

Session 6B

Digitizing Hindu Education Programs

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Coalition of Hindu Youth**

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Introduction



- We have some great organizations and education programs in this country
- Length of the programs can determine its success
 - Some programs have been around for decades, can see a decline because they haven't adapted
 - New programs often have great volumes, there's new and high excitement
- How do we combine the excitement of new programs with the substance of established
- “This is how we have always done it”
- We have more next-generation Hindus than ever before, but fewer interest/enrollment in programs
 - How do we reach out to this group?
 - GO DIGITAL!!!



Issues in education programs



- Kids rely on “Google”/ internet on for everything
 - Google prioritizes results based on revenue
- Parents have limited time, more than ever
 - Easier to do things on apps/online vs paper
- The world is turning virtual
 - Colleges, schools, work, activities, programs, etc
- As a community we tend to be disconnected
 - Unless its for social events
- Online resources often come with interruptions
 - Ads, misinformation, volume, etc



What can we do



- Create a SIMPLE and user friendly portal/system
 - Complicated and “FANCY” not required
 - It’s the MATERIAL that matters
- Give parents and students resources
 - We NEED to stop worrying about “copyrighting” our dharmic teachings
 - All materials should be easily accessible to everyone
- Provide teachers and students a way to connect with each other
 - Have a method for students to ask questions
- Adjust learning to childrens’ mindset/methods
 - Schools as an example



What can we do



- Simple and user friendly school website
 - Example: Google sites, etc
- Google Groups
 - Communication groups
- Online forums
 - Through website or third party
 - Ex: ask questions- others can reply, start discussion
- Easy way to email/communicate
 - Simple mailto links
- Create a digital library
 - Presentations on festivals, classwork, exemplary student work, essays, notes, etc



How can we do it



- Have assigned people in charge
 - Website
 - Most mandirs have website, assign someone else
 - Keeps them accountable, shares responsibility
 - Materials
 - Have one or two knowledgeable people monitoring and verifying that all material is accurate
- Upload **EVERYTHING**
 - Calendar, contact info, school info, classes and syllabus, textbooks (if possible) and materials, weekly class update and homework
 - Class enrollment/registration forms
- Have a community forum
 - A place where students can ask Qs and get As



Next steps



- The hardest part?
 - STARTING IT
 - The initial set up will take little bit of time, couple months
 - After it is set up, the rest is simple maintenance
 - It will take about a year to fully move system online
- WORK WITH OTHERS who have already done this!!
 - Ex: Hindu Society of Minnesota (contact Bhakti)
 - We have a template available to all!!
 - Don't reinvent the wheel, ask for help
- Expand based on needs of society
 - Virtual classes for convenience
 - Technology in classes



Website example



- <https://sites.google.com/site/hatshsmn>
- Example of what Hindu Society of Minnesota is working on
- Simple Google Sites
- Shareable template!
- Open resources





Home

HATS Registration for 2017-2018

[Click HERE](#) to fill out online registration form for HATS 2017-18

Click [HERE](#) to email HATS Administrator if you have any questions. Thank you!

Class info:

- Classes start on Sunday, September 10th
- Timings:
 - Assembly: 10:00am-10:20am
 - Dharma Class: 10:20am-11:25am
 - Language Classes: 11:30am-12:15pm

HATS Calendar 2017-2018:

[Click HERE](#) to view

HATS 2017-2018 Calendar

Date	Class #	Festival/Class Presentation	Meditation Class (1hr)	Chair Yoga Class (30 mins)	Hatha Yoga Class (30 mins)

- ▼ Home
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 - Classes Offered
 - HATS Contacts
- ▼ Classes: Dharma
 - Dharma 1 - Satyam Shivam Sundaram
 - Dharma 2 - ABC of Dharma
 - Dharma 3 - Practical Hindu Wisdom for Kids
 - Dharma 4 - Ramayana
 - Dharma 5 - The Puranas
 - Dharma 6 - Mahabharata
 - Dharma 7 - Hindu Ideals and Values
 - Dharma 8-9 - Intro to Hindu Dharma

- ▼ Classes: Language
 - Gujarati
 - Hindi A
 - Hindi B
 - Hindi C
 - Hindi D

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Mahabharata
Dharma 7 - Hindu
Ideals and Values
Dharma 8-9 - Intro
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Classes: Language

