



# Aradhana

## ARADHANA

Website: [www.cincinnati temple.com](http://www.cincinnati temple.com)

Phone: 528-3714

Email: [hindusociety@fuse.net](mailto:hindusociety@fuse.net)

Kartik/Margshirsh 2061

November, 2004

A Publication of the Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati

*Happy Diwali, Govardhan Puja and Annakoot*



### Community Dinner

December 3rd, Friday, after 7:30 P.M.. Community dinners are usually held on first Friday of every month after 7:30 P.M. For more information contact:

Priests 528-3714 Devnath ji 528-3714  
Bharat Vala 891-2240 Laxmi Srivastava 474-0533

**Sunder Kand Path** is held on every 3rd Sunday of the month from 10:30 A. M.

**Shri Ganesh Atharvshirsha Path** is held on every 4th Sunday of the month. Please see details on Page 5.

**Balaji Abhishekam** is held on every 4th Saturday of the month from 10:30AM. Detail on page 5.

**Murugan Abhishekam** Please see details on Page 5.

**Shiv Mahima Stotra** is held on every Monday evening at 7:00 pm.

**Shri Hanuman Chalisa** is held on every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm.

**Vishnu Sahasranama Prayana** is held on every Thursday at 7:00 pm. Please see details on Page 5.

**Satya Narayan Puja** will be held every month on Purnima (Full Moon) Day.



### SHRI GIRIRAJDHARAN KI JAI

### SHRI YANMUNE MAHARANI KI JAI

### Summary of Shri Govardhan Puja and Annakoot:

Paramatma, the supreme spirit, has descended on earth through incarnations in various forms at critical times to destroy demons and reestablish religious and social order.

The Paramatma, in His 8<sup>th</sup> incarnation as Shri Lord Krishna, grew up in Gokul and Vridavan. He Performed various 'Leelas' as Bal Krishna in his childhood years. (continued on page 4)

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE TEMPLE

|                         |         |        |
|-------------------------|---------|--------|
| Mata Ki Chowki          | Nov. 6  | Page 5 |
| Deewali Shri Maha -     | Nov. 12 | Page 5 |
| Lakshmi Puja            |         |        |
| Mata Ki Chowki          | Nov. 13 | Page 5 |
| Shri Chitrugupt Puja    | Nov. 14 | page 6 |
| Celebration             |         |        |
| Mata Ki Chowki          | Dec. 4  | Page 6 |
| Annakoot Goverdhan Puja | Dec. 5  | Page 6 |

**Note:** If you or someone you know, is not receiving ARADHANA, or if you need a change in address please contact Mr. Mohan Chopra at 859-331-2416

Deadline for submission of articles and advertisements for the next issue is November 15, 2004

# SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS AT THE TEMPLE

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2004

**President:**  
Vijay Sharma 232-9991  
**V. President:**  
Asit Saha 489-5720  
**Secretary:**  
Ragu Tadepali 759-2157  
**Treasurer:**  
Srinu Srinivasan 688-0228

### Committee Chairpersons:

**Membership & Fundraising:**  
Ramesh Sondhi 232-6454

**Communications:**  
Renu Kotwal 583-9589

**Puja & Religious Activities:**  
Kiran Dayal 474-4051

**Property Management & Maintenance:**  
Prem Dhamija 984-5777

**Cultural Activities:**  
Sheetal Patel 936-9655

**Religious Education & Youth Activities:**  
Manju Gupta 232-3331

**Long Range Planning:**  
Mukund Patel 874-4857

**Youth Member:**  
Esha Bhatara 777-6488

## RELIGIOUS DISCOURSE

**Sundays 12:15 - 12:45 PM**

**First Sunday :** Upanishads  
**Second Sunday :** Children Program  
**Third Sunday :** Sunder Kand Path  
**Fourth Sunday :** Shri Ganesh

### Atharvshirsha Path

**Fifth Sunday :** Open (please suggest)

Members of the community are invited to speak on topics related to Hindu religion, Philosophy, culture, reformation, Gurus, self-preservation, etc. If you would like to talk or like to suggest someone who may be interested, please call Koti Sreekrishna (984-4179).

