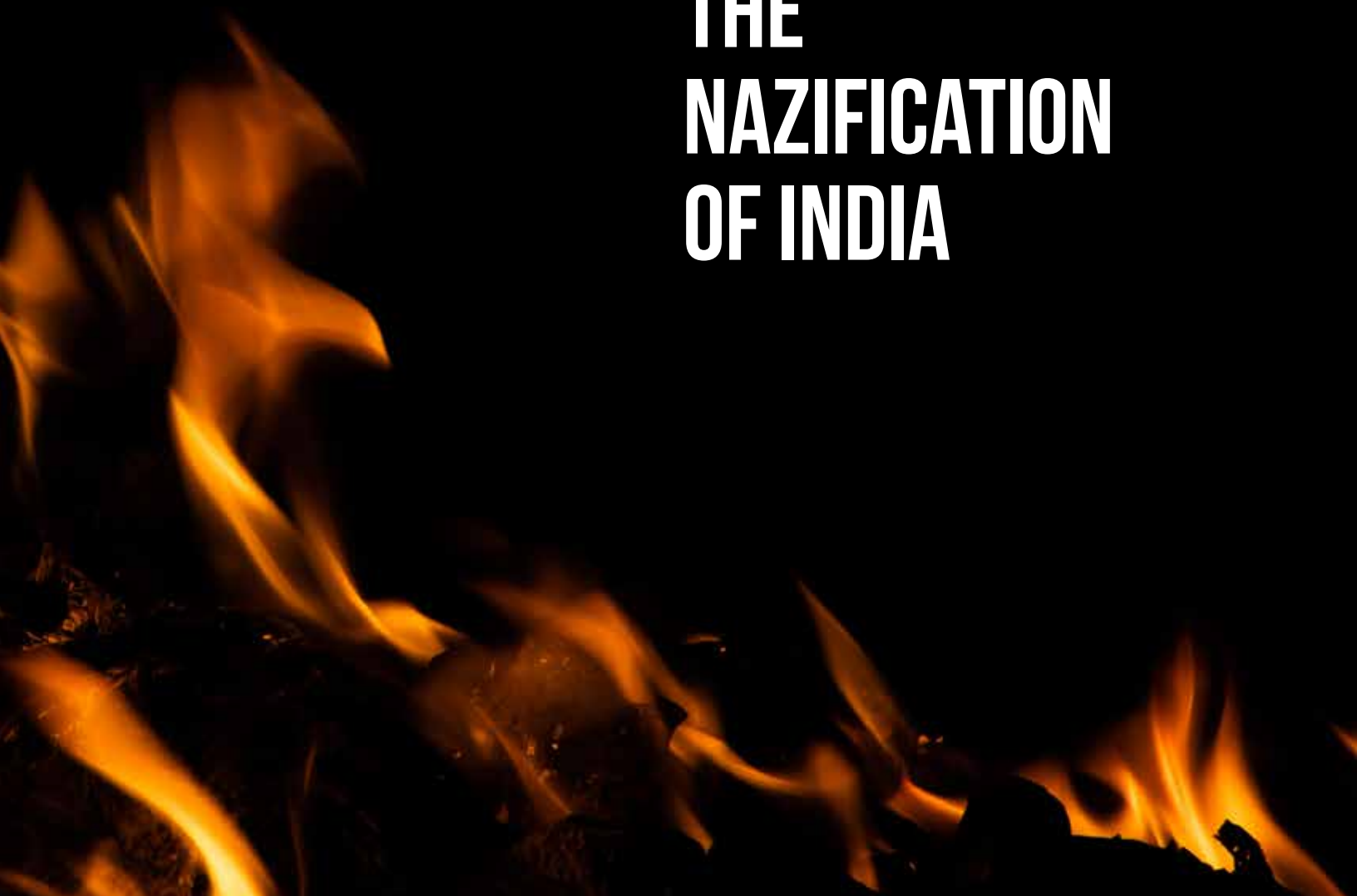




# THE NAZIFICATION OF INDIA



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Professor Angana Chatterji seems to be the first scholar to use the construct “Nazification of India” in her March 9, 2020 article for Berkley Center of the Georgetown University, entitled “Citizenship Laws and the Nazification of India.” [tinyurl.com/Chatterji](https://tinyurl.com/Chatterji)

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**HAARETZ** 

**Opinion | Hitler's Hindus: The Rise and Rise of India's Nazi-loving Nationalists**

The 'Hitler's Den' pool parlor that shocked me on a round-India trip 10 years ago was no outlier. Admiration for Nazism – often reframed with a genocidal hatred for Muslims – is rampant in the Hindu nationalist camp, which has never been as mainstream as it is now

Haaretz is the largest running Israeli newspaper. It published this article on Dec 14, 2017: [t.ly/U8B6](https://tinyurl.com/U8B6)

**“India is becoming a Hindu-fascist enterprise.”**

**Arundhati Roy** The author of *The God of Small Things*, which won the Booker Prize in 1997: [tinyurl.com/IndianNazis](https://tinyurl.com/IndianNazis)

**“India is a Fascist State.”**

**Rana Ayyub** An Indian award-winning journalist and a Washington Post columnist: [tinyurl.com/IndianFascism](https://tinyurl.com/IndianFascism)

**“The Holocaust began with the Jewish. But it did not end with the Jews.”**

**Simon Wiesenthal** A Nobel Peace Laureate and a Holocaust survivor: [tinyurl.com/DidNotEnd](https://tinyurl.com/DidNotEnd)



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# Preface

The Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, presided over a pogrom that killed 2,000 people, mostly Muslims. This was in 2002, when he was the Chief Minister of Gujarat, India.

Because of his role in this violence, Modi was banned from entering the United States for ten years. According to a documentary released by BBC in January 2023, a British government investigative team concluded that he was directly responsible for the pogrom of Muslims in Gujarat. Jack Straw, Britain's Foreign Secretary at the time, told the BBC that Modi played an active role in encouraging Hindu extremists to attack Muslims and discouraging police from protecting them. Quoting the police response to the pleas of Muslims, the April 2002 Human Rights Watch report about the Gujarat pogrom was titled "We Have No Orders To Save You."

Modi not only got away with facilitating a pogrom but he was also elected the Prime Minister of India—twice. How did that happen? That question is explored in the pages to follow, but the answer can be summed up in this way: the Hinduization of India under a joint political-paramilitary partnership between the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the parent paramilitary movement called the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS).

And while Modi's fortunes continue to rise in India, India's positioning around the world continues to fall. The Freedom House downgraded India in 2021 to "partially free." The Economist Intelligence Unit's Democracy Index has placed the world's largest democracy in the category of "Flawed Democracy". In 2022 Reporters Without Borders placed India among the worst countries in terms of media freedom, ranking it 150th out of 180 countries.

This report explains how the BJP-RSS are establishing the ideology of Hindu supremacy called "Hindutva." And as Hindutva draws inspiration from Nazi ideologies, the result is the Nazification of India.

Indian Christians and Dalits are equal victims of the Nazification of India at the hands of the BJP-RSS machine. This report, however, focuses on Indian Muslims, who are the prime target.

We are thankful to the report authors, Sadaf A. and Faiza Zainab Khan; our editors, Dr. Katherine Bullock, Farhana Kara Motala and Abdul Akeeb Shaikh; and our graphic designer, Abdullah Ibrahim.

Zahir Adil  
Lead  
Save India from Fascism  
Justice For All

## **A note on the term The BJP-RSS Regime:**

This report uses the terms "The BJP-RSS regime" and "The BJP-RSS machine." The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is the political arm of a paramilitary movement called the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS). The Prime Minister and many cabinet members are both members of the RSS, and the RSS chief is guarded with VVIP state security in India. Because the BJP's government policies are linked to extra-legal enforcement by RSS paramilitary street power, we have coined the term "The BJP-RSS regime" and "The BJP-RSS machine" to reflect their intrinsic links and collaborative relationship. They are a single machine after the same hateful goal—the Hinduization of India—much as the Nazis were a single machine.

# The Holocaust Did Not Occur in a Vacuum

The Holocaust is one of the greatest modern tragedies. The carnage of the Holocaust did not occur in a vacuum, but rather after a sustained campaign of hate that included fear mongering and dehumanization of Jews. The horrors of the Holocaust compelled research into indicators of genocide. Scholars and human rights activists are now able to identify patterns and stages leading up to a genocide. Early signs include symbolization and dehumanization.<sup>1</sup>

Muslims in India are suffering the same type of “othering” and demonization that the Jewish population faced under the Nazi regime.<sup>2</sup> This is not surprising as the Hindutva ideology of India’s ruling party draws its inspiration from Nazi supremacist ideology.<sup>3</sup> India’s equivalent of the Nazi party, the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), applies this derived ideology in its teachings and actions. Narendra Modi’s ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is the political arm of the RSS, which itself operates as a paramilitary organization.<sup>4</sup> The chief of the RSS is given government VVIP security.<sup>5</sup>

The slogan “Never Again,” said after the horrors of the Holocaust, still echoes throughout the world. However, that promise rings hollow, as the international community remains unwilling to prevent new genocides. Governments remain largely silent on the Modi government’s Hindu supremacist agenda and the growing marginalization and persecution of Muslims and other minorities.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was born out of the desire to prevent future flagrant violations of human rights. It lays out universal human rights such as equality and human dignity, which the global community must recognize to ensure peace. When incitement of hate, marginalization, dehumanization, and persecution become commonplace in a society, it is crucial that the international community acts to ensure that history does not repeat itself.

In this report we aim to outline and draw comparisons between Adolf Hitler’s Nazi regime and Narendra Modi’s Nazi inspired the BJP-RSS regime. This is not meant to deny the vast scale of evil and suffering perpetrated by the Nazi Government in Germany. Instead, we hope that this report will provide deeper insight into the very real and present dangers that 200 million Indian Muslims are facing and the realization that Hindutva must be condemned as an abhorrent ideology in the same way that Nazism is.

**“Genocide is a process. The Holocaust did not start with the gas chambers. It started with hate speech.”**

**Adama Dieng, UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide**

<sup>1</sup> <http://genocidewatch.net/genocide-2/8-stages-of-genocide/>

<sup>2</sup> While other Indian minorities also face persecution, Muslims are the primary targets of orchestrated pogroms.

<sup>3</sup> Hindutva’s Foreign Tie-Up in the 1930s: Archival Evidence; <https://www.jstor.org/stable/4408848> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>4</sup> India’s RSS Has Played A Powerful Role In The Rise Of Hindu Nationalism; <https://www.npr.org/2019/05/03/706808616/the-powerful-group-shaping-the-rise-of-hindu-nationalism-in-india> (accessed 2021-12-11)

<sup>5</sup> <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/rss-chief-mohan-bhagwat-gets-z-vvip-security-cover/articleshow/47573732.cms> (accessed 2022-2-25)

# The Nazi Party is Analogous to India's RSS

**The Nazi Party** (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei) was both the propagator of Nazi ideology and a political party. Formed in 1920 as the German Workers' Party by Anton Drexler, Adolf Hitler took over its leadership in 1921.<sup>6</sup> In 1933, as Hitler was named the Chancellor of Germany, he moved to ensure all senior government officials were members of the party.<sup>7</sup>

The Nazi Party had several strong-arm groups that served to protect its meetings and public rallies. While members of these groups were drawn from different paramilitary groups, they were organized under the Sturmabteilung (SA), and then later the Schutzstaffel (SS). The squads were later unified with other security agencies under the leadership of Heinrich Himmler.<sup>8</sup> Under his leadership, the SS squashed any dissent and achieved subordination of the general German population.

Hitler realized the power of propaganda, and in 1933 appointed Joseph Goebbels as Reich Minister for Propaganda and Public Enlightenment.<sup>9</sup> Goebbels' main task was to project a positive image of the Nazi party and rally people behind its message and leadership. The extermination of Jews was not merely driven by political need: the Nazis believed Jews were impure and needed to be removed from Germany; they methodologically planned and implemented the genocide of Jews and other minorities.<sup>10</sup>

**The Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS)**, formed in 1925, is the Indian equivalent of the Nazi party. While it borrows from Nazi teachings, it works differently. The RSS is not in itself a political party, it is a paramilitary organization that operates via many different branches.<sup>11</sup> (See figure 2) One such branch, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), serves as its political arm. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi, most of his cabinet, and many members of the Indian parliament are followers of the RSS and its Hindutva ideology.<sup>12</sup>

RSS paramilitary troops mobilize mobs for violence, while a dedicated information technology department, known as the IT Cell, pushes its propaganda, rallying people behind its ideology, isolating moderates, neutralizing opposing media, and targeting human rights activists and minorities for the benefit of BJP politicians and policies.<sup>13, 14</sup>

RSS organizes 60,929 daily military drills in their units called Shakhas.<sup>15</sup> These drills are attended by 500,000 people daily. It also runs 10,000 weekly social media cell meetings across India.<sup>16</sup> The combined power of the BJP government and the street power of the paramilitary RSS define the Hindutva force.

<sup>6</sup> Nazi Party, Definition, History; <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Nazi-Party> (accessed 2021-12-18)

<sup>7</sup> *ibid*

<sup>8</sup> SS, Holocaust Encyclopedia; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/ss#> (accessed 2022-2-4)

<sup>9</sup> Joseph Goebbels; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/joseph-goebbels-1> (accessed 2021-12-18)

<sup>10</sup> Hilberg Raul, The Destruction of the European Jews. Holmes & Meier, 1985

<sup>11</sup> How the RSS operates within India's constitution; <https://hindutvawatch.org/how-the-rss-as-an-organizational-structure-operates-within-the-indian-constitution/> (accessed 2021-12-18)

<sup>12</sup> Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Britannica; <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Bharatiya-Janata-Party> (accessed 2022-02-04)

<sup>13</sup> Who are India's RSS; <https://observers.france24.com/en/20200302-who-are-india%E2%80%99-rss-hindu-nationalists-accused-violence-towards-muslims> (accessed 2021-12-18)

<sup>14</sup> How the BJP used technology; <https://www.cigionline.org/articles/how-bjp-used-technology-secure-modis-second-win> (accessed 2021-12-18)

<sup>15</sup> Over 60,000 RSS shakhas running across country at present; <https://thenewsmen.co.in/article/over-60000-rss-shakhas-running-across-country-at-present/65970> also <https://observers.france24.com/en/20200302-who-are-india%E2%80%99-rss-hindu-nationalists-accused-violence-towards-muslims> (accessed 2023-2-12)

<sup>16</sup> Number of shakhas has doubled in 10 years: RSS leader; <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/number-of-shakhas-has-doubled-in-10-years-rss-leader/article29096977.ece> (accessed 2023-2-12)



The following table compares Nazi ideology and practice with that of India's BJP-RSS regime. The rest of the report will examine each comparison in more depth.

