

RSS

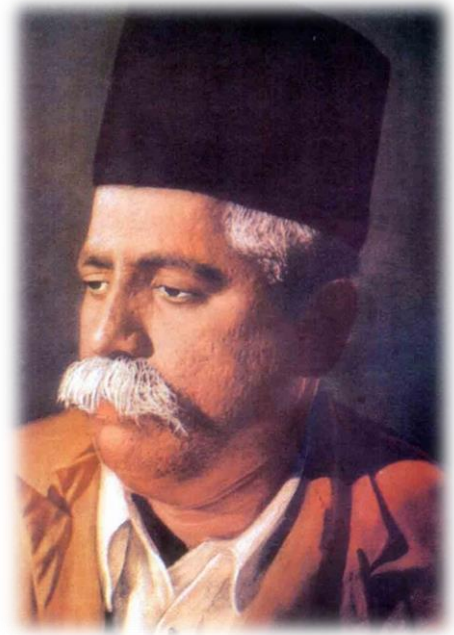
**India's Klan
Juggernaut**

By

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RSS stands for Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. It is India's version of Ku Klux Klan (KKK).

In the early 1920's, Gandhism, with its emphasis on social reform, had become a powerful political force throughout British-India. His *satyagraha*, or methods for "holding to truth," became popular across the British colony, inspiring many to acts of civil disobedience. However, interwoven into his *satyagraha* was an endemic religious intolerance that ultimately undermined much of the cultural reforms he helped bring about. In 1925, a physician named Dr. Keshnav Baliram Hedgewar (1889-1940) latched on to these intolerant threads and founded the *Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh* (RSS) in Nagpur, Maharashtra.



Dr. Hedgewar

From its onset in 1925, Dr. Hedgewar knew what he was aiming for. He had participated in Gandhi's second nationwide hydra-headed *satyagraha*, and from it drew inspiration to form a grass roots paramilitary

organization promoting Hindu Nationalism that would spread virus-like across the Colony. With Gandhi's blessing, the RSS was born, even though its Hindu-nationalists goals overturned any of Gandhi's public admonitions for much publicized Hindu-Muslim unity. Much of the RSS's initial philosophy drew inspiration from Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini. However, at the Colony-wide level, RSS quickly transformed into an expanding extremist political movement stemming from the budding Gandhism of the early 1920s.

Today the RSS looms over India like a mythical Kraken; a toxic organization whose tentacles extend deeply into Indian society, as well into major influence centers around the world. Its headquarters in Nagpur, Maharashtra, provides a visual reminder of their paramilitary might. Surrounded by the best in modern security technology, their facility reminds one of the massive Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) headquarters complex in Langley, Virginia, or Russia's Federal Security Service Building (FSB) in Moscow

In 1875, Swami Dayananda Saraswati (1824–1883) began promoting *Arya Samaj*, a form of Hindu Fundamentalism that focused on the supreme authority

of the Vedas. At birth, the RSS plucked core elements from Arya Samaj's fanatical ideology and merged it with *sanghathan*, their systematic, grass roots organizational efforts, to produce a nationwide paramilitary political force. From this movement emerged strong male leaders willing to impart their extremist Hindu beliefs and values, sometimes by force, upon other members of the Hindu community, with the expressed goal of eventually making all of India conform to their beliefs.

Male RSS leaders would often perform public fetes of strength, displaying their muscular vigor while simultaneously performing military drills and shouting out political slogans intended to promote Hindu Nationalism. This included admonitions to reinvigorate an abusive caste system that took advantage of most of the population, manipulating the lower-caste Shudras and Untouchables to inflict violence against any Indian religious minorities, including Sikhs, Muslims, and Christians. Thus, the RSS established a mechanism through which they could maintain control over anyone who disagreed with them, while at the same time, maintain a degree of plausible deniability concerning any bloodshed. These practices continue and are encouraged into the present day, where the RSS thrives as the world's largest volunteer organization, ever ready to air slogans meant to

arouse patriotic outbursts, its vocabulary being consistent with expectations derived from Modern Hinduism (more on Modern Hinduism later).

