



ಸಂಗಮ
ಸೈಂಟ್ ಲಾಜಸ್ ಕನ್ನಡ ಸಂಘ



2011-2012 Volume 2
Ganesha Chauti

President Vinayaka Sharma	Vice President Deepthi Bharadwaj	Secretary Seema Murthy	Treasurer Jyothi Mysore
Member Lakshmi Naveen	Member Sheetal Rakesh	Member R Shrinivas	Member Hemanth Kumar
			Member Prabhakar Betnag

Ganesha Chauti Celebrations on September 11th, 2011

Namaskaara,

Sangama welcomes you all to the Annual **Ganesha Chauti Pooja at the Mahatma Gandhi Center on September 11th**. The Gauri Pooja starts at 9:30 AM sharp followed by the Ganesha Pooja.

Symbolism and Spiritual meaning in the Divine birth of Ganesha!

We are all familiar with the story on how Ganesha became the elephant-headed God. Shiva and Parvati had been celebrating and Parvati becomes dirty. When she realizes this, she removes the dirt from her body, creates a boy out of it and asks him to keep guard while she bathed. When Shiva returned, the boy could not recognize him and obstructed his passage. So Shiva chopped off the boy's head and entered. Parvati was shocked. She explained that the boy was their son and pleaded with Shiva to save him at all costs. Shiva then instructed his helpers to go and get the head of someone who was sleeping with the head pointing to the north. The helpers then got the head of an elephant, which Shiva affixed to the boy's torso and Ganesha was born!

Does this story sound strange -

- Why should Parvati have dirt on her body?
- Didn't the all-knowing Shiva recognize his own son?
- Was Shiva, the epitome of peace, so short-tempered - that he cut off the head of his own son?
- And why an elephant head on Ganesha?

There sure must be a deeper meaning to all these.

Parvati is symbolic of festive energy. Her becoming dirty signifies that celebration can easily become Rajasik or feverish and can take you away from your center. Dirt is symbolic of ignorance and Shiva is symbolic of the Supreme Innocence, Peace and Knowledge. So when Ganesha obstructs the path of Shiva, this means that ignorance, which is an attribute of the head, does not recognize knowledge. Then knowledge has to overcome ignorance. This is the symbolism behind Shiva chopping off the boy's head.

And why the elephant head? Elephant represents both gyan shakti and karma shakti. The principle qualities of the elephant are wisdom and effortlessness. The enormous head of the elephant signifies Wisdom and Knowledge. Elephants don't walk around obstacles, neither do they stop at them. They just remove them and keep walking straight on – signifying effortlessness. So, when we worship Lord Ganesha these elephant qualities within us are kindled and we take on these qualities.

Ganesha's big belly represents generosity and total acceptance. Ganesha's upraised hand, depicting protection, means, "Fear not - I am with you," and his lowered hand, palm facing outwards means - unending giving as well as an invitation to bow down – symbolic of the fact that we will all dissolve into earth one day. Ganesha also has a single tusk which signifies one-pointedness. Even the implements Ganesha wields are symbolic. He carries in his hands, the 'Ankusa' (signifies awakening) and the 'Paasa' (signifies control). With awakening, a lot of energy is released, which without proper control, can go haywire.

And why does Ganesha, the elephant-headed God travel on something as small as a mouse? Isn't that so incongruous? Again there is symbolism that runs deep. The mouse snips and nibbles away at ropes that bind. The mouse, which gradually nibbles away, is like the mantra which can cut through sheaths and sheaths of ignorance, leading to the ultimate knowledge represented by Ganesha.

Our ancient Rishis were so deeply intelligent that they chose to express Divinity in terms of symbols rather than words, since words change over time, but symbols remain unchanged. Let us keep these deep symbolisms in mind as we experience the omnipresent in the form of the elephant God, yet be fully aware that Ganesha is very much within us. This is the wisdom we should carry as we celebrate Ganesh Chaturti.

