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## SRI MADHWA SIDDHANTA

Monthly Journal of  
Sriman Madhwa Siddhantonnahini Sabha Tiruchanur Tirupati  
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### Issued to S.M.S.O. Sabha Members, Patrons & Donors

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S.M.S.O. Sabha Journal - 394<sup>th</sup> Issue (Nov.- 24)

# **S.M.S.O. Sabha Invites You & Your Family**

<b>20, 21, 22 – Dec. 2024</b>
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***Dear devout Madhwas,***

The Annual Sabha of the Sriman Madhwa Siddhantonnahini Sabha, will be held at Tiruchanur on 20th, 21st, 22nd December 2024 for three days. The Hony. Secretary and the Council Members of the Sabha request you to attend the Sabha Session on all the three days with your family and friends and receive the blessings of Lord Sri Veda Vyasa, Lord Srinivasa and Sri Padmavathi Devi.

The S.M.S.O. Sabha is more than 140 years old institution founded by Sri Kanchi Subba Rao and is doing valuable services for the benefit of the society and Madhwas in particular. There will be discourses by learned Dharmadhikaris of the Sabha, Scholars and Pandits, examinations for Vidyarthi in Madhwa-Shastra, rendering of Dasara Padas and

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Harikatha Sravana on all the three days in addition to Homas for the prosperity of the society.

### **Accomodation**

Please bring your relatives and make the function a grand success. For accomodation during 3-day session at Tiruchanur.

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**Please contact:— G. Raghavendran — 98417 12701.**

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## **LORD SRINIVASA IN SABHA MANDIR**

*In 1988, Sri Madhavachar S. Katti (popularly known as M.S.Katti) was the Vice-President and Dharmadhikari of S.M.S.O. Sabha. At the beggining of the Sabha Session, he presided over the funciton.*

*Sri. M.S.Katti stated that it is believed that Sri Srinivasa Devaru is present in the Sabha Mandir during the Sabha Session (on all the three days of the Session). Hence we need not rush for His Darshan at Tirumala ignoring His presence very much with us during this 3-day Session when divine glories are extolled and expounded here.*

*The same point was also expressed by the then Hony. Secretary of the Sabha Sri.S.A.N. Ranganathachar during other occasions.*

## **S.M.S.O. SABHA SHOWS THE WAY TO PRESERVE OUR CULTURE AT HOME**

Dharma-adhikaris (Vedic Pandits) in Tiruchanur S.M.S.O. Sabha are held in high esteem and respect by the Sabha Organisers. The Hon'y. Secretary. Sri. R. ANANTHAN, Auditor, Tirupur, is doing the job on behalf of organisers. It is our tradition. Our age old culture. The Indian Civilisation.

The Organisers of S.M.S.O. Sabha are mostly Loukikas: men of status in society. High professionals, Senior, retired Bureaucrats, experienced in Dharmic way of life and also in responsible Administrative/Executive posts. And yet, with deep attachment to Madhwa Shastra. In spite of their modern way of life in public, they are steeped in Vedic tradition in their private life. In short, they are our V.I.Ps; Dharmic in nature and in practice.

They are driven by their inner urge to do something within their limit for the promotion and preservation of Sri Madhwa Shastra and Vedic culture in our society. The society looks upon them with due respect. It is only such dedicated souls

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have been all along protecting S.M.S.O. Sabha, generations after generations all these 140+ years.

Kandi Narayana Rao of Tirupati, C.R. Narayana Rao, Architect, Chennai, S.A.N. Ranganathachar, the well-known Builder, V. Srinivasa Rao, I.P.S, Hyderabad(I.G.), P. Panini Rao, well - known Advocate, Chennai, P.V.R.K. Prasad, I.A.S., T.T.D. Executive Officer, T.S.Raghavendran, well-known Advocate-cum-Pandit, were some of the shining examples of recent past. The Founder, Kanchi Subha Rao himself was a Loukika and yet an worshippingable Punyaatma.

**Dharma - Adhikaris:** They are the masters in Veda - Dharma Shastras; satwik and self-disciplined by nature and dignified by their Dharmic way of life. Hence they are respectfully designated as Dharmadhikaris in S.M.S.O. Sabha.

Valkonda Narasimhachar of Hyderabad, Varkedi Narasimhachar, Mahuli Gopalachar of Bombay, Agni - Hotri Vadirajachar of Gulbarga, M. Rama Rao of Kumbakonam, Bojji Raghavendrachar of Mantralaya, M.S.Katti of Dharwad, were some of the shining examples of last few decades. The names of the present-day Pandits are well known.

They are invited every year during the 3-day Sabha Session at Tiruchanur Sabha Mandir.

They come and enrich our knowledge in Veda - Dharma Shastra and particularly Madhwa Shastra. They are honoured with Sambhavana on 3rd day evening. They consider it as Lord's Prasada. More than that, they believe, it is auspicious to become a Dharma - adhikari of S.M.S.O Sabha. (Atleast many of them believe.)