By the early 1990s RSS-rhetoric had evolved into a mass euphoria whose ideals were shared by most of India's National leaders. In the words of one higher level leader:

Serve the country as your Motherland. My homeland, your homeland. My forefathers, your forefathers. Just as I am economically exploited, so are you. You are brother of our blood, son of this soil—no more, no less. This is what RSS propagates... only when Hindus become strong, virile, organized, vibrant is Hindu-Muslim and Hindu-Christian unity possible.... I shall collect people who share my dream, who are ready to go to any ends of sacrifice for this goal, who will give priority to this work. Then they will be ready to work, suffer for the purpose of this work. Attachment, commitment, readiness to sacrifice are the basic qualities of a patriot. The RSS is interested in creating this basic quality among people in this country.

[The Saffron Wave: Democracy and Hindu Nationalism in Modern India by Thomas B. Hansen, page 109, published in 1999]

The patriotic “readiness to sacrifice” mentioned here means converting rank-and-file vulnerable and brainwashed Hindus into a Kamikaze-oriented private paramilitary force; its members ready to kill and be killed, if necessary, with no sense of remorse. This message finds support in the *Bhagavad-Gita*, where Lord Krishna encourages Arjuna that, as a warrior, his greatest purpose in life can be found fighting a *dharmayuddha*, or righteous war.

Today, RSS members prep for their own version of *dharmayuddha* by reciting Sanskrit prayers, while standing in multiple rows, with their hands stretched out in front of their chests like the Nazis in Hitler’s Germany. They direct their prayers towards an image of *Akhand Bharat*, the map of an imagined “Unified India”:

Forever I bow to Thee, O loving Motherland! O Motherland of us Hindus, Thou has brought me up in happiness. May my life, O great and blessed Holy land, be laid down in Thy cause. I bow to Thee, again and again. We, the children of the Hindu Nation, bow to thee in reverence, O Almighty God. We have girded up our loins to carry on Thy work. Give us

Thy holy blessings for its fulfillment. O Lord! Grant us such might that no power on earth can ever challenge, such purity of character as would command the respect of the whole world, and such knowledge as would make easy the thorny path that we have voluntarily chosen.

May we be inspired with the spirit of stern heroism, which is the sole and ultimate means of attaining the highest spiritual bliss with the greatest temporal prosperity. May intense and everlasting devotion to our ideal ever inspire our hearts. May our victorious organized power of action, by Thy Grace, fully protect our Dharma and lead this Nation of ours to the highest pinnacle of glory.

VICTORY TO MOTHER INDIA

[The Saffron Wave: Democracy and Hindu Nationalism in Modern India by Thomas B. Hansen, page 110, published in 1999]

We find two central RSS creeds emphasized here:

First, “Grant us such might that no power on earth can ever challenge.” This underscores their desire to wield the kind of brute force power that will go unrivaled on a local or global stage.

Second, "... such purity of character as would command the respect of the whole world." This focusses on the need for their followers to build character, something which in the context of greater RSS culture would include a worldview that rejected anyone who did not embrace radical Hinduism.

The "highest pinnacle of glory" draws inspiration from Oceanic Hinduism, the idea that see Hinduism as an ocean in which all things will return. To achieve the highest pinnacle of glory is to absorb everyone into a form of Hinduism.

Mahatma Gandhi envisioned this in a speech on December 4, 1947:

It cannot be said that Sikhism, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism are separate religions. All these four faiths and their offshoots are one. Hinduism is an ocean into which all the rivers run. It can absorb Islam and Christianity and all other religions and only then it become the ocean. Otherwise it remains merely a stream along which large ships cannot ply.

[*Gandhi Behind the Mask of Divinity*, page 44]

Gandhi's statement reflects an aspiration to convert all religions to Hinduism, a transition which would make every single human being a Hindu, regardless of their beliefs. This is what is meant by "the highest pinnacle of Hinduism."

It should hardly come as a surprise that one of the most effective ways to evangelize Hinduism worldwide is via Yoga. The real Yoga practices find their roots in the ancient Hindu scriptures, whereas the modern-day Yoga practices have been camouflaged to make it pleasant to attract new followers, especially in the Western countries.

