



**HINDU
SOCIETY OF
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

TURIYA MARGA

Path to Consciousness

The Newsletter of the Hindu Society of South Australia Inc.

Shri Ganesha Temple, 3A Dwyer Road, Oaklands Park, SA 5046

Volume 36, No 1

Connect with us online...

www.shriganeshatempleadelaide.com.au

[shriganeshatempleadelaideSA](https://www.facebook.com/shriganeshatempleadelaideSA)

[@ganeshadelaide](https://twitter.com/ganeshadelaide)

Inside this issue

President's , Secretary's & Treasurer's Messages
Temple events
Temple Panchaangam (calendar)
Brief Facets of Hinduism
Kshetra - famous temples around the world
Kids Corner
Obituaries

Executive Committee-2021

President: Shri Madhava Bhat (0429 698 198)
Secretary: Shri Shasith Janarthan (0403 405 740)
Treasurer: Shri Rajah Thiyagarajah (0417 809 452)

Members

Ms Ganga Sivanathan (0421 474 685)
Dr Shri Swapna Kamal Sengupta (08 8379 5945)
Shri Dilip Thakur (0407 976 900)
Shri Subrahmanyam Kuppa (0403 582 253)
Shri Sanjay Madhukar Raje (0434 157 459)
Ms Amarasurubini (0402 986 009)

Chief Priest

Shri Skandarajah Kurukkal (08 8298 1278, 0408 893 075)

Assistant Priest

Shri Asohan Sharma (08 8358 3615)

Temple Phone Numbers

08 8358 4005, 0434 020 506

Edited and published by Raghuram Ramachandran for the Hindu Society of South Australia Inc.

editor@hindusocietysa.com.au

Temple Dress Code

When we visit a Hindu Temple, we enter a sacred space where we are in the direct presence of the Divine. In the same way that we take care to dress well for other important occasions, we ask that you dress appropriately when visiting your Temple. Please do not offend, upset or distract others with your attire.

Acceptable Attire

Traditional Hindu Dress; OR
Smart casuals with button shirts for men
Long skirts, modest tops for women

NOT ACCEPTABLE - Shorts, singlet tops, short skirts and T-shirts with inappropriate emblems

Footwear: Please place them tidily on the racks



**Vakrathunda Mahaakaaya Surya Koti Sama Prabha
Nirvighnam Kuru Me Deva Sarva Kaaryesu Sarvadaa**

From the President



Dear members, devotees, friends

In a short span of 4 months the Hindu Society of South Australia lost three of its senior members. They are Shri Bhagwat Sharma (1931 – 2020) founder member, Shri Jagannath Mazumdar (1932-2021), founder member and past president and Shri Sivagrunathan Selvakulalingam (1939-2021), past president who served for more than three decades.

I acknowledge their contributions to the Hindu Society of South Australia (HSSA) over the last four decades and dedicate this edition of our newsletter, TURIYA MARGA in their memory. These and many other dedicated members are instrumental in elevating the HSSA to its current status.

The HSSA held its AGM on 13th Dec 2020 and elected its new Executive Committee. The first task of the new committee was to address the recommendations from the Auditors' Report for the accounts of Financial years 2017, 2018 & 2019. Some achievements to date are:

- New employment contracts for both priests have been signed.
 - Paid all dues towards leave entitlements due to the Priests.
 - Organised a Governance training to all committee members
 - Introduced an induction package for new committee members
 - Created a Code of Conduct for all committee members.
 - Several measures have been introduced to improve financial controls.
- Currently we are passing through a 'COVID normal' period and seeing increasing numbers of devotees returning to temples.

Continued overleaf.....

President's message contd....

A few wedding events have been held in the new hall and there are slight improvements in hall hire revenue. Year 2021 is a transition year to a new normal and we hope to see pre-covid levels of activity by early next year.

HSSA vision is "Uniting all Hindus equally under Lord Ganesha's Umbrella. Many traditions, all Hindus"

To ensure that our operations and programs are in alignment with our vision statement, the new executive committee is endeavouring to develop a strategic plan.

Some of the challenges and risks identified for HSSA are:

- Narrow community engagement. Many people do not know what role of HSSA plays.
- Low number of financial members and is dependent on Government grants and donors for growth & sustainability
- No long term business plan for revenue growth and sustainability
- Needs more volunteers. There is no process of recruitment and induction of volunteers

The new Executive Committee has undertaken several steps to address the above. The Committee holds monthly Zoom meetings and quarterly face-to-face meetings as well workshops/meetings devoted to the development of strategic plans, long term objectives including a 5-year financial forecast. I will update the progress made in these areas in our next newsletter.

Namo Ganeshaaya,
Madhava Bhat

Executive Committee



Standing (L to R)

Shri Sanjay Madhukar Rajee
Shri Subrahmanyam Kuppa
Dr Swapna Kamal Sengupta

Seated (L to R)

Ms Ganga Sivanathan
Ms Amarasurubini (Rubi)
Shri Madhava Bhat
Shri Shasith Janarthan (Sash)
Shri Rajah Thiyagarajah
Shri Dilip Thakur

From the Secretary

Dear devotees, members, friends,

I am indeed privileged and honored to serve HSSA as a Secretary. It gives me immense pleasure and pride to write this report for Turiya Marga.

