Gruelling Questions on Hinduism

In Hostile Environment

*This project is inspired by the Kerala Story*

Interfaithshaadi.org

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# Introduction

This project is inspired by 1) [The Kerala Story](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_r5-JMswg6Y) [movie](https://youtu.be/yArjB2-pPyY?t=138), 2) discussion observed over past 15 years at Interfaithshaadi.org and 3) a personal request from Hindus in Bangladesh to help Hindus youths to properly handle hostile discussion in colleges.

Simple short answers to many questions are provided that a Hindu youth can answer them easily. This will also help even youths who are completely [ignorant about Hindu](https://twitter.com/ourtemples_/status/1653994686544232449/video/4) scriptures and practices. We have kept the answers to 1-2 min length and have provided references for those who wish to learn more.

In a [**hostile**](https://interfaithshaadi.org/mother-brahmin/)[**discussion**](https://interfaithshaadi.org/learn-islam-expert/) **setting**, generally, the other party’s interest is not to get educated about Hinduism but to find faults in it. Even after hours of explaining, the other party will not be satisfied. In such a situation, the best approach is to start with **a defence strategy** and to provide a simple and brief answer, and follow it up with **an offensive strategy** to ask similar and difficult questions back to the other party.

For now, only Questions-Answers (QAs) are provided that are useful for discussions between Hindu and Muslim youths but later, we will add QAs for other faiths later.

We do not have any intention to criticize any faith or practices but this information is provided only for a potential hostile situation or while getting engaged with proselytizers.

We expect several updates to this document. Ask for the [latest version](https://interfaithshaadi.org/gruelling-questions-on-hinduism-in-hostile-environment/) at [InterfaithShaadi](https://interfaithshaadi.org/gruelling-questions-on-hinduism-in-hostile-environment/)@gmail.com.

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# Chapter I: Hindu God Concept

## Section 1.1: Who is your God?

Hindus believe in one single divinity, that pervades everything and everyone. However, Hindus have liberty and freedom to express divinity as they wish. Common people may translate deities roughly into “gods”, but that is just a mistranslation.

Whatever conception of divinity is dearest to an individual, he/she can believe that chosen deity (Ishta devata) as the god (or deva) and can pray to. Lord Rama, Krishna, Ganesh and Goddess Laxmi are different options Hindus have, but they are not mandatory. We can also pray to God without any name or shape, for example during meditation.

To your specific question, I pray to Lord Shiva. Do you have a problem with it?

**Counter Questions:**

Now tell me who is your God?

Other than Muhammad and your Quran, what proof do you have about your Allah?

Why are there restrictions in Islam having a photo or an image of Allah?

To have a photo or statue of Allah is idol-worshiping, why Muslim homes have Arabic writings and a photo of Kaaba, is that not idol-worshiping? Why are you idolizing Muhammad?

Why is your god God and mine an idol?

## Section 1.2: There is only one God in the Vedas. So why do you worship many?

Hindus believe in one single divinity that pervades everything and everyone, as described in Vedas. Rigveda 1:164:46 says: *Ekam sat vipra bahudha vadanti*, meaning there is only one truth, but it is okay to express the All-Mighty God by different names and forms.

For a common person it is difficult to focus on God and for this reason, deities and rituals are suggested to help maintain the concentration needed. Muslims use Kaaba as suggested by Muhammad, Christians use the Jesus’ cross and Hindus use different deities.

Whatever conception of divinity is dearest to an individual, he/she can believe that chosen deity (Ishta devata) as the god (or deva) and can pray to. Lord Rama, Krishna, Ganesh and Goddess Laxmi are different options Hindus have, but they are not mandatory. We can pray to God without any name or shape, for example during meditation.

**Counter Questions:**

Allah said not to associate anyone with Him, why are you always associating Muhammad with Allah?

Why is there so much importance given to Prophet Mohammed when the ultimate is God (Allah).

Do you address Mohammed without PBUH? Why can’t you call hm just by name?

Can one convert to Islam by the Shahadah oath (*lā ʾilāha ʾil ʾāllāh, muḥammadun rasūlu-llāh)*, without uttering the word ‘Muhammad’? Why not?

