



ANJALI

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and More*



Vasant Navaratri & Shri Ram Navami

Saturday, April 6 - Sunday, April 14, 2019

Bi-Annual Newsletter of Bharatiya Hindu Temple
Volume 32, Number 1 – 2019
www.columbushindutemple.org
bht@bhtohio.org | (740) 369-0717

Temple Hours:
Weekdays: 9 AM–12 PM and 6 PM–9 PM
Weekends: 9 AM–9 PM

TEMPLE PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

Note: Timings of all programs are accurate at the time of publishing the Anjali. However, temple changes times. Please check Temple's website at www.columbushindutemple.org, and check Temple's weekly email

January Programs

Dhanurmas Puja	01-13	06:30 AM
Shri Ganesh Puja and Abhishekam	01	11:00 AM
Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	02	07:00 PM
Sundarkand Ramayan Path	05, 12	10:00 AM
Swami Ayyappa Mandal Puja	05, 12	04:00 PM
Shri Andal Kalyanam Utsavam	13	10:30 AM
Shrinathji Satsang	13	03:30 PM
Shri Swami Ayyappa Abhishekam and Makara Sankranti	14	06:30 PM
Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	18	07:00 PM
Shri Navagraha Abhishekam and Puja	19	04:00 PM
Shri Jagannath Satsang	19	07:00 PM
Shri Satyanarayan Puja and Katha	20	07:00 PM
Shri Thai Poosam Puja	21	06:30 PM
Shri Sankatahara Chaturthi	23	07:00 PM
Shri Devi Puja and Bhajan	25	06:30 PM
Shri Venkateshwara Abhishekam	26	10:30 AM

February Programs

Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	01	07:00 PM
Sundarkand Ramayan Path	02	10:00 AM
Shri Navagraha Abhishekam and Puja	09	04:00 PM
Vasant Panchami & Shri Devi Saraswati	10	10:00 AM
Puja Shrinathji Satsang	10	03:30 PM
Ratha Saptami/Surya Puja	11	10:00 AM
Shri Devi Puja & Bhajan	15	06:30 PM
Shri Jagannath Puja	16	07:00 PM
Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	17	07:00 PM
Shri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha	19	07:00 PM
Shri Sankatahara Chaturthi	22	07:00 PM
Shri Venkateshwara Abhishekam	23	10:30 AM

Note: On Mahashivaratri day, March 4, 2019, Temple will remain open all day from 9:00 AM-5 AM (March 5)

March Programs

Sundarkand Ramayan Path	02	10:00 AM
Shri Navagraha Abhishekam and Puja	02	04:00 PM
Mahashivaratri Celebration -Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	03	07:00 PM
Mahashivaratri Celebration	04	09:00 AM and 06:00 PM
Shri Uma Maheshwara Kalyanam	09	10:30 AM
Shrinathji Satsang	10	03:30 PM
Shri Devi Puja & Bhajan	15	06:30 PM
Shri Jagannath Puja	16	07:00 PM
Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	18	07:00 PM
Shri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha	20	07:00 PM
Holi Celebration and Holika Dahan	21	07:30 PM
Shri Venkateshwara Abhishekam	23	10:30 AM
Shri Sankatahara Chaturthi	23	07:00 PM

April Programs

Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	05	07:00 PM
Ugadi Celebretation (Vikaari)	08	06:00 PM
Vasant Navaratri	06	03:00 PM
Akhand Ramayan/Sunderkand Path	06	06:00 PM
Akhand Ramayana Path Ends	07	06:00 PM
Vasant Navaratri	07-14	06:00 PM
Shri Sita Ram Kalyanam	13	03:00 PM
Shri Ram Navami Celebration	14	10:30 AM
Sowramana Ugadi & Swami Ayyappa Abhishekam	14	04:00 PM
Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	15	07:00 PM
Shri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha	18	07:00 PM
Shri Hanuman Jayanti Celebration	19	04:30 PM
Shri Jagannath Satsang	20	03:30 PM
Shrinathji Satsang	21	10:30 AM
Shri Sankatahara Chaturthi	22	07:00 PM
Shri Devi Puja and Bhajan	26	06.30 PM
Shri Venkateshwara Abhishekam	27	10:00 AM
Shri Navagraha Abhishekam	27	04:00 PM

May Programs

Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	01	07:00 PM
Amrutvani Path	03	06:00 PM
Sundarkand Ramayan Path	04	10:00 AM
Akshaya Trutiya (Ratha Puja)	07	07:00 PM
Shri Navagraha Abhishekam and Puja	11	04:00 PM
Shrinathji Satsang	12	03:30 PM
Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	16	07:00 PM
Shri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha	17	07:00 PM
Shri Vaikasi Vishakam - Subramanya Abhishekam	18	07:00 PM
Shri Maha Rudra Yagna	17-19	10:00 AM
Gurukul Graduation	19	05:00 PM
Shri Sankatahara Chaturthi	21	07:00 PM
Shri Devi Puja & Bhajan	24	06:30 PM
Shri Jagannath Puja	25	07:00 PM
Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	31	07:00 PM

June Programs

Sundarkand Ramayan Path	01	10:00 AM
Shri Venkateshwara Poolangi Seva	08	10:30 AM
Shri Navagraha Abhishekam and Puja	08	04:00 PM
Shrinathji Satsang	09	03:30 PM
Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	14	07:00 PM
Shri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha	16	07:00 PM
Shri Sankatahara Chaturthi	20	07:00 PM
Shri Devi Puja and Bhajan	21	07:00 PM
Shri Jagannath Snana Yatra	22	10:30 AM
BHT Youth Camp	23-29	Check email
Shri Venkateshwara Abhishekam	29	10:30 AM
Shri Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)	30	07:00 PM

Program Details: January- June 2019

Note: Annual programs take place once per year and take precedence over weekly programs. Please check Temple's weekly email for updates.

