



आराधना

Aradhana

A Publication of the Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati
Devdham of North America™

Bhadrapad/Ashvin
Vikram Samvat, 2064/2065
September 2008

Happy Navratri
Happy Bijoy

Website: www.cincinnatitemple.com
Email: hindusociety@fuse.net
Phone: 513-528-3714



WHY DO WE JOIN OUR PALMS WHEN WE PRAY?

Vijaya Kumaran



Most of us have faith in our own "Ishta Devatha" (Preferred Deity), or "Kuladevatha" (Family Deity) and we express that through "Bhakthi" or devotion in many ways. The word "Bhakthi" means "confidence in, attachment to and high esteem for something (God)". Hindu mythology and legends describe different forms of Bhakti by various spiritual leaders and the results they achieved from those forms.

Here is one of the very simple and easiest ways of expressing devotion or "Bhakthi" towards God. It is called "ANJALI". This one is suitable for all ages, requires no special protocol and can be followed at any time of the day. There are no constraints in this method for anybody to express devotion to their preferred deity.

Swami Vedanta Desikan explains about the grandeur of this approach in his special poems "Anjali Vaibhavam". Swami Desikan was a great devotee, scholar, philosopher, poet and a great Acharya after Sri Ramanuja.

The
showing
"Mudra"
the hands



verses of "Anjali Vaibhavam" explain the process of this type of bakthi. The word "Anjali" means respect and devotion by folding the hands and joining the both palms as the fingers touch each other. means spiritual stance or pose. Hence, "Anjali Mudra" refers to the expression of devotion by folding and joining the both palms as the fingers touch each other.

This is a very, very simple practice that can be followed by all and towards any deity they trust and adore. Swami Desikan explained the greatness and the fruits one attains out of it clearly. Other saints and spiritual commentators have also referred the merits of this Anjali.

Etymologically, the word 'Anjali' comes from "Am+Jali" which in itself is the abbreviated form of the word "Am+Jalayathi. The first part "Am" denotes Lord Krishna. In Bhagavat Geetha Sri Krishna preaches "'Aksharaanam akarosmi1..." which means "Among letters I am 'A'".

The second part of the sacred word "Anjali" that is "Jali" which is the abbreviated form the word "Jalayathi" in Sanskrit, meaning "liquefy" or "melt". That means "Melts the heart of God" and in other words makes him shower his grace and blessings on one who shows this sign, with implicit trust and focused mind. Swami Desikan explains that this uncomparable 'mudra' destroys all the sins, and brings down gods grace in natural flow forever. Never will it reduce its effects nor will it fail for any reason, Swami elaborates through his words "Na jaadhu heeyathe".

Many poems and books speak about the grandeur of this Anjali Mudra. Sri Parasara Battar - a famous Vaishnav Parampara scholar in his book "Sri Guna Rathna Kosam" and Koorathazhvan, another poet in his book "Sri Vaikuntasthava" portray the magnificence of "Anjali" mudra that showers all benefits and shows the route to reach the Lord.

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Note: If you or someone you know, is not receiving ARADHANA, or if you need a change in address, please contact Mr. Mohan Chopra at 859-331-2416 or Meena Mehta at 513-574-6763.

Deadline for submission of articles and advertisements for the next issue is October 10, 2008

