

Work Done by World Hindi Foundation (June 2007)

Reported by Ram Chaudhari, Executive Director, World Hindi Foundation email: chaudhar@oswego.edu

The World Hindi Foundation (WHF), incorporated in USA, is a non-profit Educational and Charitable Foundation (www.worldhindifoundation.org). It started work in January 2000. Its Charter states, "The activities of the Foundation shall be international. It may have affiliated chapters all over the world." The narrative below represents the TEAM work done by the members of the Foundation. The Mission and Goals of the Foundation are:

Mission

To create a global awareness of the Hindi language; To promote its use in all branches of knowledge; To disseminate the values enshrined in the culture of India.

Goals

- I) To encourage the establishment of Hindi classes in Indian Community Centers, areas High Schools and Colleges and to work toward creating Hindi Chairs in the Universities.
- II) To work toward promoting Hindi as a working language of the United Nations.
- III) To disseminate the works of Indian literary scholars.
- IV) The Foundation will seek support from individuals and institutions. It will initiate special projects and will invite scholars, specialists, and performers to help achieve our goals.

During six years of its existence, the Foundation has made significant progress:

1. Held six annual conventions, two in the State of New Jersey, two in New York State, one in San Francisco California, and one in Chicago, Illinois. In addition to the members of the Foundation, the participants in the conventions included Hindi scholars from India, and America. Hindi Teaching Workshops are integral part of the conventions.

2. We have four quarterly publications: *Hindi Jagat*, a literary/cultural magazine, *Bal Hindi Jagat*, a children's magazine, *Nyas Samachar*, a newsletter, and the fourth, *Vigyan Prakash*, a science magazine in Hindi. Its inaugural issue was published in January 2003. *In January 2004, during Chandigarh session of Indian Science Congress, we distributed 3,500 complementary copies of Vigayn Prakash to the delegates.* Our publications, Hindi Jagat and Vigyan Prakash are sent, free of charge, to Hindi scholars, and the scientists in India, USA and other countries. Besides publications mentioned above, the Foundation is also publishing a series of monographs under the scheme of Vigyan Sahityamala. Three texts published so far are: हिन्दी में विज्ञान भावना (2003); लोक-विज्ञान तथा साहित्य साधना (2004); रमेश दत्त शर्मा: प्रतिनिधि रचनाये (2005). We are indebted to Prof. Suresh Rituparna, Dr. Vijay Gour, Dr. Awadhesh Śrivastava, Mrs. Nishi Sharma, Dr. Govind Singh and Shri Devendra Mewari, they have worked hard to make these publications possible.

3. The Foundation has sponsored Hindi classes in Wappinger Falls (NY), and Marlboro (NJ). A curriculum, based on American Council for Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL) has been developed. The students learning Hindi under this curriculum may have two advantages: They can receive High School credit for Hindi, and, can enroll in higher level Hindi courses in colleges.

4. In association with Infinity Foundation and INSAF (INdian Schools Alumni and Friends), the WHF donated \$8,000 to Rutgers University to expand their Hindi offerings.

5. A Fundraising to raise \$10,000 is underway to start Hindi 201-202 at Rutgers in Fall 2007.