

Religion and Philosophy

This section on my website is a collection of ideas and thoughts on religion and philosophy of life. It is a place to challenge, critic and improve existing religious philosophies and explore new ones.

- [Religion Is Not A Competition](#)
- [My New Ironic Religion](#)

Religion Is Not A Competition

It is unfortunate, but some people like to compare their religion with other religions. It becomes a matter of pride for them, to compare and find reasons to feel superior to others.

"My religion is the best and the more tolerant. My religion is more progressive. Men and Women have equal rights in my religion."

We like to make groups and communities, it is an important part of our nature. We have created religions, nations, football clubs, groups on social media, etc. to give us a sense of belongingness. That is how we survived, and now it is deeply rooted in our nature.

There may exist some competition between nations or football clubs, but competition between religions is not at all possible.

It is a well established principle that, when there is competition, there is innovation and development. Nations are developing new technologies, and researching new medicines. Football clubs are investing time and resources to train better to become the best club.

However, I don't see any research and development or any innovation being made in religions. Their doctrines are still the same, no new philosophy has been added to their text or removed.

In fact, if there is anything new in religion, that is their way of interpretation, as it changes overtime. You can call it development, but that is not because of competition.

Allow me to explain it with an example of Messaging Apps.

Let us assume, Telegram was the first app to add sticker support. Soon after, other apps like Signal and WhatsApp also added this feature.

Why? Because there exists a competition among these apps, users prefer to use a feature rich app for communicating with their friends.

Signal added group video calls and within a few months Telegram also added that feature. And again this is because of competition among these apps.

Now, what does this have to do with religions?

The point I'm trying to make is that, if you want to claim that your religion is the best, you can, you have full freedom to do that. But it is unreasonable to do that as there is no competition between religions. Because there are no good or bad cultures, there are just cultures, different cultures.

If you would like to be proud of your religion and want it to be the best in the world, you can simply learn from messaging apps.

Either Telegram can feel proud that they added stickers many years before others did, or they can develop more awesome feature, and otherwise other apps will make them obsolete.

The users also want their favourite messaging app to be the best. And to achieve that they request new feature, find bugs and contribute in the development of the app.

In other words, either you can be proud of your religion as it gave basic human rights to women way before any other religion did, or you can advocate for more basic rights not only for women, but also for people from lower caste and the third gender.

Go demand more features like, the acceptance of same-sex marriages.

My New Ironic Religion

I'm creating a new religion!

I'm creating a new religion because I want to legalise same-sex marriages. And I have some different set of theories explaining the trivial matters of life and the existence of god.

This will be the religion of the future. A religion which accepts conflicting opinions and encourages questioning everything.

My only motive to create a new religion is to legalise same-sex marriages and marriages between any two (or more) humans legal.

The Indian culture doesn't accept marriage between people of the same sexes. Moreover, the constitution hasn't legally recognised same-sex marriages in India.

India is a deeply religious country, 80% of its adult population said that religion is essential to their lives.

In India, there is no uniform law for marriage, people from different religions have different laws for their marriages. Marriage laws in India are derived from religious texts and their scriptures.

No major religion in India allows same-sex marriage, and hence same-sex marriages are not yet recognised in the country.

To change the narrative, we have two options, either we all come together and demand equal rights for all. Or we create a new religion which supports the cause. If we can legally recognise our new religion in the country, then we can create our separate laws for marriage, just like the separate laws Hinduism, Christianity, and Islam have in India. We might be able to legalise same-sex marriages without a legal fight.

Creating a new religion isn't easy.

We will be needing an all-powerful god, some vague philosophy explaining everything in this universe, and something to offer an afterlife. And most importantly, we will be needing followers.

As an atheist, I don't think god is real. It could be, but we humans don't believe in the real God who created everything, in fact, we believe in an imaginary god which we had created in our imagination.

This new religion will not be a theistic one. The followers of this new religion must understand that the existence of God or the non-existence of a god is beyond our control, and it doesn't affect our daily lives in any way.

It is just like living in a simulation, or not living in a simulation. If we are in a simulated world, it will not change our lives. If we are not in a simulated world, again, it won't make any difference.

75% of Indians pray daily.

They pray to whom exactly? God? The one we created in our collective imagination? Or the real one, if it exists?

Prayers have no real benefits to human life, except it might help us psychologically.

Your prayers to reverse climate change will not do any help until you yourself take any action.

If there is a god, not the one we created in our collective imagination, but the one whose presence we are not aware of, isn't it an all-powerful thing which created everything in this universe.

How come my disbelief in that power can challenge its authority? And why do these religious vigilantes need to defend an all-powerful thing? In addition, that all-powerful power, if it has any consciousness, isn't a super insecure being who will punish us if we do not believe in it.

My thoughts can't affect that power, that power can't affect my thoughts, even if it does, it's beyond my control. Therefore, its existence doesn't make any difference.

This will be the underlining philosophy of my new religion. And just like any other religion, this new religion also encourages its followers to be good humans and to treat everyone with equal dignity and respect.

But unlike other religions, you will not get any rewards for your good behaviour in your afterlife. Because heaven and hell are not real places, they exist in our collective imagination. There won't be any rebirth because when you die, you die forever.

The reward you will get for your good deeds will be from the fellow humans you will come across.

PS. Creating a new religion sounds stupid. Creating a new God for a new religion sounds stupid. Having your philosophy to explain the world sounds stupid. A religion to legalise same-sex marriages sounds stupid.

But we all need to understand this and accept that every other major religion in this world once started with similar stupid ideas. And today for us, it's the most important thing in our lives.