



Mandir Vani

Hindu Temple and Cultural Center of the Rockies
8375 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Littleton, CO 80128
(Tax ID: 84-1301209)

www.hindutempleofcolorado.org

303-948-9693

email: htcc@comcast.net

The mission of the Hindu Temple and Cultural Center of the Rockies (HTCC) is to provide a forum for religious worship and celebrations, and for cultural, religious, and spiritual development activities based on Hindu / Vedic / Sanatan - Dharma traditions.

Editorial Board

K. C. Upadhyay (Priest)

Prabhakara Rao (Editor)

Reva Nayar (President)



Ganesh Chaturthi Celebration at Hindu Temple

Please Donate Generously

President's Page

Dear Devotees,

Namaste,

May God's Blessing be upon you and your families. It is indeed a great honor to be serving for the year 2011. On behalf of Acharaya ji, Pandit ji, and the rest of the board, please accept our appreciation on your devotion, dedication and cooperation. It is your trust and faith that keeps the successful operation of the Hindu Temple.

Events:

The Celebration of Diwali 2011 marks the 15th Diwali that we have had at the Wadsworth location. With the help of the Priests, Devotees and Trustees we have come a long way. Since the last Mandir Vani, we have celebrated Janam Ashtmi, Ganesh Chaturti, Chandi Havan at the New Hindu Temple site, Karva Chauth, and Diwali. I am pleased to report that in all these major events we have had an attendance of 350 to 400 devotees. This year's Karva Chauth celebration on October 15 marked a record attendance of about 400 devotees. Your support and Acharya ji and Pandit jis hard work has been commendable. We feel fortunate to have their services. We sincerely hope these activities facilitate a great way for our community to learn and celebrate our religion, our culture and to develop lasting friendships.

Accomplishments:

It is always important to reflect at the past and ask ourselves, "Where we were and where we are" With that in mind here are some of the accomplishments we are proud to share:

1. Streamlining of operations by revised policies and procedures.
2. Development of a new web site to reflect the true representation of HTCC.
3. Increased Sunday involvement thru Sunday Sponsorships.
4. Resolution of Sai Baba Organization amicably.
5. By reorganizing, reducing the administrative expense to the tune of about \$1000/ month.
6. Increased the number of outside pujas and events for the devotees.
7. By lectures and visits by our Priests, making Denver Community more aware of Hindu Religion and its beliefs.
8. Worked on design changes for the New Temple to match realistic availability of funds that can be raised.

New Hindu Temple:

As you well know our Current Temple and Cultural Center has served us very well for the past 15 years! However, the limited space at the current location is clearly limiting our ability to grow as an organization. Our capacity to host additional cultural activities is becoming increasingly challenging. Therefore, we have been looking for building a future Hindu Temple in Colorado.

We have been working hard towards development of a Conceptual design with the criteria and requirements approved by the Board. Along with that we have set goals for our Trustees to raise funds. A fund Raising drive was initiated near the last of August 2011 through December 2011.

Here is the summary of the Goals and Achievements to date.

Goal: To raise \$1.25 million by December 2011. Total Project Estimate at \$2.5 Million
Cash In Hand (New Temple Fund): \$571,950
Pledges from Donors: \$500,000
Balance needed to reach \$1.25 million: \$178,050

I am pleased to report that the drive has been going very well and we have reached an important milestone in Temple's history. We are confident that we will achieve this goal of \$1.25 million. Once we reach this milestone we are planning on going with next steps of our project plan with Ground Breaking estimated to start during summer of 2012. The Community support received thus far has been a source of strength. I think each one of you along with Board of trustees, and volunteers whose thoughtful visionary actions will help us reach this goal.

An Appeal

Our Goals and Drives for Fund Raising and eventual building a New Hindu Temple rests on your shoulders. Without your support and cooperation, we would not have been where we are and will go no further. We are appealing to you, your family, and friends to join in this historical mission so that we can leave a legacy for our children and grandchildren. A sacrifice today on our parts will enhance a cultural and religious heritage for generations to come. Please donate generously. Experience the joy of sharing and giving. He, who has provided us with all we have, is looking for a New House. Please join in and make our dream of A New Hindu Temple a reality come true. The various Hindu Temples in the US communities around us have evolved and grown over the years building upon the vision of the local Hindu Community, dedication of the volunteers and enthusiasm and generous donations for the community. The Hindu Temple also envisions a similar approach. The vision requires the support of the community to make it a reality. We have initiated a fund raising campaign towards raising at least \$200,000 by December 2011. We appreciate and welcome your contributions to become donors of the Hindu Temple. The reality and success of a vibrant Hindu Temple for our community depends on you.

