



# SANDESH



JANUARY - MARCH 2024

Release Date January 1 2024

NEW YEAR & NEW  
YAJNA SHALA  
OPENING

MEET OUR 2024 EB &  
AC BOARD

ARTICLES ON  
GOSWAMI TULSIDAS,  
SHIVA LINGAM,  
ABOUT INTEGER 108 +  
MUCH MORE

SPECIAL EVENTS  
COVERAGE



*Hindu Society*

of North-East Florida

4968 GREENLAND ROAD

JACKSONVILLE, FL 32258

HSNEF.ORG / +1 904 2687630

*SIDDHI VINAYAK*

^OUR NEW YAJNA SHALA

SEE SUPPLEMENT ON  
INAUGURATION  
EVENTS, AND RITUALS

[hsnef.org/sandesh](https://hsnef.org/sandesh)

HANDBOOK COVERING BENEFITS & SIGNIFICANCE OF RITUALS AND YAJNAS  
CONDUCTED FOR ALL NINE DAYS

JANUARY 6 TO 14, 2024

First Quarter 2024.



**Wish you a very happy, auspicious, and spiritually uplifting new year.**

क्षणं क्षणं प्रतिक्षणं यन्नवं नवं, तच्च सुंदरं सच्च तच्छिवम्।  
वर्ष नूतनं ते शुभं मुदं, उत्तरोत्तरं भवतु सिद्धिदम्॥

kshanam pratikshanam yannavam navam, tacca sundaram sacca tacchivam.  
varshanutanam te shubam mudam uttarottaram bhavatu siddhidam

*That which is new every moment is called a new year. That itself is real, beautiful, and auspicious. May such a divine and happy new year give more and more success to you.*

सूर्य संवेदना पुष्पे दीप्ति कारुन्यगंधने  
लब्ध्वा शुभं नववर्सेस्मिन् कुर्यात्सर्वस्य मंगलम् //

Surya Samvedna pushpe Deeptih Kaarunyagandhane,  
Labdhva Shubham Navavarshesmin Kuryatsarvasya Mangalam

*As the sun gives light, sensibility brings compassion, flowers give pleasant fragrance, may the new year be auspicious*





**First Quarter 2024.**

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*Hindu Society  
of Northeast Florida*

*cordially invites you & your family  
for the  
Grand opening of*

*“ Siddhi Vinayak Vajna Shala ”*

*Grand Opening of Fire Altar for Rituals  
from*

*Sat, 6th January - Sun, 14th January 2024*

*with Special Vajnas (havans) &*

*Sthapana of the Utsav Murthy's*

*Goda Devi & Sudarshana Utsav murthy*

*at*

*Hindu Society of Northeast Florida*

*4968 Greenland Rd, Jacksonville Florida 32258*

*Please grace the occasion  
with family & friends  
and be a part of the Celebrations.*







# "SIDDHI VINAYAK YAJNA SHALA"

## Udghatana Mahotsav



SATURDAY- 6 JAN 2023

9:00 TO 1:00 PM

MAHAGANAPATI PUJA, PUNYAHAVACHANAM, VASTU PUJA, VASTU HOMAM,  
MAHAVIRSWAMY ARATI, KALASH SHOBA YATRA,  
YAJNA SHALA SHIKHARA KALASH STHAPANA, MAHAKUMBHA ADHIVAASAM

6:00 - 7:30 PM- SAMUHIKA VISHNU SAHASRANAMA & LALITHA SAHASRANAMA PARAYANA

SUNDAY- 7 JAN 2023

YAJNA SHALA PRAVESH, MAHA KUMBHA STHAPANA

9:30-12:00 NOON- MAHA GANAPATI, ARUNA MANTRA YAJNA, NAVAGRAH HAVAN

4:00-9:00 PM- GAYATRI YAJNA, RAS GARBHA

MONDAY- 8 JAN 2023

9:00-11:00 AM- MAHA GANAPATI, GAYATRI, PANCHASUKTA HAVAN

5:00-8:00 PM- RUDRA HAVAN

TUESDAY- 9 JAN 2023

9:00-11:00 AM- MAHA GANAPATI, GAYATRI, PANCHASUKTA HAVAN

5:00-8:00 PM- HANUMAN YAJNA, HANUMAN CHALISA



WEDNESDAY- 10 JAN 2023

9:00-11:00 AM- DHANVANTRI HAVAN

5:00-8:00 PM- BHAGAVAT GITA HAVAN



THURSDAY - 11 JAN 2023

9:00- 11:00 - RAMA TARAKA HAVAN, PANCHASUKTA HAVAN

5:00-8:00 PM- BHAGAVAT GITA HAVAN

FRIDAY- 12 JAN 2023

9:00- 11:00 AM- SRI SUKTA HAVAN, GODA DEVI & SUDARSHANA MURTHY STHAPANA

5:00- 8:00 PM- ASHTA LAKSHMI HAVAN, FELICITATION & CULTURAL PROGRAM

SATURDAY -13 JAN 2023

9:00 - 1:00 AM- CHANDI HAVAN

5:00-8:00 PM - RUDRA ABHISHEK, GODA KALYANAM, LOHRI CELEBRATIONS

SUNDAY- 14 JAN 2023

SANKARANTI , PONGAL CELEBRATIONS

9:00-1:00 AM : SUDHARSHANA HAVAN, GANESH ABHISHEK

5:00-8:00 PM: AYYAPPA MAKAR JYOTI PUJA

### SPONSORSHIP

\$ 2001: ALL HAVANS, \$1001: LAST 3 DAYS GRAND FINALE

\$501: CHANDI HAVAN AND SUDHARSHAN HAVAN

\$251: CHANDI HAVAN, \$251: SUDHARSHAN HAVAN

\$51: ANY OTHER HAVAN, \$51: HAVAN SAMAGARI FROM INDIA

GHEE FOR HAVAN, NUTS, FLOWERS FRUITS FOR HAVAN ARE WELCOME







# "SIDDHI VINAYAK YAJNA SHALA"

## Udghatana Mahotsav

**Saturday, 6th January 9:00 to 1:00 pm**

Anujna, Bhagavad Prarthana, Mahasankalpam, Acharya Ritvic Varanam, MahaGanapati Puja, Punyahavachanam, Raksha Bandhanam, Mritsangrahanam, Palika aradhanam, Vastu Puja, Vastu Homam, Yajna Shala Shuddhi, Mahavirswamy Arati, Kalash Shoba yatra, Yajna Shala Shikhara Kalash Sthapana, Yajna Shala Pravesha, Mahakumbha Adhivaasam followed by Arati and Lunch Prashad

Evening 6:00 to 7:30 pm- Samuhika Vishnu Sahasranama and Lalitha Sahasranama Parayana followed by Arati & Prashad

**Sunday, 7th January 9:30 to 12:00 Noon**

Yajna Shala Pravesha, Mahakumbha Sthapana, Maha Ganapati Havan, Aruna Mantra Yajna, Navagrah havan Poornahuti followed by Arati and Lunch Prashad.

Evening 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm- Gayatri Yajna, Ras Garbha followed by Arati & Dinner Prashad

**Monday, 8th January 9:30 to 12:00 noon**

Maha Ganapati, Gayatri, Panchasukta Havan followed by Arati

Evening 6:00 to 8:00 pm- Rudra Havan followed by Arati

**Tuesday, 9th January 9:00 to 11:00 am**

Maha Ganapati, Gayatri, Panchasukta Havan followed by Arati

Evening 5:00 to 8:00 pm- Hanuman Yajna, Hanuman Chalisa followed by Arati and Dinner Prashad

**Wednesday, 10th January 9:00 to 11:00 am**

Dhanvantari Havan, Panchasukta Havan followed by Arati

Evening 5:00 to 8:00 pm- Bhagavad Gita Havan (First 9 chapters) followed by Arati

**Thursday, 11th January 9:00 to 11:00 am**

Rama Taraka Havan, Panchasukta Havan followed by Arati

Evening 5:00 to 8:00 pm- Bhagavad Gita Havan (Second 9 chapter) followed by Arati

**Friday, 12th January 9:00 to 11:00 am- Sri Sukta havan**

Goda Devi & Sudarshana Utsav Murthy Sthapana

Evening 5:00 8:00 pm- Ashta Lakshmi havan, Yajmaan Ashirvad, felicitating the entire Yajna Shala Builders & Sponsors followed by Cultural program & Dinner Prashad