The Sabha, in turn, also believes that its usefulness to the society will enhance if such great Pandits come and actively participate in the Sabha activities. This mutual respect and affinity is binding together both the sections : Office - going Grihasthas and well - versed Vedic - Pandits of our society. In this way, Tiruchanur S.M.S.O. Sabha is a well knit enlightened body. It shows the way how we should preserve our culture at our homes.

### **How Sabha Is Good For You And to Your Family**

If you are an average, devout Maadhwa, eager to learn something, authentic in Madhwa Shastra / Dharma Shastra / Upanishad Stories, rare meanings of Devaranamas etc. please attend the 3-day session of the S.M.S.O. Sabha at Tiruchanur, with family. What you learn by reading three volumes of books, can be learnt by listening to the scholarly lectures for 3 days. Admission is free as also Tirtha prasada day and night.

Your wife and other female members of the family can observe the Anushtaana of womenfolk of Pandits families coming there. Also other respectable senior Sumangalis are coming there. Your family women can mingle with them to the extent practicable, and understand how to improve their own cultural standard. This knowledge adds to the good of the family.

A Dharma-Patni loves to learn self-discipline, loves Tulasi Puja, Devara Deepa and the practice of Krishna-Mantra-Japa (a Quality-Japa) in her private life, no matter how highly placed she is in her office.

Similarly your young son can join Vidyarthi competition in the Sabha and receive Sambhavana and gradually improve his cultural studies. Is this not good for your family?

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### **Dharma Upanayana**

Dharma Upanaya will be held at the of Sabha Session every year. This year it will be held on 20th Dec. 2024 Friday at Sabha premises by 9 am to 11 am. Those who want to partipate please contact **Sri Suresh Cell : 7010 966258, 94442 20615.**

## How to decide the day's Tithi

यां तिथिं समनु-प्राप्य उदयं याति भास्करः ।

सा तिथिं सकला ज्ञेया स्नान-दान जपादिषु ॥

The Tithi at the time of Sun-rise is to be taken for Snaana, Daana, Sandhya-vandana and Japa.

अभ्यङ्गे च उदधि-स्नाने दन्त-धावन मैथुने ।

जाते च निधने चैव तिथिः तत्कालिकी मता ॥

For oil-bath, for Samudra Snana, teeth cleaning and for Stree-Sanga, and for deciding the time of birth and death, the Tithi at the time of occurrence is to be taken; not the one at Sun rise.

मन्वादौ च युगादौ च ग्रहणे चन्द्र सूर्ययोः ।

व्यतिपाते च वैधृत्यां तत्काल व्यापिनी तिथिः ॥

For Vyati-Paata, Vaidhruti, Man-vaadi, Yugaadi and for the two eclipses, the Tithi at that time is to be taken.

त्रिः सन्ध्या व्यापिनी यत्र, स एव पुज्या भवेत् तिथिः।

That Tithi is considered sacred when it pervades the three sandhyas: that is morning, noon and evening.

— Source : 'Achara Samhita'

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## **Accomodation at Tiruchanur, Tirupati**



***This Sabha Building is very near to  
Padmavathi Temple.***

Accomodation is available at S.M.S.O. Sabha, Tiruchanur, Tirupati. Pilgrims who go to Tirumala (Tirupati) can avail rooms at Tiruchanur. Tirtha prasada can be availed both in the morning and evening based on prior request.

**Contact :—**

**Manager, S.M.S.O.Sabha, Tiruchanoor.**

**Sri. Vasudevan — 98499 16915**

**Coordinator, S.M.S.O. Nidhi, Chennai.**

**Sri. Suresh — 70109 66258, 94442 20615**

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# ***Snana & Dana Fetch you Punya this month***

## **KARTHIKA MASA**

**ASHWIJA POURNAMI TO KARTHIKA POURNAMI**

**Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Karthika Snana:-** During daily bath in the bathroom, if we chant the Karthika Snana Sankalpa and Snana Mantras (given in the next article) and if we remember the holy river Ganga, and chant “Ganga, Ganga, Ganga” (3 times), it is equivalent to have performed Ganga-Snana in Karthika Masa. Similarly, in Thula Masa (Oct-19th to Nov-16th) if we chant Snana Sankalpa and Snana Mantras and think of performing Snana in Kauveri River, it is equivalent to performing Thula-Masa-Kauveri-Snana.

**Deepa Dana in Karthika Masa:-** Those not able to perform Deepa Dana obtain the benefit by helping others while lighting Deepa in the house, or in the Mutts, temples, etc. or even providing assistance as simply adjusting the Deepa which is already lit.

Please explain all these to other members in the house, especially youngsters.

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**Note**

If we are not able to perform Dana and Snana (with Sankalpa in a holy river), the Lord is pleased even if we read these Purana Slokas and their meanings in Karthika Masa.

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**“Karthika Masa Mahatmyam”** in Skaanda Purana - II Vaishnava Khanda – Published by S.M.S.O.Sabha in 2015.