Weekly



❖ **Shri Hanuman Chalisa Recitation**

Every Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Coordinator(s): Shailendra Garg 614-406-9282

❖ **Shri Venkateshwara Seva**

Every Saturday

9:00 AM Suprabhatam

9:25 AM Shri Vishnu Sahasranama

9:50 AM Shri Govind Namavali

Biweekly



❖ **Shiva Abhishekam (Pradosham)**

January 2 and 18; February 1 and 17; March 3 and 18; April 2 and 16; May 1 and 16; and June 14 and 30 7:00 PM Shri Ganesh Puja and Sankalpam

7:15 PM Rudrabhishekam with Vedic chanting

7:45 PM Alankar and Bhajans

8:30 PM Ashtotharam, Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Jayarama Rao 614-323-2152, Balendra Chari 614-929-9707 and Prasanna Satish 732- 986-0791
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.

Monthly



❖ **Sundarkand Ramayan Path**

Generally, first Saturday of every month

January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, and June 1

**Akhand Ramayan Path will begin on April 6th at 6:00 pm and conclude on April 7th at 6:00 pm.

10:00 AM Shri Hanuman and Shri Ramayan Puja

10:30 PM Recitation of Sundarkand

01:00 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Amarendra Mishra 614-764-4019 and Umesh Tripathy 614-330-0600
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.



❖ **Shri Navagraha Abhishekam and Puja**

Saturday, January 19, February 9, March 2, April 27, May 11, and June 8

4:00 PM Ganesh Puja and Kalash Puja

4:30 PM Abhishekam

5:30 PM Archana, Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Senthil Kumar Subbarayalu 916-768-5738



❖ **Shrinathji Satsang**

January 13, February 10, March 10, April 20, May 12 and, June 9

- 3:30 PM Sankalpam
- 3:45 PM Shri Ganesh Puja and Kalash Puja
- 3:30 PM Kesar Snana to Shri Krishna
- 4:00 PM Stotra Path
- 5:00 PM Bhajans by devotees
- 6:00 PM Raj-Bhog Samarpan , Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Satsang Sponsor \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 & up
Coordinator(s): Mira Shah 740-657-8825, Hetal Shah 614-523-1359, and Prashant Desai 740-881-4183
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.



❖ **Shri Devi Puja and Bhajan**

Friday, January 25, February 15, March 15, April 26, May 24, and June 21

- 6:30 PM Shri Ganesh Puja and Shri Devi
- 7:00 PM Lalita Sahasranama Parayanam
- 7:30 PM Bhajans and Kirtan
- 8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Shivani Kumar 614-441-8855 and Anup Kapoor 614-266-2160

Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors

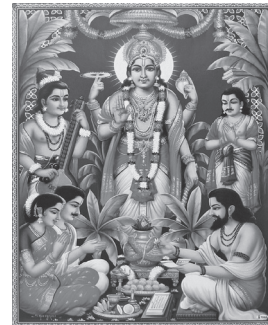


❖ **Shri Sankatahara Chaturthi**

January 23, February 22, March 23, April 22, May 21, and June 20

- 7:00 PM Shri Ganesha Puja and Kalash Puja
- 7:20 PM Shri Ganesh Abhishekam
- 7:40 PM Archana
- 8:00 PM Aarati

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Jayarama Rao 614-323-2152 and Manish Kumar Singh 614-923-4421
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Shri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha**

January 20, February 19, March 20, April 18, May 17, and June 16

- 7:00 PM Shri Ganesh Puja and Kalash Puja
- 7:20 PM Abhishekam
- 7:40 PM Archana
- 8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Dilip Bhatt
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Shri Venkateshwara Abhishekam**

Saturday, January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, May 25, and June 29

10:30 AM	Parikrama
10:35AM	Vishwaksena Puja and Punayavachanam
11:00 AM	Shri Venkateshwara Abhishekam with Pancha Suktham
12:30 AM	Alankaram
12:45 PM	Archana and Mantrapushpam
01:00 PM	Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Balaji Mandel
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.



❖ **Shri Jagannath Puja**

Saturday, February 16, March 16, April 20, and May 25

7:00 PM	Shri Ganesh Puja
7:30 PM	Shri Jagannath Puja, Aarati followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Liza Bhuyan 614-439-8901, Deba Patel 614-787-4594, Snighdha Mishra 512-554-9702
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.

Peace is much desired, but hard to obtain

- *Melkote Ramaswamy***

Everyone wants peace, even those at war want peace. Often, wars are justified because they seek to establish peace. The Mahabharatha war in ancient India was waged as a last resort in the name of dharma—for restoring legitimate rights to the Pandavas.

But peace is not just absence of war. Actually, Hindu Vedic prayer chanting always ends with Om Shanti, Shanti, and Shanti. Thus, there are three types of peace. The first type is external peace—outside your place of prayer, the second, inner, mental peace, and the third universal peace. In fact, meditation is a technique to remove agitations in the mind and bring about peace of mind that lets one discover one's true self.

We need peace to make progress, to focus on improvement—both personal and societal—and for the overall wellbeing of mankind. Hindus believe in the Vedantic truth that our intrinsic nature is total Peace, Happiness and Contentment (Sat-chit-ananda) but due to delusion and ignorance, we are unable to perceive this.

If we look at the world, we see conflicts/uprisings in various parts of the world—in the Middle East, Afghanistan, Syria, Africa. Some are sporadic like in Kashmir. So are religious conflicts that often test and challenge the doctrine of co-existence and self-preservation.

Prior to globalization, conflicts were strictly localized. But political awareness and global alliances tend to spread the scope and size of conflicts. Time was what happened in Africa or Indonesia had no impact on what happens in America. With migration of population, there are Africans and Indonesians living in America and there are connections/interests at government levels. These factors make it impossible to ignore such happenings.

