BHARTIYA JANATA PARTY

[Image of party logo and three individuals at a press conference]
The major political party in India today
right-leaning, Hindu-nationalist party
first major party to mobilize explicitly on the basis of religious identity
BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY (BJP)

- better organized than INC
  - disciplined party members
  - carefully selected party cadres
  - clear and respected authority line within the party
BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY (BJP)

- Traditional supporters
  - urban, lower-middle-class groups

- base of support widened since mid-1980s
  - Hindu nationalism
  - north-central India
  - decline of Indian National Congress
  - Muslims as convenient scapegoat for frustration
BJP’S RAPID RISE TO POWER

- electoral success from 1989 to 1999
  + difficulty in forming alliance with other parties
- break with past traditions
  + relatively moderate, centrist position
- BJP formed governing coalition in 1998
  + collapsed in 1999
- BJP formed a new coalition in 1999
  + more broadly based than previous coalition
BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY (BJP)

- economic liberalization and stability
- privilege the interests of the Hindu majority
SOCIAL BASE OF THE PARTY

- Hindu Society
- Trading Class
- Educational Middle Class
- Youth Support
- Working Class
- Backward Classes
- Other Organisation of Sangh Family
- Commitment to Hindutava or cultural Nationalism
IDEOLOGICAL BASE OF THE PARTY

- National Unity
- Faith in Democracy
- Positive Secularism
- Gandhian Socialism
- Value-based Politics
- Economic and political Decentralisation
- Swadeshi and self-reliance
- Opposition to Colonialism and imperialism
- Non-alignment
POLICIES AND PROGRAMME OF THE PARTY

- Economic Programme of the Party
- Reform in Electoral System
- Balance between Centre and states
- Removal of corruption
- Necessary arrangement to maintain law and order
- Solution to the problems of North-Eastern Region
- Economic basis of Reservation
- Programme for the welfare of scheduled Caste and scheduled tribes
- Education and sports policy
- Foreign policy of the party
- Preference for Presidential Government
- Appointment of National Commission to review the constitution
- Appointment of national commission to review the constitution
- Nuclear policy of the party.
REFERENCES

- En.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bharatiya_Janata_Party