Figure 1

# Comparing Nazis with Indian BJP-RSS

German Nazis	Indian BJP-RSS
Sought to establish Aryan supremacy	Seeks to establish Hindu supremacy <sup>17</sup>
Anti-Semitism and vilification of Jewish population as political agenda	Islamophobia and vilification of Muslim population as political agenda <sup>18</sup>
Reich Citizenship Law redefined German citizenship to exclude Jewish people	India's National Register of Citizens (NRC) will strip many of their citizenship, as is already happening in Assam since they do not possess historic documents. The Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) grants non-Muslims a path to regain citizenship. Muslims would remain stateless. <sup>19</sup>
The "Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor" banned marriage and extramarital relations between Jews and those of 'German blood'	"Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance 2020," also known as the "Love Jihad" Law seeks to "protect" Hindu women and their honor from Muslim men by preventing inter-faith marriages. <sup>20</sup>
Law banning kosher slaughter	Campaign against halal products. <sup>21</sup> Ban on beef consumption. <sup>22</sup> Lynching on the transportation of cattle. <sup>23</sup>
The Propaganda Ministry controlled the press to propagate Nazi ideology	A professional information technology cell and a compliant media (called godi or lapdog media) spread fake news to demonize minorities and mold public opinion in favor of Hindutva ideology. Reporters Without Borders ranked India below Somalia and Colombia in media freedom at 150 <sup>th</sup> level <sup>24</sup> Textbooks demonize Muslims. <sup>25</sup> Admiration for Nazism is rampant in the BJP-RSS ideology <sup>26</sup>
Longing for a return of the glory of Germany, especially pre-WWI	The glorification of ancient India is a standard part of mythology presented as factual history by Modi and the BJP-RSS regime with claims that everything from the internet to stem cells all were first invented by Hindus thousands of years ago. <sup>27</sup>
Economic boycott of Jewish owned businesses and Jewish professionals	Economic boycott of Muslim owned businesses and Muslim professionals <sup>28</sup>

17 Hindutva fascism threatens the world's largest democracy; <https://theloop.ecpr.eu/hindutva-fascism-is-threatening-the-worlds-largest-democracy> (accessed 2023-2-18)

18 'Pathology of Islamophobia' taking lethal form, says Noam Chomsky; <https://www.telegraphindia.com/india/pathology-of-islamophobia-taking-most-lethal-form-in-india-noam-chomsky/cid/1851456> (accessed 2022-2-26)

19 Citizenship Laws and the Nazification of India; <https://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/responses/citizenship-laws-and-the-nazification-of-india> (accessed 2022-2-26)

20 India's 'love jihad' laws: Another attempt to subjugate Muslims; <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2021/1/15/indias-love-jihad-laws-another-attempt-to-subjugate-muslims> (accessed 2022-2-26)

21 There is no law against halal. However, there are lynchings of Muslim dairy farmers, butchers, boycott of Muslim-owned & halal restaurants, and forced closures of Muslim businesses.

22 <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-40116811> (accessed 2022-2-25) | <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/rss-chief-mohan-bhagwat-gets-z-vvip-security-cover/articleshow/47573732.cms> (accessed 2022-2-25)

23 <https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/02/18/violent-cow-protection-india/vigilante-groups-attack-minorities> (accessed 2022-2-25)

24 <https://rsf.org/en/country/india> (accessed 2023-1-25)

25 <https://www.nybooks.com/articles/2018/12/06/indias-dangerous-new-curriculum> (accessed 2022-2-25)

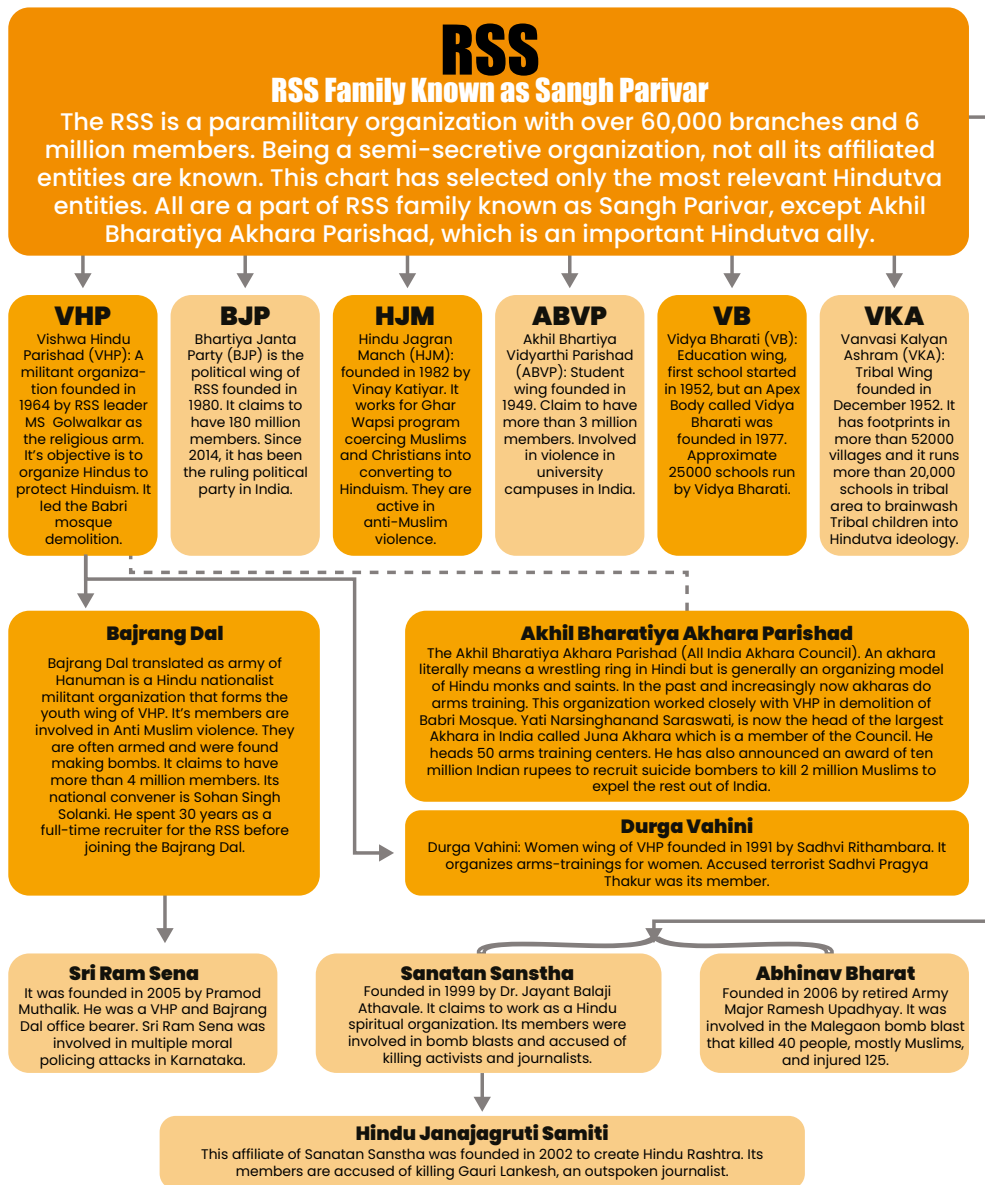
26 <https://www.haaretz.com/opinion/hitlers-hindus-indias-nazi-loving-nationalists-on-the-rise-1.5628532> (accessed 2022-2-25)

27 <https://caravanmagazine.in/science/false-scientific-claims-modi-first-term> Also see: <https://www.science.org/content/article/hindu-nationalists-claim-ancient-indians-had-airplanes-stem-cell-technology-and> (accessed 2022-4-17)

28 <https://www.haaretz.com/world-news/for-muslims-in-modi-s-india-echoes-of-1930s-germany-are-growing-louder-1.10241729> (accessed 2022-2-25)

Dehumanization of Jews by referring to them as Untermenschen (subhuman), pigs, vermin, rats, lice	Dehumanization of Muslims by referring to them as rakshasa which in Hindu literature are man-eating demons who fought Ram, the prime Hindu god. <sup>29</sup> Muslims are also called pigs, termites, foreigners, thieves
Hitler was a cult figure – admired as the “unknown soldier” who ascended in rank due to his talent and regarded as the one who alone could save Germany	Modi is a cult figure – admired as a humble “chai wala” (tea seller) who rose to power and boasts a “56 inch chest.” He is regarded as the one who will develop and defend India single-handedly <sup>30</sup>
Hitler Youth indoctrinated its young members to embrace supremacist Nazi ideology	RSS runs the largest school network in India. Children in RSS affiliated schools and at public events are indoctrinated to embrace supremacist Hindutva ideology <sup>31</sup>
Vandalization and destruction of synagogues	Vandalization and destruction of mosques <sup>32</sup>

Figure 2



29 <https://thewire.in/communalism/delhi-riots-conspiracy-anti-muslim-cleric-yati-narsinghanand> (accessed 2022-2-26)

30 [https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/modi-cult-of-personality/2021/03/18/dc7ee180-8773-11eb-bfdf-4d36dab83a6d\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/modi-cult-of-personality/2021/03/18/dc7ee180-8773-11eb-bfdf-4d36dab83a6d_story.html) (accessed 2022-2-26)

31 <https://scroll.in/article/815049/indianise-nationalise-spiritualise-the-rss-education-project-is-in-for-the-long-haul> (accessed 2022-2-26)

32 <https://www.milligazette.com/Archives/15042002/1504200286.htm> (accessed 2022-2-26)

# What is Hindutva

Pronounced Hin·dut·va /,hin'dootvə/

Hindutva is a political nationalist ideology seeking to establish Hindu supremacy in India.

The Hindutva ideology, often called Hindu nationalism, is distinct from Hinduism, the religion practiced in India. While Hindutva followers are Hindus, not all Hindus follow Hindutva ideology.

Hindutva seeks to transform India, constitutionally a secular state, into an ethno-religious nation known as the Hindu Rashtra (Hindu nation). Hindutva is the official platform of the BJP, the ruling party of India and the political arm of RSS.

The Nazification of India report is essentially the story of the Hindutva project. RSS is the prime leader of this ideology.

Hindutva ideology dates back roughly 100 years but it has gained tremendous popularity in India under the BJP-RSS regime.

The term Hindutva was popularized by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar through his book, Hindutva. Savarkar was influenced by European Fascism.

## The Debate Around Hindutva and Hinduism

**“Not all Hinduism is Hindutva, but Hindutva is in fact Hinduism.”**

<https://scroll.in/article/1005407/counterview-not-all-hinduism-is-hindutva-but-hindutva-is-in-fact-hinduism>

**“Hinduism not about killing but Hindutva is” Rahul Gandhi**

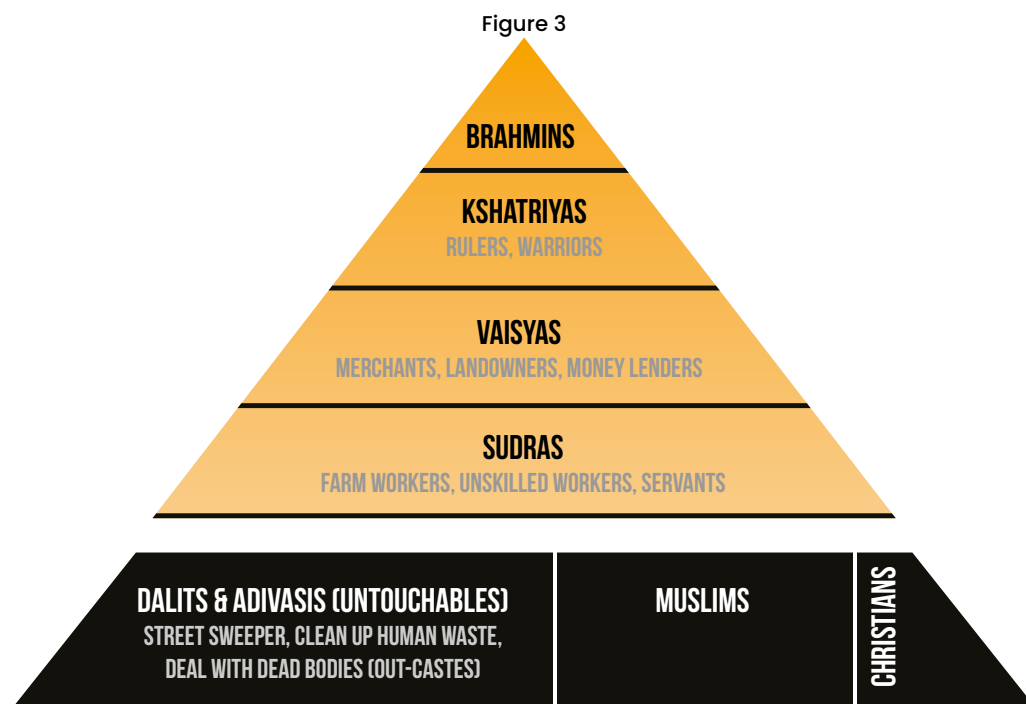
<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/rahul-gandhi-hindutva-hinduism-congress-7619586>

# Caste System as a Tool for Hindu Supremacy

Hitler believed that the so-called “Aryan” blood, “true” German blood, made them physically and spiritually perfect. By the same token, Hinduism is defined by a caste system that is connected to concepts of racial perfection. The Indian term for caste, “Varna,” means color. At the top of this color caste pyramid sit the Brahmins, who tend to have lighter skin. Then comes the Kshatriya, the Vaishya, and the Shudra. The darkest-skinned Dalits, treated as untouchables, and the Adivasi, or indigenous tribes, are the historically oppressed outcastes of India. The outcastes also include Mleccha, a term applied to Muslims and Christians. Inspired by Hitler’s race ideology, the RSS leaders promote notions of racial and blood superiority, claiming a link to Aryanism as well.

**“With Religious Tensions Worsening in India, Understanding Caste Is More Urgent Than Ever”**

Time Magazine, April 6, 2022



**“Hindu nationalism is led by the upper castes and their incitement of all Hindus against the Muslim minority is a ploy that enables them to keep their grip on Hindu society.”**

Jean Drèze, Time Magazine, April 6, 2022

# Learning the ABCs of Hate from the Nazis



The rise of German Aryan supremacy and the methods employed by the Nazi party in its persecution of Jews provided early leaders of the Hindutva movement with a model to learn from.

**“The only stable emotion is hate”**

Hitler, 1926



The RSS founder Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, a Brahmin, believed that cultural and religious Hinduism should be the basis for the establishment of the nation.<sup>33</sup> Hedgewar established a series of centers to propagate this idea. In later years, he delegated much of its leadership to M.S. Golwalkar, who succeeded him as the leader of the RSS.

**“Jewish purge is a good lesson to learn and profit by”**

RSS Ideologue, Golwalkar



In his book, “We or Our Nationhood Defined,” the RSS ideologue Golwalkar states: “...to keep up the purity of the nation and its culture, Germany shocked the world by purging the country of Semitic races – the Jews. National pride at its highest has been manifested here. Germany has also shown how well-nigh impossible it is for races and cultures, having differences going to the root, to be assimilated into one united whole, a good lesson for us in Hindustan to learn and profit by.”<sup>34</sup> The idea of racial purity in a nation was of great importance to Golwalkar.

**Hitler knows best**

The author of Hindutva, Savarkar

Often called the ‘Father of Hindutva’ Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (1883 –1966), was a Hindu nationalist politician, activist, and the author of the book “Hindutva.” Savarkar influenced the founder of the RSS, Hedgewar, to a great extent.<sup>35</sup>

In a speech delivered in 1940, Savarkar stated: “Nazism proved undeniably the savior of Germany under the set of circumstances Germany was placed in.” He went on to say, “Surely Hitler knows better than Pandit Nehru does, what suits Germany best. The very fact that Germany or Italy has so wonderfully recovered and grown so powerful as never before at the touch of Nazi or Fascist magical wand is enough to prove that those political ‘isms’ were the most congenial tonics their health demanded.”

**Banned three times and named a terrorist organization, the RSS has now regained political center stage with Modi’s prime ministership.**

<sup>33</sup> Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, History, Ideology, & Facts, Britannica; <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Rashtriya-Swayamsevak-Sangh#ref1041981> (accessed 2022-02-04)

<sup>34</sup> Golwalkar drew lessons from Hitler’s Germany; The Hindu Business Line; <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/golwalkar-drew-lessons-from-hitlers-germany/article7924161.ece> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>35</sup> Hindu Nationalist’s Historical Links to Nazism and Fascism; <https://www.ibtimes.com/hindu-nationalists-historical-links-nazism-fascism-214222> (accessed 2021-10-21)

## Glorifying Nazism in Today's India

Adolf Hitler, a figure recognized globally as an icon of unbridled hate, is glorified in India and his hateful ideology is shamelessly propagated. There are businesses named after Hitler in the country.<sup>36</sup> Hitler is also praised in school textbooks for his achievements, while his genocidal actions against Jews and other minorities are conveniently ignored.<sup>37</sup> As the following examples show, "Hitler" as an icon is also good business.

