

July 1 - Seeking Justice in India for Religious Minorities, India Christian Day, India Signature Campaign

I am just returning from Washington DC having attended the International Religious Freedom Summit. At this summit, I participated in a panel sponsored by the India working group about the horrifying plight of Muslims, Christians, Buddhists, Dalits, Sikh's who endure increasing violence and disenfranchisement under the Hindu Nationalist Government. If you would like to learn more, listen to this panel discussion which featured the former chair of the United States Commission on International Freedom and the new Ambassador for Religious Freedom among others, please [click here](#).

In faith,

Peter Cook



As the Modi Government seeks to build its case for Hindu only country, they try to assert that Hinduism preceded Christianity by claiming that it is primarily a foreign imperialist religion imposed on India by Britain and the United States. While there are some not so pleasant aspects of Christianity being used by missionaries to advance imperialist designs, the Modi Government's propaganda discounts the many benefits that came from the Christian missionary movement in setting up educational institutions and hospitals that served people regardless of caste. They also set aside the history of the Apostle Thomas who settled Christians in India in the first century. Beginning last year, Indian Christians established July 3 to celebrate India Christian Day to tell the story of Christians in India and reshape the historical narrative propagated by Modi.

This year, there will be a celebration of Indian Christian Day, on **Sunday, July 3 from 5 to 7 PM at the St. Vincent DePaul Syro-Malankara Catholic Cathedral at 1500 DePaul Street in Elmont, New York (Long Island)**. Free Admission. Dinner will be served.

[Click here to register](#) and [here](#) for more information. Contact Mr. Koshy George (President FIACONA)-718 314 8171 if you have additional questions.

Signature Campaign to Urge President Biden to Designate India as a Country of Particular Concern

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

As American Christians, we are appealing President Biden to recognize India as a Country of Particular Concern (CPC). While claiming to be the largest democracy, the Government of India is committed to creating a Hindu nationalist state which excludes all non-Hindus.

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) has recommended the White House under present Democratic and recent Republican administrations to name India as a CPC for a 3rd consecutive year. White House has not acted on the recommendation yet. The passage of CPC would mandate US State Department to address numerous human rights/ religious freedom violations in India.

Federation of Indian American Christian Organizations of North America (FIACONA) published [a 2021 Official Report](#) of 761 verified attacks against Christians in India. In 2021 India saw a steep rise in violence against religious minorities. Current developments indicate an onset of a genocidal trend like what Europe experienced in the 1930s and 1940s.'

- [Statewide breakdown of verified incidents](#)
- [Anti-conversion law & impacted states](#)

The Government of India denies entry into India for American Christians, American Muslims, and commissioners of The *United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)*. Selectively Indian Government deports/ denies entry to Americans who visit churches or their Christian friends. Others have experienced house arrest.

FIACONA has initiated a digital petition by a million Christians across the United States. Your prompt *participation is critical*. Would you be kind enough to [sign this petition](#) and stand against the human rights violations in India. We request your help to enlist others to sign this petition as well.

Your privacy will be assured and none of your information will be disclosed to the public.

Koshy George
President- FIACONA