



# Session 9

Hindu Mandir Empowerment Council  
October 2 - 4, 2026 | Buena Park, California

**Vijay Telkikar**  
American Hindu  
Federation (AHF)

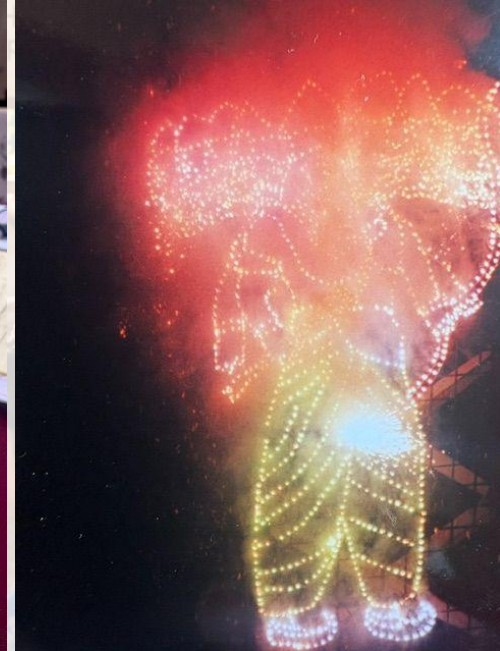
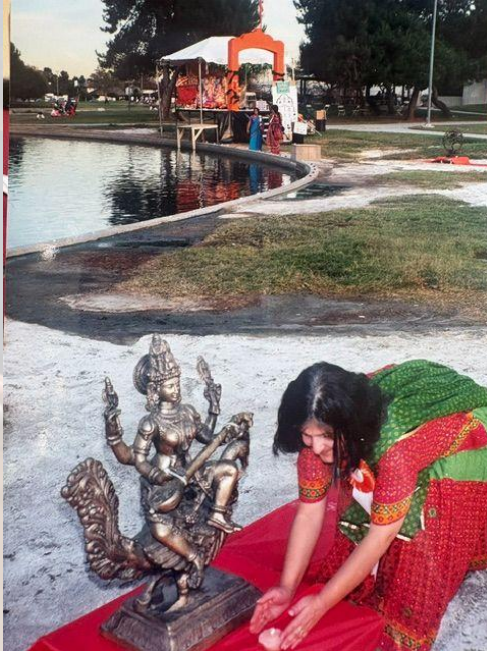
# Speaker Bio



Vijay Telkikar, Co-Founder of the American Hindu Federation, has served Hindu Sanatan causes since 1990. He held leadership roles at Malibu Hindu Temple and Maharashtra Mandal. Through VHP's Ashok Singhalji, he connected with Sadhvi Ritambharaji, organized her Bhagwat Saptahs in the USA, and supported fundraising for Vatsalyagram.



In 1996, the Grand Dussehra Diwali Mela at Cerritos Park drew an estimated 20,000–25,000 attendees for a spectacular 60-foot Ravan Dahan celebrating the **Victory of Good over Evil.**



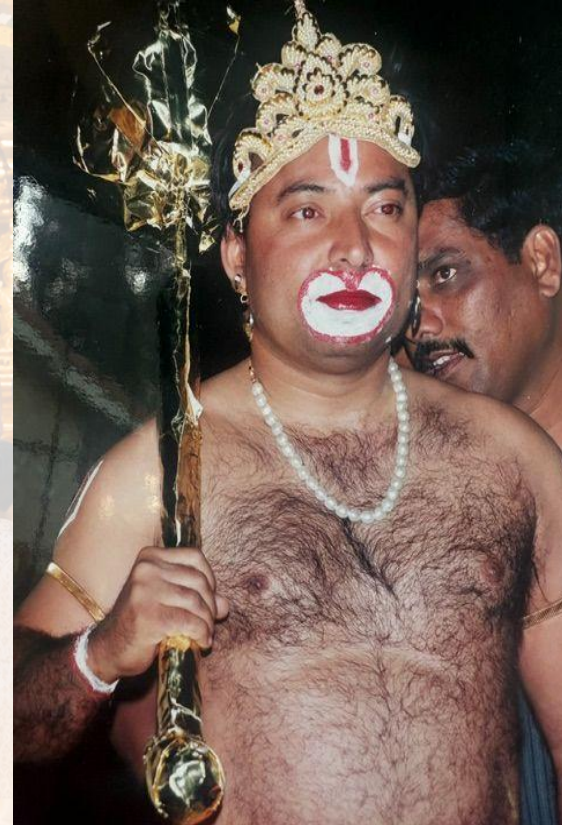
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Ram Rath Yatra following Ravan Dahan, featuring Ram, Sita, Lakshman, and Hanuman on the **Vijay Rath**.



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## Ram Rath Yatra Continued



Following the Ram Rath Yatra around the park, **Uma Bharati** addressed the gathering eloquently.



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At Malibu Hindu Temple, the AHF principle of unity materialized, with the Shiva Temple within the Balaji Temple representing the vision of bringing all Shakhas and their main Deities together.



TOGETHER  
FOR A  
HUNGER FREE  
TOMORROW

PEOPLE  
PURPOSE  
PROGRESS

GOOD  
FOOD  
BRIGHTER  
TOMORROWS

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At Malibu Hindu Temple, we welcomed leaders from Congress and BJP, including **Chandrababu Naidu**, **Deve Gowda**, and **Sushma Swaraj**, and discussed temple safety and devotees' concerns and suggestions.



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AHF met VHP President Ma. Ashok Singhal Ji and, through him, Sadhvi Rithambhara Ji, organizing Bhagwat Saptahs that helped support the first four buildings of Vatsalyagram for orphans and battered women, which now also has Sainik Schools for boys and girls.



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# Blessings from Sadhvi Rithambhara Ji



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Shared with India Caucus Chairman Gary Ackerman an Israeli publication highlighting India's historic acceptance of the Jewish community; deeply moved, he pledged to share its message with members of Congress and the Senate.



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**Thank you!**

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