



**FOURTH HINDU MANDIR EXECUTIVES CONFERENCE**  
**Sept 11-13, 2009, Maryland/DC**  
**PROGRAM DETAILS**

**FRIDAY**

**9/11/2009**

| <b>Session No.</b>                | <b>Time</b>    | <b>Topic</b>  | <b>Chair &amp; Speakers</b>                                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| <b>Meal</b>                       | <b>6:30 PM</b> | <b>Dinner</b>   |  |
| Courtyard                         |                |   |  |
| <b>Session 1</b>                  | <b>7:50 PM</b> | <b>Inaugural Session</b>  | <b>Moderator - Shri Brahmaswarup Verma</b>                 |
| Ballroom                          |                | Set the stage and the tone for the conference. Introduce the hosts. Pique the interest of the attendees with a few thought provoking talks. Inaugural address by Swami Mukundananda Ji. |  |
|                                   |                | <i>Ekatmata Mantra, Bhavgeet</i>  | Bal Vihar  |
|                                   |                | <i>Deep Prajwalan</i>   | Michigan Mandir Executives                                 |
|                                   |                | <i>Invocation Through Dance &amp; Music</i>   | Local Artists  |
|                                   |                | <i>Word from the Host Mandirs</i>   | Shri Sant Gupta, Sushri Mythili Bachu, Shri Bhargava Desai |
|                                   |                | <i>Overview of the HMEC Program</i>   | Dr. Vipul Patel  |
|                                   |                | <i>The American Mandir: a Youth Perspective</i>   | Sushri Shivi Chandra                                       |
|                                   |                | <i>The Why and How of Mandir Worship</i>  | Dr. Kumar Nochur   |
|                                   |                | <i>Model Youth Programs at BAPS Swaminarayan Centers</i>  | Shri Mayank Amin   |
|                                   |                | <i>Inaugural Address: Application of Management Science to Help Mandir Development</i>  | Swami Mukundananda Ji, JK Yog                              |
|                                   | <b>9:30 PM</b> | <b>Closure</b>  |  |
| <b>SATURDAY PRE-LUNCH PROGRAM</b> |                |   |  |
| <b>9/12/2009</b>                  |                |   |  |
| <b>Sadhana</b>                    | <b>6:00 AM</b> | <b>Yoga, Meditation, Devotional Singing</b>   | <b>LIYF, AOL, Sripuram</b>                                 |

|                                    |                 |   |  |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|---|--|
| Elkridge, Grissom Rooms & Ballroom | 6:45 AM         | Yoga, Meditation, Devotional Singing Ends   |  |
| <b>Meal</b>                        | <b>7:00 AM</b>  | <b>Breakfast</b>  |  |
| Courtyard                          |                 |   |  |
| <b>Session 2</b>                   | <b>7:50 AM</b>  | <b>Welcome Session</b>  | <b>Moderator - Dr. Nangali Srinivasa</b> |
| Ballroom                           |                 | Welcome the attendees. Keynote address by Swami Dayanand Ji   |  |
|                                    |                 | <i>Ekatmata Mantra &amp; Bhavgeet</i>   | Bal Vihar                                |
|                                    |                 | <i>Deep Prajwalan</i>   | Host Temple Executives                   |
|                                    |                 | <i>Opening Remarks</i>  | Shri Jyotish Parekh                      |
|                                    |                 | <i>Keynote Address: Engaging Youth with Dharma Through Mandirs</i>  | Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati          |
|                                    |                 |   |  |
| <b>Session 3</b>                   | <b>9:00 AM</b>  | <b>Review of HMEC Vision and Selected Action Items</b>  | <b>Moderator - Dr. Umesh Shukla</b>      |
|                                    |                 | Laying the framework by reviewing the vision and mission of HMEC and reporting on selected action items from the past.  |  |
|                                    |                 | <i>Vision of HMEC</i>   | Dr. Pawan Rattan                         |
|                                    |                 | <i>Health Shared Pool Update</i>  | Shri Lalit Goel                          |
|                                    |                 | <i>Anthyeshti Samskar Book</i>  | Shri Vittal, Shri Kumar Dave             |
|                                    |                 | <i>How Technology Can Make Mandirs Efficient</i>  | Shri Ravi Kundru                         |
|                                    |                 |   |  |
| <b>Stretch Break</b>               | <b>9:50 AM</b>  | <i>Relaxation</i>   |  |
|                                    |                 |   |  |
| <b>Session 4</b>                   | <b>10:00 AM</b> | <b>Legacy of Hinduism in America</b>  | <b>Moderator - Dr. Ram Belagaje</b>      |
| Ballroom                           |                 | This track traces the migration of Hindus over past 40 years. In the early days, their focus was to establish themselves in their professions and become financially secure. As Hindus became prosperous and recognized a need to have a place to worship, the Hindu temples came up. Today, the focus for the temples must be to sustain and strengthen Hindu Dharma, and pass on our tradition and culture to the next generation. In doing so the temples must cater to a wide cross section of the society. Are they set up to take up the challenge? |  |
|                                    |                 | <i>The Temple Landscape in North America: All Should Prosper</i>  | Dr. Siva Subramanian                     |
|                                    |                 | <i>The Hindu Mandir</i>   | Shri Sant Gupta                          |
|                                    |                 | <i>Vedic Temples: Making Them More Effective</i>  | Swamini Janeshwari Ji                    |
|                                    |                 |   |  |