**Saturday, 13th January 9:00 to 1:00 pm - Lohri & Bhogi Celebrations**

Chandi Havan followed by Arati & Lunch Prashad

Evening 5:00 to 8:00 pm- Rudra Abhishek, Lohri Celebrations, Goda Kalyanam followed by Arati & Dinner Prashad

**Sunday, 14th 9:00 to 1:00 pm - Makar Sankranti & Pongal Celebrations**

Maha Sudarshan havan, Mahapoornahuti, Ganesh Abhishek followed by Arati & Lunch Prashad

Evening 5:00 to 8:00 pm- Ayyappa Makar Jyoti puja & Bhajans followed by Arati & Dinner Prashad

### SPONSORSHIP

\$ 2001: ALL HAVANS, \$1001 : LAST 3 DAYS GRAND FINALE

\$501: CHANDI HAVAN AND SUDHARSHAN HAVAN

\$251: CHANDI HAVAN, \$251: SUDHARSHAN HAVAN

\$51: ANY OTHER HAVAN, \$51: HAVAN SAMAGARI FROM INDIA

GHEE FOR HAVAN, NUTS, FLOWERS FRUITS FOR HAVAN ARE WELCOME





*Hindu Society*  
OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA

# “SIDDHI VINAYAK YAJNA SHALA”

## UDGHATANA MAHOTSAV

Saturday, 6th January - Sunday, Jan 14th 2024

### HINDU SOCIETY OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA

#### SIDDHI VINAYAK YAJNASHALA UDGHATANA CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> January through Sunday 14, January 2024

### HANDBOOK FOR RITUALS AND YAJNAS CONDUCTED FOR ALL NINE DAYS

*With Divine thoughts form Pandit Shrinath Kadambi*

Let us begin the Happy New Year 2024 by adding new building for Fire Worship

The Hindu Society of Northeast Florida, scheduled Yajnashala Udghatana (Fire Altar for fire rituals) Celebrations starting from Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024, ending on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The celebrations are scheduled for nine days with different yajnas, both morning and evening, with Procession, Pujas, Vedic Havans, cultural programs and Annadaan etc., This Handbook to this grand opening will be helpful to the devotees participating in different Yajnas on different days. Participate in all nine days grand opening of Yajnashala and enjoy the Divine Bliss.

### Significance and importance of Yajna

This ancient tradition of Yajya incorporates the principles of theoretical knowledge and applied science and contains in it all the elements of material elements in seed form. It is a sacred process conducive to the welfare and happiness of the individual as well as the society.

The meaning or purport of the word Yajya is an act or celebration of self-giving which aims at the highest universal good, an act which is generous, magnificent, noble, and magnanimous. Yajya is a Sanskrit word which has three meanings,

- (1) divinity
- (2) organization and
- (3) charity.

These three virtues can be said to be triple divine currents of individual and social transformation. Divinity means refined personality, divine virtues. Organization implies unity, cooperation team-spirit. Charity implies generous sharing, devotion to society, and considering the entire universe as one's own family. All these three tendencies are thus combined in Yajña and it can be said to be the flaming torch of knowledge. It inspires man to translate higher sentiments and motives into righteous deeds. Coordination of knowledge and action creates the ground for making progress. Righteous deeds, which is known as tap, and true knowledge, which is known as yog, are the basis of spiritual progress.

Homam (also called havan) is a religious ritual performed by Hindus to invoke specific Gods and Goddesses' blessings. It begins with the Karta (devotee) invoking Agni (God of fire) and inviting him to carry the dravya (offerings into the fire) to the concerned deity. The Gods, pleased with the offerings, grant the devotees' wishes in the form of benefits like longevity, Success in business, good health, prosperity, progeny, etc.

**यज्ञदानतपःकर्म न त्याज्यं कार्यमेव तत् ।  
यज्ञो दानं तपश्चैव पावनानि मनीषिणाम् ॥ 5॥**

In Srimad Bhagavad Gita Lord Shree Krishna pronounces his verdict that we should never renounce actions which elevate us and are beneficial for humankind.

*yajña-dāna-tapaḥ-karma na tyājyaṁ kāryam eva tat  
yajño dānaṁ tapaś chaiva pāvanāni manīṣhiṇām*

### **PROGRAM DETAILS.**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January.**

**Inauguration Day Ribbon Cutting ceremony. 9.00 to 1.00 pm**

Grand beginning with Mahasankalpa, Ganesh Puja, Vastu havan, Yajñashala Shuddhi, Highlight of the day Kalash Shobha Yatra at 12.00 noon Yajñashala Inauguration, Ribbon Cutting and Opening ceremony of Yajñashala, followed by Arati & lunch

Evening 6.00 to 7.30 pm

Lalitha Sahasranamam and Vishnu Sahasranam will be recited by the Lalitha Sahasranam Devotees of HSNEF at Yajñashala to sanctify the Yajñashala followed by Arati and Prashad

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 9.30 to 12.00 noon**



High Lights: Mahakumbha Sthapana, Maha Ganapati Havan, Aruna Mantra Yajna and Navafruh Yajna followed by Arati and Lunch.

We begin the celebrations with **Maha Ganapati havan** to overcome all the obstacles and successful completion of the event. The Ganapathi Havan is performed to invoke the blessings of Lord Ganesha, thereby preventing obstacles and hurdles while performing our dharma and regular duties. Invoking his blessing is beneficial before starting anything new and auspicious.

**Aruna Mantra Yajna:** (Rare & Important) This Yajna is very rare yajna and should be performed on Sundays. This yajna is performed for Lord Sun 'Surya Deva' for healthy life and cure of deceases. For Suryopasana we have many mantras, tantras and many stotras. Among them, **Aruna prasna, the sacred mantra of Yajurveda is very popular**, important and highly practiced. By performing of Aruna Prashna, parayana or yajna, it is believed one can be healed of diseases and ailments especially related to eyes and skin. By conducting the Aruna Prashna yajna the devotees are blessed with charisma and radiance like that of the Sun. Please participate in Aruna mantra Yajna, reap its benefit which is followed by Navagraha havan, Arati, and Lunch

**Evening 4.00 to 7.00 pm**

**Highlight 'Gayatri Yajna' Followed by 'Rass Garbha' 7.00 to 9.00 pm.**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January evening Yajnashala Schedule is Gayatri Yajna. Since Gayatri mantra is Sun related, we wanted to schedule on Sunday.** Gayatri and Yajna form an inseparable pair. One is said to be the mother and the other, the father of Bhartiya Sanatana Dharma. They are inter-dependent. Gayatri anushtan cannot be considered fully accomplished unless it is accompanied by Yajna.

Worshipping Maa Gayatri Yajna fulfills worshipers all wishes. It gives seven rewards of age, soul, subjects, animals, fame, wealth, and Brahmavarchas from Maa Gayatri are mentioned in the Atharvaveda. This Puja creates a protective shield around the seeker and protects him during times of suffering. The presence of Maa Gayatri Maha Yajna brings success, fame, wealth, and opulence along with a healthy life. Maa Gayatri Maha Yajna fulfills all wishes of worshipers.

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 9.30am to 12.00 noon**

Mahaganapat, Gayatri & Panchasukta Havan followed by Arati & Lunch Prashad  
Chanting or listening to Pancha Suktam can bless the devotees with *clarity of mind, excellence in all actions undertaken, success in all endeavors, peace and prosperity in life, and also radiance, wealth, strength, prudence and power.*

**Evening 6,00 to 8,00 pm Monday Special 'Rudra Havan'**

Rudra Havan is performed to please Lord Shiva who is the destroyer of death. Performing Shri Rudra Havan cleans the previous birth bad karmas, any disorders and

relieves people from accidents, very serious illness or untimely death. This Havan is performed to achieve *Jaya* (victory) over *Mrityu* (death)

### Benefits of Rudra havan

Rudra Havan is performed to remove the fear of death. It helps to overcome illness and previous birth karma. It gives good health and prosperity. It provides relief from relationship troubles and leads a happy life. It helps to attain success in life. Please participate in Rudra havan reap its benefit and enjoy the divine bliss.

### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January Morning 9.00 to 11.00am.

Mahaganapati, Gayatri & Panchasukta Havan followed by Arati & Lunch Prashad

**Evening:** Tuesday Hanuman Special 5.00 to 8.00 pm

Hanuman Yajna and hanuman Chalisa will be performed in the Yajnashala for the first time to bless the yajnashala.

