

NEWSLETTER Vaastuyogam

Connecting Vaastu to the 21st Century



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EDITORIAL TEAM

- ◆ Dr Ravi Rao
- ◆ Ms Malati Puranik
- ◆ Mr Ravi Sharma
- ◆ Mr Jaydeep Gohil

ADDRESS

Vaastuyogam

B-302, Balleshwar Square,
Opp. Iscon Temple, SG Highway,
Ahmedabad - 380015
Gujarat, India

- ◆ Phone: +91 79 26862783 / 85
- ◆ Fax: +91 79 26862771
- ◆ Website: www.vaastuyogam.com

EDITORIAL



Welcome to the May 2012 issue of Vaastuyogam

Readers will be happy to know that our magazine is spreading everywhere, especially overseas where it is the beacon to those wanting to strengthen ties with India and infuse the spirit of Hinduism in their families.

From the past few issues, Vaastuyogam has launched a concerted effort to throw light on the ancient Hindu epics of Ramayan and Mahabharat. We are also, through our "Heritage of India" series. It is our sincere hope that our initiatives will take the readers closer to our rich and ancient heritage.

In our current Vedic India issue, the R a m a y a n article clearly puts the onus of this responsibility on the parents, who should inculcate these values in their children.



I thank the readers who have taken trouble to call me and to share their opinions on the article they have liked. As always, I - along with the whole Vaastuyogam team - look forward to your continued encouragement and feedback. Please feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions etc. on the magazine. Your comments are looked forward to.

Happy reading.

Dr. Ravi Rao ■

VAASTU TURNAROUND

Dr Manish Raval comes from a family of doctors. In fact, in Ahmedabad alone, he can count more than twenty close cousins who are doctors. Many of his friends are doctors too. Dr Manish Raval has two children Pratham aged 9 years and Kaavya who is all of 3 years. His wife Reema is herself an accomplished ophthalmologist. She works at the Nagri Eye Hospital in Ahmedabad.

We met Dr Manish Raval in the lawns of his palatial residence in Ahmedabad. Several melodious tiny birds chirped tirelessly throughout the interview for company.

Excerpts from the interview:-



Dr Manish Raval

Schooling

Since my father's job involved regular transfers, my schooling was in various towns of Gujarat like Bhavnagar, Junagadh and Prantij. I remember our Jetpur house for its sprawling 5000 square yards compound. My father was a mamlatdar then and though not all government accommodations are big, the Jetpur one was king-size. Since we kept shifting residences all the time, I got accustomed to temporary friendships and keeping to myself whenever the need arose. Yet some strong ties did emerge and I cherish them as gifts from my early days.

In my junior classes, though I spent time playing with my neighbourhood friends rather than with my books, I scored good marks in my exams. It was only after class IX that I took seriously. I did my class X, in Swastik Shishu Vihar - a very good

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“I see no harm in leaning on Vaastu even if it might not pass the test of logic.”

- Dr Manish Raval

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VAASTU TURNAROUND

school. By that time, my father was promoted to the post of Commissioner of Ahmedabad.

In Ahmedabad, I had few friends and even fewer places to go with the result that I had all the time I needed to get going with my studies. The year was 1985. Ahmedabad was on fire due to communal riots that were raging intermittently all throughout the city. The government responded by clamping curfew for long stretches of days. On this count, Ahmedabad bears the stigma of having the longest imposition of curfew (over 375 days) for a big city in India. For many, this was bad and yet for many others it was good. For me it was good. Good, because the exams were postponed time and again continuously and I got ample time to brush up on my syllabus. I redoubled my focus on studies, knowing full well, that as I belonged to a middle class family I had to do

I was determined to get everything right because this house was a very big thing for me and perhaps something I was not prepared for financially at that time. Moreover, this move to the new house was to ensure a better and fuller life and I was convinced that a proper Vaastu house was necessary to achieve my goal. Also, I wanted to have peace that would not be easily disturbed.



Dr. Manish Raval did his MBBS from BJ Medical College – Civil hospital – Ahmedabad and his Post graduation (M.S) from M & J Regional Institute Of Ophthalmology also from Civil hospital - Ahmedabad. His Fellowships include Phacoemulsification (Dr. Abhay Vasavada) & Cornea & Glaucoma (L.V. Prasad Eye Institute - Hyderabad) He is a member of ASCRS (American society of Cataract and Refractive surgery).

He worked as Assistant Professor in Ophthalmology : Civil hospital – Ahmedabad. : where performed more than 5000 surgeries and attended various eye camps in peripheral districts of Gujarat. Dr Raval has participated in various national and international conferences. He has conducted several live surgery demonstration at teaching institutes and given lectures in various Ophthalmic societies and is also involved in research activity of new Ophthalmic medicines and Intra Ocular lenses. Dr. Raval's surgical video chosen as one of the best 10 surgeries at national conference at Calcutta in 2010.

well. With God's grace, I passed with flying colours and joined medicine at BJ Medical College.

