

International Multidisciplinary Research Journal

Golden Research Thoughts

Chief Editor
Dr.Tukaram Narayan Shinde

Publisher
Mrs.Laxmi Ashok Yakkaldevi

Associate Editor
Dr.Rajani Dalvi

Honorary
Mr.Ashok Yakkaldevi

Golden Research Thoughts Journal is a multidisciplinary research journal, published monthly in English, Hindi & Marathi Language. All research papers submitted to the journal will be double - blind peer reviewed referred by members of the editorial board. Readers will include investigator in universities, research institutes government and industry with research interest in the general subjects.

Regional Editor

Dr. T. Manichander

International Advisory Board

Kamani Perera Regional Center For Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka	Mohammad Hailat Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, University of South Carolina Aiken	Hasan Baktir English Language and Literature Department, Kayseri
Janaki Sinnasamy Librarian, University of Malaya	Abdullah Sabbagh Engineering Studies, Sydney	Ghayoor Abbas Chotana Dept of Chemistry, Lahore University of Management Sciences[PK]
Romona Mihaila Spiru Haret University, Romania	Ecaterina Patrascu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest	Anna Maria Constantinovici AL. I. Cuza University, Romania
Delia Serbescu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest, Romania	Loredana Bosca Spiru Haret University, Romania	Ilie Pinteau, Spiru Haret University, Romania
Anurag Misra DBS College, Kanpur	Fabricio Moraes de Almeida Federal University of Rondonia, Brazil	Xiaohua Yang PhD, USA
Titus PopPhD, Partium Christian University, Oradea,Romania	George - Calin SERITAN Faculty of Philosophy and Socio-Political Sciences Al. I. Cuza University, IasiMore

Editorial Board

Pratap Vyamktrao Naikwade ASP College Devrukh,Ratnagiri,MS India Ex - VC. Solapur University, Solapur	Iresh Swami N.S. Dhaygude Ex. Prin. Dayanand College, Solapur	Rajendra Shendge Director, B.C.U.D. Solapur University, Solapur
R. R. Patil Head Geology Department Solapur University,Solapur	Narendra Kadu Jt. Director Higher Education, Pune	R. R. Yalikal Director Managment Institute, Solapur
Rama Bhosale Prin. and Jt. Director Higher Education, Panvel	K. M. Bhandarkar Praful Patel College of Education, Gondia	Umesh Rajderkar Head Humanities & Social Science YCMOU,Nashik
Salve R. N. Department of Sociology, Shivaji University,Kolhapur	Sonal Singh Vikram University, Ujjain	S. R. Pandya Head Education Dept. Mumbai University, Mumbai
Govind P. Shinde Bharati Vidyapeeth School of Distance Education Center, Navi Mumbai	G. P. Patankar S. D. M. Degree College, Honavar, Karnataka	Alka Darshan Shrivastava Shaskiya Snatkottar Mahavidyalaya, Dhar
Chakane Sanjay Dnyaneshwar Arts, Science & Commerce College, Indapur, Pune	Maj. S. Bakhtiar Choudhary Director,Hyderabad AP India.	Rahul Shriram Sudke Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore
Awadhesh Kumar Shirotriya Secretary,Play India Play,Meerut(U.P.)	S.Parvathi Devi Ph.D.-University of Allahabad	S.KANNAN Annamalai University,TN
	Sonal Singh, Vikram University, Ujjain	Satish Kumar Kalhotra Maulana Azad National Urdu University



POOJAS AND FESTIVALS OF PALANI SRI PERIYANAYAHI TEMPLE

Dr. K. Manivannan

**Asst Professor , Department of Indian Culture ,
Government Arts College (Auto)
Kumbakonam, Tanjore (Dt)TN.**

ABSTRACT

The people of Tamilnadu celebrate grand festivals from the ancient days. The information about these grand celebrations is stated in the Sangam literature. People celebrate these festivals for the benefits of the entire world. In Tamilnadu, most of the festivals are religious-based. There was no festivals without worshipping the God and Goddesses. The festival helped the people to mingle and understand one another. It also creates unity. In Arulmigu Periyannayagi Amman temple daily poojas are conducted according to the Veda Agama rules. Apart from the daily poojas many other festivals are also celebrated. The agenda of these festivals can be seen in the Thirugnana Sambanthar's 'Poomalai Pathiham'. The aim of the research paper is to carry out the poojas and



festivals of Sri Periya Nayahi Temple.

