



MILITARY RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
foundation

**MRFF SUPPORTS HINDUS
SEEKING TO DISPLAY BHAGAVAD-GITA
ON POW/MIA TABLE AT
MANCHESTER VA MEDICAL CENTER**

ABC TV WMUR-9 COVERS MRFF

MRFF Founder and President Mikey Weinstein Regarding the Universal Society of Hinduism's Desire to Place Hindu Religious Text Next to Bible on POW/MIA Table at Manchester, NH VA Medical Center (VAMC)



[Click to Watch Video \(1 min 33 sec\)](#)

Hindu group seeks placement of text at VA Medical Center

By: Kristen Carosa

Thursday, September 5, 2019

(Excerpts from WMUR-9/Emphasis Added by MRFF)

MANCHESTER, N.H. — A religious group is asking for its sacred scripture to be displayed at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Manchester after a Bible that's on display led to controversy and a lawsuit.

Rajan Zed, the president of the **Universal Society of Hinduism**, a **global organization**, is **requesting that the ancient scripture be placed on the prisoner-of-war/missing-in-action table in the building's lobby.**

[...]

The request came after a Bible that was owned by a World War II veteran and a prisoner of war was put on the table. The Bible sits on the table locked in a case.

"We were contacted in late January by a number of veterans that are patients," said Mikey Weinstein, of the **Military Religious Freedom Foundation.**

Weinstein's organization is supporting a **lawsuit to get the Bible removed.** He said most of the veterans involved in the lawsuit are Christians who want every religion represented.

"That is a very sacred display for all POWs and MIAs, and guess what? They are not all Christians," he said.

[...]

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**PRESS RELEASE FROM
UNIVERSAL SOCIETY OF HINDUISM**

Hindus seek display of Bhagavad-Gita at Manchester Veterans Hospital

Thursday, September 5, 2019

MANCHESTER, N.H. - **Sept. 5, 2019** - *PRL*og -- Hindus would also like to display ancient Hindu scripture *Bhagavad-Gita* on the entrance lobby table at Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Manchester (New Hampshire).

Hindu statesman Rajan Zed, in a statement in Nevada today, said that the presence of sacred texts at the entrance of hospitals was highly beneficial as scriptures provided us comfort and strength and God wanted us well.

Moreover, inclusion of pre-BCE *Bhagavad-Gita* (Song of the Lord), which was a treatise on yoga, in the display was highly appropriate as Manchester VAMC offered various yoga classes in Manchester, Concord, Portsmouth, Nashua; some of which included meditation; and organized a "Mindfulness Group"; Zed, who is President of Universal Society of Hinduism, pointed out.

In addition, *Bhagavad-Gita* was about a battle and it taught us that "action is better than inaction" and thus was very fitting to be displayed at a facility for veterans who fought battles for our country. It also went well with the Mission of VAMC Manchester, which included improving "health and well-being" of veterans; Rajan Zed indicated.

Zed further said that they were urging Manchester VAMC Director Alfred A. Montoya Junior for a formal permission to display at the entrance lobby table a copy of *Bhagavad-Gita*, which would be supplied by them.

Various universities in USA taught the wisdom of *Bhagavad-Gita* and Harvard University Press had published its one of many English translations, Rajan Zed added.

Hinduism, oldest and third largest religion of the world, has about 1.1 billion adherents and moksh (liberation) is its ultimate goal. There are about three million Hindus in USA.

**JON HOPWOOD ON MEDIUM
COVERS MRFF**

New Hampshire Journalist Reveals Truth About Mike Pence's VA Bible in a Box Deception

By: Jon Hopwood

Thursday, September 5, 2019

(Excerpts from Medium/Emphasis Added by MRFF)

Union Leader writer Shawne K. Wickham rebutted Vice President Mike Pence's erroneous story about the provenance of the Manchester Veterans Administration Medical Center's "Bible in a Box" in an article published in the *Union Leader* on Friday, August 30th. The story was updated in the *Union Leader's New Hampshire Sunday News* edition two days later.

Pence was repeating the false claims of the group that created the Manchester VAMC's "Missing Man Table" war memorial honoring MIAs/POWs. The centerpiece of the display is a Bible claimed to have once been the possession of 100-year-old WWII veteran Herman "Herk" Streitburger. The Bible is locked in a plexiglass box, with a large padlock.

[...]

