



The Singapore Dakshina Bharatha Brahmana Sabha

2, JALAN TENGGIRI, SINGAPORE 428248

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For circulation to members only

Newsletter

1. HINDU / TAMIL CALENDAR

VIKRAMA VARUSHAM

PANGUNI / MEENA MAASYA

<u>PANGUNI</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
1	WEDNESDAY	14-03-2001	MAASA PIRAPPU / KARADAIYAR NONBU
7	TUESDAY	20-03-2001	SARVA EKADASI SRAVANA VRATAM
9	THURSDAY	22-03-2001	PRADOSHAM
10	FRIDAY	23-03-2001	MASA SIVARATHIRI
11	SATURDAY	24-03-2001	SARVA AMAVASYA
13	MONDAY	26-03-2001	TELUGU NEW YEAR / YUGADI PANDIGAI
15	WEDNESDAY	28-03-2001	CHATURTHI VRATAM
16	THURSDAY	29-03-2001	KARTHIGAI VRATAM
17	FRIDAY	30-03-2001	SASHTI VRATAM
20	MONDAY	02-04-2001	SRI RAMA NAVAMI
22	WEDNESDAY	04-04-2001	SARVA EKADASI
23	THURSDAY	05-04-2001	PRADOSHAM
24	FRIDAY	06-04-2001	PANGUNI UTHIRAM
25	SATURDAY	07-04-2001	POURNAMI VRATAM
29	WEDNESDAY	11-04-2001	SANKATAHARA CHATURTHI
30	THURSDAY	12-04-2001	VARAHA JAYANTHI
1	SATURDAY	14-04-2001	VISHU VARUSHA PIRAPPU

14-03-2001 – KARADAIYAR NONBU- AUSPICIOUS TIME IS BETWEEN 12-12.30PM

GREETINGS: The President and Members of the Management Committee wish all members and their families **A VERY HAPPY TELEGU AND TAMIL NEW YEAR.**

VEDA & SLOKA CLASSES
COME & JOIN OUR VEDA & SLOKA CLASSES

For the benefit of members we are conducting Veda & Sloka classes at the following members houses at various districts:

DAYS	TIME	RESIDENCE OF	TOPIC
Wednesdays	7.30 – 8.30pm	Sri D. Ramesh Blk 112 #05-146 Bukit Batok West Ave 6 Tel: 565-4506	Devi Mahadmiyam Veda class
Wednesdays	7.30 – 8.30pm	Sri R Venkateshwaran Blk 125 #09-405 Pasir Ris Street 11 Tel: 583-3544	Veda Class
Thursdays	7.30 – 8.30pm	Sri V.S. Gururajan Blk 572 #04-3375 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 3 Tel: 454-0607	Veda class
Tuesdays/ Saturdays	7.30 - 8.30pm 3.30 - 5.00pm	Sri Muralidhara Sastrigal Blk 668 #09-04 Chander Road Tel: 297-8134	Veda class
2 nd & 4 th Sundays	4 – 5.30 pm	Sri G Srinivasan 16 Jalan Tamban Tel: 346-1850	Sloka class

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TIMING OF CLASSES ON 2ND AND 4TH SUNDAYS

2. NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following ordinary members to the Sabha.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Sri Sahasranaman V.R. (OS-235)
#06-03 Regency Court
11-A Jalan Petri
Johor Bahru 80100
Tel: (07) 223-3146 | 2 | Sri Anandakrishnan V (OA-33)
Blk 205 #06-46
Bukit Batok Street 21
Singapore 650205
Tel: 565-4512 |
| 3 | Sri Ayya A.V. (OA-34)
#17-02A Hoa Nam Building
27 Foch Road
Singapore 209264
Tel: 354-2468 | 4 | Smt.Rupa Balachandar (OR-172)
#09-02
120 Tanjong Rhu Road
Singapore 436904
Tel: 247-7863 |
| 5 | Sri Ramakanthan K (OR-171)
Blk 253 #10-424
Bishan Street 22
Singapore 570253
Tel: 454-6269 | | |

The following member has converted his Ordinary membership to Life Membership.

