

**GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE IN GURUMAHASANNIDHANAM
SUCCESSION PROCESS IN SOUTH INDIA
A REPORT BY THE ADI SHIVITE MINORITY TRADITION (ASMT) HINDU
COMMUNITY**

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I. Executive Summary

1. The State of the Republic of India has a history of over seventy-four years of undermining the religious rights of its citizens, especially the minority Hindu communities. This was preceded by a similar suppression of religious freedom for twenty-two years during pre-independence diarchal systems of government in India (1925 to 1947). This period of state interference in religious successions from 1925 until today has resulted in a cold cultural genocide and gaslighting of the Enlightenment ecosystem of India. This has destroyed 400,000 temples and 8,000 religious communities, resulting in serious abuses and violations of human rights of practicing Hindus causing a formidable and irreparable loss to religious integrity and indigenous cultural heritage in India.
2. This religious persecution has been carried out in various forms –
 - (1) the nationalization or State take-over of religious institutions, (particularly since 1925 by the diarchal government, through the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act I of 1925),
 - (2) interference of the State in religious matters and rituals,
 - (3) interference of the State in the succession of the lineages of reincarnate Gurus of thousand-year-old religious institutions done since 11,000 BCE as prescribed in sacred ancient indigenous Hindu scriptures such as Kamika Agamas,
 - (4) physical destruction of temple infrastructure directly by the State,
 - (5) misappropriation of temple wealth, land, and resources by the State,
 - (6) creation of deceptive legislative frameworks and corresponding State executive departments to make this persecution appear lawful, although it is against the Article 25 of the constitution states that *“all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practice and propagate religion”* in a manner that does not adversely affect public order, health, or morality and also going against the Article 26 of the Indian constitution that provides that all religious denominations can *“manage their own affairs in matters of religion”*.
3. **1 Sept 2007**, the Chinese State Religious Affairs Bureau via its Order (No. 5), directed all Buddhist temples in China (and Tibet) to compulsorily apply to the department before they are allowed to recognize individuals as Tulkus (reincarnated teachers).¹ This was met with international criticism, with the United States acting legislations to sanction any Chinese government officials who chose a reincarnation of the Dalai Lama over the wishes of the Tibetan people.
4. However, for more than ninety years, various State Governments of India are interfering in religious matters and appointments in a much more radical way. **20 Jan 1979**, Tamil Nadu State Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Board (HR&CE), via its scheme in OA No.1 of 1978²

¹ 国家宗教事务局令（第5号）藏传佛教活佛转世管理办法 [State Religious Affairs Bureau Order (No. 5) Measures on the Management of the Reincarnation of Living Buddhas] (in Chinese). [Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China](#).

² HR&CE Scheme OA No.1 of 1978 dated 20 Jan 1979
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3ABqyA4BXxQZE53YzlhcEVDS0k/view>

forces the Gurumahasannidhanams (reincarnated Gurus/teachers) to be approved by the State through a State appointed Advisory Committee before being considered legally valid.

5. In December 2020, the US passed the Tibetan Policy and Support Act, which allows the US to impose sanctions on Chinese state officials who appoint Lamas against the will of the Tibetans. The State of the People's Republic of China has been however selecting and grooming a group of senior Lamas that would eventually be used for selecting CCP friendly alternative Dalai Lama and make it appear that the Dalai Lama was chosen by Tibetan Buddhist religious leaders, rather than CCP officials.³
6. In a much similar way, for several years, the State of Tamil Nadu headed by the radical anti-Hindu political party – DMK has strategically been grooming the Guru Maha Sannidhanams, Hindu Spiritual leaders, such as the Dharmapuram Guru Maha Sannidhanam (a traditional Saivaite monastery) that are friendly to its radical anti-Hindu ideology.⁴
7. The DMK groomed Dharmapuram Guru Maha Sannidhanam (a traditional Shaivaite monastery) along with his disciple Justice Mahadevan of High Court of Madras has heavily lobbied⁵ for arbitrarily and illegally removing the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism (SPH) Jagat Guru Mahasannidhanam (JGM) His Divine Holiness (HDH) Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivam (henceforth addressed as “the SPH”) as the 293rd pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam.
8. **On 3 May 2018**, Justice Mahadevan of the High Court of Madras, while hearing a civil case between the 293rd Pontiff and the State of Tamil Nadu, threatened the SPH of arbitrary arrest through a court order whilst He did not refrain from entering Madurai Aadheenam and did not resign from His responsibility as the 293rd Pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam. The Judge went further and declared in public, ***“I will see that your ashram (monastery) is vanished.”***⁶
9. **23 November 2020:** Before His death, the 232nd Pontiff of Thondaimandala Aadheenam exercised His right to appoint His successor, according to the traditional rules and regulation of the monastery, by “word of mouth”⁷ and expressed His last wish to the Secretary (Mr. Ganapathy) Sekkizhar Kalvi Panpattu Kazhagam (the largest group of initiated Thondai Mandala ASMT disciples that have been given Samaya Deeksha), that either the SPH or His trusted disciple like Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda be appointed the successor pontiff.⁸

³ www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-14/who-will-be-the-next-dalai-lama-u-s-india-china-try-to-control-process

⁴ <https://thehindu.com/news/cities/Tiruchirapalli/pontiffs-of-ancient-shaivite-mutts-congratulate-stalin/article34482675.ece>

⁵ (i) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/Mutt-heads-join-hands-against-Nithyananda/articleshow/13128312.cms> (ii) <https://news.webindia123.com/news/articles/India/20120513/1983970.html>

⁶ timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/madras-hc-warns-of-issuing-arrest-warrant-against-self-styled-godman-nithyananda/articleshow/62692301.cms

⁷ The Supreme Court of India, Sri Mahalinga Thambiran Swamigal vs His Holiness Sri La Sri Kasivasi on 19 October, 1973 “There can be no dispute that a nomination can be made by deed or **word of mouth**”, 1974 AIR 199, 1974 SCR (2) 74, <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/307513/>

⁸ Final words of the 232nd pontiff <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WU6xILNx77pleU2cKHZRjqcLcoEsQdqL/view> “நல்ல நல்ல சிறந்த கல்வி அறிவும் சிறந்த வயதும் நேர்மையான குணமும் நித்யானந்தாவிற்கு ஆசப்பட்டவருமாக நித்யானந்தாவிற்கு வந்த நம்ம மடத்துக்கு எப்பவும் சேப்ட்டி. முதலியார்கள் நாலுபேர் நல்லபேரு சொல்லி நித்யானந்தர் பேரை சொன்னா இப்ப நீங்க சொன்ன பேர்கள் எல்லாம் நல்ல சிறந்த கல்வி அறிவும், சிறந்த வயதும், நேர்மையான குணமும், பிரத்தியார் காசுக்கு ஆசைப்பட்டாதவரும் நித்யானந்தாவிற்கு வந்த நம்ம மடத்துக்கு எப்பவும் safety. என்ன...”

10. On **16 Feb 2021**, the State of Tamil Nadu illegally appointed the successor of the above mentioned ancient traditional monastery, Kattalai Thambiran⁹ from another Shaiva monastery – Dharmapuram Aadheenam, as the pontiff of Thondaimandala Aadheenam, and forcibly evicted the 233rd successor pontiff Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda who has been groomed personally by the late Guru Mahasannidhanam for over 15 years as the successor Pontiff.
11. This is not an isolated instance. On 5 Aug 1946, the 227th GuruMahaSannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam (monastery) was forcibly disappeared. And several subsequent appointments were made based on the political interests of parties such as the DMK by the State of Tamil Nadu to the Thondaimandala Aadheenam (monastery).
12. Such appointments done by the State have been challenged in the court and since they are unconstitutional and infringed on religious freedom and traditions of the monastery been canceled on grounds of being illegal and invalid.¹⁰ This has not remedied the situation and over the past two decades, the State interference in matters of religion and religious persecution by State and DMK affiliated non-State actors have increased extraordinarily. This ninety-year-long, State-sponsored cold cultural genocide has brought minority Hindu communities, such as the ASMT to near extermination in India.
13. Given the history of India having grossly undermined and interfered with the succession rights of its indigenous minority communities for close to ninety years, it is unsurprising if India would not uphold the appointment of Dalai Lama in the future, in the scenario His Holiness 14th Dalai Lama chooses to reincarnate in India as He had expressed¹¹ as a means to avoid the interference of China in He choosing His next reincarnation.
14. Therefore, the interference of the State of Republic of India and Tamil Nadu State government, in religious appointments, is a very concerning international issue, which needs to be addressed for protecting the rights of not just the minority Hindu communities of India such as the ASMT, or the rights of the people of Tibet in India, but also in protecting religious freedom internationally.

II. Introduction

15. Religious freedom has long been recognized as a fundamental human right both at the national level in various countries' constitutions as well as at the international level by the United Nations in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and related international conventions, treaties, and declarations. Religious freedom extends not just to the individual right to conscience, belief, religious practice, but also the institutional right of religious communities to organize their adherents, adopt common rules, doctrines, and scriptures, and appoint clergy and leadership through various succession processes.

⁹ Thambirans are clergymen ordained for various religious duties in the monastery. Kattalai Thambiran is head of the administration and can be selected to be the next successor pontiff.

¹⁰ 16 Nov 1959, in W.P.No. 261 of 1959

¹¹ Samdhong Rinpoche, who is part of the Dalai Lama's personal office, the Gaden Phodrang, which will help decide the succession, says that if Tibet "remains occupied" by China, "*His Holiness the Dalai Lama has said he will be reincarnated outside Tibet and most likely in India.*" <https://bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-14/who-will-be-the-next-dalai-lama-u-s-india-china-try-to-control-process>

16. Freedom of religion or belief is guaranteed by Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹², Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights¹³. Freedom of religion or belief has many dimensions, and it intersects with other human rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹⁴ sets forth, in Article 18, the principle that *"everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion"*, and clearly states that such a right *"includes freedom to change his religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others, and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practise, worship and observance"*.
17. A fundamental element of any religious community's freedom is its ability to independently appoint clergy and leadership. The United Nations General Assembly Resolution 36/55, Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, Article 6 (g)¹⁵ states: *"the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief includes the freedom, to train, appoint, elect or designate by succession appropriate leaders..."*. Religion is not merely scripture, rituals, and doctrine but also includes infrastructure and governance: the practice and teaching of religion and belief include acts integral to the conduct by religious groups of their basic affairs, such as, inter alia, the freedom to choose their religious leaders, priests, and teachers, the freedom to establish seminaries or religious schools.
18. Over the years, significant instances of government interference in religious communities have been documented by media and human rights organizations ranging from the persecution of Jews and Christians in the Middle East, Falun Gong in China, and the people of Tibet. A much-needed area of focus for the international human rights community is government interference in religious leadership succession processes intended to usurp control of religious communities and institutions by state actors for political purposes. The most well-documented occurrence of this phenomenon involves China's interference in the Dalai Lama succession process¹⁶ whereby the Chinese Communist Party has openly attempted to install its own chosen successor and delegitimize the current 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso¹⁷. In a similar way, since 1925¹⁸ the Indian State governments have been interfering with and politically controlling minority religious sects in India mainly so by nationalizing¹⁹ Hindu temples and religious institutes, arbitrarily nullifying and overriding Hindu religious appointments outside the scrutiny of international media and human rights watchdogs, and politically determining who can and cannot be appointed religious leader or 'Gurumahasannidanam'.
19. India's constitution guarantees the freedom to practice religion as a fundamental right both for individuals and institutions, respectively in Articles 25 and 26. Article 25²⁰ of the Indian constitution

¹² <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

¹³ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/ccpr.aspx>

¹⁴ <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

¹⁵ (i) 25 Nov 1981, UN General Assembly Res. 36/55, [Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief](#), Article 6(g) (ii) Human Rights Committee general comment 22 Para . 4

¹⁶ www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-14/who-will-be-the-next-dalai-lama-u-s-india-china-try-to-control-process

¹⁷ <https://www.dalailama.com/the-dalai-lama/biography-and-daily-life/brief-biography>

¹⁸ The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1923 (Act I of 1925)

www.legalservicesindia.com/article/1687/Constitutional-Validity-of-the-Hindu-Religious-and-Charitable-Endowment-Act.html

¹⁹ <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/why-government-officials-are-managing-religious-places-and-temples-supreme-court/articleshow/68778685.cms>

²⁰ Article 25 in The Constitution of India 1949 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/631708/>

states that *"all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practice and propagate religion"* in a manner that does not adversely affect public order, health, or morality. Furthermore, Article 26²¹ of the Indian constitution provides that all religious denominations can *"manage their own affairs in matters of religion"*, thereby ensuring not just individual but collective freedom of religion for institutions.

20. Despite these legal guarantees empowering religious groups to freely and independently select their leadership, certain state actors in China and India have sought to undermine, usurp, and assimilate religious institutions they deem to be subversive to their political power base by improperly interfering in their leadership succession processes.
21. Religious freedom and civil liberties in India have deteriorated sharply in the past few years as per various international reports such as - the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom²². Sweden-based V-Dem Institute has downgraded the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi led Neo-Hindutva²³ government as an "electoral autocracy".²⁴ The Economist Intelligence Unit in its latest Democracy Index classified India as 'partially free democracy'²⁵ and downgraded India to the 53rd position. There has been increased suppression of freedom of speech and increased attacks against religious groups, especially against minorities by the State agencies, violent militant mobs, and lawfare (malicious prosecution and vexatious litigation by the state).
22. As per the preamble of the Indian Constitution, the State of the Republic of India is a Secular state²⁶. It is an established international tenet of secularism that religious institutions may not be singled out for special burdens, in that governments may not impose special restrictions on religious activities that do not also apply to similar nonreligious activities²⁷.
23. However, in India, state and religion are not separate²⁸. Various State governments of India have nationalized religious worship places²⁹, and politically control matters of belief. The Supreme Court of India has made three judgments directing the State governments to withdraw themselves from administration and control of Hindu temples³⁰. This has not remedied the situation and the State governments in India continue to control and administer more than 400,000 temples of the country³¹.
24. Various State governments of India use vexatious litigations targeting minority indigenous spiritual traditions, by taking over their temples, misappropriating their temple funds³², misappropriating

²¹ Article 26 in The Constitution of India 1949 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1858991/>

²² www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2020/04/28/india-receives-low-rating-us-government-watchdog-religious-freedom/

²³ <https://southasia.ucla.edu/social-life/various-articles/hinduism-versus-hindutva/>

²⁴ <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56393944>

²⁵ <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2021/democracy-under-siege>

²⁶ The Constitution of India (Forty-Second Amendment) Act, 1976

²⁷ <https://www.fsb-law.com/freedom-of-religion-and-covid-19-can-state-government-close-churches/>

²⁸ <https://www.hindujagruti.org/hindu-issues/save-temples/free-hindu-temples-from-government>

²⁹ livemint.com/Sundayapp/FU6sreM7t13piRRwkvdKfP/Secularism-and-principled-distance-How-Hinduism-was-nationa.html

³⁰ <https://www.sundayguardianlive.com/news/demand-free-temples-government-control>

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[jagran.com/jharkhand/ranchi-vishva-hindu-parishad-prepares-to-free-4-lakh-temples-from-government-controls-in-india-21485552.html](https://www.jagran.com/jharkhand/ranchi-vishva-hindu-parishad-prepares-to-free-4-lakh-temples-from-government-controls-in-india-21485552.html)

³² newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2018/aug/01/top-official-of-hr-and-ce-held-for-swindling-gold-1851502.html

their temple land³³, kidnapping and trafficking³⁴ their worshipped Deities³⁵, destroying their heritage and religious structures using heavy earthmovers³⁶, and interfering with their religious appointments by means which are not just unconstitutional³⁷, and not just against international standards on freedom of religion or belief³⁸, but also against the ancient indigenous laws and customs. Since 2020, the situation has worsened as the apex courts (such as in the High Court verdict³⁹ on the Uttarakhand Char Dham Devasthanam Management Act 2019) have upheld the State takeover of temples from traditional trusts and imposing special burdens on these temples destroying vulnerable native traditions irreversibly.

25. This report presents the historical and ongoing egregious attempts by the State governments of India to undermine, usurp, and destroy millennia-old Hindu monastic institutions in direct violation of India's constitution as well as international treaties, conventions, and norms.

III. State interference in succession processes

A. Dalai Lama's Succession

26. China has long regarded Tibet as a renegade province and over decades has implemented a comprehensive policy of "*Sinicization*" to undermine and eradicate any indigenous Tibetan Buddhist religious, cultural, and political identity through forced migrations, linguistic oppression, abductions, torture, discrimination, and blatant attempts to install Tibetan religious leaders that are politically aligned to the Chinese Communist Party. Many such instances of government interference in the selection of '*Lamas*' or religious leaders in Tibetan Buddhism have occurred, most notably concerning its two most important leaders: the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama.
27. Gedhun Choekyi Nyima was recognized as the Eleventh Panchen Lama (the second most important religious leader in Tibetan Buddhism) on May 14 1995 by His Holiness the Dalai Lama during a ceremony in Dharamsala, India. His Holiness declared: *"Today is the auspicious day when the Buddha first gave the Kalachakra teaching. The Kalachakra teachings have a special connection with the Panchen Lamas. On this occasion, which also happens to be the Vaisakhi, it is with great joy that I am able to proclaim the reincarnation of Panchen Rinpoche. I have recognized Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, born on April 25, 1989, whose father is Kunchok Phuntsog, and mother Dechen Chodon, of Lhari district in Nagchu, Tibet, as the true reincarnation of Panchen Lama."*
28. Days later China abducted Gedhun Choekyi Nyima and his family members and, over 25 years later, continued to subject them to incommunicado detention and enforced disappearance totally disregarding its obligations to international human rights norms and standards and its own laws

³³ thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/high-court-raps-hrce-department-for-failing-to-protect-temple-land/article33050098.ece

³⁴ <https://stolengods.org/country/india.html>

³⁵ swarajyamag.com/news-brief/madras-high-court-is-upset-with-what-the-tamil-nadu-police-has-been-doing-on-idol-theft-cases-and-its-investigation

³⁶ (i) <https://twitter.com/upword/status/1415944019641651200> (ii) www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/Blame-game-on-over-temple-demolition/article14588712.ece

³⁷ AIR 1983 Mad 72 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/651773/>

³⁸ (i) 25 Nov 1981, UN General Assembly Res. 36/55, [Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief](#), Article 6(g) (ii) [Human Rights Committee general comment 22 Para . 4](#)

³⁹ WP(PIL) 26 of 2020 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/141571749/>; hindustantimes.com/india-news/uttarakhand-hc-upholds-constitutional-validity-of-uttarakhand-char-dham-devasthanam-management-act/story-2uN3FHHxlmID6j1oj0QRKO.html

and regulations. Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the Eleventh Panchen Lama of Tibet, simply disappeared, never to be seen to this day by the outside world.

29. The Government of China has confirmed that he was taken away with his family but has refused to provide precise information on his fate and whereabouts despite multiple requests. The Government initially indicated he was being held in “government protection,” and later that he was living a normal life. During this period, he has reportedly been deprived of religious education in Tibetan Buddhism.
30. Following the disappearance of Gedhun Cheokyi Nyima, the Chinese government attempted to nominate and appoint their preferred choice of the individual as the Eleventh Panchen Lama. Moreover, the authorities also attempted to regulate the appointment of Tibetan religious leaders, which went against the intrinsic beliefs and religious traditions of Tibetan Buddhists. In 2007, the Government issued the “State Religious Affairs Bureau Order No.5 (Bureau Order)” that specifically laid down measures in managing the reincarnation of Tibetan lamas or living Buddhas. In article 2 of the Bureau Order, it was stressed that *“living Buddha reincarnations should respect and protect the principles of the unification of the state, protecting the unity of the minorities, protecting religious concord and social harmony, and protecting the normal order of Tibetan Buddhism”*. In articles 3 and 4, the Bureau Order set the conditions for the application of reincarnation of a living Buddha and also granted authority to local Chinese governments to decide if reincarnation is permissible. The rest of the Bureau Order, detailed various procedures for receiving the Buddhist Association of China’s opinion and the State’s permission or approval for reincarnation.
31. In November 2015, Zhu Weiqun, chairman of the ethnic and religious affairs committee of the top advisory body to China's parliament, reiterated a long-stated position that only the Chinese state could confirm the next Dalai Lama saying that the Dalai Lama’s succession *“is first and foremost an important political matter in Tibet and an important manifestation of the Chinese central government's sovereignty over Tibet.”*
32. In 2016, the Chinese Government published an online database of state-approved Tibetan Buddhist reincarnations with over 1300 biographies of living Buddhas residing in the country as provided by the Buddhist Association of China. The regulation of reincarnation is enhanced subsequently in article 36 of the Religious Affairs Regulations 2017, which provides that: *“the succession of living Buddhas in Tibetan Buddhism is to be conducted under the guidance of Buddhist groups and in accordance with the religious rites and historical conventions, and is to be reported for approval to the religious affairs department of people’s governments at the provincial level or above or to a people’s government at the provincial level or above”*.
33. Many Tibetan Buddhists have expressed their concerns about the regulation of reincarnation as it undermines the Tibetan religious traditions and practices while such regulations allow the state to interfere in the choice of their religious leaders. Furthermore, there is fear that the Chinese authorities will identify and appoint the successor of the current (fourteenth) Dalai Lama against Tibetan traditions and the wish of Tibetan Buddhist communities.
34. In Tibet today, political control of religion is exercised via regulatory restrictions, interference with the selection of religious leaders, a virulent campaign against His Holiness the Dalai Lama, a lack

of cooperation with international human rights mechanisms, a crackdown on dissent, and limitations on the study and daily practice of Tibetan Buddhism.



22 January 2008: The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam (second from the right), and HH Dalai Lama (second from left) during the launch of *Global Foundation for Civilizational Harmony*. Dalai Lama and the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam share a common lineage. The founder of Buddhism, Gautam Buddha, was initiated in the Mahanirvani Akhada, and thus Buddhism is honored in Hinduism as a Mahri (Seat/Member) of Mahanirvani Akhada. Even today the Dalai Lama attends the Kumbh Mela as a representative of Buddhism as a Mahri of Mahanirvani Akhada. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is the the Mahamandaleshwara of Mahanirvani Akhada, and the appointed Acharya Mahamandaleshwara of Atal Akhada.

B. Origins of State interference in Gurumahasannidanam Succession

Anti-religion State policies in India

35. China's persecution of, and interference in Tibetan Buddhist institutions is relatively well-known thanks to the tireless efforts of human rights organizations, the United Nations, the Tibetan diaspora, and the efforts of His Holiness the Dalai Lama himself to bring it to the attention of the international community. However, a very similar, albeit virtually unknown effort is underway by state actors in India to undermine and control ancient Hindu religious institutions for political purposes. This assault on religious freedom is part and parcel of broader authoritarian, anti-democratic trends taking place in India that have only recently been acknowledged by the international community.⁴⁰
36. Hinduism is a vast and heterogenous religion that comprises various spiritual traditions and lineages referred to as *sampradayas*. Many of these *Sampradayas* (religious Sects) date back thousands of years and are led by individuals who are regarded to be *Avatars*, or incarnations of divine beings, in an unbroken succession whereby a new leader or *Gurumahasannidanam* is

⁴⁰ "Electoral autocracy: The downgrading of India's democracy" <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56393944>; "Textbook Authoritarianism Is Playing out in India" <https://thewire.in/politics/india-modi-authoritarianism>; "Authoritarianism Is Winning on Every Front in India" <https://reason.com/2019/11/22/authoritarianism-is-winning-on-every-front-in-india/>

selected and coronated by his immediate predecessor, the current Gurumahasannidanam. In this regard, these Hindu Sampradayas operate in a manner very similar to the Tibetan Buddhist tradition of ritualistically selecting and installing new Guru Mahasannidhanams who are believed to be reincarnations⁴¹ and living manifestations of divine beings.

37. Two such ancient Hindu sampradayas are the Madurai Adheenam of Madurai, Tamil Nadu, and the Thondai Mandala Adheenam of Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu. Madurai Aadheenam was established by incarnations of Lord Paramashiva and His divine consort Devi Parashakthi themselves as Lord Sundareshwara and His consort Divine Mother Meenakshi in Madurai Tamil Nadu, India around 11,000 BCE.⁴² Thondaimandala Aadheenam was established originally by the incarnation of Paramashiva Himself, as Adi Nathar, 5000 years ago⁴³.
38. In 1817, the colonial government of India enacted the Madras Regulation VII⁴⁴ and nationalized temples of minority Hindu sects appropriating their wealth and assets which were offered by devotees for religious and spiritual purposes. However, in 1840⁴⁵, Christian missionaries lobbied and forced the government to issue a directive to return the Hindu temples to their trustees. By 1845, the responsibility of the management of temples was returned to traditional trustees and in the case of prominent temples to Mutts (monasteries) to be managed by the Gurumahasannidhanams. The State Board of Revenue, however, interfered with the administration of large temples, especially those that were popular and received a lot of donations and contributions. In 1863, the Religious Endowments Act was enacted which completely handed over temple administration to the trustees from the State and subsequently, the government played little or no role in supervising them. Trustees ran the temple following the tenets applicable to the temple. The colonial government also recognized the sovereignty of the heads of Hindu monasteries – for example on 3 Jan 1893 the Guru Maha Sannidhanam of Madurai Aadheenam was conferred with the title of *Rao Bahadur*⁴⁶, a title given to Kings by the British Empire, and also had sovereign immunity from arrests and appearances in the court.⁴⁷ Thus, the religious rights of

⁴¹ Srimad Karana Agama, Purva bhaga (Part), Patala (Chapter) 71, (Section) Sakalotpatti Vidhi, Shloka (Verse) 8-9, "इत्येवं निष्कलं प्रोक्तं परं भावमिति स्मृतम्। सृष्टिं लोकक्षार्थं लोकस्योत्पत्तिकारणम्॥ साधकानां हितार्थं तु स्वेच्छया गृह्णते तनुः।", "In this way (Shiva) who is Nishkala - without any body and parts, who is the Ultimate Supreme Being, who is established in the Creation, who is the Cause of the creation of the Universe, assumes a body out of His Free Will for the protection of the Universe, and for the welfare of the Spiritual seekers and Devotees."

⁴² Devi Mīnākṣī's marriage to Śiva - 11275 BCE, Ugra Pāndyan or Murugan (Son of Mīnākṣī and Śiva) 11250 BCE p. 382, Ved Veer Arya, "THE CHRONOLOGY OF INDIA: From Manu to Mahabharata", Aryabhata Publications, ISBN 8194321301

⁴³ சைவ ஆதினங்கள் (History of Śaiva Ādinams), by முனைவர் தவத்திரு ஊரான் அடிகள் (Professor Ūrān Adigal), வர்த்தமானன் பதிப்பக வெளியீடு (Vardamāna Publishers), 2002, pp. 545-550

⁴⁴ Madras Endowments and Escheats Regulation, 1817 <http://www.bareactslive.com/TN/tn421.htm>

⁴⁵ (i) <http://www.legalservicesindia.com/article/1687/Constitutional-Validity-of-the-Hindu-Religious-and-Charitable-Endowment-Act.html> (ii) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/charge-of-temples-state-citizens-need-to-find-a-fine-balance-together/articleshow/82154364.cms>

⁴⁶ Viceroy and Governor General's letter dated 3 Jan 1893, To Saiva Samayachariyar, Thirugnanasambhandha Pandara Sannathi Head of the Madura Saiva Samaya Chariar Thirugnana Sambhadha Disika Swami Adhina Mattam in Madras. "I Hereby Confer Upon you The Title of 'RAO BAHADUR' as a personal Distinction." மதுரை ஆதின வரலாறு – History of Madurai Aadheenam - <drive.google.com/file/d/1ZsfdTQkOXPWQAJxBmWKmpOn6WZJtecFu/view>

⁴⁷ Judicial Department proceedings of Madras Government, Letters from the Collector of Madura, dated 4 Sep. 1880; No. 2712; order thereon 15 Sep 1880, No. 2240, "Under Section 641 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the Governor-in-Council is pleased to exempt Saiva Samayachariar Thirugnana Sambandha Pandara Sannadhi Avergal, the Saiva High Priest of Madurai from personal appearance in the Courts of the Presidency." G. Stokes (For Chief Secretary) – மதுரை ஆதின வரலாறு – History of Madurai Aadheenam - <drive.google.com/file/d/1ZsfdTQkOXPWQAJxBmWKmpOn6WZJtecFu/view>

Hindus to manage their temples and religious succession rights were more secure during colonial rule.

39. In 1917, following the Bolshevik Revolution⁴⁸ the State of the USSR deprived the formerly official church of its status of legal personhood, the right to own property or to teach religion, especially in schools⁴⁹. During 1921 – 1928, there was another anti-religious campaign against churches and believers by the State of USSR, wherein the State terrorized certain religious sects with policies to deprive them of legal means of existence⁵⁰ aimed at the elimination of most religion and its replacement with the atheistic world view of the state.⁵¹ Though the State of USSR never made it illegal to be a believer or to have religion, the activities of this campaign were often veiled under other pretexts that the state invoked or invented to justify State-sponsored religious persecution.⁵² The Bolshevik revolution and developments that followed were much admired by several Indian political leaders of the time, some of whom even went to Moscow, and met Russian leaders to greet them following the revolution.⁵³ Similar anti-religion⁵⁴ laws were implemented in India during this same period. On 18 December 1922, during the colonial rule, the Hindu Religious Endowment bill was introduced by the government of Madras Presidency led by the Chief Minister, Ramarayaningar, to bring all religious institutions under State control. In 1925, the bill was enacted as "*The Madras Religious and Charitable Endowments Act (1925)*". Similar to the anti-religion campaigns in the USSR, wherein the State of the USSR made policies that suppressed and persecuted various forms of Christianity to different extents only depending upon State interests⁵⁵, the anti-religion laws in India, targeted certain religious communities more. Immediately after the Act (1925) came into force, Muslim and Christian communities massively protested, challenging the legislature citing that it was not validly passed, and forced the anti-religion act of 1925 to be redrafted. The act was redrafted as "*The Madras Hindu Religious and Endowments Act (1927)*" to be made applicable only to Hindu places of worship, it also excluded few other religious sects for which the State had a different set of laws⁵⁶ allowing these religious communities⁵⁷ to self-regulate their religious institutes and temples. Some Hindu religious leaders, that had their religious institutes out of the purview of the Act, though expressed apprehensions on some of its provisions, also supported the bill.⁵⁸ Religious institutes of minority Hindu sects,

⁴⁸ Samaan, A.E. (2013). [From a "Race of Masters" to a "Master Race": 1948 to 1848](#). A.E. Samaan. p. 346. ISBN 978-0615747880.

⁴⁹ "Soviet repression of the Ukrainian Catholic Church." Department of State Bulletin 87 (1987)

⁵⁰ Dimitry V. Pospelovsky. A History of Soviet Atheism in Theory, and Practice, and the Believer, vol 1: A History of Marxist-Leninist Atheism and Soviet Anti-Religious Policies, St Martin's Press, New York (1987) pg 33

⁵¹ (i) Dimitry V. Pospelovsky (1987) pg 34 (ii) Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, The Attitude of the Workers' Party to Religion. Proletary, No. 45, May 13 (26), 1909. <http://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1909/may/13.htm>

⁵² Letters of Metropolitan Sergii of Vilnius

⁵³ M.V.S. Koteswara Rao. Communist Parties and United Front – Experience in Kerala and West Bengal. [Hyderabad: Prajasakti Book House](#), 2003. p. 82 – 83

⁵⁴ Anti-religion – opposing or hostile to religion or to the power and influence of organized religion <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/anti-religious>

⁵⁵ "[Revelations from the Russian Archives: ANTI-RELIGIOUS CAMPAIGNS](#)". Library of Congress. US Government.

⁵⁶ Sikh Gurdwaras Act, 1925 <http://www.bareactslive.com/ACA/ACT1096.HTM>

⁵⁷ Nesbitt, Eleanor (2005-09-22). [Sikhism: A Very Short Introduction - Eleanor Nesbitt](#). ISBN 9780191578069.

⁵⁸ Sri Sambamoorthi Shastrigal, Kuppuswamy Iyer, "Sollin Selvan" P. N. Parasuraman. [Pujya Sri Mahaswamy Divya Charitram](#) (PDF). Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. p. 48. ([Original pdf link](#), [Alternate link](#))

such as the Adi Shaivite Minority Tradition (ASMT)⁵⁹ that was unable to escape falling into the ambit of the Act were nationalized and forcibly brought under State control to be headed by a politically⁶⁰ nominated state executive officer called the Commissioner of the Hindu Religious Endowment Board.

Suppression of Hindu religious freedom in India

40. The political leaders that ruled the Madras Presidency, such as Panaganti Ramarayaningar (1920-26), during the colonial rule of India and such as Karunanidhi subsequently after the independence of India, had antagonistic views on indigenous Hindu culture such as Hindu feminism, Hindu worship of divine as Mother, indigenous Gurukul education⁶¹, and traditional decentralized self-governance institutes that administered villages and temples. As the Chief Minister of Madras Presidency, Panaganti Ramarayaningar banned the distribution of poems on indigenous forms of governance, Hindu education, Hindu feminism, women empowerment, and religious freedom.⁶²
41. The cause of Hindu antagonistic views of Indian leaders of the pre-colonial (and even post-independence era) such as Ramarayaningar or Karunanidhi can be understood by studying the historical political ambiance which molded their thinking and their ideologies. From the 1840s up until 1925, the Indian State under the colonial government evolved a pseudo-identity framework which faultily⁶³ generalized the demographic census data into what was called castes, a Spanish word "*casta*", used to mean a "*lineage, tribe or class*".⁶⁴ This categorization was aimed to drive a wedge⁶⁵ in the peaceful Hindu society.⁶⁶ This enforced discrimination (casteism) of colonial citizens based on a faultily generalized identity that has resulted in exhaustive violence, is a global phenomenon as seen in the Rwanda Genocide which killed 500,000 to 800,000⁶⁷ Tutsis with total estimated death at 1,100,000.⁶⁸ The origin of this classification both in India and Rwanda was not native to these countries, but a colonial trope⁶⁹. The Rwanda Genocide that involved Hutu and Tutsi people, for example, was caused by a faulty classification system developed during a colonial census. The definitions of "*Hutu*" and "*Tutsi*" people have changed through time and location. Even

⁵⁹ ASMT (Adi Shaiva Minority Tradition) is the sect of Hinduism which worships Lord Paramashiva, as per the Hindu scriptures (Vedagamas). The most ancient Agamas - the Kāmikāgama, known to be more than 60,000 years old mentions that Ādiśaivites are born in the family of sages such as Kauśika who were initiated directly by Śiva (Paramashiva) immediately after the creation of the world, and therefore they are qualified to undertake all the rites as prescribed in the āgamas, such as consecration, installation in the temple, worship in public and expounding the āgamas (vyākhyāna). The Kāraṇāgama and the Santānāgama also state that only the Ādiśaiva is qualified to do these customary rites. The Adishaiwas run and administer ancient temples and monasteries, some of which are more than 3000 years old.

⁶⁰ Encyclopedia of Political Parties, Pg 148

⁶¹ Eugene F. Irschick (1969). Political and Social Conflict in South India; The non-Brahman movement and Tamil Separatism, 1916 – 1929. University of California Press.

⁶² Parthasarathy, R. (1979). Builders of modern India:S. Satyamurti. Publications Division, Government of India. p. 43.

⁶³ Caste Confusion and Census Enumeration in Colonial India, 1871–1921, November 2012, [Histoire sociale/Social history](https://doi.org/10.1353/his.2012.0026) 45(2):301-318, DOI:10.1353/his.2012.0026

⁶⁴ "caste". Oxford English Dictionary

⁶⁵ <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/the-tools-for-counting/article24247791.ece>

⁶⁶ "[The social structure was] the cement that holds together the myriad units of Indian society", (i) Metcalf, Thomas R. (1997). *Ideologies of the Raj*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. p. 119. ISBN 978-0-521-58937-6. (ii) Risley, Sir Herbert Hope (1915) [1908]. Crooke, William (ed.). *The People of India* (Memorial ed.). Calcutta: Thacker, Spink. p. 278.

⁶⁷ Guichaoua, André (2 January 2020). "Counting the Rwandan Victims of War and Genocide: Concluding Reflections". *Journal of Genocide Research*. **22** (1): 125-141 doi:10.1080/14623528.2019.1703329. ISSN 1462-3528.

⁶⁸ Reyntjens, Filip. ESTIMATION DU NOMBRE DE PERSONNES TUÉES AU RWANDA EN 1994. Available at: <https://medialibrary.uantwerpen.be/oldcontent/container2143/files/Publications/Annuaire/1996-1997/10-Reyntjens.pdf>

⁶⁹ Wylie, Lesley. "Colonial Tropes and Postcolonial Tricks: Rewriting the Tropics in the 'Novela De La Selva.'" *The Modern Language Review*, vol. 101, no. 3, 2006, pp. 728–742. JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/20466906.

during colonial times under Belgian rule, social structures were fluid throughout Rwanda. The Tutsi aristocracy or elite was distinguished from Tutsi commoners, and wealthy Hutu were often indistinguishable from upper-class Tutsi. When the Belgian colonists conducted censuses, they wanted to identify the people throughout Rwanda-Burundi according to a simple pseudo-classification scheme. They defined "Tutsi" as anyone owning more than ten cows (a sign of wealth) or with the physical feature of a longer nose, or a longer neck, commonly associated with the Tutsi. The Hutu and Tutsi spoke the same language, practiced the same religion, and participated in the same government, and having lived together for at least 400 years, had considerable intermingling and intermarrying, such that ethnographers claim that the two groups "*cannot be called distinct ethnic groups*".⁷⁰ Rather, the two terms in the contemporary setting merely referred to a colonial pseudo-identity framework in which the Hutu were primarily farmers and the Tutsi were primarily herdsmen.⁷¹ In a similar way, until the colonization of India, the word caste in the present context was unknown to not just India but also the world. Until 1569, the Spanish word *casta* implying "*lineage, tribe or class*", did not even exist in English⁷², and was used only to describe mixed-race individuals in New Spain.⁷³ In 1844, the word "*caste*" in India meant indigenous social structures that were seen by foreign evangelicals as "*a wonderful institution*" of guilds "*merging in the wisdom and craft of man*"⁷⁴. In 1871, the word "*caste*" was used by the colonial government to force-fit people groups in a pseudo-identity framework based on surname, appearances, facial features, etc.⁷⁵ This 1871 census data was used to create legislatures such as the Criminal Tribes Act (1871)⁷⁶ that made prejudicial negative stereotypes, which arbitrarily declared any person a criminal by the very nature of his birth in a certain people's group, or by his professing a certain surname. The Criminal Tribes Act (CTA 1871) deprived several people groups of their inalienable universal human right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty (UN UDHR Article 11). While the four *Varnas* that are defined based on *Karmas* (*actions motivated by individual worldview and pursuits of life*) and *Gunas* (*activism, that is, number of active working hours per day*)⁷⁷ are a form of self-declaration and subjective fluid⁷⁸ classification, and the 3000 *Jatis* are endogamous people groups with 25,000 *Upjatis*⁷⁹ that include exogamous *Gotra* groups, the 1871 census and later literature faultily generalized⁸⁰ the 25,000 people groups into a force-fitted classification using the same verbiage as of four *Varnas* which was contrary to both practical indigenous lifestyle experience and

⁷⁰ (i) Philip Gourevitch, *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed With Our Families*. 1998. (ii) "*Indangamuntu 1994: Ten years ago in Rwanda this ID Card cost a woman her life*' by Jim Fussell".

⁷¹ <https://www.beyondintractability.org/casestudy/fornace-rwanda>

⁷² *Dictionarie in Spanish and English* (1599 & 1623), an augmented version of *Bibliotheca Hispanica* (1591) by Richard Percyvall (1993 reprint: ISBN 3-89131-066-8)

⁷³ Ares, Berta, "*Usos y abusos del concepto de casta en el Perú colonial*", ponencia presentada en el Congreso Internacional INTERINDI 2015. Categorías e indigenismo en América Latina, EEHA-CSIC, Sevilla, November 10, 2015.

⁷⁴ "*Caste, In Its Religious And Civil Character Opposed To Christianity*", Joseph Roberts (1857), An address delivered in the Wesleyan Mission Chapel, Madras by Rev Joseph Roberts of the Royal Asiatic Society on 4 Jan 1844, page 10.

⁷⁵ https://censusindia.gov.in/DigitalLibrary/data/Census_1881/Publication/India/1A-Memorandum%20on%20the%20census%20of%20British%20India,%201871-1872.pdf

⁷⁶ *Text of the Criminal Tribes Act 1871* at Columbia University

⁷⁷ चातुर्वर्ण्यं मया सृष्टं गुणकर्मविभागशः॥ तस्य कर्तारमपि मां विद्ध्यकर्तारमव्ययम्॥ Bhagavata Gita Chapter 4 verse 13 ||

⁷⁸ (i) Dirks 2001. *Castes of Mind: Colonialism and the Making of Modern India*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press; 2001. (ii) Bhagat, Ram B. (2006), "*Census and caste enumeration: British legacy and contemporary practice in India*", *Genus*, 62 (2): 119–134, JSTOR [29789312](https://www.jstor.org/stable/29789312)

⁷⁹ (i) <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/young-angry-and-untouchable-indias-low-caste-threat-to-modi/articleshow/67589578.cms>, (ii) <https://edition.cnn.com/2001/WORLD/asiapcf/south/08/17/india.caste/>

⁸⁰ Dumont, Louis (1980), *Homo Hierarchicus: The caste system and its implications*, University of Chicago Press, pp. 66-67 ISBN 0-226-16963-4

written scriptures.⁸¹ This faulty generalization is described by William Robert Cornish, who supervised colonial government census operations in the Madras Presidency in 1871, as *"Whether there was ever a period in which the Hindus were composed of four classes is exceedingly doubtful"*.⁸² Such faulty generalizations coupled with negative stereotypes were applied to various people groups such as to Hindu scholars and priests who were presumed to be nepotistic by the virtue of their birth, surname, or profession⁸³, and similarly, all Hindu monastic orders (Sanyasis) were presumed to be criminal by birth as per CTA(1871). Though the fight against discrimination, is a worldwide cause⁸⁴, as much as in the Indian sub-continent, the faulty generalization of Hindu social constructs coupled with negative stereotyping of Hindu communities had a severe irreparable negative effect in multiple dimensions depriving various people groups of their basic human rights in front of the law by mere definition. The pre-colonial indigenous education system was widespread⁸⁵ imparting education to every person even in the remotest village⁸⁶, it was economical⁸⁷ and inclusive, catering to boys and girls⁸⁸ of all sections of society with as many as 70% of students being from impoverished communities⁸⁹ that now are recognized⁹⁰ as OBCs, SCs, and STs⁹¹. The pre-colonial indigenous gurukul education system encouraged harmony amongst all social communities by recognizing the dignity of labor and respect for all professions, for example, the second verse from an ancient treatise on agriculture says, *"Despite being learned of four Vedas (core Hindu scriptures) if a scholar considers agriculture inferior he is bound to be stuck in a cycle of poverty."*⁹² The Hindu scriptures taught to respect each human being without discrimination as not just an equal human being but a divine manifestation of God - *"Whether a woman or a man, a drunkard (Cāṇḍala) or a person who is reborn (Dvija) through education and initiation, there is absolutely no discriminatory comparison. Everyone here is considered like Śiva*

⁸¹ Mahābhārata (Vana-parva, chapter 177, verse 20), *"śūdre caitad-bhavel-lakṣma dvije tac ca na vidyate / na vai śūdro bhaved-chudro brāhmaṇo na ca brāhmaṇoḥ ||"* *"If someone born a śūdra possesses the characteristics of a brāhmaṇa and someone born a brāhmaṇa does not, that śūdra should not be known as a śūdra, and that brāhmaṇa should not be known as a brāhmaṇa."*

⁸² Cornish, W R (1874): Report on the Census of the Madras Presidency, 1871, with Appendix (Madras: The Government Gazette Press), p 121, 122. <https://www.epw.in/journal/2011/33/special-articles/census-colonial-india-and-birth-caste.html>

⁸³ Diehl, Anita (1977). E. V. Ramaswami Naicker-Periar: A study of the influence of a personality in contemporary South India. Sweden: Scandinavian University Books. ISBN 978-91-24-27645-4.

⁸⁴ With the adoption of the *"2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"*, 193 United Nations Member States pledged to ensure *"no one will be left behind"* and to *"endeavour to reach the furthest behind first"*.

