

# BRAHMA BHARATI

A Quarterly Publication of Brahman Samaj of North America

June 2004 Volume 6 Number 2

Editor: Surendra Nath Pandey, Ph.D.



लखन कहेउ हँसि सुनहु मुनि क्रोध पाप कर मूल ।  
जेहि बस जन अनुचित करहिं चरहिं बिस्व प्रतिकूल ॥

*Shri Ramcharitmanasa, Balkand*

...anger is the root of sin. Swayed by it, men perpetrate unseemly acts and indulge in  
misanthropic activities.

क्रोधाद्भवति संमोहं संमोहात्स्मृतिविभ्रमः ।  
स्मृतिभ्रंशाद्बुद्धिनाशो बुद्धिनाशात्प्रणश्यति ॥

*Bhagavad-Gita, chapter 2, 63*

From anger, delusion arises, and from delusion bewilderment of memory. When memory  
is lost, and when intelligence is lost, one is as good as dead.

## CONVENTION UPDATE

Preparations for the convention are in full swing. As of May 20, approximately 40 families have sent their registration forms and the checks. Approximately 60 more families have promised and are in the process of sending their registration forms and checks. We are also expecting 20-25 people from India. Acharya Rakeshprasad Maharaj ji, the *pramukh swami* of Swaminarayan Sanstha will also be coming from India and help us inaugurate the convention.

Some of you have been procrastinating and make a decision only at the last minute. Please do not procrastinate any further and send in your registration forms today so that the convention committee has adequate time to plan for your arrival and care. The registration fee covers all program participation, all meals and registration materials you will receive at the time of convention. Also, please call Ramada Inn directly and mention BSNA to reserve your room at discounted rate of \$ 89 per night (Tel 609- 443-8000).

Preliminary convention program and registration form can be accessed on the BSNA website ([WWW.BSNA.org](http://WWW.BSNA.org)). A variety of activities have been planned for two full

days starting with early morning on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and ending with dinner on the 4<sup>th</sup>. The convention theme is "Challenges for the Youth in 21<sup>st</sup> Century". Please take a moment to review the program and offer any constructive suggestions. If you or your children would like to participate in the cultural program, please send an email to me, [Shukla@patmedia.net](mailto:Shukla@patmedia.net) or call at 908-431-945. Alternatively, you can call the cultural program coordinators, Mrs. Mamta Tiwari at 301-774-6365 or Mr. Hari Sharma at 732-409-3523.

Catering arrangements have been done through a local restaurant. We are also in the process of preparing the Brahma-Vani (the souvenir magazine for 2004 convention) and Brahmakulum (the BSNA directory). Every family attending the convention will receive a copy of Brahma Vani, Brahma Kulum.

Once again, please join us for the convention and make it a grand success. For any further information call me or visit the BSNA website.

Umesh Shukla, Convention Director  
[Shukla@patmedia.net](mailto:Shukla@patmedia.net)  
908-431-9845

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## President's Message:

Dear Fellow  
Brahmans,



By the time this issue of 'Brahma Bharati' reaches you the tenth convention of BSNA on July 3 and 4, 2004 at East Windsor, New Jersey will be drawing closer. As in the past years we are working on raising funds for the two annual publications, Brahma-Vani and Brahmakulum before the convention, so that we can include these publications in the bags of the convention attendees. We definitely need your help in this effort. Many of you have been very helpful and have contributed generously every year. We are keeping our fingers crossed that with your help BSNA will not face any deficit.

This year a large number of Brahman delegates from India have shown keen interest in attending this convention. From Gujarat alone, where I visited last December, around sixteen Brahmans have contacted us and have requested that we send them letters of invitation. In addition, we are expecting around 12 Brahmans delegates from Delhi, U.P, M.P. and Chhattisgarh, if they succeed in getting visas. At the suggestion of one of the delegates we have invited His Holiness Acharya Maharaj Shri Rakeshprasadji Pandey, who will be in New Jersey at the time of our convention. He is the eighth descendent of Lord Shri Swaminarayan himself, who was born in a small village near Ayodhya and traveled to Gujarat, to establish Swaminarayan Sanstha, a very popular religious organization.

Convention is the time of meeting our fellow Brahmans from all over the continent and from abroad. The convention gives us a forum to develop brotherhood and create a strong networking. Many of you have some good ideas about how to make BSNA a meaningful organization, which should command respect of our fellow citizens outside BSNA. Therefore, I urge you to come and join us and offer your suggestions in the sessions.

With warmest regards,  
Shyam Narayan Shukla, Ph.D.  
President, BSNA

Phone: (510) 770-1218  
E-mail: shuklas@comcast.net

## Message from the Chairman of the BSNA Board of Trustee (BOT)



Adarniya Brahmans of North  
America and the entire  
world:

It has been my great pleasure to serve as chair of the Board of trustee of Brahman Samaj of North America (BSNA). We have worked interactively to accomplish its goals envisioned by its founders to enhance the visibility, effectiveness, networking and social levels of members and their families. We have achieved some of the goals and objectives, but we have long way to go, as is the case with many young organizations.

