आराधना

Aradhana

A Publication of the Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati
Devdham of North America ™

Chaitra/Adhik Vaishakh Vikram Samvat, 2066 /2067 April 2010	Happy Vallabh Acharya Jayanthi Happy Tamil New Year Happy Vaisakhi	Website www.cincinnatitemple.com Email: hindusociety@fuse.net Phone: (513)528-3714

Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati cordially invites you with family & friends for Temple's

13th Anniversary Celebration May 21st, 22nd & 23rd 2010

SHRI MAHA MRITUNJAYA YAGNA

Friday 21st May
5:30pm - 8:30 pm.

Saturday 22nd May
8:30am Nitya Puja Utsava Murti Abhisheka
9:30am Welcome of **Gajapati Maharaja Dibyasinghdeo Deb of Puri Orissa**.
10:00am Yag Shala Pravesh & Mritunjaya Yagna
12:00pm Lecture on Tradition of Lord Jagannath By- Maharaja Dibyasinghdeo Deb.
1:00pm Aarti & Prasad (Lunch).

Saturday 22nd May
4:00pm -8pm Mata Ki Chowki

Sunday 23rd May
09:00am Nitya (Daily)Puja
10:00am Sarvadev Gayatri Homa /Havan
11:00am Kalash Yatra (Procession)
11:30am Dhwaja Puja & Arohan
12:15pm Special Archana for all the Deities Appreciation of Priests & Volunteers
1:00pm Aarti & Prasad (Lunch).

Devotees are requested to sponsor one or more items listed below for various pujas by May 16th

Havan Samgri
50 pack Ghee 25lb;
Camphor 250gram
Dry fruits 100lb
(Almonds , Cashew, Raisins)
Rice 50lb; Milk 10 gallons;
Yogurt 10 Smallest pack
Fruits 5 Varieties ;
Flowers ; Garlands for each Deity
Lavang (cloves) ;
Ilaichi (Cardamom)
Saffron 2 Boxes ;
Mango leaves ;
Paan leaves 50
Sarees for each deity
Betel Nut (Supari) Whole 50
Fruit/edible colors black, yellow, red, green,
Kumkum 500gram;
Jewelry for each deity
Prasad Cooked for each puja

For pooja details please contact
Temple 513-528-3714,
Acharya Kailash Sharma 652-5382,
Amita Gupta 336-8782,
Kiran Dayal 474-4051

Mrityunjaya Mantra is one of the more potent of the ancient Sanskrit mantras. It is a call for enlightenment and is a practice of purifying the karmas of the soul at a deep level. It is also beneficial for mental, emotional, and physical health and gives peace, contentment, health, wealth . The mantra evokes the Shiva within human beings , liberating one from the cycle of death and rebirth & helps entire world to bring good healthy long life, peace and prosperity.

Sponsorships:

$2001.00
All Three day pujas except Dhwaja puja
$1001.00
Dhwaj Puja & Aarohan, Sarva dev, Gayatri Havan, Mritunjaya Yagna, Kalash Yatra, Suvasini puja.
$501.00
Special Archana, Sarvadev Gayatri Havan, Kalash Yatra , Suvasini Puja
$101.00
Utsava Murti Abhishek,Mritunjaya Yagna
$51.00 Sarvadev Gayatri Havan.
$51.00 Mritunjaya Yagna.
$31.00 Suvasini Pooja
$21.00 Kalash Yatra.

Sponsorship for Mata Ki Chowki is available from $31 to $1001.00. Sponsors will receive blessed sarees, dupattas or suhag things.
$1001.00, $501.00, $251.00, $101.00 --- Sarees
$51.00 --- Dupattas, chunris $31.00 --Suhag Things.

If you or someone you know, is not receiving ARADHANA, or if you need a change of address, please contact Mohan Chopra at 859-331-2416 or Nandkumar Khemchandani : asiindian@aol.com/ 513-779-1043
Aradhana (past and present) is also available at temple website: www.cincinnatitemple.com
Deadline for submission of articles for next Aradhana is April 10

TEMPLE INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2010

President
Krutarth Jain (513) 884-1259
krutarthjain@yahoo.com

Vice President
Ambikaipakan Balasubramaniam
(513) 204-0213

Secretary:
Deepak Dixit (513) 769-3556

Treasurer:
Prasad Megada (Chair) (513)779-4582

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Pooja Committee:
Amita Gupta (Chair): (513) 336-8782

Communications/Editor:
Geeta Mehan (513) 754-0400
email: mehangeeta@gmail.com

Membership & Fundraising:
Raneshwar Gupta (513) 232-3331

Property Management & Maintenance:
Shiv Sharma (513) 459-9520

Cultural Activities:
Sulbha Midha (Chair) (513) 573-7012

Religious Education & Youth Activities:
Anisha Singh (513) 469-7432

Long Range Planning
Laxmi S. Srivastava (513) 474-0533

Youth Member: Open

Priests:
Acharya Kailash Sharma, Senior Priest
(513) 770-0705
Acharya Chakreshwar Sharma
(513) 528-0901
Pandit Srinath Bhattar
(513) 528-3714
Attorney: Aronoff, Rosen & Hunt
(513) 241-0400

Temple Manager: Laxmi Srivastava
Accountant: Open

RELIGIOUS DISCOURSE

Sundays 12:15 - 12:45 PM

First Sunday : Upanishads

Second Saturday : 1008 Gayatri Jaap
Second Sunday : Children Program

Third Sunday : Sunder Kand Path

Fourth Sunday : *Shri Ganesh Atharvshirsha Path*
Fifth Sunday : Jagannath Puja

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 contact Amita Gupta.