Our committee members meet once a month to discuss operational matters and to plan and organize upcoming festivals, workshops, and events. Every committee member is responsible to manage and execute assigned responsibilities related to temple functions, social and cultural activities based on the community requirements and their feedback.

HSSA is proud to inform that the following online classes have been organized for the benefit of our members.

- Veda chanting
- Shrimad Bhagavad Geetha lecture series
- Shrimad Bhagavad Geetha chanting
- Thiruppavai and Thiruvempavai

To join these classes please contact Shri Subrahmanyam Kuppa (0403 582 253).

HSSA calls upon teachers of classical music, dance, and yoga to use our Cultural Centre to teach their artform. For more details, contact secretary@hindusociety.com.au

Continued overleaf.....



TEMPLE TIMINGS

Monday to Thursday & Saturday

7 AM to 8 AM, 6 PM to 8 PM

Friday

7 AM to 8 AM, 6 PM to 9 PM

Sunday

8 AM to 11 AM, 6 PM to 8 PM

SERVICE CHARGES

Archana: \$12

Milk Abhishekam: \$50

Panchamrutha Abhishekam \$100

Havan & one Kumbham \$150

Printed service vouchers each \$12, are available from the Priest. Please contact the Chief Priest for ceremonies such as marriage, house-warming, home puja etc. Pujas and Prayers can be streamed online.

Secretary's message contd....

A new website for HSSA is under development and is expected to be deployed in second half of this year under the guidance of our senior committee member Ms Ganga Sivanathan. Our Facebook page is managed by Ms Amarasurubini (Rubi), our new co-opted member. Dr Swapna Kamal Sengupta and Shri Sanjay Madhukar Raje, our senior committee members offer advice and support to resolve issues arising within the community and everyday business. Shri Dilip Thakur, our public officer ensures that HSSA meets all regulatory requirements, including lodgement of periodic returns. Our Treasurer, Shri Rajah Thiyagarajah developed a viable financial strategy to achieve the long and short term goals set by the committee. He also organised Governance training for all the Committee members.

As the Secretary, I co-ordinate the operations of the Committee. We expect to complete automatic subscription & membership payments via Facebook and the new website by the second half of 2021. Under the stewardship of Shri Madhava Bhat, the Committee hopes to serve the religious and spiritual needs of the rapidly growing Hindu population in South Australia.

Namo Ganeshaaya
Shasith Janarthan
Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Dear Members,

I am pleased to be on board as the Treasurer after the recent AGM and am looking forward to working with the new committee and our members. As my key goal, I would like to put in place steps to future-proof the temple's financial management and systems.

With the support of the new President and Executive Committee, a financial plan was proposed to implement upgraded financial systems. An initial budget of \$6,000 was approved for this purpose. The financial plan, which will be rolled out over the next 2-3 months, will include:

- ◆ Implementation of a point-of-sale (POS) system to automate the collection and issuance of receipts for monies collected and integration with our accounting software. You will soon see the POS system, which is shown in the picture, at the archanai table.
- ◆ Purchase of a currency counting machine to complement manual counting of hundi collections and during peak festival days.
- ◆ Upgrade of the hundi safes with more robust locking and security features.
- ◆ Other measures to improve financial processes in the temple.

I am indeed grateful to the previous Treasurer, the late Mr. Siva Selvakulalingam, and the Hindu Society accountant Mr. Ramiyah Palani for their significant contributions and look forward to build on their achievements.

Namo Ganeshaaya
Rajah Thiyagarajah
Treasurer



Zoom Classes	Who	When	Contact
Shrimad Bhagavad Geetha Lectures	Shri Lakshmi Murthy ji	Saturdays 2-3 PM	Shri Subrahmanyam Kuppa 0403 582 253 kuppa.subrahmanyam@gmail.com
Veda Chanting Classes	Shri Raghuram Ramachandran representing Vedic and Cultural Centre of Australia (VCCA)	Saturdays 9-10 AM	
Shrimad Bhagavad Geetha Chanting Classes		Thursdays 6-6:45 PM	
Thiruppavai and Thiruvempavai (in traditional raagas)	Shri Venkatesan N	Fridays 8-9 PM	Shri Srirama Srinivasan 0450 375 631, sriramking@yahoo.com

Readers may please note

The views and other contents published in this newsletter are either accessed from different sources or are provided by many individuals and/or groups. The Editor takes no responsibility for any errors, omissions or the contents published in this newsletter, although constructive suggestions to improve the quality of the Newsletter are most welcome.

Contributions are most welcome. Please provide them to the Temple President or email the editor at editor@hindusocietysa.com.au.

