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**Hindu Satsang Updates**

*By Priya Viswanathan*

Pranaam to all Satsangis!

As we enter a holiday season that feels very different from any other, we would like to express our appreciation to all the members of our Hindu Satsang family, for staying connected through 2020 and continuing to find joy at a time when it may have been hard to find. We remained connected through Zoom while staying safely apart. We found new and untraditional ways to keep up our traditions. It's this spirit of optimism that gives us hope for a brighter tomorrow. Wish you all a very **'Happy and Healthy New Year!'**

As Yahoo Group has been decommissioned, we have switched over to Google Group. You will continue to get Hindu Satsang communications through the following email: [hindusatsang@googlegroups.com](mailto:hindusatsang@googlegroups.com). Please do let us know if you face any issues, also follow Hindu Satsang's Facebook page so that you continue to get Hindu Satsang updates.

For the congregation on Sunday, November 22nd, our guest speaker was Sh. Anant Vyas, who spoke about the 'Gita' and Smt. & Sh. Meena and Dinesh Dixit were the guest singers. Please find more details about our guests, congregation meeting details, and agenda on the 4th page of this newsletter.

Wish you all a very Happy Lohri (Wednesday, January 13), Pongal, and Makar Sankranti (Thursday, January 14), the 72nd Republic Day Celebrations (Tuesday, January 26th). On January 30th, Mahatma Gandhi's 73rd Punyatithi will be observed across the world.

Hope to see you all virtually on Sunday, **Dec. 27th at 10 am.**

Om Shanti, Shanti, Shantihi!

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Congregation details



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## Happy Birthday to our Satsangis born in December

Aarti Gupta	Arjun Sachdev	Arnav Sharma	Atul Gupta
Devindra Joshi	Divya Tiwari	Gitesh Shah	Indra Rani Singh
Ish Bhagwat	Kartik Sharma	Kiran Punwani	Kunal Gulati
Nitin Malhotra	Poonam Beri	Priyanka Dhingra	Rajesh Garg
Rakesh Beri	Sadhana Tiwari	Sadhuram Mittal	Sarika Mittal
Saroj Mittal	Sudhir Gupta		

Hindu Satsang's  
Website address:  
[HinduSatsang.org](http://HinduSatsang.org)  
Hindu Satsang's  
Facebook page:  
[facebook.com/HinduSatsangUSA/](https://facebook.com/HinduSatsangUSA/)  
Please Like & Follow  
for latest updates. Let  
us know if you have  
any feedback at:  
[kpriya10@yahoo.com](mailto:kpriya10@yahoo.com)

## Happy Anniversary Month

Alka & Navin Tyle	Garima & Vipin Malhan	Jyotsna & Surendra Salgia	Kiran & Subhash Sharma	Kusum & Naresh Nohria
Madhu & Jug Uppal	Neha & Naresh Khetrapal	Om & Kanan Dhingra	Richa & Anu Agnihotri	Uma & Ghanshyam Agarwal
Ritu Upadhyay & Vinay Chawla	Seema & Neeraj Gupta	Shelly & Dinkar Tiwari	Sreshtha & Ravi Saini	Vimal & Subhash Sharma

**Laughter is  
the best  
medicine:  
Husband:**  
*What am I  
getting for  
my birthday?*  
**Wife: Older!!**



**Poster in a Delhi temple found recently:  
(Spreading the critical knowledge the right way)**

अश्वत्थामा बलिव्यासो हनुमांश्च विभीषणः।  
कृपः परशुरामश्च सप्तैते चिरंजीविनः॥

**अर्थान्तः** अश्वत्थामा , राजा बलि , व्यास जी , हनुमान जी , विभीषण , कृपाचार्य और श्री परशुराम जी ये सातों महामानव चिरंजीवी है । (All chiranjivis will stay alive till the end of Kalyug).

**नोट :** अगर आपका नाम चिरन्जीवीयों के लिस्ट में नहीं है, तो कृपया मास्क अवश्य पहनें।

**Please take all the required precautions - stay safe & stay healthy.**



Age is a  
**relative**  
thing.  
All my  
**relatives**  
keep  
reminding  
me  
how old I  
am!!



## A brief story of Vishnu's Avatar "Sri Krishna" followed by a quiz

**By: Shivam Viswanathan**

Unlike Shri Ram, a greatly revered Avatar of the previous Yuga, Krishna was fully conscious of his divinity and he never tried to hide his divine prowess. It is impossible to abridge Sri Krishna's life in a few paragraphs, but here is an outline of his life followed by a Quiz, compiled by Jai Viswanathan which he used during Hindu Satsang's Janmashtami Program.