⁸⁵ House of Commons Papers, 1831-32, volume 9, p.468, Presidency of Bombay, G.L. Prendergast *'there is hardly a village, great or small, throughout our territories, in which there is not at least one school, and in larger villages more.'*

⁸⁶ House of Commons Papers, 1812-13, volume 7, evidence of Thomas Munro (Governor of Madras Presidency 1819-1827), p.127, [The Beautiful Tree, Dr. Dharampal](#), (ISBN No.: 81-85569-49-5 republished ISBN-10: 8175310952), page 26.

⁸⁷ Collector of Bellary (A.D. Campbell) to Board of Revenue, 17 August 1823 (TNSA: BRP: Vol.958 Pro.25.8.1823 pp.7167-85 Nos.32-33), para 16. *"The economy with which children are taught to write in the native schools, and the system by which the more advanced scholars are caused to teach the less advanced and at the same time to confirm their own knowledge is certainly admirable, and well deserved the imitation it has received in England."*

⁸⁸ [The Beautiful Tree, Dr. Dharampal](#), (ISBN No.: 81-85569-49-5 republished ISBN-10: 8175310952), Chapter IV, *"Education of Girls"* page 43

⁸⁹ (i) [The Beautiful Tree \(Dharampal\)](#), Chapter IV, *Table 3 - Caste-wise division of male school, student*, republished [here](#), (ii) Ibid see also pg 29, *"while the Soodras and the other castes ranged from about 70% in Salem and Tinnevely to over 84% in South Arcot"* (iii) TNSA: Revenue Consultations: Vol.920: dated 2 July 1822

⁹⁰ Ibid Chapter IV page 22 *"this included most such groupings which today are listed among the scheduled castes"*

⁹¹ OBCs – Other backward castes, SCs – Scheduled Castes, STs – Scheduled Tribes are some of officially designated groups of people in India that are considered disadvantaged and marginalized by the State of Republic of India.

⁹² "चतुर्वेदान्तो विप्रः शास्त्रवादी विचक्षणः। अलक्ष्म्या गृह्यते सोऽपि प्रार्थनालाघवान्वितः॥२॥" कृषिपराशरम् <https://sa.wikisource.org/s/d9w>

(*Primordial Hindu Divinity*)"⁹³. Despite the inclusive nature of pre-colonial indigenous education and fluid nature of pre-colonial indigenous social structures, the Chief Minister of Madras Presidency, Ramarayaningar, a strong advocate of westernization parroted a colonial trope⁹⁴ in one of his most cited interviews stating – “*What did the Brahmans do for our education in the five thousand years before Britain came? I remind you: They asserted their right to pour hot lead into the ears of the low-caste man who should dare to study books. All learning belonged to them, they said.*”⁹⁵ The dangerous colonial caste constructs as seen in the Rwanda Genocide are also the basis for depriving Hindus of their religious rights, marginalization of various Hindu people groups, and the destruction of Hindu temples and monasteries. The indigenous Gurukul education system were not limited to imparting spiritual and religious knowledge, they contributed a phenomenal volume of ancient Human knowledge and expertise, in various field such as State Policies, Politics & Statecraft⁹⁶, Law⁹⁷, Banking & Accounting⁹⁸, Architecture & Civil Engineering⁹⁹, Performing Arts¹⁰⁰, Medicine¹⁰¹, Surgery¹⁰², Botany¹⁰³, Chemistry and Metallurgy¹⁰⁴, Music¹⁰⁵, Agriculture¹⁰⁶, Astrology¹⁰⁷, Shipbuilding¹⁰⁸, Manufacturing¹⁰⁹, Food sciences¹¹⁰, giving breakthrough contributions to humanity such as – knowledge, and application of zero, binomial theorem¹¹¹ (200BCE¹¹²), calculations with zero¹¹³, positive numbers, negative numbers, generalization of Fibonacci identity, Euler's four-square identity, Lagrange's identity¹¹⁴, knowledge, and application of infinity¹¹⁵ (300BCE), average values¹¹⁶ (1150 CE), fractions¹¹⁷ (628 CE), arithmetical and geometrical progressions, plane geometry, angular dimensions, solid geometry, simple, quadratic,

⁹³ "खी वाथ पुरुषः षण्डचण्डालो वा द्विजोसमः। चक्रेऽस्मिन्नेव भेदोऽस्ति सर्वशिवसमाः स्मृताः ॥१७॥" verse 97 and "जातिभेदो न चक्रेऽस्मिन् सर्वे शिवसमाः स्मृताः। वेदेऽपि स्थितमेवं हि सर्वं हि ब्रह्मा चाव्रतीत् ॥१०१॥" verse 101, etc., Kularnava Tantra, 8th Ullasa <https://archive.org/details/Kularnava/mode/2up>

⁹⁴ Wylie, Lesley. "Colonial Tropes and Postcolonial Tricks: Rewriting the Tropics in the 'Novela De La Selva.'" The Modern Language Review, vol. 101, no. 3, 2006, pp. 728–742. JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/20466906.

⁹⁵ Mayo, Katherine (1937). Mother India. New York. p. 178.

⁹⁶ Samrajya Laxmi Pithika, Niti Shashtra, Artha Shashtra, Manu Smriti

⁹⁷ Dharmashastra, Manu Smriti, Parasara Smriti, Yagya Valk, Gautama, Mitakshara

⁹⁸ Arthashashtra, Kriśi-Parasara

⁹⁹ Kamikagama, Mahaagama, and Suprabhedagama

¹⁰⁰ Pancharatra Agama

¹⁰¹ Charaka Samhitā, Sham Raj, Nighant, Bhashya Parichehed, Madhava Nidan, Vagbhat

¹⁰² Sushruta Samhita

¹⁰³ Vrukshayurveda, Bruhat Samhita, Sarngadhara's Vrukshayurveda, Parasara's Vrukshayurveda

¹⁰⁴ Rasahrudaya Agama, Rasendra Mangala, Rasarathnakara, Karshaputa, Lohasastra

¹⁰⁵ Gandharva Veda

¹⁰⁶ Krishni Parasara

¹⁰⁷ Siddbant Shiromani, Nil Kanthi, Mahurta Chintamani, Brihat Jatak, Shighra Bodh, Parasariya

¹⁰⁸ Yukti Kalpa Taru

¹⁰⁹ Nagalingayna-Kutha, Vishvakurma-Poorana, Kumalesherra Kalikamahata

¹¹⁰ Bhaga Shashtra

¹¹¹ (i) Plofker, Kim (2009). Mathematics in India. Princeton University Press. pp. 54-56. "Pingala's use of a zero symbol as a marker seems to be the first known explicit reference to zero." ISBN 0-691-12067-6. (ii) [पिङ्गलछन्दःसूत्रम्](#)

¹¹² (i) R. Hall, Mathematics of Poetry, has "c. 200 BC" (ii) Mylius (1983:68) mentions "very late" within the Vedānga corpus.

¹¹³ The Siddhanta-Sekhara of Sripati: A Sanskrit astronomical work of the 11th century : Cambridge University Press.

¹¹⁴ Henry Thomas Colebrooke. Algebra, with Arithmetic and Mensuration, from the Sanskrit of Brahmagupta and Bhaascara, London 1817, p. 339 ([online](#))

¹¹⁵ (i) Ian Stewart (2017). [Infinity: a Very Short Introduction](#). Oxford University Press. p. 117. ISBN 978-0-19-875523-4. (ii) वधादौ वियत् खस्य खं खेन घाते खहारो भवेत् खेन भक्तश्च राशिः ॥2.18॥ अस्मिन् विकारः खहरे न राशावपि प्रविष्टेष्वपि निःसृतेषु। बहुष्वपि स्यात् लय-सृष्टिकाले अनन्ते अच्युतेभूतगणेषु यद्वत् ॥2.20॥ [Bhaskaracharya's Bijaganita](#)

¹¹⁶ Plofker, Kim (2009). Mathematics in India. Princeton University Press. page 71, ISBN 0-691-12067-6.

¹¹⁷ Bhāskara II's treatise on mathematics, Līlāvati

simultaneous, and indeterminate equations¹¹⁸, Baudhayana-Pythagoras Theorem¹¹⁹, Madhava-Leibniz infinite series for the value of pi (π)¹²⁰, trigonometry, infinite series for calculating value of a sine function, Nilakanta-Taylor series (1685 CE), Govindaswami-Newton-Gauss interpolation (1670 CE), calculus¹²¹. Somayaji-Newton Power series (1660 CE), Madhava-Gregory's series for inverse tangent (1632 AD), astronomy, Velocity of Planets (Puthumana Somayaji 1450 CE), Gravity (1114 CE), freely available organic antibiotic remedies¹²², free and affordable¹²³ healthcare, vaccination¹²⁴ procedures, surgical¹²⁵ procedures including plastic surgery, etc. The State of the Republic of India however, considers indigenous heritage, knowledge, and acumen in poor light. In India, the interference of the State is not limited to Hindu religion and Hindu temples alone, but various fields like business and even science. C V Raman, the first Indian and first Asian to win Nobel Prize, in one of his lectures about a series of experiments that required platinum, remarked that he had found his first sliver of platinum, when he, in a fit of rage against the government's ill-conceived policies on science, had smashed his Bharat Ratna medal (highest civil honor).¹²⁶ Raman was outraged at what he felt was the government's use of power to grant funds as a means to establish control over research institutes.¹²⁷ In his twilight years, he said in frustration, "*My life has been an utter failure. I was the first Asian to bring home the Nobel Prize in the scientific field. I thought I would bring true science in our country.*" Similarly, the interference of government on the economy was devastating, often termed – License Raj – referring to the red tape of the State that hindered the setup and running of businesses in India between 1947 and 1990.¹²⁸ During this era, based on political interest¹²⁹, the banking sector in India was nationalized. This brought down their

¹¹⁸ B. S. Yadav (28 Oct 2010). [Ancient Indian Leaps Into Mathematics](#). Springer. p. 88. ISBN 978-0-8176-4694-3, Aryabhatiya

¹¹⁹ Thibaut, George (1875). "[On the Śulvasūtras](#)". *The Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*. **44**: 232–238

¹²⁰ (i) Edwards (1994), The historical development of the calculus, Springer Study Edition Series (3 ed.), Springer, p. 247, ISBN 978-0-387-94313-8 (ii) ഇരിഞ്ഞാലുപുഴയിലെ മാധവൻ നമ്പൂതിരി Madhava of Sangamagrama discovered before Leibniz

¹²¹ (i) "[Neither Newton nor Leibniz - The Pre-History of Calculus and Celestial Mechanics in Medieval Kerala](#)". MAT 314. Canisius College. (ii) "[An overview of Indian mathematics](#)". Indian Maths. School of Mathematics and Statistics University of St Andrews, Scotland.

¹²² <https://www.nature.com/articles/37838>

¹²³ Gopinath BG. Foundational ideas of Ayurveda. Medicine and Life Sciences in India. In: Subbarayappa BV, Chattopadhyay DP, editors. New Delhi: Centre for Studies in Civilizations; 2001. pp. 59–107. History of Science, Philosophy and Culture in Indian Civilization; Part 2. Vol. IV.

¹²⁴ J. Van Alphen; A. Aris (1995). "*Medicine in India*". Oriental Medicine: An Illustrated Guide to the Asian Arts of Healing. London: Serindia Publications. pp. 19–38 ISBN 978-0-906026-36-6.

¹²⁵ Kansupada, KB; Sassani, JW (1997). "*Sushruta: the father of Indian surgery and ophthalmology*". *Doc Ophthalmol*. **93** (1-2): 159–67. doi:10.1007/bf02569056. PMID 9476614. S2CID 9045799.

¹²⁶ (i) Parameswaran, Uma (2011). C.V. Raman : a biography p. 222. OCLC 772714846. (ii) Malhotra, Inder (2014). "[C. V. Raman and the Bharat Ratna](#)". www.freedomfirst.in

¹²⁷ (i) "[The ups and downs of a science city](#)". (ii) Krishna, V.V.; Khadria, Binod (1997). "*Phasing Scientific Migration in the Context of Brain Gain and Brain Drain in India*". *Science, Technology and Society*. **2** (2): 347 – 385. doi:10.1177/097172189700200207. S2CID 143870753. (iii) Krishna, V. V. (1 June 2001). "*Changing policy cultures, phases and trends in science and technology in India*". *Science and Public Policy*. **28** (3): 179 – 194. doi:10.3152/147154301781781525.

¹²⁸ (i) Mathew, George Eby (2010). [India's Innovation Blueprint: How the Largest Democracy is Becoming an innovation Super Power](#). Oxford: Chandos Publishing. pp. 13 ff. ISBN 978-1-78063-224-7. OCLC 867050270. (ii) Nehru, S., ed. (2019). [Economic Reforms in India: Achievements and Challenges](#). Chennai: MJP Publisher. p. 271. ISBN 978-81-8094-251-8. OCLC 913733544. (iii) [Street Hawking Promise Jobs in Future Archived](#) March 29, 2008, at the Wayback Machine, The Times of India, 2001-11-25

¹²⁹ <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/view-indias-leap-to-nationalisation-as-world-jumped-over-the-moon/articleshow/70402194.cms>

profitability¹³⁰ and viability¹³¹. Five decades later, the government was forced to pump in INR 2.5 trillion to counter the effect of several scams¹³² that had resulted in a high level of non-performing assets standing at around INR 7.5 trillion¹³³. The government had also nationalized the airline industry. Before the nationalization of the airline company Air India, its owner JRD Tata would take interest in minute details like cleanliness and even clean dirty toilets inside aircraft by himself to set an example for his staff to follow¹³⁴, after nationalization over decades of destruction¹³⁵ the airline gathered a total of INR 500 billion in debt, with the government determined to sell it off and privatize it again by December 2019.¹³⁶ Similarly, the government had nationalized various companies and organizations which over decades underperformed for various reasons linked to the economy in general and also because of red tape, and lack of accountability. The same is the fate of Hindu temples that were nationalized by the State governments of India. Madurai Temple for example used to offer Anna Daan (free food as a charitable service) to everyone irrespective of their status, religion, or caste. After State take over of the temple, not just Anna Daan several important services were stopped. In 1990, India faced a severe balance of payments crisis and as a part of a bailout deal with the IMF, India was forced to pledge 20 tonnes of gold to the Union Bank of Switzerland and 47 tonnes to the Bank of England and Bank of Japan and subsequently, liberalized the economy ending the red-tapism to some extent.¹³⁷ Despite the lessons learned from the past, several political groups in the State of the Republic of India, are determined to nationalize and usurp ancient wealth and gold of several Hindu temples and loot it in the guise of greater interest of the nation – the prime example being the gold monetization¹³⁸ scheme planned for the Padmanabhaswamy Temple – the largest collection of items of gold and precious stones in the recorded history of the world.¹³⁹ Though the State of the Republic of India got political independence in 1947, and economic liberalization in 1990, there is a long way to go, especially in terms of religious rights more so for minority Hindu religious sects.

42. The Hindu Religious Endowment Act (1925) set the precedent for several later anti-religion laws such as the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment (HR & CE) Act, the policy of the incumbent state of Tamil Nadu.¹⁴⁰ Even today, Hindu educational institutions, temples, religious traditions are subject to State subjugation and control. But a radical change was introduced in the legislation by

¹³⁰ https://www.business-standard.com/article/opinion/50-years-of-nationalization-119071801749_1.html

¹³¹ <https://www.livemint.com/opinion/columns/opinion-the-1969-bank-nationalization-did-india-more-harm-than-good-1563295097940.html>

¹³² https://www.business-standard.com/article/opinion/shekhar-gupta-dump-it-sell-it-forget-it-118021601397_1.html

¹³³ (i) <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1064657/india-gross-npa-public-sector-banks-india/>, (ii) https://www.business-standard.com/article/politics/here-s-why-communist-party-of-india-opposes-privatisation-of-psbs-118022200476_1.html

¹³⁴ <https://www.livemint.com/Companies/rLr3BwZ3lI8vk5j8xl8ypj/air-india-tata-air-india-flights-air-india-sale-airline.html>

¹³⁵ <https://www.firstpost.com/business/the-praful-patel-guide-to-destroying-ai-revised-edition-34635.html>

¹³⁶ <https://www.newindianexpress.com/specials/2019/dec/25/from-jet-airways-closure-to-air-india-crisis-how-indian-aviation-sector-got-stalled-in-2019-2080409.html>

¹³⁷ (i) *Economic Crisis Forcing Once Self-Reliant India to Seek Aid*, The New York Times, 29 June 1991(ii) Bank, The World (12 November 1991). "[India - Structural Adjustment Credit Project \(English\) - Presidents report](#)". World Bank: 1. (iii) "[Structural adjustments in India - a report of the Independent Evaluation Group \(IEG\)](#)". World Bank.

¹³⁸ <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/pm-narendra-modi-temples-gold-jewellery-banks-248110-2015-04-11>

¹³⁹ (i) "[India to evaluate world's largest gold treasure soon](#)". Archived from [the original](#) on 2015-04-14. (ii) R. Krishnakumar (16 July 2011). "[Treasures of history](#)". Frontline. 28 (15). Retrieved 27 November 2015.

¹⁴⁰ (i) "[The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department](#)". Department of HR & CE. Government of Tamil Nadu. (ii) Rajaraman, P. (1988). *The Justice Party: a historical perspective, 1916 – 37*. Poompozhi Publishers. pp. 255 – 260.

way of Act XII of 1935¹⁴¹, through which temples could be notified by the government and their administration took over by the State Executive through the Hindu Religious Endowment Board.

43. 19 July 1917, at a conference in Coimbatore, presided over by Panagati Ramarayaningar, the four associations got together to form the South Indian Liberal Federation, unofficially known as the Justice Party.¹⁴² A vast majority of governments that ruled over the Madras Presidency (and post-independence Tamil Nadu) were formed by the Justice Party. The leaders of the Justice Party such as the Chief Minister Panagati Ramarayaningar were known to vocally express their anti-Hindu prejudices¹⁴³ which attracted political leaders from other parties such as E. V. Ramasamy who was the President of the Madras Presidency Congress Committee since 1922. The Congress Party lost several elections¹⁴⁴ to the Justice Party, and E. V. Ramasamy left the Congress in 1925 citing discrimination.¹⁴⁵ Subsequently, E. V. Ramasamy joined the Justice Party. Anti-Hinduism was a major feature of E. V. Ramasamy's public addresses, this led to him being consulted by Justice Party. In 1939, E.V. Ramasamy was declared the head of the Justice Party.¹⁴⁶
44. Though Hindu Scriptures taught to respect each human being without discrimination, as not just an equal human being but also as a divine manifestation of God - "*Whether a woman or a man, a drunkard (Cāṇḍala) or a person who is reborn (Dvija) through education and initiation, there is absolutely no discriminatory comparison. Everyone here is considered like Śiva (Primordial Hindu Divinity)*"¹⁴⁷, E. V. Ramasamy like many other political leaders of the Justice Party and Dravidar Kazhagam stereotyped the Hindu religion and the Sanskrit language as intrinsically exploitative¹⁴⁸, criminal¹⁴⁹, and nepotistic¹⁵⁰.

¹⁴¹ www.latestlaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Tamil-Nadu-Hindu-Religious-and-Charitable-Endowments-Act-1959.pdf

¹⁴² (i) Geetha, V.; Rajadurai, S. V., eds. (1928). "Some Non-Brahmin Leaders". [Revolt - A Radical Weekly in Colonial Madras](#) (PDF). Periyar Dravidar Kazhagam. pp. 176 - 179. (ii) Kesavanarayana, B. (1976). Political and Social Factors in Andhra, 1900 - 1956. p. 299.

¹⁴³ Mayo, Katherine (1937). Mother India. New York. p. 178.

¹⁴⁴ Ralhan, O. P. (2002). Encyclopaedia of Political Parties. Anmol Publications PVT. LTD. ISBN 978-81-7488-865-5. Page 180

¹⁴⁵ Kandasamy, W.B. Vansantha; Florentin Smarandache; K. Kandasamy (2005). [Fuzzy and Neutrosophic Analysis of E.V. Ramasamy's Views on Untouchability](#). HEXIS: Phoenix. p. 106. ISBN 978-1-931233-00-2.

¹⁴⁶ Kandasamy (2005). [NFuzzy and Neutrosophic Analysis of E.V. Ramasamy's Views on Untouchability](#). American Research Press. p. 109. ISBN 978-1-931233-00-2.

¹⁴⁷ "स्त्री वाथ पुरुषः षण्डचण्डालो वा द्विजोऽसमः। चक्रेऽस्मिन्नेव भेदोऽस्ति सर्व शिवसमाः स्मृताः ॥९७॥" verse 97 and "जातिभेदो न चक्रेऽस्मिन् सर्वे शिवसमाः स्मृताः। वेदेऽपि स्थितमेवं हि सर्व हि ब्रह्मा चाव्रतीत् ॥९०१॥" verse 101, etc., Kularnava Tantra, 8th Ullasa <https://archive.org/details/Kularnava/mode/2up>

¹⁴⁸ Diehl, Anita (1977). E. V. Ramaswami Naicker-Periar: A study of the influence of a personality in contemporary South India. Sweden: Scandinavian University Books. ISBN 978-91-24-27645-4

¹⁴⁹ (i) In 1968, referring to the [Criminal Tribes Act \(1871\)](#), which generalized a people as criminal by birth, E. V. Ramasamy said, "*The dharma of India is the dharma of criminal tribes*" http://keetru.com/index.php/2009-08-20-02-56-57/909-09/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3032&Itemid=139 (ii) Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (MDMK) leader Vaiko describe opposition party members as "*habitual offender*", referring to the [Habitual Offender Act \(1952\)](#) which continued the negative stereotyping of the Criminal Tribes Act (1871) post independence <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/rahmins-attacked-in-tamil-nadu-as-periyar-statue-vandalism-triggers-violence-protests/story-fu4RDEG2rH3JtaM3xTSkN.html>

¹⁵⁰ Omvedt, Gail (2006). [Dalit Visions: The Anti-caste Movement and the Construction on an Indian Identity](#). Orient Longman. p. 95. ISBN 978-81-250-2895-6.

45. As per the colonial government data, the pre-colonial indigenous education system was widespread¹⁵¹ imparting education to every person even in the remotest village¹⁵², it was economical¹⁵³ and inclusive, catering to boys and girls¹⁵⁴ of all sections of society with as many as 70% of students being from impoverished communities¹⁵⁵ that now are recognized¹⁵⁶ as OBCs, SCs, and STs¹⁵⁷. Despite this E. V. Ramasamy concocted several racist theories and delivered a massive volume of anti-Hindu speeches, such as claiming that historically in Hinduism education was fundamentally denied especially to impoverished communities.¹⁵⁸
46. In 1886 Rev. John Rathinam had declared that people who had been marginalized and discriminated against for practicing a certain profession or having a certain surname by the classification system used in the Colonial Government Census (1871) should declare themselves as non-Hindus and choose a new identity called – “Dravida” or “Adi-Dravida”.¹⁵⁹ In 1944, E.V. Ramasamy created a terrorist organization from the Justice Party naming it as Dravidar Kazhagam¹⁶⁰, a name chosen after an organization that had been founded by Rev. John Rathinam¹⁶¹ in the late 1880s. Subsequently, E. V. Ramasamy developed a bizarre alternate world history and anti-Hindu hate literature. For example, although the word “Adi-Dravida” was coined by Rev. John Rathinam in 1886 and never used on the planet earth before that especially in the context that it was presented, E. V. Ramasamy considered his racist ideologies as a fact, but at the same time, E. V. Ramasamy was of the strong opinion that Hindus were wrong to believe themselves as Hindus as the religion was imaginary and no religion identified as Hinduism ever existed on planet earth¹⁶². In his Presidential Address at the Justice Confederation in 1940, he asserted that those who thought of themselves as Hindus should either be converted or declare themselves as “Adi Dravida”.¹⁶³ E. V. Ramasamy preferred referring to Hinduism pejoratively as “Brahminism”, a word coined by him to blame Brahmins (Hindu priests and scholars) for the discriminatory classification done by the Colonial Government Census (1871).

¹⁵¹ House of Commons Papers, 1831-32, volume 9, p.468, Presidency of Bombay, G.L. Prendergast ‘*there is hardly a village, great or small, throughout our territories, in which there is not at least one school, and in larger villages more.*’

¹⁵² House of Commons Papers, 1812-13, volume 7, evidence of Thomas Munro (Governor of Madras Presidency 1819-1827), p.127, [The Beautiful Tree, Dr. Dharampal](#), (ISBN No.: 81-85569-49-5 republished ISBN-10: 8175310952), page 26.

¹⁵³ Collector of Bellary (A.D. Campbell) to Board of Revenue, 17 August 1823 (TNSA: BRP: Vol.958 Pro.25.8.1823 pp.7167-85 Nos.32-33), para 16. “*The economy with which children are taught to write in the native schools, and the system by which the more advanced scholars are caused to teach the less advanced and at the same time to confirm their own knowledge is certainly admirable, and well deserved the imitation it has received in England.*”

¹⁵⁴ [The Beautiful Tree, Dr. Dharampal](#), (ISBN No.: 81-85569-49-5 republished ISBN-10: 8175310952), Chapter IV, “*Education of Girls*” page 43

¹⁵⁵ (i) [The Beautiful Tree \(Dharampal\)](#), Chapter IV, *Table 3 - Caste-wise division of male school, student*, republished [here](#), (ii) Ibid see also pg 29, “*while the Soodras and the other castes ranged from about 70% in Salem and Tinnevely to over 84% in South Arcot*” (iii) TNSA: Revenue Consultations: Vol.920: dated 2 July 1822

¹⁵⁶ Ibid Chapter IV page 22 “*this included most such groupings which today are listed among the scheduled castes*”

¹⁵⁷ OBCs – Other backward castes, SCs – Scheduled Castes, STs – Scheduled Tribes are some of officially designated groups of people in India that are considered disadvantaged and marginalized by the State of Republic of India.

¹⁵⁸ Saraswathi, S. (2004) *Towards Self-Respect*. Institute of South Indian Studies: Madras pp. 119.

¹⁵⁹ (i) Rāmacandra Kshīrasāgara (1994). *Dalit Movement in India and Its Leaders, 1857-1956*. M.D. Publications Pvt. Ltd. p. 134. ISBN 9788185880433 (ii) Anand Teltumbde. *Dalits: Past, present and future*. Taylor & Francis. p. 57. ISBN 9781315526447 (iii) Ravikumar (28 September 2005). “[Iyothee Thass and the Politics of Naming](#)”. *The Sunday Pioneer*.

¹⁶⁰ Pandian, J., (1987). *Caste, Nationalism, and Ethnicity*. Popular Prakashan Private Ltd.: Bombay. pp. 62, 64. ISBN 0861321367.

¹⁶¹ Raj Sekhar Basu (14 February 2011). *Nandanar's Children: The Paraiyans' Tryst with Destiny, Tamil Nadu 1850 - 1956*. SAGE Publications. p. 174. ISBN 9788132105145.

¹⁶² Saraswathi, S. (2004) *Towards Self-Respect*. Institute of South Indian Studies: Madras pp. 118 & 119.

¹⁶³ Saraswathi, S. (2004) *Towards Self-Respect*. Institute of South Indian Studies: Madras pp. 124-125.

47. E. V. Ramasamy studied and authored a massive amount of hate literature targeting Hinduism. Even today the DK terrorists publish several of his books and speeches where they pejoratively refer to Hindu priests as money grabbers¹⁶⁴, scandalous¹⁶⁵, stubborn¹⁶⁶, fraudsters¹⁶⁷, black magicians¹⁶⁸, non-Tamil¹⁶⁹, aliens¹⁷⁰, etc.
48. E. V. Ramasamy famously said, *"If you see a snake and a Brahmin (Hindu priest) on the road, kill the Brahmin (Hindu priest) first."*¹⁷¹ On August 31, 1959, he stated, *"Who do you hate? The Brahmin or Brahminism? What is Brahminism? – for questions such as these, my reply is Brahminism came from Brahmins, and hence it is the Brahmins who should be annihilated. It is like asking whether you hate thievery or the thief. It is because one is a thief, one indulges in thievery. When someone says he hates thievery, it means he hates the thief, too, doesn't it? Thus, [my stand is] Brahminism grew out of the Brahmin and I am striving to annihilate the root."* In his last ever speech, on December 19, 1973, he declared that he had been striving for a long time to annihilate God, (Hindu) religion, Gandhi, and the Brahmin (Hindu priests).¹⁷² The hate against Brahmins (Hindu priests) and their marginalization from politics, government jobs, medicine, etc. caused an exodus from their traditional settings first to private-sector jobs in other states such as Karnataka and later out of India, particularly to the Silicon Valley.¹⁷³
49. The anti-Hindu terrorist organizations founded by E.V. Ramasamy such as Dravidar Kazhagam (hence referred to as 'DK') and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (hence referred to as 'DMK') engaged in various criminal activities such as assault¹⁷⁴, especially for carrying Hindu religious symbols¹⁷⁵. The DK/DMK have several criminal cases pending against them¹⁷⁶ such as on 9 May 2007, terrorists of DK/DMK burnt three people alive¹⁷⁷ with all 17 accused being acquitted by the court¹⁷⁸.

¹⁶⁴ பணம் பிடிங்கிப் பார்ப்பனர் (Money grabbing Brahmins), Thozhar Draviyam

¹⁶⁵ பார்ப்பன மத வண்டவாளம் (Brahmin's Religious Scandals), E.V.Ramasamy

¹⁶⁶ பார்ப்பான் மாறவில்லை; மாறமாட்டான்! சூத்திரனும்; ஆதி சூத்திரனும் மாறிவிட்டான்! T.V.Aanaimuthu

¹⁶⁷ பார்ப்பனர் புரட்டுக்குப் பதிலடி! (A smacking answer to Brahmin's fraud), Kali.Pungundran

¹⁶⁸ ஆரிய மாயை (Aryan's) by Annadurai (Former Chief minister of Tamil Nadu from DMK)

¹⁶⁹ பார்ப்பனர்கள் தமிழர்களா?

¹⁷⁰ ஆங்கிலேயர் அன்னியர் என்றால் பார்ப்பனர்கள் யார்? Kunjidham Gurusamy

¹⁷¹ <https://www.organiser.org/Encyc/2020/12/24/EV-Ramaswamy-Periyar-The-Man-Whose-World-View-Centred-Around-Hatred.html>

¹⁷² <https://thewire.in/history/periyar-ev-ramasamy-dravida-nadu-brahmins-dmk>

¹⁷³ (i) Fuller, C. J., and Haripriya Narasimhan. "From Landlords to Software Engineers: Migration and Urbanization among Tamil Brahmins." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 50, no. 1 (2008): 170-96. www.jstor.org/stable/27563659 (ii) <https://theprint.in/pageturner/excerpt/tamil-brahmins-were-the-earliest-to-frame-merit-as-a-caste-claim-and-it-showed-in-iits/351539/>

¹⁷⁴ "Memories of a Violent Movement led by Periyar". Times of India.

¹⁷⁵ (i) "Attacks fuel Brahmin fears". Telegraph India. (ii) <https://www.outlookindia.com/website/story/sacred-threads-of-10-brahmin-men-cut-off-in-chennai-after-bjp-leader-called-to-b/309198>

¹⁷⁶ (i) <https://www.news18.com/news/politics/tamil-nadu-466-candidates-have-criminal-cases-against-them-dmk-tops-chart-3605873.html> (ii) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/33-tamil-nadu-mlas-face-criminal-cases-adr/articleshow/81441435.cms>

¹⁷⁷ "3 people killed in Dinakaran attack". The Times of India. PTI. 9 May 2007.

¹⁷⁸ Special Correspondent (10 December 2009). "All acquitted in Dinakaran case". The Hindu.



The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu from the DMK (the political wing of the Dravidar Kazhagam) Karunanidhi with his son M. Stalin during his birthday publicly ridiculing a boy in a get-up resembling that of a Hindu priest.

50. On 23rd and 24th, January 1971 Salem conference by DK, E. V. Ramasamy and DK/DMK terrorists garlanded Hindu Deities with footwear, hit Deities with footwear, broke Deities, created morphed nude pictures of Hindu Deities, burnt Deities, and delivered speeches inciting hatred against Hindu priests, Hindu Deities, Hindu spiritual leaders, Hindu texts, and the Sanskrit language. In this conference, the DK passed ten resolutions¹⁷⁹ demanding: legalizing hate speech directed towards Hindu religion, destruction of Hindu temples, Deities and religion, destruction of the Supreme Court of India, conversion of all Hindus to declare Tamil Nadu as a State free from Hinduism by the time of government census of 1980, etc. The DMK government banned the circulation of any media journal that criticized these resolutions¹⁸⁰.



¹⁷⁹ (i) <https://swarajyamag.com/politics/periyaar-ev-ramasamys-1971-anti-hindu-rally-seems-to-have-had-more-sinister-designs-resolutions-at-meet-are-a-proof> (ii) <https://web.archive.org/web/20201028185149/http://viduthalai.in/e-paper/155527-1971-----html>

¹⁸⁰ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/cho-who-unleashed-satire-on-tn-politicians-for-50-years-dies-at-82/articleshow/55864715.cms>

Some archival copies of the surviving newspapers captured the happenings of the 23 Jan 1971 conference. **(LEFT)** A cartoon of the leader of DK, E. V. Ramasamy with a slipper hitting at the Deities of Lord Rama with Karunanidhi (Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu from DMK) clapping alongside the State police **(CENTER)** A journal published by the DK portraying Hindu Deities in a vulgar manner engaging in zoophilia. **(RIGHT)** Tamil Daily newspaper - Dinamani – dated 26 Jan 1971 carrying the news about the conference.

51. The DMK government acted on these policies of the DK, such as in 1975, the State absurdly claimed that the ancient ASMT language – Sanskrit – was a source of nepotism in society and thus changed the language of ASMT Temple rituals via a notification and altered the HR&CE Scheme in OA No.2 of 1973 dated **10 Oct 1975** appointing a government executive to control religious and financial matters of the monastery and associated temples. The DMK made several legislations to extend government control on the Hindu religion by extending their control over the already nationalized Hindu temples. The DMK government made long-term plans for enacting these resolutions, such as alienating the Hindu sects from Hinduism and rechristening them as Dravida DK/DMK compatible religions. For this, the State of Tamil Nadu headed by the DMK has been grooming Guru Maha Sannidhanams, such as the Dharmapuram Guru Maha Sannidhanam that are friendly to the party and aligned to the DK/DMK extremist ideologies¹⁸¹ and thus have declared Shaivism as a religion separate from Hinduism.¹⁸² This is not unique to DMK Tamil Nadu and is similar to how the CPC has been grooming Lamas for decades¹⁸³. Like E. V. Ramasamy who claimed no religion named Hinduism exists, even in 2020 DK/DMK leaders made similarly absurd and demeaning political remarks such as claiming that the Sanatana Hindu religion was created merely 200 years ago.¹⁸⁴
52. March 20, 1938, when Germany was under the rule of the Nazi Government, E. V. Ramasamy in a magazine named Kudiyarasu wrote, *"The Jews are only interested in themselves, and nobody else. They somehow contrive to have the rulers in their pocket, participate in governance and conspire to torture and suck the lives out of other citizens in order that they live (in comfort). Are they not comparable to the Brahmins who too have no responsibility but have the rulers in their pocket, have entered the ruling dispensation and been lording over (all of us)?"*¹⁸⁵ Taking a note from the success of Nazi propaganda movies, E. V. Ramasamy inspired Karunanidhi (the future Chief Minister from the DMK) to make movies that would mainstream anti-Hindu sentiments in Tamil Nadu. Along these lines, Karunanidhi, a scriptwriter for Tamil movies, wrote several movies that as per his own admission to a newspaper, had successfully stereotyped Hindu monks and Gurus as *"the hoodwinking of those adorning the sacred ochre robes (காவியுடைதாரிகளின் கபட நாடகம்)"*, *"brainwashers and destroyers of the life of illiterates (பாமர மக்களின் வாழ்வையும் அறிவையும் பாழாக்கி வருகின்ற)"*, *"Swindlers of Money (பணக் கொள்ளை அடிக்கின்ற"*

¹⁸¹ <https://thehindu.com/news/cities/Tiruchirapalli/pontiffs-of-ancient-shaivite-mutts-congratulate-stalin/article34482675.ece>

¹⁸² <https://newsguru.news/en/dmks-watered-down-atheism-why-the-dravidian-party-is-desperate-to-show-its-hindu-side/>

¹⁸³ (i) <https://www.outlookindia.com/newswire/story/china-grooms-panchen-lama-to-rival-dalai-lama/760670> (ii)

www.daily-sun.com/post/520601/Grooming-A-Living-Buddha---China-The-Panchen-Lama-And-Tibetan-Buddhism-

¹⁸⁴ Kalaierasi Natarajan, a Tamil Saiva Peravai (a DK/DMK faction) leader's statement -

<https://twitter.com/HLKodo/status/1340732587673747457>

¹⁸⁵ (i) Naan Sonnal Unakku Yen Kopam Vara Vendum, vol. 4, p. 532, compiled by Pasu. Gowthaman (ii)

www.organiser.org/Encyc/2020/12/24/EV-Ramaswamy-Periyar-The-Man-Whose-World-View-Centred-Around-Hatred.html

பகல்வேடக்காரர்களை".¹⁸⁶ Karunanidhi gave examples of such movies in the interview with the most notable movie being – Parashakti (பராசக்தி)¹⁸⁷, and others such as Valaikari (வேலைக்காரி) a movie with a courtroom scene that justified the assassination of Hindu monk¹⁸⁸, Tukku Madai (தூக்குமேடை), Swarga Vaasal (சொர்க்கவாசல்), Manohara (மனோகரா), etc.

¹⁸⁶ 4 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 6

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1f7CEsZDNw5TI8wJX3fckhmEGqOyESHgy7GgXjiai8vo>

¹⁸⁷ Guneratne, Anthony R.; Wimal Dissanayake; S. Chakravarty (2003). Rethinking Third Cinema. Routledge. ISBN 0-415-21354-1 p. 216

¹⁸⁸ Dhananjayan, G. (2014). Pride of Tamil Cinema: 1931 to 2013. Blue Ocean Publishers. OCLC 898765509

Anti-Hindu DMK Propaganda Movies

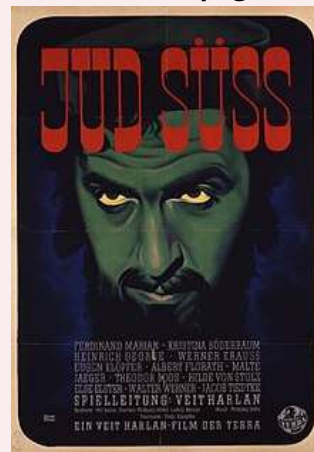


பராசக்தி (Parasakthi – Mother Goddess)

Known as one of the most controversial¹⁸⁹ anti-Hindu¹⁹⁰ movies, it has received critical acclaim¹⁹¹, is widely celebrated, and has a cult status¹⁹² in India, it premiered on 17 Oct 1952. The film gave DMK the necessary stimulus to overthrow its opponents in elections¹⁹³. The dialogues of the movie were extremely popular¹⁹⁴ and memorizing these became a *"must for aspirant (DMK) political orators"*.¹⁹⁵

The film portrayed the main villain – a Hindu priest attempting to rape the female protagonist in a temple of Devi Parasakthi (Mother Goddess/Primordial Hindu divinity) with the stone Deity of Devi Parasakthi witnessing the rape as a mute spectator without protecting the victim in a very provocative²⁰² scene. The movie is famous²⁰³ for its inflammatory and hateful dialogues on Hindu practices especially the worship of the divine as a mother.

Anti-Semitic Nazi Propaganda Movies



Jud Süß (Süss the Jew)

Known as one of the most outrageous¹⁹⁶ yet successful anti-Semitic¹⁹⁷ films ever made, it premiered on 8 Sep 1940 received rave reviews, earning the top award.¹⁹⁸ Viewed by over 20 million people when the population of Germany was about 70 million¹⁹⁹, it was known as the number one film of the time.²⁰⁰ The movie was successful abroad gathering 1 million viewers in France.²⁰¹

The main villain a state treasurer was portrayed as an *"unscrupulous, power-hungry and a shameless seducer"*²⁰⁴ of Jewish origin who raped the female protagonist, tortured her father and fiancée²⁰⁵. There were reports of anti-Jewish violence after audiences viewed the film.²⁰⁶

¹⁸⁹ Baskaran, S. Theodore (1996). The eye of the serpent: an introduction to Tamil cinema. East West Books. p. 111.

¹⁹⁰ Pillai 2015, ISBN 13: 9789351501213, Madras Studios : Narrative Genre and Ideology in Tamil Cinema

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/lights-camera-politics/article7070727.ece>

¹⁹¹ (i) Pillai 2015, ISBN 13: 9789351501213, Madras Studios : Narrative Genre and Ideology in Tamil Cinema, p. 99. (ii)

"நகர சினிமாக்கள்: பராசக்தி" [City Cinemas: Parasakthi]. 2 November 1952. (iii) Hariharan, K. (3 May 2013). *"Movies that stirred, moved & shook us"*. *Bangalore Mirror*. (iv) Vandhana, M. (7 January 2013). *"Parasakthi completes 60 years"*. The Hindu. (v) Prasad, Shishir; Ramnath, N. S.; Mitter, Sohini (27 April 2013). *"25 Greatest Acting Performances of Indian Cinema"*. *Forbes*.

¹⁹² (i) Muralidharan, Kavitha (21 July 2015). *"Fourteen years on, Sivaji Ganesan's legacy lives on"*. *DailyO*. (ii) Kannan 2010, p. 198. (iii) Anand, N. (3 January 2008). *"Sivakumar not for old wine in new bottle"*. The Hindu.

¹⁹³ Kannan 2010, p. 195.

¹⁹⁴ Chandrasekar, Gokul (7 February 2013). *"'Vishwaroopam' and Tamil Nadu's cinema of politics"*. *Reuters*.

¹⁹⁵ Pandian 1991, p. 759.

¹⁹⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2010/feb/25/jud-suss-film-without-conscience>

¹⁹⁷ *"Jud Süß - Most successful anti-Semitic film the Nazi's ever made"*. Holocaust Education & Archive Team (2008).

¹⁹⁸ (i) Etlin, Richard A. (15 October 2002). *Art, culture, and media under the Third Reich*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. p. 143. ISBN 978-0-226-22087-1. (ii) Friedländer, Saul (24 March 2008). *The Years of Extermination: Nazi Germany and the Jews, 1939–1945*. New York, NY: HarperCollins. p. 100. ISBN 978-0-06-093048-6. Jud Süß was launched at the Venice Film Festival, in September 1940, to extraordinary acclaim; it received the "Golden Lion" award and garnered rave reviews.

¹⁹⁹ (i) Rentschler, Eric (1996). *The ministry of illusion: Nazi cinema and its afterlife*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. pp. 154, 250. ISBN 978-0-674-57640-7, (ii) Etlin, Richard A. *Art, culture, and media under the Third Reich*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. p. 147. ISBN 978-0-226-22087-1.

²⁰⁰ Azuél, Daniel (Jan 2006). *Lion Feuchtwanger und die deutschsprachigen Emigranten in Frankreich von 1933 bis 1941: Lion Feuchtwanger et les exilés de langue allemande en France de 1933 à 1941*. Bern: Peter Lang. p. 202. ISBN 978-3-03910-999-9.

²⁰¹ Leschi, Didier; Kestel, Laurent (10 April 2019). *"France's Repressed Fascist Past"*. *Jacobin (magazine)*.

²⁰² Srivathsan, A. (12 June 2006). *"Films and the politics of convenience"*. The Hindu.

²⁰³ Srivathsan, A. (2 February 2013). *"A revolution betrayed"*. The Hindu.

²⁰⁴ <https://www.dw.com/en/jud-suess-causes-controversy-second-time-around/a-6033357>

²⁰⁵ Feuchtwanger, Edgar. *"Two Films about Jud Süß"*

²⁰⁶ *Film in the Third Reich*. University of California Press. 1993. p. 169. Retrieved 9 November 2011.

