

Vedanshi

The part of the sacred knowledge

Those who see with eyes of knowledge the difference between the body and the knower of the body, and can also understand the process of liberation from bondage in material nature, attain to the supreme goal.

Chapter 13, Verse 35; Bhagavad Gita

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue No 38: January 2017

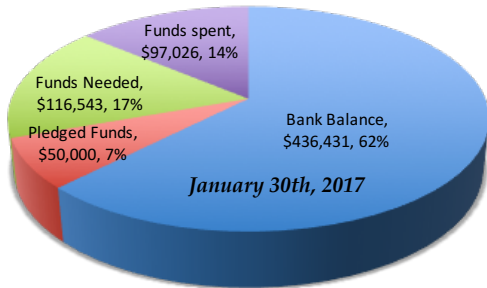
Sanatan Hindu Sanskar Kendra

PO Box 80362, Lafayette, Louisiana - 70598
110, Hapsburg Lane, Lafayette, Louisiana - 70506
Email: shskendra@gmail.com, Website: sanatanlft.org



Temple - Fundraising Campaign

Estimated Construction Cost + Deities : \$700,000



Fund Raising Challenge : \$150,000



SHSK Temple Foundation Stone Ceremony SHSK 3rd Annual Gayatri Havan and Kite Festival

On Auspicious Makar Sankranti Day
January 14, 2017 (Saturday)
110, Hapsburg Lane, Lafayette, LA - 70506

Event update on Page 2 & 3

Challenge Update

An Anonymous donor will match \$1 for every \$3 that is donated towards SHSK Temple. The matching contribution will max upto \$50,000, therefore taking the challenge amount to \$150,000. On December 30th, 2016 the fundraising challenge was successfully accomplished. Thanks to our generous supporters who came forward to contribute \$150,000 so far after initializing this challenge on May 1st, 2016. This challenge excludes already committed \$50,000 donation made prior May 1st 2016.

Presiding Deities ready to ship from India - [Print the 2017 Calendar Page 4](#)

Balaji, Lakshmi, Shiva Ling, Durga, Ganesha, Radha Krishna, Ram Parivar, Subramaniyam Parivar, Saraswati and Hanuman

Sita Ram



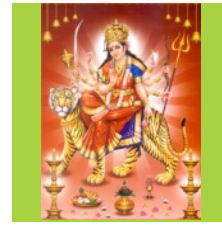
Ganesh



Krishna



Durga



Shiva



Shilanyas Bhoomi Pujan of SHSK Temple of Lafayette

Shilanyas is the ceremony to lay the foundation stones ("shilas"). Shilas (The foundation stones) are beautifully engraved on Copper Plates or they are made of marble. They are placed at the very bottom together with ceremonial offerings in the manner set forth in scriptures. It involves many auspicious actions, such as shila-abhishek, symbolic seeking of permission of various life forms on the ground, and invoking the guardians of the various directions to protect our place of homage.

Bhoomi Pujan is purification of the ground. Small copper kalashas are first set in the center of the hole in the ground immediately after Bhoomi puja is done. Small copper kalashas in it have silver Naag (Sarpa, Snake), silver Kurma (Turtle), Vastu Yantra and Panch Ratna and is covered with a Red Cloth. Puja of each Shila (Copper Plates with Shilas engraved on them) are done. Then specified colored cotton cloths are wrapped around these plates, making sure that Kurma(Turtle) and other Shila's are facing to the East, then lower them in to the hole and place them directly above the small kalashas in the center.

The foundation pit is dug directly below the spot where the Garbhagriha will be built (below each of the God's deity). Garbhagriha means the innermost sanctum of a Hindu temple where the presiding deity of the temple resides.

Just as a foundation stone of any structure is laid only once in its lifetime, Shilanyas also happens only once, before the commencement of construction of the temple. It is a once-in-a-lifetime event for anyone to perform or witness.

Three main God's Shilas (copper plates) of Balaji, Radha-Krushna, and Shiva are wrapped with a heavy Copper wire and usually it is guided through a copper pipe for protection thru construction all the way to the top, to touch God's Moorties when placed.

By doing puja, we have asked Vastu deva, Bhoomi, and small creatures in the ground for forgiveness from the hardship, and possibly loss of lives they may suffer during rolling of heavy equipment and construction. You can still offer your prayer now.

Together we performed these Puja, beautifully witnessed by the Sun who has been there for trillions of years, on the auspicious Day of Makar Sankranti, Saturday, January 14, 2017.....and now

we are going at full speed ahead with the construction.

Next major Milestone will be approximately 8 months.....weather permitting for the Grand Opening.....followed by Pran Pratishtha.....then multiple Festivals and Pujas.

Our best of luck to SHSK family for this beautiful Temple.

Jai Shree Krushna.....

Jay Patel

Kalash with Silver Kurma (turtle), Silver Naag (Snake), Panch Ratna and Panch Dhatu Vastu Yantra, covered with red cloth.