A look at history suggests that world peace has never existed anytime and there have been conflicts of one type or the other in various parts of the world. However, these have been localized with very little global impact.

Is peace ever possible? Perhaps, if nations transcend selfish goals and pursue a common cause such as preserving the Earth from human abuse.

**Melkote Ramaswamy is a physicist, speaker, writer and author of An Immigrant celebrates America (University of Indianapolis Press 2007) and Vedanta through Drushtaanata (Adhyatma Press, Ahmedabad 2013), and is an active member of Hindu Temple of Central Indiana.

Lcpuary, 2019

❖ **Dhanurmas Puja**

Dhanurmasa Puja will be performed daily in the morning from Tuesday, January 1st, 2019 through Sunday, January 13, 2019. To participate and/or sponsor the Puja, please come to the Temple at 6:30 AM. Sankalpam will be performed at 6:45 AM. However, if you cannot attend due to unavoidable reasons, please let our respected priests know and they will perform the Sankalpam and Puja on your behalf. Sponsorship is \$25 for one session/day; however, should you decide to sponsor for the entire month (all 30 days), it will be only \$501. Prasadam will be kept (or mailed to your home address) at the Temple for you to pick-up. Daily schedule:

- 6:30 AM Suprabhatam, Abhishekam to Bhoga Murti, Tiruppavai and Sahasranama Parayanam and Archana
- 8:30 AM Mantrapushpam, Aarati and Prasadam

Coordinator(s): Krishnan Sriram 508-330-2744



❖ **Shri Ganesh Puja and Abhishekam**

- 11:00 AM-11:30 AM Shri Ganesh Puja
Aarati and Prasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s):
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Sunita and Bhola Rama and family



❖ **Swami Ayyappa Mandal Puja
Jan 5th, 12th, 14th**

- 4:00 PM Shri Ganesh Puja, Sankalpam, Devata Aavahanam
- 4:30 PM Abhishekam
- 5:00 PM Alankaram and Bhajan
- 5:30 PM Lighting of lamps, Archana, Mantrapushpam, Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Coordinator(s): Pamula Vippala Reddy 770-378-0302,
Balendra Chari 614-929-9707, Keshav Reddy

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Shri Vaikuntha Ekadashi**

- 9:30 AM Swarg Dwar (Heavenly Door) Darshan
- 10:00 AM Gadyatrayam Recitation, Shri Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam, Archana, Aarati and Prasadam
- 11:00 AM Akhanda Vishnu Sahasranama Recitation begins
- 3:30 PM Akhanda Vishnu Sahasranama Recitation concludes
- 6:00 PM Viswaksena Puja, Punyaha Vachanam, Srinivasa Gadyam, Divya Prabandham, Vishnu Sahasranamam
- 8:00 PM Archana and Mantrapushpam
- 8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Coordinator(s):

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors

❖ **Makara Sankranti and Swami Ayyappa
Abhishekam
January 14th**

- 6:30 PM Sankalpam, Shri Ganesh Puja, Kalash Puja
7:00 PM Swami Ayyappa Abhishekam and Vedic Chanting
7:45 PM Alankar , Padi Bhajans, Padi Puja
8:15 PM Lighting of Lamps on 18 steps and Archana and Mantrapushpam
8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Coordinator(s): Pamula Vippala Reddy 770-378-0302,
Balendra Chari 614-929-9707, Keshav Reddy
Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Shri Andal Kalyanam Utsavam
January 13th**

- 10:30 AM Garland exchange
10:45 AM Anugnya, Shri Vishvaksena Puja, Punyahavachana
11:15 AM Rakshabandana Puja, Rakshabandana
11:30 AM Kanyavaruna Puja, Madhuparka Puja
11:45 AM Sumuhurtham
12:00PM Kanyadanam, Mangalya Puja, Mangalya Dharanam
12:15 PM Thalambralu (Akshatharopanam)
12:30 PM Archana, Mantrapushpam, Cultural Program
1:00PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Coordinator(s): Krishnan Sriram 508-330-2744, Pavitra Hari 347-336-0580

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors

❖ **Shri Jagannath Satsang
Saturday, January 19th**

- 6:30 PM Shri Ganesh Puja and Shri Jagannath Puja
7:00 PM Bhajans and Sankirtan
8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Coordinator(s): Liza Bhuyan, Deba Patel, Snigdha Mishra, Sandeep Chinnari

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Thai Poosam Subramanya Puja
January 21st**

- 6:30 PM Shri Ganesh Puja
6:45 PM Kalasha Puja
7:00 PM shri Subramanya Abhishekam
7:45 PM Bhajans and Alankaram
8:15 PM Mantrapushpam and Aarchana
8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Balachandran Srinivasan 614-634-1017, Gunaseelan Alagappan 404-217-4107 and Krishnan Sriram 508-330-2744
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.



❖ **Vasant Panchami and Shri Saraswati Puja Sunday, February 10**

10:00 AM Shri Ganesh Puja and Kalash Puja

10:30 AM Shri Devi Saraswati Puja by Gurukul kids

12:00 PM Mantra, Pushpanjali, Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up

Coordinator(s): Veena Rao 614-607-4003

and Milind Mahale 614-791-9913

Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.

Keeping with the tradition, we shall have students perform Book Puja under the guidance of our priests. The Puja will begin at 10:00 AM sharp. Please arrive with your child by 9.45 AM to initiate preparation for the Puja. We may have a guest speaker explaining the significance of the Puja to the students. There may be cultural programs followed by Mahaprasadam.