Devotees are requested to sit-in Sunday Pooja 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 pooja, graduation and other memorable days. Events can be hosted by individuals, families, group of families or organizations. Please reserve your Sunday of choice ASAP by putting your name and phone-no in the calendar at the temple & calling pooja committee members Amita Gupta or Meena Sondhi.

TEMPLE 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 Pooja of Temple Deities
11:00 - 11:30 A.M.
Sponsored Pooja
11:30 - 12:15 A.M.
Bhajan
12:15 -12:45 P.M.
Religious discourse
12:45-1:00 P.M.
Birthday and Anniversary pooja and announcements
1:00 P.M.— Aarti

Please Donate Generously

Your Temple needs
1. Sponsors for flower $50/week
2. Sponsors for Sunday pooja
3. Your support

2010 POOJA COMMITTEE & RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES MEMBERS

Amita Gupta (Chair):	336-8782
Kiran Dayal(Co-Chair):	474-4051
Acharya Kailash Sharma	770-0705
Acharya Chakreshwar Sharma	528-0901
Pandit Srinath Bhattar	528-3714
Swarna Chaudhary	232-2343
Sangita Patel	791-0855
Meena Sondhi	831-9788
Manju Gupta	232-3331
Anju Saha	474-3922
Meena Karamchandani	683-9454
Kalpana Srivastava	233-9184
Muralee	573-0550
Vasundhra Dasari	777-3353
Suchitra Mishra	573-9775
Rajan Odayar	336-6843
Vilas Patel	947-0861

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Sulbha Midha (Chair)	573-7012
Rima Ajbani (Co-Chair)	398-0772
Sapna Chellath (V. Co-Chair)	289-2975

TREASURER COMMITTEE

Prasad Megade (Chair)	779-4582
Amar Sharma (Co-chair)	777-5771

Temple Manager's Committees

Laxmi S. Srivastava,
Temple Manager 474-0533

1.Office Manager
Mohan Chopra
2. I/C Swami Lectures
Vinay Kumar
Devdas Mukerjee
Meena Mehta
Bobba Choudhary
3. Temple Data Base
Nandkumar Khemchandani
Raj Bodalia
Krutarth Jain(President)
Meena Mehta
4. Anniversary & Birthday Data
Raj Agarwal
Shakuntala Agarwall
5. E-mail .Data
Pradeep Goyal
Nandkumar Khemchandani
6. Gift Shop
Meena Sondhi
Madhu Sharma
7.Computer Tech Support
Sreedhar Suvarana
Aashish Shah
8. Financial Data
Amar Sharma
Raj Bodalia
9. I/C Temple Web site
Bharat Vala
Debasis Dey
Krutarth Jain
10. I/C Temple Calendar
Meena Mehta
Ashvin Mehta
Achaya Kailash Sharma
11. Volunter Services
Rajan Odayar
Kedarnath Nambori
Dilip Patel
Vijay Kumar Sharma
12. Temple Photographers
Naba Mishra
Dilip Patel (I/C)
13. Mela Committee
Anil Jindal
Jyoti Desai
Raneshwar Gupta
(Fund Raising Chairperson)
Krutarth Jain
(President)

Aradhana is Published Monthly . Circulation: Approx. 1600 Families. Advertising Rate: Full Page $250; Half Page $125; Quarter Page $80. and one eighth page $40. A 10% discount is given for 12 consecutive repetitions of the same advertisement. **Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati (HSGC)** 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.**

Pooja Information

RATES FOR POOJA & PRIEST SERVICES|

SERVICES	IN TEMPLE	OUTSIDE TEMPLE
Abhishekam (All Deities)	$101.00	—
Aksharabhyas	$101.00	$151.00
Anna-Prashanam	$101.00	$151.00
Ashta Prakari Pooja*	$101.00	$151.00
Ashtottharam (108) Archana	$21.00	—
AyushyaHomam/B'day Celebra.	$101.00	$151.00
Ground Breaking Ceremony	—	$151.00
Griha Pravesh	—	$151.00
Kalayana Uthsava (Lord Ram/Sita)	$121.00	---
Kesh Khandan (Churakaran)	$101.00	$151.00
Naam-Karan	$101.00	$151.00
Navagraha Pooja	$101.00	$151.00
Nischitartham (Engagement)	$151.00	$251.00
Baby Shower Pooja	—	$151.00
Nitya (1 Day) Kainkaryam (Seva)	$101.00	---
Poolangi Seva (With Flowers)- (Only During Off Winter Season)	$101.00	---
Regular Archana	$11.00	—
Sahasranama (1008) Archana	$51.00	---
Sathyanarayana Pooja	$101.00	$151.00
Seemantham	$101.00	$151.00
Devi Jagaran	$75.00	$101.00
Akhand Ramayan Paath	—	$151.00
Shashti Poorthi (60th B'day Celeb.)	$101.00	$151.00
Anniversary celebration	$101.00	$151.00
Suprabhat Seva	$21.00	---
Unjal (Swing) Seva	$31.00	---
Upakarma (Thread changing)	$51.00	---
Upanayam/Brahmopadesham/ Thread Ceremony	$151.00	$251.00
Vahan Pooja	$51.00	----
Yearly Shradham (Barkhi)	$101.00	$151.00
Wedding	$301.00	$501.00

Temple Rental: Lower Floor Only

	Full day	Half day
Monday -Thursday	$301	$151
(except holidays) Friday, Saturday & Holidays	$501	$351

Sunday after 3PM only — $351

Note: For half day select one of the two:
8:00 AM to 2:00 PM **OR** 4:00PM to 11:00 PM

Temple rental applies to all private reservations for those events/poojas 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 Pooja or to rent a temple hall (lower level) please contact pooja Committee chairperson only.