## Section 1.3: Why do you have too many gods?

Hindus believe in one single divinity, that pervades everything and everyone. However, Hindus have liberty and freedom to express divinity as they wish. Common people may translate deities roughly into “gods”, but that is just a mis-translation. Whatever conception of divinity is dearest to an individual, he/she can believe that chosen deity (Ishta devata) as the god (or deva) and can pray to. Lord Rama, Krishna, Ganesh and Goddess Laxmi are different options Hindus have, but they are not mandatory. We can also pray to God without any name or shape, for example during meditation.

Just like everyone has own prakriti (personal preference) for what kind of movie to watch or what kind of cloth to wear, the same way God has made different forms to suit an individual’s prakriti. One may follow Lord Rama, Krishna or Goddess Kali as one desires, no one of them is superior over the other.

Just like to run a government, we have many departments, the same way there is a need for many devis and devtas to run this cosmos.

**Counter Questions:**

Why is your Allah not everywhere? Why do you have to pray only in the direction of Saudi Arabia? How do you make sure your namaz hit directly to the Kaaba?

Why is your Allah available to pray only at very specific times only, why not whenever one desires?

What is the proof that there will be a Judgment Day or even there is Allah other than what Muhammad said?

You said you have only one God, and we Hindus believe the same. Only difference is you don’t have liberty to express your Allah any other way than that is described by Muhammad and the Quran. Is that not too restrictive?

How many times did you pray in the last one year out of 1825 (5X365) times you were supposed to? How many times did you pray two years before? Allah is watching, so do not lie.

***Other reading material:***

*Relevant videos:* [*Hinduism Q & A: Why Does Hinduism Have So Many Gods*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5IOtS604WwQ),[*Living with faith - Hinduism*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMTLJjhqmlA)

## Section 1.4: Why do you pray to rivers, plants, animals etc.?

Sometimes we appreciate the creation (material) but forget to appreciate the creator.

We should appreciate the farmer, who makes food for us. However, keep in mind, what will the farmer do if there is no land, water, sun and air? For this reason, we need to thank the creator (God or Ultimate).

All rivers, plants and animals are part of the Ultimate and all are very necessary for our survival. We pray to God (the creator) and its creation.

Hindus give equal importance to the things created by God. The things which are essential for our survival such as water, food, sun, air, we give importance by considering them as god. It is important to protect nature and animals from misuse or any kind of harm.

**Counter Questions:**

Why do you pray to the Kaaba cubed building?

Why do you pray in the direction of Saudi Arabia, even if Allah is everywhere?

Do you know the world is round? Don’t not your prayers go to the cosmos, instead of Saudi Arabia?

Why did Muhammad change direction of praying from Jerusalem to Kaaba? Does it mean Allah changed his home? How do you make sure your namaz is precise in the direction of Kaaba and not to Jerusalem?

**Section 1.5: Why do you worship the doll and throw it away after Durga or Ganesh puja?**

Hindus believe in one single divinity that pervades everything and everyone. However, Hindus have liberty and freedom to express divinity as we wish. We can see the Ultimate in the form of Lord Rama, Krishna, Ganesh or Goddess Laxmi.

Just like your Kaaba is not an idol but you are praying it in that direction, it is the same way we pray in the direction of our deity. Using a deity is optional, not mandatory. We can pray to God without any name or shape, for example during meditation.

When a sculptor carves a deity out of a stone or mud, that newly created piece is not God. However, Hindus have a *prana pratistha* ritual, where we install belief to the statue, now we call it deity.

To remind Hindus that a murti (of Lord Ganesh in Maharastra or Goddess Durga in Bengal) is not God but just a tool to pray to the Ultimate, we also have a visarjan (departure) ceremony where we immerse the statue (not God) in water.

**Counter Questions:**

Will you spit on a piece of paper if you are offered 1000 INR to do so? Probably you would. Now if that paper is first used to draw a beautiful picture of your parents, would you spit on that photo for the same price? Probably not, even that paper is still a paper. It is the same concept we have for the statue (blank paper) and murti (paper with your parents photo).

The day you stop your Kaaba idol-worship, then you have the right to come preach about our ways of praying. You enjoy your idol and let us enjoy ours!

**Reading Material:**

[Idol-worshiper: Who Is and Who Is Not?](https://www.patheos.com/blogs/equalityforhappiness/2022/07/idol-worshiper-who-is-and-who-is-not/)

# Chapter II: Problems with Hindu God Concept

## Section 2.1: What kind of God is your Krishna who plays with so many women?

The Raasleela or the Ras dance, is part of traditional stories where Krishna dances with Radha and the gopis (girls) of Vraja. The Bhagwat Geeta states that Shri Krishna left for Mathura at the age of 10, and never returned to Vrindavan again. The stories of Rasleela are all from Vrindavan, which means that the age of Krishna was 8-9 years. What he did at that age should be labelled as “mischief” by a young boy rather than “eve-teasing” (sexual harassment).

