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# Southern African Hindu Samaj of Victoria

TOGETHER IN SERVICE, UNITED IN CULTURE

2026



## A Place to Belong

**NAMASTE, PRANAM, JAI Shree KRISHNA, VANAKKAM**

***Sawubona, Mhoro, Muli Bwanji, Moni, Olá, Wa Uhala Po, Dumela, Khotso, Shikamoo***

Being part of the African community presents us with a cultural blend that combines our African upbringing with our Hindu faith and traditions in a beautiful way. However we feel that there is currently a lack of a place where we can gather as African Hindus to honour and safeguard our past.

While it is fulfilling to engage with other Hindu charities and communities, there remains an undeniable longing within us for a connection to our African heritage—a bond that is deeply ingrained in our identities and shapes who we are, as the saying goes, ***“We are African not because we are born in Africa, But because Africa is Born in Us”***. This connection is not just a part of our past; it is a living, breathing aspect of our present that we hold dear.

We feel a strong sense of pride in our diverse backgrounds, and it is this pride that drives our desire for a community that honours both our African and Hindu traditions. We are eager to create a space where we can share stories, foster relationships, and celebrate our unique culture in a way that acknowledges the beauty of our blended heritage.

Our children and our children's children don't need to be born in Africa to embody its spirit; the essence of Africa flows through their souls.

Together, we can cultivate a vibrant community that not only recognises our roots but also nurtures our connections, allowing us to grow and thrive as a united African Hindu family. Let us embrace this journey together, honouring our past while building a brighter future for our kids and generations to come.



## Our Vision

To be a vibrant, united, and welcoming community in Victoria that celebrates the unique heritage of Southern African Hindus, honouring our Hindu roots, African upbringing, and the **spirit of Ubuntu** across all generations.

## Our Mission

SAHSOV exists to connect, support, and empower Southern African Hindus in Victoria by preserving and sharing our blended Hindu and Southern African culture, strengthening community bonds, developing youth leadership, supporting newcomers, serving through Seva (service), and building partnerships with the wider multicultural community in a spirit of respect and inclusion.

## About SAHSOV

SAHSOV (Southern African Hindu Samaj of Victoria) brings together Southern African Hindus living in Victoria who share a unique blend of Hindu ancestry and African upbringing.

We honour our faith, traditions, and values while celebrating the cultures that shaped us. For many of us, Africa is not just where we come from, it's part of who we are. SAHSOV exists so this identity doesn't slowly fade into "we used to do that", and so our children grow up proud, grounded, and connected.

Our community is built on unity, diversity, Seva (selfless service), and Ubuntu, creating a safe and welcoming space where youth, elders, families, and newcomers can belong and thrive.

## Why "Southern African"

We use "Southern African" to describe our shared heritage and lived experience, not to exclude anyone. SAHSOV is a cultural home for the Southern African Hindu diaspora, and we welcome anyone who supports our values and wishes to participate respectfully.



## Our Community Priorities.

- 1. Cultural and religious connection**  
Festivals, satsangs, religious functions, and cultural gatherings that keep traditions lived and shared.
- 2. Youth involvement and leadership**  
Opportunities for youth to participate, volunteer, lead, and grow in confidence and identity.
- 3. Community support and belonging**  
Social events, family gatherings, and community initiatives so no one feels like they're doing life alone.
- 4. Support for newcomers**  
Helping new families and individuals settle into Victoria through guidance, connections, and practical support.
- 5. Seva, service and charity**  
Charity drives and outreach projects so our values are lived through action.
- 6. Business and professional connection**  
Networking, referrals, and collaboration that help members support each other professionally and personally.
- 7. Connection to our Southern African roots**  
Keeping our stories, cultural expression, shared history, and intergenerational identity alive.



## Mission and Vision for Our Kids

We're building SAHSOV so our children grow up proud of both their Hindu and African roots. Through cultural events, faith-based celebrations, learning, volunteering, and community service, we want our youth to feel connected, confident, and supported.

We're not just preserving tradition, we're building belonging, leadership, and a legacy that carries forward for generations.

**Guided by Dharma and the spirit of Ubuntu, SAHSOV exists to connect our people, honour our heritage, and build a lasting home for our community in Victoria.**

**FOR MEMBERSHIP ->**

**WHY JOIN ->**