## Hitler's Mein Kampf is a Best Seller in India

The *Times of India* reports that *Mein Kampf* has been a best-seller since it was first published in India. The Israeli paper *Haaretz* reports "Mein Kampf has also gone mainstream, becoming a "must-read" management strategy book for India's business school students...This infamous polemic remains a money-spinner for publishers."<sup>38</sup>

## Translations of Mein Kampf in Indian languages being sold at Amazon



## Hitler Sells in India

The *Times of India* reported that "Hitler's name sells scores of products on e-commerce sites such as Amazon and Flipkart — coffee mugs, Swastika and Hitler posters, laptop casings, motorcycle helmets like the Stahlhelm worn by Hitler's troops, T-shirts, cardigans, coasters, spikebusters, extension cords, locks, iPhone covers, jewellery boxes, lamp stands..."<sup>39</sup>

## Products Named Hitler are Sold at Amazon India



All of this shows that Indian consumer culture and educational programming are priming its citizens to glorify Hitler. This makes it easier for people to accept the Hindutva ideology of Hindu supremacy as normal for the nation.

36 India's 'Hitler' stores spark outrage; [https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/blogpost/post/indias-hitler-stores-spark-outrage/2012/09/06/66f81394-f827-11e1-8253-3f495ae70650\\_blog.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/blogpost/post/indias-hitler-stores-spark-outrage/2012/09/06/66f81394-f827-11e1-8253-3f495ae70650_blog.html) (accessed 2021-10-21)

37 In Modi's Gujarat, Hitler is a textbook hero, India News; <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/in-modis-gujarat-hitler-is-a-textbook-hero/articleshow/868469.cms> (accessed 2021-10-21)

38 <https://www.haaretz.com/opinion/2017-12-14/ty-article/hitlers-hindus-indias-nazi-loving-nationalists-on-the-rise/0000017f-f880-d460-afff-fbe61fe20000> (accessed 2023-2-12)

39 Why Hitler is not a dirty word in India, published April 29, 2018: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/63955029.cms>



# Comparing Nazi Laws Against German Jews with Indian Laws Against Indian Muslims

## Legally Defining the Enemy & Weaponizing the Legal System

The Nazis promulgated discriminatory laws against the Jews for almost a decade before they began operating concentration and extermination camps. The Nuremberg Laws were designed to instill and maintain racial segregation.<sup>40</sup> The German Third Reich enacted two laws, namely the Reich Citizenship Law and the Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor.<sup>41</sup> Using these laws, Germany aimed to reverse the citizenship of many of its citizens. The state would decide who was and who was not a citizen, based on a narrow racial criterion.

### The Reich Citizenship Law to Exclude German Jews

The Citizenship Law redefined German citizenship to exclude people of “non-German blood.” Citizenship was acquired by the state granting one a certificate, and only a confirmed, certified citizen was entitled to political rights and protection of the state. Anyone who had 3 or 4 Jewish grandparents would not be eligible for citizenship regardless if they identified as Jewish or not. The intent of the law was to purge Germany of Jewish bloodline.

The result was increased isolation of Jewish communities, thereby making them easy targets of scapegoating.



**“Only a national comrade can be a citizen. Only someone of German blood, regardless of faith, can be a citizen. Therefore, no Jew can be a citizen.”**

Hitler’s 25-point program for the Nazi party

English translation of a Nazi chart explaining the pseudo-scientific racial categories established by the 1935 Nuremberg Laws. White circles identify ancestors of “pure” German blood while black circles identify Jewish ancestry.

40 The Nuremberg Laws; <https://www.facinghistory.org/holocaust-and-human-behavior/chapter-6/nuremberg-laws> (accessed 2022-02-04)

41 How the Nazis Were Inspired by Jim Crow; <https://www.history.com/news/how-the-nazis-were-inspired-by-jim-crow> (accessed 2022-02-04)

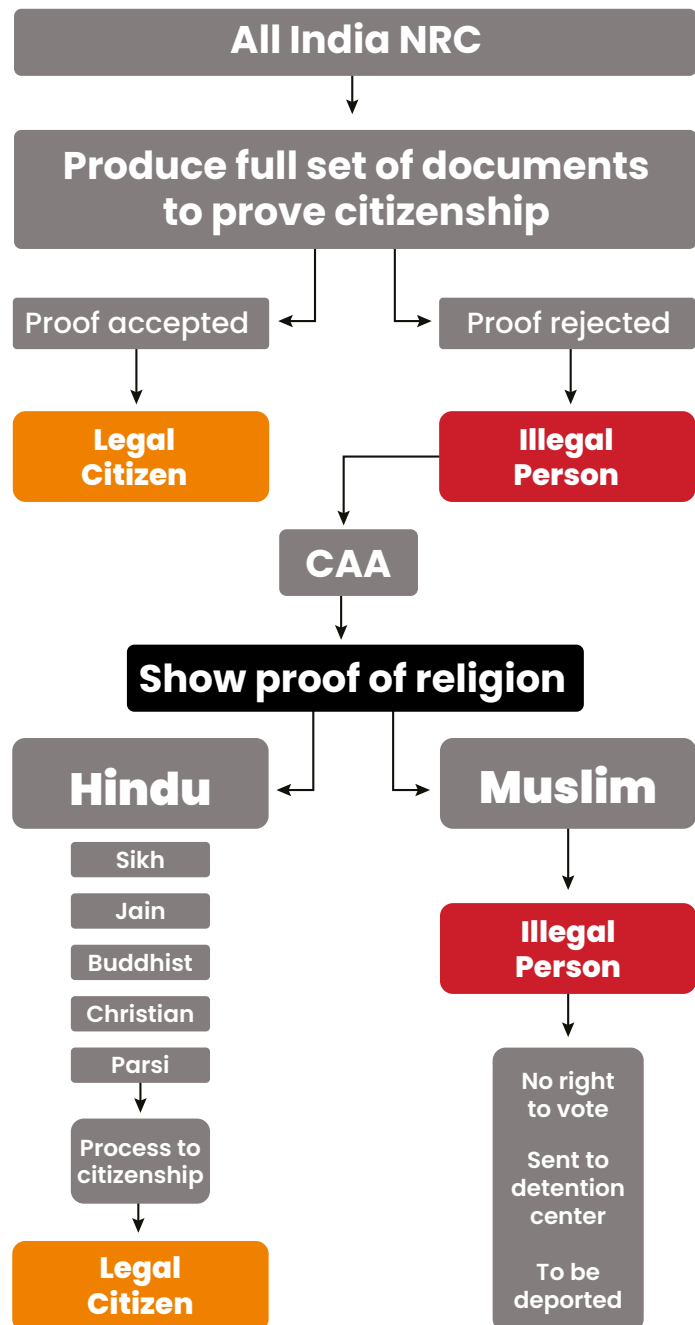
## India's Citizenship Denial Laws Target Indian Muslims

Due to lack of documentation amongst significant numbers of people living in India, proving one's citizenship is not an easy task. This is especially true for those living in rural India—about 70% of the population. Many have lived in an area for decades without official papers. In the year 2000, only 56% of Indian children had their birth registered.<sup>42</sup>

Taking advantage of this situation, the BJP-RSS regime created a scheme based on the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and a proposed nationwide National Registry of Citizens (NRC). They are ominous echoes of the Reich Citizenship law. These specifically exclude Indian Muslims if they cannot come up with historic documents to prove their citizenship.

The National Registry of Citizens proposes that all citizens of India must prove their citizenship in order to continue to be citizens. If an Indian citizen cannot produce a required set of documents, he or she is subject to detention. Any non-Muslim, however, could then be fast-tracked back into citizenship under the CAA, while Indian Muslims would be denied that path.

Figure 4  
CHART SHOWING INDIA'S EQUIVALENT  
OF THE REICH CITIZENSHIP LAW



<sup>42</sup> <https://www.indiaspend.com/birth-certificates-are-citizenship-proof-govt-says-but-38-under-5-children-dont-have-one> (accessed 2022-02-26)



## 1.9 Million have Lost Citizenship in Assam, Many in Detention Camps as New Camps are Being Built

1.9 Million Indians have lost citizenship in Assam, India. Many are in detention camps. New detention camps are also being built. Assam is also the state that was chosen for the first application of the National Registry of Citizens. It resulted in 1.9 million losing their citizenship. What turned out to be a surprise for the BJP-RSS regime was that only 486,000 were Muslims. This is where the religious test of fast-tracking Hindus to citizenship will help. It leaves only Indian Muslims to be detained and deported. New detention camps are also being built in different parts of the country.

Citizenship Laws and the Nazification of India: <https://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/responses/citizenship-laws-and-the-nazification-of-india> (accessed 2021-10-21)

### AN INDIAN DETENTION CAMP UNDER CONSTRUCTION



This under-construction detention center in Goalpara district, Assam, India is the largest detention center for citizens declared "illegal." The detention center covers approximately 288,000 square feet. More detention centers are being built. Prashanth Vishwanathan/Bloomberg via Getty Images



**"They [Muslims] thought they can increase their population and capture the country. But Modi ji and Amit Shah have brought this law and smashed their dream. I urge them not to step back but go forward with NRC..."**

Swami Yati Narsinghanand Saraswati, a Hindutva religious leader of the largest organization of Hindu monks (the Juna Akhara), and supporter of Prime Minister Modi

## The Nazi Law for the Protection of German Blood from Jews

While the Citizenship law sought to purge Germany of ancestral Jewish bloodlines, a Purity Law extended that idea of a pure German volk for future generations.

Designed for the protection and preservation of “German blood and honor,” the Purity Law banned marriage and extramarital relations between Jewish individuals and those of “German blood.” Those found violating the law were to be punished with prison sentences and hard labor. The main objective of the Purity law was to prevent “race defilement” of German women and German girls to ensure the survival of the “pure” German volk.

While the law was ostensibly gender-neutral, the underlying panic about Jewish men targeting Aryan women is clear in how the law specifically prevented Jewish individuals from employing female Germans under the age of 45 in their households, as well as the propaganda that surrounded the enactment of the law.



This is a 1935 poster by Der Stürmer newspaper. Note how a Jew is depicted. Image Credit: Deutsches Historisches Museum

## Nazis Against Relationships Between Jews and non-Jews

“Why does the Jew instigate the German woman to race defilement, systematically and on a mass scale?...What are the consequences of race defilement for the German Nation?”

## India’s “Love Jihad” Laws to Protect Hindu Girls

Much as the Nazis did about Jews, India has Islamophobic conspiracy theories of Muslim domination through procreation. While instances of interfaith marriages in India between Muslim men and Hindu women are only around 3%, there is a constant portrayal of interfaith marriages as “anti-national.”<sup>43</sup> The pejorative term “love-jihad” is often used to describe inter-religious relationships. The narrative behind the term is that Muslim men lure Hindu women into marrying them and convert them to Islam, thereby putting Hindus in danger.<sup>44, 45</sup> Although this propaganda has been found false many times over the years, it persisted to the level that now there are laws about it.<sup>46, 47</sup> In Nov. 2020, the most populated Indian state—Uttar Pradesh—enacted the Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance, otherwise known as the “love jihad” law. This law prohibits the marriage of a Hindu woman to a Muslim man, punishable with ten years of imprisonment and an annulment of the marriage. Similar legislation has been enacted in the BJP ruled states of Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh and is proposed in two other BJP ruled states. The BJP-RSS militias beat up interfaith couples and sometimes kill them, while the police arrest interfaith couples to enforce the so-called laws.<sup>48</sup>

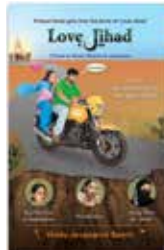
Inspired by the mainstream acceptance of the love Jihad conspiracy theory, RSS is encouraging a “Reverse Love Jihad” which involves kidnapping Muslim girls and forcefully marrying them to Hindu men. In just one district out of 741 in India, the district police registered 389 cases of under-age girls as missing or kidnapped.<sup>49</sup> By controlling women’s marriages, the RSS thus aims to enforce Hindu supremacy by keeping Hindu blood “pure.”



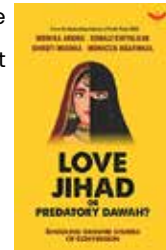
This “Red Alert for Hindu Girls” poster is issued by Lord Rama Army. The BJP-RSS regime has hundreds of militant groups using a term for army, like sena, dal, vahini etc.



This novel, A Love Jihad Story, sold on Amazon claims to be an effort to warn Hindu girls that are manipulated by Muslim men.



This booklet claims to be a guide for parents and young women to protect them from the terror of love Jihad which is a threat to Hinduism. It claims to provide a comprehensive look into the mechanism of coercing young women into changing their religion through various tactics.



Another book warning Hindus about weaponization of love, economic exploitation, compulsion to fight religious wars. (Jihad) etc.

43 IRB – Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada: “India: Situation of inter-religious and inter-caste couples, including treatment by society and authorities; situation of children from such marriages (2017–May 2019) [IND106276.E]”, Document #2010389 – eci.net; <https://www.eci.net/en/document/2010389.html> (accessed 2021-12-19)

44 Hindu Women, Muslim Men: Love Jihad and Conversions; <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25663907> (accessed 2022-2-4)

45 India’s ‘love jihad’ laws: Another attempt to subjugate Muslims; <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2021/1/15/indias-love-jihad-laws-another-attempt-to-subjugate-muslims> (accessed 2021-12-19)

46 <https://www.epw.in/journal/2009/51/commentary/hindu-women-muslim-men-love-jihad-and-conversions.html> (accessed 2021-12-19)

47 <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/nia-ends-kerala-probe-says-there-s-love-but-no-jihad/story-wlpWR7BMNcdJHK-biMUs04J.html> (accessed 2021-12-19)

48 <https://www.npr.org/2021/10/10/1041105988/india-muslim-hindu-interfaith-wedding-conversion> (accessed 2022-2-27)

49 <https://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-reverse-love-jihad-surfaces-in-up-2290453> (accessed 2022-2-27)

## The Nazi Ban on Kosher Slaughter

On April 21, 1933, Nazi Germany enacted a law that had the effect of outlawing kosher slaughter in the country. While the law did not actually mention Jewish people or shechita (kosher slaughter), it did prohibit the killing of animals for food if they had not first been stunned or anaesthetized. Because Kosher slaughter requires that the animal be conscious at the time it is killed, it no longer conformed to the law.<sup>50</sup> This was another way Jewish life was attacked by the Nazi government.

