

O Sun God, Savitar!
 Thou dazzling fount of life-persuasive light!
 Sublimest mystery speeding from afar!
 Swift became that burst too potent on the sight!
 This radiant type of strength and youth!
 Glowing eternally!
 He alone shines!
 All luminaries get illuminated by His Illumination!
 The whole Universe is enlightened by His light!
 - Kathopanishad



శ్రీ వేపచేదు విద్యా పీఠము
VEPACHEDU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

మన సంస్కృతి

Mana Sanskriti (Our Culture)

Chief Editor: Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu, Esq.

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 Praised by singers, my God Savitar!
 Stepped forth and never missed his place!
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 Seeing, far-shining, the shining wanderer!
 - Rig Veda, iii. 65

ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात्॥

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Issue: 242

డాక్టర్ శ్రీనివాసరావు వేపచేదు/ डॉक्टर श्रीनिवासरावु वेपचेदु / Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu¹, JD, PhD, LLM

HIGHER EDUCATION & US

We (AMERICANS²) can boast that compared to most other higher education systems around the world, the U.S. system is largely independent from federal government regulation and is highly decentralized. It is also incredibly diverse – there are public institutions and private, very large and very small, secular and religiously affiliated, urban, suburban, and rural. Such diversity means that there is a "right fit" institution for every qualified student³.

We can boast that two separate US government agencies manage international student arrival and status while studying in the US. The US Department of State is responsible for the initial visa application process and issuance. Once a visa holder arrives in the US, the US Department of Homeland Security then acts as the responsible agency for granting entry into the country, as well as enforcing immigration regulations that affect international students once they are in the United States⁴. We also proudly state that the United States supports international education and welcomes foreign students and exchange visitors⁵.

About one million (1,078,822) international students were enrolled in US higher education in 2016/17, representing 5% of the more than 20 million students enrolled in US higher education for the third year, up from three to four percent earlier in the decade. China remains the winner as the top student exporter country with 33%, while India remains a distant runner-up with half of China's exports at 17%, together representing approximately 0.5 million international students. South Korea moved up to the third leading place of origin and Saudi Arabia moved down to the fourth decreased by 14.2 percent. Canada remains the fifth leading place of origin, with the number of students increasing very slightly to 27,065⁶. While the overall number of international students studying in the United States has increased, the number of new international students enrolled at a US institution declined by nearly 10,000 students to about 291,000, for the first time in fall 2016, a three percent decrease from the previous year. International students benefit the US, and its colleges, and universities, in many ways, including economically.

In 2016 international students brought \$39 billion to the United States economy, through their spending on tuition, room, and board and living expenses, according to the US Department of Commerce, while Chinese students contributed \$11 billion and Indian students contributed another \$5 billion. International students typically pay full price for tuition, thereby helping to subsidize the cost of tuition for American students. According to the survey, a quarter of universities saw a drop in undergraduate applications from China, while 32 percent saw declines in Chinese graduate applications. Meanwhile, 26 percent of universities reported a decline in undergraduate applications from India, in addition to a 15 percent decline in India's graduate applications.

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Per Capita Ranks:

1. Saudi Arabia exports 1 student with ~ \$30 k per every **611 people** (53,941 Saudi students from a population of 33 million <http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/saudi-arabia-population/>)
2. South Korea exports 1 student with ~ \$30 k per every **945 people** (53,941 Korean students from a population of 51 million <http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/south-korea-population/>)
3. Canada exports 1 student with ~ \$30k to America per every **1,143 people** (32,364 Canadian students from a population of 37 million <http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/canada-population/>)
4. China exports 1 student with ~ \$30 k per every **3,932 people** (356,011 Chinese students from a population of 1.4 billion)(<http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/china-population/>)
5. India exports 1 student with ~ \$30 k per every **7,088 people** (183,399 Indian students from a population of 1.3 billion <http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/india-population/>)

All the above information is presented to Americans by the American media in various slants, mostly with hyperbole and xenophobia. The above data indicates that there was an increase in the overall number of students, but a small dip in the current enrolment. However, in 2016, after the elections, The World University Rankings announces “US fears decline in international students after Trump election, Academics suggested that Australia and Canada may be among countries to gain market share in overseas students”⁷. In March 2017, the Atlantic reported, “A Pause in International Students?”⁸ and Inside Higher Ed asked, “Will International Students Stay Away?”⁹ In November 2017, Inside Higher Ed reported, “New International Enrollments Decline”¹⁰. In December 2017, Mission Network News reported, “International student numbers decline in US”¹¹.