All organizations go through many stages of growth, i.e. embryonic stage, growth stage, maturity and regression phase. We have crossed embryonic stage but struggling in the growth phase. Our local chapters, EC, and BOT must work in unison to accomplish our stated objectives. Social relationships alone will not lead towards the fulfillment. There are so many things that can be done to entice our members, particularly the youths who, at times, are bewildered and don't understand what is for them in this organizations. Many of the issues are being addressed including role and responsibilities of EC, BOT and Governing body, which should include presidents of local chapters, advisors, editors, convention director and other members. It may be necessary to revise the constitution to address certain issues not covered under the present constitution.

We must increase membership not only of north Indian Brahmans but Brahmans of all parts of India and the world living in North America. Brahmans are neglected because of their birth as Brahman in India. We have to work at the grass root level and as one global organization to fulfill our stated objectives. We must realize the potentials of Brahmans if we get united to accomplish our purpose. Brahmans have challenges not only to preserve Brahmanatva but many issues including preserving our scriptures, knowledge-physical and other arts and sciences for which our ancestors have worked hard. My friends, we have great deal of work to do; let us take this challenge and proceed toward our stated goals. I urge you please get involved and encourage our youths to get involved.

"Shaktim Sarvatra Poojayet" We must use our physical mental and spiritual power to achieve our vision. I am looking toward to your active participation in the BSNA.

With Warm regards,  
Shri Kant Mishra, ABMS, MSC, M.D., M.S., FAAN, FIAA  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

**MICHIGAN CHAPTER**

The chapter meeting was held on 4<sup>TH</sup> April 2004 at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Purushottam Sharma with sixteen families in attendance. After the welcome greetings and Vandana, a number of topics were discussed.

**Annual Convention & EC Meeting:** The Chapter President informed members about the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention to be held on July 3 and July 4 at Ramada Inn in East Windsor, NJ. The registration fee is \$80/adult and \$50/per child (6-11 years). This does not include hotel accommodation --members have a choice to make their own arrangements. Mr. Sharma shared information about the Executive Committee meetings held on February 28-29 in NJ. He also requested all the members to update their family data that will be published in the Braham Kulam

**Picnic:** The Chapter's annual picnic is planned for August 29, 2004 at Kensington Park. Mr. Arun Upadhyaya, Chapter Vice President has reserved a spot. Final arrangements will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Local News:** The president and chapter members welcomed the newest member, Smt. Bimla Sharma to the BSNA. Sh. Subhash Upadhyaya informed that a *Kavi Sammelan* will be held on June 11, 2004. The information about timing and the location will be provided as soon as it is available. Sh. Rana Chowbey gave a talk on Investment in Stock Market. The thumb rule for investing in the stock market is **BE A P R O F I T**. He further elaborated what these alphabets meant.

There was a suggestion from a few members to create a document for performing required rituals for Hindu Sanskars at different stages of life.

**Next Meeting:** It was decided to hold the next meeting at **4.0 PM on June 20, 2004 at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Rahul Dixit** in Farmington Hills. Further details, including directions will be sent to all members prior to the meeting date.

The meeting ended with singing of a Bhajan, dinner, and vote of thanks to the hosts and other ladies for the delicious food.

The following attended the meeting:  
Mr. & Mrs. Purshotam Sharma, Mr. & Mrs. Kishan Kalia, Mr. & Mrs. Subhash Upadhyaya, Mr. & Mrs. Kewal Tewari, Mr. & Mrs. Tilak Sharma, Mr. Nitin Purohit, Mr. & Mrs. Santosh Tewari, Mr. Arun Upadhyaya, Mr. & Mrs. Brij Giri, Mr. & Mrs. Vijay Sahore, Mr. & Mrs. Chakardhar Sharma, Mr. & Mrs. Yogender Pandey, Mr. & Mrs. Kamalendu Choubey Smt. Bimla Sharma, Mr. & Mrs. Vinod Sharma, and Mr. & Mrs. Rahul Dixit.

Seven Brahman families, including children gathered on April 27, 2004 at the residence of Dr. Laksmi S. Dube. The assembly was called to highlight the upcoming BSNA convention in New Jersey and discuss other chapter matters.

Dr. L.S. Dube informed those present that Dr. Chaubey's term has been extended for another 3-year term. He also gave information about the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of BSNA to be held in New Jersey and encouraged all members to renew their membership and attend the convention. It was particularly stressed by Dr. Dube that the members should consider becoming life-members. Several members said that they very much wanted to attend this convention, especially due to its convenient location for Montreal Brahmans. However, due to two weddings on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, many members would not be able to attend.

Some of the members informed that the recent information about the BSNA convention and Brahma Bharati has not reached them. Dr. Dube informed the members that he would take it upon himself to have the addresses of those members updated.

The Chapter President, Dr. Chaubey proposed to have Women's Committee (Mahila Samiti), which will organize family and cultural events giving a new dimension to the activities of the Chapter. Mrs. Shukla was named the Director of this committee.