1. Sri Krishnan S (OK-05 > LK-06)
40 Olympus Drive
Lower Templestowe
Victoria 3107, Australia
Tel: (03) 9848-4194

3. CHANGE OF ADDRESSES & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Sri Sivasubramanian V (OS-58)
Blk 257 #04-347
Bishan Street 22
Singapore 570257
Tel: 457-0143 | 2. Sri Aranaprasad B (OA-10)
12 Amber Gardens
Blk B #03-06 Kings Mansion
Singapore 499959
Tel No: 346-1623 |
| 3. Sri Sridhar B (LS-21)
7692 Waterbury Place
Rancho, Cucamonga
C.A. 91730, U.S.A.
Tel: (909) 581-0578 | 4. Sri Krishnamohan R.S.(OK-35)
C/o Gulf Energy Asia Pte Ltd
290 Orchard Road #18-07/09
Paragon Building
Singapore 238859 |
| 5. Sri Venkat Ram S (OV-67)
C/o Amrith Ram
2021 N Milpitas Boulevard # 318
Milpitas, C.A. 95035
U.S.A. | Sri Venkataram S (OV-85)
Blk 260 #05-541
Jurong East St 24
Singapore 600260
Tel: 896-4249 |

4. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

4.1 POURNAMI POOJA 9th MARCH 2001

Pournami Pooja (Poosam Nakshathiram) on Friday **9TH March 2001** is being hosted by Sri G Srinivasan (LS-04). Pooja will be held at the Sri Senpaga Vinayagar Temple, Ceylon Road. Programme is as follows:

7.15 pm	Veda Parayanam
7.40 pm	Lalitha Sahasranama Archanai/Lakshmi Ashtothram
8.30 pm	Deeparadhanai
8.40 pm	Devotional songs
9.00 pm	Prasadam distribution

This month Pournami falls on **Poosam Nakshathiram**. Interested persons for sankalpam may contact Sri P S Ramanathan **Tel: 442-7841**.

4.2. SRI RAMA NAVAMI- MONDAY 2nd APRIL 2001

Sri Rama Navami Pooja on Monday 2nd April will be hosted by Smt & Sri G Srinivasan (LS-04) at their residence, 16 Jalan Tamban, Off St Patricks Road, Tel: 346-1850. The programme is as follows:

6.45 pm	Commencement of Pooja with recitation of Vishnu Sahasnamam, Rama & Hanumath Ashtothrams
7.30 pm	Dhivyanama Pooja
8.45 pm	Deeparadhanai followed by distribution of prasadam.

Members are requested to attend the pooja with their families and receive the blessings of Lord Rama.

4.3 FORTHCOMING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, 25th March 2001 at the premises of Singapore Indian Fine Arts Society (Starlight Road) at 10.00 am. Members are requested to keep the day free and attend the AGM in large numbers. We wish to see more new young faces at this meeting.

Light lunch will be served after the meeting. Formal notice and documents are enclosed.

5. APPEAL

KALAI KADAMPAM 2001 - Sabha will present **Kalai Kadampam 2001 on Friday, 13th April 2001 at 7.30 pm at DBS Auditorium**. This year's programme will be "Light Music" by the famous playback singer 'Srinivas', Drama by ENM Creations and a Dance piece by Kum.Shyla Ganesan.

It has been decided to dedicate the net proceeds to the "GUJARAT EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND". Therefore we appeal to all members to buy at least one ticket priced at \$20/-. Many of you might already have contributed but we are confident that you will still contribute and buy a ticket to enable Sabha to donate a decent sum to the Fund.

GOLD HELMET FOR SRI GURUVAYURAPPAN AT SRI VAIRAVIMADA KALIAMMAN TEMPLE.

Temple authorities have requested for our sponsorship for the Gold Helmet for Sri Guruvayarappan, at The Sri Vairavimada Kaliamman Temple, Toa Payoh at an estimated cost of S\$7,500/-. We appeal to members to contribute towards this religious cause. Cheques can be made in favour of "SDBBS" noting behind "Gold Helmet for Sri Guruvayurappan" and forwarded to the Sabha's address.

MANNAPRA SRI GURUVAYURAPPAN TEMPLE-MAHA KUMBHABHISHEGAM-JUNE 2001

Temple committee of Sri Guruvayurappan Temple, Mannapra, Kerala appeal to members for their liberal donations towards the renovation of the temple which is centuries old. Contributions can be sent to "SRI GURUVAYURAPPAN TEMPLE MAHA KUMBHABHISEGA COMMITTEE" Anugraha, 55A Narayana Guru Road, Coimbatore 11.

6. ANNOUNCEMENT

Sri Vidwan Lakshmanan, a renowned astrologer, who was here last December, will be visiting S'pore once again between 26th Mar and 3rd April 2001. He will be staying at the residence of Sri Ram Ramachandran (OR-103). Interested members may kindly contact Mrs. Gayathri Ramachandran at Tel: 467-8694.

7. THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Smt & Sri V Ganesan (OG-04) wish to thank all the members and their families for the tremendous support with their presence and blessings to their Kumari Shyla on her Bharatha Natya Arangetram on 3rd Feb 2001 at the Drama Centre.