During my MBBS studies, as a Gujarati medium student the direct switch over to the English medium made things difficult initially but I worked hard work with my English language skills and came into our own during the final years. After MBBS, I took up ophthalmology for my post-graduate study. Ophthalmology was not fancied much by students but after the introduction of intraocular lenses, it caught up with the fancy of medical students. My postgraduate days were happy and stable. I experienced all round satisfaction during this time. In 1994, I finished my post-graduate studies and for six years thereafter worked as a professor at Civil hospital Ahmedabad

while, in a parallel time-frame completed my fellowship from the prime institute of LV Prasad, Hyderabad for cornea and glaucoma. I also got training for phacoemulsification under Dr Abhay Vasavada.

I always wanted to have my own set up that would provide best eye care facilities, so I started my own clinic in the year 2000 at Body Care Centre - Ashram Road, Ahmedabad.

God and the Super-Natural

Yes, the laws of physics and biology govern everything but there is a Super-Natural power that you can go to for arbitration. Despite having best instruments and all the best of knowledge, no doctor can give 100%

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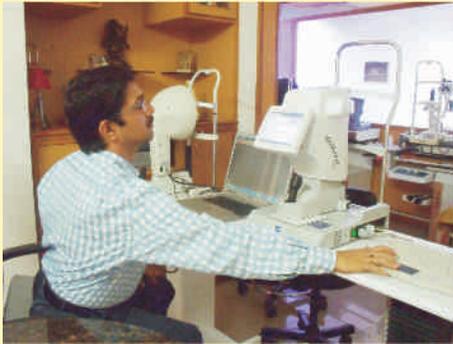


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**VAASTU TURNAROUND**

guarantee to his patient of a successful operation.

I see myself as God's instrument for bringing happiness and succour to those who are sick and in pain. If God has given us vision, we should use it and when there are complications with vision, I as a soldier of God do his bidding and restore that vision. Whenever my patients compliment me on a successful operation I remind them that it is due to God's intervention. I believe in this completely. I have my small puja room adjacent to my operation theatre where I always pray before embarking on an operation.

**Vaastu**

Vaastu appeared on my horizon when we bought this house. Earlier on, I had nothing to do with Vaastu. However, when we were buying this house, I was determined to get everything right because this house was a very big thing for me. Moreover, this move to the new house was to ensure a better and fuller life and I was convinced that a proper Vaastu house was necessary to achieve my goal. In addition, I wanted to have undisturbed peace for which too, Vaastu would come handy.

Both Reema and I were hunting for a good house for over three years when suddenly in the year 2006, this house appeared. Mrs. Deepal Shukla, the wife of my friend Jayesh came to my clinic for some problem and casually dropped the suggestion that I should look at a house in the society she was staying. There was a catch, though. It was the last house up for sale and I would have to act soon, in fact immediately, if possible.



Dr Mainsh Raval at his clinic

Both Reema and I loved it. There was nothing here that displeased us. What we needed now was a go ahead from the Vaastu angle. My friend Dr Ketan knew of one Dr Ravi Rao who had done the Vaastu at his place and brought results that were hard to believe but true.

Dr Rao - the good person that he is - did all that was necessary and yet nothing that we feared a Vaastu consultant would do. We broke no walls and nor incurred major expenses either. The few changes we did do, were easy on our pockets and in fact they aesthetically elevated the place. Further on, luck was on our side. The flooring, bathrooms, kitchen etc. had still to be done and these we did just as Dr Rao wanted. Our faith in Dr Rao is now complete. I take Dr Rao's advice very seriously. Once told not to do something by Dr Rao, I will never do it.

I have learnt now, that your home is not merely brick, stone and cement but a critical fulcrum for your progress, health and happiness. With good Vaastu in your house, things become easy, without you're knowing it. You achieve things you thought were not possible.

As a doctor, I understand there are many things we do not know; will never know in our lifetime. Even the best of the best amongst us do not have all the answers. Science is often only a fair weather friend and at times when everything seems to fail, we have to

I have learnt now, that you're home is not merely brick, stone and cement but a critical fulcrum for your progress, health and happiness. With good Vaastu in your house, things become easy, without you're knowing it. You can achieve the things you thought were not possible.

turn to the super-natural with our pleas. Therefore, I see no harm in leaning on Vaastu even if it might not pass the test of logic.

Our story has a happy conclusion. We are happy. Here we have experienced peace and good health. The house property we purchased has appreciated several folds. All this is more than we had hoped. As bonus, we have Dr Rao as a failsafe consultant for our future projects – a new dispensary. All of which we will build to 100% Vaastu specifications of Dr Rao. ■