



65th SRI RAMA NAVAMI CULTURAL FESTIVAL

RAM 2026

KEYES HIGH SCHOOL

Secunderabad
sriramanavami@yahoo.com / www.sriramanavami.com
Connect with Sri Rama Navami Cultural Festival on
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March 20 - April 5, 2026.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| March 20
Friday | 6.00 pm
6.30 pm | Festival Inauguration
"Bhrata" - exploring relationship between
Rama and Lakshmana. Lectures in English by
Sri VINAY L VARANASI
Musical support
Lathangi Sisters Ms Archana & Ms Samanvi
Sri Janardhan. S, Violin
Sri Adamyia Ramanand, Mridangam |
| March 21
Saturday | 6.30 pm | "Sri Chandrashekhara Guru Moorthe"
Exploring the stories of Mahaperiyawa of Kanchipuram.
Lectures in English by
Sri VINAY L VARANASI
Musical support
Pathangi Brothers Sri Dathre & Sri Dhruv
Sri Janardhan. S, Violin
Sri Adamyia Ramanand, Mridangam |
| March 22
Sunday | 9.00 am
6.30 pm | Annadhanam at Ganesh Temple
Near Secunderabad Railway Station
"கல்லும் வில்லும் உடைத்த காசுத்தன்"
"Kallum Villum Udaiththa Kaguthan"
Ramayana Upanyasam By Parasara Bhatta Dasar
U. Ve. Dr. N. VENKATESH SWAMI |
| March 23
Monday | 5.30 pm
5.45 pm
6.30 pm | Veda Parayanam
Felicitations to Veda, Agama, Sastra, Shilpa Pandits
"அடிக்குச் சூட்டிய முடி"
"Adikku Sootiya Mudi"
Ramayana Upanyasam by Vainava Ratna
U. Ve. Dr. N. VENKATESH SWAMI |

ADMISSION FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME

- March 24** 6.30 pm “பறவைக்கு அருளிய பரமன்”
Tuesday “Paravaikku Aruliya Paraman”
Ramayana Upanyasam by Sri Ramanuja Sevashi
U. Ve. Dr. **N. VENKATESH SWAMI**
- March 25** 6.30 pm “சுந்தரனும் சுந்தரனும்”
Wednesday “Sundaranum Sundaranum”
Ramayana Upanyasam by Pravachana Tilakam
U. Ve. Dr. **N. VENKATESH SWAMI**
- March 26** 6.30 pm “ஸ்ரீ சீதா ராம பட்டாபிஷேகம்”
Thursday “Sri Sita Rama Pattabhishekam”
Ramayana Upanyasam by Pravachana Ratna Mani
U. Ve. Dr. **N. VENKATESH SWAMI**
- March 27** 8.30 am **SRI RAMA NAVAMI DAY**
Friday 6.30 pm “Rama Janana Patanam”
“Jannal Ooram”
A deep dive into Carnatic music with
Youth ambassador for Carnatic music by Kalaimamani
Sri SIKKIL. C. GURUCHARAN
Sri V. G. Vigneshwar, Keyboard
Sri Mahavadi Vasu Sastry, Violin
Sri Akshay Ram, Percussion
- March 28** 6.30 pm “Revitalising Hinduism”
Saturday English Lectures
by National Spokesperson of Sanatana Dharma
Sarva Kala Chudamani
U. Ve. Sri **DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR SWAMI** and
Scientist & Author
Dr. **ANAND RANGANATHAN**
- March 29** 9.00 am **Annadhanam** at Ganesh Temple
Sunday Near Secunderabad Railway Station
5.15 pm EPICS Competition Prize Distribution- Shloka & Quiz
6.30 pm “Hanuman Chalisa- Our Go To Solution”
Upanyasam in English by
Rama Bhakthi Pracharamani
U. Ve. Sri. **DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR SWAMI**
- March 30** 6.30 pm “Hayagriva-Knowledge from the Horse’s Mouth”
Monday Upanyasam in English by
Pravachana Vachaspathi
U. Ve. Sri. **DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR SWAMI**
- March 31** 6.30 pm “Vamana-The Dwarf who measured the Worlds”
Tuesday Upanyasam in English by
Harikatha Bharathi
U. Ve. Sri. **DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR SWAMI**
- April 1** 6.30 pm “Ganga Tharangam”
Wednesday Grand Carnatic Violin concert by 12 year old
Child Prodigy **GANGA SASIDHARAN**
Sri Thruppunithura Sreekumar, Thavil