KEYWORDS: Kalasanthi, Ucchikala, Sayaratjai, Raakala, Mahanyasa, Kaappu, Alangara, Laksharchanai, Aradana, Amavasai, Arudhra, Kandasasti.

INTRODUCTION :

Worship means the way to attain knowledge. Through worship, the troubles of this life will be removed and in the next birth we can live a Navalar. 'Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom'. The faith in God is a good human quality. We all know that it is the deities who protect us and help us when we are depressed. With special reference

to Methodology, Analytical, Comparrative and Descriptive methods are used here.

DAILY POOJAS

Special poojas are offered to the Moolavar namely Periya Nayagi Amman, Arulmigu Muthukumarasamy, Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Swamy. Daily at about 7.15 am the Vizha pooja known as special Pooja is observed. At about 9 am Kalasanthi pooja, a special Pooja is offered. At 12 noon the Ucchikala pooja is observed. In the evenings at the about 5.15 pm Saya Ratjai, Pooja, and at 8 pm. Raakala Pooja are observed daily. During the poojas the deity is grandly decorated and

appears before the devotees.

The festivals celebrated in the Tamil months

The following festivals are celebrated in this temple in a grand manner.

Chithirai

The Tamil New year day is celebrated in this month. The next celebration is Chithra Pournami. In olden days this festival was celebrated to satisfy the Devaloga king Indhiran. Later this festival is celebrated as Chithra Pournamai. It is not only in Arulmigu Periyannayagi Amman Temple on the month of Chithirai daily poojas are observed, but also Chitra Pournami is being celebrated in a befitting manner. On the Chitra Pournami day, Amman comes in a silver chariot and gives special Darshan to her devotees. This is a very important day. Numberless devotees

join in this festival.

Vaikasi

Lord Muruga was born in this month in Visaka Natchathra. On this day, Mahanyasa abishegam is done to the deity, in the early morning at five o'clock. After the Alangara Pooja, Lakshaarchana is started. In this temple the 10 days in the month of Vaikasi are significant days. On these 10 days special Alangarams and poojas are observed.

On the first day Kappu is tied for the Amman in the morning and in the evening special poojas and Abisegam Aradhanas are observed. It is a wonderful sight to see the Amman mounted on a wooden chariot and taken in procession along the roads. The 10 days in this Vaikasi month are significant in one way or the other.

Aani

In this month special poojas are observed for Manicka Vasakar. The image Manickavasakar is placed near lord Siva. After the Abishega Aarathanas, 'Thiruvagasam' is recited and then the poojas are done. In this temple in the month of Aani Thirumanjanam is a significant one. On this day for Natarajar special Poojas and Alangarams are done in a very grand manner.

For the deity, Nataraja Anna Abisegha Pooja is also offered. Amavasai is also celebrated well. Many devotees attend the festivals.

Aadi

This is the new moon occurring in the solar month Aadi, and is observed only by the Tamils. On the eighteenth day of the Aadi month special worship is observed. Special poojas and worship are also conducted. Many devotees take part in the Poojas and get the blessings of the Amman. Besides on the eighteenth day of Aadi Periyannayagi Amman is lifted by the Suptha Kannis, and stationed at Periyavudaiyar Temple, and special Poojas are offered. On the twenty-fifth day of the Aadi month, the Latchaachana pooja is offered with special worships. Aadi Amavasai is also a very important day. Special poojas and Alangarams are also observed for the Amman. Many devotees also take part in it.

Vinayaga Chaturthi

The grand celebration of this temple in this month is Vinayaga Chaturthi. Special Abishegam, poojas and special decoration are done for the deity. This festival comes on the fourth day of this Sukkila Patcham. Rice cake is the favourite food for lord Ganesha. It is offered to Him on this particular day.

Purattasi

Navarathri festival is celebrated in this month. Special Aarathanas and special decoration are done to the deity Periyannayagi Amman for ten days. This is a grand festival in this month.

Aippasi

The day of Deepavali, people start the festival by five o'clock in the morning. They keep sacred leaves in their houses. This is known as Kaapukkattu. From that day onwards the Gurukkals do Abishegam for Periyannayagi Amman. The next day of Amavasai Kandasasti fasting is observed.