“While American society claims to be proud of its multicultural heritage, in reality it probably unnerves many Americans,” reports the Highlander,¹² elaborating further that 8 USC § 1401 (Nationals and citizens of United States at birth)¹³ claims any child born, regardless of the birth location, by an American parent is automatically an American citizen at birth. However, for the past decade or more, the current POTUS along with a large following called the “Birther Movement”¹⁴ had been harassing the son of an American White Woman as an illegitimate POTUS because his father was an alien, Muslim and so the citizenship at birth was suspect¹⁵. While nobody ever asked for the birth certificates of Trump, Bush, Clinton, Reagan, etc., it was very important for many Americans to harass Barak Hussain Obama, while 17.3 % of Americans were foreign-born out of the total 115 million Americans aged between 18 and 44 in 2014.

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Roughly 129 million out of the estimated 324 million Americans are raised without any multicultural understanding of the Beacon of Hope and the Leader of the World. In other words, our American educational system has certainly failed to prepare and prevent US from xenophobic¹⁶.

NOTES AND REFERENCES¹⁷

¹Dr. Rao Vepachedu is the founder and president of Vepachedu Educational Foundation Inc., a 501(c) (3) educational foundation, and the Law Offices of Dr. Vepachedu and co-founder of Exciva. For more information visit: www.linkedin.com/in/vepachedu; <http://www.avvo.com/attorneys/60201-il-sreenivasarao-vepachedu-764535.html>, and <http://www.crm-ip.com/vepachedu.html>. Contact: svepachedu@yahoo.com.

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² I am an American, and I don't have to show you my birth certificate even if I run for the position of the POTUS just because I have a funny name, although unlike the funny name of Barack Hussain Obama.

³ [Understanding U.S. Higher Education](#)

⁴ [International Student Visas](#)

⁵ [Study & Exchange](#)

⁶ [Open Doors 2017 Executive Summary](#)

⁷ [US fears decline in international students after Trump election.](#)

⁸ [A Pause in International Students?](#)

⁹ [Will International Students Stay Away?](#)

¹⁰ [New International Enrollments Decline](#)

¹¹ [International student numbers decline in US](#)

¹² [Foreign languages, jus sanguinis and American xenophobia](#)

¹³ [8 USC § 1401 - Nationals and citizens of United States at birth](#)

¹⁴ [How Donald Trump Perpetuated the 'Birther' Movement for Years; Who does Trump owe his Victory to?](#)

<http://knowyourmeme.com/memes/birther-movement; BIRTHER MOVEMENT>

¹⁵ Barack Hussain Obama. "Now, this isn't where I was born, I was born in Kenya," he said to laughs, then added: "That's a joke." But, of course, it was true, not a joke for Birthers.

¹⁶ [American xenophobia](#)

¹⁷ In addition to the primary sources cited above, additional references include:

New York Times, Washington Post, Mercury News, Bayarea.com, Deccan Chronicle, the Hindu, Hindustan Times, Times of India, AP, Reuters, AFP, The Guardian, Pravda, Spiegel, Connexion, etc.

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"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high, Where knowledge is free, Where the world has not been broken up into fragments, By narrow domestic walls." -- Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941), Gitanjali, 1912.

One World One Family
 AUM! SWASTI!

Om! Asatoma Sadgamaya, Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya, Mrityorma Amritamgamaya, Om Shantih, Shantih, Shantih!
 (Aum! Lead the world from wrong path to the right path, from ignorance to knowledge, from mortality to immortality, and peace!)
 SWASTI! AUM!



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