## Aparna Peri 10th Grade (Connecticut)

## Role of Seva in Hinduism

Seva is one of the ways to realize God. By serving others, by making others happy you find your true self inside where your journey towards God starts. One should never do Seva by expecting something in return from others. Seva is a human's duty; a duty to serve others and not for one's own happiness but for other's happiness. Seva is done through one's mind (man), through one's body (tan), and through one's money (dhan).

Seva has to be done through one's mind. One should understand the pain of other's. They should understand other's sorrows and problems. But it also means that Seva should not be done just because it is their duty but also from heart. They should help others through soul; others should feel the Seva they are getting. After you serve other through your mind, you could feel their happiness from inside. As many of the Hindu Gods and Goddesses have set examples for us to learn. Like Shri Ram, he has taught us to serve other through our mind. To serve others and to help others from deep inside our hearts. Not just through mind but one should also serve others through their body.

Seva through one's body is one the important thing, without which Seva is incomplete. One should serve others by making all the efforts to help the suffering or the pain of a person. As our role in Hinduism we serve the poor; the needy with food and some clothes, in which we put our body's effort which serves our role as doing Seva from Tan. As Shri Hanuman ji has served his disciples through his body. He has also served Shri Ram through his mind and Body. The more hard work one does the more one could serve and the more one could serve the more one will get closer to the journey towards God. Just like Man and Tan even Dhan one's own resource serves as an important role in Seva.

Using one of our own resources which is money serves as a big part in the role of Seva. There are many kind people in this world, who have given their hard earned money in donations. What could be more selflessness than this? Some people do not even serve their parents to save money, but there are people in this world, who might donate their hard work's money to strangers just to serve them. As a role in Hinduism a person donates money in charity, for poor people, and also as a disciple in a *Mandir*. All these three ways of Seva play the biggest role of Seva, without which Seva is incomplete.

Through one's mind, through one's Body, and through one's money, the role of Seva is completed. The most important person not just in Hinduism but all religion does the most complete and perfect Seva, who is a mother. No other relation can be compared to a mother. She does the most Seva to her child, more than anyone else could. She takes care of her child through her mind; from the bottom of her heart. She servers her child through her body; bearing all the pains for her kids puts all her physical effort for them. She also serves her child through her own resource like money; because she would never want her child to ever suffer for anything because of money. A mother plays all three roles, thus completing her role of Seva in a perfect way.