

CHENNAI

THE HINDU • MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014

VARIETY 9

FAITH

Forms of devotion

The lives of realised souls show that union with God is possible by following the way of divine love and the incarnations of the Lord have provided opportunities for the devout to express their devotion to Him directly. Devotion takes root when it is realised that God alone is the only support of the entire creation inclusive of the smallest and mightiest forces in it.

Prahlada, endowed with inherent devotion and realisation, speaks of the various ways in which God can be sought and the pick of these is the nine-fold path of Bhakti that encompasses the different attitudes and personalities of people, pointed out Kumari Lakshmi in a discourse. These forms of Bhakti are the means for people to attain salvation.

Sugriva and Arjuna are quoted as examples of devotion through friendship. The rare quality of friendship enables by nurturing selflessness and love between friends. The sorrowing Rama who loses Sita finds a true friend in Sugriva and both of them strike a friendship that turns out to be mutually beneficial. In the case of Arjuna, it is held that the unique bond between him and Krishna is a rare phenomenon and the Lord even plays the role of a charioteer to him. But over and above all He reveals His transcendental form to Arjuna and plays the friend, philosopher and guide to him.

Hanuman typifies bhakti through service. Only those who have inherent true love to the Almighty and are devoid of ego sense can get into this groove. Hanuman considers service to Rama as his premier goal and Rama Nama as the highest possession possible. It is said that he even renounces salvation and chooses to stay on earth and propagate and participate in Rama Bhakti along with the generations of devotees through the ages.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu
(dated June 23, 1964)

Nanda hears complaints

The Union Home Minister, Mr. G.L. Nanda, on June 22 heard complaints from the public in an office of the Samyukta Sadachar Samiti put up at the residence in New Delhi. Mr. Bhimsen Sachar, General Secretary of the Samiti, was also present. Mr. Nanda will devote one hour daily to hear complaints from the public about corruption. Seven complaints were registered on June 22 by the Samiti, consisting of the former Chief Justice of Punjab, Mr. Justice A.N. Bhandari, Mr. Brij Kishen Chaudhary, Mr. Depak Dutt Chaudhary, and the Vice-President of the New Delhi Municipal Committee, Miss Saini. After registration of the complaints, Mr. Nanda met the complainants. Among the complaints received was one in which the complainant did not

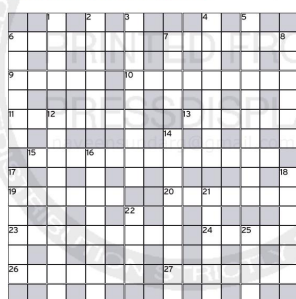
want his name to be disclosed but provided clues and information so that it could be proceeded with. Another person wanted to present his complaint only to the Home Minister and did so.

Attendance in Parliament

Prof. M. Ruhnawami, Swatantra Leader, has called for a public agitation to ensure greater attendance of Members of Parliament and Ministers in the House. Prof. Ruhnawami, Rajya Sabha MP, said not more than 10 or 15 members out of about 200 in the Rajya Sabha were present in the House at a time, while in the Lok Sabha the number averaged 30 or 40 out of about 500. He said the members' lack of interest in the proceedings of the House was depressing; they were conspicuous by their absence from the House chamber. He said some method should be found by which people could insist on M.P.s. doing their duty.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 11118

Aspartame



*Starred clues all belong to a common category. There is no definition for these clues.

- Across
6 It's played by 3-50 per cent of Mordor church - a hum basically (7)
7 Brachylogy is to talk, say, about isotopy often (7)
9 Monster created biz mantra (5)
10 Most foul wet decks I scrubbed (9)
12 Pattern of teasing (7)
13 Following one auditor

- brunette's heart (6)
3 "H" Bad given with uneven design (6,3,9)
4 Legendary footballer needs boy to get one Italian spice (8)
5 This can end badly and become a letdown (10)
6* German footballer (not Italian) found in departmental store (6)
7* Support finally withdrawn by Henry (4)
8 Stay at terrace to contribute to endless talk (6)
12 Crosswords person (10)
16 Intent to build a place in

U.S. researchers trying to code sense of ethics into robots

Brian Nearing

TROY (N.Y.): It's the stuff of countless songs and stories: knowing that something you want to do is wrong, doing it anyway and then regretting the choice.

Last month, two researchers from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, who are studying how to impart notions of human morality into artificially intelligent robots, demonstrated this phenomenon known in philosophy as akrasia at an international conference. Selmer Bringsjord, head of the Cognitive Science Department at RPI, and Naveen Govindarajulu, a post-doctoral researcher working with him, are focused on how to engineer ethics into a robot so that moral logic can be intrinsic to these artificial beings.

Their work is part of a U.S. Navy research project that also involves Tufts University and Brown University.

