आराधना

Aradhana

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

Margashirsh/Paush/Magh
Vikram Samvat, 2067
January 2011

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sri Ganesh

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

BHAJAN SANDHYA

(AN EVENING OF BHAJANS AND DEVOTION)

For the celebration of MAKAR SANKRANTI

Pramukh Yajman - **Tandoor India Restaurant**

Date:Saturday, January 22, 2011 PLACE: 4920 Klatte Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45244

Time: 4:00 to 7:00 PM Bhajans Discourse by Acharya Kailashji 7:00 to 7:30 PM

7:30 Aarti followed by Mahaprasad Dinner.

The Bhajan Program will be given by local Tri-State Singers. Devotees may sing one or two bhajans depending on time availability. All singers are requested to submit their names by 15th of January to Acharya Kailashji at - acharyaksharma@yahoo.com. **Bhajan should be with group not solo .please bring copies for all participant.**

WE NEED SPONSORS: Yajman $ 251, Sponsors $ 101

Contact: Temple (513) 528-3714, Acharya Kailashji (513)652-5382, Khush Karamchandani (513)259-4016 ,

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 Aradhana is 10th of each month.

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:
Kiran Dayal(Chair): 513-474-4051

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

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

Property Management & Maintenance:
Dilip Patel 513-947-0861

Cultural Activities:
Asit Saha (Chair) (513)

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

Long Range Planning
Laxmi S. Srivastava (513) 474-0533
Raj Bodalia Chair, Special Activities
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 Kiran Dayal.

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 Kiran Dayal 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

Kiran Dayal (Chair):	474-4051
Amita Gupta	336-8782
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

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
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 $300; Half Page $150; Quarter Page $100. and one eighth page $50. 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.

Pooja Committee Announcement:

To schedule a Pooja or to rent a temple hall (lower level) please contact Kiran Dayal at 474-4051
If you have any question or suggestion about temple activities contact 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.*

C H E C K O U T
http://newbhagavadgita.blogspot.com/2010/04/shock-treatment-in-bhagavad-gita.html

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
Kiran Dayal 513-474-4051
Amita Gupta 513-336-8782

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Regular Weekly & Monthly Events at the Temple

Monthly Navgrah Pooja Every first Saturday of the Month Jan 1
Sponsors needed for Pooja $51.00
For Details call
Kiran Dayal at 474-4051;Temple priests:528-3714

Monthly Murugan Abhishekham /Pooja
Every second Saturday of the Month
Jan 8 Saturday 4.00pm Sponsor Murugan Group.
Kiran Dayal at 474-4051; Temple priests: 528-3714

Monthly Satya Narayan Pooja

On Every Purnima of the Month

6:30 pm

Sponsorship $ 51.00
To sponsor pooja call

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
Kiran Dayal at 474-4051 Temple Priests:528-3714

Monthly ABHISHEKAM/KALYANOTSAVAM FOR LORD SRI VENKATESWARA

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

1008 Gayatri Jap
Second Saturday of each month at 9.30AM

For details please contact temple priest at 528-3714
or Kiran Dayal at 474-4051

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 Kiran Dayal at 474-4051Temple 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)

Membership and Fundraising Chair is Raneshwar Gupta 513-232-3331

JANUARY 2011

Jan. 1st Sat. New years day Havan/Homa 11am 12:30pm

Sponsorship- $101,$51, $21

Jan. 1st Sat. Mata Ki Chouki 4pm to 8pm

Sponsored by- Dr. PremShankar & Kiran Varma

Jan. 1st Sat. Navgrah Puja 3pm Sponsorship $51.00

Jan. 8th Sat. 1008 Gayatri Jaap 9:30am

Jan. 9th Sun. Sunderkand Path 10:30am Sponsored By- Sangitaben & Arvindbhai Patel

Jan. 14th Thur. Lohri Celebration (Bonfire) 7pm

Jan. 14th Fri. Makar Sankranti /Uttarayan /Pongal.

