

3rd Episode - Understanding the significance of Maha Kumbhabhisekam

Following 2nd episode of “*Understanding of wonderful aspect being a Human Being*”, towards Maha Kumbhabhisekam of Panching Gua Charas Jalalingeswarar Shivan temple, with good intention and thoughts for all devotees, the following write-up is prepared.

In this 3rd episode, we will look into details and the significance of Maha Kumbhabhisekam. Before going into any further details, let us look into all the selfless service and work, done towards benefits of devotees of Jalalingeswarar Shivan temple.

Approximately 3 years prior, Temple Trustee, Master Ir. Sivabalan received the following vision towards 2020 consecration, which as of today fixed on 7th June 2020. Following this blessing from Lord Shiva (Jalalingeswarar), various construction plans were successfully conducted and other plans are well underway, to get ready for the planned Maha Kumbhabhisekam. The following construction plans were conducted step-by-step.

1. Jalalingam Temple's Polycarbonate Roof Construction (Completed)
2. Jalalingam Temple's – New Walkway (Interlocking Blocks), including “Buggy” (Completed)
3. New Toilet for comfort of public and Upgrading Existing Toilet located inside the Cave (Completed)
4. Extension of temple, storage, upgrade of “anathanam place” and installation of Lord Hanuman and Lord Murugan, including new toilet, washroom, changing room for comfort of devotees (Completed)
5. Tower Lift, Staircase and Bridge (i.e. including Sadhana Camp and land acquisition) (In planning stage)

All siddhars, and Lord Shiva Himself assisted the massive construction plans and most activities were conducted smoothly and others are well underway. It is temple's intention to ensure all devotees whom visits Jalalingeswarar Shivan temple with comfort and re-energize their energy and receive the blessings of Lord Shiva.

It is important to understand, the significance of Maha Kumbhabhisekam which will be undertaken on 7th June 2020. First of all lets look into “mandalam” which will be done for 48days after Maha Kumbhabhisekam. You must have heard this before, however what is this actually?

A “mandalam” is actually 48 days. There is significance science behind this. It is actually calculated as, $12+9+27 = 48$ days. It is important to ‘see things as they are’ and to understand and seek the truth from the abundance that universe has to offer. 48 days is basically is derived as follows;

- 12 raasi
- 9 Navagranghal
- 27 Nachithiram

12 raasi is actually calculated with the 12 zodiac signs. 9 Navagranghal is based on our 9 planets. 27 Nachithiram is covering all Nachithiram of our days.

The 12 months is calculated with the Earth orbiting around the Sun which is calculated at 365 days 6hours 9 minutes and 3 sec. With this 6 hour extra per year, you get a leap year every 4 years.

The nine planets around our solar system is the reason for our 9 navagranghgal. So how did we get 27 Nachithirams? Based on the calculations of our moon orbiting around the Earth for one full cycle is actually 27 days 11 hours 43 minutes and 11 Sec. This is how we got 27 Nachthiram.

So, when you do a mandalam pooja or fasting, you are actually doing for all the people in the world. As everyone will fall into any of this 48 day. This is very reason why we say its is a lifetime blessings when we attend Maha Kumbhabhisekam.

Now let's look into the details of Maha Kumbhabhisekam. Kumbhabhisekam (Kumbha-Shikhara or crown of the temple, Abhisekam-sanctification with spiritually charged water) is performed to consecrate new shrines, re-consecrate existing shrines after a renovation or every twelve years. The

highlight of the Kumbhabhishekam ceremony is the pouring of the sanctified water from the pots over the top of the gopurams by the priests, at an auspicious moment, to energise the entire temple. The Kumbhabhishekam we are performing this year is a unique one that is called Maha Rajagopura Kumbhabhishekam, since it is done to consecrate the new Rajagopurams (towers).

As our temple is blended with nature, where different manifests can be seen (e.g. <http://www.jalalingam.com/web/gallery/photo/22>), we do not have gopurams or maha rajagopura, in fact please do come in person to witness the Kumbhabhishekam and experience the divinity in self manifestations.