### SPONSORS FOR SUNDAY PUJA

Devotees are requested to sit-in Sunday Pujas as well as bring Prasad and Lunch. You may wish to use this occasion to celebrate important events such as wedding anniversaries, birthdays, ishta devata puja, graduation, and other memorable days. Events can be hosted by individuals, families, groups of families or organizations. Please reserve your Sunday of choice ASAP by putting your name and phone-no in the calendar at the temple and call Kiran Dayal 474 - 4051

## TEMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday : 9:00AM-12:00 Noon  
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Saturday, Sunday  
& US Holidays 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

### SPECIAL PROGRAM ON WEEKENDS

9:15 - 9:30 A.M. Suprabhatam  
9:30 - 11:00 A.M. Daily puja of Temple Deity  
11:00 - 11:30 A.M. Sponsored Puja  
11:30 - 12:15 A.M. Bhajan  
12:15 - 12:45 P.M. Religious discourse  
12:45-1:00 P.M. Birthday and Anniversary puja and announcement  
1:00 P.M. Aarti

### SHIVA MAHIMA STOTRA

Monday Evenings, 7 PM

### HANUMAN CHALISA

Tuesday Evenings, 7 PM

### VISHNU SAHASRANAM PARAYAN

Thursday : 7:00 PM

### SRI VENKATESHWARA PUJA

Friday Evenings, 7 PM

### MURAGAN ABHISHEKAM

Every 3rd Saturday

### SUNDARKAND PATH

Every 3rd Sunday of the February  
10:30 -1:00 PM

*Please Donate Generously for your Temple*

## 2004 POOJA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

To participate in/ sponsor please contact a Pooja Committee member

Kiran Dayal (Chairperson): 474-4051  
B.C. Sharma (Priest) 751-2974  
K.C. Sharma (Priest) 528-4921  
Srinivas Banglore (Priest) 947-1841  
Sri. Shrivachariar (Priest) 528-4831  
Swarna Chaudhary 232-2343  
Vasundhara Dasari 777-3353  
Purobi Dey 688-1721  
Rani Dhamija 984-5777  
Anil Jindal 271-7171  
Anuradha Kulkarni 271-2749  
Vinay Kumar 528-6189  
Sangita Patel 791-0855  
Anju Saha 474-3922  
Uma Sanguai 793-9384  
Madhu Sharma 232-9991  
Meena Sondhi 232-6454  
Sita Rangasami 779-4863

1. Archana performed during temple hours by sponsorship.
2. Outside pujas and other religious services will be conducted by appointment only. To schedule, please contact puja committee chairperson
3. If you would like to bring food and prasad in the temple, please contact puja committee chairperson

## Priests:

**Pundit B C Sharma** 751-2974  
**Acharya Kailash Sharma** 528-4921  
**Shri Srinivas Banglore** 947-1841  
**Shri Shivachariar** 528-4831

### Attny:

Aronoff, Rosen & Hunt 241-0400

### Temple Mgr.:

Laxmi Srivastava 474-0533

**Accountant:** Open

**Editor:** Renu Kotwal 583-9589

**Editor's email:**

renukotwal@hotmail.com

## Important Notice:

Your Temple needs

1. Sponsors for flower \$50/week
2. Sponsors for Sunday puja
3. Your temple needs your support

## Lost and Found

If you have lost a valuable item such as a piece of jewelry or an article of clothing in the Temple at Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati, please contact Kiran Dayal at 474 - 4051.

## Sanskrit & Hindi Classes In The Temple

Every Friday - 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

If you need help to read GEETA or any of your favorite stotra .

Please Call.

Aachary Kailash Sharma

Home 528-4921

Temple 528-3714

Email- kailashsharma@netzero.com

## Temple Manager's Committees

Laxmi S. Srivastava- Temple Manager 474-0533

### 1. Office Manager

Mr. Mohan Chopra

### 2. Swami Lectures

Vinay Kumar

Prema Yathiraj

Devdas Mukerjee

### 3. Temple Data Base

Anand Narayana

Purnima Rao

### 4. Anniversary & Birthday Data

Raj Agarwal

### 5. E-mail data

Pradeep Goyal

Nandkumar Khemchandani

### 6. Membership & Gift Shop

Yashpal Agarwal

A.C. Sekhar

Meena Sondhi

### 7. Financial Data

Raj Bodalia

S. Srinivasan

### 8. I/C Temple Web site

Raj Bhatnagar

Choudary Bobba

### 9. Consultants

V. Rao Bhamidipati

Prem Garg

Anil Jindal

### 10. I/C Temple Calendar

Meena Mehta

B. C. Sharma

Kiran Dayal

Anil Jindal

### 12. I/C Volunteer Services

Vijay Kumar

Laxmi Srivastava

**Published Monthly . Circulation:** Approx. 1500 Families. **Advertising Rate:** Full Page \$150; Half Page \$75; Quarter Page \$50. A 10% discount is given for 12 consecutive repetitions of the same advertisement. Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati is a non-profit organization that caters to the needs of a large community. The views expressed by individual authors in "Aradhana" are their own and may not reflect the policies of HSGC.