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*Sri T.S.Raghavendran, Coimbatore has written two books on the Mahimasa of Karthika Masa. One can avail this opportunity to possess these books. (Mobile No. 95970 38909, 99949 41706).*

**First Adhyaya**

ब्रह्मोवाच — *Brahmaa said:*

यत्किञ्चित्क्रियते पुण्यं विष्णुमुद्दिश्य कार्तिके ।

तस्य क्षयं न पश्यामि मयोक्तं तव नारद ॥ 24 ॥

Whatever meritorious rite is performed in the month of Karthika **“with Sri Vishnu in view”** (Vishnum-uddhishya), I do not see any end to its merit. It has already been told by me, Oh Narada. (24).

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### Do Not Fall Back To An Inferior Birth

सोपानभूतं स्वर्गस्य मानुष्यं प्राप्य दुर्लभम् ।  
तथात्मानं समादद्यान्न भ्रश्येत यथा पुनः ॥ 25 ॥

On having got an extremely rare chance of being born as a human being which forms the staircase leading to heaven, one should maintain oneself in such a way that one will not fall back to an inferior birth. (Sloka 25).

### Human Birth Is Very Difficult To Get

दुष्प्राप्यं प्राप्य मानुष्यं कार्तिकोक्तं चरेन्न यः ।  
धर्मं धर्मभृतां श्रेष्ठं स मातापितृघातकः ॥ 26 ॥

After attaining human birth, which is very difficult to get, if a man does not perform the holy rites prescribed for the month of Karthika, Oh most excellent one among righteous souls, he is no better than, a murderer of his mother and father. (26).

कार्तिकः खलु वै मासः सर्वमासेषु चोत्तमः ।  
पुण्यानां परमं पुण्यं पावनानां च पावनम् ॥ 27 ॥

The month of Karthika is the most excellent of all months. It is the most meritorious. It sanctifies all sanctifying things. (Sloka 27).

अस्मिन्मासे त्रयस्त्रिंशद्देवाः सन्निहिता मुने ।  
अत्र स्नानानि दानानि भोजनानि व्रतानि च ॥ 28 ॥

तिलधेनुं हिरण्यं च रजतं भूमिवाससी ।

गोप्रदानानि कुर्वन्ति सर्वभावेन नारद ॥ 29 ॥

In this month, thirty three Devatas are present together. Oh Sage Narada! people perform all these rits now, with full devotion. Snana, Daana, feeding, holy rites, the various daanas of cow made of gingelly seeds, gold, silver, plots of land, garments and cows. (Sloka 28, 29).

तानि दानानि दत्तानि गृह्णन्ति विधिवत् सुराः ।

यत्किञ्च दत्तं विप्रेन्द्र तपश्चैव तथा कृतम् ॥ 30 ॥

तदक्षय्यफलं प्रोक्तं विष्णुना प्रभविष्णुना ।

पापानां मोक्षणं चैव कार्तिके मासि शस्यते ॥ 31 ॥

Devatas duly accept these danas. Whatever dana is given and the penance that is performed in Karthika Masa, relief from sins and give inexhaustible merit (Akshayya Phala), said by Sri Vishnu. (Sloka 30, 31).

तस्माद्यत्नेन विप्रेन्द्र कार्तिके मासि दीयते ।

यत्किञ्चित्कार्तिके दत्तं विष्णुमुद्दिश्व मानवैः ॥ 32 ॥

तदक्षयं हि लभते अन्नदानं विशेषतः ।

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Therefore, dana should be made with great care and effort. Oh Brahmana ! whatever given in the month of Karthika, “**with Sri Vishnu in view**” (Vishnum-uddhishcha), especially the gift of cooked food, gives inexhaustible merit. (Sloka 32, 33).

### **Benefit Of Not Eating Others Food (Paraanna Varjita)**

सम्प्राप्तं कार्तिकं दृष्ट्वा परान्नं यस्तु वर्जयेत् ।  
दिनेदिनेऽतिकृच्छस्य फलं प्राप्नोत्ययत्नतः ॥

If a person does not take the other people's cooked food, then everyday he secures without difficulty, the benefit of the holy rite Ati-krichra. (Sloka 36).

### **Saligrama Puja and Lord's Remembrance Very Essential**

कार्तिके मुनिशार्दूलशालिग्रामशिलार्चनम् ।  
स्मरणं वासुदेवस्य कर्तव्यं पापभीरुणा ॥ 39 ॥

Those who are afraid of sins, should perform Saligrama Puja and meditate (remember) the Lord Sri Vasudeva in the month of Karthika. (Sloka 39).

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### Physically Not Capable

नारद उवाच — *Narada said:*

अशक्तेन कथं कार्यं कार्तिकव्रतमुत्तमम् ।  
येन तत्फलमाप्नोति तन्मे वद पितामह ॥ 41 ॥

How is the excellent rite of Karthika to be performed by a weak person ? Oh Pitamaha ! tell me that whereby he too shall obtain its benefit. (Sloka 41).