Lord Krishna was performing raasleela with all his crores of Gopis, and He was present with all of them personally, at the same time. This is possible only by God.

You should know that Lord was not aroused by sexual appeal and not indulging in any illegitimate relationship with any of these gopis.

**Counter Questions:**

How many total numbers of wives and slave girls did Muhammad have?

Why did he have 11 wives at a time, but Muslims in India can have a limit of only 4 wives?

What was the age of Ayesha (answer: [six years](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0e9jumJqI5U)) when Muhammad (at age 53) married her? When did Muhammad consummate Ayesha (answer: 9-12)?

Wait, you said Muhammad married Ayesha for political reasons to build a relationship? If so, why did he not adopt Ayesha as his daughter or sister, instead why as a wife?

Oh, polygamy is allowed in Islam because at Muhammad’s time there were many wars and most men died and thus a man can take care of multiple widows. If so, why not remove ‘four wives allowed to Muslims’ from the Indian constitution today since the boy and girl ratio is almost one?

*Other reading material:* [*True story behind why did Sri Krishna have 16108 wives*](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/true-story-behind-why-did-sri-krishna-have-16108-wives-raja-hanuman/)

*Relevant videos:* [*The Kerala Story | Bhakti Today Version*](https://youtu.be/_r5-JMswg6Y)

## Section 2.2: Why did Shri Krishna commit adultery with his aunt, what kind of God is he?

Radha is not the aunt of lord Krishna. She is the lover (not wife) of Krishna. Sometimes she is also mentioned as a devotee of lord Krishna in Puranas.

The Bhagwat Geeta states that Shri Krishna left for Mathura at the age of 10, and never returned to Vrindavan again. The stories of Rasleela (dancing with girls) are all from Vrindavan, which means that the age of Krishna was 8-9 years. What he did at that age should be explained as “mischief” by a young boy rather than “eve-teasing” (sexual harassment).

**Counter Questions:**

Read Section 2.1

## Section 2.3: Did Krishna have 16,108 wives?

There was a demon by the name of Narakasura. He had captured 16,100 beautiful unmarried girls in this area and kept them as sex slaves. When Shri Krishna killed Narakasura, he freed them. After freeing them, all the girls requested Shri Krishna to marry them as the society would never accept them.

So they pleaded Lord Krishna to accept them and if He doesn’t accept them, then they will commit suicide. Being trapped in dharma, Shri Krishna accepted all women as his wives so that they live an honorable life and nobody dares to mock them. To restore their honor and give them the status of queen, Shri Krishna married them.

Lord Krishna was present with all his wives, at the same time. That is not possible by a normal human being. Lord was not aroused by sexual appeal and thereby fulfilled his virtue perfectly by not indulging in any illegitimate relationship with any of these princesses.

**Counter Questions:**

Why does the Quran allow polygamy?

Why do you have the practice of talaq and Nikah halala?

Read Section 2.1

*Other reading material:* [*True story behind why did Sri Krishna have 16108 wives*](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/true-story-behind-why-did-sri-krishna-have-16108-wives-raja-hanuman/)

## Section 2.4:  Why was Sita Devi abducted by Ravana and abused there?

Sita was so pure that no one other than Lord Rama could touch her. Ravan who took Sita away was a chhaya (shadow) Sita, real Sita Devi was merged into agni (fire) and came back during the agni pariskha (fire test).

**Counter Questions:**

Oh, you found all these fairy tales and not the truth. Why will you not respect my faith and belief system? Can you tell me more about your fairy tales from the Quran and Hadiths?

Tell me more about the **Buraq** (flying horses) who served as the mount of the Muhammad during his Isra and Miraj journey from Mecca to Jerusalem and up through the heavens and back by night? Was that not possibly a dream?

Why does the Quran say (88:17): “The earth, how it was made flat?” Why Nupur Sharma was given fatva for telling these?

Do you believe that in Jannah (heaven) you will get 72 virgin [houris](https://wikiislam.net/wiki/Houri_%28Heavenly_Virgin%29) who have full grown, swelling, pears-shaped breasts?

