



# Syllabus

Year II, Quarter II

Age Group : 9 to 12

Gokulam is the place where Lord Krishna's magical days of childhood were spent. It was here that his divine powers came to light.

Every child has that spark of divinity within. Bala-Gokulam is a forum for children to discover and manifest that divinity. It's objective is to enable Hindu children in US to appreciate their cultural roots and learn Hindu values in an enjoyable manner. This is done through weekly gatherings and planned activities which include games, yoga, stories, shlokas, bhajan, arts and crafts and much more.....

**Balagokulam is a program of Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS).**

**[www.balagokulam.org](http://www.balagokulam.org)**

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## Shloka

निद्रा समये (before sleeping)

रामस्कन्धं हनूमन्तम्	rāmaskandham hanūmantam
वैनतेयं वृकोदरम्	vainateyam vakodaram
शयने यः स्मरेन्नित्यम्	śayane yaḥ smarennityam
दुःस्वप्नम् तस्य नश्यति	duḥsvapnam tasya naśyati

Meaning: Meditating upon Hanumanta, Bhima and Ganesha before going to bed ensures a sleep without disturbing dreams.

मंत्र (Mantra for chanting)

हरे राम हरे राम	hare rāma hare rāma
राम राम हरे हरे	rāma rāma hare hare
हरे कृष्ण हरे कृष्ण	hare kaṣṇa hare kaṣṇa
कृष्ण कृष्ण हरे हरे	kaṣṇa kaṣṇa hare hare

## Subhashitam (Words of wisdom)

परोपकारः पुण्याय पापाय परपीडनम् ।

paropakAraH puNyAya pApAya parapIDanam |

**Meaning:** Helping others gives spiritual merit, hurting others is sin indeed.

## Amrutvachan (Quotes)

Through the process of introspection, we must rid ourselves of all weaknesses. We should acquire such attributes as may contribute to the enhancement of our work and due to which we can attract other people towards us.



- PP Dr Hedgewar

## Do you know that.....

There are three important festivals that fall in the month of April - Yugadi, Ram Navami and Hanuman Jayanti. Yugadi is a beginning of new Hindu year; Ram Navami is a birth day of Lord Ram and Hanuman Jayanti is a birth day of Hanuman.

# Geet

## MUKTA HO GAGAN SADAA

Mukta Ho Gagan Sadaa Swarg See Bane Mahee  
Sangh Sadhanaa Yahee Sangh Sadhanaa Yahee

Vyakti Vyakti Ko Jutaa Divya Sampadaa Badhee  
Dharma Bhakti Jwaar Laa Sangh Shakti Aa Rahee  
Bhavya Divya Roopkee Ishta Sadhanaa Yahee  
Sangh Sadhanaa Yahee Sangh Sadhanaa Yahee (1)

Jaati Bhinna-Bhinna Vesh Bhasha-Bhinnataa Dhanee  
Vividhtaa Men Ekataa Hindu Maalikaa Banee  
Sainkado Salil Milaa Gangadhaar Jyon Bahee  
Sangh Sadhanaa Yahee Sangh Sadhanaa Yahee (2)

Dharma-bhoomi Punya-bhoomi Karma-bhoomi Moksha Bhoo  
Vishwa Men Pratham Rahee Artha-Kaam-Siddha Bhoo  
Sanghatita Prayatna Se Ho Punah Pratham Wahee  
Sangh Sadhanaa Yahee Sangh Sadhanaa Yahee (3)

### Meaning

Let us bring the the heavenly happiness onto the earth, through the free and open sky.  
This is the aim of Sangh work.

By bringing together different individuals and increasing the spiritual wealth, the strength of Sangh is bringing in the tide of righteousness. The desire is to create a mighty and divine society.

Different castes, different dresses, different languages are like different flowers in the garland of Hinduism. Such is the unity in diversity. Just like many small rivers join in to make the mighty flow of the river Ganga.

The pious land, the holy land, the land of duty and action, the land of salvation (Bharatmaata) and the land as a means of fulfillment had always been ahead in this world. By collective effort, we will again lead the way.



## Yugadi (Varsha Pratipada)

Festivals are an integral part of our life and culture and Hindu tradition offers them in plenty. There is a festival for every reason and for every season. Every celebration centers around rituals of prayer, seeking blessings, exchanging goodwill, decorating houses, wearing new clothes, music, dance and feasting. Do you know the most important festival that falls in the month of April? It is Yugadi!!

Yugadi is one of the most important festival among numerous festivals that we celebrate. Yugadi means “Beginning of New age” (Yuga=Age and Aadi=beginning). Hindu culture is diverse and hindu people speak many languages. No wonder! this festival is recognized by various names and celebrated in various ways and on different days. Some called it as “Varsha Pratipada”, and some as “Gudi Padva. Some called it as “Naba Barsha” and some as “Goru Bihu”.

Ugadi comes close on the heels of festival Holi every year. While the strong colors of Holi start fading away, the freshness of spring lingers on with sprightliness all around. It is a spring festival when the Goddess of Nature gets bedecked as a divine bride. This season has a characteristic fragrance in the air; fully blossomed neem trees make the air healthy. We listen to chanting of birds and smell fragrance of flowers from distance. The onset of spring also marks a beginning of new life with plants (barren until now) acquiring new life, shoots and leaves. The vibrancy of life and verdant fields, meadows full of colorful blossoms signifies growth, prosperity and well-being.

Yugadi is also a beginning of a new year according to the Hindu Panchang. You may be puzzled and ask, “What is Hindu Panchang?” Hindu Panchang is a Hindu Calendar. Just like English Calendar, Hindu people also have their own calendar. They use it for the religious customs and ceremonies. Since it is a start of new year, people launch new projects, start new ventures, open new offices. They purchase jewelry, and gold on this auspicious day.

## Ways of celebrations

Hindu people celebrate this festival in various ways. Preparations for the festival begin a week ahead. Houses are given a thorough wash. Shopping for new clothes and buying other items that go with the requirements of the festival are done with a lot of excitement. People wake up before the break of dawn, apply coconut oil on their skin and take a bath after which they decorate the entrance of their houses with fresh mango leaves and intricate rangoli designs reflecting the brightness of the spring. Wearing new clothes, they offer Pooja for the God and seek his blessings before they start the day. They pray for their health, wealth and prosperity and success in business too. Some people celebrate this festival by hoisting a gudi – a bamboo pole with a rich and gorgeous cloth of magenta or saffron color and a small branch of neem tree and garland. It symbolizes Shree Rama's triumphant entry into Ayodhya and is erected in homes as a mark of triumph of good over evil. It also symbolizes the bra-Mha-dhwa-j (flag of the Creator).



Some find a different way of celebrating the festival. Kavi Sammelanam (poetry recitation) is quite famous in southern Bharat (India). Yugadi is also a time when people look forward to a literary feast in the form of Kavi Sammelanam. Many poets come up with new poems written on subjects ranging from Yugadi to politics to modern trends and lifestyles.

As the day starts, they eat the paste of bitter-sweet leaves of Neem tree, tamarind and jaggery. The neem paste is believed to purify blood and build up immunity in the body against diseases. Special dishes such as “pulihora” (like tamarind rice), “bobbatlu” (sweet rotis), “Shrikhand” (like sweet yoghurt) are

### Do you know that.....

A great visionary, revolutionary, patriot, true and fearless leader and a founder of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Dr. Keshav Baliram Hedgewar was born on the day of Yugadi. He sacrificed his whole life for the expansion of the Sangh work.



prepared for the occasion. Yugadi is thus a festival of many shades. It ushers in the new year, brings a rich bounce of flora and fills the hearts of people with joy and contentment.