I would again appeal to all of you to contribute financially towards this worthy cause. And as always we are looking for volunteers for carrying out the various activities at the Temple. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, serve or donate towards this cause please email us at Htcc@comcast.net

On behalf of the Temple, I thank all the volunteers who help out in many ways. The Temple could not function smoothly without your dedication and selfless service. May true blessings of the lord be with you and your family?

Cordially
Reva Nayar

Celebrations at The Temple - Madhu Mahajan

Shri Krishna Janamashtami (21 Aug 2011)

Shri Krishna Janamashtami was celebrated on Sunday, August 21 from 6pm till midnight. The festivities started with the Bhagvad Gita recital, followed by cultural programs, bhajan, kirtan, and so much more. Our rising star, Tara gave an enchanting performance for the occasion. Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped and made this event a memorable one.

Ganesh Chaturthi Mahotsav (4 Sep 2011)

For more than 10 years, the Colorado Kannada Koota group has been sponsoring this event in the leadership of Dr. Prabhakar Rao. The festival was celebrated on September 4th, Sunday from 9:30am to 2:30pm. The event was a grand success; more than 300 people participated and received blessings of Lord Ganesha. The priests and devotees chanted Vedic hymns to welcome and honor the Lord Ganesha. Local artists gave heart-felt performances of melodious Indian classical music and Bharata Natyam dance. More than 40 volunteers worked very hard and provided delicious Prasadam Lunch in South Indian cuisine. Once again, Colorado Asian Health Education and Promotion (CAHEP) conducted free or at minimum cost Health Fair to needy people. In addition, a generous amount of \$10,000.00 was collected from supportive donors. Sincere thanks to all devotees who attended the event, all artists who entertained the audience, volunteers who cooked the Prasadam, Sanskrit scholars who helped priests in chanting Vedic Mantras, and volunteers who helped to clean the Temple after the event.

Maha Chandi Havan (2 Oct 2011)

We had a very unique and a grand celebration of Maha Chandi Havan during the Nava Ratri season on October 2nd at the New Temple site, 7200 S. Potomac St, Centennial, CO. It was a remarkable showcase of ancient Hindu rituals for more than 3 hours in its purity and entirety, performed by Acharya ji, and Pandit ji and assisted by Rajesh Kaul ji. It was a mesmerizing witness of ancient rituals in modern times. The pooja was followed by melodious Bhajans sung by our favorite artist, Mrs. Vinata Gangoli and Mohan ji and Bharat Natyam dance item by Tara.

Inspirational and moving speeches were given by Jagdish Khatter and Naval Sharma. We are delighted to inform you that people are excited about the New Hindu Temple and opened their wallet in generous donations of more than \$25,000 on that day. We thank you for your continuous support.

We want to thank the priests, the artists, the sponsors, the donors, and all the volunteers who made this event a grand success. It was a great team work.

Diwali Celebration (26 Oct 2011)

This year we celebrated White Diwali with 6 to 8 inches of snow on the ground on October 26th. In spite of the inclement weather, the festivities went on. The event started with children lighting the candles and getting goodie bags as our appreciation to the new generation. Acharya ji performed traditional Maha Lakshmi pooja with reciting 108 Maha Lakshmi names and other rituals. It was a delightful event.

Our heartfelt gratitude to each individual who participates in the Hindu Temple activities and supports and helps the Temple in any possible way. Please continue your support to the Hindu Temple; we are very close in achieving our mission of building the new Hindu Temple in Denver metro area. We are almost there, your help has made it all possible. Please donate generously.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

HINDU TEMPLE AND CULTURAL CENTER OF THE ROCKIES
8375 S. WADSWORTH BLVD. LITTLETON, CO 80128
TEL: (303) 948 - 9693

2012 Festivals Celebration Calendar (Jan to December)

<u>Festival</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
January			
New Year (Ganesh Pooja)	01	Sunday	11:00 am
Navagrah Pooja	08	Sunday	11:00 am
Poornima/Satyanarayana Pooja	08	Sunday	6:45 pm
Lohadi	13	Friday	
Makar Sankranti/Pongal	14	Saturday	
Vasant Panchami/Saraswati Puja	28	Saturday	6:45 pm

February

Poornima/Satyanarayana Pooja	07	Tuesday	6:45 pm
Maha Shivaratri	19	Sunday	8:00 pm

March

Holashtak Begins	01	Thursday	
Holashtak Ends/Holika Dahan	07	Wednesday	
Poornima/Satyanarayana Pooja	08	Thursday	6:45 pm
Holi	08	Thursday	
Hindu New Year (Ugadi)	22	Thursday	
Vikram Samvat 2069 Begins	22	Thursday	
Vasant Navaratra Begins	22	Thursday	
Durga Ashtami	30	Friday	7:00 pm
Shri Ram Navami	31	Saturday	

Akhand Ram Charit Manasa Paath begins Saturday 31 March at 11 am and ends Sunday 1 April at 11 am

