

## HOTA – Program Committee Meeting Minutes - February 27 2018

**Attendees:** Sohini Sircar, Kaushik Joshi, Sanjay Tripathi, Fred Stella, Vijay Reddy, Prasad Yalamanchi, Sri Mukathanada, Ami Patel, Anita Gupta, Ram Sahadeo

**9:30 PM – 10:30 PM EST**

Started with Prayer by Kaushik Joshi

Session 1

- Secularism can be taken as a topic and we can get different linguistic organizations to present what it means to them, how they support it and how to bridge the gap
- How can we identify the gap?
- Broaden it – art, festivals and identity
- Ex. Diwali is not celebrated as a religious festival and more of a social gathering

Session 2

- Case study
- The reason for this session separated from session 1 as they we are not collaborating and combining our efforts
- But should session 1 and 2 be merged into a larger session?

Session 3

- Defending Hindu human rights
- Influencing Government Policies
- Media Alliance and Partnership
- Youth Collaboration - Hindu Human rights task force

Session 4

- Reaching to the South American community
- Getting legal recognition of Hindu Dharma in Italian Government system
- African community or Bhagwat Gita translation into Arabic
- Identify areas of regions that are not reachable or where we intend to reach – plan for new areas

Session 5

- Spiritual but not religious (SBNR)
- Family: Incubator for Hindu Dharma (absorb values by osmosis, environment, ambience vs purposeful inclusion)

Ended with Prayer by Sri Mukthananda