Symbolically, the Rajagopuram represents the feet of the deity. A devotee bows at the feet of the Lord at the entrance as he steps into the temple and proceeds towards the sanctum sanctorum, leaving behind the world of worries. On a cosmic level, the temple tower acted as a lightning conductor in olden days, as it was the highest structure in that area. And the towers on top of the altar where the deities are installed, are comparatively shorter than RajaGopuram and are called Sannidhi (Altar) Gopuram or Vimanams. In our temple this is represented by the cave formation itself and ever changing formation of various self-manifestation with full of positive vibes and energy.

Kalasams are assembled set of concentric cone, cylinder and globe shaped metallic structures which are installed on top of the Gopurams. The Sannidhi Gopurams or Vimanams have just a single Kalasam, whereas the Rajagopurams have multiple Kalasams. The Kalasams are usually made of an alloy of five metallic elements, such as Copper, Gold, Silver, Brass and Lead. They are filled with seeds of essential grains and pulses, such as rice, millets, corn etc., and completely sealed with special compounds. The seeds are very well preserved for years, through natural irradiation from Sun, against infestation (from within the grains) and decaying. In case of need the stored seeds from the Kalasams are to be used for re-germination and development. Traditionally, the Kalasams are refurbished and refilled with new selected grains, about once in 12 years.

BENEFITS OF KUMBHABHISHEKAM

The Kumbhabhishekam ceremony has everlasting effect on the entire society. The Agama sastra says:

*Sarvaroga nivirtyartham, sarva yaaga phalapradam,
Sarva sampathkaram nreenam putrapoutrabhi vardhanam*

It is conducted with the sole purpose of eradicating all illness, obtaining good benefits from various Yagaas, deriving rich benefits for the wellbeing and for the health propagation of the progeny.

The Sanatana Dharma postulates, “*Vasudhaiva kutumbakam*” – the whole world is one family.

The Puranaanuuru. 192 resonates with “*Yaadhum Oore Yaavarum Kelir*” – to us all towns are one, all men our kin.

The Rigveda (RV-1.164.46) resolutely says, “*ekam sad vipraa bahudhaa vadanti*” – wise men call the ONE (supreme) by many names and forms.

Indeed, the Kumbhabhishekam brings all round prosperity not only to any particular group of devotees, but also to the **society as a whole**. With above said, we invite you to partake in this spiritual event and receive divine energy that will permeate the temple.

There are many opportunities where the devotee can touch the Gopura Kalasas & Offer Navarathnams to Gopura Kalasas, Offer Oil in their own hands to Ganapati, Shiva, Hanuman etc inside their shrines and perform some of the pujas throughout the five day event. Through the participation of the community, the powers of the chanted mantras are multiplied thereby benefitting the devotee and their community.

SAHASRA KALASABHISEKAM

In Vedas, Lord Vishnu tells Brahma that propitiation in the form of ablution with 1008 vessels, filled with holy water and other sacred materials, pleases Him (Vishnu) exceedingly. Whoever witnesses

Lord Vishnu during this ablution with faith and devotion, obtains the fruits of bathing in the sacred rivers like the Ganges, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri. The ceremony is equivalent to the great festivals such as Kumbha Mela on the banks of the holy Ganges River

HOMAM/HAVAN/YAJNA

Homams are performed by offering ghee, grains and spices to the fire accompanied by the chanting of mantras. Ganapati Homam (to remove all obstacles), Sudarsana Homam (for peace and victory over negative energies), Navagraha Homam (to alleviate malefic effect of Navagrahas and to appease the Navagrahas), Vaastu Shanti Homam (for the worship of the elements of nature and balance the forces that control the flow of energies), Moola Mantra Homam (oblations to the deities residing in the temple by chanting the Moola Mantra of each deity).

GO (COW) PUJA

According to the scriptures, all the 330 million devas reside in a cow. Cows are also considered an embodiment of Maha Lakshmi. The cow, after the puja will be led into the temple in a ceremonial procession. Since our temple is located within the cave, this puja will be conducted in slightly different way without the real "Comatha".

Shiva Shambo

Om Nama Siva Ya Om

Help Ever Hurt Never

Service to Society is Service to Almighty

Master Ir. Sivabalan - Temple Trustee

5th Jan 2020