April

Poornima/Satyanarayana Pooja	06	Friday	6:45 pm
Shri Hanuman Jayanthi	06	Friday	
Akshaya Tritheeya	24	Tuesday	
Aadi Shankaracharya Jayanthi	28	Saturday	

May

Nrisimha Jayanthi	04	Friday	
Poornima/Satyanarayana Pooja	05	Saturday	6:45 pm
Ganga Dashami	31	Thursday	

June

Nirjala Ekadashi	01	Friday	
Graduation Pooja	03	Sunday	11 am
Poornima/Satyanarayana Katha	04	Monday	6:45 pm
Devashayini Ekadashi	30	Saturday	

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<u>Festival</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
July			
Poornima/Satyanarayana Katha	03	Tuesday	6:45 pm
Shravan Month begins	04	Wednesday	
Naaga Panchami	08	Sunday	
Vara-Lakshmi Vrat	27	Friday	
August			
Upaa-karma/Rakshaa Bandhan	01	Wednesday	
Poornima/Satyanarayana Katha	01	Wednesday	6:45 pm
Shri Krishna Janmashtami	09	Thursday	Starting at 6:00 pm
Poornima/(Satyanarayana Katha)	31	Friday	6:45 pm
September			
Hari Taalika Teej Vrat	18	Tuesday	
Ganesh Chaturthi Celebration	19	Wednesday	7:00 pm
Poornima/(Satyanarayana Katha)	29	Saturday	6:45 pm
Pitri Paksh (Shraddha) Begins	30	Sunday	
October			
Pitri Paksh (Shraddha) Ends	15	Monday	
Sharada Navaratri Begins	16	Tuesday	
Durga Ashtami	22	Monday	7:00 pm
Dashahara/Vijay Dashami	24	Wednesday	
Sharad Poornima/ Satyanarayana Katha	29	Monday	6:45 pm
November			
Karavaa Chauth	TBD		4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Deepavali/Lakshami Pooja	13	Tuesday	6:00 pm
Govardhana (Annakoot) Pooja	14	Wednesday	
Bhaiya Dooj (Yama Dwiteeya)	15	Thursday	
Tulasi Vivaha	24	Saturday	
Poornima / Satyanarayana Katha	28	Wednesday	6:45 pm
Guru Nanaka Jayanti	28	Wednesday	
December			
Gita Jayanthi/Mokshada Jayanthi	23	Sunday	
Poornima /Satyanarayana Katha	28	Friday	6:45 pm

THOUGHTS ON LIFE AND DEATH

Mita Mukherjee

For eons people have wondered about this miracle that is called, “LIFE”. What is this divine spark in living beings that causes a lowly unicellular amoeba as well as a complex human being to live and breathe, to move around, create and procreate. As soon as this divine spark leaves the organism, be it plant, animal or human, the organism is lifeless and is described as dead.

So what happens after death? The body made of flesh and bones is nothing but chemicals, calcium, phosphate, Potassium, Sodium etc---it goes back to where it came from, the earth. However, what happens to the spark?

Ideas and beliefs are varied as civilizations have developed. Some people believe that a good person goes to heaven, and a person who sins goes to hell. Others believe that the spirit resides on earth forever, hence monuments like the pyramids are built to house bodies of the kings of Egypt.

Nature worshippers believe that the spirit leaves the body but stays close by. Time and again we have wondered about the purpose of life—babies are born, they grow to become teenagers, they in turn grow up to be adults, adults live a fruitful life or a useless life and grow old and die.---Is this all there is to life?

Our great religious teachers have expounded that the divine purpose of life is to achieve self-perfection. To strive for the truth, is the highest of all conscious efforts of a human being. The infinite is our true nature, and once we realize that and experience it, we are at journey’s end---but how do we achieve this lofty goal?

In Bhagvat Gita, Sri Krishna says, “Those who worship me renouncing all actions in me, regarding ME as the supreme goal, meditating on ME, with single minded devotion, for them I become ere long,--O Partha, the savior out of the ocean of finite experiences. (chapter 12)

We wallow in this world, in confusion in pursuit of happiness thinking material objects are going to bring us happiness, then when happiness eludes us we turn to God.

There are a few self-realized souls on earth, who try to teach us this concept of god-realization., By going beyond the ego, the I-ness and MY-ness and meditating upon the infinite peace that is the divine within us, we can achieve the true purpose of life. This brings us to the concept of the cycle of birth and death.

Hindus believe in reincarnation. It is said in the Gita that the soul or atman cannot be destroyed, just as we discard old clothes the soul leaves a worn out body and adorns a new body. As the new person goes through the trials and tribulations of life, the soul gets purified. There in comes the concept of karma and karma phala. Here on earth we have the chance to live an honest life devoted to doing good deeds, then our karma phala in the next life brings us closer to god, and in the end we exhaust all desires and vassanas and become one with God—which is called Moksha or Nirvana.