Temple Events



Makara Sankranti—14th Jan 2021



Pongal—14th Jan 2021



Temple Anniversary—26th Jan 2021

Temple Events



Maha Shivarathri—11th March 2021



Harmony Day—20th March 2021

TEMPLE PANCHAANGAM

April 2021			August 2021		
14-Apr-21	Wed	Tamil New Year , Vishu , Karthikai Vratham , Mesha Sankranti	2-Aug-21	Mon	Aadi Krithigai, Karthikai Vratham , Aadi Perukku
16-Apr-21	Fri	Chaturthi Vratham	4-Aug-21	Wed	Ekadashi
18-Apr-21	Sun	Shashti Vratham	5-Aug-21	Thu	Pradosham
21-Apr-21	Wed	Sree Rama Navami	6-Aug-21	Fri	Masa Shivaratri
23-Apr-21	Fri	Ekadashi	8-Aug-21	Sun	Aadi Amavasya , Amavasai
24-Apr-21	Sat	Pradosham	9-Aug-21	Mon	Ashadha Gupta Navratri , Sri Somavara Vratam
26-Apr-21	Mon	Chitra Pournami	11-Aug-21	Wed	Aadi Pooram
30-Apr-21	Fri	Sankatahara Chaturthi	13-Aug-21	Fri	Shashti Vratham , Naga Panchami , Garuda Panchami
May 2021			September 2021		
7-May-21	Fri	Ekadashi	3-Sep-21	Fri	Ekadashi
9-May-21	Sun	Pradosham	4-Sep-21	Sat	Pradosham
14-May-21	Fri	Akshaya Trithiya, Parashurama Jayanti	5-Sep-21	Sun	Masa Shivaratri
15-May-21	Sat	Chaturthi Vratham	7-Sep-21	Tue	Amavasai
17-May-21	Mon	Shashti Vratham	9-Sep-21	Thu	Saama Veda Upakarmam, Swarna Gowri Vratam
22-May-21	Sat	Ekadashi	10-Sep-21	Fri	MahaVinayaka Chaturthi
24-May-21	Mon	Pradosham	12-Sep-21	Sun	Shashti Vratham
25-May-21	Tue	Narasimha Jayanti , Vaikasi Visakam	13-Sep-21	Mon	Sri Somavara Vratam , Mahalakshmi Vratham
26-May-21	Wed	Kurma Jayanti , Pournami	14-Sep-21	Tue	Aavani Moolam
29-May-21	Sat	Sankatahara Chaturthi	17-Sep-21	Fri	Ekadashi
June 2021			October 2021		
6-Jun-21	Sun	Ekadashi	2-Oct-21	Sat	Ekadashi, 3rd Purattaasi Shani Vaara Pooja
7-Jun-21	Mon	Pradosham , Soma Pradosha Vratham	4-Oct-21	Mon	Pradosham , Masa Shivaratri
10-Jun-21	Thu	Amavasai	6-Oct-21	Wed	Amavasai, Pithrupaksham ends
14-Jun-21	Mon	Chaturthi	7-Oct-21	Thu	Navarathri starts
16-Jun-21	Wed	Shashti Vratham	9-Oct-21	Sat	Chaturthi Vratham, 4th Purattaasi Shani Vaara Pooja
21-Jun-21	Mon	Ekadashi	11-Oct-21	Mon	Shashti Vratham , Sri Somavara Vratam
22-Jun-21	Tue	Pradosham	12-Oct-21	Tue	Durga Puja
24-Jun-21	Thu	Pournami , Pournami Viratam			
27-Jun-21	Sun	Sankatahara Chaturthi, Thiruvona Vratham			
July 2021					
5-Jul-21	Mon	Karthikai Vratham , Ekadashi			
7-Jul-21	Wed	Pradosham			
8-Jul-21	Thu	Masa Shivaratri			
9-Jul-21	Fri	Amavasai			
13-Jul-21	Tue	Chaturthi Vratham			
15-Jul-21	Thu	Aani Uthiram, Shashti Vratham			
16-Jul-21	Fri	Aadi Pirappu, Dakshinayana Punyakalam starts			
20-Jul-21	Tue	Ekadashi , Chaturmasya Vrata Arambham			
21-Jul-21	Wed	Pradosham			
23-Jul-21	Fri	Pournami Viratam			
24-Jul-21	Sat	Pournami , Vyasa Pooja			
27-Jul-21	Tue	Sankatahara Chaturthi			