Pooja Committee Announcement:

To schedule a Pooja or to rent a temple hall (lower level) please contact Amita Gupta at 336-8782

If you have any question or suggestion about temple activities contact Amita Gupta at 336-8782, any EC Members or Temple at 528-3714.

1. **Archana** performed during temple hours by sponsorship. No Archana on Sundays between 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
2. **Outside poojas** and other religious services will be conducted by appointment only.
3. To **schedule any poojas** please contact Pooja Committee chairperson at least one week in advance.
4. If you would like to bring **food and prasad** in the temple, Please contact Pooja Committee chairperson .
5. **Cancellations** of pooja should be done 3 days in advance or else the full fee for the pooja will be charged.

SPECIAL POOJA RATE

Rates for Mata Ki Chauki performed at another temple will be 15% of the money collected at the temple or a minimum of $ 501.00.

1. Poojas performed by priests outside the temple will be rated according to the number of poojas performed.
2. 50 Cents/Miles for Travel expense to the Priest to perform pooja at your home.

Rates are subject to change without notice. *Rates of Poojas out of Greater Cincinnati will be $100.00 more than the rates of outside pooja within greater Cincinnati area.*

POOJA SAMAGRI

For convenience of Devotees, Temple can now provide Pooja Samagri for all inside and outside Poojas.

Donation for Puja Samagri is as follows
$ 21 for any Pooja
$ 31 for any Pooja including Havan/Hom
For more details please contact
Amita Gupta 513-336-8782
Kiran Dayal 513-474-4051

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

SUNDERKAND CD (sung by **Acharya Kailash Sharma**)
AVAILABLE in Temple Gift Shop for **$ 10.**
Great Gift for Mother's Day.
The money raised will go to temple.

Regular Weekly & Monthly Events at the Temple

Monthly Navgrah Pooja Every first Saturday of the Month April 3
Sponsors needed for Pooja $51.00
For Details call
Amita Gupta:336-8782;Temple priests:528-3714

Monthly Murugan Abhishekham /Pooja
Every second Saturday of the Month
April 10 , Saturday 4.00pm **Sponsor Murugan Group.**
Amita Gupta: 336-8782; Temple priests: 528-3714

Monthly Satya Narayan Pooja
On Every Purnima of the Month
6:30 pm
Sponsorship $ 51.00
To sponsor pooja call Amita Gupta: 336-8782
Temple priests: 528-3714

Monthly Shri Ganesh Pooja & Shri Ganesh Atharvshirsha Path

Every 4th Sunday of the month 10:30AM
This pooja is dedicated to each month's

Sankashti Chaturthi to Lord Ganesh.**For more information & Sponsor the pooja please call**

Jyoti Divekar : 204-8037 Mangal Nemade : 234-8373
Amita Gupta: 336-8782 **Temple Priests:528-3714**

Monthly ABHISHEKAM/KALYANOTSAVAM FOR LORD SRI VENKATESWARA On Dec 26
4th Saturday of each month ,
from 10:30 AM-12:30PM.
To sponsor and details please call any of the following: Anand Konda:481-4119; Vasundhara Dasari:777-3353
Suseela Paturi:481-8591; Surendra Hanumanthanna:661-8733
Pandit Sri Srinadh Bhattar:528-3714

1008 Gayatri Jap
Second Saturday of each month at 9.30AM

For details please contact temple priest 528-3714 or Amita Gupta 336-8782.

Weekly Shiv Mahiman Stotram

Every Monday at 6:30pm

Weekly Hanuman Chalisa Path

Every Tuesday at 6:30pm

Weekly Vishnu Sahasranaam Parayana
Vishnu Sahasranaama Parayana (chanting) will now take place Every Thursday at 7:00 pm . Please join us for the chanting.
For more information, please contact Temple priest s: 528-3714

Weekly Venkateswar Pooja Every Friday at 6:30pm

To sponsor pooja please call Amita Gupta: 336-8782 Temple priests: 528-3714

Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati Membership Information

If you are not already a member of HSGC, please join today and participate in all temple activities and enjoy all the festivities. This year HSGC has inaugurated a new ELITE Membership* at midlevel as listed below.

The membership donations are as follows:

Receive 'Aradhana' Annually: $21.00 (Suggested donation)

Annual Individual Membership: $51.00

Annual Family Membership: $101.00

Life Membership: $1001.00 (One year spread, two checks)

*Elite Membership: $5001.00 (Three year spread, three checks)

Patron: $10,000.00 (Three year spread, three checks)

Membership Forms are available at the Gift Shop in the Temple.

Please also use the form to update your address. If you know someone who has moved out of town let us know. We would appreciate it. For more information please call temple at (513) 528-3714

or Any member of Executive Council (See pg 2 for all names and phone numbers)

APRIL 2010 EVENTS

April 3rd Saturday	Navgrah Puja 3pm Sponsorship $51.00
April 4th Sunday	Sunderkand Path 10:30am Sponsored by – Trigunaben Jani,Naina Parikh,Devi Patel,Shushila Mehta, Kalpana Joshi, Meena Pandya,Kailash Patel. Due to Tamil New year celebration on 3rd Sunday, Sunderkand path is moved to 1st Sunday
April 10th Saturday	1008 Gayatri Japa 9:30am
April 11th Sunday	Vallabhacharya Jayanti 11am to 1pm Sponsored by -Shrinathji Devotees.
April 11th Sunday	Mata Ki Chowki 4pm to 8pm. Sponsored by Ankur and Bhavya Bharija & family.
April 15th Thursday	Adhik Maas (Vaishakh) Begins until May 13th
April 18th Sunday	Tamil New year Celebration (Murgan Abhishekam) 10am 1pm Sponsorship $101.00. No Murugan monthly Abhishekam on 2nd Sat. April 10th.
April 24th Saturday	Kalyanotsvan (Venkateshwar Kalyanam) 10am Sponsorship $51.00. Details given below.
April 25th Sunday	Ganesh Puja & Atharvashirsha Path 11am
April 28th Wednesday	Satya Narayan Puja (Purnima-Full Moon) 6:30pm Sponsorship $51.00

