

To those who are constantly devoted to serving Me with love, I give the understanding by which they can come to Me Chapter 10, Verse 10; Bhagavad Gita

**A Monthly Newsletter** 

Issue No 36: November 2016

# Sanatan Hindu Sanskar Kendra

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## **Temple - Fundraising Campaign**





Fund Raising Challenge :\$150,000



## **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**. SHSK request all the supporters to fulfill this challenge to obtain the funds needed for the temple to the amount of \$200,000, as this challenge will end on *December 31st*, **2016**. Thanks to our generous supporters who came forward to contribute **\$98,536** so far after initializing this challenge on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. This challenge excludes already committed \$50,000 donation made prior May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

#### **Presiding Deities**

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

#### SANATAN HINDU SANSKAR KENDRA

Sita Ram



Ganesh

Krishna



Durga



Shiva

## Significance of Tithis

#### By Lalitha Devi

Have you ever wondered why for some people prayers and actions immediately lead to good fortune and success, while for others positive results are slow to come?

According to Vedic astrology there are two main answers:

#### 1. Time

The first reason is the timing of the action. According to the ancient intuitive seers of India – the Rishis – time is everything. **An action initiated during an auspicious time-window will bring positive results.** Conversely, the exact same action started during difficult astrological conditions will most likely fail. Hence the immense practicality of using Vedic astrology before starting any projects and endeavors.

#### 2. Karma

The second reason is our karmic heritage in the form of our particular mindset that creates our life events. Our reactions to situations are also due to our karmic impressions.

For example — some people whose karma is meant to bring them an enjoyable experience will intuitively take action at the right time. So karma and time are interrelated.

Another basic principle at work in Vedic astrology — and which constitutes the very fabric of this "science of light" — is the connection between the microcosm and the macrocosm.

Among the hundreds of tools and techniques for studying and understanding time, Vedic astrology employs with great accuracy the study of the Tithis – or Moon days — and their influence on human consciousness.

All lunar phases are divided according to the actual Moon's position in relation to the Sun and the Earth.

So the Tithis are divided as such: 15 for the waxing phases (or Shukla Paksha) and 15 for the waning phases (or Krishna Paksha).

Because the Moon exerts a strong influence on our moods, emotions and perceptions, our minds will be more upbeat and energetic during the brighter, waxing cycle. Starting new projects is recommended at this time. But when the light gradually diminishes during the waning cycle, our minds will be more introverted and prone to self-analysis, meditation and contemplation. At this time, reevaluating our actions and decisions is more favored. And eliminating what is not working any longer in our lives is most supported.

Usually the 10th and the 11th Moon phases are highly auspicious for both worldly and spiritual practices. But the 8th and the 9th Moon will engender obstacles and sometimes failure.

#### Tithis and Their Deities

To help with the selection of a positive "time Shakti" (or window) for your activities, I have listed the meaning of each Tithi and its respective ruling deity (or deities). Happy creations!

#### Shukla Paksha - Waxing Cycle

**1st Waxing** (Shukla Pratipada) ruled by Kubera, God of wealth and Brhma, the Creator God. Good for Planning and Developing Strategies for Projects. It's not good for Any Auspicious Ceremonies or Journeys.

**2nd Waxing** (Shukla Dwitiya) ruled by Lord Vivadeva. Auspicious for Marriage, Viewing Moon, Buying Wedding Ring, Installation of Deities. Inauspicious for harsh activities such as disputes or conflicts.

**3rd Waxing** (Shukla Trititya) ruled by Shiva and his consort Gowri. Auspicious tithi for house warming, building a house, artistic endeavors. Inauspicious for conflicts and litigations.

**4th Waxing** (Shukla Chaturthi) ruled by Ganesha. Good for strategic planning against competitors and not good for any auspicious ceremonies.

**5th Waxing** (Shukla Panchami) ruled by Lalitha Tripura Sundari. Auspicious for all ceremonies.

**6th Waxing** (Shukla Shasti) ruled by Muruga. Good for buying real estate and jewelry.

**7th Waxing** (Shukla Saptami) ruled by Surya, the Sun God. Auspicious for ceremonies such as weddings.

**8th Waxing** (Shukla Ashtami) ruled by Durga. Inauspicious for most activities, except for ancestor worship.

**9th Waxing** (Shukla Navami) ruled by Goddess Saraswati. Goodfor activities against enemies and rivals. Inauspicious for ceremonies and journeys.

**10th Waxing** (Shukla Dashami) ruled by Veerabhadra, the general of Shiva's army, and the God of Dharma. It's auspicious for all events, including ceremonies and inaugurations of buildings.

**11th Waxing** (Shukla Ekadashi) ruled by Vishnu and auspicious for wedding ceremonies and for fasting. This time-window allows us to tune into the energy the wealth-giving archetypes, Vishnu.

**12th Waxing** (Shukla Dwadashi) ruled by Vishnu. Good for planning and developing strategies, donating money and fasting.

**13th Waxing** (Shukla Trayodashi) ruled by Shiva and Kamadeva. Good for writing new books, for karma removal rituals and dancing.

