

# Hail Mother Bha:rath

For this 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day anniversary, not only our country of Bha:rath is rejoicing, but those around the world are taking part as well. Western countries like the U.S. are displaying their support for Bha:rath nicely. We see the displays of Independence Day celebrations in New York City. As a first-time event in the world-famous Times Square in Manhattan, the tri-colored Indian flag has been hoisted and celebrated.

Just as this country has gained the strength and position to stand on its own two legs, we can also garner that strength to stand up for historic values. The history of this country spans back well beyond 74 years; it goes to hundreds of thousands as documented by our Vedic texts. Unfortunately, it has yet to make its way in the main stream of our modern education system.

Every country celebrates its history proudly. They display and discuss the greatness of their country from generation to generation among friends, family and society at large. Bha:rath, however, does not have this same national pride.

This weakness stems from the lack of historic exposure in our school systems. This country's development, its qualifications, the scientific developments, the economic systems and cultural impacts – it's all there, it's in our history. But it has not surfaced to the mainstream. Rather, mundane, lower topics have taken over common awareness amongst the people.

Only with our current national leadership have we started to make in ways toward instilling that national pride that we can discuss amongst all of our people: PM Modi has started to install a new sense

of pride to the citizens of this nation: this country is mine, this history is mine, these 138 crores of people are my brothers and sisters.

For a nation, state, town or village – so many types of families, races, castes, and characteristics exist. Developing a mood of “my country” brings us together to do good activities as one, a combined unit. That kind of leadership is required.

Before this, we had kings who would behead citizens to make a point. There was no limit to their terror. Now, modern leadership has fixed those flaws and allowed our country to stand tall with its head high.

*- Excerpt from the speech of H.H. Sri Swamiji on the occasion of Independence day of Bha:rath, Aug 15, 2020*





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