

**Bio-data of**  
**Prakasarao V Velagapudi, PhD**

**(14726 Harmony Lane, Frisco, TX 75035; Phone: 601-918-7111C/ 601-856-4783H)**

He attended Hindu College and National College in Machilipatnam, and received his MA degree in Rural Development and Economics at Andhra University in 1963. Then he worked at Center for the Study of Developing Societies in New Delhi 1964-65.

He came to USA in 1965 and received his MA in Sociology from Michigan State University and Ph. D in Sociology from Mississippi State University in 1971. He taught for 36 years at US educational institutions. He joined Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi as Associate Professor 1974 and became a Professor in 1979. In 1986, he was appointed as a Chairman of the Department of Sociology. He also served as Chairman of the combined Department of Sociology and Criminology. He retired in 2006.

He authored and /or coauthored with Dr. Nadini Rao about 70 articles in the areas of marriage and family, aging, Hinduism, criminology, sociology of sports and other areas in professional journals. He organized numerous sessions on Reincarnation, Karma, South Asian Studies, Comparative religions, Spirituality and religion at professional meetings. He coauthored books the following books with his wife Nandini Rao:

Marriage, Family and Women in India,  
Wonders of a Holy Master I,  
Wonders of a Holy Master Volume II  
Wonders of a Holy Master III  
God Word Volume II  
God Word Volume III.  
Sadguru Tattvam (In Dec 2014)  
Narendra Modi and the Surge of Hindu Pride (August 2014)

“**Reviving Hinduism**” book is being released by Dr. Subramanian Swamy on June 18 in Mumbai. One hour discussion is also planned in Bhaarath TV on June 20, 2017.

He presented numerous papers at different organizations: Hindu Mandir Executive Conference, WAVES, Hindu Empowerment Conference, World Religious Conference, NadaVeda Dhyana Kendra (Bangalore) and many professional organizations.

**HTSM:** He was one of the Founding members of Hindu Temple Society of Mississippi (HTSM) and served as it's President from 1986 to 1991. During this period, 7000 square feet Hindu Temple was built and consecrated in 1990 with Lord Venkateswara as the Moola murthi along with 16 other deities. In 2005 a New Hindu Temple was started. Construction was completed in 2010. Participated in the performance of Pranaprathishta and Kumbabhishekam ceremonies in May 2010.

**DYC:** In 1990 he had the honor of meeting Sri Ganapathi Sachchidananda Swamiji of Avadhuta Datta Peetham which lead to the beginning of his spiritual journey. In 1993, he was appointed as Chairman of Datta Yoga Center (DYC), USA, responsible for coordinating all the

activities of Datta Temple and Hall of Trinity, Baton Rouge, LA; Datta Retreat Center in Pennsylvania, and 24 Satsangh groups in USA. He also serves as Advisor to Datta Yoga Centre in Toronto, Canada.

With Sri Swamiji's blessings, he moved to Frisco, TX in May 2009 to help coordinate the planning and Construction of Karya Sidhi Hanuman Temple on a ten-acre lot with a budget of about 10 million dollars. Four feet Marakata (Emerald) Hanuman will be installed in the Temple.

Conducted several tours to visit **Karya Siddhi Hanuman Temple** by the American Community, high school students and college students.

Visited few Churches and Middle school to talk about Hinduism

**In December 2016**, nearly 300 students visited Hanuman Temple. Spoke about Hinduism to all these students in seven different batches by way of Power Point Presentation.

**In January 2017**, I conducted classes to Austin College Students on five different topics: 1) Hinduism in Nutshell, 2) Mythology and Symbology of Gods and Goddesses, 3) Shodasa Upachara Puja explanation, 4) The Benefits of Healing and Meditation Music and 5) The Concept of Guru Tattva

**TANA:** He actively participated in TANA (Telugu Association of North America) from 1979-1995; served in a number of committees, helped conduct Youth Camp in St. Louis, and conducted survey on identity of youth. He brought Dr. Medasani Mohan for the first time in 1989, and then in 1991 to TANA; and arranged his tour in different cities in USA. He also invited and arranged Sri Veturi's program in Houston and other cities in 2000. He served as the co-chair of Spiritual Committee of TANA (2009-2011).

**GHHF:** Global Hindu Heritage Foundation (GHHF) was started in 2006 by a group of highly professional people in USA with the sole objective of freeing the Hindu Temples from the government control by challenging the Endowment Act in the court of law. Serving as President of GHHF since it's inception. He is also involved in Hindu Devalaya Parirakshana Samiti which was established in December 2006 by GHHF to help protect the Temple lands and revenues across Andhra Pradesh by taking necessary peaceful methods. Involved in Maha Pada Yatra to raise the awareness of people, help coordinate Pubic Forums in Tirupathi in 2008 and 2009.

