

August, September, October 2022

VOLUME XXII, ISSUE 1

ॐ SANDESH ॐ



*Hindu Society*  
OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## Upcoming Events for Aug, Sep, & Oct 2022

### VARALAKSHMI VRATAM Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Mahalakshmi Abhishek 6.00-6.30 pm  
Samuhika Varalakshmi Vrata Pooja & Katha 7.00 – 8.00 PM  
(Participants to Bring: Fruits, Flowers, and Coconut, Blouse piece & Prashad) Sponsorship \$31/  
**RAKSHA BANDHAN & RIG-YAJUR UPAKARMA Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Aug 2022**  
Upakarma Ceremony 8.00 – 10.00 AM  
Raksha Bandhan Pooja & followed by Arati 6.30 - 7.00 PM

### SHRI KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI, Friday AUG 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Janmashtami Special puja for Young Generation 5.30—6.30 PM  
Arati followed by Sarvadarshan 6.30—9.00 PM  
Arati & Prashad followed by Sarvadarshan 6.30—9.00 PM Arati @ 6.30, 7.30, and 8.30 PM  
Janmashtami Special Cultural Program & Bhajans 10.00 – 11.30 PM  
Shri Balakrishna Janmotsav & Jhoola Seva, Arati 11.30 – 12.30 Mid-night

### Haritalika Teej Vrat at Temple Tuesday August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 8.00-9.00 PM

### SHRI GANESHA CHATURTHI CELEBRATIONS Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Shri Maha Ganapati Havan & Ganesha thapana 9.00 – 10.30 AM  
Ganesh Chaturthi Special Ganesh Abhishek 10.30 – 11.00 AM  
Special Shringar, Arati & Prashad 11.00 – 12.00 Noon  
Vinayaka Chaviti Pooja for Young Generation 5.45 -6.15 PM  
Arati & Prashad followed by Sarvadarshan 6.30—9.00 PM Arati @ 6.30, 7.30, and 8.30 PM

### Jain Paryushan Program 2.00 – 6.00 PM at Multi-Purpose Hall

September 3 Saturday 2022 11.00 -12.00 Noon Samuhika Ganesh Puja by Children

### Ganapathi Atharvashirsha Sahasravriti 3.00 – 6.00 PM

### Ganesha Nimajjan Utsav 6.00-6.30

Onam Festival Special Puja and Bhajans Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 6.00—7.00 pm

### Sharad Navaratri Begins Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Kalasha Sthapana 6.00—6.30 PM

(Valmiki Sundarakand & Chandi Path will be observed from Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> Oct)

Lalitha Sahasranama Parayana 7.00 to 8.00 PM everyday

During Navaratri September 26<sup>th</sup> thru October 3<sup>rd</sup> RAS GARBHA offering to

Shri Ambe Durga Maa 7.30-9.30 PM at MP Hall

Shri Mata Ki Jagaran Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 10.00-7.00 AM 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Durgashtami, Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Shri Durga havan 9.00-11.00 AM

### Vijaya Dashami, Dassera & Venkateswara Jayanthi Celebrations Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>, Oct 2022

Venkateswara Special Abhishek 9.30 to 12.00 Noon

Dassera Shri Rama Pattabishek Shami Puja and Kalasha Udyapan 5.30 to 6.15 pm

Ram Leela and Ravan dahan 7.30 to 8.00 pm

SARVA DARSHAN 6.30-9.00 PM ARATIS AT 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 pm

Karava Chouth Puja and Vrat Katha Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022 4.00-6.00 pm

### Diwali Celebrations Monday October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Maha Lakshmi Abhishek Puja 9.30 – 10.30 AM

Shringar followed by Arati 10.30 – 11.00 AM

Diwali Special Lakshmi puja for young Generation 5.30-6.30 pm followed by

SARVA DARSHAN 6.30-9.00 PM ARATIS AT 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 pm

Kedara Gaouri Vratha Puja Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 9.00 to 10.30 followed by Arati

### Annakoot, Govardhan Pooja, Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Govardhan Annakoot Puja 6.00 to 6.30 PM

Prashad Nivedan 6.30 to 7.00 PM

Bhajans, Arati followed by Prashad 7.00 to 7.30 PM

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA



## Hindu Society

OF NORTH-EAST  
FLORIDA

*We are pleased to announce that we are  
restarting the program -  
Eat For Good Cause*

*"Eat For Good Cause" is a program where  
volunteers cook fresh food and the proceeds  
benefit the HSNEF and the community causes.*

*We need volunteers to help us with cooking.*

*If anyone is interested please send an email to  
[secretary@hsnef.org](mailto:secretary@hsnef.org) with your contact  
details.*

*Thank You,  
HSNEF*

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## Hindu Society OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

Fundraising goal:

**\$300,000**



Raised so far:

**\$199,405.00**

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT  
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW

# YAJNA SHALA

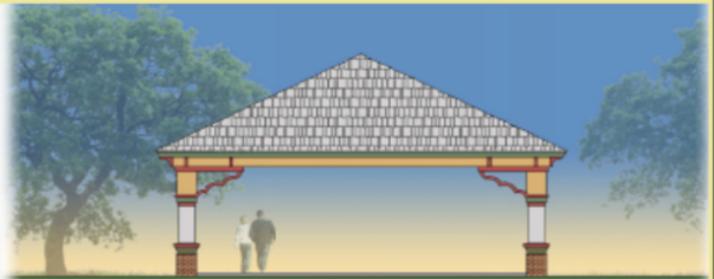
IN OUR TEMPLE

We are very close to our fundraising goal. Help us make the Yajna Shala vision come true for the Jax Hindu community.

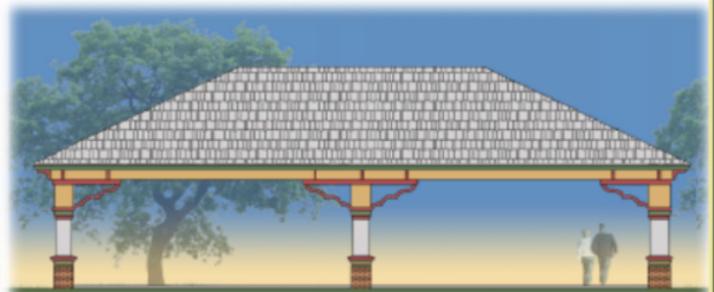
Plan displayed below.



PROPOSED YAGNASHALA LAYOUT  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



EAST & WEST ELEVATIONS  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



NORTH & SOUTH ELEVATIONS  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

TO DONATE: CALL TEMPLE OFFICE AT (904) 268-7630

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

August 2022

Date	Day	Event	Time
1 <sup>st</sup>	Monday	Vainayaki Ganesh Abhishek	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
6 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Shri RamParivarPooja	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
7 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Ganesh Abhishek	9:30 am to 11:00 am
11 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Rakhi Poornima Rig Yajur Upakarma	6:00 am to 9:00 am
		Raksha Bandhan Rakhi Poornima	6:30 pm to 7:00 pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Devi Pooja Samuhika Soundaryalahari Prayana	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
14 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Shiv Pooja	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Jain Samavesh & Kids Pathsahla	10:30 am to 11:30 am
		Sankataharana Chaturthi Ganesh Abhishek	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Janamashtami	6:00 pm to 12:00 am
20 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Shri Venkateswar Abhishek & Pooja	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
21 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday	Sri Satyanarayan Pooja	10:00 am to 11:45 am
24 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	Mahapradosha Rudra Abhishek	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Sri Lakshminarayana Pooja	10:30 am to 11:00 am
		Navagraha Abhishek	11:00 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
28 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	BalaKrishna Pooja	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Jain Samavesh Mahavirswami Janmotsav	2:00 pm to 6:00 pm
30 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Haritalika Teej Vrat Puja	7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
31 <sup>st</sup>	Wednesday	Ganesh Chaturthi Vinayaka Chaturthi	6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## September 2022

Date	Day	Event	Time
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Shri RamParivarPooja	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Ganesh Chaturthi Childrens Samuhik Ganesh puja	11:00 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
		Ganapathi Atharva Sirsha Sahasravriti	3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
		Ganesh Nimajjan Utsav	6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Ganesh Abhishek	10:00 am to 11:00 am
8 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Onam Festival	6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
10 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Devi Pooja Samuhika Soundaryalahari Prayana	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Shiv Pooja	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Jain Samavesh & Kids Pathsahla	10:30 am to 11:30 am
13 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Angaraki Sankataharana Chaturthi Ganesh Abhishek	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Shri Venkateswar Abhishek & Pooja	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
18 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Sri Satyanarayan Pooja	10:00 am to 11:45 am
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Friday	Mahapradosha Rudra Abhishek	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
24 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Sri Lakshminarayana Pooja	10:30 am to 11:00 am
		Navagraha Abhishek	11:00 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	BalaKrishna Pooja	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Jain Samavesh & Kids Pathsahla	10:30 am to 11:30 am
29 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Vainayaki Ganesh Abhishek	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

October 2022

Date	Day	Event	Time
1 <sup>st</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Shri RamParivarPooja	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunday	Ganesh Abhishek	10:00 am to 11:00 am
5 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Shri Venkateswar Abhishekam & Pooja	10:00 am to 11:45 am
8 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Devi Pooja Samuhika Soundaryalahari Prayana	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
9 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Shiv Pooja	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Jain Samavesh & Kids Pathsahla	10:30 am to 11:30 am
13 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Karava Chout	4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
		Sankataharana Chaturthi Ganesh Abhishek	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
15 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Shri Venkateswar Abhishek & Pooja	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
16 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Sri Satyanarayan Pooja	10:00 am to 11:45 am
24 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Sri Lakshminarayana Pooja	10:30 am to 11:00 am
		Navagraha Abhishek	11:00 am to 11:45 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
		Mahapradosha Shiva Abhishek	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Sunday	BalaKrishna Pooja	10:30 am to 11:45 am
		Jain Samavesh & Kids Pathsahla	10:30 am to 11:30 am
24 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	Diwali Celebrations	
25 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Annakoot Govardhan Puja	
29 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9:30 am to 10:30 am
		Meditation Session	2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## HSNEF Board

