

Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia



NSW

"VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM"

HINDU HERITAGE AND CULTURAL VALUES

“संगच्छध्वं” SPECIAL JUNE 2021



HOTA HOST

2021



Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc (ABN: 78862155168, Reg No: Y2898719, Charity No: CFN10709)

7th Annual HOTA Forum

The Hindu community of New South Wales came together for another eventful HOTA Annual meeting on 22nd May 2021 at Rouse Hill Community Centre, Rouse Hill, NSW. The event was organized in a grand style by the incoming host Hare Krishna Community and Cultural Centre, a division of ISKCON Sydney. This year marked 7th year of HOTA Forum Annual meeting that was launched in 3rd National Hindu Conference in Sydney in 2014.

HOTA (Hindu Organisations, Temples and Associations) is a forum of Hindu temples and other Hindu organisations working together to discuss and deliberate various topics of common interest, issues, ideas and opportunities with the objective of enhancing community service and preservation of Hindu culture.

Since the HOTA launch year, the following organizations have hosted the event.

2014 - Sydney Sri Ayyappa Temple

2015 – Shri Shiv Mandir, Minto

2016 - Shri Venkateswara Temple, Helensburgh

2017 – Shri Ram Krishna Temple, Austral

2018 – Mukti Gupteshwar Mandir, Minto

2019 & 2020 – Sydney Shri Sai Mandir, Regents Park

(In the year 2020, the event was not organized due to Covid-19 pandemic)



Shri Shiv Mandir, Minto

Sydney Sri Ayyappa Temple





**Shri Venkateswara
Temple, Helensburgh**

As many as 55 representatives from Hindu Organizations comprising Temples, community language schools, community-based organizations and associations came together and presented their contributions and future ideas for community service, which will never be possible by working individually in isolation. Quoting Swami Ji, *"HOTA demonstrates that there is definitely added strength and value in sharing resources, networking, collaborating and working together..."*.

**Sydney Shri Sai
Mandir, Regents Park**



The proceedings of the day were well managed by Prabhu Vijay Gopikesh Das and Prabhu Janardhan with their wonderful group of volunteers. The special guests for the event included Hon Kevin Conolly, Member of Parliament (Liberal) for Riverstone and Ms Durga Owen, representing Hon Julie Owens, Labor MP.



Mukti Gupteshwar Mandir, Minto

The event started with Prayer and Lighting the Lamp. This was followed by a brief speech from the chief host Prabhu Vijay Gopikesh Das who heads the ISKCON Sydney chapter.



It was followed by quick address from Shri Subramanian Ramamoorthy (VHP President). Shri Subramanian Ramamoorthi spoke on the vision, benefits of conducting HOTA Forum as an annual project by networking and collaborating on a common platform. He highlighted the joint effort of all HOTA members during Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 when food, accommodation, medical, visa, job, academic and emotional support were provided for 1000's of Australian families free of cost. Smt. Akila Ramarathinam (General Secretary, VHP) subsequently spoke about how the HOTA members' joint representation against David Shoebridge's allegation on VHP Aus-

tralia SRE, helped achieving the motion being passed against him in NSW Parliament.

During the chief guest address to the gathering, Hon Mr. Kevin Conolly, Member of Parliament

acknowledged the services offered by all the HOTA member organizations at no cost to the Government. He was proud of the Indian community who have been contributing to NSW's multi-culturalism in a big way. In his remarks, he congratulated ISKCON for constructing their temple in the North West suburb of Vineyard which will serve the entire North West Sydney community and he assured he will provide full support for construction of the temple.



Ms Durga Owen conveyed the greeting message on behalf of Hon Julie Owens, Federal MP. She appreciated the contributions of HOTA members during Covid-19 pandemic in 2020.



As a part of the proceedings, Mr.Suresh Bangalore representing Shri Sai Mandir (HOTA host for 2019 & 2020), handed over the HOTA baton to Prabhu Vijay Gopikesh Das (ISKCON) the incoming host for 2021. Hon Mr.Kevin Conolly presented a certificate to Shri Sai Mandir acknowledging their services over 2019. and 2020.



Following a sumptuous vegetarian lunch, the host organization ISKCON headed by Prabhu Pranav Agarwal and Prabhu Vikesh Luharuka conducted a thought-provoking workshop under the theme “Securing our real Identity”. Several fruitful ideas and action plans came out of the workshop. It was agreed that the outcome of the workshop will be documented and followed up with participating members on a regular basis in the coming months.

Finally, the hosts ISKCON took the HOTA members to the construction site in Vineyard suburb where Radha Govinda Temple is being built by the initiative of Hare Krishna Community and Cultural Centre (HKCCC), a division of ISKCON.