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| <b>Session 5</b>                   | <b>11:00 AM</b> | <b>Coordination and Cooperation Among Mandirs</b>  | <b>Moderator - Shri Dwarka Persaud</b>               |
| Ballroom                           |                 | Many temples tend to operate in isolation with no regular connections to the other Hindu temples in the region. They focus on specific elements of the worships and religious practices. Going beyond these aspects can benefit the Hindu community in the region. One such example is UHJT (United Hindu Jain Temple Association) in greater Washington DC area. Benefits include: sharing of resources and participation in major events; coordination of visiting Gurus and Swamis; assisting each other during the time of need. |  |
|                                    |                 | <i>Why Compete, When We Can Collaborate: Protocol for Sharing Resources</i>  | Dr. Shardanand                                       |
|                                    |                 | <i>Obstacles And Opportunities For Hindu Temples In America</i>  | Dr Chander Shaykher                                  |
|                                    |                 | <i>Community Building in a Dharmic Environment</i>   | Sushri Anju Bhargava                                 |
| <b>Meal</b>                        | <b>12:00 AM</b> | <b>Lunch</b>   |  |
| Courtyard                          |                 |  |  |
| <b>SATURDAY POST-LUNCH PROGRAM</b> |                 |  |  |
| <b>9/12/2009</b>                   |                 |  |  |
|                                    |                 |  |  |
| <b>Session 6A</b>                  | <b>1:00 PM</b>  | <b>Social Services – Hallmark of Hindus</b>  | <b>Moderator - Shri Navin Kadakia</b>                |
| Ballroom                           |                 | Generally conservative, most Hindu families do not seek professional help in resolving issues such as nutrition, fitness, depression, care of the elderly, domestic violence, child abuse, and disability. Even the social services provided by the county, state or federal governments are not fully availed of. Mandirs, working with trained counselors, can play a critical role in serving the community in such situation.  |  |
|                                    |                 | <i>Manava Sevaye Madhava Seva: Toledo Case Study</i>   | Dr. Sudershan Pasupuleti                             |
|                                    |                 | <i>Hindu Service Perspectives in International Development through AHWS</i>  | Sushri Divya Selvakumar                              |
|                                    |                 | <i>Hindu American Community Service Inc</i>  | Dr. Ram Nagula                                       |
|                                    |                 | <i>Restoration of Braj: How Can We Help</i>  | Sushri Arunima Sinha                                 |
|                                    |                 |  |  |
| <b>Session 6B</b>                  | <b>1:00 PM</b>  | <b>Educating Hindus in America</b>   | <b>Moderators - Dr. D. C. Rao, Shri Nandi Shetty</b> |