KALYANOTSAVAM SRIVARI LAKSHARCHANA SATURDAY APRIL 24, 2010

BHU NEELA SAMETA SRI LAKSHMI VENKATESWARA CHARA BIMBA:ASTAMA VAARSHIKA MAHOTSAVAM

9:30 AM: SUPRABHATAM 10:00 AM: KALYANOTSAVAM 11:30 AM: SRIVARI LAKSHAARCHANA

12:45 PM: MAHA NAIVEDYAM 1:00 PM: ARATI FOLLOWED BY MAHAPRASADA VINIYOGAM (LUNCH)

SPONSORSHIP: $51.00 ;SPONSORS PLEASE CALL: VASUNDHARA DASARI (513)777-3353; ANAND KONDA: (513)481-4119

SURENDRA HANUMANTHANNA (513)661-8733; SUSILA PATURI (513)867-8591; PTSRI SRINATH BHATTAR: (513)528-3714

Twenty Fifth Annual Thyagaraja/Purandaradasa Festival April 17, 2010 (Saturday)

This year marks the twenty fifth year of our annual Thyagaraja/Purandaradasa Festival that we have traditionally celebrated in the month of March/April at our temple. A small but devout gathering of classical music lovers has enthusiastically participated and volunteered over the years to celebrate the festival. Here is a brief description of the two great saints of our tradition whose memories we celebrate during the festival.

Great men appear from time to time as if sent by God for the purpose of elevating humanity. Saint Thyagaraja was one such extraordinary personality born to teach humanity the path of salvation through Music and Ramabakthi. His contribution to the cultural growth of India is unique. He was a practical philosopher and dedicated his entire life to the practice of NADOPASANA. He had composed several Kritis in various ragas. His songs are filled with an intimate devotion to Rama, revealing his deep understanding of the tenets of the Vedas and Upanishads.

Purandara Dasa is famous among the Haridasas of Karnataka; foremost among the talented carnatic composers. He earned a lot of wealth ["*Navakoti Narayana* (an abundantly rich man)", was one of his titles!]. But he gave it all away readily to become an ardent devotee of Lord Narayana. He practiced the principle contained in the popular saying "we must swim across suffering and win victory over it". He earned the well-deserved praise-'Among the devotees of Hari, Purandara Dasa is the greatest'(from his preceptor Sri Vyaasa Teertha). Purandara Dasa is a testimony to the aphorism "*kSHipram bhavati dharmaatma* (readily becomes righteous)" found in the Bhagavad-Gita (9:31a).A day-long celebration of these great composers of carnatic music will be held at the Temple.

Group Pancharatna Singing 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM ***Individual Singing 11:00 – 12:30 PM***

12:30 PM Lunch – Individual Singing Continues; **All are Welcome; Lunch will be served**

An evening concert is being planned and may be announced at a later date.

For further details contact: Usha Raghavan (513-489-9655) - Koti Sreekrishna (*513-290-3064*)

May 2010 Events

May 1st Saturday	Navgrah Puja 3pm Sponsorship $51.00.
May 2nd Sunday	Mahavir Jayanti Celebration 11am to 1pm. Sponsored by Jain Community.
May 8th Saturday	1008 Gayatri Japa 9:30am.
May 8th Saturday	Murgan Abhishekam 4pm, Sponsorship $101.00.
May 9th Sunday	Ganesh Puja & Atharvashirsha Path 11am.
May 13th Thursday	Adhik Maas (Vaishakh) ends.
May 15th Saturday	Venkateshwar Kalyanam 10am Sponsorship $51.00.
May 16th Sunday	Sunderkand Path 10:30am. Sponsored by Vilas & Dilip Patel.
May 21st, 22nd, 23rd	TEMPLE's 13th ANNIVERSARY. Details provided in the flyer.
May 27th Thursday	Satya Narayan Puja (Purnima-Full Moon) 6:30pm Sponsorship $51.00.
May 30th Sunday	Sri Jaganathji Pooja 11am.

VERY, VERY URGENT
VERY, VERY IMPORTANT

PATRONS, ELITE & LIFE MEMBERS

A comprehensive attempt is being made to update the list of Patrons and Life Members. The complete list is being posted on the Temple Website.

It is humbly requested that you go on line and verify your information. There is no other way. You HAVE TO TAKE A MOMENT and verify/update your information. We do not wish to keep reminding our responsible and respected members. Do not put it off till a more convenient time…
RIGHT NOW is the auspicious time!!!!

This list was last updated on 2/8/10. If your name and/or address is missing, please, immediately contact **Raj Bodalia at 513-583-0184 or by email rbodalia@hotmail.com**.

Balvihar Group

(Butler-Warren counties, near Cincinnati, OH)

Senior students of this group studied & memorized the verses of 12th Chapter of Bhagvat Gita, chanted by rote, interpreted them and each of them wrote about five verses, respectively.

Arjuna asks, "**Who is the better devotee?** The devotee who focuses on Bhagavan or the devotee who focuses on an abstract form?" Bhagavan says, "Both devotees are equal, because the one who is focusing on an abstract form will sooner or later reach me. However, the devotee who focuses on the abstract form has more obstacles in being devoted."

