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# The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies

## Case for Support: Executive Summary

### What: The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies

The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies (OCHS) is an academy for the study of Hindu culture, society, philosophies, and languages, in all periods and in all parts of the world. It is the only dedicated Hindu Studies centre of its calibre in the world.

The mission of the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies is to develop and promote academic excellence in Hindu Studies by providing a comprehensive programme of education, research, and publishing.

### Where: Oxford University and OCHS

Oxford University is one of the world's oldest and most respected universities. It has a relationship with India that dates back to the sixteenth century and the largest collection of Sanskrit manuscripts outside of India.

The OCHS is a Recognised Independent Centre of Oxford University. This means that the OCHS is the principal provider of teaching in Hinduism to the University. It is recognition of the academic integrity of the OCHS. All OCHS students are studying for degrees awarded by the University.

### Who: Governance

The OCHS has a Board of Governors that oversees all aspects of the Centre's operation, deciding on policy and direction.

Board members include representatives of Oxford University, senior scholars, members of the business community, and public figures.

### Why support it?

As India develops its voice in the new millennium, the world is listening. Now is the time to help India develop, discern, and articulate its contribution to the modern world. The OCHS provides an intellectual and authoritative basis for this work.

Business and political leaders, among others, want to explore India more deeply, inquiring into its environments, its demographic, and its cultures. They will appreciate being able to apply Oxford standards of educational analysis, commentary, and insight to the interpretation of Indian cultures.

### How to support it?

The OCHS provides an opportunity to invest in its programmes, empowering India to explore, reflect, and share its culture – one of our oldest and most profound – with the rest of the world.

Consider the 'Case for Support' document for ways to add value to this important initiative and invest in a named lectureship, fellowship, scholarship, research project etc. Such a contribution will allow you to join one of the most dynamic and reputable advances in education and cultural understanding.

### History & achievements

Founded in 1997 as the only academic centre of its kind.

First D.Phil. student graduated in 2002.

Since 2002, Shivdasani Fellowships bring renowned Indian scholars to Oxford to teach and research.

In 2003, Continuing Education Department began teaching Higher Education Certificate courses to adults at venues across the UK.

2004, began publishing partnership with Routledge, producing nine titles to date in Hindu Studies book series.

Awarded status of 'Recognised Independent Centre of Oxford University' in 2006.

2007, publishing partnership with Oxford University Press producing the Journal of Hindu Studies.

2007, brought together leading scholars in Indian text and archaeology for first international conference.