

# DEEPAM



## HAPPY DEEPAVALI AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Volume 33, Deepavali Special Issue 1  
December 2023



Hindu Temple

13010 Arbor Street, Omaha, NE, 68144

# NAMASTE

P L A Z A

## Indian Super Market



Conveniently Located on  
114th & Dodge in  
MIRACLE HILLS PLAZA  
Beside Mc Donalds



**617 N 114th St, OMAHA NE :: 402-934-5679**

**LARGEST SELECTION - LOWEST PRICES**

**FRESH VEGETABLES EVERY DAY**



EVERY DAY  
**GET MORE**  
**For your**  
Shopping Dollar



# KONARK GROCERS

**ONE STOP SHOP**

**Denver - Des Moines - Omaha**

**14128 Arbor St, Omaha, NE 68144**

**402-905-9999**

# Deepavali

hindu temple

Cultural Programs | Raffle | Dinner

Sunday, December 03, 2023 @ 3:00 PM

Dinner sponsored by Telugu Samiti of Nebraska



📍 Hindu Temple Social Hall

Cultural Program Contact : cultural@htom.us

Ticket No: \_\_\_\_\_

Ticket No: \_\_\_\_\_

hindu temple

## Annual Deepavali Raffle 2023

DECEMBER 3 | 3 PM

1st Prize: \$1000 in cash

2nd Prize: 65" TV (\$700)

3rd Prize: Vitamix Blender (\$350)

4th Prize: Apple AirPods (\$160)

5th Prize(3 each): \$100 Indian Grocery Gift Card

6th Prize(6 each): \$50 Indian Restaurant Gift Card

7th Prize:(10 each): \$15 Hindu Temple Cafe Gift Card

**\$10**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Priest: **Pandit Nagabhat Vidyashankar**  
**Pandit Badari Narayana**  
**Pandit Laxmikant (Amol) Kulkarni**  
Facility Manager: **Chandrasekhar Karmegam**

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: **Sundar Chokkara**  
Vice President: **Surendra Khandavalli**  
Secretary: **Sai Krishna Yeluri**  
Asst. Secretary: **Anusha Tummala**  
Treasurer: **Ravichandran Rajagopalan**  
Asst. Treasurer: **Ashok Mohan**  
Member (23-25): **Yatrik Raval**  
Member (23-25): **Sanjeevi Mariappan**  
Member (23-25): **Tirumala Chengalasetty**  
Member (22-24): **Rajesh Sharma**  
Member (22-24): **Amit Khot**  
Member (22-24): **Prem L. Bansal**

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Pooja & Religious: **Srini Nedunoori/Srikant Madduri**  
Finance: **Venkatesh Bettadapura/Jeyanthi Viswanathan**  
Education: **Rajesh Sharma**  
Cultural: **Aswathy Nair/Shital Kontamwar**  
Mahaprasad: **Surendra khandavalli/Vidyasagar Prathapa/Venkat Suman Maddula**  
Facility Maintenance: **Sivakuma Shanmugam/Priti Patel**  
Communication: **Sujeet Reddy/Shivakumar Nyalam**  
Audio: **Vijay Anand Kannan/Venkatesh Bettadapura/Jayaram Nagarajan**

Publications: **Dr. Nagendra Chaturvedi**

Temple Tours/Public Relation: **Vandana Singh**

Volunteer/Welcome: **Nageswarao Atota / Roshni Rao**

Nomination: **Malathi Balu**

Vedantic Center of Nebraska: **Dr. Sanjay Singh/**

**Dr. Phani Tej Adidam**

Cafeteria: **Ketan Patel/Malathi Balu**

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson: **Dr. Rakesh Singh**

Vice Chairperson: **Deepa Kashyap**

Secretary: **Krishnamurthy Viswanathan**

Member (23-25): **Shankar Govindarajulu**

Member (23-25): **Shital Kontamwar**

Member (23-25): **Satyanarayana Pavuluri**

Member (22-24): **VT Ramakrishnana**

Member (22-24): **Anil Bhalla**

Member (22-24): **Sivamani Somasundaram**

Fund Raising: **Ketan Patel**

Long Range Planning: **Malathi Balu**

Senior Leaders Committee: **Dr. Shashi Bhatia**

Past Chairperson: **Srinivas Mallipudi**

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Dear Patrons and Devotees, Aum Shree Ganeshaya Namah!**

Namaskara,

As President of the Hindu Temple, Omaha, NE, it is an honor to be writing on behalf of the Executive Committee for the year 2023-24. We are very happy that this Deepam is being published to celebrate Deepavali, festival of lights, signifying victory of light over darkness or good over evil. May the beauty of Deepavali fill your home with happiness and the coming year provide you with everything that brings you joy.

Since July, we have observed festivals like Ganesh Chaturthi, Janmastami, Navaratri and Deepavali, to name a few. Thanks to our priests, and the puja committee, for their outstanding dedication and commitment, all these events were successful. We have quite a few projects lined up. We are in the process of finalizing Dwajasthamba for our temple. It is the flagstaff erected in front of the mukhamantadapa of a temple. There is an ongoing fundraising to make Silver Prabhavali (silver arch behind Lord Ganesh, Lord Shiva, Lord Venkateshwara, Lord Ayappa, and Lord Subramanian) We are still in needs of funds for this. Please donate generously toward that. We have plans to cover up the yaga Shala (Havan Place) in the front, and we are in the process of building stalls for vahana poojas behind the temple parking lot. We are making necessary repairs for the both the interiors and exteriors of both temple and community center as and when needed.

Spiritual activities and praying should be an integral part of life that needs to be learned early in life. Balvihar program gives children necessary education and guidance to be prepared. A big salute to our dedicated teacher's volunteers of our Balvihar.

I am pleased to inform that we have started cafeteria on Sundays too. Volunteers do make a lot of difference. We have had multiple devotees helping us run the cafeteria on both days, for no reason other than the belief it is the right thing to do. While I know that you choose to volunteer selflessly and without expectation of being recognized or rewarded, today I wish to do that. I want to let you know just how much your dedication is appreciated and to make sure everyone at Hindu Temple is forever grateful to each of you. Whether you are a longtime volunteer or if you got involved fairly recently, and regardless of how many hours you choose to give, it's important for you to know that you do makes a difference.

I would like to thank both executive and non-executive members for their commitment in raising funds. I am especially very grateful to all our priests for their sincere dedication in raising funds by conducting several poojas both outside and inside of the temple.

Our Hindu Community is blessed to have Volunteers/ Devotees/Leaders who are committed and dedicated in serving our temple. I kindly request all the devotees to support our temple with generous donations. A huge, big shout out to our generous donors, patrons, supporters and founding members of our temple, without their love, support, dedication, and generosity, we will not be standing in this beautiful premises that we call our home away from home. I am especially fortunate to have an executive committee who are determined to work diligently with the members of our community towards greater achievement and better understanding, to work harder to improve the relationship and service to the community. Each and every one is committed and dedicated towards serving the temple to the best of their abilities. We are forever grateful to have the support of Dr. Rakesh Singh, Chairman, Board of Trustees. Please accept our wholehearted appreciation for your incredible support, and I look forward to our continued development of our beloved Temple in the years to come.

May Lord Prasanna Ganapathi Bless us all!!

With Gratitude and Best Wishes,

**Sundar Chokkara**  
President, Executive Committee (2023-24)  
president@htom.us



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

**Dr. Rakesh Singh, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Hindu Temple wishes you a very Happy Deepavali and Thank You all for your generous donations and support of our Temple.**






# WISH YOU HAPPY DIWALI MAHARAJA INDIAN CUISINE



Discover flavor-filled journeys and extraordinary dishes at Maharaja - where every bite is a celebration.