TEMPLE PANCHAANGAM

16-Oct-21	Sat	Ekadashi	13-Jan-22	Thu	Ekadashi , Bogi Pandigai , Vaikuntha Ekadashi
17-Oct-21	Sun	Tula Sankranti , Sabarimala Nada Thurappu	14-Jan-22	Fri	Pongal , Makara Sankranti
18-Oct-21	Mon	Pradosham	15-Jan-22	Sat	Pradosham , Mattu Pongal
20-Oct-21	Wed	Aippasi Pournami , Pournami , Pournami Viratam	16-Jan-22	Sun	Kaanum Pongal , Temple Anniversary
23-Oct-21	Sat	Karthikai Vratham	17-Jan-22	Mon	Pournami , Pournami Viratam
24-Oct-21	Sun	Karaka Chaturthi , Sankatahara Chaturthi	18-Jan-22	Tue	Thaipusam
November 2021			21-Jan-22	Fri	Sankatahara Chaturthi
1-Nov-21	Mon	Ekadashi	28-Jan-22	Fri	Ekadashi
2-Nov-21	Tue	Pradosham , Dhana Trayodashi	30-Jan-22	Sun	Gandhi Samaadhi , Masa Shivaratri , Pradosham
3-Nov-21	Wed	Masa Shivaratri	February 2022		
4-Nov-21	Thu	Amavasai , Deepavali , Kedaara Gowri Vratham ends	1-Feb-22	Tue	Thai Amavasai , Shula Vratam , Thiruvona Vratham
5-Nov-21	Fri	Govardhan Puja , Skandha Shashti Vratham start	4-Feb-22	Fri	Chaturthi
8-Nov-21	Mon	Sri Somavara Vratam , Chaturthi Vratham	5-Feb-22	Sat	Vasantha Panchami
9-Nov-21	Tue	Shoora samharam	6-Feb-22	Sun	Shashti Vratham
10-Nov-21	Wed	Shashti Vratham	9-Feb-22	Wed	Karthikai Vratham
11-Nov-21	Thu	Thirukkalyaanam , Gopashtami , Thiruvona Vratham	12-Feb-22	Sat	Ekadashi
12-Nov-21	Fri	Akshaya Navami	14-Feb-22	Mon	Pradosham
15-Nov-21	Mon	Ekadashi	16-Feb-22	Wed	Pournami Viratam , Pournami
16-Nov-21	Tue	Pradosham , Vrishchikam 1-Ayyappa Puja	17-Feb-22	Thu	Masi Magam
18-Nov-21	Thu	Pournami Viratam	20-Feb-22	Sun	Sankatahara Chaturthi
19-Nov-21	Fri	Karthigai Deepam	27-Feb-22	Sun	Ekadashi
20-Nov-21	Sat	Vinayakar Vratham start	28-Feb-22	Mon	Pradosham
23-Nov-21	Tue	Sankatahara Chaturthi	March 2022		
30-Nov-21	Tue	Ekadashi , Vaitarani Vrata	1-Mar-22	Tue	Maha Shivaratri , Masa Shivaratri
December 2021			2-Mar-22	Wed	Amavasai
2-Dec-21	Thu	Masa Shivaratri , Pradosham	6-Mar-22	Sun	Chaturthi Vratham
4-Dec-21	Sat	Amavasai	7-Mar-22	Mon	Sri Somavara Vratam
6-Dec-21	Mon	Sri Somavara Vratam	8-Mar-22	Tue	Shashti Vratham , Karthikai Vratham
7-Dec-21	Tue	Chaturthi Vratham	14-Mar-22	Mon	Karadaiyan Nombu , Ekadashi
8-Dec-21	Wed	Thiruvona Vratham	15-Mar-22	Tue	Pradosham
9-Dec-21	Thu	Subrahmanya Shashti , Vinayakar Shashti	17-Mar-22	Thu	Pournami
11-Dec-21	Sat	Thivembavai start	18-Mar-22	Fri	Holi , Panguni Uthiram
14-Dec-21	Tue	Ekadashi	21-Mar-22	Mon	Sankatahara Chaturthi
16-Dec-21	Thu	Pradosham , Karthigai	22-Mar-22	Tue	Ranga Panchami
18-Dec-21	Sat	Pournami Vratham , Thiruppavai start	28-Mar-22	Mon	Ekadashi , Thiruvona Vratham
20-Dec-21	Mon	Arudra Darshan	29-Mar-22	Tue	Pradosham
22-Dec-21	Wed	Sankatahara Chaturthi	30-Mar-22	Wed	Masa Shivaratri
26-Dec-21	Sun	Mandala Pooja	31-Mar-22	Thu	Amavasai
30-Dec-21	Thu	Ekadashi	April 2022		
31-Dec-21	Fri	Pradosham	1-Apr-22	Fri	Amavasai
January 2022			2-Apr-22	Sat	Ugadi , Vasant Ritu , Rama Navami start
1-Jan-22	Sat	New Year Pooja	4-Apr-22	Mon	Karthikai Vratham
2-Jan-22	Sun	Hanuman Jayanthi , Amavasai	5-Apr-22	Tue	Chaturthi Vratham
6-Jan-22	Thu	Chaturthi Vratham	7-Apr-22	Thu	Shashti Vratham
7-Jan-22	Fri	Shashti Vratham	10-Apr-22	Sun	Sree Rama Navami
			12-Apr-22	Tue	Ekadashi
			14-Apr-22	Thu	Tamil New Year , Vishu , Pradosham , Meshasankranti

Try drawing and colouring these Simple and Easy Ganeshas



Maha Ganesha Pancharathnam is a sthotra composed by Shri Adi Sankaracharya on Bhagavan Ganesha. The sthotra explains the qualities and nature of Ganesha and the benefits of worshipping him. Pancharathnam means five jewels. The five stanzas of this composition are the five jewels. Here is the first stanza for you to learn & sing.

