



DEEPAM

Sri Maharudra Yagnam 2013 Special Edition

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Hindu Temple

13010 Arbor Street,
Omaha, NE, 68144

हिन्दु त्दल्ले

Omaha, Nebraska



Sri MahaRudra Yagnam 2013



ॐ त्र्यम्बकं यजामहे
सुगन्धि पुष्टिविर्धनम्
उर्वारुकमिव बन्धनान्
मृत्योर्मुक्षीय मामृतात् ॥



Om Tryambakam Yajamahe
Sugandhim Pushtivardhanam
Urvaarukamiva Bandhanaan
Mrtyormukssiiya Maamrtaat ॥

Om, We Worship the Three-Eyed One (Lord Shiva),

Who is Fragrant and who Nourishes all beings. May He Liberate us from fear of Death, for the sake of Immortality, Even as a ripe Cucumber is severed from the Bondage of the creeper.

Aug 30,31 & Sep 1, 2013 at 13010 Arbor St, Omaha, NE 68144

Sri Rudram is one of the most sacred and powerful Vedic hymns devoted to Lord Shiva, who destroys the evil and bestows Bliss and Peace and Harmony on the devotees and the community who do Rudra Paarayana – recitation of Sri Rudram. Chanting the Rudram and listening to the chanting are considered to be of great benefit to devotees. When the chanting is accompanied with the Vedic fire ritual, it is called the Rudra Yagam. Eleven recitations of the Sri Rudram followed by one recitation of the chamakam is called Ekadasa Rudram. This also constitutes one unit of the Rudra Homam. Eleven Ekadasa Rudram recitations make one Laghu Rudram. Eleven Laghu Rudram recitations make a Maharudram (11*11*11). This grand 3-days long Vedic ceremony is for the welfare of all devotees, their families and friends and all of humanity.

Schedule:

Fri 8/30 PM- Lalitha Sahasranama Archana and
Sreechakra puja
Sat 8/31 AM- Kalasha Sthapana, Mahanyasa, Rudra Japa
Sat 8/31 PM- Rudra Japa, Krama Archana, Ashtanga
Seva
Sun 9/1 AM- Ekadasa Rudra Homam, Siva Abhishekam,
Sivapurana Parayanam

Sponsorship:

Mukkiya yajaman: \$2001
Grand Patron-entire event: \$1001
Patron-any 2 days' events: \$501
Sponsor-any 1 day's events:\$251
Abhishekam for Lord Siva:\$101
Lalitha Sahasranama Archana (Friday): \$31
Sphatika Lingam Abhishekam by devotees
(Saturday): \$31

Please make your tax deductible checks payable to Hindu Temple

Panditjis 402-697-8546

Shantaram Joshi 402-965-9777

Ram Bishu 402-421-1541

Alekha Dash 402-492-9707

Tej Adidam 402-331-3519

Suresh Seshadri 402-894-4918

Rakesh Singh 402-292-3790

Jayaraman 402-253-0650

Sanjay Varma 402-659-4631

Vijay Kannan 402-614-2651

Ram 402-210-2721

Srini Nedunoori 402-476-6252

Please email enquiries to htommaharudram2013@gmail.com

For details on rithvik registration, volunteer registration, sponsorship payment visit: <http://srimaharudram.blogspot.com/>

REQUEST FROM TEMPLE MANAGEMENT

Aum Namah Shivaya!

Namaste!

The Hindu Temple in Omaha, NE is organizing Sri Maharudram , a grand, rare and unique Hindu Vedic ritual that will be performed during the Labor Day Weekend (Aug 30th to Sept 1st 2013) for the first time in history of Nebraska.

Sri Rudram recitation is one of the most sacred and powerful Vedic hymns devoted to Lord Shiva, Who destroys evil and bestows Bliss, Peace and Harmony on the devotees and the entire community as proclaimed in the Vedas and Puraanaas. When the recitation is accompanied with the Vedic fire ritual, it is called the Rudra Yagnam. Witnessing and participating in this holy Yagnam is a rare opportunity for most.

Hence, management humbly requests all to participate and volunteer in large numbers along with family and friends and seek His blessings and of learned Priests from various parts of US.

