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# hindu patrika

Published Bi-Monthly

April & May 2012



## ***Brahmotsav*** ***2012***

**HINDU TEMPLE & CULTURAL  
CENTER OF KANSAS CITY  
A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

6330 Lackman Road, Shawnee, KS 66217-9739

<http://www.htccofkc.org>

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## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

| <b>Term</b> | <b>Name</b>               |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| 2011-2013   | Eashwar Reddy             |
| 2011-2013   | Mohan Gupta               |
| 2011-2013   | Mana Pattanayak           |
| 2011-2013   | Priti Mohan               |
| 2010-2012   | Sanjay Mishra             |
| 2012-2014   | Ravi Mehra                |
| 2012        | Srini Bhagavan            |
| 2010-2012   | Sadhana Bisarya           |
| 2012-2014   | Kumkum Bisarya            |
| 2012-2014   | Gopal Aedma               |
| 2012-2013   | Upendra Shah              |
| 2012        | Meera Dayal               |
| 2012        | Annuradha Arinnipalli     |
| 2012        | Sunil Prabhu              |
| 2010-2012   | Deb Bhaduri (Chairperson) |

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## **HTCC MISSION STATEMENT**

- 1. To promote awareness of Hinduism's spiritual and cultural legacy of inclusiveness, peace and non-violence.**
- 2. To provide forums for religious, cultural and educational activities of the Hindu community and encourage the younger generation in assuming leadership role in the activities of HTCC.**
- 3. To participate in interfaith activities and humanitarian services to the community of the Greater Kansas City Area.**

## **Annual HTCC Fellow Meeting**

The first annual Fellow members meeting of HTCC this year will be held on June 10, 2012 at the temple. All fellow members are invited to attend the meeting which will start at 10:30 AM followed by socialization and lunch.

**Tel: (913) 631-7519 (Temple)**  
**Tel: (913) 962-9696 (Priest Shrinivas)**  
**Tel: (913) 749-2062 (Priest Atulbhai)**

## President's Report

Dear Ones,

The first two months was an experience of this wonderful prayer in Rig Veda. It was astounding for me and my team to see the countless hours of Seva that go in each and every event at the temple. Thanks to all the Sevaks for Your contribution – Your commitment – Your tireless Enthusiasm is making a difference at our temple.

**Rig Veda** “Samaneeva akoothih samaana hridayani vah || Samaanam asthu vo mano yatha vah susahasathi” Translates as “Let our resolve be common. Let our hearts be common. Let our minds be common. Hence, let all our works be got done well.”

This prayer became an experience with the Holi Mela – the zeal and enthusiasm of all the regional organizations to sponsor food stalls – Local Indian Stores and Restaurants being generous with their sponsorship – Hindi Class and Nritya for their wonderful Dance – Youth Group for manning the HTCC Food Stalls - KCdesi for publicizing the event – Preetam for her songs – Desi Oye for the Pan stall - My entire EC for spending countless hours on this event – The Indian community for your participations in the Festival of Colors ! Thank You All!

**What** we saw was – over 3000 people in attendance for the event with Food completely sold out – Kansas City Star covering the entire event – 3 TV channels covering the event - Nearly 350 American students from Universities and High School Participated in Tours of the Temple and Holi Mela !

**It** was truly an example when we all come together in Action to pursue a Common Vision – Everything is a Possibility! Special Thanks to Bhaskar and Usha for Leading this wonderful event.

**I** look forward to your continued support, feedback and valued contribution to our temple. For the first time in 9 years – Akhanda Ramayan Path is happening on Ram Navami on April 1st – Please do participate.

**Thyagaraja Aradhana** is being celebrated at the temple April 6th and April 8th – Please join us.

**Annual Bramhotsavam Celebration** is happening from April 13th to April 15th. There are more than one way to be part of this Grand Celebration and Cultural festivity of Art and Culture. I would love to see us be part of this Annual celebration – Each one can be the HOST / HOSTESS of this grand celebration.

**I** end this note with gratitude to my wonderful EC Team – Sugandhi, Gopal , Chetna, Usha, Bhaskar, Venkat , Makarand, Dinesh and Mukesh for their commitment to serve ! You all truly are an inspiration! Thanks to Kumkum Bisariya - our treasurer for partnering with us in our processes and all events.

