आराधना

Aradhana

A Publication of the Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati

Devdham of North America ™

Jyeshtha/ Ashadh
Vikram Samvat, 2066 /2067
July 2010

GURU PURNIMA
Dance Competition

Website www.cincinnatitemple.com
Email: hindusociety@fuse.net
Phone: (513)528-3714

AVIDYA IN ADVAITA VEDANT

S. S. Rama Rao Pappu, Professor of Philosophy & Comparative Religion, Miami University. Oxford, Ohio

Why do we think we are finite , though we are infinite? Why do we think we are suffering beings though our nature is one of bliss? Why do we think that the plurality we experience is real, though Reality is One without a second?

According to Advaita Vedanta it is because of Avidya (usually translated as "ignorance," "nescience" "unwisdom") what is infinite appears as finite, what is blissful appears as suffering and what is One appears as the Many, what is immortal appears as mortal. In Advaita Vedanta, Brahman or the Absolute, which is one without a second. whose essence is Truth (satyam), Knowledge (jnanam) and Bliss (ananda), is the only Reality - and the world of plurality is unreal, and the individual self (jiva) is identical with Brahman. In the Adhyasa Bhasya of his Commentary on Brahma Sutras, Sankara argues that the subject (I) and the Object (Thou/ That) are opposed to each other as light and darkness, the subject being one of Pure Consciousness (cit), the transcendental 'I' and the object being the non-|, the "thisness/thatness" of things. Because of their heterogeneous natures, though the Subject and the Object cannot have any relations, yet because of Avidya we mistake the world as the Real, we mistake the Jiva (Ego) as the Self (Atman) and mistake the Known and Knowledge as having equal status with the Knower.

What is Avidya? Is it the absence of knowledge? Or is it a confused state where nothing is clear? Or is it false or mistaken knowledge where I have made an error? Can I know that I am an *ajnanin* (one who has no knowledge)? In other words, can I know that I do not know? According to Advaita Vedanta, there is no such thing as a state of unknowingness. The state of the Self (Atman) is one of "having known" though we have no awareness of it. Just as one can see oneself in a mirror by removing the dust that is covering it, so also with the removal of ignorance one realizes one's true self as Brahman. In the Vivarana School of Vedanta , it is said that "everything is known either as known or as unknown," and that "absence of knowledge" is not a total absence, or nothingness. This is a case in point in which the Advaitins argue at length. Absence of knowledge is not absence because that there is absence can only be known through knowledge. Suppose I walk into a lighted room and see the presence of a chair, we know positively that there is a chair. Now suppose I walk into a dark room and perceive the room to be dark. I therefore see nothing. I turn on the light and see a chair in the room. Just as the light dispels darkness and manifests the chair there, knowledge dispels ignorance and makes the objects manifest. The darkness which covered the chair, the "nothingness" which we see, is a positive fact just as the cognition of the chair after the darkness is dispelled. The Advaitins argue that awareness of nothing does not mean the nonawareness of anything. Awareness of nothing is another token of awareness, except that the awareness has not manifested anything. In addition, when an object is manifested by knowledge, my awareness is not only that I am aware of the chair, but also that I am aware of the non-existence of the chair in this room before the dawn of knowledge.

For the Advaitins there are not rwo kinds of facts - positive facts like the cognition of a chair and negative facts like the non-cognition of a chair. The non-cognition of a chair is as much a positive fact as the cognition of a chair, except in the non-cognition, we are aware of the absence-of- the-chair. Moreover, when we turn on the light and become aware of the chair, we have not only the awareness of the chair in the present, but also the awareness of the absence of the chair before we became aware of it and

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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 July 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

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

LaxmiS.Srivastava, Temple Mgr474-0533

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
Laxmi S. Srivastava

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)

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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 **$ 10.00.**
The money raised will go to temple.

Regular Weekly & Monthly Events at the Temple

Monthly Navgrah Pooja Every first Saturday of the Month July 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
July 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 Membership and Fundraising Chair Raneshwar Gupta at (513) 232-3331 or temple at (513) 528-3714.