For inheritance, explain why daughters should receive half of what the sons receive (Quran 4:11)?

*View this video:*

[*The Kerala Story | Bhakti Today Version*](https://youtu.be/_r5-JMswg6Y)

## Section 2.5: Why did Lord Rama need the help of Monkeys, if he was God why did he not do it by himself?

Ram was so powerful that he single handily killed Khara and Dhushana who came with his 14,000 danavas (demons) who were eating humans. For such a powerful Ram, killing Ravana was not a big deal.

He took help from monkeys to get them involved in his services, and thus could increase the glories of money. Even Ram took help from a squirrel.

We pray to Hanuman (the monkey God) because the best way to reach God is to reach via His servants. If God learns that we are praising his servants, He will be very happy. For example, if I admire you in front of your mother, will not your mother feel happy?

**Counter Questions:**

If your Allah is so powerful, why am I a Hindu kafir today?

Why does Allah not produce only Sunni Muslims?

Why Muslims are poorer compared to most counterparts in most countries, other than a few oil rich nations, why?

Why is Allah not taking care of Pakistan?

*Other reading material:*

[*The Kerala Story | Bhakti Today Version*](https://youtu.be/_r5-JMswg6Y)

## Section 2.6: Why did Lord Rama not trust his beloved wife Sita?

The Ramayana is, perhaps first and foremost, the tale of a man who strives to constantly live up to his ideals but is forced to, like all of us, live in an unideal world. It is through this lens, then, that we may understand the situation to banish Sita, a choice that resulted from a situation in which there was no good option.

Rama's people, mistakenly believing that Sita was "impure", demanded that she be banished. As King of his people, as mandated by Hindu scriptures, Rama's duty was to follow the will of the people, whatever it may be. Thus, as people demanded that his wife be banished, Rama faced a dilemma–to follow the duty of a husband and stand by his wife, or to follow the duty of a Dharmic king and obey his people. The nation stands above one's personal life.

Rama never questioned Sita’s purity. Being away from husband when kidnapped, Sita herself did agni pravesh to prove her purity to keep her husband’s honor as a king.

What is important to note, however, is that while Rama decided to fulfil the duty of a king, he tried his level best to fulfil the duty of a husband as well: though he easily could have, he never remarried, and lived out the rest of his life dedicated to the service of his people. His story serves as an example of how good people can be forced into situations where there is no right answer, and to Hindus around the world, provides some guidance for how to address these issues as well.

**Counter Questions:**

Can you explain Quran 9:23: Believers, do not take your fathers and brothers as friends or allies if unbelief (not believing in Islam) is dearer to them than faith (in Islam).

Do you see a difference between how Ram treated his only wife while how Muhammad treated his multiple wives and slave girls?

Other reading material:

Relevant videos: Rutvij Holay: [Ram and Sita](https://youtu.be/qA_Plb_Tspg?t=1690), Jay Lakhani: [Why Seeta tested by Ram?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_4s1eVLptA&list=PLWsnhdZKqEqyHyRAAO5P-mDnLg9mUlH1u&index=10)

## Section 2.7: Is Shivlinga a phallic symbol?

The Shivalingan is not a phallic symbol. Hindus can pray to any deity in any form that he/she desires and the formless representation of Shiva has no likeness to any human anatomy.

Like any other language, Sanskrit also has words with many meanings depending on the context. The term **‘linga’ in Sanskrit means ‘mark’ or ‘sign’** as well as ‘phallus.’ Hindus use the word ‘linga’ in the former sense. Shivalingam is a **fiery column of light** rather than any likeness to human anatomy.

Within the Hindu tradition, Shivalingam is also considered to represent the Hindu trinity—Brahma, Vishnu, and Mahesh. Hindus look at Shivalingam in a way that transcends physical and material aspects. It is ‘satyam, shivam, sundaram.’

**Counter Questions:**

Since you have raised sexual questions to our beloved Lord Shiva, I hope you don’t mind if I ask you a question about sex life of Muhammad. How many total numbers of wives and slave girls did he have? Why did he have 11 wives at a time, but Indian Muslims can have only four? What was the age of Ayesha (answer: [six years](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0e9jumJqI5U)) when Muhammad at age 53 married her? When did Muhammad consummate Ayesha (answer 9-12)?

Wait, you said Muhammad married Ayesha for political reasons to build a relationship? If so, why did he not adopt Ayesha as his daughter, why as a wife?

