

# PERKS

THE POWER OF RELIGIOUS  
TOLERANCE IN A CONNECTED  
WORLD



UNITED  
WE ARE



CHALLENGES  
EMBRACING DIVERSITY  
IN THE FACE OF  
ADVERSITY



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# UNITY IN DIVERSITY

Religious tolerance is imperative in the modern societies because it allows people with separate faith, beliefs and values to coexist with one another. Acknowledgement of the validity of other people's religions in their traditional contexts in order to understand them.

Religious tolerance doesn't mean one cannot express his own beliefs. It means that seeking to undermine or attack the faith of another has always been a short road to trouble. It is a necessity for individuals within a society to get along, especially when a variety of cultures and people with different religious beliefs live as a single community or nation. When Religious Tolerance is practiced, there exists a society that respects religious freedom.

Religion must be originated to serve mankind. There are many religions in the world but religious harmony is exercised where people of different religions share mutual understandings and avoids committing religious violence. In a country rich in culture and heritage like India, there are always several major chances of religious intolerance. Though variance exists in several other forms, religion is a barrier that plays an immense role in ruining the unity of Indians as one. People's own misconceptions or assumptions about other religions lead to religious intolerance. Due to this, a communication barrier is created between people of a different religions. This communication barrier eventually leads to conflicts.

It is a matter of fact that every religion has its own importance and there are social Norms and values in the society or world to live in peace and prosperity. But people are intolerant of other religions and lots of blood has already shed in the name of religion.

Why do we fight? What do we achieve by killing so many lives? If we want to rule over religions ,we will only insult God because God says "All religions are originated from me and all religions end on me."





# WHY ARE WE NOT READY YET??

One of the most significant challenges to religious tolerance is the issue of communalism. Communalism is described as an ideology stating the division between states (people, groups of people or communities) on the basis of ethnicity, religion, beliefs, values etc.

The caste system is another challenge to social tolerance in India. Despite being officially abolished, the caste system still exists in practice and continues to influence social relations and tolerances in India.

Language and identity are the other factors that affect social tolerance in India. India has a rich linguistic diversity with 22 official languages and over 700 other languages that are also in practice. However, linguistic difference have sometimes led to conflicts, particularly in states where there is a demand for a separate state based on linguistic identity.

In order to overcome all these situations, India has a secular constitution that promotes and appreciates the freedom of expression, and religious tolerance.

# WHY RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE?!!

Religious tolerance also promotes diversity and pluralism. It gives freedom to the people to practice their religions, celebrate their traditions and express their opinions. This promotes cultural diversity and encourages different religious groups to learn from each other leading to better understanding and rich cultural experience.



Religious tolerance can also promote social stability and economic development. As various religious groups feel respected and accepted, they are more likely to work together towards common goals.

Religious tolerance helps break stereotypes and promotes understanding and respect for other religious groups. therefore it is necessary to promote education on the beliefs of various religions and their practices.

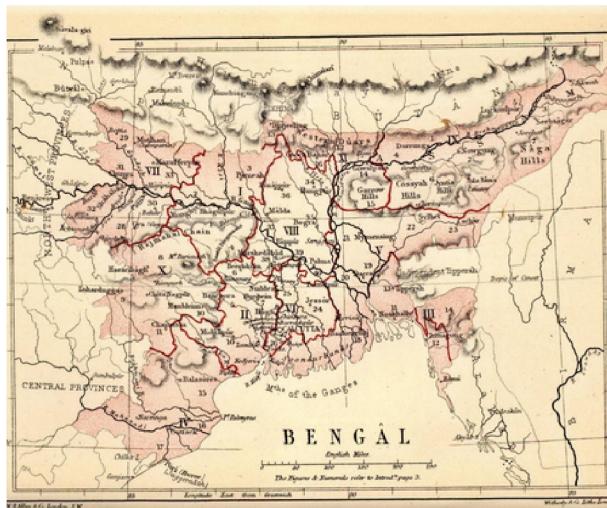




In a country rich in culture and heritage like India, there are always several major chances of religious intolerance. Though variance exists in several other forms, religion is a barrier that plays an immense role in ruining the unity of Indians as one. People's own misconceptions or assumptions about other religions lead to religious intolerance. Due to this, a communication barrier is created between people of a different religions. This communication barrier eventually leads to conflicts. In order to overcome this situation, India has a secular constitution that promotes and appreciates the freedom of expression, and religious tolerance.

In conclusion, religious tolerance is critical for promoting peace, social stability and economic development. It encourages diversity and promotes a rich cultural experience. However, achieving religious tolerance requires education, awareness and active promotion at all levels of society. By embracing and respecting different religious beliefs and customs, we create a more tolerant and peaceful world.