❖ **Ratha Saptami /Surya Puja (Aruna Parayanam) Monday, February 11**

10:00 AM Shri Ganesh Puja

10:30 AM Kalash Puja and Suryanarayana Puja

10:45 AM Ved Parayanam(with Surya Namaskaram)

12:00 PM Archana, Mantrapushpam, Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up

Coordinator(s): Alagappan Kankasabhapathy 614-408-8396 and Venkat Punugu 614-749-9827

Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Aruna and Lakshmi Peri



❖ **Mahashivaratri Mahotsava**

Sunday, March 3 - Monday, March 5

Day 1 : Sunday, March 3

Rudra Abhishekam and Kalash Sthapanam (Evening)

6:30 PM Bhagavad-Anugna, Sankalpam, Shri Ganapati Puja, Raksha Bandhanam, 108 Kalasha Sthapanam, Punyaha Vachanam, Devata Aavahana Puja

7:15 PM Rudrabhishekam with Vedic chanting

7:45 PM Alankar and Bhajans

8:15 PM Ashtotharam

8:30 PM Mantrapushpam, Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Coordinators: Jayarama Rao 614-323-2152, Balendra Chari 614-929-9707, Prasanna Satish 732-986-0791

Day 2 : Monday, March 4th

Morning

10:00 AM Sankalpam, Shri Ganesh Puja, Punyaha-Vachanam, and Kalasha Puja

11:00 AM Rudra Homam, followed by Poornahuti

12:00 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Evening

5:00 PM Abhishekam by devotees (until 9:00 PM)

5:30 PM Cultural Programs

9:00 PM Sankalpam, Shri Ganesh Puja, Punyaha-Vachanam, and Kalash Puja

10:00 PM Rudra Abhishekam by priests, followed by Bhajan and Kirtan during Alankar

11:45 PM Lingod-Bhava Darshanam, Archana

12:00 AM Arati, followed by Mahaprasadam (*Boxed meal will be available to buy*)

Coordinators: Amarendra Mishra 614-764-4019, Manish Kumar Singh 740-417-6819, Priyanka Mishra 614-943-1592, and Arpita Mohanty 614-648-2176

Mahashivaratri Celebration (Actual Day) **Note: On Mahashivaratri day, March 4, 2019, Temple will remain open whole day on Monday March 4. Devotees can perform Abhishekam from 9 AM until 9 PM

Day 3: Tuesday, March 5

Mahashivaratri Mahotsava (Continued) Morning:

From 1:00 AM to 5:30 AM, devotees will recite Shri Rudram 11 times and perform Shri Shiva Abhishekam.

For safety, Temple's doors will be locked. If you wish to join the recitation and Abhishekam during early hours, please call 740-369-0717 while standing at the entrance; the program coordinator will open the door for you.

Coordinators: Prasanna Satish 732-986-0791, Vishu Chandramouleeswaran 614-352-5726, Jayarama Rao 614-323-2152, Balendra Chari 614-929-9707

Sponsorship: Yajamans and Sponsors are invited for the Mahashivaratri celebration. Devotees can donate \$25 for Archana, \$151 to become Yajaman for one day, \$351 for two days, and \$501 for all three days. If you wish to become Yajaman/Sponsor and cannot attend the program(s) due to unavoidable circumstances, please let our priests know. They will perform Puja on your behalf and mail you the Prasadam.



❖ Evening: Shri Uma Maheshwara Kalyanam Saturday, March 9

- 10:30 AM Ganapati Puja, Punyaha Vachanam, Raksha Bandhanam, and Sankalpam for Yajamans and sponsors
- 11:30 AM Vivaha Prakaranam and Kanyadaanam
- 12:00 PM Mangalya Dharanam and Akshataropanam
- 12:30 PM Archana, Mantrapushpam
- 1:00PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Coordinator(s): Abilash Mungamuru 614-664-1534 and Bangalore Shankar 614-792-2921

March, 2019



❖ Holi Celebration Thursday, March 21

Note: The timing of the Satya Narayan Katha has been moved half-an-hour earlier to accommodate the festivities of Holi.

6:30 PM Shri Ganesh Puja

6:45 PM Bhajan-Satsang

8:00 PM Krishna Puja and Aarati, followed by

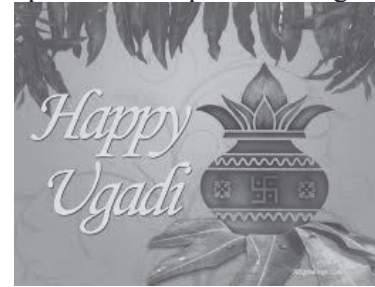
Mahaprasadam (Boxed meal available to buy)

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up

Coordinator(s): Ashok Saraswat 614-799-1532,

Shailendra Garg 614-406-9282

Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ Ugadi Celebration(Vikari) Friday, April 5

6:30 PM Sankalpam

6:40 PM Shri Ganapati Puja

7:00 PM Shri Maha Ganapati Abhishekam

7:30 PM Shri Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam

8:15 PM Panchanga Sravanam

8:30 PM Aarchana, Mantrapushpam, Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up

Coordinator(s): Nageswara Rao Manne 614-775-9899,

Sreenivas Polina 614-933-9507, and Venu Battula 614-301-5711

Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.

April, 2019



❖ Vasant Navaratri April 6th-14th

Note: Kalash sthapana will be held at Sunday, April 6th at 3:00 PM

April 6th, Day 1 of Navaratri

3:00 PM -6:00 PM	Chandi Patha
3:30 PM	Lalitha Sahasranam Namavali
4:00 PM	Puja by sponsors, Bhajans
4:15 PM	Bhajan by devotees continues
5:30 PM	Durga Chalisa/Vindhyavasini Strotam
5:45 PM	Nrutyam by children
6:00 PM	Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

April 7th-14th (Day 2nd-9th of Navaratri)

6:00 PM -8:30 PM	Chandi Patha
6:00 PM-8:30 PM	Navaratri celebration, Kanya Puja, Bhajan, followed by Mahaprasadam

Coordinator(s): Navaratri Committee
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.



