



Jagruti



Official Publication of The Hindu Temple and Heritage Hall of Toledo

Volume 3 June 2004

www.ToledoTemple.org

Temple Hours

Tuesday - Friday : 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday : 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Arati : Daily 7:00 pm



Temple Address

The Hindu Temple of Toledo,

4336 King Road,

Sylvania OH 43560. Ph /Fax: 419-843-4440

Tax ID #34-1370076

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subba.rao@utoledo.edu

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Editors:

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Kinjal Shah

kavyachillapalli@yahoo.com

com

15th Anniversary Celebration Sri Ganesha Yagna Hindu Temple of Toledo Sunday, July 18, 2004 7:30am — 2:00pm



On the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of the Hindu Temple, Sri Ganesha Yagna will be performed on the premises of our temple Sunday July 18, 2004. The Yagna or Homa will be performed outside the temple under a tent by a team of 5 pundits. The significance of the Yagna and it's benefits are briefly explained below. **Mark this very important day on your calendar and make sure you attend this auspicious event with your family and friends.**

Yagna—Significance, Importance and Benefits

"Yagna" is derived from the root "Yaj" in Sanskrit meaning worship. Worship through "Yagna" is a unique form of prayer in the Vedic tradition. Yagnas are generally performed for the fulfillment of human pursuits like well being of self and their family, to wish for a progeny to carry on the family tree, gain of unrivaled sovereignty, a ritual pertaining to ancestors, giving away ones possessions and becoming an ascetic and desiring to enter heaven. It is also performed as a penance, asking forgiveness of almighty for the "apacharas" (unintentional mistakes), to restore and preserve sanctity, faith, peace and prosperity, and to seek the blessings of the Almighty.

Yagnas are performed periodically at temples for the "Yoga Kshema "(welfare of all living beings), not only in a particular community or society but the entire world, for the abundance of rains/crops, kindness among human beings and towards the animal and plant kingdom.

To be a Sponsor, call Ashok Salvi, Event Coordinator at 419-841-7109

President's Page

June 30, 2004

Dear Devotees, Friends and Supporters of the Hindu Temple of Toledo.

Another two plus months have passed, filled with activities. **You**, the Temple Community, have made it possible. **Thanks to all of you.** The coming months will be exciting and busy! It has been great working with you all and I am looking forward to receiving your cooperation, help, commitment and involvement.

The next real big event we are preparing and I am really excited about, is the **Ganesha Maha Yagna** on Sunday July 18. This will be a grand event. Six priests will perform the Yagna according to authentic Vedic rituals for nearly five hours. All the sponsors of Yagna will be performing the *homas* and other rituals on a raised platform. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to partake in and receive the Blessings of Lord Ganesha. The response to sponsoring the Yagna has been excellent. To date, we have fifty sponsors. Further details of the Yagna can be found elsewhere in Jagriti. Please contact Dr. Ashok Salvi at 419-841-7109 if you wish to be a Sponsor.

The Festival of India is on August 13, 14 and 15. Please mark your calendars. We should celebrate this on a grand scale. The Festival Committee under the stewardship of Dr. Sukheshini Raghuvver and Dr. Sudershan Jetley is working hard to bring the festival to you. I request all of you to partake in this celebration. Please sponsor the various poojas during the festival as you have done in the past. Please get your friends who are new to the Temple to sponsor poojas also. Plans are afoot for having a musical nite, cultural activities, food stalls, vendor stalls, a catered dinner and a DJ, *and lots of fun.* Come and enjoy with family and friends.

Reflecting on the activities over the past two and a half months, we celebrated Hanuman Jayanti, Mahavir Jayanti, Havan, Mother's day, Father's day and Graduation day. Mother's day was a grand success with the Youth group organizing a loving tribute to the mothers. A number of volunteer dads cooked great food and provided a respite to the hard working mothers. The lunch that day raised funds close to a thousand dollars, for charity in the greater Toledo community. A great showing by our community! Our thanks to all the dad volunteers of the day and congratulations to the Temple Community.

