

Re: Invitation for a debate on NCERT school math texts you authored

From: Prof. C. K. Raju (ckr@ckraju.net)

To: jayant@iucaa.in

Date: Friday, February 25, 2022, 05:36 AM GMT+5:30

Dear Prof. Narlikar,

Since I have not heard back in response to my email below, I do hope you are keeping well.

This is just to inform you that the email below was publicly tweeted (<https://tinyurl.com/Narl-tweet>) and is now posted online at <https://tinyurl.com/Narl-email>. Obviously, since this is a matter of great public interest, concerning millions of students, it must be done as publicly and transparently as possible. You were appointed head of the NCERT school text committee after the complaints about saffronization during the time of Murli Manohar Joshi. **However, the response to “saffronization”, real or imaginary, cannot be the Christianization of both history (“Euclid”) AND mathematics (per se)..** (See, [“The church origins of \(axiomatic\) math”](#)).

Obviously, the [church has been concocting false history since the time of Orosius](#), for some 1500 years. The job of the “experts” is to be knowledgeable about such things, and to cross-check what they put into school texts, not merely to imitate and regurgitate what is done in the West.

Admittedly, certain church myths and superstitions were globalised during colonialism, since colonial education was church education, but that cannot validly be the sole ground to believe in them.

This error should not be compounded by the fact that “experts” (like astrologers) are (a) not publicly accountable, and (b) so insecure about their knowledge even of school math that they evade public debate. **You are responsible for spreading church myths and superstitions, to the impressionable minds of young children, despite having spoken so much about “scientific temper”.** At least now, I urge you to debate it publicly. It would help millions of students.

I understand that you might have the support of colonially miseducated journalists, intellectuals, and Westerners, all of whom accept Western authority, but such political support is not the right standard for truth, as NCERT unfortunately maintains. I am sure you understand that.

(This reminder too would be publicly tweeted and placed online.)

With good wishes,

C. K. Raju