53. E. V. Ramasamy and Karunanidhi created an ecosystem of hate towards Hinduism, Hindu monks, Hindu nuns, Hindu Gurus, Hindu deities, and the Sanskrit language, which has normalized its existence in Tamil Nadu by its presence spanning the past ninety years. The most vulnerable victims of the hate targeted against Hindu monks and Hindu Gurus were the Hindu nuns – the Rudrakanyas and Devadasis. The DK/DMK owned media and terrorist organizations dehumanized Hindu nuns that worshiped Devi Parasakthi (Mother Goddess/Primordial Hindu divinity) as “witches”²⁰⁷, “prostitutes”²⁰⁸, “cult worshippers”²⁰⁹, (child) “sex slaves”²¹⁰. After independence, the State of Tamil Nadu passed legislation criminalizing the tradition of Hindu nuns.²¹¹ This bill, stereotyped, dehumanized and marginalized the Hindu nuns by addressing them as prostitutes of Hindu Deities. The bill was opposed by Hindu nuns but enacted and made into law²¹² under the pressure of E. V. Ramasamy who had suggested the bill be introduced as a private bill to avoid confrontation with the Hindu nuns²¹³. Colonial views on Hindu nuns were highly subversive, leading to their socio-economic deprivation and exploitation²¹⁴, the Tamil Nadu bill reinforced the colonial stigma around the tradition undermining the human rights of Hindu nuns. Though a few hundred years ago, Hindu nuns (Rudrakanyas) administered all major Hindu temples and also were respected and revered in Tamil Nadu, as of 2021, not even 100 Rudrakanyas may be found in the entire state.
54. The control of the DK/DMK on the politics of the State of Tamil Nadu was profound. Karunanidhi has been the Chief Minister of the State of Tamil Nadu - for almost two decades over five terms between 1969 and 2011. Karunanidhi had started his career as a scriptwriter based on which several movies were made from 1947 to 2011. From his experience in films, he knew the art of molding public opinion. He imparted this knowledge to his elder sister’s son Murasoli Maran. Just like his uncle, apart from being a politician, Murasoli Maran was a journalist and scriptwriter for films. Karunanidhi’s and Murasoli Maran together groomed Murasoli Maran’s son Kalanithi Maran to develop the Sun Network Group (World’s biggest Tamil media conglomerate Karunanidhi as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and Dayanidhi Maran (elder son of Murasoli Maran) as the Government of India Union Minister of Communications and Information Technology provided the political patronage and several favorable circumstances for Kalanithi Maran to grow the Sun TV network and become a billionaire media baron. The Sun Network owns television channels, newspapers, weeklies, FM radio stations, DTH services, and a movie production house.

²⁰⁷ Worship of divine feminine consciousness during [Chandi Homa](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6T8GwNo8SM) maligned as witch craft <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6T8GwNo8SM>

²⁰⁸ “They are continuously harassed in public for no fault of theirs”, said Nithyananda. According to Nithyananda, sarees of at least ‘17 women devotees were pulled’ in public, at seven places his Brahmacharis were thrashed and the Ashram call centre received about 300 phone calls for prostitution.” <https://www.deccanherald.com/content/152493/cid-report-stolen-says-nithyananda.html>

²⁰⁹ <https://www.vikatan.com/news/coverstory/114380-the-psychology-behind-the-cults-worshippers.html> dt. 24-Jan-2018

²¹⁰ (i) [CC 25289/12](https://www.vikatan.com/news/coverstory/114380-the-psychology-behind-the-cults-worshippers.html), 21 Dec 2012, CMM Court Bangalore, ASMT Dalit Nun Ma Nithya Supriya Swami v. Charu (Kumudam Reporter) (ii) <https://www.vikatan.com/news/coverstory/114380-the-psychology-behind-the-cults-worshippers.html>

²¹¹ (i) 1947 Madras Devadasis (Prevention of Dedication) Act (ii) 1956 Madras Anti-Devadasi Act

²¹² Moovalur A. Ramamrithammal (2003). K. Srilata (ed.). Lobbying for Devadasi Abolition: From Artiste to Prostitute. The Other Half of the Coconut: Women Writing Self-respect History. Zubaan. p. 100. ISBN 978-8186706503.

²¹³ Vadivelu Rajalakshmi (1985). The Political Behaviour of Women in Tamil Nadu. Inter-India Publications. ISBN 978-8121000208.

²¹⁴ (i) Crooke, W., Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics, Vol. X, Eds., James Hastings & Clark Edinburg, 2nd Impression, 1930. (ii) Iyer, L.A.K, Devadasis in South India: Their Traditional Origin And Development, Man in India, Vol.7, No. 47, 1927. (iii) V.Jayaram. "Hinduism and prostitution". Hinduwebsite.com. (iv) "Donors, Devotees, and Daughters of God: Temple Women in Medieval Tamilnadu - Reviews in History". History.ac.uk.

55. From 1996 to 2001, Kalanithi Maran monopolized the Television industry in Tamil Nadu through - Sumangali Cable Vision. During this period, Kalanithi's granduncle Karunanidhi was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Kalanithi had realized the need to get into the cable distribution business to protect his channels' popularity and DMK's influence on the citizens of Tamil Nadu. Through Sumangali Cable Vision, Kalanithi took over existing cable television operators and established a monopoly in Chennai and other major cities of Tamil Nadu using State patronage and violence by DK/DMK terrorists. This monopolization was brought about using murder and street violence²¹⁵. Johnson D Kennedy, president of the Chennai Metro Cable Operators Association, described this monopoly in an interview, *"SCV and Kal Cables (a subsidiary of Sumangali Cable Vision) had the monopoly of the state, so the Sun Group channels became number one"*.²¹⁶ With such monopolies, which still operate in the State of Tamil Nadu the DK/DMK attempted to establish an ideological monopoly in the minds of citizens of Tamil Nadu even when the DMK was not part of the ruling government. As of 2021, the anti-Hindu ideologies of DK/DMK are widespread through movies, television, and recently through Hinduphobic online web series. Through the cable TV distribution monopoly, DMK was able to exercise ideological control on the content of other TV channels.
56. The DMK is amongst the most corrupt political party in the world. The grandnephew of Karunanidhi – Dayanidhi Maran – the Government of India Union Minister of Communications and Information Technology from the year 2004 and 2009 from the DMK was involved in two major scams during this period –

(1) The 2G Spectrum Scam – which as the Comptroller and Auditor General (The federal auditor of India) report of 2010 resulted in a revenue loss of INR 1.76 trillion (US\$26 billion) to the public exchequer²¹⁷ equivalent to 30% of the GDP of State of Tamil Nadu²¹⁸.

(2) The Telephone Scam – where the minister, Dayanidhi Maran, had set up a private telephone exchange with 764 telephone lines at his residence to facilitate illegal uplink of SUN TV data, causing a loss to state-run telecom majors BSNL and MTNL, with a larger misappropriation of State resources for the actual infrastructural investment for the lines, and gave Sun TV an unfair advantage.²¹⁹

The daughter of Karunanidhi was arrested for her involvement in the 2G spectrum scam.²²⁰

57. In April 2002, the daughter and wife of Karunanidhi had come to visit the ASMT leader – His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda – during one of the two-day meditation programs²²¹ seeking His blessings for healing her father, the DMK head Karunanidhi of some ailment. His Divine Holiness blessed and gave sacred ash, but while doing so upfront told them that the Hindu temples in the State of Tamil Nadu were in an extremely sorry state because of the anti-Hindu

²¹⁵ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/cable-tv-war-claims-two/articleshow/388292.cms>

²¹⁶ <https://scroll.in/article/736981/the-meteoric-rise-and-likely-fall-of-tamil-nadus-sun-tv>

²¹⁷ <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/cag-submits-report-on-2g-spectrum-to-govt-vinod-rai/articleshow/6900822.cms>

²¹⁸ The GDP of State of Tamil Nadu in 2010 was INR 5.84 trillion

https://fincomindia.nic.in/writereaddata/html_en_files/oldcommission_html/fincom14/others/23.pdf

²¹⁹ <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2019/mar/21/hc-throws-out-marans-plea-for-third-time-in-illegal-phone-exchange-scam-1953952.html>

²²⁰ <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/kanimozhi-arrested-in-2g-scam-sent-to-tihar-jail-456320>

²²¹ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/April_21_2002

policies DMK head Karunanidhi. Ever since this incident His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda was spied upon by the Intelligence Department Tamil Nadu State Police. In September 2009, His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda had started a massive people's movement to revive Hindu temples where Hindu Deities were taken on chariots to more than 10 million people to bless them²²². Karunanidhi was extremely wary of the meteoric rise in popularity of His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda. On 30 December 2009 Karunanidhi has inaugurated the Chennai Book Fair²²³ and on the 10 January 2010, the last day of the book fair he inaugurated the Chennai Sangamam festival²²⁴ both attended by a modest gathering. However, just on the opposite side of the road²²⁵ of the Chennai Book Fair, His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda delivered a religious discourse to more than fifty thousand participants who patiently attended the entire program sitting for more than 8 hours.²²⁶ A State Intelligence department officer attended the program and informed the secretary of His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda that His Divine Holiness was being noted as the "largest crowd-pulling Hindu guru in the history of Tamil Nadu". From 2 March 2010, several attempts to assassinate His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda were made by the DK/DMK militants, compelling His Divine Holiness to seek refuge by 2018.²²⁷

58. In April 2021, the DMK won the elections and came to power the sixth time and formed the current ruling government of the State of Tamil Nadu.²²⁸

C. The incarnation and lineage (Guru Parampara) of the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism

59. Around 3200BCE²²⁹, the Mahabharata war ended in the Indian sub-continent. At that time, at least 56²³⁰ nations in Asia gave shelter to more than 10,000²³¹ Hindu communities and protected their religious freedom. Gandhara (Afghanistan) until around 600 CE had a significant Hindu population (more than 30%), which as of 2021 CE is less than 1 percent. Pakistan (Kushan Empire 1387 BCE and Maurya Empire 285 BCE) had a significant Hindu population (more than 30%) until 1025 CE, which as of 1998 was less than 2%. The town of Parshu²³² in present-day Iran finds mention in ancient Hindu scriptures²³³ as a Hindu city. The five thousand indigenous people of Kalash²³⁴

²²² https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/September_24_2006

²²³ <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/Chief-Minister-inaugurates-Chennai-Book-Fair/article16856163.ece>

²²⁴ <https://www.livechennai.com/detailnews.asp?newsid=1016>

²²⁵ Geo-distance between venues of book fair and Bhagavat Gita satsang <https://goo.gl/maps/roGYrKB9EcQoPmhs8>

²²⁶ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_10_2010

²²⁷ (i) <https://www.republicworld.com/india-news/general-news/exclusive-nithyanandas-petition-to-un-maligns-india.html>
(ii) Srinivasan, Vasanth. "Nithyananda and the call from Kailaasa". Businessline.

²²⁸ <https://www.oneindia.com/tamil-nadu-assembly-elections/>

²²⁹ (i) Ved Veer Arya, "THE CHRONOLOGY OF INDIA: From Manu to Mahabharata", Aryabhata Publications, ISBN 8194321301
(ii) Nilesh Oak estimates the period as 5561BCE, "When Did The Mahabharata War Happen?: The Mystery of Arundhati", ISBN 0983034400

²³⁰ (i) Saktisangama Tantra, Chapter- Sundari Khandha, Saptam Patala, Verses 16-73, refer Saktisangama Tantra Vol III <https://archive.org/details/SaktisangamaTantraVolIII/GaekwadOrientalSeries/page/n83/mode/2up> (ii) List of 56 nations <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1H7OJADdrFjrdl8nR5KMuc7sjkG6zXOob0K6X5wbmBno/view>

²³¹ ASMT Veda Agama Scripture - PARAMANANDA-TANTRA, Chapter 2, verses 7-10

²³² Parshu, Rahimabad Rural District, Rahimabad District, Rudsar County, Gilan Province, Iran

²³³ (i) Rigveda VII. 83, 1, (ii) Pāṇini, V, 3, 117.

²³⁴ Jamil, Kashif (19 August 2019). "Uchal - a festival of shepherds and farmers of the Kalash tribe". Daily Times. "Some of their deities who are worshiped in Kalash tribe are similar to the Hindu god and goddess like Mahadev in Hinduism is called Mahandeo in Kalash tribe."

(Chitral Valley, Pakistan), the only survivors of the ancient tradition in the region though separated over a distance of 10000 KMs, are no different from indigenous Adi Shaivas²³⁵ of Kashmir (North India), or indigenous Adi Shaivas²³⁶ of Tamil Nadu (South India), or the Adi Shaivas²³⁷ of Bali (Indonesia). Although Hinduism is alive as a culture, its political and religious legitimacy was wiped from the geography of Asia, as these nations got invaded by intolerant dictators. These invasions caused a genocide, where per estimates 80 million to 400 million people were killed through massacres, sexual assaults, slavery, and torture.²³⁸ Thousands of temples, universities, and libraries were destroyed. The ten thousand²³⁹ Hindu communities which existed by 3200BCE were reduced to three thousand²⁴⁰. The colonial era brought a cultural genocide by the destruction of the indigenous education system²⁴¹. After the independence of India, the last refuge for Hindus, the Hindu temples were being destroyed by the State government departments such as the HR&CE. Various State governments of India have nationalized Hindu Temples²⁴² and politically control Hinduism. The Supreme Court of India has made three judgments directing the State governments to withdraw themselves from the administration of Hindu Temples²⁴³. This has not remedied the situation and the State governments in India continue to control and administer more than 400,000 temples of the country²⁴⁴. Various State governments of India use vexatious litigations to take over Hindu temples, where they misappropriate temple funds²⁴⁵, misappropriate temple land²⁴⁶, kidnap and traffic²⁴⁷ worshipped Hindu Deities²⁴⁸, and destroy temple heritage and religious structures using heavy earthmovers²⁴⁹. Where a few thousand years ago Hinduism and indigenous Hindu traditions flourished in 56 nations spanning over 60 million km², post-colonial era, Hinduism in its glory survived only in a few cities, which Lord Paramaśiva²⁵⁰ (primordial Hindu Divinity) had declared He would always protect. To name a few of these cities – Kashi and Tiruvannamalai. The city of Kashi is several thousand years old, mentioned by various travelers and various ancient texts.²⁵¹ It is said in Hindu scriptures that Kashi is Mahadeva's (primordial Hindu Divinity) capital, where the sacred Ganga River always flows, giving salvation to

²³⁵ Flood, Gavin. 1996. An Introduction to Hinduism. P.164-167

²³⁶ Flood, Gavin. D. 2006. The Tantric Body. P.122

²³⁷ Helen M. Creese (2016). *Bali in the Early Nineteenth Century: The Ethnographic Accounts of Pierre Dubois*. BRILL Academic. pp. 226 - 227. ISBN 978-90-04-31583-9.

²³⁸ <https://gov.shrikailasa.org/persecution>

²³⁹ ASMT Veda Agama Scripture - PARAMANANDA-TANTRA, Chapter 2, verses 7-10

²⁴⁰ 3,000 communities and 25,000 sub-communities (i) <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/young-angry-and-untouchable-indias-low-caste-threat-to-modi/articleshow/67589578.cms> , (ii) <https://edition.cnn.com/2001/WORLD/asiapcf/south/08/17/india.caste/>

²⁴¹ The Beautiful Tree, Dr. Dharampal, (ISBN No.: 81-85569-49-5 republished ISBN-10: 8175310952)

²⁴² livemint.com/Sundayapp/FU6sreM7t13piRRwkvdkfP/Secularism-and-principled-distance-How-Hinduism-was-nationala.html

²⁴³ <https://www.sundayguardianlive.com/news/demand-free-temples-government-control>

²⁴⁴ jagran.com/jharkhand/ranchi-vishva-hindu-parishad-prepares-to-free-4-lakh-temples-from-government-controls-in-india-21485552.html

²⁴⁵ newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2018/aug/01/top-official-of-hr-and-ce-held-for-swindling-gold-1851502.html

²⁴⁶ thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/high-court-raps-hrce-department-for-failing-to-protect-temple-land/article33050098.ece

²⁴⁷ <https://stolengods.org/country/india.html>

²⁴⁸ swarajyamag.com/news-brief/madras-high-court-is-upset-with-what-the-tamil-nadu-police-has-been-doing-on-idol-theft-cases-and-its-investigation

²⁴⁹ (i) <https://twitter.com/upword/status/1415944019641651200> (ii) www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/Blame-game-on-over-temple-demolition/article14588712.ece

²⁵⁰ Paramaśiva is the primordial Hindu Divinity; the supreme consciousness and the ultimate Lord and cosmic divinity, which is the source of everything, and engages in five actions of creation, maintenance, destruction, delusion and giving liberation.

²⁵¹ (i) "Banaras (Inde): new archaeological excavations are going on to determine the age of Varanasi". Archived. (ii) Shat. Br. XIII, 5,4, 19. Brih. Up. II, 1, 1; III, 8, 2., Samkhayana Srauta Sutra XVI, 29,5.

all, and the city can never be forsaken.²⁵² The city of Tiruvannamalai in South India is another such city that Lord Paramaśiva (primordial Hindu Divinity) has committed to humanity to protect forever.

60. The lineage of Lord Paramaśiva represents the tradition of Gurus (enlightened masters) in Tiruvannamalai (also called Arunachala) starting from Paramaśiva Himself. The lineage of Paramaśiva prevails to fulfill Paramaśiva's promise to humanity to be an eternal guiding force through an unbroken lineage of living Gurus gracing from the sacred city of Tiruvannamalai. Arunācala Purāṇa - the epic history of Arunācala - reveals that then, Lord Paramaśiva appeared as an infinite effulgence of light (called 'Lingodbhava') in Tiruvannamalai to bless humanity with the promise to be always available in the three-fold form: **(1)** in the form of the sacred Arunācala hill - as the Jyotirlingam (A deity in form of a hill continuously radiates the energy of Enlightenment) **(2)** in the form of the worshipful Śiva Liṅga deity in the Arunachaleshwara temple in Tiruvannamalai and **(3)** In the form of a living incarnation to continuously guide the people in the path of Enlightenment. True to His promise, Lord Paramaśiva retained His form as the Arunācala mountain, assumed the form of the Śivaliṅga called Arunācaleśvara, at the temple in Tiruvannamalai and is incarnating continuously keeping the unbroken lineage of enlightened beings in Tiruvannamalai till date.
61. Paramaśiva Himself, as Śrī Arunagiri Yogiśvara, established the Kailaasa Paramparagatha Ādi Arunachala Sarvajnapeetham Samrajyam (spiritual and religious kingdom) in Tiruvannamalai. In the great Hindu scripture Skanda Purāṇa, in the section named Arunācala Mahātmyam, Paramaśiva gives the promise to be eternally available in this three-fold-form in Tiruvannamalai (also called Arunachala). Paramaśiva spoke, *"Even though I have risen as the form of the fire in the holy place of Arunachala, hiding that, I appear and shine as a peaceful mountain to protect the whole world through My Grace. I also abide on this mountain in the form of a Siddha (an accomplished perfect one) as Arunagiri Yogi. Within Me in the form of this mountain, there is a wonderful cave where all sorts of prosperity exist and shine forever. Know this"*.²⁵³
62. It is Arunagiri Yogiśvara's Jīva Samādhi (final resting place) around which the Arunachaleshwara temple and the Tiruvannamalai township and city settlement have grown. It is to Arunagiri Yogiśvara, that the first worship is offered in the main sanctum sanctorum of the Arunachaleshwara temple everyday till date.

Over these thousands of years, the temple town of Tiruvannamalai nurtured millions of enlightened sages and incarnations and protected the city and Hindu civilization from complete extermination. Several sages predict and foresee His happening. In the late 1890s, the enlightened sage of Tiruvannamalai Shesadri Swamigal²⁵⁴ told the mother of Mata Vibhutananda Puri that she would birth a daughter (Mata Vibhudananda) who would be the one to take care of "Appan (father)" (the next incarnation of Lord Paramaśiva). Ramana Maharishi²⁵⁵ (himself an incarnation)

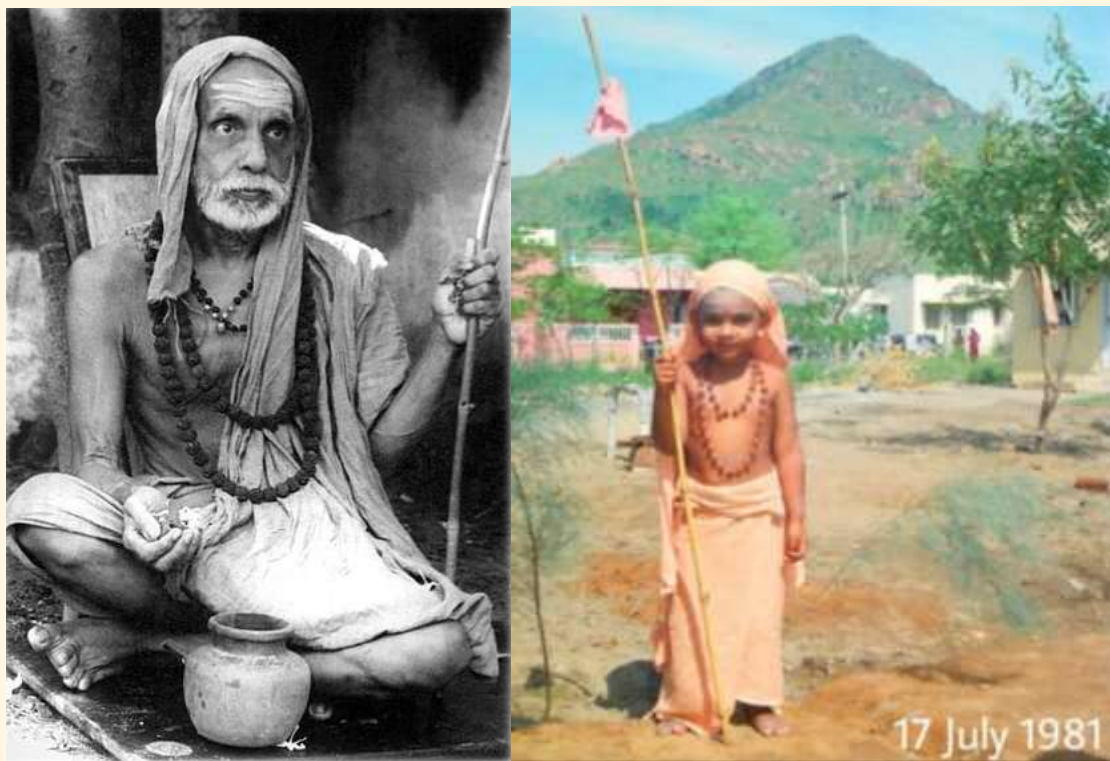
²⁵² Skanda Purana, Kashi Khanda, Verse 2. "भूमिष्ठापि न यात्र भूस्त्रिदिवतोप्युच्चैरधःस्थापि या या बद्धा भुवि मुक्तिदास्युरमृतं यस्यां मृता जंतवः ।। या नित्यं त्रिजगत्प्रव्रतति नी तीरे सुरैः सेव्यते सा काशी त्रिपुरारि राजनगरी पायादपायाज्जगत् ।।२।।"

²⁵³ <https://sriramanamaharishi.com/arunachala-stuti/arunachala-mahatmyam/>

²⁵⁴ (i) <http://www.arunachalasamudra.org/4dm1.html> (ii) <https://periva.proboards.com/thread/10306/kamakoti-seshadri-swamigal-special-edition>

²⁵⁵ (i) Sharma, Arvind (2006), Ramana Maharshi: The Sage of Arunachala, Pinguin, Viking (ii) Narasimha, Swami (1993), *Self Realisation: The Life and Teachings of Sri Ramana Maharshi*

foretold the birth of the next incarnation of Lord Paramaśiva and told a local merchant Raju Mudaliyar and his friend Devaraju Mudaliyar that *"Annamalayar (Paramashiva in the form of sacred Arunachala hill) will be born as your grandson and take care of Him properly."* On 1 Jan 1978, Raju Mudaliyar's daughter, Lokanayaki Ammal, gave birth to a son. R. Venkatasami Chettiar (an indigenous astrologer) and Tanjavur Swamigal²⁵⁶ (a Hindu leader from Thanjavur) declared that the newly born child is an Incarnation and predicted the child will be a Raja Sanyasi (King among Ascetics) and was auspiciously given Lord Paramaśiva's name *"Rajasekaran"*. The same year, Mataji Vibhutananda Puri and Anusuya Ammal (paternal grandmother of the child) took the child to an enlightened Hindu master, Poondi Swamigal²⁵⁷, who took the child and pointed at the hill repeating several times, *"Appan (Father) has come!"*, confirming Shesadri Swamigal's revelation. After Ramana Maharishi, the next incarnation of Paramaśiva in Tiruvannamalai was Yogi Ramsuratkumar²⁵⁸. Both Ramana Maharishi and Yogi Ramsuratkumar had declared that the child Rajasekaran was the next incarnation of Paramaśiva. In 1981, when the child was three years old, the 68th Jagadguru Shankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham Jagadguru Shri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Mahaswamigal and the 230th Gurumahasannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam Sri Thiruvambaladesika Jnanaprakasha Swamigal confirmed the divine birth.



17 July 1981: 68th Jagadguru Shankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham Jagadguru Shri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Mahaswamigal (left), the 230th Gurumahasannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam - Sri Thiruvambaladesika Jnanaprakasha Swamigal, Mataji Vibhutananda Puri, Yogiraj Yogananda Puri arranged for the initiation of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam into Balasanyas (child monk) and the observation of His first Chaturmasya (an annual pilgrimage and period of penance). Taking the 3-year-old Incarnation onto their lap, His Gurus completed the rituals on His behalf.

²⁵⁶ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/swami-sleeps-on-fire-an-illusion-or-hoax/articleshow/5238118.cms>

²⁵⁷ <http://poondiswami.com>

²⁵⁸ www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/2018/nov/25/yogi-ramsuratkumars-ashram-to-celebrate-saints-100th-year-1903157.html



16 Feb 1988: On the auspicious festival of Maha Shivaratri, the 230th Gurumahasannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam Sri Thiruvambaladesika Jnanaprakasha Swamigal (left) appointed the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam (right), when he was 10-year-old, as successor pontiff or GuruMahasannidhanam of Thondaimanadala Aadheenam upon attaining maturity. This coronation was done publicly in Sri Arunachaleshwara Temple Tiruvannamalai, with all priests and devotees attending the ceremony. As per both, the tradition and the law, religious coronations need not be documented in writing – public declaration and announcement by the GuruMahasannidhanam were legally sufficient and per law has to be honored by the State²⁵⁹.

63. Enlightened Hindu sages and leaders of Tiruvannamalai, such as Isakki Swamigal, Yogi Yogananda Puri, Narayanasami Pillai, Mouna Swami Narayanasami, Sri Sadhu Om Swamigal, Thinnai Swamigal, Tiruchy Mahaswamigal recognized the child, *Rajasekaran*, as the incarnation of Paramaśiva.
64. In 1989, when the boy "*Rajasekaran*" was around 11-years old, Paramaśiva Himself, as Śrī Arunagiri Yogiśvara, who established the Kailaasa Paramparagatha Ādi Arunachala Sarvajnapeetham Samrajyam (spiritual and religious kingdom) in Tiruvannamalai thousands of years ago assumed a body from His Jīva Samādhi sanctum in the Arunachaleshwara temple and befriended the boy. Śrī Arunagiri Yogiśvara guided the child for nine months as His Guru and initiating Him as His disciple and into monkhood (Sanyāsa), adorning Him with the sacred saffron robe. Mātā Vibhutananda Puri (who left the body in 1995) who was the boy's Guru (leader and spiritual guide) in the Sciences of Vedānta and Tantra, was a witness to this nine-month-long training by Arunagiri Yogiśvara to *Rajasekaran*.

²⁵⁹ The Supreme Court of India, Sri Mahalinga Thambiran Swamigal vs His Holiness Sri La Sri Kasivasi on 19 October, 1973 "There can be no dispute that a nomination can be made by deed or **word of mouth**", 1974 AIR 199, 1974 SCR (2) 74, <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/307513/>

65. **24 May 1994**, a year before her death, Mata Vibhutananda Puri, declared Rajasekaran as Her successor to the spiritual seat of Arunachala Sarvajnapeetham²⁶⁰, Tiruvannamalai, by Guru Parampara (Guru lineage) from Isakki Swamigal, and gave the title "*Brahmasukhi*" through a formal initiation letter²⁶¹. She built and gifted Him a small ashram (monastery) in Pavazhakundru²⁶². Pavazhakundru is a hillock in Tiruvannamalai where Devi Parashakti (primordial Hindu Mother Goddess) had her enlightenment experience during one of her incarnations on planet earth.
66. In the year **1999**, while Rajasekaran was wandering as a monk in a pilgrimage to the Himalayas, in Gaurikund, Kedarnath (Uttarakhand, North India), Mahavatar Babaji²⁶³ initiated Him with the name "Nithyananda" in a Kalabhairava temple. Later, the same year, the SPH returned to Calcutta and started serving Swami Hamsananda Puri who used to stay in Tel Ghat. During this time, Hamsananda Puri suddenly initiated the SPH with the name "*Paramahansa Nithyananda*". The SPH then recalled this same name being told to him when He had the divine darshan of Mahavatar Babaji during His time in Gaurikund. He then realized Mahavatar Babaji had initiated with this name which now Hamsananda Puri was repeating to Him. With this, the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism received sannyasa cloth from Hamsananda Puri, and he was declared the successor of the Kashi Sarvajnapeetham.
67. **31 Dec 1999**, on sacred banks of river Narmada, at Omkareshwar (Madhya Pradesh, India), Rajasekaran (by that time known as Swami Nithyananda), entered into an intense Samādhi²⁶⁴ and had a complete experience of enlightenment – and hence known with the title of Paramahansa²⁶⁵. From here, His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda (Rajasekaran), marked the end of His pilgrimage, started His public mission to revive the Enlightened Civilization. **14 April 2001**, His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda inaugurated Ramakrishna Dhyanapeetham, Tiruchengode Aadheenam, Tamil Nadu.
68. **4 Nov 2002**, His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda inaugurated Adi Kailasa Sarvajnapeetham, Bengaluru Aadheenam.

²⁶⁰ **Sarvajnapeetha** is the Peetha (seat of) Sarva (supreme most) Jñāna (knowledge) where Paramashiva sits and teaches to the world leading the entire humanity to the next breakthrough in spiritual research and development. It encompasses several spiritual-religious kingdoms and Hindu monasteries (Mutt).

²⁶¹ 25 May 1994, Coronation Deed from Mata Vibhutananda Puri for Arunachala Sarvajnapeetham
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wbF1hZlujqxrWjhQfDQKoZVxVdmVlOb2/view>

²⁶² Tiruvannamalai Town, Village number 236, III-1, 2, land area number 526,523,523 as per State Revenue records.
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GPYHDMkyQ968TBYSdg4hCxvy4iK78Cgk/view>

²⁶³ Paramahansa Yogananda has described Mahāvatār Bābājī as a deathless avatar who has resided for untold years in the remote Himalayan regions of India, revealing himself only rarely to a blessed few – Autobiography of a Yogi, 2005. ISBN 978-1-56589-212-5.

²⁶⁴ Samādhi is an ecstatic meditative elevated state of consciousness, in a state of Advaita (Oneness) with cosmos. Arya, Usharbudh (1986), Yoga-Sūtras of Patañjali (Volume 1 ed.), Honesdale, Pennsylvania: The Himalayan International Institute, ISBN 0-89389-092-8

²⁶⁵ Paramahansa (परमहंस), is the highest level of spiritual development attained by a sannyasi, it is a title of honor applied to Hindu spiritual teachers who have become enlightened. The title literally means "supreme swan" [Merriam-Webster Dictionary](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Paramahansa).

69. **12 July 2004**, the second reincarnation of spiritual leader Sai Baba²⁶⁶, Satya Sai Baba²⁶⁷, formally coronated His Divine Holiness as the successor of Bhagyanagara, Sripura Sarvajnapeetham.²⁶⁸
70. **31 Dec 2004**, His Divine Holiness was coronated as the 203rd Emperor of Suryavamsa Surangi Samrajyam (Sun Dynasty).²⁶⁹
71. In **2007**, the fifth anniversary of the Bengaluru Aadheenam (monastery), the spiritual mission of reviving Hinduism became global with its branches in 33 countries.
72. **23 Jan 2007**, during the festival Kumbh Mela, His Divine Holiness was declared²⁷⁰ as Mahamandaleshwari of Mahanirvani Akhada (largest apex monastic order) where great enlightened beings and incarnations such as Gautam Buddha (founder of Buddhism) had received initiation in Sanyāsa (monkhood). On **12 Feb 2013**, He was officially coronated²⁷¹.
73. **27 April 2012**, His Divine Holiness was anointed the successor and 293rd Gurumahasannidanam of Madurai Aadheenam, by Sri La Sri Arunagirinatha Swamigal, the 292nd Gurumahasannidanam of Madurai Aadheenam.²⁷²
74. **27 Dec 2013**, His Divine Holiness was declared as Acharya Mahamandaleshwar of Atal Akhada (the oldest monastic order in Hinduism) by Acharya Mahamandaleshwar Sukhdevanandji, the then incumbent spiritual head.²⁷³
75. On **15 Apr 2014**, The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was coronated as the pontiff (spiritual and administrative head) of five ancient Adi Shaivite Mutts (monasteries).²⁷⁴

Kailasa Paramparagatha Surya Vamsa Panchanadikulam Sarvajnapeetham

- Sri Arunachala Jnanadesikar Swami Temple & Mutt (Panchanadikulam, Vedaranyam)

Kailasa Paramparagatha Surya Vamsa Vedaranya Sarvajnapeetham

- Sri Po.Ka. Sadhukkal Mutt, Vedaranyam

Kailasa Paramparagatha Sūrya Vamśa Chola Samrajya Sarvajnapeetham

- Sri Sankara Swami Mutt, Thanjavur
- Sri Palsamy Mutt, Thanjavur

²⁶⁶ Rigopoulos, Antonio (1998). [Dattatreya: The Immortal Guru, Yogin, and Avatara](#). State University of New York Press. p. 260. ISBN 1438417330.

²⁶⁷ (i) Weiss, Richard (December 2005). ["THE GLOBAL GURU: SAI BABA AND THE MIRACLE OF THE MODERN"](#) (PDF). New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies. **7** (2): 5 - 19. (ii) Kent, Alexandra (2005). [Divinity and Diversity: A Hindu Revitalization Movement in Malaysia](#). Nordic Institute of Asian Studies. pp. 37 - 39. ISBN 978-87-91114-40-3.

²⁶⁸ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/Kailaasa_Paramparagatha_Sripura_Sarvajnapeetha

²⁶⁹ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/Kailaasa_Paramparagatha_Surya_Vamsa_Sarvajnapeetha_Surangi_Samrajyam

²⁷⁰ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/Kailaasa_Paramparagatha_Mahanirvani_Peetham

²⁷¹ (i) Pandey, Sanjay (13 February 2013). ["Nithyananda feted at Mahakumbh"](#). Deccan Herald. (ii) ["Nithyananda conferred 'Mahamandaleshwar' title"](#). Press Trust of India (PTI). 14 February 2013.

²⁷² (i) [Letter of Appointment to Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowment Board from 292nd Gurumahasannidanam](#) dated 11 May 2012. (ii) [Notorized Affidavit dated 27 April 2012, by 292nd Gurumahasannidanam Affirming Coronation of 293rd Gurumahasannidanam \(Notarized by Certificate number IN-KA93558783901437K\)](#) (iii) <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/12929265.cms> (iv)

<https://www.oneindia.com/2012/04/27/nithyanandadeclared-293rd-pontiff-of-maduraidheenam.html>

²⁷³ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/Kailasa_Paramparagatha_Atal_Peetham

²⁷⁴ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/Kailasa_Paramparagatha_Sūrya_Vamsa_Adi_Chola_Samrajya_Kamala_Peetha_Sarvajnapeetham

Kailasa Paramparagatha Sūrya Vamsa Adi Chola Samrajya Kamala Peetha Sarvajnapeetham

- Sri Somanatha Swami Mutt and Temple, Thiruvurur

76. In **January 2015**, a congregation of thousand Hindu leaders identified the enlightened master His Divine Holiness as an incarnation and elected Him as the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism.²⁷⁵
77. **28 Jun 2017**, coronated as the Gurumahasannidanam of Suryavamsa Chola Sarvajnapeeta.²⁷⁶
78. Answering the prayers of two billion Hindus, who are perturbed by the destruction of Hindu temples in India which are seen as the last refuge for authentic Hinduism, on **31 December 2018**, on the occasion of His 42nd birth star celebration (Jayanthi), His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda inaugurated and established the Kailasa nation - the only Hindu nation in the world to revive the enlightened civilizations of the 56 erstwhile Hindu nations which were destroyed by invasions over the time from 3200BCE. On this occasion, as per tradition followed since 11,000 BCE from the time of Devi Meekashi, His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda took a new name - "*Nithyananda Paramashivam*" and hence came to be formally known as - the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism (SPH) Jagat Guru Mahasannidhanam (JGM) His Divine Holiness (HDH) Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivam (hereinafter referred to as "the SPH").

D. Kailasa Paramparagatha Kanchi Kailasa Sarvajnapeetham Thondaimandala Adheenam

79. The Kailasa Paramparagatha Kanchi Kailasa Sarvajnapeetham²⁷⁷ Thondaimandala Adheenam (referred to as Thondaimandala Adheenam subsequently) is one of the oldest spiritual kingdoms established by Lord Paramaśiva²⁷⁸ (primordial Hindu Divinity), in the form of His incarnation Adi Nathar, and was revived 5000 years ago, with its capital as the City of Kanchipuram. As per Hindu history, Lord Paramaśiva (primordial Hindu Divinity), taught the source scripture - Śrīmad Kāmikā Āgama to His consort Devī Parvāti as Her incarnation Kanchi Kamachi here under a sacred tree at the present-day Ekambareshwarar temple. The lineage of Thondaimandala was started by Lord Paramaśiva (primordial Hindu Divinity) in form of His incarnation Ekambaranathar and Devī Parvāti in form of Her incarnation Kanchi Kamachi directly beginning with Thiru Nandi Thevar, followed by a lineage of disciples, named as Sanatkumara, Sathiya Gnana Darisanikal, Paranjothi Munivar, Meikanda Thevar, Sitrambala Nadigal, and finally, Gnana Prakasar who became the first Gurumahasannidham of the Thondaimandala Aadheenam. The Gurumahasannidham of the Thondaimandala Adheenam coronated all the kings and regents of the Chola empire - a Tamil thalassocracy, that was one of the longest-ruling²⁷⁹ dynasties in the world's history, dating to at

²⁷⁵ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_11_2015 , https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_12_2015 , https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_13_2015

²⁷⁶ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/Kailasa_Paramparagatha_Sūrya_Vamśa_Sarvajnapeetha_Chola_Samrajyam

²⁷⁷ **Sarvajnapeetha** is the Peetha (seat of) Sarva (supreme most) Jñāna (knowledge) where Paramashiva sits and teaches to the world leading the entire humanity to the next breakthrough in spiritual research and development. It encompasses several spiritual-religious kingdoms and Hindu monasteries (Mutt).

²⁷⁸ **Paramaśiva** is the primordial Hindu Divinity; the supreme consciousness and the ultimate Lord and cosmic divinity which is the source of everything, and engages in five actions of creation, maintenance, destruction, delusion and giving liberation.

²⁷⁹ (i) Gene Gurney (30 July 1986). [Kingdoms of Asia, the Middle East, and Africa: an illustrated encyclopedia of ruling monarchs from ancient times to the present](#). Crown. p. 396. (ii) Ma. Ile Taṅkappā, Ā. Irā Vēṅkaṭācalapāti. Red Lilies and Frightened Birds. Penguin Books India, 2011. p. xii. (iii) Thorpe, Edgar; Thorpe, Showick (2016). The Pearson General Knowledge Manual 2017. Pearson Education India. p. C.26.

least 3rd century BCE. Bodhidharma²⁸⁰ the founder of Zen Buddhism (a branch of Mahayana Buddhism like Tibetan Buddhism) was the third son of a Pallava king from Kanchipuram. Bodhidharma was trained and initiated in Thondaimandala Aadheenam and took the teachings of Hinduism spreading them in China, which later fused with Buddhist traditions and became Zen Buddhism. Thondaimandala Guru Maha Sannidhanams are called as Jnanaprakasha. Both the word "*Jnanaprakasha*" and the word "*Bodhi*" (from Bodhidharma) have the same meaning – "*light of knowledge*" and have the same Sanskrit Dhatu²⁸¹ also. Thondaimandala Aadheenam with its capital at Kanchipuram was an important seat of knowledge and interpath dialogue, visited by various Hindu and Buddhist Chinese travelers such as Xuanzang.²⁸²

80. It is the age-old customs, traditions, and practices²⁸³ in all the Shaiva Aadheenams²⁸⁴ in Tamil Nadu that the incumbent Guru Mahasannidhanam²⁸⁵ appoints His successor based on his spiritual qualifications and divine insight and guidance. These ASMT customs, traditions, and practices of the Aadheenams are documented in historical records of trust procedures²⁸⁶, which are the authoritative reference used to decide on religious matters during the colonial era and presently also. These practices cannot at all be interfered with by neither the legislature, judiciary nor the executive. As per these well-documented, ancient procedures, followed for thousands of years, the sole authority and power to appoint the successor is vested in the incumbent pontiff.²⁸⁷ For thousands of years, GuruMahasannidham has identified and coronated their successors.
81. **5 Aug 1893**, the 225th Guru MahaSannidhanam of Thondaimandala Adheenam executed a will which was duly probated in OP No.53 of 1894 by the Madras High Court. As per the will the 225th Guru Maha Sannidhanam appointed Thiru Thirugnanasambanda Murthy who was then eleven years (minor) as His successor. Until the child became a major, *zamindar*²⁸⁸ Muthukumarasamy Mudaliar and others were nominated as executors for managing the affairs of the Aadheenam. **11 Aug 1894**, the 225th Guru MahaSannidhanam attained *Paripoornam*. During the period from 1894 to 1899, the Aadheenam was under the management and administration of the Executors. **1899**, on attaining majority (in age) the 226th Thiru Thirugnanasambanda Murthy took over as the Guru

²⁸⁰ Kambe, Tstuomu (2012), *Bodhidharma. A collection of stories from Chinese literature* (original PDF).

²⁸¹ Dhatu (धातु) – In Sanskrit grammar the root of verbs are called Dhatu. [Sanskrit Verbal Roots List with English Translation](#)

²⁸² <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/tamils-and-tamizhakam-in-chinese-eyes-5871413/>

²⁸³ Tamil Nadu State Endowment Board Scheme R 5822.60 dated 29/Nov/1960, records seventh century, Pandya procedure of appointment of Guru Mahasannidhanam, that was followed since the time of Koon Pandiyan (Arikesari Maravarma). ([Madurai mother document page 12](#)). மதுரை ஆதீன வரலாறு - History of Madurai Aadheenam – <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZsfdTQkOXPWQAJxBmWKmpOn6WVZJtecFu/view>.

²⁸⁴ **Aadheenam** is an ancient Tamil word meaning authority. The Aadheenam is the supreme spiritual constitutional authority of a Hindu nation that upholds the integrity of the entire nation to the constitution - the Vedagamas. It administers mutts (monasteries) and temples, Gurukuls (schools) and universities of the nation.

²⁸⁵ **Gurumahāsannidhanam** or *Sannidhānam* – the Guru, the spiritual emperor of a Hindu nation. He is the head pontiff of the nation's Aadheenam, He is the supreme Guru and constitutional head of a Hindu nation. The coronation of the king (executive head of the nation) was done by the Guru Mahasannidhanam.

²⁸⁶ Sri Thirugnanasambandar Swamigal Adheenam Mother document - Tamil version

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2cZpjM09619SzFtTQJRRkF4Nms/view>, notarized English translation

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3ffD0i_ucQVcxJ5a09aZGZMd0JhZk5JSEhuS25rRVICQIZj/view, as per section "4.

Particulars of important customs and usages pertaining to the institution" and as per section "2. Particulars of the scheme of administration which refers to government scheme R 5822.60 dated 29/Nov/1960"

²⁸⁷ The Supreme Court of India, Sri Mahalinga Thambiran Swamigal vs His Holiness Sri La Sri Kasivasi on 19 October, 1973 "There can be no dispute that a nomination can be made by deed or word of mouth", 1974 AIR 199, 1974 SCR (2) 74,

<https://indiankanoon.org/doc/307513/>

²⁸⁸ *Zamindar* – An autonomous or semi-autonomous feudal land lord during the British rule in India.