It was proposed by Mr. Shukla to have more frequent gatherings. The next gathering is planned for June 2004. Dr. Chaubey proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Dube for hosting the meeting, and a special appreciation to Mrs. Dube who delighted the participants with her culinary expertise.

Chapter President: Dr. Yogendra Chaubey  
([chaubey@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:chaubey@alcor.concordia.ca))

**VIRGINIA CHAPTER**

Virginia Brahman Samaj celebrated Holi on March 13, 2004 at Upadhyay's residence in a warm and friendly family get together environment. Families were greeted with Namaste and *abeer* (red color) *tilak* on their forehead.

Dr. Janeshwar Upadhyay, Virginia Chapter President, started Holi Milan with a universal prayer and thanked everyone for coming. He informed the listeners of the new arrival of a son to Anu and Shalini Upadhyay who could not come and congratulated the parents. Dr. Upadhyay also asked the audience to observe a minute of silence and pray for the departed soul of Shri Rajani Kant Tiwari, father of Shri Suresh Tiwari, a BOT member and a respected friend from Fayette, Mississippi.

Since everyone knew each other, there was no need for formal introduction. However, for reminding  
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children of their mother tongue Hindi, Dr. Upadhyay asked them to introduce themselves with their name, parents' name, place of residence and their school and grade in Hindi. They did it very well. Mr. Upendra Pandey, Chapter Vice President, reminded them that it was very important to add Shri and Shrimati before their father's and mother's name, respectively. Then Dr. Upadhyay asked them to tell the story of Holi and why we celebrate it each year. They talked about Holika, Hirankashyap, Prahlad and Narasingha awataar. Each of them contributed to complete the story of Holi and each of them looked at the celebration from a different perspective. Some looked at it as fun, some for throwing colors at each other, some as a social gathering; some liked it for sweets and songs. Dr. Upadhyay reminded them that included in all that was the reminder of the destruction of the evil and protection of the good by the God. It is also a time to welcome the arrival of spring and worship of goddess Saraswati, the knowledge giver.

After the lunch break, the program continued with singing of Holi songs, bhajans and a variety of other songs. Thanks to Purnima ji, Sunita ji, Manju ji, Punam ji, Sidhi ji, Sudha ji and Pushpa ji for the variety of delicious food and drink.

After a brief discussion on Brahman Samaj and its purpose, the election for the new office bearers for the year 2004 was held. Coordinating the election, Dr. Rajendra Dubey announced that the Chapter President is elected every three years and approved by the BSNA executive committee. Dr. Janeshwar Upadhyay has already been reelected as President last year for the year 2004- 2006; therefore, we need to elect other officers. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved that all of the last year officers be reelected. The officers for 2004-06 are: Mr. Upendra Pandey, Vice President; Mrs. Manju Singha, Secretary; Mrs. Seema Shukla, Treasurer; Mrs. Sneh Pandey, Youth coordinator; and Mrs. Shalini Upadhyay, Children activity coordinator.

Dr. Upadhyay briefed members about the P-meeting held on February 28-29, and about the BSNA Annual Convention in East Windsor New Jersey on July 3 and 4, 2004. He also, told the members about the registration fee of \$80.00 per person and \$89.00 for hotel per night in Ramada Inn, the site of the Convention. The registrants were free to make their own living arrangement or request Dr. Umesh Shukla, the Convention Director and other Convention coordinators including Dr. Janeshwar Upadhyay to assign a local Brahman host family for staying during the Convention without any charge. Local host families are ready to accommodate about 100 to 130 guests. Meeting adjourned around 4:30 PM with the singing of Indian National Anthem.

Submitted by: Dr. Janeshwa Upadhyay, Chapter President, and Mrs. Manju Singha, Secretary

## New Jersey Chapter Report and Miscellaneous Convention News



Dr. Umesh Shukla,  
Convention Director

Past due reminders: Recently you must have received the March issue of our quarterly publication Brahma Bharati along with a data base form to update your information. Please send the updated information to Dr. Arvind Sharma at the address shown on the form by April 30, 2004. Updated information received up to April 30 will be included in the BSNA directory (Brahmakulum) to be published in June 2004. We are holding a contest for designing the cover page for Brahmakulum. The theme of the cover page should be integration of families who value Brahman culture. The winner of the contest will be awarded a gift check for \$ 50. Please send your designs to Dr. Arvind Sharma at [sharma@myself.com](mailto:sharma@myself.com) by April 30, 2004. The winner will be chosen by a committee and will be notified in May.