**Mudhaakaraatha modhakam
Sadhaavimukthi saadhakam
Kalaadharaava thamsakam
Vilaasiloka rakshakam.**

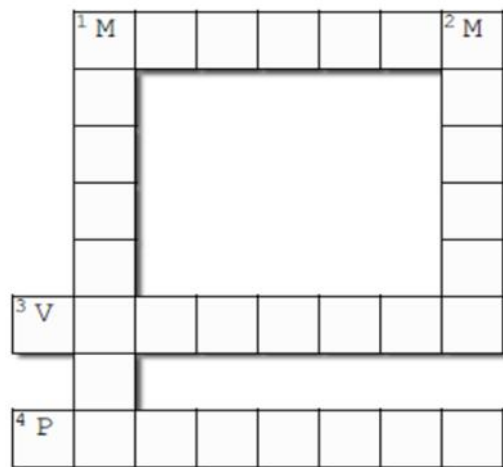
**Anaayakaika nayakam
Vinaasithebha dhaithyakam
Nathaa shubhaashu nashakam
Namamitham Vinaayakam.**

The one who joyfully holds sweet modaka in his hand and who always gives salvation to his devotees. The one who wears the moon as an ornament and the protector of all the worlds.

The one who acts as a guide/leader to the destitute or helpless people, the destroyer of the demons.

The one who removes the bad and inauspicious things in one's lives, I bow to you, O Vinayaka.

Ganesha Crossword Puzzle



Created using the Cro

Vertical

1. Ganesha's vehicle
2. Ganesha's brother

Horizontal

1. Ganesha's favourite food
3. Another name for Ganesha
4. Ganesha's mother's name

BRIEF FACETS OF SANATHANA DHARMA (HINDUISM)

Sanaathana Dharma (popularly known as Hindusim) is the world's oldest religion with roots and customs dating back several thousands of years. It has over 1.25 billion followers. It is not a single religion but a compilation of many traditions & philosophies.

Hindus have a number of Devathaas (deities) that they worship according to their personal preferences, age, tradition, region. They recognise that their preferred Devathaa (like all Devathaas) is the personification of the Absolute Truth / Supreme consciousness / Brahman (*not to be confused with Brahma, the Creator in the Trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva*). Followers know believe there are multiple paths to reaching their God.

Hindus believe that the Atman (Soul) is indestructible, it simply moves from one body to another (*not necessarily a human body*). This continuous cycle of life-death-life- , known as Samsaara is due to Karma (the universal law of cause and effect). The goal of human life is to achieve 'Moksha' which ends the cycle of rebirths and the Soul merges with Brahman.

The concept of time extends across the multiple life forms that the Atman takes. Therefore, the law of Karma also extends across the multiple lifetimes that the Atman has experienced. Thus, the good and bad experiences in one's current lifetime is the accumulation of Karma from past lifetimes. The choices one makes HERE and NOW may affect one in this lifetime or the next. Hindus strive to achieve dharma, a code of living that emphasizes good conduct and morality.

HINDUISM's most universal prayer is the Gayathri Mantra. Gayathri literally means that which protects one who chants it. It is also a Vedic meter with 3 verses of 8 syllables each. There are several Gayathris including one for Bhagavan Ganesha. The most popular of the Gayathris is the one venerates the Savitha Devathaa—

"Om Bhoor Bhuvah Swah, Thath Savithur Varenyam, Bhargo Devasya Dheemahi, Dhiyo Yo Nah Prachodhayath"

which can be interpreted as "We meditate on the Spiritual Splendor of that supreme and Divine reality, source of the physical, astral and celestial spheres of existence. Allow that divine being supreme to illuminate our intellect, so that we can realize the supreme Truth."

(Compiled by Shri Swapna Kamal Sengupta)
..... (to be continued)

Be more humble than a blade of grass, more tolerant than a tree, always offering respect to the others, and never expect any in return.

Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu

Affirm divine calmness and peace, and send out only good thoughts and goodwill, if you want to live in peace and harmony. Never get angry, for anger poisons your system.

Swami Paramhansa Yogananda

It is divinity that shapes, not only your ends, but also your acts, your words and thoughts'

Swami Sivananda

Who is better able to know God than I myself, since He resides in my heart and is the very essence of my being? Such should be the attitude of one who is seeking

Swami Paramananda, The Upanishads

Although an act of help done timely, might be small in nature, it is truly larger than the world itself.

ThiruValluvar, Thirukkural

YOUR TEMPLE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to join our team of dedicated people who assist in managing the Temple, organising events & cultural activities, cleaning, gardening, charity events & much more. Our Executive Committee and volunteer team are critical to the smooth running and operation of our Temple and the Hindu Society's initiatives.