## Mythological and Historical Importance

It is believed that, on this day, the Universe was created by Lord Brahma. This is the day when Lord Vishnu incarnated himself as Matsya (the Fish Incarnation). On this day, Shri Rama killed Vali. The great Indian Mathematician Bhaskaracharya's calculations proclaimed the Yugadi day from the sunrise on as the beginning of the New Year, new month and new day. This day recalls the inspiring occasion when the kings Shalivahana and Vikramaditya defeated the barbaric forces of Shakas who came from Central Asia and invaded Bharat (India) during the 1st century A.D. The founding of new Eras in the names of Vikrama and Shalivahana signifies the supreme importance accorded to them in the Hindu history. And what a happy coincidence!! A great patriot, revolutionary and the founder of the organization - Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) , Dr. Keshav Baliram Hedgewar was also born on this day of Yugadi.

## Spiritual Significance

All the major Hindu festivals have their own purpose and significance, i.e., to show their relevance and importance in the context of the eternal world cycle of history. As mentioned earlier, people eat the paste of bitter-sweet leaves of Neem tree, tamarind and jaggery. Apart from its medicinal value the eating of this mixture has an inner significance. Jaggery represents joy and happiness and Neem represents sorrow. Mixture of them indicate that life is a mixture of good and bad, joy and sorrow, success and disappointment, and all of them have to be treated alike. Every one should resolve to face calmly whatever happens in this year, accepting it with good grace. Consider everything is for one's own good. Men should rise above sorrow and happiness, success and failure. Jaggery represents Krutayuga and Tretayuga which is full of purity, prosperity and peace. Neem represents Dwaparyuga and Kaliyuga which consists of sorrow, chaos and impurity. So, it is the time to change ourselves or to purify ourselves by inculcating the divine virtues.





## Stories of Doctorji

Our inspiration, Dr. Keshav Baliram Hedgewar that is Doctorji was a man of virtues. He founded Sangh (RSS) to unite Hindus and spent his entire life to promote and spread the Sangh activities. Everyone has weakness. In the beginning, Doctorji also used to be a high-tempered. But when he realized, he moulded himself and became extremely calm and patient. Following are some events from Doctorji's life that focusses his virtues.

### **Strong In Mind And Body**

Soon after joining the college, Keshav (Doctorji) developed intimate friendship with students coming from different provinces. He utilized his leisure in cultivating them. He soon became the most sought after friend of all. Hardly was there any one who was not drawn to him. Such was his friendly and amiable disposition.

Just like his strong mind, Doctorji had also developed strong body. He used to exercise daily without break. Milk was taken in plenty to cope with the exercises. Even in Jail, he did not give up daily exercise. Thereby his body became well built and shapely.

### **Intolerant Of Egoists; Friends Of Sufferers**

Righteous indignation was a special trait of Doctorji. He was prompt to react to injustice or oppression of any kind. Once during the college vacation, he had gone to Yeotmal (a city in Bharat). He was on an evening stroll with his friends in the city area. It was the time when Bharat was under the control of British. On the way they saw that a British Deputy Commissioner (D.C.) was approaching them. The British officers in those days were full of arrogance. An unwritten code required that the local people were to move away to make way for the British officers and salute them. This was intimated to Doctorji by his friends. He, however, did not care and went ahead in the usual way without saluting. The Deputy Commissioner came close, but Doctorji remained passive. The former then had to move away him. But how could the high-strung D.C. swallow such an insult? He turned back and burst out, "Don't you know the etiquette here?"

With his hands in his coat pockets, Doctorji retorted, "What have I to do with the manner here? I come from the Capital City of Nagpur. Nothing like this is observed in Nagpur. And mind you, it's not proper to salute an unknown person." Seething with anger, the D.C. departed helplessly.

### **Born Patriot and fearless Doctorji**

Doctorji never tolerated any insult either to the nation or to national leaders. Once a public meeting was held under the chairmanship of Liyaqat Hussain. One of the speakers passed some disparaging remarks about Lokmanya Tilak who was a great patriot and freedom fighter. Doctorji could not tolerate such insulting remarks on Lokmanya Tilak. Furious Doctorji rushed to the dais and slapped the errant speaker in full public view! Nobody dared to stop Doctorji!!

### **Friend of sufferers**

Doctorji was full of sympathy for those caught in any kind of distress. In 1913, river Damodar in Bengal province of Bharat was in spate. People, animals, homes, and huts were inundated under the floods. Doctorji with his friends swung into action. They rushed to the spot for protecting the sufferers and bringing succor in their hour of travail. He served food to the hungry and spoke words of courage and confidence as they had lost all hopes about their life. Keshavrao busied himself day and night. No barriers of language or region stood in his way of service to the people.

### **Compassionate and caretaking Doctorji**

In the early days of Sangh, a day long picnic (outing) had been organized in the outskirts of Nagpur. Everyone was expected to bring his own lunch box. Some swayamsevaks were staying at hostels to attend school in Nagpur city. There was no “mom” to pack a lunch box for them! They did not eat dinner the previous night, poached the food into boxes and took it with them to the picnic next day.

The outing went off extremely well. They all hiked, played games rigorously, and eventually became extremely hungry. For hostel boys, the small quantity of previous night’s dinner was nowhere enough - it disappeared, leaving them still hungry. Other swayamsevaks went home. They could eat at home again; and hostel boys had nothing.

Only Doctorji sensed this. He brought extra food for them. Unknown to them, he also gave them his own food. Their stomachs were full and they enjoyed. Only years later, they realized what an affectionate gesture that was from Doctorji, who was so poor that he himself went hungry several times in a week.

Doctorji’s life has always been an inspiration for all swayamsevaks and sevikas who are putting their efforts in uniting Hindus and making Hindu society strong.





## Hanuman Jayanti

The world has not yet seen and will not see in future a mighty hero like Sri Hanuman. During his life he worked wonders and exhibited superhuman feats of strength and valour. He has left behind him a name which, as long as the world lasts, will continue wielding a great influence over the minds of millions of people.

The birth of Sri Hanuman is celebrated as Hanuman Jayanti. Lord Siva incarnated as Hanumanji in the bodily form of a monkey through the grace and blessings of his god-father Pavandev (God of Winds), with Anjana and Kesari as his earthly parents. He was born at the most auspicious hour of the morning of Chaitra Shukla Purnima—the March-April full moon day.



Hanuman Jayanti is celebrated with great devotion. Devotees visit Hanuman shrines, observe fasts, offer prayers and puja and read the Ramayan. On this day the idols of Hanuman are given a special coating of vermilion mixed with clarified butter. People offer “besan laddoo” or “boondi” as prasad and chant various hymns eulogizing his glory.

Hanumanji mentally chose Surya (the Sun-god) as his preceptor. Therefore he approached Surya with the request to be taught the scriptures so that he may manifest spiritually in daily life. Surya agreed to have Hanumanji as his disciple but pointed out that it was not possible for him to stop his journey across the sky as that would cause chaos in the world. But Hanumanji was so mighty that he surprised all the gods by facing his Guru, who had to be constantly moving, thus (Hanumanji) traversing the sky backwards and at the same time concentrating fully on his lessons.



In this way Hanumanji enabled Surya to perform his duty and to impart knowledge at the same time. Within a short period of 60 hours, Hanumanji mastered all the scriptures. Surya considered the manner in which Hanumanji accomplished his studies as sufficient dakshina (tuition fees), but Hanumanji pressed him to accept more. Surya then asked Hanumanji to assist his son Sugriva, who was living in Kishkindha, by being his minister and constant companion.