### *Chairperson*

Anurag Jain  
chair@hsnef.org

### *Vice Chairperson*

Anshu Kalia  
vc@hsnef.org

### *Secretary*

Anju Garg  
secretary@hsnef.org

### *Treasurer*

Sunil Ancha  
treasurer@hsnef.org

### *Worship*

Srilakshmi Garikipatti  
worship@hsnef.org

### *Maintenance*

Vipin Kalahan

### *Priest*

Pt. Kadambi Srinathji

### *Admin*

Asha Sharma  
Mahek Gupta  
Ritu Sharma  
Shree Laxmi M  
Ragha Suda

## 2022 Executive Board

**Kavita Parikh** (904) 268-7630      **Gyan Joshi** (904) 268-7630  
**Shweta Parikh** (904) 268-7630      **Padma Sikaria** (904) 268-7630  
**Vipin Kalahan** (904) 268-7630      **Parita Warde** (904) 268-7630  
**Jayprakash Pokala** (904) 268-7630

## ADVERTISING IN SANDESH

Advertising in Sandesh is an excellent opportunity for business owners and professionals looking for exposure among local Indian community. It is a quarterly publication reaching Indian community households in the Jacksonville area. Sandesh publication is also available online at [www.hsnef.org](http://www.hsnef.org).

The rates for advertising per issue in Sandesh are as follows:

**Full Page: \$100**                      **Half Page: \$75**                      **Quarter Page: \$50**  
**First and Last Page (inside) Full: 200**  
**Half: 150**  
**Last Page (outside)                      Full: 250**

## RENTAL FACILITY

Temple Facility (Multipurpose Hall minimum 3 Hours + \$75 Cleaning and Utility fees) is available for private events, personal functions, and social gatherings on first come first served basis and at a cost.

	Non-Profit	Members	Non-Members
Multipurpose Hall	\$35	\$60	\$85
Afterhours Rental Multipurpose Hall	\$55	\$80	\$105
Gokulam Hourly	\$20	\$30	\$40
Conference Room/Library Hourly	\$10	\$15	\$20
Podium/ Projectors	\$10	\$10	\$10

## Timing and Address

### **Temple Timings**

Weekdays Timings: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM (Arati: 9:45AM)  
6:00 PM to 8:30 PM (Aarti: 7:00PM)  
Weekend Timings: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Arati: 11:45AM)  
5:00 PM to 8:30 PM (Aarti: 7:00PM)

### **Hindu Society of NE Florida**

4968 Greenland Road, Jacksonville, FL 32258  
Phone: 904-268-7630

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

---

### Message from HSNEF Chairman 2022

Namaste,

Wishing you all good Health!!! On behalf of our community, I would like to thank the volunteers for contributing to the Hindu Society of North East Florida. I would also like to thank the Executive Board and Advisory Committee members. With the community help and EB and AC leadership, we hope to build on the prior year's successes and make 2022 another successful year.

After two years of closure and restrictions, we re-open our temple in April 2022, and with Ganesha's blessing this year, we can organize several successful events. We will continue to organize more events and festivals for our congregation.

This year we achieved a significant milestone – the 15th year of our temple at the current location. We want to thank the countless individuals whose contributions helped create HSNEF and built the temple as a place for us to congregate and offer worship. These 15 years have significantly increased the size of our congregation. To accommodate the increased size of the community, we have embarked on a temple expansion plan. During closure time, we can complete the parking lot expansion project in 2020. We are actively working to build the Yajna Shala, and then further expansion of phases 2 and 3 will be the focus, and the temple needs your financial support to achieve the goal. Thank you to all the members working on the temple expansion plan.

We have started implementing the new safety and security procedures due to COVID during major religious events to enhance the spiritual experience and the safety of the devotees. The response from the congregation has been highly complementary. We will continue to evaluate this policy after each major religious event and adjust as necessary.

Thanks to the community's generosity, we raised close to \$199,000 for the Yajna Shala project. This year we also have had several successful events till now, which helped us generate some Donations. Now we are re-

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

starting our regular Eat of Good Cause every Sunday. A big thank you to everyone contributing to the success of HSNEF.

Ripples, the youth volunteer organization, supports us for several regular events in the temple. The Jax Hindu Day Camp group (Youth Volunteers group) completed two camp sessions this year and helped raise over \$30,000 for HSNEF. More importantly, over 50 young adults volunteered to independently plan and organize the camp. These young adults are going to be the future of HSNEF. Thank you, Team Ripples and JHDC.