*Other reading material:* [*Western reading of Shivalingam as phallic symbol is incorrect for Hindus. Shiva is formless*](https://theprint.in/opinion/western-reading-of-shivalingam-as-phallic-symbol-is-incorrect-for-hindus-shiva-is-formless/971907/)

## Section 2.8: Why did Shiva cut the head of his son Ganesh?

Lord Shiva perfectly knew that Ganesh was his son and Ganesh knew that Shiva was his father. A lot of people have questions about dharma: like who makes such laws? Is it the same for everyone, and so on. Let's dive into mythology to find some answers.

Sometime after ocean-churning (Samudra manthan), Shiva realized that his great "sacrifice" of drinking poison was in vain--people were misusing money and power, and disorder was prevailing in the society. So he went on penance to think about the situation. During his absence, the situation got worse. Following her dharma to restore balance, Goddess Parvati created Ganesh through her powers whose objective was to bring wealth and prosperity in the world (that's why we associate riddhi-siddhi and shubh-labh with his name). After some time, when Parvati came to know that Shiva is returning, she decided to take a special Suchita bath and dress up to meet him. She instructed Ganesha that no-one should be allowed to enter the chamber.

Now Shiva came and went straight to meet his beloved wife after such a long time, only to be stopped by Ganesha. He told him he is his father, but he didn't relent. Other Gods tried to convince Ganesha to let Shiva in, but he mocked them all. Shiva did not become angry for not being able to see Parvati, but **because he saw Ganesh having greed, overconfidence**, **disrespect and ego that had belittled his intelligence**. How could Ganesh spread prosperity, when he himself had selfishness? Shiva realized that Ganesh was not fit to fulfill his objective, and punished him by cutting his head.

When Parvati came to know about it, she became very angry because of her love and started destroying the world with her powers which forced Shiva to give back Ganesh his life by attaching the elephant's head. So in this way, Ganesh also learnt his lesson.

**It was dharma all along** -

* Parvati's as a mother of the world and of Ganesh;
* Ganesh's to keep his mother's promise and
* Shiva's to destroy negative characteristics like ego (tamo-guna) even if the person was his own son.

So dharma is situation dependent, is chosen by one's own self and is different for different people.

So Shiva knew about Ganesh, but in the end, even Gods have to follow their dharma.

## Section 2.9: Why did Shiva carry his dead wife around India?

Lord Shiva was not following shok (material things, leading to sadness; fools follow this) but viraha (separation as a spiritual matter, the separation feeling is giving happiness). By viraha, our love for God increases.

Holy Gita 2:11: You have grieved for those that should not be grieved for; yet, you speak words of wisdom. The wise grieve neither for the living nor for the dead.

View the video:

[*The Kerala Story | Bhakti Today Version*](https://youtu.be/_r5-JMswg6Y)

## Section 2.10: Why is Ma Kali's dress so bad and is killing people?

Kali, in the form of a destroyer, kills that which stands in the way of human purity and peace. Some examples of hurdles in life are evil thoughts, ignorance, and egoism.

Kali is often associated with Lord Shiva. Her very name is the feminine form of Kāla, an epithet of Shiva, thus tying her inextricably to him. She is regarded as the [shakti](https://www.hinduamerican.org/projects/shakti-initiative) (power) of Shiva, and he-her consort. She is closely linked with Him in many of the Puranas and when She appears in these writings besides Shiva, She plays an opposite role to that of Parvati. While Parvati soothes Shiva, neutralizing his destructive tendencies, Kali actively provokes and encourages him.

In Hinduism, whenever Shakti (power) is to be explained, Hindu scriptures are described via a feminine form. Normally, women give out a lot but when she abused, the same wonderful woman has the potential to become fierce. For example, electricity is wonderful and gives us many comforts in life, as long as you don’t abuse it. However, if you put your figure in the electric plug, you are sure to learn your lesson.

**Counter Questions:**

Why does the Quran suggest many violent steps for non-believers? Please explain me each of these: Quran 2:191 (kill them), 3:151 (create terror), 4:56 (burn skin twice), 4:91 (kill them), 9:5 (kill idolaters), 22:19 (melt skin), 36:8 (chains over neck), 44:45 (pour scalding water), 47:4 (strike head off) and more.