TEMPLE INFORMATION

<div>EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2008</div> <div>President:</div> <div>Raj Bodalia583-0184</div> <div>V. President:</div> <div>Rameshwar Dayal474-4051</div> <div>Secretary:</div> <div>Siva Shivaganeshan563-2901</div> <div>Treasurer:</div> <div>Amar Sharma777-5771</div> <div>COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</div> <div>Pooja Committee:</div> <div>Bobba Choudhary984-6074</div> <div>Communications/Editor:</div> <div>Meena Mehta574-6763</div> <div>email: minaash@hotmail.com</div> <div>Member:</div> <div>Aashish Shah942-8264</div> <div>email: aashish.shah@yahoo.com</div> <div>Membership & Fundraising:</div> <div>Hari Maddali985-9255</div> <div>Property Management & Maintenance:</div> <div>Shiv Sharma459-9520</div> <div>Cultural Activities:</div> <div>Jyoti Desai745-0876</div> <div>Religious Education & Youth Activities:</div> <div>Manju Gupta232-3331</div> <div>Long Range Planning:</div> <div>Jitu Patel459-8900</div> <div>Youth Member:</div> <div>Surbhi Sharma807-5081</div> <div>Priests:</div> <div>Senior Priest:</div> <div>Acharya Kailash Sharma770-0705</div> <div>Acharya Chakreshwar Sharma</div> <div>528-0901</div> <div>Pandit Srinath Bhattar</div> <div>528-3714</div> <div>Attorney:</div> <div>Aronoff, Rosen & Hunt241-0400</div> <div>Temple Manager:</div> <div>Laxmi Srivastava474-0533</div> <div>Accountant: Open</div>	<div>RELIGIOUS DISCOURSE</div> <div>Sundays 12:15 - 12:45 PM</div> <div>First Sunday :Upanishads</div> <div>Second Sunday :ChildrenProgram</div> <div>Third Sunday :Sunder Kand Path</div> <div>Fourth Sunday :Shri Ganesh</div> <div>Atharvshirsha Path</div> <div>Fifth Sunday :Open (Please Suggest)</div> <div>Members of the community are invited to speak on topics related to Hindu religion, Philosophy, culture, reformation, Gurus, self-preservation, etc. If you would like to talk or like to suggest someone who may be interested, , please call Bobba Chaudhary at 513-984-6074</div> <div>SPONSORS FOR SUNDAY Pooja</div> <div>Devotees are requested to sit-in Sunday Pooja as well as bring Prasad and Lunch. You may wish to use this occasion to celebrate important events such as wedding anniversaries, birthdays, ishta devata pooja, graduation, and other memorable days. Events can be hosted by individuals, families, groups of families or organizations. Please reserve your Sunday of choice ASAP by putting your name and phone-no in the calendar at the temple and calling Bobba Chaudhary at (513) 984-6074</div> <div>TEMPLE SCHEDULE</div> <div>Monday - Friday :9:00AM-12:00 Noon</div> <div>5:00 PM - 8:00 PM</div> <div>Saturday, Sunday & US Holidays9:00 AM - 8:00 PM</div> <div>SPECIAL PROGRAM ON WEEKENDS</div> <div>9:15 - 9:30 A.M.Suprabhatam</div> <div>9:30 - 11:00 A.M.Daily pooja of Temple Deities</div> <div>11 :00 - 11:30 A.MSponsored Pooja</div> <div>11 : 30 - 12:15 A.MBhajan</div> <div>12 : 15 -12:45 P.M.Religious discourse</div> <div>12:45-1:00 P.M.Birthday and Anniversary pooja and announcement</div> <div>1 : 00 P.M.Aarti</div> <div>Please Donate Generously for your Temple</div> <div>Your Temple needs</div> <div>1. Sponsors for flower \$50/week</div> <div>2. Sponsors for Sunday pooja</div> <div>3.Your temple needs your support</div>	<div>2008 POOJA COMMITTEE & RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES MEMBERS</div> <div>Bobba Choudhary:984-6074</div> <div>Acharya Kailash Sharma770-0705</div> <div>Acharya Chakreshwar Sharma528-0901</div> <div>Pandit Srinath Bhattar528-3714</div> <div>Hindu Temple528-3714</div> <div>Madhu Sharma232-9991</div> <div>Kiran Dayal474-4051</div> <div>Suchitra Mishra573-9775</div> <div>Rani Dhameja984-5777</div> <div>Sameer Rao793-5821</div> <div>Meena Karamchandani683-9454</div> <div>Kalpana Srivastava233-9184</div> <div>Uma Sanguai793-9384</div> <div>Muralee573-0550</div> <div>Minati Bhattacharya272-0361</div> <div>Vasundhra Dasari777-3353</div> <div>Anee Deka336-9554</div> <div>Sangita Patel791-0855</div> <div>Temple Manager's Committees</div> <div>Laxmi S. Srivastava- Temple Manager474-0533</div> <div>1.Office Manager</div> <div>Mohan Chopra</div> <div>2. I/C Swami Lectures</div> <div>Laxmi S. Srivastava</div> <div>Vinay Kumar</div> <div>Devdas Mukerjee</div> <div>Meena Mehta</div> <div>Bobba Choudhary</div> <div>3. Temple Data Base</div> <div>Nandkumar Khemchandani</div> <div>Mohan Chopra</div> <div>Laxmi S. Srivastava</div> <div>4. Anniversary & Birth-day Data</div> <div>Raj Agarwa</div> <div>Shakuntala Agarwall</div> <div>5 E-mail .Data</div> <div>Pradeep Goyal</div> <div>Nandkumar Khemchandani</div> <div>6. Membership & Gift Shop</div> <div>Madhu Sharma</div> <div>Meena Sondhi</div> <div>7. . Computer Tech Support</div> <div>Sreedhar Suvarana</div> <div>Aashish Shah</div> <div>8. Financial Data</div> <div>Amar Sharma</div> <div>Raj Bodalia</div> <div>Laxmi S. Srivastava</div> <div>9. I/C Temple Web site</div> <div>Bharat Vala</div> <div>Debasis Dey</div> <div>Jayesh Thakkar</div> <div>Krutarth Jain</div> <div>Pritesh Dhope</div> <div>Laxmi S. Srivastava</div> <div>10. I/C Temple Calendar</div> <div>Meena Mehta</div> <div>Ashvin Mehta</div> <div>Acharya Kailash Sharma</div> <div>11. Volunter Services</div> <div>Rajan Odayar</div> <div>Kedarnath Nambori</div> <div>Dilip Patel</div> <div>Vijay Kumar Sharma</div> <div>Laxmi S. Srivastava</div> <div>12. Temple Photographer</div> <div>Krutarth Jain</div> <div>Naba Mishra</div> <div>Hetal Patel</div>
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Pooja Information