Please renew your annual temple membership (\$121) for 2023 (Starting from Navratri) or consider upgrading to a life member (\$5000). Your support helps HSNEF provide the community with religious, social, educational, and other services. Please also consider supporting the temple expansion plan by sponsoring a brick for \$1001. You can become a member and donate by going to the temple website [www.hsnef.org](http://www.hsnef.org), by calling the temple office at (904) 268-7630, or by visiting the temple. Membership and donation forms are included in this magazine. A list of life members, 2022 annual members, and 2022 donors is included in this magazine.

Thank you for your continued support of HSNEF.

**Please consider volunteering at the temple. We always look for individuals to help with temple maintenance activities, parking, and temple setup for major religious events and other activities.**

Please send an email with your availability and interest to [office@hsnef.org](mailto:office@hsnef.org).

Finally, change is coming to our beloved Sandesh magazine. Starting from this issue, Sandesh is only available online and can be found on the HSNEF website [www.hsnef.org](http://www.hsnef.org) under Services.

Sincerely

Anurag Jain

HSNEF -2022 Executive Board Chairman

---

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

---

### Message from the Priest

Hari Om

Namaste to every one of you. We are happy to inform you that our quarterly Sandesh, a Quarterly temple newsletter, is back. By God's grace, we are all safely coming back from covid and celebrating all the events in a full-fledged way. To know the temple events and news, Sandesh is beneficial. Our Temple has been publishing the temple newsletter Sandesh ever since 1997. The Temple EB decided to bring back the Sandesh newsletter, which is very helpful to know about our Temple and its activities. Thanks to Lord Ganesha. I hope our efforts will make you happy. Please mark the special events and let us all celebrate all the events at our Temple together. We are in the third quarter of the year.

Recently we started Soundaryalahari Chanting every second Saturday of every month between 10.30 to 11.30 am as a part of Devi Puja. The months August to October are going to be the months of festivals. Please see the upcoming events page and mark your calendars. Also, watch for periodic emails from the Temple. If you don't get the email, please sign up today at [HSNEF.org](http://HSNEF.org).

We are going to celebrate Varalakshmi Vrata Pooja on August 5, 2022. For Varalakshmi Vrata pooja, the sponsors are requested to bring kalash, coconut, fruits, flowers, and Prashad to the Temple. Please recite this sloka on Varalakshmi Vratam day.

PADMAASANE PADMAKARE SARVA LOKAIKA POOJITE  
NAARAYANA PRIYE DEVI SUPREETAA BHAVA SARVADAA

We will celebrate Rakshabandhan Rakhi Poornima on Thursday August 11, at our Temple. For Rakshabandhan, we will have Yajnopavitha Dharan Upakarma puja from 8.00 am to 10.00 am at the Temple. The next grand celebration of our Temple is Janmasthanmi, which will be celebrated on Friday, August 19, 2022. Haritalika teej will be celebrated at our Temple on Tuesday, August 30 8.00 to 9.00 pm

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

We are going to celebrate Shri Ganesha Chaturthi on Wednesday 31st August 2022. Please see the event page in Sandesh for details. Wednesday, August 31 Jain Paryushan Program will be celebrated from 3.00 to 6.00 pm. Since Ganesh Chaturthi falls on weekday, Children's Samuhika Ganesh Chaturthi puja will be celebrated the next day, Saturday, September 3, from 11.00 pm to 12.00 noon. Ganesh Chaturthi special Ganesh Atharvaseersha Samuhik Sahasravriti path will be held on Saturday, September 3, from 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

Starting this year for Ganesh Chaturthi, the Temple will celebrate Ganesha Sthapana on Ganesh Chaturthi, and Ganesh Nimajjan utsav, will be celebrated immediately after the Ganapatyatharva Sirsh Path on Saturday September 3, 2022. This year Shraddha paksh begins on September 10 and ends on September 25, 2022. This year Sharad Navaratri begins on Saturday, September 26, 2022. Navaratri special Ras Garbha will be celebrated during Navaratri from September 26 thru October 4 at MP Hall in the Temple. During Navaratri Lalitha Sahasranam Parayan will be rendered from September 26 thru October 4 Ashvin Sharad Navaratri Mata ki Jagaran will be celebrated on Saturday, October 1, 2022. Durgashmi will be celebrated on October 3 with havan. We are going to celebrate Dassera Vijaya Dashami on Wednesday, October 5. On the same day in the morning, we are going to celebrate Shri Venkateswara Avatharotsavam in the morning with abhishekam and in the evening Shami puja followed by Ravan Dahan.

Karavachouth will be celebrated on Thursday 13th October 2022 and at 4-6 pm. Diwali will be celebrated on Monday, October 24, 2022, and Annakoot Mahotsav on Tuesday October 24. For the event details, please look for the special events page of Sandesh.