When Hanumanji went as a messenger to Ravana's court He said to Ravana, "I am a humble messenger of Sri Rama. I have come here to serve Sri Rama, to do His work. By the command of Sri Rama, I have come here. I am fearless by the Grace of Sri Rama. I am not afraid of death. I welcome it if it comes while serving Sri Rama."

See how humble Hanuman was! How deep was his devotion to Sri Rama! He never said, "I am the brave Hanuman. I can do anything and everything."

After winning the war against Ravana and reaching Ayodhya, Sri Rama Himself said to Hanuman, "I am greatly indebted to you, O mighty hero. You did marvellous, superhuman deeds. Sugriva has his kingdom restored to him. Angada has been made the crown prince. Vibhishana has become king of Lanka. But you have not asked for anything at any time. You threw away the precious garland of pearls given to you by Sita. How can I repay my debt of gratitude to you? I will always remain deeply indebted to you. I give you the boon of everlasting life. All will honour and worship you like myself. Your icon will be placed at the door of My temple and you will be worshipped and honoured first. Whenever My stories are recited or glories sung, your glory will be sung before Mine. You will be able to do anything, even that which I will not be able to!"



Hanumanji is therefore the living embodiment of the power of Ram-Nam (rama's name). He was an ideal selfless worker, a true Karma Yogi who worked desirelessly. He was a great devotee and an exceptional Brahmachari (one who never married) or celibate. He served Sri Rama with pure love and

**Do you know that....**

“**Chiranjiv**” means immortal. However, immortal does not mean eternal. Even immortal things are dissolved at the end of the universe. For Hindus, there are seven immortal (Chiranjiv) individuals - King Bali, Sage Parashuram, Sage Vyasa, Sage Kripacharya, Ashwatthama and Hanuman. Hindus call them **Chiranjivi**.

devotion, without expecting any fruit in return.

He was the wisest of the wise, strongest of the strong and bravest of the brave. It is said that one who meditates on him and repeats his name attains power, strength, glory, prosperity and success in life. Hanumanji is said to be Chiranjivi (immortal) and is present in the world even today. He is the link between the devotees and God, for, as instructed by the Lord, he serves, protects and inspires the servants of God.

On this holy day worship Sri Hanuman. Fast on this day. Read the Sri Hanuman Chalisa. Spend the whole day in the Japa (chanting) of Ram-Nam (Sri Rama’s name). Hanumanji will be highly pleased and will bless you with success in all your undertakings.

Festivals like Hanuman Jayanti are designed to remind people about the purpose of human life. Devotees who participate in such festivals should learn valuable lessons from it. The life of Hanumanji exemplifies how an ideal Swayamsevak should work selflessly and with dedication for the society.

It can be said that in the history of no other country is there a individual so powerful, learned and philosophic as Hanumanji.

May we always proclaim, “Bajrangbally Ki Jai”, victory to Hanumanji who has the strength of the thunderbolt.

Glory to Hanuman! Glory to his Lord, Sri Rama!





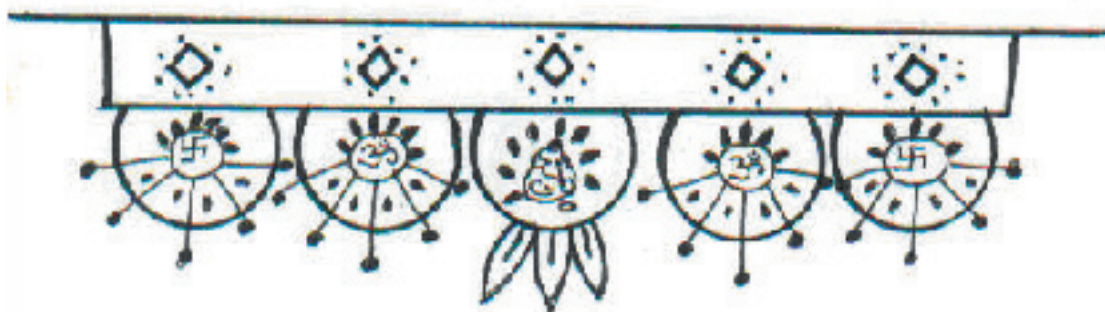
## CD Toran

### Material:

- 1) 5 discarded CDs
- 2) Green felt (36"by 36") , yellow or orange (12" by 9")
- 3) cantalope / watermelon seeds / pistachio shells or any seeds for decoration.
- 4) beads, small mirrors, toothpicks or popcicle sticks,
- 5) 3D paint (silver, copper), nail polish
- 6) lace or satin ribbon
- 7) Picture or small light icon of Lord Ganesha.
- 8) jute rope, hot glue gun, tacky glue

### Procedure:

- 1) Cut the green felt sheet 7" by 36" and fold it half lengthwise press and keep aside.
- 2) On one CD, stick Lord Ganesha picture or icon on the lower half and decorate with felt cutouts and seeds
- 3) Color Ganesha icon with 3D paint on brush or with similar metallic nail polish
- 4) Glue a bead on one end of the tooth pick and stick it on the CD from center to outwards using hot glue gun.
- 5) Cut 9 small yellow/orange felt circles about 2" diameter and stick one on the back of Ganesha CD and on both sides of the remaining 4 Cds.
- 6) Decorate the circles with 3D paint with 'Om' on two of them and 'Swastika' on other two. Arrange the 5 CDs in symmetry with Ganesha CD in the centre.
- 8) Glue 1/3 of one side of CDs into the fold of the green felt with hot glue.
- 9) Pass a jute or similar rope across the felt for support for hanging. Now glue the other side of the CD into the fold. Decorate the green felt with mirrors and 3D paint.



## -: Exercise :-

### Match the Pairs

- |                     |                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Hanuman Jayanti  | 1) Beginning of Hindu new year |
| 2) Varsha Pratipada | 2) Flag of the creator         |
| 3) Yugadi           | 3) Keshav Hedgewar             |
| 4) Bra-mha-dhwaj    | 4) Immortal                    |
| 5) Doctorji         | 5) Chiranjivi                  |
| 6) Chiranjiv        | 6) Birth day of Hanuman        |
| 7) Sage Vyasa       | 7) Beginning of new age        |

### Fill up the blanks

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ is a Chiranjivi (immortal).  
 a) Arjun              b) Hanuman              c) Ram              d) None of these
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are earthly parents of Hanuman.  
 a) Pavandev              b) Kesari              c) Anjana              d) None of these
- 3) Ram Navami is a birth day of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a) Ram              b) Krishna              c) Hanuman              d) None of these
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ was Hanuman's preceptor.  
 a) Pavandev              b) Surya              c) Agni              d) None of these
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ is a God of winds.  
 a) Pavandev              b) Surya              c) Agni              d) None of these

### Objective Questions

- 1) Name any three important festivals that fall in the month of April?

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2) Name seven “Chiranjivi” that Hindus consider.

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3) What is meant by “Brahmachari”?

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4) Describe virtues of Doctorji in 4 lines.

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## Questions for research

(Note that the answers to these questions may not be found in this curriculum. It is expected that you get those answers from other sources such as Parents, Shikshaks, Books or Internet)

1) What is “Toran”? Name any three things that are used as a part of decoration during festivals or auspicious occasion.

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## Shloka

स्तुति (Praise of the God)

नमोऽस्तवनन्ताय सहस्रमुर्तये	namo'stavanantāya sahastramurtaye
सहस्रपादाऽक्षिरोरुबाहवे ।	sahastrapādā' kṣīśīrorubāhave ।
सहस्रेनाम्ने पुरुषाय शाश्वते	sahastrenāmne puruṣāya śāśvate
सहस्रकोटी युगधारिणे नमः ॥	sahastrakoṭī yugadhāriṇe namaḥ ॥

Meaning: (Praise of the Almighty God) : Salutations to the ever-present, never-ending Almighty (Ananta), the one with thousands of forms, the one with thousands of legs, eyes, heads and hands, the one with thousands of names, and the one who governs thousands of crores(innumerable) of yugas (of life).

