

# Hindu Mandir Executives' Conference UK 2020

- Conference proceedings -





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# Introduction

Namaste & Welcome!

This booklet is a summary of the proceedings of the inaugural Hindu Mandir Executives' Conference in the UK (HMEC-UK) held on 4th October 2020.

## Why HMEC UK?

It is estimated that there are around 250 Hindu mandirs in the UK representing various sampradayas and Bharatiya languages/provinces. They are the pillars of our dharmic traditions and cultural values, centres of social activities and the face of our community for the outside world.

In fact, they are the heart of our samaj which keeps the identity of our community alive. There are some well-established and popular mandirs and some are converted from old churches and houses. They all serve the religious and cultural needs of the local Hindu community and receive regular visits from schools for educating students on Hindu faith and traditions. Most were established decades ago.

Over the years mandirs have faced many challenges some of which are listed below:

1. Racial abuse, hatred and violence
2. Planning permissions and parking facilities
3. Employing appropriate and talented pujaris
4. Democratic functioning, governance and legal issues
5. Financial matters and fundraising
6. Lack of youth interest and participation
7. Lack of interesting and innovative activities
8. Lack of trained guides for school visits

The Covid19 pandemic has exacerbated these issues.

## The Need for Hindu Mandir Executives Conference UK

As many of these challenges are fairly common it would be beneficial for mandir executives (President, Secretary, Treasurer, etc) to meet on a common platform to discuss, share, learn and network so that collectively we can work and help each other.

In view of the above VHP UK organised the Hindu Mandir Executives Conference UK, a 3 hour online conference on Sunday 4 October 2020. The conference had eminent speakers, workshops and Q&A sessions. It was totally FREE and participants joined from the comfort of their own home. It is hoped that this would be a kickstart to such collaborative future events of Hindu mandirs in the UK for the ultimate benefit of the Hindu community and promotion of Hindu Dharma, culture and traditions.

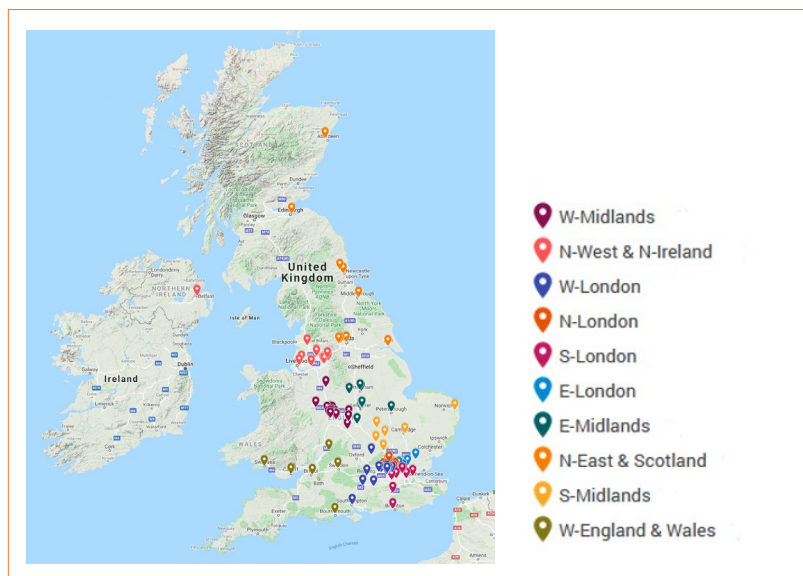
There was clearly a demand for such a conference, as over 200 senior executives and representatives of 135 mandirs from 94 towns participated in a 3-hour online conference on the day. The feedback has been very positive and encouraging and this booklet provides a glimpse of the conference proceedings.

We hope you find this booklet as a useful reminder if you attended and inspirational if you missed the conference. We also hope that it may guide and inspire Hindu Mandirs executives to attend such events in the future.

We would like to thank all the following people for their contribution in making the inaugural HMEC-UK a wonderful success. Specifically...

- All the Executives of Mandirs who have supported us on the day
- All the facilitators for conducting the workshops so diligently
- The technical team working in the background to enable us to communicate at this conference from our homes
- The Swamis and Swaminis who have joined us and/or have given their blessings
- Senior executives of ISKCON, BAPS London, Balaji Temple and National Council of Hindu Priests for the Deep Prajwalan ceremony
- All senior officials of Hindu Council of UK, National Council of Hindu Temples, Hindu Forum of Britain, Hindu Forum of Europe, Hindu Lawyers Association, National Hindu Students Forum, HSS UK and other organisations for supporting us at the conference.
- Regional VHP coordinators for their valiant efforts to ensure so many mandirs took part in the conference as well as many other people who supported us for the conference.

### Delegates attended the conference from across the UK



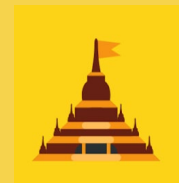
### Statistics from the conference...

200+



DELEGATES  
ATTENDED

135



NUMBER OF  
MANDIRS REPRESENTED

94

TOWNS ACROSS  
THE UK

*"Excellent meeting.  
Please can we have this  
on a regular basis."*

Nidhi Metha, Aylesbury

*"It was a great event and  
very informative. Gives  
confidence and strength to  
be part of this big group.  
Huge thank you."*

Bala Telikepalli, Bromley

See more comments and statistics on Page 24

# Keynote address



**By Dr Ram Vaidya – International joint coordinator HSS.**

Namaskar, Suprabhatam!

My humble pranaam to all Revered Swamis and Swaminis at their auspicious feet, all my friends, brothers and sisters present today for this amazing Hindu Mandir Executives Conference.

I feel that after 1989 when we had the Virat Hindu Summelen, this is the first time we are meeting together as all the Hindu mandirs, and because of the present situation we are meeting virtually.

But first the start of the program was so auspicious and I became really emotional to see that although I'm sitting in a different place, I can have darshan of all three temples.

I congratulate Vishwa Hindu Parishad in organising such a great conference.

We gathered here as one family and whenever I think of the family I remember the family of Shiva and Parvati. The Shiva parivar is an exemplary parivar. *Hamare jivan mein Shiva parivar ka bahut mahatva hai.* Shiva is the representation of the auspiciousness - Shiva means auspicious. He represents a welfare of all. Parvati is the Divine mother of all beings - Shakti Rupa Parvati. Karthikeya or Murugan, the Son is a Senapati of all Gods. Another son, Ganesha is the Vigna harta a remover of obstacles. We also see that they are always with the mountain, the Ganga, the Nandi, the snake, the peacock and even the mouse. All of them are diverse characters; sometimes opposite characters come together to become a family. They can live together as they have Shiv Tattwa present in them.

Similarly, we all also have different type of the beliefs, entities but one thing is common. We all have one Hindu Dharma. Like Shiva tattva we have a Hindu Dharma tattva that is common to us and this Dharma binds us. *Dharmo Dharayate Prajaha.* (Dharma sustains the society). That is the definition of Dharma. Dharma also has so many other definitions. Dharma is the principle of sustainability, Dharma is the principle of connectivity and Dharma is the principle of nourishment.

We all can be sustained and all can be connected because of Dharma and therefore after the Aarti we say "Dharma ki Jay Ho".

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad also has the motto of *Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitaha*. Dharma is common to all. We know Matru Dharma, Pitru Dharma, Acharya Dharma, Raja Dharma, Moksha Dharma and Prakruti Dharma, all these are Dharma. One uncompromising principle we all uphold is to **promote, practice, preserve and protect the Dharma.**

Our Dharma's name is Hindu Dharma. This Hindu Dharma, which is applicable universally, we call it as 'Vishwa Dharma'. This is eternal (valid in all times) and developed naturally, we call it 'Sanatan Dharma'. This Dharma makes a human a noble person thus it is 'Arya Dharma' and this Dharma has been pronounced and articulated in Veda so it is 'Vedic Dharma'. Dharma is common.