The Hindu Society of South Australia is a not-for-profit incorporated organisation that manages this beautiful Shri Ganesha Temple, the Community Cultural Centre and associated communal spaces. We also provide a diverse range of programs, activities and events for our community.

If you have a minimum 2 hours available any evening between Monday and Friday, any hours any time (am or pm) on Saturday, Sunday or Public holidays, and if you enjoy meeting new people and providing Seva to the community and God, then please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Shri Dilip Thakur on 0407 976 900

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, THEY JUST HAVE THE HEART.

~ Anonymous

KSHETHRA—a brief introduction to famous temples around the world

The origin of Kedarnath temple can be traced to the great Ithihaasa (epic) – Mahabharata. After winning the battle against the Kauravas, the Pandavas sought the blessings of Bhagavan Shiva. Shiva eluded them repeatedly and while fleeing from them took refuge at Kedarnath in form of a bull. On being followed by the Pandavas, he dived into ground at the exact place where the Sanctum is now present, leaving behind his hump on the floor surface, which is now visible. This Hump inside the temple is in the form of a conical rock formation and is worshipped as Lord Shiva manifested in his Sadashiva form. The pandavas built a temple for Shiva at this site. Several thousand years later, JagadGuru Adi Shankaracharya established the temple and the rituals of worship.

The remaining portions of Lord Shiva appeared at four other places and are worshipped there as his manifestations. The arms of the Lord appeared at Tungnath, the face at Rudranath, the belly at Madmaheshwar and his locks (hair) with head at Kalpeshwar. The Kedarnath and four above mentioned shrines are treated as Panch Kedar (Panch means Five in Sanskrit).

The Skanda Purana names Kedara as the place where where Shiva released Ma Ganga, the sacred river from his matted hair. Bhagavan Shiva in Kedarnath is in the form of a Jyotirlinga. Adi Shankara attained Samadhi behind the Kedarnath Shrine.

Kedarnath is located in the Rudra Himalaya range of Uttarakhand in Northern India at an altitude of 3,581 metres on banks of the Mandakini river. The historical name of this region is Kedar Khand. There are more than 200 shrines dedicated to Lord Shiva in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand itself, the most important one is Kedarnath.

The Temple at Kedarnath presents an imposing sight, standing in middle of a wide plateau surrounded by lofty snow covered peaks. Kedarnath temple has exquisite architecture built of massive stone slabs over a large rectangular platform. There are inscriptions in Pali language on the steps. It evokes wonder as to how these heavy slabs were moved and handled. The temple has a Garbha Griha for worship and a Mandap, for assemblies of pilgrims and visitors. Outside the temple door, a large statue of Nandi Bhagavan stands as guard.

Kedarnath experiences heavy snowfall in winter and the temple itself is blanketed with snow from November to April. At the onset of Winter every year, the Utsav Doli Vighraha (Idol) of Shiva is carried down from Kedarnath temple to Ukhimath in Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand, where the worship continues during the winter months until May. In the first week of May, Shiva is carried back from Ukhimath to Kedarnath and reinstated in the original place. It is at this time, that the doors of the temple are thrown open to pilgrims, who flock from all parts of the world.

mahAdripArshve cha taTe ramantaM sampUjyamAnaM satataM munIndraiH |
surAsurairyaksha mahoragADhyaiH kedAramIshaM shivamekamIDe ||

O Lord of Kedaara, who resides in the great heights of Himalayas, oh Lord, thou, who art worshipped forever by Munis, Saints, Hermits, Demons, Gods, Yakshas and giant snakes, I bow and offer millions of Pranams.



Shri Bhagwat Sharma

(31 December 1931 - 22 November 2020)

Mr. Bhagwat Sharma was born on in Navua, Fiji. He was the youngest of 10 siblings, 6 brothers and 4 sisters. He was always a soft-spoken and humble person with a great smile who did not have a bad word for anyone.

At 15 years of age, he left Navua with his older brother to go to Suva for greener pastures. He initially joined the police force with his brother but did not pursue that. Then he worked for Millers Motors. In 1954 went to the township of Lautoka as Acting Manager and stayed on to become the Manager, Western Division.



In search of new opportunities and challenges, Mr. Sharma decided to open up his own spare part business in Lautoka and also become a sales agent for Subaru in the Western Division. He ran this business with great success until he migrated with his family to Australia.

He loved community work. He was with the Lions Club of Lautoka as President and later Zone Chairman. One of the activities he loved was to distribute grocery packs to the needy. He would get a team together to make the pack of essentials and deliver them to the homes of needy families. He helped rebuild homes after a disaster or those who needed help in any form. He worked with a small group of devotees in Lautoka to collect donations so that they could build a Temple. His efforts were widely recognised by the local community when the Vishnu Temple was finally constructed. He was very proud of this achievement and often spoke about it.