Jan. 16th Sun. Makar Sankranti /Pongal Celebration ,Murgan Abhishekam 10am

Sponsorship -$101.00 Abhshekam, Archana$21.00

Event sponsored by- Murugan Devotees

Please note- Murgan abhishekam is moved from 2nd Sat. to 16th Jan.,Sunday.

Jan. 19th Wed. Purnima Satya Narayan Puja 6:30pm Sponsorship $51.00

Jan. 22nd Sat. Venkateshwar Abhishekam 10am Sponsorship $51.00

Jan. 22. Sat. Bhajan Sandhya ,4pm to 7:30pm

by Tri state singers. Sponsorship needed .please see flyer for details

Jan. 30th Sun. Jagannath Puja 11am .

Feb. 2010

Feb.5th Sat. Navgrah Puja 3pm Sponsorship $51.00

Feb. 12th Sat. 1008 Gayatri Japa 9:30am

Feb. 12th Sat. Murugan Abhishekam 4pm Sponsorship $101.00

Feb. 13th Sun. Vasant Panchami Celebration 11am to 1pm Sponsored by- Agrani

Feb. 18th Fri. Purnima Satya Narayan Puja 6;30pm Sponsorship $51.00

Feb. 20th Sun. Sunderkand Path 10:30am

Feb. 26th Sat. Venkateshwara Kalyanam 10am Sponsorship $51.00

Feb. 27th Sun. Ganesh Puja & Atharvashirsh path 11am .Sponsored by -Triveni

Please Mark your Calendar for MAHA SHIVRATRI PUJA CELEBRATION
March 2nd Wed. 2011 All night puja . Event sponsor needed. Details to follow--

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the Month of December

Happy Anniversary *

Amar & Usha Sharma, Nandkumar & Rani Khemchandani, Vijay & Madhu Sharma, Dilip & Vilas Patel, Arun & Sudha Mehta, Anand & Pratima Narayana, Niranjan & Nivedita Ramji, Vijaya & Younus Samadi, Prem & Sunita Garg, Mahendra Jain, Malay & Amita Srivastava, Kedar & Bina Verma, Chakreshwar &Shampa Sharma

Happy Birthday**

Prabha Batra, Vivek Surya Bhamidipati, Niharika Bhatnagar, Rishi Bhatnagar, Gautham Bhoomready, Sagoree Chatterjee, Vinoo Cholera, Nithya Devanathan, Suvomita Ghosh, Siddarth Goyal, Babu Gupta, Govind Gupta, Raneshwar Gupta, Ravi Hasandka ,Nutan Kamat, Vikas Kothari, Rahul Kukreti, Yash Kumar, Arun Mehan, Vidya Nagarajan, Mahesh Naik, Maureen Nanavati, Naresh Nayak, Child 1 Patel, T.M. Rajkumar,Eshwar Ramdas, Rohit Rao, Younus Samadi, Balu Sekar, Rekha Shankar, Sonal Shankar, Ashwini Sharma, Pankaj Sharma, Seema Sharma, Sheela Agarwal, Amit Srivastava, Rhea Srivastava, Pooja Vadin, Bharat Vela, Anush Venkatesan, Ashish Verma, Subhodh Wadhwa

*(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

WELCOME THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR 2011

PRESIDENT :	KRUTARTH JAIN
VICE PRESIDENT:	BALA SUBRAMANIAM
SECRETARY:	DEEPAK DIXIT
TREASURER:	PRASAD MEGADA

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

POOJA COMMITTEE:KIRAN DAYAL
COMMUNICATIONS/ EDITOR: GEETA MEHAN
MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISING: RANESHWAR GUPTA
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE: DILIP PATEL
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES: ASIT SAHA
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH ACTIVITIES: ANISHA SINGH
LONG RANGE PLANNING: LAXMI S. SRIVASTAVA

