One Year Old—and Growing
BSNA’s First Anniversary

The first anniversary of the Brahman Samaj of North America was celebrated - where else - at Boston. The anniversary coincided with the celebration of Deepawali. What an exciting combination of two enlightening events.

The organizers provided in plenty what the Brahmans love - gyan-ganga (words of wisdom), music, dance, and of course food. The gyan-ganga flowed in the excellent invited speech delivered by Satya Prakash Saraswat, Professor of MIS at the Bentley College. His speech was inspiring as well as educative. It kept the audience spell bound. A summary of his speech, provided by Prof. Saraswat himself, is published separately on this page. Mr. Nirmalendu Choubey, the father of the BSNA, was also present. He gave a very interesting talk about the BSNA.

The program was efficiently organized by Dr. Anita Dubey. It was at the Dubey’s residence in the Boston area where the BSNA was born in Sept. 1994. On the first anniversary of the BSNA, the New England Chapter was declared open with Dr. Anita Dubey as the Coordinator. Dr. Dubey, who provided the title “Aao ri aao, sakhi diyana jalao ri” has sent us the following report.

A cultural program was held on Nov. 4, 1995 at Hope Church, Westborough, Massachusetts. The occasion was celebration of the first anniversary of the BSNA and also Deepawali. The evening started with the Brahman Samaj’s Vandana -- “Dev Brahma

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Convenion ‘96

The preparations for Convention’96, our second convention are in full swing. Please see page 6 for names of the members of the organizing committee and other details. Prof. Satish Tripathi has agreed to be the Chairperson of the organizing committee and Prof Bhudev Sharma has agreed to deliver the keynote speech. A Convention’96 special pull-out is included with this issue of Brahma-Bharati that gives the registration form for the convention and the life-history of Profs. Tripathi and Sharma.

History and role of Brahmans—invited speech

by Dr. Satya Prakash Saraswat

While the word "Hindu" appeared for the first time in al-Biruni's Ta'rikh al Hind in the 11th century, A.D., the word "Brahman" is as old as the Rigveda. So, my friends, while we can take pride in being Hindus, we can take greater pride in being Brahmans... Our primal forefather, Manu, said in his famous code, Manusmriti,”...we become Brahmans by sanskars.” Sanskar means the process of purification. In Manu's India, being a Brahman was a privilege and becoming one was a right of all men and women. In the Vedic period, the golden age of India, our forefathers believed in the dignity of human soul, grandeur of human spirit, magnificence of human mind, and nobility of human endeavor. The Brahmans made great personal sacrifices to practice, preserve and disseminate these universal truths in society. The result is that the vedic culture is still thriving while the great ancient civilizations of Egypt, Greece and Rome have disappeared from the face of the earth. Our challenge now is to transmit these sublime truths to a new generation and reconcile them to a social and intellectual climate that is not conducive to our "Dharma." We can meet this challenge by following the teachings of

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From Your President

Dear fellow Brahmans:

We made a start two years ago. At the beginning of 1996, we can now reflect on the success of several critical initiatives.

At the first annual convention, we discovered ourselves. We learnt about our culture and traditions. We discovered that we possess a rich heritage that many of our values, such as the emphasis on family values and educational excellence, are the envy of other cultures. As we took comfort in our rich heritage, we realize that we must think of the Brahmans of the twenty-first century, who will use their past as a guide and not as a panacea. Accordingly, our youth will remain the focus of the convention this year again.

Convention '96 is already a hit as more members than last year have registered and we still have six more months to go. We shall certainly beat our previous record hands down.

We have succeeded in broadening our membership base, which is now close to 500 families. Since my last communiqué, three new chapters in Boston, Houston and New York City have been inaugurated, each with unique fanfare. This brings the total number of chapters to 11, only four short of reaching our goal of 15. The first anniversary celebration in Boston was quite a memorable occasion. I look forward to many more of them. Thanks to many of you for a job well done. We will not rest until membership in this institution is considered an asset by our fellow Brahmanas.

Brahma Bharati has now successfully completed one full year. We found each issue to be engaging as well as refreshing, bringing to light controversial issues. We compliment the editor and congratulate ourselves for this achievement. Brahma-Bharati is your journal. Please use it to the fullest extent as a medium of communication. Thank you all and a Happy New Year.

