



We achieve by our own efforts

Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh AUSTRALIA

GURUPOOJA UTSAV SYDNEY MAHAANAGAR

CORDIAL INVITATION

Date: 23 July 2017, Sunday

Time: 10.30 AM - 12 PM

Venue: **SP Jain School of Global Management**
5 Figtree Drive, Olympic Park
Sydney, NSW 2127

Chief Guest: Prof Vijay Kumar AM
Principal Scientist & Head of Radiopharmaceutical
Research, Westmead Hospital

Contact: Virendra Rawat on 0401 539 955 or
Sampath Govindarajan on 0418 457 954

We request you all to be assembled in the hall
by 10.15 am for a 10.30 am start

Prof. Nihalji Agar AM

Sanghachalak, Sydney Mahaanagar

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guru paurNima

Guru-pooja, devotional worship of the Guru - the preceptor - is one of the most touching and elevating features of *bhArateeya* culture and tradition. The auspicious and significant day of *vyAsa paurNima*, chosen for observing this annual festival, falls on the full moon day of the month of *AShADha* (June-July). It was the great sage *kRiShNa-dvaipAyana* who came to be renowned as *veda-vyAsa*, who classified the entirety of knowledge (*vid*) as *four vedAs* - *Rig, yajur, sAma* and *atharva*. He also authored the first eighteen *purANAs*, literally meaning 'ancient' lore, the *mahAbhArata itihasa*, the *bhAgavatam* that extolls the *leela* of *jagadguru shreekRiShNa* and treatise of *brahma-sootras* and much more. All this was done with great compassion so that one can easily benefit and make the most of the wonderful opportunity of human birth we have in this lifetime.

It is not through actions, progeny or wealth but through renunciation alone that immortality is attained.

Needless to say, it is not the physical abandonment of these aspects of human life that is advocated here. Worshipping God in the form of society is set forth as the ideal. It is this unique philosophical trait of renunciation and service which can form the basis for the highest evolution of the individual combined with the happiness, harmony and progress of the society as a whole. This universal principle is the need of the hour today to lead and usher in world peace!

It is this very *guru-tattva* that is symbolically enshrined in the *bhagawa dhwaja* or saffron flag which, since ancient times has been and still is the most resplendent emblem of this sublime philosophy, accepted and adopted by one and all in the entire *bhArata-varSha*, the blessed and holy land of *sapta-sindhus* or seven rivers. Worship of this holy flag on this *guru-paurNima* day by *swayamsevaks* and *sevikAs* one and all, is intended to instill and reinforce in us this auspicious Hindu attitude towards life.

The ceremonial worship of the flag by offering flowers is an external expression of this attitude of surrender to the ideal by offering the beautiful blossom of our thought, speech and action. Real worship, for a Hindu, manifests in becoming a living embodied image of the idea itself.

This annual *utsav* of *guru-poojA* also presents a moment of introspection for us to check up how far we have progressed in this our chosen path, over the last one year (*simhAvalokan*), take lessons from the experience and resolve to march further and faster in the coming year.

May our guru's blessings be with us always!