**Signing off** with a prayerful request – May our paths cross soon in service at the temple !!!

In His Service,  
Sunil

# From Buddha to Shankaracharya: A Spiritual Journey\*

By Debabrata Bhaduri

*\*Presented at the Shankara's birth anniversary program at the  
Vedanta Society of Kansas City*

In Bhagvad Gita, Lord Krishna said whenever there is a decline of religion in the world He incarnates as human and rescues the world from extinction. Births of Buddha and Shankaracharya are testimonies to the statement. Their appearances are seminal events in the spiritual history of India. Both were born at times of degradation of social and moral order, resulting in confusion and chaos in the society.

**D**uring Buddha's time, rigid social order resulting from brahminic orthodoxy deprived a section of the common people of the blessings of good life. In Shankara's time, there was a proliferation of philosophical schools and religious practices based on different interpretations of Vedic literatures, creating chaos and confusion for an average person. Both took up the task of reform and re-interpretation of dharma, leaving a lasting legacy of followers and institutions that served mankind for hundreds of years after their times, continuing even today. I will briefly mention some of the remarkable parallels and contrasts in the lives and messages of these two great personalities.

**S**iddhartha and Shankara were born in India approximately 1500 years apart in time and at geographical locations almost equal number of miles apart.

**F**or Siddhartha, it is the futility of royal life that made him unhappy in his father's palace. Once he went to see the real world outside the premises of the royal palace, and witnessed the sick, the poor and the dead for the first time. He was deeply saddened at the sufferings in a real world and decided to get out of his royal kingdom in search of true meaning of life. This was a life changing event for him, after which he left home, family, his kingdom and became an ascetic. After wandering, starving and meditating for years, one full moon night, an inner light dawned in him and he became known as Buddha, the enlightened one.

**B**uddha went outside the ritualistic traditions of the time and defied the rigid social laws proclaimed by Manu's Dharma Shastra. People, irrespective of varna or cast could embrace his path and elevate themselves morally and spiritually. His directives to lead a religious life were simple moral rules that the common can easily understand and follow. Buddha helped organize sangha's or monasteries probably the first time in history, which spread his message to distant parts of the land and abroad.

# From Buddha to Shankaracharya:

<<< *Continued from Page 3*

## A Spiritual Journey

**F**or Buddha, life is suffering or 'dukkha', due to two reasons: 'anitya' and 'anatma'. Anitya means impermanence of earthly existence and anatma means absence of any soul. Due to 'avidya' or ignorance we cling to our sense objects not realizing that there is no substance to any object, everything is depended on others for its existence. When one can truly realize this 'sunnyata' or emptiness, one can proceed to 'nirvana' or ultimate liberation.

**S**hankaracharya is credited with re-interpretation of Upanishad to emphasize the supremacy of Advaitya or non – duality.

**B**orn in a place called Sringeri, in the Indian state of Kerala, Shankara from birth was a prodigy, learning and grasping even the most difficult scriptures of Veda and Upanishads when he was a teen. In his childhood, he mastered most of the Vedic literatures and wanted to follow the order of a Sannyasi. But his mother was intent upon keeping him in the household since he was the only support for the widowed mother. One day while taking bath in the river, a crocodile grabbed his feet and about to kill him when he shouted and appealed to his mother to grant him his last wish so he can fulfill his desire to be a Sannyasi before dying. Seeing no hope, his mother granted permission and Shankara took the vow of a Sannyasi. By sheer luck, Shankara survived, rescued by the fishermen. This was a life changing incident for him after which he went on to explore the world as a new person.

**A**fter mastering all the essential texts of Veda and Upanishads, he reduced the obscurities of Vedic interpretations at a time when there were as many as seventy different schools prevalent. He interpreted the Vedas in favor of monistic position and declared that the ultimate reality of existence is the non dual Self or Brahman. The goal of human life is to transcend the material existence and realize the oneness with Brahman. To him worldly existence, all phenomenal entities and objects are illusion or maya, and when the veil of maya is lifted one can realize the ultimate reality-Advaita. During his short life span of only 32 years, Shankara wrote important commentaries on all major Hindu scriptures and established four monasteries at four cardinal places in India. He appointed learned priests and scholars to spread the true message of Vedanta all over India.