Sri Manjoor Unnikrishnan, Ghatam
Sri Viacom Vijayakumar, Rhythm pad
Sri Aakash Krishna, Keyboard

April 2
Thursday

6.30 pm

“Chidambara Rahasiyam” discourse by
Saiva Siddanta Ratnakaram
Dr. MADHUSUDHANAN KALAIHELVAN
Faculty Saiva Siddantham
at Dharumapuram Adheenam

April 3
Friday

5.00 pm
5.00 pm

Ladies Day- Manjal Kumkum
Prodigy Corner: “Ayodhya to Kurukshetra”
(English) glimpse into history by 9 year old
PARIDHI MANGALAMPALLI
Participation through questions to Paridhi
by winners of Senior Quiz in EPICS Competition
6.30 pm “Sandranandalayam” by
Nandagovindam Bhajans Kottayam
Lead Singers S/s Naveen Mohan,
Sreelal Venu, Manu Mohan, Abhijith
Rajesh, Harmonium, Vipin, Rhythm Pad
Sidharth, Keyboard, Jayakrishnan, Violin
Vishnu, Mridangam

April 4
Saturday

6.00 pm

Drama Festival
Smt **LAVANYA VENUGOPAL** & Sri **M.V. BHASKAR'S**
ThRee Entertains presents
“Paayum Oli”
8.00 pm “Kalavu Neekiya Padalam”

April 5
Sunday

9.00 am
6.00 pm

Annadhanam at Ganesh Temple
Near Secunderabad Railway Station
Drama Festival
Smt **LAVANYA VENUGOPAL** & Sri **M.V. BHASKAR'S**
ThRee Entertains presents
“Kaatriniley Varum Geetham”
A bioplay tribute to Bharat Ratna **M.S. Amma**

ADMISSION FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME

- ◆ Every day Laksharchana to Lord Rama at 7.00 pm. To participate contact counter during festival.
- ◆ Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam every evening on stage before commencement of programme.
- ◆ Donations gratefully accepted. To donate online visit sriramanavami.com.
- ◆ Cheques /Drafts to be made favouring “Sri Rama Navami Cultural Festival” payable at Hyderabad. Contributions to festival enjoy benefits u/s 80G(5)(vi) of IT Act 1961.
- ◆ All contributions above Rs 2000 should be only by cheque/draft /bank transfer.
- ◆ With every donation, please provide donor’s name, address, mobile, and PAN.

Twin city asthikas are still in a trance after hearing Sri Vinay Varanasi, presenting Vishnu Sakyam and Shiva Sakhyam, during our 2025 festival. The charming and passionate story teller, endeared the audience across age groups, all asking for more. With a fascination for all things Indic, he brings to life the ancient tales that resonate through time. Not to disappoint, this year's festival begins with Sri Vinay Varanasi's presentations, which carries a unique format, at the intersection of Sanatana Dharma, superior storytelling in English and excellent musical support.



On March 20th Sri Vinay presents “Bhrata” exploring the relationship between Rama and Lakshmana. Ms

Archana Upadhyaya and Ms Samanvi popularly called Lathangi Sisters (though not filial sisters) provide musical support. Friends, who studied under the same teacher, learnt music through gurukulavasam with Hebbar couple Smt. Vasanthalaxmi and Sri Aravinda Hebbar. The sisters received the Fellowship award from Shanmukhananda Sabha of Mumbai.

On March 21st, Sri Vinay presents “Chandrashekhara Guru Moorthe” a divine experience of Mahaperiyawa of Kanchi. The Patangi brothers Sri Dathre and Sri Dhruv provide musical support. The Pathangi brothers have been mentored by Sangeet Samrat Shri Chitravina N Ravikiran since 2013. Pathangi brothers received Bharat Ratna Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi Fellowship from Shanmukhananda Sangeetha Sabha, 2024.