## The Indian Campaign Against Halal

In a similar fashion, the BJP-RSS regime is attacking the India meat and leather industry, as a proxy for undermining Muslim dietary needs. As Muslims are perceived as prominent in the Indian meat and leather industry, attacking the industry is thought of as a way to attack Muslims. An Indian ban on transporting cattle except for agricultural purposes is killing the industry and making Muslims jobless.<sup>51</sup> In just one state, 50,000 meat shops were closed.<sup>52</sup> Muslims—in respect of Hindu feelings that cows are sacred—do not consume beef and have replaced buffalo meat as a staple of the Muslim diet. However, even that meat is now difficult to obtain. While the laws make the life of halal consumers difficult, the BJP-RSS militias routinely attack Muslims transporting cattle for dairy farming. They also lynch Muslims falsely accused of consuming beef. In one instance a police officer who tried to stop a cow-related lynching was himself murdered.<sup>53</sup>

## 50,000 Muslim Owned Butcher Shops Were Closed

Washington Post

The BJP-RSS affiliated Hindutva organizations like the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP, World Hindu Council) and Hindu Janajagruti Samiti (Hindu People's Awakening Committee) have been calling for the boycott of all halal-certified products. These organizations resort to spreading fear in the Hindu community by falsely stating that "this is the economic expansionism of Islam" and that funds procured may be used for Islamic terrorism. They also label halal slaughter<sup>54</sup> as being a cruel form of slaughter, similar to the way Hitler prohibited kosher slaughter as a form of animal cruelty.<sup>55</sup>

Muslim butchers and cattle traders are routinely attacked, and in some cases, the victims themselves have been charged with a crime.<sup>56, 57</sup> Muslim restaurants have faced boycotts and have also been targets of mob attacks.<sup>58</sup>

In November 2021, a smear campaign against halal products was launched by right-wing Hindutva organizations which claimed that Muslims spit in their food to make it halal. A series of videos labelled #ThookJihad ("thook" means spit) went viral on social media during the covid-19 pandemic, accusing Muslims of spreading the virus through their spit. The propaganda portrayed it as a sinister conspiracy by Muslims against Hindus. This propaganda adversely affected thousands of Muslim-owned businesses who started receiving calls to ensure "spit-free food" or even faced total boycott.<sup>59</sup>

50 1933: Nazi Germany outlaws kosher slaughter, Jewish World; <https://www.haaretz.com/jewish/.premium-1933-nazis-outlaw-kosher-slaughter-1.5437764> (accessed 2021-10-21)

51 <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-politics-meat/indias-muslim-meat-traders-plan-legal-action-over-new-rules-idUSKBN18N0KT> (accessed 2022-2-27)

52 [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\\_pacific/cows-are-sacred-to-indias-hindu-majority-for-muslims-who-trade-cattle-that-means-growing-trouble/2018/07/15/9e4d7a50-591a-11e8-9889-07bcc1327f4b\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/cows-are-sacred-to-indias-hindu-majority-for-muslims-who-trade-cattle-that-means-growing-trouble/2018/07/15/9e4d7a50-591a-11e8-9889-07bcc1327f4b_story.html) (accessed 2022-2-27)

53 <https://www.news18.com/news/india/inspector-killed-in-bulandshahr-was-one-of-the-most-important-witness-in-aklaq-lynching-case-1961941.html> (accessed 2022-2-27)

54 Stop this Halal Invasion in India. Hindus must boycott all Halal certified products & items; <https://hinduexistence.org/2020/03/05/stop-this-halal-invasion-in-india-hindus-must-boycott-all-halal-certified-products-items/> (accessed 2021-10-21)

55 Money from Halal certification may be directed towards Islamic terrorism: VHP President Alok Kumar; <https://www.newsintervention.com/money-from-halal-certification-may-be-directed-towards-islamic-terrorism-vhp-president-alok-kumar/> (accessed 2021-10-21)

56 Muslim meat trader attacked in UP; Police file FIR against him; <https://thewire.in/communalism/muslim-meat-trader-attacked-in-up-police-file-fir-against-him> (accessed 2021-12-19)

57 Muslim man in India attacked with hammer; <https://www.dawn.com/news/1572347> (accessed 2021-12-19)

58 'Shown their place': Muslim livelihoods under attack in India; <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/9/27/india-muslims-livelihoods-islamophobia-hindu-groups> (accessed 2021-12-19)

59 'Thook Jihad' is the Latest Weapon in Hindutva's Arsenal of Islamophobia; <https://thewire.in/communalism/thook-jihad-is-the-latest-weapon-in-hindutvas-arsenal-of-islamophobia> (accessed 2021-12-06)

# Propaganda by Nazis and the BJP-RSS Regime

The Nazis and the BJP-RSS regime both understood the power of propaganda, although Hitler and Goebbels did not have access to social media. An RSS official, briefing the media, claimed that they operate 10,000 weekly social media cell meetings.

## The Nazi Propaganda Ministry

After the Nazi's electoral victories of July 1932, Hitler appointed Joseph Goebbels as director of the new Ministry of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda. Goebbels envisioned an empire that would control schools, universities, film, radio, newspapers or, in essence, all public outreach media.<sup>60</sup>

Hitler's chief architect, Albert Speer, stated at the Nuremberg Tribunal that "what distinguished the Third Reich from all previous dictatorships was its use of all means of communication to sustain itself and to deprive its objects of the power of independent thought." Hitler was a magician of illusion.<sup>61</sup> The cultural historian Piers Brendon has described propaganda as the "gospel" of Nazism.<sup>62</sup>



**"Propaganda is a truly terrible weapon in the hands of an expert." Hitler**

The Nazis used public displays, humiliation, radio, newspapers, public addresses, and teachers to propagate their disdain for Jews and to persuade public opinion. Films became a tool to propagate Nazism. Some films, like *Triumph des Willens* (*Triumph of the Will*) glorified Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party. Other films like *Der ewige Jude* (*The Eternal Jew*) were not designed to glorify the Nazis but rather to dehumanize, criminalize, and demonize vulnerable minorities, particularly Jews.<sup>63</sup>

Jews were portrayed as the eternal enemy of Germany, and as feeding off the hard work of "true" Germans. Jews were also shown as conspiring with the allied powers against Germany. At the same time, Germans were portrayed as superior and with the means of providing for a secure Germany. As they moved into France, the same messaging was directed towards the French.

## India's BJP Information Technology cell, Media Control & Bollywood

The BJP-RSS regime operates its propaganda machine differently than the Nazi ministry. It has been so successful that Reporters Without Borders now rates India below Somalia and Colombia, ranking 150<sup>th</sup> of 180 nations. There is an official information technology cell that is directly run by the BJP. The government applies preferential treatment to ensure the Hindutva ideology is propagated and prevails, while opposition voices are drowned.

<sup>60</sup> Ministry of Propaganda and Public Enlightenment, Holocaust Encyclopedia; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/ministry-of-propaganda-and-public-enlightenment> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>61</sup> How Nazi propaganda encouraged the masses to co-produce a false reality; <https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2017/03/how-nazi-propaganda-encouraged-the-masses-to-co-produce-a-false-reality.html> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>62</sup> State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; <https://www.ushmm.org/information/exhibitions/traveling-exhibitions/state-of-deception> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>63</sup> Propaganda at the Movies; <https://www.facinghistory.org/holocaust-and-human-behavior/chapter-6/propaganda-movies> (accessed 2021-12-11)



The BJP-RSS regime also control media owned by high caste Hindu allies and editors. They oversee platforms that are manipulated by the BJP's information technology cell and RSS social media cells.<sup>64</sup>

Before any Hindutva policy announcement, this focused propagand machinery is ready with emotionally charged prime-time shows, hashtags, memes, & fake social media accounts. Using WhatsApp forwarding the regime bombards citizens with messages in support of Hindutva policies.<sup>65</sup>

Researchers have documented that the ruling BJP-RSS regime uses social media such as Facebook and WhatsApp to run complex propaganda campaigns that amplify existing attacks against Muslims.<sup>66</sup> In a report titled "Communal Conflict in India," the Wall Street Journal stated that Facebook inflammatory content was up 300% above previous levels in the months after December 2019, when there were protests regarding the Citizenship Amendment Act. The inflammatory content was primarily targeted at Muslims.

**Indian Government Creates Fake News:** The Wall Street Journal also referred to another report called "Adversarial Harmful Networks: India Case Study" that found that misleading and inflammatory anti-Muslim content posted by individuals, groups or pages related to the RSS are "never flagged" because Facebook does not have the systems to detect content in Hindi and Bengali.<sup>67</sup> This means that anti-Muslim content continues to go unchecked.



## "Real or Fake, We Can Make Any Message Go Viral" Amit Shah, Indian Home Minister, & RSS member

In addition to this organized propaganda machinery, journalists are often threatened or detained under draconian laws.<sup>68,69</sup> Sixty-seven journalists were arrested by the BJP government while nearly 200 were physically attacked by the BJP in 2020.<sup>70</sup>

**India is the World Leader in Shutting Down the Internet:** India has become the world's leader in shutting down the internet to block dissident voices. It blacked out the internet at least 106 times in 2021. This is the fourth year in a row that India was worse than any country in the world. It was worse than Burma which shut down the internet at least 15 times and Iran which shut down the internet at least five times. India even forced Twitter to put agents on payroll.<sup>71</sup>



## India Bans BBC Documentary Critical of Modi then Raids BBC Offices

The twin strategy of threatening journalists and using their own IT Cell is responsible for Freedom House downgrading India from free to partially free noting its "...crackdown on expressions of dissent by the media, academics, civil society groups, and protesters."<sup>72,73</sup>

India used emergency laws in January 2023 to block social media content related to the BBC documentary "India: The Modi Question" which documented that Modi was directly responsible for the 2002 pogrom of Muslims in Gujarat when he was the chief minister there. Then, on February 14, 50 Indian officers raided the BBC's offices in New Delhi and Mumbai, seizing its journalists' phones, and searching its offices in an apparent retaliatory move.<sup>74</sup>

64 Why the Modi government gets away with lies, and how the opposition could change that; <https://theprint.in/opinion/why-modi-government-gets-away-with-lies/42221/> (accessed 2021-10-21)

65 Real or fake, we can make any message go viral; <https://thewire.in/politics/amit-shah-bjp-fake-social-media-messages> (accessed 2022-02-04)

66 Facebook failed to moderate content in developing countries; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2021/10/24/india-facebook-misinformation-hate-speech/> (accessed 2021-12-06)

67 Inflammatory content on Facebook was up 300% before Delhi riots, says internal report; <https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/inflammatory-content-fb-was-300-delhi-riots-says-internal-report-156878> (accessed 2021-12-06)

68 Indian journalists accused of sedition for farmer protest reports, Al Jazeera; <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/2/1/indian-journalists-accused-of-sedition-over-farmers-stir-reports> (accessed 2021-12-28)

69 Section 124A. Sedition; [https://www.indiacode.nic.in/show-data?actid=AC\\_CEN\\_5\\_23\\_00037\\_186045\\_1523266765688&sectionid=45863&sectionno=124A&orderno=133](https://www.indiacode.nic.in/show-data?actid=AC_CEN_5_23_00037_186045_1523266765688&sectionid=45863&sectionno=124A&orderno=133) (accessed 2022-02-04)

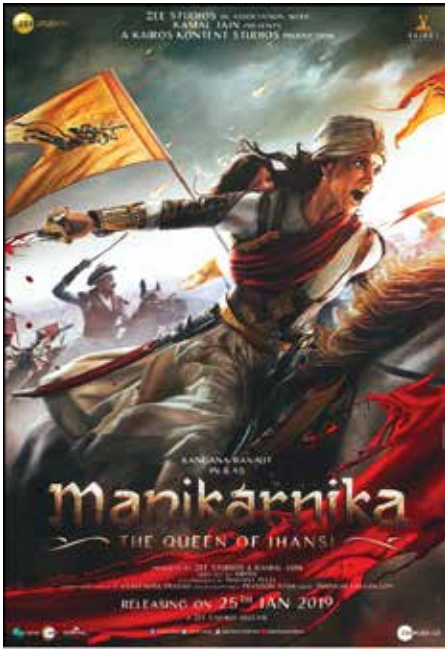
70 <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-55906345> (accessed 2022-02-27)

71 <https://www.reuters.com/world/india/india-forced-twitter-put-agent-payroll-whistleblower-says-2022-08-23>

72 <https://freedomhouse.org/country/india/freedom-world/2021> (accessed 2022-02-27)

73 <https://freedomhouse.org/country/india/freedom-world/2021> (accessed 2022-02-27)

74 Indian government raids BBC offices in wake of documentary critical of Modi <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2023/02/14/>

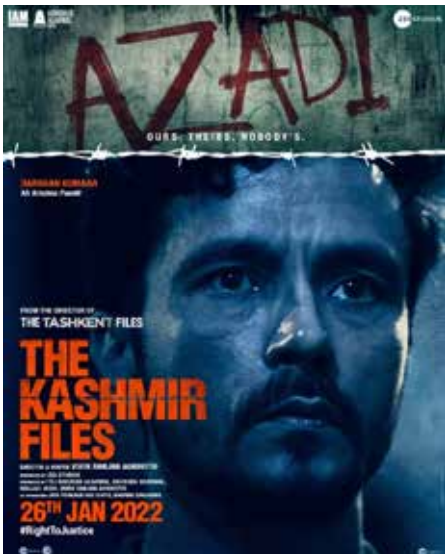


**Depicting Muslims as Enemies in Indian Movies:** The popular and influential Hindi film industry (nicknamed ‘Bollywood’) is increasingly being utilized as a tool to further the Hindutva narrative and depict historical events as anti-Hindu. The movies portray Muslims in a negative light to marginalize them as lesser members of Indian society.<sup>75</sup> Even matters that have proven to be disinformation are readily carried by Bollywood movies.<sup>76</sup> This has accelerated considerably in recent years since Modi has been in power.

A series of films are used to depict Muslim rulers as savage, lustful and treacherous invaders who fought Hindu rulers. This serves to polarize the majority Hindu community against Muslims. These type of movies include Sanjay Leela Bhansali’s *Padmavati* (2018), *Bajirao Mastani* (2015), *Panipat: The Great Betrayal* (2019), *Manikarnika: the Queen of Jhansi* (2019), and *Tanhaji: The Unsung Hero* (2020).<sup>77</sup>

Muslims are also portrayed as underworld gangsters, smugglers, and terrorists in Bollywood movies.<sup>78</sup> Negative stereotyping of Muslims has the obvious effect of creating fear and hatred of Muslims, and is the strategy used by the Hindutva movie-makers to mobilize Hindus against Muslims. Such vilification has been the primary theme in jingoistic flicks that prey on hyper-nationalistic fervor in a communally polarized country.

The 2021 blockbuster movie *Sooryavanshi*, starring Canadian Bollywood star Akshay Kumar, follows the narrative that Indian Muslims cannot be trusted. Muslims are depicted as being anti-national and preying on good Indians. The film stokes the polarizing “love jihad” conspiracy, which paints Muslim men as colluding to seduce or kidnap Hindu girls and convert them to Islam.<sup>79</sup>



**The Kashmir Files:** A 2022 film based on the exodus of Kashmiri Hindu Pandits in the 1990s creates the binary of the “Hindu Victim” and “Muslim Perpetrator” and ignores the thousands of Muslims and Sikhs who also suffered during the Kashmir militancy. While the story of the Kashmir Pandits’ migration from the Valley needs to be told, filmmakers must acknowledge an ethical obligation of fairness to all sides in retelling such historical traumas.<sup>80</sup> The real intent of the film makers—who are known to be staunch supporters of the BJP-RSS regime—was to portray exaggerated victimization and villainization with graphic communal violence. The *Kashmir Files* won accolades from BJP leaders, including PM Modi. The movie was provided tax rebates. In some BJP ruled states government officials were given paid time off to watch the movie. There were even free screenings for police officials. The effectiveness of such dangerous propaganda can be observed in the various post-movie reactions of the viewing audience. There are shocking videos available on social media that showed audiences in movie theaters chanting genocidal slogans after watching the film.<sup>81</sup>

india-raid-bbc-offices-tax (accessed 2023-02-14)

75 Zafar, Abid; Portrayal of Muslims in the Bollywood Movies; [https://www.academia.edu/37595907/Portrayal\\_of\\_Muslims\\_in\\_the\\_Bollywood\\_Movies](https://www.academia.edu/37595907/Portrayal_of_Muslims_in_the_Bollywood_Movies) (accessed 2021-12-24)

76 Khatun, Nadira; ‘Love-Jihad’ and Bollywood: Constructing Muslims as ‘Other’, *Journal of Religion & Film*, Dec. 2018; [https://www.academia.edu/38000858/Love-Jihad\\_and\\_Bollywood\\_Constructing\\_Muslims\\_as\\_Other?sm=b](https://www.academia.edu/38000858/Love-Jihad_and_Bollywood_Constructing_Muslims_as_Other?sm=b) (accessed 2021-12-24)

77 *Panipat vs Tanhaji, Padmavat vs Bajirao Movie: Bollywood Needs To Get Over Its ‘Hindu vs Muslim’ Obsession*; <https://www.thequint.com/voices/opinion/tanhaji-panipat-ajay-devgn-saif-ali-khan-marathas-hindutva-muslims-hindus#read-more> (accessed 2021-10-21)

78 How Bollywood furthers India’s Hindu nationalism; <https://www.newframe.com/how-bollywood-furthers-indias-nationalism/> (accessed 2021-10-21)

79 Opinion: Why an Indian film’s success at the box office should worry us all; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2021/11/15/why-an-indian-films-success-box-office-should-worry-us-all/> (accessed 2021-12-11)

80 *Kashmir Files: Vivek Agnihotri’s film exposes India’s new fault lines* - BBC News; <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-in-dia-60732939> (accessed 2022-03-19)

81 *Kashmir Files, hailed by Modi, triggers anti-Muslim hate speech*, Al Jazeera; <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/3/17/kashmir-files-film-modi-anti-muslim-hate-speech> (accessed 2022-03-19)


## Reporters Without Borders in 2022 Rated India Below Somalia and Colombia, Ranking it 150<sup>th</sup> of 180 Nations in Terms of Media Freedom

Attacks on journalists in India are a major technique of the BJP-RSS regime to silence its opposition. This is the image of a Washington Post tweet which carried image of a full-page advertisement at Washington Post in support of Rana Ayyub, a journalist, critical of Modi, the BJP-RSS and Hindutva. A report published by the New York-based International Centre for Journalists (ICFJ), titled "Rana Ayyub: Targeted online violence at the intersection of misogyny and Islamophobia" analyzed nearly 13 million tweets that targeted Rana between December 2019 and March 2022. The report found a dense, inter-connected network targeting Rana Ayyub every 14 seconds.

