

HOTA – Program Committee Meeting Minutes - February 13 2018

Attendees: Surendra Pandey, Abhaya Asthana, Kaushik Joshi, Nitika Sharma, Amit Mehta, Prashad Yalamanchi, Sohini Sircar, Anita Gupta, Ami Patel

9:30 PM – 10:30 PM EST

Started with Prayer by Kaushik Joshi

Session 3 cont'd

Ex. Tapan Ghosh in West Bengal – Muslims have been expanding and where Hindu areas once used to be, Hindus are being kicked out

Tamil Nadu – Muslim got elected to town council, conversion to Islam being forced and city services blocked, Dr. Swamy went to court

Muslim majority power – Hindus are suffering and we need to bring awareness in main stream media – Hindu organizations should take a stand

As part of the youth conference, Hindu Human rights task force – deliverable post conference

- Violations countries – to send violation to central place
- Lobbying countries – receive the violation and bring awareness
- Identify two types of individuals

Youth conf age cut off is 35; we can do a joint collaboration

We will have a Poster session at WHC and where we can have speakers, we can demonstrate in this session:

- Those which are case studies (ex. From West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, etc can be presented)
- how can we make it a proactive instead of a reactive session

We should focus on what are the actual human rights vs Hindu Human rights

What has been done in the past, what is the current status, what are the gaps and what can we do?

We should come up with certain framework of policies to be made sent to various organizations to follow

Collaborate with policy makers in our respective regions

We need support of organizations like HAF – Samir Kalra gave a presentation of Human Rights report at the last WHC. GHRD was also present and will be present this year, but we want to give other orgs a chance as well

We should bring in people who are in the trenches like Tapan Ghosh, California Text Book. Create a grouping of these issues and get the 35 under involved to work on problem/solution

It is always good to benchmark

Youth track has Current status, Voice of sentient beings, Mechanism to address Hindu Human rights

What would the 4 subtopics be?

1. Worldwide Report on Hindu Human Rights
2. Defending Hindu Human Rights
3. Influencing Government Policies
4. Youth collaboration - Hindu Human rights task force

Session 4

Reaching to the South American community – Swamiji has 20 centers in each small country and a huge following

Getting legal recognition of Hindu Dharma in Italian Government system – Swamiji succeeded in getting government recognition

Caribbean – Swami Prakashananda

Russia/Ukraine –

Africa – Kenya/Uganda, reach out to tribal native Africans – establish shakas and Hindu learning experiences

Khumb Mela – ICCS

All these case studies would be good for poster presentations

Middle east work is also being done

South East Asia also have some work in Thailand, Vietnam

Bhagwat Gita translation into Arabic would be a good one

Dimension and specs for poster will be sent out tomorrow – call for poster presentations will be going out this week

Community building – networks, bridging communities together...Successful done these kinds of experiment, large networks

ISKCON – is making inroads into new areas

Identify areas of regions that are not reachable or where we intend to reach – plan for new areas

Pakistan – where we have not been able to help them

Denationalization of Hindu Temples – where track and session can this fall under?

Ended with Prayer by Prashad Yalamanchi