Hanuman is invoked to bless people with abundance, vigor, valor, and success in all tasks. Benefits of this Havan are:

Removes all blemishes of sin. Confers purity of mind. Removes fear of enemies. Confers victory and protects his devotees from evil. Drives away evil spells and black magic influences, negative spirits, and removes all poisonous effects in one's body. Wards off the troubles caused by bad influences of the planets. Comforts all types of wealth and provides knowledge, victory, good family life, and prosperity. Obtain courage and will-power to accomplish personal and social endeavors. Participate in hanuman Yajna and enjoy the power of hanuman Chalisa followed by Arati & Dinner Prashad.

**Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 9.00 to 11.00 am.**

### Dhanvantari Yajna:

Dhanvantari Homam is conducted to cure any type of *illness in your body* thereby increasing body strength and restore it with good health. It is performed by invoking *Lord Dhanvantari (Divine Physician)* is the incarnation of *Lord Vishnu*. Lord Dhanvantari appeared during the Churning of the Cosmic Ocean of Milk with the elixir in his hands that rejuvenated all the celestial beings.

It is followed by the chanting of Dhanvantari Mantra for health and then performing the homam with *medicinal herbs* which emit medicinal properties across the air, thereby alleviating all your physical ailments. Please participate in Dhanvantari yajna and be blessed by good health.

### Evening 5.00 to 8.00 pm 'Bhagavad Gita Yajna' (First nine Chapters)

Bhagavat Gita is one of the principal holy scriptures of the Hindus which contains the essence of life. It preaches how life should be spent and what is this universe about. It tells about the cycle of life and birth and how to stop this cycle of birth and death. It preaches how to get salvation. Bhagavat Gita Homam is performed by paying homage to Lord Agni and reciting some verses of Gita.



## **Benefits of Bhagwat Gita Homam**

- This Homam is one of the measures which are instrumental in removing the Pitru Dosh.
- It blesses with name, fame and good health.
- It bestows upon prosperity, wealth, and abundance.
- This Homam also blesses one with the ability to make decisions and take action promptly.
- This Homam is also helpful in getting rid of the cycle of birth and death leading them to salvation.

## **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 'Rama Taraka Havan & Pancha Sukta Havan'**

Rama is the 7th incarnation among ten avatars of Lord Vishnu, the supreme god. He is also portrayed in ancient Vedic texts. It is also believed that anyone who spells his name can get peace of mind from various problems in life. Lord Rama is considered as the protector of earth who destroyed several evil forces and demons including Ravana. Rama homam will give several benefits to a person for living a better life. This homam plays a key role in liberating a person from life cycle (birth and death) to attain salvation.

## **Significance of Rama Taraka Homam**

According to Vedic scriptures, Lord Rama is considered as a self-controller who helps for emerging as a victorious leader.

- Rama homam provides methods for reducing sins and karmic problems to witness major changes.
- It is possible to recover from doshas and negative influence of planets in a horoscope with this homam.
- One can be able to purify soul, mind and body with this homam for gaining spiritual knowledge.
- Moreover, this homam allows a person to attain success in all endeavors by addressing exact needs.

## **Benefits of Rama Homam**

- Rama homam makes feasible ways for getting relief from health issues and obstacles in life.
- In addition, it helps to eliminate the afflictions of planets in a horoscope with this homam.
- Another advantage of Rama homam is that it shows ways for ensuring wealth and prosperity.
- People can be able to get blessings from Lord Rama for living a trouble-free life in this world.

Please participate in Rama Taraka Yajna for peace and prosperity. After Yajna Arati followed by Lunch Prashad.

**Evening “5.00 to 8.00pm Bhagavad Gita Yajna’ (Second nine Chapters )**

**Bhagavad Gita Yajna is scheduled on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January. Please participate in two-day Gita Yajna and be blessed by Lord Krishna. Followed by Gita yajna Arati and Dinner Prashad.**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024 9.00to 11.00am.**

**Sri Sukta havan followed by Goda Devi and Shri Sudarshana Murthy Sthapana**

**Significance of Srisukta havan**

Sri Sukta Homam is performed to removes all the obstacles and negative energies and gives victory or success, acquire wealth and prosperity, and bring harmony in family and success in life.

Followed by Srisukta Havan, Utsava murthy of Shri Goda Devi Murthy and Shri Sudarshan murthy sthapana will be celebrated. Followed by sthapana Arati & lunch prashad.

**Evening 5.00 to 8.00pm ‘Ashta Lakshmi Havan’ Friday evening Special**

**Ashta Lakshmi Maha Yagna - Eight form of Goddess Lakshmi and their Goodness at Once!**

Each of these eight forms of Goddess Lakshmi is the ruler deity of various form of Wealth such as Materials, Money, Grains, Luck, Progeny, Courage, Victory, and Knowledge.

What is exactly Ashta Lakshmi Maha Yagna? Ashta Lakshmi Maha Yagya is performed with the aim of invoking Eight Divine aspects of Goddess Lakshmi to achieve eight different forms of wealth through this maha fire ritual. This Maha havan goes for two days the first day is full of Japa and the next day will be homam for eight goddesses of Lakshmi.

**Benefits and Significance of Ashta Lakshmi Maha Yagna:** Each goddess has their own individuality and the common benefit of performing this Ashta Lakshmi Maha homam is that for gaining various forms of wealth and prosperity to live a happy life ever.

- 1. Adi Lakshmi:** Goddess Adi Lakshmi Portrayed the appearance of Lakshmi which lives with Lord Vishnu in the Vaikuntha, She blesses her devotees with all riches.
- 2. Dhana Lakshmi:** Goddess Dhana Lakshmi helps her devotees for earning income in multiple right ways by fulfilling their desires.
- 3. Dhanya Lakshmi:** Goddess Dhanya Lakshmi is the giver of all related to agriculture needs. She blesses her devotees with wealthy and healthy food in their life.
- 4. Gaja Lakshmi:** Goddess Gaja Lakshmi brings all lucks in every phase in life.
- 5. Santhana Lakshmi:** Goddess Sri Santhana Lakshmi bestows her devotees with the



greater wealth of child.

**6. Dhairya Lakshmi:** Goddess Dhairya Lakshmi grants her devotees with the courage and strength to defeat any sorts of struggles.

**7. Vijaya Lakshmi:** Goddess Vijaya Lakshmi helps her devotees to attain victory in all aspects of life.

**8. Vidya Lakshmi:** Goddess Vidya Lakshmi grants her devotees to explore and grow their talents.

Following Ashtalakshmi Yajna is Yajmaan Ashirvad and felicitating the entire yajnashala Builders and sponsors without whom the Yajnashala is not possible. We will conclude the program Arati followed by cultural Program and Dinner Prashad.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 9.00 to 1.00 pm 'CHANDI HAVAN'** followed by Arati & Lunch prashad

January 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> will be celebrated as grand finale for the Yajnashala nine days program. The grand finale of yajnashala will be concluded with celebrating Lohri, Bhogi on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sankarathi & Pongal with Maha Sudarshan Yajna, Maha Poornahuti in the morning and in the evening Sankrati & Pongal special puja 'Ayyappa makara Jyoti puja in the evening 5.00 to 8.00 pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January.

Homam (also called havan) is a religious ritual performed by Hindus to invoke specific Gods and Goddesses' blessings. It begins with the Karta (devotee) invoking Agni (God of fire) and inviting him to carry the dravya (offerings into the fire) to the concerned deity. The Gods, pleased with the offerings, grant the devotees' wishes in the form of benefits like longevity, Success in business, good health, prosperity, progeny, etc.

A Chandi Homa/Havan/yajna is a prominent Havan and one of the most powerful ones for getting overall Success in all undertakings and removing all kinds of Doshas and Obstacles in one's life. In this Yajna, an extensive Puja and Chanting and offerings are carried out for Devi Durga.

Every one of us faces troubles at one or the other time in our life. At times, we can deal with them by utilizing our Intellect, Hard Work, and Dedication. But sometimes, despite our best and maximum efforts, we cannot solve our problems, which may be negatively affecting our entire life and, at times, even the lives of all those who are most near and dear to us. At such times, we should approach for the help of Divine Intervention so that we can lead a Happier, Healthier, and Wealthier life full of peace.

**A Chandi Homa/Havan** is an ultimate prayer to Maa Durga (also known as Maa Chandi), which can be extraordinarily beneficial for removing all kinds of Obstacles and helping us achieve our goal of life by clearing all our problems in life as per Ancient Vedic Texts. Hence, if you have a question in mind about "How to solve your problems in life," then a Chandi Homa is an ultimate answer. What importance Rudrabhishekam holds for Lord Shiva, Chandi Homam has for Devi Durga. Chandi Homa/Havan sets a person, free from all kinds of Black Magic, Evil Eyes, Obstacles, Negative Energies, Evil deeds

against the worshipper, and the devotee is blessed with long-lasting Health, Wealth, and prosperity.