## **Mandir - The heart of society**

We always feel that we are the custodians to protect the Dharma through our Mandirs. The

Mandir is our instrument or medium. Whom does the Mandir belong to? The Mandir belongs to Paramatma. Paramatma owns this Temple. Who are we? We are just the instrument.

In the Bhagavad Gita Krishna said to Arjuna ***“nimitta-maatram bhava savya-saachin”*** (Bhagavad Gita 11:33) you become an instrument and when you become an instrument then this entire temple, which belongs to Paramatma, will work as the place of Parmatma only, where Paramatma will always be residing all the time.

Mandir used to be a centre place of entire village or town. All the community is connected to that mandir and the mandir was like a Hridaya-sthaana, Aatma-sthana, the centre place, the place of the Heart of all the people in the village or city.

Can we just reflect upon ourselves - is our Mandir the Hridaya-sthaana - the heart of entire society and if it is not can we make it? If our Mandir is the Hridaya-sthaana then can we enhance it and nourish it?

### **3 major components of our work**

**Hindu Shiksha:** As we think that the Hindu Dharma is the basis of all our activities, we need to think that Hindu Dharma should be taught to the masses. Hindu Dharma should be taught not only to the new generation of Hindu people, but also knowledge is to be taken to

entire population. Therefore teaching the Hindu Dharma is like a Dhawaja (flag) of our mandir. We need to understand that language plays a major role and therefore the relevance of the language to be taught to the new generation. We must teach mother tongues, but we also need to promote our ancient language Sanskrit. I'm a Sanskrit student. I can tell you that if you learn Sanskrit you can learn so many Bharatiya languages easily. Therefore by learning Sanskrit we do not just learn the language but we understand the entire antiquity of all the literature. Thus, the universally applicable relevant education should be given to all students in every generation. Our identity will also be preserved because of such education. Hindu Shiksha is like a Dhawaja of the Mandir.

**Hindu Sanskar:** The second focus of the mandir is Sanskar. Hindu sanskar is like a garbhagriha of the temple. Without sanskar a human cannot become a human. People say that if sanskar is not there a human can remain an animal or even turn into a demon. But if sanskar is given the human can remain as a human, but he can also rise to be Divine. So, the process which transforms demon to animal to human to Divine is called sanskar. The Hindu mandir can be the hub of such Hindu sanskar.

**Hindu Suraksha:** The third aspect of our mandirs is protection of Hindu society and our ethos. Hindu Suraksha is like a ghanta (the bell) of the mandir.



We have all settled here for many decades. We understand that we need to preserve the values.

Our society is facing a period of transition. The atmosphere is more volatile than before. So, protection of the values from any threats is very important. We are facing some serious challenges from the society within and the threats from outside. Challenges can be of any kind. These can be physical challenges, some legal challenges, intellectual challenges or financial challenges. We have some challenges about the preservation of our identity as well. All those challenges need to be addressed effectively. Thus, the Hindu suraksha (protection) is very important, and for that suraksha, we need to come together and unite.

***This Hindu Shiksha, Hindu Sanskar and Hindu Suraksha are the three major components of our work.*** I do believe that we have thought deeply about all three. The Hindu Mandir Executives Conference will need to elaborate on these points and we will definitely work together for that.

We all know that *Hindava Sodara Sarve* - all the Hindus are brothers and sisters and *Na Hindu Patito Bhavet* - no Hindu can ever be fallen or be down. *Mama Deeksha Hindu Raksha*. I should take a vow, the vrata that I will protect all the Hindus and the Hindu Dharma, and *Mama Mantra Samaanata*. I will always work for the unity.

We may have different beliefs, the gods and goddesses, the deities, but we know that it is ***Ek Eva Parbhuh Adwiteeyah***. The Paramatma is only one.

My best wishes to this conference and I feel that we will productively discuss all the points that were just touched upon today.

The one confidence I have which Krishna Bhagwan gave, that, ***Yatra yogeshwara Krishno, Yatra partho dhanur-dharaha, Tatra Shrir vijayo bhutir dhruva nitir matir mama***. (Bhagavad Gita 18:78)

Krishna is the Yogeshwar - the giver of the yoga, Wherever there is Yogeshwar Krishna and Partha - the Dhanurdhara - one with clarity of the mind and properly equipped, there will be Shree - the prosperity, Vijay - the victory, Bhooti - the strength, the power and Dhruva-neeti - the steady ethical strategy. The blessings of The Yogeshwar Krishna are with us and we are like Partha, fully equipped and with a clear mindset to march forward. If these two things come together Victory is sure.

I feel the future generation and future era, is our era, the Dharma era, and we are instrumental in preservation of that Dharma.

**My best wishes to all the sessions of today.  
Namaskar Dhanyawad.**

***“Thank you for organising a very informative and relevant conference. It was good to witness such a huge participation.”***

**Dr Mayank R Shah, Chairman Trustee, BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir**



# Workshop summaries

## Workshop A - Mandirs and Governance

***Facilitated by Jayesh Jotangia,  
Janhavi Dadarkar, Kishan Bhatt –  
HLA***

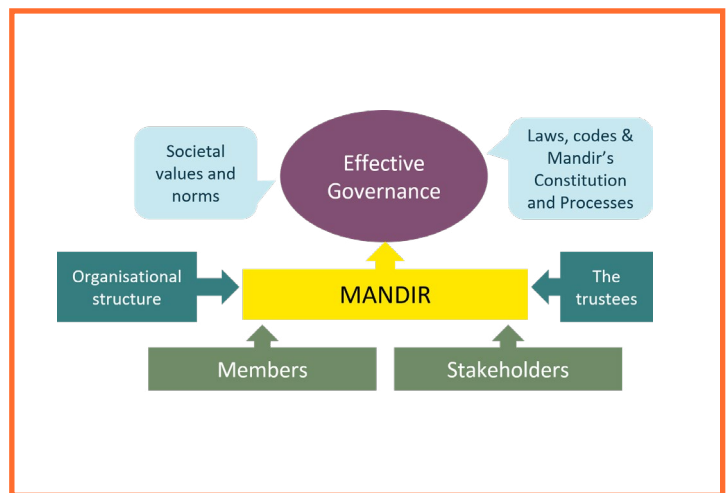
The Mandirs and Governance workshop covered Charity Laws, Management, Employment, Health & Safety, Complaints procedures, Safeguarding and other governance issues. Through a series of scenarios, the delegates discussed the importance of proper procedures, management and governance.

The diagram summarises what we discussed in all our groups. The big discussion and understanding that we were trying to get across is that there are lots and lots of issues that come up for Mandirs, however Mandirs have to first understand their organisational structure.

Second they need to understand that the Trustees are like guardians of this structure. So if we think of the Mandir as a baby the guardians of that baby are there to look after that Mandir (look after that baby).

That is the fundamental mindset that trustees need to understand that we are there to look after the Mandir not our own agendas etc.

Having understood the structure and role of Trustees, we have to realise that there are many aspects that fall under Governance. It may be legislation, it may be the Mandir's constitution - one of the most important documents that all trustees need to understand and need to be able to point to if there are any issues.





We also need to understand that we are operating in the context of social values and societal values, so understanding of Safeguarding, DBS, GDPR and data protection requirement are all really big issues. Understanding who our members and who the wider stakeholders (e.g. suppliers) are, is also important.