 The Washington Post Press Freedom Partnership  
@wppressfreedom

Almost every day @RanaAyyub faces threats of violence and death. Journalists should not fear persecution and smear campaigns.

See the ad from the Press Freedom Partnership and @TheCADV in today's Washington Post. #WeStandWithRana



**THE FREE PRESS IS UNDER ATTACK IN INDIA**

Almost every day **Rana Ayyub** faces threats of violence and death.

She has been the target of prejudiced investigations and online harassment. Her bank account was frozen over her charitable work.

Journalists should not fear persecution and smear campaigns.

#WeStandWithRana

7:52 AM · Feb 20, 2022

# Public Humiliation

Public humiliation was another inhumane tool in the arsenal of Nazis that is also applied by the BJP-RSS regime.

## Humiliation of German Jews by Nazis

During the twelve years of the Third Reich (1933-1945), Nazi officials and organizations publicly humiliated Jews and others in Germany and Nazi-occupied countries. The humiliation was intrinsic to the Nazi program.

Many religious Jewish men were humiliated when their beards and side-locks were forcibly cut off. Other Jews were forced to pose with Jewish ritual objects including tallitim and tefillin, or to remove traditional skull caps known as yarmulke or kippah. Sometimes the humiliation was compounded by forcing Jews to debase each other, such as having one Jew shave the beard of another.<sup>82</sup>



Jewish woman chased by Nazis with clubs in Lviv, Ukraine, 1941.  
Photo: Wikimedia Commons

## Humiliation of Indian Muslims by the BJP-RSS Regime

Muslim girls and female teachers faced public humiliation in the wake of the BJP-RSS government orders and a court decision against hijab (headscarves) in public schools.<sup>83</sup> Muslim girls and teachers are forced to strip themselves of their hijab, even though 59% Hindu women in India also cover their heads.<sup>84</sup> It led to RSS youth heckling Muslim girls and snatching the hijab off women on the streets.

In July 2021 and January 2022, two apps called “Sulli Deals” and “Bulli Bai” were launched to humiliate, degrade, and intimidate Muslim women leaders. The apps allowed men to bid on the profiles of featured Muslim women leaders as prostitutes.<sup>85</sup>

In April 2022, a viral video showed a Hindu priest addressing a crowd outside of a mosque in Uttar Pradesh, India, threatening to kidnap and rape Muslim women. Each of his remarks against Muslims were met with cheers and chants of “Jai Shri Ram” (Victory to Lord Ram).<sup>86</sup>

### The BJP-RSS regime uses several other strategies for humiliating Muslims:

- Indian government and Hindus blaming Muslims for spreading the coronavirus<sup>87</sup>
- Police stripping Muslims naked<sup>88</sup>
- Muslims forced to chant Jai Shri Ram<sup>89</sup>
- Police beating injured Muslims and ordering them to sing the national anthem<sup>90</sup>
- Beating or lynching Muslims on the basis of beef-eating accusations<sup>91</sup>

82 Public Humiliation, Holocaust Encyclopedia; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/public-humiliation> (accessed 2022-3-9)

83 Students, Teachers forced to remove #Hijab outside schools in #Karnataka after High Court order; [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_s4dwhZcKq8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_s4dwhZcKq8) (accessed 2022-3-9)

84 <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/02/17/in-india-head-coverings-are-worn-by-most-women-including-roughly-six-in-ten-hindus/>

85 Bulli Bai: Indian app that put Muslim women up for sale is shut - BBC News; <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-in-dia-59856619> (accessed 2022-03-09)

86 The Gradual Normalization of Violence Against Indian Muslim Women: <https://womensmediacenter.com/women-under-siege/the-gradual-normalization-of-violence-against-indian-muslim-women>

87 <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/12/world/asia/india-coronavirus-muslims-bigotry.html>

88 <https://scroll.in/article/985347/a-year-after-the-delhi-riots-a-muslim-lawyer-surveys-indias-distorted-democracy>

89 <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-58406194>

90 <https://www.hrw.org/report/2020/04/09/shoot-traitors/discrimination-against-muslims-under-indias-new-citizenship-policy>

91 <https://www.npr.org/2019/08/21/751541321/this-is-it-im-going-to-die-indias-minorities-are-targeted-in-lynchings>



# A Yearning For Past Glory by Nazis and the BJP-RSS Regime

## Nazis Looking to Restore German Pride

A common thread seen in Nazi Germany as well as in India is a longing for the restoration of a supposed lost glory. In Germany, this was directly a result of their humiliating defeat in World War 1 as well as the Treaty of Versailles.<sup>92</sup>

Public discontent with the treaty created an opportunity for the young nationalistic Nazi party to use it to their benefit. Nazis spoke of the humiliation of Germany and the need to regain its lost strength. The loyalty of Jews was brought into question, and the environment was primed for the persecutions that followed.

## The BJP-RSS Quest for India's Old Glory

India's militant nationalists have a perceived glory based on mythology and stories from epics such as the Ramayana or the Mahabharata, which they present as fact or evidence of India's glorious past.

**Modi's proof of genetic engineering and plastic surgery:** In Oct. 2014, the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi referred to the warrior Karna from the Sanskrit epic, the Mahabharata, as well as to Ganesha, the elephant-headed Hindu god. He said, "We all read about Karna in the Mahabharata. If we think a little more, we realise that the Mahabharata says Karna was not born from his mother's womb. This means that genetic science was present at that time. That is why Karna could be born outside his mother's womb."

Modi continues: "We worship Lord Ganesha. There must have been some plastic surgeon at the time who got an elephant's head on the body of a human being and began the practice of plastic surgery."<sup>93</sup>

**The Claims of Indian Science Congress:** In 2015, at a conference of the Indian Science Congress in Mumbai, Captain Anand J. Bodas, associated with a pilot training facility, claimed that world's first plane was invented by the Hindu sage Maharishi Bharadwaj. He went on to claim that it had 40 small engines and a flexible exhaust system that modern planes cannot replicate.

At the same conference, India's Minister of Science and Technology Harsh Vardhan made another claim, saying that ancient Indian mathematicians had discovered the Pythagorean



Ganesha, the elephant-headed, multiple hand Hindu god. Indian Prime minister Modi believes: "We worship Lord Ganesha. There must have been some plastic surgeon at the time who got an elephant's head on the body of a human being and began the practice of plastic surgery. Photo by Sandwitzh Adobe Stock.

<sup>92</sup> <https://www.history.com/news/treaty-of-versailles-world-war-ii-german-guilt-effects> (accessed 2023-01-27)

<sup>93</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/oct/28/indian-prime-minister-genetic-science-existed-ancient-times> (accessed 2022-04-12)

theorem but that the Greeks got the credit.<sup>94</sup>

Many scientists, appalled by the wild claims made at the conference, signed an online petition against using the scientific conference to propagate pseudo-science.<sup>95</sup>

**Cow urine & cow dung as cure for all** Indian extremists refer to the use of cow urine and dung as medicines in ancient India, and the efficacy in treatment of various ailments in Ayurveda, the ancient Indian medicine. The cow is revered by Hindus as a mother god. Since the BJP-RSS regime came to power in India with Prime Minister Modi, there has been a renewed push of cow urine and dung based products.

A number of journals have also begun publishing research reports on the benefits of cow urine. Some of these make wild claims while offering little or no scientific basis.<sup>96</sup> Cow urine is claimed to be a divine medicine and effective for treatment of diabetes, blood pressure, asthma, psoriasis, eczema, heart attack, blockage in arteries, fits, cancer, AIDS, piles, prostrate, arthritis, migraine, thyroid, ulcer, acidity, constipation, and gynaecological problems.<sup>97</sup>

The cow is pre-supposed to be unique in their studies because of its divinity in the sight of Hindus. Some of this research is now making its way into American and European institutions.<sup>98</sup> In almost every case, the primary investigator is a person of Indian Hindu origin.<sup>99</sup>

Believers often take cow urine as a drink, or immerse themselves in a bath of cow dung and water in the belief of its therapeutic properties.<sup>100</sup> Cow urine drinking parties were held in a bid to ward off the Coronavirus.<sup>101</sup>

## COW URINE AT AMAZON



Maven & Bloom Fresh A2 Cow Gaumutra Ark A2 Cow Urine 500 ml in Glass Bottle

★★★★☆ - 53

₹499 (₹99.80/100 ml) ₹999 (50% off)

prime Get it by Tuesday, January 31

One of the several cow urine and cow dung options available on Amazon



On the left is a screen shot of an Indian news website about a session judge S.V. Vyas in the district court of Tapi, Gujarat. In his order giving life term imprisonment to the accused Mohammad Ameen for illegally transporting cattle from the state to Maharashtra, he wrote on the Hindutva science myths that cow dung can protect from nuclear radiation. The new report is of January 23, 2023. However, the judges order is from November 2022.<sup>1</sup> Indian Judiciary is increasingly compromised by Hindutva ideology and the BJP-RSS regime.<sup>2</sup>

1 <https://theprint.in/judiciary/cow-dung-protects-from-nuclear-radiation-gujarat-court-hearing-illegal-cattle-transport-case/1329663>

2 <https://hindutvawatch.org/hindutva-terror-acquittals-expose-in-dias-deeply-compromised-criminal-justice-system/>

94 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2015/01/04/indians-invented-planes-7000-years-ago-and-other-startling-claims-at-the-science-congress/> (accessed 2022-04-12)

95 <https://mumbaimirror.indiatimes.com/mumbai/cover-story/Pseudo-science-must-not-figure-in-Indian-Science-Congress/articleshow/45698353.cms> (accessed 2022-04-12)

96 <https://jddtonline.info/index.php/jddt/article/view/4267> (accessed 2022-04-12)

97 <https://www.cowurine.com/science/Multiple-Benefits> (accessed 2022-04-12)

98 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8239506/> (accessed 2022-04-12)

99 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4566776/> (accessed 2022-04-12)

100 <https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/health-environment/article/3134352/cow-dung-cocktails-why-india-cant-get-enough-quack> (accessed 2022-04-12)

101 <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-india-cow-urine-pa/hindu-group-offers-cow-urine-in-a-bid-to-ward-off-coronavirus-idUSKBN2110D5> (accessed 2022-04-12)

# Economic Boycott of German Jews and Indian Muslims

## Economic Boycott of German Jews by Nazis

On April 1, 1933, the Nazis carried out their first planned nationwide attack against the Jewish people. This was a boycott targeting Jewish businesses and professionals. The Star of David was painted in yellow and black across thousands of doors and windows, with accompanying anti-Semitic slogans. The Jewish badge was then implemented between 1939–1945, identifying Jews within the society.<sup>102</sup>

Signs were posted stating, “Don’t Buy from Jews” and “The Jews Are Our Misfortune.” There were acts of violence against Jewish individuals and Jewish properties throughout Germany. The police rarely intervened.

Although the national boycott organized by local Nazi party chiefs lasted only one day and was ignored by many individual Germans who continued to shop in Jewish-owned stores, it marked the beginning of a nationwide campaign by the Nazi Party against the entire German Jewish population. A week later the government passed a law restricting employment in the civil service to “Aryans.”<sup>103</sup>

## DON'T BUY FROM JEWS



Nazi SA paramilitaries outside Israel's Department Store in Berlin. Sign reads: “Germans! Defend yourselves! Don’t buy from Jews.” Photo: Wikipedia Common

## Economic boycott of Indian Muslims

Following the Nazi pattern, the RSS-affiliated Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) distributed pamphlets calling for the boycott of all Muslim-owned businesses in the state of Gujarat. The booklets, using stereotypes, urged the Hindu community to take a vow to boycott Muslims. An example from the booklet is below:

“Economic boycott is the only solution! The anti-national elements use the money earned from the Hindus to destroy us! They buy arms! They molest our sisters and daughters! The way to break the back-bone of these elements is: An economic non-cooperation movement.

Let us resolve -

1. From now on I will not buy anything from a Muslim shopkeeper!
2. I will not sell anything from my shop to such elements!”<sup>104</sup>

A similar social and economic boycott of Muslim businesses was called for via social media in the aftermath of the Delhi Pogrom in 2020. People were asked to buy only from shops carrying saffron flags.<sup>105</sup>

An RSS-aligned Hindutva organization called the “Kranti Sena” patrolled markets in

<sup>102</sup> Jewish Badge: During the Nazi Era, Holocaust Encyclopedia; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/jewish-badge-during-the-nazi-era> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>103</sup> Boycott of Jewish Businesses, Holocaust Encyclopedia; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/boycott-of-jewish-businesses> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>104</sup> “WE HAVE NO ORDERS TO SAVE YOU”; [https://www.hrw.org/reports/2002/india/India0402-10.htm#P1294\\_239625](https://www.hrw.org/reports/2002/india/India0402-10.htm#P1294_239625) (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>105</sup> After the riots: Hindutva apartheid, Frontline; <https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/article31149631.ece> (accessed 2021-10-21)



Muzaffarnagar, a city in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, to ensure that Muslim men did not apply mehendi (hand decorations) to Hindu women on the occasion of the Hindu festival of Teej.<sup>106</sup> On Twitter, hashtags such as #BoycottHalal, #EconomicJihad, #SayNoToHalal, trend frequently.<sup>107</sup>

A BJP member of the legislative assembly, Raja Singh, calling for a boycott of Muslim businesses to a cheering crowd, said:

“Put this in your head, from today, if you buy anything, buy it from a Hindu person not from these traitors [Muslims]. If the 1 billion Hindus living in India follow this ideology, the remaining 250 million [referring to Muslims] will definitely want to convert into Hinduism.”<sup>108</sup>

Emboldened by recent directives against the hijab of Muslim girls in the state of Karnataka, several the BJP-RSS aligned groups and temples banned Muslim traders during Hindu festivals and near Hindu temples. Citing a law banning non-Hindus from having stalls on temple premises, the BJP-RSS run state government defended this move to ban Muslims.<sup>109</sup>

## MUSLIM TRADERS BANNED FROM THIS VILLAGE



Muslim traders are banned from entering this village: Village Borood, Dist. Manawar, Madhya Pradesh. The poster is in Hindi language.

## DON'T BUY FROM MUSLIMS



VHP has put up these type of banners in Mangalore that only Hindu traders can set up shops during the temple fair to be held in the area. The poster is in the Kannada language.