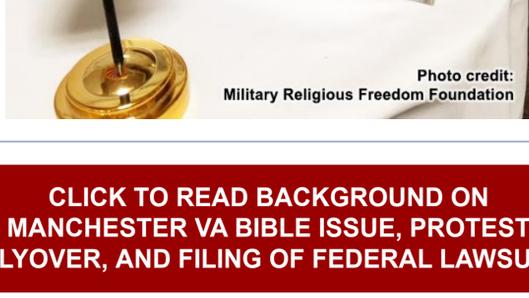
Lacking a true historical provenance that would justify its inclusion in a war memorial, one seemingly was made up. In a February 19 article written by Manchesterinklink's Carol Robidoux, Northeast, POW/MIA network President Bob Jones claimed:

"The Bible came from Herk Steinberger. It's the Bible he had while locked up in a prison camp. He escaped after 18 months and made it through enemy lines, and that Bible was with him, all the way. It's important, not because it was used as a religious symbol. But it was a symbol of freedom, of family, of hope, of America. He had to keep it hidden. If they'd have found it, they probably would have taken it away, or shot him or something."

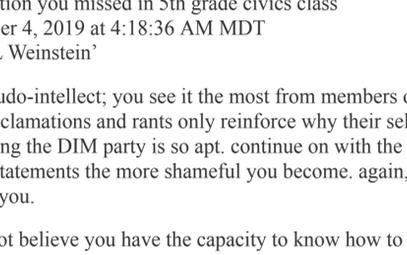
[...]

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Christian Bible Encased in Plexiglass and Bolted to POW/MIA Display Table at VA Manchester, NH



[CLICK TO READ BACKGROUND ON MANCHESTER VA BIBLE ISSUE, PROTEST FLYOVER, AND FILING OF FEDERAL LAWSUIT](#)



" education you missed in 5th grade civics class "

From: (name withheld)
Subject: education you missed in 5th grade civics class
Date: September 4, 2019 at 4:18:36 AM MDT
To: 'Michael L Weinstein'

I so hate a pseudo-intellect; you see it the most from members of the liberal party, their proclamations and rants only reinforce why their self-proclaimed moniker of being the DIM party is so apt. continue on with the weak minded, ill-conceived statements the more shameful you become. again, I so pity you, and those like you.

because I do not believe you have the capacity to know how to open the original email attachment, I have copied below what it contained. feel free to contact me should there be therein any big words and/or phrases that you do not understand or comprehend and I will endeavor to explain such to you in a manner that even you can understand.

(name withheld)

The United States Was Formed As A Christian Nation

The first paragraph in the Magna Carta reads as follows: " Know that before God, for the health of our soul and those of our ancestors and heirs, to the honor of God, the exaltation of the Holy Church

"From the discovery of this continent to the present hour, there is a single voice making this affirmation ... that this is a Christian nation" (The U.S. Supreme Court, 1892).

John Adams, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, rightly said, "The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were ... the general principles of Christianity."

The Declaration has many references to God throughout the document. The most famous one is that men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights.

"We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness"

The Constitution honors the Christian Sabbath. The President was given 10 days to sign a bill into law. The counting of the 10 days does not include the Sabbath. This is found in Article 1, Section 7, and Clause 2 which in part follows:

"If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law,"

When the Constitution was completed on September 17, 1787, it was signed by the delegates then to be ratified by the states. The delegates signed the Constitution in the "Year of our Lord." This is a direct reference to Christianity. This is found in Article 7 which in part follows:

"Done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth In witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names, GO WASHINGTON—President. and deputy from Virginia"

The Paris Peace Treaty was the document which formally ended the Revolution and granted the United States independence from Great Britain. In a real sense, the United States formally became a nation on September 3, 1783.

When the United States became a nation, it was done in the "name of the most holy and undivided Trinity." The preamble to this Treat states it is based upon the "Holy and undivided Trinity." The concept of the holy Trinity is unique to Christianity. This statement means the United States was founded on the Christian faith. The complete Preamble follows:

"In the name of the most holy and undivided Trinity"

The Treaty then ends just like the Constitution with a statement it is being signed in the "Year of our Lord." The witnesses representing the United States were John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay and D. Hartley. The section in part follows:

"In witness whereof we the undersigned, their ministers plenipotentiary, have in their name and in virtue of our full powers, signed with our hands the present definitive treaty and caused the seals of our arms to be affixed thereto. Done at Paris, this third day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three"

To see responses from MRFF Founder and President Mikey Weinstein, MRFF Senior Research Director Chris Rodda, and MRFF Advisory Board Member John Compere:

[Click to Read in Inbox](#)

"VIRAL MRFF MEDIA SURGE IGNITED BY PENCE SPEECH CONTINUES "

From: (name withheld)
Subject: Re: VIRAL MRFF MEDIA SURGE IGNITED BY PENCE SPEECH CONTINUES
Date: September 4, 2019 at 5:18:13 AM MDT
To: info@militaryreligiousfreedom.org

I find this to be a ridiculously stupid fight Mr. Weinstein. So petty. Nw who is the snowflake again?

To see response from MRFF Advisory Board Member John Compere:

[Click to Read in Inbox](#)



MRFF Information/Contact:

(505) 250-7727

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