# Episodes of Religious Intolerance



## Partition of Bengal

The partition of Bengal in 1905, orchestrated by Lord Curzon, was primarily driven by the British "Divide and Rule" policy in India. Bengal was divided along religious lines, with Hindus in West Bengal and Muslims in East Bengal. The main reasons behind the partition were administrative convenience and political control.

Lord Curzon argued that Bengal's vast size and population made it challenging to govern effectively, particularly in the underdeveloped eastern region. By splitting Bengal, he aimed to establish a stronger government in the East, providing better access to education and job opportunities. However, this decision was met with widespread opposition and unrest.

Many Bengalis saw the partition as an insult to their national identity and demanded the reunification of Bengal. The Indian National Congress condemned the division, viewing it as a strategy to weaken nationalist movements. While some Bengali Muslims supported the partition, hoping it would enhance their academic, economic, and political prospects, the majority of Bengalis in the west rejected it, as it would have marginalized their language and culture.

Overall, the partition of Bengal was a controversial move that fueled political tensions and fostered militant nationalism. It exposed the British colonial government's strategy of divide and rule, aimed at maintaining control over India. Despite the administrative justifications put forward, the true motive behind the partition was to safeguard British interests and undermine the unity of the nationalist movement in Bengal.

## Charlie Hebdo Shooting

On January 7, 2015, two French Muslim terrorists attacked the offices of the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo in Paris. The assailants, Saïd and Chérif Kouachi, killed 12 people and injured 11 others. They claimed allegiance to the Islamic terrorist group al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.



Following the attack, demonstrations against the violence took place in cities across France, including Paris, Lyon, Nice, Marseille, and Rennes. The phrase "Je suis Charlie" (French for "I am Charlie") became a global symbol of solidarity with the victims and freedom of speech. The slogan appeared on placards, mobile phones, and websites, and the hashtag #jesuischarlie trended on Twitter.

In Paris, around 35,000 people gathered at the Place de la République, while Lyon, Rennes, Nice, and Toulouse saw thousands more joining demonstrations. Similar rallies and candlelight vigils were organized in cities outside France, such as Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Brussels, Barcelona, London, and Washington, D.C.

On January 11, a massive rally of national unity took place in Paris, attended by up to 2 million people, including President Hollande and over 40 world leaders. The marchers walked from Place de la République to Place de la Nation, honoring the 17 victims. In total, 3.7 million people joined demonstrations across France, making it the largest public rally in the country since World War II.

This incident demonstrated how different religious communities can unite against terrorism, emphasizing that terrorism has no religion. Despite the controversial content of Charlie Hebdo's articles, people from various faiths, including Muslim groups, stood in solidarity with the victims, rejecting violence as a means of expression.



## 1993 Bombay Bombings

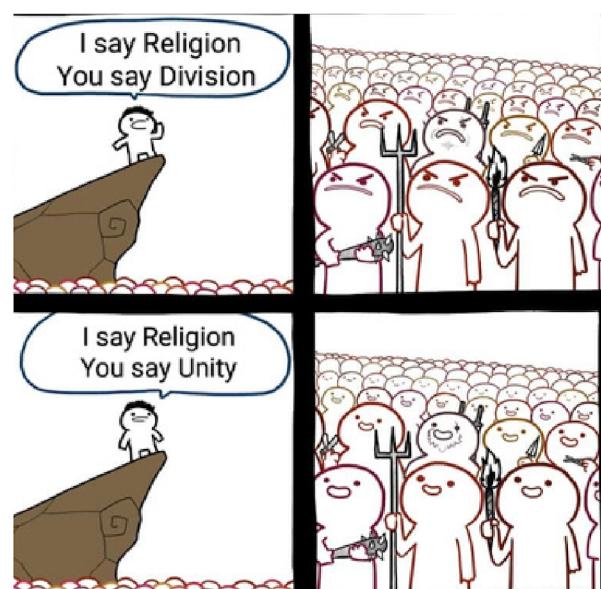
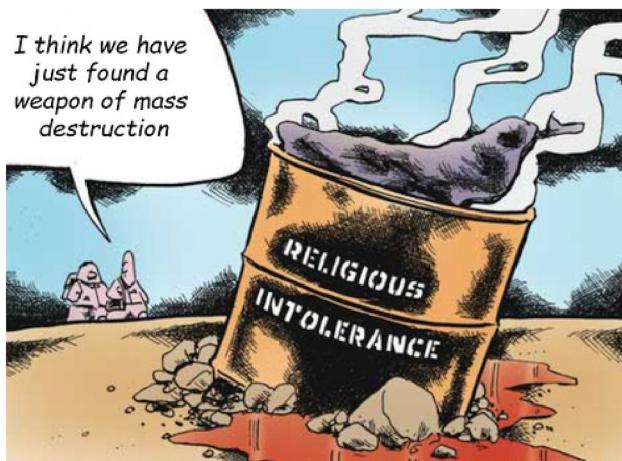
The 1993 Bombay bombings were a series of coordinated attacks in Mumbai, Maharashtra, on March 12, 1993. Orchestrated by Dawood Ibrahim, the leader of the criminal organization D-Company, the bombings resulted in 257 deaths and 1,400 injuries. Ibrahim planned the attacks through his associates Tiger Memon and Yakub Memon.

