Spiritual Significance of Maha Shivarathri

Canning Vale, Western Australia

22 February 2023 **Brahma Kumaris Australia Huntingdale Western Australia**



<u>Spirirtual Significance of Maha Shivarathri, Perth Hindu Temple, Canning Vale, Western Australia</u>

The Brahma Kumaris Australia (BKA) Huntingdale and the Hindu Association of Western Australia (HAWA) jointly organised a free Public Talk at the Perth Hindu Temple, Canning Vale on 22nd February 2023. This is in conjunction with the Maha Shivarathri festival which was on 18th February 2023 and the temple committee has graciously offered this place to bring benefit to the all people of Western Australia and the Hindus in particular.

The Master of Ceremony (MC) was Bro. Manjeet Singh, a regular student of the BKA Huntingdale. Bro Subraa Rajoo started the program with the recital of the "Tryambakam" Mantra to give salutations to Lord Shiva, the Creator and give blessings to all the devotees and for the success of this event.



Bro. Subraa Rajoo reciting the "Tryambakam" Mantra



Bro. Manjeet Singh (MC)

The lighting of candles ensued with the different representatives of the organisations as below.



Bro. Subraa Rajoo (Joint Coordinator BKA Huntingdale), Bro. Raajen Rajoo (Chief Coordinator, BKA Huntingdale), Sis. Maureen Cannon (National Co-rdinator BKA Perth), Mr. Narendranathan Nagamutu (Sanatana Yoga Academy) and Sis Fitriana Dewi.

A short video depicting the hunter and the deer on the night of Shiva was shown to signify the Merciful Lord "Shiva" who gave a boon to the hunter for not killing the deer while he was hunting for food.



Mr. Narendranathan Nagamutu from Sanatana Yoga Academy and also a professional civil engineer spoke about Lord Shiva being the Ocean of Love and Ocean of Mercy is easily pleased with an honest and pure heart. Therefore he emphasized on the usage of knowledge and mantras to overcome the challenges in life and the problems created in the mind.

He also gave a deep insight on the significance of the "Thryambakam" Mantra as below.

Aum Tryambakam Yajamahe Sugandhim Pushtivardhanaam Urvarukamiva Bandhanaath Mrityormukshiya Maamrithaath Aum Hreem Namashivayaaya

Translation to English

We worship the Lord with the third eye, the enlightened and the fragrant One who nourishes and nurtures all beings. As a ripened cucumber is free from its tree, may the Lord liberate us from death for the sake of immortality.

The Perth Hindu Temple's president Dr. Muthukrishnan Nachiappan welcomed all the attendees to the temple to embrace the piousness of the temple and to have a yearning towards spirituality. He also encouraged the young children to get involved in the temple and other spiritual activities.





Sis Maureen Cannon from BKA Perth shared about the spiritual significance the Maha of Shivarathri festival. She mentioned that GOD is remembered especially when they are about to die whether in a plane crash or a boat sinking. They cry out "Oh My God", so definitely He is in our hearts. One aspect of the Shivarathri is that we fast on this day and God Shiva is asking us to fast from the vices which are omnipresent.

She also explained about God Shiva being the Incorporeal, The Seed and the Benefactor and for us to have a better world, we need people with virtues rather than the vices. The vices signifies the dark blue colour of the body and by remembering GOD as our Father we are able to rekindle the light of the soul.



The program ended with a short live commentary by Sis Maureen and she distributed "Prasad" and blessings cards to all the 30 participants who attended. They were also served with hot snacks like samosas and spring roles with hot chai made by the mothers of BKA Huntingdale family. The photo above shows some of the participants who attended the talk. Om Shanti.