## FOR MORE DETAILS

 617 N 114th St Omaha,  
NE 68154

 +1 (402) 350-5861

 [WWW.OMAHARAJA.COM](http://WWW.OMAHARAJA.COM)

## FOLLOW US ON

@Maharaja Indian Cuisine - Omaha 

@maharaja\_indiancuisine 



**Hindu Temple Limited**  
Income statement this year\_last year  
for the period of 01/01/2022 to 10/31/2023

Account Number	Account Name	Date Range 1 09/01/2023 - 09/30/2023	Date Range 2 10/01/2023 - 10/31/2023	Date Range 3 01/01/2023 - 10/31/2023	Date Range 4 01/01/2022 - 10/31/2022	Date Range 5 01/01/2022 - 12/31/2022
<b>Income</b>						
4000	Temple Hundi Collection	\$24,447.34	\$48,608.57	\$244,791.30	\$276,383.71	\$358,442.36
4005	Private Puja Services	\$8,495.16	\$8,530.43	\$128,198.01	\$128,696.81	\$154,160.81
4020	Online	\$585.00	\$1,584.00	\$6,063.39	\$3,646.24	\$5,507.88
4030	Direct Deposit (ACH)	\$3,746.83	\$3,746.83	\$38,381.96	\$40,306.60	\$48,830.92
4040	Education	\$2,801.00	\$600.00	\$4,202.00	\$3,131.00	\$3,537.00
4050	Other Sponsors	\$3,415.04	\$2,668.00	\$22,438.66	\$30,315.00	\$37,308.00
4060	Temple Events Sponsorship	\$15,666.19	\$10,340.59	\$123,869.14	\$59,909.44	\$80,777.19
4300	Pledged Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$31,213.00	\$35,914.00
4400	Interest Income	\$477.37	\$504.73	\$3,631.27	\$955.51	\$1,406.13
4401	Other	\$99.15	\$501.00	\$5,311.93	\$3,249.27	\$3,291.98
4404	Temple Prasadam	\$19,227.48	\$21,379.11	\$185,930.03	\$135,021.47	\$163,994.96
4405	Temple Prasadam Sponsorship	\$3,102.00	\$8,271.00	\$29,460.00	\$25,504.00	\$29,216.00
4502	Deity Material Purchase	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$974.37	\$245.00	\$296.00
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$82,062.56</b>	<b>\$106,734.26</b>	<b>\$794,152.06</b>	<b>\$738,577.05</b>	<b>\$922,683.23</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
5001	Employee Salary & Benefits	\$13,259.64	\$15,202.65	\$155,275.18	\$135,186.74	\$162,952.85
5020	Daily Puja Expenses	\$1,467.17	\$1,531.11	\$12,986.06	\$7,359.01	\$9,345.59
5030	Utility	\$3,963.12	\$4,940.41	\$44,239.10	\$34,358.24	\$40,982.67
5040	Supplies	\$264.00	\$450.89	\$6,170.67	\$3,783.06	\$5,241.96
5060	Tax	\$2,051.58	\$1,887.58	\$24,641.17	\$22,765.18	\$27,627.94
5070	Miscellaneous	\$21.47	\$321.46	\$8,235.14	\$20,182.93	\$25,602.77
5075	Temple Prasadam Expense	\$1,104.66	\$11,434.78	\$51,694.07	\$49,270.19	\$59,768.55
5080	Temple Events Expenses	\$0.00	\$772.87	\$18,689.40	\$8,940.61	\$12,143.26
5100	Maintenance	\$1,085.36	\$17,362.05	\$96,950.37	\$84,525.31	\$89,825.75
5150	Transaction Costs	\$563.53	\$2,080.32	\$8,062.27	\$7,596.89	\$8,893.42
5200	Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,954.00	\$20,066.00	\$20,066.00
5300	Mortgage Interest	\$380.25	\$303.47	\$3,803.58	\$4,342.13	\$5,136.36
5310	Devotee Loan Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,125.00	\$11,125.00
5400	New Construction	\$21,000.00	\$0.00	\$76,054.88	\$148,050.06	\$184,850.06
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>\$45,160.78</b>	<b>\$56,287.59</b>	<b>\$519,755.89</b>	<b>\$557,551.35</b>	<b>\$663,562.18</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>		<b>\$36,901.78</b>	<b>\$50,446.67</b>	<b>\$274,396.17</b>	<b>\$181,025.70</b>	<b>\$259,121.05</b>



**Hindu Temple Limited**  
Balance Sheet  
as of 10/31/2023

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
<b>Assets</b>		
1000	Primary Checking - XX6536	\$85,959.79
1001	Secondary Checking (Raffle) - XX7776	\$30,654.77
1010	Savings - XX2835	\$240,634.46
1030	PayPal Account	\$-49.76
1200	TD Ameritrade	\$31,679.35
1513	WePay	\$90.70
1513.999999	Stripe Payments	\$201.00
1500	Temple	\$2,250,000.00
1501	Community Center	\$1,013,839.00
1510	Priest Home -13541 Westwood La	\$209,399.00
1520	Jewelry	\$4,322.00
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$3,866,730.31</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>



**Please Support Your Temple by Buying the Deepavali Raffles Tickets!** The details of prizes are provided below:

Ticket No: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Ticket No: \_\_\_\_\_

hindu temple

## Annual Deepavali Raffle 2023

DECEMBER 3 | 3 PM

1st Prize: \$1000 in cash  
2nd Prize: 65" TV (\$700)  
3rd Prize: Vitamix Blender (\$350)  
4th Prize: Apple AirPods (\$160)  
5th Prize(3 each): \$100 Indian Grocery Gift Card  
6th Prize(6 each): \$50 Indian Restaurant Gift Card  
7th Prize:(10 each): \$15 Hindu Temple Cafe Gift Card

# \$10



**HAPPY DEEPAVALI AND  
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**



From:  
**PURNIMA AND BABU GUDA  
RAHUL AND REEMA**

# Eagle Scouts - Youth led Service Projects

Two Millard North High School students from our community that are Scouts at Boy Scouts Troop 492 organized separate service projects helping the Hindu Temple and a senior facility at Elkhorn as part of their individual Eagle projects.

## Hindu Temple Greenery Project:

Ajay Repakula, Senior Patrol Leader at Troop 492, led this project with the help of scouts & adults from Troop 492 and the Sathya Sai group. The project involved cutting down unhealthy trees, trimming and clearing out large shrubs and debris along the entire south side of the Community Center, and planting 4 Maple trees and a few shrubs. Ajay assumed responsibility of watering the plants daily for a month until the sprinkler system was fixed. Collectively, 28 people and over 275-man hours have been contributed to this project. The success of this project has motivated additional youth from our community to join the troop. Both Mr. Sundara Chokkara and Mrs. Malathi Balu actively supported this project. The Sathya Sai group donated the trees and mulch, and the Repakula family donated the rest of the project expenses.



## Senior Facility Project:

Adithya Prathapa led this landscaping project with scouts and adults from Troop 492. This project involved removing grass and weeds around an existing American flagpole and placing landscaping stones around it. Inside the landscaping stones, two varieties of flowers have been planted. Over 100-man hours have been contributed to this project. This project was timed for the Independence Day celebrations. The Prathapa family donated the materials for this project.





***Best Wishes & Happy Diwali***

**From:**

**Mahesh Gudar  
Prasanthi Gudar  
Suhas Gudar**



***Best Wishes & Happy Diwali***

**From:**

**Somsekhar Kodali  
Jyosna Kodali  
Gupil Kodali  
Teju Kodali**



## ***Happy Deepawali Greetings***

**From:**

**Rajasekhar Bodduluri**

**Vasuki Bodduluri**

**Sushanth Bodduluri**

**Sriyan Bodduluri**



***Best Wishes  
& Happy Diwali***

**From:**

**Venu Potineni**

**Mrudula Potineni**

**Shashank Potineni**

**Vishal Potineni**

# Ego and Self-Realization

Jitender Singh Deogun

The concept of Self-Realization is one of the core concepts in Advaita Vedanta. Advaita philosophy teaches us that the Brahman is the “one and only one” reality and that the empirical world we see or perceive is Maya, an illusion. The scriptures are very clear that our true nature, the innermost essence is the same as that of the Brahman. The goal of Self-Realization is to free the human beings from the bondage of Maya and uplift them to the state of Eternal Bliss and a life of truthful, virtuous, and devotional living.

In SadDarsanam a Sanskrit rendering of Sri Ramana Maharishi’s Ulladhu Narpadhu and his other verses, he presents a simple and practical treatment of the Reality and Self-Realization. Maharishi Ramana, also known as Bhagavan Sri Ramana, has written most of his verses in Tamil but all of his verses has been translated in many international languages and many books have been written on his life and teachings. The essence of his teachings is that most religious philosophies are based on three fundamental concepts: the world, the Atman, and the God. He says that the perceived existence of multiplicity has its origin in the duality of the Atman and the Supreme Self and that these three realities appear to persist as long as our ego persists:

आरभ्यते जीवजगत्परात्मतत्त्वाभिधानेन मतं समस्तम्।  
इदं त्रयं तावदहंमति स्यात् सर्वोत्तमाऽहंमतिशून्यनिष्ठा ॥४॥

Sri Ramana Maharishi says that deep down in the heart lives the Self, the pure and eternal Consciousness, but duality of names and forms appears when the Self identifies itself with the ego, that is, it has the thought of the *body-consciousness*. The Self, the Truth or the Pure Knowledge is the *one and only one* Reality. Although, knowledge of duality is ignorance, however, even the ignorance cannot exist without the Self, the Truth, or the Knowledge. This is because the Self is the origin of all thoughts, appearances, and phenomena. Like all gold

ornaments are unreal, as all are made of gold, and none can exist without the gold:

सत्यश्चिदात्मा विविधाकृतिश्चित् सिद्ध्येत्पृथक् सत्यचितो न भिन्ना।  
भूषाविकाराः किमु सन्ति सत्यं विना सुवर्णं पृथगत्र लोके ॥१५॥

Self-realization is the realization or simply the awareness that deep down, in the core of the heart, lives the Brahman as the luminous Self, that is the True nature of the humans. To realize True Nature of the Self, Bhagavan Sri Ramana says, ego, that is, the thought of *I-am-the-body* must be removed.