**14th Waxing** (Shukla Chaturdashi) ruled by Rudra, an ancient and fierce form of Shiva. This aggressive energy is best used for worship to this God.

**15th Waxing** (Poornima, or Full Moon) auspicious for worshipping Lakshmi, Saraswati and Parvati asking for manifestation of wishes. It's an auspicious day for ceremonies and spiritual practices.

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SHSK is seeking sponsorship of Balaji Idol for the temple to the order of \$35,000

More information on Deity Sponsorship can be found in <u>May 2016 Newsletter</u>

#### SANATAN HINDU SANSKAR KENDRA

## Can I use Indian Panchang outside India?

The short answer is No. Maharishi Vashistha, Surya siddhanta, Bhaskaracharya, and Tithi Chinatamani all say one thing. Wherever you are, according to the time of that place, take the panchang as seen by drika ganitha as per that place. Indians are living in different parts of world like USA, UK, Canada, Europe, Gulf Countries, Australia and other places. They observe festivals / muhurthams according to the calendar/panchang which they used back in India, most of the time using the same Panchanga time found in the almanac or calendar prepared using the longitude and latitude of the Indian town. They do all the important functions like graha-pravesha, marriage, ayushya homam, shraadha tithi, ekadasi and all major Hindu festivals in their life observing the almanac of India.

The world is divided into many time zones and the earth is not flat. The length of day could vary from one place on earth to another. If you are more towards north pole and south pole your days and nights will be longer and sometimes, six months of day and six months of night. The Hindu festivals and tithis are observed according to different parameters such as local sunrise, sunset and they are different for every city. The festivals and certain tithis are observed on when the tithi prevails at certain time or duration of the day. The other factor will be the time zone.

There are two things: Panchang Elements and local elements, local elements will depend on sunrise and hence festivals could change depending on the local elements with reference to the panchang elements -- as panchang elements end at the same instance all over the world, and hence time difference is applicable there but not to the local elements ... See morelike sunrise, sunset, moonrise, lagna. These local elements govern 60% of the muhurtha and festivals. Panchang elements help us decides days as they can span over one or two days. but local elements helps us to narrow down. Even after subtracting the timezone difference, the tithi of the day is usually decided depending on the tithi prevailing at the sunrise. Hence local parameter is in place. The tithi of the day is important in festivals consideration, consideration for birthdays etc... same goes for nakshatra. The nakshatra and the day combination governs anandadi yoga, which inturn governs amritha, marana, siddha yoga. If nakshatra at the time of sunrise is different we will see Amrutha yoga in india, and Marana yoga in america. etc....

India is relatively smaller country than United States, The difference between sunrise and sunset times from one place to another is minimum hence the calendar/panchang prepared for one location in India can be used for the entire India (in most situations, but subtle differences in certain situations may arise between panchangam of Bombay and Kolkata) but not for outside geographic boundaries of India. This requires us to prepare the calendar/almanac for different cities in the world.



Let's take an example: The sunrise in Bombay on March 17 let's say will be at 6:36AM Indian Standard Time (IST), and the Hindu month Phalguna Amavasya on that day ends at 5:35PM IST, so the new Hindu month Chaitra will start on March 18th. The beginning of chaitra month also indicates the new year for most regions of India, as well as starting of new samvatsara. The observance of new hindu month Chaitra will be same for entire India but not for other parts of the world. The Sunrise in Seattle on March 17th is 7:17AM in the morning. The difference between Indian Standard Time (IST), and Pacific Daylight-Saving Time (PDT) is 12 hours 30 minutes. If we subtract the IST/PST time zone difference from amavasva ending time from 5:35PM IST gives us 05:05AM PDT in Seattle, WA USA. The sunrise on March 17th is at 7:17AM so amavasya ends before the sunrise and prathama prevails during the sunrise, hence Hindu month Chaitra in Seattle will start from March 17th not March 18th. This requires us to make panchangam for every major cities to observe festivals and other muhurthas correctly.

#### Muhurtham:

People search panchangam for wedding muhurtham and other muhurtham, let me tell you one thing clearly. The wedding muhurtham and other good days found in panchangam are general good days. It doesn't mean they are good for you. You have to check if that day is good for your star. If housewarming then position of sun or moon in reference to your door's direction is also important. So, don't just blindly use good days found anywhere. Contact your local astrologer.

People always ask me about using muhurthams they get from India to use in Seattle, for performing their house warming and other things. I ask them further questions. How did you get it? How did they arrive it? They simply say they have subtracted appropriate time difference and we have the time. I say you cannot simply transfer from Indian muhurtha to here, and they want me to explain. Here is the explanation.

#### Transferring muhurtham from India:

I get this question quite often from various people who contact me to perform pooja in their homes:

*Question:* Even though I don't live in India, can I use muhurtham prepared in India by my family astrologer/sastrigal? I have also been told its the

most auspicious muhurtham according to mine and my wife's stars.

Muhurtham calculated in Chennai based on Chennai's longitude, latitude can't be used in New Delhi. Using them out of India will not work. The following example will explain why:

#### Muhurtham depends on panchangam that is five limbs: Tithi, Vaar, Nakshatra, Yoga, Karana.

Additionally it also depends on solar month name and lunar month name, As major solah samsakar (16 rites) are performed according to the solar calendar and graha pravesha and other muhurthas are prepared using lunisolar month.