RATES FOR POOJA & PRIEST SERVICES |

SERVICE	IN TEMPLE	OUTSIDE TEMPLE
Abhishekam (All Deities)	\$101.00	—
Aksharabhyas	\$101.00	\$151.00
Anna-Prashanam	\$101.00	\$151.00
Ashtottharam (108) Archana	\$21.00	—
AyushyaHomam/B'day Celebra.	\$101.00	\$151.00
Ground Breaking Ceremony	—	\$151.00
Griha Pravesh	—	\$151.00
Kalayana Uthsava (Lord Ram/ Sita)	\$121.00	—
Kesh Khandan (Churakaran)	\$101.00	\$151.00
Naam-Karan	\$101.00	\$151.00
Navagraha Pooja	\$101.00	\$151.00
Nischitartham (Engagement)	\$151.00	\$251.00
Baby Shower Pooja		\$151.00
Nitya (1 Day) Kainkaryam (Seva)	\$101.00	---
Poolangi Seva (With Flowers)- (Only During Off Winter Season)	\$101.00	---
Regular Archana	\$11.00	—
Sahasranama (1008) Archana	\$51.00	---
Sathyanarayana Pooja	\$101.00	\$151.00
Seemantham	\$101.00	\$151.00
Devi Jagaran	\$75.00	\$101.00
Akhand Ramayan Paath	—	\$151.00
Shashti Poorthi (60th B'day Celeb.)	\$101.00	\$151.00
Anniversary celebration	\$101.00	\$151.00
Suprabhat Seva	\$21.00	---
Unjal (Swing) Seva	\$31.00	---
Upakarma (Thread changing)	\$51.00	---
Upanayam/Brahmopadeshnam/ Thread Ceremony	\$151.00	\$251.00
Vahan Pooja	\$51.00	---
Yearly Shradham (Barkhi)	\$101.00	\$151.00
Wedding	\$301.00	\$501.00

SPECIAL POOJA RATE

Rates for Mata Ki Chauki performed at another temple will be 15% of the money collected at the temple or a minimum of \$ 501.00.

1. Poojas performed by priests outside the temple will be rated according to the number of poojas performed.
2. 40 Cents/Miles for Travel expanse to the Priest to perform pooja at your home.

Rates are subject to change without notice. Rates of Poojas out of Greater Cincinnati will be \$100.00 more than the rates of outside pooja within greater Cincinnati area.

Temple Rental: Lower Floor Only

	Fullday	Halfday
Monday -Thursday (except holidays)	\$301	\$151
Friday, Saturday & Holidays	\$501	\$351
<u>Sunday after 3PM only</u>	—	\$351

Note: For half day select one of the two:

8:00 AM to 2:00 PM **OR** 4:00PM to 11:00 PM

Temple rental applies to all private reservations for those events/poojas that are performed by private parties and not announced in the temple.

Security/ Cleaning deposit: \$151 required. This deposit will be forfeited if the basement hall bathrooms and kitchen area are not cleaned by the party renting the place.

NOTE: To schedule a Pooja or to rent a temple hall (lower level) please contact pooja Committee chairperson only.

