

Launch of the International Edition of the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF HINDUISM

September 2013 Special



Parmarth Niketar

Release of the International Edition 25-26th August, 2013

Sunday evening the 25th August and Monday morning the 26th August marked a historic moment in the spiritual and cultural history of India: the official launch of the international edition of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism.

The launch ceremony was organized and hosted by the University of South Carolina, Columbia, USA. A project of India Heritage Research Foundation, founded, guided, inspired and led by one of India's most revered spiritual leaders, Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji, the Encyclopedia of Hinduism is a colossal product of more than 1,000 esteemed scholars from around the world, totaling 11-volumes and approximately 7,000 entries.

The official, launch of the international edition, published by Mandala Earth Publications, an esteemed publisher of California, USA, was organized, hosted and sponsored by the University and presided over by Dr. Harris Pastides, the President of the University. The Encyclopedia project was headquartered at the University of South Carolina for many years during its compilation and editorial stages, and it is a beautiful and fitting full-circle for the University to be the ones to host the official launch.



From left to right: Pujya Swamiji, Shri Anna Hazare, Governor of South Carolina Hon. Nikki Haley, Dr. Meera Narasimhan, Dr. Harris Pastides and Sadhvi Bhagawati, presenting the first official set of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism to the Governor

August 25th

The launch was graced by the presence of:

- H.H. Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati, Founder/Chairman of India Heritage Research Foundation
 - Hon. Nikki Haley, Governor of South Carolina
 - Dr. Harris Pastides, President of the University of South Carolina
 - Shri Anna Hazare, renowned social leader from India
 - Hon. Joe Wilson, Congressman for South Carolina
 - Hon. Ajit Kumar, Consul General to India
- Dr. Meera Narasimhan, Vice Dean, School of Medicine, USC, organizer of the event
 - Dr. Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, Managing Editor of the Encyclopedia
 - Many esteemed scholars of the Encyclopedia and dignitaries







Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji said: "The wisdom, truths, teachings and insights of Indian and Hindu culture are not limited to or applicable to only Hindus or Indians. Rather they belong to the world and can deeply benefit the world. It is, therefore, our aim that the richness of this ancient yet timeless culture and heritage should be made available to the entire world, in a way that is authentic, academic, comprehensive and illuminating."

Dr. Harris Pastides said: "It is a deep honor to be participating in the American release of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism. This is a remarkable work of scholarship and research. I hope that many in academia and in everyday life will turn to it as a resource to better understand the characters, the tenets, and the impact that Hinduism has had, and is having, in the world."

Shri Anna Hazare said: "I am so happy to be here this evening. Pujya Swami Chidanandji is carrying our Indian culture to the entire world. This is a historic event here tonight. Spreading the teachings of our great tradition is a wonderful task Pujya Swami Chidanandji has undertaken and completed successfully." Meera Narasimhan, vice dean at the USC School of Medicine, said: "Hinduism, one of the oldest traditions of the world, has been a major influence with a focus on the ancient moral and spiritual insights and their modern developments. The EOH will serve as a comprehensive, scholastic reference for students, teachers and researchers and helps deepen the inter-cultural dialogue. As an Indian American, I have strongly been influenced by Hinduism and it's rich rubric



of spiritual, philosophical, and cultural ideas and practices that originated in India. As a physician trained in western medicine, it provided me with an abundance of knowledge to help better understand the mind, body, spirit connection that is key in understanding health as it pertains to disease and wellness."

Subhash Kak, Regents Professor of Computer Science, Oklahoma State University, said: "Encyclopedia of Hinduism is a historic milestone in Indian studies. It will facilitate the understanding of the culture and civilization of India and its diaspora scattered all over the world."

V.V. Raman, emeritus professor of physics and humanities, Rochester Institute of Technology and senior fellow at Metanenexus Institute, said: "Indic civilization is among the brightly shining stars in the firmament of humanity's heritage. Volumes have been written on it. There are copious commentaries on the abundant treasures of Indic culture. But one thing it has not had until now: a multi-volume Encyclopedia dedicated to it, in which the primary authors are scholars and thinkers from the Hindu tradition. That serious lacuna has disappeared as a result of this major publication. In keeping with India's welcoming arms to one and all, Non-Hindu scholars were also invited to contribute to this international project."

Rama Rao Pappu, senior professor of philosophy at Miami University (Ohio), said: "The EH is comprehensive in its scope by including important topics in Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism; erudite scholars from all over the world have given their expert knowledge of their discipline, at the same time making the EH accessible to other scholars and general public as well."





Pujya Swamiji presented the first official set to the Governor of the State of South Carolina, for the State's Library. Hon'ble Nikki Haley, the Governor said: "It is so beautiful, and such a great gift, this Encyclopedia of Hinduism. I am so honored to receive these beautiful 11 volumes on behalf of the State. I am so glad to be here tonight at this historic event."

Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati said: "This is a great moment in history. The depth and breadth of the world's oldest living culture, civilization, philosophy and theology has finally been encapsulated in encyclopedic form. To have the



international edition launched by the University of South Carolina in USA demonstrates the universal applicability and universal appeal of the Hindu tradition. The launch is a great meeting of East and West. With Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji and Shri Anna Hazareji here from India joining hands with the President of the University, Dr. Harris Pastides and the state congressman Joe Wilson, shows that the Hindu and Indian culture truly have no boundaries and no borders."

Congressman Joe Wilson and the Consul General Ajit Kumar were also full of praise for the Encyclopedia and the great accomplishment that Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji has achieved in conceiving of this project and then bringing it to fruition.



Dr. Harris Pastides, President of the University, honors Pujya Swamiji for His great work



Honoring of the Consul General, Shri Ajit Kumar



Dr. Pastides and Dr. Meera Narasimhan honor Shri Anna Hazareji



Honoring of Joe Wilson, Congressman for Columbia



Honoring of Raoul Goff, the head of Mandala Publications



Pujya Swamiji and Shri Anna Hazareji bless Dr. Meera Narasimhan for her wonderful seva in organizing the event



Presentation of special Ganesha murti to Dr. Meera Narasimhan

Blessings & Gratitude to the Donors, Supporters and Sevaks



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Nalini Rao on behalf of HR Shah



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Dr. Kaushal and Arunima Sinha



Rakesh and Sita Goel





Dr. Subhash Kak and Dr. Rama Rao Pappu, Executive Editors arrive at the President's house





Governor Nikki Haley with our Divine Shaktis



August 26th

The second part of the official release of the International Edition of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism took place on August 26th at the University of South Carolina.

Together with many of the scholars who worked on the Encyclopedia, University officials, and the hundreds who gathered for the release, Pujya Swamiji, Shri Anna Hazare and USC President Harris Pastides unveiled the encyclopedia's 11 volumes.

The unveiling was part of a daylong conference on Hinduism and the encyclopedia project and drew many USC faculty, staff and students.

In addition to numerous talks, the event captured the vibrancy of Indian culture with a traditional Indian lamp lighting ceremony, music and food and art.







Pujya Swamiji and Shri Anna Hazareji bless Dr. Pastides, the President of the University

President Pastides said it was a deep honor for the university to host the American release of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism.