**I** will quote few lines from his famous composition: Nirvana Shatkam”

***Mano budhyahankara chithaa ninaham,  
Na cha srothra jihwe na cha graana nethrer  
Na cha vyoma bhoomir na thejo na vayu,  
Chidananada Roopa Shivoham, Shivoham.***

>>> *Continued on Page 18*

## A Report On The Holi Mela, 2012

HTCC celebrated Holi festival on Saturday, 10th March. During the festival, the temple was crowded with people, smeared in different colors, looking funny and ridiculous. This festival of Holi is a myriad color of gaiety and re-unions of families and friends. Thus Holi is certainly a vital part of our Indian life and culture.

Holi is the most colorful festival of the Hindus and falls on the Full moon day in the month of Phalgun according to the Hindu calendar which is the month of March. For those people that did not play Holi for a long time and by playing colors found that they missed the gala and cannot wait until next year. The festival of joy was also celebrated with Food mela which included 22 varieties of Indian snacks with the courtesy of all the Regional Organizations, Restaurants and Individual parties. There were demonstrations of Rangoli and Henna. Cultural programs included Bollywood dances and songs. Needless to say the drums got everybody out of their chairs and made them dance.

Holi is an indication for the arrival of spring and end of chilling cold of the winter season. Holi is one of the most ancient festivals of the Aryans. The story behind the festival is as follows: The mighty king Hiranyakashyap with his ego wanted his people to worship him as god. Prahlad, son of Hiranyakashyap defied his father's orders and continued to worship Lord Vishnu. Since his son defied his orders on purpose, the king wanted to kill Prahlad and sent his sister Holika. Holika possesses the boon of not being burnt by fire. She persuades Prahlad to sit on her lap and seats herself in a blazing fire with the full confidence that fire could never touch her. But Holika was consumed by the flames and Prahlad walked out of the fire unharmed and alive. Perhaps this festival got its name from this incident.

HTCC EC takes this opportunity to thank every individual that contributed their time in volunteering and/or attending the festival. By your presence you touched our hearts. THANK YOU, THANK YOU AND THANK YOU.

Please mark your calendars for Diwali Mela and fire works on Sunday, 11th November between 5 pm and 9 pm.

Thank you

Usha Saha

## Current Charges For Puja and Priest Services

|  | <u>At temple</u>    | <u>At home</u> |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| Abhishekam                                       | \$ 75               | —              |
| Abhishekam with kalasa puja                      | \$101               | —              |
| Aksharabhyasam (beginning of writing)            | \$75                | —              |
| Anna Prasana (first feeding)                     | \$51                | \$101          |
| Any other Puja (< 2 hours duration)              | \$65                | \$151          |
| Archna(fruits provided by Temple)                | \$11                | —              |
| Atma Shanti/Tarpanam                             | \$31                | \$101          |
| Baby shower.                                     | \$151               | \$201          |
| Barsi/Annual Ceremony                            | \$251               | \$301          |
| Cremation services                               | Call Temple Manager |                |
| Grihapravesham & Sri Sathyanarayana Puja/Katha   | —                   | \$301          |
| Grihapravesham(house warming) only               | —                   | \$151          |
| Havan  | \$101               | \$151          |
| Hiranyasradham                                   | \$75                | \$101          |
| Kalyanutsavam (Kanyadan) – Individual            | \$151               | —              |
| Mundan(Hair offering) <sup>1</sup>               | \$75                | \$151          |
| Namakaranam(naming of baby)                      | \$51                | \$101          |
| Navagraha Archna- One Graha only                 | \$21                | —              |
| Navagraha puja.                                  | \$101               | \$201          |
| Sahasranama Archna (1000 names of God)           | \$51                | —              |
| Sri Sathynarayana Puja/Katha                     | \$75                | \$151          |
| Samohika Satyanaryana Puja/Katha                 | \$31                | —              |
| Sashti poorthi shanti(60 <sup>th</sup> birthday) | \$201               | \$251          |
| Satyanarayana Puja & Basement Rental             | \$175 (4 hours)     | —              |
| Sponsor Puja (check with priest/manager)         | Call Temple Manager |                |
| Upnayana Sanskara (Sacred thread ceremony)       | \$251               | \$351          |
| Vahan puja                                       | \$31                | —              |
| Vivah(Wedding) <sup>2</sup>                      | \$701               | \$501          |

Above suggested charges do not include Dakshina(donation) to the priest and it should not be less than 25% of suggested service charges. All pujas booked in Advance must be paid in advance. We do allow for upto one cancellation or postponement. For more than one cancellation/ postponement 50% charges will be deducted before any refund is made.

