ruby Gurnani

One of the most auspicious festivals celebrated by Hindus all over the world is JANMASHTMI, also called as GOKULASHTMI – which is the appearance day of Bhagwan Shri Krishna, who is GOD HIMSELF

This festival is celebrated in various forms such as breaking the butter pot, or through the medium of dramas and plays, where the lifestory of Krishna's pastimes are enacted. The main thought of all is "to honor the appearance of this wonderful form".

Many have heard about Krishna's pastimes but not many have heard about the austerity that many go through to honor the appearance day of Lord Krishna

Many devotees of the Lord undergo a fast in which no water or food must be taken into the body for about 24 hours which begins from one midnight to the next midnight (which is the appearance day of Lord Krishna)

This fast seems very difficult, but based on my experience of observing this fast since I was just 12 years of age, it is not difficult at all. Once you do so, you neither feel hungry nor thirsty. Let's just say its God's mercy that he is helping you perform this austerity. One can benefit a lot from this austerity as well as by hearing his name even if by accident. This is how mercififul the Lord's name can be.

One who manages to perform this austerity even if for a few hours manages to develop pure love for this eternal and magnificent form of the Lord. Every living entity can enjoy this mercy of the Lord whenever he wants but I request you all to participate in some spiritual activities the fastest you can, as after all this is for your own benefit.

# Threat to Ram Sethu has not vanished; The struggle has to go on: - Sarsanghachalak

RSS Sarsanghachalak, Shri K.S. Sudarshan, has said that Hindus should not mistake to think that the threat to Ram Sethu has vanished. He said the affidavit filed in the apex court under the pressure of leftists has deeply hurt the sentiments of crores of Hindus world over. "This was denying their very identity," he said while delivering the Vijaydashami speech in Nagpur on October 20.

Addressing a gathering of uniformed swayamsevaks, he said those who question the historicity of Shri Ram should take a lesson from the discoveries of Dr Ram Autar Sharma, who spent 24 years of his life in personally visiting 214 places where Rama had stayed during the 14 years he spent in forests as also 23 places where Rama had gone with Sage Vishwamitra upto Janakpur. "He has photographed of all those temples, lakes, rivers, ghats, huts, etc. where Sri Rama treaded and also prepared a map of them all. The great effort put in by Dr Ram Autar is a slap on the face of all those who are denying the very existence of Sri Rama. What type of democratic set-up we are living in where the Central Cabinet Minister Shri T.R. Balu and Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu M. Karunanidhi are brazenly flouting the public opinion and also the opinions of scientists, astronomers, archeologists, geologists, environmentalists who are giving evidences of Rama's existence? What right has such a minister to be in the Central Cabinet, he questioned.

Referring to the leftists and DMK pressure on Prime Minister over the destruction of Ram Sethu Shri Sudarshan said if he is a devout Sikh, he should ponder over the Shabad of Guru Nanakdeo in the Holy Guru Granth Sahib (page 942). He alleged that America wants to establish her hegemony over the Bay of Bengal also. "It has already its influence over the Indian Ocean

because of its military base in Diago Garcia. China also has her design. It has established its strategic base in Coco islands adjacent to the Myanmar border and has established her jurisdiction over the Gwadar port of Pakistan. Similarly, China is participating in the construction of a most modern sea-port in Hamantota situated on the south coast of Sri Lanka. Thus, the strategies of both America and China have weakened the position of Bharat in its own historical waters. When the ships of USA and China begin to cruise between Bharat and Sri Lanka waters, the security of Bharat will be endangered. But look of the hypocrisy of the Indian communists. They are opposing the nuclear-deal between Bharat and USA on the ground that it will lead to American hegemony, but are keeping silent in the matter of SSCP only because it is going to benefit China also," the Sarsanghachalak added.

Shri Sudarshan also visited an exhibition organised by Dr Ram Autar Sharma at Mundale auditorium in Nagpur displaying 250 rare pictures and maps of Sri Ram's two visits. He lauded the efforts of Dr Sharma and told him to continue his research.

Speaking as chief guest at the RSS Foundation Day function, Dr Jagmohan Singh Rajput, noted educationist and former NCERT director, called upon the new generation of the country to have knowledge of country's culture, history and its great legacy. **"The person must have complete information about the society, civilisation and the nationality in which he/she is born and brought up,"** he said further adding that the young generation has to shape the great future of the nation and it will be possible only by deeper study, investigation, research and analysis.

"The greatness of India should become an inspiration for all. The national interest is above all and the social interest comes before the family interest. The Indian traditions of inventions of knowledge and technology have been praised all over the world. The Indian youth should try to receive excellence in modern science, technology and should use it for their own country.

There is still a section in our country, which has still been trying to belie the Indian achievements and efforts and they have been getting the government support also. They must be opposed. All countrymen have much expectations from the concept of rashtra nirman (national construction) that has been materialised by the Sangh through its man-making system because the work and thinking of RSS strengthen the human values. Only those who do good are told to do more good," Dr Rajput said.

He also highlighted the circumstances in which the new generation of the country is being brought up and educated, what challenges they are facing, what their educational institutions are doing for them and how vigilant they are for their future. He said the policy makers of Independent India completely ignored education, which is perhaps the most important aspect for development and progress. He said faith in human values is must for progress but unfortunately it is not visible today. He called upon the society to help in exposing and promoting the talent of students by developing positive atmosphere around them. ***(FOC)***

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# Ramayana, the first recorded history of the world

*By Dr Indulata Das*

India is the first country in the whole world to initiate the concept of recording past happenings and appropriately named the record as itihasa (bfr g vkl), which literally meant 'it was like this'. Ramayana and Mahabharata are the two great works named as itihasa in which the glorious history of the two great dynasties viz. the solar dynasty (in Ramayana) and the lunar dynasty (in Mahabharata) have been recorded along

with the detailed picture of the contemporary Indian socio-political milieu. Thus Ramayana owns the honour of the first recorded history in the wide world.

As Mahabharata is posterior to Ramayana, it comes second in the sequence. That Ramayana is a narration of the past happenings. Not only the Ramayana but the whole literary gamut of India has accepted Ramayana and Mahabharata as historical works and not as mere literary fictions.

India did not learn recording history from the Britishers after their arrival in India. Those who ventilate such views are yet to be acquainted with India and Indian traditions because India possessed elaborate 'written history' much before the Britishers knew what 'writing' meant.

The art of recording history in India was rich, laudable and unique in nature. Mere chronicling of facts was not considered history in this land.

History in Indian tradition was always composed in a poetic style to make it a piece of readable literary marvel and it was never an insipid and boring presentation of lack-lusture facts.

**Those who are ignorant of this Indian tradition of writing history measure the great historical works of India with the twentieth century rod of measurement and adjudge that India had no written history. Besides Ramayana and Mahabharata there are other historical literatures like Rajatarangini of Kalhana, etc., which also certify that India had a rich tradition of history writing.**

As stated earlier, Ramayana is the narration of the glorious

deeds of the kings of solar dynasty. But the main story is based on the extraordinary character of Rama, one of the most famous descendants of the dynasty. His saga is sung by Valmiki in Ramayana and subsequently the same is sung by hundreds of literary works in the country and abroad. In Ramayana every happening of Rama's life has been described with minute details. The specific geographical points which are associated with his valourous deeds have also been mentioned with exactitude in the book.

Rama was a paragon of virtue and valour. His life was a saga of goodness and of grand adventures. He did things, which normal people fail to even imagine. His heroic deeds and supreme sacrifices surpass all heights of comparison. One of his unthinkable adventurous deeds, as Valmiki mentions, is the construction of the bridge which connected two countries viz. India and Sri Lanka. The bridge was designed and constructed by Nala, one of his army officers who was also an architect and an engineer. Nala was the son or Vishwakarma, the celestial architect.

With the help of thousands of highly competent workers the project was completed in merely five days. The chief materials used for the bridge were stones, boulders and huge logs of wood. In the first stage huge trunks of trees like Sal, mango, Karnikara, Arjuna, Saptaparna, Nim, etc. were put to prepare the base for the bridge. Large boulders were then spread on the wooden bed and the bridge was made. Logs and boulders, Valmiki mentions in the Ramayana Yuddha Kanda 22.59, were carried to the spot by the help of machines.

The total length of the bridge, as described by Valmiki was one hundred yojana which was built in five phases. In the first

day a length of fourteen yojana was built – (Yuddha Kanda 22.68). On the second day another twenty yojana was constructed (Yuddha Kanda 22. 69). Twenty one yojana was constructed on the third consecutive day.

On the fourth day the workers constructed another twenty two yojana – Yuddha Kanda 22.71). On the fifth day the last twenty three yojana was constructed –Yuddha Kanda 22. 71).

