

# American Hindu Association

(A registered tax exempt, Non-profit organization)



## HINDU CONNECTIONS

**April, 2007**

### Sri Satyanarayan Puja ~ Organized by AHA

**JUNE 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – 3:30pm to 5:00 pm**

**Venue: Body in Balance, 6333 Odana Road, Madison, WI**

Shri Satyanarayana is another form of God Vishnu who is regularly worshipped by Hindus in every household especially on the full moon and Makar Sankranti. This puja emphasizes the significance of Narayan, who is the creator of the universe and has the supreme power to design human destiny. He blesses us with the energy and wisdom to identify truth and devotion. Offering Pujas to Sri Satyanarayan brings the abundance and peace in all forms in the entire family.

Sri Satyanaran Katha - Bhajans - Arati – Prasad  
(All are welcome to bring a Prasad item to offer and share)

### Hanuman Jayanti ~ Sundarkand Path

In recognition of Hanuman Jayanti, the American Hindu Association conducted the Sundarkand Path and puja on April 8, 2007 at Body in Balance (6333 Odana Rd., Madison-WI).



All attendees performed the Sundarkand Path with complete devotion and enthusiasm. The entire reading took two hours. This was followed by singing of Sri Hanuman Chalisa and Aarati.



About Sundarkand: Maharshi Valmiki wrote Ramayan in Sanskrit about c.3000 BC, describing about divine Lord Ram and his journey of life. Similar to Valmiki's Ramayana, Goswami Tulsidas wrote Ramacharitamans in Awadhi, a dialect language of central Uttar Pradesh. His scripture is popularly known as Tulsi-krita Ramayan, which consists of seven chapters namely Bal Kand, Ayodhya Kand, Aranya Kand, Kiskindha Kand, Sundar Kand, Lanka Kand and Uttar Kand.

The Fifth chapter of Ramcharitamans, Sunderkand, mainly focus on depth of Bhakt Hanuman's devotion and dedication for his divine Lord Ram. Sunderkand commences with the departure of Hanuman in search of Sita and ends with Ram ready to cross the ocean for Lanka in order to liberate Sita. The real beauty of Sunderkand lies in its revelation of spiritual truth and the path of a successful life of worldly existence, devoted and dedicated to Rama who is the Divine Consciousness itself in human form.

This episode is called 'sundar' or beautiful because every act described in it is auspicious, elevating to the human mind, and promoting good human values.

### Empty Printer Cartridges and Used Cell Phones

American Hindu Association is participating in the Recycle to Earn fundraising program! This fundraiser is FREE and simple because there's nothing to sell, no paperwork to fill out and no deadline. The program runs throughout the year, accumulating constant income for our efforts. But we won't get very far without your support. Please donate your empty printer cartridges and used cell phones to AHA and we'll take it from there! We will recycle the cartridges and cell phones to earn extra funding.

Last year alone, more than 500 million cartridges were thrown away, while 30 million cell phones were tossed or replaced. Your help is vital to our fundraising success. Cell phones and cartridges can be dropped off at the following locations:

**Bombay Bazaar & India House** ( PI see display Ad).

**Japan Wants To Encourage Studies Of Hindu Gods**  
hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI, INDIA, February 21, 2007: Japan wants to encourage studies of Hindu Gods and Goddesses found in their country. Saraswati, Laxmi, Brahma, Ganesha among a large number of other Deities are still prayed to there though under different names. Saraswati's sketches (Benzaiten in Japanese) sanctify kitchens in rural areas of Japan even now, says Director International Academy of Indian Culture Lokesh Chandra. Japanese understood her as sa-rasavati or the Goddess of the kitchen. Rasavati is 'rasoi' in Hindi. Talking to the Hindustan Times the Japanese Cultural Counsellor Shigeyuki Shimamori said, "We would like to encourage more studies by scholars on the Hindu deities found in Japan."

It is the Mantrayana sect of Buddhism emphasizing mantras and rituals through which Hindu Deities reached Japan, Dr. Chandra said. The Japanese also perform homa known as "goma" to their Deities. Sarasvati or Benzaiten in Japanese is one of the Seven Lucky Deities (Shichi-fuk u-jin) blessing every home. Couples who desire to have beautiful daughters pray to Her. She is known as the patroness of writers, composers, musicians and painters. German scholar Philipp Franz von Siebold has written that in 1832 there were 131 shrines dedicated to Goddess Sarasvati and 100 to Lord Ganesha in Tokyo itself. A 12th century temple to Ganesha in Asa Kusa suburb of Tokyo is a National Treasure of Japan. Hindu Gods and Goddesses were introduced into Japan in 806 ADE by Kobodaishi a Japanese saint who went to China and brought with him Mantrayana text, scrolls and images.

**American Hindu Association**

Disclaimer: Views of readers/column writers are that of their own and not of the AHA [www.americanhindu.net](http://www.americanhindu.net)

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