

Twitter Thread by Tanvangi



Tanvangi

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In his letters describing the India Mission, Carey has given us an insight into how the society functioned then, of how the minds of the people worked and what methods the missionaries used to approach and brainwash the common people.

William Carey landed on the Indian soil in the year 1793. He spent the remaining years of his life in India. He was a British missionary, a translator and a social reformer who is best known for having the practice of Sati abolished in India. <https://t.co/kRiPwgjwcP> pic.twitter.com/JqO3A7cCsX

— Tanvangi (@Tanvangi17) [December 18, 2020](#)

It is entirely possible that, Carey in his arrogance of being the white man and hence more civilized, his inability to understand the Hindu scriptures and his natural disdain for the learned community coupled with his inherent hatred for the idolaters may have exaggerated the incidents.

In fact, considering the venom with which he has spoken about Hinduism and its practices, it's likely that he has exaggerated these incidents. But it cannot be denied that these incidents did happen even if they may not have been on scale at which Carey has described.

One of his journal entries mentions a debate which happened in a temple in front of around 200 people. Carey describes having debated with two learned men and goes on to say when both learned men failed to answer his questions, he went on to preach the gospel to the assembled crowd.

In a letter dated 30th June, 1795 he goes on to gleefully narrate how Hindus were unaware of their own scriptures and how an supposed expert named a grammar book when he was questioned as which scripture said that the Murti is God.

An example of how they dismissed "idolatry" as a mistaken path to reach God/attain salvation and how "worshipping the Murtis" disgusted God.

An example of how the brainwashing and propaganda that the Brahmins are an evil creation probably began and how our scriptures were used to vilify us. And here I quote Carey himself.

"Our friend Bharat asked several questions about several parts of the Mahabharata.

I told him that though I often used it as a weapon to fight against the Hindus, yet I only did it to reason with them on their own principles, but that I did not believe a word of it to be true.

He inquired where I thought Brahmins came from (this was the second time the question had been put to me this morning) I answered that God had created men - but when Man sinned the devil became the Lord of this World, and he made Brahmins: +

... and then Brahmins made Shastras for their own Emolument which I proved by several passages from the Mahabharata."

Such were the methods that were employed by the missionaries to brainwash the common people of this land. This are some of the examples that have been highlighted. There may have been many such examples which have not been highlighted.