There was a gradual increase in the speed of work with every passing day which is a very natural practice with workers in any field. Whereas the length was one hundred yojana the breadth was ten yojana – Yuddha Kanda 22.76). The breadth of the bridge, thus, was one tenth of the length of the same. The available breadth-length ratio of the bridge present between India and Sri Lanka is roughly the same.

Even after mention of facts in such details in the 'undisputed recorded history' Ramayana, some Indians who lack minimum regards for their own tradition and culture have the unthinkable audacity to say that Rama is an imaginary character and so is the story of his constructing the bridge.

In fact such irresponsible and dishonouring statement deserves no discussion at all. Because, even refuting such statement attaches some importance on it. Only in order to acquaint them with their depth of ignorance a few points are discussed here.

Firstly, if both Rama and construction of the bridge were mere imaginations of Valmiki, is there any other literature available in India which certifies the existence of the bridge from time immemorial? Secondly, is there any mention in any ancient

literature about the existence of a natural bridge connecting India and Sri Lanka? Thirdly, if the bridge was natural and was there when Valmiki wrote the Ramayana and therefore he ascribed its construction to his imaginary hero, Rama, why the same was not done by any other poet for his imaginary hero? In other words if it was a fiction of Valmiki's mind then why any other writer did not claim the credit of construction of the bridge for his own hero? For example, the writer of Mahabharata could have claimed that the bridge was constructed by his hero i.e. Krishna? Why did Vyasa, the writer of Mahabharata, also wrote that it was built by Rama? Why did every author of every literary work who mentioned about the bridge unhesitatingly say that it was built by Rama only! Lastly, if it was a natural bridge and was never constructed by any human, why this truth was never mentioned by any other writer in any other work? Why did every writer, every poet imagine one thing uniformally and ascribed the credit of construction of the bridge to the hero of Valmiki only?

Seeking an evidence of Rama's existence in India is like seeking an evidence of light's existence in the Sun.

Because of the Maculaean education policy and many other unpatriotic reasons on the part of the policy makers of India, Indians are deliberately kept ignorant about their own traditions and culture. As a result, most Indians are not aware of the fact that Ramayana is not a fiction but a recorded history of the land although ornamented with decorative poetic beauties. Had we understood Indian traditions we would not have thought of doubting the existence of Lord Rama.

*(The writer can be contacted at indulatadas@yahoo.co.in)*

# Gujarat Ka Sach

Author: B. P. Singhal

They - THE SECULARISTS - are at it once again.

"It was a well planned 'GENOCIDE'", "it was 'POGROM'", "it was state sponsored 'TERRORISM'", is what they had said in screaming headlines day after day after day in 2002, in the Delhi based "SECULAR" English dailies and the "SECULAR" electronic media. So complete was the Goebblesian propaganda and so effective was the concealment of truth, that even the Supreme Court lost its judicial balance and without verifying what steps the Government of Gujarat had taken, it went on to write on page 72 of its judgement in the Best Bakery Case that, "The modern day NEROS were looking elsewhere when Best Bakery and innocent children and helpless women were burning .....".

It was media power at its worst that caused this unwarranted outburst from the Hon'ble Supreme Court. All the Gujarat language dailies were giving truthful accounts which were at complete variance with the Delhi based Media.

"The Hindu", the leading-most South India daily reported on 1st March 2002 : "The Chief Minister Modi frantically asked for the Army units to be called in." On 2nd March 2002 'The Hindu' reported : "Unlike February 28 when one community was entirely at the receiving end, the minority backlash on 1st March has further worsened the situation ..... and the Army staged a flag march in Ahemedabad on 1st March 2002 at 9.00 A.M."

It was therefore truly shocking that on 25.8.2007, "Aaj Tak" harped on the same old refrain that "Modi did not

call the army until three days had passed". Even more outrageous was their insistance on this point. When "Aaj Tak" contacted me on phone to get my response, I told the anchor that the GODHRA carnage took place on February 27th 2002, that the Hindu backlash commenced on February 28th and the Army was doing flag march on the forenoon of March 1st ..... He cut me short by saying that "this is exactly what we had said, no action was taken by Modi on 29th, 30th and 31st thus giving three clear days to the murderers ....." I had to cut him short by reminding him that the date 28th was 28th of February 2002 and there was no 29th, 30th or 31st in that month. The phone was of course disconnected. However, it has to be said to the credit of "Aaj Tak" and "Headlines Today" that they called me for a full length studio debate the next day. But the details of that debate shall have to wait. For the present, however, it is imperative that certain facts are stated to prevent perpetuation of the LIES propagated in 2002.

Fact 1: That SHOOT AT SIGHT ORDERS had been given by the Government on 28th itself.

Being an Ex-DGP and also a Member of Parliament at that time, I was personally in touch with the office of DGP Gujarat and the Commissioner of Police Ahemedabad. I was keen to tell them, (a) To call in the Army at once and (b) To issue "SHOOT AT SIGHT" orders to all officers of the rank of Sub-Inspectors and above. It was very comforting to learn that the Government of Gujarat had already taken both those steps by 2.30 P.M. on 28th February itself. In fact the State Government had also requested for Armed Police reinforcements from neighbouring states, besides calling for the Army.

Fact 2: On the 28th February itself 10 Hindus had been shot dead and 16 Hindus had been wounded by POLICE BULLETS.

Fact 3: On the next day i.e., 1st March an additional 24 Hindus were shot dead and 40 Hindus wounded by POLICE BULLETS.

Fact 4: In the entire period of riots total Hindu casualties were 80 shot dead, and 207 wounded by POLICE BULLETS alone. (But no Delhi-based media showed any interest in giving coverage to these casualties.)

Fact 5: The Muslim counter attack which commenced from 1st March 2002 was no less ferocious. In the first three days alone, out of a total of 611 deaths, 101 were caused by POLICE FIRING. Of these, 61 were Hindus and 40 were Muslims.

Fact 6: As on 5th of March, as many as 40,000 Hindus had had to be given shelter in Relief Camps. (There was plenty of media coverage given to the plight of Muslims in relief camps but no Delhi-based media covered any Hindu relief camps.)

Fact 7: In answer to the Parliament questions, the UPA Home Minister gave the figures of casualties during Gujarat riots. There were Muslims killed 790, Hindus killed 254, wounded 2500 in all missing 223. Thus this proves the lies that what happened in Gujarat was a one-sided affair for every three Muslims who died in Gujarat, one Hindu was also killed.

Such heavy casualties in riot control are UNPRECEDENTED in the entire history of Indian Police. The figures of casualties caused by Police firing in the first three days alone indicate the FEROCITY of Police action. (And the "SECULAR" PARTIES and their MEDIA cohorts even to this day proclaim unabashedly that Modi ordered the Police "to look the other way" to give a free hand to murderers for three days). If they have any respect for

TRUTH, they can cross-check the casualties with the records of the concerned hospitals. The Police is duty bound to carry the dead or the wounded in Police firings to the concerned Government hospitals.

With the Muslim counter attack commencing from 1st March onwards till the riots were quelled altogether, what took place in Gujarat was a full-fledged Hindu-Muslim Riot. It was no GENOCIDE, or POGROM, or STATE TERRORISM against the Muslims of Gujarat. "No modern day 'NERO' was looking elsewhere". The modern day Chief Minister was dealing with the situation as best as was possible with the highly limited forces at his command.

Because of the spontaneous conflagration at scores and scores of locations, it is entirely possible that the Police or Fire brigade may have failed to reach a scene for hours, OR, having been spread so thin, the posse of Police that did reach the scene was deterred from intervening by the sheer ferocity of violence at that point in time. But to say that Police was restrained as a measure of Government POLICY is completely belied by the sheer immensity of casualties caused by Police firings.

The insane FEROCITY and BRUTALITY with which Ram Bhaktas including "innocent children and helpless women" were roasted alive at Godhra set the benchmark for the equally insane ferocity of the Hindu backlash and the ferocity of the Hindu backlash was followed by an equally insanely ferocious counter attack by the Muslims.

The Delhi-based media made out as though the whole of Gujarat was in flames. It concealed the fact that out of 18,600 villages, 240 Municipal towns and 25 Districts, the number of locations that were affected by riots was just 60. Not a single man-day was lost in the 200 odd Industrial townships by any Industry in Gujarat because of the riots. The examinations in Schools, Colleges and

Universities were conducted as per schedule during the period of riots.

Irrefutable confirmation that it was a Communal RIOT and not a GENOCIDE or POGROM, came from the verdicts of Courts in POST-GODHRA riots cases:

(i) Deccan Herald reported on May 2004: Conviction of 3 confessing Muslims for 7 years for attempted murder.

(ii) Indian Express dated 19.03.2006 reported: 7 Muslims convicted for life for the murder of Mukesh Panchaal.

(iii) Indian Express dated 29.03.2006 reported: 9 Muslims convicted for attempted murder and Arms Act with sentences ranging from 10 years to 18 months.