My interpretation: "It doesn't matter what type of praying you do as long as you completely concentrate on whoever or whatever you are praying on. For example, if I had a tennis lesson, I would completely focus on what the instructor was saying." I think I could use this concept on everything I do. For example if I have a test I would just study and completely focus on studying. I would give my complete attention to anything I do and by following that rule, I will be thorough in everything.

. .

The verses mean that you should **do your work in the name of God and give up the fruits of the labor** and just try to focus on Him and be totally devoted to Him.

I think that God just wants you to be totally focused on Him and that you should have faith in Him because when you put in the effort, the results will take care of themselves and the output will always be proportionate to the input. Also, you should do work for the sake of wanting to do a good job, not because you'll get something in return.

I think we could use this in daily life by studying for a test, not because we want an A, but rather because we want to learn and retain knowledge. Also, we shouldn't put in extra effort on the job just because we want a raise, but rather for the joy of doing a good job and the satisfaction of finishing it when you're done. What is challenging, however, is that we live in a world where the only thing that matters is the outcome. but I think we have the ability to change that if we are willing to.

. . .

The Gita says to give up all the fruits of actions. To be devoted to God, first practice the disciplines. Even better than that is meditation and the best is to **abandon fruits of the actions**. Also it says one should be a balanced person.

I agree to give up the fruits of action. I should try to focus on getting the goal, not what happens after that. To be a balanced person would be very hard because one has to keep one's emotions together.

If your dad says he will give you an I-pod when you get over 98% on your math test, then I would study very hard and get 100%. One should be proud of oneself, not be happy that one would get an I-pod. To be a balanced person for me would be very hard. I would have to keep my emotions to myself and not show or express any bad feelings.

.....

Krishna tells Arjuna **what kind of devotee is most dear to Him**. Krishna explains that his ideal devotee would be *balanced* in whatever he/she does. He explains that the devotee should never get too concerned with anything or become too attached. He shows that his devotee will be kind to and caring towards everyone and keep an open mind.

To me this means that the devotee is kind, caring and easy-going with one and all. He never gets arrogant or depressed. He always stays calm and never gets too attached to whatever he is doing. He does his duty to the best of his ability without worrying about the fruits of his actions. He never goes to extremes over anything and is always even and accepts anything that comes his way with calmness and understanding.

I can use the verses in the twelfth chapter as guidelines in daily life as well as in school. I need to be kind to everyone in my life. This all sounds very good but carrying it out will be another challenge on its own. I understand that being a balanced person will be rather difficult for me because I enjoy being mean, rude, sarcastic and carefree. I will however try to be a more balanced person through constant effort.

From L- R

Mekhala Rao,Kavya Hiryur,

Sneha Rajan and Vikrant Mirle

Meeting Minutes Dec 2009

1. Laxmi Srivastava made a motion to form a committee to revise the temple employee hand book. The proposal seconded by Anisha Singh. EC approved a committee consisting of current President 2009, future president 2010, children committee head, and pooja committee head to revise and update temple employee handbook.
2. Laxmi Srivastava made a motion to form an Editorial Board for Aradhana and Visitors Booklet. The proposal seconded by Raneshwar Gupta. EC approved Dr. Rama Rao Pappu, Dr. Koti Sreekrishna, Geeta Mehan (Editor), Dr. Meena Mehta and Dr. Laxmi S. Srivastava (Temple Manager). Editorial Board will provide their recommendations and action plan to EC.
3. Meena Mehta proposed Patron Day Committee to organize this yearly event. Laxmi Srivastava seconded the motion in favor. EC approved the committee consisting of President, Fundraising Chair, Cultural Chair, Temple Manager, Meena Mehta and Jitu Patel.
4. Meena Mehta proposed to have a dedicated Volunteer Day to recognize our volunteers and past EC members. Laxmi Srivastava seconded in favor. EC approved the concept and nominated Patron Day Committee to prepare a proposal for EC.
5. Laxmi Srivastava announced an update about Yagna Shala construction. Yagna Shala project is donated by Dr. Jagdish Kulakarni in loving memory of his wife Jayashree Jagdish Kulkarni. Yagna Shala project has secured zoning approval and construction to start after February 2010.
6. Raneshwar Gupta shared an opportunity to have Yoga Classes by a known yoga expert at temple either 2nd or 4th Sunday of each month. Anisha seconded the proposal. The classes will be funded by generous donors and/or attendees. EC approved the proposal and requested to finalize details and provide an update to EC.
7. Krutarth Jain updated EC regarding Hindu Awareness Foundation's (HAF) visit and presentation to temple in February 2010. HAF is a D.C. based non-profit organization, which fights for Hindu causes in USA and internationally.
8. Raneshwar Gupta recognized all EC members for their outstanding services to temple for the year of 2009.
9. Meena Mehta acknowledged accomplishments in 2009. EC also recognized outstanding services from our zealous volunteers who made this possible.

There being no further new business before the EC, the meeting was adjourned. Minutes prepared by: Krutarth Jain

YAGNA SHALA AN IMPORTANT ADDITION

On February 18th, 2010 there was a ground breaking ceremony at the temple for Yagna- Shala. Yagna Shala project is donated by Dr. Jagdish Kulakarni in loving memory of his wife Jayashree Jagdish Kulkarni. In spite of bad weather, it was attended by the Dr. Jagdish Kulkarni family, friends, EC members and many devotees. It is going to be an important addition to the Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati. It was truly a dream to have such a facility. It will provide all season facility for doing Havans and an important facility to perform marriages in our Hindu traditional way. We all are very excited and hope that many people from this region will use this facility.