On women, an you explain Quran 2:223 (your women are a tilth for you so go to your tilth as ye will), Quran 2:228 (men have a status above women), Quran 2:282 (one man = two women), Quran 4:3 (marry women of your choice, two or three or four), Quran 4:11 (inheritance: to the male, a portion equal to that of two females), Quran 4:15 (to prove rape, produce four witness), Quran 4:24 (you are forbidden to marry married women except your slave-girls), Quran 4:34 (beat them), Quran 4:35 (Allah has made one of them excel over the other), Quran 24:4 (cannot produce not four witnesses (to support their allegations)?- flog them).

Why did Muhammad kill 800 Jewish men of [Banu Qurayza](https://wikiislam.net/wiki/The_Massacre_of_the_Banu_Qurayzah) tribe and sell their women and children as slaves in 627 AD?

View the video: Unveiling the truth - Islam vs Sanathana Dharma

# Chapter III: Hindu Practices

## Section 3.1: Why do Hindus eat cow's milk but not beef?

Eating mango is one thing and cutting a mango tree is a totally different and more serious matter.

The cow was the first animal that the Hindus domesticated. In the Vedic age the cow was a blessing to the rural vegetarian community.

The cow is  a maternal figure [Gau mata or mother cow], a caretaker of her people, also seen as a divine bounty of the earth. Lord Krishna was raised as a cowherd, and played His flute with the rest of his friendly cowherd mates. He is a friend and a protector of the cows, often called "Gopala".

The cow is considered a sacred animal as it provides us with life-sustaining milk. It is considered an auspicious act to feed the cows first before eating one's food.

It is hardly surprising that the cow occupied the position as a mother in the life of a child. It is considered a sin to kill a cow and eat beef. The vedic scriptures emphasize that the cow must be protected and cared for.

**Counter Questions:**

Why Muslims do not eat pork?

If your Quran says pigs are dirty, can you eat pork if the pig is nicely given a bath before killing?

Why don’t Muslims eat non-halal food?

Why did the Quran say not to eat animals which consume food by hands like crab, lobsters, etc.

## Section 3.2:  Why do you drink cow urine?

Personally I don’t drink cow urine nor I know someone is doing so, but if others wish to, it is their choice.

Cow has a special status in Hinduism. Cow is considered the mother of all living entities and gives all pleasures to everyone. Some people believe in medicinal value to Panch gavya (five products from cows namely milk, curd, ghee (clarified butter), urine and dung). Evan [Akshat Kumar](https://www.news18.com/news/buzz/akshay-kumar-says-he-drinks-cow-urine-and-now-everyones-looking-up-its-medicinal-properties-2868007.html) is said to drink cow urine. Medicinal value of cow urine is not proven by a proper scientific study however, no harm has been reported.

**Counter Questions:**

Why do Muslims drink camel urine? [Zakir Naik](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWo2HgZNp3w) believes urine extracted from both cow and camel are ‘pure.’ There is no difference between the beliefs of Hindus and Muslims regarding the use of the most useful animal in their own region.

## Section 3.3: When you give food to your gods, why do [they not eat](https://youtu.be/_r5-JMswg6Y?t=30) that food?

Offering food to God is an approach to strengthen devotion. For others it is the aspect of giving something of importance, which strengthens their material detachment. To others it is the solace of donating food that can be used for feeding the temple priests or even the poor and the hungry who visit the temple.

Hinduism permits different vehicles of piety, practices and devotion. Offering food, with many different motivations behind it, is yet another example of the many vehicles of devotion that Hindus choose. It is important to note that this is not a mandatory practice.

We do not offer food to God to eat but to get divine blessings. After offering to God, the food is called prasad.

**Counter Questions:**

Like your God can hear your dua, same way our God comes here to eat. God form is personal; if your God can hear, our God can eat too.

Why do you kill innocent animals on bakra-Eid? Why is your God not able to eat the goat Himself?

Why do you use animals to wash off your sin, why do you not commit sin to begin with or ask one of your family members to be sacrificed to satisfy your Allah?

## Section 3.4: Hindus burning people after death is a terrible thing!

Hindus believe that there is a changeless, formless, all powerful spirit called Brahman (God or Ultimate) which pervades through the entire cosmos as consciousness. An individual is not just body and mind. A part of Brahman exists in each human soul which is called Atman.

After death, there is no need for the useless body. The body is made of five elements: earth (pritvi), water (jala), fire (tejas), wind (vayu) and space (akasha). We recycle the body back to where it came from.