In the words of Swami Tapovan Maharaj I conclude, “ It is the vision of God or Ishwar Darshan, that brings all worldly sorrows to an end. He who has experienced God has put an end to worldly sorrows and tribulations and fulfilled the purpose of life. Sooner or later all creatures will reach this goal, it may take ages—but as all water reaches the ocean, all individuals must find their supreme self, it is the final resting place.

Treasurer's Report (Jan to Oct 2011) - Satish Kumar, Treasurer

Month	Income	Expense	Major Celebrations
Jan	13,586.55	14,782.12	New Year Ganesha Puja
Feb	13,278.27	11,255.16	
Mar	13,746.09	14,314.29	Maha Shivaratri
Apr	7,933.82	14,095.27	Sri Rama Navami
May	14,489.77	9,687.66	
Jun	15,264.03	15,062.71	Graduation Puja
Jul	15,477.67	15,842.68	
Aug	17,387.05	13,295.07	Krishna Janmastami
Sep	15,186.05	15,215.90	Ganesh Chaturthi
Oct	18,293.55	13,262.14	Maha Chandi Havan & Diwali
Total	\$144,642.85	\$136,813.00	

Current Temple Fund \$ 43,203.66
New Temple Fund \$571,949.25

Total **\$615,152.91**

Appeal letter - Deepak Malhotra

Recently, I spent time reflecting on my forty years living among the Denver Indian Community and concluded that we have come a long way.

Starting India Association from the Basement , Showing Indian movies in schools and churches , 1st publication of Samachar and finally to have a New Hindu Temple to meet the spiritual needs of the growing Hindu community.

The initial decision of having an existing temple, to building a new place of worship without carrying any debt several years ago was a major milestone. Today our community has grown several fold. There is a need for a bigger place of worship. I understand from the organizers that the plans are in place. They need our help and support in executing these plans.

There are 10,000 plus Indian families in Colorado. If 1,000 families give **one-time** \$1,000 donation, we could raise \$1,000,000 which would be sufficient for building the temple based on the organization currently having funds and commitments nearing \$1.5 million.

Small drops of water melting in the mountains and flowing down to become rivers first and then forming oceans. A small contribution from all of us can have a significant impact for the future generations. I am sending a check of \$1,000 to the Hindu Temple to kick off this campaign. I appeal to the soft corner of your heart – it's time to give back to the society, whether it is Hindu Temple or any other organization. Please give it to all of them generously if you can.

Thanks in advance, to all of you for making the dream of New Hindu Temple come true.

Hindu Temple Management Team

Board of Trustees

1. Reva Nayar	President, Fund Raising	303-690-4347
2. C. P. Mishra	Vice President, Operations	303-973-7765
3. Satish Kumar Agarwal	Treasurer	303-973-4635
4. Mita Mukherjee	Secretary	303-499-5208
5. Prabhakara Rao	Communication (Mandir Vani, Procedures)	303-979-419
6. Madhu Mahajan	Communication (Web Site, E-mails)	303-278-9860
7. Arun Budhiraja		303-755-4805
8. Bipin Agarwal		303-883-6198
9. Mahesh Jha		303-526-0260
10. Paresh Patel		303-693-0576
11. Pawan Bhat		303-972-3845
12. Rajesh Agarwal		303-271-0509
13. Sridhar Talanki		303-627-9755
14. Sudhir Verma		303-400-3737
15. Ved Nanda		303-377-6438

Priests

1. Acharya ji Kailash Chandra Upadhyay	720-344-1448 (H)	720-984-5108 (C)
2. Pundit ji Raghavendra Iyyer	303-954-9274 (H)	720-308-8804 (C)

Office Manager

1. Christina Coffman	htcc@comcast.net	303-990-1981
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Please Help Us to Build a Great Temple In Colorado with Your Generous Donations!!!

- For 2011 donations, please send your contributions to Hindu Temple, 8375 S. Wadsworth Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128 by Dec 15, 2011 to receive year end tax deduction receipts.
- If you like to sponsor a Sunday Puja, please contact our Temple Manager, C. P. Mishra at 303-973-7765 or Acharya ji at 303-948-9693
- If you have changed your residence, telephone number or e-mail address, please send an e-mail to our Office Manager, Christina Coffman at htcc@comcast.net

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Donation Appeal

Please continue to show your support by making generous donations at the Temple or by mail (cut and enclose the coupon printed below) to : 8375 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Littleton, CO 80128. The contributions are tax deductible. The Tax ID Number for the Hindu Temple and Cultural Center is 84 -1301209

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____, my/our contribution for the New Hindu Temple and Cultural Center of the Rockies.

Name: _____, Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____, E-mail: _____