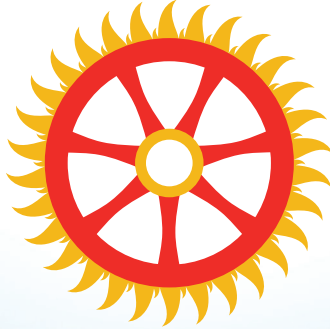




WORLD HINDU CONGRESS



Jayasya Aayatanam Dharmah
Dharma, the Abode of Victory

24 - 26 November, 2023
Bangkok, Thailand

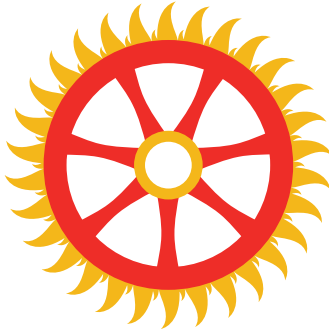
Seven Thematic Parallel Conferences
Economy • Education • Media • Political
Women • Youth • Organisations



Organised by: World Hindu Foundation



WHC2023, Bangkok
24 - 26 November, 2023



Jayasya Aayatanam Dharmah
Dharma, the Abode of Victory

Philosophy

Vision

Realising the full potential of each Hindu for a better and just world.

Mission

To provide a comprehensive platform for all Hindus to work together for justice and welfare of all.





About World Hindu Congress

Hindus are a 1.2 billion strong community, comprising 16% of the world's population with presence in around 200 countries. Across the world, we are the leaders and catalysts in all spheres of human endeavour - business, economy, education, governance, media, technology and culture. As a civilisation, we have always aspired for a *Dharmic* world which is prosperous, just and peaceful. However, such aspirations can only be realised if the Hindu leadership - spread across nations, societies and cultures - comes together to organise and combine its energies for global welfare. The World Hindu Congress (WHC) is the only global platform where this translates into reality.

The WHC enables all Hindu leaders, activists, thinkers and influencers to come together and work towards a common vision. It provides Hindus a platform to connect, share ideas and inspire each other for the greater common good. Thus, the WHC is a facilitator for cultural, spiritual and material advancement of humanity. The WHC is also a place where critical issues impacting Hindus worldwide are addressed. These include denial of human rights, discrimination and downright physical and cultural assaults.

The WHC, through its seven thematic parallel conferences, articulates Hindu values, creativity and talents in areas as diverse as economy, education, media and politics. These conferences also bring into spotlight the centrality of women, youth and Hindu organisations. The deliberations at these conferences help in learning from the past and analysing the current challenges and opportunities facing Hindus across the world. This draws a roadmap to achieve prosperity and progress of humanity. As a 1.2 billion strong community, we ought to have a significant voice in global affairs for establishing a fair and equitable society.

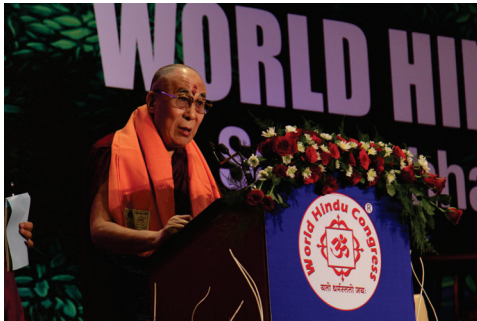
The WHC is a quadrennial event. The earlier Congresses (2014 New Delhi and 2018 Chicago), as well as the upcoming one in Bangkok, 2023 are expressions of Hindu tenacity; our ability to survive, grow and flourish despite the countless odds faced over the last several centuries.

Thus, the WHC is a continuation of the quintessential and original yajnya (self-sacrifice) for the greater interest for the Hindu society. Its purposefulness and comprehensiveness enables Hindus to come together consistently on a shared platform for a shared purpose inspired by shared values.

**Samudra Manthan,
Suvarnabhumi Airport,
Bangkok**



WHC 2014, New Delhi Laying the Foundation



The inaugural World Hindu Congress 2014 was held in New Delhi, Bharat on 21, 22 & 23 November with the theme *Sangachchhadhwam Samvadadhvam*, meaning “Step Together, Express Together”. This congress saw 1,800 delegates from 53 countries representing the best and brightest from a wide array of fields - arts, academia, business, government, industry, media, medicine, science, technology, community, social and humanitarian organisations. A range of topics related to these fields were discussed, as were other critical issues faced by Hindus around the world. The resounding success of WHC 2014 laid the foundation on which WHC 2018 unfolded, building a consistent global platform for Hindus to come together.