The construction will be managed by Samir Jagdish Kulkarni, President/CEO of **Solica Construction, Inc**. Building construction will start as soon as weather permits.

Laxmi S. Srivastava, Long Range Planning

HSGC – Executive Council Meeting Minutes– 10th January, 2010

Present: Krutarth Jain (President), Ambikaipakan Balasubramaniam (Vice President), Deepak Dixit (Secretary), Prasad Megada (Treasurer), Amita Gupta (Pooja Committee Chair), Geeta Mehan (Editor – Aradhana) Sulbha Midha (Cultural Committee Chair), Laxmi Srivastava (Temple Mgr), Shiv Sharma (Maint. Committee Chair) Anisha Singh (Religious Education Committee Chair), Raneshwar Gupta (Fundraising Committee Chair)

Minutes:

1. Garbhagraha (Kaptagraha) – This is a special project. The builder engaged to build the Garbhagraha is from Bangalore. He recently visited Cincinnati. Architect Bill Fiedler has seen the model and the final plans are being drawn up now. The final plan will be presented to the executive council as well as to the general body. This project is expected to be completed this calendar year.
2. Placement of speakers inside temple – Placement of the speakers will not be changed at present. These may be moved to an inconspicuous location or hidden from public view at a later date.
3. Yagya Shala
   a.This project will be fully funded by Dr. Jagdish Kulkarni. Therefore, it will not need any additional funds.
   b.Groundbreaking ceremony of Yagya Shala will be held on 18th Feb, 2010. To be announced in Aradhana.
4. Retirement Community Project – This project is going through the site planning process Temple needs $200,000 to finish road from second entrance from Barg Salt Run Rd.
5. Treasurer will pay only those invoices which have been approved by chairpersons of committees.
6. Fundraising Kroger Card Program – This program needs a more aggressive campaigning. A major event will be planned for fundraising.
6. Membership : There is a need to increase membership substantially.
7. Mailing of Aradhana to non-members will not stop.
8. There will be no charge for food in the temple.
9. A subcommittee will be constituted for membership drive. This subcommittee will be representative of the cross-section of the society with balanced presentation from various regions, age groups, and professions.
10. Members will be given discounted rates for advertisements in Aradhana as well as for other temple services.
11. Current member list has inaccuracies. A concerted effort will be made to correct this list. Krutarth Jain, Laxmi Srivastava and Raneshwar Gupta will lead this effort.
12. Donors will be given regular status reports on progress of the projects.
13. The treasurer will have the details of the project finances, in addition to Raj Bodalia.
14. .Laxmi Srivastava will try to locate the key to the Suggestion Box
15. Krutarth Jain will accompany Laxmi Srivastava when opening the box.
16. All Pooja services and temple facility rental requests will be routed through the Pooja committee. Amita Gupta will explain procedure to the Pooja committee for scheduling Pooja services and temple facility rentals.
17. Tushar Manek will serve on the Rent committee.
18. Maintenance : An action needs to be taken urgently to prevent water leak in the stairs.
19. A sign for the Hindu temple needs to be placed in front of the temple.
20. A suggestion has been made for having a large TV screen in the temple to show the Aarti translation in English.
21. Pooja Committee A lot of devotees have been asking for Pooja samagri. Pooja committee will create packets in two sizes. The basic packet will be for $21 and the larger packet with Havan samagri will be available for $31. Separate boxes for the 3 priests will be provided to enable them to sell the samagri.
22. A blower near the table should be placed where Pooja thalis are sold to provide heat to volunteers
23. Downstairs Hall – A Professional kitchen will be completed this year. Project has acquired final zoning permit and partial building permit. Jitu Patel is working on this project. We need generous donation to finish this project.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the Month of April

Happy Anniversary *

Govind and Lata Gupta, Haresh and Geeta Hemani, Sanjay and Kavitha Jain, Amarender and Saritha Karra, Srivastava and Sushma Narayan, Satish and Vimlaben Patel, Vimal and Surekha Patel

---

Happy Birthday**

Shelly Chopra, Priya Bajaj, Vijaya Sharma, Pavalamani Kumar, Puja Bhandari, Jyoti Karnik, Sneha Arudi, Ruchika Bajaj, Vikram Meyer, Mina K. Karamchandani, Nikhar Jung, Choudary Bobba, Sumit Gupta, Ramesh Patel, Vijaya Samadi, Saroja Viswamitra, Rashmi Ghobar, Rahul Sandella, Aleyamma Sharma, Neeti Shankar, Sangeeta Nayak, Jalaja Anantharaman, Sanjay Bhandari,

Vaishnan Brahamamdan, Indrakanti Chakravarthi, Kodhai Rajkumar, Aruna Reddy, Alok Verma, Rajgopal Arudi, Chiraag Bhola, Steve Jindal, Gaurav Mantro, Priya Jindal, Jagjit Yadav, Priyanka Bodalia, Steve Das, Aditya Sahay, Preethi Ramanivasan, Deepak Dixit, Prabir Roy Chaudhury, Indira Kukreti, Anjali Verma Gupta, Aarti Vala, Bavisha Vala, Arjun Bansal, Navnit Parikh, Charles Colony

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*(Celebrated on the first Sunday of each month in the temple.)

**(Celebrated on the second Sunday of each month in the temple.)

If you would like to include your name in the above lists, please call Raj or Shakuntala at 513-733-1537.

MT. KAILASH- LAKE MANSAROVAR YATRA

I would like to invite you to join me this August to celebrate life at Mt. Kailash – Lake Mansarovar.