"This is a remarkable work of scholarship and research. I hope that many in academia and in everyday life will turn to it as a resource to better understand the characters, the tenets and the impact that Hinduism has had, and is having in the world," Pastides said.



Blessings to Dr. Hal French one of the first Associate Editors of the project and a professor emeritus at the University of South Carolina

Hal French, professor emeritus of religious studies, served as associate editor of the encyclopedia since its inception in 1987. He called the 25-year quest to document Hinduism a privilege.

"Having studied the Hindu tradition as my major research area, it has been a real privilege to work in some small way with many others in producing a work, which may be the standard comprehensive rendering of Indian tradition for years to come," French said. "The time and effort required adds to the gratification in seeing this really monumental project come to completion."











About the Encyclopedia of Hinduism

The Encyclopedia has been nearly twenty-five years in the making and it is the first time in history that the depth and breadth of India's great spiritual culture is made available in authentic, academic and scholastic form. It is truly a compendium of thousands of years of history, science, art, architecture, polity, religion, philosophy and culture. Further, the Encyclopedia is not limited to Hinduism as a religion, but rather provides all inclusive treatment of India's spiritual culture (including coverage of Sikhism, Jainism and Buddhism traditions in India). The Encyclopedia of Hinduism presents - lucidly and authentically the vast panorama of Hinduism, giving a faithful record of the world's oldest living spiritual tradition. To ensure comprehensive coverage, the entries of the Encyclopedia are conveniently prepared under the following twelve subject areas:

1. Art: Architecture, Music, Iconography, Painting, Dance, Drama, Theater Performance, and Sculpture.

2. Hinduism in Global Context: Nepal, Southeast Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America, Mauritius, Africa, and the Caribbean.

3. History, Historiography, and Geography: Religious Developments in Hindu Kingdoms and Empires. Epigraphy, Numismatics, Flora and Fauna, Mountains, Rivers, and other pertinent data.

4. Language and Literature: Texts and commentaries in Sanskrit and in different Indian Languages, Folk Literature, Myths, Legends, and Journals.

5. Philosophy: Metaphysics, Psychology, Ethics, Six Systems of Indian Philosophy, Jaina, Buddhist and Sikh Thought, Tantra, Saiva Siddhanta, and Contemporary Hindu Thought.

6. Polity: Political Institutions, Judicial Systems, Economics, Law and Order, Military History, and Weapons.

7. Religion and Spirituality: Knowledge Texts, Gods and Goddesses, Saints, Mystics and Teachers, Rites and Ceremonies, Holy Places, Sectarian Movements, Temples, Sacraments and Modern Developments.

8. Sciences: Ayurveda, Astronomy, Astrology, Mathematics, Cosmology, Chemistry, and other relevant disciplines.

9. Social Institutions and Movements: Education, Varnasrama Dharma, Tribes and their Customs, Status of Women, Sports and Pastimes, Feasts, Fasts, Festivals, Diet, Dress and Cosmetics.

10. Spiritual Disciplines: Karmayoga, Bhaktiyoga, Hathayoga, and Tantra.

11. Scholarship in Hindu Studies: Ideological, Theosophical, and Commentarial Tradition, Oral Tradition, Philological Studies, Sociological, Mystical, and Comparative Studies.

12. Women Studies: Full coverage of issues related to the important role played by women in cherishing, maintaining, and transmitting Hindu heritage.

Gratitude

- The Encyclopedia of Hinduism, conceived, inspired and guided by Pujya Swamiji, and a project of India Heritage Research Foundation, has been made possible through the great dedication, commitment, generosity, and selflessness of innumerable people and organizations.
 We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the following for being invaluable, essential assets to the project:
- All of the generous donors and particularly the Platinum Pioneer donors All of the past and present Board of Trustees of IHRF
 - All of the scholars who wrote articles, edited, reviewed and finalized the articles All of the sevaks who gave their time and energy in Encyclopedia offices around the globe assisting with a wide variety of crucial, administrative tasks.
 - Dr. K.L. Seshagiri Rao, Chief Editor, Dr. Kapil Kapoor, Editor-in-Chief, and Late Pt. Dr. Vidya Niwas Mishra, Editor-in-Chief, for being the encyclopedia behind the Encyclopedia and guiding the teams of national and international scholars in bringing this project to fruition.

• The University of South Carolina, Columbia, USA, Pittsburgh University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, Parmarth Niketan Ashram, India and so many colleges, universities and institutions around the world for their great support and assistance.

- The team at Rupa & Co. Publications for bringing out the Indian Edition and the team at Mandala Earth Publications & InsightEditions for bringing out the International Edition.
- Special thanks also to all of the international media -- print media and broadcast media -- for covering this launch and this project so extensively with such dedication, devotion and grace. Special thanks to AP and PTI -- you have brought this wonderful news to the entire world.
- All of the revered saints who have blessed this project from its inception and carried it forth to its fruition.

In the Press

To see all the press clippings on the Encyclopedia of Hinduism from around the world, please click here.

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Nikki Haley, Anna Hazare unveil Encyclopedia of Hinduism

PROCESSED SPEAKY

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NORTH AMERICAN EDITION

Dainik Jagran



भारतीय संस्कृति से विश्व को स्तबरू कराएगा विश्वकोष

रवमी दिवनंद सामग्री के मुतावेक, हिंदू हमें के अलग अन्य वर्षे के विषयोग पहले ये मोजुर है। ऐसे में दिख हे राजीमतम हिंदू हमें के 🛛 वाले मिलें, विद्यानों और भारतीय परिवारों से विश्ववीय की आवश्वकता को पूरा करने के लिए यह प्रयत्न किया गया। पहल की महत्व जन्मूची ने दुनिया भर को मार्ग दिखाया है और यह हिस्त्रेष उसी की उजन्त की झा काते हुए भारतीय संस्कृति के उजले य आवन्त महते. बड़ों का बरिका विवासमनम को इन्द्रमा। अमेरिका में इसके सोकार्यण करने के स्वतन का उन्होंने कहा कि हिंदू कई क्षेत्रव्येण के को

आध्याविकः संस्कृति का आनंत नहरा,

विश्वद प्रमाणिक, शैवणिक और

विज्ञानसम्पन्न व्यापक सारतन्त्र मौजूद है।

দে বিয়ালকাৰ বিপদ্দীৰ কা মকালন

प्रष्ठपत ग्रंत व जुषिकेश निवत परवार्थ

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11 खण्डों एवं 7 इजार प्रशिष्टियों चाते.

