



## “Effect of Hindutva on the personality of Narendra Modi”

**Dr. Dharshana Devi**

Asst.Professor (Pol.Sc.)

South point Degree College, Ratan Garh- Baghru (sonapat)

### **Abstract**

In this research paper Effect of Hindutva on the personality of Narendra Modi Is describe. He has described visiting hindu Ashram founding by Swami Vivekanand the Belur Math near Kolkata followed by Advaita Ashrama in Almora and the Ramkrishna Mission in Rajkot. After a lot time he went to here and where and became a full time Parchark for RSS.

**Key words:** Hindutva,analyzing,neighborhood, greatness,unique, combination,tradition, nomination

Before analyzing and writing about a person, his background, his past history, his family & neighborhood, environment, circumstances, actions, feelings, thoughts and dreams are considered.<sup>1</sup> In the galaxy of personalities that shine in our history, the name of Narendra Modi stands out most singularly as a person who achieved incredible success at home and unique fame abroad in a very short time. Some people gain greatness by virtue of hard work like Lal Bahadur Shastri, Ch. Charan Singh, Nelson Mandela, Abraham Lincoln,Narendra Modi and while on some people greatness is thrust upon like Ex-Prime Minister of Pakistan Md. Aziz. Some people are born great like Smt. Indira Gandhi, George Bush, Rajiv Gandhi and Benazir Bhutto.

Narendra Modi is the only person in Indian and world history that is a unique combination of sterling qualities of sacrifice like Nelson Mandela, popularity like Gladstone, administrator like Bismark, leadership quality to organize the people like Hitle<sup>2</sup>.

Indian politician serving as the 14th and current prime minister of India since 2014. Modi was the chief minister of Gujarat from 2001 to 2014 and is the Member of Parliament from Varanasi. He is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), a right-wing Hindu nationalist paramilitary volunteer organisation. He is the first prime minister to have been born after India's independence in 1947 and the second prime minister not belonging to the Indian National Congress to have won two consecutive majorities in the Lok Sabha, or the lower house of India's parliament. He is also the longest serving prime minister from a non-Congress party.

### **Birth and Education**

Narendra Damodardas Modi was born on 17 September 1950 to a Gujarati Hindu family of grocers in Vadnagar, Mehsana district in Gujarat. He was the third of six children born to Damodardas Mulchand Modi and Hiraben Modi. Modi's family belonged to the Modh-Ghanchi-Teli (oil-presser) community<sup>3</sup>, which is categorised as an Other Backward Class by the Indian government in 2014<sup>4</sup>.



In accordance with Ghanchi tradition, Modi's marriage was arranged by his parents when he was a child. He was engaged at age 13 to Jashodaben Modi, marrying her when he was 18. Reportedly, their marriage was never consummated, and he kept it a secret because otherwise he could not have become a 'pracharak' in Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. Modi kept his marriage secret for most of his career. He acknowledged his wife for the first time when he filed his nomination for the 2014 general elections.

Born and raised in Vadnagar, a small town in northeastern Gujarat, Modi completed his secondary education there in 1967. In 1978 Modi received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the School of Open Learning (SOL) at the University of Delhi<sup>5</sup>. Five years later, in 1983, he received a Master of Arts degree in political science from Gujarat University, as an external distance learning student<sup>6</sup>. He was introduced to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) at age eight. Modi spent the ensuing two years travelling North-eastern India, though few details of where he went have emerged<sup>7</sup>. In interviews, Modi has described visiting Hindu ashrams founded by Swami Vivekananda: the Belur Math near Kolkata, followed by the Advaita Ashrama in Almora and the Ramakrishna Mission in Rajkot. Modi remained only short time each place due to lacked the required college education. He went to Gujarat via Delhi and Rajasthan in 1968–69. Sometime in late 1969 or early 1970, Modi returned to Vadnagar for a brief visit before leaving again for Ahmedabad. There, Modi lived with his uncle, working in the canteen at the Gujarat State Road Transport Corporation<sup>8</sup>.

In Ahmedabad, Modi renewed his acquaintance with Inamdar, who was based at the Hedgewar Bhavan (RSS headquarters) in the city.<sup>9</sup> Modi's first known political activity as an adult was in 1971 when he, as per his remarks, joined a Jana Sangh Satyagraha in Delhi led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee to enlist for the battlefield during the Bangladesh Liberation War. But the Indira Gandhi disallowed open support for the Mukti Bahini. After the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971, he stopped working for his uncle and became a full-time pracharak for the RSS, working under Inamdar. Shortly before the war, Modi took part in a non-violent protest against the Indian government in New Delhi, for which he was arrested (as per his claim); this has been cited as a reason for Inamdar electing to mentor him. Many years later Modi would co-author a biography of Inamdar, published in 2001.<sup>10</sup> Modi's claim that he was part of a Satyagraha led to a political war.<sup>11</sup>