You must have also read about the 10<sup>th</sup> annual BSNA convention to be held in Ramada Inn, East Windsor, NJ on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the convention is "Challenges for the Youth in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". The convention committee is busy finalizing an exciting 2-day program. Thanks to many of you for attending the 2-day P-meeting and volunteering for important responsibilities. We need more volunteers. If you are anyone you know would like to participate in the program or volunteer help, please email at [Shukla@patmedia.net](mailto:Shukla@patmedia.net) or [sdeoki@aol.com](mailto:sdeoki@aol.com) or call at 908-431-9845 or . 732 – 780-2425. Please note that convention registration fee is only \$80 per person and \$50 for children aged 6-11, children under 6 are free (These prices are valid until April 30, 2004, prices will increase by \$10 per person after April 30). Therefore, we urge you to register before April 30 and take advantage of the reduced registration fee. Please bring your friends and relatives to the convention. Everyone who values Brahman culture/values and would like to impart this to the next generation is welcome. If you do not have the form, please download from the BSNA website ([WWW.BSNA.org](http://WWW.BSNA.org)) or print the attached form and send it to the address shown. The annual members are also requested to send renewal of the membership fee of \$25 along with the convention registration fee. If you would like to become a life member, it will be highly appreciated. If you would like to pay for convention registration by credit card (only Master card or Visa accepted), please write your credit card type (Master card or Visa), credit card number, Expiration date, Name of credit card owner and provide signature of the owner on the form.

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We are also busy planning for the **Brahma Vani** (the souvenir magazine) publication. If you would like to contribute by writing articles for this magazine, please forward them to Dr. Satish Mishra ([Satish\\_misra@hotmail.com](mailto:Satish_misra@hotmail.com)). We also need your financial support for the raising funds for publishing the souvenir magazine. We are soliciting advertisements for the magazine. Please help us in securing advertisements from your own family, friends, relatives or your work place or other businesses.

Finally, just to remind you that Mrs. Pratima Sharma is the New Jersey Chapter president (Her email address is [yogi1988@hotmail.com](mailto:yogi1988@hotmail.com)). The next chapter meeting will be held at her place on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004. You will be receiving a separate email from her. Please congratulate her for taking on this responsibility and let us support her in making NJ chapter a model chapter.

Once again please join us for the convention and show your support by registering now. Your children are the future and our culture has a lot to offer them for their future success. Both you and your children will enjoy and appreciate participating in many useful workshops, cultural programs, and interactive sessions.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or write to us at: Umesh Shukla ([Shukla@Patmedia.net](mailto:Shukla@Patmedia.net); Tel 908-431-9845) or Deoki Nandan Sharma ([Sdeoki@aol.com](mailto:Sdeoki@aol.com); Tel 732 - 780-2425)

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**Dr. Satish Tripathi** has been named Provost of the University of Buffalo. Presently he is the Dean of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside, which he joined in 1997. He will join University of Buffalo on July 1, 2004; where as the Provost, he will be the chief academic officer.

Dr. Tripathi holds a M.Sc. degree in Statistics from Benaras Hindu University, and an M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from University of Toronto in Computer Science. He was a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Maryland for 19 years out of which he served as Head of the Computer Science for some years.

Dr. Tripathi is married to Mrs. Kamlesh Tripathi and has two sons Manish and Aashish, who hold degrees from Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley, respectively.

A life member of BSNA, Dr. Tripathi has served BSNA in the past as a Convention Director, BOT member, and Nominating Committee Chair.

On behalf of BSNA members and on his own behalf, President Shukla congratulates Dr. Tripathi for his achievements.

Brahmin Priests Boycott Dowry Weddings  
(Deccan Herald, 26 Feb 2004)

In a welcome move that comes not from feminists but from those representing the orthodox priests in a Madhya Pradesh district have decided not to solemnise marriages where the groom has taken dowry.

A group of 50 priests, from two organizations called the Brahman Samaj and the Parshuram Vahini, met in the Chhattarpur district, M.P., and unanimously decided to boycott marriages that involved dowry. S.S. Tiwari, who presided over the meeting, said the priests had decided to ask whether or not the bridegroom's family was taking dowry before deciding to solemnise a marriage. "If we come to know that the bridegroom's family is taking dowry, we will not solemnise the marriage and will boycott it," Tiwari said. He said the step would enable priests to check the social evil. "We will contact priests in other districts of Madhya Pradesh as well and ask them to adopt the stand taken by us," said Tiwari.

## CONDOLENCE

The beloved father of Mrs. Meena Sharma, a life member of BSNA from Lansing, MI, Dr. Shyambabu Tiwari passed away on March 21, 2004 in Gwalior, MP, India after a long illness at the age of 79. He served as a government physician in Madhya Pradesh.

He leaves behind his eldest daughter Mrs., Meena Sharma and son, Deepak Tiwari in USA, a daughter and a son in India, and many grand children. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

May the Lord almighty grant eternal peace to the departed soul, and strength and courage to Mrs. Sharma and her family.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

If your address has changed, please inform Dr. Arvind Sharma, Editor of Brahmkulam (BSNA Directory) immediately so that we use correct address on all mailings. Also, please respond to the update request even if nothing has changed. This will ensure that you are receiving our mailings, and we have the correct and most up-to-date information in our database. Telephone: (610) 667-5294

E-mail [sharma@myself.com](mailto:sharma@myself.com)

**For contact and other information, forms, etc., please visit BSNA homepage**  
**<http://www.bsna.org>**

## SUMMARY REPORT OF THE P-MEETING

**The P-Meeting** was held on February 28-29, 2004 at the residence of Prabha and Umesh Shukla located in Belle Mead, NJ. This is a summary report of the meeting.