है। कोलंकिया हिंदन साहवा कैसेलिया। यो किवाकोप के प्रधान संसाहक जी केएल বিশ্ববিদ্যালৰ কৈ মহিনা দী নামল হয়। लोकरणे। कार्यक्रम में स्वामी निवानंद भगवती सलवती ने भारत की ओर है। यतवती के जलावा प्रख्यात समाजसेवी अन्त प्रजरे, पाउम केलेलिन की कुल्बमात अनवर्त सरस्तती में प्रवास कि इस निकडी देते, विश्वविद्यालय के अध्यक्ष हो. विरुवकोण को लेकर क्ष्मेरिका में खाता हींगा पेस्टीवृग, जयेरिका में चाल के को पांचरको को भी समहित किया गया 'पहालपिल्पहुत अवेत कुमर आदि मौजूद

ने पहला विचन उन्हें अमेरिक में ही आया था। इसके बाद उन्होंने इस पर अमेरियन में खाने इसकी कहाँ की । इस दिखतीय की वेचन करने ने अनेतियी प्रेकेशने और वैक्षणिकों ने अपनी ्धुनिहर निषडी। उहामी हिंदानेह उत्तरहाँ में केंद्र कि भारत रामांकर प्राप्ति के प्रत पर आगे बढ रहा है। इस देव की सबसे बडी संदय है अखन्म। इसी के मालम से आज दुनेय सुसी जीवन के का उलाल 「花白白」

रोषनिरि रात और प्रमंत संसदय साली ततिषियों का स्वागत किया गया। साली उत्ताह रेखने को मिल है।

Associated Press

COMEDY WEF

THE BIG STORY

25 YEARS IN MAKING, HINDU ENCYCLOPEDIA IS COMPLETE

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Free Times



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the individual news story to go to the full, clear, large-size web or pdf of the article.

With the idea of an encyclopedia in place, Swami Chidanand Sanaxad appointed a scholau, H.L.S. Ree, professor emergas from the University of Virgenia, on a chief editor for the academic side of the project.

From there, they traveled the world for the next seven years, meeting and intravewing scholars who would help bring the project to hub on. Along the way, they requested academic assistance from the religious studies department at USC, which not only provided the academic infrastructure but also offices, tonary services, other incidees, and housing for regular and woiling scholars, according to Naresimban.

Hal French, USC's distinguished professor enterities of religitues studies, served as associati aditor of the encyclopedia.

The encyclopedia proved unique in another may it's not just about a neighin, that a country. Both aim mobilicably leased, Saather Bhagaweit sam, considering that Hindaem is not only india's dominant neigh on but the soarce of other religions such as Jainsm, Sikhesm and Budshism.

The early activitial challenges were enormous. The internet was yet to be born, computers were not in common use among many people, and the authors were most definitely old school.

They weren't garden-variefy comparative religion majors. They were advanced scholars steeped in certaines old tradition, who hand-arate articles in their regional languages — ranging from Bengal to Tami to Garekoli. — which had to be translated into propor English.

"What we varied." Such i Bhagawati says, "was the actual authentic velocion from the people one wave able to reach it and understand it mits primary language at its oparce, not procee who had claimed knowledge based on visal someone else had immission in someone else's commentary. So that added a lot of challenges, a lot of years."

That doesn't even begin to account for the many arguments over liner points, of interpretation. Attickes went through endees revealence between schears in the hope that everyone would finally agree. They finally had to settle for a majority of agreement.

The result, she says, tackles the complexities of the Hindu tradition but is also approachable by general readers.

The has over a billion people, " she says. "We're taking about more than a seventh of the world's population." Regardless of the topic, "you no longer can ignore the todan and Hindu trackition. So our goal is to have this be a tradition that is understood by eventhody."

A searchable online edition of the encyclopedia is also under proparation

All proceeds from the encyclopedia will go to a charitable organization dovated to cleaning up the rivers of india. The Monday launch will also signal the beginning of Carolindia, a peetication of india that will contribue through next year and will sportsor speakers, concerts, exhibits and a film festival at the Nickstodeon.

The continence for the faunch of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism will be held Monitory, Aug. 26, at the University of South Carolina's Capstone House, Now 9.39 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

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ABC News

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25 Years in Making, Hindu Encyclopedia Is Complete

By SUSAINE II. SDIAFER Associated Press



A comprehensive encyclopedia of one of the world's major religions is set to be unveiled next week in South Carolina. The 11-volume work covers Hindu spiritual beliefs, practices and philosophy, and is the culmination of a 25-year

academic effort.

The encyclopedia is written in English and includes about 7,000 articles on Hinduism and its practices. The work also deals with Indian history, languages, art, music, dance, architecture, medicine, and women's issues. The entire encyclopedia contains more than 1,000 illustrations and photographs.

Brightly colored images of Hinduism's deities fill entire pages, with foot-noted explanations of the forms and powers God can take in the religion.

"The goal was to have something pretty definitive — not just about Hinduism, but about the whole South Asian tradition," said University of South Carolina professor Hal French, who met with a small group of scholars in 1997 to offer academic support for the project.

"This hadn't really been attempted before," said French, 83, a distinguished professor ementus of religious studies at the school and an associate editor. "It is a milestone of research that brought together both Eastern and Western scholarship."

French, who specializes in the religions of Asia and served as an associate editor of the encyclopedia, said a primary inspiration for the work is one of India's most reversed spintual leaders, Swami Chidanand Saraswati, who is coming to the USC conference that will celebrate the work's launch.

Swami Chidanand founded the India Heritage Research Foundation, which became the parent organization behind the encyclopedia effort. He is president of the Parmarth Niketan Ashram. spiritual retreat in Rishkesh, India, and travels to visit with Hindu followers in the United States several times a year.

The encyclopedia's volumes run from 600 to more than 700 pages. Some 3,000 copies are being issued in the first printing and will be of interest to libraries, religious institutions, and those studying Indian culture around the world, French said.

Hinduism is the world's third-largest religion, with 1 billion followers, according to a Pew Research Center study published this year. Christians number 2.2 billion and Muslims 1.6 billion, the study showed.

Hinduism's basic teaching is that the soul never dies, but is reborn each time the body dies. The soul may be reborn in human or animal form. The cycle of death and rebirth continues until a soul reaches spiritual perfection, and is united in total enlightenment and peace with the supreme being.

Many Hindus who settled around the world have found that they need a comprehensive source of information on the religion for their children, said Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, managing editor of the encyclopedia and a secretary of the India Heritage Research Foundation.

Children came home from schools where a teacher may have discussed whether Hinduism is a belief in one god, or many gods, and need the proper background to explain it. Sadhvi Bhagawati said in a telephone interview.

"They wanted a source to go to so they could pass the correct information to their children," she said

She explained that the encyclupedia project took more than 20 years because "It began in pre-computer days."

"If we started today, it might just have taken a few years," said Sadhvi Bhagawati, who describes herself a disciple of Swami Chidanand.

Vatican Radio



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25 years in making, Encyclopedia of Hinduism unveiled in US



August 27, 2013: A 25-year quest by nearly 1,000 scholars to document and present one of the world's oldest living traditions came to fruition when the 'Encyclopedia of Hinduism' was unveiled in US on Tuesday.

Hundreds of scholars, dignitaries, students, Hindu leaders and the public converged on the University of Southern California campus to witness the release of much anticipated and definitive 11-volume guide conceived, compiled and produced by the India Heritage Research Foundation.

Those present on the occasion included South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, Indian Consul General in Atlanta Ajit Kumar and Gandhian Anna Hazare. The two-day event coinciding with the release featured some of the top Indian scholars who discussed the significance of the encyclopedia and the richness and diversity of Indian culture that binds more than one billion people worldwide.