Maha Sannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam. Similarly, on **11 Aug 1924**, the 226th Guru MahaSannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam executed a will wherein He appointed Thirupandi Kodumudi Ekambaram (minor) as His successor. Until the minor attained majority, the Aadheenam was managed by the Executor Thiru K. Viswanatha Mudaliar and others. **28 Sept 1924**, the 226th Maha Sannidhanam attained *Paripoornam*. This was the succession process of the Aadheenams.

82. In **1927**, "*The Madras Hindu Religious and Endowments Act (1927)*" was enacted and made applicable only to Hindu places of worship. Some Hindu religious leaders managed to have their religious institutions out of the purview of the Act.²⁸⁹ The 227th Guru Mahasannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam was around thirteen years of age during the enactment of this law, and the 226th Guru Mahasannidhanam had passed away three years prior. Religious institutions, of minority Hindu sects, such as the ASMT Thondaimala Aadheenam were unable to escape falling into the ambit of the Act were nationalized and forcibly brought under State control to be headed by a politically²⁹⁰ nominated state executive officer called the Commissioner of the Hindu Religious Endowment Board.
83. Until **November 1932**, the administration and management of the Aadheenam were under the control of executors as the successor pontiff appointed under the will had not attained majority (in age). **21 Nov 1932**, on attaining majority Kodumudi Ekambara Swamigal took charge and became the 227th Guru Maha Sannidhanam of the Thondaimandala Aadheenam till **5 Aug 1946**.
84. The State HR&CE claimed that during the tenure of the 227th Guru Maha Sannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam, the Aadheenam was not properly managed. On **17 Jan 1946**, the State HR&CE Department used this as a justification to create a scheme under which the management and administration of the Aadheenam were controlled by a manager appointed by the Board, by divesting the powers of Guru Maha Sannidhanam. The 227th Guru MahaSannidhanam was coerced by the State to renounce His position and forcibly exiled from the Mutt. The Guru Maha Sannidhanam had never been removed in several thousand years of the history of Hinduism and this was the first such case. The 227th Sannidhanam was deprived of His rights and denied due process. The 227th Sannidhanam was not allowed to appoint any successor. The State arbitrarily ordered His removal following 199 days of probation during which all His rights were already suspended. By **5 Aug 1946**, even before the completion of the 199 days, the 227th Sannidhanam went missing and was never found. 17 May 1995, the 11th Panchen Lama of Gelugpa school of Tibetan Buddhism, Choekyi Nyima went missing and his whereabouts were never known²⁹¹, other than Chinese officials stating that His whereabouts had been kept secret to protect Him.²⁹² Human rights organizations have termed the 11th Panchen Lama as the "youngest political prisoner in the world"²⁹³. However, the case of 227th Sannidhanam's disappearance was shown by the State as a voluntary withdrawal.

²⁸⁹ Sri Sambamoorthi Shastrigal, Kuppuswamy Iyer, "*Sollin Selvan*" P. N. Parasuraman. [Pujya Sri Mahaswamy Diyya Charitram](#) (PDF). Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. p. 48. ([Original pdf link](#), [Alternate link](#))

²⁹⁰ Encyclopedia of Political Parties, Pg 148

²⁹¹ Coonan (2 Mar 2010). "[China appoints Panchen Lama in tactical move to quell unrest](#)". The Independent.

²⁹² [Xizang-zhiye 27 April 2005 Archived](#) 24 August 2006 at the [Wayback Machine](#)

²⁹³ (i) "[World's youngest political prisoner turns 17](#)". Washingtonpost.com. 23 April 2006. (ii) Laird, Thomas (2006). The Story of Tibet: Conversations with the Dalai Lama, p 374. Grove Press, N.Y. ISBN 978-0-8021-1827-1

85. In a matter of twelve days from the disappearance of the 227th Sannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam, on **17 Aug 1946**, the HR&CE Board arbitrarily passed Order No. 2723 appointing Sri P.K. Srinivasa Mudaliar (Coimbatore) as the interim Trustee. On **24 December 1950**, Puchampalli Swamigal from another Shaiva monastery was made the 228th Guru Maha Sannidhanam. **17 Dec 1952**, the Endowment Board, as per **Scheme No. 470 dated 17 Nov 1952** appointed a Manager with whom the management of the Aadheenam was entrusted. **20 Nov 1956**, the 228th Guru Maha Sannidhanam, while on tour, attained *Paripoornam*. Subsequently, the State HR&CE²⁹⁴ appointed Purasawakkam Sri P. Sadagopa Mudaliar as interim Trustee. The Aadheenam was without the Guru Maha Sannidhanam. The ASMT community approached the HR&CE Commissioner for the appointment of the Guru Maha Sannidhanam. At that time, there were rival claims between two political groups controlling the ASMT community which led to controversies concerning the appointment of Guru Maha Sannidhanam. The State HR&CE Board appointed Sri Manickavasaga Thambiran from another Shaiva monastery as Guru Maha Sannidhanam. This was not a norm, and a deviation of the established procedure and past practices, as appointments from other monasteries were allowed only under exceptional circumstances per various traditions and customs which originated in the *Kamika Agamas*. **16 Nov 1959**, in W.P.No. 261 of 1959 the said appointment by the HR&CE was challenged before the Madras High Court which canceled it on grounds of being illegal and invalid.
86. **31 Oct 1963**, Thiru Muthu Manickavasaga Mudaliar (great-great-granduncle of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam) became the Guru Maha Sannidhanam as 229th Guru Maha Sannidhanam through the ASMT community. However, the properties were managed by the Manager appointed by the Endowment Board. During the tenure of the 229th Guru Maha Sannidhanam, the State Government led by the DMK issued a Notification mandating *Archanas*²⁹⁵ to be performed in Tamil only. Therefore, the HR&CE Commissioner modified the Scheme in OA No.2 of 1973 dated **10 Oct 1975** appointing executive officer in the place of Manager by entrusting all powers to executive officer.
87. In this connection it is relevant to point out that earlier the Board framed a scheme by Order dated **17 Jan 1946** under OA No.368 of 1943 filed under Section 63 of the HR&CE Act, under which the administration of the affairs of the Aadheenam was to be vested with the Guru Maha Sannidhanam for the time being and a Manager was appointed, entrusting to him with all powers including the right to sue and be sued.
88. **10 Oct 1975**, the OA No.368 of 1943 scheme was modified by the HR&CE Commissioner by an arbitrary suo moto proceeding in OA No.2 of 1973. As per this scheme, the Executive Officer was appointed to function and perform various acts with the approval of the Guru Maha Sannidhanam which was according to the policy of the Government mandating Tamil *Archanas*.

²⁹⁴ **HR&CE** – The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Board, a State department responsible for administration, management and control of Hindu temples, monasteries and endowments. The HR&CE does not control religious institutes of any other religion. In 1923, Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act was passed by Madras Presidency. In 1925, the Government constituted "The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Board" consisting of a President and two to four Commissioners nominated by the Government to function as a statutory body. Subsequently, it was modified and in 1960 it became The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments department by Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act XXII of 1959 which came into force with effect from 28 April 1960.

²⁹⁵ **Archana** – ritualistic offering ordained as per Hindu scriptures and customs.

89. **24 July 1977**, the 229th Guru MahaSannidhanam attained *Paripoornam*.
90. **12 Feb 1978**, the 230th Guru Maha Sannidhanam was crowned by the ASMT community.
91. **20 Jan 1979**, the HR&CE Commissioner breaching the limits of his mere supervisory control arbitrarily and illegally issued an order in OA No.1 of 1978, modified the order OA No.2 of 1973, directed the Executive Officer to hand over the charge to the Guru Maha Sannidhanam or His nominees, and illegally created an Advisory Committee members of which were to be nominated in consultation with the ASMT Thondaimandala Mudaliar Community to assist the Guru Maha Sannidhanam in the secular affairs (financial and administrative matters) of the Mutt. All this was done against the mandate of the ASMT Hindu community. Though the administration of the affairs of the Aadheenam was to vest with the Guru Maha Sannidhanam for the time being, the office of the Guru Maha Sannidhanam and successor to the said office was to be only by an election by the ASMT community according to rules made by the State government and not as per the customs. This is a serious intrusion into the age-long practices followed by Madathipathis (Guru Mahasannidhanams) of all monasteries, such as Hindu monasteries in the State of Tamil Nadu Dharmapuram Aadheenam, Sankara Mutt, Thiruvaduthurai Aadheenam, Thirupanandhal Aadheenam, Kovilur Aadheenam, Senkol Aadheenam – of selecting the successors by themselves as per the age-long customs and practices.
92. **26 July 1979**, the 230th Guru Maha Sannidhanam accordingly took charge from the Executive Officer under the above scheme (OA No.1 of 1978).
93. Around 1988, the **230th** Guru Maha Sannidhanam, Sri La Sri Gnanaprakasa Desika Paramacharya Swamigal had identified the SPH JGM HDH Bhagavan Sri La Sri Nithyananda Paramashivam, then known as A. Rajashekarana a young boy of 10 years of age, born in Thiruvannamalai and hailing from the Thondai mandala Adi Saiva Vellalar ASMT community as the very incarnation of Lord Shiva, which was also corroborated with Agastya Maharishi's recorded Nadi reading²⁹⁶ of the boy. The 230th Guru Mahasannidhanam initiated, proclaimed, declared, and coronated the boy (A. Rajashekarana, SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam) as the future Guru Maha Sannidhanam after performing all the initiations as per the customs and traditions of the Aadheenam. He had further declared that the boy would take over the administration and full responsibility of the Guru Maha Sannidhanam when He reached the majority (by age). In the meanwhile, the 231st pontiff was crowned Guru Maha Sannidhanam by the ASMT community.

²⁹⁶ "சொல்லலைநீங்கள் முற்றிலும் கேட்கவேண்டும், சிவபெருமான் உலகம்காக்க நித்யானந்தவுருவில், பலகோடி சித்தர்களின் தவப்பயனால், பரமசிவன் பரமகம்சராய் வந்திருக்கார்...", "Listen completely to the words, for Siva, has come in the form of Nithyananda to protect this world. As the result of the penance of many crores of Siddhas, Paramashiva has incarnated as Paramahamsa." ([Complete text here](#))



(LEFT) 230th GuruMahasannidhanam of Thondaimanadala Aadheenam who trained the SPH to become the successor GuruMahasannidhanam. (CENTER) The SPH Nithyananda Paramshivam, around 1988, at the age of 10, when He was chosen to become the successor pontiff or GuruMahasannidhanam of Thondaimanadala Aadheenam upon attaining maturity (in age). (RIGHT) The 232nd GuruMahasannidhanam of Thondaimanadala Aadheenam with the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam inaugurating the first monastery started by the SPH “*Sri Ramakrishna Dhyana Peetham*” in March 2001.

94. The 232nd Gurumahasannidhanam Sri Thiruvambaladesika Jnanaprakasha Swamigal was crowned on 21 Feb 2000 by the ASMT community as per the scheme dated 20 Jan 1979. In the year 2000, in keeping with the declaration of the 230th Guru Maha Sannidhanam, the SPH assumed the responsibility as the 233rd successor Guru Maha Sannidhanam of the Thondai Mandala Aadheenam and was recognized as Sri La Sri Nithyananda Paramashiva Sri Gnanaprakasa Desika Paramacharya Swamigal.



(LEFT): The SPH Nithyananda Paramshivam was recognized as an incarnation of Parmashiva by the 230th Guru Maha Sannidhanam, which was corroborated with Agastya Maharishi’s recorded Nadi reading²⁹⁷ and by matching birthmarks on the body of the SPH with previous predictions. The picture is from 2004 April showing the SPH’s birthmark during a fire ritual ceremony. (RIGHT): The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam with the 232nd Guru Maha Sannidhanam in Jan 2015 in the ceremony where a congregation of a thousand Hindu leaders declared the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism.

95. On 9 Jan 2009, HR&CE Commissioner, according to Modified scheme, approved 5 members Advisory committee as follows: (a). G.R. Thiagasundara Mudaliyar (b). S.Swaminathan (c). J.Sugumaran (d). P.V.Sambandan (e). N. Kumaresan.
96. The Members of the Advisory Committee challenged the modified scheme for the appointment of Executive Officer in WP No.21665 of 2010 seeking for quashing the modified scheme. In the said writ petition the High Court passed an order dated **22 Sep 2010** granting an injunction restraining the HR&CE Board from effecting gazette publications of the draft scheme and in the meantime, directed the inquiry in the OA to go on.
97. The members of the Advisory Committee, at this stage, moved OA No.1 of 2010 (Rc No.70371 / 2010 D-2) before the Commissioner HR&CE under Section 59(1) of the Act for permission to institute a suit for the removal of the present Guru Maha Sannidhanam. After the notice, the commissioner passed an Order dated **26 April 2011** in M.P.No.1 of 2011 granting permission to file a suit against the 232nd Guru Maha Sannidhanam on the ground that His continuance would be detrimental to the interest of the Mutt.
98. Thereupon, the members of the Advisory Board filed OS No.307 of 2011 before the Sub Judge, Kancheepuram for removal of the 232nd Guru Maha Sannidhanam and a permanent injunction. Written Statement was filed by the 232nd Guru Maha Sannidhanam but the suit was decreed ex parte on **16 April 2015**. From 1932 up until now, over close to 90 years, the State of Tamil Nadu has interfered in the succession process of the Guru Maha Sannidhanam multiple times, undermining the ASMT community of their religious rights, and the leaders of their succession rights.
99. After the coronation, the 232nd Pontiff continued to work with and support Sri La Sri Nithyananda Paramashiva Sri Gnanaprakasa Desika Paramacharya Swamigal to establishing and reviving Kailasa, the enlightened civilizational nation and on April 2001 the 232nd Pontiff inaugurated Kailasa in South India, Ramakrishna Dhyanapeetam Peetha and publicly declared the nomination of the SPH JGM HDH Bhagavan Sri La Sri Nithyananda Paramashivam as the 233rd Guru Maha Sannidhanam of the Thondai Mandala Aadheenam. On April 14, 2001, the 232nd Gurumahasannidanam of the Thondaimandala Adheenam, Sri Thiruvambaladesika Jnanaprakasha Swamigal, nominated the SPH as his lawful successor, the 233rd Gurumahasannidanam. However, due to the SPH's many responsibilities in other Hindu institutions, he and the 232nd Gurumahasannidanam agreed that another suitable candidate should be appointed as the junior pontiff, and therefore a monk disciple of the SPH was nominated and coronated as the 233rd Gurumahasannidanam.
100. The 230th Gurumahasannidanam along with the 232nd Gurumahasannidanam had trained the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam right from his early childhood, and also a few of the disciples of the SPH. Since 2005, several under trainee disciples of the SPH lived in the Thondaimandala Adheenam as trainee monks and assisted the 232nd Gurumahasannidhanam with its maintenance and operations while also attending to His personal and healthcare needs. However, as was the case with Madurai Adheenam, the presence of ASMT members and the involvement of the SPH with Thondaimandala Adheenam led to retaliation by anti-Hindu militants.



232nd Gurumahasannidanam initiating the disciple of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda while nominating Him as the successor Pontiff. It is a tradition in Hindu monasteries for a generation of pontiffs to be trained right from childhood. Likewise, the successor Pontiff the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was also trained by the 230th Pontiff and not just by the 232nd Pontiff. This is also observed in many Hindu monasteries such as Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham where the current 70th pontiff was trained from the age of 14 (in 1983) by the 68th pontiff and subsequently the 69th also²⁹⁸.



(LEFT) 2015: The 70th Pontiff doing Pada Puja (ritualistic worship of Guru's feet) to His guru the 69th Pontiff of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham.²⁹⁹ **(RIGHT) 2018:** The 233rd successor Pontiff doing Pada Puja to the 232nd Pontiff of Thondai Mandala Aadheenam.

101. By 9 Jan 2009, the State-appointed Advisory committee misused their powers and started systematically swindling huge properties of the monastery. When the 232nd pontiff protested, the State completely took over (nationalized) the monastery by a suo moto proceeding in OA No.1 of 2010 (RC No.3972 / 2010 D-2) and issued notice dated 31 July 2010 where the role of the pontiff was reduced to that of a consultant to the State.
102. On several occasions, the 232nd Gurumahasannidanam took refuge at the residence of the SPH in the neighboring state of Karnataka and publicly spoke out against the anti-Hindu militants who had spread baseless rumors that He had been kidnapped by the SPH to inflame communal tensions against the ASMT community.³⁰⁰

²⁹⁸ timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/successors-test-holding-together-administrators/articleshow/63120629.cms

²⁹⁹ zeenews.india.com/india/vijayendra-saraswati-is-new-the-head-of-kanchi-kamakoti-peetam-heres-a-quick-guide-2085306.html

³⁰⁰ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSXqGB8mnzU>



(LEFT) 30 July 2017: The 232nd Guru Mahasannidhanam Thondaimandala Aadheenam Sri Thiruvambaladesika Jnanaprakasha Swamigal with the 233rd successor Guru Mahasannidhanam the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam. The 232nd Pontiff addressed the citizens of the spiritual kingdom of Kailasa Paramparagatha Kanchi Kailasa Sarvajnapetheam ([complete video here](#)) blessing the community and he also spoke about the conspiracy being hatched by the State appointed advisory committee. Sri Nithya Jnanapriyananda – a disciple of both the 232nd pontiff and 233rd Pontiff the SPH - can be seen on the left adjusting the translation earphone for the 232nd pontiff. Sri Nithya Jnanapriyananda is the personal assistant to the 232nd pontiff who holds the power of attorney (Sreekaryam) to represent the 232nd pontiff in legal matters. On 2nd July 2017, Raja T Vijaya Kumar and his associates from the HMK had given a written threat to Sri Nithya Jnanapriya to “*vacate the Thondaimandala monastery or face our next actions*”³⁰¹

(RIGHT) 24 Nov 2017: Sri Nithya Jnanapriyananda was burnt alive through a blast in the monastery kitchen. More than 50% of the body of Sri KP Gnanamoorthy was burnt, yet the State police refused to register any complaint and did not investigate the matter, despite showing the letters of death threats by Raja T Vijaya Kumar and his associates. On much appeal, the police only recorded the attack as a non-cognizable event - CSR 876/2017³⁰² (Sivakanchi Police Station, Kancheepuram District), something which they need not investigate. The ASMT community filed a petition to the Court to direct the police to investigate the matter, the court even refused to accept the petition.

- 103. 23 November 2020:** Before His death, the 232nd Pontiff expressed His last wish to the Secretary (Mr. Ganapathy) Sekkizhar Kalvi Panpattu Kazhagam (the largest group of initiated Thondai Mandala ASMT disciples that have been given Samaya Deeksha), “... *Very good and knowledgable, and a very good age and integrated and honest character Nithyananda has and His nature of not going after others wealth is what is safe for our mutt...four Mudaliyar (from ASMT community) people nominate Nithyananda's name and the name (Sundareshwara Maharaj) referred by Him is a qualified, intelligent, right age, well-disciplined and Nithyananda's well-trusted person is always what is safe to our mutt....*”³⁰³. By **Sep 2010**, after a failed attempt by the Advisory Committee to illegally extend

³⁰¹ (i) Police report CSR 537/2017 PS Sivakanchi, District Kancheepuram, by G Thulasi Sub Inspector of Police, dated 3 July 2017 18:15 IST, <http://eservices.tnpolice.gov.in> (ii) Letter of threat dated 2 July 2017 <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AiGI1O2MulBrIRFce6pj06v3-7wNxSNV/view?usp=sharing>

³⁰² Police report CSR 876/2017 PS Sivakanchi, District Kancheepuram, dated 25 November 2017, eservices.tnpolice.gov.in

³⁰³ Final words of the 292nd pontiff <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WU6xILNx77pleU2cKHZrjqcLcoEsQdql/view> “நல்ல நல்ல சிறந்த கல்வி அறிவும் சிறந்த வயதும் நேர்மையான குணமும் நித்யானந்தாவிற்கு ஆசபட்டவருமாக

their tenure and illegally remove³⁰⁴ the 232nd GuruMahaSannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam, and in the light of the attempts by various State and non-State actors to assassinate the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, the two pontiffs planned for the future of the Thondaimandala Aadheenam tradition to continue safely without disruption and decided that Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda would be the next pontiff after the SPH. By 2016, Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda was given all initiations and declared as the successor Pontiff. Later by 2018, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was forcibly exiled from India with His rights to citizenship withdrawn by the State.³⁰⁵ Though the 232nd Pontiff and the ASMT community wanted that the SPH continue the tradition directly, the persecution forced the community that the throne of Thondaimandala Aadheenam was succeeded directly by the next ordained and initiated pontiff - Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda as the next Gurumahasannidhanam under the direct spiritual guidance of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as per the 232nd Pontiff's last wish. As per both, the tradition and the law, religious coronations need not be documented in writing – a “word of mouth” by the GuruMahasannidhanam is legally sufficient and per law has to be honored by the State³⁰⁶.

104. The Chinese State Religious Affairs Bureau via its Order (No. 5), passed on 1 Sept 2007 directs all Buddhist temples in China (and Tibet) to compulsorily apply to the department before they are allowed to recognize individuals as Tulkus (reincarnated teachers).³⁰⁷ In a similar way, the State of Tamil Nadu through the Department of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Board (HR&CE), via its scheme in OA No.1 of 1978 dated 20 Jan 1979³⁰⁸, has created an unconstitutional deceptive legal framework that effectively forces the Gurumahasannidhanams (reincarnated Gurus/teachers) to be approved by the State through its appointed Advisory Committee before being considered legally valid. This unconstitutional scheme was first applied only to Thondaimandala Aadheenam and even today other Aadheenams have slightly more autonomy when compared to Thondaimanadala Aadheenam. So far Aadheenams other than Thondaimanadala Aadheenam has yet not been subjected to this deceptive legal framework of the Advisory Committee as defined in OA No.1 of 1978 or any of its subsequent amendments.
105. **3 December 2020**, 233rd successor Gurumahasannidhanam Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda sent a Letter to HR&CE that he would assume the post as 233rd Pontiff as he had been training with the 232nd Guru Maha Sannidhanam for the past 15 years in all aspects of maintaining the Mutt (monastery) and had been ordained in all the rituals as per the Mutt tradition and as a disciple,

நித்யானந்தாவிற்கு வர்த்து நம்ம மடத்துக்கு எப்பவும் சேப்ட்டி. முதலியார்கள் நாலுபேர் நல்லபேரு சொல்லி நித்யானந்தர் பேரை சொன்னா இப்ப நீங்க சொன்ன பேர்கள் எல்லாம் நல்ல சிறந்த கல்வி அறிவும், சிறந்த வயதும், நேர்மையான குணமும், பிரத்தியார் காசுக்கு ஆசைப்படாதவரும் நித்யானந்தாவிற்கு வற்றது நம்ம மடத்துக்கு எப்பவும் safety. என்ன.”

³⁰⁴ WP No.21665 of 2010

³⁰⁵ 24 August 2018, via an illegal show cause notice issued by the External Affairs Ministry to the SPH without even the signature of the issuing officer, https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/2018-Aug-24_illegal_mea_notice_without_even_signature.jpg

³⁰⁶ The Supreme Court of India, Sri Mahalinga Thambiran Swamigal vs His Holiness Sri La Sri Kasivasi on 19 October, 1973 “There can be no dispute that a nomination can be made by deed or **word of mouth**”, 1974 AIR 199, 1974 SCR (2) 74, <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/307513/>

³⁰⁷ 国家宗教事务局令（第5号）藏传佛教活佛转世管理办法 [State Religious Affairs Bureau Order (No. 5) Measures on the Management of the Reincarnation of Living Buddhas] (in Chinese). [Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China](https://www.government.org.cn/central-people-s-government-of-the-people-s-republic-of-china/).

³⁰⁸ HR&CE Scheme OA No.1 of 1978 dated 20 Jan 1979 <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3ABqvA4BXxQZE53YzlhcEVDS0k/view>

looking after the personal well-being of the 232nd Gurumaha Sannidhanam also. 233rd successor Gurumahasannidhanam Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda had received the Samaya Deeksha, Vishesha Deeksha, Mantrakashayam, Nirvana Deeksha, Acharya Abhishekam, etc from the 232nd Gurumaha Sannidhanam as part of the ordainment rituals as Ilayasannidhanam (Junior Pontiff).

- 106.** On 5 Aug 1946, the 227th GuruMahaSannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam was disappeared. The State HR&CE Board appointed Sri Manickavasaga Thambiran from another Shaiva monastery as Guru Maha Sannidhanam. On 16 Nov 1959, in W.P.No. 261 of 1959, the said appointment by the HR&CE was challenged before the Madras High Court which canceled it on grounds of being illegal and invalid. Ignoring the past errors, on **16 Feb 2021**, the State of Tamil Nadu appointed a Kattalai Thambiran³⁰⁹ from another Shaiva monastery – Dharmapuram Adheenam, as the pontiff of Thondaimandala Aadheenam. The 233rd successor pontiff Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda was forcibly evicted, and the Deities of the deceased 232nd pontiff that as per the ASMT tradition had been worshipped each day for centuries were thrown out on the street by the State appointed Advisory committee. The 233rd successor pontiff Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda was not even allowed to even safeguard and protect the Deities.
- 107. 4 March 2021**, the 233rd Gurumahasannidhanam of Thondaimandala Aadheenam Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda challenged the State in High Court of Madras in Writ Petition WP 5899 of 2021 (with Injunction Petition No. 6508 of 2021 and Stay petition No. 6509 of 2021). Though on 16 Nov 1959, in W.P. No. 261, the High Court had struck down a similar illegal appointment, on 18 March 2021, the High Court judge did not even hear the plea and disposed of the plea citing that the State had already confirmed the appointment of their alternate State compliant 233rd Pontiff.
- 108.** On **3 March 2021**, in a public interview, PTRP Thiyagarajan (incumbent Finance Minister of State of Tamil Nadu) of the political party DMK bragged that he along with his brother PTRK Vijayarajan (Head of the State appointed Advisory Committee which decides who can and cannot be Guru Maha Sannidhanam), evicted the 233rd successor Pontiff Sri Nithya Sundareshwarananda and ASMT community members from the Thondaimandala Aadheenam. Showing no remorse for breaking the age-old tradition of Guru-disciple lineage the DMK minister and his brother vilified the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, the 232nd Pontiff, the 233rd successor Pontiff and the ASMT community and emphasized that the mutt would be run as per the DMK party ideology and thus they had evicted the 233rd successor Pontiff.³¹⁰
- 109.** On **5 March 2021**, the State confirmed the appointment of the State groomed pontiff and illegally nullified the religious appointment done by the 232nd pontiff.

E. Kailasounnata Shyamalapeetha Sarvajnapaetham Madurai Adheenam

- 110.** The Meenakshi Amman temple of Madurai, South India is one of the most popular and important temples in Hinduism. It is also the spiritual seat of one of the world's most ancient monastic orders, Madurai Adheenam, whose leaders, the *Gurumahasannidhanams*, were traditionally regarded as

³⁰⁹ Thambirans are clergymen ordained for various religious duties in the monastery. Kattalai Thambiran is head of the administration and can be selected to be the next successor pontiff.

³¹⁰ See the interview (from 18:20 mins to 21:20 mins) <https://youtu.be/420zj4Hjn8E>

the political and religious head of Madurai (like how the Dalai Lama is traditionally regarded as the political and religious head of Tibet³¹¹).

111. The more than 5000-years-old³¹² Madurai Aadheenam is a Hindu ASMT monastery and the world's oldest surviving monastic order. It was established by incarnations of Paramaśiva and Parashakti³¹³ (primordial Hindu Divinities) themselves as Lord Sundareshwara and His consort Divine Mother Meenakshi directly, followed by Guru Maha Sannidhanam Srila Sri Sivananda Yogeendra Sri ShivaJnanasambanda Desika Paramacharya Swamigal (also known as Vaakishara Shivajnananda Yogeshwarar) as the first pontiff. Around 450BCE, Adishankara (also known as Sanmathatthaban Desigar) revived the Madurai Aadheenam as its 117th Gurumahasannidhanams.³¹⁴ Around 7 century CE the child saint, Thiru Jnanasambandar, revived Madurai Aadheenam, as its 214th Guru Maha Sannidhanam.³¹⁵ Since that revival, several Gurumahasannidhanams have been selected and coronated to lead Madurai Aadheenam, with a total of 293 known Gurumahasannidhanams.
112. On April 27, 2012, the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism (SPH) Jagat Guru Mahasannidhanam (JGM) His Divine Holiness (HDH) Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivam was anointed as the successor and 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam of Madurai Aadheenam by Sri La Sri Arunagirinatha Swamigal, the 292nd Gurumahasannidhanam of Madurai Aadheenam³¹⁶. To commemorate the occasion, the 292nd Gurumahasannidhanam said: *"Our 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam Sri La Sri His Divine Holiness Paramacharya Swamigal is also a deep, not only deep, the deepest disciples of Saint Thiru Jnanasambandar. Not only that, he may be called as an avatar of Thiru Jnanasambandar,"* said Sri La Sri Arunagirinatha Swamigal, when coronating the SPH, as the Junior Pontiff or the 293rd Pontiff-to-be of the Madurai Aadheenam. He would further go on to say in many interviews that the SPH His Divine Holiness Sri Nithyananda Paramashivam is the most qualified person for the post and that no one else had such knowledge, eloquence, grace, or accomplishments as him and that he had received the divine vision of Lord Sundareshwara and Devi Meenakshi (founders of the Madurai Aadheenam millennia ago) ordering the 292nd Guru Maha Sannidhanam to appoint the SPH as his successor and the 293rd Guru Maha Sannidhanam. The previous pontiff lauded the ability of the SPH to have created one of the biggest Adi-Shaivite monasteries on his own in a mere span of ten years.³¹⁷

³¹¹ ["His Holiness the Dalai Lama Speaks to Tibetan Students in Delhi"](#). Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. 26 January 2015.

³¹² From records of past few Gurumahasannidhanams it is seen that the average tenure of a Gurumahasannidhanam has been around 30 years, according to which the monastery must have started some 8700 years ago.

<https://shyamalapeetasarvajnapeetam.nithyananda.org/mother-doc/madurai-aadheenam-mother-document/>

³¹³ **Paramaśiva** is the primordial Hindu Divinity; the supreme consciousness and the ultimate Lord and cosmic divinity which is the source of everything, and engages in five actions of creation, maintenance, destruction, delusion and giving liberation. Devi **Parāśakti** the consort of Paramaśiva is the primordial energy or primordial force, denoting the Supreme Goddess or Divine Mother in Hinduism.

³¹⁴ <https://shyamalapeetasarvajnapeetam.nithyananda.org/mother-doc/madurai-aadheenam-mother-document/>

³¹⁵ சைவ ஆதினங்கள் (History of Śaiva Ādinams), by முனைவர் தவத்திரு ஊரான் அடிகள் (Professor Ūrān Adigal), வர்த்தமானன் பதிப்பக வெளியீடு (Vardamāna Publishers), 2002, pp. 545-550

³¹⁶ (i) [Letter of Appointment to Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowment Board from 292nd Gurumahasannidhanam](#) dated 11 May 2012. (ii) [Notorized Affidavit dated 27 April 2012, by 292nd Gurumahasannidhanam Affirming Coronation of 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam \(Notarized by Certificate number IN-KA93558783901437K\)](#)

³¹⁷ 7 May 2012 - Dinakaran - Page 6 - Madurai edition



27 April 2012: Coronation of the SPH as the 293rd Gurumahasannidanam by His predecessor, the 292nd Gurumahasannidanam Arunagirinatha Swamigal

- 113.** Soon after the coronation of the 293rd Gurumahasannidanam, the Indian government, acting through its temple management agency the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Board (HR&CE) filed a lawsuit objecting to the appointment and seeking to have it overturned. The HR&CE engaged in an aggressive legal and political smear campaign to undermine the 292nd Gurumahasannidanam's legitimacy by falsely accusing him of fraud and financial mismanagement, ultimately forcing him to withdraw his support for the 293rd Gurumahasannidanam. The State cited a Trust formed by the 292nd and 293rd Guru Maha Sannidhanams to be the indicator of financial mismanagement when the Trust did not have a bank account or any financial existence. Attempts were made to assassinate the 292nd Gurumahasannidanam and the SPH by mob lynching along with monks of the Nithyananda order.³¹⁸ The coronation of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as the Supreme Pontiff of Madurai was extremely intolerable for the new-Hindutva terrorists, who made more than eight vexatious litigations to dethrone the SPH³¹⁹. Over the next month, they made several physical attacks and mob-lynching attempts to assassinate the SPH.
- 114. 29 May 2012,** two monks of the SPH that had been posted to maintain the Kanjanur temple, were beaten by the neo-Hindutva terrorists and had to be hospitalized.³²⁰ Following the coronation of the SPH, from **May 2012**, several attacks (lawfare, physical attack, and media hate propaganda to normalize the society) were made to illegally annul the appointment of the SPH as the 293rd

³¹⁸ [CounterAffidavit by 292nd Gurumahasannidanam defending appointment of 293rd Gurumahasannidanam dated 25 Sept 2012, in WP MD No. 8260 of 2012 in the Special Court of Judicature at Madras](#)

³¹⁹ (i) OS 1000/2012, (ii) WP 6607/2012, (iii) WP 8260/2012, (iv) WP 9648/2012, (v) WP 12915/2012, (vi) WP 13751/2012, (vii) OS 83/2012, (viii) OS 621/2012

³²⁰ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/Protests-still-haunt-Nithyananda/articleshow/13184093.cms>

pontiff and to evict the ASMT Hindu monks from the Madurai Meenakshi temple and the Shyamalapeetha Sarvajna Peetha Madurai Aadheenam.

115. **10 May 2012**, Madurai: A vexatious litigation was filed by neo-Hindutva extremists against the SPH³²¹. The court dismissed the petition terming it *“without merit”*. This did not remedy the situation. Two days later the same people filed a false police complaint.
116. **17 May 2012**, Madurai: Reiterating the stand that the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Karunanidhi had taken against the SPH and the ASMT community, vilifying all Hindu monks³²², the Neo-Hindutva extremists filed another vexatious litigation, fabricating allegations on the moral character of the SPH and used these as a basis of petitioning the High Court to order a complete State takeover of the more than three-thousand-year-old Madurai Aadheenam by the government and expulsion of both the 292nd Pontiff and the 293rd Pontiff - The SPH JGM HDH Nithyananda Paramashivam from Madurai Aadheenam.³²³
117. **29 May 2012**, A mob of 100 anti-Hindu atheistic militants³²⁴, who opposed the appointment of the SPH as the 293rd Pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam, came to mob lynch the SPH when he was at his Kanjanur Agneeshwara temple residence. The personal secretaries (monks) of the SPH were assaulted. The mob smashed the SPH's car. The monks managed to escape. With injuries, they drove to the local police station for protection, filed a complaint, and got themselves hospitalized³²⁵. Such mob-lynching is pervasive across India. In 2019 ASMT monks Chikne Maharaj Kalpavrukshagiri (70 years old) and Sushilgiri Maharaj (35 years old) along with his aide were mob-lynched and killed with the State police as an accomplice to the mob lynchers³²⁶.
118. The next day on **30 May 2012**, the SPH was leaving the city of Kanjanur when again a mob of anti-Hindu atheistic militants attacked, disciples of the SPH were assaulted³²⁷ in front of the police.
119. **15 Jun 2012**, Madurai: Neo-Hindutva extremists filed another vexatious litigation accusing the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam of stealing a non-existent deity called *“Maragatha Lingam”* from Madurai Aadheenam³²⁸. Both the Madurai Aadheenam and the HR&CE (Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Board) who were also made respondents to this petition, said that such a Lingam did not even exist³²⁹. The police was also a respondent to this complaint, called the petitioner for inquiry for which he never turned up. The police in their reply to this petition cited this abuse of the legal system by the petitioner and the case was eventually disposed of. This did

³²¹ WP 6607 of 2012 and MP(MD) 1 to 4 of 2012, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, dated 10 May 2012.

³²² 4 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 6 ; 3 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 4

³²³ WP 13571 of 2012, High Court of Madras (litigant: Krishnamurthi)

³²⁴ 17 May 2012, Daily Thanthi, Page 4, DMK and DK party workers show black flags as warning to Nithyananda.

³²⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=221868921865134>

³²⁶ <https://youtu.be/oWlmXYcYnpw>

³²⁷ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1G11aWqbWGwWJqnU31GWkP-e5SW-SinwU/view>

³²⁸ Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, WP MP 4 of 2012 dated 15 June 2012 (litigant: Jagathalaprathapan)

³²⁹ The Maragatha Lingam was stolen from Sri Thyagarajaswamy temple at Thirukaravasal in Tiruvarur district in 1992 and which was recovered by the police in 2009, was handed over to the temple. In 2012 Jagathalaprathapan filed a false case alleging that the Maragatha Lingam was actually stolen from Madurai Temple in 2012.

www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/Maragatha-Lingam-handed-over-to-temple-authorities/article16854931.ece

not remedy the situation as the same petitioners filed several more vexatious litigations which were used to remove the SPH as the 293rd pontiff on illegal and unconstitutional grounds.

- 120. 18 Jun 2012**, Madurai: Neo-Hindutva extremists who had confiscated the temple property filed vexatious litigation against The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam to restrain his entry into the Madurai Aadheenam and Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareshwarar Temple.³³⁰ This malicious litigation was dismissed in 2016. This did not redress the situation and more frivolous, malicious, and vexatious litigations kept being made against the SPH and the ASMT community.
- 121. 1 Aug 2012**, Madurai: Neo-Hindutva extremists filed another vexatious litigation publicly asking the government to remove The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as head of the oldest monastery³³¹. The extremists gave a press release where they claimed that they would not rest until they drove away from the SPH from Madurai. The petition was also dismissed by the court. This also did not remedy the situation as the government directly started making false allegations and vexatious petitions attacking the SPH and the ASMT community.
- 122. 18 Oct 2012**, Madurai: The State of Tamil Nadu represented by the HR&CE filed a vexatious plaint in the district court Government against the 292nd Pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam³³².
- 123. 18 Oct 2012**, Madurai: Neo-Hindutva terrorists and anti-Hindu atheist militants threatened the 292nd pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam and coerced him to nullify the appointment of The SPH as his successor. Due to the overwhelming pressure in the form of a multitude of vexatious litigations, violent attacks, attempts to assassinate the 292nd and the 293rd pontiff, rape of female monks, threats of burning the temple³³³, media hate propaganda and the attempts by the State to take-over the Aadheenam (temple-monastery), the 292nd Pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam, released an illegal statement nullifying the appointment of The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as his successor and 293rd Pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam. However, according to the Mother Document of the Madurai Aadheenam, also upheld by various observations by courts, the appointment of a Junior Pontiff is irrevocable³³⁴ as the appointment happens with the tradition called Acharya Abhishekam³³⁵. Further, in a press meet, the 292nd Pontiff clearly stated that he has given The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam the Acharya Abhishekam.
- 124. 2 Feb 2018**, Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareshwarar Temple: The SPH had taken some disciples and monks of the temple construction team to give them hands-on training in the principles of temple construction as per the scriptures. The SPH and His disciples were near the temple when they

³³⁰ OS No. 83 of 2012 in the District Court Madurai (Litigant: M. Manisavagam and Sami Thiagarajan)

³³¹ WP 9648 of 2012 in the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, dated 14 Aug 2012 (Litigant: S Nellai Kannan)

³³² OS 1000 of 2012, Court of Subordinate Judge Madurai

³³³ On February 02, 2018 a pillared hall of the Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareshwarar Temple made of igneous granite rocks collapsed in what was claimed to be a fire caused by incense sticks and camphor. The CCTV rooms were broken 48 hours prior to this.

³³⁴ AIR 1983 Mad 72, Madras High Court, Ambalavana Pandara Sannathi vs State Of Tamil Nadu And Anr. on 28 April, 1980, indiankanoon.org/doc/651773

³³⁵ Madurai Monastery mother document, (page 153/13) section titled - Particulars of important customs and usages - "The three initiations namely the Samaya Deeksha, Vishesh deeksha and Nirvana initiation are given to the mature individuals among the Saiva Vellalar community along with the consecration as Acharya. At no time other than the mentioned group the traditional practice to give Acharya consecration has been done. The initiation of the touch of Saiva Vellala will be given. At a time, only one person can be initiated as Acharya and no further person can be initiated."

heard about the deadly explosion³³⁶ in the temple. The district fire department claimed that the explosion was caused by electrical wires, whereas the police claimed that the analysis of CCTV footage suggested that the explosion was caused by camphor used in rituals³³⁷. Some police officers suggested the transfer of the case to CB-CID as they believed that camphor could by no means have triggered such an explosion.³³⁸ On 8 Feb 2018, another fire accident happened in the temple, this time in the CCTV room³³⁹ destroying the CCTV records. Six more such incidents occurred in various Hindu temples of Tamil Nadu³⁴⁰. (i) 8 February 2018, Tiruvallur, Sri Vadaranyeswarar (ii) 10 February 2018, Vellore: Two temple chariots of Gangai Amman temple set ablaze (iii) 14 February 2018, Kumbakonam (iv) 14 February 2018, Thiruvavur (v) 23 February 2018: Meenakshi Sundareswarar temple at Karuppur, Kumbhakonam (vi) 24 May 2018, Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangam. These were not investigated by professionals and dismissed with ad hoc government reports. Some police reports blamed unknown miscreants and Hindu rituals for the fire. These rituals had been taking place for millennia without any such mishaps. These temples were made of igneous³⁴¹ rocks like granite, which form by the solidification of hot magma (600 to 1,300 °C) and are heat tolerant.

125. On 3 May 2018, the SPH was prohibited by the High Court of Madras itself from entering Madurai Aadheenam of which He is the successor. Though the order itself violates the constitution, Justice Mahadevan upheld the decision and even threatened the SPH that he would order the arrest of the SPH if He did not resign from His responsibility as the 293rd Pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam. As per the Constitution of India, a person is to be treated as innocent until proven guilty, and no one has the right to pass judgment on such a person. The SPH has never been implicated in any crime. Yet against the very constitution of the country, He has repeatedly been treated in a prejudicial manner as assumed guilty. **Justice Mahadevan** went on to pass an order blatantly violating the fundamental rights of the SPH and against the very tenets of natural law and justice and on record said, "*Who permitted you to record court proceedings? To whom were you sending-message about the proceeding? Don't think that this court is a playground. I will see that your ashram is vanished. Hundreds of complaints are pending against the ashram.*"³⁴²
126. The HR&CE as a government agency exercises financial and operational control over all major Hindu temples and institutions in India. The HR&CE has a long history of corruption, neglect, and

³³⁶ "The fire had damaged the stone pillars and the top stone structure of the mandapam has also fallen down due to heat in a few places," said N. Subramanian, district fire officer (in-charge) from Fire Safety and Rescue Service, Madurai, adding that stocking of flammable items including pooja items, toys and plastic items had caused a blast like impact on the mandapam. - deccanchronicle.com/nation/current-affairs/040218/fire-damages-mandapam-in-meenakshi-temple.html

³³⁷ Three days after a fire at the famous Meenakshi Amman temple in Madurai, police claim that a common ritual to ward off evil may have caused the fire, according to a TOI report. According to the report, although Madurai collector Veera Raghava Rao had earlier stated that a fault in the electric wiring could have sparked the fire, police think otherwise. After scanning CCTV footage, police believe the ritual of lighting camphor on a pumpkin, which is then smashed to the ground, could have sparked the fire. thenewsminute.com/article/fire-madurai-s-meenakshi-temple-caused-ritual-ward-evil-75972

³³⁸ thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/cb-cid-may-be-asked-to-investigate-madurai-meenakshi-temple-fire/article22672437.ece

³³⁹ tamil.samayam.com/latest-news/state-news/once-again-fire-in-madurai-meenakshi-amman-temple-today-in-cctv-camera-room/articleshow/62841437.cms

³⁴⁰ <https://hindugenocide.com/analysis/seven-hindu-temples-ravaged-by-fire-cultural-genocide-of-hindus/>

³⁴¹ Igneous rocks are formed from the solidification of magma, which is a hot (600 to 1,300 °C, or 1,100 to 2,400 °F) molten or partially molten rock material. <https://www.britannica.com/science/igneous-rock>

³⁴² timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/madras-hc-warns-of-issuing-arrest-warrant-against-self-styled-godman-nithyananda/articleshow/62692301.cms

mismanagement of Hindu temples resulting in the systematic destruction and looting of temple land³⁴³, artifacts, deities, art, and infrastructure.³⁴⁴ The Indian government's HR&CE assumes control of financial decisions, operational decisions, and even leadership succession decisions under the paternalistic guise of preventing temple mismanagement or ensuring social welfare, but often doing so for political purposes. Commentators have noted the contradiction between such government control and India's lip service to religious freedom:

"While the state argues that its intervention is necessary to bring about social welfare and reform as well as to correct historical social inequities, many view this kind of selective interference as aimed at 'reforming the religion out of its existence'. They say usurpation of Hindu endowments alone is against all tenets of what constitutes a 'principled separation' between the state and the religion.