(iv) Indian Express dated 19.05.2006 reported: 4 Muslims nailed by DNA tests and convicted for LIFE.

While the "SECULAR" PARTIES and the "SECULAR" Delhi-based Media singled out the Hindu backlash for mega-publicity, they BLANKED OUT the Godhra carnage, as well as the Muslim counter attack for reasons best known to them. Nevertheless, not only the MINORITY community of Gujarat, but the entire population of Gujarat had been well aware of "GUJARAT KA SACH", ALL ALONG. As a result, all the Goebblesian propaganda had to bite the dust when the BJP was not only returned to serve Gujarat for a second term, by an overwhelming majority in the legislature, in the Post-Godhra-Post-Gujarat elections, but also continued to win the Corporation, the Municipal and the Gram Sabha elections with overwhelming margins. In a DEMOCRACY, THE PEOPLE KNOW WHO IS WHAT. AND THE PEOPLE ARE THE FINAL ARBITERS.

Tehelka and the sponsors of Tehelka have once again tried to vitiate communal harmony not only of Gujarat but of the entire country. People overwhelmingly believe that the Tehelka "sting operation" was sponsored by the Congress. If it is so, then, this would be the third major attempt of the "SECULAR" Congress to stoke the communal flames in the country. The first major attempt was made through the Sachar Commission who ordered a headcount of Muslims in India's Defence Forces. Thanks to the Army Chief who firmly put his foot down to prevent the communal virus from infecting the Army. The second attempt was made when the Government of India filed the affidavit in the Supreme Court, in the Sethusamudram case wherein it QUESTIONED the very existence of Sri Ram. Now by sponsoring Tehelka, "Sting operation" it made a despicable third attempt to communalize the Indian Polity. What Tehelka "Sting operation" has done, clearly attracts Section 153A of the IPC and if Congress has not sponsored this "Sting operation" then it should not hesitate to prosecute Tehelka u/s 153A IPC. As Tehelka as well as the T.V. Channels who aired those tapes are headquartered at Delhi, it is the Delhi Police and consequently the Government of India to take the legal action against them u/s 153A IPC.

Nobody could have had any grouse if "Tehelka" and the T.V. Channels had passed on those tapes to the Supreme Court, for suitable action, or even telecasted the so-called confessions of VHP activists or the BJP MLA for the information of the people. And, if indeed, those confessions are genuine and have any evidentiary value in them, then the law must take its course against those whose guilt is stablished. The real MISCHIEF that attracts Section 153A IPC is the JUXTAPOSITION AND INTERSPERSION of rising flames and bellowing smoke with the earlier recorded bytes of the Gujarat riots, accompanied with crashing cymbals, beats of drums,

screaming voices, and the highly provocative comments of the 'anchors' of the channels that aired those tapes.

There is a clear intention to inflame communal passions through what all was telecast in the name of "Gujarat ka Sach", and it would be dangerous for the future of the country if such a nefarious act goes unpunished by default of the UPA Government.

*B. P. SINGHAL is IPS. (Retd.), Ex-MP Rajya Sabha from the BJP*

## WASHINGTON: Corporate America is embracing Indian philosophy in a big way

Suddenly, says *Businessweek* magazine in its latest issue, phrases from ancient Hindu texts such as the *Bhagavad Gita* are popping up in management tomes and on Web sites of consultants. Top business schools have introduced "self-mastery" classes that use Indian methods to help managers boost their leadership skills and find inner peace in lives dominated by work.

*BW* calls its "Karma Capitalism" -- a gentler, more empathetic ethos that resonates in the post-tech-bubble, post-Enron zeitgeist. And where it used to be hip in management circles to quote from the sixth century B.C. Chinese classic The Art of War, it says, the trendy ancient Eastern text today is the more introspective *Bhagavad Gita.*

In an episode recounted by *BW* , young executives from corporate American gather in a suburban New Jersey home to hear Swami Parthasarathy, one of India's best-

selling authors on Vedanta, speak about secrets to business success – "concentration, consistency, and cooperation."

The 80-year old Indian guru is on a whistlestop tour of the US, counselling executives on the central message of the *Gita* – to put purpose before self. He has addressed meetings in b-schools such as Wharton and in financial schools such as Lehmann Brothers, advising fund managers and venture capitalists about balancing the compulsion to amass wealth with the desire for inner happiness.

In one incident, a young investment banker seeks advice on dealing with nasty colleagues. Banish them from your mind, he is told. "You are the architect of your misfortune. You are the architect of your fortune."

*BW* attributes the sudden interest in Indian philosophy to the sizeable presence of Indian teachers in American B-Schools. About 10% of teachers at places such as Harvard Business School, Northwestern's Kellogg School of Business, and the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business are of Indian descent -- a far higher percentage than other ethnic groups.

Indians also head some half dozen business schools in the US, including Kellogg.

More important, says *BW* , Indian-born strategists also are helping transform corporations. Academics and consultants such as C. K. Prahlad, Ram Charan, and Vijay Govindrajan are among the world's hottest business gurus, advising some of the top US companies.

Indian theorists, says the journal, have a wide range of backgrounds and philosophies. But many of the most

influential acknowledge that common themes pervade their work. One is the conviction that executives should be motivated by a broader purpose than money.

"The best way to describe it is inclusive capitalism," C.K.Prahlad, who ranked third in a recent Times of London poll about the world's most influential business thinkers told the magazine. "It's the idea that corporations can simultaneously create value and social justice."

"The key point," adds Ram Charan, a coach to CEOs such as General Electric Co.'s (GE ) Jeffrey R. Immelt, "is to put purpose before self. This is absolutely applicable to corporate leadership today."

*BW* says Indian business teachers such as Michigan's Prahlad, Harvard's Rakesh Khurana, Tuck's Govindrajan, and Kellogg's Jain, are linking some of their theories or deriving them Hindu philosophy.

"Marketing has tended to use the language of conquest," Kellogg's Mohanbir Sawhney, a Sikh who discusses the relevance of the *Bhagavad Gita* to business on his Web site, tells BW. Now the focus is on using customer input to dream up new products, Sawhney says, which "requires a symbiotic relationship with those around us."

# Shivaji a source of inspiration: Army Chief

Recalling his days at the National Defence Academy (NDA) in Pune from where he passed out as an officer, Army Chief Gen J J Singh on Tuesday said the fighting spirit of Maratha warrior King Shivaji has always been a source of inspiration for armymen.

Addressing the platinum jubilee function of the All India Shivaji Memorial Society which also runs a military school here, Singh called upon the boys to imbibe the indomitable courage of Shivaji and contribute their mite to make India a superpower in near future.

Singh, who will retire on October 1, fondly remembered his association with Pune, saying his marriage, too, had taken place in the city, known as the cultural capital of Maharashtra.

He said after passing out from NDA he had joined the Maratha regiment and became conversant with the Maharashtra's history, culture and heritage.

The folk ballad or `Powada' of Maharashtra always served our men as an inspirational song , he said, adding Maratha soldiers are very tough.

Singh also mentioned the Maharashtrian delicacy of 'srikhand' as a culinary delight for which he always craved. He was presented with a replica of Shivaji on the occasion.

http://www.rediff.com/news/2007/sep/12army.htm

*Interview*

# This Congress leader sings a Nationalistic tune.

## "I will sacrifice my life to save Ram Sethu":

Bitta Blames Karunanidhi, demands white paper on controversy

A nationalist to the core, All India Anti-Terrorist Front Chairman Shri M.S. Bitta is known for taking a bold stand on important issues, even if it means criticising his own Congress party or its allies. Whether it be the issue of opposing clemency to Parliament attack accused Mohd Afzal, the arrest of Kanchi Seer Swamy Jayendra Saraswathi or the Sethusamudram Canal project, the former youth Congress President, who himself has been the target of several terrorist attacks, has never refrained from calling a spade a spade. In a no-holds barred interview with senior journalist K.G. Suresh for Organiser, the Punjab leader, who visited Rameshwaram recently to offer prayers at Ramsethu, took on Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M Karunanidhi and expressed his desire to die for the cause, if the need arises.

**What prompted you to join the movement against the Sethusamudram project?**

I am a great devotee of Lord Hanuman. I have great faith in Him. I religiously visit the Balaji shrine in Rajasthan every month. I keep a fast on every Tuesday. I am a vegetarian and I read the Hanuman Chalisa every day. Without Lord Ram, there is no Lord Hanuman. Moreover, Lord Ram's name finds innumerable mention in my own Sikh religious scriptures. The father of our nation Mahatma Gandhi died

with the Lord's name on his lips. So, it hurt me when it was said there was no evidence to prove Lord Ram's existence. My life is a bonus. I have been a target of terrorists for opposing the killing and forcible eviction of Hindus from Punjab. At Agniteertham on the Rameshwaram shores, I took a vow that following the path of Guru Gobind Singh, I will be the first to sacrifice my life if any attempt is made to demolish the bridge built by Lord Ram and his army.

