

The Right Honourable Mark Carney

Prime Minister of Canada

Hon. Gary Anandasangaree

Minister of Public Safety

Hon. Lena Metlege Diab

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Hon. Anita Anand

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Subject: Support for Dr. Mohan Bhagwat's Visit to Canada and Equal Treatment of Canadian Hindus

Dear Prime Minister and Honourable Ministers,

We, the undersigned representatives of more than 101+ Canadian organizations and civil liberties groups, write to express our support for the proposed visit of **Dr. Mohan Bhagwat**, Sarsanghchalak (chief) of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), to Canada.

The proposed visit is of considerable interest to Canada's Hindu community, including more than one million Canadians of Hindu heritage. The RSS is a major Indian organization known for community service, social initiatives, cultural activities and public discourse.

We are therefore concerned by recent calls from NDP MPs Jenny Kwan and Heather McPherson, along with several organizations, urging the Government of Canada to prevent Mr. Bhagwat from entering Canada and to characterize him as inadmissible.

Such a step would raise serious questions about **evidence, due process, freedom of expression, freedom of religion and equal treatment under Canadian law.**

Serious Allegations Require Credible Evidence

Public statements by both MPs have reportedly alleged that Mr. Bhagwat has a history of hate speech, advocated violence against religious minorities, engaged in targeted intimidation and maintained associations with criminal or listed terrorist organizations.

These are exceptionally serious allegations. They should not be treated as political rhetoric or established as fact without clear, credible and independently verifiable evidence.

What evidence demonstrates that Dr. Bhagwat has advocated violence against religious minorities? What specific incidents establish targeted intimidation in Canada or India? What evidence establishes an association with criminal or listed terrorist organizations?

If credible evidence exists, it should be presented and assessed through the appropriate Canadian legal and governmental processes. If such allegations cannot be substantiated, public officials and organizations should exercise particular caution before making sweeping accusations against an individual and, by extension, a community that regards him as an important spiritual, cultural and organizational leader.

Public Safety Must Be Evidence-Based

Concerns have also been expressed that Dr. Bhagwat's presence could contribute to "social disorder" or pose a threat to Canadians.

Again, extraordinary claims require evidence. What specific incidents in Canada demonstrate that Dr. Bhagwat or the RSS has caused social disorder? What concrete information indicates that his proposed visit would create a public-safety threat?

Canada's immigration and public-safety decisions must be based on established law, credible evidence and due process—not speculation and political rhetoric.

If Canadian authorities possess evidence that Dr. Bhagwat has violated Canadian law or meets statutory grounds for inadmissibility, those matters should be addressed through the appropriate legal mechanisms. Otherwise, political demands to exclude him risk creating a perception that Canadian Hindus and their institutions are being held to a different standard.

Equal Treatment for Canada's Hindu Community

Canada's multiculturalism is founded on the principle that people of different faiths and cultural traditions can participate fully in public life. Hindus, like Canadians of every other religious or non-religious background, are entitled to dignity, security, freedom of expression, freedom of religion, peaceful association and equality before the law.

Political disagreement and peaceful protest are legitimate. Criticism of religious, cultural or political leaders is also legitimate. But preventing a visiting leader from entering Canada based on allegations that have not been demonstrated with credible evidence would raise serious concerns about pluralism and fairness.

Many Canadian Hindus may understandably perceive the campaign against Mr. Bhagwat as reflecting anti-Hindu prejudice or Hinduphobia. The views of a number of organizations or political representatives should not be presented as representing all Canadians—or all Canadian Hindus. Canada's diverse communities contain many legitimate and competing perspectives.

Dr. Bhagwat's emphasis has always been social harmony, cultural identity, community service and engagement across communities.

We therefore urge political leaders and community organizations to exercise responsibility in their public statements and avoid rhetoric that could deepen divisions among Canada's diverse communities.

Canada needs more dialogue, not division; more evidence, not allegations; more due process, not political pressure; and more respect for its multicultural mosaic—not efforts that could silence one community's legitimate right to welcome its own cultural and spiritual leaders.