ब्रह्मोवाच — *Brahmaa said:*

अशक्तस्तु यदा मर्त्यस्तदैवं व्रतमाचरेत् ।  
अन्यस्मै द्रविणं दत्त्वा कारयेत् कार्तिकव्रतम् ॥ 42 ॥

If a man is physically incapable, he should perform the Vrata in the following manner. He should give money to another person and make him perform the Karthika Vrata for himself (Sloka 42).

तस्मात् पुण्यं प्रगृहीत दानसङ्कल्पपूर्वकम् ।  
द्रव्यदानेऽप्यशक्तश्चेद्यदा देवर्षिसत्तम ॥ 43 ॥

He should take the merit from him by means of the rite of Dana Sankalpa, that is ceremonious pronouncement of religious gift. (Sloka 43).

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### Monetary Not Capable

तदा तेन प्रकर्तव्यं पानं तीर्थजलस्य च ।

तत्राप्यशक्तो यो मर्त्यस्तेन नित्यं हरेर्मुदा ॥ 44 ॥

If a person is incapable of making monetary gifts, oh excellent one among the divine sages ! he should drink the water from the Tirtha (holy river or lake). (Sloka 44).

स्मरणं च प्रकर्तव्यं नाम्ना नियमपूर्वकम् ।

अखण्डितं तदा तेन कार्तिकव्रतजं फलम् ॥ 45 ॥

If a person is incapable of doing that too, he should remember Sri Hari always with great happiness and joy and repeat the Lord's name with due observances. Then he will acquire the benefit of the Karthika Vrata. (Sloka 45).

### 1000 Cows Dana

विष्णुनामप्रबन्धानां गायनं विष्णुसन्निधौ ।

गो-सहस्र-प्रदानस्य फलमाप्नोति मानवः ॥ 48 ॥

If literary compositions on Sri Vishnu's name are sung in the Sannidhaana of Sri Vishnu, that person obtains the benefit of the gift of a thousand cows.

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### Deepa Dana

अशक्तो दीपदानाय पददीपं प्रबोधयेत् ।

तस्य वा रक्षणं कुर्याद् वातादिभ्यः प्रयत्नतः ॥ 53 ॥

If a person is incapable of gifting away a lamp (Deepa Dana), he should light other people's lamps. Or he should protect another man's lamp from the blowing winds, etc. (Sloka 53).

### Do Not Lose Earlier Punya

एतादृशं कार्तिकं च अकृतेनैव यो नयेत् ।

पूर्वं कृतस्य पुण्यस्य क्षयमाप्नोत्यसंशयम् ॥ 40 ॥

If a person spends Karthika Masa without doing anything meritorious, his merits (Punya) acquired earlier will certainly be destroyed. (Slo. 40).

**As mentioned earlier let all the members in the house listen to these Purana Slokas and their meanings.**

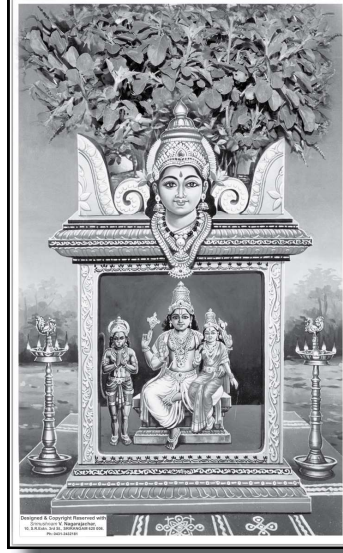
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**Please contact**

**Sri Suresh, Cell : 7010 966258**

# *Uth- Thaana Dwadashi*

## **TULASI VIVAHA**



**Karthika Shukla Dwadashi**

**Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

The Chaturmasya (4 months) is the Yoga-Nidra period for the Lord. Abandoning Nidra, He gets up (Uth-thana) on Karthika Shukla Paksha Dwadashi. Hence, that day is Uth-thaana Dwadashi.

### **TULASI VIVAHA**

We celebrate Tulasi Vivaha once a year on Uth-thaana Dwadashi day, in the evening. It is family-culture in all our houses; our sacred Kula Dharma, meant for the welfare of the family, so Mangalakara for the family. Everything is within our reach. It is not expensive. What is required is the inner urge, love and taste for it.

It all depends more on the Yajamaani of the house. She must be a gifted person; a worthy Dharma-Pathni, inclined to preserve Griha-Dharma in the house. If she is strong-willed, the family is saved. The Yajamana, even if he is half-minded, will show enthusiasm and smilingly obey her words like a child.

### **INVOLVE YOUNGSTERS**

It is very important to involve youngsters and children in the celebration. Assign jobs appropriate to them. They can assist elders in decorating Tulasi Brindavana with Pushpa maalas and in arranging Deepa cups and keeping them ready with wicks and oil. Actual lighting can be done by elders at the time of Puja. They can sing Devara Namas, Stotras at the time of Mangalarathi.

### **PUJA METHOD (This is Abridged)**

***(Better to perform Vistaara Puja with Puja book)***

If there is Tulasi Brindavana in the house, decorate it with Pushpa Malas of Malli, Shamanthi, Jaaji, etc. and complete the decoration before 5 p.m. Begin Puja at 5 p.m.