Following the lunch at 1 PM, the meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Shyam Narayan Shukla at 2:00 PM. A total of 38 individuals attended the meeting. Following introductions, members prayed for the BSNA members who have recently lost their friends and family members/relatives. All attendees observed silence for a minute to pay homage to the following deceased relatives of the BSNA members: Brother of Shanta Sharma (NJ);

Father of Suresh Tiwari, BOT member (MS); and Mother of Ajoy Dube (CA). Mr. Hari Sharma led a prayer recitation. Renu Sharma ji recited a Bhajan.

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Planning:** Umesh Shukla provided an overview of the convention format, description of the convention facility at Ramada Inn in East Windsor, NJ. The facility is equidistant from Newark, NJ and Philadelphia International airports and is just right off the NJ Turnpike exit 8. Contract with Ramada Inn has been signed. Twelve meeting participants toured the convention facility and met the sales manager, who showed the hotel rooms and answered questions.

The **convention format** will be different this year in that the delegates will arrange their own lodging, and registration fee, that includes meals and refreshments, will be based on per attendee. The convention hotel has sufficient space and facilities to handle all convention needs. A block of hotel rooms will be available exclusively for BSNA delegates (2 double beds or 1 king size bed with sofa bed at the cost \$89 per night) until June 5. Everyone is requested to call the Hotel directly and make reservations. The convention registration fee (**Until April 30**): \$80 per person, \$50 for children between 6 – 11 and free for children under 6; **From May 1**: \$90 per person, \$60 for children between 6 –11 and free for children under 6) includes all meals/snacks and registration material (program listing, Brahma Vani and Brahma Kulum) and attendance/participation in the programs. Also, a meeting room will be assigned where prospective brides, bridegrooms and their parents may be able to assemble for a couple of hours to get acquainted with one another. Registration form is available on the BSNA home page (BSNA.Org) and will also be included in the BB.

The following committees were formed and volunteers assigned. It should be noted that some names have been added after the meeting. This list is not exclusive and new volunteers are welcome.

**Convention Directors:** Umesh Shukla and Deoki Nandan Sharma,

**Convention Treasurer-** Mrs. Kaushal Sharma

**Convention Program Committee:** Om Sharma, Purushottam Sharma, Mahendra Misra, Prasun Mishra, Ram Tewari, Srikant Mishra, Shyam Shukla, Umesh Shukla, Hari Sharma, Anita Dubey, Pratima Sharma, Nirmala Shukla, Janeshwar Upadhyay, Renu Sharma

**Youth Program Committee:** Prasun Mishra, Venkat Pandey, Yogesh Sharma, Bimal Choubey, Moni Tewari, Biswas Mishra, Nikunj Trivedi, Shivani Pathak, Devesh Shukla, Anup Pandey, Sheela Pandey

**Registration committee:** Umesh Shukla, Ram Tewari, Deoki Nandan Sharma, Renu Sharma, Virendra Pandey, Purushottam Sharma, Liladhar Mishra, Srikant Mishra, Shyam Shukla, Om Sharma, Hans Sharma, Bhavani Prasad Pathak

**BV Fund Raising Committee:** Satish Misra (Chief Editor), Tej Pandey (Managing editor), Umesh Shukla, Shyam Shukla, Hari Pandey, Deoki Nandan Sharma, K.J. Sharma, Purushottam Sharma, Nitin Purohit, Hans Sharma, Om Sharma, Sunit Shukla/Rajesh Shukla, and Hari Pandey

**Food Committee:** Shrinivas Sharma, Anil Sharma, Om Sharma (NJ)

**Cultural program Committee:** Anita Dubey, Hari Sharma, Nidhi Sharma and Anup Pandey

**Parallel (Concurrent) Sessions Committee:** Janeshwar Upadhyay, Ram Tewari, K.J. Sharma, Deoki Nandan Sharma, Shyam Shukla, Srikant Mishra

**Children program Committee:** Renu Sharma, Madhu Mishra, Pratima Sharma, Monica Mishra and Kanhaialal Shukla.

**Recognition/Award Committee:** Virendra Pandey, Satchidanand Mishra, Hans Sharma

**Family Introductions:** Pratima Sharma/Anup Pandey/Devesh Shukla/Shivani Sharma.

**General body Meeting preparation:** Satchidanand Misra, Om Sharma (NJ), Mahendra Misra, Mr. Kamal Jiwan Sharma will prepare a one-page brochure on "Objectives of BSNA".

**Welcome Committee:** Pratima Sharma, Renu Sharma, Nirmala Shukla, Prabha Shukla, Purushottam Sharma, Renu Sharma, Liladhar Mishra

**Space & Time Management:** Mahendra Misra, Deoki Sharma, Umesh Shukla, Om Sharma, Satish Tripathi

**DJ Service:** KJ Sharma ji was to suggest a name of the DJ (Done – DJ Sahil)

**Brahmakulum:** Needs to be published this year under the leadership of Arvind Sharma Ji.

### Appointments & Committees formed:

**BOT:** Based on the suggestions from everyone, it was decided by Majority EC vote that we must have nine members in the BOT. One third of these members will be elected every year for maintaining continuity. Each BOT member will also act as a Regional Director of a certain number of chapters. EC reviewed the terms of current members and discussed several prospects.