Pooja Committee Announcement:

To schedule a Pooja or to rent a temple hall (lower level) please contact Babba Chaudhury at 984-6074
If you have any question or suggestion about temple activities contact Babba Chaudhury at 984-6074, any EC Members or Temple at 528-3714.

1. **Archana** performed during temple hours by sponsorship. No Archana on Sundays between 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
2. **Outside poojas** and other religious services will be conducted by appointment only.
3. To **schedule any poojas** please contact Pooja Committee chairperson at least one week in advance.
4. If you would like to bring **food and prasad** in the temple, Please contact Pooja Committee chairperson .
5. **Cancellations** of pooja should be done 3 days in advance or else the full fee for the pooja will be charged.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ELECTION 2009

General election for Executive Council 2009 will be held on second Sunday December 14, 2008.

The EC has appointed an Election Commissioner:

Mohan Chopra: 859-331-2416

Navratri—Mata Ki Chouki

October 4th Saturday

4:00 to 8:00 pm

Sponsored by Anil Jindal & Family

For details call Anil Jindal: 271-7171

Bobba Choudhary:984-6074; Temple: 528-3714

Regular Weekly & Monthly Events at the Temple

Monthly Navgrah Pooja

Every first Saturday of the Month
September 6th, Saturday 3 pm to 5:30 pm
Sponsors needed for Pooja \$51.00

For Details please call
Bobba Choudhary: 984-6074; Temple priests: 528-3714

Monthly Murugan Abhishekham /Pooja

Every second Saturday of the Month
September 13th, Saturday 4.00pm
Sponsored by Murugan Group.

Bobba Choudhary: 984-6074; Temple priests: 528-3714

Monthly Satya Narayan Pooja

On Every Purnima of the Month

September 15th, Monday 6:30 pm; Raksha Bandhan Purnima
Sponsorship \$ 51.00

To sponsor pooja please call Bobba Choudhary: 984-6074
Temple priests: 528-3714

Monthly SundarKand Path

September 21st., Sunday 10:30 am

Bobba Choudhary: 984-6074 Acharya Kailash: 770-0705
Temple Priests: 528-3714

Monthly Shri Ganesh Pooja & Shri Ganesh Atharvshirsha Path

Every 4th Sunday of the month: September 28th, Sunday

This pooja is dedicated to each month's
Sankashti Chaturthi to Lord Ganesh.

For more information & Sponsor the pooja please call

Anuradha Kulkarni: 271-2749 Uma Sangvai: 793-9384
Kiran Dayal: 474-4051 Temple Priests: 528-3714

Monthly ABHISHEKAM/KALYANOTSAVAM FOR LORD SRI VENKATESWARA

On 4th Saturday of each month from 10:30 AM-12:30PM.

To sponsor and details please call any of the following:

Anand Konda: 481-4119 Vasundhara Dasari: 777-3353
Suseela Paturi: 867-8591 Vicheta Pemmaraju: 398-9833
Sailaja Gannamraj: 697-1412 Usha Indrakanti: 583-5995

Weekly Shiv Mahiman Stotram

Every Monday at 6:30pm

Weekly Hanuman Chalisa Path

Every Tuesday at 6:30pm

To sponsor pooja please call Bobba Choudhary: 984-6074
Temple priests: 528-3714

Weekly Vishnu Sahasranaam Parayana

Vishnu Sahasranaama Parayana (chanting) will now take
place Every Thursday at 7:00 pm in the temple.

Please join us for the chanting.

For more information, please contact Temple priest s: 528-3714

Weekly Venkateswar Pooja

Every Friday at 6:30pm

To sponsor pooja please call Bobba Choudhary: 984-6074
Temple priests: 528-3714

Bhagavad - Geeta Class

For children and parents
(Presented by CHESS Balvihar)

- ⇒ Bhagavad-Gita is the manifest quintessence of all the teachings of the Vedic scriptures. - Adi Sankara
 - ⇒ The Bhagavad-Gita is the most systematic statement of spiritual evolution of endowing value to mankind. *It is one of the most clear and comprehensive summaries of perennial philosophy ever revealed; Its enduring value is subject not only to India but to all of humanity.* -Aldous Huxley
- Join us in understanding and appreciating the timeless wisdom of the Bhagavad-Geeta.

When: Fourth Sunday of the month, 11am to 12:45pm

Where: The Hindu Temple

Taught by: Sri Koti Sreekrishna,

Notes with transliteration guide (Sanskrit to English) provided.