The event is the launch of the international edition of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism. Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama had launched the Indian edition in 2010 in Rishikesh. The comprehensive encyclopedia has 11-volume work and it covers Hindu spiritual beliefs, practices and philosophy, and is the culmination of a 25-year academic effort. The encyclopedia is written in English and includes about 7,000 articles on Hinduism and its practices. (Source: PTI)

BBC



Huffington Post



Greek miracle is defused by chronology."

have largely accepted the frameworks of religion imposed upon them by others. As a result, Hinduism has been oversimplified, distorted, and reduced to talking points -- caste, curry, cows and karma as many like to call it - among even its adherents. It's hard to change people's perceptions of Hinduism when the reductionist version of the religion has been accepted at face value Of course, there have been numerous attempts by Hindu groups and individual Hindu Americans to challenge the narrative and try to assert agency in articulating the religion, but

some of these attempts have become politicized, dismissed as reactionary, poorly organized. or seen as fighting rationality and scientific evidence with emotion. The dismissive responses from scholars who embrace Eurocentric models of Hinduism are often base upon the (false) premise that the religion can only be studied objectively by those outside of it. However, some attempts to challenge inaccurate and downright racist frameworks of Hinduism have been successful, such as when a group of Hindu American parents worked with the public schools in Fairfax County, Va., to develop a supplemental packet to counter distortions in textbooks. The packet was the culmination of a collaborative effort among parents, the Fairfax County school board and several noted academics in the region. That's why an academic effort to reassert the voice of Hindus on the meanings and significance of the religion is both welcome and long overdue.

While the Encyclopedia of Hinduism's publication should be celebrated, it's just one more step in the long journey of Hinduism into the core of the American public sphere.

The Wall Street Journal



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The entry for Wyscame in the encycle

different scriptures and streams of belief.

Hinduism is famous for being a religion full of concepts that are difficult to pin down. largely because the religion doesn't have a single authoritative text but many

That may be why it took a collection of Hindu scholars and spiritual leaders a quarter-century to create a new illustrated encyclopedia of Hinduism. The encyclopedia was a project of the India Heritage Research Foundation, a nonprofit founded by an Indian spinitual leader who is based in the northern Indian town of Rishikesh

The full U.S. edition, which was unveiled at the University of South Carolina last week, runs to 11 volumes and some 7,000 pages. The event was attended by an eclectic group of people that included Hindu holy men and women, anticorruption activist Anna Hazare and South Carolina governor Nikki Haley, who is of Indian origin

While there have been other efforts to catalogue and define Hinduism, this project's managing editor, Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, argues that their encyclopedia is one of the most comprehensive guides to a religion practiced by hundreds of millions of people

"There's not a paragraph that I can see us cutting and still being able to say it includes everything," said Sadhvi Bhagawati, an American who visited India during her graduate studies in psychology and converted to Hinduism as a result, adopting a new name along the way

The encyclopedia is massive because it attempts to categorize multiple aspects of Hindu civilization, including the spheres of art, culture, music, dance, philosophy and medicine, she said.

The Wall Street Journal spoke to Sadhvi Bhagawati, who lives in an ashram in Rishikesh, and who is a disciple of the guru who conceived of the encyclopedia project. The term "sadhw" refers to a woman who has renounced marriage and committed to a life of prayer and service.

Edited excerpts

The Wall Street Journal: Why have an encyclopedia of Hinduism?

Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati: There was a lack of authentic sources for answers. to the questions that so many of the Indian youth forgwing up in Americal had. Many Indians moved to the United States in the 1970s and 1980s, particularly young qualified professionals. So their children were being raised in a system that encouraged questions.

They would go home and ask their parents the same kinds of questions they would ask at school and their parents didn't have the ariswers.

But also India today - more so today but even at that time - has become part of the global scene and people are really interested in all of these sorts of things. People have been really, really fascinated by the land of India.

So this is not an encyclopedia by Hindus for Hindus. It is an encyclopedia of Hinduism for that audience, Hindu and non-Hindu, who have questions and inquiries about this tradition.

WSJ: Why did it take so long?

Sadhvi Bhagawati: The vast majority of articles were hand-written in the native tongue of the scholars, whether that was Hindi, Sanskrit, Bengali, Tamil. In the early 1990s, you couldn't say to these various experts to type. They didn't type. The definitions had to be translated, had to be typeset and then of course we entered rounds of in-depth substance editing

By the early 2000s the work had come to a place where we had most of the articles back from the scholars and we were getting to a phase of editing and finalization.

The last 10 years of the project you can say were headquartered in India. [The original chief editor] had passed away many years ago. Kapil Kapoor had been appointed chief editor - he was rector of Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi. He appointed his own team of associate editors, bringing together scholars from across India and from across the world to review the articles. Every article has been edited eight or 10 times.

biought up and educated. He traveled theice throughout the whole constry. During this period, he deterned technics in a debute in Vilayanagar and altin won-haristic in the coster of Vilayanagar. He attacned a large number of followers because of his teachings of devocional lowe rowards Lard Reput, as the visible form of the Brishman, the Vilaniate Reality.

The period of Vallabha (1473-1331 C.K.) webranized with this of Saltan Silandar Lodhi, synchronused with this of Jastan Jasandra Lodki, who held using user the region warred by the tiren, Tamana and Canga. The holy places of Hindus flourished on the banks of these holy rivers. Holy cates like Windowan, Mathura, and Vi Holy enter like Vrindsvan, Mathara, and Varanasi were governed by Lodh's governost, who adopted a syratexical attitude towards the Hindux. The situation, however, changed after Suitan thrakim occupied the theore after the detah of bit father. He was indifferent to the religious atervities of the Hindux. During his period, the Vraja regime regisered preserv. Vallablas assied his followers as complete the hundling of a temple of finishing at Nitharhale an Udatpust, which became the content of the devocional activities of the Vallablas at realisations in Compary, which been center of the devotional activities of the 1 sect. Vallabha based his seaching on the ph of love between Rådhi and Rripa.



An Rustration accompanying the entry under "Valiatitia Sect" Valiatitia is described in the encyclopedia as a celebrated earnh who was born in the 15th century.

WSJ: What sources did you draw on? Were they written or oral?

Sadhvi Bhagawati: To us what was most important was that the authors be people not just who had got a master's at this or that university but people who could give information from primary sources.

We weren't looking for people who could pick up a whole bunch of secondary or tertiary sources and combine them. We were looking for articles from people who were themselves steeped in the wisdom of primary sources. These were people who were reading scripture, philosophy, treatises.

I would say the source matter is in almost every case things that have been written down. We are now at a period in history where the vast majority of that which had been oral has now been transcribed. Even though many of the scholars may have received knowledge orally, it had also been written down

What was really important was that this be a project that has impeccable scholastic and academic integrity. There's no article that's going to say, 'I know this because my grandfather passed it down." Every article has a bibliography.

We now really have a source that is authentic, that is comprehensive that is unbiased and that is agreed upon by more than 1,000 of the top scholars around the world

WSJ: How did you reconcile different understandings of concepts in Hinduism?

Sadhvi Bhagawati: There was nothing where we had to concede and say, 'Okay leave that as it is.' We weren't prepared to. If the scholars we've chosen are all experts there must somewhere be a meeting point

You tend to have more competing views among followers [who are not familiar with primary sources]. Then you have religion and dogma being like a game of telephone and as it gets passed along, it changes.

