

BALAVIN KURAL

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A publication by
BALAMBIKA DIVYA SANGAM



Inside this Issue



Pg-02

Editor's Desk

A message from the editor on the current events at the temple.

2019 NAVARATRI SPECIAL PHOTO ESSAY!!

Pgs 03 to 15



Photo of the month

Pg - 16

Upcoming Temple
Events



From The Editor's Desk

Dear Members,

Devotees at the Navaratri Mahotsavam in Malur witnessed the culmination of divine ecstasy, religious fervor and meticulous execution of homams and abishekams during the ten days of celebrations.

Goddess Balambika was viewed through a kaleidoscope of Ambal's mystical forms that left one and all simply mesmerized by Her charm. We hope you enjoy the mystical medley as you skim through the pages of this newsletter. Whether it is a simple pooja at home, or an utsavam in a temple, we feel extreme emotional satisfaction by taking part in it. Why do we experience such a state of happiness during such utsavams? Why is it that all our temples have so many utsavams throughout the year?

According to our traditions and customs, temples celebrate four types of utsavams: nityotsavams, varotsavams, samvatsarotsavams, and nakshatra utsavams. Nityotsavams are the nitya or daily sevas such as suprabhatam, abishekam/alankaram/bhojyasanam, sahasranama archana, ekanta seva or shayanotsavam. In these daily rituals we perform sevas that resemble our own lifestyles. Varotsavams are weekly rituals, performed once a week such as somavara puja for Lord Shiva, mangalavara pooja for Lord Hanuman, Friday pujas for Ambal and so on. These weekly sevas choose a particular day in the week to celebrate the temple deity in a distinctive manner. The annual sevas or samvatsarotsavams are

performed on special seasons and occasions once a year such as Navaratri utsavam (autumn season), vasantotsavam (spring season), aadi festival (summer season). These annual sevas are performed on a grand scale and typically involve homams and yagams, kalaivaibhavam – the exhibition of music and dance, and of course annadanam. Finally, nakshatra sevas are celebrations of specific tirunakshatrams of the deities and their cherished bhaktas, on the day of the star. Each type of utsavam can include other rituals such as dolotsavam (swing festival), kalyana utsavam (celebration the wedding of the divya dampati), teppotsavam (float festival in the temple pond), poolangi and muttangi seva (flower and pearls skirt), annakoot utsavam (mounds of annam) and several others. It is just another grand opportunity to bring people and communities together to worship.

All utsavams and celebrations are complete only when we all come together to celebrate, just as a family celebration is complete only when all the children of the household are present. We all experienced that happiness when we took part in the Navaratri celebrations in Malur. It is this communal worship that brings us such happiness and satisfaction, and in the process we resonate with each other's spirituality making it even more ecstatic. An utsavam is a celebration – the coming together of God and His children to celebrate the Creator and His creation.

Sarvejana Sukhinobhavanthu.

PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 1



Top: The festivities began with Ganapathy Homam, seeking his blessings for the grand celebration of Navaratri.

Below: Raja Bala, Kutti Bala and Raja-Rajeshwari in matching Red paavadais, the symbolic color for Kamakshi Devi on Day 1 of Navaratri.



Above: Raja Bala as Kamakshi Devi spreading her Karunyam through her beautiful eyes as her name implies.



Above : Devotees displaying their happiness by dancing Bala's favorite Kummi dance around her palanquin procession.

PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 2



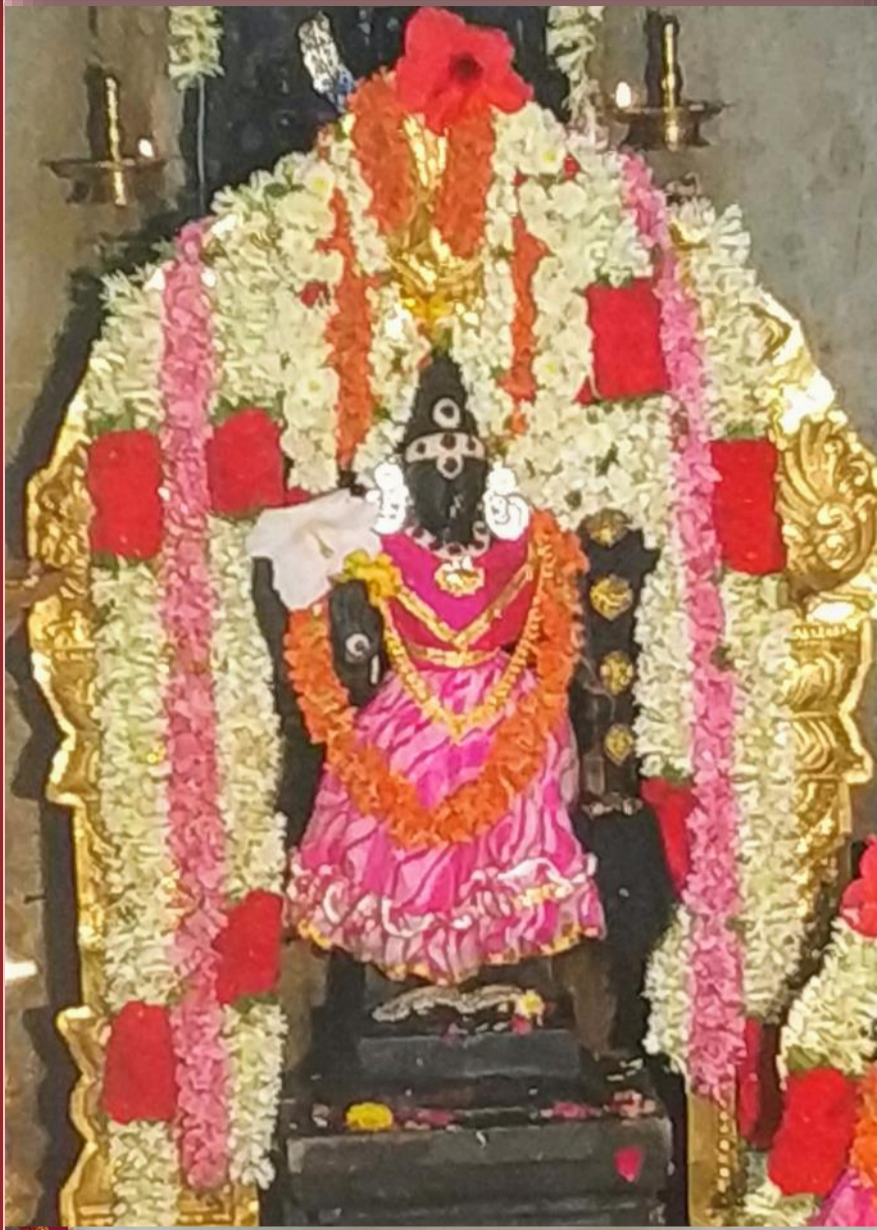
Top: Raja Bala beautifully took the form of Mangala Gowri to bring Prosperity and auspiciousness to all.

Left: Gurukul performing Managala Gowri Homam.

Right: Alankarams at the temple include yellow colored kolam symbolizing yellow color for Mangala Gowri Devi on Day 2 of Navaratri celebrations.



PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 3



Above: Raja Bala as Bala Tripurasundari was decked up as an 8 year old girl who mesmerized all Her devotees with her beauty and Her happiness in seeing Her children present there, as they showered their love on Her with flowers.

Left : Auspicious Pink flower kolam for Bala Tripurasundari on Day 3.

Left Bottom: Children and devotees during evening procession carrying flowers for Bala Tripurasundari alankaram.

PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 4



Above: Raja Bala as Gayatri Devi showering blessings on Her devotees who are seeking to obtain knowledge , wisdom and intelligence.

Above Right : Kutti Bala oonjal sevai alankaram on Day 4 of Navaratri celebrations.



