

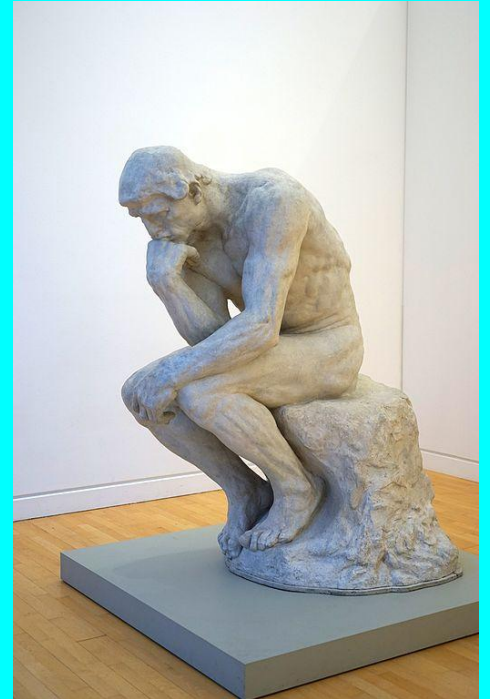
# Neutral Point of View



***User:AshLin, TTT 2019 Vizag***

# Core content policies of Wikipedia

- Neutral Point of View (NPOV)
- Verifiability
- No original research (No OR)





# What is NPOV

All encyclopedic content on Wikipedia must be written from a **neutral point of view (NPOV)**,

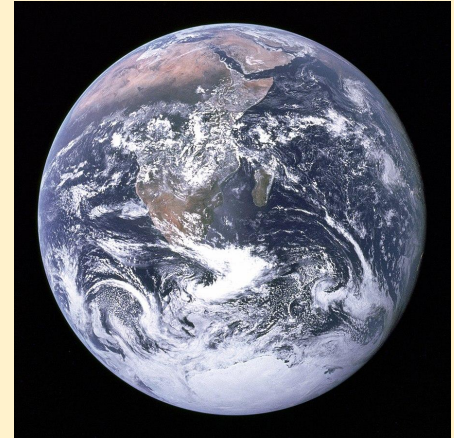
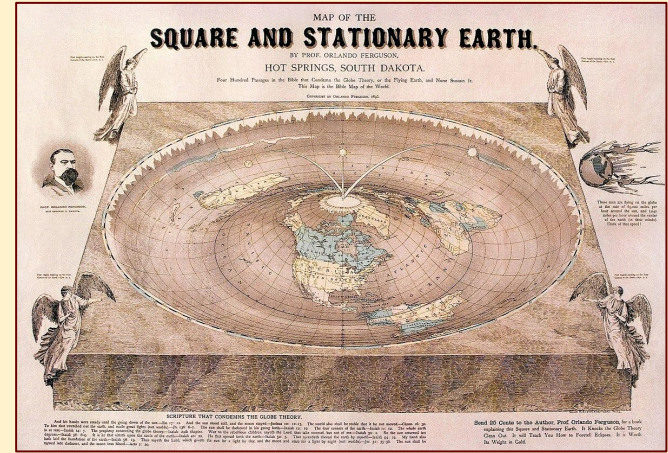
which means representing ***fairly, proportionately***, and,  
as far as possible,

***without editorial bias,***  
***all of the significant views***

that have been *published by reliable sources* on a topic.

# Flat Earth

- Astronomical systems of ancient peoples was based on a “flat Earth”.
- Pythagoras & later Aristotle found evidence that Earth was round & popularised the concept of the “spherical Earth”.
- Belief persisted till medieval ages & dispelled in the Renaissance.
- Modern day science-deniers exist & have formed “Flat Earth societies”. They based their beliefs of 19th century pseudo-scientists, & deny evidence of all kinds.



# How should it be represented?

- So how should flat Earth concept be portrayed in Wikipedia?
  - As part of the Main Article?
  - Totally ignored?
- With intelligently discussed consensus on relevance based on Wikipedia principles.



# Actual representation

- Main article [“Earth”](#) - *“Initial belief in a flat Earth was gradually displaced in the Greek colonies of southern Italy during the late 6th century BC by the idea of spherical Earth”.*
- “Flat earth” - article informs all the occurrences of this belief in history—from ancient Greeks to modern day deniers.
- “Modern flat Earth Society” - to discuss the modern day adherents of the flat Earth theory.
- “Flat Earth Society” - to inform about the most important society of the modern flat earth believers.



# Techniques to achieve NPOV

- Naming.
- Article Structure.
- Good research.
- Impartial Tone.
- Due & Undue weight. Balance. False balance.
- Reliable sources. Bias in sources.
- Words to watch & weasel words.

## Due and undue weight

- If a viewpoint is in the majority, then it should be easy to substantiate it with reference to ***commonly accepted reference texts***;
- If a viewpoint is held by a significant minority, then it should be easy to name ***prominent*** adherents;
- If a viewpoint is held by an extremely small minority, it ***does not belong on Wikipedia***, regardless of whether it is true or you can prove it, except perhaps in some ancillary article.

# Handling a POV Dispute

- Differentiate between opinion & fact.
- Understand underlying assumptions.
- Remove all logical fallacies.
- Provide references to all facts & opinions.
- Separate out the issue with biased POV.
- Discuss NPOV variants on talk page.
- Develop consensus.
- Refer disputes to the NPOV noticeboard or its equivalent.

More on this : [NPOV Tutorial](#).

# Useful Resources

- [Neutral Point of View Policy Guideline.](#)
- [Logical fallacies.](#)
- [Words to watch.](#)
- [NPOV FAQ.](#)
- [NPOV Noticeboard - to report disputes.](#)
- [NPOV Tutorial.](#)
- Others :
  - [No Original Research.](#)
  - [Verifiability.](#)



**Lets Discuss!**

**Thank you!**

# Endnote

- Version 1 dated 8 Jun 2019
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