Come enjoy two days of divine bliss.

U. Ve. Dr. N. VENKATESH SWAMI

March 22-26, 2026

Thirukkudanthai U. Ve. Dr. Venkatesh Swami, is a medical Doctor and MBA in Hospital Management, who excels in spiritual discourses. He is a disciple of Sirupuliyur Swami of Srirangam. Learnt traditional texts under U. Ve. Dr Karunakarachariar Swami. Sama Veda tutelage under Brahmasri Subrahmanya Sastrigal.

Dr Venkatesh Swamy has embellished our stage since 2015. Our festival has been fortunate to be closely associated with Dr Venkatesh Swamy, which resulted in his writing three books exclusively for us in Tamil and English - Tamil Pandigaigal, Sampradhayam and Sanatana Dharmam. His other books include, “Aayiram Naamangal Aayiram Kadhaigal” on Vishnu Sahasranamam, his popular

programme in Sankara TV, is being brought out in book form.

Dr. Venkatesh Swami's Upanyasams are always well researched and bring a burst of freshness on any given topic. He strives to provide new perspectives to the delight of audience. Very rightly Dr. Venkatesh Swami's upnyasams are described as "Devotional Infotainment", highlighting the depth and devotion.

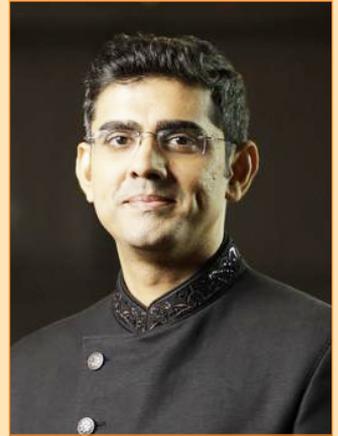
Dr. Venkatesh Swami will be amidst us and present a five day Ramayana series in Tamil. We are sure that audience will carry home with admiration "Raman Yethanai Ramanadi!!!".



Sri SIKKIL. C. GURUCHARAN

March 27, 2026

Sri Sikkil Gurucharan is a leading musician and a youth ambassador for Carnatic music. Sri Sikkil hails from a family of flutists, grandson of elder Sikkil sisters. His tonal perfection (sruti suddham) as a five-year-old led to him learning vocal music. Sri Gurucharan, a maestro in the traditional concert-paddhati style, has also worked to broaden audience appeal by creating collaborative projects with world renowned musicians while retaining the spirit of the art form. In 2015, His album "Miles from India", a collaborative effort, was nominated for the Best Contemporary Jazz Album at the 51st Grammy Awards. India Today featured him among 35 Game Changers under the age of 35 in India. He has also been part of two feature films Sarvam Thaala Mayam and Putham Pudhu Kaalai.



Carnatic music on Rama Navami stage has to be different. "Jannal Oram" with Sri Sikkil Gurucharan is an extended window seat view into classical Carnatic music. The show features a unique blend of knowledgeable commentary, where Sri Sikkil delves into raagas, sings a few lines from primary compositions, explores their connections to other raagas and discusses their film adaptations. It's an engaging mix of educational insights and entertainment, offering a comprehensive look at Carnatic music in a light-hearted and accessible way.

Come Enjoy--Never knew Carnatic music can be so much fun.

Dr. ANAND RANGANATHAN

March 28, 2026

Dr. Anand Ranganathan, a graduate from St. Stephen's College, Delhi, moved on a scholarship to Cambridge, UK, where he obtained his BA (Tripos) in Natural Sciences, his MA, and his PhD. Dr. Anand returned to India to join International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Delhi, where he ran his lab for 16 years as a Staff Research Scientist. In 2015 he joined the Special Centre for Molecular Medicine, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi and became a full Professor in 2019. His laboratory works in the area of Directed Evolution and Pathogenesis, with special emphasis on Tuberculosis and Malaria.