**In your view, who is responsible for this controversy?**

I demand that a White Paper be brought out to find the people responsible for the unsavoury controversy. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M Karunanidhi, an atheist, is responsible to a great extent. He and his party colleagues want to benefit from this project. I doubt whether they are playing into the hands of the United States on this issue.

**Are you satisfied with the UPA Government's damage control measures?**

India is identified with Lord Ram. It is a blasphemy to question His existence. If it is Ram today, tomorrow it could be Lord Krishna and Guru Gobind Singh. Today, they want to build a canal by destroying Ram Sethu. Tomorrow, they may want to build an air strip by demolishing Harmandar Sahib. There should be a strong law which would deal with any politician insulting any religion as a terrorist. Even the recent Dera Sacha Sauda controversy was a conspiracy to revive terrorism and divide Hindus and Sikhs.

**How do you view Karuna-nidhi's outbursts against Lord Ram?**

Karunanidhi has lost his mental balance. He needs to be medically examined. UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi and

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh take part every year in burning the effigy of Demon King Ravana. Certainly, they do believe in Lord Ram. Karunanidhi is the new Ravana and his effigy should be burnt this Dussehra. He wants to demolish Lord Ram, not the bridge. Those who try to do so will be ruined.

I also regret the tendency to dub anyone coming in support of Lord Ram as communal or belonging to the RSS and the BJP. Lord Ram belongs to one and all. I salute leaders such as Karan Singh and R.K. Dhawan, who have come out against Karunanidhi's uncalled for statements. Not only Hindus, there are Sikhs and even Muslims who believe in Lord Ram. So, let us not politicise this issue.

**Do you think there is a world wide trend to target Hindu and Sikh religious icons and symbols?**

All religions are under attack. We have had attacks on Akshar-dham, Raghunath temple, Ram Janambhoomi, Sankat Mochan temple, the Jama Masjid in Delhi, the Mecca Masjid in Hyderabad, the mosques at Malegaon, apart from the turban and nose stud issues in the West. We also have had a terrorist attack on the temple of democracy, the Parliament House. The people of India, irrespective of their religion, will have to come out on the streets and oppose this. Our battle will also continue till people like Mohd Afzal are hanged.

**How do you plan to intensify your agitation on the Ram Sethu issue?**

I will be traveling across the country and making people aware. I have already visited Punjab.

**Is there any long-term measure to tackle terrorism?**

Neither TADA or POTA will do. Exclusive anti-terrorist military courts should be set up which would not only protect the witnesses but also pronounce life or death sentences to the culprits within six months. Like we did in Punjab, there should be a bullet for bullet policy. Any soft policy towards the terrorists will destroy the nation. There should be no politics over dead bodies. In Punjab, all political parties came together and declared their opposition to Khalistan and the 18 year long terrorism was finished. The then Prime Minister late P.V. Narasimha Rao and the then Chief Minister Sardar Beant Singh played a key role. Even the late Rajiv Gandhi also played a positive role.

**Some human rights activists are clamouring for abolition of capital punishment?**

Those making such demands have neither any love for the country or any respect for our martyred leaders. They just want votes. I am a victim of terrorism. About 70 people were killed and about 95 kgs of RDX was used against me in three attacks. God has saved me. Heroes like Bhagat Singh, Netaji Bose, Chandrashekhar Azad and Ashfaqullah Khan died for the freedom of this country but today we are witnessing blatant political slavery on issues such as Ram Sethu. It is very sad and unfortunate.

**What about your own political future?**

I joined the Congress Sewa Dal at the age of 14. I went on to become a Minister and even President of the Indian Youth Congress but today, I find myself alone in this battle against terrorism.

# "Proud to be from an RSS family"

*—Sunita Williams*

AHMEDABAD: NASA astronaut Sunita Williams said while addressing a Rotary Club function in Ahmedabad in the presence of her father, thus: "When I landed up in naval academy I had to adjust to military discipline. The RSS culture of discipline in our family came in handy for me at that stage since my father had been associated with the RSS."

While addressing a meet under the aegis of the Ahmedabad Management Association she also spoke on Ram Sethu. She said: "I took pictures of the bridge between India and Sri Lanka from the space station."

Sunita Williams, whose father Dr. Deepak Pandya hails from Gujarat, arrived in Ahmedabad last week on a week-long visit to India.

## India's Scientific Heritage
## Pythagoras' Theorem or Bodhayan Theorem

*By Suresh Soni*

Indian is the birthplace of geometry also. Since antiquity, altars and platforms were made for religious ceremonies. Their basis was geometry. In 800 BC, Bodhayan and Aapastamb gave the necessary architectural specifications for the construction of these altars and platforms.

Drawing a square equal to a triangle, a square which is double, triple or one-third a square. Making a circle equal in area to the square present. These methods have been explained in the Shulbhasootra.

The method of how to find the area of a triangle from its sides, has been explained in the 4th century book Soorya Siddhanta. Europe got this knowledge from Clobius in the 16th century.

**Voyage of a word**

In our country, the bow is called jya. We used this word in geometry. When it reached Arabia, it became 'j' and 'b', since they don't have vowels like 'e' and 'u'. When it reached Europe, it began to be called 'jeb', which means 'chest'. The word for chest in Latin is 'sinus'. So, in short, it started being called 'sine'. Many such words have travelled from India to Europe via Arabia.

**Pythagoras' Theorem or Bodhayan Theorem**

In many chapters of the Kalpasootra scriptures there is a chapter on shulbasootra. The rope used to measure the platform is called rajjoo or shulbha. Hence, geometry is also called shulba and the subject of geometry came under shulbasootra. The Bodhayan Theorem is as under:

*Deerghachaturas Syaakshanaya*
*Rajjooha Pashrvamaani Tiryakmaani*
*Yatprithagbhoote Kurutasta Dubhayam Karoti*
—(Bodhayan Shulbhasootra 1-12)

This means that the area of hypotenuse in a triangle is equal to the area of its length and breadth. Bodhayan has given this principle in the Shulbasootra. When we read this, we understand that if the hypotenuse of a triangle is BC, length is AB and breadth is AC, then the Bodhayan theorem says, $BC^2=AB^2+AC^2$.

This is taught to the students today as Pythagoras' Theorem, whereas it had been described by Bodhayan at least 1000 years before the Greek mathematician Pythagoras. It is also

possible that Pythagoras worked out this theorem after reading about it in the Shulbasootra. Whatever it is, there is no argument about the fact that the Indian mathematicians were far ahead of the modern mathematicians in the field of geometry. Besides the above mentioned theorem, Bodhayan has given other theorems too. The diagonal of a rectangle, divides it into two equal parts and two diagonals of a rectangle divide each other equally. The diagonals of a square cross each other at right angles, etc. Bodhayan and Apastamba both have given the ratio of the arm and the diagonal of a rectangle which is exactly correct.

Shulbasootra tells one how to make a square of the same area as that of a triangle, a circle of the same area as that of a square, and make a circle double, triple or one third of the area of a square. Bhaskaracharya's Leelavati tells us that an arm of an equal tetragon, pentagon, hexagon, octagon in a circle, is in definite proportions to the diameter of the circle.

Aryabhatt has also given a formula for calculating the area of a triangle. It is as follows:

*Tribhajasya phalashareeram samadal*
*koti bhajardhasamvargaha*

The area of a triangle is equal to the product of the length and half of the base of the triangle. As per the diagram given here, the area of the triangle ABC= ½ AB x CP.

*(This book is available with Ocean Books (P) Ltd, 4/19 Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi-110 002)*

**Cover Story**

# An assault on the soul of India

*By Her Holiness Sadhvi Ritambhara*

The wanton desecration of the sacred Ram Sethu, which was built by Sri Ram during the Treta Yuga, is not only an assault on the very soul of India, but also the squall and the pandemonium generated by the abominable and ill-conceived Sethusamudram Shipping Canal Project has shaken the very core of the nation's political establishment. Furthermore, to add insult to injury, the government's affidavit denying the veracity of Sri Ram is both sacrilegious and offensive to the religious sentiments of over a billion worldwide followers of Sri Ram.

From time immemorial, almost every devotee of Sri Ram considers Him to be dearer than his heart and life and will vouch by His name and, in the spirit of selfless devotion and reverence, is prepared to lay down his life for Him.

Sri Ram's importance is not confined to India alone. The Ramayan is an integral part of traditional culture in Buddhist Burma, Thailand, Cambodia and many other parts of the world. In Malaysia and Indonesia the Ramayan was popular long before the conversion of the local communities to Islam. Conversely, Sri Ram's name and the Ramayan have continued to influence the cultural and traditional ethos of all countries of the region such as Thailand where the Ramayan is predominantly appreciated and revered and is known as Ramakien, a word derived from the Sanskrit Ramakirti.