Thank you for your support and blessings.
Srinivasan Ambatipati, Editor

February 2017 Dates

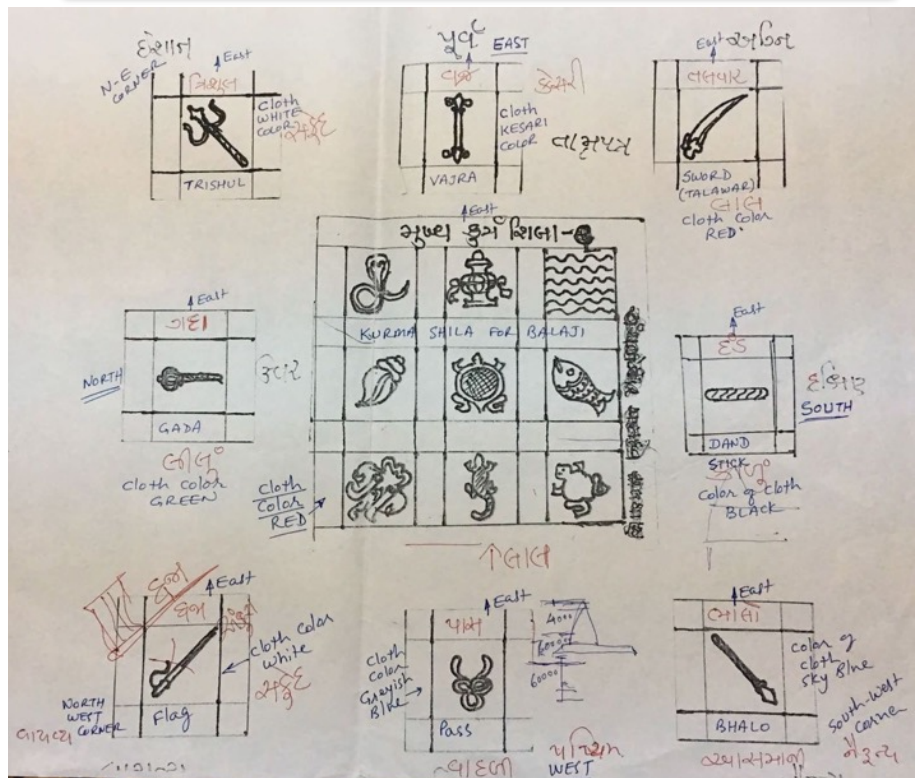
Based on Lafayette, Louisiana, US Time

01 Wednesday	Vasant Panchami
03 Friday	Ratha Saptami, Bhisma Ashtami
06 Monday	Jaya Ekadashi
10 Friday	Magha Purnima, Chandra Grahan
12 Sunday	Kumbha Sankranti
22 Wednesday	Vijaya Ekadashi
24 Friday	Maha Shivaratri
26 Sunday	Surya Grahan

For more details please refer DrikPanchang.com

More information on Deity Sponsorship can be found in [May 2016 Newsletter](#)

The copper plates with specific symbols for each location



SHSK - Shilanyas/Foundation Stone Puja

January 14, 2017



2017 Festival Calendar - Lafayette, Louisiana Timings



2017	Festival/Puja	Puja Muhurta	Tithi
Feb, 01 - Wed	Vasant Panchami	07:02 to 12:21	Panchami Begins: 16:11 on 31/Jan Panchami Ends: 14:50 on 1/Feb
Feb, 24 - Fri	Maha Shivaratri	23:55 to 24:46+	Chaturdashi Begins: 10:08 on 24/Feb Chaturdashi Ends: 09:50 on 25/Feb
March, 11 - Sat	Holika Dahan	20:50 to 24:17+	Purnima Begins 08:53 on 11/Mar Purnima Ends 09:53 on 12/Mar
March, 12 - Sun	Holi		
March, 28 - Tue	Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, Chaitra		Pratipada Begins 21:56 on 27/Mar Pratipada Ends 19:14 on 28/Mar
April, 04 - Tue	Rama Navami	11:56 to 14:25	Navami Begins 00:50 on 4/Apr Navami Ends 23:33 on 4/Apr
April, 10 - Mon	Hanuman Jayanthi		Purnima Begins 23:52 on 9/Apr Purnima Ends 01:07 on 11/Apr
April, 13 - Thurs	Puthandu	15:23 to 16:11	
July, 08 - Sat	Guru Purnima		Purnima Begins 21:01 on 7/July Purnima Ends 23:06 on 8/July
August, 04 - Fri	Varalakshmi Vrat	20:31 to 21:57	
August, 14 - Mon	Krishna Janmashtami	24:51 + to 25:34+	Ashtami Begins 09:15 on 14/Aug Ashtami Ends 07:09 on 15/Aug
August, 24 - Thu	Ganesh Chaturthi	11:53 to 14:27	Chaturthi Begins 09:57 on 24/Aug Chaturthi Ends 10:01 on 25/Aug
Sep, 03 - Sun	Onam		Thiruvonam Begins 23:07 on 2/Sep Thiruvonam Ends 00:48 on 4/Sep
Sept, 20 - Wed	Navratri Begins		Pratipada Begins 00:29 on 20/Sep Pratipada Ends 00:04 on 21/Sep
Sept, 29 - Fri	Ayudha Puja	14:56 to 15:43	Navami Begins 11:06 on 28/Sep Navami Ends 13:19 on 29/Sep
Sept, 30 - Sat	Vijayadashami	14:08 to 16:29	Dashami Begins 13:19 on 29/Se Dashami Ends 15:05 on 30/Sep
Oct, 18 - Wed	Diwali, Lakshmi Puja	19:59 to 21:03	Amavasya Begins 13:43 on 18/Oct Amavasya Ends 14:11 on 19/Oct
Oct, 20 - Fri	Gujarati New Year		Pratipada Begins 14:11 on 19/Oct Pratipada Ends 15:07 on 20/Oct
Oct, 25 - Wed	Soorasamharam		
December, 2 - Sat	Karthigai Deepam		Karthigai Begins 00:37 on 2/Dec Karthigai Ends 21:51 on 2/Dec
December, 29 -Fri	Vaikunta Ekadashi		Ekadashi Begins 12:46 on 28/Dec Ekadashi Ends 10:24 on 29/Dec