Dr. Anand Ranganathan writes and appears frequently on television debates, on Politics, Media and Science. His columns have appeared in Swarajya, DNA, NL, Firstpost and Quartz. He is also the Consulting Editor of Swarajya.

Dr. Anand has authored five books including the only non-fiction "Hindus in Hindu Rashtra". In this book, the last line of acknowledgement, interestingly reads, "As a small gesture of my appreciation and gratitude towards this all accepting, long suffering, uncomplaining, perhaps to the point of meekness, community, all royalties due to me from this work will go to the Hindu refugee cause". At last count this figure has exceeded one and a half million rupees.

First time in the twin cities. Will speak on "Revitalising Hinduism". Analytical, Articulate & Eloquent. A not to miss opportunity.

U. Ve. Sri DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR SWAMI

March 28-31, 2026



U. Ve. Sri Dushyanth Sridhar Swami, in a white vesti and angavastram, with a namam on his forehead, discoursing on ancient scriptures, has captured the minds of the spiritually inclined and more importantly connects to the young. His rise as an Upanyasakar has been phenomenal. Well versed in Tamil presentations, he can blow your mind with his flawless English and is arguably the wittiest of the storytellers. His views on issues related to Sanatana dharma are eagerly

awaited in leading news channels. Active on public issues concerning our culture and temples and has filed a PIL in Tirupathi laddu controversy. He is a modern-day messenger of peace and love, whose followers run into millions. His talks have garnered over 12.5 crore views on YouTube. 7,000 sishyas worldwide, sans discrimination.

He has authored the 'Ramayanam (Vol-1)', a 'National Bestseller', that sold over 50,000 copies. Also authored a brilliant coffee table book titled 'Vedanta Desika. In the last decade, he has organised heritage tours to 200 temples spread across 7 countries with over 4,000 yatis.

He has conceptualised and produced five classical dance productions including 'Agre Pasyami' which we had the privilege to stage. He has acted as the protagonist in the maṅipravāla movie 'Vedanta Desika' (2018) and has directed the award-winning Sanskrit movie 'Sakuntalam' (2023).

Manages Desika Daya that has contributed and facilitated about a crore of rupees towards cultural activities and temple projects.

An alumnus of BITS, Pilani and interned at the Indian Institute of Science as an IAS fellow.

Dushyanth Swami's participation in this year's festival will be all in English. He will share stage with Dr Anand Ranganathan on "Revitalising Hinduism". He will from March 29-31 present, prabhavam of Hanuman, Hayagreeva and Vamana.

Twin cities never had it so good.

Child Prodigy GANGA SASIDHARAN

April 1, 2026

"Ganga Tharangam". Ganga Sasidharan the violin prodigy, is just 12, but can match any senior professional, note for note. She has captured hearts on stage and is lighting up the social media with her extraordinary performances. Watching her performance, one can easily see the way she immerses herself in her music. Her love for music is very visible when she adjusts the instrument on her shoulders. With a smile on her face, she enjoys every note and rhythm, much like a painter lost in their canvas, fully engaged in the joy of the moment. Her expressive bowing, nuanced dynamics and flawless intonation help her bring out the beauty of each piece. She doesn't just play the violin, she seems to talk to it, using gentle vibrato and flowing melodies, to express feelings of joy and devotion.



She was recently awarded the prestigious Shanmukhananda Bharat Ratna Dr M. S. Subbulakshmi Fellowship for Music (2024–2026). She is the only recipient from Kerala, the only violinist and the youngest artist to receive this honour.

Sri Rama Navami prides itself in bringing budding Carnatic music talent. Was first to bring in twin cities Mandolin Srinivas at his age of 7, Sooryagayathri, Rahul Vellal and now “The one and only Violin Ganga”.

Dr. MADHUSUDHANAN KALAICHELVAN

April 2, 2026



Dr Madhusudhanan Kalaichelvan, an architecture graduate and a gold medallist in his Post Graduation, specializes in conservation and architectural research. His doctoral research is on Tiruvannamalai temple town planning. He is well versed in fields of art, architecture, heritage, cultural studies and vernacular practices.