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|-------------------|------------------------|--|---|
| Elkridge Room     |                        | Are temples placing sufficient emphasis on Hindu Education? Are institutions such as VHP of America, Chinmaya Mission, Hare Krishna, Jagadguru Kripalu, Vedantic Society, HSS, JCC, AOL meeting the needs of the community adequately – for Hindu adults and their children and beyond? What role can Hindu temples take in coordinating with them to serve our common goal?   |   |
|                   |                        | <i>Discovering My Identity Through My Involvement in the Mandir</i>  | Sushri Keya Bhatt   |
|                   |                        | <i>Critical Role of Education in Temples: Sharing Good Practices</i>   | Dr. Raghavan Pratiwadi, Dr. MG Prasad                     |
|                   |                        | <i>Dharmic Education and Activity in Mandirs</i>   | Shri Ramnarine Sahadeo                                    |
|                   |                        | <i>Resources for Teaching Hinduism in American Schools.</i>  | Shri Raj Manickam   |
|                   |                        |  |   |
| <b>Session 6C</b> | <b>1:00 PM-3:30 PM</b> | <b>Youth Session</b>   | <b>Moderators - Sushri Keya Bhatt, Shri Samir Asthana</b> |
| Grissom Room      |                        | <b>Mini-Session 1: Youth Involvement in the Mandir/Beyond Bal-Vihar, Youth camp.</b> Discussion on how to retain youth once they have "graduated" from bal-vihar or have reached the age when they feel they are too "old" to come anymore. Part of this comes from the values instilled during Bal Vihar itself, so a strong Bal Vihar is crucial to the success of retention.  |   |
|                   |                        | <b>Mini-Session 2: Outreaching Through Seva.</b> Focused on the role seva plays in the mandir. Why is seva important, how do we start seva programs at our mandirs, and why is the mandir the most appropriate vehicle for seva? These are questions to be addressed. The national seva day will also be revisited as a starting point.  |   |
|                   |                        | <b>Strategy to build Hindu Mandir Youth Network</b>  |   |
|                   |                        |  |   |
| <b>Session 7A</b> | <b>2:15 PM</b>         | <b>Worship Practice and Priest Welfare</b>   | <b>Moderator - Shri Vikas Chawla</b>                      |
| Ballroom          |                        | Most Hindu temples in the United States focus only on the worship aspects of Hinduism. Hindu temples will not be sustainable in the long run if our younger generation does not understand, appreciate, and carry on the traditions of Sanatana Dharma. Temples can proactively play an important role in the education of all Hindus, but especially of our youth. As more and more non-Hindus come in contact with Hindus, many would like to know more about Hindu way of life. A qualified purohita should be able to help |   |