**Hindu Temple of Greater Cincinnati, 4920 Klatte Road, Cincinnati, OH-45244, PH:(513)528-3714**

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

### November, 2004

|          |        |   |
|----------|--------|---|
| 11/01/04 | Mon.   | Kartika/Ashwin; Shukla                                |
| 11/05/04 | Fri.   | Ashtami; Ahoi<br>Community Dinner                     |
| 11/08/04 | Mon.   | Ekadashi  |
| 11/10/04 | Wed.   | Dhan Teras, Pradosh                                   |
| 11/11/04 | Thurs. | Narak/Kali Chaudas                                    |
| 11/12/04 | Fri.   | Amavasya, Deewali<br>Maha Lakshmi Puja                |
| 11/13/04 | Sat.   | Gujarat New Year<br>Annakoot/G-Pooja<br>Kartik Shukla |
| 11/14/04 | Sun.   | Yama Dwitiya<br>Bhai Dooj                             |
| 11/15/04 | Mon.   | Sankranti (Vrishchik)                                 |
| 11/16/04 | Tue.   | Shri Skanda, Shashthi                                 |
| 11/19/04 | Fri.   | Gopashtami  |
| 11/20/04 | Sat.   | Chitragupta Pooja                                     |
| 11/22/04 | Mon.   | Ekadashi (Prabodhini)<br>Tulsi Vivah                  |
| 11/24/04 | Wed.   | Pradosh   |
| 11/25/04 | Thurs. | Vaikunth, Chaturdashi<br>Karthikai Deepam             |
| 11/26/04 | Fri.   | Purnima   |
| 11/27/04 | Sat.   | Kartik/ Margshirsh                                    |
| 11/30/04 | Tues.  | Sankashti Vrat  |

### December, 2004

|          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| 12/01/04 | Wed.   | Margshirsh, Kartika<br>Krishna           |
| 12/03/04 | Fri.   | Community Dinner                         |
| 12/05/04 | Sat.   | Ashtami, Annakoot/<br>G-Puja Celebration |
| 12/08/04 | Wed.   | Ekadashi                                 |
| 12/09/04 | Thurs. | Pradosh                                  |
| 12/11/04 | Sat.   | Amavasya                                 |
| 12/12/04 | Sun.   | Margshirsh/Paus<br>Shukla                |
| 12/15/04 | Wed.   | Sankrant                                 |
| 12/17/04 | Fri.   | Champa Shashth                           |

## Puja Committee Announcement:

- A group of dedicated devotees for each deity are nominated to help puja committee to coordinate and celebrate different puja activities. Their names and phone numbers are listed on page 2. Special thanks to all hard working devotees. If you have any question or suggestion about temple activities, please call Kiran Dayal at 474-4051 or any of the Puja committee members on page 2.
- To schedule a Puja or to rent a temple hall (lower level ) please contact puja Committee chairperson Kiran Dayal at 474-4051