According to Hinduism, Lord Shiva , also known as Rudra is a major Hindu god and one aspect of Trimurti. In the Shaiva tradition of Hinduism, Shiva is seen as the Supreme God...Shiva resides on top of Mount Kailash, where he sits in a state of meditation along with his wife Parvati. Parvati is a Hindu goddess. Parvati is also regarded as a representation of Shakti, albeit the gentle aspect of that goddess because she is a mother goddess. Parvati is considered by some schools of Hinduism as the supreme Divine Mother or Lordess and all other goddesses are referred to as her...the daughter of Himalaya. The Kailash Parvat is believed to be the ultimate destination of souls and the spiritual center of the world. Like Mount Kailash, Lake Mansarovar is the abode of purity. It is a place of pilgrimage, attracting Hindus from all over the world. Taking a bath in Mansarovar and drinking its water is believed to cleanse all sins committed over a hundred lifetimes.

My name is Lina Patel and I live in Cincinnati, Ohio. Growing up, I always had a passion for the mountains, particularly the Himalayas. Over the past few years, I have traveled throughout Nepal, trekking to the base camp of Mt. Everest and climbing throughout the Khumbu valley. I've also spent time learning about the Mt. Kailash / Lake Mansarovar Yatra.

The mountains are where I sense my religion, where I find peace. What better way to celebrate life than to experience the holiest of all Tibet's pilgrimages, Mt. Kailash and Lake Mansarovar, with my family and friends? Please Join me in August to celebrate on an amazing journey to the spiritual center of the universe. Please call me with any questions.

Lina Patel, Cell (513)257-6700, Email: linapatel@fuse.net

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HOLI CELEBRATION ON 6TH MARCH

The Cultural Committee of HSGC organized the first event of 2010 – The Holi Celebration. This year's community participation was the biggest ever and at its best! This fundraiser broke all earlier records by raising funds 60-70% higher than ever before! So three cheers for our community for amazing team work !!!!! Sapna's creative skills came in handy and so did Sulbha's energy and humor….It was a colorful and fum event……Hope to see you all next time for yet another celebration! ...

The participants dressed in colorful costumes danced away to various dance numbers------and sang prayers.Food stalls were a huge success. Once again our community came together to donate food items for the fundraiser. The credit for Mango juice goes to Niva Grocers in Mason. Our heartiest gratitude to all the women who brought the food in various shapes and sizes. We would like to thank Seema Pararker, Suman Singh, Kadambari, Tanuja, Shachi Singh, Radhika Iyer, Sunita Singh, Rajita, Sunaina Ponkshe, Sangeeta Sharma, Usha, Vibha Kumar, Jaya, bijal, Reena Venkatesh, Seema Kapoor, Geeta Nath and Sageeta Jain for bringing various food items for the Mithai, samosa, chholey, idli/sambar, and bhel puri stalls. A great success was the vada pao by Aasawari group of Trriveni MitraMandal. The credit for Mango Lassi goes to Vishakha and Tushar Manek. Thanks all!!!

Thanks to our young hosts for the evening- Aarti and Avni ,our young food stall Volunteers, Manav, Maya, Nikitaa, Neal, Arjun, Sanjana, Serena, and Devina , our younger volunteers, Renu, Kiran, Meena, and to Manju aunty! Your help was much appreciated. Special thanks to Jeetubhai Patel for lending us the music system for the show. It made all the difference.Thanks to Krutarth Jain and Laxmi Srivastava for ongoing support ; to Raneshwar & Manju Gupta for sponsoring samosas, Raj Bodalia for sponsoring pizza, Darshan & Amita Kumar, and Praveen & Poonam Verma for sponsoring the soft drinks. Article compiled by Rima Ajbani

HOLIKA DAHAN Feb 28

Join us to a FIELD TRIP with Indian Heritage Class

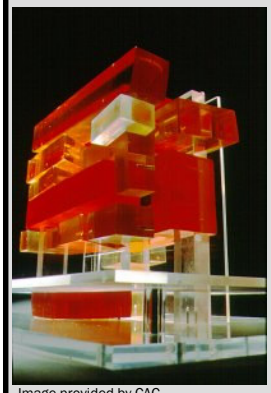
Image provided by CAC

For the first time in its history, **The Cincinnati Contemporary Art Center (CAC)** is hosting the art collection of an Indian artist -Shilpa Gupta from Mumbai. We are all proud to have Indian artist in town. CAC has extended an initiation to the Indian Heritage Class at Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati for a tour. Kids age 4 yrs and above are invited to join the class for a FREE VIP tour of CAC exhibits for an hour and a special half an hour art project for visiting student. **The field trip is FREE for the kids and the parent volunteers on first come basis . Only one parent volunteer per kid to include more kids.**

When: 11:15 AM on Sunday, April 18, 2010

Where: Contemporary Art Center, 44 east 6th street, Cincinnati, OH-45202

Park at garage below fountain square or nearby parking garage. See CAC website for direction and other information. www.contemporaryartscenter.org

We will assemble at the art center lobby at sharp 11.15 am.

Please send your RSVP to Anisha Singh at singhanisha@hotmail.com by 4/14/10.

Call Krutarth Jain at 513-884-1259 if you have any tour specific questions.