|                                    |                |   |   |
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|                                    |                | non-Hindus in this quest.   |   |
|                                    |                | <i>Giving Contemporary Context to Our Rituals</i>   | Shri Madhur Kadari                      |
|                                    |                | <i>Role &amp; Training of Priests</i>   | Shri Abhinav Dwivedi                    |
|                                    |                | <i>The Full Revival of Vedic Knowledge, Vedic Life</i>  | Dr. Michael Busch                       |
|                                    |                | <i>Making Mandirs a "Go To" Place</i>   | Sri Sahajananda                         |
|                                    |                |   |   |
| <b>Session 7B</b>                  | <b>2:15 PM</b> | <b>Building a Community</b>   | <b>Moderator - Shri Vinay Vardhana</b>  |
| Elkridge Room                      |                | In many temples, women are very active in management and administration aspects of temples. What role should the women play in attracting the young and the youth to our dharma and temples in the society we are living where the distractions and peer-pressure abound? A well-run mentorship program can attract people with skills and experience to act as role models for those needing guidance. Temples can provide an ideal setting for initiating and sustaining it very effectively.   |   |
|                                    |                | <i>Role of Women in Preserving and Promoting Hindu Dharma</i>   | Sushri Sachi Lamb                       |
|                                    |                | <i>Mentorship Programs for the Youth and Recent Immigrants</i>  | Shri Fred Stella                        |
|                                    |                | <i>Cooperation Between Temples and Youth Groups</i>   | Sushri Sonia Chanana                    |
|                                    |                | <i>Developing &amp; Nurturing Next Generation Mandir Leadership</i>   | Shri Shree Patel                        |
|                                    |                |   |   |
| <b>Meal</b>                        | <b>3:30 PM</b> | <b>Tea</b>  |   |
| Courtyard                          |                |   |   |
|                                    |                |   |   |
| <b>Workshop Break Out Sessions</b> |                |   |   |
|                                    |                |   |   |
| <b>Session 8A</b>                  | <b>4:00 PM</b> | <b>Management &amp; Administration of Mandirs</b>   | <b>Moderator - Dr. Sharma Tadepalli</b> |
| Courtyard                          |                | There are several common elements as to how majority of temples in the US came into existence and flourished. However, only a small percentage has spent the time to develop strategic planning and tangible metrics to measure their attainment. This approach will necessitate assessment of their current state, reevaluation of their practices and make appropriate changes for sustained growth. What are the best practices that have been used by successful mandirs, large and small. What are the constraints under which mandirs operate? What are the practical issues facing the mandirs and methods for their resolution? |   |
|                                    |                | <i>Common Problems in Administration of Mandirs: Problems, Conflicts &amp; Solutions</i>  | Shri Ravi Shetkar                       |

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|                   |                | <i>Managing Growth. Issues that arise in scaling mandirs from a small scale operation/facility to a large scale operation</i>   | Dr. Bapineedu Kuchipudi                    |
|                   |                | <i>Which Panchangam We Should Follow in NA?</i>   | Shri Venkatachalam                         |
|                   |                | <i>Challenges for Hindu Temples: An Outsider's Perspective</i>  | Dr. Ram Pandey                             |
|                   |                | <i>Discussion</i>   |  |
|                   |                |   |  |
| <b>Session 8B</b> | <b>4:00 PM</b> | <b>Are We inward looking? Reaching Out to the Local Community</b>   | <b>Moderator - Dr. Prakasa Rao</b>         |
| Ballroom          |                | To achieve greater acceptance of our places of worship and Hindu religion, many temples have placed great importance on connecting with the local communities. Public service (Seva) is an integral part of Hindu Dharma. Many civic welfare projects such feeding the hungry (soup-kitchen), health clinic, yoga classes, meditation, lecture series on Hinduism – spirituality and philosophical aspects have led to harmonious relations and helped connect to our youth.  |  |
|                   |                | Community Service Through Yoga to Increase Temple Relevance   | Dr. Rajan Narayanan, Shri Ramesh Deshpande |
|                   |                | <i>Reaching Out to the Larger Community: Health Care</i>  | Dr. Vipin Kalia                            |
|                   |                | <i>Reaching Out to the Local Community</i>  | Sushri Padma Kuppa                         |
|                   |                | <i>Current Science, Hindu Way of Living, and the Role Temples Can Play</i>  | Dr. Dinesh Sinha                           |
|                   |                | <i>Discussion</i>   |  |
|                   |                |   |  |
| <b>Session 8C</b> | <b>4:00 PM</b> | <b>Education and Integration - Ways and Means for Integrating Youth Into Hindu Temples</b>  | <b>Moderator - Sushri Chitra Ravindran</b> |
| Elkridge Room     |                | A society's strength is only as deep as the extent of its shared common values and morals. Educating our youth about a common set of Hindu values, concepts and traditions in a planned and systematic way will go a long way in instilling pride in their hearts about our traditions, values and Dharma. The challenge is to infuse the message with sufficient fun so that enjoyment and learning go hand-in-hand. Explore ways of anchoring Hindu Dharma's eternal values in the hearts of coming generations and roles which mandirs can play to make that happen. |  |
|                   |                | <i>Posters (Phalaks) &amp; Videos: Dharma Education Through Temples</i>   | Sushri Bhavna Shinde                       |
|                   |                | <i>Bhagavad Gita for Hotels and Motels</i>  | Shri Akuranatha Dasa Ji, Shri Milan Doshi  |
|                   |                | <i>The Mandirs &amp; Challenges of Pluralism: A Plus for Mandirs</i>  | Shri Tej Tanden                            |
|                   |                | Explaining Hindu Dharma to our next Generation- Objectives and Strategies   | Sushri Kamlesh Kapur                       |

