



# Hindu Vishwa News Digest

Vishwa Hindu Parishad (World Hindu Council) of America (VHPA) Monthly

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'Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitah - Protect Dharma to be Protected'

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## Our News Digest

The Hindu Vishwa News Digest is a monthly, online only digest. This digest is for the benefit of the Hindu Society at large. Its purpose is to consolidate useful and relevant information from around the world and present it in a reference guide format. We are providing a *SEVA* to our community by running this digest and we hope that we get your support to constantly build our digest to be as informative and effective as possible. The digest will feature news items, articles from various sources, articles from likeminded groups, original VHPA articles and much more. Please send us your comments and suggestions

## Focus – Hindus Around the Globe

**HMEC Emboldened by Fresh Perspectives, Camaraderie, and Resolutions to Form a Stronger Hindu Community** – The Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America (VHPA), facilitated the 5th Annual Hindu Mandir Executives Council (HMEC). This year's event, primarily geared at exploring avenues to enhance and strengthen the Hindu community through temples, drew community leaders and mandir representatives from over ninety temples nationwide...

<http://www.indoamerican-news.com/?p=615>

**Games restrictions may make Diwali costly** – Delhiites will have to spend extra money for Diwali shopping thanks to the Commonwealth Games. The traders are facing a stock shortage because of restrictions on entry of goods vehicles in the city due to the Games.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Games-restrictions-may-make-Diwali-costly/Article1-609841.aspx>

**U.S. Is Feeling Charitable, Just Not Through Churches** – Americans are being more generous to religious charities, but why are they skimping on their giving to churches?

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/10/27/us-is-feeling-charitable- n 774922.html>

**Panchaloha idols stolen from ancient Siva temple** – Dacoits made away with four Panchaloha idols, valued at several lakhs of rupees from Sri Thirupuranatheswarar temple at Thenmalai near Sivagiri, here last night.

<http://www.newkerala.com/news/world/fullnews-67249.html>

**Berlin's Hindu Community Dreams of a Grand Temple** – The Sri Ganesha Temple in Berlin is currently located in a drafty barn-like building with a leaky roof. But the Hindu community dreams of building a suitably grand temple for their gods.

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,719195,00.html>

**National heritage status for elephant hailed** – The declaration of the elephant as the National Heritage Animal of India on Thursday by the Union government has received hearty welcome from animal lovers.

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/article842972.ece>

**Hindu Gods of Bangkok** – Bangkok is synonymous with Buddhism, but the savvy traveller, the superstitious and the devout know that the city also has five other Hindu shrines the size of Thailand's ubiquitous spirit houses.

<http://thestar.com.my/lifestyle/story.asp?file=/2010/9/18/lifetravel/7003443&sec=lifetravel>

**Local Nepalese celebrate Dashain Festival** – Around 300 Nepalese gathered yesterday in Macau to celebrate the greatest festival of their country. During four hours in the morning and four hours in the

evening, local Nepalese received the blessing with “tika” and “jamra” and joined a party full of traditional food.

<http://www.macaudailytimes.com.mo/macau/18044-Local-Nepalese-celebrate-Dashain-Festival.html>

**Taster of massive Diwali celebrations** – Sanatan Hindu Mandir in Wembley has been given a taster of what's to come at the UK's biggest Diwali celebrations this month.

<http://www.harrowobserver.co.uk/west-london-news/local-harrow-news/2010/10/15/no-headline-116451-27479963/>

## Justice and Activism

**Employees of temples observe sit-in strike** – Employees of temples governed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable endowment Board today observed a "sit-in" strike, demanding implementation of the sixth pay commission recommendations and pay parity with Government employees.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Employees-of-temples-observe-sit-in-strike-/articleshow/6820839.cms>

**How Allahabad HC exposed 'experts' espousing Masjid cause** – The role played by "independent experts" — historians and archaeologists who appeared on behalf of the Waqf Board to support its claim — has come in for criticism by one of the Allahabad High Court judges in the Ayodhya verdict.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/How-Allahabad-HC-exposed-experts-espousing-Masjid-cause/articleshow/6716643.cms#ixzz14Adie9Eu>

**Televangelism: The new missionary weapon** – We are not even sure of the number of evangelical channels operating in India today. Their numbers could be mind boggling if counted. They have not only helped the missionaries in spreading the gospel but have also contributed to the revenue of some of the global Christian outfits, run by persons like Benny Hinn.