The major outcomes of the 7th Annual HOTA meeting were

Hon MP Kevin Conolly's assurance to provide full support for the temple construction

Ensuring the regular communication amongst HOTA members through VHP Australia's Newsletter



Watch for a date for Raksha Bandhan in August 2021, in our social platform....

Would you like to say something about your organization?

Please Email us : hota@vhp.org.au

(Not exceeding half a page)

We will publish in our next newsletter.

Outcome of Workshop

22nd May afternoon

In the workshop discussions on 22nd May afternoon, several valuable ideas were put forward by organization representatives.

Many of the points covered involved education or the lack of appropriate education both at adults and youth level.

In this connection, Vishva Hindu Parishad have taken the initiative to collaborate with Hindu University of America and provide Hindu education studies from teenagers to adults and senior members who would like to pursue their Hindu studies further.

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Hindu University of America in collaboration with VHP Australia
Hindu Educational Board will be offering the 2 streams of studies.

Stream 1 : Orientation to Hindu Studies for Senior Members



Join HUA's
live online course
on
**Orientation To
Hindu Studies**
with
**Kalyan
Viswanathan**



hua.edu

#Summer2021Courses



Begins July 17, 2021

11:00 am – 12:30 pm (Sydney)



hua.edu

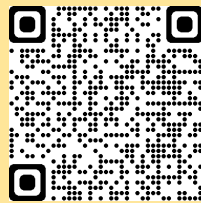
Join Kalyan Vishwanathan for an overview of the areas of study, programs and courses offered by Hindu University of America

- Reflect on the central themes of Hinduism and identify the common foundations of traditions and practices within Sanatana Dharma
- Learn about the insider-outsider perspective to comprehend the impact of continued colonial narrative on various elements of Hindu civilization and culture
- Distinguish between pathways towards a deep study of Hindu thought and engagement with western thought from a Hindu perspective
- Inquire into and evaluate elective areas of study such as Sanskrit Studies, Texts and Traditions, History and Method, Post-Colonial Hindu studies, Conflict and Peace studies, Yoga Studies, and Hindu Studies Foundations

Register online using the links given or QR Code.

(Select and open link)

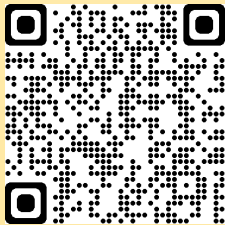
<https://www.hua.edu/product/orientation-to-hindu-studies/>



Stream 2: Exploring Hinduism for Teens and Parents

This educational program is family friendly, and aides in providing answers to many questions that we all have and face. Designed and delivered by the highly acclaimed Hindu University of America, the course will span 10 weeks with 2 online sessions per week. Each class will comprise a 90 minute online session with a face to face multimedia lecture and Q&A session with faculty.

For more information and enrolment, see the flyer and registration link or QR Code:



VISHVA HINDU PARISHAD OF AUSTRALIA INC
(World Hindu Council of Australia)

VHP OF AUSTRALIA, IN COLLABORATION WITH HINDU UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA IS OFFERING A NEW, EXCITING ONLINE COURSE FOR AUSTRALIAN HINDUS - "EXPLORING HINDUISM - THE OVERVIEW" - A TWICE A WEEK, TEN WEEK (20 SESSIONS) PROGRAM.

Know Hindu Dharma, know yourself !

"Exploring Hinduism - The Overview", will prepare the explorer to see the world from a Hindu perspective and experience how different it is, from the one that they already know. Open to both teens and their parents / grandparents together or separately, this 20 sessions program of 10 Saturdays and 10 Sundays is designed to take discussion and contemplation from beyond the course window, into the portals of home and family.

Further Info & Registration link: <https://www.hua.edu/product/exploring-hinduism-for-teens-and-parents/>

When:
Saturday 17th July to
Sunday 19th September 2021
6 pm - 7.30 pm
(Sat & Sun/ 2 sessions a week, one hour and 30 min per session)

Cost: A\$ 8.10 - A\$13 per person,
per session approximately


www.vhp.org.au

Suitable for

- Teenagers in the age group 12-18, on their own or together with their parents
- Adults 18+ interested in developing a deeper understanding of history, culture, and traditions of Hindu Dharma
- Parents who have teens

To discover, join the online course @ hua.edu



NSW - Akila - 0450 117 372 / VIC - Geeta - 0423 297 666 / QLD - Mano - 0431 375 926 / SA - Rajendra - 0416 650 525

Please choose the stream appropriate to you and register online using the links given.

(Select and open the link)

<https://www.hua.edu/product/exploring-hinduism-for-teens-and-parents>

We hope you avail these opportunities and invest in yourself and family.

धन्यवाद:

"Sanghe Sakti Kaliyuge" ("Organisation is Strength")

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