106 UP: Hindutva group checks markets to ensure Muslim artists don't apply mehendi on Hindu women; <https://scroll.in/latest/1002663/up-hindutva-group-checks-markets-to-ensure-muslims-dont-apply-mehendi-on-hindu-women> (accessed 2021-10-21)

107 <https://thewire.in/communalism/muslim-violence-hindutva-propaganda-social-media-economic-boycott> (accessed 2022-02-27)

108 <https://www.thequint.com/news/india/hindutva-groups-called-for-economic-boycott-of-muslims> (accessed 2022-02-27)

109 Karnataka govt. defends move to ban Muslim traders from fairs; <https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/other/karnataka-govt-defends-move-by-temples-to-ban-muslim-traders-from-fairs/ar-AAVplz> (accessed 2022-03-23)

# Dehumanization of German Jews & Indian Muslims

## Dehumanization of German Jews by Nazis

As mentioned above, the Nazis embarked on an insidious campaign to dehumanize and marginalize Jews years before concentration camps were established. Propaganda posters and films suggested Jews were “vermin,” comparing them to rats and insects.<sup>110</sup> German doctors frequently stated that Jews spread disease and repeatedly propagated the false rumor that Jews were responsible for outbreaks of typhus, a deadly contagious disease spread by lice.<sup>111,112</sup>



**“JEWS ARE LICE; THEY CAUSE TYPHUS.”**

A propaganda Poster in Polish linking Jews to the spread of typhus in Nazi Occupied Poland. Courtesy of United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

## Dehumanization of Muslims by the BJP-RSS Regime

The most dangerous term used for Indian Muslims is “rakshasa.” Thanks to Bollywood, everyone in India knows

### BRANDING MUSLIMS AS RAKSHASAS TO JUSTIFY RAPE, TORTURE & MURDER



Rakshasa. (2023, January 10). Wikipedia. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rakshasa\\_Demon\\_Yakshagana.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rakshasa_Demon_Yakshagana.jpg)

what rakshasas are. Rakshasas are the embodiment of evil in Hindu religious literature. They are man-eating cannibals. The Hindu god Rama tortured them and buried them alive.<sup>113</sup> Hindutva extremists and Indian nationalists are reviving the concept of rakshasas in today’s India to justify violence against Muslims. A popular Hindu monk Narsinghanand defines Muslims as rakshasas as part of religiously justifying violence against them.<sup>114</sup> This theological positions Muslims as legitimate enemies to be killed. It also legitimizes sexual violence against Muslim women, as Manusmriti, the Hindu book of laws, subjects rakshasas to kidnapping, bride capture, and other forms of sexual violence. Anchoring Muslim classification and dehumanization in the Hindu religious terminology by branding Muslims as Rakshasas has serious consequences.

It is perhaps this context which allowed a well-represented Dharma Sansad (a Hindu Religious Parliament) attended by more than 500 BJP-RSS monks to announce a 10 million rupee award to recruit Hindu suicide bombers to kill 2 million Muslims, following the Burmese model

<sup>110</sup> ‘It started with words’: Holocaust survivors warn on hate speech; <https://www.euronews.com/2021/04/08/it-started-with-words-holocaust-survivors-recount-how-hate-speech-led-to-mass-murder> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>111</sup> Propaganda Poster: “Jews Are Lice: They Cause Typhus”; <https://perspectives.ushmm.org/item/propaganda-poster-jews-are-lice-they-cause-typhus> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>112</sup> Propaganda Poster: “Jews Are Lice: They Cause Typhus”; <https://perspectives.ushmm.org/item/propaganda-poster-jews-are-lice-they-cause-typhus> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>113</sup> <https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Rakshasa> (accessed 2022-2-27)

<sup>114</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKnmkzO8ShA> Timestamp 2:19 (accessed 2021-10-19)

of Rohingya genocide.<sup>115, 116</sup>

Hate speech and vilification of minorities and especially Muslims is increasing at an alarming rate in India across multiple platforms such as mainstream media outlets, social media, and public rallies.

The Star of Mysore, an Indian daily evening newspaper, referred to the Muslim community as “rotten apples” and called for getting “rid” of the community.<sup>117</sup>

At an August 2021 rally conducted at the ancient Jantar Mantar observatory in Delhi, pamphlets were distributed which equated Muslims to pigs and called for the annihilation of Islam.<sup>118</sup>

## The Hashtag Jihad Conspiracy Theories by the Hindutva Ecosystem

As detailed below, a number of conspiracy theories about Muslims target them as threats to India.

**Love Jihad:** A theory by Hindutva that Muslim men are trained to trap Hindu girls through love, then convert them into Islam to grow their population. Several Indian states now have laws against interfaith marriages and conversions because of it. Vigilantes from the BJP-RSS machine often attack interfaith couples; meanwhile, police arrest the victims.<sup>119</sup>

**Economic Jihad:** A Hindutva conspiracy theory suggesting that Muslims are growing financially by selling to Hindu customers.<sup>120</sup>

**Population Jihad:** As per this theory, Muslims marry four women and beget dozens of kids to increase their population and gain the votes needed to win elections, with the supposed end goal of declaring India an Islamic Nation.<sup>121</sup>

**Halal Jihad:** BJP’s national general secretary CT Ravi says that “Halal is an economic Jihad.” It is said that Muslims sell Halal Certified products to earn more to strengthen their community and then that money is used to fund Islamic Jihad.<sup>122</sup>

**Naukarshahi Jihad/Bureaucracy Jihad:** A conspiracy theory propagated by Suresh Chavhanke of Sudarshan TV that Jihadi Muslims are infiltrating the Indian bureaucracy through the civil service examinations. Only 3.54% of Indian Administrative Service employees are Muslims.<sup>123</sup>

### HE TURNED LOVE JIHAD CONSPIRACY THEORY INTO AN ANTI-INTERFAITH MARRIAGE LAW IN HIS STATE WITH 10-YEAR JAIL TERM



These hashtags are not just a silly pastime for some, they have serious public policy and public security consequences for citizens. For example, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, has passed a law based on “Love Jihad” conspiracy theories. Yogi is a Hindu holy man whose law now can send couples to non-bailable imprisonment for up to 10 years. There are now interfaith couples who have been beatend, kidnaped, arrested, and tried in the court. Photo credit: (2023, January 16). In Wikipedia. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yogi\\_Adityanath](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yogi_Adityanath)

115 <https://thewire.in/communalism/yati-narsinghanand-dharam-sansad-haridwar> (accessed 2022-02-27)

116 Hindutva Leaders at Haridwar Event Call for Muslim Genocide; <https://thewire.in/communalism/hindutva-leaders-dharama-sansad-muslim-genocide>

117 Open Call For Genocide: ‘Star Of Mysore’ Newspaper Refers Muslims As ‘Rotten Apples’, Calls For Getting ‘Rid Of Them’; <https://thecognate.com/open-call-for-genocide-star-of-mysore-newspaper-refers-muslims-as-rotten-apples-calls-for-getting-rid-of-them/> (accessed 2021-10-21)

118 ‘Mulle kaate jaayenge.’: Anti-Muslim slogans raised at Delhi’s Jantar Mantar; <https://www.siasat.com/mulle-kaate-jaayenge-anti-muslim-slogans-raised-at-delhis-jantar-mantar-2175395/> (accessed 2021-10-21)

119 Law against Love Jihad – History and Features | Business Standard (business-standard.com); <https://www.business-standard.com/about/what-is-love-jihad-law>

120 ‘Halal meat is economic jihad’, BJP’s Ravi adds fuel to K’taka’s communal discord; <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/bengaluru-news/halal-meat-is-economic-jihad-bjp-s-ravi-adds-fuel-to-k-taka-s-communal-discord-101648616259297.html>

121 ‘Population jihad must be stopped’: Meet the men who shouted anti-Muslim slogans in Delhi (newslandry.com) <https://www.newslandry.com/2021/08/10/population-jihad-must-be-stopped-meet-the-men-who-shouted-anti-muslim-slogans-in-delhi>

122 BJP National General Secretary CT Ravi: Halal Meat Is Economic Jihad (ndtv.com) <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/bjp-national-general-secretary-ct-ravi-halal-meat-is-economic-jihad-2850519>

How Islam Uses Halal Industry To Wage Economic Jihad (swarajyamag.com) <https://swarajyamag.com/politics/how-islam-uses-halal-industry-to-wage-economic-jihad>

123 A List of All the False Claims Made in Sudarshan TV’s ‘UPSC Jihad’ Show (thewire.in) <https://thewire.in/communalism/sudarshan-news-tv-show-upsc-jihad-suresh-chavhanke-fact-check>



**Corona Jihad:** EqualityLabs noted that there were 98,000 #Coronajihad tweets from April 1-4, 2020. The BJP-RSS machine was in full swing, with everyone from the Indian health ministry to media blaming Muslims for the virus. They claimed Muslims are doing bioterrorism by intentionally spreading the virus to non-Muslims as a form of "jihad." Muslims were beaten, arrested, and lynched during this hysteria.<sup>124</sup>

**Thook Jihad/Spit Jihad:** This conspiracy theory claims that Muslim eatery owners/street food vendors deliberately spit in their food to contaminate it.<sup>125</sup>

**Shiksha Jihad/Education Jihad:** This theory suggests that Muslims are using education as a means of Islamic indoctrination. A school was shut down for organizing an interfaith prayer service.<sup>126</sup>

**Flood Jihad:** After devastating floods hit India's north-eastern state of Assam in June 2022, claims that the local Muslim community were to blame for the disaster began circulating online. Major influencers with verified account started forwarding it. Assam is a flood-prone state of India where poor Muslim farmers themselves are often victims of floods. Police eventually arrested five Muslims because of fake reports without any evidence to prove any guilt.<sup>127</sup>

**Land Jihad:** A Hindutva conspiracy theory suggesting Muslims buy and encroach on properties as part of a campaign to displace Hindus and change demographics. This has led to bulldozing Muslim homes without due process. The BJP-RSS regime has also passed multiple laws designed to ghettoize Muslims.<sup>128</sup>



This report by Equality Labs is an analysis of Islamophobic Covid-19 Hatespeech and Disinformation in India.  
Photo Credite: equalitylabs.org

## DEMOLISHING HOMES ACCUSING PEOPLE OF LAND JIHAD



Muslim are accused of engaging in "land jihad" by illegally building houses. Without due process of law their houses are demolished as a punishment for peaceful protest.

In this photo an Indian student activist Afreen Fatima's house is bulldozed on Jun 13, 2022. after her father is arrested by the police for being alleged "mastermind" of protests. in Prayagraj in India's Uttar Pradesh state [Ritesh Shukla/Reuters]

<sup>124</sup> <https://www.equalitylabs.org/coronajihad>

<sup>125</sup> 'Thook Jihad' Is the Latest Weapon in Hindutva's Arsenal of Islamophobia (thewire.in): <https://thewire.in/communalism/thook-jihad-is-the-latest-weapon-in-hindutvas-arsenal-of-islamophobia>  
Bloodlust TV: Aman Chopra spitting hate on minorities with his 'thook jihad' show (newslandry.com) <https://twitter.com/aranpudur/status/1460663227906281473?s=20>

<sup>126</sup> BJP, RSS and Hindu Jangran Manch drove FIR against multifaitth prayers in Kanpur school (scroll.in) <https://scroll.in/article/1029715/how-bjp-leaders-and-hindutva-groups-drove-the-fir-against-multi-faith-prayers-in-a-kanpur-school>

<sup>127</sup> Assam: Muslims falsely accused of waging 'flood jihad' - BBC News <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-62378520>

<sup>128</sup> <https://thewire.in/rights/disturbed-areas-act-in-gujarat-a-tool-to-discriminate-against-muslims>

# Building a Cult: Hitler and Modi

## Hitler as a Cult Figure

Adolf Hitler realized the importance of creating a strong public image. He rehearsed gestures and poses to present himself as a powerful leader and tailored his dress and speech to appeal to particular audiences. He portrayed himself as a man of the people, an “unknown soldier” who fought for Germany in the First World War, one who rose to head a political movement due to his talent, and one who would alone be able to revive German glory. These notions were popular in Germany’s democratic politics.<sup>129</sup>



Adolf Hitler in Munich in the spring of 1932. (Photo by Heinrich Hoffmann/Archive Photos/Getty Images)

## Modi as a Cult Figure

Similarly, the massive propaganda machinery of the BJP-RSS regime, working under the highly skilled leader and Modi’s right hand man, Amit Shah, has successfully crafted a narrative around the prime minister’s personality that has resonated with the majority of Indians. The narrative that created Modi’s cult following has a four-pronged approach:

- Modi as a selfless leader with humble origins; a “chai wala” and “fakir” (tea seller, holy man)
- Modi as a decisive and strong leader with a “56 inch chest,” capable of defending India against its adversaries
- Modi as a beacon of hope for development
- Modi is an indispensable national leader in the absence of any credible alternative.<sup>130</sup>

In short, the narrative is that Modi alone can restore India’s glory.

In Madhya Pradesh a state minister even said Modi is an “Incarnation of God,” like Ram or Krishna.<sup>131</sup>



Indian Prime Minister Modi in an RSS oath-taking ceremony. This is similar to the Nazi salute. Photo Credit PIB.

<sup>129</sup> The legacy of Nazi propaganda and the 21st century; <https://brussels-express.eu/the-legacy-of-nazi-propaganda-and-the-21st-century/> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>130</sup> Decoding the Modi personality cult; <https://qrius.com/decoding-the-modi-personality-cult> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>131</sup> <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/pm-narendra-modi-incarnation-of-god-like-ram-krishna-madhya-pradesh-minister-kamal-patel-2714084>



# Nazi and the BJP–RSS Obsession with Weapons

## Arming of the Nazis

After World War 1, Germany was limited in the numbers of weapons it could make; Hitler wanted to build bigger weapons. These were intended to compensate for Germany's lack of numbers in comparison with the allied powers.<sup>132</sup> Some examples of the super weaponry that Germany made were the Bismarck class battleships and the V-3 multi-charge cannon. The birth of ballistic missiles, the V2 rocket, and even the abandoned development of a 1000-ton super-tank named Ratte point to the Nazi obsession with megaweapons. Some of these engineering feats sparked technological revolutions and changed warfare forever.

## Arming of India and the BJP–RSS Machine

Gone are the days when Gandhi preached non-violence to the world. The RSS, the party of Gandhi's assassin, Nathuram Godse, now controls the narrative in India. While for propaganda BJP–RSS regime builds statues of Gandhi abroad, at home, Modi leads a transformation away from Gandhi's teachings of non-violence.

**Modi Worshipping Guns:** Prime Minister Modi is officially photographed worshipping weapons as the ritual of "Shastra Pujan." Several of his weapon worshipping photographs are available on his own website.



Modi worshipping guns: Image: Narendra Modi website

**The Private Hindu Armies:** The RSS itself is a paramilitary organization that conducts trainings in 50,000 locations on a daily basis. RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat claims that RSS has the ability to prepare an army within three days if needed.<sup>133</sup> The term army is very popular in the BJP–RSS machine. Several RSS-affiliated groups have their own militias named as armies. They use Hindi terms for army: Sena, (for example Sri Ram Sena), Dal (for example Bajrang Dal), or Vahini (like Durga Vahini). One Hindu extremist who tends to be less secretive than the broader RSS, Yati Narsinghanand, claims to have 50 training centers for his Hindu army.

**Indian Arms Build Up:** India in 2021 spent \$76.6 billion on defense, higher than Russia, France, or Germany. India is the second largest arms importer in the world. The BJP–RSS regime emphasizes military power. India first tested a nuclear device in 1974, ironically codenaming it "Smiling Buddha." Since the BJP–RSS regime came to power India is focused on expanding and modernizing its nuclear arsenal, broadening its variety of nuclear weapons and increasing its number of delivery systems.



Activists of Bajrang Dal on Dec. 6, 2016, in Jammu, India, celebrating anniversary of the Babri Masjid demolition. Photo by Nitin Kanotra/Hindustan Times via Getty Images

<sup>132</sup> <https://www.heritagedaily.com/2021/03/wunderwaffe-the-nazi-superweapons-of-ww2/137566> (accessed 2022-05-10)

<sup>133</sup> <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/unlike-indian-army-that-takes-months-rss-can-prepare-for-war-in-three-days-mohan-bhagwat-1167519-2018-02-12>

# Indoctrination of Hitler's Youth and the BJP-RSS Youth

## The Hitler Youth

In 1922, the organization of the National Socialists was formed with a special youth branch, the Hitlerjugend or Hitler Youth. The Hitler Youth was designed to train and recruit young Germans for the Nazi regime. As the party's influence grew, so did their outreach. Membership grew from 100,000 to more than 2 million by the end of 1933, an indication of just how effective their strategies of recruitment and indoctrination of children were.<sup>134</sup>

Under Hitler, the Nazi party specifically focused on youth and on German families. The Nazis realized that to reach their goals, they had to infiltrate the family unit, whereas previously politics was kept out of the home.