We had wonderful Bhajan by the Columbus temple group, a talk by Dr. Jwala Prasad and a sweet short play by the children on the life of Lord Mahavir in April, discourses by Swami Pratyagbhdananda, and a presentation on spirituality and self-realization by Shri Madhu Duggirala in May. On June 5, we had the second seminar on Heart Disease and Cardiac Health presented by the gifted physicians in our community. As part of the seminar, about eighty individuals received free screening and testing for cholesterol.

I am again happy to report that the attendance at the Temple is growing. That is healthy. Thanks to *all of you*, especially the Lunch sponsors and the Pooja sponsors and the various Committees.

Please support your Temple in as many ways as you can. Renewing your membership, bringing in new members, volunteering for the Temple activities, writing for Jagriti, providing feedback, and advice are some of the things that come to my mind. The Temple has become more active and lively and *please make it even more lively.*

May the Blessings of the Lord be with you and your families.

Hari OM

S. Subba Rao
President

A Message From Our Pandit Ji

Dear Devotees,

Man has fallen from his supreme state of peace and bliss to his limited existence of sorrow and misery. By spiritual awakening one can regain his/her original glory. Spiritual awakening is the most important aspect for human beings. Without spiritual evolution, humans can neither achieve happiness, nor prosperity. All the material possessions cannot make the human mind peaceful. To bring this awakening all over the World and for the good of all devotees and mankind, for removal of all kinds of obstacles, for success in all endeavors and attainment of desired objectives, The Hindu Temple of Toledo is performing the Ganesh Yagna as Deva Yagna.

Yagna comes from the Sanskrit root word "Yaj" to worship, to sacrifice, or to unite. Worship is a full-time awareness of the Reality not a part time ritual. Yagna should go on all the time through action and perception. That alone will take you to Godhead.

According to the Vedic scriptures, a householder should perform five Yagnas or sacrifices. They are: 1. Deva Yagna, sacrifice to God. 2. Brahma Yagna, sacrifice to the sages. 3. Pitri Yagna, sacrifice to the ancestors, 4. Bhoota Yagna, sacrifice to all the creatures and 5. Manushya Yagna, sacrifice (service) to man (Jan seva).

Deva Yagna which means worshiping God, you may worship God as Ganesh, Rama, Krishna, Vishnu, Shiva, Devi, Brahman, or in any other form according to your faith. A yagna is a purifying action that helps one to be free of the impurities of the mind, such as passion, anger, greed, and hatred among others. It is as if you have kindled a mystic fire in the altar of your heart, and you pour your impurities into that fire.

Lord Krishna says in the Bhagavad Geeta: "Deva, nourished by the sacrifice, will fulfill your desires". {The "productive potential" (*Deva*), when cherished through "self dedicated work performed in a spirit of sacrifice" (*Yagna*) provides the worker with the desired objects.} Indeed anyone who enjoys the things given by the Lord without offering selfless acts in return is verily a thief.

Righteous, who eat the "remnants of the sacrifices" are freed from all sins; but those sinful ones, who cook food only for their own sake, verily eat but sin. (B.G. Ch. 3-12/13)

There are revelations given to our ancient sages after several years of worship and austerities. The foremost among our ancient rituals is the ritual of Yagna. Almost every ancient culture in this World has fire as an integral part of worship. The sacred fire acts as a link between man's consciousness and the cosmic consciousness. The fire also has the ability to convert the physical components (offerings into the fire) into the psychic components as offering to the deities presiding over the Yagna. When this is done a number of things can be attained such as;

1. Cleansing of the atmosphere
2. Cleansing of the physical and psychic bodies
3. Awakening of auspicious energies
4. Enabling divine experiences
5. Invoking the grace of the God in our Lives

Yagna is a sacred fire ritual that has been in prominence in Hinduism and prevalent in a few other ancient cultures and religious groups in one way or the other. IT IS A RITUAL OF SACRIFICE, Sacrifice made to Agni the Fire God which is one of the five elements.

Yagnas are age-old sacred rituals to invoke and propitiate God using the sacred fire as a medium for the attainment of various wishes and boons in the spiritual and the materialistic world.

Yagnas are an integral part of our ancient heritage. Bhagwan Shree Rama, Shree Krishna, the Pandavas and a multitude of other people have performed Yagna's to achieve desired results (boon) by offering sacrifices to fire.