July 2010 events

July 3rd Saturday	Navgrah Puja 3pm, Sponsorship $51.00.
July 4th Sunday	Murgan Anniversary Puja /Abhishekam Sponsorship $101.00 (No abhishekam on second Saturday July 10th) Details below
July 10th Saturday	1008 Gayatri Japa 9:30am
July 11th Sunday	Ganesh Puja & athrvashirsha Path 11am
July 12th Monday	Netrotsava puja of Jagannath ji 10:30am
July 13th Tuesday	Jagannath Puja 10:30am Rath Yatra Puri (actual Day)
July 17th Saturday	Rath Yatra Celebration 4pm sponsorship $101,$51.00,$21.
July 18th Sunday	Sunderkand Path 10:30am. Sponsored by Jyoti &Bhal Desai
July 24th Saturday	Sri Venkateshwar Abhishekam 10am Sponsorship $51.00.
July 25th th Sunday	108 Satya Narayan Puja (Guru Purnima) 4:30pm Sponsorship $501 &$101
July 25th Sunday	Bahuda (Returning) Yatra of Jagannath Ji 10am to 12pm
July 26th Monday	Shrawan Somvaar Starting (During Shrawan month every Monday Shiv-Abhishek 10am & 6:30pm),Sponsorship $101.00

Lord Murugan 6th Anniversary Festival

July 4, Sunday 10:00am to 12:30pm .

10:00 Lord Ganapathy (Ganesh) Pooja

10:30 Abishekahm to Lord Murugan, Sri Valli and Sri Deivayani

11:30 Bhajan

12:30 Archana Mangala Theepa Pooja including Ashtottar (108 Names) for Lord Murugan

1:00 Arthi and Prasad, followed by Lunch .

Sponsorship for Abhishekam $101.00,Archana $21.00.

For details please call Amita Gupta 513-336.8782, Temple/Pandit Srinath Bhattar 513 528-3714.

AUGUST 2010 EVENTS

Aug. 7th	Navagrah Puja 3pm Sponsorship $51.00
Aug.14th	Naag Panchami
Aug. 14th	1008 Gayatri Japa 9:30am
Aug. 15th	Sunderkand path 10:30am
Aug. 20th	Vara Mahalakshmi Vrat 6pm Sponsorship $31.00
Aug. 21st	Mata Ki Chowki 4-8pm Sponsored by-Sharma Family
Aug. 22	Ganesh Puja & Atharvashirsh path 11am
Aug. 24th	BalBhadra Janmadin Puja 10:30am
Aug. 24th	Raksha Bandhan /Rakhi
Aug. 24th	Upakarma 7am, 8am & 9am Sponsorship $51.00
Aug.24th	Satya Narayan Puja (Purnima) 6:30pm Sponsorship $51.00
Aug. 25th	Gayatri Japa /Homa 6pm Sponsorship $51.00
Aug.28th	Venkateshwar Kalyanam 10:30am Sponsorship $51.00
Aug. 29th	Nagpanchami (Gujarat)
Aug. 29th	Jagannath Puja 11am

SHRAWAN SOMWAAR (Monday) SHIVA-ABHISHEK

July 26, Aug. 2nd ,9th ,16th ,23rd ,30th & Sep 6th

10:00am to 11:30am Shiva Abhishek & Aarti

06:15pm to 07:15pm Shiva Abhishek , *Bilva Patra Archana

07:15pm to 8:00pm Shiva Mahimnaha Path , Bhajans & Aarti

Sponsorship- Abhishek $101.00 , Archana$11.00

*Bilva patra Archana (Depends on Availability of Bilva patra)

For details please call Amita Gupta 336-8782, Acharya Kailash Sharma 652-5382, Janak Dave 859-371-9645.Temple 528-3714.

HSGC to Partner with AIW / YWCA To Address DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Immigrant Women against Domestic Violence

HSGC will be arranging a presentation on this topic . Time and venue will be announced soon

Despite the promise of America many immigrants have found it difficult to achieve the "American Dream". Little attention has been paid to immigrant women who are battered. Violence against women is universal and strikes in all cultures, race, ethnic, religious, age, and socio economic classes. However, battered immigrant women face even greater obstacles in their efforts to escape violent relationships with issues often compounded by problems associated with immigration, cultural, legal and language barriers. The Alliance for Immigrant Women (AIW) aims to raise awareness and address all these issues.

Battered immigrant women face many cultural, economic & legal barriers to seeking and receiving assistance. Abusers often use immigration related threats to assert control over their spouse's movements, emotions, relationship with the outside world, and potentially every aspect of their life. Due to language barriers, inexperience with U.S. law, and fear of deportation, immigrant women are underserved by the U.S. government, underrepresented in policy making, and vulnerable to basic human rights violations, especially domestic violence.

Alliance for Immigrant Women are making sure that addressing the needs of battered immigrants is an important part of their agenda. A great deal of education is required within both immigrant communities about the problem and potential solutions about the needs of immigrant women and their families and the barriers that keep them from seeking or receiving help.

