

Sacred Bonds Beyond Beliefs: Interfaith and Traditional Marriage Rituals and rites in Hinduism Religion

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E d i t o r

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R e v i e w e r s

Reviewer 1: Chidinma Chikwe

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the methodology, the statement "This study makes use of a qualitative research design in order to investigate the traditional and interfaith marriage rites and rituals that are practiced within the Hindu religion" is vague. Please specify whether this is a content analysis, thematic analysis, or another qualitative approach.

The methodology section states that "observations of Hindu wedding ceremonies, both traditional and interfaith," were carried out. However, there is no mention of ethical approval or informed consent. If observations were conducted, ethical considerations must be explicitly addressed.

The discussion of interfaith marriage references Bollywood but does not provide sociological or legal perspectives on the topic. Consider including literature that discusses interfaith marriage laws in India, such as the Special Marriage Act.

The table of studies on interfaith and traditional marriage rituals does not include a critical synthesis of the findings from the cited works. Adding a discussion that compares and contrasts these studies would strengthen the review.

The discussion on Hindu marriage types lacks engagement with scholarly debates on endogamy and exogamy in Hindu society. References such as works on caste dynamics in marriage could enhance this section.

The conclusion states, "Hinduism deeply acknowledges the significance of love, commitment, and unity within the institution of marriage, regardless of the diverse religious affiliations of the individuals involved." This overgeneralization does not account for sectarian variations within Hinduism regarding interfaith marriage. Provide more nuanced discussion.

The section on auspicious and inauspicious marriage times (p. 28) relies heavily on religious texts but lacks engagement with contemporary sociological or legal perspectives. Discuss whether these beliefs still significantly influence Hindu marriage choices today.

Response: Revised and uploaded the new document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

In the findings section, the statement "Bollywood, where interfaith marriage is common" is made without supporting empirical data. Provide a source or statistical evidence to validate this claim.

The history of marriage in Hinduism states that "Even if the bride and groom do not have objections in any other matter, the marriage does not proceed further if the parties do not agree in the court proceedings." This sentence is unclear and lacks proper citation. Does this refer to historical Hindu legal traditions, modern civil laws, or both?

The census data in Table 2 presents trends in male-to-female ratios but lacks an interpretation of how these demographic changes impact Hindu marriage patterns. Adding a discussion on this linkage would improve the argument.

In the discussion of Hindu tribal marriages, the statement "Morganatic marriage was legal, but reverse marriage was condemned" (p. 25) needs further clarification. Provide historical legal references or case studies to support this claim.

The discussion on polygamy in Hinduism (p. 32) includes references to the Mahabharata but lacks mention of contemporary legal restrictions on polygamy in Hindu society. Include a discussion of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955.

The mention of Kaulinya Rite Marriage states, "Kaulinya practice is seen in some places in tribal society." This needs a supporting reference or ethnographic evidence. Without it, the claim remains anecdotal.

The Bollywood interfaith marriage examples (p. 40) are anecdotal and should be supplemented with research on interfaith marriage patterns among Indian celebrities. The examples need scholarly context.

Response: Revised and uploaded the new document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.