Nirmalendu Choubey

From Your Editor

We are now one year old and growing exponentially faster. We can look back at our first year with a strong sense of achievement. We organized a grand convention, prepared the wonderfully organized BSNA directory, established chapters all over the continent, published Brahma-Bharati, the list goes on.

Now the BSNA home page is being designed and will be available on the WWW soon. We can congratulate ourselves and feel proud of our achievements. However, lot more needs to be done. We need more members and more participation. So, do your friends and relatives a favor. Encourage them to join the BSNA. The more members we have, the stronger we will be. Also, please actively participate in the BSNA activities—in the chapter meetings, convention, and Brahma-Bharati. Start new activities and chapters.

If you were at the last convention, you would have noticed the eye-catching banner of the BSNA in the convention hall. The banner was made by Dr. Shyam Shukla, the general secretary of the BSNA, and his family. The whole family is very talented. Vivek, Dr. Shukla’s son, is a very good artist. He is the one who designed the BSNA logo. Dr. Shukla, in addition to being a good scientist, is a good writer. Last year he published his first book in Hindi called “Ganga se Mississippi.” The book has been very successful and has been widely praised. It has already been reviewed in Vishwa and Vishva-Vivek. A feature on Dr. Shukla and his book has appeared in Jan 26, '96 issue of the News-Line, published by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. Dr. Shukla is currently working on his second book “Mississippi Ke Us Par.” Congratulations, Dr. Shukla, keep it up. (see col 2).

Dr. Shyam Shukla

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News from the Chapters

(Continued from page 1) Boston Meeting

He Pitamah..."-- which is written by Dr. Vinod Tewary and set to tune by Dr. Pradeep Shukla. The cultural program got a kick-off with a Nrittya Natika on the theme Diwali with the song Aao Ree Aao Sakhe..... to which a group Diya dance was performed. This was followed by the dance to song "Ram Ghar Aaye Lakhon Ghar Aaye" with small kids sitting in the background as Ram Darbar. The end of this Natika was recital of verses, from Ramcharit Manas, on the occasion of Rajyabhishek. The dancers were Juhi Dubey, Mallika Mundkur, Priya Sharma, Neha Shukla and Rashmi Pandey. The children portraying Ram Darbar were Dev Rishi Dubey, Neil Dubey, Ashwin Gargeya, Yoshia Gargeya, Vijay Saraswat, Kartikeya Shastri, Vedamini Shastri and Nidhi Tripathi. And not to forget... the live singing artists were Anita Dubey, Lata Mundkur, Pradeep Shukla and Neelima Chaturvedi. This Natika really set the mood of the audience for Diwali. The other programs were a Bharat Natyam Archana dance by Puja Bhargava (by the way Puja is only six years old!), Scholka recital by Anant Saraswat, Ashwin Gargeya, and Yoshia Gargeya; rhythmic folk dances by Simi Dubey, Priya Sharma; songs by Neelima & Prasoon Chaturvedi, Lata & Praveen Mundkur, and Pradeep Shukla. The program was coordinated by Anuranjita Tewary, a sophomore at MIT. Our MC made the program quite interesting with jokes, etc. The sound system was managed by Rajesh Pandey, a sophomore at UMass, Amherst. The program was concluded by an inspiring speech by Dr. Satya Prakash Saraswat on the subject "History and Role of Brahmins." His speech truly geared towards what Brahmins were and should be doing in the current times.

