

Following literature on populism and nationalism in the politics of India's people's party (Baharatiya Janata Party – BJP) this thesis examines displays of Hindu nationalism in the election manifestos of the BJP from federal election years in India and in speeches by prime minister Narendra Modi made in parliament since 2014, that is since the year the BJP is in a dominant position in the lower chamber of the parliament. Hindu nationalism is examined based on three separate criteria: nationalism, ethnic nationalism and religion. Based on the discourse and content analysis of the chosen texts this thesis concludes that nationalism, Hindu nationalism, or religion are not the dominant narratives of the formal presentation of the BJP's or prime minister Modi's politics. Elements of Hindu nationalism are, however, present in them and their frequency has grown in time since 2014. This thesis considers populism and economic development to be the primary narratives of the BJP election campaigns. Included in this work is also a chapter on the historical and political context of Hindu nationalism and the BJP. This part of the thesis follows Hindu nationalism starting with its ideological roots in the 19<sup>th</sup> century anti-colonial movement, through the RSS organization, formalization of ideology and political popularization of Hindu nationalism all the way to displays of Hindu nationalism in the era of BJP dominance since 2014 until today.