“Buddhists and Hindus are like spiritual brothers and World Hindu Congress is an attempt to restore a thousand year rich tradition.”

His Holiness PP Dalai Lama, WHC 2014

Akshardham Mandir,
New Delhi



WHC 2018, Chicago Building on the Foundation

The World Hindu Congress 2018 was held in Chicago, USA on 7, 8 & 9 September. It was organised to commemorate the 125-year anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's famous lecture at the Parliament of World Religions in Chicago, 1893.

The theme of WHC 2018 was *Sumantrite Suvikrante*, meaning "Think Collectively, Achieve Valiantly". With this guiding principle, seven parallel conferences - Economic, Education, Media, Political, Women, Youth and Hindu Organisations - were held.

Hindu leaders, dignitaries, activists, academics, industrialists, business people, parliamentarians and media personalities were among 2,450 delegates from 60 countries. This landmark event accelerated the efforts for Hindu solidarity on the framework laid in 2014.



"We (Hindus) have stopped our descent. Now we are ascending. Hindus need to march together in one formation. Though moving forward individually, aware not to collide with each other, but stepping together in the same direction."

Dr. Mohan Bhagwat,
PP Sarsangchalak, RSS, WHC 2018



"Hindus are one billion worldwide. We Hindus need to forget our differences, unite and stand up."

Honourable Vice President of Bharat,
Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, WHC 2018



**The Art Institute
of Chicago**

WHC 2023, Bangkok Creating the Superstructure

The World Hindu Congress 2023, Bangkok, Thailand will be held on 24-26 November with the theme *Jayasya Aayatnam Dharmah*, meaning “Dharma, the Abode of Victory”. Seven parallel thematic conferences to articulate the values, creativity and entrepreneurial spirit of Hindus in all its vibrance and glory will constitute this WHC. The conferences will provide space to discuss and deliberate upon the opportunities and challenges facing Hindus across the world and how to address them valiantly. These conferences will also focus on areas of strategic importance to Hindus and provide avenues for collaboration among Hindu leaders, activists and thinkers for the Hindu resurgence.

WHC 2023 will provide opportunities for Hindus to network, exchange ideas, work confidently and model their future course of action. Overall, WHC 2023 shall make us feel that grand pride of being a Hindu and shore up our mind to take up our duties and responsibilities towards our Hindu *Dharma* fearlessly.

Bharat and Southeast Asia share common *Dharmic* and cultural values that find expression in language, arts, architecture and tradition. Magnificent symbols of a shared heritage can be seen in Wat Phra Si Rattana Satsadaram (Thailand), Angkor Wat and Phnom Kulen (Cambodia), Prambanan and Borobudur (Indonesia), Bagan (Myanmar), Kedaram (Malaysia), Cham Temple, Mỹ Sơn (Vietnam) and Vat Phou (Laos).



“History has been made here. I have attended many such conferences and seen that they provoke few real changes. But this one was different – it was a tangible symbol, a sign, an occult happening. Swami Vivekananda and Sri Aurobindo’s call for a renaissance of Bharat has begun.”

- Delegate, WHC 2014



The Grand Palace,
Bangkok



World Hindu Economic Forum

The primary goal of this conference is advancement of economic welfare of Hindus across the world. The conference will have stimulating sessions and opportunities to network with economic leaders and trade warriors. This is a forum where the vigour of innovation, sustainability and critical thinking palpates across the sessions. Attendees will be able to forge partnerships in trade, investment or mentorship.

Industry-relevant plenaries will enable the business community to prepare for emerging economic impetus. Attendees will find the interactions invaluable and take several tracks of innovative ideas for their economic betterment and, in turn, for the entire Hindu society. The conference delegates will include industrialists, entrepreneurs, bankers, executives, economists and business strategists to share real world experiences and knowledge with an eye on creating widespread prosperity.



Making Society Prosperous

www.wheforum.org

"I felt light-hearted, full of strength and confident in the future. My teachers and mentors, the wise *Rishis* of old, a billion devotees around the globe and the best religion that has ever existed in the history of humanity are always with me."

Dinanath Bodhiswami, Russia, WHC 2018



Angkor Wat, Cambodia: Angkor (9th Century) the city of temples Cambodia, is one of the greatest creations of Hindu ancestors. It extends over approximately 400 square kilometers and consists of scores of temples, hydraulic structures (basins, dykes, reservoirs, canals) as well as communication routes.