**EDITORS: (2004-2006):** The following appointments were confirmed:

**Brahma Bharati:** Surendra Pandey; **Brahma-Vani:** Satish Misra (Chief Editor); **Home page:** Tej Pandey (Managing Editor); **Brahmakulam:** Dr. Arvind Sharma

**Constitution Committee:** The Constitution review committee appointed by the previous EC (2001-2003 ) had proposed to rewrite the constitution. The following members were proposed and the committee was to send a draft constitution for review by the end of 2004 so that the constitution can be approved by the GB in 2005. The following members were appointed: Dr. Surendra Pandey, Dr. Janeshwar Upadhyay, Dr. Ram Tewari, and 2 more members to be named

**Grievance Committee:** The EC proposed that BOT should also address any grievances by the BSNA members. The BOT may appoint a sub committee to address the grievance(s).

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**Election/Appointment of Chapter Presidents:** A list of 17-chapter presidents appointed/elected for the term 2004-2006 was presented. Names of these chapter presidents will be published in the March issue of BB.

**Education Committee:** It was proposed that an education committee be formed to address the needs of BSNA. The committee should prepare education material for the BSNA members and their children. KJ Shrama Ji was requested to prepare educational material (question-answer format) to educate children about Brahman heritage. Ram Tewari Ji was requested to prepare education material about the Brahman heritage based on scientific evidence (genetic composition/pool).

**Brahmasthan-** Idea of a Brahmasthan was discussed. Some members thought that it was an impractical idea as the expenses of managing such a place will be difficult. It was also mentioned that some members in BSNA were interested in partnering with BSNA in creating a Brahmasthan. They were prepared to manage such a place (rental basis). If this idea was successful, one could think of having several locations in the USA. This was to be further discussed by a committee and EC consisting of: Dharam Salwan, Satchidnand Misra, and Hans Sharma

Other items discussed:

- It was proposed that BOT and EC Members be given the responsibility for certain regions of the BSNA so that they can visit these regions periodically and be in contact with the membership/chapter presidents so that we can increase the membership.
- BSNA has an existing MOU with All India Kanya Kubja Brahman organization. Several other Brahman organizations in India are interested in signing a memorandum of understanding with BSNA. The EC has a prepared draft MOU and will follow up on this topic with interested organizations.

**List of Attendees:** Shyam Shukla, Purushottam Sharma, Renu Sharma, Liladhar Mishra, Arvind Sharma, Umesh Shukla, Satchidanand Misra, Janeshwar Upadhyay, Bhavani Prasad Pathak, Hans Sharma, Om Sharma, Pratima Sharma, Nirmala Shukla, Poornima Upadhyay, Prabha Shukla, Gyan Tewari, Sumitra Sharma, Monica Misra, Madhu Mishra, Urmila Bajpay, Kaushal Sharma, Manju Sharma, Snehlata Tripathi, Usha Pandey, Kailash Sharma, Ram Tewari, Prasun Mishra, Deoki Nandan Sharma, T.N. Bajpay, Virendra Pandey, K.J. Sharma, Om P. Sharma (NJ), Yogesh Sharma, Hari Sharma, Satish Tripathi, Sundeep Mishra, Mahendra Misra, and Kanhaiyalal Shukla .

#### WHAT IS A P-MEETING?

All meetings at which people are physically present, and are able to participate in discussions in real-time, and vote on motions immediately are referred to as P-meetings. The term E-meeting refers to meetings held electronically, e.g. via e-mail, where discussions and voting are done in delayed time mode, spread over several days.

## The Lighter Side

### WIFE HO TO AISI

5' 4" jiski height ho  
Jeans jiski tight ho,  
Chehara jiska bright ho,  
Weight mein thodi light Ho,  
Umar me difference slight ho,  
Thodi see wo quiet ho,  
Aise apni Wife ho.

Sadak per sab kahe kya cute ho,  
Bhid me sab kahe side ho, side ho,  
India ki paidaish ho,  
Sas ki seva jiski khwahish ho  
Aisi apni Wife ho.

Padosi jab baat kare to haath me knife ho,  
Dinner candle light ho,  
Dono me na kabhi fight ho,  
Milane ke baad dil delight ho,  
Hey prabhu teri archana uski life ho.

Yeh kavita padhke sab kahe "Guru,tum right  
ho",  
Aise apni Wife ho.

Kaash yeh concept 0.0001 percent bhi right ho  
Agar aisi apni wife ho  
to kya hasin life ho  
Har kisi ki yahi farmaish ho  
kudrat ki bhi aajmaish ho  
Khudah ke software mein bhi bug ki na  
gunjaish ho  
Aye kaash, kahin to ek aisi paidaish ho  
aisi apni wife ho, aisi apni wife ho.....