<sup>1</sup>HTCC can not be responsible in arranging a hair stylist.

<sup>2</sup>Charges are inclusive of Basement Hall rental.

Note 1. Minimum charges for any puja performed outside Hindu Temple. \$ 101

Note 2. Any Puja performed outside KC Metropolitan area \$251

## Come, Join us in Annapurna Seva

। पूर्णे सदा पूर्णे शंकरः प्राणवल्लभे ।

गौभाग्य सिध्यर्थम भिक्षां देहि च पार्वती ॥'

ANNA PURNE SADAA PURNE SHANKARA PRANA VALLABHE |  
JNAANA SOWBHAGYA SIDHYARTHAM BHIKSHAAM DEHI CHA  
PARVATI||

Annapurna is the Hindu Goddess of nourishment. **Anna** means food and grains and **purna** means full, complete and perfect. Annapurna Devi has been described as holding a golden ladle adorned with various kinds of jewels in her right hand and a vessel full of delicious porridge in her left. It is said that she does not eat a morsel unless all her devotees have been fed in her temple.

### **MONTESSORI KIDZ, PRESCHOOL/ CHILD CARE**

[www.overlandparkmontessori.com](http://www.overlandparkmontessori.com)

[www.facebook.com/pages/Montessori-Kidz/183894678379487](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Montessori-Kidz/183894678379487)

#### **Morning preschool program**

**9:00am- 12:00pm, 5 days, \$220/ month**

#### **Full day program**

**8:30am-4:00pm, 5 days, \$450/month**

**Before- After care can be arranged.**

**Contact info: Grace Kim, 913-387-4839**

**montessori\_kidz@yahoo.com**

# Sunday Lunch Guidelines

## Why Sunday Lunch?

Sunday Lunch is a special lunch program organized by the Community members and served to the Temple Visitors. Your friends and family lovingly prepare dishes and help in serving them. You prepare the items at the Temple itself - at least most of them. You bring in the supplies, ingredients and most importantly your love and affection. The prepared food is 'sold' at a nominal price and the funds go directly to the upkeep of the temple. The prices have been so nominal that every single morsel of food prepared at the Temple for the Sunday Lunch Program have been sold out.

There is a Sunday Lunch Sign Up sheet on the notice board - please feel free to consult with the Manager who can guide you on what items to prepare and the quantities.

1. Please prepare 4 items for 100 People.
2. Please plan on having at least 4 of your family and friends who would be needed in the Kitchen to help for the Sunday Lunch Program. Temple may be able to provide one helper to assist you.
3. Kitchen is available to use as early as 9 am. Sunday Lunch times are between 10.30AM and 1.30PM. Devotees start lining up for Lunch starting 10:30AM.
4. Try to cook most of the items in the Temple Kitchen. But you can prepare some items at home and bring it to the temple. Please observe normal cleanliness as you would do at home.
5. For any reason, if you do need to cancel your Sunday Lunch, please attempt to pass the opportunity to another friend/family. If no arrangements are possible at all, please do let the Manager know at least 2 weeks prior so that either the Temple can make some arrangements or have some information up.

To sign up call manager or send email to [Prasad@htccofkc.org](mailto:Prasad@htccofkc.org).

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## Join Annapurna Seva Volunteers!

Prasadam is served at the Temple for all big festival celebrations. For 2012, HTCC is looking to put together "AnnaPurna" Seva Team - A Team of Sevaks who can help cook prasadam on behalf of Annapurna Devi to be distributed to all devotees who attend Puja at temple. All sevaks in this team will be emailed about upcoming seva opportunities and you get a chance to volunteer for Pujas of your choice.

Come be part of this wonderful opportunity to cook prasadam. Email [vp@htccofkc.org](mailto:vp@htccofkc.org) to enroll in the new Seva concept at the Hindu Temple.

