

American Hindu Association

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HINDU CONNECTIONS

August, 2008

Sri Krishna Jayanthi / Sri Krishna Janmashtami

Date: August 23, 2008 Time: 5pm - 8pm
Venue: Shorewood Community Center
901 Swarthmore Court, Madison, WI 53705



You are cordially invited to a special program organized by the American Hindu Association on the occasion of Krishna Janmashtami. Lord Krishna is the manifestation of Supreme God who came down to the material world showing the path to eternal world. Please join us to celebrate this auspicious day of his birth.

Siddheshvari Deviji, a well-known speaker on Hinduism will be giving a lecture. Siddheshvari Deviji is a great presenter. Do not miss this opportunity to listen to her. Program will start with Puja followed by Special speech and Melodious Bhajans by Didiji, concluded with a Potluck Dinner. Please bring a dish, your choice of food, to share with others. For more information: www.americanhindu.net

The Gita: Chapter 2

August 21st and 22nd, 2008 ~ 2-day discourses in English and Special Satsang by Siddheshvari Devi Ji

Time: Thurs & Fri: 7 pm to 8:30pm

Venue for lectures:

Dr. Swaminathan & Lalitha Balachandran's Residence
8705 Nelson Crossing, Verona, WI 53593

Contact Phone #'s : Rita : 848 - 9046
Dr. Bala : 848 - 6780 Ragini : 845 - 6608
Amit : 772 - 0858 Badri : 827 - 0643

AHA 2008 Picnic - Saturday, July 19th, 2008.



and pizza was an instant hit with kids. Children and adults alike had a good time socializing

This annual event was organized by American Hindu Association and other organizations. The event was a grand success with a sizable turnout of patrons which keeps getting bigger each year. The potluck lunch was a gourmet's delight for all ages, while watermelon



and playing games like cricket, hings, etc. The other organizations that participated in making this event a success were the AIA (Association of Indians in America), MATA (Madison Area Telugu Association), and WJTS (Wisconsin

Tamil Sangam). The community leaders representing the various groups involved in organizing the event felt encouraged by the turnout and unanimously appeal to the rest of the community to show support to such fun events through active participation and make it an even bigger success.

Oxford, England, New Venue to Hindu Temple

OXFORD, ENGLAND, August 3, 2008: Oxford could soon have a Hindu temple to add to its churches, mosques and synagogue. Leaders of Oxfordshire's 500-strong Hindu community have launched a campaign to construct a US\$3.9 million, 12,000 square foot temple in the city as they currently have no base for communal prayer. Temple project initiator Jagruti Bhuva, 44, from Kennington, said: "A temple would help unite the community and be a good way to get everyone together and celebrate. Some elderly Hindus don't have much of a social life and this would give them a place to meet up together and give a big boost in their daily lives. Although no formal survey has been done, it is believed a large proportion of Oxford's 300 Hindus live in Headington. The temple would be open about four hours a day, seven days a week for prayer and use as a community centre. Headington Action Group chairman James Bleice Smith said: "The Hindu community deserve the right to have their religious beliefs served and I would defend that. To find out more about the temple plans visit www.oxfordhindutempleproject.org

Save the Date – Upcoming Event

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Dr. Bala : 848 - 6780

AIA India Day September 6, 2008 10:30AM – 3.00PM
UW Library Mall, 700 & 800 State St., Madison WI

CBF - 2nd Annual Sight Walk

Saturday, September 13th at 8:30 AM

www.combatblindness.org Contact: 608-238-7777

Daily Inspiration

When I think of myself as an embodied being, I am your servant; When I think of myself as an individual soul, I am a part of you; But when I realize 'I am Atman' I am one with you. This is my firm conviction.

Sri Hanuman to Lord Rama (Source Narada Bhakti Sutra by Swami Sivananda)

GEMS FROM THE BHAGVAD GEETA

This is a series of extracts from the Sri Bhagavada Geeta (The Divine Song). The Bhagavada Geeta is said to be the essence of all the Vedas and Upanishads. It's teachings are as relevant today as they were when the Lord, Sri Krishna, expounded to prince Arjuna on the sacred battle field of Kurukshetra thousands of years ago. While it is impossible to do justice to a profound work such as this in a newsletter, in each edition we present a few randomly chosen set of couplets and their brief meaning. We hope it enriches your life and helps you find a balance between your material and spiritual journey.

Ch5: Couplet # 12

yuktah karma-phalam tyaktva shantim apnoti naisthikim
ayuktah kama-karena phale sakto nibadhyate

Offering the fruits of actions to God, the Karamayogi attains everlasting peace in the shape of God-Realisation, whereas, a person with a selfish motive, being attached to the fruits of actions through desires, gets tied down.

Ch5: Couplet # 13

sarva-karmani manasa sannyasyaste sukham vasi
nava-dvare pure dehi naiva kurvan na karayan

The self-controlled Sankhyayogi, doing nothing himself and getting nothing done by others, rests happily in God. The embodiment of Truth, Knowledge and Bliss, mentally relegating all actions to the mansion of nine gates (the body with nine openings).

Ch5: Couplet # 14

na kartviam na karmani lokasya srijati prabhuh
na karma-phala-samyogam svabhavas tu pravartate

The Lord of the world neither induces the sense of deer-ship nor He induces the actions in the humans nor He connects action with their fruits. All this is done by the personal nature.

Ch5: Couplet # 15

nadatte kasyacit papam na caiva sukritam vibhuh
ajnanenavrtam jnanam tena muhyanti jantavah

The Omnipotent Lord neither takes anyone's sin nor his meritorious actions. Knowledge is enveloped with ignorance; hence it is that beings are constantly falling prey to delusion.

Ch5: Couplet # 16

jnanena tu tad ajnanam yesham nasitam atmanah
tesham aditya-vaj jnanam prakasayati tat param

But whose ignorance is destroyed by knowledge of spirit, one who has got enlightenment, one who has got full confidence in the purity of Lord, such shining knowledge, as the light of sun, reveals and illuminates the supreme self.

Ch5: Couplet # 17

tad-buddhayas tad-atmanas tan-nisthas tat-parayanah
gacchanty apunar-avrttim jnana-nirdhuta-kalmasah

These whose sins have been wiped out because of this pure knowledge, whose mind is constantly established in God, who is constantly engaged in him, who is immutable (stable) in Him and who has taken refuge in Him, reaches the path of liberation from where there is no return.

Editorial Board ~ American Hindu Association

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