मंत्र ( mantra - for repetition /chanting )

ॐ नमो भगवते  
वासुदेवाय

om namo bhagavate  
vāsudevāya

**Meaning:** Salutations to Bhagvan Vasudeva(Lord Vishnu)

## Subhashitam (Words of wisdom)

परोपकारार्थमिदं शरीरम् ।

paropakArArthamidaM sharIram .

**Meaning:** This (human) body is for helping others.

## Amrutvachan (Quotes)

It is necessary for the worker to sit in solitude daily in the mornings and night and probe his mind. With a discerning intellect he must find out whether any unworthy thought had entered his mind. If so, he should resolve to throw them out, and become purer from the next day. He should detach his mind from unholy associations and make it immersed in thoughts concerning the chosen mission of his life. He will, in course of time, find that his mind has become less prone to evil propensities and more attuned to the noble impulses.



- Shri Guruji Golwalkar

## Do you know that.....

Bharatiya schools teach more than 58 different languages. The nation has newspapers or periodicals in more than 87 languages, radio programmes in 71, and films in 15.



## रामा भजन (rAmA bhajana)

रामा हो रामा रे भूल मत जाना  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

rAmA ho rAmA re bhUla mata jAnA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||

फूल लाया फल लाया तेरे लिये  
तुझको चढाऊंगा वापस न जाऊंगा  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

phUla lAyA phala laayaa tere liye  
tujhako chaDhAuuaMgA vApasa na jAuuaMgA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||

धूप लाया दीप लाया तेरे लिये  
तुझको दीखाऊंगा वापस न जाऊंगा  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

dhUpa lAyA dIpa lAyA tere liye  
tujhako dIkhaAuuaMgA vApasa na jAuuaMgA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||

दूध लाया दही लाया तेरे लिये  
तुझको खिलाऊंगा वापस न जाऊंगा  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

dUdha lAyA dahI lAyA tere liye  
tujhako khilAuuaMgA vApasa na jAuuaMgA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||

ईट लाया पत्थर लाया तेरे लिये  
मंदिर बनाऊंगा वापस न जाऊंगा  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

iiTa lAyA patthara lAyA tere liye  
maMdira banAuuaMgA vApasa na jAuuaMgA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||





## Bharatiya Languages

Language, music and arts are few of the key things that form the basis of a civilization and culture. These have been passed on through generations. Furthermore, language is one of the most visible factors of any culture or community. It is the medium through which people get close. You feel more propinquity with the people who speak your language.

Our spiritual land, Bharat, is truly a multi-linguistic land. There is hardly any other country that speaks so many languages. With more than 18 official languages and more than two thousand different dialects, Bharatiya languages can get a bit confusing. Yet, each dialect and language can be tracked back to the same mother language called Sanskrit.

Sanskrit is an ancient Bharatiya language that is still in use today. Many Hindu religious texts were written in Sanskrit such as the Vedas, Mahabharata, Ramayana and many other scriptures. These are still read in Sanskrit by many all around the world. It is still unknown how old the Sanskrit is. But it can surely be traced all the way back to earlier than 2500 B.C. Today, Sanskrit is no more a spoken language but it still exists like Latin in the western countries. Now people have again started taking interest to learn Sanskrit to understand the knowledge mentioned in old Sanskrit scriptures. One of our affiliates, Samskar Bharati, is engaged in promoting Sanskrit.

Sanskrit is the basis of almost all other Bharatiya languages. Most of the languages slowly developed from Sanskrit with few exceptions. Few languages are independently developed such as Tamil. “How did these languages come into existence?” There could be several reasons. As people started to move across Bharat and live in different areas, they began to form their own dialect or way of speaking. For example, people in Gujarat developed Gujarati, whereas the people of Calcutta began to speak Bengali. This exercise also might have been encouraged due to the complexity in ancient languages (Sanskrit).

Most of the languages are vibrant with long literary tradition. Not only they developed their own literature but also most of the ancient literature and religious scriptures also got translated into various different languages.

Shown below are regions in Bharat and their languages.

Regions	Language
Northern (most of the northern states)	Hindi, Panjabi, Kashmiri
Southern (Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh)	Kannada, Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu
Eastern (North-East states such as Aasam, W.Bengal)	Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Oriya, Manipuri
Western (Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Goa)	Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi, Konkani

Although variety of languages, due to their origin in Sanskrit, they are not all that different from each other. Most of the languages share the same script. They are all written in either Devanagari or Brahmi. There are also few languages which do not have any name or script. They are only spoken languages! Those languages are mainly practiced in the tribal areas of Bharat.

Not only is the script alike but many times even the pronunciation of the languages are similar. There are only a few differences in how some of the words might be said.

Hindi	Marathi	Gujarati
Ghar (Home)	Ghar	Gher
Lamba (Long)	Laamb	Lambu
Din (Day)	Divas	Divus

Regardless of each state having a state language of its own, Bharat (India) can still communicate over state boundaries without too much of a hassle. This is because they share a national language called Hindi. Hindi is also very similar to all other languages and is also written in Devanagari script.

Though many languages are in practice in Bharat, all stand for a homogeneous culture (Hindu Culture). No Bharatiya language try to eradicate or dominate any other language. They all live together in harmony. New generations not only learn their mother language, but also state (regional) language as well as national language. This is the essence of the great Bharatiya languages.





# Veer Savarkar

## Born Leader and Nationalist

Those were the days when India was under the British rule and Indians were fighting for freedom. India !! our spiritual land where our roots are originated. It is our responsibility to learn more about India, her freedom struggle and Indian Heroes. We should learn the stories of Indian Heroes to appreciate their efforts and sacrifice. The foundation of our generation is based on their sacrifices. Their character and inspirational stories will motivate us to become like them.

Vinayak Savarkar was a such Indian hero during the freedom struggle. He was great orator, prolific writer, historian, poet, philosopher, social worker and revolutionary who devoted his entire life to the cause of the Indian Independence movement. He is regarded as one of the greatest revolutionaries in the Indian freedom struggle. In this story we will learn more about Savarkar, the born leader and Nationalist.

Vinayak was born on May 28, 1883 in the village of Bhagur near Nasik city of India. He was influenced by the freedom struggle in British India and got drawn towards it. He lost his father during the plague that struck India in 1899. He married Yamunabai in 1901.

### Born Leader

Vinayak could be called a born rebel. He organized a gang of kids, Vanarsena (Monkey Brigade) when he was just eleven. He wanted everybody around him to become physically strong and able to face any disasters - natural or man-made. He conducted long tours, hiking, swimming and mountaineering around Nasik.

During his high school days, he used to organize Shivaji Utsav and Ganesh Utsav, started by Lokmanya Tilak (whom Savarkar considered as his Guru) and used these occasions to put up plays on nationalistic themes. He started writing poems, essays, plays, etc. to inspire people, which he had developed as a passion.

