

HINDU CHAPLAINCY

2022-2023 newsletter



**Hindu Chaplain
Preeta Banerjee, PhD**

Namaste dear friends,

The Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy greets you in the spirit of a revitalizing wellspring where you come to nourish yourself, share and learn with others, and build community. This is a community that cares deeply about supporting growth across all the koshas (layers of being): physically, emotionally, mentally, energetically and spiritually. As part of a team of chaplains committed to this deep caring and support for future leaders like yourselves, I look forward to exploring all the opportunities that Tufts has to offer with you. Exploration requires rest and rejuvenation, and I am here to offer spiritual support, tools, and techniques throughout your time at Tufts.

I work closely with Tufts' Hindu Student Association (HSA), and we are available to anyone curious about learning more regarding Hinduism across the spectrum of philosophy, spirituality, religion, and practice. The HSA is a student group fostering community and interaction around the concepts of Hindu faith and identity here at Tufts. We offer you our warmest welcome!

I look forward to connecting more with you. Dhanyavaadah and best wishes,

Preeta Banerjee, PhD

Hindu Chaplain

In line with the University Chaplaincy, the Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy's mission is to: provide individual and group care through deep and sacred listening; support community building across the spectrum of what it means to be a Hindu; educate about spiritual and ethical issues in society and the world; and promote multifaith engagement.

Regular Programming

- Reading and discussion groups
- Weekly student-led meetings
- Alumni networking events
- Senior week lunch and post-Baccalaureate Open House
- Diwali and Saraswati pujas
- Unlearning Retreat with the Humanist Chaplaincy
- Interfaith Temple visits with CAFE and COFFEE



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Program Spotlight: Interfaith visit to the Shivalaya Temple of Greater Boston with CAFE

This fall, Tufts Hindu Student Association (HSA), CAFE, and the Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy visited the Shivalaya Temple of Greater Boston on Bijoya/Dusseera. Bijoya is the last day of the 10 day celebration of the Goddess Durga's fight against evil. Likewise, Dusseera is the celebration of Lord Ram against evil. Participants walked from the Interfaith Center to the temple, engaged in the puja services, and then met for a discussion about the experiences. Whether a long-time family tradition or a first-time visit, we all were deeply touched by the mutual, heart-felt sharing.



"The Bhagavad Gita reading group was a wonderful space to reflect on how we can apply the Gita to our day-to-day lives. Each conversation left me deep in thought as well as motivated to put the teachings into practice. It was also nice to have a space to catch up with each other a couple times a month!"

Arya Pindiprolu, A22

SUPPORT HINDU LIFE AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

It is through student advocacy and institutional support that the Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy came into being, and we have accomplished so much in starting a new initiative at Tufts and in the world. As we enter our third year, please support us in continuing to grow the Hindu Chaplaincy at Tufts.

- **\$25** supports offerings for puja, including sweets and flowers
- **\$75** contributes to senior gifts and community meals for the Alumni Networking Events and Graduation Ceremonies in December and May
- **\$150** covers the replacement of murtis that were donated many years ago

To give to the Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy Fund online, please visit <http://go.tufts.edu/giveHindu>. To discuss a major gift, endowment, or bequest, please contact our Advancement liaison Lorraine Sparrow:

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Thank you for your generosity and support.