



INFINITY FOUNDATION INDIA (IFI) FORMALLY INCORPORATED IN CHENNAI

The Infinity Foundation India was formally incorporated in Chennai on the 4th of August 2016. Infinity Foundation India will be a sister organization of Infinity Foundation, USA. This will enable Rajiv to transfer leadership to the next generation and bring all organizational activities together. Rajiv has selected a small group of dedicated individuals on the basis of their initiative for Dharma and the time they have already invested towards the cause of

Dharma. Setting up the foundation in India makes it easier to work with the Government and gives legal status for working in collaboration with several other entities.

There will be four tracks of focus for the foundation. Track A is where the heavy lifting in terms of intellectual and creative scholarship will be done. After having published five books, Rajiv has around fifteen more books in advanced stages of completion. It is vital that this work sees completion so that all the research does not end up being lost. Research assistants who are already into scholarship and publishing will be required to finish the research that Rajiv has started. Track B is for Swadeshi Indology where the ideas from track A are taken up by serious and rigorous scholars and are expanded upon. Track B will be very focused, specialized on topics and meant for serious, creative and rigorous scholarship to produce game changing ideas. Track C will be for E learning. Track A and B will be producers of



knowledge while track C will be serious consumers of knowledge. IFI will work with universities to establish courses that track C individuals can take and earn credits. The first course is being developed on the book Being Different. Lessons would have a particular idea being taught through reading material, watching videos, doing homework exercises, having discussions and debates etc. Around thirty such lessons will be

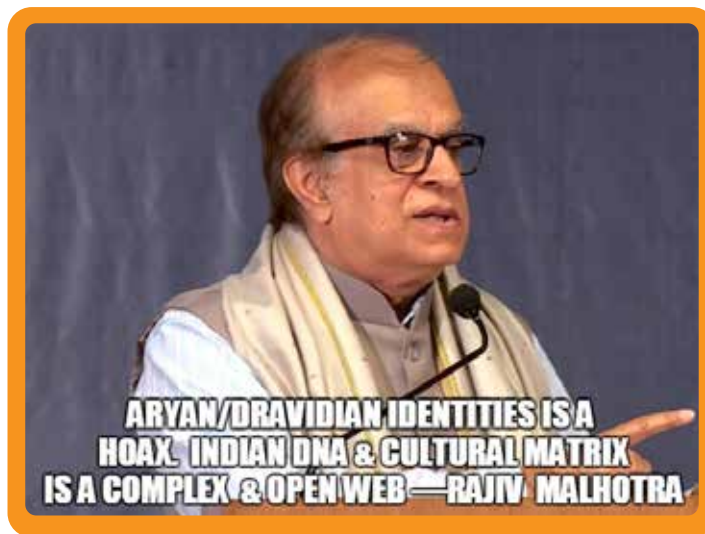
developed to cover all the topics of Being Different. Track D will be for masses which will include book clubs, social media supporters, volunteers and bloggers. This is how ideas would go mainstream.

To have a lasting impact and establish a school of thought there are four requirements: there must be unique intellectual content, human resource as carriers of knowledge, institutions to propagate knowledge, popular appeal and branding. There will be a strict focus on select topics to generate sufficient thrust to topple the dominant discourse in those regions of inquiry. Hence focus is very important on the specific topics and ideas at hand rather than being too general and unorganized. The idea is to bring a new school of thought with an identity and branding to the world stage concerning the place of our Sanskriti in the future of humanity. Link for the announcement by Rajiv can be found in the links section.