In 1945, recognizing that they needed more soldiers at the warfront, the Nazi leadership began recruiting young boys and men from the Hitler Youth group. The indoctrination techniques paid off as the youngsters did not question orders and readily participated in paramilitary exercises.

## RSS Youth Training

Just like the Nazis, the BJP-RSS regime is committed to indoctrinating children with supremacist ideology, believing in the importance of "catching them young."

Vidya Bharati (short for Vidya Bharati Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Sansthan) is the educational wing of RSS.<sup>135</sup> It runs one of the largest private networks of schools in India, operating over 12,000 schools with over 3.4 million students.<sup>136</sup>

The curriculum of a Vidya Bharati school serves the socialization process and is an extension of the RSS strategy. Often branded as Saraswati Shishu Mandir



Military training of the Hitler Youth: boys at a shooting competition: Photo by ullstein bild/ullstein bild via Getty Images



Bajrang Dal rifle training session at a youth camp in Gujarat May 17, 2012. Some 168 students participated in a Bajrang Dal Basic Youth Camp from May 13 - 20. Apart from safeguarding 'holy cows', other goals include protecting India's Hindu identity from the perceived dangers of Muslim demographic growth and Christian conversion. SAM PANTHAKY/AFP/GettyImages

<sup>134</sup> Indoctrinating Youth, Holocaust Encyclopedia; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/indoctrinating-youth> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>135</sup> Religious Political parties and their Welfare Work: Relations between the RSS, the BJP and The vidya Bharati schools in India; [http://epapers.bham.ac.uk/1570/1/Nair\\_PoliticalParties.pdf](http://epapers.bham.ac.uk/1570/1/Nair_PoliticalParties.pdf) (accessed 2021-12-06)

<sup>136</sup> Home Page | Vidya Bharti Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Sansthan; <https://vidyabharti.net/> (accessed 2021-12-06)





Bajrang Dal army take part in a rally in Kolkata ,India on December 14,2021.  
Photo by Debajyoti Chakraborty/NurPhoto via Getty Images

The CIA in 2018 deemed Bajrang Dal a militant religious organization.

Wall Street Journal reported that Bajrang Dal on Facebook sells handguns, rifles, shotguns and bullets to its members.

Guns Offered for Sale in Facebook Groups Devoted to Religious Extremists in India: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/guns-offered-for-sale-in-facebook-groups-devoted-to-religious-extremists-in-india-11675861299>

or Saraswati Vidya Mandir after the Hindu Goddess of learning. The Hindutva agenda is promoted through the core curriculum of these schools.

RSS-affiliated Hindutva organizations also conduct events where disturbing hate-filled messages are instilled in the minds of young children. One such event was conducted on October 13th, 2021 by an RSS-related organization called the Durga Vahini (literally god Durga's army). Hundreds of members as well as children as young as five years old gathered in Indri City for "Shastra Poojan" or "weapon worship."<sup>137</sup> Children were exhorted to commit targeted killings of the "enemy."

In another incident of teaching hate, students at a school in Karnataka's Dakshina Kannada district re-enacted the demolition of the Babri Mosque. The students tore down a poster of Babri Mosque<sup>138</sup> amid chants of "Bolo Sri Ramachandra ki Jai" ("Say Victory to Lord Ram"). This occurred during an enactment of a play on its annual day, in which they later erected a Ram Mandir (temple) in its place. The school is run by an RSS functionary. A union minister belonging to the ruling BJP government and a lieutenant governor were chief guests at the event.

There have also been reports of minor tribal girls trafficked by RSS-affiliated groups on the promise of education. The illiterate parents of the girls were made to sign affidavits written in English that stated that they were sending their daughters of their own will. The girls were taught Hindutva values instead of being put into proper educational schools.<sup>139</sup> In April 2017, the RSS organized several rallies in the state of West Bengal where young girls marched with sharp edged swords.<sup>140</sup>

Muslim girls wearing hijab were prevented from entering educational institutions in the state of Karnataka. When they protested, arguing that the Indian Constitution granted them the right to practice their faith, the RSS-affiliated Hindu Jagarana Vedike mobilized Hindu students to stage a counter-protest by wearing saffron shawls and turbans to school. It must be noted that while many Muslim women consider Hijab obligatory, saffron shawls or turbans are not an essential tenet of Hinduism and are not commonly present in Hindu households.<sup>141</sup>

<sup>137</sup> [https://twitter.com/alishan\\_jafri/status/1448196259819360256?s=12](https://twitter.com/alishan_jafri/status/1448196259819360256?s=12) (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>138</sup> Students at RSS-run school re-enact Babri demolition, trustee says there's nothing wrong; <https://theprint.in/india/students-at-rss-run-school-re-enact-babri-demolition-trustee-says-theres-nothing-wrong/336100/> (accessed 2021-10-21)

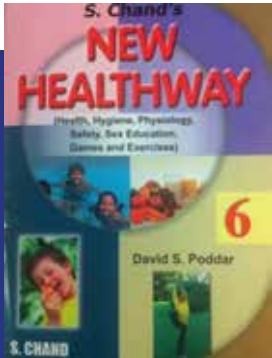
<sup>139</sup> RSS 'Trafficked' 31 Assamese Girls to Instill 'Hindutva': Report; <https://www.thequint.com/amp/story/news/india/rss-trafficked-31-assamese-girls-to-instill-hindutva-report> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>140</sup> Panel unhappy as children carry arms during RSS rally; <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/panel-unhappy-as-children-carry-arms-during-rss-rally/article17894759.ece> (accessed 2021-10-21)

<sup>141</sup> How Hindutva Group Mobilised the Saffron-Clad Students at Udupi College; <https://www.thequint.com/news/india/how-the-hindutva-group-mobilised-the-saffron-clad-students-at-udupi-college> (accessed 2022-03-19)

## Teaching Children to Hate

Textbooks are methodologically changed to depict Indian Muslims in a negative light. The new textbooks promote the BJP-RSS regime and ideology. They glorify ancient mythological and medieval Hindu rulers, demonize the historical Mughals, and glorify the BJP prime minister, Narendra Modi. Here is an excerpt from the grade 6 textbook about non-vegetarians, which is often used as a stand-in for Muslims: "They easily cheat, tell lies, they forget promises, they are dishonest and tell bad words, steal, fight and turn to violence and commit sex crime."<sup>142</sup>



### 6th Grade Book Teaching Hate Toward Muslims

"They easily cheat, tell lies, they forget promises, they are dishonest and tell bad words, steal, fight and turn to violence and commit sex crimes."

An excerpt from a grade 6 textbook from India about non-vegetarians, which is often used as a stand-in for Muslims

These examples are from public schools. In the RSS private schools, they are fed a stronger diet of Hindutva. Young children are not only picking up ignorance, prejudice, and hatred from textbooks, and RSS schools, but are being recruited and trained to become militia members.

Indian media reports that just one BJP-RSS related Hindu monk, Yati Narsinghanand, operates at least 50 paramilitary training camps for his "Dharma Sena" which translates as Hindu religious army. Some camps are open and have been visited by the media, but other camps, according to his followers, are secret so that police cannot access them. These camps are headquartered at a temple at Dasna in the Ghaziabad district of the state of Uttar Pradesh, where the head priest is Narsinghanand himself.<sup>143</sup>

The Times of India, after visiting four of these "Hindu Religious Army" training camps, reported that children as young as 8 years old are being trained in firearms. One of the camp leaders claimed that they have trained 15,000 children in a period of two years.<sup>144</sup>



### 12th Grade Book Praising Hitler's Treatment of Jew

"Hitler made a strong German organization with the help of [the] Nazi party and attained great honour for this. By favouring German civilians and by opposing Jews and by his new economic policies, he made Germany a prosperous country."

India's Dangerous New Curriculum; <https://www.nybooks.com/articles/2018/12/06/indias-dangerous-new-curriculum> (accessed 2022-02-27)

<sup>142</sup> The Class 6 Central Board for Secondary Education (CBSE) textbook titled "New Healthway: Health, Hygiene, Physiology, Safety, Sex Education, Games and Exercises". <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/non-vegetarians-lie-cheat-commit-sex-crimes-school-text-book-504736>

<sup>143</sup> <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/50646587.cms> (accessed 2021-10-19)

<sup>144</sup> <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/50646587.cms> (accessed 2021-10-19)



## Schools Across India Propagate Hitler's "achievements"

"In 2004, when now-Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the Chief Minister of Gujarat, school textbooks published by the Gujarat State Board portrayed Hitler as a hero, and glorified fascism. The tenth-grade social studies textbook had chapters entitled "Hitler, the Supremo," and "Internal Achievements of Nazism." The section on the "Ideology of Nazism" reads: "Hitler lent dignity and prestige to the German government. He adopted the policy of opposition towards the Jewish people and advocated the supremacy of the German race."

Hitler's Hindus, Daily Haaretz, Israel, Dec 14, 2017:  
Short URL: [t.ly/U8B6](https://t.ly/U8B6)

# Destruction of Synagogues in Nazi Germany and Mosques in India

## Nazi Destruction of Synagogues

To the Nazis, synagogues served as a powerful physical reminder of the Jewish presence in Germany. In the months before Kristallnacht (the Night of the Broken Glass), synagogues in Munich, Nuremberg, Dortmund, and Kaiserslautern were demolished on the orders of local Nazi party officials. In other German towns, anti-Jewish vandalism became common.<sup>145</sup>

The Night of the Broken Glass was November 9, 1938. The violence became nationwide. It is named after the smashed glass that covered the streets, from the windows of shops and synagogues that had been looted, burnt and vandalized during the attacks. An estimated 267 synagogues were burned or destroyed during the pogrom.



The Eberswalde synagogue in Berlin, Germany is destroyed during the anti-Semitic attacks of Kristallnacht, November 9–10, 1938. In total, 1,000 synagogues were destroyed. Photo by: Universal History Archive/Universal Images Group via Getty Images

## The BJP–RSS Destruction of Mosques

On December 6th, 1992, a large group of the RSS-allied group Vishva Hindu Parishad, led by prominent BJP leaders, demolished the 16th-century Babri mosque based on the unproven claim that it was built on the site of the birthplace of the mythological Hindu God Rama. This was followed by widespread attacks on Muslims all over India, resulting in the death of at least 2,000 people, a majority of whom were Muslims.

In a travesty of justice, a special court acquitted all 32 accused in the illegal demolition of the historic mosque nearly three decades after the incident.<sup>146</sup> Additionally, the land was allocated to the very people who destroyed the mosque on their strong belief that it was the birthplace of Rama, even while the court held that the destruction was illegal.

This is another manifestation of a pliant judiciary under the extremist BJP–RSS regime in which Hindutva ideology takes precedence over all principles of justice and international norms. The court's verdict stood in stark contrast to the findings of the Union government's Liberhan Commission, which was constituted to inquire into the demolition.<sup>147</sup>

<sup>145</sup> Synagogues, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; <https://www.ushmm.org/information/exhibitions/online-exhibitions/special-focus/kristallnacht/synagogues> (accessed 2021-12-11)

<sup>146</sup> Babri mosque: India court acquits BJP leaders in demolition case; <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-54318515> (accessed 2021-12-11)

<sup>147</sup> LIBERHAN AYODHYA COMMISSION; <https://www.mha.gov.in/about-us/commissions-committees/liberhan-ayodhya-commission> (accessed 2021-12-11)



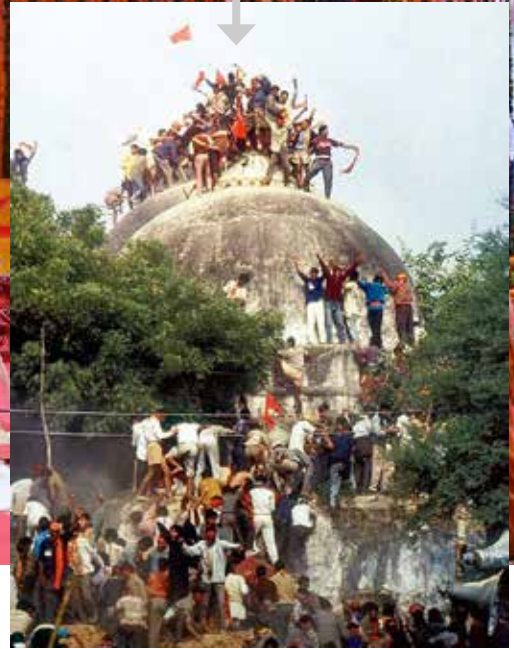
Figure 5

## At Babri Mosque Demolition the BJP-RSS Mastered Their Key Strategy: Mobilize Hindus against Muslims to gain power

The Indian Prime Minister Modi, an RSS member, worshipping at the 2020 inauguration of the Ram Temple construction at the site of Babri Mosque demolished by the BJP-RSS.

The RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat, worshipping along with Modi at the inauguration.

Among the last photos of the 500 year old historic Babri Mosque. The Indian Supreme Court verdict categorically states that no temple was demolished to build this mosque, as claimed by the BJP-RSS machine. However, the BJP leaders were never punished for demolishing the mosque.



On Dec. 6, 1992, Babri mosque was demolished at the culmination of a months-long BJP-RSS march with 150,000 people led by BJP President LK Advani. The publicly stated goal was to build a Hindu temple on the mosque site. The current Prime Minister of Modi was photographed in the long march standing next to Advani. A former head of Intelligence Bureau (India's FBI) Maloy Krishna Dhar claimed that Babri mosque demolition was planned 10 months in advance by top leaders of the RSS and its affiliates BJP and VHP. A report, authored by Justice Manmohan Singh Liberhan, found 68 people to be responsible for the demolition, mostly leaders from the BJP.

Photo credit PIB for inauguration photo and Ayman Aumi for demolition photo of Babri Mosque.

### Hindutva Attacks the Taj Mahal

The BJP-RSS regime is wiping out the Muslim architectural heritage from India. The method is the same as applied to the Babri mosque: First claim that it was a Hindu temple; then attack the mosque; then go to the courts without proof of ownership; then demolish and rebuild a temple in its place. Now an icon of Muslim India, the Taj Mahal, is under attack. A leader of India's ruling BJP has called for the destruction of this monument of love in Agra to be replaced by a Hindu temple. The stunning white marble mausoleum was built in the 17th century by Mughal King Shah Jahan in memory of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, in Agra, about 115 miles from the Indian capital, New Delhi. <https://www.ndtv.com/opinion/with-its-leaders-taj-mahal-rant-bjp-tests-ground-for-2019-1763867>



On August 5, 2020, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for a grand Hindu temple with elaborate Hindu rituals on the site where the mosque once stood, thus fulfilling his promise to his Hindu-nationalist political base.<sup>148</sup> The event was marked with celebrations by Hindutva groups all over the world, including the USA.<sup>149</sup>

## Reclaiming 3,000 Mosques

Militant Hindutva groups often talk about a movement of reclaiming over 3,000 mosques, but specifically mention the Shahi Idgah mosque adjacent to the Hindu Lord Krishna's temple in Mathura and the Gyanvapi mosque built adjacent to the Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi.<sup>150</sup> A prominent BJP minister has remarked that the "white structure" (referring to the mosque in Mathura) "hurts the eyes of every Hindu."

## Gurugram Prayer Spaces, 2021

In Gurugram, the richest suburb of Delhi, Muslims' congregational Friday prayers were disrupted by Hindutva groups for months in a row. Faced with a shortage of mosques, Gurugram's Muslims had been offering their Friday prayers in parks and on empty lots for years with approval from the authorities. About 100 such sites were earmarked for the purpose.