Like Sri Ramana, Rishi Ashtavakra—the guru of King Janaka also teaches that ego is the paramount obstacle for Self-Realization. In Ashtavakra Gita, talking to King Janaka, Ashtavakra tells him that you have been bitten the black snake of *Ego*, that’s why you think that अहं कर्ता—“I am the doer of my Karma,” and that “I am the reaper of the fruits of my Karma.”

अहं कर्तेत्यहंमानमहाकृष्णाहिर्दशितः ।  
नाहं कर्तेति विश्वासासृतं पीत्वा सुखी भव ॥ १-८॥

Even though, Ashtavakra is addressing King Janaka, he means to say that this black snake of *Ego* has not only affected King Janaka but has bitten the men and women all around this world and thus they think that they are the “doers” and “reapers,” and thus suffer from the bondage and grief caused by the poison of the snake of the ego. In the second line of the Shloka, he describes the only antidote for the poison of Ego. Ashtavakra advises King Janaka to drink the nectar of नाहं कर्ता —“I am *not* the doer of my Karma,” and to have faith in the Self, the Brahman. Then and only then you will have the eternal bliss. Ashtavakra replies to King Janaka’s question, that how he can drink the antidote nectar, in the next two shlokas.

एको विशुद्धबोधोऽहं इति निश्चयवह्निना ।  
प्रज्वालयाज्ञानगहनं वीतशोकः सुखी भव ॥ १-९॥  
यत्र विश्वमिदं भाति कल्पितं रज्जुसर्पवत् ।  
आनन्दपरमानन्दः स बोधस्त्वं सुखं भव ॥ १-१०॥

Continued to the next page.....

To understand Ashtavakra's reply to King's question, we start with Shloka 10 and then go back to Shloka 9. Ashtavakra tells King Janaka that like in dim light and lack of knowledge of the rope, there is an illusion of a snake in the rope, similarly the Supreme Self—the Eternal Bliss that you are, appears as the phenomenal world [of forms and objects] because of the ignorance of the Self. Realize that, that is your True nature and live happily [forever]. Before we go to Shloka 9, we want to understand Ashtavakra's symbolism. If we want to see what is hidden behind a (thick) forest, we must burn down the forest. Now, the Shloka 9 tells King Janaka to burn down the [thick] forest of ignorance created by ego with the fire of profound awareness, that you are the One Supreme Self, the Pure Consciousness and be grief-free and happy.

The bondage of ego arises from our lack of awareness of our true nature and thus living a life of duality. Guru Nanak says people are bound by the chains of "their own" egotism:

बाधिओ आपन हऊ हऊ बंधा ॥ (SGGS pp. 258)

Moreover, this bondage goes from life to life:

हऊमै बंधन बंधि भववै ॥ (SGGS pp. 227) that is humans (are) bound by (their own) servitude of ego, (and) wander (lost in ignorance) from life to life. Thus, Guru Nanak calls ego a chronic (incarnation to incarnation—जन्मजन्मान्तर) disease when describing the nature of ego:

हऊमै ऐहा जाति है हऊमै करम कमाहि ॥  
हऊमै ऐई बंधना फिर फिर जोनी पाहि ॥ ...  
हऊमै दीरघ रोगु है दारू भी इसु माहि ॥  
किरपा करे जे आपणी ता गुर का सबदु कमाहि ॥  
नानक कहै सुणहु जनहु इतु संजमि दुख जाहि ॥२॥ (SGGS pp. 466)

Ego has "this" nature ("this" in this context means duality affirming—that is people keep maintaining their separate existence from the Brahman), (as a result) they perform egoistic Karma that is attuned to the dualistic separateness from the Brahman. Ego (or Egoistic living) has "this" servitude ("this"— leading to chains of duality affirming Samskaras (संस्कार)), and people keep reincarnating again and again. ... [Thus] Ego is a chronic disease, but there is a sure cure

for it. If the Supreme Lord bestows His Grace, one molds his/her life into a pious Truthful living following the teachings of the *Shabad* (शब्द) of the *Guru* (the Scriptures). Guru Nanak says, listen, friends: in this way (Lord's Grace, and molding life following Guru's teachings) griefs (caused by chronic disease of ego) depart.

An egoistic person living a life of dualistic separateness from the Brahman cannot cultivate good virtues and thus his entire existence may be in vain. To make such a point, Guru Nanak gives the example of Simmal tree that grows in many parts of India, especially in central India.

सिमल रुखु सराइरा अति दीरघ अति मुचु ॥  
ओइ जि आवहि आस करि जाहि निरासे कितु ॥  
फल फिके फुल बकबके कंमि न आवहि पत ॥  
मिठतु नीवी नानका गुण चंगिआईआ ततु ॥ ... (SGGS pp. 470)

The Simmal tree grows very straight, tall and thick. The birds (looking for food) and hoping to find it on Simmal (may be because of its size and its big scarlet flowers) fly up to the tree but depart, fly back in disappointment. Guru Nanak asks, "why?" and then answers his own question. It is because its fruits are tasteless, its flowers are unpalatable, and leaves are useless. Guru Nanak says, in humility there is sweetness—closeness to Brahman and humility is the essence of all virtues and all goodness. Humility leads to Lord's Grace & Self-Realization. Sri Ramana says:

भवन्तु सदृशसाधनानि परस्य नामाकृतिभिः सपर्याः।  
सद्भस्तुनि प्राप्तदात्मभावा निष्ठैव सदृशनिमित्यवेहि ॥ ८ ॥

A devotee may worship the Absolute Reality by any name and form, it is only a way for realizing the Nirankar—निरंकार Reality. When one knows the Self to be the Nirankar Reality, the devotee achieves True Self-Realization and Eternal Bliss.

ना हऊ ना मै ना हऊ होवा नानक सबदु वीचारि ॥१॥ (SGGS pp. 139)

Guru Nanak says that "I" ego never was, it is not now, it will not be in the times to come, by contemplating on Guru's Shabad, "Realize" that you're and always have been the Supreme-Self.

**Acknowledgements:** In addition to study of Hindu and Sikh Scriptures, the author benefited greatly from many books and websites especially for adopting translation of Sanskrit and Punjabi verses.



***Happy Deepavali & Best Wishes***

**From:**

**Srinivas Mallipudi & Sarada Mallipudi**

**Naveen Mallipudi & Himaja Mallipudi**

**HAPPY DEEPAVALI AND BEST WISHES**



**From:**

**Muralidhar Chintapalli**

**Sudha Rani Chintapalli**

**Ravi-Teja Chintapalli**

## ***Happy Diwali & Prosperous New Year***



From:

**K. Creative Hands & Anil, Kusum, Arjun & Priya  
Bhalla**



**Wishing you and your family  
a Deepavali filled with  
laughter, joy and prosperity.  
May the festival bring you  
moments of happiness and  
success.**

**“Wish you a Happy  
Deepavali”**

From:

