




Learning from the Dark Side

Reclaiming the narrative on migration

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The background of the entire image is a photograph of the Statue of Liberty in New York City. The statue is shown from the waist up, standing on its pedestal. It holds a torch in its right hand and a tablet in its left. The sky is a mix of blue and white clouds, suggesting a bright but slightly overcast day. The lighting is natural, highlighting the green patina of the statue's copper.

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning
to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your
teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless,
tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

- Emma Lazarus
The New Colossus (1883)

**“Give me your tired and your
poor who can stand on their
own two feet and who will not
become a public charge”**

**- Ken Cuccinelli
US Acting Director
of Immigration (2019)**

India: Partition, 1947

Bangladesh, 1971

Citizenship Amendment Act

2019



HOW have 250 years of
assimilation and inclusion in the
US come to this?

HOW have four millennia of
syncretism and assimilation
resulted in this in India?

How has the
DARK SIDE
managed to drown out the
FORCE?

“We can use many, many words to describe narrative — and perhaps we should — because it is bandied about, too often used loosely or incorrectly. But I usually come back to just two words that are easy to remember — and which emphasize the two most important elements: *“Chronology with Meaning,”* in Jon Franklin’s phrase.

— Jan Winburn
The Baltimore Sun
“In Search of Story”



The POSITIVE NARRATIVE



The ANTI- NARRATIVE



Insight 1

Presence

**Say it hard, and say it often
– and everywhere**

Insight 2

Say it at the grassroots

Person to person, local dialect

Insight 3

**Build the narrative
with the young**

**Create perspectives in those
where perspective is still nascent**

Insight 4

Keep it simple – and consistent
Coordinate everything that is said

Insight 5

Logical does not equal Impactful
Emotional connects overcome all