Contact

Manju Gupta: 232 - 3331 Vasanta Vemuri: 232- 5767

General Body Meeting

**HSGC Third General Body Meeting will be
Held on**

September 21st, Sunday at 11:30 AM

The meeting Agenda:

1. President's report
2. Treasure's report
3. Secretary's report
4. Long Range Planning Committee Chair's Report on Community Center and Retirement Center projects.

SHRI GANESH CHAURTHI CELEBRATION

On

September 7th 2007,

Sunday

10:30am to 1pm

Program:

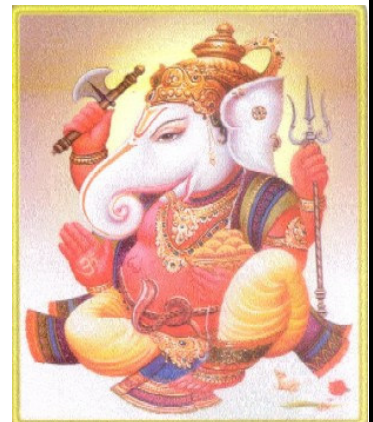
10:30 Procession

11:00 Ganesh Pooja

12:00 Bhajans

1:00 Aarti & Prasad (Lunch)

**This event is sponsored by
Triveni Marathi Mandal of
Tristate.**



For details please call

Anuradha Kulkarni: 271-2749, Uma Sanguai; 793-9384

Bobba Choudury: 984 -6074 & Temple 528-3714 .

Upcoming Events at the Temple

Semptember 2008 Events

September 2nd	Hartalika (Kewada) Teej Vrat Pooja 6 pm
September 3rd	Ganesh Chaturthi Pooja 6:30pm
September 7th	Ganesh Chaturthi Celebration Ratha Ashtami
September 11th	Jaljhulani Ekadashi
September 13th	Mela: Taste of India
September 14th	Anant Chaturdashi
September 15th	Purnima: SatyaNarayan Pooja Mahalayarambha
September 16th	Pitru Shradhdha Begins
September 21st	Sundarkand Path
September 25th	Indira Ekadashi
September 28th	Group Pitru Shradhdha Pooja Mahalaya Amvasya
September 29th	Navratri Begins Kalash Sthapana 6:00PM

October 2008 Events

4th Saturday	Shri Mataki Chouki
7th Tuesday	Shri Durga Ashtmi Havan
8th Wednesday	Shri Maha Navami/Sarsvati Pooja
9th Thursday	Vijaya Dashami Havan
14th Tuesday	Sharad Purnima, Shri Radha Krishna Pooja
17th Friday	Karva Chauth Vrat
19th Sunday	Bijoya Celebration
26th Sunday	Dhan Teras
27th Monday	Narak/Kali Chaturthi
28th Tuesday	DEEPAWALI, MahaLaxami Pooja
29th Monday	NEW YEAR, Vikram Samvat 2065 begins (Gujarat), Vir Nirvawana Savant 2535 begins, Govardhan Pooja and Annakoot

Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati Is Organizing A Group Shraddha Puja on Amavasya, September 28th Sunday 11am to 12: noon

Sponsorship \$51.00. Please call ahead if you are planning to join. For more details call Temple 513-528-3714, Bobba Choudury, Acharya Kailash Sharma 652-5382. Temple will provide all Puja Samagri.

Please do not bring loose Groceries to donate, in order to keep the quality and usefulness in future.

The dark fortnight of Ashwin Month is known as Mahalaya Paksha or the fortnight especially sacred for offering oblations to the departed ancestors. The last day of this period, the new moon day (Amavasya), is considered as the most important day in the year for performing obsequies and rites (or in simple terms offerings to our dearly departed ancestors). This year it falls on the 28th September 2008.

In the Garuda Purana Preta khanda II 10.50-55 Lord Visnu says to Sri Garudaji " On the day of Amavasya (new moon day), the airy manes (the ancestors) stand at the door of their descendents in order to receive their food. They remain there till sunset. When they do not receive their food they fall in despair and out of suffering heave long sighs and go back cursing the descendents. Therefore, one should carefully perform shraddha (offer food) to your ancestors on the new moon day (Amavasya).

The final day of Pitru Paksha is the Mahalaya Amavasya (the dark night before new moon)- September 28th in 2008. This takes place when the Sun and Moon conjunct in Virgo. All the ancestors are prayed to on this day. The belief is that they all come down to earth from their abode to join the world of living for a day.