That said, there are so many different ways of looking at things when you're translating an original text. When you're translating Sanskrit, which is such a rich, rich language, people will say That could mean that, or it could mean this '

And this particular transition isn't necessarily in conflict with that translation. The original writer maybe actually meant all of these things. When you're looking at aspects of philosophy particularly ... that's going to have a variety of different views.

A definition for something as short and fundamental as the Bhagavad Gita is going to be completely different from a saint who's steeped in the links machine versus steeped in the Verland todding. We weren't about choosing one over the other.

WSJ: Were you able to draw on sources of Hinduism from different countries?

Sadhvi Bhagawati: There are many, many articles on Hinduism in the diaspora as well as Hinduism in different countries and regions across the world. There are articles, for example, on Hinduism in the Caribbean compared to Indonesia compared to in the Philippines.

WSJ: Is there going to be an online version?

Sadhvi Bhagawati: Absolutely. There's two different ways to go about the online version — we may actually end up doing both of them.

The first way is the easier — what you do is take that which has already been prepared and simply make it available online in a wiki type of system.

But then there's another way of doing it in a much more interactive, multimedia way.

In the encyclopedia, in an article on the [the elephant-headed god] Ganesh, let's say you'd have an article on Ganesh and you'd have an image or two images. But once you go online, with what multimedia can do these days, as you roll the mouse over different parts of Ganeshi, you'd have text pop up saying 'Here's what the broken tusk means, here's what the belly symbolizes.'

WSJ: How do you see people accessing the encyclopedia?

Sadhvi Bhagawati: I see it getting disseminated in a couple of different ways. It should be in every library, in every institution. I also see it being something that every Hindu family or every family interested in Hinduism or multiculturalism would have.

Here are brief extracts from some of terms defined in the encyclopedia (in each of the following cases the explanations run to multiple pages). They have not been aftered except to drop special characters that could not be reproduced.

Ahimsa

literally, non-violence or non-mury to living beings.

The first reference to ahimsa (non-violence) is found in Acarangasutra, a Jaina text, dating from the 4th century B.C.E. Buddhist texts from the 3rd century B.C.E. also explicate the principle of non-injury. Acarangasutra states that all beings desire to live, and outlines the practice of not harming any person, animal, plant, or the microscopic beings found in water, fire and air. To facilitate ahimsa, Jainas adopt the practices of sweeping the area where one sits, sleeps and walks to protect small life forms from potential harm, and wearing a face mask to prevent the inhalation of small creatures and to soften the force of air exhaled from the body.

The adherence to vows of Ahimsa affects every aspect of Jaina life. Jainas choose professions that minimize violence such as law, manufacturing, publishing and trading in goods, art and textiles (except silk). Until the last few decades, due to prohibitions against distant travel, all Jainas lived in India. However, tens of thousands of Jainas now live in North America and Europe, applying their philosophy of non-violence to modern lifestyle.

Aum

the sacred sound-symbol of Brahman, the Supreme Being.

This monosyllable is understood to be the source of all sound and speech. Aum permeates all words, like ribs permeate a leaf, according to Chandogya Upanisad (II.23.3). Since all objects are nameable, all objects are aum. Before reciting Vedas er names of gods and goddesses in worship, aum should be uttered. Taittiriya Upanisad describes aum as anumati (permission). Traditionally, aum and atha were uttered by Brahm, the Creator, and are considered to be the most auspicious. Apastamba wrote that the syllable aum is the gateway to paradise.

Moksa

liberation from the worldly bondage of birth and death.

Hindu sages have envisaged parusartha catustaya (four-fold goals of human life), which are — dharma (duties for social sustenance and individual good), artha (means of miintenance and prosperity), kama (enjoyment within moral premises), and moksa (liberation from the transient and attainment of the eternal). Out of these, moksa, liberation from the pains and sufferings of life and also from the bondage of the vicious cycle of birth and detath, has been evaluated as the supreme goal of every human being and the utimate destiny of all living beings whatsoever.

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Dehradun

Encyclopedia of Hindulem released in South Carolina Variate

Swami Chidanand's initiative results in historic scholastic achievement

By OCR STAFF REPORTER

DEHIRADUN, 26 Aug: On 25 and 26 August, the otheral learnth took place of the international edition of the Easystopedia of Histolators. The lautely neteriority said organized and heated by the Unitermity of Spath Encoling, Columbia, USA. A project of Juday Heritage Research Foundation. founded and left by Swami Chidanand Satamart, the Enstationedia of Plastatore is a redental product of more there 1000 externed whether been oround the world, tritaling 11volumes and approximately 7000 entries. The Encyclopedia has been needly needly-free users in the making and it is the first timer in highling that the depth and breath of India's creat spiritual college is reader. contrable in getterntic. numbers and schulastic form-

If is truly a companditum of the same of your of history. science, and, analytic bachane, policy, religion; philosophy and Further, culture. the neyclopedia is not irrened to Histoiren as a religion, hit nation provides all indicator treatment of India's operitual ealture (including coverage of Sitting. Jainian. den di Baddhire traditions in Indial-



The official lazersh of the international editors, publiched by Mantala, Earth Publications of California, USA, was hold at the University of Stach Carolina. It was organised, bushed and opproceed by the University and pseudoed seen by De Harnis Postales, the President of the University.

The Encyclopedia projectives headquartered at the University of South Carolina for many years during its completion and adhesial steps, and it was fitting full-circle for the University to be the size to hest the official laureb.

Present at the lasters word Swatal Chidanand Samuesti, Roseder Charmon of India Hestings Research Foundation, Nikkt Heley, **Governor** of South Carolina, Dr Harris Postdes, President of the University of Seath Casadina, Anna Hazara encial activist. Jos Wilson, Congruinman, for South Caroline, Alt Komer, Cound. General to India. Dr Sadhvil Saturenti. Shogaesti: Managing Effort of the Encyclopedia as well as many other schemed adjudges and dignituries.

Swemi Chidamand Senseveli sant, "The unidom, traffic, teachings and imights of indian and Hindu nulture are not limited to or opplicable to only Hindus or limitare. Rattee they belong to die world and non deepty hereift the world. It is, therefore, our atter that the rithmens of this ancient pet finaless calture and heritage should be made analable to the entire world, it is way that is authernity, academic, comprehensive and disconcetors."

In Harris Fuedates said: "It is a deep betters to be periodporing in the American slosse of the Encyclopedia of Herduzet. This is a remortablic work all acholamhig and teneorch. I hope that many is academic and is everyday the odd tars in 8 as a resource to better upderstand the characters, the tenets, and the respect that Herdulan hos bad.

Arm Hame said: Swarii Didanard is carrying our Indian cultane to the entire world. This is a bistoric every have tonight. Spicariting the toucharge of our great tradition is a sounderful tool. Source Childrand presented the fear official set to the Governor of the State of Smath Carolino, for the State of Hindhesen. I are so benericed to receive these lowerided 11 volumes on heast of the State."

Southvi Bhagawati Seasonat seat. "This is a good mersent is biance. The depth and tread the of this world's oldest bring outane, collisation, plaksophy and theshogy has tready been encapsulated in may/oppedic from. To have the reternational action launched by the University of Seatth Caulino in USA demonstrance the aniversal applicability and universal appeal of the Hindu tradition."