Chair, Special Activities

In our last EC meeting Dr. Raj Bodalia was appointed as Chairperson, Special Activities. He has accepted the position to help the Temple grow. We felt a need to create this position because there has been tremendous increase in the growth of the activities at the temple and also we want to add more activities to meet the need of our growing community. It is becoming very challenging to manage and coordinate so many activities. Next year we will be adding on Yagna Shala which we would like to use as a Regional Marriage Center and it is an unique concept. Our temple has all the facilities such as dining area, professional kitchen, nearby motels, access to interstate etc. to attract people from this region. There has been many attempts to add on Wellness Activity Center at the temple but were not successful due to lack of resources and a responsible person to commit time to run these additional activities. Our new Chairperson will need your support and good volunteers to make it a successful program.

Lohri Celebration

Jan. 14th Friday . 7pm Bonfire Sponsors needed for this event.

We are starting lohri first time in our Temple . your presence is very important

For details please call Rani Dhamija 984 -5777. Acharya Kailashji 652 5382. Kiran Dayal 474-4051. Temple 513 528 3714.

Lohri is an agricultural festival, filled with merry-making. It is celebrated in the state of Punjab on the 13th of January, which falls one day before Makar Sankranti. While Lohari is essentially a Punjab festival, it is celebrated in some other states of North India as well. Lohari is celebrated to denote the last day of the coldest days of winter. The festival of Lohari is celebrated outdoors. As it is usually very cold on the 13th of January, a bonfire is lit, and friends and relatives gather around. If there has been a happy occasion in the family, like the birth of a child or a marriage, Lohri is celebrated with much greater gusto. The happy family usually hosts a party to celebrate the first Lohri of the new child or couple. Singing and dancing form an intrinsic part of the celebrations. People wear their brightest clothes and come to dance the *bhangra* and *gidda* to the beat of the *dhol*. Punjabi songs are sung, and everybody rejoices prayers are made to Agni, the God of Fire, and Prasad is distributed. The prasad comprises of five main things: til, gazak, gur, moongphali (peanuts), and phuliya or popcorn. An offering is also made of this Prasad to the sacred fire. Lohri is celebrated throughout the country in different forms, as a harvest festival. It is called Pongal in the South, Bhugali Bihu in Assam, Bhogi in Andhra Pradesh and Sankranti in the central part of the country. Modes of celebrating Lohri are also different, but the message conveyed by the festival, that of setting aside differences and rejoicing by celebrating the end of the harvest season and the chilly winter is the same.

Vasant Panchmi Celebration

Sunday Feb. 13th 2011 10:30 to 11:30 Saraswati Puja

11:30 to 11:45 Vidyarambha Puja (For Children) 11:45 to 12:00 Pushpanjali Offerings

12:00 to 1:00 Bhajans , Pravachan & AartiPrasad (Lunch)

This Event is sponsored by Agrani Bengali Association . For Details Please call Kiran Dayal 474 4051, Anju Saha 474 3922,Temple: 5135283714.

HINDUISM AND THE UNITY OF LIFE

S. S. Rama Rao Pappu Professor of Philosophy and Comparative Religion, Miami University

The foundational concept on which Hinduism revolves around is the doctrine of "Unity of Existence." "Sarvamkhalumidam Brahman" (All that exists is Brahman), "Isavasyam idam sarvam, yat kinchat jagtyam jagat" "All that exists is pervaded by Brahman", etc. state univocally that Existence is a Unity, and the essence of Existence is Brahman (God). In the Brhadaranyaka Upanisad it is said that Brahman or God did not CREATE the world, Brahman became the world,

Brahman transformed himself into the World. Therefore, this world is Brahman, and Brahman is this world. Since everything that exists is Brahman, and Brahman is sacred, everything that exists is sacred.

As a corollary to the Unity of Existence doctrine, the Hindus affirm the "Unity of Life" doctrine. The amoeba and the human do not differ in kind, they only differ in their degree of evolution. An amoeba is on its way to become a human, and a human, after many births and rebirths, has evolved himself from an amoeba . Semitic religions only recognize the "brotherhood of man", but Hinduism recognized the "brotherhood of all living forms". To the Semitic religious precept "Love thy Neighbor", Hinduism adds "All living beings are your neighbors."