A sage had forewarned the egoistic and evil King Kans, that he would be killed by his sister Devaki's 8th child. So Kans imprisoned Devaki and Vasudev so that he can have each child murdered right in front of him, as soon as they were born. Devaki, and her husband Vasudev, were able to sneak the 8th child out of the prison to safety. This child was Sri Krishna. Krishna was raised by foster parents Yashoda and Nand in Gokul at the banks of the river Yamuna. Kans sent many demons to kill Krishna, but all of them failed. Krishna returned to Mathura and killed Kans, restoring dharma to the land.

Krishna refused to bear arms in the great war between the adharmic Kauravas (sons of Dhritarashtra, the descendant of Kuru) and the dharmic Pandavas (sons of Pandu), but he offered a choice of himself to one side and his army to the other. The Pandavas chose Sri Krishna, and he thus served as charioteer for Arjuna, one of the Pandav brothers. Sri Krishna's advice to Arjuna in the battlefield - the 700 verses of 'The Bhagavad Gita', formed the centerpiece of Mahabharata. It is the 'Gita' that stands as Krishna's most important gift to the world. The Gita delivers the essence of spirituality in a way that a common man can understand. The war ended with the annihilation of Kauravas and the rule of the Pandavas was established.

Finally, when Sri Krishna decided that it was his time to stop his divine plays in his present Avatar, he retired to the forest and engaged himself in deep meditation. He was slain by an arrow which was mistakenly aimed at his foot by a hunter who thought it was a deer. Soon a great tsunami came and the surging sea waters submerged the entire city of Dwaraka.

In 'The Bhagavad Gita', Sri Krishna predominantly teaches Karma Yoga – the path of attaining the greatest goal of life through selfless action by surrendering all the fruits of actions at the feet of the lord. In Bhagavad Gita, he also elaborates the other spiritual paths like 'Bhakti Yoga' and 'Gyana Yoga'.

**Now it is 'Sri Krishna' quiz time . . .  
(Answers on next page after questions)**

1. The name "Krishna" originates from the Sanskrit word, what does this adjective primarily mean?  
a. Dark, b. Blue, c. Handsome, d. Charming
2. Whom did Sri Krishna kill when he was very young?  
a. Bakasur, b. Putna, c. Pralambasur, d. Aristhasur
3. Name Sri Krishna's childhood friend who came to meet him in Dwaraka.  
a. Shishupala, b. Samba, c. Sudama, d. Banasura
4. After returning to his birthplace Mathura, who did Sri Krishna kill and liberate his parents from jail?  
a. Bakasur, b. Kans, c. Pralambasur, d. Trunavarta

**(quiz continued on the next page...)**

**'Sri Krishna' quiz continued ... (answers at the bottom of this column)**

5. Who became the King after Sri Krishna eliminated his cruel maternal uncle Kans?  
a. Ugrasen, b. Balrama, c. Vasudeva, d. Surasena
6. Which hill did Sri Krishna lift with his little finger and held it like an umbrella to protect the people of Vrindavan from the torrential rain caused by Lord Indra?  
a. Rishimukha Hill, b. Brahma Hill, c. Dronagiri Hill, d. Govardhan Hill
7. Who was Sri Krishna's guru?  
a. Sandipani, b. Guru Drona, c. Parashuram, d. Guru Vashisht
8. What was Sri Krishna's *guru dakshina* for his teacher, Sandipani? (Guru dakshina / गुरु दक्षिणा means anything that a teacher may ask for after the completion of the education process).  
a. Guru Sandipani was made the King of Mathura,  
b. Guru Sandipani was offered gold equal to his weight,  
c. A big school was built for Guru Sandipani and his students,  
d. Sri Krishna restored Guru Sandipani's dead son.
9. Who was the brave sister of Sri Krishna, brave wife of Arjun, and brave mother of Abhimanyu?  
a. Draupadi, b. Chitrangada, c. Subhadra, d. Panchali
10. Sri Krishna took a stick, he broke it into two and threw them in both directions. This was a hint for Bheem to kill who?  
a. Karna, b. Jarasandha, c. Trunavarta, d. Bakasur

**Answers to 'Sri Krishna' quiz:**

1. a. कृष्ण: means "dark"  
2. b. Putna  
3. c. Sudama  
4. b. Kans  
5. a. Ugrasen (Ugrasen was also the king before his son, Kans, dethroned him to become the king of Mathura)  
6. d. Govardhan Hill  
7. a. Guru Sandipani  
8. d. Sri Krishna restored Sandipani's dead son  
9. c. Subhadra  
10. b. Jarasandha

**A brief update of the congregation held on Sunday, November 22, 2020**

**By: Shivam Viswanathan**

Our convocation commenced with an invocation by Sh. Ramesh Malhan and Sh. Subhash Sharma. This was followed by some melodic soulful bhajans by satsangis:

- Sh. Subhash & Smt. Kiran Sharma - bhajan
- Smt. Rashmi Gandhi - *Jyoti Kalash Chalke* (ज्योति कलश छलके)
- Sh. Ramesh Malhan & Smt. Shubh Malhan - *Uth Jaag Musafir Bhor Bhaee Ab Rain Kahan Jo Sovat Hai* (उठ जाग मुसाफिर भोर भई अब रैन कहाँ जो सोवत है)
- Smt. Kanchan Pandey - *Hare Rama Hare Krishna Hove Mere Ghar Mein* (हरे रमा हरे कृष्णा होवे मेरे घर में)
- Sh. Hans Upadhyay - *Jai Krishna Hare* (जय कृष्ण हरे)
- Our guest speaker, Sh. Anant Vyas spoke passionately about some very profound 'Gita' shlokas. The 'Gita' shlokas have so much deep meaning that each of them can be discussed for hours. Vyas ji described them in such a beautiful and simple way that we could apply them in our day to day lives. The 'Gita' shlokas are timeless treasures and always relevant.
- Our guest singer, Smt. & Sh. Meena and Dinesh Dixit sang some very melodious bhajans - *Main Fakir Hun Tu Hai Malik* (मैं फ़कीर हूँ तू है मालिक), *Gayeye Ganpati Jagvandan* (गाइये गणपति जगवंदन, *Prabhuji Jeevan Ka Maram Bata Do* (प्रभुजी जीवन का मर्म बता दो).
- Announcements by Sh. Hersh Sabharwal
- Concluding the congregation with arti by Sh. Subhash Sharma.



**Guest Musician:  
Sh. Dinesh Dixit &  
Smt. Meena Dixit**



**Guest Speaker:  
Sh. Anant Vyas**

# December 2020 Congregation Details

## Congregation:

**Date:** December 27th, 2020

**Time:** 10 am CST

**Location:** Zoom online meeting

This congregation will be held online through Zoom, please mark your calendar.

## New Zoom Meeting link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87013160986?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87013160986?pwd=b0JYRDFhUEExJQksveVERUVVGcDdQZz09)

[pwd=b0JYRDFhUEExJQksveVERUVVGcDdQZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87013160986?pwd=b0JYRDFhUEExJQksveVERUVVGcDdQZz09)



## Guest Singer:

This month's guest singer has been our guest a few times in the past, she is **Dr. Prerna Arya**. You all know her well but here is a brief introduction about her in her own words:

"मैं आचार्या डाक्टर प्रेरणा आर्या। मैंने अपनी सारी शिक्षा गुरुकुल देहरादून में गुरुकुलीय परम्परा से की है तथा मेरी वैदिक साहित्य में "प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा", इस विषय में पी एच डी(संस्कृत में), दर्शनों में आचार्य, संस्कृत साहित्य में एम ए, योगाचार्य आदि पूरी की है। आयुर्वेद, प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा, यज्ञ चिकित्सा आदि में अच्छी योग्यता है। हरियाणा के करनाल क्षेत्र में पैदा हुई। वेदों में एवं ऋषियों में श्रद्धा रखती हूँ। वर्तमान में TIC (Teacher of Indian Culture) के पद पर Consulate General of India, Chicago में भारतीय संस्कृति के प्रचार प्रसार हेतु, भारत सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त की गयी हूँ। योग एवं भारतीय संस्कृति के कार्यों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए दुनिया के लगभग सभी देशों में TIC भेजा गया है। मेरे पति डाक्टर दयाशंकर विद्यालंकार, जो स्वयं में एक बहुमुखी प्रतिभा के धनी तथा सम्मानित व्यक्ति हैं, न्यूयार्क में इसी पद पर कार्यरत हैं और मुझे आगे बढ़ाने में वे सदा आगे रहते हैं और मैं उनका आदर करती हूँ। मेरा एक 6 वर्ष का पुत्र अभ्युदय है जो बुद्धिमान बालक है। मैं अपनी प्रत्येक सफलता व सुख के लिए परमपिता परमेश्वर को धन्यवाद करती हूँ क्योंकि ये सब उसी के दिए हुए बुद्धि, शक्ति और सामर्थ्य से संभव है। धन्यवाद।"

## Guest Speaker:

Our guest speaker for our December congregation is **Pandit Shri Ram Prasad Ji** from Lemont Hindu Temple (HTGC). Since he is so well known among devotees, he hardly needs any introduction. Pandit Shri Ram Prasad Ji has been with the HTGC temple since 1998. He hails from Himachal Pradesh and did his schooling at Sadhu Ashram, Shaipur, Punjab. He has been our guest speaker in the past. You can usually find him at Rama Temple. He is well known for his Bhagvath Katha, Karwa Chauth pooja, etc. His topic this month will be "**Impact of spiritual activity in COVID-19 pandemic**".

## Congregation Agenda:

Convener: **Sh. Hersh Sabharwal**

10:00 am: Vedic Pooja (invocation)

10:10 am: Bhajans by Satsangis

10:45 am: Guest singer: **Dr. Prerna Arya**

11:00 am: Guest speaker: **Pt. Ram Prasad ji**

11:50 am: Announcements followed by 'Arti'