They also hold that singling out a particular religion violates not only the very secular spirit of the Indian Constitution but also the basic rights guaranteed under it. They opine that the HRCE Act infringes upon Article 25 of the Constitution, which guarantees the citizens their fundamental right to profess, practice, and propagate their religion, as well as establish and manage their religious institutions.

They point that while this right is very much available to followers of all other religions in the country, only Hindus have been constrained by the law.

In fact, the state governments have assumed total financial and managerial control over lakhs of Hindu temples across the country through their respective HRCE Acts, accusing their administrations of mismanagement of funds.

However, no other religious institution (barring Jains' as, by legal definition, they are Hindus)—churches, mosques, gurudwaras, pagodas, and synagogues belonging to Christians, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Parsis, respectively—has been brought under the Acts despite similar allegations cropping up there too.

*The fact of the matter is that in all these decades that Hindu religious institutions have been under the thumb of the HRCE departments, the ability of the Hindu community as a whole in managing its own institutions has been systematically clipped and pared down."*³⁴⁵

- 127.** The nomination of a spiritual leader espousing the revival of Sanatana Hindu Dharma in all its tradition in an all-inclusive manner working on a grassroots level like the SPH to a position as important as the 293rd Gurumahasannidanam of Madurai Adheenam was completely unacceptable to the State that they had the HR&CE board immediately challenge the decision.

³⁴³ <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/what-happened-to-47000-acres-of-missing-temple-land-hc-asks-tn-government/article34765670.ece>

³⁴⁴ "Indian govt won't be any different from British if Hindus can't manage their own temples" <https://theprint.in/opinion/indian-govt-wont-be-any-different-from-british-if-hindus-cant-manage-their-own-temples/218210/>

³⁴⁵ "How State Control Over Temples is failing secularism in India" <https://www.sundayguardianlive.com/news/state-control-temples-failing-secularism-india>

- 128.** The HR&CE's campaign against the SPH is part of a decades-long attempt by both atheistic terrorist militants and right-wing Hindutva political entities to suppress Hindu and non-Hindu minorities and silence dissent. The SPH is also the leader of the more than 5,000-year-old indigenous spiritual tradition known as the Adi Shaivite Minority Tradition ("ASMT") in South India. By His spiritual attainments, His systematic revival of authentic Hinduism, and its enlightened ecosystem as per the original Hindu scriptures (the *Veda-Agamas*), the SPH has made active contributions to humanity's spiritual evolution, thereby firmly establishing himself as the Pope of Hinduism. Paradoxically, in the process of taking Hinduism back to its authentic roots, He has revealed it to be the most progressive and inclusive spiritual tradition in the world. But, because of His spiritual accomplishments³⁴⁶ and redefinition of Hinduism per its original scriptural roots, caste supremacist militant Hindutva elements in India view the SPH as an existential threat to their conservative, politicized version of Hinduism. As a result, the SPH has been marked for death by majoritarian political forces in India. To date, there have been 79 assassination attempts and plots on the SPH including physical attacks (such as strangulation and machete attacks), as well as poisoning, noxious asphyxiation, bombings, etc both as extra-judicial assassination attempts as well as attempts to assassinate by mob lynchings. In addition, there have been numerous death threats including public death threats on national television channels as well as on social media platforms which have incited innumerable orchestrated mob attacks on the SPH and the ASMT community resulting in gang rapes, violent assault, and battery.
- 129.** Indeed, the SPH's bold and progressive vision for Hinduism is underscored by an emphasis on openness and inclusiveness. The SPH is not a member of a historically privileged community, He has publicly declared himself to be transcendental gender³⁴⁷ with multiple gender identity components³⁴⁸, worn women's clothing in public, and strongly advocates for female empowerment, LGBTQ+ rights, and caste-neutral religious traditions. However modern and progressive these stances may appear, the SPH has rooted each of them in the depths of the 5000-year-old source scriptures of Hinduism, the *Vedas*, and *Agamas*. Moreover, the SPH has consistently been an outspoken voice for social justice and has publicly challenged political corruption, caste supremacy, and patriarchy in India. ASMT community are some of the most vulnerable targets of the Neo-Hindutva³⁴⁹ extremism who despise Hindu women in monastic and priestly roles³⁵⁰ and are opposed³⁵¹ to ASMT's progressive stance when it comes to the rights of women³⁵², including otherwise marginalized Dalit women, and the rights of members of the LGBTQ+ and transgendered communities³⁵³ as they consider them immoral.³⁵⁴

³⁴⁶ <http://www.sarvajnapetha.org>

³⁴⁷ (i) <https://nithyanandatruth.org/2017/09/10/nithyananda-is-beyond-gender-explained/>

³⁴⁸ <https://youtu.be/PwSYdVulzq0>

³⁴⁹ <https://southasia.ucla.edu/social-life/various-articles/hinduism-versus-hindutva/>

³⁵⁰ <https://www.newsclick.in/Hindutva-War-Women-gendered-face-saffron-fascism>

³⁵¹ "Being gay is against Hindutva, it needs a cure," [BJP MP Subramanian Swamy \(10 June 2018\)](#) ; "Homosexuality not a crime, but against nature": [RSS - militant wing of neo-Hindutva extremists \(SEPTEMBER 06, 2018\)](#)

³⁵² <https://www.nithyananda.org/photo-gallery/nithyananda-diary-30th-november-2018-nithyananda-peetham-bengaluru-aadheenam-uttamotam> pictures from daily rituals of ASMT temples showing ASMT nuns performing temple rituals which are ordained for all genders as per Hindu scriptures but [prohibited for women by the Hindutva extremists](#)

³⁵³ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/transgenders-extend-support-to-nithyananda/articleshow/13159083.cms>

³⁵⁴ (i) Being gay is against Hindutva, it needs a cure," [BJP MP Subramanian Swamy \(10 June 2018\)](#) (ii) Homosexuality not a crime, but against nature: [RSS - militant wing of neo-Hindutva extremists \(SEPTEMBER 06, 2018\)](#)



The SPH dressed in women's clothing as part of a ritualistic expression of the divine feminine, during [Devi Bhava Samadhi Darshan](#)³⁵⁵ as [Devi Meenakshi Amman](#), during different occasions.

- 130.** This authentic revival of a progressive version of Hinduism has not gone unnoticed in India's patriarchal society, particularly its conservative caste supremacist militant elements. The SPH's subversive message to a nation steeped in caste discrimination³⁵⁶ and gender violence³⁵⁷ has resulted in a full spectrum campaign of hate speech, media demonization, lawfare, assassination attempts on him and his followers, gang rape of his followers, acts of terrorism, torture, and the denial of judicial recourse over 10 years that continues to this day.
- 131. 18 Jun 2012,** Neo-Hindutva extremists who had confiscated the temple properties of Madurai Aadheenam filed vexatious litigation against the 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam to restrain his entry into the Madurai Aadheenam and Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareshwarar Temple.³⁵⁸ This malicious litigation was dismissed in 2016³⁵⁹. This was not a sole such incidence. **On 3 May 2018,** the SPH was prohibited by the High Court of Madras itself from entering Madurai Aadheenam of which He is the successor. Though the order itself violates the constitution, Justice Mahadevan upheld the decision and even threatened the SPH that he would order the arrest of the SPH if He did not resign from His responsibility as the 293rd Pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam. Right from 2012, the SPH was stopped from performing the essential religious rituals of the Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareshwarar Temple, such as the Kumbha Abhishekham³⁶⁰, which happens only once in several years and is one of the primary responsibilities of the Gurumahasannidhanam, who is the incarnation of Paramashiva, to directly

³⁵⁵ [Devi Bhava Samadhi Darshan](#) : Devi Bhava Samadhi Darshan is an auspicious sight ([Darshana](#)) of a divine enlightened being (or deity) when He is radiating the state of [Samadhi](#) in an ecstatic, devotional, meditative state of consciousness, in a state of Advaita (Oneness) with [Devi](#) (feminine primordial Divinity).

³⁵⁶ <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/india/6239842/UN-says-caste-system-is-a-human-rights-abuse.html>

³⁵⁷ <https://amnesty.org.in/projects/gender-based-violence/>

³⁵⁸ OS No. 83 of 2012 in the District Court Madurai (Litigant: M. Manisavagam and Sami Thiagarajan)

³⁵⁹ [shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/OS-83-of-2012-dismissal-order-\(2016-10-05\).pdf](https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/OS-83-of-2012-dismissal-order-(2016-10-05).pdf)

³⁶⁰ ["Consecration: Kumbhabhishekam | The Pluralism Project"](#). pluralism.org.

supervise and perform. The interference of the State in rituals was not limited to stopping the Pontiff from participating. For several thousand years, Hindu rituals are performed in two ASMT languages – ancient Sanskrit and Classic (ancient) Tamil. Since modern Sanskrit and Hindi share the same written script (Devanagari), the State owing to its Hindi-antagonistic³⁶¹ policy has made laws since the 1970s altering the ancient Hindu religious practices by imposing the use of the State compatible Tamil language against age-old Hindu religious traditions, customs, and scriptures. In 1975, the State absurdly claimed that the ancient ASMT language – Sanskrit – was a source of nepotism in society and thus changed the language of ASMT Temple rituals via a notification and altered the HR&CE Scheme in OA No.2 of 1973 dated **10 Oct 1975** appointing a government executive to control religious and financial matters of the monastery and associated temples. The State of Tamil Nadu, especially under DMK, emphasizes that ASMT religious practices be altered in compliance with the DMK ideology, and has thus in 2020 the State altered essential rituals such as Kumbha Abhishekham³⁶². Though the colonial government recognized the sovereignty of the heads of Hindu monasteries – for example on 3 Jan 1893 the Guru Maha Sannidhanam of Madurai Aadheenam was conferred with the title of *Rao Bahadur*³⁶³, a title given to Kings by the British Empire, and also had sovereign immunity from arrests and appearances in the court³⁶⁴, in 2012, the Chief Minister of Karnataka said, “*We do not encourage such immoral people in Karnataka, and I am going to make an example out of Nithyananda*”³⁶⁵, going to the extent of claiming that he (Chief Minister) was ready to face jail term but would not stop targeting the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam³⁶⁶ and ordered an arbitrary and illegal arrest of the SPH. The Karnataka State High Court in its order CRL.P. 3253/2012³⁶⁷ implicitly exposed the State terrorism, terming the arrest of the SPH as “*illegal*”, “*without any authority*”, “*contrary to law*”, “*without jurisdiction*”. Religious freedom in the 21st century State of the Republic of India has sharply deteriorated in the past few years, which was protected even during the colonial rule which is known to be highly oppressive. It is no surprise that the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom has recommended for the second year in the row that the US State Department put India on a list ('Countries of Particular Concern' or CPCs) for the worst violations of religious freedoms³⁶⁸. Sweden-based V-Dem Institute has downgraded India as an “electoral autocracy”.³⁶⁹

³⁶¹ [DMK Party Manifesto - Points 4](#), - “DMK will fight against Hindi imposition.”

³⁶² indianexpress.com/article/explained/how-the-old-aryan-dravidian-tussle-played-out-in-an-iconic-tn-temple-6253168/

³⁶³ Viceroy and Governor General's letter dated 3 Jan 1893, To Saiva Samayachariyar, Thirugnanasambhandha Pandara Sannathi Head of the Madura Saiva Samaya Chariar Thirugnana Sambhadha Disika Swami Adhina Mattam in Madras. “*I Hereby Confer Upon you The Title of 'RAO BAHADUR' as a personal Distinction.*” மதுரை ஆதின வரலாறு – History of Madurai Aadheenam - drive.google.com/file/d/1ZsfdTQkOXPWQAJxBmWKmpOn6WZJtecFu/view

³⁶⁴ Judicial Department proceedings of Madras Government, Letters from the Collector of Madura, dated 4 Sep. 1880; No. 2712; order thereon 15 Sep 1880, No. 2240, “*Under Section 641 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the Governor-in-Council is pleased to exempt Saiva Samayachariar Thirugnana Sambanda Pandara Sannadhi Avergal, the Saiva High Priest of Madurai from personal appearance in the Courts of the Presidency.*” G. Stokes (For Chief Secretary) – மதுரை ஆதின வரலாறு – History of Madurai Aadheenam - drive.google.com/file/d/1ZsfdTQkOXPWQAJxBmWKmpOn6WZJtecFu/view

³⁶⁵ 16 Jun 2012, India Today, indiatoday.in/magazine/nation/story/20120625-nithyananda-surrenders-in-court-sent-to-custody-758791-2012-06-16

³⁶⁶ 15 Jun 2012, Times Of India, Sadananda takes on Nithyananda says he is ready to face jail term timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/sadananda-takes-on-nithyananda-says-he-is-ready-to-face-jail-term/articleshow/14148461.cms

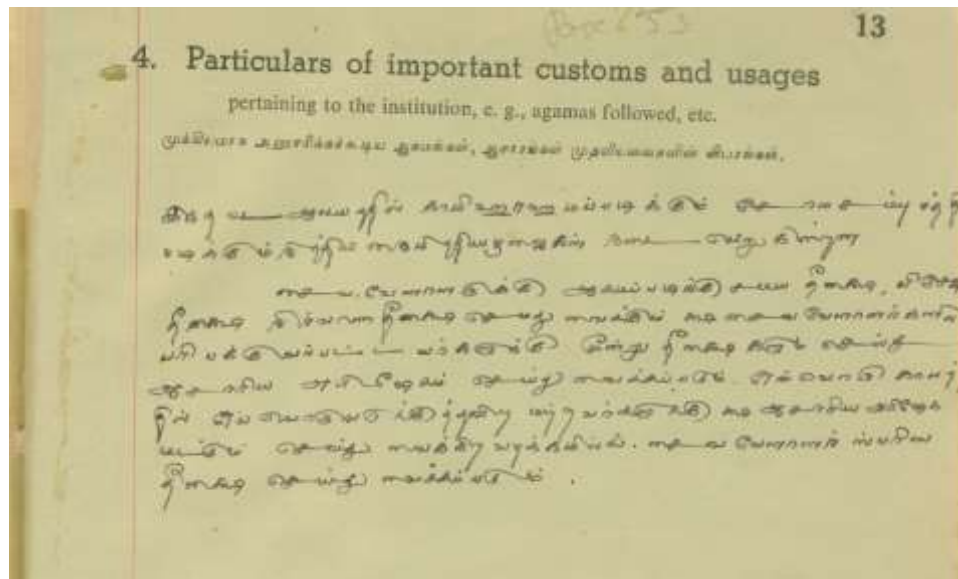
³⁶⁷ CRL.P. 3253/2012 <http://indiankanoon.org/doc/85011170>

³⁶⁸ (i) www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2020/04/28/india-receives-low-rating-us-government-watchdog-religious-freedom-ii (ii) <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/india-should-be-a-country-of-particular-concern-for-religious-freedom-us-commission/article34379418.ece>

³⁶⁹ <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56393944>

132. In 2017, the Madras High Court issued a ruling affirming the SPH's removal as the 293rd Gurumahasannidanam of the Madurai Adheenam and took the unprecedented step of forbidding him from entering the premises of the Meenakshi Amman temple or any other temple administered by the Madurai Adheenam. At the time the case was argued and ruled upon, the 292nd Gurumahasannidanam was ill and incapacitated and it remains unclear to what extent the arguments made on his behalf represented his actual opinions or those made under political pressure. Moreover, the Madras High Court's decision was inconsistent with the prior judgment of the Supreme Court of India in *Ambalavana Pandara Sannathi v. State of Tamil Nadu* (AIR 1983 Mad 72) that held "*the appointment of junior pontiff is a right of a religious institution and the same cannot be interfered without proper cause.*"
133. Moreover, the Madras High Court's decision directly contradicted long-standing Indian Supreme Court precedence which had ruled in *Sri Mahalinga Thambiran Swamigal v. Sri La Sri His Holiness Kasivasi Arulnandithambiran Swamigal* ³⁷⁰ that the nomination of a junior Gurumahasannidanam could not be freely revoked by the senior Gurumahasannidhanam when the Madras High Court stated, "*The fact of a person being legally nominated as junior, having a peculiar relationship with the senior is status, and the capacity to succeed to the head is the incident of that status. The status, when created by a nomination, cannot be withdrawn or cancelled at the mere will of the parties. The law must determine the condition and circumstances under which it can be terminated. Merely because the status originated from the act of a senior head in making the nomination, it would not follow that the senior head can put an end to it by another act ... Even if it is assumed that the position of a junior head is not a status as known to law, we think that the relationship created by the nomination is one which cannot be put an end to by the head at his sweet will and pleasure.*"
134. By tradition and custom of the Madurai Aadheenam also, the appointment of the successor Guru Maha Sannidhanam cannot be revoked as he can be appointed only once in the lifetime of the current Guru Maha Sannidhanam.

³⁷⁰ The Supreme Court of India in its judgement to [Civil Appeal No. 1677 of 1969, Sri Mahalinga Thambiran Swamigal v. Sri La Sri His Holiness Kasivasi Arulnandithambiran Swamigal, dated 19 Oct 1973](#), interpreted the [Indian Succession Act, 1925](#) section 2(h) and observed that the nomination of the successor pontiff is irrevocable as, "*A nomination need not partake of the character of a will in the matter of its revocability, merely because the power of nomination is exercised by a will. In other words, the nature or character of a nomination does not depend upon the type of document under which the power is exercised. If a nomination is otherwise irrevocable except for good cause, it does not become revocable without good cause, merely because the Power is exercised by a will.*" (1974 AIR 199, 1974 SCR (2) 74).



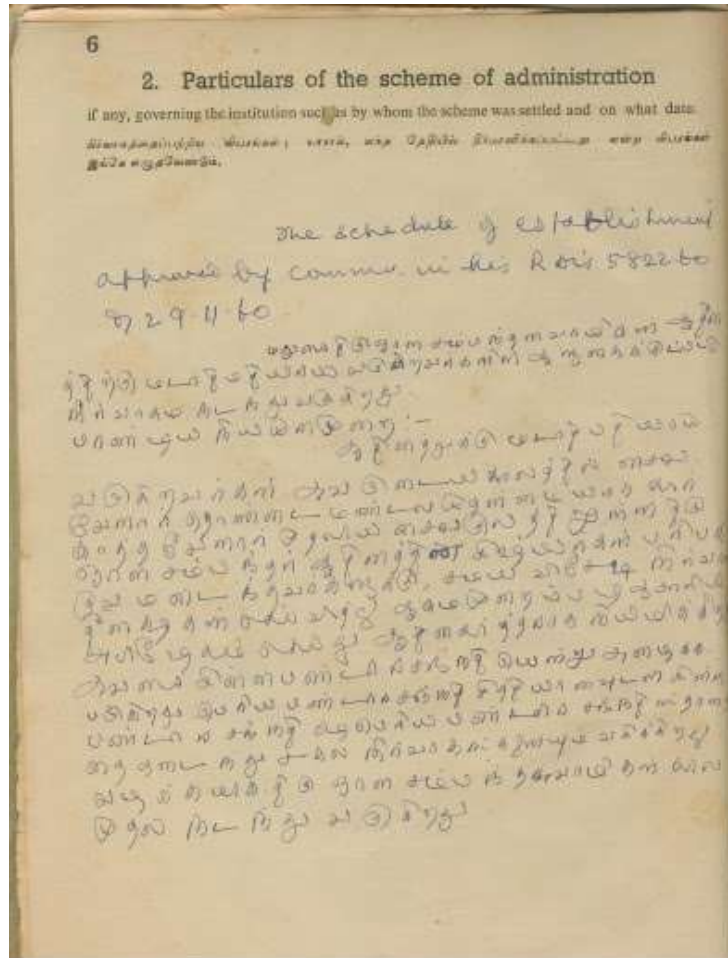
The translation reads:

"Particulars of important customs and usages.

Pertaining to the institution example agamas followed etc.

In this mutt temple according to the Kamika Agama and according to the Soma sambupatthi the daily and periodical pujas are being conducted.

The three initiations namely the Samaya Deeksha, Vishesha deeksha and Nirvana initiation are given to the mature individuals among the Saiva Vellalar community along with the consecration as Acharya. At no time other than the mentioned group the traditional practice to give Acharya consecration has been done. The initiation of the touch of Saiva Vellala will be given. At a time, only one person can be initiated as Acharya and no further person can be initiated."



Translated as:

"Particulars of the scheme of administration

If any, governing the institution such as by whom the scheme was settled and on what date. The schedule of establishment approved by the Commissioner in his R is 5822.60 on 29.11.60. The administration of the mutt is under the control of the mutt head of the Thirugnanasambandar Adheenam

The Pandya procedure of appointment:

The disciple of the Thirugnanasambandar Aadheenam mutt belonging to the Saiva Vellalar family or Karkattha Vellalar family, and who have gained mental maturity is consecrated with Nirvana Deeksha according to the tradition and they have the Acharya Abhishekam done according to the rules of the agama and they are called by the name Pandara Sannadhi. Right from the time of Thirugnanasambandar it is in practice that when the elder Pandara Sannadhi attains siddhi the junior Pandara Sannadhi assumes the responsibility of all the administration of the mutt."

135. Far from behaving as a neutral fact-finder, the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court not only accepted unproven allegations and negative media coverage of the SPH as fact, those allegations also formed a significant basis for the court's decision to affirm the SPH's removal as the 293rd

Gurumahasannidanam. Instead of relying on the near-universal legal principle of “innocent until proven guilty”, the Indian court assumed unresolved and spurious civil and criminal allegations against the SPH as proven and resolved against him by repeatedly referring to him as having a “criminal background”, being a *“habitual offender”*, *“self-proclaimed godman”*, one *“who has a criminal background and is a habitual offender, having involved in sexual abuse”* and also as one who is *“unknown to the principles of Saivism”*, *“unfit to head the Mutt”*, *“has not been leading a simple life, whereby the desires in life are eradicated”*, *“mutt grabber.”* The Judge concluded that the SPH’s appointment would bring “disrepute” to the Madurai Adheenam and condemned the SPH even for approaching the Court for legal reprieve by calling the SPH a *“prolific litigant”* and *“has a quest for power”*. The Judge further made over-arching statements that *“The country is mounting with self-proclaimed godmen like the eighth respondent, who claim to be spiritual gurus initially and later proclaim themselves to be god and in the process end up amassing wealth and abusing innocent and vulnerable children and women.”* To date, the SPH or the ASMT community monks cannot enter their own monasteries and temples. The government and the police have been unwilling to provide protection and execute the court order and allow the community to continue the practice of sacred ASMT rituals in their temples.

136. In December 2020, in an update of its Tibetan Policy and Support Act, the US threatened to sanction any Chinese government officials who chose a reincarnation of the Dalai Lama over the wishes of the Tibetan people. To cover up the State interference in the selection process of the next Dalai Lama, the State of the People’s Republic of China has been selecting and grooming a group of senior Lamas that would eventually be used for selecting CCP friendly alternative Dalai Lama and make it appear that the Dalai Lama was chosen by Tibetan Buddhist religious leaders, rather than CCP officials.³⁷¹ In a much similar way, for several years, the State of Tamil Nadu headed by the DMK has been grooming Guru Maha Sannidhanams, such as the Dharmapuram Guru Maha Sannidhanam that are friendly to the party.³⁷² Justice Mahadevan is a disciple of DMK groomed Dharmapuram Guru Maha Sannidhanam who has heavily lobbied³⁷³ for arbitrarily and illegally removing the SPH as the 293rd pontiff. **On 3 May 2018**, the SPH was prohibited by an order given by Justice Mahadevan of the High Court of Madras from entering Madurai Aadheenam of which He is the successor. Though the order itself violates the constitution, Justice Mahadevan, upheld the decision and even threatened the SPH that he would order the arrest of the SPH if He did not resign from His responsibility as the 293rd Pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam. As per the Constitution of India, a person is to be treated as innocent until proven guilty, and no one has the right to pass judgment on such a person. The SPH has never been implicated in any crime. Yet against the very Constitution of the country, He has repeatedly been treated in a prejudicial manner as assumed guilty. **Justice Mahadevan** went on to pass an order blatantly violating the fundamental rights of the SPH and against the very tenets of natural law and justice and on record said, *“Who permitted you to record court proceedings? To whom were you sending-message about the*

³⁷¹ <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-14/who-will-be-the-next-dalai-lama-u-s-india-china-try-to-control-process>

³⁷² <https://thehindu.com/news/cities/Tiruchirapalli/pontiffs-of-ancient-shaivite-mutts-congratulate-stalin/article34482675.ece>

³⁷³ (i) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/Mutt-heads-join-hands-against-Nithyananda/articleshow/13128312.cms> (ii) <https://news.webindia123.com/news/articles/India/20120513/1983970.html>

proceeding? Don't think that this court is a playground. **I will see that your ashram is vanished.** Hundreds of complaints are pending against the ashram."³⁷⁴



Justice Mahadevan (left in both the images) of Madras High Court with GuruMahasannidhanam (right in both the images) of Dharamapuram a leader of the committee which said: *"we will not relent until Nithyananda is removed"*³⁷⁵.

137. In the very same matter, in 2012, the decision of the Division Bench of the High Court of Madras, Madurai Bench (higher authority than the single judge Justice Mahadevan) in WP 12915/2012 and WP 26567/2012, dated 31 Oct 2012, had ruled³⁷⁶:

- a. In Para 56 categorically that any decisions relating to the secular matters of the Aadheenam alone would come under the jurisdiction of any suit: *"Hence, if any irregularities committed by the religions institution in administering the properties attached to the Mutt, which is a secular act and not connected with religious activities, and if there is any delay on the part of the State to take action, Public Interest Litigation could be entertained for the limited purpose to give a direction to the supervisory authority to initiate action so far as secular act is concerned."*
- b. In Para 55: *"In the instant case, on the factual aspects, we find that 10th respondent was appointed as Junior Pontiff in the month of April, 2012"*
- c. In Para 52: *"So far as the appointment of successor is concerned, it is purely religious act."*

³⁷⁴ timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/madras-hc-warns-of-issuing-arrest-warrant-against-self-styled-godman-nithyananda/articleshow/62692301.cms

³⁷⁵ (i) 14 May 2012, Dinamani, Dharmapuri edition, page 5, Meetpukulu (ii) 14 May 2012, Dinakaran, Vellore edition, page 12, Adhenathil Paraparappu (iii) 14 May 2012, Dina mathi, Chennai edition, Pathattam (iv) 14 May 2012, Dina malar, Vellore edition, page 6, Matra Adhenam (v) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/Mutt-heads-join-hands-against-Nithyananda/articleshow/13128312.cms>

³⁷⁶ Madras High Court in WP 12915 and 26567 of 2012, dated 31 Oct 2012 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/108698583/>

- 138.** The attacks on the SPH took on grave proportions as on 2 February 2018, there was an attack by explosive arson on The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam at the Madurai Meenakshi temple. The attack gutted a section of the temple and caused a whole massive length of 600 feet stone of the 3000-year-old structure to collapse and break. Though the district fire department claimed that the explosion was caused by electrical wires and whereas the police claimed that the analysis of CCTV footage suggested that the explosion was caused by camphor used in rituals³⁷⁷, the examination of the nature of the cracks and fault lines along the pillars led police officers to suggest transfer of the case to CB-CID as they believed that camphor could by no means have triggered such an explosion and that they were triggered by a man-made explosion.³⁷⁸ On 8 Feb 2018, another fire accident happened in the temple, this time in the CCTV room³⁷⁹ destroying the CCTV records that potentially carried evidence of the previous fire.
- 139.** The use of political, legal, and media persecution to delegitimize political dissidents and create an aura of controversy is a hallmark of authoritarian countries like China and India where the rule of law often bows to political interests. In a classic example of circular logic, state actors and their allies in the media attack the dissidents and label them as *"controversial"* in the eyes of the public. State actors such as prosecutors and courts then use the artificially generated *"controversy"* as justification for further persecution. This dynamic played out in the Madurai High Court decision against the SPH where the court held that he was *"tainted with allegations"* and therefore *"likely to bring disrepute to the mutt"* in justifying its decision to bar him from his position as 293rd Gurumahasannidanam or from entering temple premises. The court paternalistically referred to its duty, and the government Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments agency's duty, to *"protect"* the reputation and integrity of religious institutions from spiritual leaders they deem to be unfit or corrupt. Therefore, the Indian government first delegitimized the SPH through a campaign of political persecution and then denied him fundamental constitutional rights on account of his presumed illegitimacy.
- 140.** The Madras High Court also engaged in a lengthy analysis of Hindu Saivite traditions and scriptures with no references whatsoever before concluding that the SPH did not have the requisite lifestyle, spiritual practices, hereditary background, or even name to be eligible to be the Gurumahasannidanam of the Madurai Adheenam. Far from appropriately limiting its role as an adjudicator of matters of law, the Indian court unabashedly deemed itself to be the supreme ecclesiastical authority on matters of faith as well by blatantly opined on pure religious doctrine in its decision against the SPH. This farce of so-called secularism in the Indian state is as outrageous as the Chinese government published a state-approved list of Lamas authorized to represent Tibetan Buddhism.
- 141.** Though Articles 25 and 26 of India's constitution seemingly guarantee an individual's freedom of religion and a religious institution's ability to manage its own affairs, the Madras High Court

³⁷⁷ Three days after a fire at the famous Meenakshi Amman temple in Madurai, police claim that a common ritual to ward off evil may have caused the fire, according to a TOI report. According to the report, although Madurai collector Veera Raghava Rao had earlier stated that a fault in the electric wiring could have sparked the fire, police think otherwise. After scanning CCTV footage, police believe the ritual of lighting camphor on a pumpkin, which is then smashed to the ground, could have sparked the fire. thenewsminute.com/article/fire-madurai-s-meenakshi-temple-caused-ritual-ward-evil-75972

³⁷⁸ thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/cb-cid-may-be-asked-to-investigate-madurai-meenakshi-temple-fire/article22672437.ece

³⁷⁹ tamil.samayam.com/latest-news/state-news/once-again-fire-in-madurai-meenakshi-amman-temple-today-in-cctv-camera-room/articleshow/62841437.cms

specifically qualified those rights as subject to government intervention when those institutions fail to follow their own procedures or nominate unfit individuals for positions of leadership, as determined by state officials. Therefore, in authoritarian nations like China and India where lip service is paid to religious freedom, the exception swallows the rule, and so-called fundamental rights are rendered null and void then they collide with state interests. In India, as in China, religious institutions enjoy freedom and autonomy only to the extent permitted by their government overseers.

142. On 9 August 2021, the 292nd Pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam was admitted to a hospital, due to respiratory ailments, and later shifted to an Intensive Care Unit on 12 August, as His condition worsened. The entire ASMT community worldwide offered their prayers for his recovery, health, and long life.³⁸⁰



The GuruMahasannidhanam of Dharmapuram a leader of the committee which said: *“we will not relent until Nithyananda is removed”*³⁸¹, outrageously sealing the Madurai Aadheenam without authority. The GuruMahasannidhanam of Dharmapuram has no religious, political, or legal authority to do this.

143. On **12 August 2021**, the rooms of Madurai Aadheenam that are located near Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple were sealed late at night, by the State officials under the direct unauthorized supervision of the DK/DMK friendly state groomed Dharmapuram Gurumahasannidhanam. It was done to deprive the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam of access to any property documents of temples under the control of the Madurai Aadheenam (monastery).³⁸²

³⁸⁰ (i) [fb.com/377413507084820](https://www.facebook.com/377413507084820) (ii) [fb.com/377236607102510](https://www.facebook.com/377236607102510)

³⁸¹ (i) 14 May 2012, Dinamani, Dharmapuri edition, page 5, Meetpukulu (ii) 14 May 2012, Dinakaran, Vellore edition, page 12, Adhenathil Paraparappu (iii) 14 May 2012, Dina mathi, Chennai edition, Pathattam (iv) 14 May 2012, Dina malar, Vellore edition, page 6, Matra Adhenam (v) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/Mutt-heads-join-hands-against-Nithyananda/articleshow/13128312.cms>

³⁸² <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2021/aug/13/madurai-aadheenam-rooms-sealed-after-fugitive-nithyananda-stakes-claim-as-successor-2344180.html>

It was mischievously reported in the news that locking was as done by a disciple as a "precaution"³⁸³, rather than the truth that the state government directly involved DK/DMK groomed Gurumahasannidhanam of Dharmapuram Aadheenam to stop the 293rd Pontiff - the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam from accessing the monastery either directly or through His authorized personnel to perform His religious and administrative duties.

144. On **13 August 2021**, the 292nd Guru Maha Sannidhanam of the Shyamalapeetha Sarvajnanapeetha Madurai Aadheenam Sri La Sri Arunagirinatha Sri Jnanasambanda Desika Paramacharya Swamigal attained Shuddhadvaita Shivasayujya Mukti (liberation from the cycle of birth and death).³⁸⁴ On 24 August 2018, the Union Government of the State of Republic of India under the BJP government illegally and arbitrarily suspended the passport of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.³⁸⁵ This was despite multiple court orders, against a similar illegal impounding of the passport done by the government in April 2010. With this illegal order, the SPH was pushed into "de facto statelessness"³⁸⁶.
145. With the demise of the 292nd pontiff, on 13 August 2021, alongside the political interference of the DMK led state government – such as unauthorizedly locking the monastery since 13 August 2021, and the fact that the 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam had already been exiled and pushed into de facto statelessness it thereby completely disabled 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam to take up His spiritual and administrative responsibilities as the 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam either directly or by any appointed authorized personnel.
146. Although the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is the 293rd pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam, a fact that was also upheld by Madras High court as per their order to CRP. (PD)(MD)818/2018 and CMP(MD)3630/2018³⁸⁷, backed by a Supreme Court of India order on a similar matter³⁸⁸, the DK/DMK friendly state groomed Gurumahasannidhanam of Dharmapuram Aadheenam (monastery) on 14 August 2021, declared somebody on his own as the imposter 293rd pontiff.³⁸⁹ This was not just illegal and unconstitutional, it was against the traditions of the ASMT community

³⁸³ Falsely reported by the media as, *In the meantime, the disciples of Sri Arunagiri Nathar, after realising the deteriorating condition, locked up the rooms at the Mutt premises situated near the Meenakshi Temple in Madurai on Friday as a "precautionary" measure, sources said.* <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/madurai-adheenam-pontiff-passes-away/article35906125.ece>

³⁸⁴ Administrative Directive 10114 of August 13, 2021, A National Observance from KAILASA as a Nation mourns the demise of Parama Guru Mahasannidhanam <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n64WJI7oJtA>

³⁸⁵ https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/2018-Aug-24_illegal_mea_notice_without_even_signature.jpg

³⁸⁶ *Luingam Luithui And Ors vs Union Of India And Ors* on 23 August, 2017 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/51490658/> describes conditions of de facto statelessness and concluding it at point#21.

³⁸⁷ "point 44. .. Hence this court is of the opinion that the Petitioner's appointment is irrevocable and hence he [Sri Nithyananda Paramashivam] is the Junior Pontiff of the Mutt.", order to CRP.(PD)(MD) 818 of 2018 and CMP(MD) 3630 of 2018 Before the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, delivered on 10 July 2018, [https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/Order_to_Crp.\(PD\)\(MD\)_818-of-2018_and_CMP\(MD\)_3630-of-2018_Madurai_Bench_Madras_High_Court_dated_10-July-2018-\(CRP_OS_1000\).pdf](https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/Order_to_Crp.(PD)(MD)_818-of-2018_and_CMP(MD)_3630-of-2018_Madurai_Bench_Madras_High_Court_dated_10-July-2018-(CRP_OS_1000).pdf) alternative link <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/96776711/>

³⁸⁸ (i) "The Supreme Court further held that the fact of a person being legally nominated as Junior and the capacity to succeed to the Head is an incident of that status and it was further held that the status, when created by a nomination, cannot be withdrawn or canceled at the mere will of the parties, unless in accordance with the law", 28 April 1980, AIR 1983 Mad 72 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/651773/> (ii) The Supreme Court of India, Sri Mahalinga Thambiran Swamigal vs His Holiness Sri La Sri Kasivasi on 19 October, 1973 1974 AIR 199, 1974 SCR (2) 74, <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/307513/>

³⁸⁹ <https://www.news18.com/news/india/we-worship-shiva-he-behaves-like-shiva-madurai-mutt-retorts-after-fugitive-nithyananda-claims-top-post-4100630.html>

established in more than 10,000 years old scriptures – the Kamika Agamas and practiced for an equally long time. This outrageous act of the DMK government was executed through the state-groomed Mahasannidhanam and the state-appointed executive manager of the monastery. On 21 Aug 2021, the state-appointed executive – a post that itself was unconstitutional and a breach of the rights of the Hindu community – declared the DMK government's stand – *"There is no relation between Nithyananda and us. We have received news that he has appointed himself as the 293rd pontiff from somewhere but it has nothing to do with the management of the adheenam. According to the court's judgment, he can come here anytime as a bhaktar (devotee)."*³⁹⁰ The government's official statement was citing a judgment dated May 2018 made by DK/DMK friendly judge – Justice Mahadevan, who had even publicly declared that He would make sure that the ashram (monasteries) of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was destroyed.³⁹¹ However in a later judgment dated 10 July 2018, by the Madras High Court Madurai branch, it was observed, *"this court is of the opinion that the Petitioner's appointment is irrevocable and hence he [Sri Nithyananda Paramashivam] is the Junior Pontiff of the Mutt."*³⁹² As per the schedule recorded by the state executive numbered as R5822.60 dated 29 November 1960, *"Right from the time of Thirugnanasambandar it is in practice that when the elder Pandara Sannadhi attains siddhi the junior Pandara Sannadhi assumes the responsibility of all the administration of the mutt."* Therefore after the 292nd Pontiff's demise, the appointed Junior pontiff – the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam – who had already received all the initiations such as Visheda Deeksha, Mantra Kaashayam, Nirvana Deeksha, and the Acharaya Abhishekam – ascended to the throne of the Madurai Aadheenam as the 293rd Pontiff. The politically owned media, however, made sure that only Justice Mahadevan's illegal orders are reported in the media, and it was made to appear that the 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam's rightful accession to the throne of the Shyamalapeetha Sarvajnanapeetha Madurai Aadheenam was unlawful and illegitimate.

147. It is noteworthy that the High court order (CRP. (PD)(MD)818/2018 and CMP(MD)3630/2018 dated 10 July 2018) that validated the legitimacy of the SPH Nithyanananda Paramashivam's accession to the throne as the 293rd pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam was never uploaded on the court website, and rather only physical copies were available on request and status of the case was reported online merely as – 'Disposed' – without even specifying the nature of disposal. M. V. Muralidaran the judge of Madras High Court who delivered this order was punished by the neo-Hindutva rogue elements in the Central government and forcibly transferred to a smaller state court.³⁹³ This became a big talk in town amongst the judiciary, which hence felt compelled to deliver orders against the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam to avoid any backlash with the neo-Hindutva extremists.

³⁹⁰ <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/madurai-mutt-to-coronate-293rd-pontiff-amid-nithyananda-row-101629488105089.html>

³⁹¹ *"I will see that your ashram is vanished"*, Justice Mahadevan, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/madras-hc-warns-of-issuing-arrest-warrant-against-self-styled-godman-nithyananda/articleshow/62692301.cms>

³⁹² *"point 44. .. Hence this court is of the opinion that the Petitioner's appointment is irrevocable and hence he [Sri Nithyananda Paramashivam] is the Junior Pontiff of the Mutt."*, order to CRP.(PD)(MD) 818 of 2018 and CMP(MD) 3630 of 2018 Before the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, delivered on 10 July 2018,

[https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/Order_to_Crp.\(PD\)\(MD\)_818-of-2018_and_CMP\(MD\)_3630-of-2018_Madurai_Bench_Madras_High_Court_dated_10-July-2018-\(CRP_OS_1000\).pdf](https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/Order_to_Crp.(PD)(MD)_818-of-2018_and_CMP(MD)_3630-of-2018_Madurai_Bench_Madras_High_Court_dated_10-July-2018-(CRP_OS_1000).pdf) alternative link <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/96776711/>

³⁹³ <https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/sc-collegium-transfers-high-court-judges/1482636>

148. In India, court order, law, and justice, the constitution of India are not respected by the government executive, police, extremist militants, political groups, etc. The DK/DMK and the neo-Hindutva extremists have made institutions of public welfare, law, and order into a tool for accelerating the cultural genocide of minority Hindu communities. There is no legal resource or remedy left for the ASMT community in India. Although the High court order (CRP. (PD)(MD)818/2018 and CMP(MD)3630/2018 dated 10 July 2018) validated the legitimacy of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam's accession to the throne as the 293rd pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam, the DK/DMK state groomed imposter 293rd pontiff named Harihara, gave a preposterous interview where he warned the media to refrain from speaking about the real authentic 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam. Aimed at hurting sentiments of 2 billion Hindus the imposter 293rd pontiff with disparage addressed the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam in the singular, and with ridicule claimed that the DK/DMK state government would inevitably illegally arrest the real 293rd pontiff SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam if He merely even tried to enter the monastery, and about this nobody could do anything even if they wanted to.³⁹⁴ The message and the impunity with which the DK/DMK state groomed imposter 293rd pontiff made such statements are not just shamefully highlighting the pathetic state of public law and order in India and suppression of Hindu religious freedom, it is a serious concern for the international community and governments of several states which are also being ridiculed by the DK/DMK extremists. The fact that the DK/DMK as a party and ruling government have carried out a Hindu cultural genocide with impunity for the past ninety years, where they feel they are not just over and above the country law and the constitution of India, but they feel they are above the scrutiny of member states of the UN and international human rights watch dogs. It is important that this myth is shattered and the legacy of lies of the DK/DMK, and neo-Hindutva extremists is broken, otherwise billions of Hindus will lose confidence in international agencies. When in China, a state groomed Panchen Lama was appointed by the authorities, and forced on the people, it was met with international outcry.³⁹⁵ A similar international condemnation is necessary to protect the interests of the ASMT community in India for the imposter 293rd pontiff has been forced upon the ASMT people despite High Court orders, and there is no recourse left for the people in the State of the Republic of India.

F. The five Spiritual Kingdoms

149. On **15 Apr 2014**, The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was coronated as the pontiff (spiritual and administrative head) of five ancient Adi Shaivite Mutts (monasteries).