We invite you to participate in this auspicious event and to join us in celebrating the 15th Anniversary and Shree Ganesh Yagna with your family and friends and receive the blessings of Lord Shree Ganesha on July 18th 2004 on the Temple grounds.

May the blessings of the Lord be with you and your family.

Anant Dixit

Ganesha Yagna—Sunday July 18, 2004

A Message From Ashok Salvi—Event Coordinator

Dear Devotees:

Thank you for a very enthusiastic support for the upcoming 'Ganesh yagna' on July 18. This will be the first such event in the history of the Hindu Temple. As a celebration of fifteen years of Temple existence, let us make it a successful one. There will be six Priests from different parts of the country and Canada participating in the rituals and our youth will have significant role in it. Ceremony will start at 7:30am. Please plan to arrive in large numbers a few minutes early. Snacks will be provided between 9 to 11am. and catered lunch will follow the entire function.

Sponsorships are still available at 'Patron' [\$1001], 'Sponsor' [\$501] and few in 'Donor' category. Please call with your pledge to one of the sponsorship committee members. I also urge devotees to come forward as volunteers. Plenty of help is needed. Listed below is a tentative program for the Yagna.

Once again, thank you and looking forward to seeing you all on Sunday, July 18th .

Ashok Salvi.

Tentative Agenda for July 18, 2004

- 7:30 Welcome - Ashok Salvi
7:40 Introduction of Priests - Subba Rao President, Hindu Temple of Toledo
7:50 Introduction on Yagna - Pandit Dwijendra Doobay Ji
8:00 Shantipath/ Pandit Anant Kumar Dixit to lead team of Priests.
Devatha Namaskar
Pradhana Sankalpam
Kalash Staphana
Maha Ganapati Puja
Punyahavachana / Benediction
Matruka Pujanam
Rajopcharpuja
Pradhana Homa
Purnahuti
Dakshina
- Priests Appreciation and Message - Bhawna Bhatia Chairperson, Board of Trustees.
Ashirwad
Samesham - Pandit Dwijendra Doobay Ji: 5 to 10 minutes.
- 12:30 Brief Forum - Moderator: Ashok Salvi
Youth Perspective: Vikram Vora / Shweta Pai (5 minutes)
Seniors Perspective: Raj Joshi (5 minutes)
Women's Perspective: Speaker TBD (5 minutes)
Community Perspective: Raj Bhatia (5 minutes)
12.55 Final Remarks: Subba Rao President, Hindu Temple of Toledo
01.00 Vote of Thanks / Conclusion - Ashok Salvi.
01.15 Catered Lunch.
02.00 Auction.

Pre-Yagna Program—Saturday July 17, 2004

At 6:45 pm Saturday evening there will be a 2-hour program covering a discourse by Pandit Doobay Ji from Canada. Doobay Ji will talk about the philosophical significance of Yagnas. This will be followed by some melodious **Bhajans** and **Dances** by members of our community. Please attend this program with all your family and friends. *Beverages will be served.*

Announcements and Events

If you have any news or other information you would like to share with the rest of the community, please e-mail to Siva Chillapalli at siva@umesatech.com. Make sure the information is formatted and syntax checked prior to forwarding.

THANKS:

Our profound thanks to our enthusiastic volunteers for their dedicated services. It is our fond hope that this group will continue to grow and contribute toward fulfillment of the aspirations of our Temple.

Thanks also go to the following devotees for sponsoring / donating to the Temple:

- Dr. Arun & Hema Patel for donating beautiful dresses for our Temple deities
- Sharad and Padmavathi Annaladasula for donating a new pair of Tabla
- Dr. Sugandha Purohit for donating an Eletronic tabla machine
- Rajiv & Purvi Saraiya for donating a DVD player
- Drs. Alok & Vasanti Krishna for sponsoring Swami Pratyagbodhananda's Lectures.
- Drs. Steve & Neerja Jindal for donating \$600.00 worth of books for Geeta study group.
- Dr. Suresh & Sonu Dasani for sponsoring Vijuben Rajani's discourses.