A thank you to Mr. Nirmalendu Choubey, Mr. Kailash Sharma and Mr. Bimal Malaviya who drove a long way to join us on this occasion. Youth group participated very well in the program. Rachana Choubey, Rajesh Pandey and Ajay Malaviya reflected their opinions on the last BSNA convention at Pennsylvania and suggested to organize more and better programs for children and youths for the future meetings. In response Choubey Ji agreed to implement those suggestions for the next meeting. Overall, the evening was filled with a wide variety of program performed by both young and adults. The purpose was not only to celebrate the day but to let our new members walk through what BSNA is about. The families that got together were: Shail & Satya Narayan Bajpai, Nandini & Chandra Bajpai, Anuradha & Akhilesh Bhargava, Mukul & Nirmalendu Choubey, Neelima & Prasoon Chaturvedi, Anita & Anil Dubey, Purnima & Chandra Mohan Dwivedi, Shailaja & Radha Raman Gargeya, Lata & Praveen Mundkur, Rajni & Bimal Malaviya, Chitra Mishra, Malti & Avadh Pandey, Lakshmi & Satyaprakash Saraswat, Shashikant Sharma, Sudhanshu Sharma, Mr. & Mrs. Kailash Sharma, Vanita & Chandra Shekhar Shastri, Manjul & Kailash Shukla, Sunita & Pradeep Shukla, Priya & Sanjay Tikku, Vandana & Prakash Tewari, and Nishi & Alok Tripathi. The evening ended with a nice pot-luck dinner. Thanks to all for this memorable event.

New York (city & downstate) chapter

By Kailash C. Sharma

In the afternoon hours on Saturday, December 16, 1995, the local members of BSNA in the New York City Metropolitan Area held a meeting hosted by Jagar N. Sharma at his residence in Franklin Square, Nassau County of Long Island. As on that occasion, Mr. Sharma's wife, Mrs. Roshni Sharma, was away on a visit to India, their daughters Meenu, Venu, Neetu & Sonia very successfully consolidated their best efforts in joining hands with their father to facilitate the event in every way for a grand success.

Besides the hosts, following were at the meeting: Nirmal & Mukal Choubey, Pran Sharma, Kailash & Savitri Sharma, Ramesh Sharma, Pushkar Pandey, Bijay N. Pandey & family, Sudhendu Choubey & family, Om Tewari & family, Jagdish Awasthi & family, Shivaji & Ranjana Pathak, their children-Rahul, Rishi, & Shivani, Renu Sharma (a visitor from India and sister of Ranjana Pathak), Ram Pal & Parveen Lata Shandal, their son - Rajesh, and Roshan & Saroj Pathak with their children - Sanjeev & Sandeep.

Prior to the meeting, everyone enjoyed afternoon snacks with hot & cold drinks delightfully prepared and arranged by the hosts - Sharmaji & his daughters.

Sharmaji started the meeting by welcoming all the attendees. Then one by one, the participating families and individuals took turns in briefly introducing themselves. Kailash Sharma then presented to the gathering a brief history of the inception of BSNA and described the organization’s current structure. Nirmal Choubey, the President gave an update on BSNA’s latest activities and achievements including information on the forthcoming Convention’96 to be held in Reading, PA in July.

A significant aspect of this meeting was the formation of the BSNA New York City and Downstate New York Chapter. The name of Jagar N. Sharma, who has contributed his efforts for the cause of BSNA many times, was proposed by Kailash Sharma for this Chapter's Coordinator. Ram Pal Shandal seconded it. Finding a consensus, Jagar Sharma consented to this responsibility. Nirmal Choubey formally confirmed him as the Coordinator.

In the cultural program that followed, Renu Sharma sang an excellent Bhajan. Jagar Sharma amused everyone with shayariy. By their "Chutkule", Kailash Sharma, Ram Pal Shandal, Jagdish Awasthi & others brought laughter to the gathering. All this turned out to be a very lively and fun-filled event. The dinner was delicious. All items including Indian sweets were prepared at home by Sharmaji’s wonderful daughters.

This meeting added many new members to the BSNA. Several others, who could not come to the meeting because of bad weather, had sent their membership papers and dues through Mr. Shandal. Congratulations to Mr. Shandal for the excellent job of enrolling several new members.

New Jersey Chapter by Ramendra Pandey

The first pot-luck lunch of the current session of the New Jersey Chapter of BSNA took place at the residence of Ramendra & Usha Pandey on Dec. 17, 1995. Thirteen families participated. There were almost 40 adults and children. The program started with a captivating devotional song by Megha Choubey on harmonium. After the song Dr. Pandey welcomed the participants. He expressed his joy for the opportunity to have the gathering at his residence. He also told the participants, jokingly, how he got drafted as the Chapter Coordinator. Following the welcome, each family introduced themselves which turned out to be a great ice-breaker.

