

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021

To,  
The Vice-Chancellor,  
Massey University,

Cc: Professor Mohan Dutta, director, CARE.  
Human Rights Commission, Aotearoa.  
New Zealand Police

Re: The article published by Dr Mohan Dutta, Dean's Chair Professor, Director, Centre for Culture-centred approach to Research and Evaluation (CARE), Massey University, New Zealand

Article link:

[https://carecca.nz/wpcontent/uploads/sites/68/2021/08/CARE\\_White\\_Paper\\_Issue\\_11\\_May\\_2021.pdf](https://carecca.nz/wpcontent/uploads/sites/68/2021/08/CARE_White_Paper_Issue_11_May_2021.pdf)

Amid the flood of hate, discrimination and hooting against Dr Mohan Dutta's article, the Indian Association of Minorities of New Zealand (IAMNZ) along with other social and community organisations offer a message of solidarity and unity.

Kia Ora,

Dr Dutta recently posted his thoughts on Hindutva, which is a political ideology nurtured by the right-wing in India, as well as globally. Dr Dutta's argument overtly differentiates Hindutva from Hinduism. The renowned Indian documentary filmmaker, Anand Patwardhan, pointed out that if Hindutva is Hinduism, then the Ku Klux Klan is Christianity, and ISIS is Islam.

Hindutva is based on exclusiveness, while Hinduism is an inclusive way of living. Hindutva proposes discrimination and practices superiority. It is particularly Islamophobic and is known to infiltrate the major institutions worldwide, encouraging hate and unrest amongst peace-loving people. The meaning of Hindutva isn't as well understood as it should be. As a result, the ill-informed audience is targeting Dr Dutta for his notions and remarks.

Dr Dutta has expressed his thoughts well within his legal rights ( Article 13 and 14, Bill of Rights Act 1990 as well as Article 19 of the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights). Curbing Dr. Dutta's freedom of research and expression would be detrimental to the neutrality of CARE's principles and aim.

Dr Dutta's inbox is flooded with hate and threat messages from the Hindutva groups. Further, IAMNZ members are receiving the same from similar groups. Unperturbed, IAMNZ supports Dr Dutta and his work and stands with him in solidarity.

We condemn the attack on Dr Dutta and Massey University and announce generous support for them.

Ngā mihi nui

Indian Association of Minorities of New Zealand

Guru Ravidass Sabha, Bombay Hill, New Zealand

Dr Ambedkar Sports and Culture Association, New Zealand

Dr Ambedkar Mission Society, New Zealand

Begampura Sikh Temple, New Zealand