With all this we need to recognise that there is a context within which we work with all this different legislation and we are no different to any other organisation that is out there.

However the big issue that we were saying is as charities, because most mandirs are set up with a charitable constitution, that the Charities Commission will investigate things if they get a complaint. These issues come up when there is a complaint or when somebody is trying to create problems. But the safety net for all mandirs is to have the right processes and procedures in place to show why we made the decisions and how we came to those decisions.

The Charities Commission is not there to second guess your decision. They are there to see if you came up with a good process of why you did it.

There were a lot of discussions in our groups about political things. The important summary that we came out for this is that yes you are non-political, but not political in a sense of non party political, but as Mandirs we are fundamentally there for the Hindu community and to promote the Hindu community.

Therefore it is perfectly fine for Mandirs to get involved in topics which relate to our community. We must not forget that the mandir is there for the Dharmic protection of the organisation within society, and therefore as Mandir Executives all of us need to have better training, particularly for our trustees and particularly for any of those in leadership positions to understand the process and procedures that Mandirs have to rely on.

**Further help and advice is available on Mandir Governance from the Hindu Lawyers Association. Please email Jayesh Jotangia at [jjotangia8@gmail.com](mailto:jjotangia8@gmail.com)**



## Workshop B – Mandirs and the External Representation and Engagement

**Facilitated by Dr Ramesh Pattni OBE, Dr Girdhari Bhan, Dr Pratibha Datta**

**VISION:** The framework for the conference was about making mandirs the hubs for the physical, psychological, social and spiritual welfare of the congregations and beyond.

**PURPOSE:** For mandirs to create best concepts, best practices for fulfilling the vision by listening, reflecting and acting for holistic sewa to the community.

External representation and engagement mean that we proactively take part in the society at all levels of its organisation (personal, social, educational, economic, and political) for serving our community. It may mean we reach out to individuals, groups and communities or invite them to the mandir whenever and wherever appropriate.

- For the benefit of the local/regional and even the national Hindu community.

- For the benefit of those beyond the Hindu community.

### **Questions for Reflection and the Responses**

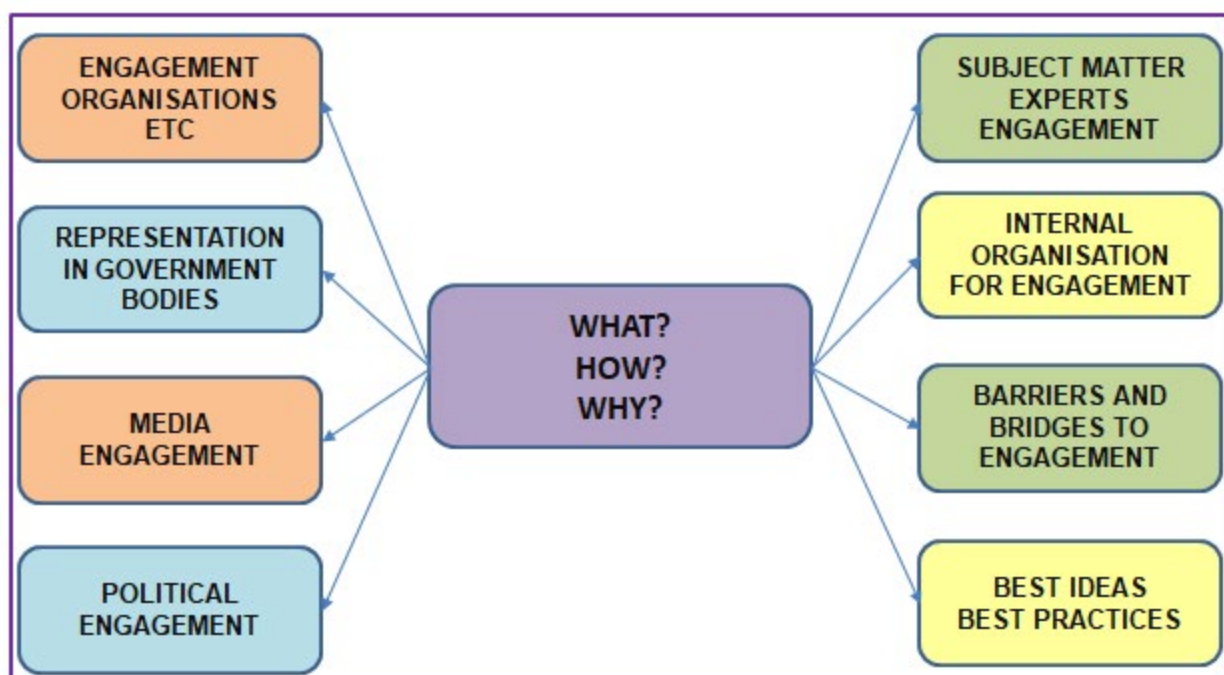
These questions were put to the very well attended workshops for senior mandir executives to think about their mandir's external relations. The responses are summarised below.

#### **1. Are you representing the Hindu dharma in local organisations: schools, councils, interfaith forums etc? How?**

A. Many of the mandirs were sending representations to local schools and councils although the smaller mandirs found it difficult to allocate resources and lacked expertise for such representations. Only a couple of representatives had taken part in interfaith forums locally and nationally as well over many years.

B. One mandir had taken on the sewa at NHS hospitals to provide successfully a programme of providing hot food to the doctors, nurses and other health workers during the lockdown.

C. Some mandirs had regular school visits.



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**2. Are we engaging with organisations, institutions and groups where our voice needs to be heard?**

A. There were only a couple of executives who spoke about a systematic engagement with organisations and institutions where they felt they needed to represent the Hindu voice.

B. One of the executives spoke about being members of the local SACRE and ensuring that their voice was heard.

**3. Are we representing ourselves and engaging with local leaders/authorities of organisations such as Mayors, Police, Councillors, MPs?**

A. A couple of mandirs had well organised ways of engaging with leaders and local authorities where there were mutual invitations to participate in events organised by the mandirs and also the MP's and Mayor's office.

**4. Are we engaged with the media (tv, radio, local papers) for showcasing our activities and the dharmic way of life? for example, festivals?**

A. One of the executives spoke about how they had proactively reached out to local radios and media to speak on Hindu matters especially around major festival events. They had also spoken on BBC radio in various programmes, for example, 'Thought for the Day.'

**5. Are we representing and engaging with local/regional/national political organisations?**

A. One mandir spoke about how they maintained close with the local MP's and engaged with them on various issues on behalf of the community.

**6. Are we organising subject matter experts to come and talk to the congregation on important issues? For example, physical and mental health, conversions, grooming, safety and security, domestic violence etc**

A. There was little activity taking place in this area, although many mandirs had regular events from spiritual authorities and leaders.

**7. What mechanisms can we set up to encourage members to take part in these activities?**

A. One mandir executive spoke about organising their volunteer force in a systematic way by assigning portfolios to them and empowering them to manage these.

**8. What can facilitate these activities and what are the obstacles to initiating/sustaining them?**

**Barriers:**

- One of the issues that came up again and again was that of funding and there was a consensus that organising for some of the above required time, effort and money and this is not always available.
- There was a lack of engagement with the youth and finding young persons to volunteer for sewa and involvement with management of the mandirs.
- There was a lack of expertise in some these matters, for example in dealing with media.
- There was a lack of leadership that had a vision and purpose to drive the vision.
- There was a lack of subject matter experts and lack of knowledge about where to find them.
- What was not visible was a productive network of mandirs that could support each other in many events and activities and even resources.
- It was felt that interaction needs to mature into influence for the benefit of the community.