## RATES FOR PUJA & PRIEST SERVICES

| SERVICE                             | IN TEMPLE | OUTSIDE TEMPLE |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Abhishekam (All Deities)            | \$101.00  | ---            |
| Aksharabhyas                        | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Anna-Prashanam                      | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Ashtotharam (108) Archana           | \$11.00   | ---            |
| AyushyaHomam/B'day Celebration      | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Ground Breaking Ceremony            | ---       | \$101.00       |
| Griha Pravesha                      | ---       | \$101.00       |
| Kalayana Uthsava (Lord Ram/ Sita)   | \$101.00  | ---            |
| Kesh Khandan (Churakaran)           | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Nam-Karan                           | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Navagraha Puja                      | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Nischitartham (Engagement)          | \$101.00  | \$151.00       |
| Nitya (1 Day) Kainkaryam (Seva)     | \$101.00  | ---            |
| Poolangi Seva (With Flowers)-       | \$101.00  | ---            |
| (Only During Off Winter Season)     |           |                |
| Sahasranama (1008) Archana          | \$51.00   | ---            |
| Sathyanarayana Puja                 | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Seemantham                          | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Devi Jagaran                        | \$75.00   | \$101.00       |
| Akhand Ramayan Paath                | -----     | \$101.00       |
| Shashti Poorthi (60th B'day Celeb.) | \$71.00   | \$101.00       |
| Anniversary celebration             | \$101.00  | \$151.00       |
| Suprabhat Seva                      | \$21.00   | ---            |
| Unjal (Swing) Seva                  | \$31.00   | ---            |
| Upakarma (thread changing)          | \$21.00   | ---            |
| Upanayam/Brahmopadesham/            | \$151.00  | \$251.00       |
| Thread Ceremony                     |           |                |
| Vahan Pooja                         | \$31.00   | ----           |
| Yearly Shradham (Barkhi)            | \$51.00   | \$101.00       |
| Wedding                             | \$251.00  | \$351.00       |

**NOTE:** Rates are subject to change without notice. Rates for pujas not on the list and requiring less than 4 hours of priest's time will normally be \$51 if performed inside the temple and \$101 if performed outside of temple (e.g. at home). **Rates of Pujas out of Greater Cincinnati will be \$100.00 more than the rates of outside puja within greater Cincinnati area.**

### Temple rental: Lower Floor Only

|                                     | Full day  | 1/2 day      |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| M-Th. (except holidays)             | \$301     | \$151        |
| Fri., Sat & Holidays                | \$501     | \$351        |
| <u><b>Sunday after 3PM only</b></u> | <b>NA</b> | <b>\$351</b> |

**Note:** For half day select one of the two.

8:00 AM - 2 PM **OR** 4PM - 11 PM

Temple rental applies to all private reservations for those events/ pujas that are performed by private parties and not announced in the temple.

**Security/ Cleaning deposit:** \$151 required. This deposit will be forfeited if the basement hall bathrooms and kitchen area are not cleaned by the party renting the place.

**NOTE: To schedule a Puja or to rent a temple hall (lower level ) please contact puja Committee chairperson only.**

(continued from page 1)

As the *puranic* story goes, when Shri Bal Krishna was 7 years old, one of His 'Leela' was lifting of Govardhan Parvat (a mountain in Vridavan) with his left hand's little finger to provide shelter to Gokulvasis from heavy, relentless rain caused by the angry king of Devas, Lord Indra. Eventually, Lord Indra recognized the Lord Bal Krishna's 'Leela' and surrender to the Lord and called of the rain.

For this divine victory over Lord Indra's wrongful action, Gokulvasis adored Shri Bal Krishna with new name 'SHRI GOVARDHANRI' OR 'GIRIDHARI' (Govardhan Parvat holder). They cheered Him with thunderous sound of '**SHRI GOVARDHAN-NATHAKI JAI**'. . To celebrate this joyous event, the Gokulvasis brought variety of samagri (food), arranged it at the foothill of Govardhan Parvat, and offered it to Shri Govardhandhari.

This arrangement of samagri is known as **ANNAKOOT** (a mound of food). Shri Govardhandhari then shared this Maha Prasand with all Gokulvasis.

In 15<sup>th</sup> century, Shrimad Vallabhacharyaji, pronounced Shri Goverdhandhari as "**SHRINATHJI**" (a short form of Shri Govardhannathji). **SHRINATHAJI'S** name is synonymous with Girirajdharanji, Giridhari, Govardhannath, Gopalkrishna, etc.

In our temple, **SHRINATHAJI'S** Swarupa (deity) depicts Govardhan Dharan divine event that occurred in Vrindavan. **SHRINATHAJI'S** left hand is raised as if He is holding the GovardhanParvat with various plants and animal on it. **SHINATHAJI'S** eyes (His drashti) are pointed towards his feet inviting the entire humanity to His divine feet for 'Sharnagati' (a total, unconditional surrender for salvation). Yogeshvar Krishna in Shrimad Bhagavad Geeta once again preached an acceptance of 'Sharnagati' to Arjuna (See BG 18:66).