Profound reverence for Sri Ram is clearly evidenced by the fact that scenes from the Ramayan are depicted on the walls of the Royal Palaces and temples in Thailand. To this day, the

Thai Hindu kings have identified themselves as Ram, and therefore as incarnations of Lord Vishnu. All the Theravada Buddhist kings of the ruling Chakri dynasty of Thailand take the royal title "Ram". The Chakri, which provides both name and emblem to the house of Chakri, is composed of the traditional Hindu Chakra and the Trisula, the celestial weapon of the God Narai (an avatar of Vishnu) of whom the Thai King is seen as a personification. The current reigning King Bhumibol of Thailand is known as "Ram IX" and is regarded as an avatar of Sri Ram.

Millions of Hindus living outside India believe India to be a sacrosanct land where their Gods once walked. They consider the people of India to be the custodians of their ancient pilgrimage sites and expect that these sacred heritage places will be protected from the scourges of hostile and irresponsible forces. How disgraceful then, that the very government that had solemnly sworn "in the name of God to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India" should play with the sentiments of its citizens via a shrewdly drafted affidavit filed before the Supreme Court declaring that there was no evidence to show that Sri Ram ever existed; nor was there any "scientific evidence" to prove that the Ram Sethu was the bridge built by Sri Ram so vividly portrayed in so many of our sacred scriptures such as Valmiki and Tulsidas's Ramayan! How could such a blasphemous affidavit be filed in the court in such a nonchalant way and with total disregard for the worldwide Hindu sentiments?

The fact that such a sacred and important subject was dealt in such a lackadaisical manner speaks very poorly of the government and reflects its blatant disregard toward the religious sentiments of majority community. It might also be mentioned here how politically bankrupt these leaders must

be, who till yesterday were blaming other parties for exploiting the name of Ram and are today raising questions of His existence! Needless to say, the affidavit hurt the sentiments of all Hindus and caused worldwide antipathy and uproar. An embarrassed government withdrew the affidavit the very next day and sought more time from the court to study the implications of the project. However the damage was already done. The debacle sullied the image of the government especially since there was no attempt made to absolve its responsibility in the matter. Many international and local entities also condemned the "pseudo-secular" credentials of the government and are questioning whether this government would act in a similar manner when addressing the sentiments of other faiths. The questions remains: Was the affidavit a bureaucratic goof up or a surreptitiously orchestrated tirade of insult and calumny heaped on Hindu Dharma? Even as it continues to be confronted by a massive wave of worldwide Hindu umbrage, the Government's attitude remains belligerent and there appears to be no expression of apology or remorse from those responsible. However the damage done to the reputation of those in power is immense and irreversible, as their "Taliban" type intentions have now been exposed.

The current assault on our Hindu dharma is nothing new but an extension of centuries of unprovoked assaults. Hindu history is replete with accounts of the most atrocious attacks perpetrated on the peace loving Hindus in India. Murderous barbarians began to plunder India, which was known as the glorious Bharatvarsha almost 1400 years ago. By using treacherous and inhuman methods, these marauders succeeded in the destruction and plunder of the greatest civilisation that humanity has ever known—the Saraswati Civilisation which was completely decimated. Whereas in

other parts of Asia and Europe, the conquered populations quickly opted for conversion to Islam rather than face death, in India because of the unfaltering potency of the Sanatan Dharma, the Hindus remained steadfast in their belief and the Sanatan Dharma has continued to be the faith of over a billion people worldwide.

Today, nowhere on earth can you find such a rich and multi-layered tradition of heritage and wisdom known as Sanatan Dharma, which has remained unbroken and largely unchanged for at least five thousand years. Sanatan Dharma is gifted to us by the great rishis of the Vedic age. Sri Ram and Ramayan are the heart and soul of Sanatan Dharma. In spite of an onslaught of armies, and hostilities, the glorious name of Sri Ram has survived every invasion, every natural calamity, every deadly disease and outbreaks to remain as that ideal model of Divinity for a billion plus torch bearers who by their sheer numbers have demonstrated a greater cultural stamina than any other people on earth. Without a doubt, the essential basis of this insurmountable culture is the Sanatan Dharma and an intuitive conviction that the presence of Sri Ram is eminent in every moment of a person's life.

Ram Sethu of Ramayan is a God-given gift to over a billion Hindus who continue to receive inspiration from its story in the Ramayan, which conveys a timeless message of human compassion, loyalty, bravery and indelible devotion to Dharma. Apart from its spiritual significance, Ram Sethu's other attributes are more scientific and have a significant security value for the nation as it contains rich reserve of thorium, which is used as a nuclear fuel. Over the centuries, Ram Sethu has served as a natural barrier against tsunamis. When the waves of the last tsunami were swallowing up the residents of the islands and India's coastal areas, it was this

Ram Sethu, which stopped the dangerous waves from reaching Tamil Nadu and beyond.

By far the greatest feature of Ram Sethu has to be its strategic location, which has provided a natural security cordon against enemy ships as it prevents anti-Indian terrorists from entering Indian ports undetected. The proposed new port may be vulnerable to terrorist activities and could be used as a conduit to transport clandestine supplies to other countries in the region.

I believe that Sethusamudram Shipping Canal Project is an ill-conceived venture, which has been inaugurated without any detailed review of the impact of natural disasters such as a tsunami on the chosen alignment and it has ignored the views expressed by environmentalists, seismologists, oceanographers and concerns of people living along the coastline. This raises concerns of the absence of due diligence in preparing a project of such national and international significance and utter disregard for the concerns expressed about the environment or Ram Sethu's religious significance.

In my opinion, the campaign to save Ram Sethu should be of vital importance to any cultured person, without any connection to political identity or ideological stand. The campaign should become a campaign of national importance for, in the absence of the Ram Sethu, the enemies as well as natural disasters will expose vast areas of India to direct hits. In the event of a war, the canal would be vulnerable to a barrage of enemy ships, which would fire indiscriminately upon all targets in sight. This would be a sin not just against Mother Earth but also against our own children, our dharma and, indeed, the whole of mankind.

I therefore appeal to all people of India to unite and be part of this campaign. Responsible people need not stand idly by and allow this sacred monument and our fragile environment to be defiled. Your support is important to help us put a stop to destruction of a precious treasure that stands as a guard of our nation and also our national pride.

I also plead to the saints of India to remain silent no more and raise a peaceful movement for saving this precious inheritance of Treta Yuga and work for it unceasingly till the project of Sethusamudram canal gets cancelled. To take this movement on the height of success for all those who have deep faith in culture of Sri Ram is the foremost duty of every Indian citizen.

*(The author is founder of Vatsalya Gram, Vrindavan.)*



*HSS Hong Kong celebrated Vijayadashmi (Dasherra) on 20th October 2007 at Activity Centre, Kowloon Park.*

# THE HISTORICITY OF LORD RAM

- *Nirmal Laungani*

Recently, a big controversy was created by the ASI, with the subtle backing of the Indian Government, casting aspersions on the historicity of Lord Ram.

There are basically two ways to answer this – the first being the evidence of Lord Ram's divinity, and the second being the proof of whether Lord Ram existed at all

***The divinity of Lord Ram***

"You cannot prove the existence of GOD in the laboratory". Many of our Western-educated secularists are fond of claiming that there is no evidence that Ramchandra was actually GOD – does this mean that these people have "scientific evidences" that Jesus Christ was born of a virgin mother? The debate about Lord Ram's divinity is the same as the debate on whether GOD exists or not? As simple as that. This is not the subject of this article, as it is a very vast subject. It is a matter of faith. Hindus in India and across the world, and many Buddhists in South Asia, absolutely believe that Lord Ram is GOD, and this number is over 1 billion strong. This includes people across the entire spectrum of the society, and includes professionals like doctors, engineers and scientists. Should the beliefs of $1/6^{th}$ of the world's humanity be dismissed in this manner?

Anyone who wants to be a doctor has to study medicine, read thick medical books and also be professionally trained, before he can actually qualify as a doctor. In the same manner, anyone who wants to

learn about GOD, has to read the Vedic scriptures, understand them, meditate or sing devotional songs, perform rituals, etc, before he or she can proclaim that GOD does not exist. To claim that GOD does not exist because HE "cannot be seen", the answer that should be given is whether we possess the qualified eyes to see GOD. Can we see what is going on in the next room? Can we see the sun when it is covered by the clouds? If one is really determined to see GOD, then one must follow the proper method, and if gradually one does become a great devotee or yogi, one can definitely see GOD.

As they say, "the proof is in the pudding", so if at all the Ramayana or Mahabharat were simply myths, then why is it that highly-educated Westerners are so enamored of Hinduism? Why is it that the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) has hundreds of thousands of Western followers all over the world, attracted to the divine personalities of Lord Ram and Lord Krishna? If one looks at their profile, one realizes that a lot of them are highly intelligent, some of them being scientists and leaders in their societies. If it was ultimately just a legend, would such non-Indian persons ever believe in this, and follow the Vedic culture perhaps even more strictly than it is being practiced in India.

