



AALAYA SANDESHA

Subhamastu Avighnamastu Vijayostu

Sri Venkateswara Temple Newsletter

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1st Quarter 2019

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President's Message

Dear Sir or Madam,

Happy New year and Happy Makara Sankranthi to all our fellow devotees. Sankranthi is a widely celebrated festival and it signals the end of the month of the winter solstice and the beginning of longer days. It is also known by other names, such as Lohri, Sukarat, Pongal, Pedda Panduga or Bhogali Bihu. This is a festival to Surya, the Sun God, and signifies the start of an auspicious time. It is thus a good time to start or renew our philosophical practices, whether it be daily yoga and meditation, prayers, exercises, healthier eating and lifestyle. Volunteering with the community is a great way to both improve ourselves and our community for the next generations.

We are having our yearly Festival of India and Health Fair this year on 27th of April. This year's event is being planned on a fairly large scale. The advisory committee of the Board of trustees has been outstanding in their contribution and spear heading the planning of the event. As it is the main event of the year where the Indian Community can showcase the culture and traditions to the community at large, it is important that we have good participation and turnout. It is a great opportunity for us to show the community at large what we have to offer the melting pot that the United States of America to make it an even better Union.

Thank you,

Dr. Vishnu Reddy





PRIEST'S CORNER

Yashivo naamarupabhyam yaa devi sarvamangalaa!

Thayoh samsmaranath pumsaam sarvatho jayamangalam!!

Any name or form of Lord Shiva,Any name or form of goddess Parvati.

When people recite Shiva & Parvati names good things happens all the time.

Sri Gurubhyo namah !!!

THE STORY OF LORD SUBRAMANYA BIRTH (BIRTH)

According to Puranas (Shastras) we have lots of festivals, in that the Subramanya shasti is one of the most important festival.It will come usually between November and December.Lord Subramanya's birth (jnanam) was very auspicious,due to the strength of all the five elements(panchaboothas earth,water,fire,air and sky) which were granted by Lord Shiva.

Lord Shiva granted Lord Subramanya the powers to protect all the worlds from the evil Tarakasura. Tarakasura was giving lot of difficulties to all gods.He had a boon that he will not be killed by any creature,except the son of Lord Shiva only.

When Lord Shiva and His Consort Parvati were wondering in the forest,they were approached by a sage named sanath kumara.The Sage Sanath Kumara wished to be born as a son of Lord Shiva in his next birth (Janma). Lord Shiva said he will fulfill his wish.

When Goddess Parvati and Lord Shiva were alone in their abode (ekantham) all gods (devathas) approached Lord Shiva.They requested Lord shiva to hold his energy (Tejas) because only Lord shiva's energy can kill Tarakasura. it was divine maaya that gods (devathas) are coming to request for all knowing Lord shiva for disseminate his tejas.But who can holds the Shiva's energy? Then Lord Shiva informed devathas that the energy (tejas) already moved from the place where it had been.

Then All gods (devathas) asked Lord shiva to leave his energy on the earth and Lord Shiva agreed. After a few days passed,the earth were not able to withstand Lord Shiva's energy so,earth passed it to River Ganga.River Ganga also could not hold energy (tejas) for long time so,she gave passed on to Fire (Agni). Same thing happened with Agni also. From Agni Lord Shiva's energy merged with Air and went up to sky (Aakasam).Finally the energy(tejas)came and fell in the forest upon a holy grass named Sharavanam. The Lord Shiva's energy took the shape of Lord Subramanya from Sharavanam. Lord Subramanya was fed by ladies (Krittikas)in the forest. so,he came to known as Karthikeya(another name of Subramanya)

Lord Subramanya grew up and he became a commander-in-chief (leader) to all gods (devathas) Lord Subramanya killed Demon Tarakasura and protected all gods from their sufferings.