### **Political Development**

In June 1975, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared emergency in India which lasted until 1977. During this period many of her political opponents were jailed and opposition groups were banned. Modi was appointed general secretary of the "Gujarat Lok Sangharsh Samiti", an RSS committee co-ordinating opposition to the Emergency in Gujarat. During this period, Modi wrote a book in Gujarati, Sangharsh Ma Gujarat.<sup>12</sup>

Modi became an RSS sambhag pracharak in 1978, overseeing RSS activities in the areas of Surat and Vadodara, and in 1979 he went to work for the RSS in Delhi . He returned to Gujarat a short while later, and was assigned by the RSS to the BJP in 1985. In 1987 Modi helped organise the BJP's campaign in the Ahmedabad municipal election, which the BJP won comfortably; Modi's planning has been described as the reason for that result by biographers. After L. K. Advani



became president of the BJP in 1986, the RSS decided to place its members in important positions within the BJP; Modi's work during the Ahmedabad election and Modi was elected organising secretary of the BJP's Gujarat unit later in 1987.<sup>13</sup>

Modi rose within the party and was named a member of the BJP's National Election Committee in 1990, helping organise L. K. Advani's 1990 Ram Rath Yatra in 1990 and Murli Manohar Joshi's 1991–92 Ekta Yatra .<sup>21</sup> However, he took a brief break from politics in 1992, instead establishing a school in Ahmedabad; friction with Shankersinh Vaghela, a BJP MP from Gujarat at the time, also played a part in this decision. Modi returned to electoral politics in 1994, partly at the insistence of Advani, and as party secretary, Modi's electoral strategy was considered central to the BJP victory in the 1995 state assembly elections. In November of that year Modi was appointed BJP national secretary and transferred to New Delhi, where he assumed responsibility for party activities in Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.<sup>22</sup> . Modi, on the selection committee for the 1998 Assembly elections in Gujarat, favoured supporters of BJP leader Keshubhai Patel over those supporting Vaghela to end factional division in the party. His strategy was credited as key to the BJP winning an overall majority in the 1998 elections, and Modi was promoted to BJP general secretary (organisation) in May of that year.<sup>14</sup>

### **Modi as Chief Minister of Gujrat(7th October 2001-21st December 2002**

In 2001, Keshubhai Patel's health was failing and the BJP lost a few state assembly seats in by-elections. Allegations of misuse of power, corruption and poor administration were made, and Patel's standing had been damaged by his administration's handling of the earthquake in Bhuj in 2001. The BJP national leadership sought a new candidate for the chief ministership. On 3 October 2001 he replaced Patel as Chief Minister of Gujarat, with the responsibility of preparing the BJP for the December 2002 elections.<sup>15</sup> Modi was sworn in as Chief Minister on 7 October 2001, and entered the Gujarat state legislature on 24 February 2002 by winning a by-election to the Rajkot–II constituency<sup>16</sup>.

### **2002 Gujarat riots**

On 27 February 2002, a train with several hundred passengers burned near Godhra, killing approximately 60 people. The train carried a large number of Hindu pilgrims returning from Ayodhya after a religious ceremony at the site of the demolished Babri Masjid<sup>17</sup>. In making a public statement after the incident, Modi declared it a terrorist attack planned and orchestrated by local Muslims. The next day, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad called for a bandh across the state. Riots began during the bandh, and anti-Muslim violence spread through out Gujarat.

The Modi government imposed a curfew in 26 major cities, issued shoot-at-sight orders and called for the army to patrol the streets, but he was unable to prevent the violence from escalating. The president of the state unit of the BJP expressed support for the bandh, despite such actions being illegal at the time. State officials during the riots, police officers often did not intervene in situations where they were able.<sup>18</sup>

Later in 2002, Modi said the way in which he had handled the media was his only regret regarding the episode. In March 2008, the Supreme Court reopened several cases related to the 2002 riots, including that of the Gulbarg Society massacre, and established a Special Investigation Team to



look into the issue. In response to a petition from Zakia Jafri (widow of Ehsan Jafri, who was killed in the Gulbarg Society massacre), in April 2009 the court also asked the SIT to investigate the issue of Modi's complicity in the killings. The SIT questioned Modi in March 2010, in May, it presented to the court a report finding no evidence against him. In July 2011, the court-appointed amicus curiae Raju Ramachandran submitted his final report to the court. Contrary to the SIT's position, he said that Modi could be prosecuted based on the available evidence. The Supreme Court gave the matter to the magistrate's court. The SIT examined Ramachandran's report, and in March 2012 submitted its final report, asking for the case to be closed. Zakia Jafri filed a protest petition in response. In December 2013 the magistrate's court rejected the protest petition, accepting the SIT's finding that there was no evidence against the chief minister.<sup>19</sup>