"We're talking about robots designed to be autonomous; hence the main purpose of building them in the first place is that you don't have to tell them what to do," Mr. Bringsjord said. "When an unforeseen situation arises, a capacity for deeper, on-board reasoning must be in place, because no finite rule set created ahead of time by humans can anticipate every possible scenario."

Last month in Chicago, during the first symposium on ethics and technology by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the two researchers demonstrated a kind of "morality" software in a robot simulation

that involved guarding a supposed enemy. "The scenario revolved around an all-too-human form of akrasia, a desire for revenge," Mr. Bringsjord said.

In Bringsjord's approach, all robot decisions would automatically go through a preliminary, lightning-quick ethical check using simple logics inspired by advanced artificially intelligent and question-answering computers. If the check revealed a need for deep, deliberate moral reasoning, such reasoning would be fired inside the robot using newly-invented logics made for the task, called "Deontic Cognitive Event Calculus." It is a machine language that is meant to function as a kind of moral governor on robotic behaviour. — **New York Times News Service**

Paramount embroiled in sponsorship row

A Beijing property developer has said that it has terminated cooperation with the new *Transformers* movie, accusing Paramount Pictures and two Chinese associate partners of failing to fulfil their obligations in a sponsorship deal. The Beijing Pangu Investment Co. Ltd. wants China to suspend screenings of the blockbuster film after scenes featuring a shopping mall it owns were deleted. — **AP**

Seeger to be honoured at folk festival

Late folk icon Pete Seeger is set to be honoured at the Clearwater music festival he began more than 30 years ago on the shore of the Hudson. Sets were planned to honour the music of the Weavers and Almanac Singers, both bands that featured Seeger. — **AP**

#PICK

TRENDING NOW

Adele completes work on new album

Adele has completed work on her hugely anticipated new album, rumoured to be titled *25*, and is ready for its release, the *Daily Star* reported. A source revealed that the plan was to release internationally on iTunes as a complete surprise without any build-up publicity campaign. — **ANI**

People want to adopt me: Tom Felton

Harry Potter actor Tom Felton claims people have tried to adopt him because they are obsessed with his dark character in the film. The 26-year-old actor, who played troubled young wizard Draco Malfoy in the film franchise, was left bemused, saying he admired the level of dedication of the films' fans. — **PTI**



Suspect's mugshot steals hearts on Internet

The police in Stockton, California, only wanted to document their latest weapons raid. But one of the pictures they posted on their Facebook page has turned into an Internet sensation. In a little more than 24 hours the mugshot of Jeremy Meeks, 30, one of the men arrested in the raid went viral, chalking up 70,000 likes and more than 24,000 comments. His rap sheet was overlooked by thousands of Facebook users transfixed by his baby-blue eyes. "Oh, he's guilty, all right - of taking thousands of women's breath away," wrote the *New York Daily News*. However, the police are not amused. Meeks, they said, was a convicted felon. — **DPA**



11th century stepwell in Gujarat gets World Heritage site tag



Rani-ki-Vav, an 11th century stepwell in Gujarat's Patan area. — FILE PHOTO: AFP

Anita Joshua

NEW DELHI: Rani-ki-Vav, an 11th century stepwell in the Patan area of Gujarat, was approved for inscription on the World Heritage list by UNESCO at the meeting of its World Heritage Committee in Doha on Sunday.

As per the UNESCO's announcement, "the Queen's Stepwell" was designed as an inverted temple highlighting the sanctity of water.

Located on the banks of the Saraswati and built as a me-

morial to King Bhimdev I of the Solanki dynasty, Rani-ki-Vav is divided into seven levels of stairs with sculptural panels.

These panels - more than 500 principle sculptures and over a 1,000 minor ones - "combine religious, mythological and secular imagery."

Soon after the inscription of Rani-ki-Vav was announced in Doha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted that it was "a matter of great pride for us" and urged his followers on Twitter

to visit the stepwell during their next visit to Gujarat. Describing it as an "excellent symbol of our great art and culture," he also tweeted the link to the monument available on the Gujarat Tourism website.

Three other sites that were inscribed are: Namhansan-ong in South Korea, the Grand Canal running from Beijing to Zhejiang province in Southern China, and the Silk Roads network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor.

'Billionaire' Hitler dodged tax worth £1.75 million

LONDON: A TV documentary team has revealed that Adolf Hitler owed 400,000 marks in back tax, which is worth £1.75 million now.

The leader of the Nazi Party had numerous money-making schemes and even copyrighted his own image, which earned him royalties for every stamp sold that featured his face, the *Mirror* reported.

According to Channel 5's program *The Hunt for Hitler's Missing Millions*, much of this was hidden from Germany's tax authorities after his rise to power; even his income included cash for speeches and public appearances. A will he signed hours before he shot himself in a Berlin bunker in April 1945 hid the fact he was a billionaire.