*Submitted by Mahima Pandey*

## From the Editor's desk

The annual convention is the hot news at this time since it is only a few weeks away. Personally, I find the annual convention to be an occasion to renew our acquaintances and make the new ones. I returned from the last convention much more knowledgeable about our health issues due to three useful sessions that were devoted to health issues, especially focused on the Indian Diasporas. I also enjoy interacting with our youths, seeing their talents at the convention, and listening to their ideas and concerns. The convention helps in networking with other Brahman families and expanding our circle. Therefore, I recommend all Brahman families, their friends and well-wishers to make their best effort to attend the BSNA conventions.

Among many health issues that we, Indian living in the U.S., face are mostly physical, but one that rarely gets mentioned is the emotional health. We left the more carefree life of India and traded that for the material gains that has resulted in tremendous stress that we must deal with. At times, those are manifested in the form of outbursts of anger toward our loved ones, fellow Indians, colleagues at workplace, and even toward other members of social organizations. The destructive results of those outbursts of anger have been well recognized in our scriptures. I have quoted two references-- from Ramayan and Gita-- as a reminder to our members to guard against anger. It may be quite desirable to hold a session at the convention on anger management and maintenance of emotional well-beings.

The growth of BSNA and its usefulness to its members depend on how interactive the members are with the leadership. When you share your concerns and ideas with the leadership, you make the organization better by making it more responsive to its members. You can send your letters to BB, or send an e-mail to one of the officers. Please visit the BSNA homepage for contact information of all officers and the chapter presidents.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the convention.

With best regards,  
Surendra Nath Pandey

### 2004 DATES TO REMEMBER 2004 (SAMVAT 2061)

March 6	Holi
March 21	New Samvatsar Day (Lunar year 2061 New Year day)
March 30	Ramanavami
April 14	Vaishakhi
April 22	Akshay Tritiya
May 3	Nrisimha Chaturdashi
May 4	Buddha Jayanti
May 18	Vata Savitri Vrata
July 2	Guru Purnima
July 3-4	BSNA Convention
June 19	Rathayatra
August 20	Naga Panchami
August 30	Raksha-Bandhan
September 4	Hala-Shashthi
September 6	Krishna Janmashtami
September 17	Haritalika Vrata (Teej)
September 19	Rishi Panchami
September 27	Ananta-Chaturdashi
September 29	Beginning of Pitripaksha
October 23	Vijayadashami(Dashahara)
October 27	Sharat-Purnima
October 31	Karva Chauth
November 10	Dhanatrayodashi
November 11	Narkachadurdasi
November 12	Dipawali
November 13	Annakoot(Govardhan Puja)
November 14	Bhai Dooj
November 22	Prabodhini Ekadashi

Brahma Bharati is a publication of Brahman Samaj of North America (BSNA), a not-for-profit organization registered in the state of New York. It is published quarterly and mailed to its members free of charge. It is also posted on the BSNA home page. Readers may send their comments to the editor at: [surendra.pandey@asurams.edu](mailto:surendra.pandey@asurams.edu) (preferred)

or by US mail at: 2303 West Alberson Dr.  
Albany, GA 31721-2043, U.S.A.

Other correspondence about BSNA should be sent to President Shukla at:

[shuklas@attbi.com](mailto:shuklas@attbi.com)

or mailed to: P.O. Box 660933  
Sacramento, CA 95866-0933, U.S.A.

Visit BSNA homepage at

# BRAHMAN SAMAJ OF NORTH AMERICA

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

**Please mail the completed form with your check payable to BSNA to:  
Dr. Tej Pandey, Treasurer, 151 Middleton Way, Sacramento, CA 95864**

<b>Name</b>		Last		First	
<b>Address</b>					
	Street address, City, State, Zip Code				Country
<b>Telephone #</b>					
	Home	Work	FAX	E-mail	

### FAMILY INFORMATION

	First & Middle name	Education in India Degree/Univ./Year	Education outside India Degree/Univ./Year	Professional/ Position	Employer	DOB (mo/yr) <b>Optional</b>
You						
Your spouse						

### CHILDREN INFORMATION

Son/D Single/M	First & Middle Name	Education Degree/Univ./Yr	Profession Position	Employer	DOB Mo/yr	Seeking marriage

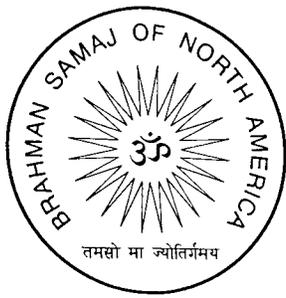
Yes, I (we) want to be a members of BSNA. I understand, the database will be used for the benefit of Brahman community. I absolve BSNA or any one connected with this effort from any wrongdoing. I have the authority to sign the waiver.

