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## Nine Beliefs of Hinduism

Our beliefs determine our thoughts and attitudes about life, which in turn direct our actions. By our actions, we create our destiny. Beliefs about sacred matters-God, soul and cosmos-are essential to one's approach to life. Hindus believe many diverse things, but there are a few bedrock concepts on which most Hindus concur. The following nine beliefs, though not exhaustive, offer simple summary of Hindu spirituality.

1. Hindus believe in a one, all- pervasive Supreme Being who is both immanent and transcendent, and both Creator and Unmanifest Reality.

2. Hindus believe in the divinity of the four Vedas, the world's most ancient scripture, and venerate the Agamas as equally revealed. The primordial hymns are God's word and the bedrock of Sanatana Dharma. the eternal religion.

3. Hindus believe that the universe undergoes endless cycles of creation. preservation and dissolution.

4. Hindus believe in *Karma*, the law of cause and effect by which each individual creates his own destiny by his thoughts, words and deeds.

5. Hindus believe that the soul reincarnates, evolving through many births until all karmas have been resolved, and moksha, liberation from the cycle of rebirth is attained. Not a single soul will be deprived of this destiny.

6. Hindus believe that divine beings exist in unseen worlds and that temple worship, rituals, sacraments and personal devotionals create a communion with these *devas* and Gods.

7. Hindus believe that an enlightened master or Satguru is essential to know the Transcendent Absolute, as are personal discipline, good conduct, purification, pilgrimage, self-inquiry, meditation and surrender in God.

8. Hindus believe that all life is sacred, to be loved and revered and therefore practice *ahimsa*, noninjury, in thought, word and deed.

9. Hindus believe that no religion teaches the only way to salvation above all others, but that all genuine paths are facets of God's Light. deserving tolerance and understanding.

Himalayan Academy Publications



# **SHIVA VISHNU TEMPLE OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

5661 Dykes Road Southwest Ranches Florida 33331 Tel: 954-689-0471





# Information

## **TEMPLE HOURS**

Monday through Friday: 9:00 AM to 12 Noon and 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM Saturday, Sunday and Holidays 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM

## Web Site: www.shivavishnu.org



#### Welcome to Shiva Vishnu Temple of South Florida

The Shiva Vishnu Temple of South Florida is a non-profit religious organization with a mission of operating a traditional Hindu temple based on Vaasthu and Agama Shaastra and imparting religious, educational and cultural values to our community and future generations.

In 1996 we embarked upon building a traditional Dravidian (South Indian) style temple under the guidance of chief architect, Dr. Ganapati Sthapati of Chennai, India, a well known temple builder of international repute. The construction began in April 1999. Twelve shilpis (sculptors) came from Mahabalipuram, Tamilnadu, India in April 2000 and carried out the Indianization of the temple.

The main temple building has two Raja Gopurams (entrance towers) and two Vimana Gopurams (Towers) over each of the main Shiva and Vishnu Garbagrahas (Shrines). The total area of the temple is approximately 6200 sq ft. The temple ornaments and architectural style are of Chola, and Pandya dynasty (10th century) for Shiva and Parivar (associated) shrines, and Vijayanagara dynasty (12th century) for Venkateshwara and Parivar shrines. The Ayyap-



pa shrine is built according to the Kerala style of architecture. The second building is the community hall which opened in April of 2001. It



houses educational and cultural activities, and is occasionally rented for private ceremonies to Temple members and devotees.

Mahakumbhabhishekam (sacred purification) and Pranaprathishtapana (consecration) of our temple was celebrated during November 23 to 25 of 2001 and the temple has been open to the public since

then. We have four well trained priests from India who perform daily puja services. The temple's religious rituals strictly follow the Agama Shastras: Shiva agama for Shiva and parivara devathas, Pancharathra agama for Vishnu and parivara devathas.

The temple organizes a number of religious services and cele-

brates major Hindu festivals throughout the year, which are open to the general public. Devotees have opportunity to sponsor any of these religious services. The temple priests can also conduct specific religious services on behalf of devotees either at the temple or in their homes.

The construction of the temple was made possible with generous contributions from the members of our community. The temple is operated by revenues generated from services and donations. Your generous donation is always welcome and is tax deductible.