By praying to Subramanya Swami we will be blessed with good health,wealth and progeny.

~~~~~Sarve janaah sukhino bhavanthu~~~~~

**By-Sri Sai Manoj Mochavolu**





## MAAGHA MAASAM

In the month of MAAGHA. Magha means YAGNA. This month is supposed to be Auspicious for performing Yagnas. One specialty in this months is recommendation of different SNAANAMS (BATHS). To wash away sins we are advised to take Bath in Sea. Maagha Snaana specialty is mentioned in BRAHMA PURAANAM. It is very Auspicious to take Bath in Rivers, especially Holy Rivers. In this month, the SUN RAYS reach the Earth at a certain angle, that gives the rays a special density and Cosmic Energy. Even modern Scientists concluded that taking Bath before Sunrise is considered to give us good health between January 20th and March 30th. Sun God is the ADHISHTHANA DAIVAM. After bath it is necessary to give ARGHYAM to Sun (Offering Water).

It was mentioned in PURANAS that in this month if one takes Bath before Sunrise even at home, it gives the effect of Cleansing for 6 years. Bath with Well water gives 12 years Punya Phalam. Bath in lakes gives twice the Punyam, Bath in River 4 times, Bath in Holy Rivers 100 times, Bath in Ganges 1000 times, Bath in TRIVENI SANGAMAM GIVES effect of taking Bath in 100 Rivers of PUNYAM. In this month, cleansing of sins can be attained by thinking of Holy Places and Rivers while taking Bath and thinking of PRAYAG gives Holy Blessings.

While taking bath, one can chant this Slokam

Dukha Daridra Naasaaya  
Sri Vishnotoshanaayacha  
Praatah Snaanam Karomya  
Maagha Paapa Vinasanam

Savitreprasavitreacha  
Parandhaama Jale mama  
Twattejasa Paribraahmtam  
Paapam Yaatu Sasrada

While offering water. In this month first Panchami is day Goddess Saraswati was born, we worship Saraswathi. Saptami is RADHASAPTAMI, also known as SURYASAPTHAMI. On this day Bath is taken just before Sunrise (Arunodayam) with a ARAKA (also known as Mother Plant leaf) leaf and Mirabelle Plum (red plums) on head and that removes 7 types of Sins. Before Bath, water is stirred with Sugarcane. A Chariot is made with green beans and PAAYASAM is made with New Rice, it is the tastiest PAAYASAM! It is placed on Green Bean leaves to offer to Sun.

Satrajit is rewarded with SAMANTHAKAMANI by Sun. Health is given by Sun so, AADITYA HRUDAYAM should be chanted on this day. Such Bath results in

SAPTA SAPTA MAHAA SAPTA DWEEPAA VASUNDHARAA  
KOTIJANMAARJITAM PAAPIM  
VINASYATI TATKSHANAAT

(In short the Supreme Goddess MAATA will remove sins gathered from Crore Janmaas will be removed in an instant).

BHEESHMA who is blessed with SWACCHANDA MARANAM (Death according to his desire), chose ASHTAMI TIDHI in ROHINI star in SUKLAPAKSHAM while Sun is shining brightly in Noon time in ABHIJIT LAGNAM and let his PRAANAM reach Godly Abode

PORNIMA TIDHI is very Auspicious. All this month leading to MAHAASIVARAATHRI is very Auspicious

**By,**  
**Dr. Mahesh Maruvada**





## FESTIVAL OF INDIA 2019

It's time for our annual amazing event for the community FESTIVAL OF INDIA AND HEALTH FAIR on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM - 2 PM at the S. V. Temple.

The committee is working enthusiastically to make the event a grand affair!

Your participation, attendance and donations will be key to the success of this event.

Last year despite the rains we were able to pull through and have a stellar showcase!

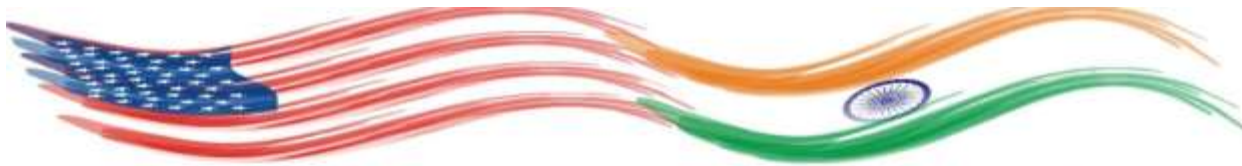
This is our opportunity to highlight our culture, food, art, colors and traditions to the community at large while providing public service through the various health booths.