He presented either papers or PPP about the plight of Hindu Temples in India in several cities in India and USA. He presented the information at Hindu Mandir Executive Conferences in Dallas, Atlanta, Washington DC, and Chicago; Hindu Empowerment Conference in Dallas, 25<sup>th</sup> International Ramayana Conference in India; Worlds Religions Conference; Sanatana Dharma Foundation meeting; and other meetings. Also fortunate to present papers at Sai Baba Temple in Florida, Hindu Cultural Center and Temple, Memphis TN, Durga Temple in Virginia; Hindu Temple Society in Tampa FL, Hanuman Temple in Frisco TX; Hindu Temple Society of MS; Devi Temple in Fort Lauderdale FL, Hindu Temple Youngstown OH, Hindu Temple Riverdale GA, etc. Also a number of cities hosted his presentation by a group of people in such cities as Orlando, Atlanta GA, Chicago, IL, Baton Rouge LA, Washington DC, Bradenton FL, Brandon FL, Del Ray Beach FL, Dallas TX, Houston TX, Raleigh NC, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Tenali, Machilipatnam, Bhimavaram, Guntur, New Delhi, Bangalore, Mysore, and others.

He was fortunate to meet with many political leaders such as Dr. Subramanian Swamy, L K Advani (in Vijayawada 2008), Venkaiah Naidu, Bandaru Dattatreya, V. Ramarao, Rama Jois, Kishan Reddy, Praveen Tagodia, Ashok Shingal, Y S Rajasekhara Reddy, Juvvada Ratnakar, Aruna Kumari Galla, Chandrababu Naidu, Jayaprakash Narayana, S. Vedantam, Sri P. Manikyala Rao, and others to request their help to repeal the Endowment Act. Also met with spiritual leaders such as Sri Ganapathi Sachchidananda Swamiji, Swami Baba Ramdev, Swami Dayananda Saraswati, Swami Jayendra Saraswati, Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi, Swami Paripoornananda, Swami Sukhabodananda, Sri Vishwamji, Sadhvi Ritimbaradevi; Swami Chidatmananda, Swami Datta Vijayananda Teerdha, Swami Vigyananda (VHP) Karuamayi Amma, Swami Chidananda, Amma of Siripuram, Kurtalapeetham Swami, Sri Sri Ravi Sankar, Sri Swaroopananda Saraswathy Swamiji, and other spiritual leaders seeking their blessings in our efforts to preserve the integrity and protection of Hindu Temples.

GHHF was very happy to organize Dr. Subramanian Swamy lectures in USA for five year in about 15 cities. I have presented a paper in September 2014 at Patriot Forum for Social Development conference in New Delhi organized by Dr. Swamy on the **Plight of Hindu Temples in India**.

He also coordinated the efforts to produce a special CD entitled **DEVALYAM** with Dr. **Ghazal Srinivas** with aim to kindle the spark to appreciate the importance of Hindu Temples. Dr. Ghazal Srinivas Concerts were arranged in May 2012 in Dallas and Houston. GHHF is very fortunate to coordinate the Symposium on Save Temples in Dallas, TX with Honorable C. Ramachandraiah Endowments Minister of Andhra Pradesh as Chief Guest in August 2012.

Coordinated the International Short Film Festival in Hyderabad in August 2014 highlighting the importance of Hindu Temples and Gomata. Attended the release of **Hindi CD entitled "Mandir"** by Sadhvi Ritimbaradevi in September 2014.

#### **Awards Received:**

Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Swamiji of Avadhuta Datta Peetham awarded "**VISHWA HINDU**" award in 2013.

NATS awarded the title of "**Spiritual Seva Leader**," Yuva Kalavahini conferred the title "**Swami Vivekananda Excellence Award**" and TANA issue **Distinguished Service Award**.

**Bhaarath TV recognized his service to Hinduism and conferred "Dharma Premika" award in February 2017 in Hyderabad.**

**TTD and Hindu Dharma Parirakshana Trust invited to attend "Dharmic Sadassu" on December 4 2015 and also invited to attend this year on February 20, 2017 in Tirupathi.**

#### **Articles Written:**

He has written more than **150 articles** that are published in SAVETEMPLES website

**Please visit our website: [savtemples.org](http://savtemples.org) for all activities related to GHHF**