### **Bridges:**

- There was strong proactive leadership in some mandirs that led to increased external engagement over time.
- One group of doctors had specific skills and network that allowed them to work closely with the NHS.
- One mandir had well spoken individuals who were able to engage with the media effectively.
- One mandir in South London had been set up as a Centre of Excellence for many of the activities serving the community in many aspects both internally and externally.
- The organisation and its effectiveness is key to running the programmes and specially for external representation and organisation.

One of the most important things which came up again and again is engagement with the youth and this has become an issue with many of the temples who were talking about it. Some solutions to this were mentioned as well (*See Workshop on Mandirs and Youth.*)

We think one of many important things is that the involvement with the youth requires a different approach for them to get engaged with the activities of Mandirs and at the heart of that is about Hindu identity and there seems to be a weakening of that identity in the younger generation. We need to think how that can be re-established and to be a strength.

## Workshop C – Mandirs and Youth

***Facilitated by Dristi Mae, Akshara Rajangam and Prashil Shah – NHSF (UK)***

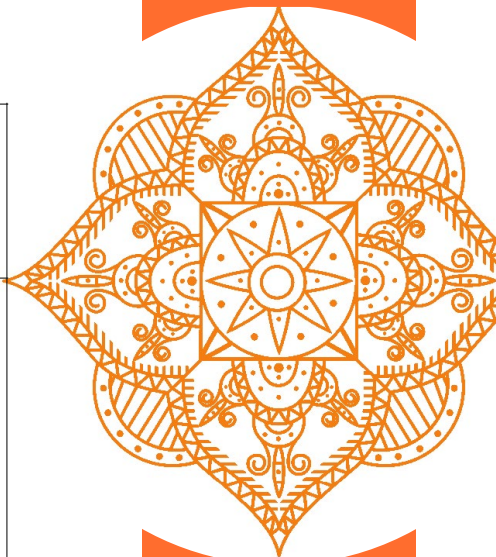
On Sunday 4th October, we had the opportunity to discuss and share best practice with over 40 mandir committee representatives on the topic of 'Engaging Youths with Mandirs'.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Initially we opened the discussions with some of the challenges mandir executives experienced with youth:   | Some of the challenges raised by youth and NHSF members included:   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parents not attending or placing much importance on Mandir activities – either busy with alternate activities or not seeing the relevance or appeal of Mandir in their lives.</li><li>• Youth disengaged or having the 'wrong' priorities</li><li>• Youth moving away from smaller towns and leaving their mandirs with very young and 40+ populations</li><li>• Activities not geared toward youth</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Language barriers</li><li>• No communication, representation or trust between mandir committees and youth</li><li>• Activities are not appealing or relevant to all types of youth</li><li>• Not enough understanding on the importance of mandirs beyond "praying for something"</li><li>• Some have not grown up going to a mandir so it is an unfamiliar place</li></ul> |

Hearing perspectives from both mandirs and youth brought to light the gaps in communication and perception. The importance of engaging Youth now in order to ensure the sustainability of mandirs through the next decades was then emphasised to take these challenges as opportunities for change.

Suggestions on ways to mitigate challenges or engage young people that had worked for many mandirs included:

- Local Sewa activities that partner with national projects
  - Clothes collections, serving the homeless
- Guest speakers talking about Hindu issues in the wider samaj
- Meditation classes / Youth Bhajan mandals





- Hosting dance classes, sports, Yoga training
- Sanskrit/Gita/Hinduism GCSE/101 classes taught in good English
- Book clubs
- CV/Job/Exam support

The discussion then focused on what made engagement of Youth successful both in the short-term and long-term, with getting them actively engaged throughout the years. Some of the reasons included:

- Giving opportunities for young people to engage, run and take ownership of events, activities and others (especially the youth focused ones), regardless of mistakes or errors made. When youth were given opportunities and encouraged, regardless of outcome and continually championed, youth programmes flourished.
- When young 15-18 year old ran programmes for the younger ages, it gave them a sense of responsibility and trust, and they rose to the challenge.
- Development of a family or parivaar cultural environment
- Structure and plans for activities alongside a sense of progression e.g. Hinduism classes structured Year 1-Year 11 (5-16 year old) with gradation.



There was some discussion on the purpose of the mandir, which concluded with the idea that Mandirs were not only distinct and important places of worship but could retake their historic role as the centres for Hindu Samaj activity going forward, developing into Sanskaar kendras for our youth for the 21st century.

A request of NHSF (UK) was if mandirs could **“adopt a University Hindu society”** that is local to their town. This would create a welcoming atmosphere that provides a family environment for many students. Students could then engage with mandirs across the country, feel part of a parivaar in the mandirs, invest in and contribute back over the long run.

Through the discussions, participants agreed that there is a huge opportunity with the rise in interest in yoga, meditation, Dharma and Dharmic traditions and that the mandirs should capitalise on this by engaging our youth on the topics of the day.

We look forward to the next conference and continue to build on the above, as we work collaboratively across mandirs to ensure our youth are engaged, committed and more connected to our Dharmic traditions going forward!

***To connect with NHSF (UK) please see their details on Page 27***

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## Workshop D – Mandirs and Promotion of Hindu Dharma

**Facilitators: Prof Nawal Prinja, Mukesh Ladwa and Dr Ashok S Khare**

The workshop on this important topic was held in four sessions with total attendance of 80 delegates. The facilitators introduced the topic and encouraged open discussion on what temples are already doing and what more can we do. Mandirs are face of Hindu community and Centre of Hindu Dharma that preserve and promote Hindu culture by:

1. Celebrating festivals
2. Disseminating knowledge
3. Increasing awareness
4. Promoting culture
5. Connecting with youth & senior citizens

Summary of discussion on each of the above-mentioned topic is as follows: -

### **Festivals**

There is a need to celebrate festivals in innovative and attractive way. Festivals bring joy and enthusiasm through celebrations, but they are not just for fun. They must convey the religious and spiritual significance. There was general agreement that there is a need to celebrate festivals without diluting Hindu values. For example, 'Garbas' have become very popular during Navratri, but there is a difference between 'Garbas' and 'Disco' dancing. Some mandirs have tried an idea of 'Bring a Friend' to events organized by mandirs to increase attendance.

### **Disseminating Knowledge**

It is recognized that media plays important role in shaping opinions, but can we rely on media alone? Lectures and films conveying the right image of Hindu Dharma are available and mandirs can counter negative impressions from media by organising lectures, discourses and films for all age groups. In addition, exhibitions, information boards and book stalls can be organized. There was also recognition of the need to reserve funds or raise funds distributing Hindu literature in public. There is urgent need to publish / re-print literature for public distribution. For example, there is important information on:

- Safety and security of places of worship (anti- terrorism/ radicalism)
- Grooming / Safeguarding
- Coping with Covid-19 restrictions
- Chaplaincy / care for Hindu patients

Finally, there was a strong recommendation to set up a national co-ordination centre to help distribution of information and sharing of resources.

### **Increasing Awareness**

Most of the mandirs reported a common problem of lack of volunteers. Recommendation was made that they should do activities which increase visibility, acceptability and respectability. This will attract more volunteers.



To increase awareness about the Hindu Dharma and way of life, a suggestion was made to hold Hindu Awareness Week with good publicity in media (e.g. Open day type event for a wider community)

- Why are Hindus celebrating festivals?
- Why are Hindus lighting up their homes and mandirs?
- Why are Hindus throwing colour at each other?
- What is the contribution of Hindus to the UK? (There is free proceedings of the 1st British Hindu Conclave available which contains many useful facts and figures).