The silence surrounding domestic violence in South Asian American communities affects the well being of children and families within these communities. South Asian community can take a unique leadership role in confronting this challenge. You can volunteer to help victims of domestic violence and support the organizations in need. Most importantly, raising awareness about domestic violence in our community. By discussing the issue with our families, friends, and religious leaders, we can make it clear that domestic violence is never acceptable. We encourage the Hindu community to join us in confronting this issue and break the silence about this disturbing problem. Victims, regardless of their immigrant status, religious preference, or socio-economic class have the right to live free of domestic violence and be treated with respect.

In 2001 ,the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati formed the Alliance of Battered and Abused International Women, now called the Alliance for Immigrant Women for women facing domestic violence issues. YWCA provides safe protective shelter and necessary supportive services for battered women and their children to move them toward self-sufficiency, independence and freedom from abuse. It offers short and long-term support for women and their children .

The Alliance provides outreach to immigrant communities to increase awareness about domestic violence and community resources. It provides training to service providers,law enforcement , immigrant communities to serve victims of domestic violence. It plays a pivotal leadership role in raising public awareness of domestic violence issues and available resources. It provides a strong ,completely confidential support of culturally appropriate referrals .

Participating organizations include Jewish, Hispanic, Catholic, Islamic communities, Police Departments, Hospitals, UC, Hamilton County Job Placement, YWCA,Shelters, Legal Departments and a lot more. Over twenty agencies have joined to develop prevention and interventional programs to ensure full access to all available help and resources.

The Alliance has emerged as a leader in Ohio in producing culturally and linguistically appropriate resource materials on domestic violence and developed a Cultural Resource Guidebook to aid service providers in assisting international victims of domestic violence. The Alliance provides training to a wide range of audiences, including service providers, law enforcement, immigrant community-based organizations, medical personnel, and many other groups that serve immigrant victims of domestic violence. It is an important issue and needs our attention. We need to reach out to community members who need our help. Volunteers will also be needed. If you would like to be notified of the upcoming presentation, please email me at mehangeeta@gmail.com .

Geeta Mehan 513-754-0400 Homa Yavar 513-305-7756

HSGC EC Meeting Minutes– May 02, 2010

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

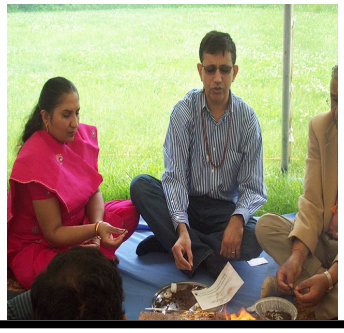
Minutes:

1. A public relations committee will be constituted. It will be chaired by Ambikaipakan Balasubramaniam and will have Krutarth Jain, Asit Saha, and Niranjan Shah as committee members.
2. The new Yagya Shala will also be made available for marriage ceremonies.
3. The executive committee approved holding of the dance competition on August 28th by the cultural committee at an offsite location. This is being done to accommodate a large group of participants and attendees. The key guideline by the EC is that it should not cost the temple. The long term goal of the EC is to create a facility on the temple premises to enable such large functions in order to make the temple a focal point of the Hindu community activities.
4. Sulbha Midha will work out the details of the dance competition and present the proposal to the EC in the next EC meeting.
5. There will be a children's camp at the temple. It will have many activities including a kite flying competition.
6. Anisha Singh reported that the Religious Education Committee organized a trip to the Contemporary Arts Center for the children attending education classes at the temple.
7. Amita Gupta reported that preparations have been made for the 3-day event to celebrate the 13th anniversary of the temple, to be celebrated from May 21st to May 23rd.
8. Apart from preparing for all puja ceremonies, special attention will be paid to other items such as parking, security, cleanliness in the restrooms etc.
9. The Hindu temple in Dayton will celebrate their 25th anniversary from May 12th to May 14th. Our temple priest, Shri Srinath Bhattar, will represent the temple on this occasion.
10. The EC agreed to pay a special bonus to the priests to honor their outstanding service and hard work.
11. The former Maharaja of Jagannath Puri, Shri Gajapati Maharaja Dibyasinghdeo Deb, will be the guest of honor during the anniversary celebration. The EC agreed to present a plaque to him to honor him.
12. The EC has decided to look for ways and means of reducing the operating costs of the temple. The various proposals made in this regard are as follows.
    a. Increase advertising rates for the back pages of Aradhana.
    b. Aradhana should be made self-sustaining.
    c. Discontinue publishing of membership form on the center page of Aradhana.
    d. Raneshwar Gupta will seek new quotes for health insurance.
    e. Krutarth Jain will get bids for geothermal solution for the temple to reduce heating and cooling costs.
    f. Laxmi Srivastava reported that the thermostats in the temple have been locked. He also recommended getting an energy audit from Duke Energy.

