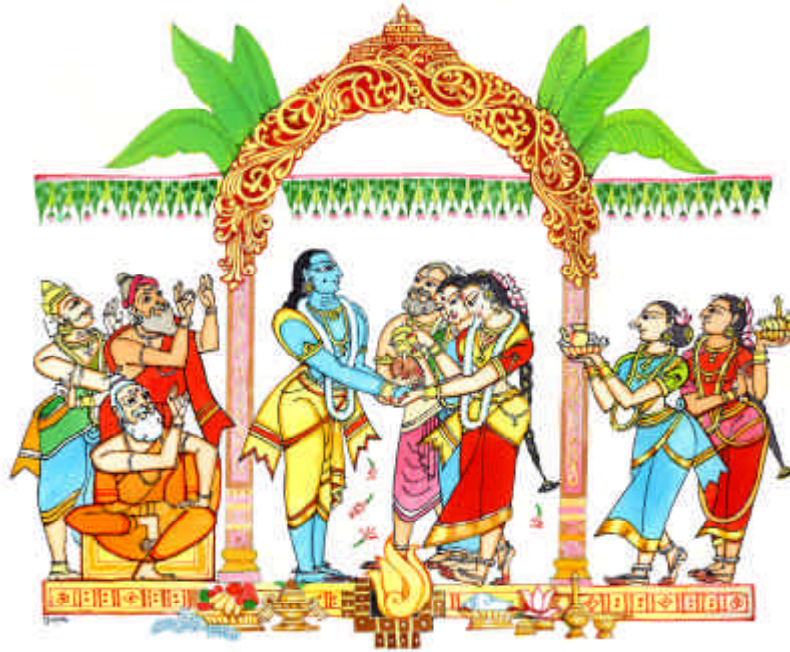


# Origins, Tradition and Practice

*Including a step-by-step Wedding Ceremony in Sanskrit  
with English transliteration and translation*

**by A.V. Srinivasan**



भार्या दैवकृतः सखा

*“A wife is a God-given friend”*

*The Mahabharata*

PERIPLUS LINE LLC

Copyright © Periplus Line LLC, 2006

ISBN-13: 978-0-9785443-0-0

ISBN-10: 0-9785443-0-7

Hardcover, First Edition.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the Publisher.

Inquiries should be addressed to the Publisher:

SAN: 850-8577

Periplus Line LLC

Attention: Permissions Department

P.O. Box 56, East Glastonbury, CT 06025-0056

U.S.A.

Publisher's Cataloging-In-Publication Data

(Prepared by The Donohue Group, Inc.)

Srinivasan, A. V.

The Vedic wedding : origins, tradition and practice : including a step-by-step wedding ceremony in Sanskrit with English transliteration and translation / by A.V. Srinivasan ; illustrations by Bapu.

p. : ill., facsims. ; cm.

In English and Sanskrit.

Includes bibliographical references and glossary.

ISBN: 0-9785443-0-7

1. Marriage service (Hinduism) 2. Marriage customs and rites, Hindu--History. I. Bapu, 1933- II. Title.

BL1226.82.M3 S65 2006

294.5/385

LIMITED EDITION (1,000 copies), numbered.

*Illustrations by Bapu*

Manufactured in India at The Bangalore Press.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword

Author's Note

Acknowledgements

CHAPTER I. Introduction

CHAPTER II. Hindu Philosophy of Marriage: Friendship; Dharmapatni; Vivaha  
Samskara

CHAPTER III. The Origins: The Vedas, the Shastras, the Griya Sutras, the Epics

CHAPTER IV. Tradition and Practice

CHAPTER V. The Wedding Ceremony:

Preliminaries

Assemblies: The Bridegroom's Family, The Bride's Family

Processionals and Milni

An Overview

Preparatory Chants

Sankalpam

Bride's Arrival; Garland Exchange

Hasta Milap

Kanyadanam

Mangalyadharanam

Agni Pratishtapana

Homas: Pradhana Homa; Laaja Homa

Saptapadi

Closing ceremonies: Arati; Ashirvadam; Recessional

#### Appendix I: Forms and Format

Family Data Form

Basic Wedding Materials List

Sample Program

Music/DJ

#### Appendix II: Planning and Coordination

Rehearsal/Preparatory Steps

Stage Direction

Fire Management

Opening Ceremonies

Closing Ceremonies

#### Appendix III: Vedic Calendar

Sankalpam and its parameters

#### Appendix IV: Additional Ceremonies and Customs

Ankurarpana

Anujna

Rakshabandhan/Visarjan

Sitting/Standing

Engagement Ceremony

Yagnopavitam

Kashiyatra

Groom's Arrival

Padaprakshalana/Ritual cleansing

Madhuparkam

Antarpat

Jeeriga/Bellam

Mangalashtak

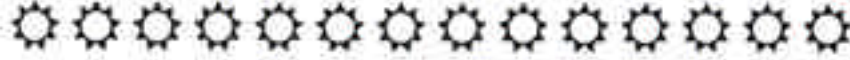
Sitting on Father's Lap

Hasta Milap

From Right to Left

Tying the Knot

Ashmarohana



#### Appendix IV: Additional Ceremonies and Customs (continued)

Vows  
Talambraalu  
Ceremonial Presentation of Clothing  
Dhruva/Arundhati Darshan  
Sindhur Application  
Drshti  
Unjal  
Games  
Presentation of Gifts  
Saashtaanga/Blessings from Elders  
Vidai  
Grhapravesham

#### Appendix V: Bridal Attire

Jewelry  
Clothes  
Floral  
Wedding make-up

#### Appendix VI: Pujas

Bibliography  
Glossary; Abbreviations  
About the Author  
Transliteration Scheme