<http://www.organiser.org/dynamic/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=365&page=22>

**US pastor says yoga 'demonic', sparks row** – Ever seen a demon in padmasana? A pastor in Seattle, US, is seeing millions of them. Mars Hill Church pastor Mark Driscoll's statement that yoga is an agent of Hinduism, and hence demonic, has many yoga gurus seething and practitioners confused.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/6766178.cms?prtpage=1>

**Hindus upset over Playboy's usage of yoga as erotica** – Hindus are upset over what they say as the misuse of age old and revered system of yoga by Playboy for mercantile greed and have urged it to withdraw all its yoga related products.

<http://sify.com/news/hindus-upset-over-playboy-s-usage-of-yoga-as-erotica-news-international-kkvqEeabccq.html>

## Hindu Lifestyle

**Thousands of tots scribble first letters in Kerala** – In a unique custom that transcends religious barriers, thousands of children in Kerala entered the world of learning by scribbling their first letters on Vijayadasami day today, marking the conclusion of the Navaratri festival.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/thiruvananthapuram/Thousands-of-tots-scribble-first-letters-in-Kerala/articleshow/6763414.cms>

**Bangalore to host global Sanskrit book fair** – Scholars in the ancient Indian language from around 20 countries will interact with their Indian counterparts on the 'treasure house of Indian knowledge tradition', the organisers said on Monday.

<http://sify.com/news/bangalore-to-host-global-sanskrit-book-fair-news-national-kjut4gdeaah.html>

**Now, Ramlila in English!** – This time around, the lords will come easy even to those from the Lords. Delhi's Ramlilas, organised during the festival of Navratri that begins October 8, will woo Commonwealth Games tourists with English translators, pamphlets and air-conditioned rooms.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/Print/605649.aspx>

**And now, Vaute Couture!** – Indian designers at the top are shockingly unaware of a movement that has its genesis in India and is all set to sweep the world!

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/fashion/trends/And-now-Vaute-Couture/articleshow/6759307.cms>

**Plants Play Larger Role Than Thought in Cleaning Up Air Pollution, Research Shows** – The research, led by scientists at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colo., uses observations, gene expression studies, and computer modeling to show that deciduous plants absorb about a third more of a common class of air-polluting chemicals than previously thought.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/10/101021152401.htm>

**Unique way of worshipping goddess Saraswati** – Reciting or reading 24,000 slokas in Valmiki Ramayana might take a few weeks or months, but writing them on Palmyra Leaves within six months is no mean task.

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/10/16/stories/2010101662660500.htm>

**Pumpkins, cucumbers replace animal sacrifice in Puja** – Isn't it a heartening news that Durga Puja committees have been sensitized against animal sacrifice and Puja pandals did not offer any 'patha bali' on Mahaastami day nor will they do so on Mahanavami day.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/Pumpkins-cucumbers-replace-animal-sacrifice-in-Puja/articleshow/6756355.cms#ixzz14Ag0KAdv>

**Hindus put stamp of approval on Brand-Perry India wedding ceremony** – Hindus have put stamp of authenticity on Russell Brand and Katy Perry marriage in Rajasthan (India) on October 23, adding that most, if not all, Hindu wedding traditions were reportedly followed.

<http://www.washingtonbanglaradio.com/content/101318310-hindus-put-stamp-approval-brand-perry-india-wedding-ceremony>

**Madame Tussauds celebrates first ever Diwali weekend** – World famous Madame Tussauds has announced it will be marking one of South Asia's most colourful and popularly celebrated festivals, as it launches its first ever Diwali weekend next month.

[http://menmedia.co.uk/manchestereveningnews/entertainment/arts/s/1328484\\_madame\\_tussauds\\_celebrates\\_first\\_ever\\_diwali\\_weekend](http://menmedia.co.uk/manchestereveningnews/entertainment/arts/s/1328484_madame_tussauds_celebrates_first_ever_diwali_weekend)

**Hindu Advocacy on YouTube**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJ48dA-8Kss>

**Former Pixar artist illustrates ancient Hindu tale** – For Pixar animation artist Sanjay Patel, finding a cross between his Hindu upbringing and love of art was an accident 30 years in the making. The product of his discovery is a modern, illustrated retelling of the ancient Hindu story "Ramayana."