If you want to remember your departed loved ones, this is a good time to do so. If you do not know the Tithi of their death, then you could do it on the Amavasya day. Feed the poor, give donation and celebrate their life with a feast in their memory- usually a vegetarian and Sattvic food. honor their memory and remember them with fondness.

The Shraddh performed during Pitru Paksha are not funeral ceremonies. They are Yagyas for the Pitru, worship of the ancestors as deities. They are different from the worship of the God. Shraddh is mainly performed for three generations of Pitrus, namely the father, the grandfather, and the great grandfather. When performed for all the ancestors performer's family benefit from it.

HSGC EC Meeting on August 2, 2008

Members Present: Raj Bodalia, Ramesh Dayal, Bobba Choudhary, Meena Mehta.
Because of a lack of the quorum no decisions were taken.



**HINDU TEMPLE OF
GREATER CINCINNATI**
Is organizing



MELA

**AT THE TEMPLE
4920 KLATTE ROAD**

SEPTEMBER 13, 2007 12:00 (NOON) TO 8:00 P.M.

EVENTS INCLUDE;

RIDES
GAMES

SHOPPING
FOOD
PONY RIDES

DANCES
SONGS

Contacts

For Culture Program

Jyoti Desai 513-745-0876

jyotidesai@yahoo.com

For Booth Sponsor and Rental

Anil Jindal 513-271-7171, ajindal@jindalbuilders.com

Jyoti Desai 513-745-0876 Ramesh Sondhi 513-232-6454

CULTURAL DANCE PROGRAM DANCE COMPETITION

Dance Program - First Session 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Dance Program - Second Session 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

7:00 PM Prize Distribution

!!!! FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY !!!!

!!!! AND A GOOD TIME FOR ALL !!!!

MUSIC - DANCING

****TASTE OF INDIA****



NAVRATRI 2008



HINDU SOCIETY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

AND

ANKUR GUJARATI SAMAJ

JOINTLY CELEBRATES

NAVRATRI



FROM SEPTEMBER 27 SATURDAY THROUGH OCTOBER 9 THURSDAY 2008

WITH MUSICAL GROUP PANORAMA ENT. FROM INDIA
PROGRAM

DATES/TIME: SAT, SEPT 27, 7:30PM TO 1:00AM
SUN, SEPT 28, 6:00PM TO 10:00PM
SAT, OCT 3, 7:30PM TO 1:00AM
SUN, OCT 4, 7:30PM TO 1:00AM

PLACE: THE CINCINNATI GARDENS ARENA
2250 SEYMOUR AVENUE
CINCINNATI OHIO 45212

TICKETS: ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT HINDU TEMPLE

MINIMUM DONATION: \$12/DAY

ONE WEEKEND PASS:\$18

CHILDRENS 5 AND UNDER FREE

SPONSORSHIP: \$101 (2 PASSES/ONE WEEKEND) OR \$251 (2 PASSES/BOTH WEEKENDS)

FOR THE REMAINING NAVRATRI NIGHTS THE PROGRAM IS AS FOLLOW:

DATES: SEPT 29, 30, OCT 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9

PLACE: HINDU TEMPLE OF GREATER CINCINNATI **TIME:** 7:30PM TO 9:30PM

PLACE: ANKUR GUJARATI SAMAJ **TIME:** 8:00PM TO 9:30PM

TICKETS: NO CHARGE

NAVRATRI HAVANS AT THE TEMPLE

OCTOBER 7, TUESDAY: ASHTAMI HAVAN 6:00 TO 7:30PM; 7:30 TO 9:30PM RaasGarba

OCTOBER 9, THURSDAY: VIJAYADASHAMI HAVAN 6:00 TO 7:30PM; 7:30 TO 9:30PM RaasGarba

NAVCHANDI PATH: EVERYDAY FROM 10:00AM TO 12:00NOON AT THE TEMPLE

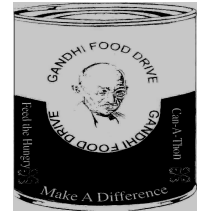
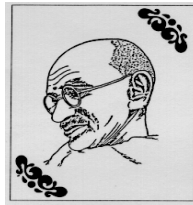
NAVRATRI HAVAN AT ANKUR SAMAJ

OCTOBER 9, THURSDAY: VIJAYADASHAMI HAVAN 6:00 TO 7:30PM; 8 TO 8:30PM Dinner; Then RaasGarba

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

JYOTI DESAI: 745-0876, JITUBHAI PATEL: 459-8900, RAJ BODALIA: 583-0184, ARVIND PATEL: 791-0855

JYOTI MEHTA: 793-7349, BHARTI NOTICEWALA: 583- 2007.