Karthikai

The Karthikai star day in every month is an auspicious occasion in the temple. The Karthikai festival is one of the ancient festivals in Tamilnadu. The lighting of the lights is called the Karthikai festival or Kathikai Vilakku. For the devotees Prasatham is offered. In the month on that day special poojas and decorations are observed.

Pirathosham

Every month Pirathosham is conducted very well. For the deity Natarajar all kinds of decorations and aradhanas take place. The Pirathosham in the month, Karthikai is a very significant one. Many devotees

participate in the Pirathosham and get the blessings of the God.

Margazhi

On the first day of the month Margazhi Aruthra Dharsana Pooja is a very important one. In the early morning at about 4'o clock Dhanur pooja is conducted. On Thiruvathirai special poojas are conducted. Many married ladies attend this pooja. On Ammavasai Chadraseshkar, Sarathambal worship has its own uniqueness about it.

Thaiposam

This day is sacred to Subramaniya, the second son of Siva. The feast is particularly observed at the shrine in Madura. The day is considered auspicious for the purpose of education. Next after the Dasaraha, the harvest feast is observed on the same day in Vishnu temple.

In this temple on the month of Thai, the festival Poosam has its own greatness. On the third day of the month Thai in the morning at about 4 am, Dahnur pooja the tenth day is observed followed by observance also. This month has a unique quality about it. Many devotees attend these poojas.

Masi (Maha Sivarathri)

Maha Sivarathri is celebrated from 5 pm to 10 pm, and from midnight 1 am to 4 am. Special poojas are done. The worshippers of Lord Siva will not sleep in the night. They pray to the God till the morning.

Panguni Utthiram

In this month the moon is in the Utthira Nakshathram on the full moon day. So this festival is called as Panguni Utthiram. This festival is also known as Kalyanaviratham. We can see this in the song of Thiruganansambanthar. The Saivites say that this celebration of the Thirukkalyanam of Lord Sundaraswarar and the deity Meenakshi in Madurai is a noteworthy celebration. Special poojas and Abishegams are done on the day of Panguni Utthiram. Every month Kiruthigai is celebrated with special poojas. Special Abishega poojas are done at the time of monthly Shasti Viratha. Pradhosha poojas are also done grandly.

On the day of Panguni Utthiram special poojas are observed. Before going to worship the Malaikoil Murugan, the devotees of Kerala go to the temple of Periyannayagi Amman to have a Darshan of the deity. Likewise those who offer Kavadies also first stay at Periyannayagi Amman Temple, and then take their Theertha Kavadi to Murugan. This is a very significant aspect of worship.

Festivals

On the basis of several poojas, that are observed in the temples of Sakthi, many festivals are celebrated. Ordinarily the celebration carry on from ten to fifteen days in certain temples. In big temples on every month festivals are celebrated. Among the festivals is Pramothsavam which is also called as Theruvizha, since in this festival the Ther is also taken in a procession.

Thaiposam

In the temple of Arulmigu Periyannayagi Amman Thaiposam is celebrated on a grand scale. It is celebrated for 10 days.

The spectacular procession on the streets

Amman is decorated and is taken in a procession on the streets daily twice on the morning and evening. On the sixth day of the 10 days festival, the Amman is mounted on the Ther and taken as a procession on the streets and the devotees have a Darshan of the deity. On the evening of that day Amman's holy special pooja is also observed. On the evening of that day Amman holy ordinary takes place and special pooja is also observed.

On the seventh day the Amman is mounted on a wooden chariot and is taken in a procession along the streets. Besides Theerthavari is also conducted. On the tenth day, Amman is mounted on the Theppathther

and is taken in a procession for special Darshan for the devotees. On these days special poojas and worships are observed. Besides many devotees from the rural areas throng here and are blessed by the deity.

Arulmigu Pathirakali Amman

In the temple of Arulmigu Periyannayagi Amman, Pathirakali Amman is seated in the front mandapam. She has been considered as the clan deity of the Nadars and is worshipped by them. For Pathirakali Amman on Friday special poojas are observed both in the morning and in the evening. On Navarathiri Utsav, for ten days the festival is celebrated with full enthusiasm. The Nadars observe fasting for ten days and Kappukattu takes place. Then on the tenth day the fasting is broken and the pooja is conducted. The devotees do Abisekhams and also light the deepam, if their requests to the deity are granted. It is a practice, that Pathirakali Amman is worshipped before going to worship the Periyannayagi Amman.