# Brahmots



## Hindu Temple

Friday A

6.00 p.m: Vishvaksen

Gaja V

108 Devotees Parayana, Pu

Saturday

9.00 a.m: Garuda Vahan

5.00 p.m.: RATH YATRA i

Bajans, Da

Sunday A

8.00 a.m: Suryapraba V

Sudarsa

5.00 p.m.: Chandraprab

Sangeet

Contact: Manaq





# Utsav 2012

**Welcomes you!**

April 13<sup>th</sup>

Maha Puja, Dwajaroohanam,  
Vahana,  
Shparchana, Mangala Aarthi

April 14<sup>th</sup>

Maha seva, Vasantha utsav  
in Four Prakarams, Music,  
Dance, Dandya

April 15<sup>th</sup>

Maha Puja, Maha Narayaniya  
Maha Homam  
Maha Seva, Dwajavarohanam,  
Maha Seva



[info@htccofkc.org](mailto:info@htccofkc.org)



**APEX L.L.C.**  
TAXATION & ACCOUNTING SERVICES

**KRISHNA DAVE**

KANSAS CITY OFFICE  
7180 W 107TH STR, SUITE 2  
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66212  
913-649-7400/785-608-9876

TOPEKA OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 4070  
TOPEKA, KS 66604  
785-273-7191

E-FAX: 816-222-0806

EMAIL: APEXLLC2005@YAHOO.COM

We are here to take care of your Corporate & Personal  
Taxes

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Taxes

New Business Consultation, Incorporation

Monthly Accounting & Reporting, Financial Statements

Personal Tax Audits, Compliance Audit & much more....

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**Priest's Travel Form**

**Date:**

Dear Devotee:

Please check applicable item, sign and return this form to Priest upon completion of the scheduled puja services at your home.

\_\_\_\_\_ Priest was picked up from the Temple/home at  
..... a.m. /p.m. and was dropped off at .....  
a.m. /p.m. at the temple/home.

\_\_\_\_\_ Priest drove to my home in his car for puja and we paid  
mileage @\$0.51 per mile

\_\_\_\_\_ We arranged for a taxi for the priest and paid the taxi  
charges

Name: .....

Address: .....

# THYAGARAJA ARADHANA

A HOMAGE TO ST. THYAGARAJA THROUGH RENDERING HIS COMPOSITIONS

HTCC is proud to present Thyagaraja Aradhana 2012 on Friday, April 6th and Carnatic Music Festival on Sunday April 8th for kids. These are the Program details:

## **April 6th Friday Evening 6pm-8pm**

Pancharatna Singing by Adults (Adult solos to be discussed during our Aradhana Practice) - All are welcome. Students are encouraged to come and listen to the Pancharatnas.

## **April, 8th Sunday Evening 2pm - 5pm**

Carnatic Music Rendition by Carnatic Music Students.

## **Event Details for April 8th**

This year we introduce Thematic Presentation of Kritis by Teachers/Students. The presentation may be on Composers, Raga, Thala, and God etc.

All the students are encouraged to draw or present a short write-up and give to their teachers before the day of the event. The students work will be displayed at the event hall for judges will evaluate public viewing and awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes.

The order of the performance will be on Lottery basis on the day of event in front of the audience.

All participants will be rewarded for their performance in the event.

The students who do not have a local teacher can also participate in groups. Please call other students and form groups of 3.

**Email: [carnaticec@htccofkc.org](mailto:carnaticec@htccofkc.org)**

## **PATRIKA ADVERTISING PRICING**

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Inside Front / Back Cover (Full) 6 Releases | 625.00 |
| Inside Front / Back Cover (Half) 6 Releases | 375.00 |
| Inside Front / Back Cover (Full) 1 Release  | 125.00 |
| Inside Front / Back Cover (Half) 1 Release  | 75.00  |
| Full Page: 1 page (6 Releases)              | 425.00 |
| Full Page: 1 page ( 1 Release)              | 85.00  |
| Half Page: 1/2 page (6 Releases)            | 275.00 |
| Half Page: 1/2 page (1 Release)             | 50.00  |
| Business Card: 1/4 page (6 Releases)        | 130.00 |
| Business Card: 1/4 page (1 Release)         | 25.00  |

*Please pay online directly and email [editor@htccofkc.org](mailto:editor@htccofkc.org) with your composed ad.*



**School of Indian Dance and Music**

Established in 1988

OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS

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15238 Broadmoor, Overland Park, Ks 66212 (near 151<sup>st</sup> and Metcalf)