He is a faculty of Saiva Siddantham at the Dharumapuram Adheenam. He received the title, “Ilakkiya Chemmal” (2019), recognizing his mastery over Tamil literature. He is the youngest recipient of the coveted Vedavalli memorial award for outstanding service by a young achiever in the field of south Indian heritage (2018).

He served as a member (in the capacity of an architect) in the State Level Heritage Committee constituted by the Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments from 2018 – 2022. Dr. Madhusudhanan has been nominated as a member of academic council of Tamil Nadu Fine Arts University.

Through his popular initiative RATHAM - Road Access to Temples, Heritage And Monuments, he curates and conducts tours to places of architectural & cultural heritage since 2012. He has authored books in Tamil and English on arts, temple traditions and architecture.

Come enjoy the rarely covered subject of “Chidambara Rahasiyam”.

Prodigy Corner: PARIDHI MANGALAMPALLI

April 3, 2026

9 year old Paridhi Mangalampalli is a young spiritual speaker and story teller, known for translating complex concepts from Indian scriptures into engaging relatable narratives for modern audience with a deep understanding of texts like Mahabharatha and Bhagvad Gita. She blends scholarship with story telling making age-old wisdom accessible without losing its depth or subtlety. Her talks often explore themes such as devotion, humility, surrender and the practical application of spirituality in everyday life.

From a young age Paridhi exhibited exceptional clarity and insight, earning recognition as a child prodigy in the field of spiritual discourses.



Paridhi has also made headlines for her speeches about historical leaders, particularly her recent remarks on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. In a viral video, she emphasized the importance of upholding dharma (righteousness) without discrimination, which resonated with many viewers.

Paridhi's father is from our own Hyderabad. Paridhi will fill the prodigy corner in our programme card 2026. An added attraction is an impromptu Q&A, where five winners of Sri Rama Navami Senior EPICS quiz competition, will shoot questions at Paridhi.

“Sandranandalayam” by Nandagovindam Bhajans”

April 3, 2026



Nandagovindam Bhajans, a globally acclaimed group, is an innovative transition where divinity aligns with music to provide a kind of spiritual healing. The group's musical journey is celebrating its silver jubilee.

Sri Rajendra Panicker, aka Panickerettan, lived and breathed music despite life's challenges. Managing a temple and working at a mill didn't stop him from conducting bhajans and passing on the tradition. In 2000, Panickerettan and a group of teens formed Nandagovindam Bhajans, carving their name in the bhajan world. Today, their music inspires, heals and connects people globally.

The team, now spread across continents, has their unique branches in India, UAE and Canada and had already performed on a number of stages across these places.

Recently Nandagovindam group created a record presenting a visual spiritual treat. Lulu Mall parking open ground in Calicut came alive with Nandagovindam group's bhajans from a 100 metre stage and a massive LED screen, to an ecstatic 7,500 audience. Something unheard of in bhajan experience.

Sri Rama Navami – First to present Nandagovindam Bhajans. Come experience the spiritual journey.



ThRee Entertains was launched in 2023 and their first play “Paayum Oli” debuted in the Kodai Nataka Vizha of that year.

Smt. Lavanya Venugopal is a celebrated theatre actor, a trained Bharatanatyam dancer and the passionate co-founder of ThRee Entertains-a theatre production house dedicated to redefining live stage experiences. Her commanding presence, emotive depth and profound artistic sensibility have made her a distinguished figure in the world of Tamil theatre today.

Smt. Lavanya became a vital presence in Kathadi Ramamurthy’s Stage Creations, where she played lead roles in 17 productions with over 300 shows to her credit. In her theatre journey spanning over 35 plays and 700 performances, she has donned challenging roles Annapoorani, a character immortalised by Aachi Manorama in En Veedu En Kanavan En Kuzhandhai. She also took up Manorama’s beloved character Jil Jil Ramamani which garnered rave reviews.

Sri M V Bhaskar is a lawyer by profession and a prominent face in the media and entertainment world. He co-founded ThRee Entertains. He has been with Dummies Drama and portrayed interesting character of “Chitapoo” in “Veenaiadi Nee Enakku” and key role in “Mevum Viral Naan Unakku”. Was awarded the best actor for “Paayum Oli”.

