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Washington

If one were to ask India's right-wing **Hindu nationalist** Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** who his favorite U.S. politician is, the answer would, perhaps surprisingly, not be **Donald Trump**. Modi's American Hindu nationalist fellow-traveler is Representative **Tulsi Gabbard** (D-HI), a 2020 Democratic presidential candidate. Trump has set the bar for foreign involvement in U.S. elections, something that is prohibited by federal and state election laws, but not being rigorously enforced. Trump's political support by Russian and Russian-Israeli oligarchs has opened a flood gate of foreign support for U.S. presidential candidates, including that of Israel for Trump and Senators **Cory Booker** (D-NJ) and **Kamala Harris** (D-CA) and Taiwan (Republic of China) for 2020 Democratic presidential candidate **Andrew Yang**.

Tulsi Gabbard was born in **American Samoa** to **Mike Gabbard**, a Catholic Samoan-European, now a member of the **Hawaii Senate**, and **Carol Porter Gabbard**, a German-American born in **Indiana**. Porter had earlier converted to a sect of Hinduism – the **Science of Identity Foundation**, a Hawaii-based **Hare Krishna offshoot** led by a Hawaii-born college dropout named **Chris Butler**, also known as **Siddhaswarupananda, Srila Prabhupada, and Jagad Guru**. [right] Butler has been accused of leading a cult that emphasizes loyalty to Butler above all else. Mike Gabbard, a Republican-turned-Democrat, founded the **Stand Up For America (SUFA)** organization after 9/11. SUFA helped propel the right-wing meme that there was a “**war on Christmas**” being waged by those who did not respect Christmas’s Christian origins. The phony “war on Christmas” rhetoric was adopted by **Donald Trump**, right-wing radio’s **Rush Limbaugh**, and former Fox News hosts **Bill O’Reilly** and **Sean Hannity**.



Gabbard took her oath of office as a member of Congress on the Hindu religious book, the **Bhagavad Gita**, and she generally follows the **Vaishnava Hindu** sect and its sub-school, **Chaitanya Mahaprabhu**, the latter affiliated with the **Science of Identity Foundation**. In many ways, Gabbard follows in the tradition of **Stanley Ann Dunham Obama Soetoro**, who joined the Indonesian-based **Subud** movement founded by **Muhammad Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo**. Subud and the Society of Identity Foundation found an important base of operations in Hawaii. More importantly, far from selling incense at airports, these religious sects acted as fronts for intelligence agencies. For the Society of Identity Foundation, it is the Indian **Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)**. For Subud, it was the U.S. **Central Intelligence Agency** and the Indonesian **Operational Command for the Restoration of Security and Order (KOPKAMTIB)**. Intelligence agencies have long relied on cults for field testing of psychological mass control techniques and political infiltration. Two examples of CIA-directed cults are the **Peoples Temple of Jim Jones** and the Chinese **Falun Gong**. The **Unification Church** of the late Reverend **Sun Myung Moon** also had significant links to the CIA and the **Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA)**.

Just as Israel’s **Mossad** influences the operations of Jewish cults abroad, including the **Chabad Movement**, India’s RAW, particularly under the Hindu nationalist **Bharatiya Janata Party** of Modi, maintains close links with various Hindu extremist groups and overseas sects. These include the Hindu terrorist organization, the **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)**. RSS opponents accuse it of being the armed paramilitary wing of the BJP, much like the **Irish Republican Army (IRA)** is the armed component of the **Sinn Fein** nationalist party of **Ireland** and **Northern Ireland**. Just as the IRA has carried out assassinations of British politicians, the RSS has chalked up a number of assassinations, including that of **Mahatma Gandhi** in **New Delhi** in 1948. RSS leaders have openly expressed admiration for **Adolf Hitler**, **Benito Mussolini**, and **Israel**. The RSS has also carried out acts of violence against Indian Muslims and Christians, actions that include the 1992 demolition of the **Babri Mosque** in **Uttar Pradesh**.

As a member of the **House Foreign Affairs and Armed Services Committees**, Gabbard is strategically placed to influence U.S. policy vis a vis **Pakistan** and other nations where RAW is active, including **Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, and Afghanistan**. Gabbard has accepted sizable donations from the **Overseas Friends of the BJP**, which acts in the same manner as the **American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC)** with regard to Israel. Gabbard has opposed any House resolutions that call out Modi for acts of violence against Christians and Muslims, particularly anti-Muslim riots that took place in **Gujarat** in **2002** when Modi was the state’s chief minister.

The Intercept examined Gabbard's campaign records and discovered donations from 105 current and former officers and members of the radical **Hindutva** sect network, the **Sangh Parivar**. Indian newspapers have called Gabbard the Sangh Parivar's "**American mascot**." The Sangh Parivar envision a Hindu theocratic state on the subcontinent, where Muslims, Christians, and others would be relegated to second-class citizens. Gabbard has spoken at events sponsored by a Sangh Parivar affiliate, the **Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America**. The **Vishwa Hindu Parishad of India** has been declared a "**militant religious organization**" by the CIA. Hawaii Democratic Party activists have accused Gabbard of kowtowing more to the interests of Indian-Americans and Hindu-Americans, particularly the **Hindu-American Foundation (HAF)** -- which is headquartered in Capitol Hill in Washington and acts as a Hindu version of AIPAC and the Muslim **Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)** -- than in caring about the problems particular to Hawaii.

Donald Trump and his family have opened up a political Pandora's Box of foreign involvement in the U.S. electoral process. With election financing law normally regulated and enforced by the **Federal Election Commission (FEC)**, the Trump administration's refusal to replace Republican vacancies on the FEC had led to it becoming a moribund and toothless regulatory arm of the government. Meanwhile, foreign owned-and-operated candidates like Gabbard, Harris, Booker, Yang, and others are representing the interests of New Delhi, Tel Aviv/Jerusalem, and Taipei over those of Dubuque, Iowa; Nashua, New Hampshire; and Beaufort, South Carolina.

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