ತತ್ ಪುರುಷಾಯ ವಿದ್ಮಹೇ
ವಕ್ರತುಂಡಾಯ ಧೀಮಹಿ
ತನ್ನೋ ಧಂತಿ ಪ್ರಚೋದಯಾತ್



Membership Renewal Reminder : Please renew your annual membership (if you have not already done so) at the Picnic or send in your check to Smt. Jyothi Mysore (274 Arbor Trails Dr, Ballwin, MO 63201). For a nominal service charge levied by the provider, you can pay by credit card on our website at <http://sangamastl.com/membership.aspx> or click on the "Membership" menu on our homepage <http://www.sangamastl.com> for more details.

Along with annual memberships, "Friends of Sangama" helps bring in quality programs to the community. Appreciate your help and donations. Please visit <http://sangamastl.com/membership.aspx> to put in your donations!

Sangama Event Calendar : Below are dates to the events for the rest of the year, so that you can mark your calendars;

1. Kannada Movie - Hudugaru - Saturday October 8th 2011 – St. Charles Cine 18
2. Kannada Rajyothsava/Deepaawali - Saturday November 19th 2011 - Mahatma Gandhi Center
3. New Year's Eve - Saturday December 31st, 2011 - Creve Coeur City Center
4. Ugaadi Habba 2012 (Nandana Naama Samvathsara) - Saturday March 31st, 2012 - Mahatma Gandhi Center

Welcome: There are lots of new members in Sangama and many of you are new to St. Louis area. We welcome you all to the community and look forward to seeing you at the Ganesha Pooja. Sangama's web site (<http://sangamastl.com/Members.aspx>) now has the latest member directory available. This section is a secure section of the web site needing you to login for access. Please use your e-mail address on file (all in small letters) as your user name and your home telephone number on file (without the brackets or -) as your password. Example:- Username: name@hotmail.com Password: 3145551111 Please feel free to send us an e-mail at president@sangamastl.com if you have any question or are having trouble logging in.

Kannada Shaale : Kannada Shaale continues to be in session at the Daniel Boon Library, on Clarkson Road in Chesterfield. If not already done so, we highly encourage you to enroll you kids. Please contact either of these email address for more information - kannadashale@sangamastl.com, aninag@gmail.com or prasanna@sooryadance.com.

Ganesha Chauti History

Ganesha Chaturthi or Ganesha Festival is a day on which Lord Ganesha, the son of Shiva and Parvati, resurrected to life on earth with the head of elephant. It is also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi or **Vinayaka Chavithi** in Sanskrit, Kannada, Tamil and Telugu, Chavath in Konkani.

It is not known when and how Ganesh Chauti was first celebrated. But according to the historian Shri Rajwade, the earliest Ganesh Chauti celebrations can be traced back to the times of the reigns of dynasties as Satavahana, [citation needed] Rashtrakuta and Chalukya. Historical records reveal that Ganesh Chauti celebrations were initiated in Maharashtra by Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaja, a great Maratha ruler, to promote culture and nationalism. And it had continued ever since. There are also references in history to similar celebrations during Peshwa times. It is believed that Lord Ganapati was the family deity of the Peshwas. After the end of Peshwa rule, Ganesh Chauti remained a family affair in Maharashtra from the period of 1818 to 1892.

In 1893, Indian freedom fighter and social reformer Lokmanya Tilak transformed the annual domestic festival into a large, well-organized public event. Tilak recognized the wide appeal of the deity Ganesh as "the god for everybody", and popularized Ganesh Chauti as a national festival to build a context for grassroots unity and generate nationalistic fervor among people against the British colonial rule. Tilak encouraged installation of large public images of Ganesh in pavilions, and also established the practice of submerging in rivers, sea, or other pools of water all public images of the deity on the tenth day after Ganesh Chauti. Under Tilak's encouragement, the festival facilitated community participation and involvement in the form of intellectual discourses, poetry recitals, performances of plays, musical concerts, and folk dances. It served as a meeting ground for people of all castes and communities in times when, in order to exercise control over the population, the British discouraged social and political gatherings.

Potters and their clan plan the making of Ganesh Idols, 2-3 months prior to Ganesh Chauti, life-like clay models of Lord Ganesha are made for sold by specially skilled artisans. They are beautifully decorated & depict Lord Ganesh in various poses, colors themes. The size of these statues may vary from 3/4th of an inch to over 25 feet.



Who brings the goodies?