❖ Shri Akhand Ramayan Path Saturday, April 6 - Sunday, April 7

Shri Akhand Ramayan Path will begin on April 6th at 6:00 pm and conclude the next day on April 7th at 6:00 pm. The Temple invites everyone to join the recitation.

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Amarendra Mishra 614-764-4019, Vijay Bhatt 614-766-9128, Prashant Desai 740-881-4183, Manish Kumar Singh 614-923-4421, and Shailendra Garg 614-406-9282
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ Shri Sita Rama Kalyanam Saturday, April 13

Evening

3:00 PM	Vishwaksena Puja and Punyahavachanam, Rakshabandhanam, Vishesha Puja, Paada Prakshalanam
4:00 PM	Sumohoortham Kanyadanam, Mangalya Puja, Mangalya Dhaarnam Talambrulu
5:00 PM	Archana, Mantrapushpam, Sangeet Seva, Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Radhakrishna Iyengar 614-865-9160, and Mohan Hari 614-260-1806
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.



❖ Shri Rama Navami Celebration Sunday, April 14 (Actual day)

Morning- April 14

10:30 AM	Shri Rama Abhishekam & Shri Ganesh Puja
12:00 PM	Ram Janmotsava
12:30 PM	Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Priyanka Mishra 614-764-4019
Arpita Mohanty 614-648-2176
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Shri Hanuman Jayanti Celebration**
Friday, April 19

Hanuman Jayanti will be celebrated by reciting Shri Hanuman Chalisa 51 times. The program will begin at 4:30 PM. Hanuman Chalisa will be available in several languages, therefore you are invited with your family, especially children, to participate in the recitation.

4:30 PM Puja performed by sponsors
5:00 PM 51 times Shri Hanuman Chalisa Recitation
8:30 PM Aarati followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Shailendra Garg 614-406-9282
Prashant Desai 740-881-4183
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Souramana Ugadi and Swami Ayyappa Abhishekam**
Sunday, April 14th

6:30 PM Sankalpam, Aavahanam and Puja
7:00 PM Swami Abhishekam and Vedic Chanting
Alankar and Padi Bhajans
8:00 PM Lighting of lamps on 18 steps and Archana
8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Pamulareddy Vippala Reddy 770-378-0302
Balachandran Srinivasan 614-634-1017
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Shri Jagannath Satsang**
Saturday, April 15

6:30 PM Shri Ganesh Puja, Shri Jagannath Puja
7:00 PM Bhajans and Sankirtan
8:30 PM Aarati followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Liza Bhuyan 614-439-8901, Deba Patel 614-787-4594, Snigdha Mishra 512-554-9702, and Sandeep Chinnari
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors

Holi: The Feast of Multidimensional Harmony and Divine Love: The Yajna and Yoga for All

-Shive K. Chaturvedi, Ph.D.
California, USA

In the age of prevailing conflicts, confusions, emptiness, and meaninglessness, many leaders of all kinds and creeds-intellectuals, social scientists, physical scientists, theologians, and politicians have suddenly started preaching about the urgent need of harmony and love within this variegated world. The irony is that these words and concepts remain evasive and elusive to most of us. In the absence of real active participation (with mind, speech, and action) in the feast of harmony and love, the entire endeavor of leaders of all colors and creeds appears to be nothing more than a sonorous verbiage-an utter nominalism. Do we have an opportunity for such a feast of inviting harmony and unalloyed love? Yes, we do! And that is what the Holi is all about.

The historical origin of Holi is still shrouded in mystery; however, many good indications place it in very remote times, all the way back when Bhagavan Krishna spent his miraculous and divine playful boyhood in Vrindavan, Braj-Bhoomi, India (more than 5000 years ago). Its current traditions and practices appear to have evolved from harmonizing of many dharmic, adhyatmic, social, and folk traditions.

The Holi celebration begins with a bonfire. The bonfire is started by collecting, from every house in the village, the accumulated trash, garbage, and waste. This clean-up act is the reminder of the necessity of cleaning all the physical, as well as mental, spaces where lots of polluting elements have grown out of our material nature, such as uncontrolled sensual desires, anger, delusion, hatred, violence, lust, and greed. People gather around the bonfire and make offerings that might include roasting pair of new, still green barley crops which are still in the fields (this act is a kind of Vedic Yajna), and sing and dance around the fire, with songs, including the chants written in local vernacular. After all, this is New Year's Day; a day to welcome the most colorful, joyful spring season-the king of all seasons. This is the Holika-Dahan.

In the Braj-Bhoomi, Holi playing is a battle of divine love. Young wives of the village are ready to attack the best men of the village with their sticks. It is time for colors; the wet and dry, all kinds. Everyone has been transfigured; no one is recognizable; the whole Braj-Bhoomi appears to be in great social turmoil, chaos, craziness, and good humor--yet everyone is in a state of great joy.

The erotic mood is in full swing, yet within the expanded bounds of ethical and moral norms. People are impersonating Shri Radha and Krishna; the roles have been reversed; the genders gone astray. This continues for a day or two, and then purification and restructuring starts by washing, cleaning up, and donning new clothes. This is a new beginning. Everyone greets one another with a new promise of cooperation, support, and love for the rest of the year. Radha-Krishna Bhajans (devotional songs) go on with joyful celebrations, with intense divine passion and love (Bhakti Yoga), after all, the Holi of Krishna is no mere intellectual exercise; no mere theory of love, no mere academic play: rather it is Divine Lila that each one of us must actively participate in and play our respective sva-dharmic roles with great passion and joy.