CONGRATULATIONS:

- To Sunil, son of Gop and Usha Karnani who got married to Dipti on February 28th in Detroit.
 - To Aarthi, daughter of Dr.Ajith & Archana Pai who got married to SriKrishna on May 1st.
 - To Aashish, son of Dr. Pravin & Pushpa Patel who got married to Reshma on May 30th .
 - To Ashish, son of Drs. Raju & Rama Shah who got married to Jill on May 30th .
- We wish them all a happy married life and welcome Dipti, Srikrishna, Reshma and Jill into our community.*

Congratulations also go to the following parents grand parents for being blessed with new borns:

Parents

Purvi & Rajiv Saraiya
Tiancheng & Chinmaya Samanta
Archana & Parag Joshi
Jesal (Daughter of Dr. Arun & Hema patel) & Shawn Dornhecker

New Born Child

Krishna
Siddharth
Shounak
Sia

Graduations

The following have graduated from either high school or college. The entire Hindu Temple community congratulates you on your achievements and wishes you the best in whatever your future endeavors may be. The following are the graduates.

High School: Dipak Adappa, Vikash Ahir, Bryan Ahuja, Ripa Ajmera, Anika Bhandari, Sumit Biswas, Nakul Bansal Sanjay Dasani, Sheena Dasani. Neil Mahajan and Arun Ragothman

College : Sandip Bhat, Shantanu Thakur, Sandip Mehta, Seema Jani

CONDOLENCES

The Temple devotees express their sincere and heartfelt condolences to following persons and their families for their beloved family member's recent demise. We pray almighty Lord to grant eternal peace to their departed souls.

Dr. Arvind & Bindu Mistry	Arvind's Mother
Dr. Haridas & Deepa Dasani	Deepa's Mother
Dr. Kusala & Kusum Hegde	Kusum's Mother
Mr. Devan & Sujata Kapoor	Devan's Father
Mrs. Munira Merchant	Mr. Zulfikar

Announcements and Events (more)

Upcoming HERITAGE SEMINARS



September 11, 2004: **Topic: “Diet, Nutrition & Exercise”**

Moderators: Dr. Manorama Rao,
 Mrs. Savita Jindal

October 2, 2004: **Topic: Interfaith Seminar**

On Mahatma Gandhi’s birth day Peace strategies of leaders from diverse religions and traditions, their application to our world today.

November (TBD) 2004: **Topic: “Asset protection and tax reduction strategies”.**

Moderator: Sujatha Hegde C.P.A.

15th Annual Festival of India

August 13 - 15, 2004

The Festival of India Team chaired by Sukeshini Raghuveer and co-chaired by Sudershan Jetley and ably assisted by their working sub-committees are putting together the final touches to this annual event. Listed below is some advance information. Please note that this information is very tentative and is subject to change. Final details will be published in the next issue of Jagriti scheduled to come out late July. The festival committee encourages you to actively participate in this festival by either volunteering, sponsoring the various pujas and or participating in the various cultural activities.

The following information (subject to change) is provided by Sudershan Jetley.

Cultural / Entertainment Programs (times are subject to change)

Do you have a talented inner self, bursting to come out. If so, present it at the cultural program. Please contact Jayasri Reddy, Cultural Chair at (419) 842-1990

Friday August 13th

- 6:00 pm Ganesh Puja. For sponsoring please contact Leena Jhunjhunwala at (419) 535-0970
- 7:00 pm Dinner by Taj of Columbus
- 8:00 pm Musical Program by Narender Seth from Detroit

Saturday August 14th

- 08:30 am Srinivasa Kalyanam with Utsav Murtis. For sponsoring contact Sapna Reddy at (419) 824-0925
- 11:30 am Sri Satyanarayana Puja. For sponsoring contact , Surendra Matani at (419) 843-2229
- 12:30 Aarti
- Lunch Stalls by Taj of Columbus and India Kitchen, South Indian Flavor items
- Lunch available 11:30 am on-wards until 3:30 pm. Drinks on-going . Water , Pop and Mango Lassi
- Cultural Programs; 2:00 to 3:00 pm and 3:30 to 4:30 pm, Mayor of Sylvania has been asked to attend
- Vendor stalls open from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Temple tours between cultural programs
- 7:00 pm dinner by Taj of Columbus
- 8:00 pm DJ