Idlli (70 Count each)	Sambar (6 Quarts each)	Chutney (5 Quarts each)
Chaya Gopalan Latha Vishwanath Malati Reddy Roopa Prahlad Sandhya Pandurangi Sumangala Rao Uma Nagabhushan	Bharati Mohan Kathyayini Joshi Pratima Murali Shweta Srikanth Sujatha Manjunath	Madhu Bhat Pratima Murthy Rajalakshmi Ganapayya Srilatha Upadhya Swarna Devanhalli
Puliogre (8 Cups Raw Rice)	Majjige Huli (5 Quarts each)	Corn & Cucumber Kosambari (5 Quarts each)
Anita Nagendra Manasi Honnavar Padmini Prabhu Rajitha Shashidara Sandhya Kumar Shilpa Patil Shobha Dixit Vanitha Talkad	Indumathi Anil Kumar Lakshmi Prakash Madhuri Gururaj Rekha Megharaj Shilpa Karthik Shubha Bhaskar	Chaitra Pramod Sushma Datta Suguna Sateesha Sumedha Bailur Tara Shadaksharappa
Badami Haalu (1 Gallon each)	Kadle Usli (6 Quarts each)	Beans Pallya (4 Quarts each)
Hema Srikantha Jaya Ramanuja Jyothi Mayenkar Kiran Annegowda Tejaswini Nayak Vani Pergadia	Anita Somprasad Anupama Hukkeri Jyothi Hulloli Meera Vasudeva Preetam Desai	Amoolya Shetty Jayanthi Hariprasad Kavitha Upadhya Mangala Shenoy Padmaja Gunappoti
Rasam (6 Quarts each)	Happala (30 Count each)	Yogurt (1 Gallon each - prefer from Indian Store)
Ashwini Kulkarni Kaveri Purushotam	Preeti Sundaram Shilpa Salil Surekha Raju Swastika Adarsh Veena Anchan	Susheela Palamand Brinda Mohan Pushpa Nigegowda Rekha Sunil Suma Milli Shylaja Attri

If you will not be able to make it or cannot get the assigned items, your help is very much appreciated to make alternate arrangement or contact Smt. Jyothi Mysore, Smt. Seema Murthy or any other committee members before **Wednesday 9/7/2011!**



Snippets!

Ganesha the Wise

Lord Ganesha is an embodiment of wisdom and bliss. He is the Lord of Brahmacharis. He is foremost amongst the celibates. He has as his vehicle a small mouse. He is the presiding Deity of the Muladhara Chakra, the psychic centre in the body in which the Kundalini Shakti resides. The significance of riding on a mouse is the complete conquest over egoism. The holding of the ankusha represents His rulership of the world. It is the emblem of divine Royalty.