Hindu Education Conference

Conducted by Hindu Education Board

With the vision to provide “Quality Education for All”, this conference brings together educators, academics, administrators, government officials, students and other stakeholders to discuss challenges and opportunities in the field of education. Deliberations in the conference focus on ways of making quality education affordable and developing leadership in all academic disciplines.

This conference emphasises on establishing standards to ensure an accurate representation of Hindu civilisation in academia, investing in creative modalities for *Dharmic* and value-based education and creating intellectual leadership in all areas of knowledge. The conference is also a forum to discuss and develop educational policies to promote justice, equity and economic opportunity.



HINDU EDUCATION BOARD

Quality Education for All
www.hindueducationboard.org

Hindu Media Conference

Conducted by Hindu Media Forum



Truth is Supreme
www.hindumediaforum.org

Media plays an important role in shaping global perceptions and narratives. Armed with smartphones, almost every person is a consumer of some form of news and entertainment media. Truth is often hidden underneath layers of interpretations, perceptions and political agendas. Hindus need to be well represented in journalism, news media, social media as well as the cinematic and TV entertainment industries to ensure accurate and positive portrayal of the Hindu community and its interests. Taking control of the narrative about Hindus in the media has never been more important.

This conference provides a platform for various stakeholders, such as media owners, production houses and media professionals, to share ideas and experiences, discuss challenges and opportunities in all forms of media, and to evolve strategies to keep the world better informed through honest reporting and portrayal of the Hindu community.



Hindu Political Conference

Conducted by World Hindu Democratic Forum

Driven by the motto “Responsible Democracy for All”, this conference brings together politically active Hindus including lawmakers, diplomats and administrators. The conference also draws upon Hindus working as policy experts and human and civil rights advocates.

Discussions at the conference will involve a thorough analysis of issues impacting Hindus locally, nationally and globally, and crafting strategies to address these challenges.

This conference also encourages Hindu youth to become more politically engaged and promote responsible democracy around the world.



Responsible Democracy for All
www.whdf.org



**Highest Respect for
Women**

www.hinduwomenforum.org

Hindu Women Conference

Conducted by Hindu Women Forum

The aim of this conference is to drive leadership by inspiring and advancing women leaders. Hindu women from all backgrounds share their expertise to foster a stronger Hindu society. This conference is the platform that brings together Hindu women from diverse backgrounds, perspectives and professions to address some of the most pertinent issues impacting the wellbeing of Hindus.

Women are principal contributors to the Hindu resurgence movement as a result of inculcating *Dharmic* values in society and providing leadership in the business, social, cultural and political arenas of the modern world. This conference brings together women to share, explore and augment the unique contribution they make to the world.

Hindu Youth Conference

Conducted by Hindu Students and Youth Network

This conference brings together Hindu students and youth from around the world on a common platform. Guided by the theme of "Rise, Organise, Lead, Emerge," this conference strategically aligns the regional, national and international Hindu Youth to work on capacity building. This can come about through enhanced awareness in the fields of economy, education, media, human rights, democracy and policy-making. Young Hindu minds globally must deal with a gaping paradox – on one hand they see growing economic might and cultural values of Hindus while on the other they face the prejudice, propaganda and political ideologies that thwart the Hindu viewpoint.

This conference cultivates peer-to-peer learning and mentoring to ensure a capable next generation of torch bearers for Hindu resurgence.



**Rise, Organise,
Lead, Emerge**
www.hsynetwork.net

Hindu Organisations Conference

Conducted by Hindu Organisations, Temples & Associations Forum



Sanghe Shakti Kaliyuge

www.hotaforum.org

The guiding theme of the conference is "Sanghe Shakti Kaliyuge," meaning Organisation is Strength. There are many Hindu organisations working in the community, striving to make the Hindu society better and stronger. However, they work in their individual capacities and usually in the areas of their expertise. The aim of this conference is to bring all Hindu organisations, temples, associations and institutions together on a common platform to create a movement for Hindu resurgence and serve the greater Hindu society more effectively. This is primarily achieved through ongoing dialogue, networking, coordination and collaboration amongst various organisations.

While respecting the individuality and autonomy of organisations, emphasis will be on coming together, working together and growing together. This will help in defending, strengthening, positioning, promoting and expanding the Hindu Society.