### **Promoting Culture**

Whilst considering how Hindu mandirs can help promote Hindu culture, the main ideas were to allow experts to use Mandir premises to hold classes to teach Languages, Hinduism, Yoga, Classical Dance, Devotional and classical Music.

Further suggestions were to use the mandirs for following educational activities

- Meditation classes for mental health which has become a big health issue in the UK
- Celebration of International Yoga Day (21 June)
- Teaching Hinduism as a Religious Education subject at GCSE and A-Level. Note that

Hinduism is available, but most schools focus on Christianity and Islam.

### **Connecting with Youth & Senior Citizens**

Most mandirs do some activities for the youth and the senior citizens. Discussion focussed on what else can be done and what should be the strategy for the future.

For the youth, one good idea was to organize an annual welcome dinner for Hindu students by establishing contacts with the local university branch of National Hindu Student Forum (NHSF). We need to develop Hindu students and build their confidence to become next generation leaders. Also, it was suggested that technology-based projects, involving Virtual Reality, Online Events etc. will attract the youth to volunteer for the mandir activities.

For the senior citizens common activities with local Senior Citizen groups can be arranged and mandirs can arrange visits to Care homes particularly on special religious festivals. The workshop sessions were all very lively and full of positive views and enthusiasm.



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## Workshop E - Mandirs and School visits

**Facilitators: Vibhooti R Acharya,  
Vinaya Sharma and Suresh Rajpura**

This workshop was led by three facilitators over four sessions. The facilitators introduced the topic and gave an overview of what a typical School visit could entail. The key features of a school included the following:

- Practical - Witnessing Aarti/Puja
- Theory - A short Talk on Hinduism including the following:
  - a) Concept of God in Hinduism
  - b) Symbols and Symbolism
  - c) Scriptures- Two main types
  - d) Main Deities
  - e) Beliefs and practices
  - f) Q&A session for Children

Thereafter they went on to encourage an open group discussion on what Mandirs are already doing and what more can be done to improve school visits.

Two main reasons why Mandirs host School visits include:

- The study of Religious Education (RE) and visits to places of worship are mandatory for all schools.
- Mandirs are able to showcase and promote Hindu Dharma to young children.

A lot of discussion centered around what makes a successful school visit. The general consensus was that above all else, it is vital that the visit is well planned and there is a structured agenda. The group also felt that the following need to be considered.

**Health and Safety** - Risk Assessments of the venue and visit must be carried out prior to the visit. Venue must be Hygienic and Safe for children to visit.

**Atmosphere** - the Mandir must be inviting and happy to host the visit and at the same time a good level of discipline and guidelines must be adhered to.

**Displays/Visuals** - Good displays, posters, slideshows etc. should be used to help engage visitors interest and to assist the visit.

**Interactive workshops** - The benefits of splitting large groups into smaller groups where children can participate in cultural activities such as dressing up/making models e.g. Divas/ drawing and decorating items with relevant symbols e.g. Aum.

Some of the delegates felt that school visits lend themselves well to highlighting the similarities between Hinduism and other faiths, whereas others felt that the visit to the Mandir should only focus on highlighting the important aspects Hinduism itself.

Almost all delegates felt that capturing feedback from visitors was good practice and would be enable one to improve/plan future visits to their venue.

Many of the delegates felt that it was important to explain the meaning of **Prashad** but children should be given the choice of whether to accept/decline and teachers could collect offerings on behalf of the children and distribute appropriately bearing in mind allergies and individual preferences.



Regarding **photographs of school visits** many felt they served a purpose and two options were highlighted, namely photographs could be taken of visitors in the Mandir with only backs showing or the school could take photographs and email those they felt were acceptable to be used by the Mandir for their purpose.

Two vital concerns raised by many delegates were:

- a) Being able to access appropriate training to run and host school visits as well as creating a pool of volunteers who would come forward to actually conduct the visits.
- b) Conveying the need to have appropriate resources/ resource packs to devise successful and engaging school visits to suit children of all ages.

Overall delegates were very enthusiastic to learn about visits from each other as well as the facilitators and were keen to try new methods.

A short discussion regarding the cost/charge for school visits took place in one or two groups and allowed delegates to consider this important point along with the importance of being proactive in informing schools about the Mandir offers in terms of school visits and taking the first step in inviting them.



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## Workshop F – Mandirs and Sewa

**Facilitators: Deepak Pathak, Amrat Chandegra, Dr Vinay Sharma**

This workshop like the others was led by three facilitators over four sessions. The facilitators introduced the topic and gave an overview of what Sewa means and the different types of sewa in Hindu Dharma.

**Sewa** – is defined as ‘Selfless Service’, and is the foundation of Hindu Culture, Values and Spirituality. Brief presentations of successful Sewa projects conducted at some mandirs across the country was used to start the discussion sessions.

Types of Sewa includes (among a vast amount of different sewa activities)

- Sewa Kitchens - Feeding homeless, those isolating
- Food Banks, partnerships & collection centres
- Counselling Services, helplines, Hospital & Prison chaplaincy
- Medical - Blood donation, Diabetes/BP camps
- Fundraising for Disasters/special projects
- Environmental & tree planting

The lively discussion enabled all Mandir executives to speak on what Sewa activities have been on-going in their Mandir, what problems they faced and identify their concerns.

In normal times, many Mandirs had been engaged in support of the elderly, through regular gatherings and programmes of bhakti and devotional activities. With onset of the Covid-19 and subsequent restrictions, most reverted to supporting food cooked onsite and tiffin delivery to the elderly or isolated persons from the congregation. Some Mandirs supported the needy outside of the normal congregations as well as front line workers in hospitals. Some Mandirs allowed their premises to be used as centre point for collections of dry food items which were subsequently delivered to the local Food Banks.

The issues touched upon ranged from manpower/volunteer base, finances, lack of focus or of priority on Sewa projects, lack of experience in setting up of projects, and understanding that the use of Mandir space for Sewa projects is for the needs of the community. One suggestion that was made that a special Mandir-Sewa conference in the near future be organised for those interested in developing this important aspect of Mandirs in the UK.



## Sewa summary

Those mandirs which had Sewa projects indicated the tremendous benefits of their Sewa activities for both the mandir as well as the Hindu and wider community. Some of these are:

- Sewa projects resonates with youths and young adults, and often their whole family, with ongoing benefits for the future of the mandirs and Hindu community
- Funding issues are minimised as over time the Sewa project attracts its own funding as people are more willing to give to live projects.
- Sewa activity attracts natural recognition to the Mandir and raises its profile through news/ social media feed.
- Through greater attention on our Mandirs, our voices can be heard in civic, political and

media on social and other issues facing Hindus in the UK.

However some of the challenges highlighted by many delegates include:

- Mandirs need to provide leadership, by encouraging volunteering in the congregation.
- Mandir needs to provide some dedicated space to the Mandir's Sewa activity thereby attracting regular attendees.
- Mandirs need to connect with other Mandirs and share best practices rather than seeing other mandirs as competitors.

Many delegates took on board the idea of Sewa activities and decided to explore possibilities at their mandirs.



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# Concluding Address

**By Shri Dhiraj Shah,  
President – Hindu Swayamsevak  
Sangh UK**

Poojaniya Swami and Swamini gana, respected leaders of the national organisations and mandir executive committees, sisters and brothers.

Wow, what a day today after three hours of sitting and discussing. I find that 90% of us are still here. It clearly shows that the discussions have excited all of you. We are witnessing today a historic day for Hindus in this country.