|                        |                |  |   |
|------------------------|----------------|--|---|
|                        |                | <i>Certification Program for Language Courses at Bal Vihars</i>  | Pandit Ramdheen Ramsamooj   |
|                        |                | <i>Discussion</i>  |   |
|                        |                |  |   |
| <b>Session 8D</b>      | <b>4:00 PM</b> | <b>Inter-Racial Marriages</b>  | <b>Moderator - Shri Nanik Lahori</b>  |
| Grissom Room           |                | Look around and you will see the explosion of Hindus youths – both boys and girls are marrying outside their faith. On one hand the concern is: Will it dilute the preservation of Hinduism? On the other hand many non-Hindu spouses find Hindu religion fascinating and may even wish to adopt it! Are Hindu Temples prepared to cater to their needs and the needs of their children? Hindu Dharma and the spirituality it espouses must be promoted to preserve their bond to the Temples. |   |
|                        |                | <i>Marriage and Multiculturalism</i>   | Shri Krishna Kirti Das  |
|                        |                | <i>Retaining Hindu Identity: Caribbean / Trinidad &amp; Tobago Experience and Learnings</i>  | Dr. B. Doobay   |
|                        |                | <i>Procedures and policies to welcome/initiate willing individuals into the Hindu fold</i>   | Dr. Darshanand Ramdass  |
|                        |                | <i>Youth Networking Programs at Chinmaya Mission</i>   | Shri Kaushik Joshi  |
|                        |                | <i>Discussion</i>  |   |
|                        | <b>6:00 PM</b> | Workshops end  |   |
|                        |                |  |   |
| <b>Meal</b>            | <b>6:30 PM</b> | <b>Dinner</b>  |   |
| Courtyard              |                |  |   |
|                        |                |  |   |
| <b>Evening Program</b> | <b>8:00 PM</b> | <b>Cultural Program</b>  | <b>Emcee - Sushri Charu Narsimhan</b>   |
| Courtyard              |                | <i>Welcome Remarks</i>   | TBD   |
|                        |                | <i>Cultural Program</i>  |   |
|                        |                | <i>Bhajans &amp; Video</i>   | Devi Narayani - Sripuram Group  |
|                        |                | <i>Scholarship Award</i>   | Tej Tanden  |
|                        |                | <i>Kathak Performance</i>  | Purvi Bhat  |
|                        |                | <i>Ashraya - Bhutanese Resettlement Project</i>  | Sneha Mehta   |
|                        |                | <i>Maharishi Vedic City (Video)</i>  | Dr. Michael Busch   |
|                        |                | <i>"Laya Lahari" - A Percussion Ensemble</i>   | Gautam Sudhakar – Mridangam, Ghatam and Konakkol, Vivek Chellappa – Khanjira, Ajay Ravichandran – Western Drums, Vinay Mallikaarjun – Tabla |
|                        |                | <i>Folk Dance</i>  | TBD   |
|                        |                | <i>A Vote of Thanks</i>  | TBD   |
|                        |                |  |   |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>          |                |  |   |