### **Second term as Chief minister of Gujrat 22 December 2002 to 2007**

.During Modi's second term the rhetoric of the government shifted from Hindutva to Gujarat's economic development. Modi retained connections with some Hindu nationalists. Modi wrote a foreword to a textbook by Dinanath Batra released in 2014, which stated that ancient India possessed technologies including test-tube babies.<sup>20</sup>

Modi's relationship with Muslims continued to attract criticism. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who asked Modi for tolerance in the aftermath of the 2002 Gujarat violence and supported his resignation as chief minister. distanced himself, reaching out to North Indian Muslims before the 2004 Lok Sabha elections. After the elections Vajpayee called the violence in Gujarat a reason for the BJP's electoral defeat and said it had been a mistake to leave Modi in office after the riots.<sup>21</sup>

.Questions about Modi's relationship with Muslims were also raised by many Western nations during his tenure as chief minister. Modi was barred from entering the United States

### **Third and Forth Term as Chief Minister of Gujrat 23 Dec. 2007 to 20 Dec. 2012 and Forth Term, 21 dec. 2012 to May 2014**

Despite the BJP's shift away from explicit Hindutva, Modi's election campaign in 2007 and 2012 contained elements of Hindu nationalism. Modi only attended Hindu religious ceremonies, and had prominent associations with Hindu religious leaders. During his 2012 campaign he twice refused to wear articles of clothing gifted by Muslim leaders.

After his election as prime minister, Modi resigned as the chief minister and as an MLA from Maninagar on 21 May 2014. Anandiben Patel succeeded him as the chief minister<sup>22</sup>.

### **Modi proposed as Prime Minister Candidate by BJP for 2014 General election**

In September 2013 Modi was named the BJP's candidate for prime minister ahead of the 2014 Lok Sabha election. Several BJP leaders expressed opposition to Modi's candidature, including BJP founding member L. K. Advani,

Modi himself was a candidate for the Lok Sabha in two constituencies: Varanasi and Vadodara. He won in both constituencies<sup>23</sup>. who was unanimously elected leader of the BJP, was appointed prime minister by India's president.

Narendra Modi taking charge of the office of the Prime Minister of India, at South Block, in New Delhi on 27 May 2014.<sup>24</sup> He became first time MLA and Chief Minister of Gujrat and also first



time became MP and Prime Minister. He is the first Prime Minister of India when he took oath, his mother is alive. Before Modi Chaudhary Charan Singh also, he became first time MP and became Prime Minister in 1979.<sup>25</sup>

Modi as Prime Minister of India from 26<sup>th</sup> May 2014 to 30<sup>th</sup> May 2019 of office as the Prime Minister of India, He became the first Prime Minister born after India's independence from the British Empire in 1947. Modi started his second term after the Bharatiya Janata Party led National Democratic Alliance won again in the 2019 Lok Sabha election. On 6 December 2020, Modi became the 4th longest serving Prime Minister of India and the longest serving Non-Congress Prime Minister.

On 5 August 2019, the government moved resolution to scrap Article 370 in the Rajya Sabha, and also reorganise the state with Jammu and Kashmir serving as one of the union territory and Ladakh region separated out as a separate union territory.<sup>26</sup>

### **Hindutva**

During the 2014 election campaign, the BJP sought to identify itself with political leaders known to have opposed Hindu nationalism, including B. R. Ambedkar, Subhas Chandra Bose, and Ram Manohar Lohia. The campaign also saw the use of rhetoric based on Hindutva by BJP leaders in certain states. Communal tensions were played upon especially in Uttar Pradesh and the states of Northeast India. A proposal for the controversial Uniform Civil Code was a part of the BJP's election manifesto.

The **Hindutva** activities of a number of Hindu nationalist organisations increased in scope after Modi's election as Prime Minister, sometimes with the support of the government. These activities included a Hindu religious conversion programme, a campaign against the alleged Islamic practice of "Love Jihad", and attempts to celebrate Nathuram Godse, the assassin of Mahatma Gandhi, by members of the right wing Hindu Mahasabha. Officials in the government, including the Home Minister, defended the conversion programmes.

