



DEEPAWALI PARIVAR MILAN 2008 PRESS REPORT

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Brahmins Celebrate Deepawali

Oakville: The World Brahman Federation Canada (WBFC) organized its Deepawali celebrations at Vaishno Devi temple at Oakville on November 1, 2008, where Brahmins introduced their traditions of worship and heritage to children.

Pandit Vishnu Sharma explained the process and meaning of worship of 'Laxmi and Saraswati to children at the occasion of 'Deepawali pooja'. Thirty Brahman families actively contributed to the 'Deepawali' celebrations that were rich in flavor and traditions.

The President, WBF Canada, Dr. Azad Kaushik in his Deepawali message to Brahmins emphasized the importance of imbining 'Sanskar' (brahmanical values) in children at an early age for a blissful life.

The occasion was remarkable for an educational and entertaining program by children that included chanting 'Shlokas' and 'Mantras' to a musical evening full of fun and laughter. Akansha and Piyush added to joyful evening with thought-provoking quiz on 'Ramayana' that kept children and parents captivated. Mr. Gyanesh Paliwal, Secretary, WBF Canada enthralled the audience with snippets full of wisdom. The program was followed by 'satvik' meals and sweets specially prepared for the occasion.

The Vice-President, WBF Canada, Shri Govind Sharma thanked Brahman community for their overwhelming response and contributions to Deepawali celebrations. Among



those who attended the function were Shri Syam Tripathi, Shri Surinder Sharma, Shri Ramesh Shukla and Shri Yogesh Sharma active on the social scene in greater Toronto area. □

The week of the Diwali Fervour

Hindu temples around the GTA held Annakut and Diwali celebrations during the festive week resulting in thousands of devotees as well as non-devotees gathered to glorify the observance

TORONTO: At the BAPS Swaminarayan temple and cultural center located on Finch in Etobicoke devotees celebrated New Year and Annakut with great enthusiasm on November 29. About 10 to 12 thousand people attended the day-long Annakut darshan started from 12 noon. A grand puja was performed in the evening and the mahaprasad was also distributed.

Approx. 3000 Ontario public school students also visited the temple during the day. They were given information and understanding about the Hindu Vedic culture, values and logic behind the rituals. This educational trip for students was just to extend an experience of 'Diwali Celebrations - A Festival of Lights, Sound, Colour & Food'. The students and educators of the schools experienced "India" through an

exhibition with display of spiritual books, CD's and decorative articles. For them it was an opportunity to get to know-Hinduism's grandest festival at the Claireville.

At the temple, over 1400 vegetarian items were offered to the deities including sweets, namkeens, fruits, dry-fruits, desserts and juices.

At the temple complex in Toronto, many thousands turned with their families to be a part of Annakut Mahotsav, Aarti and Diwali celebrations.

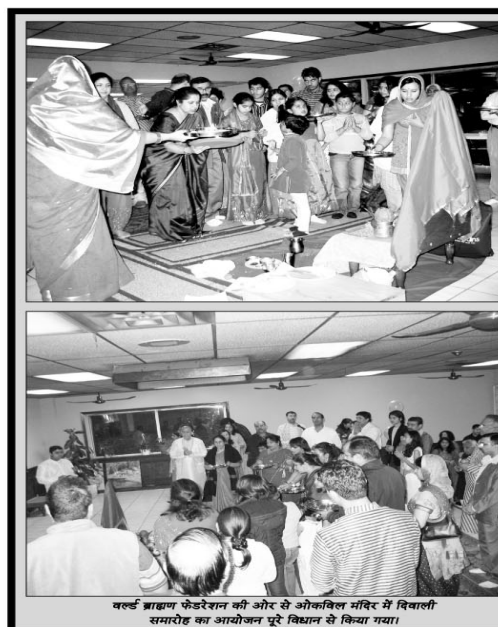
Brahmans celebrate

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वर्ल्ड ब्राह्मन फेडरेशन की ओर से ओकविल मंदिर में दिवाली समारोह का आयोजन पूरे विधान से किया गया।