***This conference had many unique points.***  
I'll take up just a few points which will conclude our three hours of discussion. First this event has some uniqueness in it.

In terms of geographical spread we have mandir representatives from right across north of Scotland and N. Ireland down south to Southampton. In terms of demography we are very delighted to say that almost all sampradayas of this vast Virat Hindu Samaj including our brothers of Jain Samaj from Manchester are also present today to show their inclusiveness and solidarity with the whole of the vast Hindu samaj. What is more important is that not only small mandirs are present here, but large well-established well-run mandirs are also present here. So in a way, we have a mixture of small mandirs and large ones. And the last thing about the uniqueness is that this is the conference that has focused totally on mandir; mandir as an institution, and its role, and how to move forward.

So this conference was long overdue. Our samaj has been established in this country for many decades and time has come for us to review and study the role of mandirs.

We had the panel discussions, we had very lively exciting workshops; we discussed right from Youth to Sewa to external engagement with the mainstream society. A lot of material to take away, to digest, a lot of food for thought. I'll just cover, in a broad way, some of the takeaway messages that you can then think over and discuss with your committee members.

First and foremost thing that I personally felt today was that feeling of a Virat Hindu. Now, what does it mean?

## ***We are Hindus first***

Having met our colleagues from different backgrounds, some coming from different countries, it has given a feeling that we are not just related; we are not just connected to my sampradaya or my linguistic background or my form of worship in this vast diverse Hindu samaj, but I am part of this Virat Hindu samaj. That feeling of bigger identity is what we have felt today and that gives us a message that whatever our traditions, whatever our cultural values and backgrounds may be, we are Hindus first and that should always be our first identity before anybody.



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Secondly, we have, through our discussions, realized that the mandir is not just a place of worship. In the keynote speech Dr Ram Vaidya explained that the temples are the heart of the community and we have to realise that. We have heard that many of the temples are already emphasising on the social and cultural needs of the community.

We have to scale up the profile of our mandirs. We have to administer our mandirs according to the laws of this country and make every mandir not only just a place of worship but a vibrant centre for social and cultural activities that meet the needs of the local community.

### ***Mandirs - Centre of local community***

There are many challenges that our community is facing. I'll list a few just to draw your attention. There are conversions happening. Once I heard that in Leicester almost every week three or four Hindus are being converted. Now, I cannot confirm but this gives the scale of things that are happening in our community. There are grooming issues. There are breaking family issues, welfare of elders and mental health... Mandirs need to think about this and how they can engage and can tackle these issues. So the mandirs will have to become vibrant centres.

### ***Youth participation is essential***

We heard in our workshop reports that youth participation is also essential. Many youths are getting disillusioned with their engagement with the mandirs. We have to seriously look into it because they are the future of our mandirs. If the youths are not involved then who is going to look after the future mandirs. Great suggestions have come in the workshop and we need to focus on those.

### ***Progressive leadership***

Another important factor is the need of progressive leadership. I have come across many mandirs that are stuck with ageing leadership, leadership conflicts, dogmatic practices and lack

of transparency in management. As a result of these we drive away many good, honest and skilled people, many young professionals who might want to contribute their time for the mandirs, but looking at the atmosphere of the mandir they shy away. So let us all look at how our management is, what are the best practices of management of mandir. It is very vital. I have seen many mandirs engaged or surrounded with these kinds of conflicts which have to be eradicated because it does not benefit our community.

### ***Corporation and collaboration***

Many large towns and cities have several mandirs. It will really benefit the whole community to have a cooperative and collaborative engagement with each other particularly during large festivals, which are opportunities to showcase our culture to the wider society. It would benefit us all in engaging, cooperating and appointing representatives to Government bodies like SACRE, to sharing resources for school visits and so on. This cooperation and collaboration between mandirs is also very important at regional and city levels. That is another point that we can take away from this conference.

### ***External engagement is critical***

Another most important point, I feel in the coming years, is our external engagement with the wider mainstream society. We are a minority community living in a multicultural society. We are around 1.5 percent of the population and many times, though we might be engaged in a lot of good work, we are not able to or we are not being very visible. I will give you just one example. On Thursday there was a charity commission public meeting online and it opened up with a small video showing the response of the public towards charity. All the interviewees I could find who were non-white were one black woman and one lady in a hijab. Where is the Hindu representation?

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This kind of invisibility of a community has to be addressed and for that we have to have an effective and very much vibrant media or external engagement system. Please, every mandir, make sure that whatever good things we do is publicised widely and for that if you need to train committee members for media relations let us spend budget on it because at the end of the day our community and our culture is seen through this kind of interaction.

### **Other challenges**

As I mentioned earlier, there are several other issues that our community faces. The Mandir is the most relevant place where our community gathers regularly in large numbers. So regular communication with the community is important. During these kind of gatherings we should arrange lectures, seminars and talks that address social issues and regulations that affect our community. For example the teaching of Hinduism in schools, the legal recognition of Hindu religious weddings, anti-Hindu and racial abuse... These are some of the issues that our community is facing but we are not finding any avenues where this can be communicated and explained. So let our mandirs become communication centres for the community, addressing issues that face us.

### **Moving forward**

Now moving forward I know there are so many other issues that everybody would like to discuss but in this three hour conference in a virtual scenario, it's quite difficult to put all these issues in one go. I'm sure of some of the issues that are going to come up in the future and I'm just mentioning a couple of these which need to be addressed in similar conferences in the future. One is how can we train our priests because they are the ones who are conducting lot of activities of our mandirs. How can we train our priests to address the present day challenges in an engaging way?

Second there are many non-Hindu people who want to embrace Hindu Dharma. Do we have a system? Do you have a method in which we can then embrace them into our vast Hindu parivar. There are many who would like to become Hindus or want to practice Hindu Dharma. So these are issues that hopefully will be able to address collectively in future.

In conclusion, I would say the mandirs have a great role to play in building very positive narrative of Hindus in this country through our unique cultural values and contributions which are visible, acceptable and respectable.

This can be achieved through our collective efforts. As the saying goes "Sanghe Shakti Kalo Yuge". It is said that in this Kali yuga it is the collective efforts which are successful. So hopefully we will take this message of collective working, learning to work together.

Lastly I hope as representatives of your mandirs you will be able to take whatever discussions, thoughts, suggestions and information that you have heard in the conference back to your committee. It should not remain with yourself. It should be widely discussed within the committee so that some of the ideas may be applied to upscale our efficiency. That will be mark of the success of this conference.

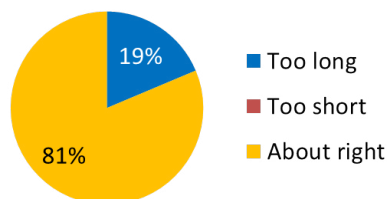
I express my gratitude to Vishva Hindu Parishad UK for organising such an amazing and vital conference. I hope that this concept of HMEC will continue in coming years. Lastly my best wishes and pranaam to you all. Namaste.



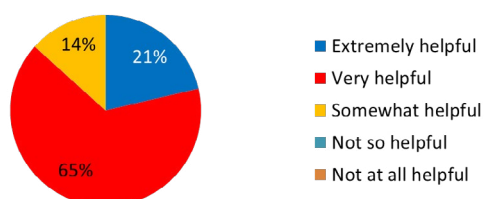
# Conference feedback and statistics

We provide the results of the feedback survey and a selection of comments from the delegates after the conference.