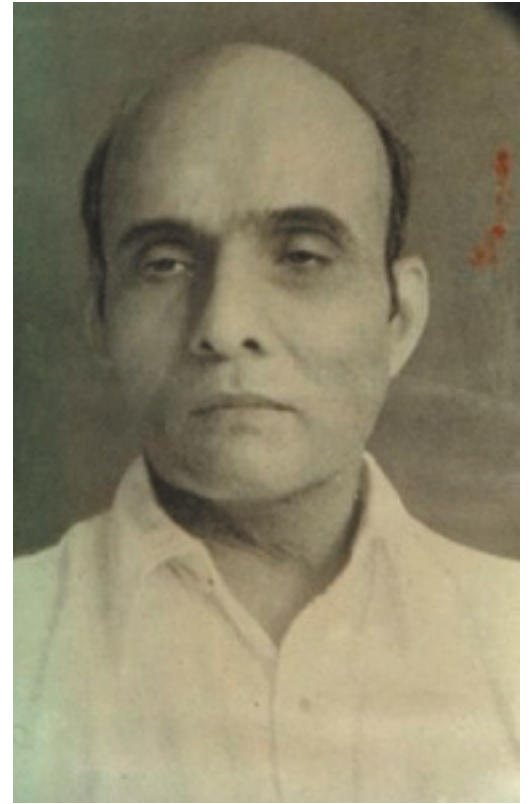
Later Vinayak went to city of Pune for college education and founded the "Abhinav Bharat Society". With growing youngsters, he bloomed as a leader as well. In those days, all political activities were banned by British. He had to undertake all transactions, communications in secret. As a result, he was expelled from hostel and at one point from



the college as well. But since he managed to get the prestigious Shivaji scholarship to study law at London, the college authorities had to make way for his scholastic journey!

Savarkar greatly nurtured the idea of bringing out an authentic information about first armed national revolt in 1857. At London, Savarkar undertook the task, his mission in life, to create awareness regarding the first Armed National Revolt in India in 1857.

Through friends, he could get access to all much-needed first hand information regarding men, this earlier countrywide effort, was a sincere one on the part of the leaders, princes, soldiers and commoners to drive away the British. It was the first national effort towards getting political independence and rightly called his book "First war of Indian Independence Movement: 1857" which later became the source of inspiration to freedom fighters such as Bhagat Singh, Subhash Chandra Bose etc.



### **Fierce Nationalist**

While in London, Savarkar organized festivals like Rakshabandhan and Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti and tried to create awareness among Indian students. It was during this period that Savarkar helped design the first Indian National Flag.

His view of post-independence India envisioned a militarily strong, cohesive and self-sufficient nation. As a great scholar full of originality and independent standing, he coined several new technical terms of parliamentary usage and of Indian parlance such as chhayachitra (photography), Sansad (Senate), Vyangyachitra (Cartoons) etc.

He earnestly believed that Indian Independence was a reality not because of a few individuals, leaders or sections of society. It was possible because of the participation of

Veer Savarkar was sentenced to 50 years of imprisonment by British Government. He was only 27 years old at that time. He was kept in Andaman jail where he was tortured mentally and physically. Later, after 10 years of rigorous imprisonment, he was released.



a commoner who prayed to his family deity everyday. But the youngsters who went to gallows to see their motherland free, were the greatest (“Veeradhiveers”) he said.

He founded the Hindu Mahasabha as a separate political party. He warned of the Muslim League’s designs of partitioning the nation. In 1937, Savarkar was elected President of the Hindu Mahasabha. He toured the nation widely and delivered the simple message that followers of Vedism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism were all Hindus. Through the Hindu Mahasabha, Savarkar worked hard to protect minority rights. During the celebration of Hindu festivals, Savarkar visited Muslim and Christian homes to promote good will. He encouraged intercaste marriage and assisted Dr. Ambedkar in the liberation of the untouchables.



### Hindutva

Savarkar articulated the Hindutva ideology for the first time and wrote extensively on the subject. Savarkar defined a Hindu as one “who regards this land of Bharatvarsha, from the Indus to the Seas as his Father-Land as well as his Holy-Land that is the cradle of his religion”.

Savarkar is revered in India today as the “Brave Savarkar” (Veer Savarkar), and on the same level as Mahatma Gandhi, Subhas Chandra Bose, and Tilak. Like Guruji, Savarkar was a far-sighted thinker. He too predicted the partition ideas of the Muslim league and Chinese attack on India.

As Savarkar aged, he saw his grim prophecies coming true. China invaded India in 1962 and Pakistan attacked India in 1965. When the Indian Army entered Lahore, Savarkar rejoiced saying that the “best way to win a war was to carry it into the enemy’s land.”

The intellectuals as well as commoners in India continue to debate what would have happened if ideas of Savarkar were endorsed by the nation, especially after freedom in 1947. A famous general is said to have quoted Savarkar after the Indians conceded land to the Chinese in a military conflict in 1962.... Savarkar had advocated a militarily strong India.

“Veer” Savarkar died on February 27, 1966.





# Bharatiya Languages and their literature

Bharat is a land of diversity. But in spite of this diversity there lies the eternal unity propounded by our Scriptures likes Vedas, Upanishads and our Rishis.

A very notable example of diversity of our Bharat is various languages spoken by people in different parts of Bharat. For Example in Northern Parts of Bharat, Hindi is widely spoken, but in Southern parts there are languages such as Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Telugu etc. We will see the speciality of some of these languages.

**Hindi** is the national language of Bharat. It is widely Spoken in Northern states of Bharat like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Uttaranchal, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. Hindi language is written in Devanagiri Script and is rich in literature and religious texts. Some of the well known texts written in Hindi are “Ramcharit manas” written by Tulsidas, ‘Nirmala’ and “Godan” by Premchand and poetry by Kabir and Mira-bai, etc.

Hindi is easy to learn and is derived from Sanskrit. And since it is also spoken by majority of people in Bharat, it is the national language of Bharat. Hindi has different dialects such as Bhojpuri, Avadhi, Marwari, Braj, etc.

**Tamil** is a language spoken by majority of people in South Bharat. It is the state language of Tamilnadu (A state in southern part of Bharat) and one of the oldest language of Bharat. Tamil, like Hindi is also very rich in literature and grammar. Tamil is also spoken in other countries like Srilanka, Mauritius, Singapore and Malaysia. In Malaysia too Tamil is spoken by majority of people after Malay. One of the greatest literature of Tamil is Thirukkural written by Tamil saint Thiruvallavur. The earliest literature in Tamil is the Sangam poetry - regarded by many Tamils as the voice of the Tamil in its origin. Tamil is written in the vaTTezuttu script.

**Gujarati** is another Bharatiya language spoken majorly in the state of Gujarat. Gujarati speakers also reside in many other countries, principally Pakistan, Singapore, Kenya, Fiji, South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada. The Gujarati Script was adapted from Devanagari Script. The earliest

known document in the Gujarati Script is a manuscript dating from 1592 and the Script first appeared in print in 1797. There were many poets in Gujarat who enriched the Gujarati language with their excellent literary works. Notable among them is Narsingh Mehta.

**Bengali** language is a spoken widely in the eastern state of Bharat called West Bengal. Bengali is the national language of present day country Bangladesh which once was a part of Bharat before 1947. Several famous poets like Rabindranath Tagore, Ishwar Chandra Gupta, Sukumar Roy, are from Bengal. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, a famous Bengali writer wrote 'Vande Mataram' which has inspired millions of Bharatiyas during the freedom struggle and even after that. 'Vande mataram' is actually extracted from his Bengali literary work called "Aanand math". Bengali is written in the alphasyllabary(also called syllabic alphabet or abugida), a Brahmi Script similar to the Devanagari alphasyllabary used for Sanskrit and many Bharatiya languages.