Upon completion of the introductions, the BSNA president Mr. Nirmalendu Choubey talked about his air, auto, and tele journey during the period of inception and formal creation of BSNA. Indeed it was a heroic journey. He also talked about the aims & objectives of BSNA. Mr. Choubey informed the participants about the upcoming BSNA Annual Convention and urged all the participants to register early. The gathering turned out to be very successful due to the presence and active participation of the families of Ashok K. Awasthi, Trayaambak N. Bajpay, Ashok K. Chaube, Nirmalendu Choubey, Ram B. Misra, Suresh K. Misra, Virendra N. Ojha, Ramendra N. Pandey, Pramod Pathak, Kailash C. Sharma, Rajendra K. Sharma, Umesh Shukla, and Manoj Tiwari. Prior to the conclusion of the function the Chapter Coordination Committee was selected. The members are: Ashok K. Awasthi, Ram B. Misra, Suresh K. Misra, Ramendra N. Pandey, Pramod Pathak, Rajendra K.

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Sharma, Umesh Shukla, and Manoj Tiwari. The function concluded with a vote of thanks from Mr. Ram Behari Misra & Rajendra K. Sharma. The next pot-luck lunch will be on March 17, 1996 at the residence of Mr. Ram Behari Misra. For directions, call 201-227-7684. Contact Dr. Pandey at 908-429-0579 regarding chapter ’s activities.

Montreal meeting by Dr. Lakshmi Shanker Dube

A group of prominent Brahman families of Montreal met in the evening of Oct. 28, 1995 at the residence of Dr. Lakshmi Shanker Dube at 36 Seville, Dollard des Ormeaux, Quebec, Canada. People were very pleased to welcome Mr. Nirmalendu Choubey, the President of the BSNA, who drove from New York, and graced the meeting that evening. Another meeting is planned soon to start a chapter at Montreal.

Houston Chapter by Pooran tripathi

BSNA 10th Chapter was formed on November 18, 1995 in Houston, Texas. The luncheon ceremony was hosted by the Region 4 coordinator Mr. Pooran C Tripathi at the Banquet Hall of Shiva Restaurant in Houston. Over forty attendees represented twenty families. An elaborate introductions session was followed by a status update by Mr. Nirmal Choubey, President BSNA and keynote address by Mr. Hari Pathak of Houston.

Other highlights of the event were: “Young adults’ experience of Convention’95” by Ms. Poonam Tripathy, Conroe, TX; “Benefits of early sign-up for convention” by Mrs. Neena Tripathi, Houston, TX; “Vegetarian diets’ healthy perspective” by Dr. Chandra M. Tiwary, San Antonio, TX; and “Preservation of Hindu culture and values in Fiji Island” by Mr. Rajendra Sharma, Priest at Hindu Worship Society, Houston, TX. Dr. Shambhu N. Tripathi was nominated Chapter Coordinator with unanimous support of the attendees. Several families signed-up for the BSNA membership.

Southwest Region membership drive

Following the opening of the Texas chapter in Houston, Mr. Nirmal Choubey and Pooran Tripathi visited several places in Texas and Oklahoma for the membership drive. Of special mention are the following:

Dr. Arvind K. Chaturvedi of Norman, Okla. hosted a meeting at his residence on Nov. 19, 1995. It was attended by about 20 members from seven families. Mrs. Mahima Sharma of Austin, TX hosted a meeting at her residence on Nov. 22, 1995. Several new members signed-up during the membership drive.

The Capital Chapter by Dr. A.K. Sharma

On December 2, 1995 Washington and Baltimore Chapter held its second successful meeting followed by delicious potluck dinner and cultural program at Dr. J.P. and Niti Dubey’s house in Greenbelt, MD. In attendance were Arvind & Bhama Pathak, Anjana Shukla Govind & Vandana Bhatt, Gopal & Purnima Sharma, Rikhi & Vidya Sharma, Om Prakash & Aruna Sharma, Parmesh & Prem Late Dwividi, Kirti & Manju Tewari, Shiv & Indira Tiwari, Satish & Sheela Misra, Rajiv & Madhuri Dixit, Satish & Kamlesh Tripathi, Lalji & Chandrawati Mishra, Awdhesh Kumar & Sunita Sharma, Jitender Prakash & Niti Dubey, Shashi K. Pande, Ram Rudra & Aparna Shukla, Chandra & Seeta Pande. Special invitees were Nirmal Choubey, Bhw Dutt Shukla, and Rajender Kumar Sharma.