DELEGATES SPEAKS

1. "The World Hindu Congress was a pivotal event for the entire global Hindu community. It indicated a paradigm shift in the Hindu mind with a new self-confidence and clarity of self-articulation."
Shri Vamadeva Shastri, USA, WHC 2018
2. "This conference made us feel that, in spite of so much Hinduphobia in the media and academic circles, it is wonderful to be a Hindu today – that Hindu identity remains strong." **Dr. Francois Gautier, France, WHC 2018**
3. "Hindus coming from non-Bharatiya origin sharing experiences with the Bharatiya Hindus & taking confidence along the Hindu heritage is another positive outcome of the congress."
Delegate, WHC 2018
4. "The World Hindu Congress was a great success. More Hindus need to speak up."
Delegate, WHC 2018
5. "It [WHC] will help our next generation to have Pride in our heritage." **Delegate, WHC 2018**

Prambanan Temples, Indonesia: The Prambanan compound consists of over 500 temples and represents an architectural and cultural treasure. Built in the 10th century, it is the largest Hindu temple complex in Indonesia, dedicated to three great Hindu deities – Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva.





PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

The World Hindu Congress is a global platform for all Hindus – regardless of nationality, race, ethnicity, community, gender, economic status or social status.

To participate as a delegate, one should be:

1. Committed to working for Hindu resurgence;
2. A leader or representative of a Hindu organisation, association or institution; and
3. A positive representative of Hindu society. This includes thought leaders, activists, academics, industrialists, business leaders, elected representatives, legislators, appointees, economists, media personalities, etc.

Hindus across the world are cordially invited to participate in the World Hindu Congress on 24 -26 November, 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Please note, the number of participants to the World Hindu Congress 2023 is limited to 2,500 delegates.

Whilst World Hindu Congress 2023 will primarily be organised by the World Hindu Foundation, all Hindu organisations, associations and institutions are encouraged to participate and are most welcome to become partners in making this event a resounding success.



**Batu Malai Sri Murugan Temple,
Batu Caves, Malaysia**



REGISTRATION & ACCOMMODATION

World Hindu Congress 2023 will be held in Bangkok on 24-26 November. Only registered delegates can participate.

For registration information, please visit: www.worldhinducongress.org

The Organising Committee of World Hindu Congress 2023 reserves the right to admission to WHC 2023.

Details of WHC 2023 registration fee (in USD) are:

Early Bird	After 31 July, 2023
\$300 Delegates	\$350 Delegates
\$200 (Women)	\$250 (Women)
\$150 (Students)	\$200 (Students)

The registration fee covers all registration material and meals during the conference. It does not include the cost of accommodation. Accommodation is available at hotels adjacent to the conference venue on a first-come, first-served basis. The discounted rate for accommodation at these hotels will only be available via the WHC 2023 website. Information on other hotels will also be available on the WHC 2023 website.

- An invitation letter will be provided for registered delegates upon registration approval to assist in obtaining visas. To confirm visa requirements and travel requirements to Thailand, please visit: www.mfa.go.th
- All foreign visitors must provide passport information, visa information and proof of travel insurance upon request by the WHC 2023 Organising Committee.
- All student registrants must provide a valid student ID, proof of age of under 35 and travel insurance. Students under the age of 18 must also have the consent form signed by a parent or guardian.

Cham Temples, Vietnam: During the 4th to 13th centuries, there was a unique culture on the coast of contemporary Vietnam, owing its spiritual origins to the Hindu Dharma from Bharat. Many impressive temples were built to the Hindu deities by the Champa Kingdom.



WHC2023, Bangkok

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MEDIA ENQUIRY

media.whc2023@worldhinducongress.org



Vat Phou, Laos: The Vat Phou Temple complex, more than 1,000 years old, was shaped to express the Hindu vision of the relationship between nature and humanity, using an axis from mountain top to river bank to lay out a geometric pattern of temples, shrines and waterworks extending over some 10 km.

Brihadishvara Temple, dedicated to Bhagwan Shiva is one of the largest Hindu temples. It is located on the banks of river Kaveri, Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu, Bharat. It was built by Rajaraja Chola I, from 1003-1010 CE and is entirely made of hard granite stone, and has Chola frescoes on its walls, portraying various facets of Bhagwan Shiva.

The *Vimanam* (temple tower) is 216 ft (66 m) high and is the tallest in the world. The *Kumbham* (the apex or the bulbous structure on the top) of the temple is carved out of a single rock and weighs around 80 tons. UNESCO is proud to list this temple on their World Heritage Sites.

The design of the temple is such that the shadow of the tower never falls on the ground and because of the carvings, the shadows on the sloping walls are also not easily discernible to the spectators at ground level. This gives the temple an aura of awe and mystery.



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