Another argument - in the country that is considered as the leader in today's world, the United States of America, more than 15% of the populace believe in re-incarnation, practice yoga and meditation. When one meditates and chants OM seriously, one is already acknowledging the fact that GOD exists.

The miracle of GANESHA drinking milk in 1995 can also be stressed. Even those scientists, who only believe in "seeing is believing" formula could see that people were indeed feeding milk to the statues of Lord Ganesh and HE was indeed drinking it, but only for those particular days. When it was tried later, the miracle didn't work, discounting such claims that the statue would *anyway* drink milk. The milk-drinking was only for a particular time. And yet, when asked to explain this, these (but not all) scientists refused to concede defeat. Isn't it amazing that despite seeing all of this with their eyes and the event being broadcast live on TV, skeptics still dismissed it with their newly created theories, forgetting their pet theory of "seeing is believing". So, the less said about such persons, the better

However, as mentioned earlier, the debate of the divinity of Lord Ram or rather, the existence vs non-existence of GOD is a vast one, and not the principal object of this article.

***The background behind the denial of Lord Ram's historicity***

Those who say that there are not sufficient reasons to prove the existence of Lord Ram are either ignorant or motivated liars. For those who are ignorant, there are many evidences available of Lord Ram's existence, but for those Marxist historians who have their own ideas about history and cannot see reason, it is no use wasting time. If a person is blind, he should be helped. But, if a person pretends to be blind, nothing can be done

Many Marxist / leftist / pseudo secularists have mentioned that it surely cannot be determined if Lord Ram existed. These persons claim that Valmiki's Ramayana is simply a work of literature, a work of fiction.

And yet, Valmiki has very cleared proclaimed the Ramayana to be an *itihasa* or a work of history. The way the Ramayana is written should have left no one with any doubt that it was a narration of events *that took place.* It was written as a historical document, not as a Mills and Boons storybook. The same thing with the Mahabharat written by Veda Vyasa

N.S.Rajaram in his masterly book, "Search for the Historical Krishna" basically sums it all up. He says that before the advent of the Europeans and their study of Indian history and tradition, it had occurred to no one to question the historicity of Krishna". In fact, Rajaram also points out that not just Hindus, but even "medieval Muslim scholars and even ancient Greeks accepted Krishna as a historical figure. Buddhist and Jain scriptures, while often hostile to Krishna, nonethless accepted his historicity"

The same thing with Lord Ram. Before the Europeans came to the picture, there was not an iota of doubt that Lord Ram existed – one has to just read all the literature available, ancient / medieval to find that Lord Ram was believed to have existed.

Why did the Europeans doubt the writings of the Ramayana or the Mahabharat had less to do with them examining these scriptures' historical credentials and more to do with their (the Europeans) Christian origins. Vedic scriptures spoke of hundreds of thousands of

years' history, the Western historians of that time believed the earth had been created just 6,000 years back (according to their Christian beliefs), so were unable to comprehend the Vedic scriptures with their own Christian training. Of course, many of them had a disdain for anything Indian and especially Hindu – after all they thought of themselves as the masters and Indians as their subjects. They were not ready to concede that they were ruling over a civilization far more ancient and civilized than their's. Thus, they concluded that the Vedic scriptures were just fanciful stories and legends.

The problem is that while the British historians / linguists had their own motivated reasons, a majority of the Marxist / Indian historians in the 21st century continue to follow what was written in the 19th century. There has been no real progress / proper unbiased follow – up to what archaeological discoveries of the past 50 years have shown. The tragedy has been that all of these Marxist historians are the ones who have, since independence commanded all the prestigious institutions in the country, no doubt having been nurtured by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (the 'closet" Communist) and Indira Gandhi (the "opportunistic" socialist). Extremely dictatorial in nature, these Marxists have not allowed any genuine historian who opposed their viewpoints to survive – such persons who dared to cross swords with them have been refused funds, banished and purged. Arun Shourie in his masterpiece, "Eminent Historians……" has detailed the functioning of these Marxist historians, who live in a "fossiled" world created by Karl Marx. Because Marx had spoken derogatory words about India, by saying that Indians had no history, and that the history of India was in reality, the story of the foreign invader, so

his Marxist descendants in India have regarded his words as their "prime goal".

Even when archaeologists and scholars have shown that the ancient mighty Saraswati river did exist, with pictures of satellite imagery, these "eminent historians" (as Arun Shourie called them), insisted that no matter what the finds showed, the Saraswati *could not exist!* Where it has been researched by various scholars that there was no such thing as an Aryan invasion and it was pure mental concoction, these eminent historians have questioned the status of such scholars, and have decried them as communalists. No attempt is ever made by this group to study anything that is not in conformity to what they claim. In short, any new findings "must match" with their theories. If they can be polished and custom-made to fit their claims, well and good. Otherwise, such findings will be dismissed by them as not worthy of their attention.

They have utterly failed to upgrade and re-interpret Indian history in lieu of new discoveries made. A Vishnu idol found in Russia dated back to the 7th century should have seen a lot of interest and subsequent research done by these eminent historians – after all, it showed the global reach of Indian civilization, all the way to Europe as early as the 7th century. But no, these Marxist characters would simply not comment or pay any attention.

When Indians go to Thailand, they are amazed by the statues of GANESH and BRAHMA throughout the country, as well as a massive sculpture of the scene describing the churning of the milk-ocean (from the Bhagwat Purana) right in the heart of Bangkok's new international airport. They get shocked that Hinduism

is the major religion practiced in Bali. They are stunned to hear that the world's largest Hindu temple, by far, is not even in India, but in distant Cambodia. They are at a complete loss of words when they learn that throughout this region, people still keep Sanskrit first names, even when they may be Muslims by religion

All this bewilderment is due to the fact that history books in India do not teach anything about India's influence over this region. Did it just drop from the sky? If Indians navigated to these places, ruled or at least influenced local kings and the populace 2,000 or more years back, how dynamic must Indian society have been at that time. But, do we ever get a grasp of this when learning history in schools in India?

Prof. MGS Naryanan, the previous Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Researce (IHCR) and no friend himself to any Hindu organizations, has aptly summed up:

"Marxist historians are attempting to uphold the same imperialist views and to give them legitimacy with the use of theoretical jargon which has lost its relevance – this is the reason why there must be a vigorous effort to apply scrictly scientific methods to review and re-evaluate the chronological frame work, periodisation and contents of Indian history from the beginning to the present day. The Eurocentric approach has to be replaced by an Indocentric approach and the past is to be used properly for facing the challenges of the modern times".

There are hundreds of books written to expose the workings-on of these eminent historians, books written by David Frawley, S.R.Rao, S.P.Gupta, Koenraad Elst,

Stephen Knapp, Linda Johnsen, etc; a gentle click on the internet will take the searcher to scores of such websites, all of them with evidences and proofs to explain what has been going on in the Indian academic world, especially concerning history. Thus, it is not possible to cover all of this in this article. But, it is important for the reader to understand that all of these distortions form an important background to why the existence of Lord Ram or Lord Krishna is still denied.

## ***The historicity of Lord Ram***

Valmiki was the first person to write the history of the Ramayana, in which the story's principal character is Lord Ram. The birth of Lord Ram, his education, his marriage to Seeta, his exile to the forest with Lakshmana and Seeta, killing of various *asuras* in the forest, Seeta's kidnapping by Ravana, Ram's meeting with Hanuman and the *vanaras*, their location of Seeta at Lanka, building the bridge to Lanka, the fight with Ravana, and the eventual return of Ram to Ayodhya – all of these have been described by Valmiki, and declared by him as a "piece of history – *itihasa*"

For any confirmation of a historical work or person, the very first thing that has to be verified is further "literary evidence", meaning, has Lord Ram been described in other literatures or by other persons? Thus, we see that along with the Mahabharat, the Ramayana is the most important work to have been written / translated / verified in other Indian languages as well as in languages across South East Asia. If one looks at Valmiki's Ramayana or at the other Ramayanas translated in the other Indian languages as well as the ones in South-East Asia, the readers will realize that there is not one Ramayana where any of the authors

has cast any doubts that Lord Ram actually existed. To the contrary, each of the Ramayanas, including the Thai Ramayana, are very firm that not only did HE exist, but also that he was divine.

If at all, Valmiki had been writing a work of fiction, at least some of the later writers should have pointed out that the story of Ram, while being interesting, was ultimately only a legend. But, NO. Each of the writers has confirmed the existence of Lord Ram. A crude example can be given. Anyone familiar with mystery / detective novels such as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes creation, are familiar that Sherlock Holmes was nothing but a fictitious character. In case, someone should have missed the introduction of Sir Doyle, future references to Sherlock Holmes in other mystery novels leave no one in doubt. For example, the famed writer of mysteries, Agatha Christie, has pointed out through her own creation, Hercule Poirot, that Sherlock Holmes and Dr.Watson were simply fictitious characters.