13. Dates for the next General Body Meeting (GBM) will be decided upon before the next EC meeting. The notice for the GBM will be published in Aradhana.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

contd on pg 12



Birthdays and Anniversaries for the Month of June

Happy Anniversary *

Rajkumar & Shakuntala Agarwal, Pradeep & Aparna Ambe, Rajappa & Chandra Asthagiri, Sharad & Arti Buddhdev, Ramesh & Niranjana Candadai, Param & Lalitha Hariharan, Jagmohan & Shashi Khanna, Shankar & Nithya Krishnan Vishwanathan

Happy Birthday**

Poonam Agarwal, Rajkumar Agarwal, Deepak Bhandari, Sonia Bhati, Kishore Bobba, Sheela Bodalia, Ranga Brahmamdam, Pratima Dayal, Mitul Desai, Geetika Gupta, Viswamitra Halekote, Rohan Hemani, Neerja Jindal, Pawan Kedia, Amit Khemchandani, Ami Kothari, Nishir Kumar, Reena Kumar, Sreyas Mahadevan, Vikranth Mirle, Jagdish Nawani, Vithal Nemade, Hansaben Patel, Minal Patel, Sonika Patel, Asha Sundaram Ramarathnam, Srinath Ramarathnam, Karthik Raturi, Suresh Saxena, Sydney Saxena, Ashish Sharma, Madhu Sharma, Kailas Sheth, Ravi Sheth, Shalini Sreekrishna, Santhanam Srinivasan, Savitha Srinivasan, Sunil Srivastava, Nalini Vala, Lola White

*(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.

APPEAL REGARDING ROAD REPAIR

Dear Devotees,

As you are already aware, due to the severe weather we had this past winter, both sides of the Temple road conditions have deteriorated & need immediate repair and attention. This project requires patching up the holes and thick blacktop from the main gate all the way to the back of the Temple where the dumpster is on both sides of the road. We want to start this repair project as soon as possible. As you know it will require around $50,000. We want all members and devotees to share the cost. Please donate generously for this project as it is for the safety of all of us. The sooner we start the process, the cheaper the overall repair cost will be. Any checks from $100.00 to $500.00 for this project will be greatly appreciated. Please be sure to mention on the check that it is for the road project. Also, we welcome any help or advice on this issue. For any further details or questions, please contact the undersigned.

Raneshwar K. Gupta

Membership and Fundraising Chairperson 513-232-3331

KID'S DAY CAMP

Organized by Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati

Date: Saturday, Aug 21, 2010 **COST : FREE**

Place: Hindu Temple of Greater Cincinnati, 4920 Klatte Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45244

Phone-513 528 3714

Time: 11 am to 5 pm

10:30 am - registration

Age: 5 years to 12 years Younger children need to be with the parent

Activities:

1) Yoga/Surya namaskar 2) Pooja 3) Story Telling & Camp Song 4) Lunch Break
5) Art and Craft 6) Games 7) Study Session 8) Kite Flying Competition

Lunch: Parents to bring a covered dish and soft drinks to share

Coordinators Anisha Singh - 513 503 2824 singhanisha@hotmail.com

Vinit Rastogi – 513 398 3216 rastogivk@gmail.com

Radhika Iyer - 513 336 6769 radhikaiyer@cinci.rr.com

For additional information: http://cincinnatitemple.com/

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age:_____

Parents: _____ Phone:_____

Email: _____

I release HSGC from any liability

Signed by parents

|| Guru Bhrama Guru VIshnu Guru Devo Maheshwara ||
|| Guru Shakshat Parambrahma Tasmay Shree Gurve Namaha ||

BAPS Shree Swaminarayan Sanstha Cincinnati

cordially invites you, your family & your friends for a two day

Satsang Parayan

along with enlightening programs in presence of

Sadguru Sant Pujya Doctor Swami from India

on Sunday, July 11th & Monday, July 12th, 2010

at Ballroom, Crowne Plaza Hotel

5901 Pfeiffer Road | Cincinnati | OH 45242

| Program Highlights |

Sunday, July 11

11:30 a.m. – Retracing our Heritage
(showings: 11:30 a.m. | 12:30p.m. | 1:30 p.m.) limited seating
12:30 p.m. – Maha Prasad (Lunch)
2:30 p.m. – Satsang Parayan
5:30 p.m. – Evening Program with Sadguru Sant Pujya Dr. Swami
8:00 p.m. – Aarti
8:30 p.m. – Maha Prasad (Dinner)

