

We, as a coalition of interfaith organizations representing diverse religious traditions and millions of followers across the United States and globally, are compelled to address our deep concerns about the recent biased portrayal of Hindus in the media. This pattern of reporting promotes anti-Hindu religious bigotry or Hinduphobia.

Our coalition, encompassing Hindu, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Sikh, and other interfaith groups, vehemently condemns this surge in religious scapegoating. We call upon media platforms to uphold greater responsibility in their coverage and urge policymakers to take a firm stand against religious bigotry, promoting unity and mutual understanding.

Journalism is pivotal to democracy, providing the public with the knowledge necessary to tackle critical issues and effect change. However, for journalism to serve this purpose, it must maintain the highest standards of accuracy, fairness, and integrity, thereby fostering trust and unity among varied communities.

Media has recently published content that not only promotes Hinduphobia but also biases against individuals and organizations from multiple faith backgrounds. Specifically, the portrayal of The Science of Identity Foundation (SIF), a spiritual organization based in the Hindu Gaudiya Vaishnava tradition, has spread fear and animosity towards Hindu practices, misrepresenting the beliefs of millions.

This trend is not only alarming but sets a harmful precedent that can deepen divisions at a time when interfaith dialogue and cooperation are more crucial than ever. Hinduism, like other spiritual paths, promotes service, humility, and universal well-being. Mischaracterizing these teachings undermines the mutual trust essential for building a cohesive and inclusive society.

We implore media outlets and political leaders to transcend divisive tactics and biased reporting. Instead, we advocate for discourse that is fair, fact-based, and rooted in respect, diversity, and compassion. The vitality of our democracy depends on embracing our diversity, not exploiting it for discord.

For balanced and well-informed reporting on Vaishnava Hinduism, the Science of Identity Foundation, or any faith tradition, we recommend consulting with recognized scholars, practitioners, and authoritative texts to ensure the narratives are fair and accurate.

Sincerely,

1. The Khalsa Today and Sikh Wing of American4Hindus (A4H) (Sukhi Chahal, Chairman)
2. World Sacred Gardens Church (Gordon Goff, Founder)
3. Muslim Association (Hakim Ouansafi, Chair)
4. Association TerraNation (Annick Dauphinais, Director)
5. All Believers Network (Saleem Ahmed, Founder)
6. Maitreya Institute (Roger Epstein, CEO)
7. Hindu Buddhist & Christian Unity Council (Dwijen Bhattacharjya Phd, President)
8. Bangladeshi, Hindu, Buddhist & Christian Unity Council, USA Inc (Sukanta Das, Director)
9. New American Voters Association (Dr Dilip Nath, President)
10. South Asians of New York (Dr Hari Shukla, President)
11. Human Rights Education Organization and Movie to Movement (Jason Jones, President)
12. Armenian Assembly of America (Anthony Barsamian, Co-Chair)

13. Consulate Churches of Christ (Archbishop Akayzian, World Moderator)
14. Glendale City Councilmember (Ardy Kassakhian, former Mayor Glendale)
15. USA Armenian Life Magazine (Appo Jabarian, Executive Publisher)
16. Interfaith Strength (Dr. Richard Benkin, Founder)
17. American Hellenic Council (Alex Mizan, Treasurer/Acting Executive Director)
18. Iman Cultural Center (Dr Sadegh Namazikhah, President)
19. Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan, Primate)
20. Armenian National Committee of America (Aram Hamparian, Executive Director)
21. Interfaith Unity for Tolerance (Ali Abbas Taj, Director)
22. Saint Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church Parish Council (Appo Jabarian, Council Board Member)
23. American Armenian National Security Institute (Major Gen. MacCarley, President and CEO)
24. Arab American Association of Bergen NJ (Mohammad Mansour, Director)
25. Al-Khoei Foundation (Fadel Al Sahlani, Imam)
26. Ahlul Bayt Mosque (Sadeq Waeely, Imam)
27. Al-Fatima Islamic Center (Jaafar Nabelsi, Imam)
28. Anjumane Aza Khane Zahra (Ali Khan, Director)
29. Imam Ali Mosque (Hussein Rakaa, President)
30. Islamic Center at NY (Hassan Yehya, Imam)
31. Islamic Center of NY (Kamel Noori, Imam)
32. Islamic Centre of Medina (Saleem Nawfal, Director)
33. Islamic Shia Ithna Asheri (Ali Bano, Imam)
34. Jaffarya Center of Niagara Frontier (Ahmad Aboud, President)
35. Muslim Mosque (Mostapha Anqoudi, Imam)
36. Shah-e-Najaf Center (Sameeh Rahaa, Imam)
37. Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of NY (Nizar Tabaja, Imam)
38. Al-Mahdi Foundation (Ali Kamil, Director)
39. Jaffaria Association of N.A (Samir Taha, Imam)
40. Jaffarya Islamic Center of Buffalo, NY (Kassim Mustapha, Imam)
41. Shah-E-Najaf Islamic Center (Karim Sayer, Imam)
42. Algadeer Foundation (Maan Al Sahlani , Imam)
43. Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of NY (Salam Amir, Director)
44. Hellenic Council of YSEE America (Konstantine Malliaros, Minister of the Hellenic Religion)
45. Dr. Jeffery D. Long, Carl W. Zeigler Professor of Religion, Philosophy, & Asian Studies, School of Arts & Humanities, Elizabethtown College
46. Stand By With Dignity (Mustafa Abidi, President)
47. Wall Street Conference (Jason Lyons, Chairman and Founder)
48. New Jersey Muslim Officers Society (Mudather Malik, President and Ihsan Abdul Rassoul, Trustee)
49. Mehfile Shahe Khorasan (Shabir Ladak, President)
50. KSI Jamaat Of PA (Naser Ali, Director)
51. Khatoon E Jannat (Tarek Masrey, Imam)
52. Al Mustapha Islamic Center (Ali Yaseen, Imam)
53. The Crescent Islamic Center (Jihad Aleeme, Trustee)
54. Dar Alsalm Center (Hussam Hasanein, Director)
55. Masjid Ibrahim (Mustapha Amini, Imam)
56. Masjid Al Iman (Ali Karim, Imam)
57. Darul Uloom (Shubar Sahih, Imam)
58. El Zahra Islamic Center (Mahmoud Jamal, Director)

59. Masjid Omar (Saleh Ahmad, Imam)
60. Standwithdignity.org (Mustafa Abdi, Vice President)
61. Cristiana La Luz de la Vida Church of Englewood (Manuel Montero, Director)
62. First Spanish Methodist Church (Matthew lyle, Father)
63. Our Lady of Fatima Church (Joel Pena, Father)
64. American Jewish Conservatives (Benji Gershon, Founder and President)
65. Yeshiva Ohr Simcha of Englewood (Menachem Strassfeld, Director)
66. Earth Aware (Raoul Goff, President)
67. Midwood Jewish Center (Yisrael Cohen, Director)