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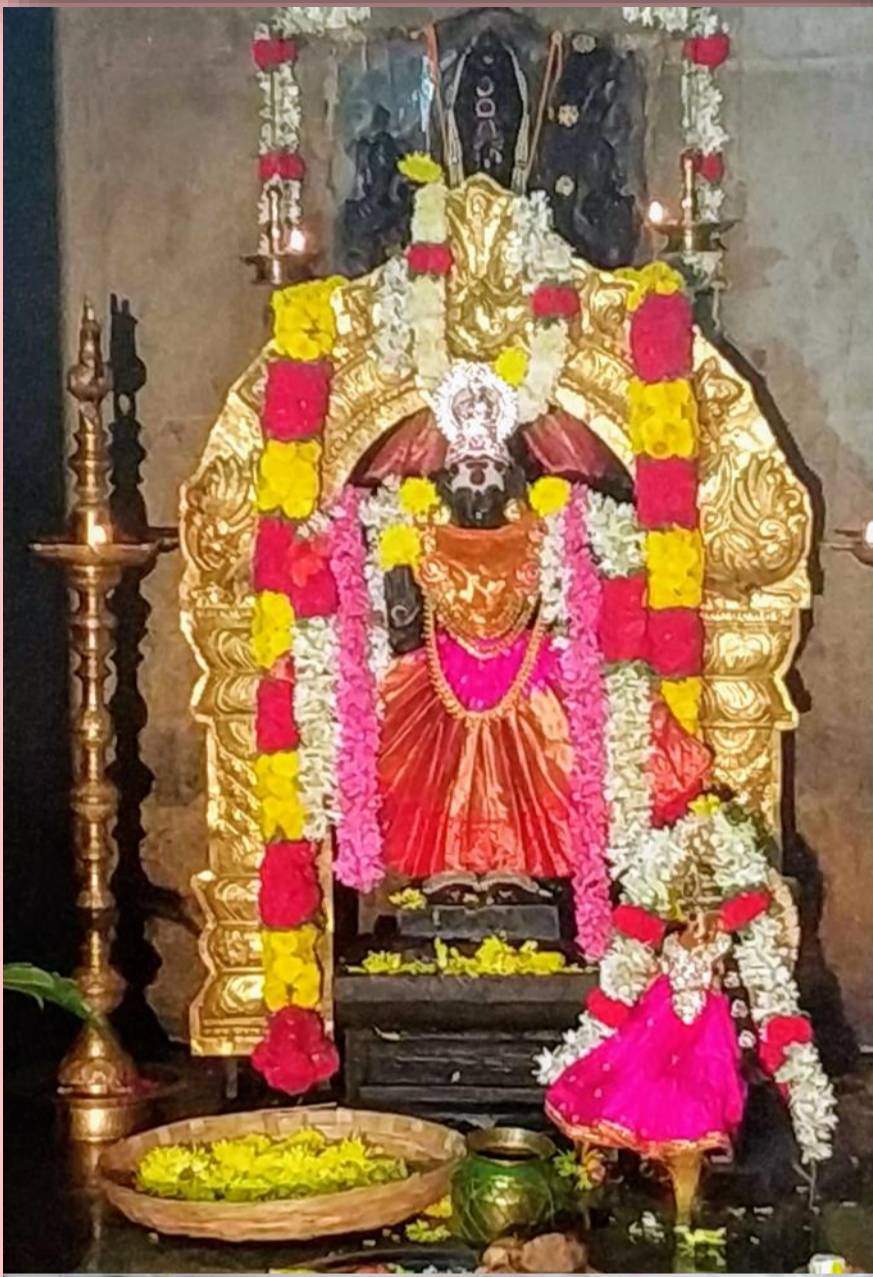


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Above: Orange flower Kolam for Gayatri Devi on Day 4 of Navaratri .