***Sree, Ambika, Isabella and  
Sinjin Nair***

***Anjana and Ajay Varma***



# Balvihar Activities and Learning

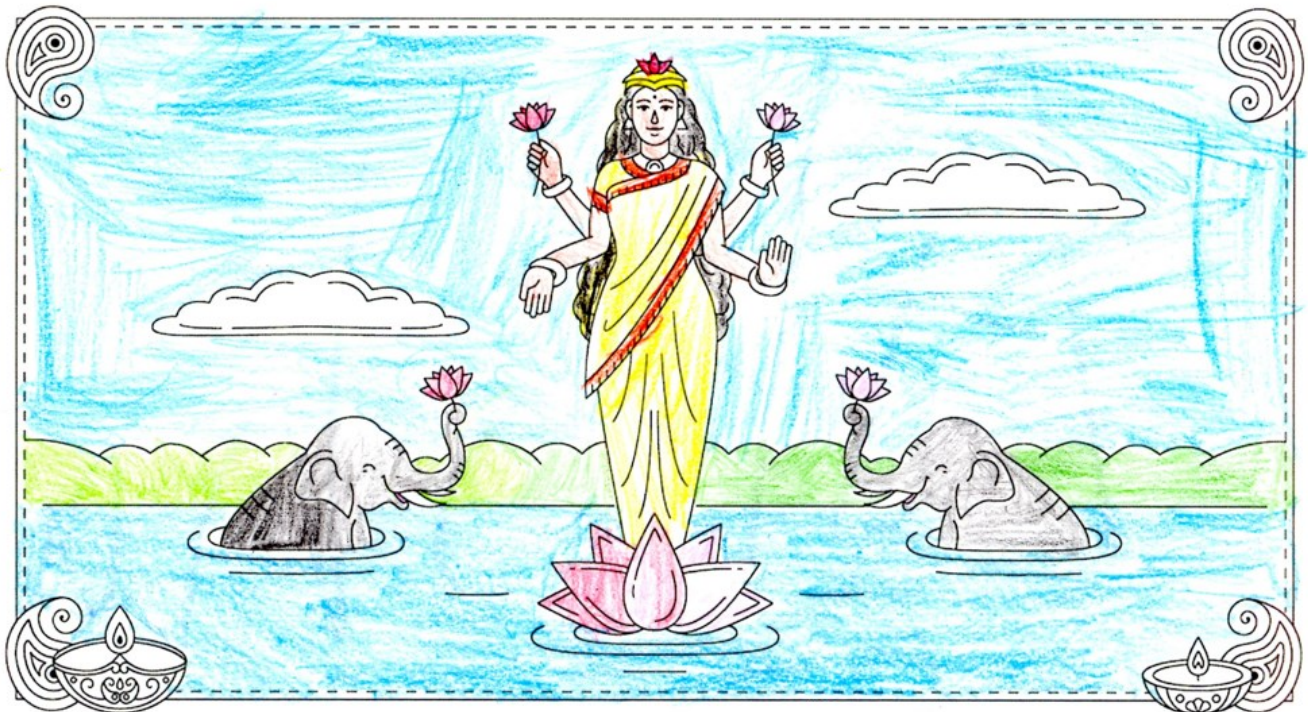


**Aarhan Banerjee & Manish Chintamani**



**Pranit Suryawanshi**

## Happy Diwali



**Akshaj Therattil**



Neil Deshmukh



Balvihar Activities by Kids

# Balvihar Hindu Poem for Omaha Diwali Festival

by : *Sairam*

All the day's stress  
I think to Andaver and digress  
Whenever lethargy I sense I swallow Arjuna's rigor  
Many a time I seek him and believe in vigor  
Can I imagine a world where you are in none of all?

Before the sun rises  
The only truth to thine eyes is Aditya's kingdom  
His purity comes to purpose all into the horizon  
Without Him is forever no purpose  
Can I imagine a world where you are in none of all?

Thank the Lalitha Sarasranamam for the creator  
Seeing Mother as form in every creature  
Placing due loyalty in her aura  
In favors engrained in the past, present, and future  
Can I imagine a world where you are in none of all?

As soon as I see poor people my hand is free,  
Reminded of the tale of Gunnidhi  
The line between cost and worth comes to light  
Listening to the Kubera mantra I seek good fortune at any corner  
So how can I imagine a world where you are in none of all?



## Balvihar Celebrates Diwali

Diwali (or Divali), its origin is from the Sanskrit word *Deepavali* which means "a row of lights." This auspicious holiday is known as the "festival of lights," and is celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists around the world. In some parts of India, it also marks the beginning of the New Year. Diwali symbolizes victory of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance, and good over evil. It encourages each one of us to reflect inwards and light the lamps of knowledge and truth in our hearts and minds so that we can dispel the forces of darkness and ignorance within us and allow our innate brilliance and goodness to shine forth. Goddess Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, is the principal deity associated with Diwali. During Diwali prayers we ask her for assistance in cultivating and accumulating spiritual wealth, such as compassion, forgiveness, and loving-kindness. By the blessings of goddess Lakshmi, we begin the journey to recognize and change ourselves to transform ourselves to be more loving, kind, respectful, and skillful towards ourselves and others.

At Balvihar, kids are introduced to these concepts and encouraged to work towards becoming more humane. Throughout the year kids engage in learning and celebrating various Indian and Hindu festivals from different parts of India. This offers opportunity to learn about culture and traditions of their parents and grandparents who are of Indian origin. This is great opportunity to expose them to rich culture, traditions, values, spiritual, social, and scientific contributions by India. This year kids celebrated Diwali by participating in making paper diyas, and coloring artwork which are displayed in temple hallway. Additionally, they will be presenting play during temple Diwali function based on Ramayana.

Balvihar is run and managed by volunteers, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with Balvihar. Balvihar family conveys everyone in the community a very Happy, healthy Diwali and prosperous New Year!!

Rajesh Sharma  
Balvihar



**Happy DEEPAVALI and Prosperous  
NEW YEAR**

From:

**Sundar Chokkara**

**Geeta Chokkara**

**Sukarn Chokkara**

**Sumeet Chokkara**





## Venkateshwarya Jayanthi 2023

## Hinduism, Science & Theoretical Physics: by Sean Bradrick

Hinduism is the only spiritual tradition which accurately estimates the age of the universe as per modern science. Sanatana Dharma is also an intellectual and multi-cultural tradition attached to sophisticated schools of philosophy, its own system of medicine and psychology, architecture, astronomy, cosmology, metaphysics, metrology, mathematics, and various art forms. Sacred geometry, trigonometry, calculus, the concept of zero and negative numerals, the decimal system, pi, sine and cosine, the idea of multiple big bangs and an inter-dimensional multiverse, can all be traced back to Vedic culture.

The ideas we see in quantum physics are not new. Some are many thousands of years old, stemming from elemental dharshana (philosophy). The concepts that thought has mass, and that the universe would be static and contain no life without universal intelligence and consciousness, originated in Bharat or ancient India. The idea of time having mass or being made up of what modern physics call chronons, did as well. As did the idea that gravity and time relate.

Modern-day physics has discovered that inert subatomic particles are latent until they are exposed to human thought and intention. These particles come alive or active when awareness is applied. The idea that thought controls matter, and that matter is a crystallization of thought, can be found in the Samkhya Karika and other Hindu Shastra.

*“When something vibrates, the electrons of the entire universe resonate with it. Everything is connected. The greatest tragedy of human existence is the illusion of separateness.” ~Einstein*

The sixties saw the advent of String Theory. This postulates that particles are not singular points but that what we perceive as such, are actually vibrations in loops of strings. Each with its own characteristics or frequencies. In Vedanta, everything in the universe is seen as interconnected, just as our arms and legs are connected to the rest of the body. In Quantum Mechanics, there is no respite or gap between the observer and the observed. Particles are described as existing in a state of entanglement, where the behavior of one particle is dependent on the behavior of another, even if large distances separate them.

*“The Brahman forms everything that is living or non-living ... the wise man knows that all beings are identical with his self, and his self is the self of all beings.” ~Isha Upanishad*

In Vedanta, the space throughout our universe is multidimensional. There are 64 foremost dimensions. Each is divided into multiple sub-dimensions. We on Earth can only experience three dimensions. Our senses simply do not have the means to experience other aspects of universal reality. Within Quantum Theory and Mechanics, we can find similar ideas.

Thousands of years ago the Himalayan Rishis recognized that human awareness could only focus on one point of interest at a time, and that what we perceive as reality, was maya. The wheel of film being displayed onto a movie screen, shows one frame at a time. However, those watching the film see a menagerie of frames being projected that seems to be real when shown in sequence, over time.

String theory is a framework which brings together gravity and quantum mechanics to build a theory of quantum gravity that relates to time and space. The Vedantins recognized a force that keeps objects from floating off the surface of the Earth (gravity), seven thousand years before Isaac Newton was born.

*Continued to the next page.....*

The great thinkers of ancient India spoke of how energy and matter at atomic levels, could influence one another from long distances. This is now called Quantum Entanglement. They also claimed that thought has mass and that thought or intention, can affect subtle matter and energy. They claimed that the observer affects the observed. Thousands of years later, physicists called this the Observer Effect.

Modern physics uses different terms and language than the Rishis did, but they both were drawn to similar theories and conclusions. One explains it with mathematical equations, and the other explains it with philosophy.

