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UPCOMING EVENTS FROM SRI RAJARAJESWARI PETTAM

N/A

TEMPLE TIMING:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

MORNINGS - 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

EVENINGS - 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

AND USA HOLIDAYS

ALL DAY (9:30 am – 9:00 pm)

- **Pujas on Weekdays are at 9:30am, 12:30pm & 7:00p**
- **Pujas on Weekends are at 10am, 12:00pm & 6:00pm**
- **Abhishekam for the Devi is at 10:00am on Saturdays**
- **Navavarana Pujas are performed every Poomima**



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SRI CHAKRA

THE SOURCE OF THE COSMOSE

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SRI CHAKRA

THE SOURCE OF THE COSMOSE

DELUGE OF DIVINITY AT DEVIPURAM...

Sri Chakra presents below a firsthand account by Sri Chaitanyananda Natha of the joyous even in Devipuram:

Sri Sashteesananda Natha of the *Sri Rajarajeswari Peetam* in Toronto, Sri Jana Balasingham, the *Peetadhipathi* of the *Sri Saraswathi Peetam* in Somerville and myself arrived in Devipuram to an overwhelmingly loving, and affectionate welcome. The Devotees from Bangalore, Bombay, Jamshedpur, and other far-off places were already there, preparing for the installation of *Sri Sahasrakshi Rajarajeswari*. There were six *rithviks* performing the ceremonies with the selections from the *vedas*, including *Mahanyasa*, *Sivasankalpa*, *Rudra Namaka Chamakan Soorya Namaskara*, *Sahasralingarchana* etc. There were also devotees performing 108,000 *japas* of the *Sri Panchadasakshari*, charging the ether. In addition, *Lalitha Sahasranamam* was recited 200,000 times by a group of *suvasinis* from Bombay organized by Smt. Sundari Prasad and Smt. Padma Shastri.

Every day, there were cultural programs. There were free performances. These

included veena recitals by *Kum. Madhuri Devi*, *Smt. Padmini* and disciples of *Smt. Rama varappu Sarat Babu*; dance recitals by *Smt. Roxanne Gupta*, *Kum. Srividya Prasad* and *Kum. Prabha Poduval*; and other performances by A India Radio artists.

Navavarana pooja was offered daily at the *bindhusthanam* of the *Sri Mahameru* by our beloved Guruji, who, in the pristine purity of the early morning air, seated 54 feet up in the holy of holies of the *Meru*, resembled a glowing *Devarshi*. It was a rare combination of the *Brahma Muhoortham*, *Guru Mortuum*, and the Infinite Grace all-encompassing *Santa* in some, or ecstatic pearls from the eyes in others or a joyous abandon in yet others. Everyone experienced something that was indescribably sweet and deeply stirring. This writer began performing the morning *poojas* at the same time in the *Kamakhya Peetam*, the power house of the complex, nestled in the lap of the very Deity he has been meditating on -- *Sri Devi Kamakshi*. Every day was a tear-drenched culmination of a search that began many life times ago.

All the devotees had no concept of what time of day it was or what day of the week it was. (Nobody really cared!) The final days of the various *athivasams* were performed in the presence of *rithviks*, led by Guruji and Amma and followed by everyone present, a unique happening. Here was history being made, as devotee after devotee poured the consecrated water over the *moorthy*. Here was true participation worth the wait of many lifetimes. On the day of *Jaladhivasam*, our *Sahasrakshi* on earth performed *poornabhishekam* to many devotees from USA, Canada, Bombay, and

Jamshedpur. When the water touched us from the "*valampuri shank*," an effulgence was perceived as the grace flowed over our heads and into our very beings.

The 4th of June dawned with an air of intense anticipation. The *muhoortham* was at 7:55 a.m. IST and the *Kalavahanam* and the *Jeevaprathishta* took place as a prelude for the *poornahudhi* to follow. Guruji, Amma, Usha Jalan, the *Rithviks*, and this writer were alone at the *Bindusthanam* at the appointed *Muhoortham*. As *Sri Devi* was being anointed by Usha and this writer, Amma and Guruji invoked life into Her.

Soon it was time for *Poornahudhi* and Guruji and Amma led the *Peetadhipathis* from USA, Canada, Bombay, and other places in offering the oblations into the 4' x 4' x 4' *homa kundam* with the flames shooting high up in the atmosphere. The *homa* fire had been kept alive from 28th of May to the 4th of June, day and night by the *rithviks*.

Devi Kalyanam was celebrated. In addition, a *Kanakabhishekam* was performed on the 2nd and 3rd with Sri Jana Balasingham, Sri Sashteesananda Natha, the Viswanathans of Rochester, the Jalans and Parikhs of Bombay and this writer along with Anandamayi and Lalita Sharma performing *Kanya Pooja* to the six young girls who worked on the temple from the beginning. The delegates from the States felt that these young ladies were the manifestation of *Sri Devi* Herself. May Her Grace be showered upon the entire universe.