Left: Devotee performing Bharathanatyam for Gayatri Devi procession during Homam

PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 5

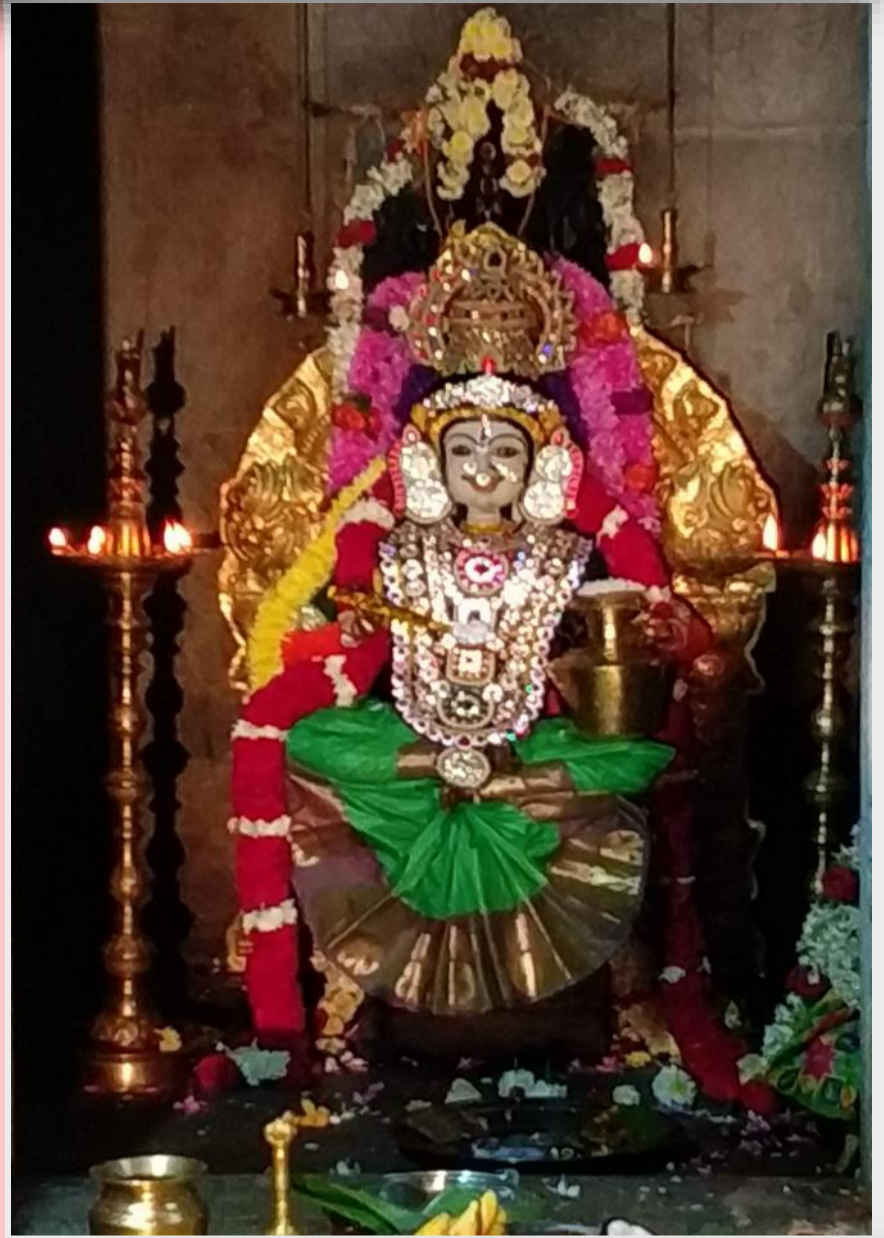
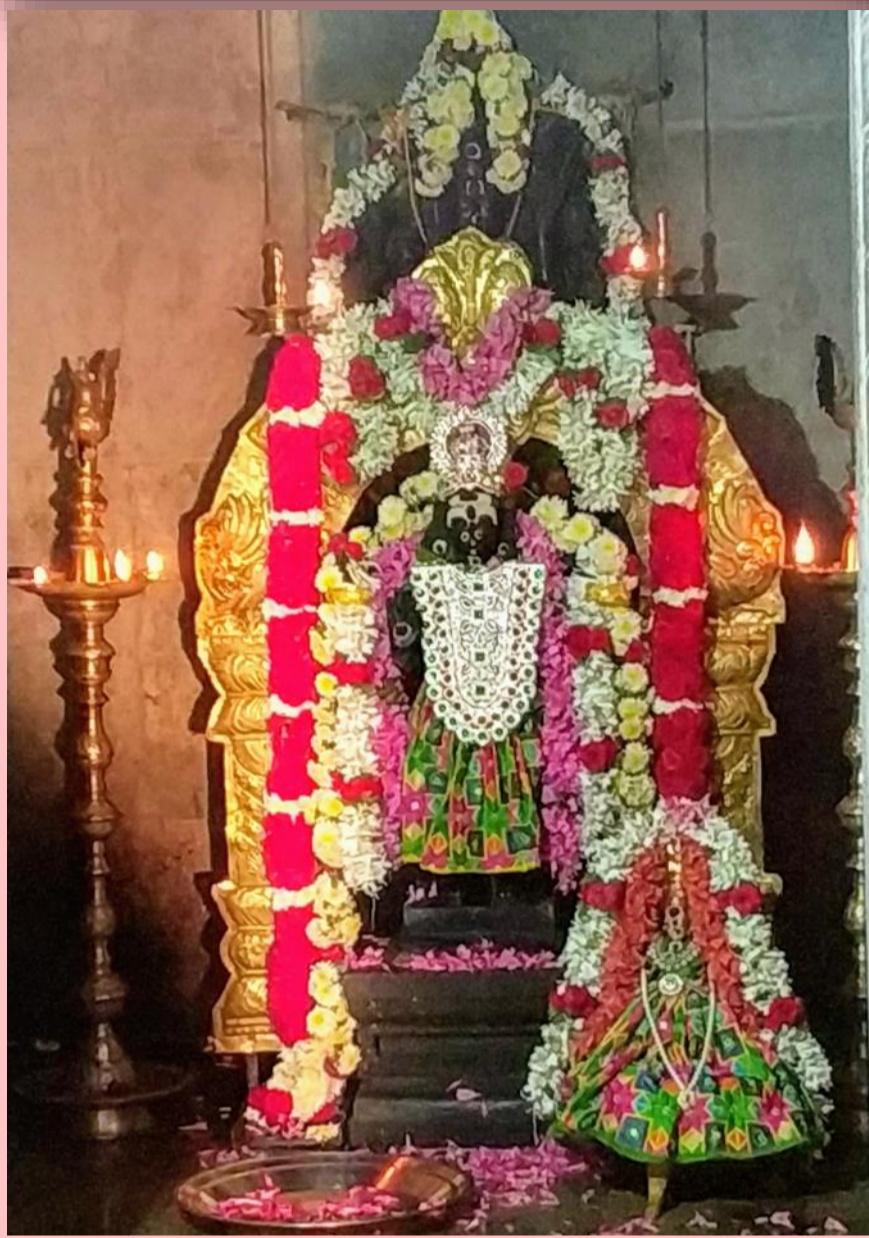