It should also come as no surprise to read *Article 25* of the Constitution of India pronouncing Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism as integral part of Hinduism. This attempts to weave Hindu supremacy into every fabric of India's life, while simultaneously subjugating all of India's religious minorities. If RSS had their way, they would see all of India forcibly immersed into Gandhi's vision of Oceanic Hinduism.

RSS does not confine their vision to geographical India, or to a future Akhand Bharat; they want to see their radical form of Hindu Nationalism encompass the entire world. This begins by exerting complete

dominance over modern India. This manifests in the following ways:

First, their leaders promote National Hinduism from the highest levels of Government. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a member of the *Bharatiya Janata Party* (BJP), a subsidiary of the RSS. Second, they establish their own parallel government-like structures and a bureaucracy that can function independent of the recognized Indian government. Third, they have massive organizing abilities and can gather large crowds for riots, protests, and in some cases, all out pogroms. Fourth, like Adolf Hitler's Ministry of Propaganda, the RSS excel at disseminating mass propaganda and disinformation. Finally, like as mentioned earlier the CIA and FSB, they have an extensive intelligence network, with informants throughout India and around the world.

RSS exists everywhere in India, from a localized grassroots level up to the highest tiers of government. The country is divided into eleven regions (*kshetras*) and forty-one districts (*zilas*). Each administrative district is sub-divided into two or three more Sangh districts. At the grassroots level, individual members constitute the fundamental units of the RSS. Often, groups of these low-level activists get

together as *shakas*, an RSS organized branch known for publicly performing physical exercises and drills. At each level of RSS hierarchy, well trained activists are given positions of authority to run the organization efficiently, along with official liaisons from the top levels of RSS leadership.

Since Dr. Hedgewar's death in 1940, the following persons have led the RSS:

M.S. Golwalker (1940--1973)

Madhukar Dattatraya Deoras (1973--1994)

Rajendra Singh (1994--2000)

K.S. Sudarshan (2000--2009)

Mohan Bhagwat (2009—present day)

Except for Singh, every top leader had been a bona-fide Brahmin by caste, the highest-level caste designation. Singh was a *kshatriya*, the second highest. The top leadership position is referred as *Sarsanghchalak*—he is the supreme leader and is selected from high ranked men called *parcharaks*. This organizational structure has many parallels to the former Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

To better understand the framework of “Modern Hinduism,” one must understand the cultural context from which it emerged. Doing so will help better understand how the RSS and its subsequent subsidiaries rose to a position of such power in the current day.

What is Modern Hinduism?

Since the Age of Discovery in the early 15th Century, India was recognized by foreign powers as a profitable location to colonize due to its abundance of spice, and its strategic trade location next to China. As various Indian Empires fell to foreign domination, Britain and France fought each other for dominance in India. With the introduction of British colonialism in the Bengal region of India in the 17th Century, a new ideology began to take birth that would in due time transform classical and/or popular Hinduism. As the European colonial powers tightened their grasp on India, Modern Hinduism emerged. Also known as reformatory Hinduism or neo-Hinduism, Modern Hinduism reinterpreted Hindu scriptures, ideas, and histories. This new worldview emerged, in part, because of the following nine aggressive competing factors:

- (1) European colonialism
- (2) Christian missions
- (3) Western education & technology

(4) Western means of propaganda & disinformation

(5) Theosophy

(6) Freemasonry

(7) Communism and its varieties

(8) Fascism

(9) Hindu Nationalism

As Hinduism experienced a reinterpretation in this milieu, various traditions began to emerge and impact India's culture. The men who produced these new interpretations have been dubbed "The Prophets of Modern Hinduism." Included among the prophets were Raja [Ram Mohan Roy](#) (1772–1833) who heralded the *Brahmo Samaj* movement. This movement began in 1828 during the Bengal Renaissance as a monotheistic reform movement that synthesized Hindu ideas with elements of Judea-Islamic faith and practice. It eventually split into various tributaries, most of whom dissolved after the 1947 Partition of British-India.

