

## A BRIEF TIMELINE



### 2001-2003

In 2001, Indian PM Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee requested Gurudev's involvement in the resolution of Ayodhya Dispute. Gurudev undertook a series of meetings with Hindu and Muslim stakeholders. When these efforts to build trust and boost dialogue started yielding positive results, vested interests sabotaged the process. On Feb 26, 2003 Gurudev proposed a three-option formula for an out-of-court settlement of Ayodhya dispute based on principles of peace, forgiveness and compassion.



### June 2017

92-year-old Ramchandracharya of Nirmohi Akhara, the main plaintiff in the Ayodhya title suit, met Gurudev and appealed to him to start the process for an amicable settlement. The monk was accompanied by a couple of members from the All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB). Gurudev agreed to make a fresh start in the dialogue process as it was in the interest of the nation.



### Oct 6, 2017

Gurudev mediated a meeting between Nirmohi Akhara and All India Muslim Personal Law Board representatives. The meeting explored whether consensus can be built to solve the Ayodhya conflict. It was one of the first attempts made in 2017 by any leader towards a peaceful settlement of the dispute.



### Oct 30, 2017

Syed Rizvi, Chairman, UP Shia Central Wakf Board met Gurudev at Art of Living Ashram in Bengaluru. He said that Gurudev's initiative would strengthen the Hindu-Muslim brotherhood.



### Nov 11, 2017

Leaders from prominent Hindu outfits - Mahant Dinendra Das (Head, Nirmohi Akhara, Ayodhya) and Chandra Prakash Kaushik (President, Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha), Mahant Suresh Das (Head, Digambar Akhara, Ayodhya) and other senior office bearers met Gurudev at Bengaluru and showed confidence in the outcome of talks for settlement.



**Nov 13, 2017**

A delegation of Sufi saints from different parts of India met Gurudev at New Delhi, expressing hopes for peace to prevail in Ayodhya that has burnt in the fire of communal disharmony for far too long.



**Nov 15, 2017**

Mahant Suresh Das, Head, Digambar Akhara, Ayodhya, Mahant Awdesh Das, Head, Bada Bhakt Mal, Ayodhya and Mahant Janme Jay Sharan, Head, Rasik Peeth, Ayodhya meet Gurudev at Lucknow. They voiced support for the mediation process underway.



**Nov 16, 2017**

Mahant Nritya Gopal Das, President, Shri Ram Janma Bhoomi Nyas received Gurudev at Choti Chavani, Ayodhya.



**Nov 16, 2017**

Mahant Rajaram Chandracharya and Mahant Dinendra Das received Gurudev at the Nirmohi Akhara, Ayodhya.



**Nov 16, 2017**

Mr. Iqbal Ansari, son of Hasheem Ansari, the original litigant in the Ayodhya case, met Gurudev in Ayodhya. Gurudev also met many youth and leaders from multiple organisations representing a wide cross section of Hindu and Muslim communities. Most people extended their support to his initiative for an out-of-court settlement.



**Nov 16, 2017**

Mr. Haji Mehboob, one of the main litigants in the Ayodhya case, met Gurudev at Ayodhya. The two had detailed discussion on Ayodhya dispute and agreed to take forward the talks for an out-of-court settlement.



**Nov 17, 2017**

Maulana Khalid Rasheed Firangi Mahali, member of All India Muslim Personal Law Board welcomed Gurudev at the Islamic Centre of India, Idgah, Lucknow. The outcome of all these interactions was highly positive with a large section of muslim intellectuals and clergy pledging their support for a peaceful out-of-court resolution.



**Nov 28, 2017**

Mahant Suresh Das, Head, Digambar Akhara, Ayodhya met Gurudev at Bengaluru Ashram and publicly welcomed and supported Gurudev's efforts towards an amicable settlement of the Ayodhya Dispute..