The richness, variety, and beauty of Holi Colors are the metaphors for the colors and the moods of five basic elements of Prakriti (material Nature), the changing world, seasons, and mind-an aspect of Divine Shakti Maya. The new beginning, the adhyatmic renewal for a better future for all must start by smearing out and covering up all worldly, social and physical and mental distinctions and categories. The Holi celebration tends to transcend all the established differences and diversity of varna, caste, color, sex, age, wealth, power, and attitudes. The social destruction and renewal, world pollution and purification, smearing out the diversity to re-enact harmony and unity occur, not only on intellectual planes but it is played out physically and mentally by each and everyone with great joy. After all, it is Holi of Radha-Krishna-the feast of multidimensional harmony and divine love.

May, 2019



❖ **Amrutvani Path**
Friday, May 3rd

6:00 PM Amrutvani Path
6:30 PM Sankalpam, Shri Ganesh Puja
Shri Rama Puja, path, and bhajan



❖ **Akshaya Trutiya (Ratha Puja)**
Tuesday, May 7

7:00 PM Shri Ganesh Puja
7:15 PM Shri Bala Krishna Puja
7:30 PM Ratha Puja & Shri Vishwakarma Puja

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Utk'O c j ctepc."P kwr co "Cej ct {c."
Deba Patel."cpf "Cpw "Dgj gtc

Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors



❖ **Maha Rudra Yagna**
Saturday, May 17 - Sunday, May 19

Friday, May 17th-Evening session
6:30 PM Shri Ganesh Puja and
Shri Satyanarayan Puja
Deeksha Vastram distribution



❖ **Vaikashi Vishakam Subramania Abhishekam**
Saturday, May 18th

Day 2 - Morning

7:00 AM Suprabhatam and Shri Ganesh Puja
7:45 AM Punyahavachanam and Guru Prarthana
8:00 AM Akhanda Sthapana
8:15 AM Kalasha Sthapana
8:30 AM Mahanyasam
9:45 AM Break

10:00 AM Maha Rudra Japam
1:15 PM Mantrapushpam
1:30 PM Chaturveda Svati
1:45 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

May 18th - Evening

4:45 PM Shri Lalita Sahasranama, Kumkum Archana
6:00 PM Chandi Homam
8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam



❖ Gurukul Graduation Sunday, May 19

- 5:00 PM Invocation and Shri Ganesh Puja and
Devi Saraswati Puja
5:15 PM Distribution of Certificates
8:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam
Coordinator(s): Education Committee
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors

June, 2019



❖ Shri Venkateshwara Poolangi Seva and Kalyana Utsavam Saturday, June 8

- 9:00 AM Suprabhat Seva, Vishnu Sahasranama
Parayanam
10:00 AM Anugna, Vishwakshena Puja,
Punyahavachanam
10:30 AM Tirrupavada Seva, Vishesha Puja, Shri Vishnu
Sahasranama Achana
12:00 PM Archana, Mantrapushpam
12:30 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.



❖ Shri Jagannath Snana Yatra Celebration Saturday, June 22

- 10:30 AM Mangala Arpan (Puja)
10:40 AM Procession of Deities to Snana Mandapa
11:00 AM Ceremonial Bathing of Deities
12:00 PM Gajanan (Hathi) Vesha & Bhajans
12:30 PM Puja & Naivedyam
12:45 PM Procession of Deities to Sanctum
1:00 PM Aarati, followed by Mahaprasadam

Sponsorship: Yajaman \$151, Puja Sponsor \$25 and up
Coordinator(s): Srikant Mishra, and Rekha Tripathi
Mahaprasadam Sponsors: Temple is looking for sponsors.



❖ BHT Youth Camp Sunday, June 23 - Saturday June 29

Gurukul Admission Procedure 2019-2020

The Online registration for Gurukul begins on Saraswati Puja day, February 10, 2019, and it closes on March 3, 2019

Admission Priority: Priority will be given to those who are already enrolled in Gurukul in 2018-19 academic year (Existing Gurukul students) and have maintained 75% attendance and have scored minimum 75% marks. New students will be admitted based on the first-come-first-served basis.

Curriculum: Temple offers programs to relate with Hindu Dharma, language, and culture. In the academic year 2019-2020, Temple will offer Hindu Dharma and Culture, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Gujarati, Sanskrit, and Carnatic Music to those children who are six years old on August 31, 2019. Besides these programs, Temple also offers SAT to 15-17 aged students.

Communication: The Temple uses email as its primary and only means of communication. We recommend that you check your spam folders. Temple is not responsible if you didn't get email due to wrong spelling of your email, and/or blocking mass email on your server.

Sibling: If you wish to register more than one children in your family to register, you must complete online registration for each child.

Admission Requirements: (1) Age: 6 years as of August 31, 2019, (2) Membership: Parents of existing students must renew their membership by February, 24, 2019. New students' parents will be requested to come to the Temple on a specific Sunday to pay for membership and cost of books. (3) Gurukul admission will not be processed without Temple membership. Temple recommends that you renew your membership, update your email and phone number, and other personal information to ensure you receive all important communications, on time.

Admission Notice: Completing online registration does not guarantee admission to the Gurukul program. The Education Committee admits students based on many factors, including but not limited to, seats available in a classroom, classroom availability, teachers' availability, etc., and occasionally the class time may change to accommodate more students.

Agreement & Understanding:

1. You agree to the policies and guidelines set forth in the Temple's Gurukul Handbook posted on <http://www.columbushindutemple.org/publicationandnewsletters.aspx>.
2. You agree to bring your children every Sunday to attend classes at least 10 minutes prior to their classes begin, and will work with your child to complete the assigned homework.
3. You agree to pay \$20-25 per subject (except Tamil language for which you pay \$40), to defray the cost for books, printing materials, and other activities.
4. You agree to attend parent's orientation (upon your child's acceptance into the Gurukul program) and parent-teacher conference on August 24 at 11 AM.
5. You understand that even after getting admission, your child's seat may be forfeited due to continued absence and his/her seat may be offered to a wait listed student.