Also included amongst the prophets was the aforementioned Swami Dayananda Saraswati. Critics have pointed out that his teachings on the infallibility and superiority of the Vedic Scriptures were excessively dogmatic, and encouraged a militant faith, aggressively intolerant towards both Christianity and Islam.

Most of these prophets hailed from the Bengal region, except for Swami Dayananda and Mahatma Gandhi, who came from Gujarat. Both Dayananda and Gandhi would end up having an extremely negative impact on British-India politics; one that manifested both before and after the British exodus.

Popular imagination envisions Modern Hinduism as a much-needed reform movement that provides a far better alternative to its predecessor. We would challenge this vision, however, and contend that Modern Hinduism contains within itself a dangerous malleability that allows itself to be continually reinterpreted and bent to conform to the whims of a variety of political and religious demagogues. These reinterpretations thrive amongst affluent, well-educated Hindus in general, and with Hindu Nationalists (like the RSS) in particular. In this milieu, many well-educated Hindu leaders and influencers end up forging a brand of Hinduism that serves their own needs and

agendas, while simultaneously creating a new historical narrative that supports their views. They then aggressively disseminate this misinformation to others, preying on their hopes and fears, with the intent of converting them to their own radical views. The lies and subterfuge spread further with the help of Hindu missionary monks, who concoct theories expanding Hinduism's boundaries in such a way that it consumes other religions and philosophies into itself, at the other's expense. Hindu Nationalism and its many poisonous tentacles, the RSS included, are the progeny of Modern Hinduism.

Modern Hinduism exploits simple, traditional-minded Hindus, as well as their Christian, Muslim, and Sikh neighbors, in its attempt to engulf them into its vast ocean. Understanding this as one of Modern Hinduism's goals help make sense of some of the peculiar iconographic changes the RSS inspired after Gandhi began flexing his political muscles in 1915. There exist, for example, two relatively new Hindu temples that illustrate the political reshaping of Modern Hinduism and demonstrate the RSS's influence.

First is *Bharat Mata Mandir* in Varanasi. (See figure A) Instead of the traditional idols of gods and goddesses, this temple harbors a huge map of *Akhand Bharat* carved in marble. The temple itself is dedicated to *Bharat Mata*, the goddess personifying

Mother India, a modern innovation in the Hindu Pantheon who did not exist until the late 19th Century. It gives religious credence to the political drive to force a future united India, shaping *ad nauseum* the Hindu *unconscious* political mind. (See figure B)

[This temple was inaugurated by M.K. Gandhi in 1936. (See figure C)]

Second is *Bharat Mata Mandir* in Haridwar. On the fourth floor of this multi-story building, it houses Guru Gobind Singh's (1666–1708) large portrait standing tall. Why add the Tenth Sikh Guru's image to this politically inspired and shaped temple? Those who know history know he was not a polytheistic Hindu, who forged an army mainly from the low castes transformed into Khalsahood in his efforts to protect his people from the Islamic Mughal Empire. However, Hindu Nationalists would rewrite this history, and attempt to portray him as an archetype hero; a handsome savior warrior who once fought against the Muslims to safeguard the beleaguered Hindus during the Mughal era.

[This temple was inaugurated by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1983. (See figure D)]

Modern Hinduism's iconography has RSS's ideological fingerprints all over it. The sales of religious icons

and images is big business in India with many a vendor making their living providing the masses with tactile representations of their many gods. In many instances, Mahatma Gandhi becomes the mythical male equivalent of Bharat Mata, with his god-like image hovering over maps of Akhand Bharat (See figure E). This is one of the simplest, and most effective forms of mass propaganda, protected and promoted by the hallowed hands of the RSS.