“Lokah Samastah Sukhino Bhavantu” “Om Shanthi, Shanthi, Shanthi”

SRI MAHARUDRAM FACTS

- ★ ॐ Main Priests: 12
- ★ ॐ Ritwiks > 70
- ★ ॐ Kalashas: 121
- ★ ॐ Recitations > 1331
- ★ ॐ Abhishekam duration > 8 hrs
- ★ ॐ No of Pujas > 21
- ★ ॐ SriRudra Japam duration > 10 hrs
- ★ ॐ Devotees > 500
- ★ ॐ Sponsors > 200
- ★ ॐ Volunteers > 100
- ★ ॐ Blessings: Infinite
- ★ ॐ Bliss: Infinite

OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

For volunteering in the following areas

- ★ ॐ Parking Management
- ★ ॐ Help desk
- ★ ॐ Ritwik Registration desk
- ★ ॐ Transportation of Priests/Ritwiks
- ★ ॐ Cooking
- ★ ॐ Prasad Distribution
- ★ ॐ Volunteer Priest
- ★ ॐ Shoe Management
- ★ ॐ Garbage disposal
- ★ ॐ Crowd management
- ★ ॐ Post event cleanup
- ★ ॐ Audio/video handling

Contact:

srimaharudram.blogspot.com



SRI MAHARUDRAM

GLIMPSE OF THE GREAT YAGNAM

Ganesha Puja/Homa

Lord *Ganesha* is the Lord of Remover of Obstacles. All *Hindu* rituals and auspicious acts are undertaken by seeking His blessings at first and with His grace, all disturbances that may arise from within us and outside of us can be overcome.

Punyaha vachana (meant for purifying our surroundings)

Punyaha vachanam is a vedic ritual for purifying ourselves and our surroundings. This is the *Pooja* of the lord of water. We chant some mantras laying a hand on *Kalasha* (an earthen or metal pot filled with water) so as to purify it, which then becomes the holy water. This holy water is first sprinkled to purify our surroundings and then few drops (handful) of it are swallowed to purify our body. *Punyaha vachana* helps to enhance our life and bring prosperity.

Why Homa?

A Homa is a ritual performed with fire. It is also called “Havan” or “Yajna”. Our body is considered to be made up of five elements – Earth, Water, Fire, Air and Space. Of these, “Fire” is considered as the symbol of energy which brings forth creation and life. Hence, worship of “Fire” or “Agni” has been practiced by our ancestors since the Vedic ages. It is believed that various gods come into the fire and receive the prayers and offerings that are poured into the sacred fire.

The subtle body is sustained by the Bhuta Agni which helps to attain spiritual awakening. Over time, the “Bhuta Agni” is weakened due to clogs caused by feelings such as desire, anger, greed, ego, lust and jealousy. It is considered that the “Homa” or ritual with the external fire helps to strengthen/rekindle and energize this “Bhuta Agni” towards the spiritual goals.

ABHISHEKAM FACTS

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ॐ PANCHAGAVYAM - Removes all sins | ॐ LIME JUICE - Removes fear of death |
| ॐ PANCHAMRUTHAM - Gives wealth | ॐ TENDER COCONUT JUICE - Gives enjoyment / full satisfaction in life |
| ॐ GHEE- Gives Moksha state | ॐ COOKED RICE (ANNAM) - Gives Majestic life |
| ॐ MILK - Gives long life | ॐ SANDAL PASTE - Gives MahaLakshmi's Grace |
| ॐ CURD - Gives Good Children | ॐ SUGAR - Removes enmity |
| ॐ HONEY - Melodious voice | |
| ॐ RICE POWDER - Frees from debts | |



SRI MAHARUDRAM

GLIMPSE OF THE GREAT YAGNAM

Navagraha Homa

This homa is done to worship the 9 planets i.e. The Sun, The Moon, The Mars, The Mercury, The Jupiter, The Venus, The Saturn, The Rahu & The Ketu. Sun god bestows health, Moon Rules over mind and gives success, Mars Gives prosperity & wealth, Mercury Gives knowledge, Jupiter Gives education, Venus Knowledge of arts, music etc, Saturn bestows happiness, Rahu makes life stronger, Ketu Prospers the family. The head of navagraha is Sun. Navagraha homa is considered one of the auspicious homa to remove any Navagra Dosh and to get blessings of all the 9 planets.