How does it matter if you bury or cremate the dead body, when the body is going to disintegrate back to original elements anyways?

**Counter Questions:**

Why are you saving the dead body, is that because you are saving for the judgment day? Really?

Did you know you allow your dead body to rot in the graveyard for years, where millions of bugs will wrap around you and eat you slowly every day. It sounds sick.

If everyone on this earth starts taking a 6X4 feel of space forever, there will not be any place left to walk or grow food.

A new report by insurance firm Choice Mutual found 44% of Americans plan on being cremated, a 40% increase from the 1960s.

## Section 3.5:  Islam is a religion of peace, why don’t you join?

If Islam teaches peace why are there so many terrorist groups or organizations killing in the name of Allah? Why is the Middle East, with a majority Muslim population, not the most peaceful region? Why are Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh not more peaceful nations compared to India?

Why are there many messages of following a violent path in the Quran? (read Section 2:10)

If you say Islam is a religion of peace but not Hinduism, let's make a table of the number of people killed in the name of Allah/Isvar, including your own type, during the last 10, 100 and 1000 years. Let the data speak for themselves.

I do not wish to join Islam because it is a Muhammad centric faith. If you remove ‘Muhammad’ and his creations, there is almost nothing left to talk about.

Yes, I can convert to Islam with one term, I will never utter or praise ‘Muhammad’. Is that okay?

I do not have a problem with ‘*La-ilaha-iLLaLLah*’ (there is one God), and ready to accept Allah but not ready to utter ‘*Muhammadur-Rasulullah*’ (Muhammad is his last apostle) to idolize a human being.

I like liberty and freedom to follow Isvar in as many ways and forms, or even in absolutely no form, as it is offered in Hinduism. I do not like the dogmatic restrictions of following one book.

## Section 3.6: Purda system is a protection for girls.

Hindus also had a ghoonghat (face cover with a sari) system in the old days. However, we felt it was not necessary today. We do not believe Purda (or ghoonghat) is the only way to protect women, instead women can be empowered to be strong to defend themselves.

Women can be soft and loving as well as fierce as Goddess Durga. Do not show your male chauvinistic thinking and do not underestimate women.

Why only women have to be covered in Islam, why not men start putting face cover to control their carnal desires?

**Counter Questions:**

Why women have to produce two male witness to prove a rape case as per Sharia laws and the Quran? (read Section 2:10)

How did the purda or hijab system start? (view: [Story of the Hijab](https://youtu.be/D2pnoABLNdE))

View the video: [Truth about the Kerala story](https://twitter.com/ourtemples_/status/1653994686544232449/video/1)

## Section 3.7:  Uncircumcised men cannot perform

Sex in a good relationship is not a physical game but mental. When you love someone truly, it is the love and caring that is more meaningful and not the few minutes of sex.

There is no proven medical benefit of circumcision. The American Paediatric Society has not recommended universal newborn circumcision. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended circumcision for reduction of risk of infectious diseases like HIV, especially for people who live in unhygienic conditions. However, there are no medical issues reported in people who live in good hygienic conditions, for example, the Japanese population who do not practice circumcision.

If the objective is to reduce HIV, it is better to teach your son to refrain from sex or have safe sex and not make your children feel confident about their circumcision and have illicit sex. If there is any medical issue with your son, like phimosis, your paediatrician will recommend appropriate treatment.

More and more educated people prefer no circumcision, for example in the Western US, the rate of circumcision in newborns dropped in the last 32 years from 64% to 40%.

To have foreskin on the penis is not a birth defect to be surgically corrected, rather the foreskin has abundant nerve endings designed to increase sexual sensation. Further, one Denise study using 5552 men found that circumcision was associated with frequent orgasm difficulties (11% versus 4%) and women with circumcised spouses more often reported incomplete sexual needs fulfilment (38% versus 28%). When in doubt, why give pain to a just born child? Why create doubt on God’s creation of skin over the penis?

**Counter Questions:**

Why don’t you believe in science and instead follow superstition?

Why are you blindly following your apostle Abraham, who had some medical issue and could not have children till his age 100? Why are you being dogmatic and following Genesis 17:11 and Roman 2:25-29?

What are your views about female circumcision as is a practice in a few Muslim majority nations?

Read more: [Circumcision: Science or Superstition](https://interfaithshaadi.org/circumcision-science-or-superstition/)