Persistent protests by Hindutva groups prompted city officials to withdraw permission from most of the sites.<sup>151</sup> Every Friday as Muslims began to gather for prayers, foot soldiers of several Hindutva outfits turned up at different areas of Gurugram shouting slogans including "Jai Shri Ram" (Hail Lord Rama), playing loud devotional music and heckling worshippers; their "success" was measured by the reduction in the number of spots where Muslim prayers were previously allowed.<sup>152</sup>

On one such Friday, worshippers were completely barred from prayers as cow dung was spread on the site and an elaborate Hindu ritual of Govardhan Puja was organized where invitees included prominent BJP leaders.<sup>153,154</sup> Hindutva extremists finally had their way when the chief minister of the ruling BJP, announced the withdrawal of the agreement that had permitted Muslims to offer Friday prayers on government land.<sup>155</sup>

It should be noted that while Hindutva elements obstructed the Muslim prayers, Hindu rituals such as Durga Puja and Navratri are routinely organized in open public spaces all over India.

## Tripura Mosques, 2021

In November 2021, at least 16 mosques were attacked and vandalized in the small northeastern state of Tripura by members of RSS-aligned groups. The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) stated on Twitter, "USCIRF is particularly alarmed about reports from Tripura of mobs desecrating mosques and torching properties of Muslims. The Indian government must bring those responsible for instigating and engaging in religious violence to justice and must prevent further attacks."<sup>156</sup>

148 India's PM, Narendra Modi, Founds Temple on Ayodhya Mosque's Ruins; <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/05/world/asia/modi-temple-ayodhya.html> (accessed 2021-12-11)

149 At New York's Times Square, Both Celebrations of and Protests Against Ram Mandir; <https://thewire.in/communalism/new-york-times-square-ram-mandir> (accessed 2021-12-11)

150 Mathura lies in the western part of the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, while Varanasi lies on the eastern part of the state.

151 India: Hindu groups continue to disrupt Muslim prayers in Gurgaon, Islamophobia News; <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/12/7/india-gurgaon-muslims-friday-prayers-hindu-groups-islamophobia-haryana> (accessed 2021-12-11)

152 Who are the Hindutva activists at Gurugram's namaz disruptions?; <https://www.newslandry.com/2021/12/10/who-are-the-hindutva-activists-at-gurugrams-namaz-disruptions> (accessed 2021-12-11)

153 In Gurgaon, the Gods Have Fled as Hindutva Leaders Turn Puja Into Anti-Muslim Politics; <https://thewire.in/communalism/in-gurgaon-the-gods-have-fled-as-hindutva-leaders-turn-puja-into-anti-muslim-politics> (accessed 2021-12-11)

154 Govardhan puja (or prayer) may involve making a symbolic hill from dung and mud

155 Muslims Should Not Offer Friday Prayers in Gurugram's Open Spaces: Haryana CM Khattar; <https://thewire.in/communalism/muslims-should-not-offer-friday-prayers-in-gurugrams-open-spaces-haryana-cm-khattar> (accessed 2021-12-11)

156 Muslims in India's Tripura remain in fear after mosques targeted, Islamophobia News; <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/11/5/india-tripura-muslims-mosques-violence-bjp-vhp> (accessed 2021-12-11)



# Ghettoization

A ghetto is an area of a city inhabited by certain sections of society, identified by race, religious affiliation, economic or social status. The term originates in Venice, which required Jews to live in a specific area beginning in 1516.

## Jewish Ghettos in Germany

After Nazi Germany's take over of Poland, Jews were forced by the German authorities to move into specific and designated areas of cities. This provided a means for the Germans to separate Jews from the rest of the population. Families were forced to vacate their homes and leave much of their belongings as they were moved into ghettos.

Food shortages, cramped living conditions, and the anxiety of either being forced into labor in Nazi factories or being taken to concentration camps became part of daily life in the ghettos. The Nazis deported Jews from ghettos to extermination camps under the pretext of "resettlement." A smaller percentage were sent to labor camps or concentration camps.<sup>157</sup>

## Muslim Ghettos in India

India's ghettoization follows a model that is prevalent in the BJP-RSS regime's majoritarianism. While not forced out directly, Muslims are often denied rental properties in upscale areas of cities. In many cases, renters advertise that Muslims should not apply.<sup>158</sup> The same is true in sales of homes or property, where Muslims are denied access on various grounds. Often a developer flatly refuses to sell to Muslims. In the state of Gujarat, there are laws which ensure that. Often a pogrom of Muslims results in Muslims losing their houses and running to safer neighborhoods where other poor Muslims are living. The result is that Muslims are slowly being forced to live in certain specific areas of cities.<sup>159,160</sup>

As the BJP-RSS regime in India continues its path to Hinduization of the country, these Muslim enclaves make Muslims into easier targets, surrounded by and dependent on the majority Hindu population.



Dharavi is the slum portrayed in the award-winning film "Slumdog Millionaire." It is home to more than a million people situated in the middle of India's financial capital, Mumbai. It is a city within a city, one unending stretch of narrow dirty lanes, open sewers and cramped huts. Ghettoization of Muslims achieved through attacks on them, called "riots" in Indian politically correct language, has increased the population of Muslims in this slum to 45% as compared to about a 14% Muslim population for all of India in Census 2011. Photograph by Kristian Bertel, Wikimedia Commons.

<sup>157</sup> Ghettos; <https://www.usmmm.org/collections/bibliography/ghettos> (accessed 2022-03-25)

<sup>158</sup> Muslims not allowed; <https://www.cnbctv18.com/views/muslims-not-allowed-the-stereotypes-of-mumbais-rental-property-market-6970051.htm> (accessed 2022-03-25)

<sup>159</sup> How Muslim ghettos came about in Delhi; <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/muslim-ghettos-of-delhi-6297633/> (accessed 2022-03-25)

<sup>160</sup> In India's Largest Muslim Ghetto; <https://viewsworld.com/in-indias-largest-muslim-ghetto/> (accessed 2022-03-25)

# Pogroms in Nazi Germany and in the BJP–RSS Led India

“Pogrom” is a Russian word which literally means to wreak havoc or to demolish violently. Historically, the term refers to violent attacks by local non-Jewish populations on Jews in the Russian Empire and in other countries.<sup>161</sup> It is now used to describe “a mob attack, either approved or condoned by authorities, against the persons and property of a religious, racial, or national minority.”<sup>162</sup>

## Pogroms in Nazi Germany

Before the Holocaust, there were pogroms. The most significant pogrom that occurred in Nazi Germany was the 1938 Kristallnacht, the “Night of Broken Glass”, mentioned earlier. In early November 1938, a young Jewish man named Herschel Grynszpan walked into the German embassy in Paris and shot the Third Secretary of the embassy in an attempt to draw international attention to what Jews were experiencing. This incident was used as a pretext for unleashing a series of orchestrated, violent anti-Semitic attacks disguised as spontaneous outbursts of public sentiment across Germany, Austria, and the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia.

In just two days, more than 1,000 synagogues were burnt or damaged, about 7,500 Jewish businesses were destroyed, at least 91 Jews were murdered, and hundreds of Jewish hospitals, homes, schools, and cemeteries vandalized. The attackers were often neighbors. According to orders, the police arrested the victims rather than the perpetrators. Some 30,000 Jews were arrested and sent to concentration camps. Historians view Kristallnacht as a prelude to the “Final Solution”—the annihilation of Jews during the Holocaust.<sup>163, 164</sup>



Germans pass by the broken shop window of a Jewish-owned business that was destroyed during Kristallnacht. Source: US Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration, College Park

## Pogroms under the BJP–RSS regime in India

Pogrom of Muslims in India is not a new phenomenon. According to the Indian government there were 3,399 cases of communal rioting in the country in the five year period from 2016 to 2020.<sup>165</sup> But the nature of such attacks has significantly changed since the rise of the BJP–RSS regime. The two most brutal pogroms in recent years have been the Gujarat Pogrom of 2002 and Delhi Pogrom of 2020.

**India had 3,399 cases of communal riots in 5 years of BJP rule** Indian Government data

<sup>161</sup> Pogroms, Holocaust Encyclopedia; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/pogroms> (accessed 2022-03-09)

<sup>162</sup> Pogrom, mob attack; <https://www.britannica.com/topic/pogrom> (accessed 2022-03-09)

<sup>163</sup> Final Solution overview; <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/final-solution-overview> (accessed 2022-3-8)

<sup>164</sup> Holocaust – From Kristallnacht to the “final solution”, Britannica; <https://www.britannica.com/event/Holocaust/From-Kristallnacht-to-the-final-solution> (accessed 2022-3-8)

<sup>165</sup> <https://thewire.in/government/india-communal-religious-riots-2016-2020>

## Gujarat Pogrom of 2002

The ghastly Gujarat Pogrom took place in 2002, leaving more than 2,000 Muslims dead. The pogrom was part of a larger plan to cleanse Gujarat of Muslims. This "Hindutva experiment" was backed by the BJP government.<sup>166</sup>

A train fire incident in Godhra on Feb. 27, 2002, in which Hindus returning from Ayodhya were killed, was used as a trigger. Muslims were blamed for the fire, but an inquiry later determined that the cause was accidental.<sup>167</sup> Instead of isolating the criminals who attacked the train and punishing them according to the law, the state government unleashed a bloodbath that lasted unchecked for three days.

Mass rape, sexual humiliation of women in public, and the battering and burning alive of men, women, and children marked those grim days. Tens of thousands of homes and small business establishments were set ablaze. Hundreds of religious shrines were desecrated and destroyed in this carnage.



Abandoned and damaged Buildings owned by Muslims in in the Gulberg Society, Ahmedabad. 69 Muslims sheltering in this residential complex were murdered on during the anti-Muslim pogrom of 2002. Photo: SAM PANTHAKY/AFP via Getty Images



## Responses by Indian police & Fire Department

"We don't have any orders to save you."  
"We cannot help you, we have orders from above."  
"Whose house is on fire? Hindus' or Muslims'?"  
"How come you are alive? You should have died too"

Responses by police, fire stations, ambulance services when victims of Gujarat 2002 Pogrom called for help.  
Photo credit FIB.

## Delhi Pogrom of 2020

The ominous echoes of Gujarat 2002 were heard in Delhi in February 2020. At least 53 people were killed and 250 injured. The BJP-RSS machine attacked mosques, shops and houses of the Muslim community which were identified prior to pogrom. Women who were visibly Muslim were attacked. The Delhi police, who report directly to Home Minister Amit Shah, either stood idly by or collaborated with the violent mobs. In what can be seen as a series of retaliatory measures, the victims themselves have been charged and arrested. In other cases, the police have been accused of refusing to file complaints against named perpetrators.<sup>168</sup>



Destroyed and burned shop of a Muslim during the Delhi Pogrom of 2020. On February 23, 2020, the BJP-RSS machine started attacking Muslims in the area which lasted several days, resulting in the death of 53 people, the majority of them Muslims, and the injury of 250. Approximately 2,000 were displaced.

<sup>166</sup> Premeditated Causes of the 2002 Gujarat Pogrom: A Comprehensive Analysis of Contributing Factors that Led to the Manifestation of the Riots; [https://minds.wisconsin.edu/bitstream/handle/1793/70989/Wilichowski\\_Gujarat\\_2012.pdf](https://minds.wisconsin.edu/bitstream/handle/1793/70989/Wilichowski_Gujarat_2012.pdf) (accessed 2022-03-08)

<sup>167</sup> Godhra train fire accidental; <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1437742.cms> (accessed 2022-02-18)

<sup>168</sup> Why the 2020 violence in Delhi was a pogrom; <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2021/2/24/why-the-2020-violence-in-delhi-was-a-pogrom>

**“Prejudices embedded in the government of the ruling Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have infiltrated independent institutions, such as the police and the courts, empowering nationalist groups to threaten, harass, and attack religious minorities with impunity.”**

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/02/19/india-government-policies-actions-target-minorities>



**RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat claims that RSS has the ability to prepare an army within three days if needed.**

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/unlike-indian-army-that-takes-months-rss-can-prepare-for-war-in-three-days-mohan-bhagwat-1167519-2018-02-12>  
The above representative image is of Indian army. Photo credit FIB.



## Conclusion

This report's comparison of what the Nazis did before and during the Holocaust and what is happening in India today clearly demonstrates that India is on a dangerous trajectory to becoming a Nazi-inspired, fascist, majoritarian state, where its minorities and particularly its more than 200 million Muslims face an impending danger of genocide. Genocide Watch has warned that the situation in India has already reached the stages of polarization, preparation, and persecution: respectively, the 6th, 7th, and 8th stages of the Ten Stages of Genocide.<sup>169</sup>

The world must heed these warning signs and act as a matter of urgency to prevent history from repeating itself. Global leaders must condemn the gross human rights violations occurring in India and pressure the government to hold true to India's secular constitution. International human rights organizations and genocide researchers need to dedicate resources to work with Indian civil society to understand the architecture of repression and help dismantle it.

**“Wherever men or women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must—at that moment—become the center of the universe.”**

Elie Wiesel , Nobel Peace Prize winner and Holocaust survivor

<sup>169</sup> <https://www.genocidewatch.com/tenstages>



# Recommendations

## Recommendations for the United Nations

1. Appoint a Special Rapporteur for India
2. Enlarge the Office for Genocide Prevention and task them to recommend preventive mechanisms
3. Build greater support for human rights mechanisms in Geneva and New York
4. Ensure that the Nazification of India challenge is prioritized for the Secretary General
5. Ask the Special Rapporteur on Religious Freedom to address the issue of religious freedom for Muslim minorities
6. Ask UN Women to take up the cause of minority women in India
7. Engage the Security Council as far as possible, through resolutions, press statements or Arria Formula meetings

## Recommendations for the United States Government

1. Accept the USCIRF's recommendations to designate India as a Country of Particular Concern and place sanctions against those individual responsible for violence against minorities
2. Use the Global Magnitsky Act to sanction the officers who torture and fail to protect, as well as those monks who are openly calling for genocide and soliciting suicide bombers
3. Establish a Special Envoy office at the State Department to track and combat Islamophobia globally
4. Create a rapid response team led by human rights experts at the US Embassy in India to respond to and investigate attacks against religious minorities by visiting the affected areas, speaking to the victims, their families, and witnesses, and then reporting their findings directly to the United States Ambassador to India
5. Include an expert on Indian Human Rights at any diplomatic and trade negotiation meetings with India
6. Prevent fund transfer from USA to Hindutva groups in India.

## Recommendations for the Canadian Government

1. The Prime Minister's office should publicly condemn India's human rights violations against minorities in India and calls for genocide against Indian Muslims by RSS and Hindutva leaders
2. Use the Canadian Magnitsky Act to sanction the officers who torture and fail to protect, as well as those monks openly calling for genocide and soliciting suicide bombers
3. Include an expert on Indian Human Rights at any diplomatic and trade negotiation meetings with India
4. Prevent fund transfer from Canada to Hindutva groups in India

## Recommendation for Human Rights Organizations

1. Dedicate resources to cover the situation of minority rights in India
2. Work with Indian civil society to understand the legal architecture of repression, and help to dismantle it
3. Educate global media

## Recommendations for Genocide Researchers

1. Issue quarterly reports on the India's march toward genocide
2. The International Association of Genocide Scholars must issue their informed opinion on India

## Recommendations for Synagogues and Churches

1. Share this report with congregants
2. Organize an educational panel or program on the Nazification of India
3. Closely follow the Holocaust Museum's Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide's Early Warning Project: it lists India at risk for mass killings<sup>170</sup>
4. Advocate for governmental and business actions to counter India's human rights abuses

## Recommendations for Mosques

1. Share this report with congregation
2. Share it with interfaith partners
3. Organize an educational panel or program on the Nazification of India

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<sup>170</sup> Country - India | Early Warning Project <https://earlywarningproject.ushmm.org/countries/india> (accessed 2022-1-24)

# THE NAZIFICATION OF INDIA



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