CLASSES FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS

**BHARATHANATYAM (Indian Classical)**

And Carnatic Music

**CLASSES AT THE HTCC  
ON TUESDAYS AT 5.15 PM**

**6330 Lackman Road, Shawnee,  
KS**

**BOLLYWOOD, CONTEMPORARY, FREE STYLE INDIAN  
at the New Day Yoga Studio**



For more information: Contact Hema Sharma at: 913-696-0213

[Hemavathisharma2001@yahoo.com](mailto:Hemavathisharma2001@yahoo.com) - [www.nritya.org](http://www.nritya.org)

Branches: Des Moines, IA & Wichita, KS

# **Mahavir Jain Puja Schedule for 2012**

## **Mahavir Jayanti Sunday April 8, 2012**

Puja from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Sponsored by Swaran and Kusum Jain

Prasad will be served after puja

## **Das Lakshan Parv/Parushan**

starts from Sept 19, 2012 and

ends on September 28, 2012

For Program details please contact Upendra Shah

Sponsored by Upendra and Surekha Shah

## **Mahavir Nirvan**

Sunday Nov. 18, 2012

Puja from 10 AM to 12 PM

Sponsored by Swaran and Kusum Jain Prasad will be served after puja

Please Contact Temple Manager with any questions or opportunities to participate in the Puja and Events.

## **PK TAX AND ACCOUNTING SVCS LLC**

### **A CPA FIRM**

### **PUJA KOTHARI, CPA**

Our Services Include

Tax Preparation, Tax planning - Individuals, Corporations, Partnerships, LLC/LLPs

Tax Authority representation, Compensation and Retirement Savings Accounting Services, Bookkeeping, Payroll Services, Personal Financial Statements.

We are committed to provide excellent client service at the best rate. Our clients are benefitted by getting personalized and quality service.

### **Contact Us:**

**1948 E Santa Fe St, Suite #M, Olathe KS 66062**

**[puja.cpa@gmail.com](mailto:puja.cpa@gmail.com)**

**Phone: 913-314-8454**

**Fax: 913-428-5498**

**[www.pktaxation.com](http://www.pktaxation.com)**

## Soup Kitchen Information

Every month on last Monday to feed the less fortunate soup kitchen is organized by Suma Hegde. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

To contribute please contact Suma Hegde at (913) 491-1969.



### Have a feedback to share or comment, or just need help? Contact us:

|   |                         |                        |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|
| President   | Sunil Prabhu            | president@htccofkc.org |
| Vice President  | Sugandhi Shankar        | vp@htccofkc.org        |
| Secretary   | Vijay Aianparapu        |                        |
| Jt. Secretary   | Atul Agarwal            |                        |
| Program Chairs:   | Usha Saha               |                        |
|   | Gopal Venkatesh         |                        |
|   | Mukesh Goel             |                        |
|   | Chetna Ranat            |                        |
|   | Dinesh Chinalachaiagari |                        |
| PR Committee (Including Patrika Advertising and Community Outreach) | Bhaskar Krishnamurthy   |                        |
|   | Venkat Manda            |                        |
| Treasurers  | Suma Hegde              |                        |
|   | Sadhana Bisarya         |                        |
|   | Kum Kum Bisarya         |                        |
| Maintenance   | Makarand Deshpande      |                        |

### Want to Contribute to Hindu Patrika?

If you have thoughts on hindu culture and would like to share with the rest of the community, please write to [pr@htccofkc.org](mailto:pr@htccofkc.org) with a sample of your writing. If your child has an artwork that we can publish, please forward that too. *The HTCC Editor's decision on acceptance is final.* We will review it and get back to you right away. No age bar on who can write!



# COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

SATURDAY APRIL 28TH, 2012

08:00 AM — 12:00 NOON

@ HARMONY MIDDLE SCHOOL

10101W 141st Street, Overland Park, KS 66221

NEW  
VENUE



Guest of Honor  
**Congressman KEVIN YODER**

#### TESTING

- + BLOOD SUGAR
- + CHOLESTEROL/LIPID PROFILE
- + BLOOD PRESSURE
- + DENTAL WELLNESS
- + VISION CHECK
- + GLAUCOMA
- + HEARING

Fasting is required



#### COUNSELLING

- + ASTHMA/ALLERGY
- + CARDIOLOGY
- + CHIROPRACTOR
- + MENTAL WELLNESS
- + PHYSICAL REHAB
- + SLEEP DISORDER
- + WOMEN HEALTH
- + SKIN/DERMATOLOGY
- + "ASK A DOCTOR" GENERAL PHYSICIAN'S BOOTH

AND MORE.....