Dr. Chris Whetton, in his book *Hitler's Fortune* estimated that the dictator's wealth at its peak was likely to have been 1.1 billion reichsmarks, which are £3.6 billion today. — **ANI**

NASA to launch experiments of Indian student into space

DUBAI: An 11-year-old Indian student is the only participant from the UAE who has got her two experimental payloads for space approved by NASA through the space agency's programme for budding young scientists.

Two experiments by Prerna Pai, a seventh grader at Sharjah's Delhi Private School (DPS), are among the 100 selected experiments that will be fired into space by NASA on June 26, *Gulf News* reported.

Among those selected under the programme are seventy-five American students besides 25 students from the rest of the world.

Ms. Pai, an aspiring scientist, has been a regular participant in NASA student activities.

NASA had launched its Cubes in Space (CIS) Programme in May and had invited students from around the world in the age group of 11-14 to devise experimental payloads for space.

"I had to think a lot when I learnt about this contest and sent them [NASA] many proposals. My science teacher has always encouraged me to think out of the box and that inspired me. Once my ideas were selected, NASA sent me a kit into

which I had to place my experiments and mail it to them. I was so thrilled by the news that I even dashed off a thank-you note to NASA," *Gulf News* quoted Ms. Pai as saying.

She submitted two experiments that she called "To stick or not to stick" and "Time and pressure".

The first experiment is about studying how different adhesives are likely to behave in space in the absence of atmospheric pressure. For this, Ms. Pai used a thermocube of 12 pieces in which each corner was stuck using a different kind of adhesive such as modelling clay, wax, cello tape, metal wire, thread, school glue and super glue.

The second involves two tiny bottles - one made of plastic and the other of glass - sealed with a modelling clay cork and placed in a cube.

The experiment will focus on how the bottles react to lack of atmospheric pressure. Will they disintegrate, get damaged or remain intact?

Once the experiments are back from space and mailed to her, Pai intends to begin research on the effects, film the results and mail them back to NASA. — **PTI**

These materials can lead to faster computer memory

MELBOURNE: Researchers are studying a rare class of materials which could lead to faster, more reliable memory storage in computers.

Researchers from Victoria University of Wellington are studying the properties of rare earth nitrides (RENs), thin films grown under ultra-high vacuum which are both magnetic and semiconductor. "Our results provide a new way to control conduction precisely, meaning you can swap a device from being magnetic to non-magnetic, surpassing existing electronics regarding speed and power consumption," Dr. Ben Ruck from the School of Chemical and Physical Sciences explained. — **PTI**

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For further details on eligibility, log on to www.srmuniv.ac.in **IMPORTANT DATES**
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Last date for receipt of filled-in application: 10.07.2014
Date of Entrance Examination: 20.07.2014

HOW TO APPLY: Download application form from our website www.srmuniv.ac.in and filled-in application can be sent along with a demand draft for ₹1000/- drawn in favor of SRMIST payable at Chennai. Filled-in application should reach the Director (Admissions) on or before the last date specified (10.07.2014)

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Erica (5,8)
19 Leading Hungarian attacker
sprinted to evade Neymar's
chase (6)
20 Spoil vehicle about to be
used for tilling (7)
23 Government body built poor
constructions (9)
24 Sweeping stroke from
midfielder wearing belt (5)
26 Trainee dingoes found
wanting (7)
27 Reproduce songs about to be
broadcasted (7)
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1A strange plant (4)
2 Ancient banking house
applied science to remove

- 17* Present utensil on the radio
(6)
18* Indian god's lacking a ... (6)
21 Reserve German police
officer was embraced by a
Pole (6)
22 Support part of the society
(4)
25 Excited girl enters Goa and
returns (4)
- Solution to puzzle 11117
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U . S. researchers trying to code sense of ethics into robots

Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India

NOTIFICATION

RECRUITMENT OF PRINCIPAL cum PROFESSOR FOR THE PROPOSED
ESIC COLLEGE OF NURSING at GULBARGA, KARNATAKA

Employees' State Insurance Corporation is a statutory body constituted under an Act of Parliament (ESI Act, 1948), invites applications from eligible candidates for the post of PRINCIPAL cum PROFESSOR for its proposed ESIC-COLLEGE OF NURSING at GULBARGA, KARNATAKA, for appointment on contract basis through "Walk-in-Interview". The details of vacancies are as given below:

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3. Candidates may contact Medical Superintendent, ESIC Model Hospital, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560 010 at Telephone No: 080-23325130 between 11:00A.M. to 4:00P.M. for any clarification. They may also send their queries, if any on E-mail: ms-rajajinagar.kar@esic.in or esicmh@gmail.com
4. Applications registered online will only be accepted.
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Contact: The Director (Admissions),
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Kattankulathur - 603 203, Kancheepuram Dist.
Chennai area, Tamil Nadu, India.
Ph: 044-2745 5510, 4743 7500, Fax: 044-2745 3622
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