**Marathi** is another prominent Bharatiya language widely spoken in the state of Maharashtra. Marathi is said to be a descendent of Maharashtri which was the Prakrit spoken by people residing in the region of Maharashtra. The Script used in Marathi is called 'balbodh' which is a modified version of Devnaagari Script. There are approximately ninety million speakers of Marathi in the Maharashtra state. Marathi's grammar and syntax is primarily based on Sanskrit. Marathi is alternatively spelt "Maharathi" in English. Marathi literature started with religious writings by the saint-poets belonging to Mahanubhava and Warkari sects. Mahanubhava saints used prose as their main medium, while Warkari saints preferred poetry as the medium. Social reformers like saint-poet Tukaram transformed Marathi into an enriched literary language. Sant Ramdas's Dasabodh and Manache Shlok are famous literary works of Marathi.

**There are several other languages which are prominent in Bharat and rich in literature. Try to find more information about them.**

In spite of all these diversities, most of the Bharatiya languages are derived from the ancient language Sanskrit, which can be considered as world's oldest and rich language in terms of Grammar, Vocabulary and all other aspects.





## Skit

### Shiva, Parvathi Ganesh, Karthikeya, Peacock, Mouse

This is the play to exhibit that there is no match for parents love.

**Scene:** Shiva and Parvathi are relaxing in Kailash. Ganesh and his brother Karthikeya (Subramanya) enter the stage together.

**Ganesh and Karthikeya:** Pranam Matha, Pranama Pith (they both do namaskar to Shiva and Parvathi)

**Shiv and Parvathi:** Chiranjeev Bhava putra Did have fun playing together?

**Ganesh:** Yes Matha we did, but we are hungry. Do you have something for us to eat?

**Karthikeya:** Matha - we want to play some more games.

**Parvathi:** Oh...yes. I do here you go. ( She gives them Modakas. Karthikeya takes only one, and Ganesh takes the whole plate) I think I have a game for both of you

**Ganesh:** If I win - do I get something?

**Karthikeya:** Is that right? What is it?

**Shiva:** What do we have for the winner?

**Parvathi:** (Showing her necklace) - here it is: the beautiful the Hara for winner

**Karthikeya:** That's wonderful, then why wait! Let start.

**Shiva:** Let your Matha me explain the game rule.

**Parvathi:** That's right! The game is to go around the most important and the largest thing I the world 3 times. Whoever completes 3 rounds first they will get the Hara.

**Karthikeya:** That's easy! The Brahmanda (Universe) is the most important and the largest. I will go around the Brahmanda and finish 3 rounds - at the speed of the light

Ganesh are you ready?

**Ganesh:** (Eating is modaka) ..Yes....

**Karthikeya:** (laughing).. Ha...ha.. Ganesh how can you win this race with your bigg tummy and

little mouse.

**Ganesh:** I will try my best..

**Partvathi:** OK - ready 1, 2, 3. let the race begin.

(Karthikeya Sits on his peacock and goes around the universe (go behind the stage) Ganesh is eating modakas - not bothered about the race)

**Shiva:** Parvathi, look at Ganesh.. so lazy. He does not want to win the race.

**Parvathi:** No.. I think Ganesh has something in his mind . Let's wait and see.

(Karthikeya (enters the stage and looks at Ganesh): Ganesh .. why are you lazy. I am done with my first round..)

**Ganesh:** That good.. (busy eating his modakas)

**Karthikeya:** goes for the second round (exit the stage)

(Ganesh is still eating, Parvathi and Shiva are smiling at Ganesh)

**Karthikeya:** (enters the stage).. Matha, Pitha I am done with my 2 rounds. Ganesh - you did not start yet! How can that be! You are so lazy! Matha - don't you think - I should get the hara? I will go for my last round (He exits the stage)

**Ganesh:** Gets up and goes around shiva and Parvathi 3 times.

**Parvathi:** Ganesh - here you go (Gives her necklace)

**Ganesh:** Dhanyavad matha.

**Karthikeya:** (Enters the stage and looks at Ganesh) No .. this is not right. How can he get the hara. I am the winner. Something is wrong here.

**Shiva:** Karthikeya, Nothing is wrong. Ganesh considered parents are the most important and their love is the largest in the whole wide world, so he did went around his parents 3 times. There is nothing bigger than parents love. So he is the winner in this race. But - we love you too. Here you go you take my hara (necklace).

**Karthikeya:** I agree with you pitha. I learned a lesson. I do see the most the important and largest thing parents love is right here.

Both Ganesh and Karthikeya: Mathrudevo Bhava Pithru Devo Bhava.





## -: Exercise :-

### Match the Pairs

- |                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Veer                | 1) Hindi literature            |
| 2) Ramcharit Manas     | 2) Dasbodh                     |
| 3) Marathi literature  | 3) Bharatiya script            |
| 4) Thirukkural         | 4) National language of Bharat |
| 5) Devanagari          | 5) Vinayak Savarkar            |
| 6) Hindi               | 6) Bharatiya poet              |
| 7) Rabindranath Tagore | 7) Tamil literature            |

### Fill up the blanks

- 1) Most of the Bharatiya languages are derived from \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Gujarati      b) Tamil      c) Sanskrit      d) None of these
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ is a political party founded by Swa. Savarkar.  
a) Congress      b) BJP      c) Hindu Mahasabha      d) None of these
- 3) Veer Savarkar was sentenced to \_\_\_\_\_ years of life imprisonment.  
a) 20      b) 30      c) 50      d) None of these
- 4) Veer Savarkar (Vinayak) was born on \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) May 28, 1883      b) May 1, 1889      c) Jan 28, 1983      d) None of these

### Identify True or False.

- 1) All Bharatiya languages have specific scripts.
- 2) Doctorji founded RSS.
- 3) All Bharatiya languages stand for homogeneous culture.
- 4) Veer Savarkar was a born leader and nationalist.
- 5) Sanskrit is the basis of almost all Bharatiya languages.

## Objective Questions

- 1) Write down the names of at least two Bharatiya scripts.

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- 2) List any four Bharatiya languages and their scripts.

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- 3) What do you know about Veer Savarkar? Describe it in 5 sentences.

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## Questions for research

(Note that answers to these questions may not be found in this curriculum. It is expected that you get those answers from other sources such as Parents, Books or Internet)

- 1) List two Bharatiya languages which are not covered in this curriculum.

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## Shloka

गुरु (Guru - Salutation to Guru)

अखण्डमण्डलाकारं	akhaṇḍamaṇḍalākāraṁ
व्याप्तं येन चराचरम् ।	vyāptaṁ yena carācaram ।
तत्पदं दर्शितं येन	tatpadaṁ darśitaṁ yena
तस्मै श्रीगुरवे नमः ॥	tasmai śrīgurave namaḥ ॥

### Meaning:

Salutations to the respected Guru who showed us the place of the one who pervades the vast universe with all its movable and immovable things.

मंत्र ( mantra - for repetition /chanting )

हरी ॐ	harī om
नमो नारायणा ।	namo narāyaṇā ।

### Meaning:

Lord Vishnu (Hari, Narayan) I salute you, I bow to you.



## Subhashitam (Words of wisdom)

गुणाः सर्वत्र पूज्यन्ते ।

guNAaH sarvatra puujyante .

**Meaning:** Virtues are respected everywhere.

## Amrutvachan (Quotes)

The secret of Shivaji's success lay particularly in motivating the people to strive and sacrifice for the establishment of a free Hindu State and not for the sake of any individual king or chieftain. He transformed the idea of personal loyalty to some particular chieftain into one of loyalty to the entire nation and its liberty.

**- Shri H.V. Sheshadri**

(Late Shri Sheshadriji was a Sara-Karyavaha of RSS. He has written many books which are inspiration for all swayamsevaks and sevikas)

## Do you know that.....

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar , the Archtypal Revolutionary, Poet, Philosopher and Interpreter of History organized two revolutionary societies "Abhinav Bharat" and "Mitra Mela" in pre-independent Bharat (India) in 1900s. He was popularly known as Veer (Swa.) Savarkar.