Please participate in all our Temple events and be blessed by Lord Ganesha and all the forms of the One Almighty.

With Divine thoughts,

Pandit Kadambi Shrinathji

Director of Worship Services

Pradhana Acharya HSNE

---

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## Hindu Society of N.E. Florida

### Profit and Loss Comparison

January - July, 2022

	Total	
	Jan - Jul, 2022	Jan - Jul, 2021 (PY)
<b>Income</b>		
Membership Collection	36,689.00	26,038.11
Hundi collections	50,317.00	25,059.00
Income from classes	1,182.00	5,816.05
General Donation	80,126.23	93,789.68
Special Events income	76,821.51	12,126.00
Interest from Bank Accounts	358.73	276.97
Pooja collections	49,952.05	30,303.00
Rental of Temple Facilities	13,262.00	3,485.00
HINDU DAY CAMP INCOME	37,550.00	5,575.00
All other income	1,711.00	2,914.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 347,969.52</b>	<b>\$ 205,382.81</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Employee Payroll related	92,811.37	58,527.39
Special Events - Exp	11,304.29	1,242.47
Utilities	23,602.14	19,372.12
Repairs & Maintenance	15,409.17	11,941.40
Property Tax and Ins.	8,301.24	7,807.21
HINDU DAY CAMP EXP	9,681.98	2,300.00
Credit Card charges	4,077.59	2,361.80
All other expenses	4,655.55	2,979.27
Interest Paid	14,875.99	18,741.55
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 184,719.32</b>	<b>\$ 125,273.21</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 163,250.20</b>	<b>\$ 80,109.60</b>

### Additional Details for YajnaShala

YajnaShala Donation (Dec 2021)	111,796.00
YajnaShala Donation (Jan-July 2022)	87,609.00
<b>Total YaJna Shala Donation</b>	<b>\$ 199,405.00</b>

### Additional Details for the Loan

Loan (HSNEF) beginning of 2022	821,254.40
Loan amount paid in 2022	239,061.42
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 582,192.98</b>

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

---

## Sanathana Dharma

### The Religion of the Hindus.

Compiled by Kris Gopal

We are confronted with the difficulty of defining what Hindus and Hinduism are. The views have altered from age to age and from community to community. The earliest civilization, five millenniums' generations ago, called the people living in the territory drained by the river Sindhu (the Indus) in the Northwest Frontier of Punjab were called Hindus by Persians and is thus recorded in the Rg Veda, the oldest of the Vedas. The term 'Hindu' originally had a territorial term, not a credal significance. Therefore, people living in those areas were called Hindus, and the culture they exhibited is called Hinduism. **Hinduism is NOT a religion** as defined by several scholars, including our late President of the Country, Dr.S. Radhakrishnan.

The religion these people practiced is more aptly called "**SANATANA DHARMA.**" One must understand the true meaning of Sanatana Dharma. It means "the value of life that sustains us," It's made up of two Sanskrit words, Sanatana and Dharma. The first word Sanatan means eternal, meaning it existed all the time. How do we know that it existed all the time in civilization? The proof is that it has survived through the three yugas (Satyug, Treta, and dwapara Yuga) and still now going through the Kali-yuga. It does not mean that it did not challenge it.

Next, let us see what the second Sanskrit term Dharma means in Sanatana Dharma. Swami Chinmayananda of Chinmaya mission stated that there is no appropriate English equivalent to the word Dharma. He merely said that Dharma is a way of life. The word Dharma is derived from the Sanskrit root called Dhru, which means Responsibilities to duties. The root word Dhru becomes Dharma. It means doing the right things at the right time, given the situation. The term given the time implies that Dharma can change for various reasons and surroundings. Dharma is based on Wisdom and human values. There is a reference in Gita that states that

Dharmo eva hato hantee dharmo rakshati rakshitaah |

Tasmadhrmo na hantabhyo maano dharmo hatovadhit

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

धर्म एव हतो हन्ति धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः

तस्- माद्धर्मो न हन्तव्यः मानो धर्मो हतोवधीत्

Dharma destroys those who destroy it, and Dharma protects those who protect it.

Dharma does not destroy and cannot be destroyed.

The Dharma is our essential nature and the divinity that prevails us.

Thus, the concept of Sanatana Dharma is the appropriate term and name for our religion and not Hinduism.

Sanatana Dharma (not Hinduism) is the world's oldest religion, with roots and customs dating back more than 5000 years. **Today with about 900 million followers is the third largest religion behind Christianity and Islam.**

---

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

---

### Article on Making Sense of Meditation: Religion and Spirituality

Compiled by Mrunalini Veeravalli

Meditation is " total cessation or ending of the restless thought-stream of the mind ". A state, free from all stray and idle thoughts, Meditation is the gateway to obtain cosmic energy and cosmic intelligence that surrounds us. Meditation means making our mind 'rather empty', Once our mind is empty, we have a tremendous capability of receiving cosmic energy and cosmic information surrounding us. This leads to good health and absolute clarity in thought processes leading to a joyous life!