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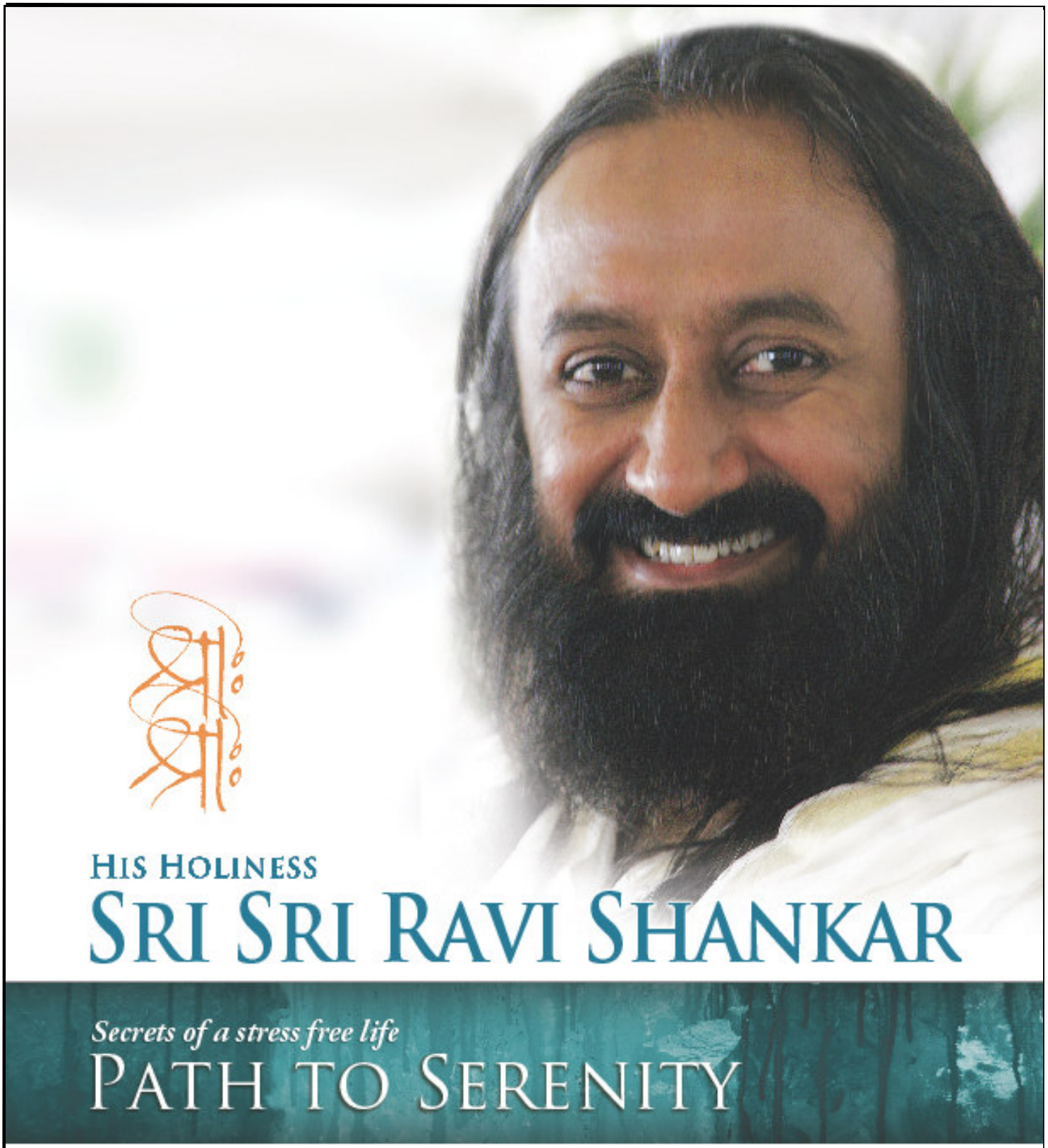
Geeta Mehan (513-754-0400)	OR	Raneshwar Gupta (513-232-3331)
6663 Heritage Club Dr.	Mail to	6338 Turpin Hill Dr
Mason, OH 45040		Cincinnati, OH 45244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Event Day Contact: Arun Gupta: 513-509-1480

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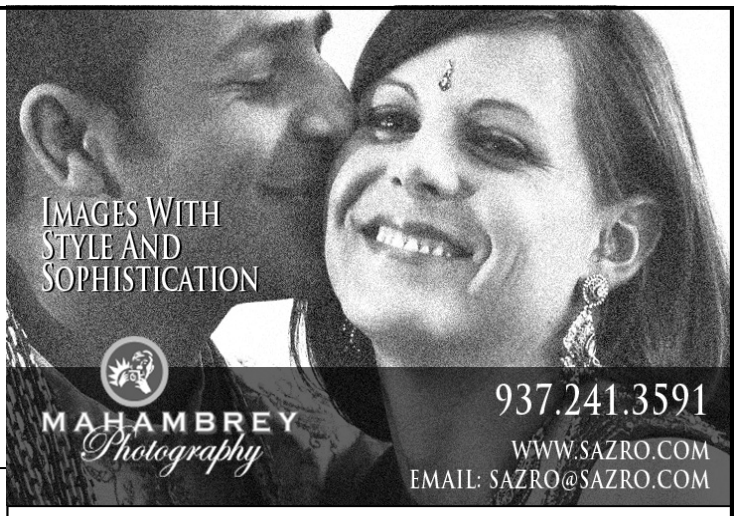

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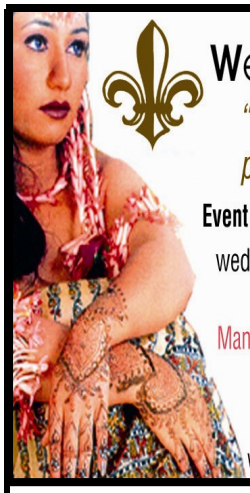

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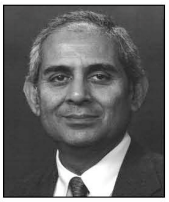

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