

HINDU COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA



19th Jan 2025

January 19, 1990: A Dark Day in History for Hindus

This date marks one of the darkest chapters for Hindus, especially for the Kashmiri Pandits. On this day, thousands of innocent men, women, and children were persecuted in their homeland. Everything was taken away from them (wealth, lives, and pride), and their dignity was assaulted. It was a systematic attempt to erase not just people but an entire cultural legacy.

Kashmir, named after the great sage Kashyapa, witnessed an atrocity that sought to erase its very roots. The Kashmiri Pandits, the custodians of this ancient land, faced unimaginable horrors. Their persecution was not just a violation of their human rights but an attack on humanity itself.

While recent years have seen efforts to restore justice and rectify past wrongs, the scars of this tragedy remain. No measure of compensation can bring back the lives lost or heal the trauma endured. The pain of those days continues to echo through the memories of the survivors and their descendants.

This history serves as a warning. Such atrocities can occur anywhere unless nations remain vigilant. The story of the Kashmiri Pandits is not just a tragedy but a lesson for all. It calls for unity and preparedness to prevent such horrors from repeating themselves.

Today, similar cries for justice can be heard from the Bangladeshi Hindu community, who face persecution and systemic violence. Their plight mirrors the trauma endured by the Kashmiri Pandits. Even closer to home, the Jewish community in Australia has recently experienced fear and intimidation. The echoes of hate and intolerance transcend borders and communities.

या देवी सर्वभूतेषु शक्ति रूपेण संस्थिता। नमस्तस्यै नमस्तस्यै नमस्तस्यै नमो नमः॥

Ya Devi Sarvabhuteshu Shakti Rupena Samsthita / Namastasyai Namastasyai Namo Namah //

I pray to the Divine Mother, **Maa Shakti**, asking for Her blessings and strength to overcome challenges and uphold righteousness.

We stand in solidarity with our Kashmiri brothers and sisters, the Bangladeshi Hindus, and all those who suffer from oppression and violence. On this occasion, let us come together to remember, reflect, and pledge. We must take an oath that such atrocities will never be allowed to happen again not to any community, anywhere in the world.

Enough is enough. Together, we will stand as a united front against hatred and violence, ensuring a future of peace, justice, and harmony for all.

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