Monday, July 12

5:30 p.m. – Kirtan Aradhna by Pujya Sant Mandal
7:00 p.m. – Blessings by Sadguru Sant Pujya Dr. Swami
8:15 p.m. - Aarti
8:30 p.m. – Maha Prasad (Dinner)

For more information, please contact
Vasu Patel – 513 851 6356 | Dharmesh Patel – 513 659 9245

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AVIDYA IN ADVAITA VEDANT

Contd from page 1

Avidya is not only absence of knowledge but is also false knowledge. Knowledge is false when there is an error in one's judgment. According to Advaita Vedantins, error or false knowledge is *anirvachaniya* or indescribable, for the object of (mis) perception is neither existent (sat) nor non-existent (asat). In mistaking the rope for a snake, the snake is not non-existent because it is perceived, nor existent because it is negated when we know it is a rope. According to *anirvachaniya-khyati*, the illusion of seeing the rope as a snake arises when a defective sense-organ comes into contact with the rope making the *vrtt*i or mental modification.

Now because of the operation of avidya or ignorance which revives our memory of a snake and shows similarities between our memory and the present object, we perceive a snake which lasts as long as there is the illusion. So far I have discussed the status of Avidya at an empirical level - i.e. how in our ordinary perceptual experiences we perceive " objects that exist" and "non-existent objects". I have also discussed Avidya as false knowledge which is mistaking one for the other. Now Avidya as false knowledge has a transcendental dimension, which is mistaking Brahman (Absolute) as the World, the Self (Atman) as the Jiva, Infinitude as Finitude. One as Many, etc.

At the Transcendental level, Avidya is also known as Maya. Avidya (or Maya) at the transcendental level may be characterized as Cosmic Ignorance, that is, everyone is ignorant of the Truth. False knowledge at the empirical level is individual, i.e. some people know the rope to be rope and not as a snake, and others mistake the rope for a snake. At the transcendental level, however, only the realized people know Brahman to be Brahman, but all of us mistake Brahman to be the World. We are all born in avidya , live in avidya , die in avidya and are re-born due to avidya. Was there ever a tirne when there was the primordial "Fall" from vidya to avidya? The advaitins maintain that avidya or primal ignorance is beginning less (anadi), because to search for the beginnings of avidya is itself avidya! Even if we were to postulate a time. when avidya began, it will raise more questions why what was once a state of knowledge has fallen into a state of avidya, leading us to speculate a whole range of issues. Avidya is also said to be positive, in the sense that its effects are felt on us. Thus Avidya conceals (avarana) the reality of Brahman and projects (vikshepa) the world instead. It is therefore neither being nor nonbeing and thus indescribable. The question now arises: What is the locus of Avidya? Advaitins generally agree that the content of avidya is Brahman, for without Brahman there is no avidya (about Brahman), just as the content of the misperception of the snake is the rope. Advaitins, however, differ concerning the locus of avidya, the "Bhamathi School" (Mandana Misra and Vacaspati Misra, etc) holding that Jiva is the locus of Avidya, whereas the Vivarana School (Suresvara , Prakasatman, etc.) holding that Brahman is the locus of Avidya. To explain: Is the locus of my mistaken perception of a rope as a snake in the rope or in me? Arguments can be given why it is the rope that is the locus of the snake for it is the rope, not a tree which I mistake to be a snake. On the other hand, it is argued that the rope is what it is, and it is because of my misperception that I have perceived the snake and it has nothing to do with the rope.

Avidya in Vedanta is not just intellectual ignorance but is the cause of human bondage. If avidya is bondage, knowledge is liberation, and therefore it is through inana or knowledge that one must encounter avidya. With the realization that one is in bondage, there arises the motivation to liberate oneself. In Advaita Vedanta, a threefold discipline is suggested as a way of realization of Brahman.

