

*For immediate release*

# **Fowler City Council in California to have 1st Hindu invocation in 104 years**

Fowler City Council in California (USA) will reportedly have its first Hindu invocation on June five since the city was incorporated in 1908, containing verses from world's oldest existing scripture.

Hindu statesman Rajan Zed will deliver the opening prayer from ancient Sanskrit scriptures before the City Council. After Sanskrit delivery, he then will read the English translation of the prayer. Sanskrit is considered a sacred language in Hinduism and root language of Indo-European languages.

Zed, who is the President of Universal Society of Hinduism, will recite from *Rig-Veda*, the oldest scripture of the world still in common use, besides lines from *Upanishads* and *Bhagavad-Gita* (Song of the Lord), both ancient Hindu scriptures. He plans to start and end the prayer with "Om", the mystical syllable containing the universe, which in Hinduism is used to introduce and conclude religious work.

Reciting from *Brahadaranyakopanishad*, Rajan Zed plans to say "Asato ma sad gamaya, Tamaso ma jyotir gamaya, Mrtyor mamrtam gamaya", which he will then translate as "Lead me from the unreal to the Real, Lead me from darkness to Light, and Lead me from death to Immortality." Reciting from *Bhagavad-Gita*, he proposes to urge Councilmembers to keep the welfare of others always in mind.

Zed has been awarded "World Interfaith Leader Award" and is Senior Fellow and Religious Advisor to New York headquartered Foundation for Religious Diplomacy, Spiritual Advisor to National Association of Interchurch & Interfaith Families, etc.

Hinduism, oldest and third largest religion of the world, has about one billion adherents and moksh (liberation) is its ultimate goal.

Fowler, whose tagline is "The Blossom Trail City", is located in an area full of lush grape vineyards. City of Fowler claims: With its distinct "Americana" atmosphere...it's a great place to live and work. David Cardenas, Daniel T. Parra and David Elias are Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem and City Manager respectively.