*“Most of my ideas are heavily influenced by Vedanta. Multiplicity is only apparent. This is the doctrine of the Upanishads. From the early Upanishads, the recognition. ‘Atman=Brahman’ (the self equals the omnipresent) represents the deepest quintessence and insights into the happenings of the world. The total number of minds in the universe is one. In fact, consciousness is a singularity phasing within all beings. There is no kind of framework within which we can find consciousness in the plural. This is simply something we construct because of the temporal plurality of individuals, but it is a false construction. The only solution to this conflict lies within the ancient wisdom of the Upanishads.” ~ Erwin Schrodinger, Nobel Prize winning physicist*

*“After the conversations about Indian philosophy (w/ Rabindranath Tagore), some of the ideas of quantum physics that had seemed so crazy, suddenly made sense. Quantum theory will not look ridiculous to people who have read Vedanta.” ~Werner Heisenberg, German Nobel Prize-winning physicist*

*“The general notions about human understanding...illustrated by discoveries in atomic physics... are not unheard of or new. They have a history in Hindu thought. What we shall find in modern physics, is a refinement of old wisdom. Access to the Vedas is the greatest privilege this century may claim over all other centuries.” ~Robert Oppenheimer*

*“The Hindu religion is the only one of the world’s...dedicated to the idea that the cosmos itself undergoes an immense and innate number of deaths and rebirths. It is the only religion in which the time scales correspond, to those of modern scientific cosmology. Its cycles run from our ordinary day and night to a day and night of Brahma 8.64 billion years long. Longer than the age of the Earth or the Sun, and about half the time since the Big Bang. And they have much longer time scales too.” ~Carl Sagan*

*“All perceptible matter comes from a primary substance...filling all space, the Akasha which is acted upon by the life-giving Prana or creative force, calling into existence in never-ending cycles, all things and phenomena.” ~Nikola Tesla*

*“An equation means nothing to me unless it expresses a thought of god.” ~Srinivasa Ramanujan, recipient of the Fellows at the Royal Society award.*

*Modern physics has shown that the rhythm of creation and destruction is not only manifest in the turn of the seasons and in the birth and death of living creatures, but is also the very essence of inorganic matter. For modern physicists...Shiva's dance is the dance of subatomic matter. ~Fritjof Capra, author of The Tao of Physics*

# Hindu Temple Donations thru Sep 30, 2023

## Grand Benefactor (Over \$250,000)

Shobhana & Jagmohan Desai	Usha & V T Ramakrishnan	Vinod Gupta
---------------------------	-------------------------	-------------

## Grand Guarantor (Over \$100,000)

Hemanth & Dharmistha Desai	Lakshmi & Rajeshwar Rao	Dr. Mohan Ram Mysore & Dr. Chandrika Rizal	Shashi & Subhash Bhatia
Jane & Vedhagiri Selvakumar	Manjula & Ravindra Tella	Nina & Sharad Mote	Sudha & Anil Agarwal
Kiran & Deepak Gangahar	Meera & Naresh Dewan	Poonam & Sanjeev Sharma	Sudha & Sriramamurthy Ravipati

## Guarantor (Over \$50,000)

Ambika & Sree Nair	Bhavana & Rakesh Singh	Indira & Bala Wariyar	Ranjanben & Mohanbhai Desai	Sumita & Arun Sharma
Angeli & Jayesh Thakker	Bhavani & Sam Chigurupati Rao	Kamali & Sankar Muthukrishnan	Sandhya & Shailendra Saxena	Usha & Sushant Devaraju
Aparna & Srinivasa Rao Nedunoori	Deepa & Venkatesh Bettadapura	Kranthi & Tej Adidam	Smita & Alekha Dash	Vandana & Sanjay Singh
Archana & Samar Gogoi	Geeta & Sundar Chokkara	Madhumati & Kaliprasad Ayala	Sona & Shan Batheja	
Bharti & Ashok Amin	Hena & Sanat Roy	Mamatha & Rammo-han Sankaraneni	Subhi & Subrahmanya Joshi	

## Grand Patrons (Over \$25,000)

Ambika & Jayaram Nagarajan	Jayanthi & Palvananathan Ganesan	Manjula & Natarajan Raman	Sarbani & Anup Chakraborty	Visalakshi & Ramnathan Narayanan
Amit Ashok Khot & Padmaja Khot	Jayashree & Subhash Paknikar	Meena & Krishna Murthy	Satish & Sujatha Muk-tineni	Vishal & Sonya Khanna
Amrita & Sabyasachi Mahapatra	Jyoti & Atul Ramachandran	Meena & Narendra Reddy	Sharda & Ramarathnam Bishu	
Anu & Luke Yeran-sian	Kanta & Prem Arora	Nigar & Chandran Nair	Sivamani So-masundaram & Jaysudha Sivamani	
Anubha & Vijay Agarwal	Kavitha & Sathish Shanmugam	Niranjana & Ashwin Patel	Sudha & Anand Karney	
Apar Ganti & Ketki Tendulkar	Kiran & Sudesh Gambhir	Prem & Mahendra Bansal	Sushama & M Shashidharan	
Asha & Bikram Singh	Kumudini & Jagdish Pai	Premkumar Neelakanta	Swarna & Gopi Gopalakrishnan	
Cindy & Aryan Mooss	Kusum & Anil Bhalla	Radha Balasubramanian & Natarajan	Swaroop & Jagdish Nijhawan	
	Madhu & Arvind Patel	Sandhya Thamma & Srinivasu Pinapati	Vimla & Hamid Band	
Gyanendra & Smriti Bhandari	Madhuri and Chandra Are	SaiBaba Nebraska Inc	Umasankari & Ravikumar Subramaniapillai	



## Patrons (Over \$10,000)

Anand & Pooja Deshmukh	India Association of Nebraska	Meera & Mahendra Varman	Prem & Anil Sahai	Somnath & Meera Singh
Angela & Vinay Nijhawan	Indu & Pradeep Gupta	Monica Arora & Michael Bodensteiner	Priya & Anil Srinivasan	Sowjanya & Sangamesh Phulari
Anuradha Subramanian & Anand Rau	Jackie & Venu Nair	Murali & Mukunda Devanaboyina	Progress Physical Therapy	Sreedhar Marupudi & Madhu Pendurthi
Anusha Narasimhan & Vijay Anand Kannan	Jayanthi & Krishnamurthy Viswanathan	Murali Mohan Ravi	Raghu Dasari & Ganta Snigdha	Srinivasarao & Sarada Mallipudi
Asha & Mahesh Patel	Jayanthi & Mohan Balmoori	Muralidhar & Sudharani Chintapalli	Raghu Tadikonda	Suchitra & Asit Pattnaik
Asha & Murali Deshpande	Jayashree Giridhar & Giridhar Thoranagallu	Murty Adabala	Rajesh & Teresa Kumar	Sudhir Gajre
Ashok & Foram Fichadia	Jeya & Prasad	Nagarajan Venkataraman	Rao & Madhavi Konijeti	Sumitra & Bhasker Patel
Aswathy Chandran & Narayanan Nair	Jothi Muruganathaswamy & Jeyabarathi Natarajan	Nagaraju Mudhelli & Dhanalaxmi	Ratheesh Nair	Surendranath Subramaniam & Meera Kashyap
Bala kottapalli	Jyoti & Uday Chintalapudi	Nageswara Athota	Rati & Vivek Mathur	Surinder Batra
Balu Ramakrishan & Malathi Balu	Kalpana & Prasad Padala	Nalini & Pradeep Narotam	Reetu and Susanta Hota	Suseela Sarasamma & Premchand Nair
Bangalore Arunagiri	Kalpana & Vasudeva Murthy	Namaste Foods	Rekha & Devendra Agrawal	Sushma & Vijay Dewan
Bengali Association of Nebraska	Kanad Sharma	Nandita & Malay Dalal	Ritoo & Anuj Jain	Swapna Kanuri & Chakri Pureti
Best Brains / Prasad Nalamittu	Kartik Gollapudi	Naveen Uppala & Sai Krishna Yeluri	Roshni & Ganesh Paduvaru	Swati Baradia & Ankush T Bhandari
Bindu & Vishwajeth Bhoopalam	Kavish Rohatgi and Timisha Singh	Neeruben & Sureshbhai Patel	Sai K Renukunta	Tamil Sangam
Buddhavarapu Ramamurtie	Ketan Patel	Neha & Vootla R Rao	Sandeep Sheth & Susan Hendrick	Telugu Samiti
Chandra M Kotipalli	Laksh & Chaitra	Ojasvini & Saurabh Chandan	Sangeeta & Sandeep Agrawal	Uma & Venkat Perumal
Chitrita & Shyamal Roy	Lalitha & Atul Kunte	Padma & Krishan Lassi	Santhanam Sirungattur & Hemamalini Krishnan	UPFNA
Chittibabu Guda	Latha & HG Jayappa	Padmashri & Murali Ambekar	Saroj & Bhupinder Gangahar	Urmil & Balwant Arora
David & Tripti Burt	Lavanya & Jamboor Vishwanatha	Pradeep & Simran Sabloak	Seema & Kantharaja Etigi	Veerender R Kandi
Devika & Arunkumar Pondicherry	Madan & Lauryl Ramakrishnan	Pradeep Somavarapu	Shanti & Shyam Somani	Venugopal Rao Boinpally & Madhavi Pamera
Geeta & Rajeeva Raghavendra	Madhavi & Sayi Repakula	Prafulla & Vasant Rav-al	Sharath Kasi Reddy & Saritha Reddy	Vijay & Sangeeta Badal
Greeta Juliet Dhanraj & Rengarajan Ramamujam	Mala & Rakesh Bedi	Prakash Kukreja & Priti Agrawal	Shefali & Rahul Jalali	Vijay Kashyap & Deepa Hangal
Gupil Krishna Kodali & Tejith Kodali	Manju & Parmender Mehta	Prasanna Lakshmi & Ganesh Satti	Shilpa Somraj & Prahalada Rao	Vijaya & Yella Reddy
Harish & Seema Bhandula	Manjula & Om Patney	Vandana & Pravardhan R Birthi	Shobha & Harish Sawhney	Viji & Suresh Seshadri
Hem Dutt, Uma & Nidhi Mehta	Marie & Satish Mediratta	Praveen & Swapna Injapuram	Shreejit & Dhanya Nair	Vivek Anand & Madhavi Chakravadhanula
Hiranmayi Srinivas & Sunil Arora	Mexa Maulin & Jigna Niraj Patel	Praveena & Jayachandran Narasimhan	Sivakumar Shanmugam	Yugandhar & Shilpa Vanaparti
Sridevi & Surendra Khandavalli				