Links between the BJP and the RSS grew stronger under Modi. The RSS provided organisational support to the BJP's electoral campaigns, while the Modi administration appointed a number of individuals affiliated with the RSS to prominent government positions. In 2014, Yellapragada Sudershan Rao, who had previously been associated with the RSS, became the chairperson of the Indian Council of Historical Research. Historians and former members of the ICHR, including those sympathetic to the BJP, questioned his credentials as a historian, and stated that the appointment was part of an agenda of cultural nationalism.<sup>27</sup>

On 5 August 2020, Modi visited Ayodhya after the Supreme Court in 2019 ordered a contested land in Ayodhya to be handed over to a trust to build the Hindu temple and ordered the government to give alternate 5 acre land to Sunni Waqf Board for the purpose of building a mosque. He became the first Prime Minister of India to visit Ram Janambhoomi and Hanuman Garhi.

### **Personal donations**

Prime Minister's Office and senior officials have said that Modi has made the following donations from his personal savings:

₹225,000 towards the initial corpus of the Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM-CARES) Fund<sup>80</sup>.



₹2.1 million from personal savings for educating daughters of state government officials when he was chief minister of Gujarat.

₹13 million , prize money from Seoul Peace Prize, to NamamiGangeProgramme.

₹2.1 million to the corpus fund for the welfare of sanitation workers of KumbhMela.

### **Books Written by Narendra Modi**

For a more comprehensive list, see Bibliography of Narendra Modi.

1. Narendra Modi co-author – A biography of Inamdar, published 2001
2. Modi, Narendra - Aapaatkaal Mein Gujarat (in Hindi) (Samskarana 1 ed.). New Delhi: PrabhatPrakashan. 2004
3. . Convenient Action: Gujarat's Response to Challenges of Climate Change. New Delhi: Macmillan Publishers India. 2011
4. A Journey: Poems by Narendra Modi. Translated by Manthi, Rajiv. Rupa Publications. 2014
5. Social Harmony. PrabhatPrakashan.2015
6. Jyotipunj (in Hindi). PrabhatPrakashan. 2015
7. India's Singapore Story. ISEAS–YusofIshak Institute. 2015
8. Mann Ki Baat: A Social Revolution on Radio. BlueKraft Digital Foundation.2017
9. Exam Warriors. Penguin India. 2018
10. Abode of Love. Rajpal Publishers. 2018
11. Letters to Mother [Saakshi Bhaav]. HarperCollins.2020
12. President Pranab Mukherjee: A Statesman. Translated by Joshi, Varun.2018

### **Conclusion**

MOdi was introduce to the RSS at age of Eight year. In young age he became a full time Pracharak for RSS. On 27 Feb 2002 a train with several hundred passengers burned, Hindu pilgrims retuning from Ayodhya after a religious ceremony at the site of the demolished Babri Maszid. Modi declared it a terrorist attack planned and orchestrated by local Muslims. The next day Vishwa Hindu Parishad called for a bandh across the state. Riots began during the bandh and anti-muslim violence spread through Gujrat. Modi retained connetions with some Hindu nationalists . Modi only attended hindu religious ceremonies. He twice refused to wear articles of clothing gifted by the Muslim. It shows effect of Hindutav on the personality of Narender Modi.

### **Reference**

- 1) Dilbag Singh Bisla :- Bhartiya Gramin Samasyen evam Samadhan ke Pripeksha me Choudhary Devi Lal ki soch, P-1
- 2) Dilbag Singh Bisla: Bhartiya Gramin samaj aur Choudhary Charan singh,P-1
- 3) The Indian Express – 20 Nov 2016
- 4) The Times of India – 23 Apr 2014
- 5) India Today- 14 March 2017
- 6) The Indian Express –2 May 2016
- 7) Andy Marino:- Narendra Modi-A political biography,PP-25
- 8) Nilanjan Mukhopadhyay:Narendra Modi the man,the times,PP-131,138



- 9) Andy Marino:- P-35
- 10) Prateek Goyal- 18 May 2014,Monitoring Modi,pune mirror archieved from the original on 21 June 2015
- 11) The Tribune-26 March 2021
- 12) Harit Mehta-28 June 2004, Gujarat not enormously by poet Narendra Modi, The times of India-6 June 2016
- 13) Andy Marino,P-56
- 14) Andy Marino,pp-78,79
- 15) The Indian Express-4 Oct 2001
- 16) The Tribune-8 Oct 2001
- 17) Orrit Shani-Communalism,caste and hindu Nationalism,PP-168-173
- 18) Economic and Political weekly-47(8)
- 19) The Times of India-4<sup>th</sup> Oct 2014
- 20) Press trust OF India – 25 Nov 2008
- 21) The Hindu-3 june 2004
- 22) India Today-21 may 2014
- 23) Business Standard-16 may 2014
- 24) The Indian Express-27 may 2014
- 25) Dilbag Singh Bisla: Bhartiya Gramin samaj aur Choudhary Charan singh,P-10
- 26) Journal of south Asian studies 38(4),PP-776-790
- 27) The Times of India- 10 nov 2019.