Initially, there was confusion regarding the number of blasts, with reports of either 12 or 13. The then chief minister of Maharashtra, Sharad Pawar, initially claimed there were 13 blasts, including one in a Muslim-dominated area. However, he later admitted to lying and clarified that there were only 12 blasts, none in Muslim-dominated areas. He also acknowledged attempting to mislead the public by suggesting the involvement of the LTTE, a Sri Lankan militant group, despite having intelligence reports implicating the D-Company.

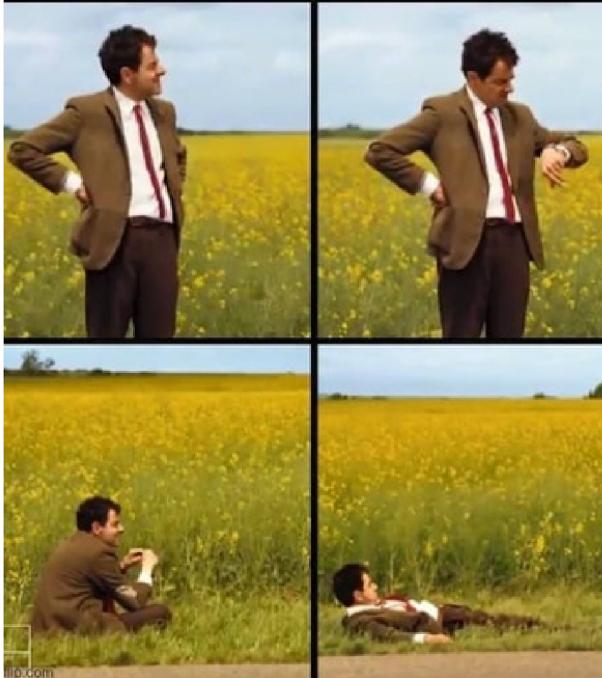
After more than 20 years of judicial proceedings, the Supreme Court of India delivered its judgment on March 21, 2013. Yakub, the suspected ringleader, received a death sentence, while 10 others had their death sentences commuted to life imprisonment. However, Ibrahim and Tiger, the main suspects, have evaded arrest and trial. Yakub was executed by the Maharashtra government on July 30, 2015, after his curative petition was rejected by the Supreme Court.

The bombings were expedited due to the arrest of Gul Noor Mohammad Sheikh (Gullu), a participant in the previous year's communal riots. Gul Mohammad had received training in Pakistan and confessed to his involvement in the riots and a conspiracy to bomb various locations in Mumbai. His arrest prompted Tiger Memon to bring forward the planned bombings.

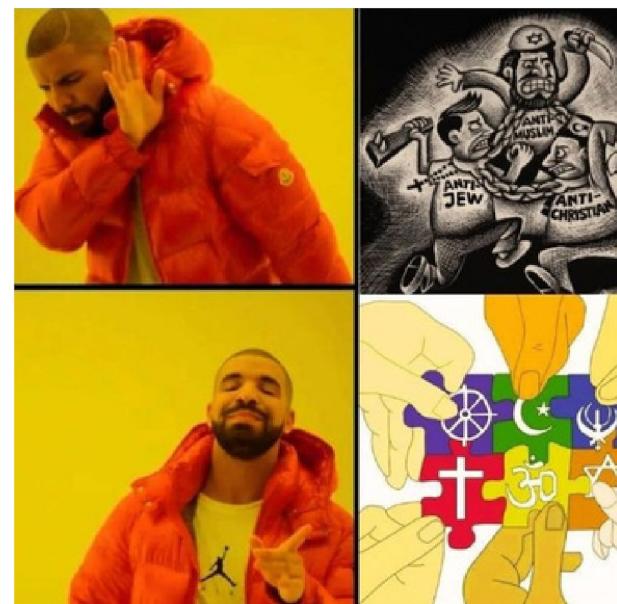
# MEMES ON RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE



Me waiting for people to respect  
and tolerate other religions



When we talk about How we act when it  
religious tolerance comes to reality



# FREEDOM

Promote tolerance, interfaith dialogue and religious harmony

# Religion

To be all in one



"The world is a beautiful place because of its diversity.  
We should celebrate our differences."

# CURATORS



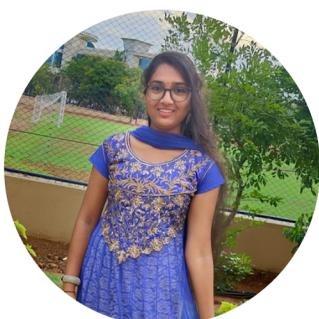
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