Kailasa Paramparagatha Surya Vamsa Panchanadikulam Sarvajnapeetham

- Sri Arunachala Jnanadesikar Swami Temple & Mutt (Panchanadikulam, Vedaranyam)

Kailasa Paramparagatha Surya Vamsa Vedaranya Sarvajnapeetham

- Sri Po.Ka. Sadhukkal Mutt, Vedaranyam

Kailasa Paramparagatha Sūrya Vamśa Chola Samrajya Sarvajnapeetham

- Sri Sankara Swami Mutt, Thanjavur

³⁹⁴ (i) Polimer News (DK/DMK affiliated media), நித்தியாந் ஒண்ணுமே பண்ண முடியாது உள்ளே வந்தா Arrest தான் - புதிய ஆதினம் எச்சரிக்கை., April 29, 2021 <https://youtu.be/sL-NNgryy7A> (ii) <https://youtu.be/Vume5-7UcuA>

³⁹⁵ (i) https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/time-is-running-out-for-nonviolence--or-trump-to-save-tibet/2017/10/08/8ab254ba-aab6-11e7-b3aa-c0e2e1d41e38_story.html (ii) <https://www.firstpost.com/world/fake-panchen-lama-initiates-kalchakra-after-50-years-here-is-why-buddhists-are-unhappy-2911058.html>

- Sri Palsamy Mutt, Thanjavur
Kailasa Paramparagatha Sūrya Vamsa Adi Chola Samrajya Kamala Peetha Sarvajnapaetham
- Sri Somanatha Swami Mutt and Temple, Thiruvapur

- 150.** On **23 Oct 2015**, in Thiruvapur, Tamil Nadu, the neo-Hindutva extremists who had unlawfully encroached on the Thiruvapur ASMT temple (Sri Somanatha Swami Mutt and Temple) and were misusing the temple property, attacked an ASMT monk who was running the temple. The attackers gave a verbal threat to kill him and left. The police recorded a non-cognizable³⁹⁶ CSR report (Community service register)³⁹⁷.
- 151.** On **27 Oct 2015**, Thiruvapur, around 8 am, a female ASMT monk Ma Nithya Jyotikananda Swami was attacked by neo-Hindutva terrorists who molested her, inappropriately took pictures of her, and attempted to rape her inside the temple premises. As she shouted people gathered to protect her and the attackers escaped. After the incident, she went to the police station and cried and begged the Superintendent of Police for protection. Despite being shown photographic evidence of the attack the Superintendent of Police refused to accept her complaint, and on the contrary, accepted a false complaint filed by her attacker over the telephone without even demanding his physical presence or any evidence. Ma Nithya Jyotikananda Swami ran from one office to another. She went to the Deputy Superintendent of Police, who remarked, "*O you Nithyananda people*" and refused to register any complaint. She cried to him for protection addressing him as an elder brother showing her injuries, upon which he finally took pity and registered an [FIR 587/15](#)³⁹⁸ dated 27 October 2015. This did not remedy the situation. As of 2021, the case was disposed of without fair trial and her attackers are roaming freely.
- 152.** **7 Nov 2015, Nagapattinam**, to stop the interference in the management of the atheist and neo-Hindutva extremists, the ASMT community filed a petition in the Nagapattinam sub-court through OS 90/2015³⁹⁹. The petition prayed for an injunction to restrain neo-Hindutva extremists from encroaching the temple land and attacking the ASMT members. **21 Nov 2015**, the court passed a temporary order (IA 348/2015) in favor of the ASMT community, handing the possession to The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam on 8 January 2016 till the suit gets over. This did not remedy the situation.
- 153.** **26 Nov 2015**, Thiruvapur, 10 AM, an ASMT monk, and a community member were physically assaulted by 10 militants. The injured received emergency treatment at the government hospital in Tiruvapur. The police registered a complaint.⁴⁰⁰ This did not remedy the situation.
- 154.** **27 Nov 2015**, Vedaranyam, Sri Po.Ka. Sadhukkal Mutt (monastery), a group of 10-15 militants forcibly entered into the monastery, taking count of the people and stock of the items in the temple property. Following this fifty more militants barged in and started brutally beating the ASMT monks, Sri Nithya Yogamayananda and Sri Nithya Jnanaprabhananda with iron rods. The

³⁹⁶ <https://www.lawnn.com/difference-cognizable-offenses-non-cognizable-offenses/>

³⁹⁷ CSR No. 346/2015, Tiruvapur Town, dated 24-Oct-2015 16:30

³⁹⁸ CC37/2015 FIR 587/2015 (27 Oct) [shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/CC37-2015_FIR587-2015_MajyotikaSwami.pdf](https://github.io/persecution_evidences/CC37-2015_FIR587-2015_MajyotikaSwami.pdf)

³⁹⁹ IA 348/15 in OS 90/2015 dated 21-11-2015

⁴⁰⁰ FIR 634/15 (Register number 5352874) dated 27 Nov 15, Thiruvapur District

militants sacrilegied ASMT Hindu Deities and religious altars of the monastery. The militants lifted the heavy furniture, vessels and smashed these on the heads and bodies of the monks. Almost unconscious the monks were dragged to the street, where they continued to be beaten in front of a huge mob that had gathered around and watched the beating with bystander's apathy. One of the monks, Sri Nithya Yogamayananda had recorded the attack. The militants having realized it, chased him for more than a kilometer as he nearly escaped being mob lynched. The monks were given no ambulance or assistance by the State or civil society and had to seek even basic humanitarian first aid on their own by admitting themselves to the government hospital. The monks gave a police complaint which was rejected by the police. Only after much persistence, the police agreed to receive the complaint.⁴⁰¹

155. On **Dec 6, 2015**, Thiruvavur, anti-Hindu atheists uploaded a media report⁴⁰² vilifying the ASMT community and glorifying the forceful eviction of the ASMT monks from the Sri Somanatha Swami Mutt (monastery) and Temple, Thiruvavur. The monks were seen in the video showing to the police and the media the court order from 7 Nov 2015 (to OS 90/2015), which established them as the rightful administrators of the temple. In India, court orders are neither respected nor implemented by the government.⁴⁰³ The police, the media, and the militants paid no heed to the court order, and together forcibly evicted the monks from their temple. To shame the ASMT monks, the militants who had attacked the monks uploaded the footage of eviction on Youtube and hatefully commented how they assaulted the monks, inciting hatred and violence against the community especially targeting the female monks⁴⁰⁴.
156. **8 Dec 2015**, Thanjavur, with the pretext of executing the Nagapattinam court order (OS 90/2015) the Tahsildar⁴⁰⁵ (Executive Magistrate) called for a meeting between the ASMT monks of the SPH and the neo-Hindutva militants who had captured the temple. The neo-Hindutva militants did not show up and refused to hand over the keys to the monastery. The Tahsildar (Executive Magistrate) did not execute the court order and adjourned the meeting until the next court hearing. The ASMT monks were unable to enter their temple, despite court orders favoring them. The neo-Hindutva terrorists and the government officials colluded to ensure that the meeting never took place and never achieved the intention for which it was supposedly called for. Again, on **16 Dec 2015**, the extremist elements refused to hand over the keys to the monastery. The government officers accepted this and disregarded the court order.⁴⁰⁶
157. **8 Jan 2015**, Tanjore, The neo-Hindutva extremists, and atheist terrorist forces started to brutally attack the ASMT monks and violently beat them to vacate them from the property thereby denying The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam to continue the spiritual administration of the monasteries. The first attack was in the Tanjore Palsamy mutt. The terrorist forces had sent a mob of 20

⁴⁰¹ FIR 482/15, PS Vedaranyam, dated 27 Nov 2015

drive.google.com/file/d/1yiqDHuoQmgnWD37GiNrNflb00QDEfWjW/view

⁴⁰² Red Pix 24x7 - Swami Nithyananda Group are Chased Out of Thiruvavur Temple – youtu.be/eRIYu2xguG8

⁴⁰³ <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/no-govt-mechanism-to-implement-courts-orders/article32335504.ece>

⁴⁰⁴ The Rock / Parthasarathy J's comment, "I have hit one nithyanandha people when they try to encourage near pallavaram. I request everyone to hit them nicely. Even don't show courtesy for women in nithyanandha ashram. They are the most dangerous" youtube.com/watch?v=eRIYu2xguG8&lc=UgzPVRI09bZwNd_IaUF4AaABAg

⁴⁰⁵ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tehsildar>

⁴⁰⁶ Tanjore District Office Letter 2925/2015,7 dated 15 Dec 2015 https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OWkSYfWB97WtIBXiTUJ-Tr7P2lg_SaNg/view <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qXU-98R-qHozALavSh3Qk3LCNOvnth4o/view>

assassins armed with iron rods, wooden rods, and iron chains. They beat an ASMT member, Sri Nithyasthananda brutally till he collapsed. They then dragged him out of the mutt (monastery) and left while he was still helpless and bleeding. Nithyasthananda, with his head bleeding, pulled himself together and went on his own to the hospital. The police registered a complaint but refused to act on it.⁴⁰⁷

- 158. 16 Feb 2016**, Madras High Court, the neo-Hindutva extremists, and atheist terrorists filed a Civil Revision Petition (CRP) challenging the Nagapattinam Original Suit⁴⁰⁸ OS90/2015 interim ordering preventing them from interfering in the administration of the mutts by the followers of the SPH.
- 159. 29 Feb 2016**, Thiruvavur, The Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) of Thiruvavur called for a meeting and convinced the ASMT members to hand over the key to her. She reasoned that to maintain the peace between ASMT members and the anti-Hindu elements, the best thing to do was for the office to hold the key in possession till the revised petition in High Court concluded. Placing their full trust in the government and the government office, ASMT members handed over the key to the RDO.
- 160. 29 Jun 2017**, Further, The High Court Judicature Of Madras on the appeal in the form of CRP by the neo-Hindutva extremist forces passed a clear order on 29th June 2017 unequivocally establishing the Right of The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam over the 5 mutts as the Pontiff and as the Spiritual administrator of the mutts and their properties.
- 161. 7 Jul 2017**, Tanjore, Thiruvavur, Vedaranyam, Representatives of ASMT Community sent a petition to the police and other relevant government officers to give protection to enter the mutt. This was to avoid any unwanted attack or bloodshed by the anti-Hindu elements.
- 162. 26 Jul 2017**, Thiruvavur, After obtaining the High Court order favoring the ASMT community, when members of the community approached the RDO, they realized how she (RDO) had been colluding with the local neo-Hindutva extremists and atheist terrorist forces from the beginning, as she refused to return the keys to ASMT members, who are the rightful owners. Instead, she had allowed the anti-Hindu elements to enter the mutt illegally, being fully aware of the Nagapattinam sub-court order and the Madras High Court Order. Till now, despite being backed up by the court orders, The SPH and ASMT members are not able to carry out the rituals or services or revival of the mutt.
- 163. 5 Aug 2017**, Vedaranyam, The Government officers continued to work against court orders as the RDO canceled the meeting by being absent.
- 164. 12 Aug 2017**, Tanjore, The Government officers continued to work against orders. The RDO, Tahsildar, and other Officers gave the excuse that they would not execute the court order as the opposing criminal elements were absent from the Peace meeting.

⁴⁰⁷ FIR No.14/2015 dated 7 Jan 2015 (1PM), Thanjavur West Police Station, District Thanjavur

⁴⁰⁸ CMP 2234/16 Madras High Court

165. **12 Aug 2017**, Vedaranyam, The Government officers continued to work against orders. The RDO, Tahsildar, and other Officers gave the excuse that they would not execute the court order as the opposing criminal elements were absent from the Peace meeting.
166. **19 Aug 2017**, Tanjore, The Government officers continued to work against orders. The Tahsildar intentionally was absent from the meeting to create another excuse to postpone and never execute the court order.
167. **22 Aug 2017**, Vedaranyam, The Government officers continued to flaunt court orders and intentionally create obstacles while pretending to execute them. The Vedaranyam RDO concluded the peace meetings citing the absence of the opposite party as the reason.
168. **26 Aug 2017**, Tanjore, The Government officers continued to flaunt court orders and intentionally create obstacles while pretending to execute them.
169. **30 Apr 2019**, Vedaranyam, The HR&CE passed an illegal order to bring the Sri Po.Ka. Sadhukkal Mutt in Vedaranyam under their control. This is against the interim injunction passed by the Nagapattinam Sub-court through IA 348/2015 which states clearly that The SPH is the rightful owner of the mutt till the suit comes to an end.
170. **Jul 2019**, although there is a High Court order in their favor the ASMT community monks cannot even dare to enter their own monasteries and temples. The government and the police have been unwilling to provide protection and execute the court order and allow the community to continue the practice of sacred ASMT rituals in their temples. Throughout the recent five centuries or so these temples and monasteries have been constantly destroyed by successive rulers who opposed the ASMT Hindu religion. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is the only hope for the community for the revival of the ancient civilizations and had been working relentlessly to revive the spiritual ASMT traditions and its temples. Now the community lives in more fear as the anti-Hindu atheistic terrorist forces and neo-Hindutva extremist extremists in the government continuously attempted assassination of The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam. The ASMT community is thus faced with a bleak future, as they continue to battle the political and religious persecution, wherein they are not able to practice their religion and their temples and monasteries are slowly being destroyed by the government.

G. Kailasa Paramparagatha Arunagiri Yogishwara Adi Arunachala Sarvajnapeetha Samrajyam

Tiruvannamalai Aadheenam

171. In March 2010, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had given a press statement where he declared the State government's intent to take control of private temples owned by the SPH and other Hindu spiritual leaders (Swamis)⁴⁰⁹.

⁴⁰⁹ 3 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 4 March 3rd, 2010, where in context of the SPH he said, "Of late immorality has been rampant in Temples and Monasteries ("கோயில்கள், ஆசிரமங்களில் அத்துமீறல்கள் கொஞ்சம் அதிகமாகத்தான் நடக்கின்றன."). We will organize a meeting of the committees formed on behalf of the government and Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments Department and discuss regarding taking actions to stop this. ("இதை தடுக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பது குறித்து அரசு சார்பிலும் அறநிலையத்துறை

172. On 3 March 2010 the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Karunanidhi, made a public statement inciting hatred towards the SPH and the ASMT community. This was published in several newspapers⁴¹⁰ and cited by several media channels⁴¹¹ ([see full Tamil transcripts](#)⁴¹²).

- a. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu stereotyped and vilified Swamis⁴¹³ (Hindu Monks) labeling them as **"cheats"** (ஏமாற்றுவித்தைக்காரர்களையும்), **"imposters"** (பகல்வேடக்காரர்களையும்), **"brainwashers and destroyers of the life of the people"** (மக்களின் வாழ்வையும் அறிவையும் பாழாக்கி வருகின்ற), **"swindlers of money"** (பணக் கொள்ளை அடிக்கின்ற), **"despicable Swamis"** (கயமைத்தன சாமியார்களின்), **"hoodwinkers who are disguising in the name of devotion"**, **"pushing the illiterate into a deep pit"** (இதுபோன்ற ஏமாற்றுவித்தைக்காரர்களையும், பக்தி வேடம் பூண்டு பாமர மக்களை படு குழியில் தள்ளுகின்ற பகல்வேடக்காரர்களையும்)"
- b. The Chief Minister declared the stand of his government on Hindu monks (like the SPH), **"my government cannot tolerate the despicable Swami's hoodwinking acts"** (கயமைத்தன சாமியார்களின் ஏமாற்று வித்தைகளை பொறுத்துக் கொண்டிருக்க முடியாது)."
- c. The Chief Minister described the practicing Hindus who followed Swamis (like the followers of the SPH) as, **"People who are deeply buried in ignorance who cannot still understand these or even if understood do not want to change"** (அப்படியிருந்தும், இன்னமும் புரிந்துகொள்ள முடியாத, புரிந்துகொண்டாலும் திருந்திக் கொள்ள இயலாத மௌனத்தில் மூழ்கியோர் நாட்டில், சமூகத்தில் இருக்கத்தான் செய்கிறார்கள்), **"those fickle-minded people who have fallen prey to these Swamis and destroying the society"** (இதுபோன்ற ஏமாற்றுவித்தைக்காரர்களையும், பக்தி வேடம் பூண்டு பாமர மக்களை படு குழியில் தள்ளுகின்ற பகல்வேடக்காரர்களையும், அவர்களிடம் பலியாகி சமுதாயத்தை சீரழிக்கின்ற சபல புத்தி உடையவர்களையும் இந்த அரசு வேடிக்கை பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்காது)"
- d. The Chief Minister explained his stand on the practicing Hindus who followed Gurus like the SPH, **"this government won't be a mute spectator, of those fickle-minded people who have fallen prey to the Swamis and are destroying the society"** (அவர்களிடம் பலியாகி

சார்பிலும் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள குழுக்கள் ஆலோசித்து முடிவு எடுக்கும்" என்று முதல்வர் கருணாநிதி கூறினார்.

⁴¹⁰ 4 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 6

⁴¹¹ 4 March 2010 - Headlines Today - Report (Part 5) - <https://youtu.be/GeGo0JdTEjE> - "the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister himself has just issued a press release saying, 'Stern action would be taken against all the fake Godmen in the wake of this particular issue'. He also said that 'the Tamil Nadu government will not remain a mute spectator to this entire episode'"

⁴¹² 4 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 6
docs.google.com/document/d/1f7CEsZDNw5Tl8wJX3fckhmEGqOyESHgy7GgXJai8vo

⁴¹³ Swamis: A reverential address for Hindu spiritual leaders (Guru), heads of monastery, sometimes out of courtesy extended to Hindu monks in general. Similar in usage as the Tibetan Buddhist honorific Lama. (Lama, Tibetan Bla-ma ("superior one"), in Tibetan Buddhism, a spiritual leader. Originally used to translate "guru" (Sanskrit: "venerable one") and thus applicable only to heads of monasteries or great teachers, the term is now extended out of courtesy to any respected monk or priest. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/lama>)

சமுதாயத்தை சீரழிக்கின்ற சபல புத்தி உடையவர்களையும் இந்த அரசு வேடிக்கை பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்காது)"

- e. The Chief Minister pleaded to the citizens, **"those who really want these preachers to be eradicated should stand by and support the actions my government is taking** (ஊருக்கு உபதேசிகளை ஒழித்துக் கட்ட வேண்டுமென்று எண்ணுகின்ற ஒவ்வொருவரும் இந்த அரசு எடுக்கின்ற நடவடிக்கைகளுக்கு உறுதுணையாக இருக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்)".

173. In a similar interview, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Karunanidhi's gave an interview in Trichy, on **March 3, 2010**, wherein the context of the SPH he said⁴¹⁴, **"Of late immorality has been rampant in Temples and Monasteries** (கோயில்கள், ஆசிரமங்களில் அத்துமீறல்கள் கொஞ்சம் அதிகமாகத்தான் நடக்கின்றன.). **We will organize a meeting of the committees formed on behalf of the government and the Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments Department and discuss taking actions to stop this.** (இதை தடுக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பது குறித்து அரசு சார்பிலும் அறநிலையத்துறை சார்பிலும் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள குழுக்கள் ஆலோசித்து முடிவு எடுக்கும்" என்று முதல்வர் கருணாநிதி கூறினார்)". On **12 April 2010**, the parent organization of Karunanidhi the Dravida Kazhagam hosted a press meeting where the leader of the anti-Hindu terrorist K. Veeramani said, **"Central and State governments should take criminal action against them. The crores of property they have earned through crooked means should be taken over by the government"**⁴¹⁵. The fabricated video of The SPH became a political justification for the State government to implement and execute anti-Hindu laws and executive orders that destroyed all Hindu temples in Tamil Nadu over the next decade. Earlier on 5 March 2010, anti-Hindu terrorist K. Veeramani had given an interview where he said in the context of the SPH and other Hindu Gurus, **"If you probe them, they will ultimately end their life in jail. Almost national criminals."**⁴¹⁶

174. On **7 Nov 2012, Tiruvannamalai**, the State government Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) Department sent a notice to the Tiruvannamalai Aadheenam (monastery) declaring the State's intent to take over the monastery. The Tiruvannamalai temple-monastery complex is private property. HR&CE (Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments board) attempted to falsely present it as a public temple to get ownership over it and destroy its cultural heritage. It is an ancestral property of The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam's pre-monastic family. HR&CE had no business nor jurisdiction to attempt to breach any private property. In principle the State takeover of Hindu temples by HR&CE is unconstitutional, but this was doubly illegal as they additionally falsely show the private ASMT temple as a public temple.

175. On **26 November 2012**, in response to the show-cause notice of the HR&CE that the Tiruvannamalai Aadheenam (monastery) of Nithyananda Dhyanapeetam falls under its purview, the Madras High Court ordered a status quo till the disposal of the case for both the parties – Nithyananda Dhyanapeetam, Tiruvannamalai and HR&CE. The Court clarified that Nithyananda

⁴¹⁴ 3 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 4

docs.google.com/document/d/1f7CEsZDNw5Tl8wJX3fckhmEGqOyESHgy7GgXJiai8vo

⁴¹⁵ 12 April 2010 - Raj TV - Veeramani Interview -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14ovXcugZY8ac8OFMCbEwcrbBuSodilela/view>

⁴¹⁶ 5 March 2010 - Headlines Today - "Sex Swamis and Video Tapes"

Peetham, Tiruvannamalai can continue with all its services. The next hearing of the case was posted for **December 5, 2012**, when the HR&CE was directed to file its counter to the Writ Petition.

- 176.** On **30 January 2013**, Chennai the Hon'ble High Court of Madras allowed the Writ Petition filed by Nithyananda Dhyanaapeetam and set aside the show cause notice issued by the HR&CE claiming that the Tiruvannamalai Aadheenam of The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam comes under the purview of HR&CE as it is a Hindu religious institution. The Hon'ble High Court order clearly said that Nithyananda Dhyanaapeetam Trust Deed and its objectives show that it is a Public Charitable Trust and thus HR&CE had no legal bearing in its claim. The Trust Deed clearly shows that the institution is open to all people, irrespective of caste, creed, or religion. The various construction activities on the premises are per the objectives of the Trust to spread meditation, yoga and provide various social services to the public at large. The Hon'ble High Court allowed the Writ Petition and the show cause notice was set aside because even the show cause notice was uncalled for as it was based on a non-existent foundation.⁴¹⁷ This did not remedy the situation. The government filed another petition challenging this order. The appeal was also in the favor of the SPH, but it had a clear prohibition on doing any Hindu religious activities in the place.⁴¹⁸
- 177. 26 Feb 2013**, Tiruvannamalai - The ASMT Kumarakoil Murugar Temple was grabbed by Neo-Hindutva extremists. Kumarakoil Murugan Temple is a community temple that was run by the ASMT (Saiva Vellalar) community for many hundreds of years. The entire community recognized The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as the Incarnation of Annamalaiyar (Shiva) who descended on the planet earth and took birth in this community. The community Ordained the SPH as the Hereditary Trustee of Temple, who after assuming the responsibility, started major renovation work. Hindu extremists who could not tolerate this productive effort conspired to stop the project. Hindu Makkal Katchi, a Neo-Hindutva extremist political party, filed a vexatious complaint against the temple trustees, claiming that they were mishandling the temple money. Based on this accusation, the Government body, the Hindu Religious Charitable Endowment board, illegally took over the temple and appointed an Executive officer for the temple. A huge legal battle followed and in the end, the ASMT community got the order from the High Court of Chennai, that the community can run the Temple administration. Despite the court order, the community is unable to start the Temple activities because the anti-Hindu extremists are continuously attacking the temple and trustees physically. They also released false propaganda in the media about the temple trustees. To this day, the temple remains in the same state, needing renovation and authentic services for the public have not been started.
- 178. 7 Dec 2013**, Tiruvannamalai: Charitable free organic food service of the ASMT Tiruvannamalai monastery was stopped by the Government Food Department. Many devotees were affected by this wrongful decision. ASMT monks and community members appealed to the District Collector with evidence of the quality of service that was offered by the monastery. The Collector intervened and issued an order for Tiruvannamalai Aadheenam to continue with food offering service. Later the Food department visited Aadheenam again for an inspection and concluded that the food was of first-class quality and best practices of hygiene were being followed. This was a complete

⁴¹⁷ Nithyananda Dhyanaapeetam vs The Commissioner on 30 January 2013, W.P.No.30063 of 2012 and M.P.Nos.1 and 2 of 2012 indiankanoon.org/doc/13403449/

⁴¹⁸ W.A.Nos.284 and 808 of 2013 and M.P.No.1 of 2013 and 2 of 2013 W.A.No.284 of 2013 indiankanoon.org/doc/20053893

turnaround from the earlier observations it claimed. This did not remedy the situation as various vexatious litigations continued to be made to stop religious and charitable services done by the ASMT.

- 179. 8 Nov 2019**, the government withdrew its petition that challenged the court order dismissing the government's claim over the ASMT monastery in Tiruvannamalai.⁴¹⁹ Assistant Commissioner, HR & CE Department, Thiruvannamalai, filed in the court:

"7) It is submitted that the Ashram also has a large Kitchen area with many utensils (big & small) which is capable of preparing food for more than 500 people at once. Near the Kitchen there is also a Library and rooms for the Ashram members to stay.

...

10) It is most humbly submitted that during the Inspection it was clear that there is no consecration of Idol in the Ashram and there is no Idol Worship there."

- 180.** This did not remedy the damage. The memo submitted by the Government showed that if any Hindu Deities were placed in the monastery the HR&CE department could again claim ownership of the monastery by vexatious legal processes. Hinduism cannot be practiced freely in India as the government taxes the practice of Hinduism exclusively, and misappropriate all funds donated by devotees for religious and social purposes. This is done by both the Neo-Hindutva extremists and anti-Hindu atheists. The State Governments in India have been ordered time and again by the Supreme Court to withdraw themselves from Temple administration but neither the government nor the government officials respect court orders in India.⁴²⁰

Pavazhakundru

- 181. 24 May 1994**, a year before her death, Mata Vibhutananda Puri, declared Rajasekaran as Her successor to the spiritual seat of Arunachala Sarvajnapeetham⁴²¹, Tiruvannamalai, by Guru Parampara (Guru lineage) from Isakki Swamigal, and gave the title "*Brahmasukhi*" through a formal initiation letter⁴²². She built and gifted Him a small ashram (monastery) in Pavazhakundru. Pavazhakundru is a sacred hillock in Tiruvannamalai where Devi Parashakti (primordial Hindu Mother Goddess) had Her enlightenment experience during one of Her incarnations on the planet earth. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam also had His first enlightenment experience in Pavalakundru. Even though all the property documents⁴²³ show the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as the owner of the land, the Tamil Nadu State Government has repeatedly prevented the monks and nuns of the SPH from performing puja (worship) to the sacred hill.

⁴¹⁹ W.A.Nos.284 and 808 of 2013 and M.P.No.1 of 2013 and 2 of 2013 W.A.No.284 of 2013

indiankanoon.org/doc/20053893/

⁴²⁰ <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/no-govt-mechanism-to-implement-courts-orders/article33235504.ece>

⁴²¹ **Sarvajnapeetha** is the Peetha (seat of) Sarva (supreme most) Jñāna (knowledge) where Paramashiva sits and teaches to the world leading the entire humanity to the next breakthrough in spiritual research and development. It encompasses several spiritual-religious kingdoms and Hindu monasteries (Mutt).

⁴²² 25 May 1994, Coronation Deed from Mata Vibhutananda Puri for Arunachala Sarvajnapeetham

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wbF1hZlujqxrWjhQfDQKoZVxVdmVIOb2/view>

⁴²³ Tiruvannamalai Town, Village number 236, III-1, 2, land area number 526,523,523 as per State Revenue records.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GPyHDMkyQ968TBYSdg4hCxvy4iK78Cgk/view>

Monks were forcibly evacuated by authorities beaten and raped in front of the State Police by State-groomed militants of the DMK and CPI(M).

- 182. 16 June 2017**, Pavazhakundru, three nuns – Ma Nithya Deepikananda Swami, Ma Nithya Satyagijnananda Swami, and her per-monastic minor daughter Ma Nithya Prajnanananda, were cleaning the area around Paramashiva Shila (the sacred rock worshipped as a Deity) for worship. They were attacked and tied up by State groomed militants of CPI(M). The militants defiled the Paramashiva Shila (the rock worshipped as a Deity) with footwear and drew lewd figures on it. The minor Ma Nithya Prajnanananda was raped in the hut and video recorded. The mother distracted the militants in hope of protecting the child. The mother, Ma Nithya Satyagijnananda Swami was then brutally beaten, shown clips of her daughter's rape, raped, and also photographed. While Ma Nithya Satyagijnananda Swami was being raped, Ma Nithya Deepikananda Swami had to protect the deities and the child. The child was trying to protect herself by being close to the senior nun. The child expected help from the policemen, but they pushed her amongst each other, something which deeply terrorized her about the role of the police in society. ASMT monk Parabrahmananda Maharaj survived an attempted murder⁴²⁴. The community sent letters of appeal to the District Executive Officer who ignored all their appeals. Despite peacefully using the land for more than three decades, and showing all land documents, along with bills and vouchers of annual fees that were paid to the State Revenue department the State authorities headed by the district collector, declared the hut to be an illegal construction and ordered demolition. The hut where worship items were kept was torn down by police and aired in media and publicized as demolition of illegal construction. The politically owned media reported this event in a biased way, they cruelly vilified the ASMT nuns and monks and addressed them as "*cheats*", "*landgrabbers*"⁴²⁵ along with other stereotypes that the politically owned media had established to marginalize the community – "*sodomized disciples*"⁴²⁶, "*witches*"⁴²⁷, "*prostitutes*"⁴²⁸, "*sex slaves*"⁴²⁹.
- 183.** This was not a sole incidence. Even though all the property documents⁴³⁰ were shown to authorities repeatedly and they were convinced the attacks did not stop. On **5 February 2017**, ASMT monk Sri Nithya Bhaktimayananda Swami escaped an attempt to murder⁴³¹ with a bleeding head. On **22 June 2017**, nuns were forcibly evicted while worshipping the Paramashiva Shila (the sacred rock worshipped as a Deity) and taken to Police Station beyond permissible time per law⁴³²

⁴²⁴ FIR 696 dated 3 Aug 2017 (6 PM), Police station - Tiruvannamalai Town, District - Tiruvannamalai, Officer in charge – Nehru, eservices.tnpolice.gov.in

⁴²⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Mwwzc3cvmE>

⁴²⁶ <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/karnataka/2010/dec/10/nithyananda-sodomised-his-disciples-209732.html>

⁴²⁷ Worship of divine feminine consciousness during [Chandi Homa](#) maligned as witch craft
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6T8GwNo8SM>

⁴²⁸ "They are continuously harassed in public for no fault of theirs", said Nithyananda. According to Nithyananda, sarees of at least '17 women devotees were pulled' in public, at seven places his Brahmacharis were thrashed and the Ashram call centre received about 300 phone calls for prostitution." <https://www.deccanherald.com/content/152493/cid-report-stolen-says-nithyananda.html>

⁴²⁹ (i) CC 25289/12, 21 Dec 2012, CMM Court Bangalore, ASMT Dalit Nun Ma Nithya Supriya Swami v. Charu (Kumudam Reporter) (ii) <https://www.vikatan.com/news/coverstory/114380-the-psychology-behind-the-cults-worshippers.html> Date: 24/Jan/2018

⁴³⁰ Tiruvannamalai Town, Village number 236, III-1, 2, land area number 526,523,523 as per State Revenue records.
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GPyHDMkyQ968TBYsDg4hCxvy4iK78Cgk/view>

⁴³¹ CSR 344 dated 9 Feb 2017, Police station - Tiruvannamalai Town, District - Tiruvannamalai, eservices.tnpolice.gov.in

⁴³² A woman cannot be arrested after sunset (generally, 6pm) and before sunrise (generally, 6am), even if a woman police officer is present (Section 46(4) of Criminal Procedure Code) <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1233094/>

for women to be arrested or kept for interrogation. They were threatened by the police and released. **18 May 2018**, the Paramashiva Shila (the sacred rock worshipped as a Deity) was vandalized again – the anti-Hindu terrorists from CPI(M) and DMK urinated on the deity and defiled it with slippers, and broke the worship altars.

J. Attacks in State of Uttar Pradesh

- 184. 6 June 2020:** Taking advantage of the lockdown due to the CORONA pandemic, and the lack of clear visibility of Government illegalities and brutalities, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh destroyed the Hindu Temple of The Kashi Sarvajnapetha of the SPH at Manikarnika Ghat, Varanasi. At around 1 AM neo-Hindutva militants destroyed the temple using heavy machinery and earthmover machines. The Hindu monks were still inside but managed to escape from death in the collapsing temple building.
- 185.** The demolition was completely illegal and done despite multiple High Court orders⁴³³ that specifically had given a stay order in favor of the ASMT and forbid the government from touching the property including the High Court order to W.P. 58947/2017 (dated 11 Dec 2017) specifically prohibiting the government to demolish the Kashi Sarvajnapetha. Both District Court and High Court orders were ridiculed by the government officials.
- 186.** The sacrilege of the deities and destruction of the temple caused great pain to the Hindu monks to Hindus worldwide who witnessed the shocking events on social media.⁴³⁴
- 187.** The Hindu monks tried to stop the heavy machinery by using their bodies as an obstacle. ASMT monk Sri Nithya Shantimayananda Swami's neck was broken, still, he fastened his body to the steel rebars to protect the Temple from the terror attack. He went live on social media in the hope of protection - [here is the video](#).⁴³⁵ Sri Nithya Shantimayananda Swami was subjected to cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment by Police, who broke his neck and took him in custody. All legal recourse was denied. [Several Hindu monks have died due to these atrocities of the police and militants](#).⁴³⁶

⁴³³ W.P. 58947/2017 (dated 11 Dec 2017) in Allahabad High Court

drive.google.com/file/d/1P4ydNPOjUpCFgzfSqaLMpFqjrl8owld/view

⁴³⁴ <https://m.facebook.com/hashtag/stophinduholocaust> ; <https://m.facebook.com/hashtag/kashisarvajnapetha>

⁴³⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsIPjvsn9JU>

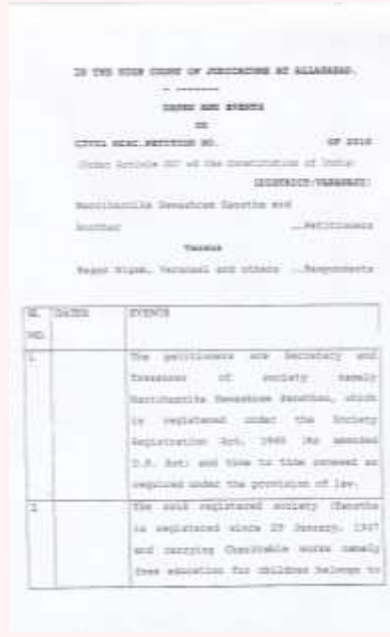
⁴³⁶ hindustantimes.com/cities/3-palghar-cops-who-watched-mob-kill-3-men-including-70-yr-old-seer-sacked/story-oTIQ2oxJmHqiSuyIMPUZcl.html



Late night at 1 am, the State Government with the neo-Hindutva militants demolished the Hindu temple despite the High Court order to not touch it. The monks were still sleeping but escaped before the temple collapsed on them.



ASMT monk Sri Nithya Shantimayananda Swami's neck was broken, still he fastened his body to the steel rebars to protect the Temple from the terror attack. He went live on social media in the hope of protection - [here is the video](#).



High Court order to W.P. 58947/2017 (dated 11 Dec 2017) specifically prohibiting the government to demolish the Kashi Sarvajnapaetha. Both District Court and High Court orders were ridiculed by the government officials.

- 188.** When the Mahant (ASMT regional head), went to the government officials in protest of what they had done and showed the High court order to them and exposed the wrong that they had done, the government officials led by Vishal Singh (Head of the government project) challenged him - "Yes, I am doing Contempt of Court, so what will you put me in jail?! Try doing and see," and threw the High Court order copy in the office dustbin.



6 June 2020: When the Mahant (ASMT regional head), went to the government officials in protest of what they had done and showed the High court order to them and exposed the wrong that they had done, the government officials led by Vishal Singh (Head of the government project) challenged him - "Yes I am doing Contempt of Court, so what will you put me in jail?! Try doing and see," and threw the High Court order copy in the office dustbin.



Picture of a temple **before** the state-sponsored destruction in Kashi.

<https://www.facebook.com/cvbhariharan/posts/4607247159336899>



A similar but different temple **after** the state-sponsored destruction in Kashi.





IV. Responsibility of the International community to protect

- 189.** Throughout the world, in different countries, spiritual and religious leaders have faced brutal persecution, assassination attempts, exile, de facto statelessness, and survived various inhumane, cruel, and denigrating conditions. The story of the persecution of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is not an isolated instance – several religious leaders in India and throughout the world have faced similar hardships. However, what has made difference for millions of devotees is that their endeared and revered religious leaders have received much-needed protection from the international community that has protected these great leaders especially during extremely crucial times. Such international assistance in form of providing protection, asylum, and international advocacy has protected the basic human rights and made a life and death difference for these venerable leaders, such international assistance has also saved these peaceful religious traditions from inevitable cultural genocide and extinction.

A. Thích Nhất Hạnh (Vietnam)

Early Life (1926 to 1966)

- 190.** Thích Nhất Hạnh (born on 11 October 1926⁴³⁷) is a Thiền (Vietnamese Zen) and Mahayana Buddhist monk, peace activist⁴³⁸, founder of the Plum Village Tradition, and is recognized as the main inspiration for engaged Buddhism.⁴³⁹ In 1961 Nhất Hạnh went to the US to study at the Princeton Theological Seminary and was later appointed as a lecturer in Buddhism at Columbia University.⁴⁴⁰ In 1963, he returned to Vietnam to aid his fellow monks in their non-violent peace efforts to resolve the Vietnam war which started on 1 November 1955 and lasted until 30 April 1975⁴⁴¹. On 1 May

⁴³⁷ Taylor, Philip (2007). [Modernity and Re-enchantment: Religion in Post-revolutionary Vietnam](#). Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. p. 299. ISBN 9789812304407.

⁴³⁸ King, Martin Luther Jr. (January 25, 1967). ["Nomination of Thich Nhat Hanh for the Nobel Peace Prize"](#) (Letter). Archived on the Hartford Web Publishing website.

⁴³⁹ Gleig, Ann (June 28, 2021). ["Engaged Buddhism"](#). Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion. Oxford: Oxford University Press. doi:[10.1093/acrefore/9780199340378.013.755](#). ISBN 9780199340378.

⁴⁴⁰ Miller, Andrea (September 30, 2016). ["Peace in Every Step"](#). [Lion's Roar](#). Retrieved October 2, 2016.

⁴⁴¹ [The Paris Agreement on Vietnam: Twenty-five Years Later](#) (Transcript). Washington, DC: The Nixon Center. April 1998.

1966, at Từ Hiếu Temple, Thích Nhất Hạnh received the lamp transmission ordainment from Zen Master Chân Thật, making him a Dharmacharya (an ordained teacher of Dharma who can teach cosmic natural laws of life as per the Hindu/Buddhist religious tradition).⁴⁴²

Exile (1966 to 2005)

191. The same year (1966), as the Vietnam war (1 November 1955 – 30 April 1975⁴⁴³) escalated, Thích Nhất Hạnh left Vietnam to tour 19 countries to call for peace. Being an ordained teacher of Dharma (natural cosmic laws of life as per Hindu or Buddhist religious and spiritual traditions), Thích Nhất Hạnh was strongly grounded in Dharma and maintained a completely apolitical stand. For his apolitical stand, he faced antagonism from both the South Vietnamese regime and the Northern Vietnamese army. In 1966, Thích Nhất Hạnh addressed the British, Canadian, and Swedish parliaments and met Pope Paul VI. The South Vietnamese regime in Saigon, viewed his pacifism as tantamount to collaboration with the Northern Vietnamese army and prevented him from returning to Vietnam, and threatened to block his reentry to the country. In 1975 the Northern Vietnamese army took control of the south, even they denied permission to Thích Nhất Hạnh to return to Vietnam.
192. Thích Nhất Hạnh is an exemplary religious leader whose humanitarian efforts were opposed by multiple political factions – this is not a problem unique to him, it is the ordeal of several persecuted human rights activists and religious leaders. The ordeal of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is no different. In December 2017, the Communist Party of India Marxists' (CPI(M)'s) Tiruvannamalai district secretary Veerabhadran conveyed a party conference that passed a resolution declaring that the party would drive out the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam and His monks and destroy all His organizations and declared His presence in Tiruvannamalai as the biggest threat to their ideology.⁴⁴⁴ In 2019, a Member of Legislative Assembly from the Congress Party – Jagga Reddy incited the police to carry out an extra-judicial assassination of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.⁴⁴⁵ In 2010, a Congress party leader of the opposition, Siddaramaiah moved the parliament seeking the arrest of and confiscation of property of all charitable trusts and temples spiritually headed by the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam by the State.⁴⁴⁶ In 2010 Home Minister of Karnataka of the BJP government, V.S. Acharya declared in the parliament intention of their government to take over all land, assets, and properties of charitable trusts and temples spiritually headed by the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.⁴⁴⁷ In 2012, the BJP government led by Sadananda Gowda as the Chief Minister of the State of Karnataka ordered an illegal arrest of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam and a state takeover of all charitable trusts and temples spiritually headed by the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam. The High Court came down heavily⁴⁴⁸ on the government for the illegal arrest terming it "*illegal*", "*without any authority*", "*contrary to law*", "*without jurisdiction*", however, the courts provided no relief against the destruction and loot (theft) of several temple assets by the state authorities and state police.⁴⁴⁹ In

⁴⁴² Dung, Thay Phap (2006). "[A Letter to Friends about our Lineage](#)" (PDF).

⁴⁴³ [The Paris Agreement on Vietnam: Twenty-five Years Later](#) (Transcript). Washington, DC: The Nixon Center. April 1998.

⁴⁴⁴ <https://www.vikatan.com/literature/environment/97315-followers-of-nityananda-threaten-a-writer>

⁴⁴⁵ www.thehansindia.com/telangana/jagga-reddys-pose-to-police-can-cops-kill-swami-nithyananda-in-encounter-588076

⁴⁴⁶ www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/Karnataka-to-take-strict-action-against-godman/article16483656.ece

⁴⁴⁷ <https://www.deccanherald.com/content/56133/karnataka-govt-take-very-strict.html>

⁴⁴⁸ CRL.P. 3253/2012 <http://indiankanoon.org/doc/85011170>

⁴⁴⁹ <https://www.indiatvnews.com/news/india/hc-disposes-nithyanandas-petition-damages-16915.html>

2010, DMK Chief Minister publicly declared the stand of his government to persecute the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam. In 2018, a judge publicly declared that He would make sure that the ashram (monasteries) of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam were destroyed.⁴⁵⁰ In 2021, courts made several attempts to confiscate the land of charitable trusts spiritually led by the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, even though they were not legally associated with the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam in any way. Throughout His presence in India, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has served people in various ways – providing them health solutions, providing medicines for various ailments (completely free of cost), providing humanitarian relief during natural disasters and times of crises, providing free organic meals to over one billion people, providing free health solutions with yoga and ayurvedic medicine and herbal diets, and providing solutions to mental and emotional ailments through meditation and spiritual counseling for free, and attending to all problems of people in all aspects of life. For all these services the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has been recognized throughout the world.⁴⁵¹

- 193.** On 24 August 2018, the BJP Government illegally and arbitrarily impounded the passport of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.⁴⁵² This was despite multiple court orders, against a similar suspension of passport done by the Central Government of India in April 2010. With this illegal order, the SPH was pushed into “de facto statelessness”⁴⁵³.
- 194.** The state persecution since 2010, and particularly His exile to de facto statelessness since 2018, has made it impossible for Him to continue offering His services anywhere in the world not just in India. The support of the international community and world leaders is much needed for the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam to continue His humanitarian work and spiritual work for world peace. Before 2010, until His passport was unlawfully impounded, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam travel around the world and offered His spiritual and humanitarian services around the world. For such efforts, He was respected and revered around the world and recognized worldwide. Until 2012, He was recognized as amongst the hundred most spiritually influential living people on the planet.⁴⁵⁴ Due to the persecution and deprivation of citizenship by the Indian government, He is unable to travel safely around the world as He did before 2010 and offer His spiritual and humanitarian services like earlier. This has further marginalized Him and was done to kill His global humanitarian and spiritual mission of uniting mankind in peaceful ways for the betterment of the planet.
- 195.** Despite these hardships, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam kept stretching His limits to continue offering His spiritual and humanitarian services. Since 2019, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has opened the doors for all his monasteries (which the government made several attempts to take over and destroy during the past decade) and offered multi-layered COVID-19 quarantine and protection. The ASMT Aadheenams (monastery townships) in several cities had

⁴⁵⁰ “I will see that your ashram is vanished”, Justice Mahadevan, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/madras-hc-warns-of-issuing-arrest-warrant-against-self-styled-godman-nithyananda/articleshow/62692301.cms>

⁴⁵¹ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/HDH_Nithyananda_Paramashivam

⁴⁵² https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/2018-Aug-24_illegal_mea_notice_without_even_signature.jpg

⁴⁵³ Luingham Luithui And Ors vs Union Of India And Ors on 23 August, 2017 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/51490658/> describes conditions of de facto statelessness and concluding it at point#21.

⁴⁵⁴ <https://www.watkinsmagazine.com/watkins-spiritual-100-list-2012> at #88 as Paramahansa Nithyananda

zero COVID cases in two years because of these measures and the community submitted a report on this in the UN.⁴⁵⁵

196. During his 39 years of exile, Thích Nhất Hạnh received the support of leaders and protection from several countries. While in the US, he visited Gethsemani Abbey to speak with Thomas Merton. When the South Vietnamese regime threatened to block Thích Nhất Hạnh's reentry to the country, Merton wrote an essay of solidarity, "*Nhat Hanh is my Brother*".⁴⁵⁶ In 1965-66 Thích Nhất Hạnh had met and written several letters to Martin Luther King Jr. and urged him to publicly denounce the Vietnam War.⁴⁵⁷ On April 4, 1967, King gave the speech – "*Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence*"⁴⁵⁸ an anti-Vietnam War and pro-social justice speech exactly one year before he was assassinated. Before his death, later that year, King nominated Nhất Hạnh for the 1967 Nobel Peace Prize declaring, "*I do not personally know of anyone more worthy of [this prize] than this gentle monk from Vietnam. His ideas for peace, if applied, would build a monument to ecumenism, to world brotherhood, to humanity*". After 1967 Nhất Hạnh moved to France and became the chair of the Vietnamese Buddhist Peace Delegation. In France, Nhất Hạnh organized followers of Zen Buddhism as the spiritual head of the Từ Hiếu Pagoda and associated monasteries⁴⁵⁹ in southwest France near Thénac.⁴⁶⁰ During his period in exile, Nhất Hạnh published over 130 books, including more than 100 in English which have sold over 5 million copies worldwide.⁴⁶¹ He remained active in the peace movements, promoting nonviolent solutions to conflict raising awareness of the interconnectedness of all elements in nature as per Buddhist Dharmic principles.⁴⁶² He founded the largest Buddhist monastic order in the West.

