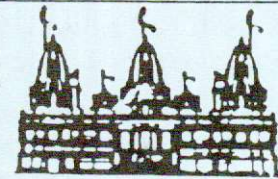


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Vikram Year 2044

Newsletter

Vol. 44-10

August, 1988

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Sheila Kamath

Cultural
J.K. Patel

Facility & Development
Tek Chand

Fund Raising
Kiran Shah

Nomination
Shyam Iyer

Prasad
Santosh Chand

Publication
Adarsh K. Gulati

Puja
Pravin Amin

Sports
Kailash Sharma

MONTHLY PUJA

August 21, Sunday, 10:00 A.M.

Our regular monthly Puja will be conducted on August 21, Sunday at 10:00 A.M. **Shri Prem Shankar Iyer** will perform the **Satyanarayan Puja**; that will be followed by Bhajans. The program will start promptly at 10:00 A.M. and everyone is encouraged to reach on time.

Mr. & Mrs. Adarsh Gulati and Mr. & Mrs. Arun Jain and their families will host the Puja.

Cleaning Responsibility: Tek Chand and all attending families.

Prasad for Monthly Puja: Mr. & Mrs. Arun Jain and Mr. & Mrs. Adarsh Gulati.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

August 14, Sunday, 10:00 A.M. — 11:00 A.M.

Independence Day of India is on August 15. We will celebrate Independence Day at the Temple on August 14, 1988 from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. The function will include hoisting of the Indian flag, singing of the National Anthem, songs, and short speech on the significance of Independence Day. Sri Toshniwalji from Delhi will be our special guest speaker for this event.

VARALAKSMI CELEBRATION

August 19, Friday, 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

In this auspicious month of Sravana, we will celebrate Varalakshmi Vratam. A Puja for Varalakshmi will be performed on August 19, Friday (7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.) at the Temple. For further details please contact Shyamala Mruthinti (737-8484) or Niranjani Reddy (736-2229).

KRISHNA JANAM ASHTAMI CELEBRATION

September 3, Saturday, 8:00 P.M. – Midnight.

Bhagvan Krishna Janam Ashtami will be celebrated on September 3, 1988 at the Temple starting at 8:00 P.M. Please contact Sudha Sinha at 736-4988 for further details.

TEMPLE OPENING SCHEDULE

(7:00 - 8:00 P.M.)

August 12, 13, 14	Dharambeer Sinha 736-4988
August 19, 20, 21	M.S. Swamy 737-8484
August 26, 27, 28	Veena Jerath 868-8998
September 2, 3, 4	Dinesh Jasani (803) 648-0583
September 9, 10, 11	Niranjani Reddy 736-2229

Hindu Temple Library will also be open on above days. All members should make use of the library and Temple opening.

GEETA STUDY

Sundays, 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Everyone is invited to participate in the stimulating Geeta discussions of Chapter 6 of Geeta every Sunday evening. For further information call S. Swamy Mruthinti at 737-8484.

BALSHALA ACTIVITIES

The Balshala classes are to begin on September 11, 1988. All children are encouraged to benefit from these classes. Please call Sheila Kamath at 733-8996 for further details.

OUR UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

Dances by "Veena Murthy"

September 10, Saturday, at 8:00 P.M.

We are pleased to announce a South Indian Dance Program by Ms. Veena Murthy on September 10, 1988 starting at 8:00 P.M. at the Temple. Ms. Veena Murthy is a talented dancer and performer. A donation of \$20.00 per family or \$10.00 per person will be charged for the tickets. Tickets can be purchased from members of the Executive Committee or at the Temple on the evening of performance. Everyone should plan to attend this function.

Ms. Veena Murthy will also be available for private lessons for those interested.

GENERAL

Ramanand Sagar's Ramayana (Legend of Indian TV Series), live on stage for the first time in USA and Canada on Friday September 16, 1988 – 8:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. at Township Auditorium, 1703 Taylor St., Columbia, S.C. Shri Ramanand Sagar himself is directing this stage performance. Tickets: \$100.00, \$50.00, \$35.00 and \$20.00. Students and children \$10.00. For tickets and information please contact Dr. Kaushal Sinha, Columbia, S.C. (803) 781-9054.

"YOUTH CORNER"

• Independence Day

August 15, 1947 was an important date in Indian history. This was the day when India gained independence from the British

Mohandus Karamchand Gandhi was a great leader in the fight for the freedom of India. He preached non-violence in his long campaign for freedom and social reform. He was named Mahatma, which means "Great Soul", by his followers.

In Gandhi's non-violent campaigns, he told the people not to pay their taxes or send their children to an English supported school. Instead he urged them to send their children to a school where they could learn their native language. He also told the people not to buy English made goods.

In about 1920, Gandhi began a programme of hand spinning and weaving. He believed that this programme would help India win its independence in three ways. It made India self-sufficient in cloth

thus aiding economic freedom. It promoted social freedom by challenging the British textile industry and by preparing India for self government.

In 1930, Gandhi led hundreds of followers on a 200 mile march to the sea where they made salt from seawater. This march was a protest against the Salt Acts, which made it a crime to possess salt not bought from the government

When the British Labor Government tried to live up to its promise to free India, it ran into a very serious problem. The British suggested a federation of all Indians, regardless of religion or race, with local self-government in minority areas. This set off violence and bloodshed between Hindus and Moslems living in India. Many people were killed in the rioting. Gandhi succeeded in calming the people a little, but he couldn't be all over India at the same time, and the killings increased.

Lord Louis Mountbatten, a new viceroy sent to India by the British government, arrived in 1947. Within a few weeks he agreed to set August 15, 1947 as the date for the independence of India. Since he could not arrange an agreement between the Moslem League and the Indian Congress, he recommended that India be divided into two states - the Moslem state of Pakistan and India, which chose to be a secular state.

Jawaharlal Nehru, who was successor to Gandhi as the Congress leader, accepted this partition because he believed that it was the only way to end the fighting between the Hindus and Moslems.

Almost 200 years of British rule in India came to an end. The British Raj which had ruled the country, and had also exploited its wealth and its people was no more.

By Sudha Iyer

"RELIGIOUS - PHILOSOPHICAL CORNER"

What is God?

God is a divine conscious power who controls the whole universe. He directs the universe according to an intelligent plan and keeps it under control. This divine power is called Ishwar, Parameshwar, Paramatma, Brahma, Om and by many other names in Hindu scriptures. God creates the universe, preserves it and dissolves it.

God is omniscient. He is all knowing. There is nothing in the universe that He does not know. He also knows the thoughts in the innermost depths of

our minds; He is therefore all knowing. He knows what has happened, what is happening, or what will happen. The past, present and future are the same to Him and nothing thereof is unknown to Him.

God is omnipresent. He is present in all things. There is no place where he is not found. He is in the tiniest of atoms and in the largest of large things. He is the closest of things that are close to us and farthest of the things that are far away.

God is omnipotent. He is all powerful. He can do everything without the assistance of anyone. There is no one more powerful or greater than Him, nor is there anyone equal to Him.

God is eternal. There was no time when God did not exist. Consequently, He did not have a beginning and is therefore, said to be *Anadi* (without beginning).

Similarly, He will ever exist because He has no end and is therefore call *Ananta*. God is beyond place and time.

Our Scriptures in describing God say: God is all pervading, lustrous, bodiless, flawless, pure, sinewless, free of sins, all knowing, existing in all, transcendental, ever-living and self-proven.

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