

# Nagar Association of Houston, Tx.

June 2005

Published by Nagar Association of Texas Houston Committee

**June 12, 2005:** The Nagar Community of Texas Houston (NATH) has been a growing community with families getting added as more families move to the area. One of the primary events that the community has participated in has traditionally been the Hatkeshwara Patotsav. The origin of this celebration in Houston was at Shri Padmakantbhai and Shrimati Neetaben's residence, who hosted this event for several years and also provided guidance and leadership to the Houston's Nagar Community over the years.

## 2005 Hatkeshvar Patotsav



This year's NATH Hatkeshvar Patotsav was held at Shri Dushyantbhai and Shrimati Reshmaben Vora's residence on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005, which incidentally also happened to be the auspicious day of Hanuman Jayanti. The Nagar families attended the event with enthusiasm and all of the families were decked in their best traditional Indian costumes.

## Nothing but Festive Mood at Patotsav

The Patotsav was celebrated in a very festive mood. The function began at



Ashish and Kruti performing aarti along with others

6.30pm with the first event of the evening being the puja ceremony (Hatkeshvar puja) revering Lord Shiva and Lord Ganesh, performed by kids under the able guidance of Shrimati Madhviben Vaidya. What was heartening to see was that for this event, not only did the young kids participate, but the young Nagar teens and adults also joined in enthusiastically, with Madhviben narrating the significance of each and every ritual of the puja as it proceeded. This was then followed by the Shiva shloka and stuti by all adults in unison, with Padmakantbhai, Madhviben and Shri Chirantanbhai Vaidya taking the lead. Some of the shlokas recited were the Lingaashtakam, Shiv Panchaakshara Sthothram, to name a few. Then came time for the Shiv Aarti and every family took turns performing it. This was duly followed by the

'Pushpanjali', after which Prasad was distributed.

#### **Address by NATH President**

Before the dinner, there was an announcement made by Dr. Snehal Mehta, the current NATH president about the need for updating the member profile so that a current and updated directory could be maintained, and to that effect, membership forms were distributed. He also thanked Dushyantbhai and Reshmaben on behalf of the Nagar community for being the gracious host for this event.

#### **Melodious Bhajans and Kirtans and Dinner**

Then we had melodious bhajan and kirtans sung by Omkar Dave, Mauli Dave, Shri Hemantbhai Dave and Chirantanbhai. And finally towards the end of the evening, everyone was treated to a delicious dinner. More than 100 people of all ages including kids

from in and around the greater Houston area enjoyed the Patotsav event this year around.

#### **Texas Participation**

This year's Patotsav was especially graced by participation of several out of town participation from towns like Austin, Killeen and Victoria.

#### **We encourage your Feedback and Content for future Newsletters**

With the publication of this newsletter, an attempt is made to create a profile of Nagar families in and around Houston. The main purpose of this is to create better awareness of the Nagar Community among its members. The NATH committee will be very encouraged if community can provide information to enhance this information at the future events. Here is our first newsletter. We hope to get your positive feedback as well content for future newsletters to make it a success.