Announcements and Events (more)

15th Annual Festival of India (cont'd)

Sunday August 15th :

- 09:00 am Mahavir Puja. For sponsoring contact Pushpa Shah at (419) 843-5359
- 11.00 am Havan ; For sponsoring contact Rajni Sharma at (419) 882-7710

- 12:30 to 2:00 pm cultural program (Patriotic themes)
- 2:00 pm Lunch by Tandoor
- Vendor stalls in the morning

Volunteers

Volunteer help is needed on all three days for the following: selling tickets, serving food, laying out facilities, helping Pundit Ji, directing traffic / parking and setting up tables and chairs. Please call Jayant Bekal at (419) 841-4710 and offer your help.

Video Cameraman

This year we are thinking of making a video. We need a volunteer who may have expertise or interest in making video. If you are able to help contact Sudhir Rao at (419) 841-7566.

Festival Directory—Advertising

There is still room in the book to include your advertisement, whether it be for personal or business. This is an excellent opportunity to promote your business to the entire community. Rates are as follows:

Personal Ad: 1/2 page—\$150, Full page—\$250 **Business Ad:** 1/2 page—\$250, Full page—\$500 **Cover page—**\$1,000. Please call Steve Jindal at (419) 531-5757 for more details. **Deadline for photo ready ad is 7/20/04**

As is customary every year, the **Temple Directory** will include names, addresses and telephone numbers of all community members. If you have not paid your membership dues yet for this calendar year, I urge you to send in a check immediately for \$150 to the Hindu Temple of Toledo, 4336 King Road, Sylvania, OH 43560. If you have already paid your due for this year, please check the previous year's directory for any errors in your name, address and telephone number. Please report this to me via e-mail at siva@umesatech.com or phone 419-392-5085. All errors/changes must be reported to me no later than July 20. It is entirely your responsibility to report any errors/changes prior to the deadline.

Siva Chillapalli, Membership Chair

Donations for Ganesha Yagna—July 18

Dear Devotees. A call for you to make offerings and contributions and to participate in this great Yagna. Devotees can bring donations of ghee, oil, havan-samagri, camphor and prasad items like nuts, raisins and crystal sugar to the Temple any time between now and 17 July. Please bring flowers, fruits, coconuts and home prepared Laddoos on Saturday 17 July only. Please contact Pandit Ji should you have any questions.

Family Fun, Movie Night July 16 at 8:30 pm at the Temple

There will be a fun filled family movie night at the Temple on Friday July 16 at 8:30 pm. Please bring your children, any age to the Temple. Drinks and snacks will be available. There will be no charge. Movie title is yet to be determined (G or PG ratings)



Jagriti

The Hindu Temple of Toledo
4336 King Road
Sylvania, OH 43560

To

Asha for Education-Toledo *Presents*

Ragalahari - 2004

(An Indian classical music and dance concert)

Saturday July 24, 2004

Recital Hall, Dept. of Music, University of Toledo

Asha is a non-profit voluntary organization with a mission to catalyze socio-economic change in India through education of underprivileged children in India. There are over 66 Asha chapters worldwide: 45 in the US, 14 in India, and 7 in Europe, Singapore and Australia and has supported more than 385 different projects spanning 24 states in India. Volunteers in each of these chapters take personal interest in identifying education-related projects in India, and supporting them through funds and other means. Chapters raise funds for its projects in a number of ways such as individual donations, corporate donations, sale of merchandise and fundraising events.

Asha-Toledo was started by a group of students at The University of Toledo as a satellite chapter to Asha-Detroit. The Asha-Toledo will be organizing its first annual fundraiser event the **Ragalahari**, a classical music concert on **July 24** at the **Recital Hall**, Dept of Music, UT. The concert will feature performances from noted artists Mr. Ramesh Mangrulkar and Ms Mrinalini Arkatkar. Entry tickets of \$5 will be available at Krishna groceries, Reddy Food n' Spices and The Hindu Temple.

100% of donations and proceeds will go directly toward education related projects in India. Please mark your calendar and help us in this noble cause. For more details contact us at ashatoledo@yahoo.com or Srivatsan Kannan at 419-320-3423

Visit www.ToledoTemple.org often for new and more information