**Jan 15 to Feb 3, 2018**

Gurudev had a series of meetings on Ayodhya issue with prominent Muslim leaders in Lucknow and other cities of India. He interacted with over 500 Muslim clerics, intellectuals, businessmen, advocates and leaders through video conferencing and in person meetings. The outcome of all these interactions was highly positive with a large section of muslim intellectuals and clergy pledging their support for a peaceful out-of-court resolution.



**Feb 8, 2018**

A delegation of senior Muslim leaders and scholars that included reputed scholar of Nadwa, (Lucknow) Salman Nadwi met Gurudev in Bangalore. The meeting ended with a significant breakthrough. A consensus was built within the Muslim group to relinquish the claim to the disputed land and shift the mosque to another place, in order to strengthen communal harmony in the country. Such a move would also be in line with scriptural injunctions that permit the shifting of mosque to other places.





**Feb 8, 2018**

Gurudev discussed the Ayodhya issue with Chairman of UP Sunni Central Waqf Board, Zufar Ahmed Faruqi, in Bengaluru. He was supportive of the win-win formula that emerged at the larger meeting with Muslim delegation on February 8, 2018.



**Feb 27, 2018**

Gurudev met a large group of Hindu saints and scholars from different parts of India in Kashi. The saints expressed their support for the dialogues aimed at an amicable negotiated settlement.



**Mar 6, 2018**

Maulana Tauqir Raza Khan, head of Bareilvi sect of Sunni Muslims with 200 million followers gave a warm and cordial welcome to Gurudev in Bareilly. He publicly endorsed Gurudev's approach and efforts to resolve the Ayodhya issue through dialogue and amicable settlement.



**Mar 6, 2018**

Gurudev met Maulana Shahabuddin Razvi, National General Secretary, All India Tanzeem Ulama-E-Islam at Bareilly. Maulana Razvi extended his full support for peaceful resolution of dispute.



**Apr 18, 2018**

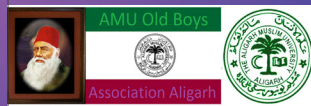
Prof Ali Shamsi, Yale University, Connecticut USA. met Gurudev and backed deliberations on peaceful settlement of Ayodhya conflict

**Apr 26, 2018**



Dr. Frank Islam Met Gurudev in Washington DC, USA and voiced his support for an out-of-court settlement of Ramjanmabhoomi–Babri Masjid dispute.

**June 16, 2018**



In June an extremely fruitful meeting took place between Gurudev and senior office bearers of alumni association of Aligarh Muslim University.

**Nov 12, 2018**



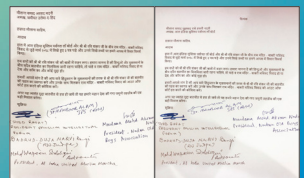
Two main Muslim petitioners from Ayodhya, Mr. Haji Mehboob and Mohammad Umar signed a statement in support of Gurudev expressing willingness to work for an out-of-court settlement.

**Mar 2, 2019**



Prominent Muslim intellectuals held a seminar on 'Resolution of Babri Masjid -Ram Janmabhoomi dispute in light of initiative of Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Ji and on behest of Hon. Supreme Court of India.' Organised by Muslim Intellectuals Forum, Lucknow, the seminar was followed by a press conference in which Muslim leaders and scholars announced full support to the initiatives taken by Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar to amicably resolve the Ayodhya Dispute.

**Mar 2, 2019**



Prominent Muslim intellectuals sent letters addressed to Maulana Syed Muhammad Rabey Hasani Nadvi, President, All India Muslim Personal Law Board and Maulana Syed Arshad Madani, President, Jamiat Ulama-I-Hind, urging all the Muslims of India to support Gurudev in his efforts to arrive at an out-of-court settlement.



**Mar 8, 2019**

The Supreme Court of India officially appointed Gurudev as one of the three mediators to explore a negotiated settlement of the Ayodhya dispute.



**Oct 16, 2019**

The Supreme Court-appointed mediation panel, submitted a report with details of a settlement between the Hindu and the Muslim parties.