EXPOSING PLAN FOR NEW TV SERIAL BASED ON ARYAN/DRAVIDIAN MYTH

Rajiv gave a facebook live talk on 21st August 2016 on the plan for a TV serial based on Aryan Invasion theory to be broadcasted on Star Plus. Someone known to Rajiv and a follower of his works, approached Rajiv saying that he was asked to audition for a role as an Aryan soldier. The script is being written by K V Vijayendra Prasad who was also the script writer for Baahubali. The producer-director is Goldie Behl of Rose Audio Visuals who is well known. The story is about the Aryan conquest of Dravidians. Elements of popular appeal like drama, love and action will be injected with the Aryan invasion as the theme. On the first level, this is a construction on false history, but it is also socially irresponsible and politically dangerous. This distortion could either be due to sepoy indologists who push their myths through popular culture or it could also be due to ignorance of the producers who are going merely by hear say. The Aryan Dravidian divide is a dangerous myth that breaking India forces propagate. Rajiv's book Breaking India has extensive research on this topic showing how this theory is false. The theory was started by the British who hired Max Mueller, a German, who came up with this theory. Bishop Caldwell then perpetuated it. The theory was not accepted in India. However it began gaining traction since the fifties as a tool for political vote banking and identity manipulation. The Christians began using this theory to alienate people and facilitate conversion. It was also used by subaltern theorists to critique the legitimacy of Hinduism. This present scenario is a very good example of how scholarship from the top seeps into pop culture and in the end influences world views of the common public. Art has always been used for transmitting ideas be it Vedic ideas through Itihas or Nazi ideas or those of the Marxists and Christians. There was a recent



book by a very eminent Archeologist, Nagaswamy, who is very well known and highly credible. The book is titled, "Tamil Nadu - The Land of the Vedas" that demolishes the popular myth that the Vedas and Sanskrit were brought from the outside and Tamils had nothing to do with it. As per Nagaswamy, all the Sangam kings performed Vedic rituals, followed prescriptions of Dharma Shastra, learnt Vedas, Vedangas and performed the daily pancha mahayajnas. He also says that in birth, marriage and death rights, the ancient Tamils followed Vedic injunctions and the Kings employed Vedic scholars as their ministers. Even the judges were selected after clearing an exam on Dharma Shastras.

A newly discovered archeological site in the south has many resemblances with archeological sites in the north. This TV serial must be contested. Disclaimers that they are fiction are insufficient. If similar serials are produced about the prophet or Jesus, no Muslim or Christian would accept it even if they had disclaimers.

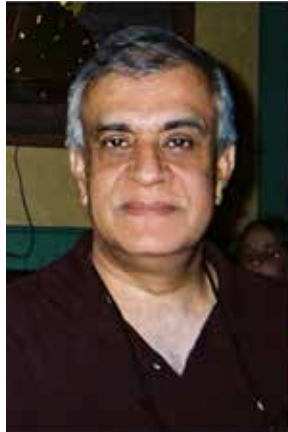
It is more credible for the producer, writer and director to make a pause on the shooting and consult historians with alternative viewpoints. There could be panel discussion with all viewpoints represented rather than producing the serial so hastily which could trigger political schisms. Produced in the present form, it would result in social disharmony and enmity amongst people.

Rajiv ended his talk suggesting that the producers must heed to friendly advice and Indians must approach the producers respectfully and with genuine interest to learn their point of view.

Link to the video can be found in the links section.

FACEBOOK LIVE CHAT ON USA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND THE MYTH OF AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM

Rajiv gave a facebook live talk on the 15th of August 2016 about the "American Exceptionalism" myth and its relation to the US presidential elections. Rajiv began his talk referring to the American exceptionalism myth - "Americans being the exceptional people who are the gold standard for the world to follow, who bring democracy and morality to the world etc." - as being part of the old American history and deeply embedded in their psyche. This myth came with the European settlers in Northern America and has perpetuated since then. Both the American Left and Right subscribe to this myth. Periodically the myth breaks and the same myth has to be updated and reformulated for the next generation. The origin of the myth lies in a Biblical reference where Jesus in his sermon on the mount speaks of a city upon a hill. The city upon a hill is an ideal community which is moral, pure and supposed to be the light of the world. It would spread its morality and wisdom to the whole world. In 1630 in a ship from Europe to the Americas, a man named John Winthrop makes a reference to the new land as the city upon a hill. This reference then caught on and was used for Christian expansionism in the Americas. It has its good sides of charity and philanthropy. However it has its dark and ugly sides too as seen in the horrible deeds against the Native Americans. Though the ideals encapsulated in the American exceptionalism myth were part of the founding fathers ideas, the term itself gained currency mostly in the 20th century. Even far liberal candidates like John F Kennedy have made references to the city upon a hill in his speeches. So did Ronald Reagan. The American exceptionalism idea has been evoked even by Barack Obama. The ethical foundations of this myth are from puritan Christian ideas with the license to export morality, social activism and global political activism. There is a frontier spirit of the kind that says the Americans are the best of the best, in all fields from sports