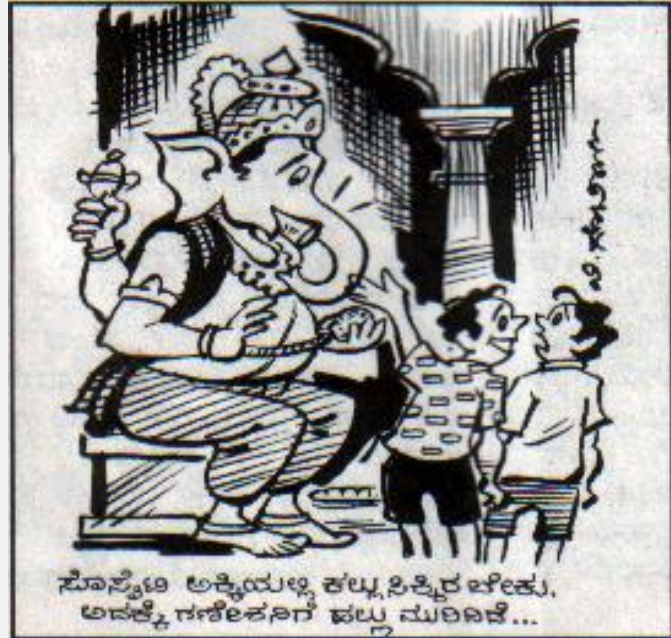
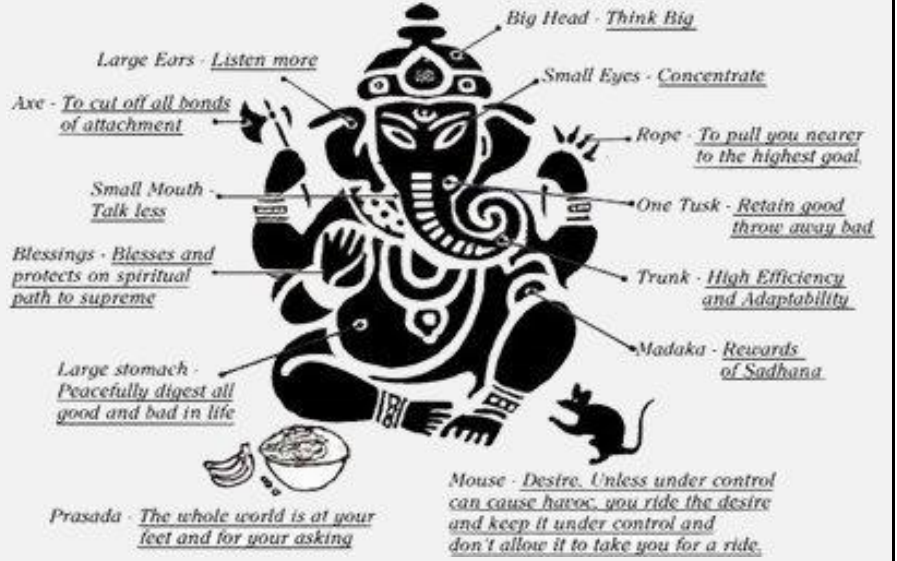
Once Ganesha & His brother Lord Subramanya had a dispute. The matter was referred to Lord Shiva for final decision. Shiva decided that whoever would make a tour of the whole world and come back first to the starting point had the right to be the elder. Subramanya flew off at once on his vehicle, the peacock, to make a circuit of the world. But the wise Ganesha went, in loving worshipfulness, around His divine parents and asked for the prize of His victory.

Lord Shiva said, "Beloved and wise Ganesha! But how can I give you the prize; you did not go around the world?"

Ganesha replied, "No, but I have gone around my parents. My parents represent the entire manifested universe!"

Thus the dispute was settled in favour of Lord Ganesha, who was thereafter acknowledged as the elder of the two brothers. Mother Parvati also gave Him a fruit as a prize for this victory.

Ganesha Symbolism



ಸುಭಾಷಿತ:

ಆಶಾಯಾ ಯೇ ದಾಸಾಸ್ತೇ ದಾಸಾಃ ಸರ್ವಲೋಕಸ್ಯ |
ಆಶಾ ಯೇಷಾಂ ದಾಸೀ ತೇಷಾಂ ದಾಸಾಯತೇ ಲೋಕಃ ||

ಆಸೆಯೆಂಬುದಕ್ಕೆ ತೊತ್ತಾದವರು ಎಲ್ಲ ಲೋಕಗಳಿಗಾಗುವರು ತೊತ್ತು;
ಆಸೆಯಾರಿಗೆ ತೊತ್ತಾಗುವುದೋ ಅವರಿಗಿಡೀ ಜಗವಾದೀತು ತೊತ್ತು!

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಂಘ

ಸೈಂಟ್ ಯೂಜಿಸ್ ಕನ್ನಡ ಸಂಘ

Cartoon Corner!



I'm sure loud noises can make him uncomfortable...he has such big ears



Why wasn't I born in Karnataka?



ಹುಟ್ಟಿದರೆ ಕನ್ನಡನಾಡು ಹುಟ್ಟಲೇವು ...

WHEN ARE YOU DISCHARGING HIM? WE NEED HIS HELP TO PASS ANOTHER BILL, DOC!





Activity Corner!

ಶಬ್ದಗಳನ್ನು ಹುಡುಕಿ

ಗಣೇಶ ಹಬ್ಬಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ೨೦ ಶಬ್ದಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿರಿ. ಶಬ್ದಗಳನ್ನು ನೆಟ್ಟಗೆ, ಅಡ್ಡವಾಗಿ ಅಥವಾ ಓರೆಯಾಗಿ ಮಡಬಹುದು.