Program began with introduction of attendees and their families and the followed with a talk by Mr. Nirmalendu Choubey who gave an overview of BSNA and update on different chapters in North America. Status report of our next annual convention, which will be held on July 4-6, 1996 at Reading, Pennsylvania, was given by Dr. Satish Tripathi, Dr. J.P. Dubey and Dr. A.K. Sharma. The attendees were encouraged to register for the convention and those who are not members of BSNA yet should become members soon. Dr. Sharma talked about the possible dates for the summer picnic and next meeting, formalizing of the procedure for these meetings and fund raising for the local area was also discussed.

Members were enthusiastic about having more than three get-togethers in a year. It was a memorable evening that concluded with a cultural program including Bhajans, Kavvalis, Jokes, and Gazals. Thanks to Dr. J.P. Dubey and Mrs. Niti Dubey for hosting the meeting and their hospitality.

*****Spring celebrations are being planned in several chapters. For details please contact your coordinators.

*****The chapter coordinators are requested to send reports of their chapter’s activities soon after the event for publication in the Brahma-Bharati and the BSNA WWW page that will be updated regularly. Editor.

(Continued from page 1)

Sorry to hear

Mr. Jamma Das Rehil, 74, the loving father of Mrs. Kamlesh Misra passed away on Dec. 10, 1995 at Panchkula (Haryana). He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Savitri Devi, two married sons, and three married daughters—all settled in the USA. May his soul rest in peace and his family members have courage to face the loss.

We express our condolences to Mr. Venktesh Shukla of Fremont, California for the sad demise of his father Mr. G.L. Shukla of Bhopal. Late Mr. G.L. Shukla started his career as a lecturer in English at Govt. College, Amaravati, in Maharashtra. He was selected in the Indian Administrative Services and served as Director of Social Welfare Department, Collector, Secretary to the Govt, and Commissioner of Board of Revenue in the M.P. Govt. He was honorary secretary of the All India Association of Social Workers and represented India in many international conferences. He was executive President of the ‘Tulasi Manas Pratishtan’, Bhopal with the Governor of M.P. as its honorary President. He was also the chief editor of its monthly magazine “Tulas Manas Bharati”.

Tentative Program of Convention’96

Friday, July 5, 1996:
10:00-11:30 Vandana, Welcome, Speakers, Panel
11:30-12:30 Lunch
12:30-2:00 Introduction of families
2:00 - 3:30 Breakout sessions for various age groups
3:30 - 5:00 Free-Time (Tea)
5:00 - 7:00 Cultural Program
7:30 - 9:00 Dinner + Keynote Address
9:30 - Kavisammelan and Live DJ

Saturday, July 6, 1996:
7:00 - 9:00 Breakfast and Gita Pravachan
9:30-12:00 General Body Meeting;
Gita and Yoga Discussions for children and young adults (Breakout Sessions)
12:00 - Picnic in a nearby recreational facility. Games, discussions, antakshari, songs, Prizes and Awards.
(Lunch and snacks will be served.)
the Upanishads and Bhagavadgita. These teachings require us to balance the forces of Virtue (sattva), Passion (raja) and Darkness (tam) within ourselves, and to follow the threefold path of righteousness- Work (karma), Worship (bhakti) and Wisdom (gyana) -in our lives. In addressing these transcendental needs of the human psyche, our organization can find an enduring purpose and create a genuine spiritual community of the Brahmans in North America.

BSNA on the information highway

If you cruise the information highway, you will soon find us there. We are in the process of setting up a WWW home page of the BSNA. It will have all the latest information about the BSNA, its objectives, organization, and news of the events. The current and some past issues of the Brahma-Bharati will also be available on the home page. In addition, it will have a special column for the younger members of the BSNA where they can communicate with each other, and discuss issues pertaining to the community. Our page should be ready in March 1996. Please contact your Chapter Coordinator, any person of the executive or the Editor, Brahma Bharati in March 1996 to find out the URL of the BSNA home page. Please do visit our home page regularly.