The auspicious day needs to be found from the local calendar not from Indian calendar if you live outside India, as we have explained before in previous example. Once we fix the good day, we need to drill down to find most auspicious time. This time can be found by using hora, rahu kalam, lagna, chogadia and other factors. Most common practice is to use sthira lagna -- vrishabha, simha, vrischika, kumbha lagna. Now hora, rahukalam, and lagna are always dependent on local sunrise, not from Indian sunrise. For example sun will be always in ascendant during sunrise's chart, and during the madhyahana it will be always in the 10th house, during sunset it will be in 7th house, and during midnight it will be always in 4th house, in any part of the world. Most people use fixed rahukalam like on every saturday rahukalam will be from 9:00 to 10:30 AM which is also completely wrong as sun never rises at 6:00 AM and sets at 6:00 PM on everyday.

Now let's say vrishabha lagna on April 7th in India (Bangalore) starts around 8:30 AM (Anuradha nakshatram), now if you subtract 12:30 mins for Pacific Daylight Saving time (Seattle) you'll get 8:00 PM on April 6th in Seattle. This time it will be Libra (Tula) lagna in Seattle, which is not sthira lagna or vrishabha lagna. Vrishabha lagna in Seattle starts around 8:08 AM on April 7th and by the way at that time in Seattle nakshatra is jyestha not anuradha nakshatra as our family astrologer in India suggested a good time in India (Anuradha nakshastra and Vrishabha lagna combination). Anuradha nakshatra changes at 6:58 AM in the morning. So this changes the entire ball game. We need another lagna, may be kumbha lagna for Seattle which is very early morning.

Rahu kalam, Yamagandam, Gulika kala timings are not fix like most panchangam shows. They show assuming sunrises at 6:00 AM and sets at 6:00 PM. They are calculated from sunrise to sunset. Chogadia, like hora, is also counted from sunrise.

The muhurthams cannot be transferred to another city from Indian muhurtham you need to calculate for that place. Transferring is wrong practice. Always use the panchangam of the local city not Indian panchangam.

- www.mypanchang.com

#### SANATAN HINDU SANSKAR KENDRA



### Sanatan Hindu Sanskar Kendra - Temple Model

## Significance of Tithis-

-Continued

#### Krishna Paksha - Waning Cycle

**1st Waning** (Krishna Pratipada) ruled by Durga and favors planning for projects and medical procedures. Not good for any auspicious events.

**2nd Waning** (Krishna Dwitiya) ruled by Vayu, God of the wind. God for construction of buildings and pilgrimage.

**3rd Waning** (Krishna Tritiya) ruled by Agni, God of fire. Good for construction and artistic activities.

**4th Waning** (Krishna Chaturthi) ruled by Ganesha. Good for removing obstacles. Not auspicious for sacred ceremonies.

**5th Waning** (Krishna Panchami) ruled by the Serpent deities, Nagas. It's good for spiritual practices and pilgrimage.

**6th Waning** (Krishna Shasti) ruled by Mars. Good for taking medication and real estate transactions.

**7th Waning** (Krishna Saptami) ruled by the sages and Indra. Not auspicious for ceremonies. It's good for planning for overcoming obstacles.





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**8th Waning** (Krishna Ashtami) ruled by a form of Shiva, Kala Bhairava, the God of time. It's not good for any auspicious ceremonies and activities, negotiations or medical treatments.

**9th Waning** (Krishna Navami) ruled by Yama and Durga. This is possibly the least auspicious of all phases. Best activities are strategic planning for future projects and overcoming obstacles from enemies and competitors.

**10th Waning** (Krishna Dashami) ruled by Jupiter and the God of Dharma. Auspicious for all ceremonies and events and meeting with dignitaries.

**11th Waning** (Krishna Ekadashi). Buying gold and jewelry and fasting to lord Vishnu.

**12th Waning** (Krishna Dwadashi) ruled by Venus. Good for planning donations of food and money. 13th Waning (Krishna Trayodashi) ruled by Nandi, Shiva's bull. Good for karma removal rituals, yoga and meditation.

**14th Waning** (Krishna Chaturdashi) ruled by Rudra. Good for spiritual practice, Shiva worship and planning for overcoming problems. Not good for marriage or auspicious ceremonies.

**15th Waning** (Amavasya or New Moon) also called the "no Moon day" as it's the darkest phase. This day is ruled by Kali. Good for meditation, feeding people and animals, and ancestral rituals. Not good for marriage ceremonies or starting a new activity — but rather wait until the first waxing Moon for launching your new projects.

-www.vedicartandscience.com

## **December 2016 Dates**

Based on Lafayette, Louisiana, US Time	
04 Sunday	Vivah Panchami
09 Friday	Mokshada Ekadashi, Gita Jayanti
13 Tuesday	Margashirsha Purnima, Dattatreya Jayanti
15 Thursday	Dhanu Sankranti
24 Saturday	Saphala Ekadashi

For more details please refer DrikPanchang.com

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