

Three Stories of Ganesh: Video and Summary



The video can be watched here:
[www.youtube.com/
watch?v=wcOBoAzxQK8&t=207s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcOBoAzxQK8&t=207s)

Summary

This video gives us three angles on Ganesh, from three Exeter Hindus. Anita Nathwani is a museum curator, and tells us about how the statue came to be in Exeter. Sandhya Dave shows people in the street a picture of Ganesh and asks what they know about the statue. Inside the museum, Sandhya then talks about Ganesh's physical attributes and tells us the story of how he got his head. Ravi Nathwani - for many years the Hindu chaplain at Exeter University – leads a puja (prayer ritual) in his house, and describes how, for him, Ganesh is a living god.

Time	Description
00'20"	Introduction by Anita Nathwani: Museum perspective How the Ganesh statue was 'collected'.
01'20"	Sandhya vox pops outside RAMM: Sandhya asks passers-by: 'Who is this?'
02'00"	Sandhya in museum introduces Ganesh's physical features: Arms, Ears, Small eyes, Big belly, Serpent, Remover of obstacles, Three gods: Brahma, Vishnu & Shiva.
3'21"	The story of how Ganesh got his head: Parvati & Shiva had a son called Ginayek. She has a bath and tells her son. "Don't let anyone pass while I'm in the bath". So Ginayek won't let Shiva in. Shiva cuts off his head. Parvati is angry and says he must get a new head for the boy. Shiva takes a head from an elephant & revives the boy.
6'50"	Ganesh puja (prayer): Introduction by Ravi Nathwani – Exeter Hindu leader. Puja with Somin, Anita and Sandhya and Jashi. 5 lamps for the 5 elements: fire, earth, water, air and ether. Bell and singing. Prashad (food). Ganesh is 'big-hearted and always forgives'.
11'25"	Anita: new interpretations
11'30"	Finish and titles