Main benefits of conducting this Chandi Homa: –

- 1) Performing Chandi Homam helps in overcoming obstacles and barriers in life.
- 2) Helps you attain Success and win over one's enemies.
- 3) Blesses one's life with positivity and happiness.
- 4) Liberates one from evil eyes and curses.

**Note: If you get a chance of participating in this Chandi Havan/Yajna, please don't miss it as it is a powerful Homam that can make you feel better from all the problems.**

## **Evening**

**Saturday Evening Lohri & Bhogi Celebrations 5,00pm to 8.00 pm**

**Saturday evening Rudrabhishek will be conducted while celebrating Yajnashala Udghaatana followed by Lohri Celebrations and Bhogi Goda Kalyanaotsavam followed by Arati & Lunch Prashad.**

**GRAND FINALE OF SIDDHI VINAYAK YAJNASHALA &**

**MAKAR SANKRATI PONGAL CELEBRATIONS 9.00 TO 1.00 PM**

**MAHA SUDARSHAN YAJNA, SHANTI HAVAN & MAHAPOORNAHUTI.**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024 is the Grand Finale of the nine-day Yajnashala program. We are going to celebrate grand finale along with Sankrati & Pongal Celebrations.**

## **Maha Sudarshana Yajna**

Maha Sudarshan is very powerful Yajna which fulfills one's desire, wealth, peace and prosperity, solves all kind of financial problems. Maha Sudarshan Yajna removes all sufferings and grant the happiness. This yajna removes all enemies and gives protection.

It is believed that Performance of the Maha Sudarsana Homam removes your unexpected troubles, obstacles, distress and health issues. It gives you protection and removes your fear of death, fear of distress and bring strength of mind. This great Homam confers health, wealth, success, and Prosperity for you and spiritual benefit too.



Maha Sudarshan Homam is believed to remove negative energies at your Home, workplace and around you. It destroys evil forces around you and your family that hampers your family happiness, your progress, your success and your earnings. It is also effectively minimizing the bad planetary effects on you. It Helps in the removal of astrological flaws i.e. any negative things to happen in your horoscope. It is believed that Mahasudarshana Homam saves and rescue the devotee from all sufferings soon or in the

**Grand Finale  
Mahapoornahuti will  
be celebrated on  
January 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
at 11.15 am followed  
by Grand Abhishek  
to Lord Ganesha  
followed by Arati,  
Prashad, Lunch and  
Yajmaan Ashirvad.**

long run. Auspicious Sudarshana Mantras which are believed to be equally powerful like Sudarshana Chakram may destroy Evil and negative forces around you and derives good luck and victory for you in your mission.

**Evening 5.00 to 8.00 pm Sankrati & Pongal  
Special**

**AYYAPPA MAKAR JYOTI PUJA**

**Followed by Arati, Ekanta seva and Annadaan**

This program is a very divine program. The Yajnachala is permanently dedicated for yajnas; for fire worship for ever for our HSNEF. We have strong support from the congregation to build the yajnachala. Also, we have strong manpower and volunteers to beautify the yajnachala, which we all witness today. The thought, planning, arrangements, and all yajna programs is all blessed and planned by Lord Ganesha, on whom the Yajnachala is named after. The yajna Samagri is brought from India with special permission and will be used for all Yajnas. According to the Hindu scriptures authentic yajna samagri is obtained from India. We are also consecrating the yajnachala with **three Kalashas**, signifying the whole Yajnachala as fire Altar, sanctum sanctorum of the one Almighty. Let us all participate and enjoy the divine bliss and pass on this great facility to the next generation.



***With Divine thoughts***

***Pandit Shrinath Kadambi***

***Head Priest/Director of Worship, HSNEF***

**Note Devotees participating in Yajna kunda please wash hands and feet before they sit in yajna Kunda, please collect Yajna Samagri from worship volunteers. Please collect prashad before you leave.**



## **Highlights of Siddhi Vinayak Yajnashala Udhgatana Celebrations**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January through Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January**

**Celebrating along with Lohri, Bhogi, Sankrati & Pongal Celebrations**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January** Kalash Shobha yatra & **Yajnashala Inauguration** 12.00 Noon  
Evening Lalitha & Vishnu Sahasranama Parayana 6.00 to 7.30 pm.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 9.00 to 12.00 noon** Aruna Mantra yajna & Mahaganati Havan

**Evening** Gayatri Yajna followed by Rass Garbha 5.00 to 9.00 pm.

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** Maha Ganapati, Gayatri & Panchasukta yajna 9.00 to 11.00

**Evening** Rudra Havan 6.00 to 8.00 pm

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January** Maha Ganapati, Gayatri & Panchasukta yajna 9.00 to 11.00

**Evening** Hanuman Yajna, Hanuman Chalisa 5.00 to 8.00 pm

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January** Dhanvatari & Panchasukta Havan 9.00 to 11.00 am.

**Evening** Bhagavadgita havan (first nine chapters) 5.00 to 8.00 pm

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January** Ramataraka & Panchasukta Yajna 9.00 to 11.00 am.

**Evening** Bhagavadgita havan (second nine chapters) 5.00 to 8.00 pm

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January** Srisukta havan followed by Sri Goda & Sudarshana Utsava Murthy  
Sthapana 9.00 to 11.00 am.

**Evening** Ashtalakshmi havan, yajman Ashirvad, Felicitating the entire yajnashala  
Builders, sponsors followed by cultural program 5.00 to 8.00 pm.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January** Chandi havan 9.00 to 1.00 pm

**Evening** Rudrabhishek, Lohri celebrations & Bhogi celebrations Goda Kalyanam

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January Grand Finale of Yajnashala Yajna Rituals** 9.00 to 1.00 pm

**MAHAPOORNAHUTI 11.15 AM**

Mahasudarshana Shanti homam followed by Ganesh Abhishek, Arati & Prashad Lunch.

**Evening** Sankranti & Pongal celebrations Ayyappa Makara Jyoti Puja,  
Arati & Annadaan 5.00 to 8.00 pm

First Quarter 2024.

## Hindu Society of North East Florida.

### 2024 Executive and AC board members.

To protect the continuity of action, each year four members of EC and two members of AC after serving for three years, leave the board and are replaced by new Four members of EC and Two members of AC to serve three years.

This year (2024) the board and AC members are.

Anju Garg., (Chair): Sailaja Ayyagari.(vice chair); Jignesh Kapadia (secretary)  
Rasik Modi (Treasurer) : Parita Warade.,(worship) :Padma Sikaria,  
Kavita Parikh., Anil Pathak., Kris Gopal., Senthil Chokkanatha .,  
Sateesh Reddy, and Vamsi Krishna Nadella  
And AC members. Padma Mukund and Tracy Khona. :

The members retiring are.

Sunil Ancha., Srilakshmi Garikapati, Anshu Kalia, Vipan Kalhan and  
AC members Sudhir Prabhu and Manu Perumal.

HSNEF thank these leaders for their unstinted and exemplary  
Service to the temple.

"A good leader takes little more than his share of blame,  
but little less than his share of credit."

**HSNEF welcomes the new members.**

Board;Sateesh Reddy, Vamsi Krishna Nadella, Jignesh Kapadia and Rasik Modi  
AC members Padma Mukund and Tracy Khona

"To know what must be done, then do it,  
comprises the whole philosophy of practical life."



First Quarter 2024.

Temple office Staff.



Ragha Suda



Sree Lakshmi



Asha Sharma(Office Manager)



Suseela Daliboyina.



Mahak Gupta



Ritu Sharma

Temple timings.

Weekdays.

9.00 – 11.00 am. (Arati 9-45 am)

6.00-8-30 pm (Arati 7.00 pm)

Weekends.

9.00 am - 8-30 pm (Arati 11-45 am & 7.00 pm)

First Quarter 2024.

## The Morning Prayer.

There is a very powerful ritual that may be followed to increase your Divine power to increase wealth. When you get up from bed in the morning, the first thing one should do is to look at both the palms of the hands. Then at the tip of the fingers where dwells goddess Lakshmi and chant the mantra mentioned below. After chanting this mantra one should rub the hands, and take the power, energy and blessings on to the Face.