I. In the first stage, Sankara suggests four *sadhanas (sadhana catustaya*) (aids, practices) as a preliminary to the attainment of jnana. These are: | . *nityanityvastuviveka* (discriminating between eternal and non-eternal objects) 2. *ihamutraphalabhoga-viraga* (keeping detached from enjoyment of the consequences of the life here and hereafter), 3. *samadamadisatspmpatti* (possession of six great virtues) which are a. sama (tranquility), b. dama (temperance), c. uparati (regulation of mind and senses), d. titiksa (equanimity between opposites like pleasure and pain), e. samadana (steadfastness, concentration on Vedantic knowledge), and f . sraddha (faith in the the Works and Teachers of Vedanta), 4. *mumuksa* (yearning for liberation). II. The second stage in the journey towards Knowledge consists of a. *sravana* (Listening carefully Vedantic texts under a qualified guru,) b. *manana* (reflection) on the Vedantic teachings, and c. *nidhidhyasana* (contemplation, meditation) which transforms intellectual acceptance of Vedantic truths into practical convictions. III. In the third stage, when one hears the Vedantic maha-vakyas like tat tvam asi (That Thou Art), *Aham Brahmasmi* (I am Brahman), *Ayam Atma*

*Brahm*a, the avidya in the meditator concerning the false dichotomy between himself and Brahman, between Brahman and the world etc; is removed. This is the integral experience (*aparokshanubhuti*) that arises with the removal of avidya, and one realizes oneself as Brahman.

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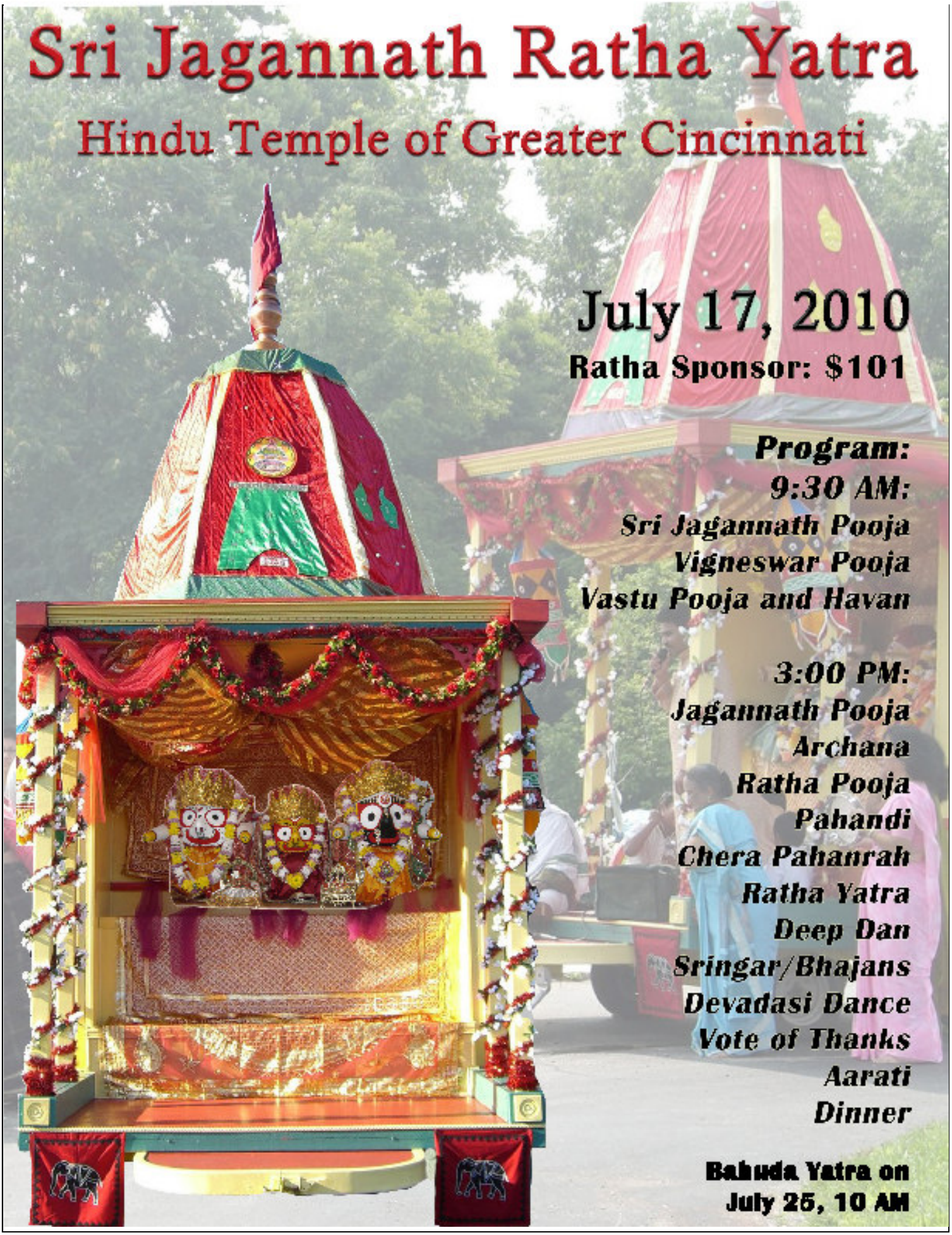
Hindu Temple of Greater Cincinnati