## SHRI GOVARDHAN PUJA AND ANNAKOOT MAHOTSAVA

### SUNDAY December 05, 2004

#### Program

1. 10:00 AM- 11:30 AM Govardhan Puja Abhishekham
2. 11:30 AM -12:00 N Annakut- Annapurna stotramn/ Thaal, Yamanaji Aarati, Annakut Dharshan Opens
3. 12:00 N- 1:00 PM Bhajans
4. 1:00 PM- 1:15 PM Discourse on Shri Govardhan Puja/ Annakut
5. 1:15 PM-1: 30 PM Main Aarati/ Parikrama, Annakut Darshan closes.
6. 1:30 PM Mahaprasad

Please take part in Govardhan Puja and Abhishekham. Please volunteer for preparing small amount of food. Sign up charts are displayed in the temple and at Ankur Gujarati Samaj Hall. For questions and help please contact Jyoti/Bhal Desai (745-0876), Meena/Ashvin Mehta (574-6763), Meena/Bharat Shah (733-9357), Pushpa/Nutan Shah (755-1789), Bharati/Nayan Noticewala (563-2007), Minalben Patel (489-6678)

## Shri Ganesh Puja & Shri Ganesh Atharvshirsha Path

*Every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month*

**This puja is dedicated to each month's  
Sankashti Chaturthi to Lord Ganesh.**

## **Vishnu Sahasranama Parayana**

Visnu Sahasranama Parayana (chanting) now takes place every Thursday at 7 pm in the temple. Please join us for the chanting.

**For more information, please contact one of the following:**

|                |          |                         |
|----------------|----------|-------------------------|
| Srinivas Mirle | 894-8954 | Shailaja Setty 761-7619 |
| Jaya Reddy     | 231-3120 | Suri Hanumanthanna      |
|                |          | 661-8733                |

Koti Sreekrishna 954-4179.

## **ABHISHEKAM/KALYANOTSAVAM FOR LORD SRI VENKATESWARA**

On 4th Saturday of each month at 10:30 A.M. To sponsor please call:

|                  |                      |                   |          |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Mala Rajasekhar  | 451-8081             | Malleswari Reddy  | 779-4224 |
| Kamala Mannava   | 777-7007             | Vasundhara Dasari | 777-3353 |
| Srinivas Bhattar | 947-1841 or 528-3714 |                   |          |

## **PRAVACHAN BY**

**Acharya Kailash Sharma**

Every First and Second Sunday of the Month  
12:15 pm to 12:45 pm

## **Mata Ki Chauki**

Nov 6<sup>th</sup>

4pm to 8 pm

Sponsored By  
Renu Bakshi

## **Deewali Shri Maha Laxmi Puja**

Friday Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>

Program

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 6:30 to 7:30 | Maha Laxmi Puja |
| 7:30         | Arti & Prasad   |
| 7:45         | Fire Crackers   |

Followed by dinner

Sponsored By

Dr. Bharat & Sudha Agrawal .

For details Call Kiran Dayal 474-4051 or temple 528-3714.

## **Mata Ki Chauki**

Nov 13<sup>th</sup>

4:00 pm To 8:00 pm

Sponsored by Sharma Family.

## **NOMINATIONS SOUGHT**

for Executive Council 2005

The term of the Current Executive Council expires on December 31, 2004, and the elections for the 2005 Executive Council will be conducted during the General Body Meeting on Sunday, December 12th, 2004 at 12.00 Noon. The Election Commission invites nominations for the following positions:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Nominations are also invited for the positions of Chairpersons for the following committees:

- Religious Education and Youth Activities
- Puja and Religious Activities
- Communications
- Membership and Fund Raising
- Property Management & Maintenance
- Cultural

The nominations must be filed by December 11th, 2004 by 12.00 PM (mid-night) . All nominations must include the following information:

- Candidate's name and Phone number.
- Name and Phone number of the person proposing.
- Name and Phone number of the person seconding.

Nominations can be submitted on plain paper , or phoned in to any member of the Election Commission. All candidates must be dues-paying members of the Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati in good standing for at least 12 months prior to Dec, 1, 2004. For the position of the President, a candidate must have actively served the Hindu Society of the Greater Cincinnati in an executive capacity for at least one year .

In addition, the Youth Group is requested to nominate a Youth representative (22 year Max) to serve on the Executive Council. This nomination must be endorsed by at least ten youth members.