The Encyclopetha was previewed and blened at a huge occurrenty in India by the Dalai Lares and barekuth of India's most nevered sportsal, social and unicond leaders.

Sware Chilamani is also frequentiated and sportual head of one of India's largest sportual wettances. Parwarth Nikotan Advam in Richlandt He is also the founder of the Garqu Action Pattvar, a world-stille research of people committed to servicing, preserving and protecting the second and blogiving Garqu

Times of India



THE TIMES OF INDIA | US & Canada Ne

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US University launches year-long celebration of India IANS | Aug 27, 2013, 08.04 PM IST READ MORE Year-Long Celebration Of India] University Of South CarolinalCarolIndia



President of University of South Carolina Harris Pastides, Anna Hazare and Swami Chidanand Saraswati light the traditional lamp at the launch of the year-old CarolIndia celebrations in Columbia on Monday. (PTI Photo)

WASHINGTON: The University of South Carolina launched year-long, a year-long celebration of India, as it unveiled the international edition of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism at a conference on one of the world's oldest major religions.

Hundreds of Hindu families travelled to Columbia in South Carolina, to watch Indian social activist Anna Hazare, Hindu spiritual leader Swami Chidanand Saraswati and university President Harris Pastides unveil the 11-volume encyclopedia Monday.

Culmination of a 25-year academic effort, the definitive guide is conceived, compiled and produced by the India Heritage Research Foundation and published by Mandala Publishing, according to the university.

"This is a remarkable work of scholarship and research. I hope that many in academia and in everyday life will turn to it as a resource to better understand the characters, the tenets and the impact that Hinduism has had, and is having in the world," said Pastides.

Hal French, professor emeritus of religious studies, who served as associate editor of the encyclopedia since its inception in 1987, called the 25-year quest to document Hinduism a privilege.

The conference also marked the beginning of Carol India, a year-long celebration of India as part of the university' expanding internationalization programme that would focus on a single country every year.

Robert Cox, director of the university's Walker Institute for International and Area Studies, said the university chose India for its first year because of the university's and state's increasing ties with the country and for its importance as the world's largest democracy and rising economic power.

Cox said his greatest hope is that university students come to think of India as familiar place, not an exotic one.

Carol India will feature film festival, lectures, concerts and exhibits. Among the many visitors to campus will be filmmaker Mira Nair. Students also will have the opportunity to engage with faculty with Indian research and teaching interests.

More than 1,000 scholars have contributed to the seminal work documenting one of the world's oldest living traditions.

Encompassing more than 7,000 articles with over 1,000 colour illustrations and photographs, the encyclopedia also covers Indian history, civilization, language and philosophy; architecture, art, music and dance; medicine, sciences and social institutions; and religion, spirituality and the role of Hindu women.

The Dalai Lama introduced the Indian edition in April 2010 in Rishikesh, India.

Oman Tribune



The Economic Times



25 years in making, Hindu encyclopedia is complete

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COLUMBIA: A comprehensive encyclopedia of one of the water's major religions is set to be unrelied next week to the US. The 11-volume work covers thirdu spiritual beliefs, practices

unrealised rest wave in the US. The Th-volume work covers theirb spiritual beliefs, practices and philosophy, and is the culmination of a 25-year academic effort. The encyclopedia is written in English and involuties about 7,000 articles on <u>Histology</u> and its practices. The work also deate with Indian history, languages, art. music, dance, erchdecture, medicine, and women's issues. The entire encyclopedia contains more than 1,000 Bastrations and photographic English contraster encyclopedia contains more than 1,000 Bastrations and photographic English contraster encyclopedia contains more than 1,000 Bastrations and photographic English contraster of History Bastrations. The graphs, with too-noted explanations of the forms and powers fold can take in the religion. The graph was to take conteiling proty definitive _ not just about History, but stock the main with a small group of scholars in 1967 to other academic support for the propert.

"This hadn't really been attempted before," sold French, 85, a distinguished professor emeritas of religious studies at the school and an associate editor. "It is a milestene of research that brought together both Eastern and Western sumstantia, "French, who specializes is the religious of Asia and served as an associate oditor of the encyclopedia, said a primary inspiration for the work is one of India's most revened spinitual haiders. Swami Gridaniand Sanaswall, who is coming to the University of South Carolina conference that will combilities the work's lawnon.

Swami Chilarand founded the trills Heritage Plessanth Foundation, which became the parent organization behind the ancyclopedia effort. He is president of the Parmieth Neccas Advant spinitual tetrast in Risbleeth, India, and travels to visit with Hindu followers in the Vertical spinitul terrate in reactively, india, and movies to value with Hindu statives in the United States several times a year. The encyclopediate volumes run hore 600 to more than 100 pages. Some 2,000 copies are being toxical in the that printing and will be of internal to libraries, religious institutions, and those studying indian cuture around the world. French anit-Hinduism is the world's third-largest milgion, with 1 billion tokewers, according to a <u>Paw</u> Sessent Certernized published the year. Christians number 2.2 billion and Muslims 1.0

billion, the study showed. Hinduter's basic basching to that the soul renew day, but is reborn each time the body day. The soul may be reborn in human or animal form. The cycle of death and rebritt continues.

urtil a coul reaches spiritual perfection, and is united in total enlighterment and peace with the suprime being.

Many Hindus who estilled around the world have found that they need a comprehensive source of information on the religion for their children, and Sective Shapeweet Sarxswell. managing editor of the encyclopedia and a secretary of the India Heritage Research Foundation.Children came from from schools where a teacher may have discussed whether Hinduism is a belief in one goll, or many gods, and need the proper background to explain it. Sadhvi Bhogawati said in a telephone interview

"They wanted a source to go to as they could pass the correct information to their children; she satis She explained that the encyclopedia project look more than 20 years because "it began in pre-computer days ""if we started today, it might just have taken a few years," said Sadhvi Bhagawati, who describes herself a disciple of Sarare Chidgewett

Sadhvi Shagawali said some of the experts who contributed to the encyclopedia wrote their articles by hand in the script of their original languages. She said they included authors who wrete in Tami _ spoken in southern India, Sri Lanka and Singapore _ or Songal _ spoken in other regions of india and Dangladesh.

The articles had to be typed and translated, and translations into English had to be checked again, "Each article ended up being edited eight to 10 times," Sathsi Shagawati said. Dr. <u>Meero Nerasimhen</u>, wer dean of the USC School of Medicine and chairman of the department of neuropsychiatry, said she met Swami Chidanand several years ago, learned about his and USC's involvement in the project, and has been working to support if ever alter." I regard this as a legacy that will be left behind for percentions to come," she suit, studying the first set of volumes to arrive at the university on Wednesday. They are to be donated to the university's library asstern.

The physician is a special stim mind-body connections, and she specificaded the organization of Monday's conference. A native of Bangalore, indix, Narasimhan began her medical studies. there, went to Yale University/or her residency and felowship, and has been at USC series 2004

This brings together my Indian hertage, my work as a physician in America and as a Gemecock," Natasimhan said, using the sports nickname for USC susporters.

