

American Hindu Association

(A registered tax exempt, Non-profit organization)



HINDU CONNECTIONS

June, 2006

Fun Festival (Mela) - AHA organized fund raising event:

AHA organized a Fundraiser event on June 25, 2006 Sunday 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the Eagle Heights Community Center, Madison.



All proceeds generated will go to charitable organizations such as Food Pantry and Second Harvest Food Bank (Madison-WI), Ekal Vidyalay (India), and AHA Cultural Center Fund.

The event included talent show by children, Door Prizes - Fun – Games - Arts - Crafts - Mehendi - Face painting and Mouth watering food was served at a very affordable cost. To view the Fun Festival pictures, Please go to Fun Festival (Mela) Link : www.americanhindu.net/2006AHAfunfestival.htm

AHA Annual Picnic - July 22, 2006

The AHA joint picnic with AIA and WITS will be held on Saturday, July 22nd at Mendota Park. The picnic will begin at 10: 00 AM and end at about 3:00 PM. We would appreciate if you could bring a dish to pass.

We suggest that you bring a couple of lawn chairs along in case we don't have enough picnic tables or benches for everyone. Kids are encouraged to bring any game board, football, soccer ball, beach ball, badminton racquet, and any other sport equipment to make this an interesting day.

For kids who may be interested in fishing in the near-by lake, you are welcome to bring your fishing gear and do not forget the bait for the fishes. Since we are close to the lake, perhaps a towel, swimsuit/trunk and a change of clothes (especially for kids) might be a good idea in case they decide to take a dip (**with parent's supervision**) in the lake.

If you have any questions, please call
Ragini 608-845-6008 Sarita 608-836-4022
Jansi 608-268-0240 Kunni 608-848-1386
Bala 608-848-6780 Rita 608-848-9046

Volunteer work for Youth

AHA would like to encourage youths to volunteer for 2 hours of their time to help in our highway clean-up this Saturday, 07/15/2006.

1. Any one more than 11 years of age is eligible to participate in highway cleaning.

2. We are in need of 9 to 12 youth volunteers. Please call 848-6780 & leave a message.

3. All volunteers will have breakfast at 9 a.m., view the video tape from WI DOT about safety rules, organize into teams, and leave at 9:45 for cleaning the highway. Detail information will be given on that day. If you have questions, call Dr. Bala at the above #.

Highway Cleaning Efforts



AHA would like to thank all AHA volunteers who participated in the HWY cleaning along with AIA members on May 6, 2006 under leadership of Dr. Balachandran.

For more information contact Dr. Bala at 608-848-6780 or balachas@uwplatt.edu. Also visit <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/aid/adopt-a-highway.htm>.

Quotes & Quips

'Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting' Elizabeth Bibesco.

The quotes from Atharva Veda : S. K. Das

"You now become easy victims of lust, anger, malice, envy and the rest of that evil brood; the atmosphere of the heart is polluted by the ego-fumes."

"The person, who causes the downfall of a noble woman... who causes loss to his friend...who despite of his superiority is ignorant; is called a fallen man."

"In every country today, men have become power-mad and they resort, without any compunction, to self praise and dry declamation. They develop hatred against others, foster envy and feed their fatal egos. They plunge the Society to which they belong into fear, anxiety and disorder. They do not know that if elevating ideals are adhered to and practiced, they could gain eternal fame; instead they are content with cheap applause and short-lived publicity."

"Water is the abject necessity for any kind of life to exist."

"Happiness will not come from happiness; but only from pain. We know the value of standing in shade only after roaming in the hot day sun."

"It takes time for a fruit to mature and acquire sweetness and become eatable; time is a prime factor for most good fortunes."

Question about Hinduism To AHA :

Hello,
I'm trying to find a creditable site of expert of the hinduism religion as to a certain question I would like to be answered.

My question is if one had down syndrome what be their purpose in life as to the hinduism religion. Also would a person of this condition be excepted in the (heaven) or after life due to their condition of not understanding the religion or even basics for that matter. Preston T.

Namaskar, Preston:

The purpose of everyone's life is to evolve and grow spiritually thru the lessons life has to give us. It is the same for a person with Down's Syndrome, or any handicap for that matter: autism, mental illness etc.

Some karma from a previous birth led the person to be "handicapped" in this life. But they still mature, grow and learn in their own way, hopefully surrounded by compassionate caretakers who will make a happy life for them. In Hinduism, all souls are "accepted into heaven" sooner or later. All souls are equal in the Eyes of God. Someone with Down's Syndrome would go to heaven like anyone else.

There he or she will not have Down Syndrome. Before long they will re-incarnate and begin the process of evolution once again in another life until God is Realized, after which, when they die, they can stay in heaven "permanently" and undergo yet another kind of evolution. **Sivakatirswami**

Praising God ~ Tirukural by Tiruvalluvar

1. 'A' is the first and source of all the letters. Even so is God Primordial the first and source of all the world.

2. What has learning profited a man, if it has not led him to worship the Good Feet of Him who is pure knowledge itself?.

3. The Supreme dwells within the lotus of the heart. Those who reach His Splendid Feet dwell enduringly within unearthly realms.

4. Draw near the Feet of Him who is free of desire and aversion, and live forever free of suffering.

5. Good and bad, delusion's dual deeds, do not cling to those who delight in praising the Immutable, Worshipful One.

6. A long and joyous life rewards those who remain firmly on the faultless path of Him who controls the five senses.

7. They alone dispel the mind's distress who take refuge at the Feet of the Incomparable One.

8. They alone can cross life's other oceans who take refuge at the Feet of the Gracious One, Himself an Ocean of Virtue.

9. The head which cannot bow before the Feet of the Possessor of eight infinite powers is like the senses lacking the power to perceive.

10. The boundless ocean of births can be crossed, indeed, but not without intimate union with Infinity's Holy Feet.

New Born :

Congratulations to Enaganti Madhav Naidu and Geetha Poluru family on the birth of their daughter Sravani.

Fun Festival (Mela) ~ Now available on DVD

The June 25, 2006 **Fun Festival (Mela)** program is now available on DVD for \$ 5.00 donation. This program was taped at the Eagle Heights Community Center, Madison, WI. Please make the check payable to American Hindu Association and mail your payment to:

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