Intrigued by the title, "The Greatness of Hinduism," Rakesh Bhagava, of Austin, Tex., an entrepreneur, wanted to learn more about the Hindu scriptures, so he joined the recent introductory seminar offered by The Vedic Foundation.

The course, held at the Hindu Temple Society of North America, in the heart of Queens, N.Y., attracted students from many nearby communities. Some of the topics covered included an introduction to authentic Hinduism, the science of creation, origin of life and laws of karma, the history of the Bhartiya civilization and the essence of Bhartiya scriptures.

The study group met every Sunday for four weeks from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Participants were overwhelmed by what they learned about Hinduism. They were impressed with the depth and the clarity of the information and the simple, straightforward manner in which it was presented by The Vedic Foundation instructor Chirag Patel.

"The teacher is a very blessed, informative and knowledgeable person. We are very lucky," said Mira Prabhu, who took the course with her sister Tara. "Everyone must take this class to understand how the present theories of science have their limitations, and that our Indian Sanatan Dharm has the answers for everything," said Sanjaya Attada.

"There is a tremendous need in this country for adult Hindu education," said Bhavin Modi, a 26-year-old pharmaceutical salesman living in Queens, who completed the study group. He feels the books available on Hinduism are outdated and that "Classes like this help present our religion in the right manner." He said the class prepared him to correctly answer questions that he is asked by friends and co-workers about Hinduism. "Classes like this are few and far between," he added.