This doctrine of the Unity of Life explains the religious attitudes and practices of the Hindus. The Hindu reverence of different life forms - for example, the cow, the monkey, the snake and others – is another manifestation of the principle of unity of life. It is not just humans and gods who are the subjects of our reverence, every life form is to be revered, because the same life principle (Brahman-Consciousness) is their essence and pervades all these beings. In the Hindu Puranas, the denizens of Heaven are not only humans, but are also birds and animals. Every god and goddess in Hinduism have their favorite bird or an animal. The Hindu Heaven is permeated with all the beauty and diversity of the trees, birds, animals, humans, gods, etc. – unlike the concept of Heaven in Abrahamic religions which is inhabited only by humans. In Hindu tradition, Hanuman, Rama's "monkey-servant" by his devotion to Rama attained Heaven. In the Gajendra-moksha, the elephant prays to God for release from the clutches of the crocodile, and attains Heaven

The Abrahamic religious concept of Heaven without trees, birds and beasts, must at best be boring indeed!!! At the end of the Mahabharata, Yudhishtara refuses to enter the Heaven, if he is not permitted to take his dog along with him!!

The nature of the Life Principle which connects all living beings, including humans and God (Brahman) is Consciousness. That every living being is Divine and the Divine Himself manifests in all living beings is attested in the Hindu doctrine of Avatara. "Avatara" means "descent", the descent of God to earth to incarnate Himself into different creatures. According to tradition, God incarnated Himself into ten varieties of beings, the last one Kalki, who is yet to descend. The ten incarnations of God are: Masya or fish, Kurma or tortoise, Varaha or wild boar, Narasimha or man-lion, Vamana or dwarf human being, Parasurama or Rama with Axe, Rama, Krishna, Buddha and Kalki. We must take note that God incarnated Himself not only as a human being like Rama or Parasurama, but also as a fish and a turtle. The doctrine of incarnation is not a doctrine of creation. God did not create a fish, He became a fish, He IS a fish in his incarnation.

The Unity of Life doctrine also leads the Hindus to accept the principle of Ahimsa (non-violence), love (daya) and compassion (karuna) to all living creatures. Hinduism does not meely preach "sarva-jana-hita" (Good for all human beings) but "sava-bhuta-hita" (Welfare of all *living* creatures) .

Sarva-bhuta-hita means (a) not killing any living creature, not participating in the killing, and not causing others to kill, and (b) to do everything in our power to promote the health and well-being of all living creatures. In short, the Hindu prayer is : "sarve-bhutaah sukhino bhavantau" Let all creatures, big and small, be happy.

Community Directory

We are in the process of finalizing the Community Directory List....If you are still thinking about it, please send in your Registration Form by email or Postal Service.

<u>ADVERTISEMENT RATES</u> : This Directory will reach the entire Community and will stay in homes for a long time ....so if you wish to reach a large audience, here is a great opportunity. Space will be made available on First Come basis. Full Page $300; Half Page $150; Quarter Page $100

If we have an Artist in the Community who would like to design the cover, please give us a call or send an email.

We are also looking for some valuable articles regarding India and Information regarding India that would be valuable to all. Please contact us if you have any suggestions.

Geeta Mehan 513-754-0400/ mehangeeta@gmail.com Raneshwar Gupta 513-232-3331

REGISTRATION FORM FOR COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

NAME : _____

SPOUSE NAME: _____

CHILDREN'S Names 1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

Address : _____

_____

_____

Phone No. : ( ) - -

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Signature: _____

Send this form only if you wish your name and above information to be published in Member Directory.

If you do not send the form duly signed, you will not be included in the Directory.

The Directory will be available to all.

