



Sri Rama Navami

Sri Rama Navami is a festival dedicated to Lord Rama who is none other than Lord Vishnu. The festival falls in the Shukla Paksha on the Navami, the ninth day of the month of Chaitra in the Hindu calendar, it begins on the first day of Telugu new year. It is also known as Chaitra Masa Suklapaksha and marks the end of the nine-day Chaitra-Navratri celebrations. The reason why many people celebrate this day was because this was the day when Lord Rama was born and when he married Sita. Rama embodied all the virtues by practicing what he preached.

. In South India, in the Bhadracham temple, this festival is celebrated for 5 days. Hindus start off celebrating Rama Navami by cleaning up their houses and decorating it. Offerings of fruit and flowers are placed on the family shrine and after an early bath, prayers are recited. It is also considered auspicious to undertake a fast on the day in the name of Rama. In temples in the Southern part of India, people perform Kalyanam (marriage) for Lord Rama and Sita on this day. Lot of devotees go to temple to see this wedding. After the wedding, Prasadam is offered to Rama. In different states, people make different kind of food as prasadam for Rama. In South India they make jaggery water with some black pepper powder and little cardamom as well as soaked moongdal as Prasad (this juice is supposed to be Rama's favorite) which may then be shared amongst the congregation. They especially don't eat things like onions, garlic, some spices and wheat products. The festival is a focal point for moral reflection and being especially charitable to others.