## Grand Donors (Over \$5,000)

Amala & Srinivas Nim-magadda	Hena & Kirti Patel	Makrand A Bhide	Ramya & Saravana Natarajan	Subhash Chandra
Andrea & Dhruva Chakravarti	Himaanshu Agarwal	Manashi & Debasis Bagchi	Ranjith Kumar & Keerthi	Suganthi & Krish Soundararajan
Angie Muhleisen	Himanshu & Jeevan Jyoti Agarwal	Mandira & Amit Khanna	Ratish Gopal & Smitha Ratish	Sugata Sensarma & Sumitra Bhattacharya
Anil Ayalasangmayajula	Himanshu & Rupa Gadgil	Manish & Kalpana Moondra	Renu & Jasbir Singh	Sujeet Reddy Adudodla & Neeraja
Anil K Tati & Jyotirmayi	Hitendra Ghosh	Maya & Purathatil Krishnan	Robin & Priti Gandhi	Sumantha & Jeffery Sedor
Arbuda Hospitality LLC DBA Days Inn	Jai Bikhchandani & Priyanka Vashisht	Maya Ravichandran & Ravichandran Rajagopal	Rohini & Mallari Kulkarni	Sun Hospitality LLC
Asha & Niranjan Agarwal	Jairam & Devi Krishnamurthy	Meenakshi & Deepak Khazanchi	S. Perumal & P Jayalakshmi	Suneel Doddapaneni
Asha & Pravin Desai	Jeya & Jothi Muruganathaswamy	Minaxi & Pradip Mistry	Sabina Ramakrishnan	Sunil & Lala Luthra
Ashwini & Ravi Thoutireddy	Jeyamkondan Subbiah	Namita Dhiman	Sadhna & Devender Malik	
Balaji Nelluri	Jitendrabhai Patel/Lavkesh Patel	Narayana & Praveena Koduri Vantipalli	Sai Maddipoti & Sudha Ravilla	Suresh & Veena Mediratta
Baldev & Kailash Luthra	Jolly & Ishan Amin	Natasha & Sridhar Kannan	Sandhya & Shailender Singh	Surya S Maddipati
Bhanu Prakash Gandluri	Jyothi & Sudhir Kalra	Navneeth Rao Bongu & Anuhya Gudibanda	Sanjay & Sridevi Garapati	Suvarna & Prasad Adusumalli
Bhaskar & Viji Setti	Jyoti & Rohit Bub	Nayana & Thakor Patel	Sanjeev & Kiran Tina	Swati & Ashish Jain
Binodh Warriyar	Jyotsana Sharma	Nebraska Nepalese Society	Sanju & Kamlakar Rajurkar	Tirumala & Anitha Chengalasetty
Candy Grush	Kalyani & Kamlesh Ansingkar	Nilam & Dhaval Naik	Santhosh Devakumar	Usha & Premnath H Singh
Deepak Sinha & Suhita Sinha	Kanchan & Umesh Mehta	Nirmala & Rajagopalan Parthasarathy	Sasmita & Chittaranjan Ray	Usha & Venu Chivukula
Deepika & Rahi Khandelwal	Kaushik & Rekha Patel	Nisha & Vikas Padhye	Sharada & Ramakrishna Reddy	Vaishnavi & Seshadri Rajagopal
Divya Rajasree & Vinod Geetha-Sasikumar	Kavita & Ranganath Rao	Omaha Tamil Palli	Shefalika & Shashi Verma	Vathsala & Subra Raman
Durgalakshmi & Shankar Govindarajulu	Kishore Viswanathan & Latha Kishore	Paresh Prajapati	Shubhashri & Sameer Naik	Veena & Sanjay Varma
Duvvuri Rakesh	Krishna & Iswari Chennam	Pooja & Anil Jayaprakash	Smrati & Maneesh Jain	Venkat & Sitalavanya Mallina
Eshwar Mandava & Anusha Tummala	Lalit and Jayshree Bohra	Pramuda & Manu Prakash	Sona Marudaraj & Marudaraj Jivaraj	Venkat Raman & Mallika Madduri Jayanti
Ganesh Hospitality LLC DBA Super 8	Liliana Ramakrishnan	Pratap Reddy Syamarajaja & Vasudha	Sreenivasulu Kode & Karuna Rasineni	Venkata Kolli
Gayathri & Ramasubramanian Rajamani	Madhavi & Gautam Bhadbhade	Priya Venkataraman	Sri Rama Rao Gali & Sailaja Hasya Priya	Venkata Ramesh & Madhavi Swarna
Geetha & K Parameshwaran	Madhavi Naishadham	Pushpa & Subramaniam Srikumaran	Sridivya & Gangireddy Sathi	Venkatesh Ramakrishnan
Geetha & Narasimha Gondi	Madhu Midathada & Srinivasa Rao Kadubandi	Puspa & Arvind Patel	Sriharish Rajakumar & Elakiya	Vijay VenkataSubramanyan
Gopi K & Krishnaveni Mudhapati	Madhu Vallabhaneni	Rajasekhar Bodduluri	Srija, Manjari and Srikanth	Vijaya Krishna & Sujatha Parimi Singu
Hariharan Sambath & Ilyswarya Kuppusamy	Madhukar Reddy Dudipala & Bhagyalaxmi	Rajesh & Harsha Sharma	Srikant Jangala & Venkata Padmanabhuni	Vikram & Hetal Patel
Harikumari & Ayyangar Komanduri	Magesh & Anitha Sreenivasan	Ramakrishna Kilaru & Gopi Nandigam	Srinivas & Visala Chundru	Yashaswini & Nagesh Kuriyavar
Hariitha & Venkata Myneni	Mahadevan Subramaniam	Ramesh & Devi Kotaru	Srinivas Chundru & Mamatha Yaramati	Jaipal & Vajra Reddy
Harsh V Chauhan & Dunesh Kumari	Mahesh & Prasanthi Gudar	Ramesh & Radhika Badanahatti	Stanton Inn Motel	Vijayasarithy Koduru

