



Maha Shivaratri Celebration 2013



Hindus celebrate Maha Shivaratri in honour of Lord Shiva with great devotion and religious fervour.

According to one of the most popular legends, Shivaratri is the wedding day of Lord Shiva and Parvati. It is also believed that Lord Shiva performed 'Tandava', the dance of the primal creation, preservation and destruction on this auspicious night. Linga Purana, describes it was Shivaratri that Lord Shiva manifested himself in the form of a Linga for the first time.

Shivaratri is typically considered a festival of austerity—a night wherein food and sleep are forgone so that one can spend their time in remembrance of the divine. Food and sleep are the most important things to us. No one is ready to give them up just like that. Only when we develop a liking for remembering God will we be able to fast and forgo sleep without suffering, staying awake does not mean just merely keeping the eyes open, but means maintaining awareness of one's thoughts, words and actions. Ignorance disappears with the dawning of such awareness. Darkness is not something that can be physically removed. But when we let in light, darkness automatically ceases to exist. In the same way, when true knowledge awakens, the darkness of ignorance disappears. Then we awaken to eternal light.

Shivaratri is the one night wherein we sacrifice our comforts and watch over God, taking a vow of fasting and maintain vigil at night. God is always present within us—wide-awake. We, on the other hand, are fast asleep. This is why we are unable to recognize the divine presence. All the different experiences of life are just like the dreams we experience in our sleep. If we really want to experience that divine presence, we need to forgo sleep as an act of renunciation for at least one day.

One of the meanings of "Shiva" is "auspiciousness". Auspiciousness has no particular form. We imaginatively invest auspiciousness in the Shivalingam, which is a miniature representation of the egg-shaped universe. By worshipping the Shivalingam, we are worshipping the entire cosmos. Seeing it as an embodiment of auspiciousness and divine consciousness. Auspiciousness knows no distinctions of class or race.

Sivaratri Pooja is hailed by all Vedic scriptures as one of the greatest poojas to remove all evils, attain all desires, remedy for several planetary disturbances & prosperity. Through this pooja one can aim for inner peace and fulfilment.

By observing this special night to Lord Shiva, the entire negative energy around us in the form of disease, depression, and unhappiness gets transformed into peace, prosperity and joy to the body, mind and soul.

A special Sivaratri prayer to Shivalingam will be conducted on 10th of March. This is a free event and we would like to invite you to join us. If you would like further information please contact Shanthy on 9417 7493.

Event: Sivaratri Prayer

Date: 10th March 2013

Venue: 2 Dulverson Place, Southlake, 6164

Time: 9.30pm (10.03.13) to 12.30am (11.03.13)

RSVP: by ___9th of March to Shanthy on 9417 7493