Karaagre Vasathe Lakshmee  
Kara Madhye Saraswathii  
Kara Moolethu Govindaha  
Prabhaathe Kara Darshanam



Meaning: *kara* = hand; *agra* = tip; *agre* = at the tip; *vasate* = lives; *Lakshmi* = Goddess of wealth and consort of Lord Vishnu; *madhye* = in the middle; *Saraswati* = Goddess of education and learning; *moola* = base/corner; *mooletu* = at the base; *GovindaH* = (go + vinda) go = cattle; vinda = friend) Lord Govinda or Krishna; *prabhate* = early in the morning; *darshanaH* = appearance (seeing)

कराग्रे वसते लक्ष्मिः करमध्ये सरस्वति ।  
करमूले तु गोविन्दः प्रभाते करदर्शनम् ॥

On the tip of your hand lives Goddess Lakshmi; Goddess Saraswathi is in the middle of your hand (palm) and on the base of your hand resides Lord Govinda – in this manner you look at your palm early in the morning. When you wake up in the morning, it is believed that you need to open your eyes by first looking at the tip of the hands, followed by the palm, then the base of the hands. When you wake up in the morning, it is believed that you need to open your eyes by first looking at the tip of the hands, followed by the palm, then the base of the hands. When you wake up in the morning, it is believed that you need to open your eyes by first looking at the tip of the hands, followed by the palm, then the base of the hands.

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## Message from Head Priest



Namasthe Hari Om

Wishing you all Happy New Year, Happy Lohri, Bhogi, Happy Sankrathi and Pongal celebrations. All our temple celebrations last year were celebrated very well with all your support. In Happy new Yajnashala Udhghatana Ceremony is blessing for the Happy New year 2024. During the new year inaugurating a new building, with all your support is ideal for Happy New Year. Yajnashala is the new facility for the temple to conduct fire worship of our faith. The yajnashala or Fire altar is the place where divine offering is offered to the one Almighty. Yajnashala is also a place of worship. Sanctum sanctorum of divine energy. Yajna, (Sanskrit: "sacrifice or fire offering") in Sanatana Dharma (Hindu faith), is offerings to the gods based on rites prescribed in the earliest holy scriptures of Hindu faith, the Vedas, in contrast to puja, a later practice that may include image worship and other devotional practices. The word Yajna has come from the root 'yaj' which means to worship, adore, or praise. Yajna also means an offering or sacrifice. So, the complete meaning of Yajna is to revere or praise the various elements of the divine by offering things that give us divine bliss and universal peace. Our congregations' dream of having Yajnashala is finally fulfilled. Starting 6<sup>th</sup> January through January 14<sup>th</sup>, we are going to celebrate many Vedic Yajans, while inaugurating the new building for the fire worship. A *yajna* is always purposeful, even though the aim may be as general as sustaining the natural order of the universe. Correct performance of the ritual and recitation of the necessary Mantras, or sacred formulas, is considered essential, and the performer and the objects employed must all be in a high state of purity. Why are Yajnas performed? The answer to this question is during the early Vedic Period, yajnas were performed to create a connection between a person's self and their higher self. They were also done to cleanse the environment and to bring peace, prosperity, and harmony to those who witness the ritual. Let us celebrate the whole year 2024 with all celebrations for the peace and prosperity of our congregation.



**First Quarter 2024.**

ब्रह्मार्पणं ब्रह्म हविः ब्रह्माग्नौ ब्रह्मणा हुतम् ।  
ब्रह्मैव तेन गन्तव्यं ब्रह्मकर्मसमाधिना ॥

**brahmArpaNaM brahma haviH brahmAgnau brahmaNA hutam ।  
brahmaiva tena gantavyaM brahmakarmasamAdhinA ॥**

For those who are completely absorbed in God-consciousness, the oblation is Brahman, the ladle with which it is offered is Brahman, the act of offering is Brahman, and the sacrificial fire is also Brahman. Such persons, who view everything as God, easily attain Him.

Nine days celebrations of Yajrashala inaugural ceremony, we are going to do number of Vedic Yajnas. Please participate this lifetime celebration of our temple and be blessed by Lord Ganesha and enjoy the divine Bliss, Brahmananda

Pandit Shrinath Kadambi  
Head Priest/Director of Worship, HSNEF

**First Quarter 2024.**

## Events for January – March 2024

January 2024			
Date	Day	Event	Time
JAN 1st	MON	Happy New Year (Please see the Special Events)	
JAN 6th to JAN 14th	SAT	Siddhi Vinayak Yajñashala Udhghatana Begins See the special Flyer	
	SUN	Siddhi Vinayak Yajñashala Grand Finale, Makar Sankranti & Pongal	
JAN 19th	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Shri Venkateswar Abhishekam &amp; Pooja</b>	<b>10.00 - 11.45 AM</b>
JAN 20th	SUN	<b>Sri Satyanarayan Pooja</b>	<b>10.00 - 11.45 AM</b>
JAN 25th		<b>Thaippusam Celebrations (see Special Flyer)</b>	<b>6.30 - 8.30 PM</b>
JAN 27th	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Sri Lakshminarayana Pooja</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM
JAN 28th	SUN	<b>BalaKrishna Pooja</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM
		Sankataharana Chaturthi Ganesh Abhishek	6.00 - 8.00 PM
February 2024			
FEB 3rd	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Shri RamParivarPooja(Tulsi Krit Sundarkhand)</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM
FEB 4th	SUN	<b>Ganesh Abhishek</b>	10.00 - 11.00 AM
FEB 7th	WED	Mahapradosha Shiva Abhishek & Puja	6.00 -
FEB 10th	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Devi Pooja Samuhika Soundaryalahari Prayana</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM
FEB 11th	SUN	<b>Shiv Pooja</b>	9.30 - 10.30 AM
		Jain Samavesh	10.30 - 11.30 AM
FEB 12th	MON	Vainayaki Ganesh Abhishek	6.00 - 8.00 PM
FEB 13th	TUE	Basanth panchami Saraswati Pujan	6.00 - 7.00 PM
FEB 17th	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Shri Venkateswar Abhishekam &amp; Pooja</b>	<b>10.00 - 11.45 AM</b>
		<b>Shri Devi Jagaran (see special flyer)</b>	
FEB 18th	SUN	<b>Sri Satyanarayan Pooja</b>	<b>10.00 - 11.45 AM</b>
FEB 24th	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Sri Lakshminarayana Pooja</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM
FEB 25th	SUN	<b>BalaKrishna Pooja</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM
		Jain Samavesh	10.30 - 11.30 AM
FEB 27th	TUE	Sankataharana Chaturthi Ganesh Abhishek	6.00 - 8.00 PM
		Jain Samavesh	10.30 - 11.30 AM
March 2024			
MAR 2nd	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Shri RamParivarPooja(Tulsi Krit Sundarkhand)</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM

## First Quarter 2024.

MAR 3rd	SUN	Ganesh Abhishek	10.00 - 11.00 AM
MAR 7th	THU	Mahapradosha Shiva Abhishek & Puja	6.00 -
<b>MAR 8th</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>Maha Shivaratri Celebrations(See Special events &amp; Flyer)</b>	
MAR 9th	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Devi Pooja Samuhika Soundaryalahari Prayana</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM
MAR 10th	SUN	<b>Shiv Pooja</b>	9.15 - 10.30 AM
		Jain Samavesh	10.30 - 11.30 AM
MAR 12th	TUE	Vainayaki Ganesh Abhishek	6.00 - 8.00 PM
MAR 16th	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Shri Venkateswar Abhishekam &amp; Pooja</b>	<b>10.00 - 11.45 AM</b>
MAR 17th	SUN	<b>Sri Satyanarayan Pooja</b>	<b>10.00 - 11.45 AM</b>
MAR 23rd	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
		<b>Sri Lakshminarayana Pooja</b>	10.30 - 11.45 AM
MAR 24th	<b>SUN</b>	<b>Ganesha Sthapana 17th Anniversary ( See Soocial Flyer )</b>	
		<b>Holi Celebrations Holika Dahan</b>	<b>6.30 - 7.30 PM</b>
MAR 28th	THU	Sankataharana Chaturthi Ganesh Abhishek	6.00 - 8.00 PM
MAR 30th	SAT	Sri Venkateswara Suprabhata Seva	9.30 - 10.00 AM
MAR 31st	SUN	Regular Pooja	
<b>Upcoming Events for 2nd Quarter 2024</b>			
<b>APR 9th</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>UGADI, GUDIPADVA &amp; VASANT NAVARATRI CELEBRATIONS</b>	
<b>APR 13th</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>Shri Durga Chowkhi Poojan</b>	
<b>APR 14th</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>Baishakhi &amp; Tamil New Years Day (see special events)</b>	
<b>APR 17th</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>Shri Ram Navami ( See Special Flyer )</b>	
<b>APR 19th</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>Shri Ram Navami Celebrations,Kalyana Utsavam (seeSpl.Events)</b>	
<b>APR 20th</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>Shri Ram Navami Celebrations, Akhand Ramayan Begins (see Spl.Events)</b>	
<b>APR 21st</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>Akhand Ramayan Poornahuti &amp; Sitarama Kalyanotsavam See special events</b>	
		<b>Mahavir Swami Jayanti Celebrations ( See Special Fler )</b>	
<b>APR 23rd</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>Hanuman Jayanthi Celebrations See Special Events</b>	