## **HSGC Election Commission :**

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Mohan Chopra, Chairperson | 859-331-2416 |
| A. Balasubramaniam        | 794-0141     |
| Raneshwar Gupta           | 232-3331     |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Corrections</b></p> <p>Shri Chitragupt Puja Celebration date has been changed from November 20th to Nov. 14th</p> <p>Diwali Celebration scheduled for Nov. 20th has been cancelled</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vaikuntha Ekdashi Puja</b></p> <p>December 21st, Sunday<br/>For Details, call :<br/>Temple            528-3714<br/>Kiran Dayal      474-4051</p>   |
| <p><b>Shri Chitragupt Puja Celebration</b><br/>November 14th Sunday<br/>Program:<br/>Shri Chitragupt Puja                      11:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon<br/>Bhajans &amp; Arti                              12:00 noon to 1:00P.M.<br/>Sponsored by Chitragupt Pariwar<br/>For Details Please call Kiran Dayal at 474-4051</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHESS-Children's Hindu Education<br/>And SatSang</b></p> <p>Classes are held every Sunday from 11:00 AM at the Temple on Lower Level. Everyone should come by 10:50 A.M. The class starts at 11:00 A.M.<br/><b>Schedule:</b><br/>11:00 - 11:05 : Starting Prarthana ( 5min.)<br/>11:05 - 11:15 : Surya Namaskar (10 min.)<br/>11:15 - 11:30 : 2 shlokas with meaning (15 min.)<br/>Before starting shlokas 1 min. meditation.<br/>11:30 - 11:45 : Games (15 min.)<br/>11:45 - 12:15 : Story and Snack time (30 min.)<br/>12:15 - 12:35 : Kotiji's class (20 min.)<br/>12:45 -- Everyone should go for Aarti.<br/>The class is divided into two groups for shlokas.<br/>One Group is 4 years to 8 years.<br/>One groups is 8 years to 12 years.</p> <p><i><b>Please enroll your child now for the year 2004. To get application form and general instruction call Manju Gupta, Chairperson at 232-3331</b></i></p> <p><b>FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND INFORMATION CONTACT<br/>Manju Gupta Chairperson 232 - 3331<br/>Email guptama2003@yahoo.com</b></p> <p><u>ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH THERE IS A SPECIAL PROGRAM UPSTAIRS FROM 12:30 TO 1:00 PM</u></p> |
| <p><b>Mata Ki Chowki</b><br/>December 4th, Saturday<br/>From 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. followed by dinner<br/>Sponsors:<br/>Mr.&amp; Mrs. Sanjeev &amp; Anjali Pathak<br/>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Gaurav &amp; Pooja Mantro<br/>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Rajbir Minhas &amp; Renu Kotwal</p>   | <p><b>Annakoot Govardhan Puja Celebration</b><br/>December 5th , Sunday<br/>From 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.<br/>Program:<br/>Shri Govardhan Puja                      10:00 A.M.<br/>Annakoot Darshan                        11:00 A.M.<br/>Annpurna Puja/Yamunja Arti            11:30 A.M.<br/>Bhajans                                        12:00 noon<br/>Arti &amp; Maha Prasad                        1:00 P.M.<br/>For Details Please call:<br/>Temple                                        528-3714<br/>Shriji Group Jyoti Desai                745-0876<br/>Meena Mehta                                574-6763</p>   |
| <p><b>Shri Gita Jayanti Celebration</b></p> <p>December 26th, Sunday<br/>10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.<br/>Geeta Path starts            10:30 A.M.<br/>Bhajans                        12:30 P.M.<br/>Arti &amp; Prasad                1:00 P.M.<br/>For Details Call:<br/>Temple or Kiran Dayal at 474-4051</p>                      | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shri Satya Narayan Pooja On<br/>Purnima</b></p> <p><b>November 26th at 5:00 P.M.</b></p> <p><b>Sponsorship    \$ 51.00</b><br/><b>For details call Temple at 528-3714</b></p>  |

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL ON THIS HAPPY  
OCCASION & BRING HAPPINESS, LONG LIFE AND  
PROSPERITY IN YEAR 2004  
Marriage Anniversaries (November)**