The Brahmani Bharati, and some other formatted documents will be in the pdf format. You will need a viewer for the pdf files. The pdf viewer is available free by downloading from Acrobat -http://www.acrobat.com

If you are not one of the Internet surfers yet, it is time to get into this most important medium of the 21st century. It is really quite easy and very interesting. What you need is a browser program such as Netscape, Mosaic, or some similar programs. Many of these are available free. Many magazines including Indian publications, most commercial, academic, and Government organizations are already on the WWW. Information and entertainment from all over the world is accessible with the click of the mouse. Naturally, the BSNA could not be left behind. So, come and see us on the WWW.

Convention '96

Invitation to authors and advertisers

A souvenir volume will be published and distributed to the delegates at the BSNA Convention '96. Articles are invited for the Souvenir Volume that will be edited by Dr. Satish C. Misra. The theme of the conference is "Brahmans of the 21st Century." The articles should be generally related to the theme and should provoke readers' interest. Some examples of suitable topics are "Our samskaars", "How we got married!", "Personal experiences related to the Brahman cause." A special section is being planned for our youths. All youths submitting articles for the souvenir book will be recognized and given a prize at a special ceremony to be held during the convention. Special prizes will be awarded to the best articles as selected by the editorial board.

The advertisements for the souvenir volume are also invited. The advertisements may be for products, services, best wishes, memorials, etc. The donations for advertisements are: one page - $250, half page - $140, quarter page - $75 and business cards - $40. A minimum donation of $500 is requested for the back page, inside front and back pages, and center fold pages. Color pictures can be submitted for the ads as well as for best wishes. Please submit the articles and advertisements to Dr. Satish C. Misra @ 11441 Saddleview Place, North Potomac, MD 20878. For further inquiries contact Dr. Misra at 301-340-2983 (home); 301-827-3034 (office); e-mail: Misra@A1.CBER.FDA.Gov

The Canadian Contingent at the first convention

Our Canadian brethren made a great contribution to the success of the first convention. The photo, submitted by Purshottom Sharma, includes himself, Brij and Mamta Pandey, Hari and Anita Panday, Rama Gautam, Deepa Joshi, Anil and Rita Pandey, Ashok and Indu Sharma, Vikas Sharma, Purshotam and Rekha Vashist.

Brahma-Bharati - the E-edition

An electronic edition, the E-edition, of Brahma-Bharati is now available by e-mail to members and their immediate family. It is an exact image of the hard copy version. If you get a hard copy at home, you may, for example, like to send the E-edition to your children at College. The E-edition is in the pdf format and can be printed. A pdf viewer is needed to view and print it. Please e-mail your request to Editor.

Happy New Year

Best wishes from the BSNA

Panditji came straight from his village in India to his son in New York. He found the car ride from the airport to his son’s home very fascinating. It was his first car ride in life. While the car was moving, he saw something interesting out side and shouted “stop.” The son, fearing an emergency, braked hard. The car skidded and stopped after hitting a tree. Fortunately no one was injured.

“It is a wonderful transport, son,” said Panditji, “but how do you stop where there is no tree?”

A couple went to a psychotherapist. “My husband thinks he is a dog,” complained the wife. The psychotherapist said to the husband, “Let us see, would you please come on the couch.”

“NO!” the wife protested, “He is not allowed on the couch.”

Notice issued by the Paranoia Society: Next week’s meeting has been canceled in the event of fire.

A judge went to a dentist and asked, “Do you swear that you will take out the tooth, the whole tooth, and nothing but the tooth?”

BSNA Membership drive- now on

Please help by enrolling more members. Send us the names, addresses and/or phone numbers of your friends whom we can contact for membership.

The poetry corner

From Ramcharitmaanas by Goswamy Tulsidas

In Hindi:
Prabhu-shobha nahin jai bakhani,
Gira anayan, nayan bin bani.
Approx. translation: The beauty of Lord can not be adequately described (because) the tongue has no eyes, and the eyes have no tongue.