**First Quarter 2024.**

## Upcoming Special Events for January, February, and March 2024

**Happy New Year's Day, Monday 1st January 2024**

**Maha Ganapati Havan & Special Abhishek & Shrinagar 9.00—12.30 Noon**

**Happy New Year Shri Srinivasa (Balaji) Kalyanotsavam 4.00 -- 6.00 pm**

**Sarvadarshan 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 Arati**

**See the Special Flyer for detailed nine days program.**

**SIDDHI VINAYAK YAJNA SHALA UDGATANA MAHOTSAV**

**GRAND OPENING OF FIRE ALTAR FOR RITUALS**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024 thru Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Jan 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday Lohri, Bhogi Goda Kalyanam 6.00 to 8.00 pm**

**Jan 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday Yajnashala Grand Finale 9.00 to 12.00 Noon**

**Makar Sankranti, Pongal Celebrations**

**Makarjyoti Ayyappa Puja 5.00 to 8.30 pm**

**Thaippusam Celebrations Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Shri Subrahmanya Procession, Abhishekam, Kalyanotsavam and Kavadi 6.30 to 8.30 pm**

**February 13<sup>th</sup> Basanth Panchami Celebrations**

**Shri Saraswati Puja 6.00 to 7.00 pm followed by Arati**

**FEB 17<sup>th</sup> Saturday Magh Navaratri Shri Devi Jagaran 10.00 pm**

**Ends on February 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday 7.00 am with Arati**

**MAHASHIVARATRI CELEBRATIONS – Friday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Rudrabhishek 5.00 - 6.30 pm**

**Sarvadarshan 6.30 - 9.00 pm and 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 pm Arati service**

**Dwitiya Kala Rudrabhishek 9.00 - 10.00 pm**

**Shivaratri Special Bhajans by Devotees 10.00 - 11.30 pm**

**Tritiya Kala Rudrabhishek 11.30 - 12.30 am**

**Bhajans 12.30 - 3.00 am**

**Chaturtha Kala Rudrabhishek 3.00---5.00 am**

**Mantra Pushpa, Arati & Prashad 5.00 - 6.00 am**

**HSNEF Shri Ganesha Sthapana 17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**

**Maha Ganapati Havan 9.00 to 10.30**

**Ganesh Abhishek 10.30 to 12.00 Noon followed by Arati**

**Evening HOLI CELEBRATIONS – Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

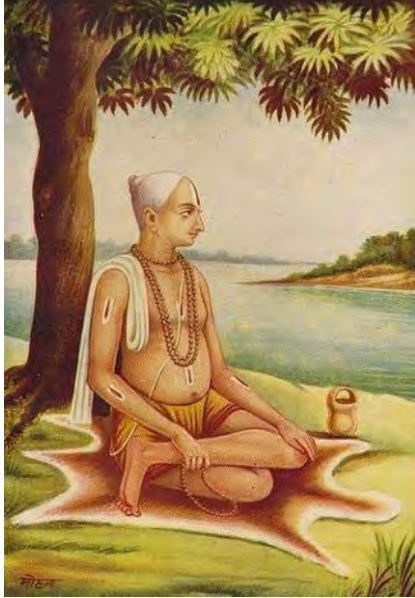
**Holika Dahan, Pooja & Arati 6.30 - 7.30 PM**

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**Biography of Goswami Tulsidas.**  
**(Author of Ramacharitmanas)**

**Dr. Kris Gopal.**

Tulsidas was born in UP to his parents Hulsu and Atmaram Dubey. The exact date of his birth is not well known, it is presumed to be between 1532 and 1554. It is said that he lived to age of 126 years.



Legend tells us that he came out of the mother's womb after 12 month and at birth had 32 teeth. He was also called Rambola Dubey, as he uttered Lord Rama's name at birth. It is mentioned that his parents abandoned him after his birth. Chunia a maid took care of him till he was 5 years old. He lived as a poor orphan and begged for alms.

After Virakata Diksha and initiation, Rambola got his name Tulsidas. His guru Narharidas of Ayodhya performed his upanayanam and narrated him the Ramayana repeatedly. Then he went to Varanasi when he was 15-16 years old. There he studied hindu literature, philosophy, Sanskrit Grammar, and other scriptures. He returned to his birthplace and lived narrating the story of Ramayana.

He married Ratnavali, daughter of Dinbandhu Pathak. He had a son named Tarak who died in his toddler state. Tulsidas was extremely attached to his beautiful wife Ratnavali, who was a very intelligent and pious lady. He loved his wife and could never stand even a moment's separation from her. One day his wife went to her father's house. Tulsidas stealthily went to see her at night at his father-in-law's house. This produced a sense of shame in Ratnavali. She said to Tulsidas, "My body is but a network of flesh and bones. If you would develop for Lord Rama even half the love that you have for my filthy body, you would certainly cross the ocean of Samsara and attain immortality and eternal bliss". These words pierced the heart of Tulsidas like an arrow. He did not stay there even for a moment. He abandoned home and became an ascetic. He spent fourteen years in visiting the various sacred places of pilgrimage.

There is yet another different version of this story.

It is mentioned that he met Hanuman and later had darshan of Lord Rama. It is also mentioned that Tulsidas was an incarnation of Valmiki.

Tulsidas had made the Statue at Tulsi Manas Mandir, at Chitrakuta, Satna, India. Then he started composing poetry in Sanskrit for people in Varanasi. It is considered that Lord Shiva himself ordered him to compose his poetry in the vernacular language instead of Sanskrit. When Tulsidas opened his eyes, he saw that both Shiva and Parvati blessed him. He was ordered to go to Ayodhya and write his poetry in the Awadhi.

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He started to write the Ramcharitmanas in Ayodhya on the Ramnavami of the Chaitra month in the year 1631. He completed his writing of the Ramcharitmanas in two years, seven months, 1633. This is an epic poem in Awadhi dialect of Hindi, so that common masses in language could understand as opposed to the Sanskrit version.

He died on the riverbank of Ganga in 1623.

### Teachings of Tulsidas

- God is the one who is the source of all goodness and who is formless, nameless, and birthless. Everything lies within himself and takes the human form to help those who have faith in him.
- There is only one God, but conceited ones have created numerous forms of God.
- Every living thing contains God particles. So, do respect all of them.
- Good intention leads to happiness and wealth, whereas bad will brings unhappiness and suffering.

### Tulsidas Quotes

There can be no happiness for a being, nor can its mind know any peace even in a dream so long as it does not relinquish desire, which is an abode of sorrow.

No virtue is equal to the good of others and no vice greater than hurting others.”

### Other Popularly Recognized Works

- **Hanuman Chalisa:** It consists of 40 verses devoted to the Hanuman in the Awadhi, 40 Chaupais and 2 Dohas and is a prayer to Hanuman.
  - **Sankatmochan Hanumanashtak:** It consists of 8 verses for the Hanuman in the Awadhi.
  - **Hanuman Bahuka:** It has 44 verses in the Braja describing The Arm of Hanuman (praying to the Hanuman for curing his hand).
  - **Tulsi Satsai:** It has a collection of 747 dohas in both Awadhi and Braja and separated into seven Sargas or cantos.
- .....





## Shiva lingam.

Dr. Kris Gopal.

One often wonders why Lord Shiva is depicted as lingam and worshipped as such. Let us try to understand the various explanations given on this topic

A glance at the rounded, elliptical, an-iconic image of Shiva Lingam placed on a circular base (known as Peedam), which is found in the Sanctum Sanctorum (Garbhagraha) in all Shiva temples, has given rise to various interpretations, without realizing the scientific truths discovered by the ancient Hindu sages. The practice of worshipping Shiva Lingam as the holy symbol of Lord Shiva, has been from time immemorial.



Literally in Sanskrit Siva means auspiciousness and Linga means a sign or symbol. Hence Siva Linga is just a symbol of the great god of the universe (Mahadeva) Siva means the one in whom the whole creations sleep after dissolution. Linga also means the same thing- a place here created objects get dissolved. Shivalinga represents God himself symbolically.