197. Ahimsa(non-violence) is a common theme in Buddhism and Hinduism.

अहिंसा परमो धर्मस्तथाहिंसा परो दमः।	Ahimsa(non-violence) is the highest Dharma(cosmic law),
अहिंसा परमं दानम अहिंसा परमरा तपः।	Ahimsa(non-violence) is the highest self-control,
अहिंसा परमो यज्ञस्तथाहिंसा परं बलम्।	Ahimsa(non-violence) is the greatest gift,
अहिंसा परमं मित्रम अहिंसा परमं सुखम्।	Ahimsa(non-violence) is the best practice,
अहिंसा परमं सत्यम् अहिंसा परमं शक्तम्॥	Ahimsa is the highest sacrifice,
	Ahimsa is the finest strength,
	Ahimsa is the greatest friend, Ahimsa is the greatest happiness,
	Ahimsa is the highest truth, and Ahimsa is the greatest teaching.

[Mahabharata 13.117.37-38](#)

198. Most Hindu spiritual and religious leaders and several Buddhist sects strongly advocate Ahimsa (non-violence) not just towards people, but also animals and nature. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has strongly advocated for vegetarianism for health purposes and the promotion

⁴⁵⁵ (i) <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/IntOrder/Multilateralism/AdiShaiviteMinorityTradition.pdf>, (ii) <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/IntOrder/Pages/cfi-covid19-multilateralism.aspx>, (iii) <https://gov.shrikailasa.org/briefings-statements/kailasas-recommendations-on-covid-19-to-be-presented-at-united-nations/>

⁴⁵⁶ "*Nhat Hanh is my Brother*". Buddhist Door. May 1, 2011.

⁴⁵⁷ "*Searching for the Enemy of Man*" in *Nhat Nanh, Ho Huu Tuong, Tam Ich, Bui Giang, Pham Cong Thien*". Dialogue. Saigon: La Boi. 1965. pp. 11–20.

⁴⁵⁸ "*Vincent Harding dies at 82: historian wrote controversial King speech*". Los Angeles Times. May 23, 2014.

⁴⁵⁹ Dung, Thay Phap (2006). "*A Letter to Friends about our Lineage*" (PDF).

⁴⁶⁰ "*Religion & Ethics - Thích Nhất Hạnh*". BBC. Retrieved June 16, 2013.

⁴⁶¹ (i) "*The Father of Mindfulness Awaits the End of This Life*". Time. (ii) "*Thich Nhất Hạnh*". Plum Village. January 11, 2019.

⁴⁶² Samar Farah (April 4, 2002). "*An advocate for peace starts with listening*". The Christian Science Monitor.

of non-violence and love for all forms of life. Thích Nhất Hạnh also refrains from consuming animal products, as a means of nonviolence toward animals.⁴⁶³

Return from Exile (2005 to 2018)

199. In 2005, after a 39-year exile, he was permitted to visit Vietnam.⁴⁶⁴ Thích Nhất Hạnh continued his work throughout the world. Only in November 2018, when he had crossed ninety years of age and felt his final days were near, he finally returned to Vietnam to spend his remaining days at his main root temple (Tủi Hiếu Temple), near Huế.⁴⁶⁵

Role of the international community

200. The life of Thích Nhất Hạnh bears witness to the much-needed support that humanitarian peace activists and religious leaders like Thích Nhất Hạnh receive from the international community and various countries. It was due to the support of various countries such as the US and France that allowed him to continue the spiritual, religious, and humanitarian work that he was able to author several books and create the largest monastic order of Buddhist monks in the West – far away from his roots. And finally, just like every refugee who yearns to one day come back home, Thích Nhất Hạnh was able to return to Vietnam and his root temple (Tủi Hiếu Temple), near Huế and is finally able to gracefully spend the last days of his life – enjoying the rainfall and serenity of the nature and nostalgia of his early life. It was all possible because of the political and moral support of the international community.
201. Such international support is extremely crucial for survival and continuance of non-violent spiritual and religious traditions, which is much needed by exiled and persecuted Hindu and Buddhist religious leaders such as the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam and Thích Nhất Hạnh. Internationally there are only two countries where Buddhism is the state religion, and there is no country in the world where Hinduism is the state religion, this has aggravated the problems of persecuted indigenous Hindu and Buddhist traditions who have no place to go once they are persecuted in their homeland. Thus, persecuted Hindu and Buddhist religious leaders seek and are in much need of protection and support from progressive countries of the world.

B. Dalai Lama (Tibet)

Exile (1959)

202. Tibet had been under the effective control of the People's Republic of China since 1951.⁴⁶⁶ On 10 March 1959, a revolt erupted in Lhasa, the capital of Tibet. Tibetan protestors feared that the Chinese government might arrest His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso. On 17 March 1959, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso who was merely 23-year-old disguised himself as a soldier and escaped from his palace in Lhasa, with an entourage of followers and ministers. Being assisted, supported, and guided by the CIA⁴⁶⁷ the group embarked on a dangerous journey to asylum, traveling like ghosts at night, with the Chinese army closely following

⁴⁶³ (i) Joan Halifax, Thích Nhất Hạnh (2004). ["The Fruitful Darkness: A Journey Through Buddhist Practice and Tribal Wisdom"](#)

. Grove Press. (ii) ["Oprah Talks to Thich Nhat Hanh" from "O, The Oprah Magazine"](#). March 2010.

⁴⁶⁴ Johnson, Kay (January 16, 2005). ["A Long Journey Home"](#). Time Asia Magazine (online version).

⁴⁶⁵ ["Thich Nhat Hanh Returns Home"](#). Plum Village. November 2, 2018.

⁴⁶⁶ Chen Jian, [The Tibetan Rebellion of 1959 and China's Changing Relations with India and the Soviet Union](#), Journal of Cold War Studies, [Volume 8 Issue 3 Summer 2006](#), Cold War Studies at Harvard University.

⁴⁶⁷ The CIA's Secret War in Tibet, Kenneth Conboy, James Morrison, The University Press of Kansas, 2002.

their tracks. The group crossed over the Himalayas and the Indian border on 30 March 1959, reaching Tezpur in Assam on 18 April 1959.⁴⁶⁸ Sometime later His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama set up the Government of Tibet in Exile in Dharamshala, India,⁴⁶⁹ which is referred to today as "*Little Lhasa*". After the founding of the government in exile, He re-established the approximately 80,000 Tibetan refugees who followed Him into exile in agricultural settlements.⁴⁷⁰

203. While the 14th Dalai Lama escaped from Lhasa, the city was fully retaken by Chinese forces on 23 March 1959. A brutal crackdown began – the army had destroyed several monasteries and slaughtered thousands of Tibetans.⁴⁷¹ The Tibetan governing body was dissolved and the region's autonomy was lost.
204. On 10 March 1959 the fears of unlawful arrest of the Dalai Lama started and fearing disciples sought a safe haven for the Dalai Lama. In a similar way, due to various attempts to assassinate the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, made since the year 2003, and particularly on 3 March 2010, when He was locked inside His residential hut and set on fire, there have been continued attacks on the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam and His disciples. On 9 June 2012, just about a month from the coronation of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as the 293rd Pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam, the Chief Minister of the State, Sadananda Gowda grossly misused his power and the government machinery to execute a series of State-sponsored terror attacks on the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam and His disciples. The High Court in its order CRL.P. 3253/2012⁴⁷² implicitly exposed the state terrorism, where it termed the entire government process as "illegal", "without any authority", "contrary to law", "without jurisdiction". This did not remedy the situation. There were neither any repercussions for any of the state authorities responsible nor any sign of remorse or apology from perpetrators of the crime – such as the Chief Minister of the State. Rather, despite such gross misuse of instruments of law and executive powers of the state the Chief Minister of the state of Karnataka went on to become a Union Minister in the Government of India holding the portfolio of Law Minister.⁴⁷³ Several assassination attempts were made on the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam after His coronation as the 293rd Pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam. On 29 May 2012 – A mob of 100 anti-Hindu DK/DMK militants⁴⁷⁴, headed by the DMK party president of Kanjanur who opposed the appointment of the SPH as the 293rd Pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam, came to mob lynch the SPH when He was at His Kanjanur Agneeshwara temple residence.⁴⁷⁵ In 2019, a Member of the Legislative Assembly incited the police to carry out an extra-judicial assassination of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam compelling Him to seek refuge and protection.⁴⁷⁶ On 24 August 2018, the BJP Government illegally and arbitrarily suspended the passport of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.⁴⁷⁷ This was despite multiple court orders,

⁴⁶⁸ Richardson (1984), p. 210.

⁴⁶⁹ "Witness: Reporting on the Dalai Lama's escape to India." Peter Jackson. Reuters. 27 February 2009. [Witness: Reporting on the Dalai Lama's escape to India | Reuters](#)

⁴⁷⁰ "Profile: The Dalai Lama". BBC News. 25 February 2009.

⁴⁷¹ (i) Official Website of the Tibetan Government in Exile. [History Leading up to March 10th 1959](#). 7 September 1998. (ii) ["Inside Story of CIA's Black Hands in Tibet. The American Spectator, December 1997"](#).

⁴⁷² CRL.P. 3253/2012 <http://indiankanoon.org/doc/85011170>

⁴⁷³ ["Manohar Parrikar gets Defence, Suresh Prabhu Railways, Sadananda Gowda shifted to Law and Justice"](#). News 18. Press Trust of India. 9 November 2014.

⁴⁷⁴ 17 May 2012, Daily Thanthi, Page 4, DMK and DK party workers show black flags as warning to Nithyananda

⁴⁷⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=221868921865134>

⁴⁷⁶ www.thehansindia.com/telangana/jagga-reddys-poser-to-police-can-cops-kill-swami-nithyananda-in-encounter-588076

⁴⁷⁷ https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/2018-Aug-24_illegal_mea_notice_without_even_signature.jpg

against a similar suspension of passport done by the Central Government of India in April 2010. With this illegal order, the SPH was exiled into “de facto statelessness”⁴⁷⁸. Though the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam survived these assassination attempts – such attacks by mobs continue to be used to target other Hindu leaders – in 2019 a senior brother disciple (Gurubhai) of the SPH a Mahant (senior regional head) of Mahanirvani Akhada, along with his driver and intern monks were mob lynched and killed with the State police as an accomplice to the mob lynchings⁴⁷⁹.

The Dalai Lama as the Guru

- 205.** Dalai Lama is a title given by the Tibetan people to the foremost spiritual leader of the Gelug school of Tibetan Buddhism. The Mongolic word Dalai means “ocean” or “big”⁴⁸⁰ and the Tibetan word ལ་མ་ (Laa-ma) meaning “master, guru”⁴⁸¹, the word “Dalai Lama” translates to an ocean of wisdom. In the history of Tibetan Buddhism, there have been a total of 14 Dalai Lamas.
- 206.** Similarly, the foremost spiritual leaders of indigenous Hindu tribes particularly from South India, are addressed to as Jagat Guru Mahasannidhanam (JGM). The word “Sannidhaanam” (संनिधानम्) is used to reverentially refer to Chief Pontiffs of apex Hindu monasteries and temples, it translates to, “the one in whom everything is conserved”⁴⁸². “Sannidhaanam” is also used to refer to the main sanctum sanatorium of a Hindu temple. Sannidhaanam also means the “One who receives in charge”.⁴⁸³ The word “Guru” means “dispeller of darkness”⁴⁸⁴ and is similar to the Tibetan word “Lama”. As per indigenous Hindu traditions, the Guru is revered as the manifestation of ultimate cosmic reality in the human plane.⁴⁸⁵

The Dalai Lama as an incarnation

- 207.** The lineage of the Dalai Lama started in the 14th century.⁴⁸⁶ The His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso is the 14th Dalai Lama in the lineage. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is the 293rd Guru Mahasannidhanam of Shyamalapeetha Sarvajnanapeetha – Madurai Aadheenam (Madurai Monastery) and the 233rd Guru Mahasannidhanam of Kanchi Kailasa Sarvajnanapeetham Thondaimandala Adheenam (Thondaimandala Monastery), and He is also the pontiff of several ancient Hindu monastic and religious orders.
- 208.** The Dalai Lama is considered to be the successor in a line of Tulkus (a reincarnate custodian of a specific lineage of teachings in Tibetan Buddhism). The Dalai Lama is considered a living Bodhisattva; specifically, an emanation of Avalokitesvara. Avalokiteshvara is described as a

⁴⁷⁸ Luingham Luitui And Ors vs Union Of India And Ors on 23 August, 2017 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/51490658/> describes conditions of de facto statelessness and concluding it at point#21.

⁴⁷⁹ <https://youtu.be/oWlmXYcYnpw>

⁴⁸⁰ Schwieger 2014, p. 33.

⁴⁸¹ 陈庆英 (2005). 达赖喇嘛转世及历史定制英. 五洲传播出版社. pp. 16-. ISBN 978-7-5085-0745-3

⁴⁸² <https://prabhupadabooks.com/sb/10/2/28?d=1>

⁴⁸³ <https://sanskritdictionary.com/sa%E1%B9%83nidh%C4%81t%E1%B9%9B/32616/4>

⁴⁸⁴ (i) “गुरुब्दस्त्वन्धकारः स्यात् रुशब्दस्तन्निरोधकः। अन्धकारनिरोधित्वात् गुरुरित्यभिधीयते॥ १६॥”, translation, “The syllable gu means darkness, the syllable ru, he who dispels them, because of the power to dispel darkness, the guru is thus named.” Advayataraka Upanishad with Commentaries Archived 2015-09-24 at the Wayback Machine, Verse 16, (ii) Sanskrit John A. Grimes (17 October 1996). A Concise Dictionary of Indian Philosophy: Sanskrit Terms Defined in English. SUNY Press. pp. 133-. ISBN 978-1-4384-0499-8.

⁴⁸⁵ “गुरुं ब्रह्मा गुरुं विष्णु, गुरु देवो महेश्वरा गुरु साक्षात् परब्रह्म, तस्मै श्री गुरुवे नमः”, translation, “Guru is Brahma (the supreme Lord of Creation), Guru is Vishnu (the supreme Lord of sustenance and preservation), Guru is Maheshwara (the supreme Lord of rejuvenation and the destroyer), Guru Himself is the manifestation of ultimate supreme reality (God). I bow down in dedication to the Guru.”

⁴⁸⁶ <https://www.dalailama.com/the-dalai-lama/previous-dalai-lamas/previous-dalai-lama>

compassionate Bodhisattva who hears the cries of sentient beings, and who works tirelessly to help those who call upon his name.⁴⁸⁷ When a high Lama shows signs of passing away, His disciples request Him to reincarnate and continue His noble work of teaching the doctrine and liberating ignorant beings. If the Lama sees benefit in His being reborn in the same area, He accepts the request and reincarnates accordingly. Subsequently, a child is sought and the candidate who passes the series of traditional tests is formally recognized as the Tulku, or reincarnation of the deceased Lama.⁴⁸⁸ This is the compassion of Lamas, that though they have the option to control the time of their birth and be beyond the cycle of birth and rebirth, they chose to reincarnate to continue to lead their disciples until they are liberated attaining enlightenment. Just as per the Gelug Tibetan Buddhist tradition the Dalai Lama can reincarnate that has control over His rebirth and can even choose the body in which He will be reincarnated. The 13th Dalai Lama Thupten Gyatso died in 1933 but instead of exiting the circle of life and death, He was reborn as the 14th Dalai Lama Tenzin Gyatso.

- 209.** The lineage of enlightened masters and incarnations in India has much in similar. The lineage of Lord Paramaśiva represents the tradition of Gurus (enlightened masters) in Tiruvannamalai (also called Arunachala) starting from Paramaśiva (Primordial Hindu divinity) Himself. The lineage of Paramaśiva prevails to fulfill Paramaśiva's promise to humanity to be an eternal guiding force through an unbroken lineage of living Gurus gracing from the sacred city of Tiruvannamalai. Arunācala Purāṇa - the epic history of Arunācala - reveals that then, Lord Paramaśiva appeared as an infinite effulgence of light (called 'Lingodbhava') in Tiruvannamalai to bless humanity with the promise to be always available in the three-fold form: **(1)** in the form of the sacred Arunācala hill - as the Jyotirlingam (A deity in form of a hill continuously radiates the energy of Enlightenment) **(2)** in the form of the worshipful Śiva Liṅga deity in the Arunachaleshwara temple in Tiruvannamalai and **(3)** In the form of a living incarnation to continuously guide the people in the path of Enlightenment. True to His promise, Lord Paramaśiva retained His form as the Arunācala mountain, assumed the form of the Śivaliṅga called Arunācaleśvara, at the temple in Tiruvannamalai and is incarnating continuously keeping the unbroken lineage of enlightened beings in Tiruvannamalai till date. Paramaśiva Himself, as His direct incarnation Śrī Arunagiri Yogiśvara, established the Kailaasa Paramparagatha Ādi Arunachala Sarvajnapētham Samrajyam (spiritual and religious kingdom) in Tiruvannamalai. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is a direct reincarnation of Śrī Arunagiri Yogiśvara.

Political interference and distortion of the science of incarnation (1959 until today)

- 210.** The reincarnation of the Dalai Lama is a multi-birth, multi-generation commitment of great beings – the Lamas – to their students and disciples that will continue to guide them forever. Reincarnation is a personal commitment between the Guru (master) to the disciple. However, it is extremely unfortunate that this personal commitment has been distorted into a political matter. In November 2015, Zhu Weiqun, chairman of the ethnic and religious affairs committee of the top advisory body to China's parliament, reiterated a long-stated position that only the Chinese state could confirm the next Dalai Lama saying that the Dalai Lama's succession *"is first and foremost an important political matter in Tibet and an important manifestation of the Chinese central government's sovereignty over Tibet."* Chinese state the authorities have attempted to regulate the appointment

⁴⁸⁷ Lotus Sutra, Chapter 25, Universal Gate of Bodhisattva Avalokiteśvara <http://cttbusa.org/lotus/lotus25.asp.html>

⁴⁸⁸ https://www.shambhala.com/snowlion_articles/tibetan-tradition-reincarnation/

of Tibetan religious leaders, against the intrinsic beliefs and religious traditions of Tibetan Buddhists. In 2007, the Government issued the “State Religious Affairs Bureau Order No.5 (Bureau Order)” that specifically laid down measures in managing the reincarnation of Tibetan lamas or living Buddhas. In article 2 of the Bureau Order, it was stressed that *“living Buddha reincarnations should respect and protect the principles of the unification of the state, protecting the unity of the minorities, protecting religious concord and social harmony, and protecting the normal order of Tibetan Buddhism”*. In articles 3 and 4, the Bureau Order set the conditions for the application of reincarnation of a living Buddha and also granted authority to local Chinese governments to decide if reincarnation is permissible. The rest of the Bureau Order, detailed various procedures for receiving the Buddhist Association of China’s opinion and the State’s permission or approval for reincarnation.

211. Reincarnation of Hindu incarnations, just like that in of Buddhist Lamas, is a multi-birth, multi-generational commitment sacred commitment of masters and Avatars to their disciples. It is revealed in the Arunācala Purāṇa - that Lord Paramaśiva appeared as an infinite effulgence of light (called ‘Lingodbhava’) blessed humanity with the promise to be always available in the three forms – the sacred Arunācala hill, the presiding Deity in the Arunachaleshwara temple, and as a living incarnation to continuously guide His disciples in the path of Enlightenment. The state interference in reincarnation in a similar and equally unfortunate ordeal, the reincarnation of enlightened masters.

The Dalai Lama as the head of the Tibetan state

212. The Third Dalai Lama, Sonam Gyatso (1543 - 1588) was born in Tolung, near Lhasa,⁴⁸⁹ as predicted by his predecessor.⁴⁹⁰ He was Gendun Gyatso and readily recalling events from his previous life, he was recognized as the incarnation, named ‘Sonam Gyatso’ and installed at Drepung, where *“He quickly excelled His teachers in knowledge and wisdom and developed extraordinary powers”*.⁴⁹¹ The kings of the Mongolian empire became His followers and adopted Buddhism as the state religion.⁴⁹² The Dalai Lama was the head of the state of Tibet and the spiritual guide to the Mongolian Kings. Dalai Lama’s sovereignty and rule over Tibet were subject to patronage and protection of firstly Mongol kings (1642 - 1720) and then the Manchu-led Qing dynasty (1720 - 1912).⁴⁹³
213. In 1895, the 13th Dalai Lama Thubten Gyatso assumed ruling power from the monasteries. From 1910 to 1913 to escape a Chinese invasion, the Dalai Lama with his close aide Tsarong Dzasa, fled via Jelep La⁴⁹⁴ to Sikkim and Darjeeling. During this period His Holiness was invited to Calcutta by the British Viceroy, Lord Minto.⁴⁹⁵ The 13th Dalai Lama Thubten Gyatso returned to Lhasa in January 1913. The new Chinese government apologized for the actions of the previous Qing dynasty. From 1913 the Dalai Lama assumed spiritual and political leadership of Tibet and declared the complete

⁴⁸⁹ Shakabpa 1984, p. 92.

⁴⁹⁰ Mullin 2001, pp. 113, 117.

⁴⁹¹ Norbu 1986, p. 217.

⁴⁹² Bell 1946, p. 33.

⁴⁹³ (i) Smith, Warren W. Jr. (1997). Tibetan Nation: A History of Tibetan Nationalism and Sino-Tibetan Relations. New Delhi: HarperCollins. pp. 107 - 149. ISBN 0-8133-3155-2. (ii) Jiawei Wang; 尼玛坚赞 (1997). [The Historical Status of China's Tibet](#). 五洲传播出版社. pp. 62-. ISBN 978-7-80113-304-5.

⁴⁹⁴ (i) [The Thirteenth Dalai Lama, Thupten Gyatso Archived](#) 12 September 2012 (ii) Richardson 1984, p. 41

⁴⁹⁵ Chapman (1940).

independence of Tibet.⁴⁹⁶ For the first time in five centuries, the 13th Dalai Lama declared the sovereignty of His rule over Tibet independent of any patronage, protection, or endorsement of any country or its leaders. The Dalai Lama gave a detailed argumentation that Tibet was never a part of China.⁴⁹⁷ The Dalai Lama assumed control of foreign relations and dealt directly with the Maharaja (King) and the British Political officer in Sikkim and the king of Nepal.⁴⁹⁸ He then standardized the Tibetan flag in its present form.⁴⁹⁹ In October 1950 the army of the People's Republic of China marched to the edge of the Dalai Lama's territory and sent a delegation after defeating a legion of the Tibetan army in warlord-controlled Kham.

- 214.** The office of the GuruMahasannidhanam in Hindu kingdoms is similar to that of the Dalai Lama. The word "*Jagatguru*" literally means "*Guru of the entire world*" and is an honorific used to address Guru Mahasannidhanams as they were the constitutional and the spiritual heads of ancient Hindu nations.⁵⁰⁰ In some Hindu nations the Guru Mahasannidhanam was the head of the state executive also, and in other cases, they presumed the executive roles temporarily in situations of emergencies such as vacancy of the throne due to the untimely death of the king. The significance of the Guru Mahasannidhanam of Madurai Aadheenam as a constitutional head of the Hindu Papal state of Madurai was recognized by the colonial era government. On 3 Jan 1893, the Guru Maha Sannidhanam of Madurai Aadheenam was conferred with the title of *Rao Bahadur* ⁵⁰¹, a title given to Kings by the British Empire, and on 4 September 1880, the sovereign immunity of the Guru Maha Sannidhanam from arrests and appearances in the court was formally acknowledged by the colonial government also.⁵⁰² Just as the 13th Dalai Lama had to flee Tibet from 1910 to 1913, owing to several assassination attempts made on the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam from 2003 to 2018, He was forced to exile Himself from the Indian society. The same year the Government of India, against international human rights standards⁵⁰³, unlawfully⁵⁰⁴, and unconstitutionally⁵⁰⁵ impounded the passport of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam denying His rights to natural citizenship as well⁵⁰⁶. This illegal act by the state was a repetition – it was done despite multiple

⁴⁹⁶ Mayhew, Bradley and Michael Kohn. (2005). Tibet, p. 32. Lonely Planet Publications. ISBN 1-74059-523-8.

⁴⁹⁷ [Kuzmin S.L. The 13th Dalai Lama on the status of Tibet. - Oriental Studies, 2020, vol. 13, no 2, pp. 252-268.](#)

⁴⁹⁸ Sheel, R. N. Rahul. "The Institution of the Dalai Lama". The Tibet Journal, Vol. XIV No. 3. Autumn 1989, pp. 24 and 29.

⁴⁹⁹ Sheel, p. 20.

⁵⁰⁰ <https://gov.shrikailasa.org/royal-heritage-of-guru-mahasannidhanam/>

⁵⁰¹ Viceroy and Governor General's letter dated 3 Jan 1893, To Saiva Samayachariyar, Thirugnanasambhandha Pandara Sannathi Head of the Madura Saiva Samaya Chariar Thirugnana Sambhadha Disika Swami Adhina Mattam in Madras. "*I Hereby Confer Upon you The Title of 'RAO BAHADUR' as a personal Distinction.*" மதுரை ஆதின வரலாறு – History of Madurai Aadheenam - drive.google.com/file/d/1ZsfdTQkOXPWQAJxBmWKmpOn6WZJtecFu/view

⁵⁰² Judicial Department proceedings of Madras Government, Letters from the Collector of Madura, dated 4 Sep. 1880; No. 2712; order thereon 15 Sep 1880, No. 2240, "*Under Section 641 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the Governor-in-Council is pleased to exempt Saiva Samayachariar Tirugnana Sambanda Pandara Sannadhi Avergal, the Saiva High Priest of Madurai from personal appearance in the Courts of the Presidency.*" G. Stokes (For Chief Secretary) – மதுரை ஆதின வரலாறு – History of Madurai Aadheenam - drive.google.com/file/d/1ZsfdTQkOXPWQAJxBmWKmpOn6WZJtecFu/view

⁵⁰³ UN UDHR Article 13, "*Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State*", "*Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country*".

⁵⁰⁴ In Suresh Nanda vs C.B.I, 2008, the Supreme Court of India ruled : Point#15. "In our opinion, even the Court cannot impound a passport." <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/572504/>

⁵⁰⁵ In Maneka Gandhi Vs Union of India, 1978, the Supreme Court of India ruled, "*Right to travel abroad is guaranteed under Article 21.*" <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1766147/>

⁵⁰⁶ Section 3 of the Citizenship Act, 1955 - Citizenship by birth.— (2), every person born in India— (b) on or after the 1st day of July, 1987, but before the commencement of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2003 (6 of 2004) and either of whose parents is a citizen of India at the time of his birth; <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1935787/>

court orders in favor of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam particularly from 2010, against the government's similar impounding done against Him in 2010.⁵⁰⁷

- 215.** Just like the 13th Dalai Lama declared the independence of Tibet in 1912, in 2018, the SPH Nithyananda Parashivam, the 293rd Gurumahasannidhanam of the Shyamalapeetha Sarvajnanapeetha – declared the revival of KAILASA – the ancient enlightened civilizational Hindu nation – and His sovereignty to spiritually lead, guide, and protect the interests of the two billion Hindus worldwide, independent of any political patronage, protection, or endorsement of any country or its leaders, especially to protect interests of the Hindus who lost their rights to peacefully practice their religion in their country owing to their persecution. Just as the 13th Dalai Lama standardized the Tibetan flag, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam standardized the flag of KAILASA – the Rishabha Dwaja and launched KAILASA's passport and the Reserve Bank of KAILASA.⁵⁰⁸ The announcement of the revival of KAILASA created an outrage in the Indian political circles and media especially the neo-Hindutva extremists who saw this as an act of defiance of the political subjugation of Hinduism by the neo-Hindutva extremists.



An iconic photograph of the Dalai Lama (right) with Mao (center) – the head of the People's Republic of China on September 11, 1954. Five years later in 1959, the Dalai Lama was exiled, and China invaded Tibet.



A photograph of the current (as of 2021) Prime Minister of India – Narendra Modi and the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, taken on September 10, 2009. Nine years later, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was exiled.

The Dalai Lama for the people and political leaders

- 216.** The 14th Dalai Lama was born into a family of peasants and was ordained at the age of three. The Dalai Lama places highly in global surveys of the world's most admired men, and among the world's religious leaders cited as the most admired.⁵⁰⁹ The Dalai Lama's appeal is variously ascribed to His charismatic personality, international fascination with Buddhism, His universalist

⁵⁰⁷ (i) "The passport of the accused 1 (the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam) be released into the custody of accused 1 for his interim custody till the disposal of this case" in CC 204 of 2010 in the Court of Principle Senior Civil Judge Ramanagara dated 23 February 2012 https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/2012-Feb-23-CC204_order-to-return-passport.pdf

(ii) https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/2010-Aug-09-MEA-order-to-police-to-return-passport.jpg

⁵⁰⁸ (i) "The World Banking System Has A New Competitor - LewRockwell LewRockwell.com". LewRockwell.com. (ii) "Reserve Bank of Kailasa, Kailashian Dollar: All you need to know about Nithyananda's 'central bank and currency'".

Deccan Herald. 24 August 2020.

⁵⁰⁹ (i) Regina A. Corso (29 May 2013). "The Dalai Lama, President Obama and Pope Francis at Highest Levels of Popularity in U.S. and Five Largest European Countries". New York: Harris, A Nielsen Company. (ii) Matthew Smith (22 September 2020). "World's most admired 2020". YouGov.

values, and international sympathy for the Tibetans.⁵¹⁰ The Dalai Lama has worked tirelessly as a spiritual guide for the Tibetans and also the political head of the Tibetan State in exile. The 6.7 million Tibetan Buddhists around the world look to Him for religious guidance. The 120,000 Tibetans living in exile view Him as a spiritual leader. However, for some Chinese political leaders, such as Zhang Qingli, a hardline leader of the Communist Party in Tibet, the Dalai Lama is the exact opposite, where He was quoted in the Tibet Daily saying, *"The Dalai is a wolf in monk's robes, a devil with a human face but the heart of a beast"*⁵¹¹. Other Chinese state officials have described the Dalai Lama as – *"[a] dangerous splittist"*⁵¹² and others have similar outrageous remarks such as *"the Dalai Lama is profaning Buddhism."*⁵¹³

217. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was born in an Adi Shaiva Vellalar ASMT community, which are primarily agriculturalists. Until 2012, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was recognized as amongst the hundred most spiritually influential living people on the planet along with the Dalai Lama.⁵¹⁴ This was despite the tremendous hate speech, smear campaign, and political attacks on His character done by politically owned media – that totaled to more than 14,000 hours of cumulative negative defamatory air time coverage by media in less than four years. Until 2010, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was seen as the *"largest crowd-pulling Hindu guru in the history of Tamil Nadu"* by the Tamil Nadu State intelligence records – something which was shared by an intelligence officer visiting a program of the SPH on 30 December 2009. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has worked tirelessly as a spiritual guide for His devotees and the larger Hindu diaspora around the globe and just in India. Under the guidance and leadership of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, for 27 years, every month the Hindu ASMT community has served more than 3 million⁵¹⁵ free organic meals in religious gatherings to everyone without discrimination and has served over 1 billion⁵¹⁶ free meals in total. The volunteers and monks of

⁵¹⁰ Anand, Dibyesh (15 December 2010). *"The Next Dalai Lama: China has a choice"*. The Guardian. London.

⁵¹¹ https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2008/03/19/dalai_lama_wolf_in_monks_robes_china.html

⁵¹² <https://time.com/3743742/dalai-lama-china-reincarnation-tibet-buddhism/>

⁵¹³ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-parliament-tibet-idUSKBN0M50R920150309>

⁵¹⁴ <https://www.watkinsmagazine.com/watkins-spiritual-100-list-2012> at #88 as Paramahansa Nithyananda

⁵¹⁵ Anna Daan (Distribution of free organic meals) during festival such as Pournami (full moon day festival) - some instances - (i) https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/April_17_2011 , (ii) https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_08_2012 , (iii) https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/November_10_2011 , (iv) https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/December_08_2011 , etc. every full moon day for past 27 years.

⁵¹⁶ (A) Anna Daan during festivals (B) Anna Daan during Kumbh Melas serving 10 million free meals - https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/April_28_2016 , https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/May_17_2016 https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/September_10_2015 etc (C) Anna Daan during natural calamities and disasters https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_02_2012 , https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_03_2012 , https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_04_2012 , https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_05_2012 , https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_06_2012 , https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_07_2012 (D) Anna Daan during COVID-19 crisis aggravated by the lock down <https://fb.com/1499333043578701> , <https://fb.com/1504153646429974> , <https://fb.com/1504152806430058> etc.

the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam have saved millions⁵¹⁷ of human lives through various disaster relief works such as the 2012 Thane cyclone⁵¹⁸ and blood donation camps⁵¹⁹.



Even with a fractured hand, the SPH Bhagavan Sri Nithyananda Paramashivam engaged in selfless work day and night, inspiring the peacekeepers of the Sovereign Order of Kailasa to engage in selfless service, leading by example. In 2011, the SPH had multiple compound fractures with the bone protruding out of the skin for which He underwent surgical insertion of metallic implants. The picture above is after the surgery, in 2013 when these metallic implants were removed as the bones had healed completely.

The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has opened His temple-monastic-community premises (Aadheenams) in India and provided multi-layer preventive quarantine as a free service for protecting people from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic for all - irrespective of race, religion, caste, nationality, gender, etc., the service is offered completely free of charge to all. The merits of this service were also shared in a report to the UN.⁵²⁰ To help people cope up with depression, anxiety, stress, and for the overall well-being of psychological health of all His devotees and followed especially during the COVID-19 pandemic the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has provided free meditation and yoga classes. Through many such efforts, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has served the people of the planet Earth. For His efforts, He has been recognized globally.⁵²¹ The two Kumbh Melas which followed His coronation as the Supreme Pontiff of

⁵¹⁷ (i) Tsunami Relief https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_05_2005, (ii) Andhra Flood Relief https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/October_11_2009, (iii) Karnataka Flood Relief <https://sriparashiva.github.io/kailasaarchivedwebsites/services-dhyanaapeetam/pages/flood-relief2009-KA.shtml> and Directly contributing to the Chief Minister's relief fund https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/October_12_2009, (iv) Phase two flood relief effort (Mahabubnagar & Kurnool) in Andhra Pradesh <https://sriparashiva.github.io/kailasaarchivedwebsites/services-dhyanaapeetam/pages/flood-relief2009-AP2.shtml>, (v) Thane cyclone relief https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_05_2012 etc.

⁵¹⁸ Thane cyclone flood relief, Anna Daan, medical camps etc. https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_02_2012, https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_03_2012, https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_04_2012, https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_05_2012, https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_06_2012, https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_07_2012

⁵¹⁹ (i) 365 day blood donation camps - https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/August_15_2009 (ii) https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/December_11_2011 etc.

⁵²⁰ <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/IntOrder/Multilateralism/AdiShaiviteMinorityTradition.pdf>

⁵²¹ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/HDH_Nithyananda_Paramashivam

Hinduism in January 2015 was attended by one than 10 million Hindus.⁵²² The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is a spiritual guide for more than a billion Hindus worldwide. Just as how the state officials in China have made outrageous remarks against the Dalai Lama, such as, *"The Dalai is a wolf in monk's robes, a devil with a human face but the heart of a beast"*⁵²³, the DMK government and the neo-Hindutva extremists and rogue elements in the state machinery have also made outrageous and hateful remarks against the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam. On 3 March 2010 the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu from the DMK, Karunanidhi, called out names at Hindu Swamis (the equivalent of Tibetan Lamas) particularly the SPH⁵²⁴ as **"cheats (ஏமாற்றுவித்தைக்காரர்களையும்)", "imposters (பகல்வேடக்காரர்களையும்)", "brainwashers and destroyers of the life of the people (மக்களின் வாழ்வையும் அறிவையும் பாழாக்கி வருகின்ற)", "swindlers of money (பணக் கொள்ளை அடிக்கின்ற)", "despicable Swamis (கயமைத்தன சாமியார்களின்)", "hoodwinkers who are disguising in the name of devotion", "pushing the illiterate into a deep pit (இதுபோன்ற ஏமாற்றுவித்தைக்காரர்களையும், பக்தி வேடம் பூண்டு பாமர மக்களை படு குழியில் தள்ளுகின்ற பகல்வேடக்காரர்களையும்)".** The Chief Minister declared the stand of his government on Hindu monks (like the SPH), **"my government cannot tolerate the despicable Swami's hoodwinking acts (கயமைத்தன சாமியார்களின் ஏமாற்று வித்தைகளை பொறுத்துக் கொண்டிருக்க முடியாது)." The Chief Minister described the practicing Hindus who followed Swamis (like the followers of the SPH) as, "People who are deeply buried in ignorance who cannot still understand these or even if understood do not want to change (அப்படியிருந்தும், இன்னமும் புரிந்துகொள்ள முடியாத, புரிந்துகொண்டாலும் திருந்திக் கொள்ள இயலாத மௌனத்தில் மூழ்கியோர் நாட்டில், சமூகத்தில் இருக்கத்தான் செய்கிறார்கள்)", "those fickle-minded people who have fallen prey to these Swamis and destroying the society (இதுபோன்ற ஏமாற்றுவித்தைக்காரர்களையும், பக்தி வேடம் பூண்டு பாமர மக்களை படு குழியில் தள்ளுகின்ற பகல்வேடக்காரர்களையும், அவர்களிடம் பலியாகி சமுதாயத்தை சீரழிக்கின்ற சபல புத்தி உடையவர்களையும் இந்த அரசு வேடிக்கை பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்காது)".** The Chief Minister pleaded to the citizens, **"those who really want these preachers to be eradicated should stand by and support the actions my government is taking (ஊருக்கு உபதேசிகளை ஒழித்துக் கட்ட வேண்டுமென்று எண்ணுகின்ற ஒவ்வொருவரும் இந்த அரசு எடுக்கின்ற நடவடிக்கைகளுக்கு உறுதுணையாக இருக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்)".** In a similar way, in 2012, the Chief Minister of Karnataka from the BJP said, *"We do not encourage such immoral people in Karnataka, and I am going to make an example out of*

⁵²² As per Madhya Pradesh State Police reports, see also - https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/April_28_2016, https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/May_07_2016, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/September_10_2015

⁵²³ https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2008/03/19/dalai_lama_wolf_in_monks_robes_china.html

⁵²⁴ (i) 4 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 6 (ii) 4 March 2010 - Headlines Today - Report (Part 5) - <https://youtu.be/GeGoQJdTjE> - "the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister himself has just issued a press release saying, 'Stern action would be taken against all the fake Godmen in the wake of this particular issue'. He also said that 'the Tamil Nadu government will not remain a mute spectator to this entire episode'" (iii) With Translations - 4 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 6 docs.google.com/document/d/1f7CEsZDNw5Tl8wJX3fckhmEGqOyESHgy7GgXJai8vo

*Nithyananda*⁵²⁵. Some politicians have even incited the police to carry out an extra-judicial assassination of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.⁵²⁶

Return From Exile and role of the international community

- 218.** As of 2021, the Dalai Lama is 86 years old. Unlike Thích Nhất Hạnh's first return to Vietnam in 2005 to subsequent retirement in 2018, we don't know when and if the Dalai Lama would ever be able to return to Tibet. However, it is thoroughly clear that the assistance and the aid that the Tibetan community in exile along with the Dalai Lama received from the international community helped them beyond measures. Many countries and organizations have pledged their support and extended their assistance right from 1959 when for example, the Dalai Lama was forced to flee His monastery and the CIA was sent to assure His safety and protection. In December 2020, the US passed the Tibetan Policy and Support Act, where the US would per law impose sanctions on Chinese state officials if they appoint a Lama against the will of the Tibetans. The State of the People's Republic of China has been however selecting and grooming a group of senior Lamas that would eventually be used for selecting CCP friendly alternative Dalai Lama and make it appear that the Dalai Lama was chosen by Tibetan Buddhist religious leaders, rather than CCP officials.⁵²⁷ In a similar way, the state groomed DMK affiliated Guru Mahasannidhanams have tried to elect and place an imposter 293rd GuruMahaSannidhanam of the Madurai Aadheenam when the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is already recognized as the real 293rd Pontiff by His ordainment to the throne as per custom and procedures which is also by multiple court orders validating all these. Thus it is evident that the international community needs to recognize this persecution and prevent this State of Tamil Nadu headed by the DMK from appointing its own politically compliant GuruMahaSannidhanam over and above the wishes of the ASMT Hindu community and the disciples of the Madurai Aadheenam, especially given the fact that the State is blatantly disobeying and acting counter to the orders of its own courts, such as the outright disregarding the orders of the court to CRP. (PD)(MD)818/2018 and CMP(MD)3630/2018 wherein the court explicitly held the appointment of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam as the 293rd Pontiff as "*irrevocable*".⁵²⁸ It is the responsibility of the international community to protect the rights of Hindus, as the state of Tamil Nadu under the DMK has chosen to act against the law of the country and has chosen to quell the religious and human rights of the minority Hindu communities.

C. Father Arkadii Ostal'sky and Bishop Alexander (Russia)

- 219.** In 1917, following the Bolshevik Revolution⁵²⁹ the State of the USSR deprived the formerly official church of its status of legal personhood, the right to own property or to teach religion, especially

⁵²⁵ 16 Jun 2012, India Today, indiatoday.in/magazine/nation/story/20120625-nithyananda-surrenders-in-court-sent-to-custody-758791-2012-06-16

⁵²⁶ www.thehansindia.com/telangana/jagga-reddys-pose-to-police-can-cops-kill-swami-nithyananda-in-encounter-588076

⁵²⁷ www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-14/who-will-be-the-next-dalai-lama-u-s-india-china-try-to-control-process

⁵²⁸ "point 44. ... Hence this court is of the opinion that the Petitioner's appointment is irrevocable and hence he [Sri Nithyananda Paramashivam] is the Junior Pontiff of the Mutt.", order to CRP.(PD)(MD) 818 of 2018 and CMP(MD) 3630 of 2018 Before the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, delivered on 10 July 2018,

[https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/Order_to_Crp.\(PD\)\(MD\)_818-of-2018_and_CMP\(MD\)_3630-of-2018_Madurai_Bench_Madras_High_Court_dated_10-July-2018-\(CRP_OS_1000\).pdf](https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/Order_to_Crp.(PD)(MD)_818-of-2018_and_CMP(MD)_3630-of-2018_Madurai_Bench_Madras_High_Court_dated_10-July-2018-(CRP_OS_1000).pdf) alternative link <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/96776711/>

⁵²⁹ Samaan, A.E. (2013). *From a "Race of Masters" to a "Master Race": 1948 to 1848*. A.E. Samaan. p. 346. ISBN 978-0615747880.

in schools⁵³⁰. During the 1921 – 1941 period, there were multiple anti-religious campaigns against churches and believers by the State of USSR, wherein the State terrorized religious adherents with policies to deprive them of legal means of existence⁵³¹ aimed at the elimination of most religion and its replacement with the materialist and atheistic world view of the state.⁵³² Though the State of USSR never made it illegal to be a believer or to have religion, the activities of this campaign were often veiled under other pretexts that the state invoked or invented to justify State-sponsored religious persecution.⁵³³

220. Father Arkadii Ostal'sky was one of the victims of this state-sponsored persecution that targeted religious leaders. Father Arkadii Ostal'sky was accused in 1922 of inciting the masses against the state. At his trial, every witness refuted the charge. However the prosecution argued that this number of witnesses was proof that the bishop was very popular and because he preached religion – which as per the prosecution was harmful to the Soviet state, he ought to be condemned. He was sentenced to death, but this was commuted to ten years of hard labor. This anti-religion terror campaign resulted in severe international criticism. Although Father Arkadii Ostal'sky was not one of the persons whom the international community was aware of or directly sought to protect, the international criticism helped his situation, and his sentence term was reduced. However, owing to this international criticism subsequent anti-religion campaigns were done in absolute secrecy.⁵³⁴
221. Just like Father Arkadii Ostal'sky, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was illegally arrested in 2010. On 25 March 2010, the SPH's anticipatory bail was denied by the High Court citing *"apprehension of the petitioner is unfounded"*, saying that there was no basis on which the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam could be arrested so He did not need bail⁵³⁵. However less than a month later, on 21st April 2010, during the hearing on another anticipatory bail petition of the SPH for the same false accusations in a lower court (Ramanagara District Court) the Police lied in the court saying they had already arrested the SPH. However in reality only around two hours later, with the help of the intelligence department⁵³⁶, a different team of police officers entered the house where the SPH was staying in Solan (Himachal Pradesh, India) and illegally arrested Him. The court said, that since the SPH was already arrested, the petition could not anymore be for anticipatory bail (bail secured before arrest) and directed to file another regular bail petition. During the hearing of this third bail petition, the court observed, *"No doubt statements of several witnesses conducted in CD submitted for perusal of the court reveal their 100% Trust in the petitioner and his mission"*⁵³⁷, however in the very next paragraph of the judgment, the court absurdly asserted that since the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam (addressed as Swamiji by the court)

⁵³⁰ "Soviet repression of the Ukrainian Catholic Church." Department of State Bulletin 87 (1987)

⁵³¹ Dimitry V. Pospelovsky. A History of Soviet Atheism in Theory, and Practice, and the Believer, vol 1: A History of Marxist-Leninist Atheism and Soviet Anti-Religious Policies, St Martin's Press, New York (1987) pg 33

⁵³² (i) Dimitry V. Pospelovsky (1987) pg 34 (ii) Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, The Attitude of the Workers' Party to Religion. Proletary, No. 45, May 13 (26), 1909. <http://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1909/may/13.htm>

⁵³³ Letters of Metropolitan Sergii of Vilnius

⁵³⁴ Dimitry V. Pospelovsky. A History of Soviet Atheism in Theory, and Practice, and the Believer, vol 2: Soviet Antireligious Campaigns and Persecutions, St Martin's Press, New York (1988) p. 65

⁵³⁵ 25 March 2010 - <https://www.deccanherald.com/content/60078/hc-rejects-nithyananda-advance-bail.html>

⁵³⁶ 21 April 2010 - AAJ Tak - <https://youtu.be/XVfcIMQw3OU> - mentions State intelligence was spying on the SPH for months.

