



श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण मन्दिर



SHRI LUXMI NARAYAN TEMPLE

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VASANTH PANCHAMI

According to the *Brahma Vaivarta Purana (Prakriti Kaanda, Chapter 4)*, after creating the five (5) fold energy comprising of Durga, Radha, Luxmi, Saraswathi and Savitri, Sri Krishna addressed Mother Saraswathi as follows:

My beautiful one, in each material universe (*brahmaand*) on Maagha, Shukla Paksha, Panchami, on this very auspicious day for *Vidhya aarambha* (commencing study), your worship will be carried out with great pomp and splendour, by all beings with the sixteen (16) fold offerings.

Sri Krishna thereafter went on to personally perform the Pooja and he was subsequently followed by Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva and all other created beings.

The Vasanth Panchami day is the most appropriate day to commence *Vidhya* (learning/education). After taking a bath in the morning, one should have the following Pooja performed:

- Surya Jal
- Gauri-Ganesh Pooja
- Kalash-Varun Pooja
- Shiva-Parvati Pooja
- Saraswathi Pooja
- Luxmi Narayan Pooja
- Hawan

The preferred *naivedya* or Prasadh which is prescribed includes amongst others: fresh butter, dahi, milk, laddo made with thil, sugar cane juice, mishri and white rice, mashed banana, coconut and coconut water. The colour white is very prominent in the worship of Saraswathi. Hence the flowers, chandan and clothing offered to the Mother should all be of the colour white.

The meditation (*dhyaana*) of the Mother should consist of:

The colour of the Saraswathi Murti is white. This most beautiful Devi always has a smile on her face. Ten million moons in full bloom fall short in front of her radiance. Her one hand holds the Veena, and the other a Book. She is adorned with the foremost and best of jewellery. She is constantly worshipped by Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva and great personalities bow at her feet. To this great Bhagawati Saraswathi Devi, I bow to with the utmost devotion.

The Pooja should be followed with the reading of the Saraswathi Kavacha.

The eight (8) syllable (Ashta Akshar) mantra is: श्रीं ह्रीं सरस्वत्यै स्वाहा śrīm hrīm sarasvatyai svāhā

If performed at home, it is recommended that use be made of the Shri Luxmi Narayan Temple Pooja Book. Alternatively, these poojas can be performed at a Temple by the resident Priest.