Presale will be available by March 15<sup>th</sup> and each ticket is \$10 for which you will receive coupons worth \$12 at the day of the event. We will have a separate dedicated line for the guests with presale tickets.

Please spread the word to your network of family, friends and colleagues by words of mouth and the power of social media.

Please send us any questions/concerns/suggestions to [festivalofindia@mail.com](mailto:festivalofindia@mail.com).

**Mrs. Bhakti Sooda**



# Festival of India

**FREE HEALTH FAIR**



**SATURDAY, APRIL 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
10:00 am — 3:00 pm  
Sri Venkateswara Temple  
10401 McKinzie Lane  
Corpus Christi, TX 78410



**Enjoy Indian Cuisine**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Fashion and Jewelry**



**MUSIC & DANCE**

**HENNA TATTOOS**



**Experience India in the Coastal Bend!**

For Performance, Booths and Sponsorships contact [FestivalofIndia@mail.com](mailto:FestivalofIndia@mail.com)



# THAIPOOSAM 2019











## Editor's Corner

Greetings to all.

New year's best wishes to you all.

I was wondering how a new year's day is determined by different parts of the world, as we all give importance to new year's day .

I did some reading and thought to share, for those who are curious as I was.

The very first time a new year was celebrated was in 45 BC, as Julian calendar.

Julius Ceasar, the Roman dictator decided to start a traditional Roman calendar in seventh century.

He used an Alexandrian astrologer Sosigenes, who has advised him to do away with lunar cycle and follow the solar year ,as Egyptians have done.

The year was calculated to have 365 days but Caesar added 67 days to and started the calendar beginning of January, rather than March. He also added an extra day every 4 years, to February keeping his calendar falling out of step.

This very first calendar was started in January of 1 of 45 BC .

Caesar was assassinated in 44 BC.

Mark Anthony changed the name of the month from Quintilis to Julius (July) to honor him .

Later the month was changed to Augustus ( August)after his successor.

Celebration of new year fell out of practice in middle ages .

There were some errors in calculation of solar year by Caesar and Sosigenes and the Julian calendar was not strictly followed for this reason.

In 15<sup>th</sup> century the church became aware of the calculation errors of Julian calendar.

Pope Gregory XIII commissioned Jesuit astronomer, Christopher Clavius to come with a new calendar.

The Gregorian calendar was implemented in 1582 adjusting the days and declaring one of every 4 centennial years to be a leap year.

Since then people around the world gathered and celebrated the precise arrival of New Year on January 1.

Then came to light the Vikram Samvat Calendar which is 56.7 years ahead of Gregorian calendar.

The Rana Ruler of Nepal made Vikram Hindu Samvat Calendar in 1901 CE and this was started in 1955 CE.

Panchanga is the name for the Hindu Lunar calendar, and this marks the first day of Hindu New Year .This is also celebrated as Vikram Sawant.

According to Panchanga the new year falls on the first day of Karthik month, usually around March or April of every year. In certain parts of India New year is celebrated on Diwali day .

This year, New year, falls on 5th of April 2019.

April also marks a very important event at the temple .

This year the FOI and health fair are scheduled for Saturday the 27th of April.

The board of trustees and the advisory board are working very hard, hand in hand to make this event successful .

Please come, contribute ,participate and make this event a memorable one for the community.

Happy New Year, Happy Ugadi Happy GudPadwa.

**Lalitha M Janaki ,MD FACR**

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