Bring Puja Box and Puja patras in front of Brindavana. Perform Saligrama Abhisheka, Archana, Dhoopa, Deepa, Naivedya, Mangalarathi and conclude it with Ramaa-Naivedya. Now begin Puja to the Tulasi plant and then Tulasi Vivaha.

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### SANKALPA FOR TULASI PUJA & TULASI VIVAHA

आचमनं, प्राणायाम, ॐ भूः ॐ भुवः ..... एवं गुण  
विशेषण विशिष्टायां शुभ तिथौ, भारती रमण मुख्य प्राणान्तर्गत,  
श्री कार्तिक दामोदर प्रेरणया, श्री कार्तिक दामोदर प्रीत्यर्थ, प्रबोध  
उत्सवं, श्री तुलसी पूजां, तुलसी-विवाह महोत्सवं च करिष्ये ।

(Mantrakshata+water in the Pela)

### Puja to Tulasi Devi (Tulasi Plant)

**Dhyana Mantra:** (with folded hands)

ध्या-यामि तुलसीं देवीं श्यामां कमल लोचनाम् ।  
प्रसन्नां पद्म-कल्हार, वराभय चतुर्भुजाम् ॥  
किरीट, हार, केयूर, कुण्डलादि, विभूषिताम् ।  
धवलांशुक संयुक्तां, पद्मासन निषेदुषीम् ॥

**Aavaahana:** (Offer Mantrakshata chanting this Sloka)

\*कृष्ण-आनन्दाश्रु संभूते, वरदे तुलसि स्वयम् ।  
त्वामद्याहं भजा-मीह, कमलापति वल्लभे ॥

— आवाहयामि (Mantrakshata)

आसनं समर्पयामि । (Mantrakshata)

पादयोः पाद्यं समर्पयामि । (Offer 3 Uddharini water on the plant)

हस्तयोः अर्घ्यं समर्पयामि । (Offer 3 Uddharini water on the plant)

★ *Tulasi was born out of the Ananda-Bashpa of  
Sri Krishna (i.e. from the tears of Ananda).*

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आचमनीयं समर्पयामि । (Offer 3 Uddharini water on the plant)  
 मधुपर्कं समर्पयामि । (Offer 3 Uddharini water on the plant)  
 पञ्चामृत-स्नानं समर्पयामि । „ „ „  
 स्नानं समर्पयामि । (Prokshana on Tulasi with a Pushpa)  
 स्ना-ना-नन्तरं आचमनीयं समर्पयामि । (Offer 3 Uddharini water)  
 वस्त्र-युग्मं समर्पयामि । (Gaja-vastra alankara for Tulasi Plant)  
 आभरणानि समर्पयामि । (Abharana Alankara on the branches  
 (Decorate Tulasi plant with ornaments and Pushpa-mala on branches)  
 गन्धं समर्पयामि । अक्षतान् समर्पयामि ।  
 सौभाग्य-द्रव्यं समर्पयामि । (Mix a little bit of water to Arisina and  
 Kumkuma and apply them on some of the leaves)  
 नाना-विध-पुष्पाणि समर्पयामि । (Offer Pushpa)

#### ARCHANA (with Pushpa)

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. श्री तुलस्यै नमः      | 11. सकल-सुर-पूज्यायै नमः  |
| 2. विष्णु-पत्न्यै नमः    | 12. सर्वाभरण-भूषितायै नमः |
| 3. अघ-हन्त्र्यै नमः      | 13. सुमुखायै नमः          |
| 4. लोक-वन्दितायै नमः     | 14. बिम्बोष्ठ्यै नमः      |
| 5. रम्भोर्वे नमः         | 15. सु-नासिकायै नमः       |
| 6. पीताम्बर-धारिण्यै नमः | 16. उत्-पलाक्ष्यै नमः     |
| 7. क्षीराब्धि-तनयायै नमः | 17. ताटङ्क-धारिण्यै नमः   |
| 8. लोक-जनन्यै नमः        | 18. रमायै नमः             |
| 9. दामोदर-प्रियायै नमः   | 19. इन्दु-सुन्दर्यै नमः   |
| 10. कुम्भ-स्तन्यै नमः    | 20. श्री तुलस्यै नमः      |

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धूपं आघ्रापयामि । (Dhoopa)  
 दीपं दर्शयामि । (3-Batti Ekarti)  
 नैवेद्यं समर्पयामि । (Kosambari, Laddus, fruits, sugar-candy)  
 मध्ये पानीयं समर्पयामि (Offer 3 Uddharini water on plant)  
 हस्त प्रक्षालनं समर्पयामि । ,,  
 मुख प्रक्षालनं समर्पयामि । ,,  
 आचमनीयं समर्पयामि । ,,  
 नाना-विध फलानि समर्पयामि । तांबूलं समर्पयामि ।  
 सुवर्ण-पुष्प-दक्षिणां समर्पयामि । महा-नीराजनं समर्पयामि ।  
 (5-Batti Mangalaarati) (Sangeeta, Devaranama, Mangalarati  
 with Hoovu-batti on 5 - Nelli-kkai (Aa-malaka)