## Donors (Over \$3,000)

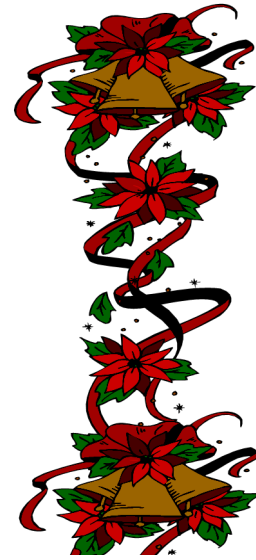
Abhinav Devunoori	Geetha & Sampath Nathan	Naganna Channaveerai-ah	Satyajit & Kalpana Kar	U.S.Rao
Ajay & Gulshan Chander	Geico Choice Insurance Co	Naresh & Nikita Gella	Seema & Rajeev Sharma	Udaya Kompella
Ajit and Geetanjali Godbole	Giribabu Andukuri	Naresh & Vijayasree Hanchate	Selvakumar Swaminathan & Kavitha Rathinam	Uthayan Sivalingan
Arathi & Neralur Jay Reddy	Gowridhar Madu & Lavanya	Nikhil Gogineni	Sethu & Banu Thangamuthu	Vasthala Juvvigunta & Dinesh Pawar
Archana Ashrit	H&R Block Tax Services, Inc.	Niranjana & Amuda Balu	Shaji Sakthidharan & Rajasree Balakrishnan	Venkata Kiran Ala
Ashok & Biswajita Samal	Healthcare For the Family PC	Omaha Community Foundation	Shantha & Gopalakrishna Elluru	Venkatesh Ramasamy & Gayathri Venkatesh
Ashok Mudgapalli & Santhi Gorantla	Hema Sekhar Srirama & Karuna Murthy	Oormila Kovilam	Shiva Kumar Nyalam & Archana Nyalam	Venkateshbabu Chinna-perumal
Ashvini Acharya	Himaja & Srinivas Bade	Padmaja Padarathi & Muralee Turangi	Shiva Prasad T & Shalini Thudimilla	Vidyasagar Prathapa
Atanu Ghosh	Jagan & Swetha Palreddy	Prakash Raghavan & Sowmya Sundararajan	Sirish Kandi	Vijay Pakalapati
Babu Inti & Neelima Inti	Janak & Dharmishtha Brahmhatt	Prasad P.Kolli	Someswara Gorrela	Vijayakrishna Chinnam
Balakrishnan Ethiraju	Jawahir Koul & Manika Koul	Praveer Rapoor	Sonali Deshmukh	Viji & Preetha Pushkaran
Baldev Bhardwaj	Jigish Bhatt	Punyasha Roul	Sonia & Kuldeep Kaur & Tarnjit Saini	Vinod Labhasetwar
Balvinder K Sabherwal	Jitender Deogun & Ravinder Deogun	Raj Deeduvanu & Padma Garimella	Srikanth & Archana Mahankali	Zinny & Sanjukta Satpathy
Bhaswati Bandyopadhyay/Bhaswati Manish	Kannada Koota of Nebraska	Rajakumari & Gopal TK Krishna	Srinivas R Vanguru	
Biju & Minu Kumar	Karthik Koppisetty	Rajashekar Reddy Katpally & Sangeetha Citore	Srinivas Tadiparthi & Neelima Aitha	
Carey Contracting	Karthik Ramachandra	Rajasundar Senthilnayagam	Steven & Wendy Moore	
Chakravarthy Baddela	Karthikeyan Pragasam & Radhika Ramasamy	Ramakrishna Kilaru & Gopi Nandigam	Sudarshan Doddabele & Latha Raghavan	
Chanda & Agandra Bewtra	Karuna & Ramesh Gatti	Ramasubramanian Murugesan	Sudesh Batra	
Chandra Kumar Ponniah	Ketan & Falguniben Chaudhari	Ravi Shankar Ammanamanchi	Sudheer & Sandhyasree Bodapati	
Chidambaranathan Alagar & Anuradha	Kiran Aithagani	Ritu & Ravi Maniktala	Sudheer Kumar & Madhurima Chillamcharla	
Damodar Naidu Maddipatla	Kishore K Chitneni & Naga Swapna Akunuri	Rugmini Warriar & Vinod Variyam	Sumeet Agarwal	
Deepa & Suresh Karupakula	Kollira K Somanna & Krithika Somanna	Sai Pullabhotla & Sandhya Bhaskara	Sunil & Shradha & Shreyan Mamilla	
Deepti Bhat & Nagaraj Kurse	Krishnappan Muthuraman & Kavitha Karuppiah	Sai Reddy Teegala	Suresh Srivastava	
Dharani Mudugal & Avdesh Buragadda	Kurry Xpress	Sameer Rao, Sreevidya Sameer & Sunil Raghavendra	Suresh Tatavarthy	
Dharmaraj Dhandapani & Deepalakshmi Thayalan	Madan Mohan Reddy	Samir & Madhusnigdha Pradhan	Swamy & Tejaswini Talam	
Dinesh S Chandel & Purnima Singh	Manmohan & Pratap Pothuloori	Sandeep Mukherjee	Swapna & Vamshi Gunda	
Dr. Pinaki & Kalpana Panigrahi	Mary & Indru Hingorani	Sandeep Rahul Nandagiri	Swapna Nimmoji & Satish Marripally	
Esakkiappan Senthilvel	Meena & Nachiappan Shanmugam	Sandip R. Ghotikar	Taruna Walia	
Farm Credit Services of America	Mohan Anugole	Sasmita & Gouri Kumar Mishra	Thansi Reddy	
Ganesh Naik & Archana Krishnananda	Murali Mandava	Satya Dhanalakoti & Manideepa Nugooru	Tulsi Group LLC	



## Ganesh Chaturthi Puja - 2023



**Millard Public  
School  
Superintendent  
Visit at  
our Temple**



**THANK YOU!**

**Drs. Shashi and Subhash Bhatia for  
your generous donation to support  
Deepavali celebration at  
Our Temple.**



# **BEARCREEK APARTMENTS**

## **A CONVENIENT & COMFORTABLE PLACE TO LIVE**

**Prem Arora**  
Owner/Maneger



**Bearcreek Apartments**

**Krishna LLC.**

---

**14455 Harrison Street, Omaha NE 68138**

**☎ 402-714-0626**



**Deepavali Greetings**

**From:**

**Prem and Kanta Arora**



## **Durga Puja 2023 by Bengali Samiti of Nebraska**



## Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji Visit at Our Temple - 2023





## Deepavali Wishes

From:

**Dr. Shailendra Saxena & Dr. Sandhya Saxena  
And Family**





## Ramanavmi Puja 2023



Best Wishes  
and  
Happy Diwali  
From:



**Smita and Alekha Dash**  
**Rohan Dash**  
**Debleena, Ajay, Sarika & Sahil Saini**





## Vaikuntha Ekadashi 2023

Peace, health & happiness  
be with you and yours,  
today and always!!!

HAPPY DIWALI  
&  
PROSPEROUS  
NEW YEAR!!!

Bhavana - Rakesh  
Janakbhai





Happy Deepavali Wishes

From:

**Saraswathi G. Joshi & Family**  
**Sumangala and Shantaram Joshi**  
**Deepa, Nikhil and Juhi Kumar**  
**Yashaswini K. Joshi & Family**



**Wishing You All**  
**A Very Happy**  
**Deepavali**

From:

**Jitender and Ravinder Deogun**



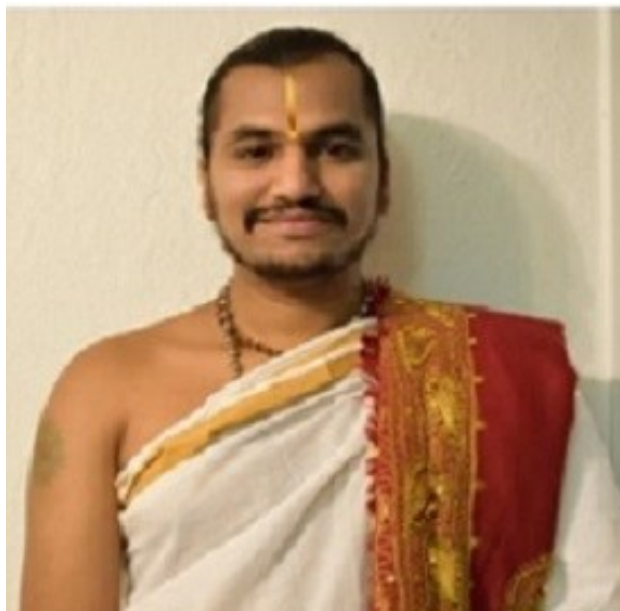
# **Please Join Us in Saying “Thank You” to Our Priests and Facility Manager**



**Pandit Nagabhat Vidyashankar**  
**Priest, Hindu Temple**



**Pandit Badari Narayana**  
**Priest, Hindu Temple**



**Pandit Laxmikant Kulkarni**  
**Priest, Hindu Temple**



**Shri Chandrasekhar Karmegam**  
**Facility Manager, Hindu Temple**



# Boba Time!



*Delivery Available!*



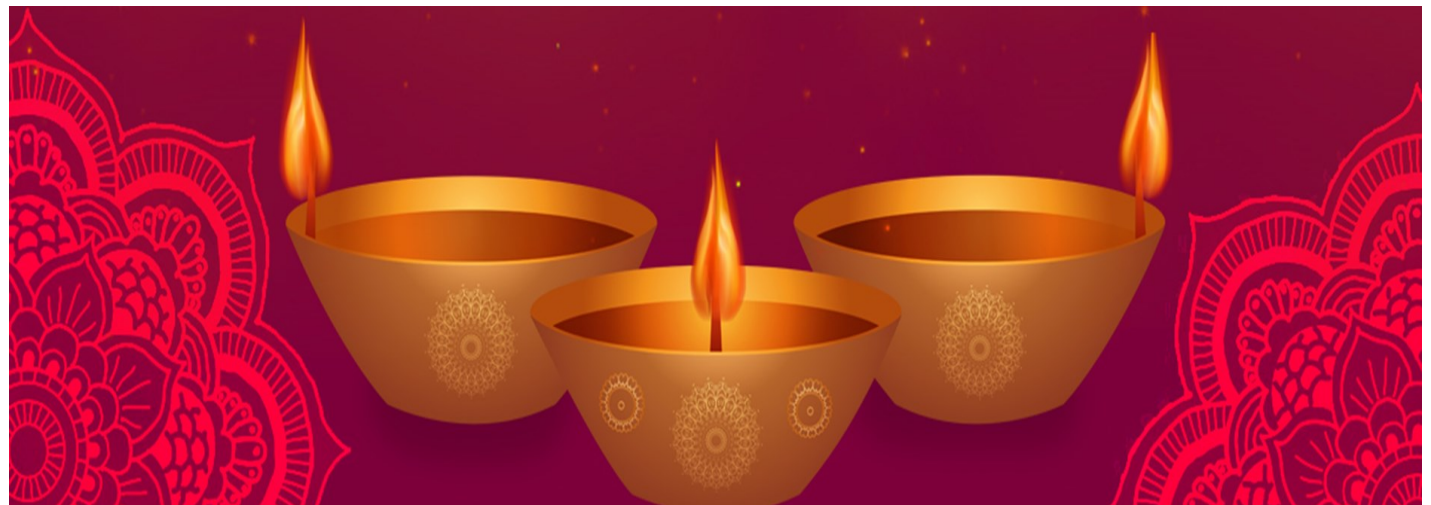
\*Free delivery available when ordered through clover/Google  
\*Minimum Quantity Required