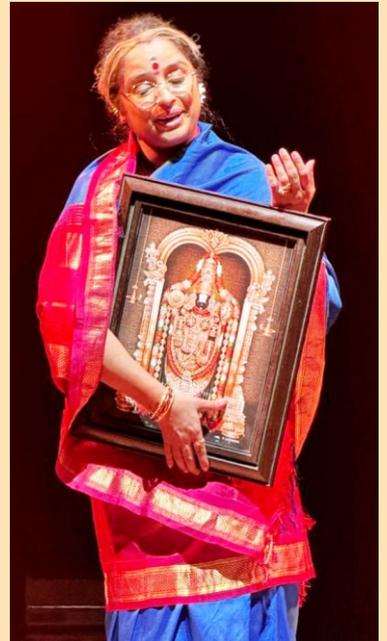
Paayum Oli deals about a pertinent issue that causes emotional distress among elderly. The play endeavours to enhance emotional empathy on such issues. Sri V. Sreevathson of Dummies Drama fame has written and Directed Paayum Oli.

“Kalavu Neekiya Padalam” is a play that reinforces the need to have unwavering faith and trust in the supreme power and the enchanting games played by the Almighty to make people aware of His supremacy. The profound subject is presented as a court room drama. Sri V. Sreevathson has written the story and dialogues in his inimitable style.

“Kaatriniley Varum Geetham”, is the magnum opus presentation of ThRee Entertains. A bio-play tribute to Bharath Ratna M. S. Subbulakshmi Amma. The script is based on a book by Sri V.S.V. Ramanan. Dialogues penned by Sri C V Chandramohan. Dramatised by Smt. Lavanya and Sri Bhaskar. Directed by Smt. Lavanya Venugopal.

All the three plays the music score is by Sri Dakshin.

ThRee Entertains presenting Three Entertaining Dramas. Come enjoy the drama feast.



Annadhanam

Annadhanam, at Ganesh temple near Secunderabad railway station, is a round the year activity by Sri Rama Navami Cultural Festival. Team Sri Rama Navami has been involved in this noble activity, every Sunday, since December 1967 non-stop, now in the 60th year. This was started as per the directions of Sri Kanchi Paramacharya through the famous "Pidi Arisi" scheme.

All we request from our asthikas is to come to Ganesh Temple at 9 am on any Sunday and participate by serving the prasadam. Bring your children and grandchildren and let them enjoy the "joy of giving".

Our Books

Sri Rama Navami Cultural Festival, has been undertaking many activities aimed at spreading the message of Sanatana Dharma. While the central focus is on-stage programmes like Upanyasam, discourses and cultural events, we have forayed into alternative opportunities also. The last three years we brought out, widely appreciated books like Tamil Festival, Sampradhayam and Sanatana Dharma, in Tamil and English, to enhance knowledge and awareness of our traditions and practices.

Happy to share that all three books, in English and Tamil, can be downloaded for free from our website www.sriramanavami.com.

EPICS Competition

In 2010-2011 we had first undertaken EPICS Competitions for school children. In the last three years we have revived this competition. Shloka competition for children class 1 to 4. Quiz competition from class 3 to 10. The quiz questions are entirely on Ramayana, Mahabharatha and other spiritual stories. The idea is to inculcate a connect for children with our culture and dharma.

Happy to record that this year, EPICS competitions were held in January and February 2026. The response from schools were overwhelming. We had juniors and seniors together, about 400 children participating in Quiz competitions and about 205 participating in Shloka competitions. The children were from 28 schools in the twin cities. Prize distribution is on March 29, 2026 on Sri Rama Navami stage. A total of Rs 2.10 lakhs are being given away as prizes to children.

We would be happy if parents can encourage their children to participate in the competitions each year.



*Winners of EPICS Quiz competition 2026, juniors and seniors,
with Quiz Master Sri L Ravichander (in red kurta)_*

SRI RAMA NAVAMI CULTURAL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

President
Vice-President
Secretary

Sri **G. Venkataraman**
Sri **J. Mahalingam**
Sri **Sridhar Subasri**



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