Email form to cinti.communitydirectory@gmail.com

OR Mail form to

Geeta Mehan	OR	Raneshwar Gupta
6663 Heritage Club Dr.		6338 Turpin Hill Dr
Mason, OH 45040		Cincinnati,OH 45244
513-754-0400		513-232-3331

BE A PART OF THE TEMPLE HISTORY

ADOPT A PART OF THE NEW ROAD

Good news, we finally got the permit to build a road from the Barg Salt Road gate to the temple parking lot. First, it will help to give us a better access to the temple providing an access from a bigger two lane road. No more worries on how to pass on Klatte Road when two cars are coming. Second, most important is that it will give us a good chance to develop other projects such as retirement homes, Religious Cultural and Educational Center. This center will have a main hall to provide enough space for big functions like Navaratri Festival, Musical Concerts and Religious National conferences. The proposed road has been divided into 20 equal parts. Each part will be identified by a light pole bearing the name of the family, any deity name or any organization name etc.

Guide Lines on How to adopt the road.

Anyone who is interested in adopting the road must pay at least
$ 15,000 (fifteen thousands) by Feb 31, 2011,
Balance $ 20,000 by June 30th, 2011.

Selection of the road (numbered 1 thru 20) will be on first come first basis.

Plaque will read some thing like "Mr. X" -------Marg
Adopted by"X" Family or Group or Group of devotees. This plaque will be installed on a light pole.

For adopting the road and more information, please contact one of the following:

Laxmi Shanker Srivastava – (513) 474-0533.
Krutarth Jain (513) 884-1259
Raneshwar Gupta (513) 232-3331

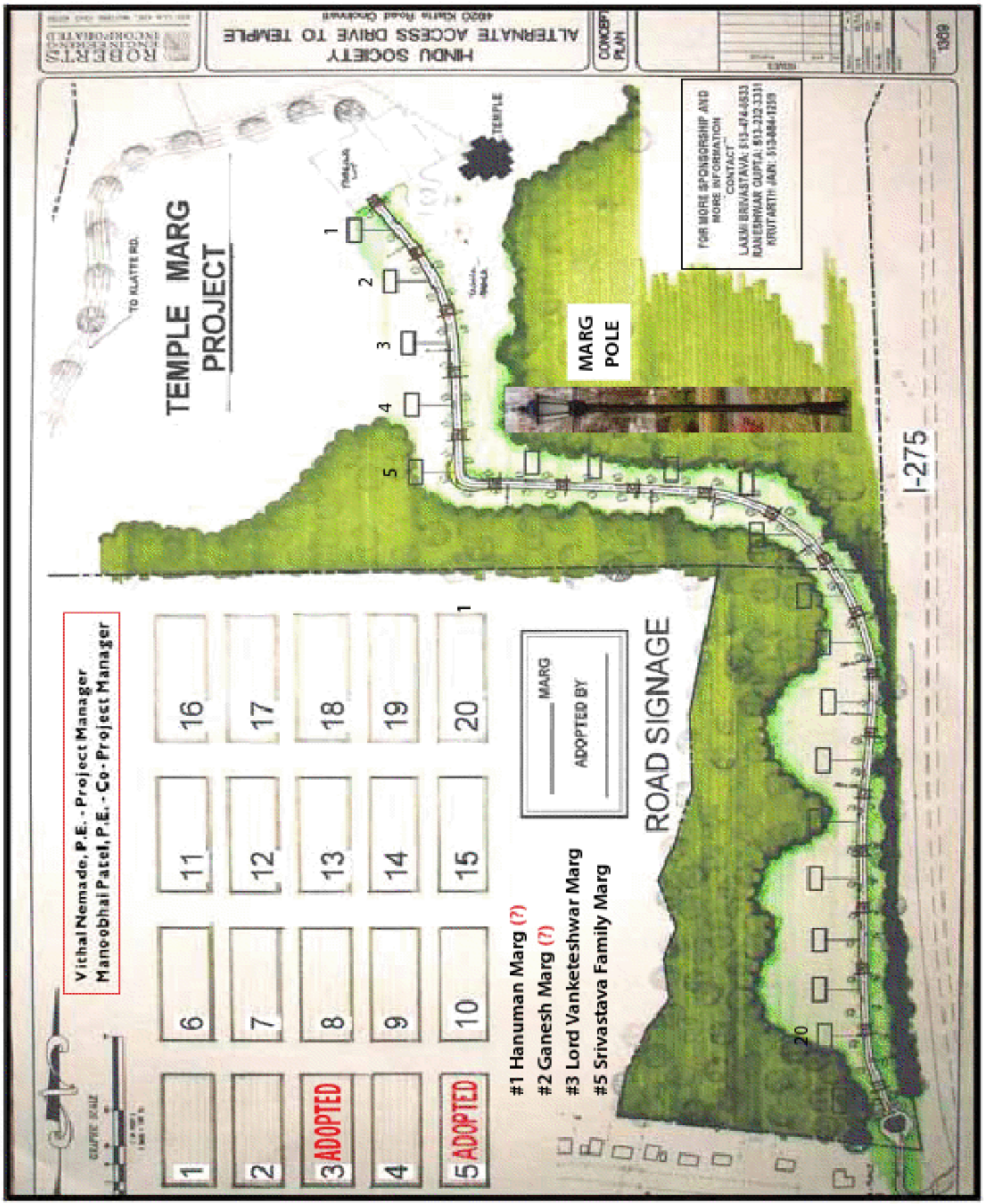
Lets recognize the members of the Long Range Planning Committee who worked very hard for more than a year with Robert Enginnering Co. to achieve this.