मन्त्र-पुष्पाञ्जलिः

नमस्ते सर्व-लोकानां जनन्यै पुण्य-मूर्तये ।

नमस्ते देवि-कल्याणि नमस्ते मुनि-पूजिते ॥

— मन्त्र-पुष्पाञ्जलिं समर्पयामि ।

छत्र, चामर, दर्पण, नृत्त, गीत, वाद्य, आन्दोलिकादि  
 समस्त राजोपचारान् समर्पयामि ।

### PRABODHA UTSAVA

(Waking up the Lord)

Dhyana of the Lord in Yoga Nidra in Ksheera  
 Samudra. Stand up and produce Ganta Naada  
 (Ganta sound) to wake Him up.

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The Lord has been in Yoga Nidra in Chaturmaasya (4 months). On Karthika Shuddha Ekadashi, at the end of Chaturmaasya, He wakes up from Yoga Nidra.

“O Swami, Today is Karthika Shuddha Dwadashi, the day for you to get up from your Nidra. O Lord, if you sleep, the entire world sleeps. If you wake up, the world wakes up. Therefore, please get up from your Nidra”. Chant “Uttishta, Uttishta Govinda” and offer Pushpa & Mantrakshata on Saligrama.

#### **ANTARA PATA (Mangalashtaka)**

Place the Saligrama Samputa facing the Tulasi plant. For Antara Pata, hold a small cloth (as a screen) in between the Lord and Tulasi as Antara Pata. Recite Sooryaa Sookta, Mangalashtaka, etc.

लक्ष्मी-र्यस्य परिग्रहः कमलभूः सूनु-र्गरुत्मान्-रथः  
 पौत्र-श्चन्द्र विभूषण-स्सुरगुरुः शेषश्च शय्यासनः ।  
 ब्रह्माण्डं वरमन्दिरं सुरगणाः यस्य प्रभोस्सेवकाः  
 स-त्रैलोक्य-कुटुम्ब पालनपरः कुर्यात् हरि-र्मङ्गलम् ॥

Remove the screen. Offer Mantrakshata on Saligrama and Tulasi. The next item is Kanya Dana. Offering Tulasi Devi to Lord Karthika-Damodara (in Saligrama). The Lord touches Devi in Tulasi plant.

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### KANYA-DAANA MANTRA

देवीं कनक संपन्नां, कनक-आभरणै-र्युताम् ।  
 दास्यामि विष्णवे तुभ्यं, ब्रह्मलोक जिगीषया ॥  
 मया संवर्धितां यथाशक्ति अलङ्कृतां इमां तुलसीं  
 दामोदराय श्रीधराय वराय तुभ्यमहं संप्रददे ॥

Chant the above Mantra and offer Mantrakshata+water in front of the Lord.  
 Praarthana: इमां देवीं प्रतिगृह्णातु भवान् ।

### PRAARTHANA TO TULASI DEVI

त्वं देवि मेऽग्रतो भूयाः तुलसी देवि पार्श्वतः ।  
 त्वं देवि पृष्ठतो भूयाः त्वत् दानात् मोक्षं आप्नुयाम् ॥

To complete the process of Daana, offer Dakshina (yatha-sakthi) in front of the Lord.

### MAANGALYA DHAARANA

Perform Maangalya Dhaarana by chanting this sloka:-

माङ्गल्य-तन्तुनानेन, जगज्-जीवन हेतुना ।  
 कण्ठे बध्नामि सुभगे, चिरं जीव मया सह ॥

Decorate Tulasi plant with Maangalya Ornaments, garlands, etc.

### Men & Women sing Devaranaama Songs.

Naivedya, Maha-mangalarathi followed by Kumkuma Aarati by Sumangalis.

Every one in the family offers Pushpaa & Mantrakshata to the Divine Dampati, Pradakshina and Namaskara. Sangeeta Gaana and Praarthana.

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**SARVA SAMARPANA**

Chant this Prayer Sloka and offer Pushpa and Mantrakshta.

इदं व्रतं मया देव तव प्रीत्यै कृतं प्रभो ।

न्यूनं संपूर्णतां यातु, त्वत्, प्रसादात् रमापते ॥

Mantrakshta + water in the Pela by chanting this:  
 यस्य स्मृत्या च नामोक्त्या तपः पूजा क्रियादिषु । न्यूनं संपूर्णतां  
 याति सद्यो वन्दे तमच्युतम् । मन्त्र हीनं, क्रिया हीनं, भक्ति हीनं,  
 रमापते । यत् कृतं तु मया देव परिपूर्णं तदस्तु मे ॥  
 अनेन प्रबोध उत्सवेन, श्री दामोदर-तुलसी विवाह महोत्सव  
 पूजनेन च, भगवान् भारतीरमण-मुख्य-प्राणान्तर्गत, श्री तुलसी  
 समेत श्री कार्तिक दामोदरः प्रीयताम् । सुप्रीतो वरदो भवतु ।

॥ श्रीकृष्णार्पणमस्तु ॥

**TAAMBOOLA DAKSHINA**

Offer Gandha, Teertha, Pushpa, Prasaada, Taamboola Dakshina to Brahmanas and Sumangalis. Experience the inner Atma Tripti and be blessed by Tulasi-Damodara Divya Dampatis.

