

High Commission of India

Windhoek

MEDIA RELEASE

**JUDGEMENT OF SUPREME COURT OF INDIA ON THE BABRI MASJID – RAM JANMBHUMI
TITLE SUIT**

Supreme Court of India delivered its verdict on the **Babri Masjid – Ram Janmbhumi Title Suit** on [9 November 2019](#). The verdict, solely to determine the Title (ownership) of a disputed land in the Indian city of Ayodhya, brings to closure the historical and long-standing dispute, that dates back to much before India's independence, between the litigants. With this **unanimous judgment** by a 5-members bench headed by the Chief Justice of India, the longstanding legal process comes to an end. The legal process began in 1950 in a District Court. The matter was then heard by Allahabad High Court and now by Supreme Court of India. Thus, the **due process of law** has been fully and strictly followed.

2. The issue is essentially a **domestic matter** of India. The matter has been determined **as per law, and not faith**, by the independent institutions provided in the Indian Constitution. The disputed land will be handed over to a Trust, to be formed by the Government of India, which will build the temple while an alternate land will be provided for construction of a mosque in the city. This judgement will not lead to any similar claims in other parts of the country, and thus, in any way infringe upon the rights of our minority communities.

3. The Constitution of India guarantees all religious communities **equal freedoms of faith, belief and worship**. Government of India is committed to ensuring our tradition of goodwill and harmony among all communities as well as our deep respect for safeguarding all places of worship. It is our conviction that following this verdict, Indians of all faiths and communities will now move ahead in a spirit of reconciliation. Prime Minister of India has appealed to all citizens to accept the judgement and to strengthen our tradition of amity, unity and harmony. Prominent voices in public life, including the All-India Muslim Personal Law Board, have also appealed to citizens to respect the judgement and to maintain calm.

Windhoek
10 November 2019