⁵³⁷ Point#14 in Ramanagara District Court order in CrI. Misc. P. 175/2010 dated 23 March 2010, shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/CrI.Misc.175-of-2010_Ramanagara-District-Court_dated-23-Mar-2010.pdf

commanded status and position in the Hindu religion he ought to be in prison as allegations against Him were grave and only by voluntarily allowing His arrest He could save Himself from the embarrassment of being forcibly or illegally arrested.⁵³⁸ The allegations were even more absurd. The Tamil Nadu State police had charged the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam with suspicion⁵³⁹ of the rape of nobody – there was no complainant of rape.⁵⁴⁰ The false charges were sustained by the political intervention of the DK/DMK affiliated media and misinformation and hate speech by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.⁵⁴¹ The DMK owned media houses such as Sun TV had created and funded the misinformation. A court had observed – ***“However, it is not a matter for the court to discuss since the issue was subsidized by the media by telecasting the incident and a question mark is created amongst the public as regard to the image of Sanyasi or Swamiji.”***⁵⁴²

222. During this period of illegal arrest, the police tortured⁵⁴³ the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam to give a false confession against Himself, to stop His global humanitarian mission, to stop all His religious activities, and to step down as the head of the charitable organizations that He created. The police kept appealing to extend the period of the custody, however, it had no witnesses or complainants of rape – the police quietly submitted a memo to the High Court that read - *“As on today [11 June 2010], no witness come forward to lead evidence against Nithyananda.”*⁵⁴⁴ Finally, since there were no witnesses, evidence, and not even any sensible allegations against the SPH, the court had no option but to grant bail to the SPH, however, the Court suspended the freedom of speech of the SPH to disabled Him from being able to speak anything about the torture done to Him in prison during His illegal arrest. This was ridiculed in the media, where it said - the court has gagged the godman⁵⁴⁵.
223. The fifteenth Communist Party Congress of 1928 resulted in the anti-religion campaign escalating with the drafting of new legislation that severely prohibited religious activities and called for an education process on religion to further disseminate atheism and materialist philosophy. After

⁵³⁸ Point#15, *“In the back drop of status and position of Swamiji in Hindu religion, offence in the complaint are grave. Petitioner has no impediments to surrender to court to void illegal detention and humiliation on arrest by police”*, in Ramanagara District Court order to CrI. Misc. P. 175/2010 dated 23 March 2010, shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/CrI.Misc.175-of-2010_Ramanagara-District-Court_dated-23-Mar-2010.pdf

⁵³⁹ 22 Sept 2010, Deccan Chronicle - High court Pulls up CID – A High Court judge during a hearing remarked at the police, *“Under the guise of suspicion, how long can you (police) torture a person (referring to the SPH)”*
<https://www.daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay.aspx?newsID=86153>

⁵⁴⁰ *“Medical examination of the accused in a case of rape is mandatory under Section 53 (a) of CrPC. When he (the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam) was arrested, this examination could not be conducted as there was no victim then.”*
<https://www.deccanherald.com/content/429841/potency-test-legal-nonsense-expert.html>

⁵⁴¹ (i) 4 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 6 (ii) 4 March 2010 - Headlines Today - Report (Part 5) - <https://youtu.be/GeGo0JdTjE> - *“the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister himself has just issued a press release saying, ‘Stern action would be taken against all the fake Godmen in the wake of this particular issue’. He also said that ‘the Tamil Nadu government will not remain a mute spectator to this entire episode’*”

(iii) 4 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 6
docs.google.com/document/d/1f7CEsZDNw5Tl8wJX3fckhmEGqOyESHgy7GgXJiai8vo

⁵⁴² CrI. P. 2328/2010 <http://judgmenthck.kar.nic.in/judgments/bitstream/123456789/388329/1/CRLP2328-10-11-06-2010.pdf>

⁵⁴³ Records of torture with evidences are publicly accessible here from para 249 to 258 u/s *“IV. Attempts to kill ASMT leader the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism”* https://nithyanandapedia.org/images/7/77/Grand_Narrative_of_Hinduism-contributions_and_persecution.pdf

⁵⁴⁴ Memo of status report, submitted by the Karnataka State Police to the Karnataka State High Court in CrI.P.2328,2329,2344 of 2010, dated 11 June 2010 https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/2010-06-11_no-evidence-48-witnesses-memo-certified_1.jpg

⁵⁴⁵ 12 June 2010 - Deccan Chronicle - Nithyananda given bail but court gags ‘godman’
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ssMsDehL3BAOpC0fqIS5RLqslMu2b6q>

1929 and through the 1930s, the closing of churches, mass arrests of the clergy and religiously active laity, and persecution of people for attending church reached unprecedented proportions.⁵⁴⁶ For example, in the central Russian region of Bezhetsk, 100 of the surviving 308 churches were shut in 1929 in comparison to twelve being closed in this region between the period 1918 - 1929.⁵⁴⁷ Much of this was carried out on secret unpublished instructions from the Central Committee, while confusingly the same Committee would publicly call for an end to the practice of shutting churches.⁵⁴⁸ The anti-religion terror campaign in the 1930s was conducted in an atmosphere of absolute secrecy after the international backlash that followed after a similar campaign from 1929 - 1930.⁵⁴⁹ Party members that were found to have religious affiliation were purged.⁵⁵⁰ Party members that were found to have insufficiently detached themselves from religious affiliations (e.g. if they continued to be friends with the local priest) were expelled and purged.⁵⁵¹ This resulted in widespread marginalization of priests and religious leaders, where absolutely nobody was ready to assist them and protect their human rights. After Father Arkadii Ostal'sky returned early from his sentence he was consecrated as a bishop but was then arrested and exiled to Solovki in 1931.

224. Soon after His release from the prison, in 2010, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was coronated as the 293rd Pontiff of the Madurai Aadheenam. Immediately after the coronation, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was illegally arrested a second time.⁵⁵² Just as how 100 of the churches were shut in the central Russian region of Bezhetsk in 1929, in a similar manner, DK/DMK militants aided by the police, set on fire, vandalized and shut down more than fifty ASMT Hindu temples in Tamil Nadu in 2010.⁵⁵³
225. In 1934, Father Arkadii Ostal'sky returned from exile and then went into hiding, but he was caught and sent to another concentration camp. He was released shortly before the war broke out and was told by his camp administrator that he could have safety and job security if he agreed to remain in the area of the camps and give up the priesthood. He refused and was then re-arrested and disappeared.⁵⁵⁴
226. In 2010 and 2012, when the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was illegally arrested, He was coerced with torture to resign as the head of the charitable humanitarian organization that He had

⁵⁴⁶ (i) Dmitry V. Pospelovsky. A History of Soviet Atheism in Theory, and Practice, and the Believer, vol 1: A History of Marxist-Leninist Atheism and Soviet Anti-Religious Policies, St Martin's Press, New York (1987) p. 41 (ii) Paul Dixon, Religion in the Soviet Union, first published 1945 in Workers International News, and can be found at: <http://www.marxist.com/religion-soviet-union170406.htm> (iii) Letters from Moscow, Gleb Yakunin and Lev Regelson, <http://www.regels.org/humanright.htm>

⁵⁴⁷ Dmitry V. Pospelovsky. A History of Soviet Atheism in Theory, and Practice, and the Believer, vol 2: Soviet Antireligious Campaigns and Persecutions, St Martin's Press, New York (1988) p. 64

⁵⁴⁸ Dmitry V. Pospelovsky. A History of Soviet Atheism in Theory, and Practice, and the Believer, vol 1: A History of Marxist-Leninist Atheism and Soviet Anti-Religious Policies, St Martin's Press, New York (1987) p. 48

⁵⁴⁹ Dmitry V. Pospelovsky. A History of Soviet Atheism in Theory, and Practice, and the Believer, vol 2: Soviet Antireligious Campaigns and Persecutions, St Martin's Press, New York (1988) p. 65

⁵⁵⁰ Kolarz, Walter. Religion in the Soviet Union. St Martin's Press, New York (1961) pp 5

⁵⁵¹ Kolarz, Walter. Religion in the Soviet Union. St Martin's Press, New York (1961) pp 4

⁵⁵² CRL.P. 3253/2012 <http://indiankanoon.org/doc/85011170>

⁵⁵³ See para 97 to 110 under section "D. Destruction of more than 50 ASMT temples, rapes, and assault of monks by militants and State Police" https://nithyanandapedia.org/images/7/77/Grand_Narrative_of_Hinduism-contributions_and_persecution.pdf

⁵⁵⁴ Dmitry V. Pospelovsky. A History of Soviet Atheism in Theory, and Practice, and the Believer, vol 2: Soviet Antireligious Campaigns and Persecutions, St Martin's Press, New York (1988) p. 74

created. The SPH refused and declined as it was His Guruvaak (instructions and vision of His Guru for Him to execute) to revive Hinduism as per the vision of His Gurus. Because of this for more than ten years several attempts were made to kill Him. Finally, in 2018 he was exiled.

- 227.** Unlike many other religious leaders mentioned so far, Father Arkadii Ostal'sky was not as fortunate and disappeared. It should also be noted that Father Arkadii Ostal'sky was not the only religious leader to be persecuted in the USSR during the anti-religion campaigns and many religious leaders were persecuted but we don't know their full story and truth as much of this was done covertly by the state. For example, during this same period, Bishop Alexander (Petrovsky) was arrested without charges and died in prison.
- 228.** If not for international support such non-violent peaceful religious leaders can't survive and continue the spiritual purpose of their life. It is worth noting that the international criticism did have an impact to the extent that the government stopped publicly persecuting priests and religious leaders, however, at the same time, this did not solve the problem as the same persecution continued in secrecy. This helps us understand that even mere criticism is a step forward, but not enough to protect the rights of persecuted religious communities and their leaders. Thus it is a pressing need for the international community to realize the impact it can have in protecting persecuted communities and their leaders and step up and commit actions towards their responsibility to protect.

D. Li Hongzhi (Falun Gong)

- 229.** Li Hongzhi, born in 1952, is a Chinese religious leader, and founder of the spiritual practice of Falun Gong. He started formally teaching in China in 1992, and abroad by 1995. The popularity of Falun Gong significantly grew in the 1990s including in government circles. The practice initially enjoyed support from Chinese Communist Party (CCP) officials, but by the mid-to-late 1990s, the government increasingly viewed Falun Gong as a potential threat due to its size, independence, and spiritual teachings. By 1999, government estimates placed the number of Falun Gong practitioners at 70 million⁵⁵⁵, and the Falun Gong started to be suppressed by the Chinese government. During that time, negative coverage of Falun Gong began to appear in the state-run media. Practitioners usually responded by picketing the source involved. Most of the time, the practitioners succeeded, but controversy and tension continued to build. The scale of protests grew until April 1999, when over 10,000 Falun Gong practitioners gathered near the central government compound in Beijing to request legal recognition, freedom from state interference, and request the release of the Tianjin practitioners.⁵⁵⁶ This demonstration is widely seen as catalyzing the persecution that followed.⁵⁵⁷ By 20 July 1999, a state crackdown targeting Falun Gong started. By 29 July 1999 Falun Gong was officially banned in China. Falun Gong holds Jiang

⁵⁵⁵ Faison, Seth (27 April 1999). "[In Beijing: A Roar of Silent Protestors](#)". The New York Times. Archived from [the original](#) on 15 October 2015. Buddhist Law, led by a qigong master named Li Hongzhi, claims to have more than 100 million followers. Even if that is an exaggeration, the government's estimate of 70 million practitioners represents a large group in a nation of 1.2 billion.

⁵⁵⁶ Benjamin Penny, [The Past, Present, and Future of Falun Gong](#), Lecture given at the National Library of Australia, 2001.

⁵⁵⁷ Cook, Sarah. "[Falun Gong: Religious Freedom in China](#)". Freedom House. Retrieved 5 July 2021.

Zemin (President of People's Republic of China from 1993 to 2003) personally responsible for this decision to persecute Falun Gong.⁵⁵⁸ Scholars and experts have given their opinions on this:

- a. Peerman cited reasons such as suspected personal jealousy of Jiang Zemin towards Li Hongzhi.
- b. Tony Saich points to Jiang's anger at Falun Gong's widespread appeal, and Jiang's ideological struggle as causes for the crackdown that followed.
- c. Willy Wo-Lap Lam suggests Jiang's decision to suppress Falun Gong was related to a desire to consolidate his power within the Politburo.⁵⁵⁹
- d. According to Human Rights Watch, Communist Party leaders and the ruling elite were far from unified in their support for the crackdown.⁵⁶⁰
- e. The Epoch Times – a media run by Falun Gong, has stated a different reason – *“in 1994, Jiang's wife Wang Yeping (王冶平), as well as families of the seven members of Politburo Standing Committee, started to learn Falun Gong. Jiang could not accept high-level people and his wife practicing.”*⁵⁶¹

230. The state-sponsored persecution of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam and the ASMT community has many similarities with that of the Falun Gong. In April 2002, the daughter and wife of Karunanidhi (five-time Chief Minister of State of Tamil Nadu) had come to visit – the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam (referred to as His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda at that time) – during one of the two-day meditation programs⁵⁶² seeking His blessings for healing her father, the DMK head Karunanidhi of some ailment. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam blessed and gave sacred ash, but while doing so upfront told them that the Hindu temples in the State of Tamil Nadu were in an extremely sorry state because of the anti-Hindu policies DMK head Karunanidhi. Ever since this incident His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda was spied upon by the Intelligence Department Tamil Nadu State Police. In September 2009, His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda had started a massive people's movement to revive Hindu temples where Hindu Deities were taken on chariots to more than 10 million people to bless them.⁵⁶³ Karunanidhi was extremely wary of the meteoric rise in popularity of His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda. On 30 December 2009 Karunanidhi has inaugurated the Chennai Book Fair⁵⁶⁴ and on the 10 January 2010, the last day of the book fair he inaugurated the Chennai Sangamam festival⁵⁶⁵ both attended by a modest gathering. However, just on the opposite side of the road⁵⁶⁶ of the Chennai Book Fair, His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda delivered a religious discourse to more than fifty thousand participants who patiently attended the entire

⁵⁵⁸ (i) Dean Peerman, [China syndrome: the persecution of Falun Gong](#), Christian Century, 10 August 2004 (ii) Tony Saich, Governance and Politics in China, Palgrave Macmillan, 2nd edition (27 February 2004)

⁵⁵⁹ Lam, Willy Wo-Lap. "China's sect suppression carries a high price," CNN, 5 February 2001

⁵⁶⁰ Human Right Watch; Mickey Spiegel (2001). Dangerous meditation: China's campaign against Falun Gong. p. 9.

⁵⁶¹ https://www.theepochtimes.com/unbridled-evil-the-corrupt-reign-of-jiang-zemin-in-china-chapter-4-part-1_3310751.html#_Toc19745584

⁵⁶² https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/April_21_2002

⁵⁶³ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/September_24_2006

⁵⁶⁴ <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/Chief-Minister-inaugurates-Chennai-Book-Fair/article16856163.ece>

⁵⁶⁵ <https://www.livechennai.com/detailnews.asp?newsid=1016>

⁵⁶⁶ [Geo-distance between venues of book fair and Bhagavat Gita satsang](#) <https://goo.gl/maps/roGYrKB9EcQoPmhs8>

program sitting for more than 8 hours.⁵⁶⁷ A State Intelligence department officer attended the program and informed the secretary of His Divine Holiness Paramahansa Nithyananda that His Divine Holiness was being noted as the "largest crowd-pulling Hindu guru in the history of Tamil Nadu". Soon after this, from 2 March 2010, a massive state-sponsored crackdown accomplice by the DK/DMK militants started, to assassinate the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.⁵⁶⁸ DK/DMK militants aided by the police, set on fire, vandalized and shut down more than fifty ASMT Hindu temples in Tamil Nadu during this period in March 2010.⁵⁶⁹ Just as how 10,000 Falun Gong practitioners gathered and protested against the crackdown, around 50,000 disciples of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam gathered and protested peacefully and offered their prayers to Paramashiva (Primordial Hindu Divinity) in the form of Dakshinamurty in the temple.⁵⁷⁰ This peaceful protest led to an escalation of persecution over the years.

231. In the case of Li Hongzhi if anytime He is mentioned in state-run media or by Chinese diplomats it is inevitably couched in demonizing labels.⁵⁷¹ Likewise, anytime when the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is mentioned in any politically owned media channel affiliated to the neo-Hindutva extremists or affiliated to the DK/DMK – the tone towards the SPH is highly abusive and the content of the news is usually full of misinformation and is defamatory. From 2010 to 2014, more than 14,000 hours of hate speech were aired against the SPH.
232. In 1995 Li Hongzhi went out of China. In 1996, the city of Houston named Li as an honorary citizen and goodwill ambassador for his *"unselfish public service for the benefit and welfare of mankind"*. In May 1999, Li was welcomed to Toronto with greetings from the Mayor of Toronto and the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and in the two months that followed also received recognition from the cities of Chicago and San Jose.⁵⁷²
233. The SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam has been traveling to the West since early 2003. Despite the hate speech and marginalization by the media in India, the SPH has been internationally recognized for various humanitarian services the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam throughout the world.⁵⁷³ To name a few: Message of honor from Governor of Ohio (17 Aug 2004)⁵⁷⁴, Proclamation and gratitude from Mayor of St. Louis (15 Apr 2005)⁵⁷⁵, Recognition for his contribution to meditation and yoga by California Legislature Assembly (22 Mar 2007) and County of Los Angeles. Similarly, the contributions of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam were recognized by the U.S. House of Representative Congress Premier of British Columbia, Canada, Gordon Campbell, California Legislature Assembly, City of Artesia, Mayor of Columbus (Ohio), Lieutenant Governor of the State of Oklahoma, Mayor of Oklahoma City. Until 2012, He was recognized as amongst the

⁵⁶⁷ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/January_10_2010

⁵⁶⁸ (i) <https://www.republicworld.com/india-news/general-news/exclusive-nithyanandas-petition-to-un-maligns-india.html>
(ii) Srinivasan, Vasanth. "Nithyananda and the call from Kailaasa". Businessline.

⁵⁶⁹ See para 97 to 110 under section "D. Destruction of more than 50 ASMT temples, rapes, and assault of monks by militants and State Police" https://nithyanandapedia.org/images/7/77/Grand_Narrative_of_Hinduism-contributions_and_persecution.pdf

⁵⁷⁰ (i) https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/July_24_2010 (ii)

https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/File:20100724_Photo_1007_11pdoCxzzDbf6Nhx8DaL6CJdFx9s3agE.JPG

⁵⁷¹ Sarah Cook (20 December 2012). *"The Origins and Long-Term Consequences of the Communist Party's Campaign against Falun Gong (Falun Gong in China: Review and Update)"* (PDF). U.S. Congressional-Executive Commission on China.

⁵⁷² Chan, Cheris (2004). "The Falun Gong in China: A Sociological Perspective". *The China Quarterly*, 179 , pp. 665 - 683

⁵⁷³ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/HDH_Nithyananda_Paramashivam

⁵⁷⁴ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/August_17_2004

⁵⁷⁵ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/April_15_2005

hundred most spiritually influential living people on the planet.⁵⁷⁶ The Kumbh Mela which followed His coronation was attended by more than 10 million Hindu supporters and followers. The City of Montclair has declared 18 October 2017 as *"Paramahansa Nithyananda Day"*.⁵⁷⁷

234. On 10 June 1999, the CPC and the state officials had created an extra-constitutional body called the 6-10 Office to lead the persecution of Falun Gong.⁵⁷⁸ In an identical manner, in the case of persecution of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, on 3 March 2010, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Karunanidhi stated in an interview in Trichy, ***"We will organize a meeting of the committees formed on behalf of the government and the Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments Department and discuss taking actions to stop this."*** (இதை தடுக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பது குறித்து அரசு சார்பிலும் அறநிலையத்துறை சார்பிலும் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள குழுக்கள் ஆலோசித்து முடிவு எடுக்கும்" என்று முதல்வர் கருணாநிதி கூறினார்).⁵⁷⁹ The nature of the extra-constitutional committees formed by Karunanidhi is not known in the public domain but the context that they were formed to destroy the Hindu religion and culture and not just the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam is amply clear given that this was a mere continuation of the party agenda declared in 1971 that stated one of their goals – *"destruction of [Hindu] religion."*⁵⁸⁰
235. Falun Gong practitioners in China are reportedly subject to a wide range of human rights abuses: hundreds of thousands are estimated to have been imprisoned extrajudicially,⁵⁸¹ and practitioners in detention are subject to forced labor, psychiatric abuse, torture, and other coercive methods of thought reform at the hands of Chinese authorities.⁵⁸² On 29 July 1999, after Falun Gong was banned, the Ministry of Public Security of China leveled a series of charges against Li, including the charge of "disturbing public order" and issued a circular indicating his status as being wanted and pressing for his arrest.⁵⁸³
236. Similarly, in 2012, the Chief Minister of Karnataka from the BJP said, *"We do not encourage such immoral people in Karnataka, and I am going to make an example out of Nithyananda"*⁵⁸⁴, and ordered an illegal extrajudicial arrest of the SPH, on exactly similar grounds – disturbing public order – under section 107 and 151. The Karnataka State High Court in its order CRL.P. 3253/2012⁵⁸⁵, expressed shock at this act, stating, *"This court is not able to understand as to how the police officer could register the case for the offences under Section 107 and 151 of Cr.P.C. when those sections do not*

⁵⁷⁶ <https://www.watkinsmagazine.com/watkins-spiritual-100-list-2012> at #88 as Paramahansa Nithyananda

⁵⁷⁷ https://nithyanandapedia.org/wiki/October_19_2017

⁵⁷⁸ Congressional-Executive Commission on China (31 October 2008) [Annual Report 2008](#) Retrieved 24 December 2013.

⁵⁷⁹ 3 March 2010 - Tamil Murasu Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Page 4

docs.google.com/document/d/1f7CEsZDNw5TI8wJX3fckhmEGqOyESHgy7GgXJiai8vo

⁵⁸⁰ (i) <https://swarajyamag.com/politics/periyar-ev-ramasamys-1971-anti-hindu-rally-seems-to-have-had-more-sinister-designs-resolutions-at-meet-are-a-proof> (ii) <https://web.archive.org/web/20201028185149/http://viduthalai.in/e-paper/155527-1971-.....html>

⁵⁸¹ Freedom House (January 2015). *"The Politburo's Predicament: Confronting the Limitations of Communist Party Repression"* (PDF). Archived from [the original](#) (PDF) on 17 April 2016.

⁵⁸² *"Congressional-Executive commission on China, Annual Report 2008"*. Archived from the original on 7 December 2014. Retrieved 8 January 2015.

⁵⁸³ (i) *Interpol will not arrest sect leader*, BBC News, 3 August 1999 (ii) *"Li Hongzhi Is Wanted"*. Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States of America. 29 July 1999. (iii) *"Wanted: Li Hongzhi"*. Xinhua News Agency (via BBC World Monitoring). 29 July 1999.

⁵⁸⁴ 16 Jun 2012, India Today, indiatoday.in/magazine/nation/story/20120625-nithyananda-surrenders-in-court-sent-to-custody-758791-2012-06-16

⁵⁸⁵ CRL.P. 3253/2012 <http://indiankanoon.org/doc/85011170>

deal with any offence", and exposed the state terrorism terming the arrest of the SPH as *"illegal"*, *"without any authority"*, *"contrary to law"*, *"without jurisdiction"*.

237. At that time when the government of China had issued a circular indicating the status of Li Hongzhi as a wanted person, he was living in the United States. The Chinese government's request to Interpol for his arrest was rejected because the request was a matter "of a political or religious character" and lacked information on any "ordinary law crime he would have committed", the Chinese government also revoked his passport, preventing him from traveling internationally.⁵⁸⁶
238. Similarly, on 24 August 2018, the Union Government of the State of Republic of India under the BJP government illegally and arbitrarily impounded the passport of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.⁵⁸⁷ This was despite multiple court orders, against a similar illegal impounding of the passport done by the government in April 2010. With this illegal order, the SPH was pushed into *"de facto statelessness."*⁵⁸⁸ Additionally, the neo-Hindutva media spread misinformation⁵⁸⁹ declaring that Interpol had issued a blue corner notice against the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.⁵⁹⁰ The government also sent letters and responses to various countries directly spreading misinformation against the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam.
239. As of 2009, at least 2,000 Falun Gong practitioners had been reportedly tortured to death in the persecution campaign.⁵⁹¹ Some international observers and judicial authorities have described the campaign against Falun Gong as a genocide.⁵⁹² David Matas, a senior legal counsel from Canada, has carried an extensive independent investigative research on the human rights violations done against the Falun Gong and released a joint report with David Kilgour.⁵⁹³ David Matas has termed the campaign against the Falun Gong as a *"cold genocide"*.⁵⁹⁴ David Matas in his report⁵⁹⁵ about the persecution of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam identified a concerning pattern and highlighted a striking similarity between the weapons used for persecution of the Falun Gong and the ASMT community – a fabricated video. In the case of Falun Gong, it was a video pretending to show practitioners of Falun Gong self-immolating, putting themselves on fire.⁵⁹⁶ This video was aimed at a major appeal of Falun Gong – its health benefits. In a similar way, a fabricated obscene video was created to depict the SPH in a negative light. Forensic examinations by four

⁵⁸⁶ [Interpol will not arrest sect leader](#), BBC News, 3 August 1999

⁵⁸⁷ https://shrikhailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/2018-Aug-24_illegal_mea_notice_without_even_signature.jpg

⁵⁸⁸ Luingham Luithui And Ors vs Union Of India And Ors on 23 August, 2017 <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/51490658/> describes conditions of de facto statelessness and concluding it at point#21.

⁵⁸⁹ The fact that none of the criteria required for issuing a blue corner notice could be met by the government it is not possible for the government to compel the Interpol to act as it would violate international law and human rights standards, <http://www.cbi.gov.in/interpol/notices.php>, also no such statement ever came from any government official or was recorded anywhere other than the media.

⁵⁹⁰ (i) <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-what-is-a-blue-corner-notice-issued-against-nithyananda-6230362/> (ii) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/interpol-issues-blue-corner-notice-against-godman-nithyananda/articleshow/73519207.cms>

⁵⁹¹ Andrew Jacobs. 'China Still Presses Crusade Against Falun Gong', New York Times, 27 April 2009.

⁵⁹² (i) Samuel Totten and Paul Robert Bartrop Dictionary of Genocide. (Greenwood publishing group: 2008), p 69 (ii) The Standard. '[Rights lawyers look to UN over plight of Falun Gong](#)', 21 September 2005 ([Archived](#)).

⁵⁹³ David Kilgour, David Matas (6 July 2006, revised 31 January 2007) [An Independent Investigation into Allegations of Organ Harvesting of Falun Gong Practitioners in China](#)

⁵⁹⁴ Cheung, Maria; Trey, Torsten; Matas, David; and An, Richard (2018) "*Cold Genocide: Falun Gong in China*," Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal: Vol. 12: Iss. 1: 38-62. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.5038/1911-9933.12.1.1513>. Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/gsp/vol12/iss1/6>

⁵⁹⁵ David Matas, "*Victimization by video*", April 28, 2019 – drive.google.com/file/d/1VklmowYxzn89-8rc3ldVwIxYfdKzf0vO

⁵⁹⁶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nKjGYoXqc4>

independent experts have shown the video to be fabricated and created by super-imposition.⁵⁹⁷ This fabricated video became the focus of militant attacks and state-sponsored persecution directed against the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam and the ASMT community. The SPH was arrested on trumped-up charges of suspicion⁵⁹⁸ of rape of nobody – there was no complainant of rape.⁵⁹⁹ The SPH was subjected to invasive medical examinations which caused His body permanent damage. The attacks on the SPH and the ASMT community continued for more than a decade with impunity as the hate propaganda that started with the fabricated video normalized the public reaction to the violence on the ASMT community.



(TOP) Gao Rongrong, a Falun Gong practitioner from Liaoning province, was tortured in custody in 2005.⁶⁰⁰ **(BOTTOM)** Falun Gong practitioner Tang Yongjie was tortured by prison guards, who applied hot rods to his legs in an attempt to force him to recant his beliefs⁶⁰¹

24 Nov 2017: Sri Nithya Jnanapriyananda was burnt alive through a blast in the monastery kitchen. More than 50% of the body of Sri KP Gnanamoorthy was burnt, yet the State police refused to register any complaint and did not investigate the matter, despite showing the letters of death threats by Raja T Vijaya Kumar and his associates. On much appeal, the police only recorded the attack as a non-cognizable event - CSR 876/2017⁶⁰² (Sivakanchi Police Station, Kancheepuram District), something which they need not investigate. The ASMT community filed a petition to the Court to direct the police to investigate the matter, the court even refused to accept the petition.

⁵⁹⁷ https://shrikailasa.github.io/persecution_evidences/Reports-of-forensic-experts-on-fabricate-video-of-2010.pdf

⁵⁹⁸ 22 Sept 2010, Deccan Chronicle - High court Pulls up CID – A High Court judge during a hearing remarked at the police, "Under the guise of suspicion, how long can you (police) torture a person (referring to the SPH)" <https://www.daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay.aspx?newsID=86153>

⁵⁹⁹ "Medical examination of the accused in a case of rape is mandatory under Section 53 (a) of CrPC. When he (the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam) was arrested, this examination could not be conducted **as there was no victim then.**" <https://www.deccanherald.com/content/429841/potency-test-legal-nonsense-expert.html>

⁶⁰⁰ "Archived copy". from [the original](#) on 10 Feb 2013. Retrieved 10 February 2013. CS1 maint: archived copy as title (link)

⁶⁰¹ <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2001/8/3/12718.html>

⁶⁰² Police report CSR 876/2017 PS Sivakanchi, District Kancheepuram, dated 25 November 2017, eservices.tnpolice.gov.in



- 240.** In cold genocides, the atrocities against the victim group are normalized. Normalization means weaving genocide into the fabric of society.⁶⁰³ Normalization comes from hegemony, a mode of political domination through ideology rather than force.⁶⁰⁴ The study of both – the persecution of Li Hongzhi and the Falun Gong alongside the study of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam and the ASMT community makes it apparent that the persecution of religious leaders and their disciples in the 21st century has taken a far more sophisticated form, and this normalization of violence by a politically or state-sponsored media propaganda has made it extremely difficult to assess the situation and sufferings of the targeted groups. It is therefore extremely important for the international community to not just provide political support but also ideological support through the media and academia for the persecuted communities to be able to share their truth to help them protect their human rights by exposing this normalization. For this to happen, the religious leaders must be protected first as they being at the helm of the receiving end of this violence, need to share the truth of this violence with the world, because only this can end the violence inflicted upon the entire community.

E. Maharaj Kalpavriksha Giri (Mahanirvani Akhada, India)

- 241.** On **16 April 2020** a senior brother disciple (Gurubhai) of the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam a Mahant (senior regional head) of Mahanirvani Akhada, Kalpavrikshananda Giri Ji Maharaj, along with his driver and intern monks were mob lynched and killed by the State police⁶⁰⁵ as an accomplice to a mob of a hundred terrorists⁶⁰⁶. The murder was trivialized and normalized with dehumanizing narratives justifying the inhumanity of the mob violence by alleging that the mob had a suspicion of theft over the monks so they killed the monks.⁶⁰⁷ 11 August 2020 - 28 accused were granted bail as the police failed to file the charge sheet within the stipulated 90 days of the

⁶⁰³ Cheung, Maria; Trey, Torsten; Matas, David; and An, Richard (2018) "Cold Genocide: Falun Gong in China," Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal: Vol. 12: Iss. 1: 38-62. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.5038/1911-9933.12.1.1513>. Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/gsp/vol12/iss1/6>

⁶⁰⁴ Thomas R. Bates, "Gramsci and The Theory of Hegemony," Journal of the History of Ideas 36, no. 2 (1975), 352, accessed September 8, 2017, <https://ondercetin.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/bates-1975.pdf>

⁶⁰⁵ (i) "Several video clippings have emerged on social media and news reports which very clearly demonstrate the active involvement of the police present, who can be seen handing over the three persons to the unlawful assembly of persons gathered", <https://www.freepressjournal.in/mumbai/palghar-lynching-case-sc-asks-maharashtra-police-to-place-fresh-charge-sheet-on-record> (ii) Video evidence <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWlmXYcYnpw>

⁶⁰⁶ Video footage of the assassination of the Hindu monks aided by the State Police: <https://youtu.be/oWlmXYcYnpw>

⁶⁰⁷ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/mistaken-for-thieves-three-lynched-in-maharashtras-palghar/articleshow/75196358.cms>

first remand of the accused.⁶⁰⁸ The direct complicity of the State police officers in the murder, no fair trial of police officers involved in the murder, followed by the further lapses by the larger State police for failing to do the basic paperwork of charge sheet, has exacerbated the fears that justice will not be delivered, and such crimes will be repeated with impunity. Further, on 17 January 2021, 89 accused were granted bail.⁶⁰⁹

242. It is amply evident, that lack of international outrage and support for Hindu monks has led to their persecution, assassination, and cruel and denigrating dehumanizing being completely normalized. After his murder aided by the state authorities, Maharaj Kalpavrikshananda Giri Ji's body was thrown in a garbage truck along with the dead bodies of two other members of his monastery. 89 accused terrorists responsible for his assassination are on bail because of the state police avoided to do the necessary paper work on time.

F. 69th Kanchi Shankaracharya Jagadguru Sri Jayendra Saraswathi (Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham, India)

243. Diwali is one of the most important religious festivals of 2 Billion Hindus. On 11 November 2004, the Diwali day, 69th Kanchi Shankaracharya Jayendra Saraswathi, the Guru and Pontiff of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham was arrested on trumped up charges. The Shankaracharya was dragged and arrested, shocking and hurting Hindus all over the world. It was not just a case of police excess, but a deliberate humiliation of a Hindu Guru.⁶¹⁰
244. After a long trial, in 2013 the Kanchi Shankaracharya was acquitted⁶¹¹ in the murder case, for which he was arrested. Five years later, he breathed his last in February 2018. The cruel, denigrating illtreatment done to Kanchi Shankaracharya Jayendra Saraswathi resulted in state police excesses and violence against Hindu monks being normalized and increased. It is because of this arrest the state sponsored violence and police cruelty targetting Hindu monks was increased unabated.
245. The Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism Nithyananda Paramashivam was also a target of such violence. On **14 Jun 2012**, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam was arrested on a false charges and in guise of protecting Him from attacks to assassinate Him. A 600 battalion police force was used to arrest and take Him into custody. Public money to the tune of 30 million INR was used and The SPH was paraded in the streets of the city, showcasing him as if He was a most wanted terrorist and enemy of the State. Even if the false charges under which the SPH was arrested were considered to be true, were a bailable offense, which show the extent of the illegality of the government's actions. The High Court in its order [CRL.P. 3253/2012](#)⁶¹² implicitly exposed the State terrorism, where it termed this arrest of SPH in 2012 as **"illegal", "without any authority", "contrary to law", "without jurisdiction"**. This did not remedy the situation. There were no repercussions for perpetrators of the crime who were protected by the State. This is the reason why assassination

⁶⁰⁸ <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/palghar-lynching-case-police-fails-chargesheet-28-accused-granted-bail-1709983-2020-08-11>

⁶⁰⁹ <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/maharashtra-court-grants-bail-to-89-accused-in-palghar-mob-lynching-case-7149127/>

⁶¹⁰ Arrest footage <https://youtu.be/amSwy6TpLNc>

⁶¹¹ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Kanchi-seer-Sri-Jayendra-Saraswathi-others-acquitted-in-auditor-assault-case/articleshow/52039635.cms>

⁶¹² CRL.P. 3253/2012 <http://indiankanoon.org/doc/85011170>

attempts, illegal imprisonment, and custodial torture was repeatedly done to SPH until 2018 when SPH was forced to withdraw from public life in India.

246. In continuation of this normalization of severe violence against Hindu monks, the brutal assassination of Kalpavrikshananda Giri Ji Maharaj aided by the state police and hundred terrorists happened on 16 April 2020. It is extremely crucial for the international community to condemn this violence and protect Hindu monks from systematic violence and state sponsored targeted unlawful killing.

V. Observations by the USCIRF

247. In its 2018 annual report, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) stated *"conditions for religious minorities have deteriorated over the last decade due to a multifaceted campaign by Hindu-nationalist groups.... [Religious minorities] face challenges ranging from acts of violence or intimidation to the loss of political power, to increasing feelings of disenfranchisement and 'otherness'."* USCIRF again designated India as a "Tier 2" country, defined as one where the violations engaged in or tolerated by the government are serious and are characterized by at least one of the elements of the "systematic, ongoing, and egregious" standard for "countries of particular concern" (CPCs, a formal U.S. State Department designation). USCIRF found that, in 2017, *"religious freedom conditions continued a downward trend in India.": "India's history as a multicultural and multireligious society remained threatened by an increasingly exclusionary conception of national identity based on religion. During the year, Hindu-nationalist groups sought to "Saffronize" India through violence, intimidation, and harassment against non-Hindus and Hindu minorities and Dalits. Both public and private actors pursued this effort. At the federal level, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made statements decrying mob violence, but members of his own political party have affiliations with Hindu extremist groups and many have used discriminatory language about religious minorities. Despite Indian government statistics indicating that communal violence has increased sharply over the past two years, the Modi Administration has not addressed the problem."*
248. Since 2001, USCIRF has attempted to visit India to assess religious freedom conditions on the ground. However, on three different occasions—in 2001, 2009, and 2016—the New Delhi government has refused to grant visas for a USCIRF delegation despite requests being supported by the U.S. State Department. The New Delhi government regularly *"rejects"* the findings of USCIRF reports and expresses *"serious doubts about their credibility."*

VI. Recommendations

249. It is amply evident that the Indian government interferes in the religious community leadership succession process which is a flagrant violation of both their own and international legal framework concerning religious freedom. This deprives millions of followers of the religious sanctity of their practice. Given the seriousness of the matter, an investigation into this by a reputed international body will put pressure on the Indian Central and State Governments to take corrective action.
250. His Holiness 14th Dalai Lama declared that He may be reborn in India to avoid the interference of China in choosing His next reincarnation. India has grossly undermined and interfered with the succession rights of its indigenous minority communities for close to ninety years. Given the

history, it is unsurprising if India would not uphold the appointment of Dalai Lama in the future, in the scenario He chooses to reincarnate in India as He had expressed.⁶¹³ India neither fundamentally uphold religious succession rights nor recognizes reincarnations. The international community which is committed to protecting the Tibetan right to appoint its successor should also support the ASMT community by condemning the interference of the State of Tamil Nadu (India) in the religious appointment of the Gurumahasannidhanam of Madurai Aadheenam and Thondaimandala Aadheenam.

251. The international community needs to tell India to stop interfering in religious succession matters, by appointing State groomed religious leaders and forcing them on the Hindu community, especially for the ASMT community in Thondaimandala Aadheenam and Madurai Aadheenam. The Judges of the High Court of Madras who are complicit with the DK/DMK officials or DK/DMK groomed Pontiffs should not be allowed to arbitrate in matters related to the ASMT community and instead, neutral judges should be appointed for these matters.
252. When in China, a state groomed Panchen Lama was appointed by the authorities, and forced on the people, it was met with international outcry.⁶¹⁴ A similar international condemnation is necessary to protect the interests of the ASMT community in India for the imposter 293rd pontiff has been forced upon the ASMT people despite High Court orders, and there is no recourse left for the people in the State of the Republic of India. The DK/DMK appointed imposter pontiff has ridiculed the international agencies as they feel they have absolute impunity over and above not just the Indian law and constitution, but also over and above international legal standards. It is important that this myth is shattered and the legacy of lies of the DK/DMK and neo-Hindutva extremists is broken, otherwise billions of Hindus will lose confidence in international agencies. The international community must condemn the illegal appointment of Hariharan as the 293rd Pontiff of Madurai Aadheenam. This appointment is against the ASMT traditions and is also illegal as per the law, and this fact has been upheld by the High Court also. However, instead of upholding the High Court order the Central government politically whipped the judge and maliciously transferred the judge who gave this order.
253. Religious leaders are being persecuted in many countries. Often the persecution is not well known to the international community as the media is often involved in the coverup and the pattern of persecution is not immediately recognized. Often the persecution happens in the name of human and gender rights. Specialized mechanisms have to be evolved by international human rights organizations and the international community to monitor these violations. Extra attention has to be paid when the religious leaders approach the international community seeking protection as their persecution often is unknown and unrecognized.
254. For all the religious leaders and their communities mentioned in this report, one day justice might be delivered in their favor or might not be, but one thing is certain, the support of the international

⁶¹³ Samdhong Rinpoche, who is part of the Dalai Lama's personal office, the Gaden Phodrang, which will help decide the succession, says that if Tibet "remains occupied" by China, "*His Holiness the Dalai Lama has said he will be reincarnated outside Tibet and most likely in India.*" <https://bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-14/who-will-be-the-next-dalai-lama-u-s-india-china-try-to-control-process>

⁶¹⁴ (i) https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/time-is-running-out-for-nonviolence--or-trump-to-save-tibet/2017/10/08/8ab254ba-aab6-11e7-b3aa-c0e2e1d41e38_story.html (ii) <https://www.firstpost.com/world/fake-panchen-lama-initiates-kalchakra-after-50-years-here-is-why-buddhists-are-unhappy-2911058.html>

community has been the major factor deciding their life or death. It is the duty of each signatory state of UDHR in the UN, to support refugees like the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam. One day these persecuted and exiled religious leaders might be able to return to their homeland. Thích Nhất Hạnh was able to return to his homeland and root-temple after 40 years, for the 14th Dalai Lama and the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam we don't know if it would be so an when such a day would come. To ensure and protect basic human dignity, religious rights, religious freedom, and maintain world peace – it is the responsibility of the international community to protect. Of the various religious leaders that were persecuted in their homeland, some have been mentioned in this report. Of these, the Dalai Lama, Thích Nhất Hạnh, and various other leaders have become international role models for standing up against all odds - peacefully, with compassion, with non-violence, and have inspired millions to walk the same path of peace, compassion, patience, sacrifice, and responsibility. All this is possible only because many nations - and their leaders - were aware, awakened, and thus carried out their responsibility to protect. The ASMT Hindu community thank such leaders and such nations and seek similar aid.