**Note:**

The aforesaid method is abridged. It is better to perform this Puja in its full form as per Puja book. Try that with all efforts.

# **Dhaatri Havana (or) Vana Bhojana**

*(Kartika Shuddha Dwadashi to Pournami)*

Dhaatri Havana is a Puja to the Lord Damodara. He is the Masa Moorthy in Karthika month. This Puja is performed under Aa-malaka tree (Nelli Tree). “Dhaatri Vriksha” means Nelli-Tree. This Puja is in Karthika month. Nelli-Tree is a symbol for Mahalakshmi. Saligrama Puja is performed under this tree.

Dhatri Havana (Homa) and its significance is described in Kartika Maahatmya, Bharadwaja Samhita of Pancharatra Agama. In this scripture the Lord Vishnu in the name of Hamsa, narrates the greatness of Dhatri Havana to the four-faced Brahma Deva.

Deepa Utsava is another item in Bhagavat Pooja in the month of Karthika. Vana Bhojana comes after the above said Deepa Utsava.

Karthika Shuddha Dwadashi to Pournami is the stipulated period for Dhatri Havana. It should not be performed on Sundays. Dhatri Havana represents our Arpana to Lord, the hard Vratas we observed during the earlier four months popularly known as Chaturmasya Vrata. During this Vrata,

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we had avoided eating certain specified items of food in respective months. Vana Bhojana is also an occasion for an honest repentance (Praayas-Chitta) by those who could not observe the stipulated Vratas of Chaturmasya.

Vana Bhojana Puja has to be usually performed in a small Vana (Thoppu) in the village, under the Nelli Tree only. But in the present day conditions, devotees in towns and cities have to perform this Puja inside the buildings. They bring a Nelli twig, place it near a post and perform Saligrama Puja near the twig. Homas are offered to Mahalakshmi. It is offered to Her 22 names and forms in addition to Homas to Sri Narayana and other Devatas.

### **Bali Samarpana and Pradakshina**

Bali Samparna and its Pradakshina and Namaskara are important items in Dhaatri Havana.

Naivedya Samarpana to Mahalakshmi is offered on 8 separate leaves around the Nelli tree. This is known as Bali. Pradakshina, Namaskara and prayer to Mahalakshmi during this Bali-daana is spoken very high and effective in Puranas. The prayer is as under:-

देवि धात्रि नमस्तुभ्यं गृहाण बलिमुत्तमम् ।  
 मिश्रितं गुड-सूपाभ्यां सर्व-मङ्गल-दायिने ॥  
 पुत्रान् देहि महाप्राज्ञान् यशो देहि निरन्तरम् ।  
 प्रज्ञां मेधां च, सौभाग्यं, विष्णु-भक्तिं च देहि मे ॥

निरोगं कुरु मां नित्यं, निष्पापं कुरु सर्वदा ।  
सर्वज्ञं कुरु मां नित्यं, धनवन्तं तथा कुरु ॥

Devi Dhaatri Namas-thubhyam,  
Grihaana Bali-muttamam |  
Mishritam Guda-soopaa-bhyaam,  
Sarva-mangala Daayiney ||  
Putraan Deyhi Mahaa-praajnaan,  
Yasho Deyhi Niran-taram |  
Prajnyaam Meydhaam cha Sowbhaagyam,  
Vishnu-Bhaktim cha Deyhi Mey ||  
Nirogam Kuru Maam Nityam,  
Nish-paapam Kuru Sarvadaa |  
Sarvagnyam Kuru Maam Nityam,  
Dhanavantam Tathaa Kuru ||

O, Dhaatree Devi, graciously accept this Bali. Be gracious enough to grant me scholarly sons, bring me good name in society, grant me wisdom, high intellect, Sowbhagya, Vishnu-Bhakti and sound health. Please remove all the sinful thoughts in my mind and prevent me doing sinful acts. The above is the prayer text. The Purana-Vachana assures the effects of Pradakshina, during Bali-pradaana in these words:-

बलि-प्रदान-काले तु ये कुर्वन्ति प्रदक्षिणम् ।  
ते यान्ति विष्णु-सालोक्यं पितृभिः सार्धमेव च ॥

Devotees who do pradakshina to Nelli tree at the time of Bali-daana during Dhaatree Havana, will ultimately enjoy all the happiness in life and they

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will reach the Kingdom of God Vishnu, not alone. Their forefathers also will be rewarded likewise.