Happy New Year

Best wishes from the BSNA
Second Annual Convention

The Convention is on July 5, with supplemental events for July 4:

Supplement A: Single Young Adults Program Ages 20 to 34; Supplement B: Coordinators/Trustees/Convention Committee Meetings

Fees given on page 8 include accommodation on July 5th, meals and entertainment on July 5th & 6th. For supplement A &/or B please add $100/Person or $150/Family for accommodation, meals and entertainment on July 4th. For accommodation only on July 3 or 4 please add $50/Person or $90/Family. Each room has two double beds and can accommodate up to 5 family members. Per person rate based on two persons sharing the room.

Cancellation Policy: Refund 50% if notified in writing at least 30 days in advance. For shorter notice, refund 10%.

A GENERAL BODY MEETING WILL BE HELD ON JULY 6TH AT THE HOTEL. IT WILL BE OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AT NO COST. HOWEVER, THERE WILL BE A $25/PERSON & $50/FAMILY FEE FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED FOR THE CONVENTION BUT REGISTERING FOR THE PICNIC.

Convention Committee:
(Chairperson: Satish K. Tripathi-301.236.9145)


Please call them or your nearest Coordinator for additional information or write to BSNA, P.O. Box 371, Manlius, NY 13104 (Phone: Nitin Choubey @315-682-5013).

The BSNA News Bulletin

*1996 Directory of Brahmans in North America has been already mailed to all members of BSNA whose account was current at one time or another during 1995. Those who have not received a copy, should immediately contact their nearest coordinator or the President. A copy has been reserved for every one who is in the directory. The first copy is free to members. Price for each additional copy is $10. Nonmembers who are in the directory can order a copy at a price of $50. For others the price is $100.

*Yearly membership expires in the quarter that one becomes a member. Those who became a member in the first quarter of 1995 should send their dues now to renew their membership.

*Our filing with IRS for tax exempt status is still under consideration however, we have been advised unofficially that it will be disposed of favorably. An official decision is expected in the last week of February. Any one interested in a more detailed explanation is expected in the last week of February. Any one interested in a more detailed explanation is expected in the last week of February.

*Convention 1997- Not too early. Bids are due by March 31, 1996 for the 1997 convention. Any one interested in holding the convention in their area should contact their coordinators. Dr. Anita Dubey of Mass. is responsible for the coordination of the bidding process.

*Convention 1996 early bird registration has been a remarkable success. We expect a much larger crowd than that we had last year. Please register early as only a limited number of guaranteed reservations are left. This year there is a special program for single young adults on July 4th. This ought to be a must on every single young adult’s list. A great occasion to meet other Brahmanas of the same age group. For more information please call Dr. Satish Tripathi or Mr. Nirmal Choubey.

*Brahmin Samaj of the USA

Mr. Kailash Sharma, Mr. Bhaw Dutt Shukla, and Mr. Nirmalendu Choubey attended the Diwali celebration of Brahmin Samaj of USA on November 11, 1995. This is an organization mainly for Brahmans from Gujarat and living in NJ. Mr. Choubey was invited to speak on the occasion. The theme of the speech was our children who know no linguistic barrier and in fact have more things in common than that we the parents do. Our children will remain a Brahmin only if they carry the basic Brahmin values much the same way their fore fathers did. Our children are facing enormous difficulty in their daily lives in spite of all the academic successes and they need our support.

Workshop on Mantrayoga and future educational endeavors

The BSNA is planning a workshop at the annual convention. Professor Ramanath Sharma will conduct this workshop with a lecture on the nature, meaning and purpose of the mantras. A discussion on the applied aspects of mantras will follow with some general demonstration. If you are seriously interested in participating in this workshop, write to the organizers of the convention.

This workshop is being planned as part of the BSNA’s continuing effort on educating our membership and other interested people about our heritage and tradition. You are requested to think about other such projects and workshops so that we could all discuss them at the Convention during the discussion session on projects. It is important that we carry on some constructive projects of more permanent nature so that our tradition could be understood well and be also preserved. We look forward to your ideas and suggestions in this regard.
## BSNA ORGANIZATION

### Board of Trustees

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