Since God is beyond name and form, and since we cannot conceive of an abstract like him, without concrete symbols, a rounded surface is perhaps the nearest approach to him.

The most mis understood concept of Shivalinga is, is it a phallic emblem or not. This is merely a moot point. Various theories of this concept have been given.

There is a popular story related to the origin of Shia lingam.

Once, it so happened that Lord Brahma and Lord Vishnu got into a fierce battle over who was superior to the two Lords. The battle was so fierce that Lord Shiva had to intervene to calm down the battle. He appeared before them in the form of an enlightened pillar-shaped figure (a flaming Linga) and asked them to find the two ends of the column of the pillar.

Hearing this suggestion, Lord Vishnu took the form of a boar and headed toward the lower end of the flaming Linga. Lord Brahma took the form of a swan and flew upwards to find the upper end

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of the flaming Linga. Both traveled huge distances but failed to locate the ends of the enlightened pillar.

Lord Vishnu returned and accepted his defeat. However, Lord Brahma lied that he had found the upper end of the flaming Linga to be a 'Ketki' flower.

At this, the fire pillar got burst, and Lord Shiva appeared before them. He cursed Lord Brahma so that nobody would worship Him ever.

Afterward, the shape of the fire pillar was recognized as Shiva Linga and began to be worshiped by people.

1. Phallic cults have existed in all countries and in all ciliation. It is quite likely that the phallic cults of an aboriginal civilization were absorbed into Hinduism and the worship itself was elevated to honor the father-Mother principle of creation.

2. Another view is that it is a remnant of Vedic Yupastambha, to which sacrificial victims used to be tied. Another view is

3. It is an imitation of the Buddhist stupa, but this is not substantiated. Sialingas have been found even in the pre-Buddhist civilization of Harappa and Mohenjodaro.

The sivalingas are usually made of stone and have three parts. The lowest part which is square is called Brhmabhaga and represents Brahma, the creator. The middle part which is octagonal is called Vishnu-bhaga and represents Vishnu, the sustainer. These two parts are then embedded inside the pedestal. The Rudrabhaga which is cylindrical projects outside the pedestal is the one to

which worship is offered and hence it is called pujabhaga. The pujabhaga also contains certain lined technically called Brahmasutra.



Another interpretation divides the object into two parts – the top half, i.e., the cylinder as the lingam and its bottom half as the yoni.

According to Puranas, Shiva Linga came into existence because of curse given by some sages to Bhagawan Shiva. Bhagawan Shiva's phallus fell on earth and began to be worshipped as a spiritual symbol of Lord Shiva.

According to Linga Purana, Shiva Linga represents the formless universe Bearer. The oval shaped Linga represents the Universe, and the base symbolizes the supreme power holding the entire universe.

Shiva purana describes Shiva Linga as the formless representation of Lord Shiva.

The Skanda purana describes shiva Linga as the endless sky which contains the entire universe.

The structure and shape of Linga varies from place to place as there are several shaped lingams.

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## Significance of Integer 108 in Sanatana Dharma and other orders.

Dr. Kris Gopal

It was astronomer, mathematician, and physicist Galileo Galilei who said the universe is written “in mathematical language”—that the mysteries of creation itself could be unraveled through numbers and equations. For the mystics, such numbers offered more than a scientific explanation—they offered a code for awakening, a code to our own nature. And for the yogis, that code is 108.

In yoga, the number 108 refers to spiritual completion. It is why japa malas are composed of 108 beads, why pranayama is often completed in cycles of 108. Exactly how the yogis arrived at 108 we don't quite know, but it seems to be a number that connects us to our place in the cosmic order. Mathematics of Vedic culture viewed 108 as several the wholeness of existence. The number also connects the Sun, Moon and Earth.

According to Vedic cosmology, 108 is the basis of creation, represents the universe and all our existence. In Hinduism, we believe that outer cosmology should mirror our inner spirituality because our ultimate realization is that we are one in the same

Look at these facts. How did our ancestor know these? The ancient Indians were excellent mathematicians and 108 may be the product of a precise mathematical operation

- The distance between the Earth and sun is 108 times the diameter of the sun.
- Hindu deities have 108 names.
- In Jainism there are 108 virtues described.
- In Sanskrit Alphabets there are 54 letters. Adding the masculine and feminine forms, the shiva and shakti is 54 times 2 is 108.
- It is mentioned that at one time there were 108 Upanishads.
- Bhagawat Gita has 18 chapters.  
Kurukshetra war was fought for 18 DAYS
- During Kurukshetra war it was fought with 18 akshauhinis on both sides. (Kaurava and Pandavas) One Akshauhini is group of 1,09,350-foot soldiers, 65,610 horse, 21,870 chariots and 21,870 elephants)
- Only 18 lived after the war.
- It is said that in our life we have 108 samskaras (duties) to perform.
- There are 18 mahapuranas
- There are 18 upapuranas.
- Japa Malas have 108 beads.
- There are 18 steps in Sabarimali at the Aiyappa temple



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- Were we to draw a five-pointed star (representing a human being) inside a circle a (planet) and we would find 108 degrees from every angle?
- Deeper in our microcosm of the human being it is said that there are 108 energy lines, or nadis, converging to form the heart chakra, and 108 marmas (pressure points)
- At 108 Degrees of Fahrenheit of the internal temperate the human bodies vital organs will begin to fall from overheating.
- In Astrology – our connection with destiny -108 also appears frequently. The Earth for example is said to have an astrological cycle of 2160 years ( $20 \times 108$ ), while there are also 27 lunar mansions in Vedic astrology spread over the four elements or four directions ( $27 \times 4 = 108$ ).
- scientists say the number 108 covers the whole galaxy. Distance between the earth and the moon = 108 times the moon's diameter. The distance between the earth and sun = 108 times the diameter of the sun. The diameter of the sun = 108 times the diameter of the earth.
- According to Indian scriptures, letter 9 represents Lord Brahma the creator of universe, Mathematically the interesting property of 9 is.
  - $9 \times 1 = 9$
  - $9 \times 2 = 18$  ( $8+1=9$ )
  - $9 \times 3 = 27$  ( $2+7=9$ )
  - $9 \times 4 = 36$  ( $3+6=9$ )
  - $9 \times 12 = 108$  ( $1+0+8=9$ )
- According to Indian mythology there are 4 yugas  
Satya Yuga consists of 172,800 years. ( $1+7+2+8=18=1+8=9$ )  
Treta yuga consists of 129,600 years. ( $1+2+9+6=18=1+8=9$ )
  - Dwapara yuga consists of 86,400 years ( $8+4+6=18=1+8=9$ )
  - Kaliyuga consists of 432,000 years ( $4+3+2=9$ )
- There are said to be 108 earthly desires in Mortals.
- There are 108 types of feelings 36 related to past, 36 related to present and 36 related to future.
- In Astrology there are 12 constellations and 9 arc segments 9 times 12 is 108
- River Ganga spans a longitude of 12 degrees and latitude of 9 degrees 12 times 9 is 108
- In Vedic astrology there are 12 houses and 9 planets. 12 times 9 equal 108
- Lord Krishna is said to have 108 gopis with him.
- There are 108 types of meditation.
- There are 108 forms of dance in Indian Tradition.

Now let us see the integer 108 in other places.

- In Belize, during the era of the Mayans, the High Temple of Lamanai was erected at 108 feet tall—the same height as the funerary Tikal temple in Guatemala.
- At Stonehenge the built Sarsen circle is 108 feet in diameter.
- And within the temple of Kukulkan at Chichen Itza in Mexico archeologists believe there to be a second pyramid inside measuring 108 feet wide.

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- In China, some forms of Tai Chi have 108 moves.
- In Tibetan Buddhism there are 108 delusions.
- Many Buddhist temples have 108 steps representing 108 steps of enlightenment.
- In Christianity, the words “firstborn” are used 108 times in the Bible and the words “in truth” and “to forgive” are also used 108 times in the new revised standard version
- In the Bible, 108 means a steady heart
- In Islam the number 108 is used to refer God

There are many references in Sanatana Dharma and other religious order that mention of integer 108

Will we ever understand the deeper meaning of 108? The Greek mathematician Archimedes offers us a clue when he said: “Mathematics will reveal its secrets... only to those who approach it with pure love.”



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## Birthday Wishes.

Birthday wishes to those that have their birthdays in  
January, February, and March 2024.