CONCLUSION

It is evident that the festivals are celebrated in this temple almost every month of the year. Worship means the way to attain knowledge. Through worship, the troubles of this life will be removed and in the next birth we can live a Navalar. 'Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom'. The faith in God is a good human quality.

It is said that, Special poojas are offered to the Moolavar namely Periya Nayagi Amman, Arulmigu Muthukumarasamy, Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Swamy. Daily at about 7.15 am the Vizha pooja known as special Pooja is observed. Lord Muruga was born in this month in Visaka Natchathra. On this day, Mahanyasa abishegam is done to the deity, in the early morning at five o'clock.

On the Chitra Pournami day, Amman comes in a silver chariot and gives special Darshan to her devotees. This is a very important day. Numberless devotees join in this festival.

The image Manickavasakar is placed near Lord Siva. After the Abishega Aarathanas, 'Thiruvagasam' is recited and then the poojas are done. In this temple in the month of Aani Thirumanjanam is a significant one.

People of Palani celebrate the festivals like Vaikasi Visakam, Kandasasti, Thaipooam and Panguni Uthiram Poojas are conducted. Thus the festivals are responsible to promote communal harmony and national intergration.

FOOT NOTES:

1. Arunachalam., Festivals of Tamil Nadu, Tanjore.1980.pp.14-15
2. Subramaniam.P., Poojas and Festivals of Palani Murugan Temple. Palani. 2006. Pp.23-26
3. Arunachalam., Op Cit., p.16
4. Sheelamary.S., Sri Meenakshi Chokkanathar Temple Arts. (Dissertation submitted to Alagappa University) Karaikudi, 2007. P.70
5. Personal Interview with Murugan.K., Bascar, Periya Nayahiamman Temple, Palani. 24.5.2016
6. Rishabanandar., Indumatha Pandihaikalum Virathangalum. Chennai 2003. Pp.9-13
7. Personal Interview With Rajamanickam Gurukkal. Periya Nayahi Temple. 06.05.2016
8. Rishabanandar., Op Cit., p.12
9. Subramaniam. P., Op Cit., pp.75-76
10. Interview with Mrs Malliga. K., Temple Committee Member. Palani. 30.11.2016
11. Krishnamurthy.S.R., Op Cit., P.20
12. Personal Interview with Narayanaswami. Member of the Temple Committee. 20.12.2016
13. Subramaniam.P., Op Cit., p. 87
14. Rishabanandar., Op Cit., p.12
15. Subramaniam. P., p.88
16. Keerthi.A., Pradosa Mahimai, Chennai. 2006 pp.2-3
17. Sirajeevi.S., Op Cit., pp65-66
18. Interview with Thirumalaisamy Gurukkal., Arulmighu Periya Nayahi Temple. Palani. 10.05.2016

REFERENCES:

- Annual Report on (South Indian) Epigraphy -1909- 1968
 Annual Report on Epigraphica India, New Delhi, 1980
 Journal of the Indian Art History Congress
 Mayamata Tanjore, 1980
 Manasaram, 1980
 Memoirs of Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi, 1982
 Sakalathikara of Sage Agastya, Tanjore, 1985
 Saraswathiya Sitrakarma Sastra, Tanjore, 1978
 South Indian Inscriptions
 South Indian Temple Inscriptions, Madras, 1957
 Srithathuvanithi, Part I & II, Tanjore, 1978
 Thirukkoil Thalavaralaru, Kodumudi, 2008
 Velvikudi Copper Plates
1. Arokisamy .M., The Kongu country , Madras, 1956.
 2. Arunachalam .M., Festivals of Tamilnadu, Thanjavur, 1980.
 3. Arunachalam. M., An Introduction to Dravidian Philology, Asian Educational Services, New Delhi, 1929.
 4. Balasubramaniam.S.R., Middle Chola Temple Arts, Chennai, 1978.
 5. Basham A.L.,(ed) Cultural History of India, Oxford University Press,
 6. Delhi, 1975
 7. Champakalakshmi.R. Vaishnava Iconography in the Tamil country, New Delhi, 1981.
 8. Dharendra Singh., Indian Heritage and Culture, A.P. H. Publishing Co., New Delhi, 1998.
 9. Edith Thomory, History of Fine Arts in India and the west, New Delhi, 1989.
 10. Gilert Slater, The Dravidian element in Indian Culture, New Delhi, 1987.
 11. Gopinatha Rao. T.A., Elements of Hindu Iconography, Vol.I,II, Part I,II, Delhi, 1985.
 12. Harshananda ., All about Hindu Temple, Ramakrishna Math, Chennai, 2001.
 13. Henry White Heal, The Village gods of South India. Asian Educational Services, New Delhi, 1983.
 14. Herbert.R., The Meaning of Art, Faber & Faber Ltd., London, 1951.
 15. Kandaswamy ., History of Dindigul District, Kodaikanal, 1996.
 16. Krishnamurthi, S.R., A study on the Cultural Developments in the Chola Period, Annamalai University, Annamalaiagar, 1966.
 17. Kulanthai Pulavar., Kongu Nadu, Erode, 1968.
 18. Manonmani.T., Aivarmalai Kolumam, Komaralingam, Chennai, 1998.
 19. Manickam. V., Kongu Nadu, Chennai, 1992.
 20. Meister, M.W., Encyclopaedia of Indian Temple Architecture, Oxford University, Chennai, 1982.
 21. Murthy & Biradar., Indian Culture and Civilization, S.Chand & Company, Delhi, 1980.
 22. Nachimuthu.K., Cholan Purvappattayam Kurum Kongu Urgal, Nagar Koil, 1970.
 23. Oddie.G.A., Religion in South Asia, Manohar Book Services, New Delhi, 1977.
 24. Percy Brown ., Indian Architecture, Bombay, 1983.
 25. Rajkumar Pruthi & Rameshwari Devi., History of Indian Culture, Pointer Jaipur, 2000.
 26. Ramachandra Rao, S.K., The Icons and Images in Indian Temple , Bangalore. 1983
 27. Ramaswamy,T., Thirumullaivayil Masilamaniswarar Temple, Mathi Publications, Chennai, 2000.
 28. Rishabanandar., Hinduism, Chennai, 1999.
 29. Ray Faulkner & Others, Art Today, Newyork, 1941.
 30. Sathianathaiar., History of the Nayaks of Madurai, Manivasahar Pathippagam., Chennai. 1980
 31. Subramanim.N., Early Cholas., Raman & Raman Private Ltd, Kumbakonam, 1980
 32. Shyman.D.D., Tamil Temple Myths, Princeton University press, Princeton, 1980.
 33. Sivanantha, All about Hinduism, Ramakrishna Math, Mylapore, Chennai, 1977.

34. Srivatsava.A.L., Medieval Indian Subaramanian N., Social and Cultural History of Tamilnadu, (AD1336) Ennes Publications, Udumalai, 1973.
35. Subramaniam & Veerasami (ed), Cultural Heritage of the Tamils, International Institute of Tamil studies, Chennai, 1988.
36. Swami., Facets of Brahman or the Hindu Gods, Ramakrishna Tapovanam Tirupparaithurai, 1971.
37. Swaminathan.A., Social and Cultural History of Tamilnadu, Deepa Pathipagam, Chennai, 1984.
38. Sunitha Kumar & Others., Indian Culture, Universal Book & Publisher, Delhi, 1966.
39. Usha Sharma., Festivals in Indian Society, New Delhi, 2008.



Dr. K. Manivannan

**Asst Professor , Department of Indian Culture ,
Government Arts College (Auto) Kumbakonam, Tanjore (Dt)TN.**

Publish Research Article

International Level Multidisciplinary Research Journal For All Subjects

Dear Sir/Mam,

We invite unpublished Research Paper, Summary of Research Project, Theses, Books and Book Review for publication, you will be pleased to know that our journals are

Associated and Indexed, India

- ★ International Scientific Journal Consortium
- ★ OPEN J-GATE

Associated and Indexed, USA

- EBSCO
- Index Copernicus
- Publication Index
- Academic Journal Database
- Contemporary Research Index
- Academic Paper Database
- Digital Journals Database
- Current Index to Scholarly Journals
- Elite Scientific Journal Archive
- Directory Of Academic Resources
- Scholar Journal Index
- Recent Science Index
- Scientific Resources Database
- Directory Of Research Journal Indexing

Golden Research Thoughts
258/34 Raviwar Peth Solapur-413005, Maharashtra
Contact-9595359435
E-Mail-ayisrj@yahoo.in/ayisrj2011@gmail.com
Website : www.aygrt.isrj.org