#### Collaboration @ Work

- India Association of Kansas City
- Punjabi Cultural Society of Heartland
- KC Tamil Sangham
- Science of Spirituality
- Gujarati Samaj
- UMKC APAMSA
- Kansas City Bengali Association
- Telugu Association
- Chandana Kannada Sangha
- Sangam-Midwest (Bengali Association)
- Maharashtra Mandal
- MSA (Midwest Sikh Association)
- Kerala Association of Kansas City



Email: [info@iakc.org](mailto:info@iakc.org)

[www.iakc.org](http://www.iakc.org)

Individual caregivers provide services as a free public service to the community. The sponsoring associations are not affiliated with any caregiver and are not responsible for any medical advice or service provided. Participants are advised that any services received during this program is not a substitute for individualized professional medical care by the participant's personal physician.

Please Visit IAKC [www.iakc.org](http://www.iakc.org) for details.

## From Buddha to Shankaracharya...

>>> *Continued from Page 4*

***Neither am I mind, nor intelligence, Nor ego, nor thought  
Nor am I ears or the tongue or the nose or the eyes  
Nor am I earth or sky or air or the light  
I am Shiva, I am Shiva, of nature knowledge and bliss***

**M**aterial existence, our body, mind, intelligence are but maya- ever changing reality without any permanence, no different from 'sunnyata' or emptiness that Buddha describes in his message. After negating all the earthly existence, Shankara found the ultimate positivism, the non-dual Self as the Shiva, full of knowledge and bliss. According to Shankara, Atma or Self is self evident and essentially no different from Brahman, the Nirguana (no attributes), Nirakra (no form), immutable and eternal.

**B**uddha accepted the substance less worldly existence as it is and empowered by this knowledge he found 'nirvana' or ultimate liberation from suffering.

**I**t is interesting to note that the concept of sunnyata is genuinely Indian in origin. When mathematicians were struggling with large numbers, this unique invention of zero changed the course human civilization for ever.

**I**s *sunnya* or null really nothing or empty? It is difficult to conceive zero mentally, it needs the stillness of a yogi's mind. Think of zero number of elephants, zero cows, zero cars and all other objects of the world that can fit into a room conceptually, because of this number, such is the power of sunnyata.

**O**n the other hand, 'infinity' is a concept that is opposite to the idea of sunnya , can take as many items as possible but still not full. Again, infinity is inconceivable, because infinity goes beyond our mind.

**S**hankara's Brahman is full, infinite, devoid of every quality because describing one particular attribute eliminates all others and thus fails to express the true meaning of Brahman. One can not know Brahman, but merge into It and find no sorrow, no suffering, no separation, only perfection and bliss. This fullness can not be any better expressed than in the Upanishad:

***“ Purnam Adam, Purman Idam, Purnat Purnam Udachatte,  
Purnsya Purna madaya, Purna meba, Bashisyate,  
Om shanty, Om shanty, Om shanty.”***

It appears that Buddha's '*sunnyata*' and Shankara's '*purnata*' are two sides of the same coin, one finds one or the other depending on the view point.

*\*Presented at the Shankara's birth anniversary program at the Vedanta Society of KC.*

*The author, fondly known as 'Deb Da' is the Chairman of the Trustee Board of the Hindu Temple of Kansas City for 2012 and has spent many years in the service of Kansas City and surrounding areas.*

# **Hindi Class**

## **Now Enrolling for 2012-2013 Session**

Since last seven years Hindi Class is being conducted every Sunday from 11:00 AM till noon in the temple. Hindi class has started with the intention of helping children of Indian community to preserve their Native language. Ignoring the importance of native language, or neglecting their cultural values is, in a way, to deprive your children of their cultural identity.

In Hindi class we also try to keep them connected with their main festivals and other cultural issues. By bringing your child/children to the Hindi class you are planting cultural seed in them. You might not realize the significance of it now, but it is benefiting your child in a long run.

The enrollment for the Hindi Class (August 2012 to May 2013) is now open. We will keep the enrollment open till end of August. There is a \$10.00 donation to the temple for each child each month.

Contact person:  
Swapnam Kumar  
816 554 2454  
swapnamku@gmail.com

**Online enrollment:**  
**<http://www.htccofkc.org/enrollment>**

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