Delivery Partners:



\*Online ordering available on clover/Google



Deepavali greetings to all  
From  
**Ramakrishnans**

—V T, Usha, Praveen, Madan, Lauryl, Sabina, Liliana—



## Tanvi's Acrylic Painting Exhibition and Silent Auction

We're elated to announce the success of our daughter Tanvi's year-long endeavor - an Acrylic Painting Exhibition and Silent Auction featuring 16 stunning God Ganesha paintings each carrying its unique charm and symbolism held at the serene Hindu Temple, Omaha (USA).

Her vibrant and soulful artworks adorned the temple's walls, sparking joy and appreciation among art enthusiasts and temple visitors alike. The love and support poured in, and through your generosity, a total of \$611 was graciously collected during the exhibition.



In the spirit of giving back to this sacred space that holds a special place in our hearts, Tanvi wholeheartedly decided to donate the entire amount to the temple. Your contributions will further the temple's noble endeavors and enrich the community in profound ways.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for embracing her creativity and supporting this meaningful cause. Let's continue to spread love, art, and positivity in our lives and communities!



# Editor's Corner

"It is my great pleasure to bring the 2023 Deepavali special issue of Deepam to you all. We have included the useful updates and details of the major events such as Deepavali Puja, messages from our leaders, Deepavali greetings from our community members, a brief reports on Balvihar activities and upcoming major events/pujas of 2023. We thank all the devotees for their continued support of Deepam.

In this special issue, we have included an updated donors list as of September 30, 2023, including donors who have donated over \$3,000 donation to the temple since its inception. We sincerely thank all the donors for their generous contribution. If there is any error in the amount we have listed, please contact Shri Venkatesh Bettadapura or Shri Sundar Chokkara. Please help temple to grow by giving your precious time, effort, constructive criticism and generous donation.

We also want to thank all the advertisers for their support of this publication. We invite you all to consider contributing articles for publication in the quarterly Deepam issues. Articles from young adults are also welcome and I request the parents to encourage their children to contribute their articles. I look forward to your suggestions to improve the Deepam.

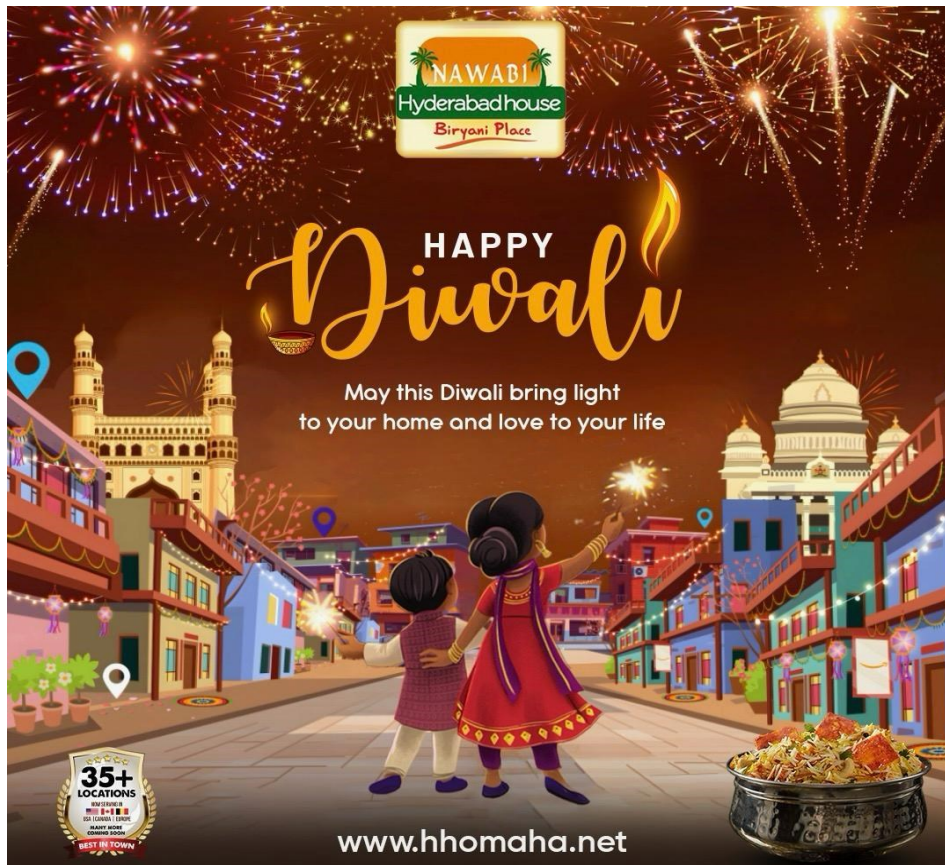
I also take this opportunity to thank the members of Publication Advisory Committee for their help in bringing this special issue. We also want to thank the Printing Facility, Creighton University for this publication.

Wishing you all a **"Very Happy Deepavali and Prosperous New Year 2023"**

**Nagendra Chaturvedi, Editor**

*on behalf of Publication Committee*

*Hindu Temple*





**Very Happy Deepavali Wishes**

**From:**

**SAWHNEY FAMILY**

**Harish and Shobha,  
Angeli, Akaash, Aria & Ayaan  
Meghna and Amit**



**Deepavali Wishes**

**From:**

**Naresh and Meera Dewan  
Tina and Sajan Mahajan,  
Anya and Avik  
Vinay Dewan  
Taruna Walia**



# 2023 Honorees and Outstanding Volunteers of Hindu Temple, Omaha



**Shrimati Malathi Balu, Past President  
of Executive Committee**



**Shri Srinivasarao Mallipudi, Past  
Chair of the Board of Trustees**



**Shri Vivek Chand, 2023  
Outstanding Volunteer of the Year**



**Shri Sujeet Reddy, 2023  
Outstanding Volunteer of the Year**



**Shri Shankar Govindarajulu, 2023  
Outstanding Volunteer of the Year**

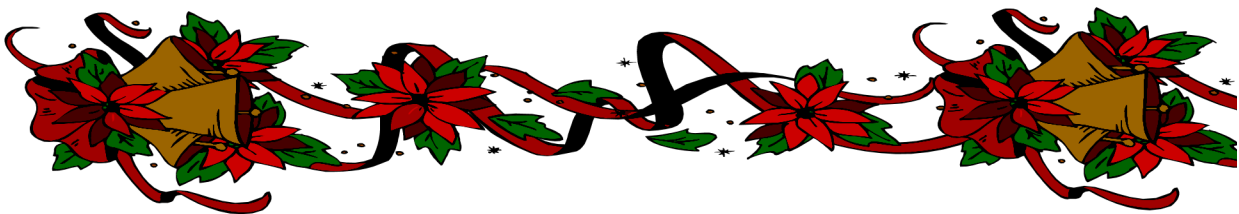


**Shri Eazhil, 2023  
Outstanding Volunteer of the Year**



**THANK YOU !**

**Dr. Shailendra Saxena and  
Dr. Sandhya Saxena for sponsoring  
decorative lighting at the Temple.**





**Shrimati Jasminuma Sanjeevi**



**Shrimati Praveena Narasimhan**



**Shrimati Maya Ravichandran**



**We are recognizing few volunteers who helped to initiate cafeteria and had been supporting since its inception**

# NOW OPEN

## INDIAN GROCERY

2455 South 132nd Street, Omaha NE 68164  
( At former location of Tulsi Indian Grocery)  
Phone: 531-867-8821

We are back in business to serve the community,  
with focus on - Quality, Quantity, Reasonable  
Prices, Multiplicity of Brands, neat and clean  
shopping environment, and friendly service.



LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOME YOU ALL TO OUR STORE



This is a place for quality rice and spice, fresh  
produce at reasonable prices.  
We also carry Wide range of Organic products.  
Introducing in 2024 your favorite fresh  
Samosa and Bhajia !!

Hindu Temple  
13010 Arbor Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68144  
402-697-8546

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Omaha, NE  
Permit Number 1182



**Happy Deepavali to You All  
From Hindu Temple, Omaha NE**