Meditation is the grand portal to the **Kingdom of Spiritual Wisdom**, and it revolutionizes our spiritual growth. With regular and deep practice, we do reach altered states of consciousness or higher frequencies and experience bliss quite naturally.

**Meditation is very, very easy to practice.**

**It is so very simple. It is so straightforward.**

**Anapanasati** is a straightforward meditation technique that Gautama Buddha taught two thousand and five hundred years ago.

In the ' Pali ' language,

' Ana ' means ' In-Breath.'

' Apana ' means ' Out-Breath.'

" Sati ' means ' Observe.'

In "**Anapanasati**," one needs to maintain normal breathing. Breathe calmly! The task on hand is to observe the naturally happening Breath consciously. Breathing should be natural, without any effort on our part. There should not be any holding or stopping of the Breath. Whenever the mind wanders, one has to consciously cut the " stray thoughts" and bring one's attention back again and again to the natural rhythm of breathing. Relax, and become the grand' observer' of the Breath! The consciousness of the normal breathing process means no unnecessary thoughts are allowed to occupy our mind; unnecessary thoughts distract and scatter our SOUL'S energy. Stray thoughts should be brought to a halt as and when they keep arising. " Observation" means we are not influencing the Breath in anyway, with any of our material senses or thoughts; we are simply observing it.

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

Sleep is unconscious Meditation, and Meditation is Conscious sleep. In sleep, we get limited Cosmic Energy. In Meditation, we get **abundant Cosmic Energy**. This energy enhances the power of our body, mind, and intellect. With this boosted Cosmic Energy through. In Meditation, we will be relaxed, healthy, and happy.

Meditation is nothing but a journey of our consciousness towards the Self. In Meditation, we consciously travel from body to mind, mind to intellect, intellect to Self, and beyond. When the body relaxes, consciousness travels to the next zone, mind and intellect. The reason is nothing but a bundle of thoughts. There are numerous thoughts are always coming to the surface of the mind. Whenever there are thoughts in mind, we may get many questions known or unknown. To transcend the mind and intellect, one must observe the Breath.

Observation is the nature of the Self. So, one should witness the Breath. Don't do conscious breathing, don't inhale or exhale consciously. Let inhalation or exhalation happen on its own. Just observe the normal breathing. This is the primary Key, and this is the Way. Don't go behind the thoughts; don't cling to queries, questions, or thoughts. Cut the thought and come back to Breath, observe normal breathing. be with your Breath. Mantra chanting or any chattering inner or outer are the activities of the mind so, it should be stopped. With more and more practice of Meditation, slowly Breath becomes, Thinner and shorter. Finally, the Breath becomes smallest and settles, a rash in-between the eyebrows.

In this state, one will have no breath! And no thought! He will be thoughtless, and this is The Meditative State! In this state, we will be under the shower of Cosmic Energy. The more Meditation one does, the more will be the cosmic energy one receives. We may practice Anapanasati at will, on our own. However, one needs to practice Meditation regularly. Consistency is the name of the game. Initially, there will be some resistance as we strive to tame our 'monkey-mind', but it gets easier and easier with repeated everyday effort.

One can meditate at any time of choosing according to what suits one's convenience. However, it is essential to practice. Meditation regularly every day is all that is needed.

Throughout history, meditation has played a large role in many spiritual and religious practices.

### **Buddhism**

Many mediation techniques commonly practiced today originate from ancient Buddhist meditation texts, which continue to be used by followers of the religion today.

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

Meditation is important on the pathway to enlightenment and nirvana in the Buddhist faith, both of which are believed to help reach a state of serenity and insight. Several techniques including breath meditation and recollections are widely taught in Buddhist schools, but there are also distinct methods that differ between different regions. As a result, Buddhist meditation is a variable practice with many different paths that may lead to enlightenment and nirvana.

In recent times, many non-Buddhist individuals have adopted these meditative techniques for various reasons including increasing awareness of self, and the practice is becoming more popular.

### **Taoism**

Taoist meditation was greatly influenced by Buddhist practices and involves various techniques of concentration, insight, and visualization. Followers of Taoist practices may visualize the solar and lunar essences within their body to give health and long life.

Inward training involves breath control meditation and the enlargement and relaxing of the mind to achieve *qi* cultivation. Sitting forgetting meditation involves the mental removal of the limbs and existence with Transformation Thoroughfare.

### **Hinduism**

There are various styles used in Hindu meditation that are often taught in different schools. Yoga is commonly practiced initially to prepare oneself for meditation and self-realization. One yoga practice states that there are eight limbs of aloneness that include discipline, rules, postures, breath control, senses withdrawal, one-pointedness of mind, meditation, and realization of self (Samadhi). Moksha is the desired state of Hinduism, which can be thought of as like nirvana of Buddhism and refers to a calm and concentration state with the self within.

