

Dharma Inc. International



Second Annual Essay Contest

Title Page

(Please Attach This Page to the Front of Your Essay)

Entrant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail (optional): _____

Date of Birth: _____

Essay Choice (check one):

- Ages 13 and under: ***Why am I proud to be a Hindu?***
We say "*Hum Hindu Hain*" which means we are proud of our identity. Please share with us what makes you proud to be part of a Hindu family and community.
200-300 words (approximate).
- Ages 14 and up: ***What can a Hindu contribute to one's community?***
Many of us seek ways to not only benefit but also contribute to our communities. Please share with us, in your words, what a Hindu can bring to one's community.
400-500 words (approximate).

Number of Pages of Essay: _____

Essay Word Count: _____



Second Annual Essay Competition

GENERAL RULES

- Participants must write on the official topic.
 - Essays should be composed in standard United States English.
 - Each entry should begin with a title page (provided) containing:
 - The title of your essay**
 - Entrant's name, address, phone number and date of birth**
 - Number of words in essay**
 - Total number of pages of essay**
- NOTE: This information should be present only on the title page, not every page.*
- Essays should contain at least the minimum required word count and should not exceed the maximum. Verbiage exceeding the maximum word count may not be judged.
 - Word count does not include the essay title, footnotes, other references or bibliography.
 - Each page of the essay should be numbered, starting with page 1 of the essay (not the title page) and should be numbered at the bottom right of each page.
 - Any references used (such as quotes, references, etc.) should be documented properly and in a consistent form, e.g. footnotes, endnotes etc.

CONTEST REGULATIONS

All essays should comply with the following regulations before submission:

- No literary form other than an essay can be accepted (no poems, songs etc.).
- Essays must be typed or handwritten and lines should be double-spaced.
- Each essay should reflect the entrant's own research and/or writing (no plagiarism).
- Entrants must demonstrate that they have themselves composed their essays in order to qualify for consideration (own typing or handwriting).
- Only one (1) essay may be submitted by each entrant.
- Each entrant must attach a completed entry form with the essay.
- The title of the essay, but not the entrant's name, must appear at the top of each page of essay text.
- References can be included in your essay. It should be clearly identified as such.
- Please mail three (3) copies of the essay to:
 - Dharma Inc. International
 - 3858 Shoreview Drive,
 - Kissimmee, FL 34744
- Copies of your essay **may be hand delivered** to a member of the Education Committee, a member of the board or the Spiritual Leader.
- You may also submit completed essays to: Info@DharmaInc.net .
- All entries must be received or postmarked **on or before October 9th 2011.**

JUDGING

- Judging will be by a panel of three.

- To guarantee fairness, the name and any other personally identifiable information on the entrant will not be available to the Judges.
- Judging shall be on three categories: **grammar, presentation and content**. These three categories will be allotted points of 20, 30 and 50 respectively, for a total possible score of 100 points.
- The entrant with the highest score will be declared the winner.
- Second and third places will be awarded for second and third highest score respectively.

Please see the following guidelines to assist in understanding and obtaining maximum points:

Grammar: Maximum 20 points

How well the essay conforms to rules and standards of United States English grammar, punctuation and spelling. Concise language.

Presentation: Maximum 30 points

The overall presentation of the essay, writing style, essay structure, logical flow and the progression of ideas, references, whether conclusions follow sequentially and logically from arguments.

Content: Maximum 50 points

Age appropriate knowledge. Evidence of your own ideas, experience, analysis and thesis (for ages 14 and up). The use of credible and authoritative sources or scriptures. Corroborative conclusions drawn from established facts, norms and customs of Sanatan Dharma or Hinduism.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- All prizes should be claimed in person on the appointed date and time. If it is not possible to do so and you desire a representative to claim on your behalf, this arrangement must be made, before hand, in conjunction with Dharma Inc.
- Winning essays may be read on the appointed date and time by winning entrants. If this is not possible for the entrant, the winning essay can be read by a representative selected by Dharma Inc.
- Dharma Inc. may publish selected essays on its media portals, with credit to entrants.
- Prizes should be claimed within 180 days of announcement of winners, on 10/23/2011.
- Judges' decision is final.
- **GOOD LUCK!** 😊