Registration Process: Registration is a 3 step process. The first step is to complete online registration (Paper forms will not be accepted). The 2nd step is that you will receive an email to come to the Temple and pay your membership (if not paid already) and cost of the books. At this point, the admission is provisional. And, the last and final step is that you will receive an email from the Temple that your children's admission is confirmed. The classes begin on August 25, 2019

GURUKUL TEACHERS, 2019

Hindi Language: Akta Malik, Anu More, Garima Bhardwaj, Gauravi Agarwal, Kapalini Singh, Meenal Panchal, Meenal Singh, Nisha Mahajan, Parag Singhal, Pooja Azad, Ranna Patel, Rashmita Maharana, Ratnamala Deshmukh, Ruchika Mehra, Sanchita Kishna, Sandhiya Agochiya, Shalni Pandey, Shashank Agarwal, Shlipi Mehrotra, Shivani Kumar, Smita Sarodiya, Sunita Tiwari, Swati Sharma, Vandana Baranwal, Vandana Jain, Vandita Trivedi

Hindu Dharma and Culture: Aarati Patel, Ami Mistry, Guruprakash C.R, Jyothsna Namala, Kavitha Kotha, Kiran Raju, Neeru Mishra, Neha Makadia, Priya Lanka, Samatha Buddha, Sangeeta Doshi, Sridevi Vishwanandha, Sudha Ganesan, Sujata Arora, Suresh Jegadeesan, Swaroopa Harish, Swathi Rao, Swathi Rodda, Veena Hiremath, Veena Rao, Vidhya Tankappan

Gujarati Language: Ankit Shah, Niyati Shah, Priti Pandya, Samir Shah, Vaishali Shah

Tamil Language: Padmanabhan Meenakshi-Sundaram, Madhavan Gnanasundaram, Prabu Kumaran, Sriram Ramanujam, Subramaniam Srinivasan, Suganya Rangarajan, Shankarganesh Krishnamurthy, Banumathi Subramaniam, Jeyaruby Ragavan, Kavitha Dhayananth, Manigandan Thiruvengadam, Mohan Thooyamani, Priyadharshini Subramaniam, Rajakarthiskeyan Rajayabalachandran, Renuka Kannan, Vidhya Aravind

Telugu Language: Anitha Yenigalla, Aruna Peri, Jaisri Polina, Latha Sadineni, Neelima Vagesna, Ramarao Kannepalli, Saritha Nandimalla, Saritha Ravipati, Seshaya Pendyala, Sridevi Kodela, Sridevi Vishwanatham, Sridhar Vagesna, Sreenivas Polina

Sanskrit : Sai Venkata Vidya Sagar Elchuri, Pundarikakshaiah Ganduri, Madhu Bongani

SAT: Narendra Talele, Vihang Deodhar

TEMPLE MANAGEMENT 2019

Staff:

[Priest] Shri Ramesh C. Punetha 614-943-0705 priest.punetha@bhtohio.org;
[Priest] Shri Prakash M. Pandya 614-943-0707 priest.pandya@bhtohio.org;
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[Priest] Shri Saikrishna Muppalla 614-943-0228 priest.saikrishna@bhtohio.org;
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Board of Trustees: Chair: Raj Tripathi 614-846-9434, Vice Chair: Ashok Saraswat 614-799-1532, Secretary: Milind Mahale 614-791-9913, Vasudev Bhatt 614-846-2203, Raju Gaglani 614-459-8801, Sudha Ganesan 614-928-4337, Shailendra Garg 614-406-9282, Manohar Kapoor 614-266-2160, Amarendra Mishra 614-764-4019, Laxmi Narasimham Peri 614-783-5328, and Bishun Pandey 614-559-9074

Executive Committee: President: Bishun Pandey 614-559-9074; Vice Presidents: Anup Bhatt 614-753-5064, Raj Birru 513-340-2694, Yogyata Dave 614-791-8951, Nageswara Rao Manne 614-371-2151, Amarendra Mishra 614-764-4019, Laxmi Narasimham Peri 614-783-5328, Venkat Punugu 614-749-9827, Treasurer: Sudha Pandari 614-390-3191; Secretaries: Sanchita Krishnan 505-453-3349, Varsha Govardhanam 479-877-5736, Managers: Samir Doshi 614-562-6220, Praveen Inaganti 614-523-3367, Vibha Shah 614-371-3671, Manish Kumar Singh 740-417-6819

Communication: Samir Doshi 614-562-6220, Akta Malik 614-668-6758, Arpita Mohanty 614-648-2176, Evita Singh 614-325-9733, Rakesh Thaploo 614-843-3980, Seema Swarup 614-209-2892

Data Management & Membership: Venkat Kantamneni 614-367-7134, Samir Shah 614-806-3670, Deba Patel 614-787-4594

Education: Sandhya Agochiya 614-760-0870, Anup Behera 614-648-2384, Shivani Kumar 614-315-6644, Sreenivas Polina 614-352-6580, Veena Raju 614-607-4003, Swathi Rao 614-538-9435, Samir Shah 614-806-3670, Padmanaban Sundaraam 614-973-9465, Madhusudhan Bongani 614-726-3076, and C. R. Guruprakash Rangavittal 206-377-9031, Anjali Gupta

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Information Technology: Raj Lengade: 614-367-2284, Hridayesh Gupta 614-787-0347, Shankarganesh Krishnamurthy 614-216-0505, Umesh Tripathy 614-330-0600 Bangalore Shankar 614-792-2921, Raj Birru 513-340-2694, Rakesh Thaploo 614-843-3980

Interfaith: Bangalore Shankar 614-792-2921, Raj Birru 513-340-2694, Rakesh Thaploo 614-843-3980