Sri Rudram is also known as Namakam because of the abounding namaskArms (namaha) contained in it, Chamakam is so called on account of the recurrence of the words "cha mey" meaning "Lord grant me this and this". The first canto of Sri Rudram seeks the grace of Rudra who is angered by those not following His injunctions (dharma) In the second through the nine cantos the devotee bows unto Him as Sarveshvara, Sarvaatma and Sarvaantaryaami, the 300 glorious names of the lord, Rudra trisati, is derived from these eight cantos.

In the tenth canto ,He is prayed for specific favors. And in the eleventh, the devotee prays to the Rudra Ganas which are His manifestations. Chamakam is placed in the fourth kAnda and seventh prapataka of the Yajur Veda. It lists 347 items that are requested from the lord ,from food and other material requirements to the highest of spiritual goals.

MahAnyAsam

Before the commencement of the Rudra Japa and abhishekam to the Lord, as a specific mantra, MahAnyAsam, is recited. The term nyAsa relates to the assignment of various parts of the body (from head to foot) of the recite to different Devas, which is usually accompanied by prayers and corresponding mudras. It is specially to invoke all the divine aspects of Rudra in ones body. There are some variations in the way this is practised even among Krishna Yajur Vedins. What ever the format; this recitation and procedure takes about a hour for an experienced pundit.

Maha Rudra Yagnam

It is one of the highest forms of community worship, with the involvement of 121 Ritwiks reciting the Sri Rudra Mantra 11 times , totaling 1,331 times followed by one tenth (133) recitations for the purpose of the homa.

When we think of Lord Shiva invariably we get the image of "Shiva Lingam". In temples, the Linga is portrayed as Lingodbhava Murti with an unending top and bottom signifying the infinitude of the Paramaatman! In this Lingam, the entire universe is personified. If this Lingam is pleased by devotion, the universe is (filled with peace and love) That is why constant abhishekam to Siva as an expression of our bhakti.

Very rarely a Yagnam of this significance and magnitude can be witnessed and the opportunity for the people to actually participate in the worship. It is also done particularly for the sake of washing away ones sins and afflictions, for bringing peace, prosperity and family happiness.

Shiva UpachArA Puja

During pujas, several upachArAs are offered to the lord . One important component following the abhishekam is archana to the Lord. This is performed by reciting the glorious names of the Lord ranging from ashtotra satanAmAvali (108 names-Shiva ashtotram, bilva ashtotram) SahasranAma (1000 names) ,Trishati (300 names) etc.



SRI MAHARUDRAM

Rudra Homa

At the end of the Rudra japa, one tenth of the recitation is performed as Rudra Homa. Oblations are offered for each of the 37 riks (of cantos 1,10 and 11) and 130 yajus (of cantos 2 to 9 and the last line of canto 11) of Sri Rudram followed by an oblation for each canto of Chamakam. The total number of Sri Rudram recitations for the purpose of the homa is one tenth of the total number of Sri Rudram recitations 1,331 in the case of Maha Rudram. It is generally accomplished by performing the homa in eleven kundAs. Oblations are offered usually with ghee and samits (sacred wood sticks).

VasordhAra & PurnAhuti:

The final part of the homa is the purnAhuti and vasordhAra. As mentioned earlier, the chamakam occurs as the seventh prapataka of the fourth kAnda of the Yajur Veda. This prapataka describes the pouring of ghee into the sacred fire with a wooden ladle made of oudhumbari wood, popularly known as vasordhara. For the purpose of this rite the entire chamakam is considered as one instead of 11 cantos. The long string comprising of all the 347 items of chamakam are prayed for in this chant.

In summary, Rudra japa is the best sadhana (ritual) for attaining both material and spiritual benefits from the Almighty.