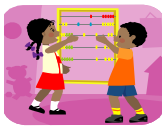
Laxmi Shanker Srivastava - Chairperson
Vitthal Nemade , PE
Munoo Patel , PE
Jitu Patel
Krutarth Jain
Bobba Choudary
Raneshwar Gupta

LOOK AT THE MAP ON PAGE 12 AND SEE WHICH PART OF THE ROAD YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADOPT RIGHT NOW IS THE RIGHT TIME !!!!!

Section 3 and 5 are already spoken for.

ADOPT A SECTION OF THE NEW ROAD AND BE A PART OF TEMPLE HISTORY





INDIAN HERITAGE CLASS

The Hindu Temple of Greater Cincinnati runs Indian Heritage Class for kids at the temple premises every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month from 11.30 am to 1.00 pm. The classes run during the school year from September to May and are open to all kids 5 yrs and older.

The objective of this class is to make the Hindu-Americans kids aware and proud of their Indian Heritage and the rich philosophies of Hindu religion. The goals are to educate the kids about India, Hindu values/culture, Hindu festivals and their significance, Hindu Gods/Goddesses, Hindu mythology stories and how to apply the principles learned in the current times.

The class format is as follows- the class begins with a devotional song, followed by formal religious teaching for 45 minutes. Kids then enjoy 10 min snack break and then play a game related to the subject taught. The class concludes with Yoga. The kids then go upstairs for aarti.

Various subjects have been covered over the last 1 ½ yr, including learning about India, some of the Hindu festivals, Ramayana, Krishna Leela. The theme for this session is 'HINDUISM-CONCEPTS, TRUTHS AND VALUES'. The kids so far have learned about the 'CONCEPT OF ONE GOD' & 'HINDU VALUES'. The other topics that will be covered this session are 'FORMS OF GOD', 'RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS', 'ATMAN & LAW OF KARMA'.

To register your child in the class, please send your email to the Anisha Singh, the Religious educational and youth activity chairperson at singhanisha@hotmail.com.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT : PRIEST SUPPORT AVAILABLE

If you have a loved one in hospital and would like to have Pandit ji come and pray with the patient / family, you can can turn to the Temple for support. You may call the Puja Acting Chair Kiran Dayal 474-4051

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Once Buddha was walking from one town to another town with a few of his followers. While they were traveling, they happened to pass a lake. They stopped there and Buddha told one of his disciples.

"I am thirsty. Do get me some water from that lake there."