## Zodiac Signs,



जन्मदिनमिदं अयि प्रिय सखे, शन्तनोतु ते सर्वदा मुदम् /  
प्रार्थयामहे भव शतायुषि / ईश्वरः सदा त्वां रक्षतु /  
पुण्यकर्मणा कीर्तिमर्जय / जीवनं तव भवतु सार्थकम् /

*Oh, dear friend! may your birthday bring you goodness and joy forever.  
We all pray for your long life of hundred years, and may the Lord always protect you.  
By noble deeds may you attain fame and may your life be full filled.*





**Meet our new priest.**

**Bharadwaj Baskaran.**



He has obtained education of over 10 years in  
Krishna Yajur Veda Kramantham. He has experience  
Working in various temples in India

He is proficient in Yajur Veda Karma Kandas.  
He is qualified to do all havans.

He is proficient in Poorva and Aparaprayoga in  
Aapashthamba and Drahyayanam

He speaks Tamil, English  
Telugu, and Kannada

He is married and his wife lives in India  
And soon will join him.

We welcome him and wish him well.

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## **Finance Report.**

*Bank Balance as of 10/31/2023*  
*Wells Fargo Bank. \$123,710.81*  
*Money in emergency fund. \$15,470.30*

<b>Year 2023</b>				
<b>Income</b>			<b>Expense.</b>	
<i>Membership Dues</i>	<i>2420.00</i>		<i>Bank Charges</i>	<i>77.90</i>
<i>Classes Income</i>	<i>4261.00</i>		<i>New temple expense</i>	<i>68,373.15</i>
<i>General Donation</i>	<i>104,095.24</i>		<i>Consulting expense</i>	<i>2000.00</i>
<i>Hundi</i>	<i>29,945.61</i>		<i>Employees salary</i>	<i>38,420.27</i>
<i>New temple income</i>	<i>5386.00</i>		<i>Maintenance</i>	<i>24,456.52</i>
<i>Bank Interest</i>	<i>5828.98</i>		<i>Legal expense</i>	<i>87.00</i>
<i>Pooja collection</i>	<i>22,657.10</i>		<i>Pooja and Garland</i>	<i>198.60</i>
<i>Rental facilities</i>	<i>12,746.00</i>		<i>Supplies</i>	<i>320.60</i>
<i>Sale income</i>	<i>355.62</i>		<i>Classes expense</i>	<i>2,940.00</i>
<i>Special events</i>	<i>58,465.45</i>		<i>Property insurance</i>	<i>4554.72</i>
			<i>License and fee</i>	<i>1500.00</i>
			<i>Special event expense</i>	<i>28,831.20</i>
			<i>Utilities</i>	<i>8421.62</i>
			<i>Taxes Payroll &amp; others</i>	<i>8105.06</i>
			<i>Credit card charges</i>	<i>3232.57</i>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$246,161.00</b>		<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$191,519.21</b>

## Activities 4<sup>th</sup> qtr. 2023.

- ✓ Bhagwat Sapthah (New Event)- Katha by Swami ji from Banaras , India.
- ✓ Navaratri Celebrations – Garba all 9 days with EFGC, Lalitha Parayanam, Mata Jagarata, Durgastami – Garba with LIVE DJ from India Golu
- ✓ Dassera Celebrations
- ✓ Karwachauth Celebration

- ✓ Karthika Deepam
- ✓ Samuhik Satyanarayan Puja
- ✓ Diwali and Phal Annakoot with Govardhan Puja
- ✓ Tulsi Vivah







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## Pictures from Bhagawat Saptah:





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**Pictures from Navaratri events.**



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Pictures of Vijaya dasami event.







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**Annakoot Mahotsav.**

**Govardhan pooja.**



*Hindu Society*  
OF NORTH EAST FLORIDA



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*Click on this to take you to that page.*

*Thanks.*

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[for membership forms.](#)

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[For Volunteering.](#)

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[For Events.](#)

[For 2023 Calendar.](#)

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## Rental and Advertisement

### RENTAL RATES

Temple Facility (Multipurpose Hall minimum 3 Hours + \$75 Cleaning and Utility fees) is available for private events, personal functions, and social gatherings on first come first served basis and at a cost.

	<b>Non-Profit</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>Non-Members</b>
Multi-purpose Hall	\$50	\$80	\$100
After house Rental Multi-purpose Hall	\$70	\$100	\$120
Gokulam Hourly	\$30	\$40	\$50
Conference Room/Library	\$15	\$20	\$25
Podium/Projects	\$15	\$15	\$15

### ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising in Sandesh is an excellent opportunity for business owners and professionals looking for exposure among local Indian community. It is a quarterly publication reaching Indian community households in the Jacksonville area. Sandesh publication is also available online at [www.hsnef.org](http://www.hsnef.org).

The rates for advertising per issue in Sandesh are as follows:

Full page: \$1000

Half page: \$600

Quarter page: \$350

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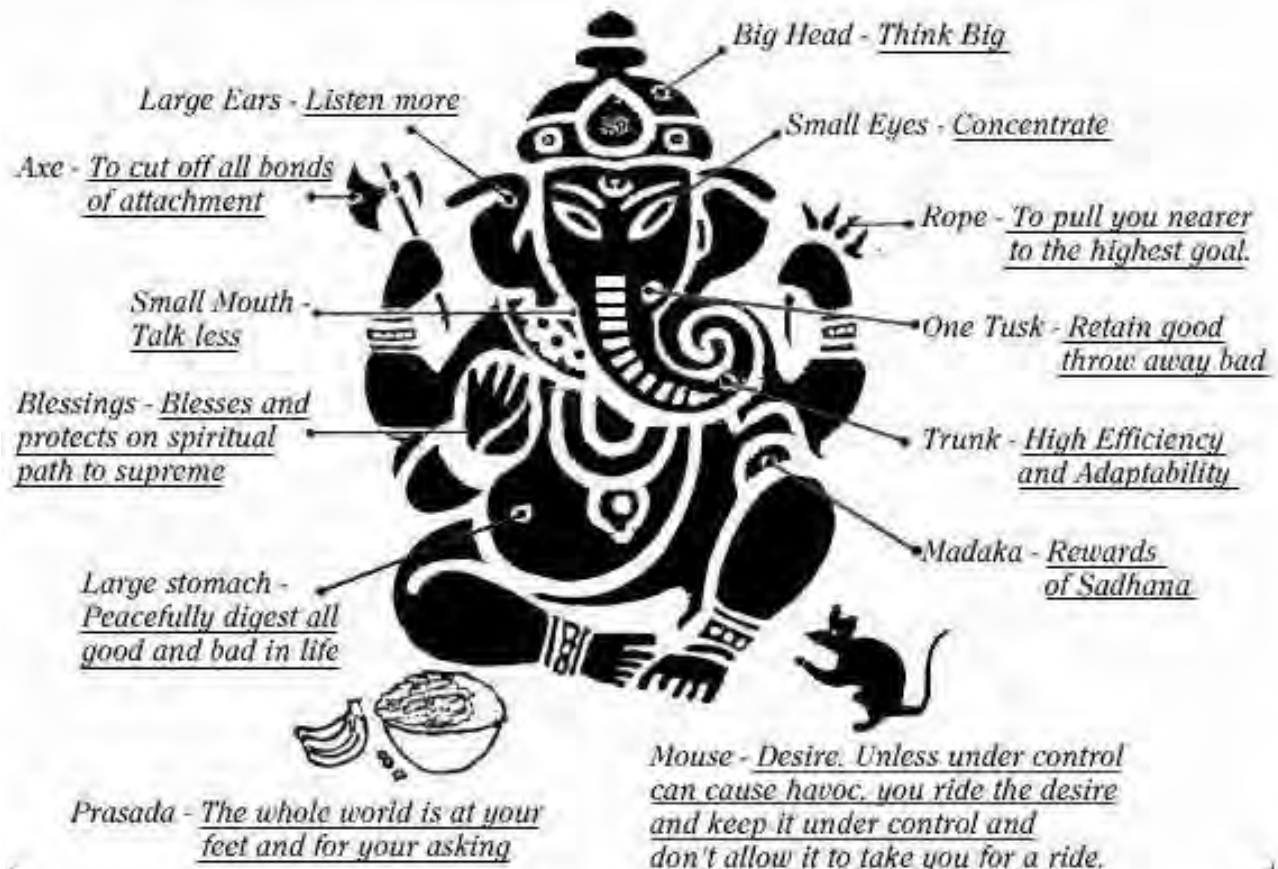
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# Ganesha Symbolism





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**Yagna shala completed.**