KNOWLEDGE CORNER

★ **SishyA:**

★ *What are the marks of a real teacher (Sadguru)?*

★ **Guru:**

★ Steady abidance in the Self, looking at all with an equal eye, unshakeable courage at all times, in all places and circumstances, etc.

★ **SishyA:**

★ *What are the marks of an earnest disciple (sadsisya)?*

★ **Guru:**

★ An intense longing for the removal of sorrow and attainment of joy and an intense aversion for all kinds of mundane pleasure.

★ **SishyA:**

★ *What are the rules of conduct which an aspirant (sadhaka) should follow?*

★ **Guru:**

★ Moderation in food, moderation in sleep and moderation in speech.

★ - from Ramanashram's Spiritual Instruction



SRI MAHARUDRAM

OUR SINCERE THANKS TO

MAHARUDRAM SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS

MUKIYA YAJAMANS(\$2001 SPONSORS)

Janakbhai R Dave, Bhavana and Rakesh Singh

Laxmi & Dr. Raju Rao

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Smita & Alekha Dash, Rohan Dash, Debleena Dash

Usha and VT Ramakrishnan

Viji & Suresh Seshadri

Vijay, Sushma, Isha, Jiten

& many more

Other sponsors are \$1001, \$501, \$251, \$101 and \$31 respectively

KNOWLEDGE CORNER

SishyA:

What is the significance of the saying that the nature of the real Guru is that of the Supreme Lord (Sarvesvara)?

Guru:

In the case of the individual soul which desires to attain the state of true knowledge or the state of Godhood (*Isvara*) and with that object always practises devotion, when the individual's devotion has reached a mature stage, the Lord who is the witness of that individual soul and identical with it, comes forth in human form with the help of *sat-chit-ananda*, His three natural features, and form and name which he also graciously assumes, and in the guise of blessing the disciple, absorbs him in Himself. According to this doctrine the *Guru* can truly be called the Lord.

- from Ramanashram's Spiritual Instruction



SRI MAHARUDRAM

PARKING INFO

PUJA/HOMA LOCATION

Follow Display Signs (no parking in temple)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ ॐ India Grocery Parking lot (south of temple) ★ ॐ Theater Parking lot (behind temple) ★ ॐ North offices Parking lot (North of temple) ★ ॐ Garden Ridge Parking lot ★ ॐ Parallel Parking(around temple) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ ॐ Friday, Saturday - inside temple ★ ॐ Sunday Homa - North east of temple ★ ॐ Sunday Abhishekam - inside temple ★ ॐ Kalasha arrangements - inside temple <p style="text-align: right;">(north)</p>
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Outside the temple

- ★ ॐ 3 help desk in front of temple to help with **puja tickets**, ritwik registration and any other information.
- ★ ॐ Shoe Stand
- ★ ॐ Washing feet (east and west side entrance)

Maha Prasadam Info

- ★ ॐ For devotees, Maha Prasadam is served on west side of temple (tent).
- ★ ॐ For Ritwiks and Priests, Maha Prasadam is served in the mini hall/ classrooms.

Other Info

- ★ ॐ If temple is over-crowded, devotees can watch events from social hall/classrooms on **TVs**.
- ★ ॐ Devotees can also watch all events live at www.htom.org .
- ★ ॐ **Cultural activities** will be held in between Puja events .
- ★ ॐ Sri Rudram/Chamakam books can be downloaded from the blog.



SRI MAHARUDRAM

Kids Corner

(Spiritual stories by Sri Ramana Maharshi)

Twenty-four Gurus

A king was passing through a forest in all pomp and pageantry, with his army and retinue behind him. He came across a man lying on the ground with one leg over the other. He was laughing away apparently supremely happy, contended with himself and all the world.

The king was struck with the ascetic's happy state and sent his man to the ascetic. But when the king's men approached the ascetic and delivered the king's message, he took absolutely no notice and continued in his ascetic bliss.

On being told of this, the king himself went to the ascetic and even then, the ascetic took no notice. Thereupon, it struck the king that this must be no common man, and said, 'Swami, you are evidently supremely happy. May we know what is the secret of such happiness and from which guru you learnt it?' Thereupon the ascetic told the king, 'I have had twenty four gurus. Everything, this body, the earth, the birds, some instruments, some persons, all have taught me'.

