

शुभमस्तु  
Subhamastu

अविघ्नमस्तु  
Avighnamastu

विजयोस्तु  
Vijayostu



# आलय संदेशः

[Aalaya Sandeshaha]

## Sri Venkateswara Temple Newsletter

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Dear Devotees,

I wish to thank all the volunteers who helped before, during and after the Festival of India/Health Fair event. Likewise, thanks to all the donors who supported financially, by setting up a booth or by providing in-kind support. It is estimated that the event was attended by over 1,000 individuals and the Society generated a net-revenue of about \$20,000. It is our desire to make this an improved and better event next year and I am thankful to those who have already provided a few suggestions to do the same. I am confident with your input, help and support, this can be achieved.

I continue to receive accolades regarding our Newsletter and this edition is no exception. This newsletter provides great insight into Ugadi/Gudipadwa and Sri Rama Navami. As in the past, I am sure you will find this information useful and interesting. With my limited knowledge of Telugu, I would like to wish everyone a “**Noothana Samvatsara Subhakamkshalu**”. Please contact me or Dr. Maruvada if you have any suggestions to improve or contribute to the content of our Newsletter.

Although we have had a successful community/fund-raising event recently, we certainly need your continued financial support. In order to make this convenient and easy for our devotees, we are working to setup a plan through which you can contribute any amount – on a monthly basis -- that your budget would allow. Details will be announced as soon as possible.

Finally, I would like to remind our devotees to visit our website [www.svtempletexas.org](http://www.svtempletexas.org) to find out about temple events, read Newsletters and to view the gallery of photos taken during our previous events at the temple.

Sincerely,  
M.P.Sudhakaran  
President

## Ugadi/Gudipadwa

Ugadi is on chaitra masa padyami following previous year phalguna maas amavasya. Because it indicates the beginning of Yuga, it is called Yugadi in Sanskrit. Over time it is pronounced as Ugadi. It is said that Brahma started Srushti (creation) on that day. From *Chaitra Suddha Padyami* to *Chaitra Suddha Navami* is celebrated as “*Vasanta Navaratri*”. Some of the legends of Ugadi are that on Chaitra Suddha Padyami, Dwapara Yuga ended and Kaliyuga started. In Treta Yuga Sree Rama celebrated Coronation in Ugadi day. Emperors Vikramarka and Salivahana were crowned on Ugadi day. This festival is celebrated by people of Karnataka and Andhra. People from Maharastra call this Gudipadwa. People from south of Vindhya mountains celebrate as per Chandramanam, meaning Salivahana sakam. People from North of Vindhya mountains celebrate according to “Bruhatpatya manam”, means—Vikrama sakam on Kartika Suddha Padyami. They pray “Sakti Maa” that day..

The day is celebrated in several ways. Very important thing on this day is “Ugadi chutney”. It has a particular significance, it is like medicine, devotional offering and one that gives mental strength to deal with sorrows and happiness, different tastes reminding of mixture of life experiences.

Another important event on this day is “Purna Kumbha Danam”/Dharma Kumbha Danam. “Kalasa Pooja” id performed and after the prayer it is given to Guruji/Priest along with any additional offerings like clothes, money etc. Finally, “Panchanga Sravanam” —

तिथिर्वारम् नक्षत्रम् योगः करणमेवच।  
tithirvAram nakShatram yogaH karaNamevaca  
पन्चांगस्य फलम् शृण्वन् गंगा स्नान फलम् लभेत्॥  
pancAMgasya Palam SRuNvan gaMgA snAna Palam laBet

Meaning, hearing Panchangam that includes “Tidhi, Varam, Nakshatram, Yogam, karanam” is like taking bath in holy river Ganga.

We can learn a lot from Panchangam. We can know the years Rasi Phalam and their effects on us and precautions we can take and also several opportunities awaiting us. Those who want to learn in more depth, can know about Pushkaras, Festivals, Grahana (Eclipse) details, Past kalpa thidhis, Manu’s kingdom’s thidhis, and starting thidhis of four Yugas—Kruta, Treta, Dwapara, and Kaliyugas. Also Janma thidhis of dasavataras of Lord Vishnu.

According to sastras those who do Panchanga Sravanam will obtain the following from the nine planets.

Surya	Brightness, Power
Chandra	Pleasure, wealth
Kuja	All auspicious things
Budha	Intelligence
Guru	Knowledge
Sukra	Happiness
Sani	End of sorrow
Rahu	Popularity
Ketu	Importance

सर्वजना सुखिनोभवन्तु | sarvejanA suKinoBavantu  
ओम् शांतिः शांतिः शांतिः || om SAMtiH SAMtiH SAMtiH

## Sri Rama Navami

Sri Rama's wedding and coronation happened on his birthday which is celebrated as Sri Rama Navami. According to "Valmiki Ramayana" Sri Ramachandra was to born to Dasaratha during the year of "Vilambi", on *Chaitra Suddha Navami*, in *Punarvasu Nakshatra* and *karkataka Lagnam*, at noon time which is called "*Abhijnmuhurtam*". On this day Sri Rama killed Ravana and returned to Ayodhya victoriously and had pattabishekam.

According to Puranas and scriptures, Sri Maha Vishnu promised naradadi devas that he will be born on earth to Kousalya to destroy evil and establish Dharma and attained Ramavataram. For any festival, good food, new clothes, entertainment are common ways of celebration. We need to know the importance and message of Sri Rama Navami.

King Sahasrarjuna also known as kartaveeryarjuna grew hatred towards Jamadagni maharishi who was blocking bad deeds in his kingdom by the king. He planned to put an end to Jamadagni. Jamadagni's son could not stand the king's pride and ego and took oath that he will wipe out all the kshatriyas (kings) from the earth. He killed all the kings with his divine powered axe (Parasuvu). Because he used parasuvu, he came to be known as Parasu Rama. His actual name was Bhargava Rama. King Dasaratha could not face the fury of Parasu Rama and begged for pardon. Parasu Rama felt pity for Dasaratha not having children and being impressed with his honest and truthful ways of ruling and left him alive. Like that for thousands of years he killed kshatriyas until he came face to face with Rama. Sri Rama ended furious Parasu Ramavataram with his calm demeanor and made him returned to his "Santi swarupam" and made him leave to Himalayas for eternal penance.

Sri Rama's mission to put an end to evil started with Vishvamisra's Yagam and ended with Ravana Vadha. In the process, he did "sishta samrakshana"(protecting the good) like Ahalya, Sabari, Jatayu, Hanuman, Sugreeva, Vibhishana and several others.

The message for common man is that one should respect the duties assigned and perform them whole heartedly with love and strong determination. Then no matter what obstacles and dangers are encountered they will be conquered like it happened with demons Tataka, Maricha, and Subahu.

**In Kaliyuga, it is the desire of**

Every father	to have son like Rama
Every Guru	to have sishya like Rama
Every Wife	to have husband like Rama
Every siblings	to have relationship like Rama and Lakshmana
Every society	to be Rama Rajyam
Every citizen	to want to be ruled and taken care of like in Rama rajyam.

**श्रीराम राम रामेति रमेरामे मनोरमे । SrIrAma rAma rAmeti ramerAme manorame**  
**सहस्र नाम तत्तुल्यम् रामनाम वरानने ||sahasra nAma tattulyam rAmanAma varAnane**

**\*\*\*Om Tat Sat \*\*\*\***