July 17, 2010

Ratha Sponsor: $101

Program:

9:30 AM:

Sri Jagannath Pooja
Vigneswar Pooja
Vastu Pooja and Havan

3:00 PM:

Jagannath Pooja
Archana
Ratha Pooja
Pahandi
Chera Pahanrah
Ratha Yatra
Deep Dan
Sringar/Bhajans
Devadasi Dance
Vote of Thanks
Aarati
Dinner

Bahuda Yatra on July 25, 10 AM

July 25th Sunday, 2010, 4:30 pm

Program: - 4:30pm to 6:00pm Puja & Satya Narayan Katha
6:00pm to 7:00pm Bhajans /Keertan
7:00pm Aarati/ Mahaprasad (Dinner)

Sponsorship - Pramukh Yajaman $501.00, Yajaman $101.00

PLACE: HINDU TEMPLE OF GREATER CINCINNATI
4920 Klatte Rd.Cincinnati OH-45244

We need 108 sponsors / Yajmans to sit in puja.

For details & to reserve your place
Please call- Temple 513-528-3714, Amita Gupta 513-336-8782. Kiran Dayal 513- 474-4051
Acharya Kailash Sharma 513-652-5382.

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SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2010, HINDU TEMPLE OF GREATER CINCINNATI

4:30 – 6.00 PM	SATYANARAYAN POOJA/KATHA
6:00 – 7:30 PM	SWAMIJI'S BHAJANS, PRAVACHAN, QUESTIONS/ANSWERS SESSION,AARTI
7:30 – 8.30 PM	MAHAPRASAD/DINNER

PUJYA SWAMIJI'S WEBSITE: ***http://www.parmarth.com/home.html***

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- Founded & Inspired the Completion of the First Ever 11 Volume Encyclopedia of Hinduism.
- Initiated the Ganga Clean-Up Program.
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HSGC Dance Competition 2010

August 28th 2010
Mason High School

Timings and Scheduling:

- **Each dance item shall be limited to 6 minutes. If the time limit is exceeded, 10 points per minute will be deducted from the competitive team final score.**
- **Only 2 minutes are allowed for stage preparation (includes general introductions) before the dance performance, and only 1 minute allowed after performance to clean the stage.**

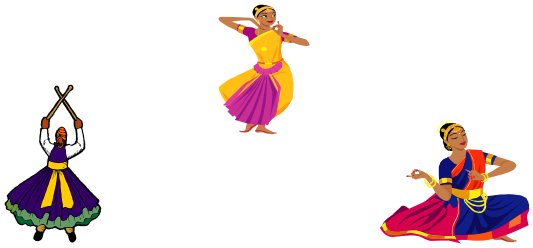
Props and Lighting:

- **No special effects: steam, disco balls, smoke, etc. are allowed.**
- **Props hanging from the ceiling will not be allowed.**
- **Each team should have a representative overseeing curtain opening, closing and audio playback.**

Evaluation and Scoring:

- **A panel of 5 professional judges will evaluate all items.**
- **Entry and exit limited to 2 minutes only.**
- **Highest and lowest total scores in each competition will not be counted.**
- **The scoring decisions will be made using the following.**

Entry = 25 points
Exit/Conclusion= 25 points
Originality/Innovation=50 points
Action (facial expression) = 50 points
Coordination & Synchronization=50 points
Costume/Jewelry=50 points
Lyrics (appropriate song) =50 points
Steps, Choreography
Rhythm=100 points
Overall Impression=100 points
TOTAL=500 points



Participation requirements:

- **Entries will be taken on first come first basis.**
- **The committee keeps the right to select items depending on the time, logistics and to have maximum community participation.**
- **Repetition of the same songs will not be permitted to keep the program entertaining.**
- **No exceptions will be made.**

Judges:

- **Professional judges will be selected by the committee.**
- **Judges shall refrain from discussion.**
- **All judges should be in receipt of the rules and regulations**
- **For fairness, a judge should disclose participants of immediate family members in the competition item.**
- **The judge's decision is final.**
- **No grievance will be entertained.**

Awards:

- **Trophy shall be given to the 1st and 2nd placed teams in different category.**
- **Certificate of participation will be given to all participants.**
- **One trophy shall be given to the Best Costume.**
- **One prize shall be given to the best choreographer.**

Cultural Committee of HSGC: Sulbha Midha, Rima Ajbani & Sapna Susarla

Disclaimer: HSGC is not responsible for any personal injury to participants or damages to their belongings. Participant will be liable of any damage that may cause to property (rental property) due to their negligence. Cultural Committee, HSGC reserves all rights to revise the rules within a short notice to participants before the event.

