

TORONTO SUN, MAY 17,2008

Don't denigrate India

While Salim Mansur is quite correct that Israel deserves admiration, Hindus certainly do not deserve unsubstantiated denigration. Mansur states that of the ancient civilizations, the "culturally dynamic moment" of Egyptian, Chinese, and Hindu culture have passed by. This is true in the case of Islamized Egyptians and Communist Chinese suppression of heritage, but Hindu majority India is an innovative and surging democracy. This democracy and economic success is due to the ancient Hindu respect for merit, education, and learning. Israel is successful because it is a Jewish state, and India's success is due to its majority Hindu population.

Ron Banerjee

Director, Hindu Conference of Canada