Mahaprasadam: Mohan Hari 614-260-1806, Varadaraj Deshpandey 614-401-7291, Ramakrishna Kshatri 614-854-9680, Nirupam Acharya 614-596-9909, Radhika Ghanekar 614-437-1590, Rama Patnaik 614-389-3024, Madhusudan S. Rao 740-881-3178, Rubi Verma 740-389-1676, Srinivas Gollanapalli 201-606-5069, Ila Vador 614-495-1930 Sunday Lunch: Mahesh Ramabadrana 614-738-3429, Priyesh Vador 614-747-5930, Divyanshu Tiwari 267-218-0015, Vinayak Deshmukh 614-822-9294, Sumeet Agrawal 949-293-7520, Murali Chandrasekaran 614-390-0883, Sanjeev Walmiki 203-435-7580, Nitin Vishwakarma 937-594-3927, Shiva Agolla 614-285-9800, Navneet Kharbanda 567-429-1542, Muni Doyejode 612-735-8481, Subrat Bishoyi 412-608-5869

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Constitution and Bylaws: Yogyata Dave, Amarendra Mishra, Arpita Mohanty, Sudha Pandari, Amar Pandey, Dilip Patel, Veena Rao, Manmohan Sachdeva, Rajiv Shivpuri, Padmanaban Sundaraam

Safety and Security: Atul Sharma 614-939-5890, Anand Padmanabhan 302-528-1404, Vibha Shah 614-371-3671

Religious Service Charges 2019

Charges for Private religious services within 60 miles radius from the Temple are:

Services	Temple	Home
Archana	\$11	N/A
Ayusha Homam	\$151	\$151
Abhishekam for Utsav Murti	\$101	N/A
Abhishekam for Main Murti	\$151	N/A
Annaprasan	\$51	\$151
Bhoomi Puja	N/A	\$151
Engagement Ceremony	\$151	\$151
Gruha Pravesha (Vastu Shanti)	N/A	\$201
Kalyanotsava	\$151	\$151
Lakshmi Puja / Puja for Business (Office)	N/A	\$151
Mundan Sanskar	\$51	\$151
Nakshtra/Navagraha Shanti	\$101	\$151
Navagraha Abhishekam	\$151	N/A
Namkaran Sanskar	\$51	\$151
Ramayan / Sundarkand Path	\$151	\$201
Seemantham (Baby Shower)	\$151	\$151
Sahasranam Puja for any Deity	\$51	\$151
Shastipurty Shanti	\$151	\$201
Shraddham / Tarpan	\$51	\$151
Satyanarayan Puja /Katha	\$151	\$151
Trishati Puja	\$51	N/A
Upanayanam / Yagyopaveet Sanskar	\$151	\$201
Vahan Puja	\$31	\$151
Vahan Puja and Archana	\$51	\$151
Vedic Homam / Puja	\$151	\$151
Vidyarambh /Saraswati Puja	\$51	\$151
Wedding (Pre-Wedding Puja, Per Puja, Per day)	\$101	\$151
Wedding (Only Wedding)	\$351	\$451
Wedding Bundle (Wedding, Mandap, Microphone)	\$501	N/A
Wedding Mandap (Max. 3 days)	\$151	\$251
Funeral (in afternoons only) No charge for members	N/A.	\$251

Executive Committee approval is required for the following Services:

- (1) Between 60 to 99 miles: Individuals will pay \$150 + Puja Charge(s); Religious Institutions will pay \$250/day + Priests' transportation charges.
- (2) Between 100 to 180 miles: Individuals will pay \$250 + Puja Charge(s); Religious Institutions will pay \$250/day + Priests' transportation charges.
- (3) Beyond 180 miles and/or out of state: Individuals will pay \$250 per day + Puja Charge(s) + Priest's transportation; Religious Institutions will pay \$250 to \$400 per day + Priests' transportation charges.

NOTE: Temple humbly requests devotees to begin the Puja on scheduled time and not hold the priests beyond the completion of their religious services. Any such delay is subject to \$51/hr in addition to the service charges above as it disrupts the schedule and appointment times of the other devotees.

The Trees!



- Veena Rao*

The sun had just woken up. It bent down to kiss the earth. The birds were chirping merrily. I sat in my sunroom sipping coffee that my husband had lovingly made, feeling the warmth of the morning sun, and aimlessly surfing on my phone. A perfect start to the weekend!

An article manifested on my phone. It was a story of an old woman named Timmakka, specifically “Saalumurada Timmakka”. The picture of Timmakka, a 105 year old lady intrigued me. Curiosity set in even more because a US environmental resources organization in Los Angeles was named after her! As I read the article, her story uncovered. She was childless even after 25 years of marriage. She tackled this misfortune in a very unique way. She began planting banyan trees on either side of the highway, taking care of her trees as her own children. Year after year, the number of trees increased. She has planted more than 300 trees and covers up to 4 miles on either side of the highway. She got recognized as an environmentalist, she won a national award, state awards and several other awards. She was featured on CNN.

People are recognizing her work, she is a national and global hero for environmentalists. We read about her and move on to next thing in life.

Such an incredible story, yet we fail to see the point. An illiterate woman has been able to create a legacy, she will be remembered for a long time to come! We need to pause and reflect on this for a moment. Millions of people are born on this earth, yet only a handful are able to make an impact. Some of us don't even think about leaving behind a legacy.

As an educator of Hindu Dharma in BHT Gurukul, I believe these are the stories we need to tell our students, inspire them, teach them to slow down, teach them to observe, notice what nature has to offer, notice what everyday heroes have to offer, along with what our culture, puranas and itihaasa has to offer. As parents, we need to think why are we always rushing our kids?

Follow your heart, find your passion, and lead without holding back.

For more about Timmakka, refer to:

<http://thimmakkafoundation.org/about%20thimmakka.html>

*Veena Rao is the coordinator of Hindu Dharma at the Bharatiya Hindu Temple. She has been teaching Gurukul classes for several years and molding children into better human beings through her guidance and inspirational stories.

