



Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc.

World Hindu Council

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 15 August 2025

For Immediate Release

VHP Australia Calls on All Hindu Organisations to Honour Our Ancestors

The Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) of Australia Inc. is proud to announce the adoption of a new tradition for Hindu events in Australia: a formal Salutation to the Sacrifices and Enduring Spirit of Hindu Ancestors to be recited at the beginning of all programmes and gatherings.

This initiative was inspired by a profound suggestion raised during the National Hindu Conference in Perth and the subsequent Hindu Organisations, Temples and Associations (HOTA) Forum. In Australia and New Zealand, it is customary to begin formal events by acknowledging and paying tribute to the Aboriginal peoples, the traditional custodians of the land. The VHP believes that Hindus, too, should honour their own ancestors, who made immense sacrifices over thousands of years to preserve and protect Hindu civilisation, culture, and Dharma.

The Salutation was first recited at the World Hindu Economic Forum 2025 in Adelaide on 2 August 2025, where it received an overwhelmingly positive response from community leaders and delegates from across Australia and overseas.

The Salutation to the Sacrifices and Enduring Spirit of Hindu Ancestors

We offer our deepest pranām to the illustrious Hindu forebears—Rishis, Munis, Siddhas, Āchāryas, Gurus, Sadhus, Sants, Warriors, Leaders, Farmers, Businessmen, Artisans, Kings, Queens, Men, and Women—who, through centuries of unrelenting foreign incursions, stood as steadfast and unyielding sentinels of Dharma. With unwavering courage, they embraced sacrifice and martyrdom, confronted death with divine resolve, and rose in valiant defence of our civilisation, culture, and people in the darkest epochs of our history.

It is through their indomitable spirit, steadfast devotion, and supreme sacrifices that the eternal flame of Hindu Dharma was kept alive, so that we, their descendants, may walk today with dignity, identity, pride, and purpose. With hearts full of reverence and gratitude, we bow before them in eternal remembrance.

The VHP is calling upon all Hindu organisations, temples, community groups, and event organisers across Australia to adopt this salutation as a standard opening for their events, festivals, and public gatherings. By doing so, we can collectively ensure a consistent and unified expression of respect, while reinforcing our shared history and heritage.

VHP National Spokesperson, Mr Rajendra Pandey, said, 'This salutation is more than a ceremonial gesture, it is a conscious act of remembrance and gratitude to those who stood unyielding in defence of our Dharma, culture, and way of life. In adopting it, we send a message of unity, pride, and cultural continuity to future generations.'

The VHP emphasises the importance of using the exact wording provided to ensure consistency across all organisations and encourages leaders to explain its meaning to audiences before reciting it, so that its significance is fully understood.

For further information, please contact Shri Rajendra Pandey, National Spokesperson.

Australia's largest Hindu organisation

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