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

### **Christianity**

Meditation can be used as a form of prayer in the Christian faith to connect with and reflect upon the word of God. It commonly consists of focusing on a series of thoughts, such as a passage from the Bible, and reflecting on its meaning.

Christian meditation differs from other forms of meditation that originated in the East, as it does not utilize mantras that are repeated to help in the process of enlightenment. Instead, it is believed to deepen the personal relationship with God. Christian leaders have warned against the integration of Christian meditation with Eastern meditative techniques.

### **Jainism**

Meditation is central to the spiritual practice of Jainism and is thought to help attain enlightenment. In fact, the 24 Tirthankaras all exist in meditative postures. Jain meditation is thought to be the pathway to salvation and attainment of the three jewels of faith, knowledge, and conduct. With these jewels, a state of complete freedom is gained.

### **Judaism**

Meditation has a long history in Judaism, as indicated from references found in early religious texts, the Tanach. The purpose of the practice in this specific religion is thought to move practitioners closer to understanding the Divine. Various methods may be used, including mental visualization and hisbonenus to reflect on oneself and obtain greater understanding.

### **Sikhism**

Meditation, known as simran, is needed to achieve spiritual goals alongside good deeds in Sikhism. The practice is used to feel God's presence and become one with the divine light.

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

In Sikhism, ten gateways are believed to belong to the body, nine of which are physical holes such as the nostrils, eyes, ears, mouth, urethra, and anus. In addition to these gateways, the tenth is the Dasam Duaay, which is an invisible hole for spiritual uses that is needed for enlightenment.

### **Baha'i faith**

Meditation and prayer both play a central role in the Baha'i faith to reflect upon the message from God. It is encouraged for followers of the faith to meditate with a prayerful demeanor to turn towards God and focus on the divine power. Meditation is commonly used to reflect on the Word of God and deepen the understanding of his teachings. This is believed to maintain spiritual communion with God, thus increasing the transformative power that receptive prayer can facilitate.

However, the place of meditation in the religion is flexible, as the founder of the religion, Baha'ullah, left the type and purpose of the practice up to the interpretation of the individuals.

### **Islam**

Islamic meditation, or Sufism, focuses on thinking that leads to knowledge and utilizes methods of breathing control and the repetition of holy words or mantras. There are several similarities between Islam and Buddhist meditation practices, such as the concentration technique and focused introspection.

Meditation is believed to improve healing ability and enhance creativity, in addition to awakening the heart and mind and allowing for inner growth and submission to God.

#### References

- <http://religiondispatches.org/meditation-is-not-religion-or-spirituality-its-technology/>
  - <http://www.themonkdude.com/meditation-spirituality/>
  - <http://info.bahai.org/article-1-4-0-7.html>
-

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## Pooja Rates

Pooja description				
	Member	NonMember	Member	NonMember
	New price	New Price	New price	New Price
Archana	\$11	\$11	*	*
Sahasranama Pooja	\$51	\$101	*	*
Abhishekam	\$51	\$101	*	*
Satyanarayana Vratam	\$51	\$151	\$175	\$225
Satyanarayana Vratam (private in temple )	\$151	\$201	*	*
Havan	\$101	\$151	*	*
Patra Pooja	\$51	\$101	\$101	\$151
Vadamala	\$31	\$51	*	*
Annaprasanam, Chaula ( hair offering) Vidya Arambha	\$31	\$51	\$101	\$151
Shanti Path Pooja	\$31	\$51	\$101	\$151
Vahana Pooja	\$31	\$51	*	*
Hiranya Shraddha	\$25	\$51	*	*
Mata Ki Choki	\$51	\$101	*	*
<b>Note: Prior appointment appreciated for these poojas</b>				
Ganapathi/ Sudarshana Homam	\$201	\$251	\$251	\$301
Ganpathi Homam	\$151	\$201	\$175	\$225
Navagraha /Gayatri Homam	\$151	\$201	\$175	\$225
Ayush/ Shanti Homam	\$151	\$201	\$175	\$225
Chandi Havan	\$301	\$351	\$351	\$401
Seemantham with Homam	\$125	\$175	\$175	\$201
Punyavachanam with Pooja	\$51	\$75	\$101	\$151
Offering on Birthday & Anniversary	\$21	\$31	*	*
Upanayanam	\$201	\$251	\$251	\$301
Nischitartam ( Engagement)	\$101	\$151	\$175	\$225
Shashtipoorti ( 60th Birthday)				
Sahastrachandra ( 80 Birthday)	\$151	\$201	\$201	\$251
Shraddha (1st)	*	*	\$151	\$201
Bhumi Pooja	*	*	\$151	\$201
Grihaprevash/ Vastu pooja	*	*	\$175	\$225
Private Pooja (non temple hours)	\$151	\$201	*	*
Abhishekam (non temple hours)	\$501	\$751	*	*
wedding ceremony	\$351	\$401	\$501	\$701

the rate for out of town wedding services is 701 plus priest expenses

Renting any temple facilities requires a non refundable deposit of 50% at the time of booking.