Manday's conference is attracting scholars. Hinds religious leaders and those of indian haritage from around the globy, she said. It is free and open to the public.

"This encyclopedia will have a very wide reader base because it covers such a carpe of subjects," Normenhan said,

Al proceeds from the encyclopedia are going to a charitable organization dedicated to the environmental cleanup of rivers in India, she said.

Deccan Chronicle



WORLD REACTS

Hindu encyclopaedia published

Columbia(South Carolina), Aug. 24: A comprehensive encyclopaedia of one of the world's major religions is set to be unveiled next week in South Carolina.

The 11-volume work covers Hindu spiritual beliefs, practices and philosophy, and is the culmination of a 25-year academic effort. The encyclopaedia is written in English and includes about 7,000 articles on Hinduism and its practice. The work also deals with Indian history, languages, art, music, dance, architecmedicine. DUPPS. and women's issues.

The encyclopaedia contains more than 1,000 illus-



Dr Meera Narasimhan, vice dean of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, with the Hindu encyclopaedia. -AP

trations and photographs. Brightly coloured images of Hinduism's deities fill entire pages, with footnoted explanations of the forms and powers God can take in the religion.

"The goal was to have something pretty definitive — not just about Hinduism, but about the whole South Asian tradition," said University of South Carolina professor Hal French.

"This hadn't been attempted before," said Mr French, 83, a professor emeritus of religious studies at the school and an associate editor. "It is a milestone of research that brought together both Eastern and Western scholarship." — AP

The New Zealand Herald



Brightly colored images of Blachtien's definitive not just about Biod-noted explanations of the forms and powers God can take in the soligion. "The goal was to have something pretty definitive not just about Biodulans, but about the whole South Asian tradition," and University of South Carolina perference Bal French, who met with a small group of scholars in 1987 to offer academic support for the project.

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The National

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Milestone in research on Hinduism, 25 years in the making

The Korea Herald

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COLUMBIA, South Carolina (AP) - A comprehensive encyclopedia of one of the world's major religions is set to be unveiled next week in the U.S. The 11-volume work covers Hindu spiritual belief

Updated : 2013-08-25



The Japan Times



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India

Encyclopedia of Hinduism unveiled in US after 25-year quest

COLUMBIA (US) A 25-year quest by nearly 1,000 scholars to document and present one of the work?'s oldest living traditions came to fruition when the 'Encyclopedia of Hinduism' was unveiled at the University of Southern Califor on Tuesday.

Archives Subscribe

Hundreds of scholars, dignitaries, students, Hindu leaders and the public converged on the university campus to witness the release of much anticipated and definitive 11-volume guide conceived, compiled and produced by the India Heritage Research Foundation. South Carolina Governor Nički Nabey, Indian Consul General in Atlanta Ajit Kumar and Gandhian Anna Hazare were present.

The two-day event coinciding with the release featured some of the top Indian scholars who discussed the significance of the encyclopedia and the richness and diversity of Indian culture that binds more than one billion people worldwide.

The event is the launch of the international edition of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism. Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama had launched the Indian edition in 2010 in Rishkesh.

Or Harris Pastides, President of University of South Carolina, said that he was humbled to see the encyclopedia being Isunched in his campus. "It is a deep honour to be participating in the American release of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism. This is a remarkable work of scholarship and research. I hope that many in academis and in everyday life will turn to it as a resource to better understand the characters, the tenets, and the impact that Hinduism has had, and is having in the world," he said.

Times Live



Vancouver Desi



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"The goal was to have something pretly definitive — not just about Hinduism, but about the whole South Asian tradition," said University of South Carolina professor Hal French, who met with a small group of scholars in 1997 to offer academic support for the project.

"This hadn't really been attempted before," said French, 83, a distinguished professor ementus of religous studies at the achool and an associate editor. "It is a milestone of research that trought together both Eastern and Western schelarship."

The Windsor Star

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NEWS / World

After 25-year international effort, 'Encyclopedia of Hinduism' to be unveiled next week



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BY S VENKAT NARAYAN Our Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI, August 26: The English edition of 'Encyclopedia of Hinduism', a product of 25 years of relentless academic efforts by nearly a thousand scholars, was released in the United States on Monday. The event is considered a milestone in Indian studies.

The 11-volume encyclopedia covers Hindu spiritual beliefs, practices and philosophy, and encompasises more than 7,000 articles that span Indian history, oviliaation, language and philosophy; architecture, art, music and dance; medicine, sciences and social institutions; and religion, spirituality and the role of Hindu women.

Additionally, more than 1,000 colour illustrations and photographs bring the Hindu traditions and culture alive for readers.

The Globe and Mail



. 25 ஆண்டுகளாக உருவாக்கப்பட்ட 'இந்து மதக் கலைக் களஞ்சியம்' ஆங்கிலப் பதிப்பு இன்று அமெரிக்காவில் வெளியீடு

ு பற்பு பெய்த நாள் தங்கட்கிழலைட்டது. 21.2 லான இன் இட்டன் நிலத்துக்கள் நிற்றுமைன் இன்றது இட்டன் (நிறை Share / Save இரன் அரச் திபூ யார்க், கு.க. 26

் அமெரிக்காவில் உள்ள தெற்கு கரோலினா நகரில் இந்திய பாரம்பரிப ஆய்வு நிறுவனத்தின் சார்பில் இன்று கருத்தரங்கு நடைபெறுகிறது.

இந்த கருத்தரல்லே தோபல் பரிசு பெற்ற ராஜேந்தில் பச்சவரி, இந்தியாவில் ஊழலுக்கு எதிராச போராடி வரும் அன்ன நுவைகத் தலைவரும் பரமார்த்த றிதேத்தன் ஆசிரமத்தின் தனவைகுமான கவாமி சித்தனாத் சரஸ்வழி உள்ளிட்ட பலர் பல்தேறிகள்றனர்.

இந்த ஒருநாள் கருத்தரங்கில், இந்திய பாரம்பரிய ஆய்வு நிறுவனத்தின் சார்பில் தயாரிக்கப்பட்ட இந்து மதக் கலைக் களத்ரியத்தின் ஆங்கிலப் பதிப்பு வெளியிடப்படுகிறது





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Rashtriya Sahara



अमेरिका में 'हिंदू धर्म विश्वकोष' का विमोचन

अप्रविकेडा (प्रमुप्तम्त्री)। इंटिया हेरिटेन रिसर्व कारंट्रहेन के तत्वापकर में हिंदू घर्म निश्चभोग के कारंट्रहोन सन्कार आ अंडिल में किनियन किया पत प्रिय दार्थ में प्रियों के सार कर में कैंगि नि प्रथ कर है। लोकपंच मापके पंरक्राध समानिक ध्यन्कव सन्न कार्या, प्राप्त निवर्क में अप्रकार में कैंगि नि प्रथ कर्ता, प्राप्त निवर्क आर्थका के प्रकार माने के क्वे के दिवस के प्रकार समाने के प्रकार की वीर्क संदेश मार्थन कि प्रकार माने प्राप्त के केलिनक आर्थिक विना साठन कैत्यपत विनेव संदेश स्थान प्रित्न के प्रकार माने का प्राप्त के केलिनक आर्थका विन स्थान से का प्राप्त के केलिनक आर्थका कि किस कर सातने के स्थान विनेव संदेश स्थानी फिल्मक कि प्रित्व के स्थान कि 11 के वार्य सिवर्क हे के स्थान और साउध केयासाइन में की शिरायन साल हलाय ने, पालक

