

MAJOR FESTIVALS IN THIS MONTH

Hēmantalakṣmi Svāgatam

Mārgaśira Bahula Trayōdaśī, Saturday January 1, 2022 -

Puṣya Bahula Caturdaśī, Monday January 31, 2022

For the month of Puṣya, the presiding deities are Lakṣmi and Nārāyaṇa. The presiding deity of star Puṣyami is Br̥haspati. This star is related to Śanīśwara. Any virtuous act done to please Śanīśwara this month grants relief from the pains afflicted by him. This is the transition period when the Pitryāna Dakṣiṇāyana ends, and the Dēvayāna Uttarāyāna begins. Makara Sankranti in this month is very auspicious. It is not only a big festival but is the festival of 'The Elders' also. This month gives utmost importance to charity of clothes, sesame etc.

MĀRGAŚĪRA MĀSAM

January 1, 2022 - Saturday- Māsa Śivarātri, śanitrāyōdaśī - Performing Abhishekam and worshiping to Śiva on this day is preeminent in this month, in which the star Mrigasira is important on śanitrāyōdaśī along with Māsa Śivarātri.

January 9, 2022 - Sunday - Bhānusaptami - alabhyayōgam - It is said in śāstras that the combination of Saptami on Sunday is alabhyayōgam. Whatever meritorious deed is done on this day yields enormous result.

PUṢYA MĀSAM

January 12, 2022 - Wednesday - Vivēkānanda Jayanti - Birthday of Swami Vivekananda, who hoisted the flag of Bhāratadēśa Sanskr̥tī all around the world, is the auspicious occasion for everyone to reminisce him and dedicate to do their part of the duty with his inspiration.

January 13, 2022 - Thursday - Mukkōṭi/ putradā ēkādaśī - Purānās mention that on this day the north side door in Vaikuntha is opened to get the darsan of Nārāyaṇa. In Śrī Rangantha Mandir, the Utsava deities decorated with diamonds and gems are brought to the thousand pillared stage from the north entrance and are displayed for devotees darsan after special worship services. Darsan of Nārāyaṇa on this day through the north side



entrance that is kept open only on this day bestows infinite merits. Observing Ēkādaśī vrata on this day bestows the merits of performing Ēkādaśī vratas on many other Ēkādaśī days. Hence, this day is called **Mukkōṭi Ēkādaśī**. Ritual observance of this Ēkādaśī vrata bestows progeny for the childless and long life and prosperity of the children present.

Bhōgi The day being Bhōgi, Indra and chosen deities should be worshipped. A Bhōgi fire is lit either in front of home or at junctions with dried sticks and cow dung cakes chanting the name of God. Traditionally, Cow dung is made into flat cakes and are put into fire by children. This not only destroys evil forces, but also grants prosperity. Because Gōdā Dēvi tapas fructified on this day, Gōdā Kalyānam is performed on this day.



January 14, 2022 - Friday - Makara Saṅkrānti- Uttarāyāna Begins, Kūrmadvādaśī and Śukramaud̥hyatyāgam- Sankrānti is occurring at 2:29 pm IST, after which 40 Ghadiyas (16 hours) is auspicious time. Since Sankramana can't be observed during nighttime, one has to observe till sunset. Sun enters into Makara zodiac today. Uttarāyāna begins from today. Any chanting of mantra, doing japa, meditation, pārayāṇa, offering in charity etc. yield great merits. Performing tarpaṇa for departed ancestors grants them exalted state, leads to prosperity in clan, and bestows happiness and joy.



'ravi saṅkramaṇē prāptē na snāyādyāstu mānava, saptajanma surōgasyāt nirdhanaścaiva jāyatē'

One should certainly perform bath as stipulated on the day of Saṅkramaṇa. One should offer paddy, fruits, fan, clothes, gold, vegetables, roots, sesame, sugarcane, cow etc. in charity on this day. One should light lamp with sesame oil in front of Śiva and worship Śiva with mixture of rice and sesame seeds. Scriptures stipulate that sesame seeds should be consumed in one or other form. One should partake only one meal today.

Worship of Narayana as kūrmāvatāra on this day brings wisdom.



January 15, 2022 – Saturday – Kanuma, Paśupūja, Gurumaḍhyārambhañ, Śanitrāyōdaśi

- Worship of harvest, livestock, cows etc. as the embodiment of wealth goddess Lakṣmi is the distinction of this day. The power of sustenance present in cows and bulls is worshipped as the form of God.



January 21, 2022 - Friday – Sañkaṣṭahara caturthi - Ritual observance of this first Sañkaṣṭahara caturthi in Uttarayana removes all vighnas and brings happiness.

January 22, 2022 - Saturday - Tyāgarāja ārādhanoṭsavāñ - - Worship Maharṣi Tyāgayya, who attained union with the Brahman performing 'Nādōpāsana' i.e. devout practice of musical notes, and inculcating devotion with his many compositions on all gods which are equivalent to mantras. Performing this worship at least clears some debt towards the great Rṣis.



January 28, 2022 – Friday - Vimala Ēkādaśi, Ṣaṭtila Ēkādaśi –

One should perform bath with water mixed with sesame seeds on this day. Eating sesame seeds in food and water, performing homa with sesame seeds, worshipping God with sesame seeds, and offering sesame in charity is prescribed on this day.

January 30, 2022 – Sunday – Māsa Śivarātri - Worship of Śiva on this day bestows His immense grace.

NAMASSU

padmādhirājē garuḍādhirājē viriñcarājē surarājarājē,
trailōkyarājē khilarājarājē śrīrañgarājē ramatāñ manō mē.. 1..
nīlābjavarñē bhujapūrñakarñē karñāntanētrē kamalākalatrē,
śrīmallarañgē jitamallarañgē śrīrañgarañgē ramatāñ manō mē.. 2..

lakṣmīnivāsē jagatāñ nivāsē hrtpadmavāsē ravibimbavāsē,
kṣīrābhdhivāsē phaṇibhōgavāsē śrīrañgavāsē ramatāñ manō mē.. 3..

amōghanidrē jagadēkanidrē dēhanidrē ca samudranidrē,
śrīyōganidrē sukhayōganidrē śrīrañganidrē ramatāñ manō mē.. 4..

ānandarūpē nijabōdharūpē brahmasvarūpē kṣitimūrtirūpē,
vicitrarūpē ramañiyarūpē śrīrañgarūpē ramatāñ manō mē.. 5..

kansapramāthē narakapramāthē duṣṭapramāthē jagatāñ nidānē,
anāthanāthē jagadēkanāthē śrīrañganāthē ramatāñ manō mē.. 6..

sucitraśāyī jagadēkaśāyī nandāñkaśāyī kamalāñkaśāyī,
ambhōdhiśāyī vaṭapatraśāyī śrīrañgaśāyī ramatāñ manō mē.. 7..

sakaladuritahārī bhūmibhārāpahārī daśamukhakulahārī daityadarpāpahārī,
sulalitakrtacārī pārijātāpahārī tribhuvanabhayahārī prīyatāñ śrīmurārīḥ.. 8..