The disciple walked up to the lake. When he reached it, he noticed that right at that moment, a bullock cart started crossing through the lake. As a result, the water became very muddy, very turbid. The disciple thought, "How can I give this muddy water to Buddha to drink!" So he came back and told Buddha, "The water in there is very muddy. I don't think it is fit to drink."

After about half an hour, again Buddha asked the same disciple to go back to the lake and get him some water to drink.

The disciple obediently went back to the lake. This time too he found that the lake was muddy. He returned and informed this to Buddha .

After sometime, again Buddha asked the same disciple to go back. The disciple reached the lake to find the lake absolutely clean and clear with pure water in it. The mud had settled down and the water above it looked fit to be had. So he collected some water in a pot and brought it to Buddha.

Buddha looked at the water, and then he looked up at the disciple and said," See what you did to make the water clean.

You let it be.... and the mud settled down on its own - and you got clear water.

Your mind is also like that! When it is disturbed, just let it be.

Give it a little time. It will settle down on its own.

You don't have to put in any effort to calm it down.

It will happen. It is effortless.

Having 'Peace of Mind' is an effortless process!

Keep smiling not because of something, but in spite of everything.....

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ANNAKOOT CELEBRATION

Fable of the porcupine

It was the coldest winter ever. Many animals died because of the cold. The porcupines, realizing the situation, decided to group together. This way they covered and protected themselves; but the quills of each one wounded their closest companions even though they gave off heat to each other. After awhile, they decided to distance themselves one from the other and they began to die, alone and frozen.

So they had to make a choice: either accept the quills of their companions or disappear from the Earth. Wisely, they decided to go back to being together. This way they learned to live with the little wounds that were caused by the close relationship with their companion, but the most important part of it, was the heat that came from the others.

This way they were able to survive.

Moral of the story: The best relationship is not the one that brings together perfect people, but the best is when each individual learns to live with the imperfections of others and can admire the other person's good qualities.

The Moral of the story! LEARN TO LOVE THE PRICKLY PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE

Buy Raj Minocha's Book of Poetry: *Petals in the Wind*

Suggested Donation: $5.00 & up The book can be purchased from the Gift Shop located at main entrance to the Hindu Temple.

As most of the Indian community of Greater Cincinnati knows, Late Raj Minocha was affectionately called the Poet-Laureate of Cincinnati. His poetry book, *Petals in the Wind*, was very enthusiastically received when it came out in 2008. His poetry was so popular that everybody asked him to write and recite a poem for a birthday, graduation, engagement, or wedding. And he was too gracious to say no. With his elegant poetry he touched many a souls in Cincinnati.

To give you an idea of how great his poetry is, let me quote the following stanza from his book:

Blowing in the wind each poem is a petal, Swirling at random, somewhere to settle,

Settling your way, maybe in your lap, Bringing fragrance in life, latent powers to tap!

Although numerous copies of *Petals in the Wind* have already been sold, many more are still available. So far, Raj and Krishna Minocha have donated the entire proceeds from the sale of his book to the Hindu Temple. You can buy the book and enjoy Rajji's great poetry. All the money from the sale of the book will go to the Hindu Temple Y. Datta

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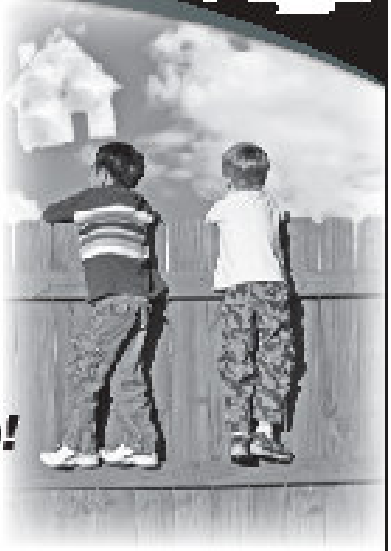

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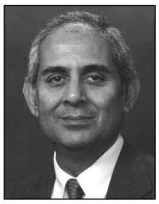

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