Gujarati
Hindi A
Hindi B
Hindi C
Hindi D
Kannada
Malayalam
Marathi
Tamil
Telugu

For Parents

HATS Forms

Old Classes Archives

[Old Classes Archives](#) > [2016-2017](#) >

Dharma 7 - Hindu Ideals and Values

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 - 3.4 Sunday, March 5th-
 - 3.5 Sunday, March 12th-
 - 3.6 Sunday, March 19th-
 - 3.7 Sunday, March 26th-
 - 3.8 Sunday, April 9th-
 - 3.9 Sunday, April 30th-
 - 3.10 Sunday, May 7th-

Class Information -

This class covers: Inspiring life stories of Hindu/Jain Sages and Saints (such as Mahavir Swami, Tulsidas), Kings (e.g., Shivaji), political leaders (e.g., Mahatma Gandhi). Use these biographies to teach Hindu values such as Ahimsa, compassion, Bhakti and so on. Refresh how these values were reflected in the character of Rama and Krishna in the relevant Hindu scriptures. Students learn the 16 basic steps of Hindu Puja ceremony this year. This course focuses on 'saadhaarana dharma'/ sanaatana dharma (general ethical precepts of Dharma) from a Hindu standpoint.

Ages: 11-12 / **Grade:** 6-7

Download PDF copy of book: [CLICK HERE](#)

Class & Homework -

Sunday, February 12th-

Material Covered in Class:

- Practiced Gita Shlokas- Chapter 2, 62-63
 - <https://youtu.be/LkARYBHZjwM?t=2m11s> - video from 2:12-2:48
 - shloka 62:
dhyayato vishayaanpumsaha, sangastesho upajaayate
sangaat sanjaayate kaamaha, kaamaatkrodhobhijaayate
When you constantly think of objects, attachment is born
From that attachment desire is born, from desire anger is born
 - shloka 63:
krodhaadbhavati sammohah, sammohaat smriti vibhramaha
smriti bhramshaad buddhinaasho, buddhi naashaat pranashyati
When anger is born delusion follows, from delusion there is loss of memory
From that loss of memory comes loss of intellect, from loss of intellect you lose your self
- Talked about the importance of knowing the meaning of our prayers, shlokas, mantras
 - Learned word-by-word meaning of Sahana Vavatu
 - *May we all be protected, may we all be nourished, may we all work together, may we all have good intellect, may we not have animosity, may we all have peace*
- Discussed chapter 22 from textbook- types of hatred & animosity
- Talked about dealing with racial, religious, linguistic stereotypes

Homework:

- Practice both Gita Shlokas: Chapter 2, 62-63 - for quiz next week.
- Learn meaning of any one shloka/mantra from parents.

Sunday, February 19th-

Material Covered in Class:

Prayer Booklet:

Prayer Booklet - [View/Download HERE](#)

Dharma:

Textbooks

- Dharma 1: Satyam Shivam Sundaram - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Dharma 2: ABC of Dharma - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Dharma 3: Practical Hindu Wisdom for Kids - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Dharma 4: Ramayana - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Dharma 5: The Puranas - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Dharma 6: Mahabharata - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Dharma 7: Hindu Ideals and Values - [View/Download HERE](#)

Hindi:

Resources

- Alphabet
 - Hindi Letters Writing Book - [View/Download HERE](#)
 - Hindi Letter Writing Practice - [View/Download HERE](#)
 - Hindi Chart 1 - [View/Download HERE](#)
 - Hindi Chart 2 - [View/Download HERE](#)
 - Hindi Alphabet with Roman Transliteration - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Svara Deep Vowel Practice - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Hindi Stories - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Shabda Saagar, Vocabulary - [View/Download HERE](#)

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Festivals

- Diwali - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Ganesh Chaturthi - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Gudi Padwa/Ugadi - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Makar Sankranti - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Mother's Day - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Navaratri Dussehra - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Shivaji Jayanti - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Swami Vivekananda Jayanti - [View/Download HERE](#)
- Vasant Panchami - [View/Download HERE](#)

Conclusion



- Move away from “This is how we have always done it”
- Digitizing our systems will not be easy or quick
- But it is absolutely VITAL for sustaining and preserving our identity, teachings, and values
- SHARE EVERYTHING, **work with other groups**
- This is our Rishi’s knowledge, we are simply passing it along
- Use the skills of the new generation to elevate our programs
- Keep up with the times!! Don’t get left behind!
- THINK OF THE BIG PICTURE, LONG TERM

