

Akhil Bharatiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram
Resolution Passed in Kendriya Karyakari Mandal (KKM) Meeting

22nd September, 2016 Pindwada-Rajasthan

**Resolution No. 6. Ban Illicit Religious Conversions And Appoint
A-8 Central Commission of Inquiry to Study & Report Impact Thereof.**

The constitution of India ensures the Right to choose, faith, observe and preach a religion of his choice to every citizen. *"Ekam sat vipra: bahudha vadanti"* (the truth is one, but the wise men explain it differently) is the great Indian philosophy. Because of this eternal Indian tradition, people of our nation have been enjoying the freedom of religions not only a few centuries prior to the independence but much ahead of the origin of Islam and Christianity. When religious conversions occurred after the advent of invading Islam and proselytizing agenda of European Christian Missionaries in guise of service, people of this country realized the attack and that their freedom of religion is being violated.

When religious conversions resulted into changing nationality, the seriousness of the problem exposed. Seriousness of the problem can be understood when the Chief Minister of the then Central Province & Berar (CP & Berar) in independent India, late Sri Ravi Shankar Shukla realized that slogans against the sovereignty of the nation by people are contributed to foreign missionaries. When the name of Jesus Christ is attached with the secessionists' slogans like *"Nagaland for Christ"*; the conspiracy behind the religious conversions becomes obvious. By taking advantage of the poverty of innocent Janjati people, missionaries convert them with allurements, temptations, undue influences and even at the gun point; we may clearly observe the extent of violation of the right to freedom of religions ensured by our Constitution is being violated by these forces.

The Bhawani Shankar Niyogi Commission appointed in 1954 to inquire into the Missionary Activities gave more than 11000 evidences of the illicit religious conversions and exposed involvement of foreign missionaries. Recommendations of this Commission resulted into enactment of Freedom of Religion Acts in Madhya Pradesh and other states. Though many states like Arunachal Pradesh, HP; Rajasthan and Gujarat have passed such Act in their respective Assemblies; in spite thereof the Acts became toothless and ineffective for want of notifying Rules and other technical reasons. As a result, the conversions are taking place rapidly without any cognizance.

All these alien religious sects engaged in proselytizing activities originated abroad and not ready to accept the Indian philosophy that ***"all faiths are equal and salvation is possible through them all"***. The atmosphere of social disharmony, tension and conflict are prevailing particularly among the Janjatis across the country due to this phenomenon. The Wadhava Commission in Odisha has also endorsed this fact and recommended to make the Freedom of Religion Act more effective in the state.

Population of the Christian converts in Janjati communities was limited in some parts of North East and central India at the time of independence, has now spread rapidly across the in spite of all resistance of Janjatis. It shows that successive Governments have failed in protecting freedom of religion as far as the native Indian religions are concerned. Some communities are totally converted into Christianity while many other communities are having

more than 50% converts. Data of 2011 Census also approve these dangerous facts. If this is left unchecked, the cultural identity of Janjati communities will be perished and the Constitutional guarantee to protect their identity and existence will remain mere ornamental letters.

In this contemporary age the world has witnessed that the East Timor has been bifurcated from Indonesia and became a new country and Sudan has been divided into two nations as North and South Sudan. It is necessary to protect the unity and integrity of the nation by identifying different new methods of conversions adopted and the Institutions supporting them indirectly in the cover of service and development. The activities of World Vision, CASA and CCF are not unknown

Religious conversions as well as cross border Muslim infiltration are causing a new threat. They are now getting engaged in marital relationship with local Janjati girls and get access to their land, forests and other natural resources. They are trying to gain power in the local self government institutions through such marital relations. Our Constitutional provisions are being ridiculed in this way.

Hence considering this burning situation, KKM of ABVKA engaged in protecting existence and cultural identity of Janjatis demands the Central Government:

1. Since the religious conversion is a national problem, the Union Government should take immediate measures and enact a Central Act for freedom of religions.
2. Immediate steps should be taken to implement and enforce the Freedom of Religion Act in Arunachal Pradesh, MP; CG; Odisha and HP where such Acts have been passed by their respective State Assemblies and these States should publish a White Paper on status and implementation of this Act.
3. A National Commission should be appointed to enquire and recommend the adverse impact of religious conversions on the social harmony, tensions and conflicts prevailing in the Janjatis and their areas

ABVKA appeals all Janjati organizations-institutions who are leading the society, to create awareness about this conspiracy and the attack on our cultural identity due to conversions and protect their constitutional rights; and against encroachments on their land, forest and other natural resources to assure failure of all such nefarious attempts by organizing socio-cultural movements.

KKM of ABVKA also urges the Government to study deeply into such matters and take necessary steps to protect the Janjati communities from this danger. Government should also take all necessary measures to control such anti national forces at the earliest; failing which the Janjati communities will be compelled to take-up a nationwide movement for protection of their legitimate constitutional rights and existence.