Mr. & Mrs. Debashis & Suranjana Basu  
Mr. & Mrs. Raghunath & Vidyullatha Garre  
Mr. & Mrs. Sudhir & Savita Kashyap  
Mr. & Mrs. Alok & Sharmila Khare  
Mr. & Mrs. Sandeep Kulkarni  
Mr. & Mrs. Pawan & Rita Kumar  
Mr. & Mrs. Madhsudhan Kuruvada & Aruna Mahankali  
Mr. & Mrs. Ratan & Tanuja Mandavilli  
Mr. & Mrs. Jagdish & Madhu Nawani  
Mr. & Mrs. Srinath Ramarathnam & Asha Sundaram  
Mr. & Mrs. Alok & Rashmi Sahay  
Mr. & Mrs. Ashok & Neelima Tandon  
Mr. & Mrs. Vijaysarthy Vadin & Gayathri Rao



**Birthday Anniversaries (November)**

|                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Shakuntla Agarwal     | Varun Mandavilli         |
| Kalpathy Anantharaman | Anika Minocha            |
| Usha Balasubramaniam  | Arun Murthy              |
| Jay Bekal             | Deepak Nagarajan         |
| Jagdish Bhatia        | Annapuni Narayan         |
| Gaurang Bhatt         | Karthik Natarajan        |
| Amalendu Biswas       | Charg Padya              |
| Rajesh Bodalia        | Samir Parikh             |
| Ashwini Chaudhury     | Prakash Patel            |
| Sharmistna Das        | Vimal Patel              |
| Madhava Dasari        | Jagan Ramamoorthy        |
| Vinod Dasari          | Sri Ram Ramanivasan      |
| Maheshwer Dayal       | Mihir Ranjan             |
| Rama Dhingra          | Revant Ranjan            |
| Mohini Duggal         | Mohan Rao                |
| Raghunath Garre       | Alok Sahay               |
| Radhika Gulati        | Gangadhar Sangvai        |
| Lata Gupta            | Ela Saraff               |
| Saloni Hemani         | M. Sekar                 |
| Hiremagalur Jayram    | Avrko Shah               |
| Murti Jindal          | Shreya Shah              |
| Abhishek Joshi        | Anupama R. Shanbhag      |
| Akhilesh Joshi        | Chaitra Shankar          |
| Vijay Joshi           | Pratibha Shankar         |
| Asha Kamat            | Dhruv Sharma             |
| Savita Kashyap        | Rajesh Sharma            |
| Shashi Khanna         | Rekha Sharma             |
| Krishna Kool          | Rukmini Sharma           |
| Aman Kumar            | Sarmishta Sharma         |
| Amita Kanti Kumar     | Shiv Sharma              |
| Madhav Lakkapragada   | Ankur Shukla             |
| Sumit Mallik          | Sruthi Sreenivasan       |
| Neha Mandavilli       | Srinivasaraghavan Sriram |
| Anisha Srivastava     | Chandan Srivastava       |
| Gayathri Tadepalli    | Som Tandon               |
| Tejaswi Vishwamitra   | Meena Wadhwa             |
| Ekta Yadav            |                          |
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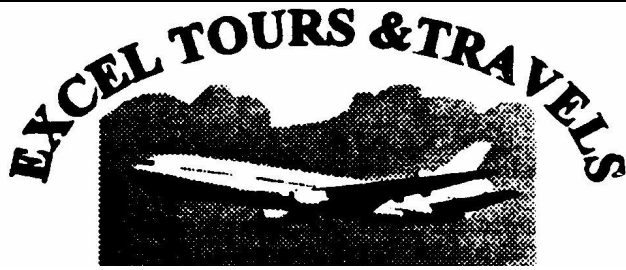
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Likewise the religion itself, the origin of Deepavali is dated back to a period when history was probably not used to be written. Still by some mystery the traditions of this epical celebration continue to be transpired from one century to another. And during this relentless course of journey it has continued to illuminate the path of thousands to attain the ultimate good and complete ecstasy.

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According to Ramayana, Diwali commemorates the return of Ram, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu and the eldest son of King Dasharath of Ayodhya, from his 14-year exile with Sita and Lakshman after killing the Ravan, a demon king. The people of Ayodhya illuminated the kingdom with earthen diyas (oil lamps) and fireworks to celebration of the return of their king.

Continuing the story of Rama, this festival commemorates Lord Ram's return to his kingdom Ayodhya after completing his 14-year exile. Twinkling oil lamps or diyas light up every home and firework displays are common all across the country. This celebration took place on the night of the new moon of Ashwin (October-November). The tradition and the timing continued to be followed even these days. But it is just one aspect of this legendary festival. Though the four-day long festival centers round the new moon night, the night of lamps, each of the four days has an interesting story to tell of its own.

