

# dashaavatara

## A Bal Puja Special Presentation

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Sunday, June 10, 2007  
**Shanthi Mandir**

### The Program

- ◆ Puja and Aarti
- ◆ Dashaavatara Show
- ◆ Prasad Lunch (pot-luck)



**Matsya**



**Kurma**



**Varaha**



**Narasimha**



**Vaamana**

**Matsya (Fish) - Played by Ashwini Mantrala:** Before the creation of the universe, the four Vedas remained drowned in the waters. It was necessary to instruct Brahma about the work of creation. Vishnu therefore took the form of a fish, descended into the waters and brought up these sacred books.

**Kurma (Tortoise) - Played by Naimish Balaji:** Lord Vishnu assumed the form of a tortoise and took the newly created earth on his back in order to render stability to the trembling globe. Mount Mandara was used as a churning rod which they rotated by winding the serpent Ananta (Vāsuki) round it. The nectar that came out of the ocean was distributed to the Devas.

**Varaha (Boar) - Played by Mohana Ratnaparkhe:** During destruction of the world, the earth sunk into deep waters. Lord Vishnu, the great preserver, taking the form of a boar, descended into the waters and brought up the earth with the help of his tusks.

**Narasimha (Man-Lion) - Played by Siddharth Yarlagadda:** This special form was adopted by Lord Vishnu to kill a demoniac ruler Hiranyakashyap, who had pleased the Lord Brahma with his religious offerings. It was to kill such a tyrant and to remove him from the earth that Lord Vishnu assumed the form of a man-lion, Narasimha.

**Vamana (Dwarf) - Played by Shreyas Srinivasan:** The fourth lineal descendant of Hiranyakashyap, named Bali, through his devotion and penance defeated Indra, the God of firmament, humbled other Gods and extended his authority over the three worlds. All the Gods appealed to Lord Vishnu for protection and He became manifest in His Dwarf Avatar of Vaman for the purpose of restraining Bali.

**Parashurama (the Ax-Welder) - Played by Aditi Rangnekar:** When the Kshatriya kings and their ministers became very corrupt and tyrannical, the goddess Prithvi (Mother Earth) went to Lord Vishnu and prayed for relief. Lord Vishnu answered the prayer and appeared on the earth as a descendant of

the great sage Brigu. Vishnu appeared as Rama the Ax-Welder (Parasuram) and avenged the gruesome murder of his father by a Kshatriya king.

**Rama - Played by Siddarth Goel:** Vishnu in the incarnation of Rama, destroyed Ravana, the evil king of Lanka.

**Krishna Played by Anmol Sethi:** This incarnation is considered the most important of the ten. The most popular stories are about his skill as a flute player, conquering the hearts of milkmaids of Gokul, the Kāliyādaman, Krishna as a boy stealing butter, the lifting of Govardhana mountain and of course his great role in giving advice to Arjuna in the form of "Bhagvata Gītā."

**Buddha - Played by Prerna Srinivasan:** In the age of Kali, the true devotion to the Vedas was replaced by empty rituals. To enlighten the world in such times, Lord Vishnu descended the earth as Buddha, the enlightened one. Buddha advocated the Middle Path, in which he offered a balanced, harmonious way of life, steering between two extremes of self-indulgence and total abstinence.

**Kalki Played by Saurabh Goel:** The tenth and the last avatar of Vishnu, Kalki, is yet to appear. Kalki will appear at the end of the Kaliyuga. This avatar will appear seated on a white horse with a drawn sword blazing like a comet. He shall come finally to destroy the wicked, to restart the new creation and to restore the purity of conduct in people's lives.

#### Other Participants:

Narrator: *Anchal Sethi*

Vishnu: *Niyati Rangnekar*

Sheshanag: *Avanti Rangnekar*

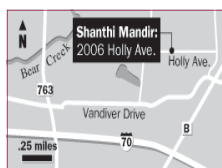
Prahalad: *Arul Sethi*

Radha: *Aishi Sethi*

Mother Earth: *Gouri Ratnaparkhe*

Devas and Devis: *Ipsa and Trisha Chaudhary, and*

*Nila Palaniappan*



#### Directions to Shanthi Mandir, the Hindu Temple:

Take Exit 127 on Interstate 70, Head north on Rangeline Street, Right at first traffic light on Vandiver Drive, Left on Parker Street, Right on Holly Avenue, Shanthi Mandir sign-board will be visible on the right after 5-6 homes.

**Hindu Temple and Community Center of Mid-Missouri (HTCC)**

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**Parashurama**



**Rama**



**Krishna**



**Buddha**



**Kalki**