<http://www.dailyprincetonian.com/2010/10/22/26690/>

## Hinduism Studies

**India's most successful export has been the gods of Japan** - A few hundred Japanese, mostly middle-aged women, congregate in the courtyard of the Asakusa Shrine in central Tokyo. The five-storey pagoda is ornate and immaculate, not least because it was rebuilt in the 1970s. A bespectacled monk sits at a stall as worshippers paid a few yen to burn incense or ritually rinse hands with spring water.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/Print/618172.aspx>

**Remains of 1300-year-old temples found near Bhopal** – The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has found the remains of 1300-year-old temples at Ashapuri village, 36km from Bhopal.

[http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report\\_remains-of-1300-year-old-temples-found-near-bhopal\\_1453549](http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report_remains-of-1300-year-old-temples-found-near-bhopal_1453549)

**Veerappa Moily fired by Ram's mystique: Balashankar's book review** - EACH GENERATION of

Indians has seen amidst them Rama, the hero of Ramayana who has come to personify the highest level to which a human can aspire. It's also the commonest level to which the divine would descend. Ramayana has inspired generations of Indians, and many political leaders have found in Ram Raja the model of an equitable society.

[http://www.dc-epaper.com/DC/DCC/2010/10/31/ArticleHtm/31\\_10\\_2010\\_012\\_005.shtml?Mode=0](http://www.dc-epaper.com/DC/DCC/2010/10/31/ArticleHtm/31_10_2010_012_005.shtml?Mode=0)

**4000-year-old Aryan city discovered in Russia** - The place where Europe began: Spiral cities built on remote Russian plains by swastika-painting Aryans By DAILY MAIL REPORTER Last updated at 10:08 AM on 4th October 2010 Bronze age cities built by the Aryans that date back to the beginning of Western civilisation in Europe have been discovered in a remote part of Russia. Archaeologists have identified 20 of the spiral-shaped settlements

<http://www.mailonsunday.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1317362/Europe-begins-Cities-built-swastika-painting-Aryans-remote-Russian-plains.html>

**Tackling diabetes with natural herbs** - Diabetes has become the epidemic of 21st century and has taken roughly 6% of the world's populations in its clutches. In 90% of diabetic cases, the reason for this disease is poor lifestyle. The only way to prevent Diabetes is to be active and intake a balanced nutritional diet. But once a person gets the disease, it can only be managed...

(Source: [http://italk.royalsundaram.in/featured/managing\\_diabetes\\_herbs/](http://italk.royalsundaram.in/featured/managing_diabetes_herbs/))

**In The Search For 'Last Speakers,' A Great Discovery** - Three speakers of the newly identified language Koro gather at a house in Kichang village in Arunachal Pradesh, India. K. David Harrison discovered the language in 2008, which has a few hundred speakers. "It has basically been completely unnoticed by outsiders and by scientists," he says.

<http://www.npr.org/player/v2/mediaPlayer.html?action=1&t=1&islist=false&id=130242203&m=130355546>

**Remains of 1300 years old ancient temples found near Bhopal**- Scientists of the Archaeological Department have found out the remains of 1300 year old ancient temples at Ashapuri village near Bhopal. Ashapuri village is located around 36 kilometers off Bhopal. The debris of the temple seems to be massive in which the Bhoothnath temple was the biggest.

<http://sify.com/news/remains-of-1300-years-old-ancient-temples-found-near-bhopal-news-national-kkqsagdheai.html>

**Buddhist medicine in medieval china: disease, healing, and the body in crosscultural translation (second to eighth centuries c.e.)** - A dissertation submitted to Johns Hopkins University in conformity with the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (March 2010). This dissertation is a study of the role of literary and cultural translation in the transmission and reception of Buddhist medicine in medieval China between the second and eighth centuries.

<http://www.jivaka.net/Salguero%20Dissertation.pdf>

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