We respectfully request that the Government of Canada uphold the principles of **equality, pluralism, freedom of expression, freedom of religion, peaceful association and due process** in considering Dr Mohan Bhagwat's proposed visit.

Sincerely,

The undersigned representatives of more than 500 Canadian organizations and civil liberties groups

1. All Malyali Montreal Associations
2. Atlantic Alliance of Uttar Bharat
3. AUPCA Association
4. Ayappa Temple

5. Bangladesh Hindu Community Centre
6. BAPS INC
7. Bharat Bhavan Foundation
8. Bharat Mata Mandir
9. Bharat Niagara Foundation
10. Brahmin Samaj of Ontario (BSO)
11. Brampton Hindu Society
12. Brantford Brant Telugu Association
13. Brantford Hindu Charitable Association
14. Brantford Hindu Temple (BHCA)
15. Canada Hindu Vote
16. Canada India Foundation
17. Canada India Global Forum
18. Canadian Arya Samaj
19. Canadian Care & Share Association
20. Canadian Hindu Community Welfare
21. Canadian Hindu Volunteers
22. Canadian Hindu Chamber of Commerce
23. Chovis Gham Patidar Samaj Canada
24. CIGF
25. Devi Hindu Women Association
26. Diversity Cultural Association
27. Durham Intercultural Volunteer Youth Association
28. Gayatri Parivaar, Canada
29. Gayatri Pariwar
30. Gujarati Samaj of london ontario
31. Gujaratis of Brantford
32. Gujrati Samaj of Montreal
33. Gujrati Senior Samaj of Montreal
34. Guruji Sangat Society
35. Halifax Hindu Society
36. HALTON-HAMILTON
37. Hindu Canadian Foundation
38. Hindu Community in Ottawa Foundation
39. Hindu Community Ottawa
40. HINDU CULTURAL SOCIETY / LAKSHMI NARAYAN TEMPLE-SCARBOROUGH
41. Hindu Heritage Centre
42. Hindu legacy
43. Hindu Mandir of Quebec
44. Hindu Mandir, Scarborough
45. Hindu Mission of Canada
46. Hindu Sabha Temple
47. Hindu Society of Canada
48. Hindu Sikh Unity Forum
49. Hindu Sikh Unity Forum Canada (HSUFC)
50. Hindu Society of Guelph
51. Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS)
52. Hindu Voice Matters
53. Hindu Women in Canada
54. Hindustanis in Canada

55. IIT BHU Alumni Canada
56. India Canada Association of Montreal
57. Indian Family Association (IFA)
58. Indian Family Association of Canada
59. Indo Canadian Association Southern Montreal (ICASM)
60. Indo Canadian Kashmir Forum
61. International Hindu foundation
62. ISSO Canada
63. Jagannath Temple
64. Jain Society
65. Kadva Patidar Samaj Canada
66. Karnavati ontario association
67. Kashmiri Pandit Association
68. Kshatriya welfare association of Canada
69. LAA Canada
70. Maritime Spiritual Pooja
71. Milton Marathi Group
72. Naari Association
73. Niagara Indian Association
74. Odisha Puja Committee (OPC)
75. Ohm Shanti Foundation
76. One Group
77. Pakistani Hindus of Canada
78. Rajput Association of North America
79. Samskirta Bharati
80. Sanatan Mandir Culture Centre (SMCC)
81. Sanatani Students' Association
82. Sarnia Hindu society
83. Sewa Canada International
84. SGVP Gurukul Canada
85. Shree Jagannath Temple Canada
86. Shri Ram Ji Temple
87. South Shore Indian association
88. South Shore Indian Association (SSIR)
89. South Shore Jagannath Ratha Yatra Committee
90. Triveni Mandir Brampton
91. UFR Vibhaag
92. UP Parivaar in Canada
93. Vadtaldham Shree Swaminarayan Temple
94. VHP Canada
95. Vraj Canada Community Center
96. VYASA Canada
97. VYO Canada Inc
98. Waterdown Indian Association
99. Woodstock Gujarati Samaj
100. Yogi Divine Society
101. Yuva

And many more organizations