21st GANDHI FOOD DRIVE, 2008

September 1—October 31

Overall Collection Goal: \$10,000

Average Goal per Family: \$30

Every \$ of cash--or food--goes to FreeStore/FoodBank
FreeStore can buy \$7 worth of food for every \$1 of cash

All donations are tax-deductible

You can make your contribution three ways:

CHECK (or Cash)

Make your check payable to FreeStore

Mail your check to: Y. Datta, 7539 Tiki Av, Cincinnati, OH 45243

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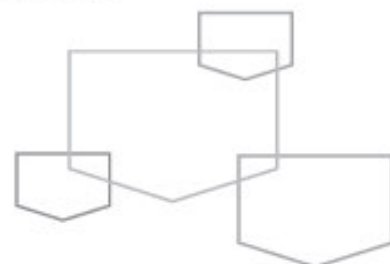
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Cont'd from page 1

It is believed that when God decides to give punishment to the sinners, He sends it in the form of arrows. If the person performs this Anjali mudra then the arrows lose their powers and return back to the sender himself. The devotion expressed through that mudra has got that much significance and power.

Such explanations are seen in Mahabharata as well. In Mahabharata, when Draupathi was disrobed and dishonoured at the Kauravas court she sought refuge in Lord Krishna by joining her hands and doing Anjali, crying "Govinda! Govinda". In an instant, Lord Krishna saves her from humiliation by making her saree infinitely long.

At the beginning of the Mahabharata war at Kurukshetra after the preachings of Bhagavat Geetha, Yuthisthira went to 'pithamahar Bhishma' to get his blessings. While he was walking towards Bhishma he demonstrates utmost devotion by doing this Anjali mudra –folding his hands and joining palms. Seeing this, Bhishma was very pleased and said "Oh my child your Anjali at this circumstance melts my heart. If you hadn't come here with this humility, I would have cursed you towards defeat and death. Now this clearly shows that you are uncomparable, I bless you to attain all successes in this war" said Bhishma". This clearly describes the power of Anjali.

When Ashwathama shoots the "Narayana Astham" the most powerful weapon towards the Pandava army it was expected that the total army would be destroyed and burnt to ashes. At that moment all the warriors in the Pandava army start praying performing "Anjali" towards God. The Narayana Astham then loses its power and returns back to Ashwathama without doing any harm to the Pandava army.

These examples gauge the merits of Anjali. The chief of Dravida Saints, Nammazhvar also speaks about the grace and the power of expressing devotion through Anjali in his verses "Thiruvai Mozhi". This is considered to be the most important work in the compilation of the four thousand verses-'Naalayira Divya Prabhandham" ². He says even at one's deathbed it is advisable to do Anjali. That takes one to the lotus feet of the Lord.

Thus, there are several references that explain the greatness and fruits of this powerful but simple mudra. This mudra delivers its message without any efforts, any money or any other difficult austerities. The devotion and bhakthi expressed through this mudra showers all blessing from the almighty. Without any differences or restrictions the same Anjali mudra pleases all gods and goddesses whether it is Narayana, Krishna, Rama, Durga, Lakshmi Saraswathi, Muruga or all the Navagrahas or in other words everyone's "Ishta Devatha" and brings all good things to the devotee. With sincere devotion and focused mind any one can express their Bhakthi in this simple way. Thus from these examples we can conclude that it is a very simple method that guarantees God's blessings and His presence in our lives all the time.

References: Bhagavad Gita: Chapter 10, Sloka 33 "Divya Prabhandham",-Thiruvai mozhi -1-3-8.



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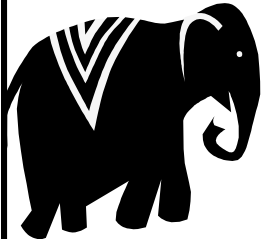
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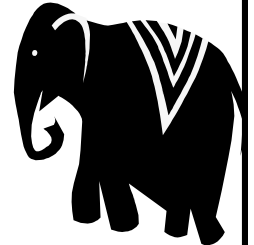
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