8. CONGRATULATIONS

Upanayanam of Chi. Neeraj s/o Smt Prema and Sri Krishna Sundarajoo (LS-17) on 11th March 2001 at Vellore, India.

9. MARRIAGE BUREAU

Wanted professionally qualified Thengalai Iyengar groom for a Thengalai Iyengar girl, Srivatsa Gothram, Poorattadhi Nakshathiram, 24 years 5'4" with B.Sc Electronics (MCA), PGDCM, Dip.Internet Tech and Web Programming qualifications. For further details please contact Sri Balaji at Tel: 352-7990/754-7494 or write to 15 Venkateswara Nagar, 2nd Street, Adyar, Chennai 600 020, Tel: 91-44-491-9213

Alliance sought for Singapore Iyer girl, aged 30 years, 5' 6", Vathula gothram, Chatayam Nakshathiram, Bachelor's degree in Mass Communications and Development studies with double major from the US. For further details please contact Sri Ramachandran at Tel: 299-0676.

P.S. Somasekharan
Hon. Secretary

EXCERPTS FROM THE HINDU – 4TH JAN 2001

“MUSINGS

NO CAUSE FOR ANXIETY

The rumours of the *mangalasutra* of Goddess Padmavathy at Tiruchanoor slipping from the idol's neck caused consternation and fear in a large part of the community, particularly among women. For Hindu the *magalasutra* is the one single symbol of their wedded state, and any harm or danger to it is seen as an evil portent.

On Monday, January 29, when the news of what was supposed to have happened in Tiruchanoor broke, hundreds of women rushed to get yellow threads to tie around their necks, in a feverish attempt to ward off ill effects. Those who had actually got married on that day, which was a *subha muhurtham* (auspicious day) were even more upset at the incident, which the Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam dismissed as totally untrue.

But, even assuming it were true, the knee-jerk reaction among the general public threw aside all rational explanations which might see the happening as a natural result of careless-ness or just aging of the thread that bore the goddess's *mangalasutra*.

In this context, it is interesting to learn that the tying of the *mangalasutra*, which means auspicious thread or cord, is not a religious practice but a social one, and that too of recent origin.

It is surprising but true that this practice was not in vogue in ancient days of Hindu weddings. The *Grya-Sutras* do not mention the *mangalsutra* but only a *kankana bandhana*. The *kankana bandhana* or Protective cord was worn by the couple to protect them from all kinds of pollution before the *samvesana* (consummation). It appears the *mangalasutra* evolved more as a popular practice than as a scriptural observance.

The other explanation for the word *thaali*, which is commonly used in South India, is that in ancient days The leaves of the palm tree call *thaala uriksha* were strung together and used in the place of a cord or Thread.

In Hindu weddings in South India, at the precise moment of the tying of *thaali*, the *purohits* call for the *getti melam*. *Getti melam* means resounding percussion. This is done to submerge any discordant sound like a sneeze, cry or wail, which could distract the couple.

In North India weddings, the strains of the *shehnai* sound at this moment, accompanying the vedic chants of the priests.

The *mantra* that the groom utters while tying the *mangalasutra*, prays for 100 years of life as a *sumangali* for the bride. *Sumangali* means a woman who dons the auspicious thread. In other words, it prays for a 100 years more for the groom!

The *mangalasutra* encased with the auspicious vermilion varies in form and style from region to region and sect to sect.

Here is a story associated with the *mangalsutra*: A woman whose husband was very ill, prayed to Lord Srinivasa (the same Lord Srinivasa who is the consort of Padmavathy!) that if his life was saved, she would donate her *mangalasutra* to the temple *hundi*. He survived and when the moment came for her to make good the promise, she wavered. The Lord commanded her to fulfil the vow. She did it, in tears. The moment she did it, another *mangalasutra* appeared on her neck!

This parable only tells the confused mind not to worry over the material trappings that might symbolize a union, but rather concentrate on the spiritual significance attached to the married state. It also speaks of the benefit of total surrender to the Lord.

At a simple place then, there is no cause for anxiety over what supposedly happened in Tiruchanoor because the *mangalasutra* is a social rather than a religious practice. In the cosmic dimension, it is wise to remember that mortal fears should not be superimposed on what is considered immortal or divine. Let us remember and take heart from the qualities of the Lord as enunciated in the Vishnu Sahasranama ---- He controls every leaf that falls in this world, but is not tied down by its conventions because of his transcendence. He is the consort of Lakshmi, yet not bound to anyone or anything. He has a form yet is formless. It is in this endless series of apparent paradoxes that the true meaning of divinity lies."