मध्यति में विशिव प्रायमध्यों को भी समये आधित किय

संस्कृत में निकत परम्थाओं को भा इसने भागवत केला गमा है। जिसका डा. केएल हेपापिर के स्पेयद में मंडाला अर्थ पंटलकेश के कॉर्मरेज डा. मुप्राग किया गढ़ है। समायेह में स्वयमी विदानद संस्थाति, प्रत्यता मूर्व का कहन था कि भारतीय हिंदू संस्कृति, दर्शन, अच्यात्म और जान

विदुर्जे कम संक्रित नहीं, दुनिय को भी इनसे मई राष्ट्र किर्द है। जिसमें विश्वकोय का प्रकाशन विश्व करमानस को रोपक और साम्रार्थित प्रमुखों से संप्रिता करने में अपने उन्हम पुनिका निर्माण । विश्व प्रकार की संस्थित के माउंडेशन की इस पहल को वैभियक सेंदू की संज्ञ दें), जे

दुविधा को आपस में जोड़ने में निधिषत हो मददबर साथित होगा। उन्होंने मतापा कि सामहेत में विश्वकोप की प्रबंध संपदक साध्वी भगवती सरस्वती, भारतीय दुत्तवास के बर्जेसल जन्हाल अबीत कुमार वो विल्सन आदि में जूद थे।



त में कींद्र धर्म किश्वत य जाने अधिनित

One India Kannada



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Dainik Jagran



लंबिया में एक वर्षीय उत्सव 'केरोलड़डिया' के शुभार्तम पर यूनिवर्सिटी अंक साउथ केरोलिया के बिडेंट इंस्ति पारटाइड्स, स्वामी विद्यमंद सारपती और सामाजसेवी अन्या इन्यरे। ब्रेड्





अमेरिका में हिंदू धर्म विश्वकोश का लोकार्पय

भाग प्रभावनां के स्थान प्रारंभ के भाग प्रभाव में प्रथान के प्रभाव के प्रभाव के प्रभाव के स्थान के प्रभावनां कि अग्रे के अपनाल्यों के प्रभाव के प्रभाव के प्रभावनां के प्रभाव के प्रभाव के प्रधाव के प्रधाव के प्रधाव क्या के अपनाल्यों के प्रभाव का मांत्राओं के प्रधाव के प्रधाव के प्रधाव के प्रधाव के प्रधाव क्या के अपनाल के प्रभाव के प्रधाव के बाद काजी अपनाल जावनां अपनी प्रथान के प्रधान के प्रधान का

Desi Talk



11

CITY VIEWS

The Evolution of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism

BY SHOATE CHATDERINE

NEW YORK ne of the most unique books on Hinduism the. took twong-five years in the making with contributions from well over 1800 caterinia. scholars from across the world is the Encyclopedia of Hinduism with 11 volumes and approvimately 7000 entries. If formally saw the light of the day at a glutering event at Manay Seva Mandir (MSM) in Bensenville, fill, on July 37. The Encyclopedia was conceived, inspired and blessed by Swami Chidanand Saraswa i and

was published by India Heritage Research Foundation

Swamiji and his disciple Sadlivi Bhagavati Sataswari spoke about the book to Desi Talk at an exclusive interview on August 19 in New York άŵ

The idea of having such an encyclopedia emerged in the 1970s, Sadhvi Saraswati said attor Indian parents living in the ILS. were baced with questions from their children about the various beliefs and symbolisms associated



wich Hinchrison, Swamiji carre up with the idea of crealing an authentic reference. book where answers to guestions relating to Hinduism. could be found.

It took close to 20 years to identify the appropriate qualified scholars who could write on topics encompass ing the width and breatth of the culture and religion.

We were aware of the uniqueness of the Hindu religion in the fact that it is difterent from other religions. since it can be identified with the culture and tradition of India. It is intertwined with

Indian culture in every aspect." said Sadhvi "We took pains to cusate that each article was written as the original translation. from the scriptures to avoid any personal biases or imperiections," she added noting that every aspect of Indian life has flavors of Hindu philosophy, science and culture intertwined with it.

The publication will be available on Amozon com and other renewnod bookstores as well as i most libraries across the country. Proceeds from the book ade will be used to hund the Gauga and Yomuno River Project of well as conservation of other rivers of India.

Full, International Coverage of the Launch of the International Edition of the Encyclopedia*

Click on the individual links to go to the full, clear, large-size web or pdf of the articles.

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* Please note - this list is not fully complete. As more news stories come we will add them to this list and to our website.

Other Important Events of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism

Preview & Blessings Ceremony, 3rd-4th April 2010



By the grace of God, under the guidance and inspiration of Pujya Swami Chidanandji, we held a special Preview and Blessings Ceremony for the Encyclopedia of Hinduism on the 3rd and 4th April, 2010 by the hands of H.H. the Dalai Lama with Pujya Swami Chidanandji and many other revered saints and dignitaries. *Click here* to read a special newsletter covering this event.

Presenting the Encyclopedia of Hinduism to President of India, Smt. Pratibha Patil



First Volume of Encyclopedia Presented



Prior to going for print, the first volume of the Encyclopedia was presented by the Encyclopedia team to Pujya Swamiji and Pujya Sant Shri Rameshbhai Oza (Bhaishri) during Pujya Bhaishri's katha at Parmarth Niketan Ashram in Rishikesh. Pujya Acharya Balkrishnaji, Pujya Swami Asanganandji and other revered saints were also present.

Preview & Blessings Ceremony, 3rd-4th April 2010



Serendipitously, the first USA preview took place in the same hall of the same ceter where a special yagna for the Encyclopedia had been performed at the very beginning of the project in 1993. The first three volumes of the Encyclopedia were previewed and blessed in New Jersey, USA during a sacred and auspicious Rama Katha by Pujya Sant Shri Morari Bapu. Pujya Swamiji, Pujya Bapuji and Pujya Goswami Indira Betiji blessed and preview the volumes.

"Soft" Launch in Chicago, 27th July 2013 at Manav Seva Mandir



A "soft-launch" of the Encyclopedia was performed in Chicago, IL on the 27th July at the Manav Seva Mandir. A special event was held on the theme of: "Spirituality in Daily Life: The Eternal Message of Sanatan Dharma." Spiritual discourses were given by Pujya Swamiji and Sadhvi Bhagawatiji prior to the unveiling of the Encyclopedia.

News Coverage:

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India Post

Encyclopedia of Hinduism launched in Chicagoland



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"Soft" Launch in Louisville, KY, 21st July, 2013



A "soft-launch" was also performed in Louisville, Kentucky where the volumes were unveiled by Mr. Greg Fischer, the Mayor of Louisville. Mayor Fischer officially declared the 21st July as the "Day of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism" and issued an official Proclamation which proclaims that July 21st will always be celebrated as the "Day of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism."

News Coverage:

Click on the individual news story to go to the full, clear, large-size web or pdf of the article.



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