## रामा भजन (rAmA bhajana)

रामा हो रामा रे भूल मत जाना  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

rAmA ho rAmA re bhUla mata jAnA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||

फूल लाया फल लाया तेरे लिये  
तुझको चढाऊंगा वापस न जाऊंगा  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

phUla lAyA phala laayaa tere liye  
tujhako chaDhAuuaMgA vApasa na jAuuaMgA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||

धूप लाया दीप लाया तेरे लिये  
तुझको दीखाऊंगा वापस न जाऊंगा  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

dhUpa lAyA dIpa lAyA tere liye  
tujhako dIkhaAuuaMgA vApasa na jAuuaMgA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||

दूध लाया दही लाया तेरे लिये  
तुझको खिलाऊंगा वापस न जाऊंगा  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

dUdha lAyA dahI lAyA tere liye  
tujhako khilAuuaMgA vApasa na jAuuaMgA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||

ईट लाया पत्थर लाया तेरे लिये  
मंदिर बनाऊंगा वापस न जाऊंगा  
तेरी अयोध्या छोड के ।।

iiTa lAyA patthara lAyA tere liye  
maMdira banAuuaMgA vApasa na jAuuaMgA  
terI ayodhyA ChoDa ke ||





## Celebrating a birth-day

Birth-day has always been a special day for all of us. On this day, we usually want to do something unusual so that we will remember this day for a long time. In today's world throwing parties, blowing out the candles, cutting cake and giving gifts to a birth-day boy/girl is a normal practice everywhere. It is a bit difficult to know how and when it started. But, certainly these practices do not have any ethos or a basis of any religion; neither Hindu dharma nor any other faith.

Have you ever thought how to celebrate birth-day in a Hindu way (our way!!)? For Hindus, birth-day is a not only a day for enjoyment, but also a day for realization, appreciation, showing a gratitude and making a resolution. Let us try to explore what we can (should) do on our birth-days!!

### Show Gratitude

It is said that "life" is God's gift. We enjoy God's property - nature, air, water and universe without which we can not survive. On our birth-day, we should offer prayers to God to show our gratitude and gratefulness. Our parents give us the first lesson of the life. They not only nurture us but also protect from all odds. After offering prayers to God, we must seek blessings of our parents and elders.

### Spend a day doing good things:

As mentioned earlier, "Life" is God's gift. It is expected that we should utilize our life-time in doing good things. Few guidelines (suggestions) are given below about how to spend this special day or what we can do on this day. Try to implement whichever is possible under your capacity.

- 1) Try to speak 100% in your own language (mother-tongue).
- 2) Call your grand-parents and close relatives who are in Bharat or away from you. They will feel happy that you remembered them on your birth-day.
- 3) Visit a nearest temple in the morning alongwith your parents and others.

- 4) Wear a traditional dress. Think why can't my "traditional" dress become my regular (routine) dress?
- 5) Buy a good book and read it thoroughly.
- 6) Do some "Seva" (service) such as volunterring at temple or old homes, donating your pocket-money for a good cause, serving kids in orphanage.
- 7) Whatever good things you do on this day, note them down in your personal diary. When you grow up you will find them inspiring.

### Invite friends and celebrate your birth-day:

- 1) Invite all your friends. Wear traditional dress and also request your Hindu-friends to come with a traditional outfit.
- 2) Let mother prepare a thali with haldi/kumkum, diya, akshata and sweets and perform your "aarti" and apply "tilak" on your forehead.
- 3) Light a lamp (diya) but do not blow out. Blowing out lamp is certainly not auspicious (positive), whereas lighting a lamp symbolizes new life, new beginning or spreading knowledge. Explain your American friends why you do this.
- 4) After lighting a lamp, let your parents and friends chant following shlokas to express their wish. Do not insist your American friends to follow any of these customs. Let them express their wish by their own way.

जन्मदिनमिदम् अयि प्रिय सखे ।  
 शन्तनो तु ते सर्वदा मुदम् ॥  
 प्रार्थयामहे भव शतायुषि ।  
 ईश्वरः सदा त्वां च रक्षतु ॥  
 पुण्य कर्मणा किर्तिर्मर्जय ।  
 जीवनं तव भवतु सार्थकम् ॥

janmadinamidam ayi priya sakhe |  
 shantano tu te sarvadA mudam ||  
 prArthayAmahe bhava shatAyuShi |  
 iishvaraH sadA twAM cha raxatu ||  
 puNya karmaNA kirtimarjaya |  
 jIvanaM tava bhavatu sArthakam ||

O Dear friend, may this birthday bring you  
 auspiciousness and joy forever

Indeed we all pray for your long life;  
 may the Lord always protect you.

By noble deeds may you attain fame  
 and may your life be fulfilled.

- 5) Distributing and eating sweets has always been a way of celebration. We do it on every festival. On your birth-day, after lighting a lamp, you can distribute sweets among all invitees. Cake will also do!! Decorate your cake by writing “OM” or following shloka.

जीवेत् शरदः शतम् ।

jIvet sharadaH shatam |

Meaning: May he lived hundred years.

- 6) Now-a-days, exchanging gifts is unavoidable. Your friends may give you gifts and you may also want to give them something in return. Set an example by giving good gifts such as book or any other useful thing. Next time, your friends will also try to follow you!!
- 7) Once celebration is over, your lamp (diya) can be placed in front of the God in the pooja-ghar.

### Make a resolution:

Hmm!! Celebration is over. All are left home. Everything is quiet. Now What!? Now is a time of introspection. Birth-day is a good time to introspect and make new resolutions. **At the end of the day, sit quietly, introspect yourself and make new resolves that will improve your overall personality** and try to achieve them before the next birth-day comes. Here is something what can be decided and achievable.....

- 1) Improve your fluency in your mother tongue.
- 2) Buy at least 3 new good books and read them thoroughly.
- 3) Learn something that is related to our culture such as learning instruments, dance, understanding our customs, writing in your own language and acquire skill in the same.
- 4) Learn more about your ancestors and your spiritual land - Bharat.
- 5) Participate meaningfully in the BalaGokulam like gatherings.

So! Let us make a new resolve now that we shall celebrate our next birth-day in a Hindu way. Shall we?





## ekatā mantra (Unity Hymn)

Our Hindu Dharma is divided in to several castes and branches. Though different Hindu branches focus on different principles, our ancient scriptures Vedas and Upanishadas are the basis for all of them. This shloka was introduced to strengthen the essential bond thread of unity and harmony among our various faiths and branches.

यं वैदिका मन्त्रदृशः पुराणाः	yam vaidikā mantradrśaḥ purāṇāḥ
इन्द्रं यमं मातरिश्वा नमाहुः ।	indram yamaṁ mātariśvā namāhuḥ
वेदान्तिनो निर्वचनीयमेकम्	vedāntino nirvacanīyamekam
यं ब्रह्म शब्देन विनिर्दिशन्ति ॥	yam brahma śabdena vinirdiśanti
शैवायमीशं शिव इत्यवोचन्	śaivāyamīśaṁ śiva ityavocan
यं वैष्णवा विष्णुरिति स्तुवन्ति ।	yam vaiṣṇavā viṣṇuriti stuvanti
बुद्धस्तथार्हन् इति बौद्ध जैनाः	buddhastathārhan iti bauddha jaināḥ
सत् श्री अकालेति च सिक्ख सन्तः ॥	sat śrī akāleti ca sikhkha santaḥ
शास्तेति केचित् कतिचित् कुमारः	śāsteti kecit katicit kumāraḥ
स्वामीति मातेति पितेति भक्त्या ।	svāmīti māteti piteti bhaktyā
यं प्रार्थयन्ते जगदीशितारम्	yam prārthayante jagadīśitāram
स एक एव प्रभुरद्वितीयः ॥	sa eka eva prabhuradvitīyaḥ

## Meaning of the Mantra

(The One God was addressed by sages with different names. This mantra conveys the message that God is one, but the names and forms are many)

To whom the Vaidikas and the ancient seers call Indra, Yama and Matarishwaa, and the Vedantins indicate that inexplicable one by the word Brahma.