ಸಂ	ಗೀ	ತ	ಸ	ಭೆ	ಶ	ದಾ	ಪಾ	ಗ	ತ
ಗ	ಣ	ಪ	ತಿ	ಜಾಂ	ಮಂ	ಳ	ವರ್	ಜಾ	ಳಿ
ಮ	ಋ	ಪಾ	ಬ	ಯ	ತ	ಛ	ತಿ	ನ	ರು
ಈ	ಳ	ವ	ಮೂ	ಜಿ	ಕ	ಬಾ	ಡ	ನ	ತೋ
ಬಿ	ಸು	ಜ್ಞ	ನಿ	ಕ	ಮ	ಅ	ಲಿಂ	ಕಾ	ರ
ದೇ	ಭಾ	ತಿ	ಪ್ರಾ	ತ	ಣಿ	ಟ	ಕ	ಗ	ಣ
ಶ್ರೀ	ಧ್ವ	ಟ	ಜಾ	ಡ	ನ	ವಾ	ಡು	ಇ	ಚಾ
ಖ	ಟ	ಕ	ಸಾ	ಣ	ಜ	ದ	ಬು	ತಿ	ಈ
ಚಂ	ದ	ಪಾ	ಮ	ಬ್ರ	ಹ್ಮ	ಚಾ	ರಿ	ಶ್ಚ	ಅ
ಮೋ	ಲಿ	ಇ	ಗ್ರ	ದ	ಲಿ	ಶ್ಚ	ರ	ದಿ	ಕ್ಕು

Search Ganesha's Names

L V L F A T A H D I H D D I S
I E A F W Q X E J F W H A I V
A K N I C O T A S U I H D T A
B D A T P R L K V T K D K A B
R A H A D I A W A U H R T T V
A N A P P V L P M I I R A Y A
R A V A S Q A U V P A T B N K
T T K N Q N S I A H E T A D R
U A I A A D N L A W O N C Q A
P B S G E A U N H R A D F V T
I U U L Y R A S N J I L T A U
R U M A N G A L A M U R T I N
U L K B I G Z G B P G O P K D
A A T V I S H W A M U K H A A
G A J J A K A R N A L J R H E

Double Floor ಬಸ್

ಸರ್ದಾರ್: Double Floor ಬಸ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮೇಲೆ ಹೋಗಿ ಕುಳಿತ. ಬಸ್ ಹೊರಡಿತು. ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದ ಎದ್ದು ಓಡಿ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಬಂದ.

Conductor: ಯಾಕೆ ಸರ್ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಬಂದಿ?

ಸರ್ದಾರ್: ಮೇಲೆ ಡ್ರೈವರ್ ಇಲ್ಲಾ ಮಾರಾಯ!!!

ನಿಮಗೆ ಗೊತ್ತೇ?

ಎಲೆ ಅಡಿಕೆ ಮೆದ್ದಿಲ್ಲ; ತುಟಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಕೆಂಪು; ಮಳೆಯಾಗದಿದ್ದೂ ಹೊಲ ಮಾತ್ರ ಹಸಿರು.

ಉತ್ತರ : ಗಿಳಿ

ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ

ಅಮ್ಮ: ಯಾಕೋ ಗುಂಡ ಪಾಪು ಅಳ್ತಾ ಇದೆ, ಏನು ಮಾಡಿದೆ?

ಗುಂಡ: ಹಸಿವಾಗಿರಬೇಕು ಅಂತ ಒಂದು ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟೆ, ಬಹುಶಃ ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ಬೇಕು ಅಂತ ಅಳ್ತಾ ಇರಬೇಕು.

Driving Directions to the Mahatma Gandhi Center

725 Weidman Rd
Manchester, MO 63011-4207



From 270

- Manchester MO-100 exit. Go West on Manchester Road for about 2 miles to Weidman Road
- Make a turn to go North on Weidman Road and drive for about 1.65 miles to the Gandhi Center , on your left. It is in the same campus as the St. Louis Hindu Temple

From 40

- Take Mason Road exit and go South on Mason. Drive on Mason for about 1.0 miles and at Clayton Road, make a right to go west
- After about 0.75 miles, make a left to go south on Weidman Road and drive for about 1.65 miles to the Gandhi Center, on your right .It is in the same campus as the St. Louis Hindu Temple