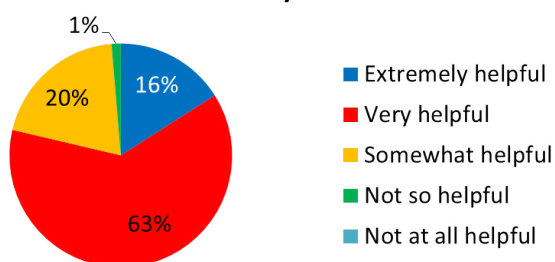
**How did you find the length of the conference?**



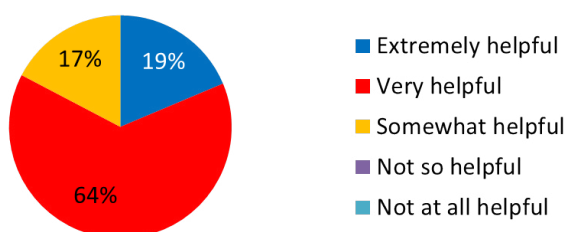
**Considering your complete experience at the conference how helpful was the conference to you?**



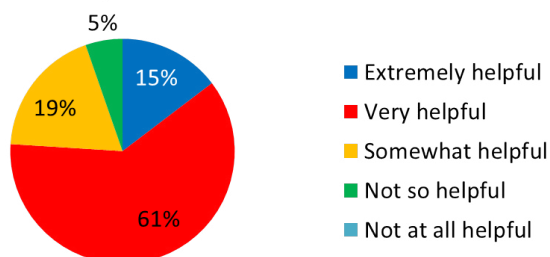
**How useful was the Keynote address?**



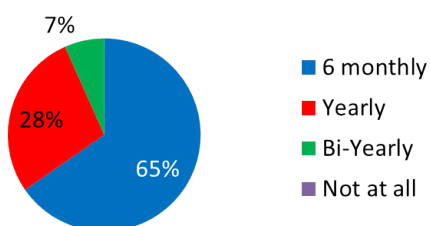
**How useful was the Concluding address?**



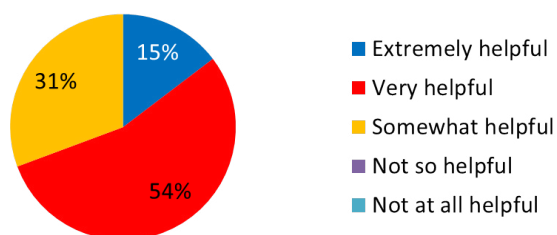
**How did you find the Workshop sessions?**



**How frequently would you like to attend such events?**



**How useful was the Covid session?**





*"Hats off to whoever thought of this conference, wonderfully executed with precision timing where you brought together big organisations on one platform HFB, HCUK, NCHT etc."*

Dr Kanagaratnam, President, Balaji Temple, Birmingham

*"Congratulations to VHP for holding this important meeting and bringing majority of the temples in UK together on one platform. It was much needed and was very well attended. The workshops were practical. Discussion was very important and valuable. I really enjoyed the small group dynamics - especially as they were all lovely people, eager to seek information and also share knowledge. Lots of important issues were discussed. Now it is up to all of us to find a way to implement them."*

Rajnish Kashyap, Secretary of HCUK

*"Many thanks for creating the conference. I am grateful for opportunity to meet other temple leaders in the UK and to learn from them about a wide range of relevant topics. I found the conference well organised and interesting. The three hour went quickly. Hare Krishna."*

Visakha Dasi, President of Bhaktivedanta Manor, Watford

*"Well organised and very informative event. Opportunity to interact with others who are carrying out valuable work."*

Aruna Bhala, Wellingborough

*"The event was well structured and managed by the organisers. The event was very interesting, informative and useful."*

Hasmukh S Patel - Trustee - Shree Krishna Temple, Dudley

*"Different Hindu organisations working together to find solutions to common problems. We all face the same challenges so should share best practise and help one another overcome them."*

Avnish Thakrar, Wellingborough Mandir

*"Sense of unity and hearing views of other organisations."*

Pradyuman Halai, Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Cardiff

*“Very well thought off and extremely well planned, everything organised properly, varied topics to cover relating especially to our situations and mandir, a lot of hard work has gone in there, and it was apparent, with the presenting to the organisation of the whole event, so hats off to each and everyone in the whole team be it upfront or behind the scene, The whole event went well, Felt like gone away with a lot of information and interesting facts too. So well done.”*

Mina Patel, Shree Krishna Temple, Dudley

*“Thank you for very informative and very organised conference.”*

On behalf of Walthamstow Shri Merupuram Mahabhadrakali Amman Devasthanam

*“Excellent meeting. Well done the organisers and contributors.”*

Surya Upadhya, Chairman Nepali Hindu Forum and Pasupatinath Mandir Aldershot and Birmingham

*“Extremely well organised, throughout. Covering the current topics which are affecting a lot of the mandirs.”*

Anonymous

*“Very useful opportunity to communicate with all the Mandir Executives and exchange views and ideas.”*

Manubhai G Mistry,  
Shree Bharatiya Mandal, Ashton-under-Lyne

*“Thoroughly enjoyed participating in the conference. Congrats to background team for pulling it off without a hitch. Jai Shree Krishna.”*

Ishwer Tailor, Preston

*“Congratulations on organising an excellent conference.”*

Ajay Kotecha, Annopam Mission, Uxbridge

*“Thanks for organising such a historic event.”*

Vinod Pankhania, Milton Keynes

*“Mandirs across the UK uniting and working together to find issues to common problems. The breakout rooms and smaller workshops were a good idea. It made it interactive and relevant.”*

Anonymous

# Contact details

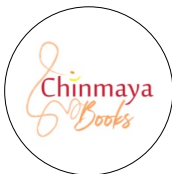
## Hindu Literature Bookshops



Hindu Sahitya Kendra,  
46-48 Loughborough Road, Leicester. LE4 5LD  
[www.hindubookshop.com](http://www.hindubookshop.com)



Bhaktivedanta Manor, Watford, WD25 8EZ  
[www.krishnashopping.com/collections/books](http://www.krishnashopping.com/collections/books)



2 Egerton Gardens, Hendon, London NW4 4BA  
[www.chinmayabooks.com](http://www.chinmayabooks.com)



BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir,  
Neasden, NW10 8LD  
[www.londonmandir.baps.org/the-haveli/souvenir-shop/](http://www.londonmandir.baps.org/the-haveli/souvenir-shop/)

## Associated National Organisations



Hindu Forum of Britain  
e-mail: [info@hfb.org.uk](mailto:info@hfb.org.uk)  
Website: [www.hfb.org.uk](http://www.hfb.org.uk)



National Council of Hindu Temples UK  
e-mail: [president@thenchtuk.org](mailto:president@thenchtuk.org)  
Website: [www.thenchtuk.org](http://www.thenchtuk.org)



Hindu Council UK  
e-mail: [generalsecretary@hinducounciluk.org](mailto:generalsecretary@hinducounciluk.org)  
Website: [www.hinducounciluk.org](http://www.hinducounciluk.org)



National Hindu Students Forum UK  
Website: [www.nhsf.org.uk](http://www.nhsf.org.uk)  
e-mail: [info@nhsf.org.uk](mailto:info@nhsf.org.uk)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NHSF.UK](https://www.facebook.com/NHSF.UK)  
Twitter: @nhsf\_uk | Instagram: @nhsf\_uk

### Hindu Lawyers Association

Hindu Lawyers Association  
Contact Jayesh Jotangia  
e-mail: [jjotangia8@gmail.com](mailto:jjotangia8@gmail.com)

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# Resource list

## Hindu Dharma Exhibition

Are you struggling to inform visitors to your mandir about Hindu dharma?

Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (UK)'s exhibition on Hindu dharma covers a variety of topics:

- The science behind Hindu rituals
- Great personalities
- Scientific discoveries and inventions
- Vedic mathematics
- Indian games and sports

For details and availability of the exhibition please contact through HMEC

e-mail: [info.hmecuk@gmail.com](mailto:info.hmecuk@gmail.com)



## Chaplaincy Guide and VOICE

The following two resources are available on line.

Please follow the relevant link:-

**Hindu Chaplaincy Guide** published by VHP (UK).

This guide offers Hindu faith specific material to help the existing and future volunteers who are willing to do this noble task of helping patients and their families.

[www.vhp.org.uk/otherservices/chaplaincyservices/](http://www.vhp.org.uk/otherservices/chaplaincyservices/)

### VOICE

Information about online GCSE course on Hinduism offered by VOICE (an educational project of VHP (UK)). Full details can be found on

<http://voiceculture.org/home>

# Hindu Mandir Executives' Conference 2020

## Special session on Covid-19

Three major Hindu national organisations, HFB, HCUK and NCHT, collaborated to present the special session on Covid-19 pandemic and what mandirs had to do to manage.

The session was hosted by **Dr Pratibha Datta of Vishva Hindu Parishad**, a retired public health doctor.

The first speaker, **Mr. Rajnish Kashyap, Secretary and Trustee of Hindu Council of UK (HCUK)**, provided the latest government guidance on Covid-19 and the importance of risk assessment which every mandir needs to undertake.

The second speaker, **Mr. Arun Thakur, President of National Council of Hindu Temples (NCHT)**, updated us on the financial aid that was available to temples and about insurance related issues.



*L- R: Mrs Trupti Patel, Mr Arun Thakur  
Mr Rajnish Kashyap, Dr Pratibha Datta*

The final speaker, **Mrs Trupti Patel, President of Hindu Forum of Britain (HFB)**, shared with us the dialogue she's been having with the government in relation to visas for pandits during the Covid pandemic.

**Rajnish ji** represents the Hindu faith on the government task force formed by the Secretary of State for Communities to get help and gain advice in reopening of places of worship.

He talked about the advice designed to assist temples to prepare to open for permitted activities in accordance to the regulation which came into effect on 15th of June 2020 and the subsequent updates. He mentioned about a Covid-19 risk assessment that each mandir must undertake with reference to its own specific circumstances, including its size, type of activities and how it helped organize, operated, and managed those activities.

In addition he explained about the safety procedure to be followed such as social distancing, queue management, a one-way flow, hand hygiene - regular washing and sanitisations, regularly cleaning the temple premises inside and outside, and mandatory face covering for all (unless exempted by medical condition). Prashad can be offered but it should be pre-wrapped and every temple should create and display a QR code for track and trace use.

He further provided guidance on communal singing for satsang, bhajans and kirtans based on the size of the



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mandir, space available, social distancing, and procedures at special ceremonies such as havans, funerals, and marriages ensuring no mixing of families outside their households.

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**Arunji Thakur** of NCHT explained how all mandirs had a big fall in their revenues due to Mandir closures, yet still had to pay for their utility bills, council tax and other bills and more importantly salaries for priests and other people employed at the mandir. He spoke about the furlough scheme that has been in place since March 2020 and was urged all Mandirs to apply if they had not done so. The scheme will change at the end of October however he urged all Mandirs to register to receive the reduced furlough payments.

He stressed that as charities, there was no other money available from the government however support was available from local councils for projects conducted at mandirs. Mandirs should investigate what is available from their local councils.

Arunji then explained that charities are regarded as small businesses (following a legal case). He requested all mandirs (if registered as a charity) to contact their insurance broker and claim for the loss of income or loss of business.

Finally he discussed about using Credit Card payment system for donation as many devotees do not carry cash. He explained that they had a cheaper system than applying through banks and asked mandirs to contact him for further details.

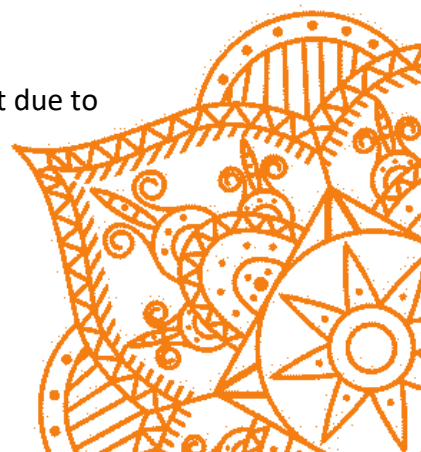
He concluded with *“If you need any help we all three organizations are here to help you with the efficient operation and we all are very grateful to Vishva Hindu Parishad to arrange this conference. Namaskar.”*

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**Trupti ji Patel** of Hindu Forum of Britain started by explaining that as many mandirs have done sthapna of the murtis and that deities of Bhagwan are in our mandirs, the Puja must continue. Many mandirs have the pujaris under Tier 2 or Tier 5 Visa system. She explained that the categories are different under Tier 2 and under Tier 5. The Visas for the Tier 5 ones are two years and you can extend for a shorter period and the Tier 2s are for longer periods so it was important for Mandir executives to understand the process of employing Pujaris from Bharat.

When the Covid-19 pandemic started the major problem was the immigration and migration. The government initially extended visas to end of July. Later the guidance changed so that applications with Letters of Support could be written to UKPA's Corona Virus Immigration Team to extend the visas. There is also a provision called Exceptional Assurance; under Exceptional Assurance temples can apply with the priest depending on the form that is being filled. So mandirs are urged to apply with the support from the Hindu Forum and it is likely to be extended.

She then explained that due to closure of some embassies in places like Ahmedabad, Mumbai



and Delhi, priest that have been appointed from Bharat could not come over due to lockdown. Hindu Forum has taken up some cases to ask the relevant government department for solutions in these circumstances.

Finally she asked for help from those who have the knowledge and expertise to

come forward and help all of us as more people are need in steering groups in dealing with government and other statutory bodies. *"... it will become easier but something much better really because together we can walk together further."*

The initial presentation from the three organisations was followed by a question and answer session. Within the limited time available, questions asked were about the impact of Covid on Hindus specifically (as opposed to BAME community), and how to handle upcoming Navratri and Diwali celebrations.

Truptiji Patel explained that the Covid-19 Hindu emergency action response team for Covid-19 incorporating the national umbrella bodies had been formed. And the message to all mandirs was if you have any points or particular actions that your mandir is following, please let us know so we can actually incorporate that or help you. We are all working together, solving problems together.

### **Contact details:**



**Hindu Forum of Britain**

#### **Hindu Forum of Britain**

e-mail: [info@hfb.org.uk](mailto:info@hfb.org.uk)

Website: [www.hfb.org.uk](http://www.hfb.org.uk)



#### **Hindu Council UK**

e-mail: [generalsecretary@hinducounciluk.org](mailto:generalsecretary@hinducounciluk.org)

Website: [www.hinducounciluk.org](http://www.hinducounciluk.org)



#### **National Council of Hindu Temples UK**

e-mail: [president@thenthtuk.org](mailto:president@thenthtuk.org)

Website: [www.thenthtuk.org](http://www.thenthtuk.org)



#### **HMEC UK (VHP)**

e-mail : [info.hmecuk@gmail.com](mailto:info.hmecuk@gmail.com) or [secretary@vhp.org.uk](mailto:secretary@vhp.org.uk)

Website: [www.vhp.org.uk](http://www.vhp.org.uk) -

VISHWA HINDU PARISHAD (UK)



HINDU MANDIR EXECUTIVES'  
CONFERENCE