To which almighty the Shaivaites call Shiva and the Vaishnavaites praise as Vishnu. To Whom, the Bauddhas call Buddha, The Jainas call Arhan, and the Sikhs call Sat-Shri-Akal.

Some call that almighty as Shaasta, some others as Kumaar or Swaami, Maata or Pitaa through devotion and prayer. That Lord of the Universe is only one absolute without a second.



Shri. Pa.Pu. M.D. Deoras was a third Sara-Sanghachalak (chief) of Sangh. His full names was Madhukar Dattatraya Deoras. He was popularly known as “Balasaheb”. Balasaheb was associated with the Sangh from its inception. He took the charge of the Sangh after sad demise of Pa.Pu. Shri Guruji. In his tenure, he gave focus on social harmony. This shloka was introduced in his tenure to strengthen the essential bond thread of unity and harmony among our various faiths and branches.





# Hindu Sanghatan Diwas

Sangh gives more emphasis on celebrating six utsavs (festivals) - Yugadi, Hindu Sanghatan Diwas, Guru Poornima, Rakshabandhan, Vijayadashami and Makar Samkranti. All these utsavs, except Hindu Sanghatan Diwas, are celebrated even outside the Sangh. Traditionally, Hindu Sanghatan Diwas is not really a utsav (festival). Naturally, the question arises in mind that, “why did Sangh start a new utsav, while we already have so many utsavs?” This article explains the reason and purpose of this utsav.

## Background

Our spiritual country, Bharat, had been under the yoke of the foreign invaders for a long long time. Since 2000 years until 1947, foreign invaders including British not only looted Bharat but also tried to destroy her culture. Under foreign rule, people could not even follow their rituals and Dharma.

Few attempts were made by some warriors and kings to defend the country against these invaders. They were even successful to some extent. But that did not last long. It was a general perception that Bharatiya people are cowards and Bharat is a place where all can throw their dirt. And it was the situation that there was not a single Hindu king in last 1000 years. But this situation was changed when Shivaji was born.

## Shivaji

Shivaji was a son of a Maratha warrior / chieftain, Shahaji. His parents instilled a pride in him about his country and culture. In his childhood, Shivaji took an oath that he would fight against foreign invaders and establish a Hindu kingdom.

In his lifetime, Shivaji fought many battles. He did not hesitate to put his own life in danger. His warfare strategies, tactics, diplomacy, administration, politics, justice, foresight and judgement were second to none. The most unique thing was that he united all Hindu people regardless of their cast and encouraged them to fight against the foreign rule. He gained the trust of the common people. Common people were even ready to die for him.

The secret of Shivaji's success lay particularly in motivating the people to strive and sacrifice for the establishment of a free Hindu kingdom and not for the



sake of any individual king or chieftain. He transformed the idea of personal loyalty to some particular chieftain into one of loyalty to the entire nation and its liberty.

Shivaji did many exceptional things. He introduced new military strategies, new weapons, new type of training to soldiers, building up new resources from scratch, new rules of administration and taxation. His personal heroism was matchless.

Shivaji started from nothing. After a continuous 17 years of efforts, he established an ideal Hindu kingdom and coronated himself as a king. This was the most beautiful thing happened in those days. People were extremely happy to see their own kingdom after a long time of 1000 years. Sangh celebrates Shivaji's coronation day as a Hindu Sanghatan Diwas. Literally, it means Hindu Unity Day. The choice of this particular day for celebration lies in its inspiring historical significance. This occasion holds up inspiring lessons for the Hindus for their future march.



### **What is the importance in today's world?**

Now, you may ask, "Ok! We appreciate Shivaji. But why is it so significant in today's world!!?" Today, we see that Hindu people have lots of talent and knowledge. As an individual, they are excellent. But they are divided. There is a lack of unity amongst all Hindus. Also, there is a perception that Hindus can not be united. In past, Shivaji changed this perception and brought back a glory for Hindus. Today, Hindus are humiliated and dominated just because of lack of unity. Sangh has taken up this task to unite all Hindus and bring back the glory for them. It should be noted that Sangh has chosen Shivaji's coronation day for celebration, because for Sangh, Shivaji's coronation day is more significant than his birth day or any other day.

Our Hindu Dharma is not a closed book. This utsav is a value addition in our Dharma.





## Charcha - Ideal Hindu Home

We all spend a significant part of our lives at home. It may be a rental apartment or owned house, but we call it as a “Home”. There are certain visible and invisible factors (characteristics) of an Ideal Hindu Home. This session is to discuss and identify those factors. For the quick start, some points are given. Identify one swayamsevak or sevika who will note down all factors (characteristics).

### Physical Characteristics:

- 1) Entrance should be on East or North side. Five basic elements affect house.
- 2) House without people. Can it be called as a “Home”?
- 3) Sometime we also stay in Hotel or lodge. Can we call it as a “Home”?

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### Behavioral Characteristics:

- 1) Getting up early in the morning
- 2) Doing things together such as taking lunch/dinner together
- 3) Importance is given to each and every individual.

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## -: Exercise :-

### Match the Pairs

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) Hindu Sanghatan Diwas | 1) M.D. Deoras                |
| 2) Balasaheb             | 2) Sangh Utsav                |
| 3) Ekata Mantry          | 3) Shivaji's coronation       |
| 4) Guru Poornima         | 4) Revolutionary organization |
| 5) Shivaji               | 5) Veer Savarkar              |
| 6) Vinayak               | 6) Hindu King                 |
| 7) Abhinav Bharat        | 7) Unity hymn                 |

### Fill up the blanks

- 1) Shivaji was a son of Maratha chiftain \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Shahaji      b) Dadoji      c) Mankoji      d) None of these
- 2) Birth day is not only a day of enjoyment but also a day of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Forgiveness   b) Appreciation   c) Relaxing      d) None of these
- 3) Sangh give more emphasis on celebrating \_\_\_\_\_ utsavs.  
a) Six              b) Seven              c) Two              d) None of these
- 4) Life is \_\_\_\_\_'s gift.  
a) parents      b) god              c) demon              d) None of these
- 5) Hindu Sanghatan Diwas is a day of Shivaji's \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) birth day      b) coronation      c) demise              d) None of these
- 6) Ekata mantra was introduced by \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Guruji              b) Balasaheb      c) Doctorji              d) None of these

## Objective Questions

- 1) Why should we express our gratitude and appreciation to God?

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- 2) Write down at least two good things which can be done on your birth day.

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- 3) Who was the third chief (Sar-Sanghachalak) of the Sangh?

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- 4) Who took an oath of establishing a Hindu kingdom?

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- 5) What is the meaning of Sanskrit shloka - jIvet sharadaH shatam |

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- 6) What resolution would you make on your birth-day?

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- 7) List the names of Sangh Utsavs.

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## Questions for Research

(Note that answers to these questions may not be found in this curriculum. It is expected that you get those answers from other sources such as Parents, Books or Internet)

- 1) Name at least three Hindu Kings who fought against foreign invaders.

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- 2) Write down the names of Shivaji's mother, guru and sons.

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