to technology and therefore have the right to export their ideologies to the rest of the world. All the experiments of bringing democracy in Iraq, Syria et al have back fired and yet America continues to pursue such ideas due to the American exceptionalism myth. Each generation faces a crisis and the myth has to be reformulated and cleaned up. The 60s saw a crisis which saw the counter culture movement. Many visited India for answers. It was from this interaction that yoga, meditation, divinity of the feminine etc. were brought back and digested as part of American culture. The present crisis is by white Christian Americans who are revolting against globalization. Both camps in the presidential race are trying to address this crisis in their own way. Trump's side seeks to address this issue by exacerbating ethnic issues. Trump being a strong supporter of Judeo Christian values, the US report on religious freedom would get more aggressive under his administration as he would enable the evangelicals. The Clinton solution would be to assimilate various groups and create the American exceptionalism variant of each group who would be placed as role models for those respective groups in the rest of the world. This crisis is seen at present in the entire Western world where re-emergence of national identities and past myths can be seen due to perceived excess in liberal ideas as too much loss in power. With regard to India, a Trump administration could be good or bad and involves a level of uncertainty. Clinton on the other hand has important Pakistani lobbies as part of her team. To sum up, unlike in India where Leftists see it as fashionable to pander to the separatists' line, in the USA no left- liberal would ever adopt an anti-American stance. It must be noted that all sides of the political spectrum subscribe to the American exceptionalism myth. Please watch whole video in attached link.

RAJIV MALHOTRA WILL BE AT EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA IN SEPTEMBER

Public lecture at University of Alberta by
Rajiv Malhotra

'STUDY OF HINDUISM AND THE FUTURE OF INDIA IN THE POST-COLONIAL TIME'

15 SEPTEMBER at 6 pm

Hall 2-190

EDMONTON CLINIC HEALTH ACADEMY

Followed by discussion with
Braydon Whitlock
Director, Society of Edmonton Atheists

Sponsored by
Maanaw Seva Association
Edmonton, Alberta

Co-ordinator
Sabyasachi Maity (maity@ualberta.ca)
Arun Raturi (arunraturi08@gmail.com)

Connect with the author

 @RajivMessage

 RajivMalhotra.Official

Everyone is
Invited!



CALL FOR PAPERS - SWADESHI INDOLOGY CONFERENCE 2

Professor Kannan has announced the call for papers for Swadeshi Indology conference 2. In the abstract with the topics for the conference, professor Kannan draws a background on Western Indology, from Orientalism of the Colonial era to American Orientalism with the rise of America, and elaborates on the role that this scholarship has played in Indian society. Due to the hegemonic discourse in India, it can also be called as neo-orientalism. The neo-orientalist school is

Swadeshi Indology Conference Series

the most important left wing, post-marxist, post-colonial school of thought that dominates any discourse in India today. Professor Sheldon Pollock being one of its champions, has not been critiqued in any systematic way by Indians. Professor Kannan also draws on the Purva-Paksha tradition of India as a tool for rigorous and unemotional intellectual investigation of opposing views. The first two conferences in the series have been designed to critique the neo-orientalist

school of Indology. Six more topics are to be added to the four topics already dealt with in SI-1. SI-2 is to be held in Delhi in January / February 2017. In addition to the ten topics, other innovative and important submissions to the critique of neo-orientalism will also be considered. The topics added to Swadeshi Indology conference 2 are critiques of the neo-orientalist thesis on each of the following topics:-

- 1) Rasa
- 2) Philology
- 3) Chronology of Sanskrit texts
- 4) Mimamsa

5) Buddhism and its relation with Vedic traditions

6) Desacralization of Sanskrit.

The topics from SI-1 are:-

- 1) Sastra
- 2) Sanskrit and Nazi ideology
- 3) "Death" of Sanskrit
- 4) Ramayana as a political device.

The detailed invitation for papers can be accessed at the link provided.

Links:-

- 1) **Announcement of Infinity Foundation of India**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xl6nyKVDNCQ>
- 2) **American exceptionalism myth and the presidential elections**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=log0y9fRklc>
- 3) **Announcement on TV serial based on Aryan invasion theory**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1panKQ58dU>
- 4) **Swadeshi Indology conference 2 – call for papers**
<http://swadeshiindology.com/si-2-call-for-papers/>