All the things in the world may be classed as either good or bad. The good taught him what he must seek. Similarly, the bad taught him what he must avoid.

The ascetic was **Dattatreya**, the avadhuta.

The Garlic Plant & its Birth

As is well known, when **gods (devAs)** and **demons(rAkshasAs)** churned the ocean of milk to get the nectar for immortality or no death, amrit (nectar) came out of it. When the rAkshasAs were running away with the vessel containing amrit, the devas appealed to MahA Vishnu. **MahA Vishnu** came on to the scene in the shape of Mohini(enchantress), and offered to resolve their quarrel by serving amrit to them all. They agreed, while serving it to the gods first, it appeared that there might not be enough to go round for the demons. So, one of the demons got into the line of the gods, unobserved by Mohini, and was swallowing the amrit.

When the Sun and Moon gods noticed it, and gave Her the hint, She threw the ladle, with which the amrit was being served, at the demon in such a way as to cut off his head. The ladle became the Chakra (an invincible lethal weapon of Vishnu) and cut off the demon's head. But as the amrit had already gone down his throat, the head became the Rahu graha(planet) and has since been taking vengeance on the Sun and Moon gods at the time of an eclipse. Now, when the head of the demon was severed, the trunk fell down, and in the process, a few drops of amrit fell on the ground. It is said that those drops became the garlic plant. That is why, it is said that garlic has some of the properties of nectar/amrit and very good for body and esp., heart. But since it also has the touch of the demon, it has tAmasic (mode of ignorance) qualities too, which when eaten affect the mind. Hence it is forbidden for SAdhakAs/Spiritual aspirants.



SRI MAHARUDRAM DETAIL SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 29th, PM

7:00 pm - 7:10 pm	Sri Ganesha Puja
7:10 pm - 7:20 pm	Punyaha Vachanam
7:20 pm - 7:50 pm	Sri Guru PADuka Puja/ Bhajans
7:50 pm - 8:00 pm	Aarti Prasadam

Friday, August 30th, AM

8:00 am - 8:20 am	Sri Ganesha Puja Punyaha Vachanam
8:20 am - 8:40 am	Kalasa Sthapana
8:40 am - 10:50 am	Sri Ganapathi, VAstu and Nava- graha Homam/ Awahanti Homam/Poornahu ti
10:50 am - 11:00 am	Maha Arati Prasadam

Friday, August 30th, PM

6:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Ritwik Varnam
6:30 pm - 6:45 pm	Sankalpam for Devotees
6:45 pm - 7:50 pm	SriChakra Puja* Sri Lalitha SahasranamAvali Puja
7:50 pm - 8:05 pm	Slokas/ Bhajans
8:05 pm - 8:15 pm	Maha Aarti Maha Prasadam

Saturday, August 31st, AM

7:00 am - 7:20 am	Ganesha Puja Punyaha vachanam
7:20 am - 8:05 am	MahAnyAsam
8:05 am - 12:05 pm	Sri Rudra Japam*
12:05 pm - 12:50 pm	Shri Shiva Parvathi Utsavamurthy Abhishekam
12:50 pm - 1:00 pm	Maha Aarti Maha Prasadam

Saturday, August 31st, PM

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Religious Discourse
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	LaghunyAsam
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Sri Rudra Japam
8:00 pm - 8:45 pm	Sri Rudra Krama Archana
8:45 pm - 9:15 pm	AstAvadAna Se- vA*/Cultural Event
9:15 pm - 9:30 pm	Maha Aarti Maha Prasadam

Sunday, September 1st, AM

6:00 am - 6:20 am	Sri Ganesha Puja Punyaha vachanam
6:20 am - 9:20 am	Sri Rudra Homam*
9:20 am - 9:50 am	Vasordhara, MahAPOornAhuti
9:50 am - 10:15 am	Utsav Murthy Parikrama
10:15 am - 11:30 am	Shri Shiva Ab- hishekam/Bhajans
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	Honoring Priests/Ritwiks
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	Shodasha Upachara Puja
12:30 pm - 12:45 pm	Maha Aarti Maha Prasadam

