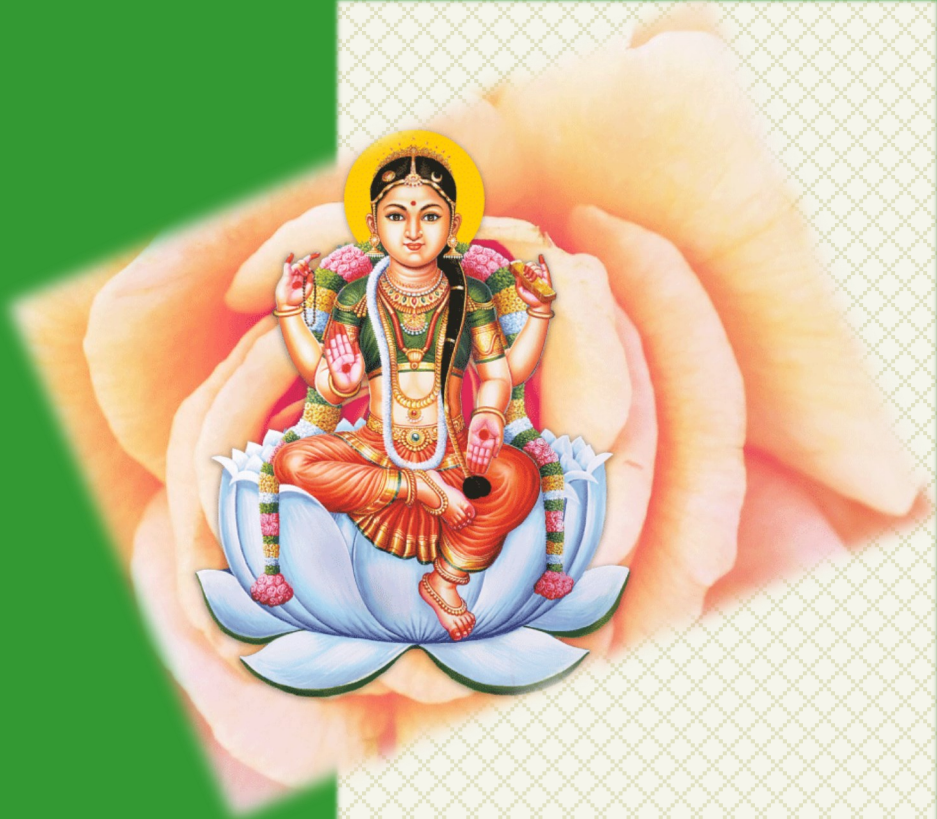


BALAVIN KURAL

Balambika Divya Sangam



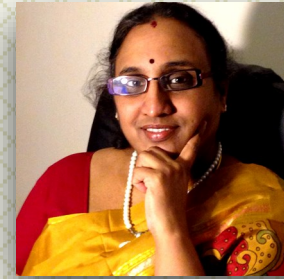
Editor's Desk...

The month of aadi in the Tamil calendar is considered extremely auspicious, as it celebrates the goddesses in all their glory. Typically falling between mid-July to mid-August, the month extols Her, and devotees flock to temples to have a darshanam of Her alankaram. The month marks the religious fervor of those seeking Her blessings to have a long married life with healthy progeny and prosperity. Starting from aadi pandigai, aadi vellikazhamai (fridays), aadi pooram (birth star of Goddess Andal), aadi padinattu (18th day of this month) to Varalakshmi Vratam, the list of festival days in this month goes on. The month represents fertility, abundance, lushness, and prosperity, as rains pour and bless the earth, and the Divine Mother showers us with riches and wealth.

Amongst several beliefs that highlight the festivities, people also believe that the month of aadi celebrates Ambal's seemantham (a ceremony for the soon-to-be-mother during her eighth month of pregnancy). And hence the alankaram of manjal kaapu, sandana (sandal) kaapu, kumkuma kaapu, flower alankaram, to name a few. Decked in all Her finery, She blesses Her devotees, mostly women, as they pray selflessly for their family. Raja Bala in our Malur temple, was adorned with glittering jewels and pattu pavadai, and Her thiruvadi was worshipped with man-

jal kaapu. As we feasted our eyes on Her divine form, we have all prayed for Her kataksham, and a place at Her thiruvadi.

On the activity front, the Balambika Divya Sangam (BDS) Outreach Team has been organizing Health and Hygiene programs and Reading Clubs in the local primary schools. Apart from spreading awareness related to public and personal health, these programs are geared towards uplifting and empowering underprivileged youth of today, to make them ready to face the challenges of tomorrow. All those interested are most welcome to join the outreach team to help make a positive impact on these young minds. As always, BDS welcomes your continued support, inputs and feedback, as we strive to move forward spiritually and morally, while we are committed to serving our fellow humans.



Mrs. Asha Manoharan
President—BDS

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Balambika Divya Sangam

313/5, Sri Raja Rajeshwari Illam,
6th D Cross, Venkatapura,
Bangalore—560034

Email: balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com

Website: <http://malurbalambikatemple.com>

Bala Speaks...



Happiness is a daily choice. It's a mindset which you can nurture and train. It doesn't mean it's there every second, but when you notice it's missing, often the tiniest shift can put you right back on top of the world. Spend a few minutes thinking about all the bits of life that you are grateful for. The big and the small, the things that you are proud of, the people who care about you, the experiences that bring a smile onto your face. Often it is the grateful people who are likely to be more happy. Smile is often that magic wand, which spreads happiness all around you, and inside you.

Important Dates:

- ◆ 25th August : Vinayaka Chaturthi
- ◆ 26th August : Panchami
- ◆ 29th August : Ashtami
- ◆ 4th September : Onam
- ◆ 5th September : Pournami
- ◆ 10th September : Aavani Panchami
- ◆ 13th September : Ashtami

BDS Events Corner







Sponsors' Corner

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