Aagama Shastra advises us to visualize the beautiful “smiling” Divine Figure of Sri Lakshmipati at the bottom of the Nelli tree during Dhatri Havana. Its benefits are tremendous. Please see this Sloka:-

धात्री वृक्षस्य मूलस्थं मन्दस्मित रमापतिम् ।

ते यान्ति विष्णु-सायुज्यं ये पश्यन्ति इह चक्षुषा ॥

Dhatri Havana is performed for the welfare of the whole society and not for any single individual. Vana-Devatas are pleased by this Bali-daana and they bring good for the whole society.

If unable to participate in Vana Bhojana, devotees can do Pradakshina-Namaskara to Nelli tree, whenever convenient during Karthika-Masa, chanting the Prayer Mantras mentioned above. This will bring the blessings of Karthika Damodara and Mahalakshmi. (Avoid Sundays).

Even in the house itself, one can visualize and think of the smiling face of the Lord Damodara and Lakshmi Devi at the bottom of the Nelli tree and chant the Bali Pradakshina Slokas and do Pradakshina and Namaskara in the house.

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## *Catch hold of Last 3 days*

**Nov. 13, 14, 15 - 2024**

### **Do Not Miss Karthika Snana**

#### **Snana with Sankalpa before Sun rise**

Karthika Shuddha Trayodashi, Chaturdashi, Pournami -- all these 3 days are concluding days of Karthika Snana. These three days are called Anthya-Pushkarini. "If Karthika Snana could not be performed on all 30 days, one will reap the appropriate benefits even if one performs on last 3 days." (Nov. 13, 14, 15). All the 3 days are very significant for early morning Sankalpa Snana and Daana (especially Deepa Daana). (See previous Oct. issue for Snana Sankalpa, Snana / Arghya Mantras and Deepa Daana Mantras).

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#### **Aa-Kaa-Maa-Vai Pournami**

**15-11-2024 (Friday)**

Karthika Shuddha Pournami is the last day for Karthika Snana. This day is called "Aa-kaa-maa-vai Pournami".

Aa = Aashaada, Kaa = Kaarthika, Maa = Maagha, Vai = Vaishakha Maasa. Pournami on these 4 months are called **"Aa-kaa-maa-vai Pournami"**.

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This year Karthika (Aa-kaa-maa-vai) Pournami is on 15-11-2024. As mentioned earlier, there will be phala and the Lord is pleased even if one day Karthika Snana is performed before Sun rise with Snana Mantra and Arghya. मास पर्यन्तं स्नानं असंभवे तु, त्रि-अहं, एकाहं वा स्नायात् ।

On these days, get up from the bed two hours before Sun-rise, have Snana with Sankalpa (if possible in cold water). Then Japa and Puja. Men perform Saligrama Puja, women Tulasi Puja. All completed before 6.30 or 7 am. Dharma Shastras speak high of this self-discipline. This is the simplest way of our Tapas to please the Lord. The effect is Divine Grace. Without our knowing, our thoughts are influenced in positive ways and our actions become agreeable to superiors and others around us. The success in life begins in this way.

The other invisible effect is that our Pitrus are much pleased and feel highly honoured by our Sankalpa Snana on this Pournami and if we do it in their memory, they shower their blessings on us.

Morada-baayana (yatha sakthi) can be offered on Pournami day, to Sumangalis. This day is very suitable for Satyanarayana Puja. After Snana, offer it to the Lord saying Sri Krishnarpanamastu.

**‘AA-KAA-MAA-VAI POURNAMI’ IS A POWERFUL DAY WAITING TO GIVE ABUNDANT PUNYA FOR SNANA, DAANA, ETC.**

At the end, offering to the Lord (Krishnaarpanamastu) will immensely please Him and His Grace is assured.

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## Deepa In Karthika Masa

(1) Deepa in Karthika Masa is highly beneficial. More number of Deepas can be lit in the house, or in the mutts, temples, etc. or even providing assistance as simply adjusting the Deepa which is already lit. Karthika Deepa gives immense benefits. (Agal deepa (made out of mud) is visesha).

(2) Deepa - Dana is specially recommended in the month of Karthika. दामोदरस्य प्रीत्यर्थं, दीपदानं तथा कुरु ॥ Deepa Dana in Karthika Masa is Maha-punya. कार्तिके दीपदानं तु, महापुण्य-फल-प्रदम् ।

Deepa Dana: — Giving (1) Deepa vessel, (2) oil, (3) vessel for oil, (4) batti, (5) match stick, etc. The procedure for Deepa Dana — Please refer previous Oct. issue page numbers 26 to 29.

### Reading Kartika Masa Mahatmya

Reading / hearing Kartika Masa Mahatmya pleases the Lord and paves the way for peace and prosperity in life. A few slokas are published in this Nov. issue under the heading “KARTHIKA MASA - Highly Significant For Snana & Dana” (authored by T.S.R. Coimbatore).

### Mahalaya Paksha Gouna Kaala till 15-11-2024

If Mahalaya Paksha Shraddha could not be performed during Mahalaya Paksha this year, it can be done till 15-11-2024. That is, a day before Vrischika Sankramana.