(continued on page 16)

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(continued from page 13)

**The Day of Narakchaturdashi:** This is actually the pre-Diwali day and the beginning of the four day long festival. The day is associated with the legend of the demon Naraka.

This holy day marks the vanquishing of the demon Naraka by Lord Krishna and his wife Satyabhama. According to Puranas Naraka, the son of Bhudevi, acquired immense power as a blessing from Lord Brahma after a severe penance. He soon unleashed a reign of terror in the kingdom of Kamarupa, harassing the celestial beings with his invincible might. Unable to bear the tyranny of the demon, the celestial beings pleaded with Lord Krishna to save them from his torture. But Naraka could not be easily killed as he had a boon that he could face death only at the hands of his mother Bhudevi. So, Krishna asks his wife Satyabhama, the reincarnation of Bhudevi, to be his charioteer in the battle with Naraka. When Krishna feigns unconsciousness after being hit by an arrow of Naraka, Satyabhama takes the bow and aims the arrow at Naraka and kills him instantly. Later Lord Krishna reminds her of the boon she had sought as Bhudevi.

**Day of Amavashya:**

Bali was the king of the nether world and his mighty power had become a threat to the gods. In order to curb his powers Lord Vishnu in the guise of a dwarf - a vaman - visited him and begged him to give him only that much land which he could cover with his three steps. Known for his philanthropy King Bali proudly granted him his wish. That very moment that dwarf transformed himself into the all-powerful Lord Vishnu. With his first step Lord Vishnu covered the entire heaven and with the second step the earth and asked Bali where to keep his third step. Bali offered his head. Putting his foot on his head Vishnu pushed him down to the underworld. At the same time for his generosity Lord Vishnu gave him the lamp of knowledge and allowed him to return to earth once a year to light millions of lamps to dispel the darkness and ignorance and spread the radiance of love and wisdom.

Another version is that when Lord Vishnu in the guise of Vaman, sought three feet of land from the very generous king Bali Chakravarthy, Bali had to surrender his head as Vamana had conquered the earth and the sky in His two strides. Lord Vishnu banishes Bali into the nether world of Pathal by keeping his third stride on Bali's head. Later, pleased by his generosity, Lord Vishnu grants him a boon and he in turn requests the Lord to guard his palace at Pathal Loka.

Meanwhile, the Goddess Lakshmi, the consort of Lord Vishnu, is unable to bear the separation and her grief affects the functioning of the entire universe. Brahma and Lord Shiva offer themselves as guards and plead with Bali to relieve Vishnu. It is on this day of Amavasya Lord Vishnu returns to his abode and Goddess Lakshmi is delighted. That is the reason it is believed that those who worship Goddess Lakshmi on this day would be bestowed with all the riches.

The day following the Amavasya is "Kartik Shuddh Padwa" and it is only on this day that the King Bali would come out of Pathal Loka and rule Bhulok as per the boon given by Lord Vishnu. Hence, it is also known as "Bali Padyami".

This day also marks the coronation of King Vikramaditya and Vikaram-Samvat was started from this Padwa day.

Govardhan-Puja is also performed in the North on this day. As per Vishnu-Puran the people of Gokul used to celebrate a festival in honor of Lord Indra and worshipped him after the end of every monsoon season but one particular year the young Krishna stopped them from offering prayers to Lord Indra who in terrific anger sent a deluge to submerge Gokul. But Krishna saved his Gokul by lifting up the Govardhan mountain and holding it over the people as an umbrella.

Govardhan is a small hillock in Braj, near Mathura and on this day of Diwali people of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar build cowdung hillocks, decorate them with flowers and then worship them.

## **Directions to Hindu Temple**

From I-275 take Exit 63A (32West) - drive approximately 1/4 mile - turn right onto OLD 74 - turn left at the first Traffic light onto Summerside Road. After approximately one mile turn right onto Klatte Road. Temple is at the end of Klatte Road. **From UC:** Take E McMillan to Columbia Pkwy to Beechmont Ave to Route 32 East (to Batavia). Turn left on Old SR -74. Follow instructions above from Summerside to Klatte Rd. (Phone No For the Temple – 528-3714)

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