

SDF Accomplishments

A brief summary of our activities during the Year 2007 are provided below.

- In January 2007, we started a weekly 2 hour Radio program on Sanatana Dharma, on a local FM Station 104.9 - Radio Salaam Namaste This program airs every Saturday morning, from 7 am to 9 am, and features children, local organizations, visiting Hindu dignitaries and eminent personalities, dialogues and discussions with eminent people in the world of Hindu Dharma around the world. This program has been sustained, successfully through the year 2007.

- In January 2007, we also launched SDF Web Site which highlights our activities on a weekly basis, but also provides a place for our Radio program archives. Many important conversations and dialogues that were featured on our Radio program are also available for 'hearing' in our Archives section. Further, the Web Site also provides a place for articles and features, of topical interest.

- In February 2007, we officially launched the official Web site of the Hindu Dharma Acharya Sabha. The Acharya Sabha has been the inspiration behind Sanatana Dharma Foundation, from its very inception. The Acharya Sabha Web Site features its declarations, public announcements, press releases, and even some video clips from its various conventions.

- In March 2007, for the first time, we brought several Hindu organizations in Dallas together for an informal get together. During this dinner event, local representatives of Hindu organizations such as Art of Living, Ammacchi Satsang, Mother Karunamayi's group, Sathya Sai Baba groups, Chinmaya Mission, Hindu Trac, Hindu Swayam Sevak Sangh, Gayatri Parivar, Vishnu Sahasranamam Groups, Hindu Temple Trustees and executive Committee members, Ramachandra Mission, and many others participated. We presented an overview of the Acharya Sabha, and a brief outline of Sanatana Dharma Foundation, its Vision and goals.

- In April 2007, we organized talks in Dallas, for Dr. Frank Morales, also called Dharma Pravartaka Acharya, at the DFW Hindu Temple, the Carribbean Mandir and also at private homes. Dr. Morales is an eminent American Hindu, who has been schooled in Christian Theology, and has converted to Hinduism. He is also very active in bringing Sanatana Dharma to the westerners, and creating for them, a deeper connection between Yoga (which is very popular today in the West), and Sanatana Dharma which is often completely missing, in the western Yoga schools.

- In May 2007, we conducted a campaign for awareness on Rama Sethu, and the committed attempt by the Government of India to break it and establish a Ship Channel across the Canal. This campaign included several interviews on the Radio program involving eminent personalities such as Swami Paramathmananda Saraswati of Rajkot and Seceretary, Hindu Dharma Acharya Sabha, Former Cabinet Seceretary Shri R. Venkatanarayanan, Central Government of India and General Seceretary, Hindu Dharma Acharya Sabha, Former Supreme Court Justice K.T. Thomas, Harvard Professor of Economics and former Law Minister, Dr. Subramanian Swamy and Director, Saraswati River Research Center, Dr. S. Kalyanarman. This campaign also featured, a slide presentation on the Rama Sethu at the DFW Hindu Temple, Cultural Hall.

- In July 2007, members of Sanatana Dharma Foundation took active part in supporting the Ekal Vidyalaya Fund raiser in Dallas. Ekal Vidyalaya is a network of single teacher schools doing exceptional work in bringing education to tribal and remote areas in India. In addition to donating our time and energy for the Fund Raiser event, we also widely advertised the event on our Radio program, featured interviews with Ekal Vidyalaya Co-ordinators from Houston, and participated in the program itself. Members of Sanatana Dharma Foundation were one of the biggest donors for Ekal Vidyalaya with a contribution of \$22,000.

- In August 2007, Sanatana Dharma Foundation supported the Hindu American Foundation's annual Fund Raiser in Dallas. Hindu American Foundation is a very active organization founded by second generation Hindu Americans, which is focused on taking issues of importance to Hindus in the USA and around the world to the Congressmen and Senators in Washington DC. HAF represents a more assertive and organized voice in the growing Hindu community in North America, and Sanatana Dharma Foundation is very committed to the success of HAF. In one night in Dallas, HAF was able to raise over \$45,000 for its annual event in Dallas.

- Also in August 2007, Sanatana Dharma Foundation organized a Seminar on "Hindu Dharma and Modern Academia", at the DFW Hindu Temple. This Seminar featured three very eminent speakers - Shri Rajiv Malhotra, President of the Infinity Foundation who has done path breaking work in exposing the systemic bias in Western academia regarding Sanatana Dharma, Dr. Ramdas Lamb, who is a Professor of Hindu Religion in the University of Hawaii, Department of

Religion, and Dr. Mihir Meghani, President of the Hindu American Foundation. This Seminar and Panel Discussion was a very lively event, featuring a lot of participant interaction and was well received by all who attended this event.

- In October 2007, Sanatana Dharma Foundation organized the 5th annual HEC Conference (The Human Empowerment Conference) in Dallas. This conference brought together, academicians, and activists from a variety of organizations and parts of the world. It featured several eminent personalities, and speakers. Over 250 people attended this conference which was spread over 3 days. Sanatana Dharma Foundation also chaired two sessions at this conference, one on Education and Hindu Dharma, as well as Hindu Dharma and the Media. The conference was a grand success, and represented an important milestone in the organizational capacity of the SDF team members.

- In November 2007, Sanatana Dharma Foundation participated in the 2nd annual Diwali Mela organized by the DFW Indian Cultural Society, at the Cowboys Stadium in Dallas. The Diwali Mela was a grand event, attracting over 50,000 people, both Hindu and from other religions. Sanatana Dharma Foundation set up a booth for the dissemination of books, pamphlets and artefacts.

- In December 2007, key members of Sanatana Dharma Foundation traveled to Orlando, Florida to participate in the Hindu Collective Initiative. During this event, the President of Sanatana Dharma Foundation presented a brief story of our journey and experience in starting and running a Weekly Radio program on Hinduism in the Dallas area. This presentation was well received, by the audience. In addition, the conference in Orlando was an excellent opportunity for the members of Sanatana Dharma Foundation who traveled to network with many eminent Hindus who had come to this conference from many parts of the US and the world.

- Last, but not the least, Members of Sanatana Dharma Foundation, actively contributed to various important charitable organizations. Our Charitable contributions exceeded \$100,000 for the year. Many of the beneficiaries of our Charitable contributions were as follows :

- Infinity Foundation, New Jersey

- HEC conference, Dallas, Texas

- SDF Radio Program, Dallas, Texas

- Hindu American Foundation, Washington DC

- Ekal Vidyalaya, India

- Various Ashrams, Temples and Mathas in India

- Aim for Seva, Pennsylvania

- Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Pennsylvania

- DFW Hindu Temple, Dallas, Texas

- Bharat Heritage Foundation, India