So, the question is, if any of the writers had doubted the authenticity of Lord Ram, shouldn't at least one of them have thrown light on it?

Besides those who translated the Ramayana, other ancient and medieval texts are also full of references to Lord Ram. This has been documented, and a lot of it accepted even by Marxists, especially pertaining to the Bhakti period. And, here too Lord Ram is definitely believed to have existed.

The second point of importance is the fact that at all of the places mentioned in the Ramayana, the locals residing in that place, absolutely believe that their place

is the same as mentioned in the Ramayana. Thus, Ayodhya, the birthplace or Lord Ram, is a great pilgrimage place, full of temples. Janakpuri is the place where Seeta was born, and one of Nepal's most famous *tirtha.* Chitrakoot, the place where the brothers met, Kishkinda (Anegundi), the capital of Vali / Sugreeva, Rameshwaram, where the bridge was constructed to Lanka and also the place where Lord Ram worshipped Lord Shiva, etc, all of these places are still visited by pilgrims and devotees. The place where Seeta was held a prisoner (Ashok Vatika) is still there in Sri Lanka, venerated by both Hindus and Buddhists. The local inhabitants in those places, from generations to generations, have had no doubt that Lord Ram had indeed, lived in or passed by through their town / village.

A famous scholar on Ramayana, Shri Ram Avatar, has done massive research on places visited by Lord Ram during his 14 years of exile, as described in Valmiki's Ramayana. He started from Ayodhya and went right upto Rameshwaram, and found 195 places which still have memorials / temples to Lord Ram and Seeta, with the special event that occurred in THEIR lives at that particular place, being accorded a special status. If this is not a case of historical places corroborating a historical work, then what exactly is it?

The third significant matter, and especially relevant in fixing the date of the Ramayana, is the astronomical evidence. Shri Saroj Bala, in his monumental article "A real life hero, not figment of a poet's imagination" has done a yeoman service in this cause. His article, published in the Sunday Tribune, can be accessed at www.tribuneindia.com/2003/20031012/spectrum/main6.htm , it is indeed a very interesting article.

And finally, we come to the archaeological evidences.

At Ayodhya, the birthplace of Lord Ram, Professor B.B.Lal, a former director of ASI and a person of so much repute and fame that even a committed Marxist historian, Romila Thapar has had to acknowledge his expertise in archaeology, had during his excavations concluded that the township of Ayodhya was at least 3,000 years old, if not more……(historians are known to put a conservative date, but even this leaves no one in doubt that a civilization existed in Ayodhya at least, repeat AT LEAST 3,000 years back)

In the wake of the demolition of the Babri structure in 1992, eight eminent archaeologists, among them former ASI directors Dr.YD Sharma, Dr. KM Srivastava, Prof.S.P.Gupta discovered many religious sculptures, including a beautiful statue of Lord Vishnu (Lord Ram is regarded as an incarnation of Lord Vishnu). The other objects found included terracotta Hindu images at least 2,000 years old as well as Vaishnav deities and those of Shiva-Parvati.

Later, at the directive of the Allahbad Bench of the Uttar Pradesh High Court, excavations were carried out between May 22nd and June 6th, 2003, and a report prepared by the ASI, which examined the site, concluded that there was clear evidence of a large Hindu temple having pre-existed the Babri mosque. The ASI report mentions a huge structure (11th-12th century) on which a massive edifice, having a large pillared hall (or two halls) with at least three structural phases and three successive floors attached with it were constructed later on"

About the significant Hari-Vishnu inscription, inscribed on a 1.10 x 0.56 meter slab with 20 lines, this was dated to the early 12th century. It was described by Ajay Mitra Shastri, Chairman of the Epigraphical Society of India and a specialist in Epigraphy and Numismatics that the "inscription is composed in high-flowing Sanskrit verse……and clearly tells that a beautiful temple of Vishnu-Hari, built with heaps of stone and beautified with a golden spire was unparalleled by any other temple built by earlier kings".

Of course, this temple was destroyed by Babur. Besides establishing the fact that Ayodhya was one of the most important pilgrimage places in India at that time, there are two other significant points, namely:

the inscription is dated to 1140, but the temple must have been constructed much earlier
just from excavations carried out on the demolished site, so much was excavated. If further excavations were carried out with an open mind and without any ideological baggage, a lot more discoveries would be made, just in Ayodhya itself

Besides Ayodhya itself, we also have the evidence of the Ram Sethu, the bridge between India and Sri Lanka during the Ramayana age, in Rameshwaram, which the Indian Government is hell-bent on destroying.

Actually NASA (www.2.jpl.nasa.gov/srtm/srilanka.htm) has acknowledged it to be a man-made structure. During her recent visit to India, NASA astronaut Sunita Williams even said that while circulating the space, she took out pictures of the man-made Ram Sethu

The Marine and Water Resources Group, Space Application Center, Ahmedabad had done research and proved that the Ram Sethu was definitely a man-made structure.

On 1st August, one of India's top geologist, Dr.Badrinarayan, in an interview with Drishtikone, www.drishtikone.com has declared firmly that the Ram Sethu was not a natural formation. He has also mentioned that the boulders seen were not a marine local formation, but had actually been dumped in order to use it as a causeway. He added, "The boulders on top of loose sand are transported to that place. As they are found above loose sand, it is quite obvious that they were brought and dumped there by somebody…….For 30km, nobody dumps materials like that. Obviously, it was dumped to use it to cross the sea. Moreover, they are compact and light. It is also quite obvious that the boulders were used to cross over because in all the bore holes, we made in the entire stretch of Adam's bridge, we saw the same material". Dr.Badrinarayanji has dated the man-made Ram Sethu structure as between 5,800 – 5,400 years old.

Anyone familiar with the Ramayana knows that Valmiki describes the construction of the Ram Sethu in 85 *shlokas.* But the construction of this bridge is also mentioned in the Mahabharat, Skanda Purana, Vishnu Purana, Agni Purana, Brahma Purana, Kurma Purana, Garuda Purana an Narada Purana. Besides the religious texts, Ram Sethu also finds a mention in the 5th century writings of the king, Damodara Sen.

One has to just browse through www.learnnc.org/lp/multimedia/2616 to learn the powerful impact that the Ram Sethu has on the culture

in Indonesia – in fact, the sculptures in the ancient temples of Java are full of the incidents connected with the *vanaras* carrying stones, to help Lord Ram build the bridge.

In the 13th century in Jaffna, Sri Lanka, coins were minted describing the Ram Sethu event. Chola-era copper plates as old as 10th century are available portraying the Ram Sethu.

So, you have the site (the Ram Sethu), the back-up literature, the sculpture (in India, Sri Lanka and South East Asia) and the opinion of the scientists and archaeologists of the existence of the Ram Sethu and thus, the validity of the Ramayana, and yet, yet the likes of Romila Thapar and Karunanidhi are not convinced.

Recently, Shri S.R.Rao, esteemed scientist and president of society for marine archaeology (who had earlier excavated a fortified city dated back to at least 1,500 BC on the Bet Dwarka in Gujarat and found remnants of Lord Krishna's Dwarka, which had sunk in the sea - Lord Krishna had ruled as a king in Dwarka, this discovery being a powerful evidence against the Marxist historians disputing Lord Krishna's existence), was quoted as saying (www.newindiapress.com of 17/9/07) that the Ramayana was not a myth as there were enough evidences to come to the conclusion that the Ramayana indeed happened.

He said that various sites including Hampi (Kishkinda), Bithur near Nagpur, Mahagara in Uttar Pradesh have yielded weapons, as described in the Ramayana. He mentioned, "Ramayana is built on a core of truth depicting the life of a particular people and period' and

said that "it had happened much before the Mahabharat". He concluded that there were "no negative evidences to say that Ramayana is a myth and it is unsupported by archaeological evidence"

This basically concludes this small article – my humble request to all those pseudo-secularists / brainwashed and ignorant Hindus, is not to fall in the trap of the Marxist historians. For them, "controlling" history is perhaps their last domain. Communism having collapsed everywhere in the world, except Cuba and North Korea (today's China is just a communist government, not society), and India's West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura, these people desperately want to hold on to whatever they can find. How good would it have been had these eminent historians taken a leaf out from their historian colleagues in China. When, recently there was an attempt made by some Westerners to deny the historicity of the great Chinese teacher, Confucius, these Chinese historians gave a fitting reply, showing that Confucius did exist

Hindus must wake up to their heritage – in the epigraph of the Consitution of India, which was signed by all the members of the Consitutuent Assembly, the figure of Shri Ram has been shown in the background as our great ancestor. Notably, Shri Ram is also considered as a great historical and divine personality all over South-East Asia. The Ramayana is loved by them, as much by us. Valmiki describes Lord Ram as "vigrahavaan Dharmah", which literally means "the very embodiment of truth". Let us all try to follow the noble ideals as shown by Lord Ram.