On April 7th, 1979 Mr. Sharma migrated to Adelaide, Australia, with his wife Sushila Sharma and three daughters Veena, Raksha and Reshmi. His first job was with Hannan Brothers in Adelaide City in the spare parts area, which was his area of expertise. Later he went on to work for Toyota Motor Corporation until he retired.

He became a respected member of the Fijians of Adelaide community. He also continued his community work in Adelaide as an active member of the Brighton Lions Club.

There were only a handful of people from India in Adelaide when he migrated so weekly get-togethers for kirtan were held in a Migrant Resource Centre and sometimes at homes of various families. The group slowly grew in numbers. It was decided to look for a bigger place or start a Temple. Mr. Sharma, on his daily walk, came across a church for sale on Dwyer St, Oaklands Park. It was later purchased by the Hindu Society of South Australia, and Shri Ganesha Temple was established in 1986. This was a great achievement for our Hindu Society and Mr. Sharma was so proud that he had been part of the establishment.

He gave a lot of time to Shri Ganesha Temple including maintenance and gardening. Any time of day and night he would be there to do anything required. Whenever the Temple had electrical or plumbing problem that needed attention, the President of the Hindu Society would call Bhagavat and tell him what the problem was, and he would promptly get someone to attend to it. His help was always appreciated. He had a love for Lord Ganesha and also a great knowledge of Hinduism and its rituals. He was always willing to have chat to share his knowledge.

On Saturday 21st November 2020 he was reminiscing about Shri Ganesha Temple. All his life Mr. Sharma had great passion to serve the community he lived in and this was recognised in Adelaide when he was awarded Premiers Certificate of Merit for Community Service, an achievement he was very humbled by.

On Sunday 22nd November 2020 he left for his heavenly journey peacefully. He will be missed by all.

*na jāyate mriyate vā kadāchin-nāyaṁ bhūtvā bhavitā vā na bhūyaḥ
ajo nityaḥ śhāśhvato 'yaṁ purāṇo, na hanyate hanyamāne śharīre*

For the soul there is never birth nor death. Nor, having once been, does he ever cease to be. He is unborn, eternal, ever-existing, undying and primeval. He is not slain when the body is slain.

(Shrimad Bhagavad Geetha 2:20)

Shri Jagannath Mazumdar AM

(2 September 1932 - 12 February 2021)



Emeritus Professor Dr. Jagannath Mazumdar AM sadly passed away on Saturday 12 February 2021, surrounded by his sons Raju and Sanjay and their respective families.

As a senior member of the Indian community, in Adelaide he was popularly and respectfully known as JaganDa.

JaganDa was born in Purulia District in West Bengal where he spent his childhood years before moving to Patna University for higher education. Patna University, not only offered him the opportunities to complete a Bachelor and Masters degrees in Mathematics, but also a golden opportunity to seal the life-long partnership with Miss Maya Dutta, a daughter of the Vice Chancellor of Patna University.

JaganDa and Mayaji got married in 1958 and welcomed their son Raju into this world a few years later.

Hungry for further education, in 1962 he went to Moscow University, to pursue PhD studies. At the time, his beloved wife and young Raju stayed back in Patna, just so that he could devote himself to his doctoral & post-doctoral research.

In October 1966, with Mayaji and young Raju, JaganDa migrated to Australia and immediately he called Adelaide his home. Their second son Sanjay arrived few years later.

JaganDa's professional and academic career began at the Adelaide University and he devoted his life to Adelaide University where he received his highest recognition as the Emeritus Professor of Mathematics & Electrical /Electronic engineering. He worked at the Adelaide University from 1966 until recently, advancing the original research in biomedical engineering particularly in the field of Orthopaedic and Cardiology. He wrote many academic books on mathematical biology and physiology. He published over 200 academic papers. His work is widely recognized and referred to by many aspiring undergraduate and post-doctoral students across the globe.

He educated thousands of students in the field of mathematics and biomedical engineering. He supervised and guided large cohort of PHD students who have gone on to becoming some of the most influential candidates holding prestigious positions across Australia and in the rest of the world. JaganDa worked abroad as the visiting professor at many international universities in US, Canada, India and Singapore. He was the inaugural Director of Biomedical Institute. He held editorial roles as the Expert academic on many international journals.

In spite of such busy life at home & at work, JaganDa and Mayaji extended their time for social causes in Adelaide. They both reached out to provide pastoral care & assistance to many Indian students who came to Adelaide to pursue their dreams to complete PhD under his supervision. In 1967 JaganDa and Mayaji were pivotal in the formation of Indian Club of South Australia, now known as The Indian Australian Association of South Australia (IAASA) Inc.

From 1975 to 1977 he was the sixth president of IAASA. From these humble beginnings, the IAASA is now a prominent organization promoting cultural awareness and education about India within the broader multicultural social fabric of South Australia

JaganDa was the founding member of the Hindu Society of South Australia (HSSA) Inc. and the past President of this organization. He continued to be an active member of both, the IAASA and HSSA throughout his life in Adelaide for over 55 years.