**9/13/2009**

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|------------------------------------|----------------|--|---|
|                                    |                |  |   |
| <b>Sadhana</b>                     | <b>6:00 AM</b> | <b>Yoga, Meditation, Devotional Singing</b>  | <b>LIYF, AOL, Sripuram</b>              |
| Elkridge, Grissom Rooms & Ballroom | 6:45 AM        | Yoga, Meditation, Devotional Singing Ends  |   |
|                                    |                |  |   |
| <b>Meal</b>                        | <b>7:00 AM</b> | <b>Breakfast</b>   |   |
| Courtyard                          |                |  |   |
|                                    |                |  |   |
| <b>Session 9</b>                   | <b>7:50 AM</b> | <b>Summary of the Youth &amp; Workshop Sessions</b>  | <b>Moderator - Shri Vijay Prasad</b>    |
| Ballroom                           |                | <i>Deep Prajwalan, Bhavageet</i>   | Bal Vihar                               |
|                                    |                | <i>Summary of Youth Session</i>  | Shushri Bhakti Mehta                    |
|                                    |                | <i>Summary of Workshop Sessions</i>  | 4 Speakers TBD                          |
|                                    |                |  |   |
| <b>Session 10</b>                  | <b>8:30 AM</b> | <b>Continuing the Hindu Jewish Dialog</b>  | <b>Moderator - Dr. Siva Subramanian</b> |
| Ballroom                           |                | This builds upon the Hindu Jewish dialog that was initiated by Acharya Dharma Sabha. The Jewish people faced some of the same challenges about 100 years ago when they began to migrate to the US as Hindus face today. Our friends from the American Jewish Committee will share some administrative aspects of Jewish life in the United States. What works well? What doesn't? How do various Jewish organizations collaborate with each other? How do Jewish organizations handle sensitive political, religious, and cultural issues -- both internally and externally? The AJC has been a powerful political force for more than 100 years and has been extremely supportive of the organized Indian community in the United States. |   |
|                                    |                | <i>Role &amp; Structure of AJC</i>   | Melanie Maron Pell                      |
|                                    |                | <i>Synagogues Meeting Generational &amp; Identity Challenges: Models of Engagement for Youth</i>   | Steven Roy Goodman                      |
|                                    |                | <i>Indian – Jewish Relations: Domestic and International</i>   | Nissim Reuben                           |
|                                    |                | <i>Discussion</i>  |   |
|                                    |                |  |   |
| <b>Session 11</b>                  | <b>9:30 AM</b> | <b>Is Media Covering Us Adequately and Fairly</b>  | <b>Moderator - Dr. Ajay Shah</b>        |



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|-------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Ballroom          |                 | The main stream media shapes the public opinion on almost every aspect of American thought process. It is sophisticated and effective. Religious Institutions and other entities have 'manipulated' it for their benefit. Do you have a formal Public Relations person through which all media must go thru? Are you aware of local media coverage strategies? Should the mandirs set up a joint media watch task force? More than anyone Hindus need to counter serious image problem and dispel distortions and biases. |                                      |
|                   |                 | <i>Media Treatment of Hindus</i>  | Shri Ravi Joshi                      |
|                   |                 | <i>Political Activism is Necessary for Religious Freedom</i>  | Shri Sanjay Puri, Dr. Surabhi Garg   |
|                   |                 | <i>Are We Communicating With Them Proactively?</i>  | Dr. Budhendra Doobay                 |
|                   |                 |   |                                      |
|                   |                 | FEED BACK FORM  | Dr. Sharma Tadepalli                 |
|                   |                 |   |                                      |
| <b>Session 12</b> | <b>10:30 AM</b> | <b>Closure</b>  | <b>Moderator - Shri Sanjay Mehta</b> |
| Ballroom          |                 | <i>Everyone Can Serve -- Parting Thoughts - Blessings</i>   | Swamini Sarvaanananda                |
|                   |                 | <i>Resolutions &amp; Next Steps</i>   | Shri Sanjay Mehta                    |
|                   |                 | <i>2009 HMEC Host's Acceptance Speech</i>   | tbd                                  |
|                   |                 | <i>Vote of Thanks</i>   | Shri Shivaram Sitaram                |
|                   |                 | <i>Prarthana</i>  |                                      |
|                   |                 |   |                                      |
|                   |                 | <b>Group Photos</b>   |                                      |
| <b>Meal</b>       | <b>12:00 PM</b> | <b>Lunch</b>  |                                      |
| Courtyard         |                 |   |                                      |