Contd from pg 16

HSGC Dance Competition 2010

Hindu temple of Greater Cincinnati Presents "Naach Sitare"

This will replace the Mela Dance competition this year. Selected performances will be repeated in the Mela. Venue & program to be announced soon……

"We dance for laughter, we dance for celebrations, we dance for madness, we dance for fears, we dance for hopes, we dance for screams, we are the dancers, and we create the dreams."

In this modern times, where culture and art is barely recognized and given importance, Hindu temple of Greater Cincinnati is striving to provide a platform to our society by organizing this dance competition marking the importance of the Indian dance & culture.

This dance competition is providing a platform for all dance enthusiasts to showcase their talents. This is one of the first dance competitions to be held in Cincinnati outside the temple venue, where participants all over the Tristate, irrespective of their age will display their talents. The main focus is to bring together the society to create awareness of the Indian Cultural traditions. Events like these create perfect platforms to encourage our children and also enrich them with knowledge of our culture. This gives them the opportunity to perform in front of very large audience. This is only possible with your participation and dedication. Please help us support this event and help us make this a grand success. We are expecting about a 1000 people from all over the Tristate. The names of the sponsors will be advertised in the brochure and will be announced on the day of the event. We do have participants from all cultures, this will bring in diversity.

Let's make "NAACH SITARE" happen!!!!!

Sponsorship Levels

Please make check Payable to : HSGC

And mail to 4920 Klatte Rd.Cincinnati OH-45244

Gold Sponsors: $1000.00 & up
Silver Sponsors: $500.0 & up
Bronze Sponsors: $250.00 & up
Other Sponsors: $150.00 & up

Any monetary contribution you can make to this event is appreciated. There is no minimum and no contribution is too little.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE OF HSGC sulbhamidha@gmail.com(513 807 8007)

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FOR FUNDRAISING EVENT

Mason High School Auditorium

6100 South Mason Montgomery Road, Mason, OH 45040

Saturday, July 31, 2010; 7.30 pm

Tickets available from the following individuals:

Jitu Patel: 513-836-0606; jpatel5@live.com Krutarth Jain: 513-884-1259; Krutarthjain@yahoo.com

Jyoti Desai: 513-885-1318;desaijyoti12@yahoo.com Tushar Manek: 513-398-7276; Tamanek@aol.com

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Meijer will send you a Special Card of Community Rewards Program.

(2) If you have any type of Meijer Card or Account follow this:

Go to the website and update your Membership
Follow further Instructions
Enter HSGC Code No. 964616 on Item 2, Option A
Submit.
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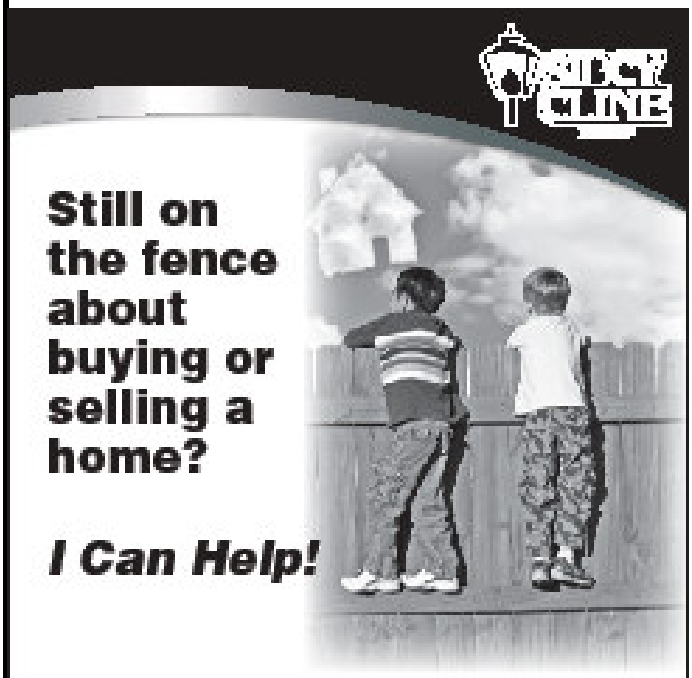

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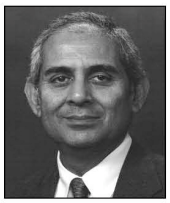

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