JaganDa's legacies will live on in his academic and social spheres for which in 2012 he was appropriately & deservedly awarded the Member of The Order Of Australia (AM). JaganDa is survived by his two sons, Raju and Sanjay and their respective families. We as a community extend our deep sympathies and condolences to them during these difficult times.

May JaganDa's journey continue into the eternity. Knowing Jaganda's achievements and deeds in this life, we can be sure that in whatever space he is now, he will continue to make his contributions for better.

Written by Shri Dilip Thakur

*Ayavināshi tu tadviddhi yena sarvam idam tatam
vināsham avyayasyāsyā na kashchit kartum arhati*

That which pervades the entire body, know it to be indestructible.

No one can cause the destruction of the imperishable soul. ul there is never birth nor death.

(Shrimad Bhagavad Geetha 2:17)

Shri Sivagrunathan Selvakulalingam

(18 October 1939—6 March 2021)

It is hard to believe that Siva Selva is no more amongst us. He returned home to Ganesha in the morning of Friday 6th March 2021. Today the Indian/ Sri Lankan community, the Shri Ganesha Temple and the Hindu Society of South Australia has lost a devoted visionary who loved the Temple and translated his love into service. He was a public figure who raised the profile of the Hindu Society and the Ganesha Temple and made a mark in the Adelaide community.

Siva was born in Jaffna on 18 October 1939. His father passed away when he was only 6 years old and therefore endured hardship in his childhood. His mother, Rasama took the role of both father and mother in raising and educating him.

Siva finished his education in Jaffna with very good grades and secured a scholarship to study woodwork technology in the United Kingdom. He was awarded a Higher National Certificate in 1967 and a Diploma in Mechanical Engineering in 1968 from the Salford Technology College, Manchester.

After his studies in UK he joined a well-known British woodworking machinery firm, based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia as a factory representative and moved on to become Managing Director of the company and he established and managed entire East Asian network. He married to beautiful Sivanesh and had two sons Siva Junior and Suren.

He migrated to Australia on a business visa in 1988 and began importing timber from Malaysia. He then established a manufacturing business, Bordex Wine Racks Australia Ptv Ltd, in association with the wine industry. In 2002 and 2005 Bordex Wine Racks received export awards.

Even as he was running a successful business, he also made it his business to see that the small Hindu community in Adelaide got a place of worship. He felt it was a missing piece in his spiritual life, since he belonged to a family that traditionally serves temples back home. He tirelessly worked towards that goal with the support of friends Dr Ravindran, Dr Iswaran, Mr Dilip Chirmuley, Dr Jagdish Saraf and several other devotees. They progressed the vision of converting and renovating the existing Shri Ganesha Temple to be a traditional Hindu temple. He was in a class by himself in raising funds for the Hindu Society. With other committee members day after day they, spanning a period of 20 years, knocked on hundreds of doors and raised more than \$800,000 to have a temple built in the traditional style.

In those days, as the Hindu Society had few funds at its disposal, the President at the time depended on two persons for help to carry out necessary repairs. One was Bhagavat Sharma and the other was Siva Selva. Bhagavat supplied handymen through his network and Siva Selva gave funds. He always willingly gave the money to be paid whenever the Society's finances needed. He wanted the Society and its Shri Ganesha Temple to continue to fulfil the needs of Adelaide's Hindu community. He considered himself a devotee of Lord Ganesha and nothing else. He never wavered from his devotion and attributed his success to the Lord's grace.

Siva Selva hardly missed a committee meeting and enthusiastically participated in discussions making considered suggestions. By virtue of his dedicated passionate and tireless service he has carved a place in the history of the Society and the Temple which will live on for generations to come. Over the years Selva became synonymous with the Hindu Society.

He had a unique capacity to rub shoulders with politicians. He established good relations with politicians of South Australia's major political parties which has helped the Hindu Society. He had a knack of making friends with people of all ranks that helped the cause of the Temple in various ways including receiving grants and gaining a Heritage status within 13 years of its construction. Our State Governor would call him 'Uncle Selva' and our Premiers of both political persuasions had high regard for him. In 2011, he received OAM on Australia day, a fitting recognition of his service to the community.

Siva Selva had been guiding hand of Hindu Society as President for two decades. That position aside, he would tend the roses and trim the hedges in the Temple courtyard every week while his wife Sivanesh ensured the inside cleanliness and order. He ensured that all festivals and celebrations in the Temple were held true to the traditional mode – he was an excellent event planner.

He is survived by his wife, Sivanesh, who has stood by him in every step of his service to the community and Temple, and his two sons Siva Junior and Suren.



*vāsāmsi jīrṇāni yathā vihāya, navāni gṛhṇāti naro 'parāṇi
tathā śarīrāṇi vihāya jīrṇāny, anyāni samyāti navāni dehī*

*As a person puts on new garments, giving up old ones, the soul similarly
accepts new material bodies, giving up the old and useless ones.*

(Shrimad Bhagavad Geetha 2:21)