



Malani Family presenting Shivam Dave the KBRE Regional Group 2 award.



Ramesh Bhutada presents award to Akash Desai of Katy, Group 3 regional.

## Winners of KBRE contest in Houston get awards

**Houston** - In a effort to get Hindu children and youth more interested in their cultural and religious heritage, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh USA sponsored a contest – KBRE – for North American children and youth ages 5 to 15 on knowledge about the Ramayan. Over 3000 participated in the contest.

In Houston, the winners were announced and trophies awarded on June 11, 2006. The presentations of trophies was by local donors, Ju-

gal and Raj Malani, Beth Kulkarni representing Hindu Temple of The Woodlands, Ramesh and Kiran Bhutada, and Subhash and Saroj Gupta.

The award to Karuna Kankani, currently visiting in Bharat, for 4th place nationally in group two was accepted on her behalf by Arush Sharama. South West Regional awards went to Shivam Dave, Group 2 from Pearland, Texas; Rutvick Velaga , Group 2 from

Norman. OK; Arushi Agrawal, Group 1 from Plano, Texas; Swetha Gangu, Group 1 from Clear Lake, Texas; and Akash Desai, Group 3 from Katy, Texas. Also awarded a trophy, but not present, was Deepika Agrawal, Group 4 from Garland, Texas.

Trophies were also given to Texas-OK zonal winner, Aniket Thakur Desai. Group 2 from Houston, Texas and Akanksha Kamal, Group 2 from Katy, Texas. Also

awarded a trophy, but not present, was Prathamesh Bang, Group 2 from Spring, Texas.

The contest was appreciated by both children and their parents. An unexpected outcome was the increased communication between children and their grandparents in India and in other places in the US. HSS plans to hold additional contests to stimulate interest in Dharmic traditions and values in the coming years.