Today RSS boasts of a vast network of activists (including India's current governmental leaders) along with a cluster of subsidiary organizations, collectively called *Sangh Parivar*. In addition, they have a worldwide army of apologists, readily available to provide beautiful, rational arguments in support of their mother organization and its ideology. Here is just a sample of some of them from a quick search online:

- Akhil Bharatiya Adhivakta Parishad
- Akhil Bharatiya Itihas Sankalan Yojana
- Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi Sabha
- Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad

- Bajrang Dal
- Dinanath Batra
- Bharat Vikas Parishad
- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)
- Bharatiya Kisan Sangh
- Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh
- Bhartiya Gau Raksha Dal

- Central Hindu Military Education Society

- Dharm Jagaran Samiti
- Durga Vahini

- Ekal Vidyalaya

- Hindu Aikya Vedi
- Hindu Jagarana Vedike
- Hindu Jagran Manch
- Hindu Janajagruti Samiti
- Hindu Munnani
- Hindu Rashtra Sena
- Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS)
- Hindutva

- Jai Shri Ram
- Kreedha Bharati
- Muslim Rashtriya Manch
- *Organiser* (magazine)
- *Panchjanya* (magazine)

- Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas
- Ram Navami riots
- Yellapragada Sudershan Rao
- Rashtra Sevika Samiti
- Rashtriya Sikh Sangat (RSS)
- Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)

- Sabarimala Ayyappa Seva Samajam
- Seva Bharati

- Vanavasi Kalyan Ashram
- Vidya Bharati
- Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP)
- Vivekananda Kendra

The above list may not be exhaustive or current.

The *Vishva Hindu Parishad* (VHP) and their youth organization, *Bajrang Dal* are the most rabid of the RSS subsidiaries. Unapologetically promoting an extremist Hindu Nationalism (*Hindutva*), they have been continually linked to acts of oppression and violence throughout India, particularly those directed at non-Hindu communities. Human Rights Watch, an international human rights organization, tied them directly to the horrific 2002 Gujarat riots, where they worked hand in hand with the BJP, causing the deaths of over 1000 people, mostly Muslims. India's current Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, served as Chief Minister of Gujarat at the time, and his involvement earned him the notorious moniker, "The Butcher of Gujarat."

In 2018, the CIA's *World Factbook* categorized VHP, Bajrang Dal, and the RSS as "political pressure" groups, which they defined as "a country's political, social, labor, or religious organizations that are involved in politics, or that exert political pressure, but whose leaders do not stand for legislative election."¹ It also labeled both VHP and Bajrang Dal as a "militant religious organization" and listed the RSS as a "nationalist organization."² It should be noted that

¹ <http://start.csail.mit.edu/mirror/cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2115.html>

² https://web.archive.org/web/20180608053701/https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/fields/print_2115.html

the RSS has many such groups spread throughout India, many of whom engage in activities that go far beyond just being political pressure groups.

As mentioned earlier, many will go so far as to incite riots, violence, and killing, most often directed at India's non-Hindu population. For example, on April 2, 2022, violence broke out in the Muslim neighborhoods of Karauli in the state of Rajasthan. The VHP and RSS had arranged a Hindu New Year's bike rally to pass through the town, backed by a militant police force. The bikers played loud music and shouted inflammatory anti-Islamic slogans while parading through the normally tranquil community. Imagine the terror felt by locals as a Hindu mob, in saffron head-clad, yelled at them through their loudspeakers:

We are hardcore Hindus; we will create a new history

We will enter the homes of enemies, and will cut their heads [,,,]

In every home the saffron flags will be seen, the rule of Ram will return.

There is only one slogan, one name, victory to Lord Ram, victory to Lord Ram.

*(Taken from *Hostile Homelands: The New Alliance Between India and Israel* by Azad Essa, page 148)*

Of course, this would illicit a violent response; who wouldn't want to defend themselves against such blatant threats? When the dust had settled, over 20 people had been injured, two motorcycles had been destroyed, and over twelve buildings had been burned. The RSS's proverbial fingerprints were all over the incident. This is Modern Hinduism's bitter fruit. We need to find a better way forward for India; one which takes the RSS and all its branches seriously, and which finds healthy, productive ways to counter such mob-driven threats.

What follows next is, with the permission of Sovereign Star Publishing (California based), we reproduce here a professional paper authored by Pieter Friedrich, with slight edits. Published in 2018, it details how Hindutva and Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS) etc. have penetrated North America and their pro-metastasis sneaking capabilities infiltrating unsuspecting organizations and personnel. In addition,

we recommend *Saffron America: India's Hindu Nationalist Project at Work in the United States* by Pieter Friedrich, published in 2023.