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## HSNEF 1<sup>st</sup> Debate

Thank you to those who participated in 1st HSNEF debate held on 8/13/22. We had 29 participants including 8 adults who came forward to be role models for their children. Judge Wayne Blackburn and Mary Webster had praises for all the participants and were very excited to be part of the event.

Special recognition to following individuals who made this event enjoyable and successful.

Sandip Gupta (Organizer)

Sunil Ancha (Emcee)

Kuldeep Naik (Timer)

Wayne Blackburn (Judge)

Mary Webster(Judge)



# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## Refreshments

Monika Gupta  
Varsha Jain  
Saras Sharma  
Monica Misra

## Winners

### Elementary

Should School Give Homework?

1st Anvika Gupta

Runner Up Anjali Patel

Second Runner-up Krisha Somani

### Middle School

Do Smartphone make people smart?

1st Srishay Miryala

Runner Up Shania Gupta

2nd runner-up Ashi Thakkar

### High School

Can Material things bring happiness?

1st Sreejana Miryala

Runner Up Aarav Sharma

### Adults

Can we chose our emotions or they just happen?

1st Monika Gupta

Runner up Dr Ravi Patel

---

# Hindu Society

## OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

### THE HINDU SOCIETY OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA PLEDGE FORM

Yes, the temple and community facility greatly enrich our lives and I/We wish to support and help it grow. I/We herewith pledge: \$1000, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 10,000 (please circle) other

1. Annually

Mail me a reminder in April/October each year (please circle the desired month)

2. Six-monthly (half-yearly)

We will mail you reminder each April and October.

3. In one lump Sum (please circle option A or B below)

A. Check enclosed B. Mail me a reminder in April/October (please circle desired month).

4. Interest Free Loan

I prefer to charge my donations to  Visa  MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I/We wish to donate in the name/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

This donation should be credited to the account of \_\_\_\_\_

We would prefer to appropriately acknowledge your pledge/donation unless you advise us otherwise. If you wish anonymous pledge/donation, please check here

Name of the donor & spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact # \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**All Donations may be Tax deductible (tax id # 59-3038519)**

Please mail the completed form and check payable to:

**The Hindu Society of N.E. Florida**

4968 Greenland Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32258

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

## THE HINDU SOCIETY OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA

2022 Membership dues now using this form

First Name(s) Shri/Smt. \_\_\_\_\_ & Smt/Shri \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Dues are \$121.00

Please mail the completed form and check payable to:

**The Hindu Society of N.E. Florida**

4968 Greenland Road

Jacksonville, FL 32258

Phone (904) 268-7630

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA

*The Most Trusted  
The Most Recognized  
In Real Estate Business!*



**SATHIYAN NATESAN**  
REALTOR

Real Estate Sales / Listings / Property Management

210.649.8282  
realtorsathiy@gmail.com

9471 Baymeadows road, Ste 308  
Jacksonville, FL 32256



**CENTURY 21**  
Lighthouse Realty  
**SMARTER. BOLDER. FASTER.**

At Pahal, Vora, and Associates we believe that our comprehensive approach to financial planning and an ongoing relationship with a financial advisor are valuable investments you can make.

We offer a wide range of advice and investment solutions to help meet your specific needs, including:

- Comprehensive Financial Planning
- Multi-generational Wealth Planning
- Tax Efficient Retirement and Protection planning
- Leader in providing cost effective wealth solutions

**Pavan Varshney**

Financial Advisor  
Pahal, Vora, and Associates  
a private wealth advisory practice of  
Ameriprise Financial Services LLC

call: 904.507.6225 or email: pavan.varshney@ampf.com



# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA



## REAL TASTE OF AUTHENTIC INDIAN

WE DO OUTDOOR CATERING

**ORDER FOOD  
ONLINE**

 [WWW.MY5THELEMENT.COM](http://WWW.MY5THELEMENT.COM)



JACKSONVILLE | PALM COAST | POMPANO BEACH | SANFORD | DAYTONA BEACH

# Hindu Society

OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA



**GulaniVision**  
INSTITUTE

*...Vision for the World*

*3 Decades & 1000s of Ecstatic Patients Worldwide*



Choice of the **WORLD**  
Choice of the Community



Tired of Reading Glasses?  
Do you have Cataracts?  
Looking For Lasik?

Need a Second Opinion or Complication Correction?

**SEE the GULANI Difference!**

(904) 296-7393 | [GulaniVision@Gulani.com](mailto:GulaniVision@Gulani.com) | [www.GulaniVision.com](http://www.GulaniVision.com)