In addition to the religious activities the temple conducts a number of educational, cultural and voluntary service activities:

The **Educational Program** (Vidyamandir) conducts classes for children, youth and their family members on yoga, Hindu Heritage, Indian languages and special topics of interest on Sundays during the school year. For further information, please contact

Dr. Mahadev Bhat at education.svt@gmail.com

The temple arranges a number of classical **music and dance concerts** throughout the year. Music, dance and mridangam **classes** are also conducted at the temple. For further information, please contact

Dr. S. Ramakrishnan at miamiramakrishnan@gmail.com

The temple's **Elders Forum** meets on the second Thursday of every month for networking and discussing topics of interest to seniors. The Forum also prepares and serves meals at a local community center for homeless on the third Thursday of every month. For information, please contact

Dr. P. Alamelu at palamelu@gmail.com.

## Significance of a Hindu Temple

A traditional Hindu temple symbolizes sacred beliefs and ideas rooted in Hindu sacred texts (Vedas and Puranas), culture and way of life. It is literarily the house (Vastu) of the Universal Spirit (Purusha) who is enshrined in the form of a chosen deity or deities (e.g., Shiva, Vishnu, Kamakshi, Lakshmi, etc.) and consecrated inside the Sanctum (Garbha Griha or womb house). Other parts of the temple, including the foundation, the entrance, walls, pillars, ceiling, the open hall (Mantapam), and the towers (Gopurams) are designed to depict various elements of nature (space, air, water, fire, and earth), forms of art and culture, and stories from sacred scripture. Performing rituals, chanting of hymns and bhajans, ringing of bells (Ghanta), lighting of lamps (Jyothi), and decorating the deities all keep the temple a sacred place and help devotees in the pursuit of their spiritual journey towards the Supreme Being.



#### Directions

#### From I-75 N:

Take Sheridan Street West, Immediate Right on Dykes road. Go past Sterling road. The temple is on the Left side.

From I-75 S:

Take Griffin Road West. Immediate left on Dykes road. The temple is on the

#### Services

We provide various religious services as outlined in the table below at the temple premises and your home with scheduled appointments. For details you may contact the priests at the temple at (954) 689-0471.

	Services	Temple	Old temple hall	At Home
1	Ashtotra Archana	\$ 10.00		
2	Trishati Archana	\$15.00		
3	Suvarnapushpa Archana	\$ 25.00		
4	Sahasranama Archana	\$ 25.00		
5	Sathyanarayana Pooja ( regular day)		\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
	Full Moon days	\$ 35.00		
6	Grihapravesham			\$ 151.00
7	Ayushya Homam		\$ 151.00	\$ 175.00
8	Namakaranam		\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
9	Annaprashanam		\$ 51.00	\$ 101.00
10	Vidyarambam		\$ 51.00	
11	Navagraha Homam		\$ 51.00	\$ 175.00
12	Abhishekam to any Deity only on scheduled day	\$ 51.00		
13	Vahana Pooja	\$ 35.00		
14	Upanayanam *		\$ 201.00	\$ 251.00
15	Kalyanam (Wedding) *		\$ 850.00	\$ 1000.00
16	Sreemantham*		\$ 151.00	\$ 201.00
17	Tharpanam or Hiranya Srardham		\$ 51.00	\$ 101.00
18	Wedding Engagement*		\$ 151.00	\$ 201.00
19	Sankatahara Chathurthi/ Pradhosham/ Navagraha Pooja (Temple Sponsored)	\$ 25.00		
20	Kalyanothsavam (temple sponsored) Kalyanothsavam (Private sponsorship)	\$ 51.00 \$251.00		

\* Additional hall rental fee may apply.

- A. Flowers and Fruits are requested for services.
- B. Acharya Sambhavana (offering to the priest is optional) is not included in the fees above.
- C. For home services devotees must provide to and from transportation to the priest.
- D. To sponsor any of the services, you may contact the priest at (954) 689-0471

#### **Priests and Sculptors**

Sri. Manikandan Gurukkal Sri. Srikanth Janardhanachar Sri. Ramachar Padmanabhachar Sri. Sridhar Raja Shilpi Alagu Sellaiah Shilpi Palaniappan Alagu

Thank you for your support and patronage.