***JAI SIYA RAM***

# INSIDE SECULAR INDIA.....

## Ant & Grasshopper - the old story

The Ant works hard in the withering heat all summer building its house and laying up supplies for the winter.

The Grasshopper thinks the Ant is a fool and laughs & dances & plays the summer away.

Come winter, the Ant is warm and well fed. The Grasshopper has no food or shelter so he dies out in the cold.

**Modern Version**

The Ant works hard in the withering heat all summer building its house and laying up supplies for the winter.

The Grasshopper thinks the Ant's a fool and laughs & dances & plays the summer away.

Come winter, the shivering Grasshopper calls a press conference and demands to know why the Ant should be allowed to be warm and well fed while others are cold and starving.

NDTV, BBC, CNN show up to provide pictures of the shivering Grasshopper next to a video of the Ant in his comfortable home with a table filled with food.

The World is stunned by the sharp contrast. How can this be that this poor Grasshopper is allowed to suffer so?

Arundhati Roy stages a demonstration in front of the Ant's house.

Medha Patkar goes on a fast along with other Grasshoppers

demanding that Grasshoppers be relocated to warmer climates during winter.

Amnesty International and Koffi Annan criticize the Indian Government for not upholding the fundamental rights of the Grasshopper.

The Internet is flooded with online petitions seeking support for the Grasshopper (many promising Heaven and Everlasting Peace for prompt support as against the wrath of God for non-compliance).

Opposition MPs stage a walkout. Left parties call for "Bharat Bandh" in West Bengal and Kerala demanding a Judicial Enquiry.

CPM in Kerala immediately passes a law preventing Ants from working hard in the heat so as to bring about equality of poverty among Ants and Grasshoppers.

Lalu Prasad allocates one free coach to Grasshoppers on all Indian Railway Trains, aptly named as the 'Grasshopper Rath'

Finally, the Judicial Committee drafts the 'Prevention of Terrorism Against Grasshoppers Act' [POTAGA], with effect from the beginning of the winter.

Arjun Singh makes 'Special Reservation ' for Grasshoppers in Educational Institutions & in Government Services.

The Ant is fined for failing to comply with POTAGA and having nothing left to pay his retroactive taxes, it's home is confiscated by the Government and handed over to the Grasshopper in a ceremony covered by NDTV.

Arundhati Roy calls it 'A Triumph of Justice'.

Lalu calls it 'Socialistic Justice '.

CPM calls it the 'Revolutionary Resurgence of the Downtrodden'

Koffi Annan invites the Grasshopper to address the UN General Assembly.

**Many years later...**

The Ant has since migrated to the US and set up a multi-billion dollar company in Silicon Valley ..

100s of Grasshoppers still die of starvation despite reservation somewhere in India ....

As a result of loosing lot of hard working Ants and feeding the Grasshoppers, India is still a developing country!!!




# The Union Territory of BHARAT

## ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

Area:- 8,249 SQ.KM  Population:- 356,152
UT Capital:- Port Blair  Main Language: Hindi, Bengali and Tamil

Famous touristic places: Port Blair, Cinque Islands, Chiriya Tapu, Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park, Radhanagar Beach, Sitapur Beach, Saddle Peak, Mount Harriet, Ross Island, Narcondum, Barren Island, Lalaji Bay, Ariel Bay, Nancowry

THE ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR GROUP IS MADE UP OF A STRING OF ABOUT 556 ISLANDS / ISLETS, WHICH ARE FORMED BY A SUBMARINE MOUNTAIN RANGE WHICH DIVIDES THE BAY OF BENGAL FROM THE ANDAMAN SEA. THE ISLANDS LIE BETWEEN LATITUDES 6 – 14 DEGREES NORTH AND LONGITUDE OF 92 TO 94 DEGREES EAST IN THE BAY OF BENGAL. THE HIGHEST PEAK IS SADDLE PEAK, LOCATED IN NORTH ISLAND AT 732 METERS. THE ANDAMANS TO THE NORTH ARE SEPERATED FROM THE NICOBARS BY A 900 METER DEEP 150KM STRAIT. ONLY 38 ISLANDS ARE INHABITED, OUT OF WHICH 25 ARE IN THE ANDAMANS, AND THE REST IN NICOBARS. THE TOTAL AREA OF THE ANDAMANS IS 6,408 SQ.KM WHILE THE NICOBARS, HAVING JUST 20 ISLANDS, HAS AN AREA OF 1,841 SQ.KM. THE LARGEST ISLAND IS MIDDLE ANDAMAN ISLAND (1,536 SQ.KM) AND THE SMALLEST INHABITED ISLAND IS CURLEW ISLAND IN HE ANDAMANS (0.03 SQ.KM). THE ISLANDS ARE A NATURALIST'S HEAVEN WITH THE CANOPIED RAIN FORESTS HARBOURING A VERY RICH COLLECTION. 3,000 SPECIES OF PLANTS INCLUDE MANGROVES, EPIPHYTES, PALMS, WOODY CLIMBERS, VALUABLE TIMBERS AND A WIDE VARIETY OF TROPICAL FRUITS. MARINE FAUNA IS PARTICULARLY DIVERSE. THE ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS ARE AMONG THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND SPECTACULAR ISLANDS IN THE WORLD, AND BY AND LARGE REMAIN UNTOUCHED AND REMOTE. FOR ALL PATRIOTIC PEOPLE, THESE ISLANDS HOLD A GREAT SIGNIFICANCE AS NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE FIRST RAISED THE INDIAN TRICOLOR OVER HERE IN 1943. ALSO, THE CELLULAR JAIL LOCATED IN PORT BLAIR USED TO HOUSE THE REVOLUTIONARIES WHO WERE SENT BY THE BRITISH AND WERE TREATED EXTREMELY BADLY AND INHUMANELY. TOURISTS VISITING FROM THE MAINLAND ALWAYS MAKE IT A POINT TO VISIT THIS CELLULAR JAIL AND PAY THEIR RESPECTS TO THE MEMORIES OF ALL THOSE WHO FOUGHT FOR MOTHER INDIA. MANY PEOPLE FEEL THAT THE BRITISH WERE THE FIRST TO ESTABLISH THEIR RULE OVER THESE ISLANDS, WHICH IS COMPLETELY WRONG. ACTUALLY, THESE ISLANDS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A PART OF INDIA, AND AS LATE AS THE $17^{TH}$ CENTURY, THE MARATHAS LED BY KANOHJI ANGRE, RULED OVER THESE ISLANDS, USING THEM AS A BASE TO FIGHT WITH THE EUROPEAN POWERS.

# KNOW YOUR HINDI

This is our twenty fourth article about Hindi language. In our previous issues, we had mentioned that the so-called Hindi language is not spoken and written at its entire purity by the masses but is a mixture of mainly Farsi (Persian), Arabic and Turkish words. In Hindi movies, over 80% dialogues spoken use Farsi and Arabic words. In this issue, we continue the series of listing 10 such foreign words very commonly used in Hindi and have mentioned the apt Hindi word for it. It is about time that we should make an attempt to speak and write our national language as purely as possible.

| WORD | ORIGIN | CORRECT HINDI WORD | MEANING IN ENGLISH |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| Hairaan | Arabic | Chakit / Vyagra | Surprised / Perplexed |
| Hungama | Farsi | Kolahal | Turmoil |
| Hadd | Arabic | Seema | Limit |
| Hafta | Farsi | Saptah | Week |
| Oasat | Arabic | Madhyakalan | Average |
| Dukaan | Farsi | Hatti | Shop |
| Makaan | Farsi | Ghar | House |
| Baazaar | Farsi | Mandi / Hatta | Market |
| Saabit | Farsi | Pramarit / Siddh | Prove |
| Faiyada | Arabic | Laabh | Gain |

# *Children corner*

Two daring men were walking home late in the night and decided to take a shortcut through the cemetery. Right in the middle of the cemetery, they were startled by a tap-tap-tapping noise coming from the misty shadows.

Trembling with fear, they found an old man with a hammer and chisel, chipping away at one of the headstones.

"Sir," one of them said after catching his breath, "You scared us half to death -- we thought you were a ghost! What are you doing working here so late at night?"

"Those fools!" the old man grumbled. "They misspelled my name on the headstones, so I was correcting it!"

The doctor told the patient's wife, "Your husband must have rest and quiet. I am going to prescribe these sleeping pills".

"Thank you, doctor", said the wife, "when do I give them to him?"

"Oh, said the doctor, "You are making a mistake – the pills are for you, or else there is no way that your husband will be cured!!!!!!!!!!"

With Compliments from:-

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