Enclosed is a check in US Dollars payable to BSNA: (please circle one)

\$5,000 -Patron, \$1,000 -Benefactor, \$250 -Life Member, \$25 -Annual, \$5 -Foreign student yearly [Canadian: \$350 -Life Member, \$35 -Annual member; other categories, multiply by 1.4]

Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*For additional children, comments and other information, please add a page with your name on written top.*



**Tenth Annual Convention  
Brahman Samaj of North America**

**July 3 and 4, 2004**

Ramada Inn, 399 Monmouth Street  
East Windsor, New Jersey 08520, Tel (609) 443-8000

**Convention Theme: Challenges for the Youth in 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

A two-day fun-filled extravaganza for the whole family

(Visit [www.BSNA.org](http://www.BSNA.org) for more Information and Updates)

**Program Summary: (Starts in the morning of 3<sup>rd</sup> July and ends after dinner on the 4<sup>th</sup> July)**

July 3<sup>rd</sup>: Breakout Sessions, Youth Programs, EC-BOT Meetings, Cultural Program, Sangeet Gosthi, Kavi Sammelan, Dancing- DJ

July 4<sup>th</sup>: Yoga/Meditation/Bhajan-Keertan, General Body Meeting, Panel Discussions, Breakout sessions (including health topics), Family Introductions, Keynote Address, Cultural Program

**REGISTRATION FORM**

MEMBER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Accompanying family members**

Name	Relationship to the member	Age	Name	Relationship to the member	Age
	Member	-----		Son/Daughter	
	Spouse	-----		Son/Daughter	
	Son/Daughter				

**Registration Fee: Includes all programs and meals for 2 days.**

**By April 30, 2004 :** US \$80/person (including children 12 years and above)  
US \$50/child (6 to 11 years)

**After April 30, 2004:** US \$90/person (including children 12 years and above)  
US \$60/child (6 to 11 years)

**Total Registration Fee:** (Please calculate based on the above information) US \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues (If Renewing Membership or a New Member )\*\*\* US \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation for the convention\*\*\*\* US \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand TOTAL** US \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check payable to BSNA and Mail to: Dr. Umesh Shukla, 48 Hills Drive, Belle Mead, NJ 08502

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LODGING INFORMATION**

## FOR ACCOMMODATION AT THE CONVENTION HOTEL

Please call Ramada Inn at **609-443-8000** and mention BSNA convention to receive discounted room rate of **\$89** per night (must reserve **before June 15**)

### Alternate Accommodation:

**Days Inn** located at 460 Route 33, East Windsor, NJ 08520, Tel (609) 448-3200 (located within half mile from Ramada Inn), room charges are a little cheaper (BSNA has not negotiated a discount).

**You are also free to make your own housing arrangements**

**Willing to Participate in cultural program or volunteer?** Please call Dr. Umesh Shukla at 908-431-9845 or email at [Shukla@patmedia.net](mailto:Shukla@patmedia.net)

\*\*\*Membership Registration Rate in US Dollars: \$25 yearly; \$250 life; \$1000 Benefactor; \$5000 Patron

For Canada Residents Membership Rate in Can Dollars: \$35 yearly; \$350 life

\*\*\*\* Your donation is tax deductible

### For Additional Information Please Contact (Call or E-mail)

**Dr. Umesh Shukla**, Convention Director  
908-431-431-9845; Email at [Shukla@patmedia.net](mailto:Shukla@patmedia.net)

**Dr. Ram Tewari** 732-772-1865

**Mr. Hans Raj Sharma** 610-828-5155 [hansr@att.net](mailto:hansr@att.net)

**Mr. K.J. Sharma** 732-729-0059

**Mr. Lila Dhar Mishra**

905-828-6475 [mishral@ipoline.com](mailto:mishral@ipoline.com)

**Dr. Janeshwar Upadhyay**

804-520-2043 [drupadhyay@yahoo.com](mailto:drupadhyay@yahoo.com)

**Mr. Janak Sidhra** 916-689-4775 [tramerica@hotmail.com](mailto:tramerica@hotmail.com)

**Mr. Deoki Nandan Sharma**, Co-director  
732-780-2425, Email: [Sdeoki@aol.com](mailto:Sdeoki@aol.com)

**Dr. Shyam Narayan Shukla**

510-770-1218, Email: [shuklas@comcast.net](mailto:shuklas@comcast.net)

**Mr. Purushottam Sharma**

248-853-4076 [psharma@mail.com](mailto:psharma@mail.com)

**Dr. Om Sharma** 301-262-7239

[Om.Sharma@honeywell-tsi.com](mailto:Om.Sharma@honeywell-tsi.com)

**Mr. Jagar Sharma** 516-292-7633

[jagarsharma@hotmail.com](mailto:jagarsharma@hotmail.com)

**Directions to Ramada Inn:** From NJ Turnpike (North or South): Take Exit 8, bear right after the toll booth towards Freehold/Twin Rivers (Rt. 33 East). Immediately get into left lane and make a left turn at the traffic light (Woodside Avenue). The Hotel will be directly in front of you.

**From:**  
BSNA  
P.O. Box No. 660933  
Sacramento, CA 95866-0933

**TO:**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**TENTH ANNUAL BSNA CONVENTION**

RAMADA INN  
EAST WINDSOR, N.J.  
JULY 3 -4, 2004

**Registration form inside, or download from BSNA home page:  
<http://www.bsna.org>**