Above: Ambal glowing in her mesmerizing alankaram as Mahalakshmi, happily granting prosperity and bliss to one and all with Her blessings .



All: Deities and kolam at the temple with yellow and blue alankarams for Mahalakshmi Devi on Day 5 of Navaratri.
Left: Gurukul providing discourse on significance of the day to the devotees after Sri Sooktha Homam

PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 6



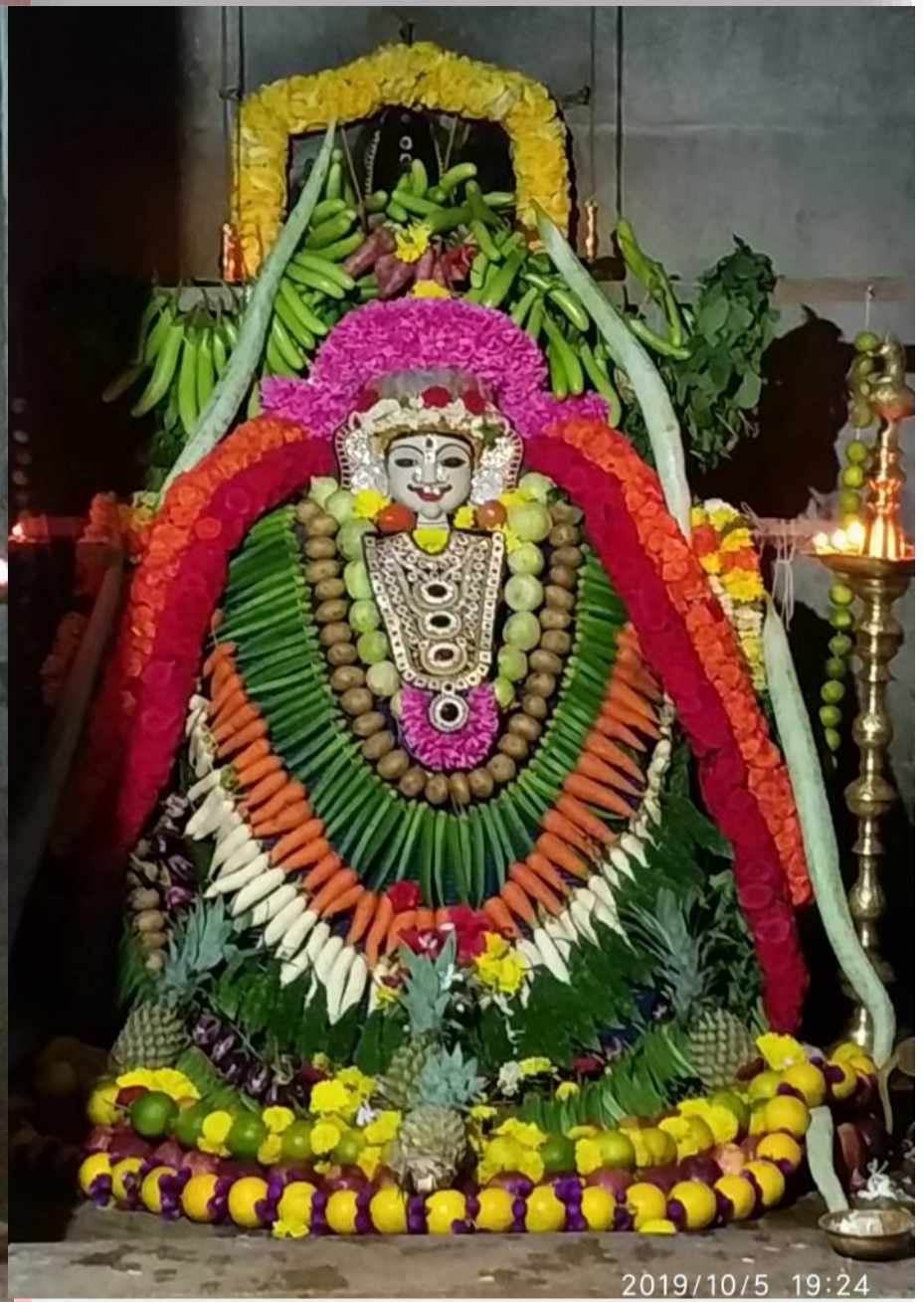
Above: Bala glowing in her motherly love as Annapurneshwari Devi , the remover of poverty and granting prosperity to all Her devotees.

Left: Green and purple kolam symbolizing the 5th day of Navaratri dedicated to Annapurneshwari Devi



Left: Oonjal Sevai alankaram for Kutti Bala.

PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 7



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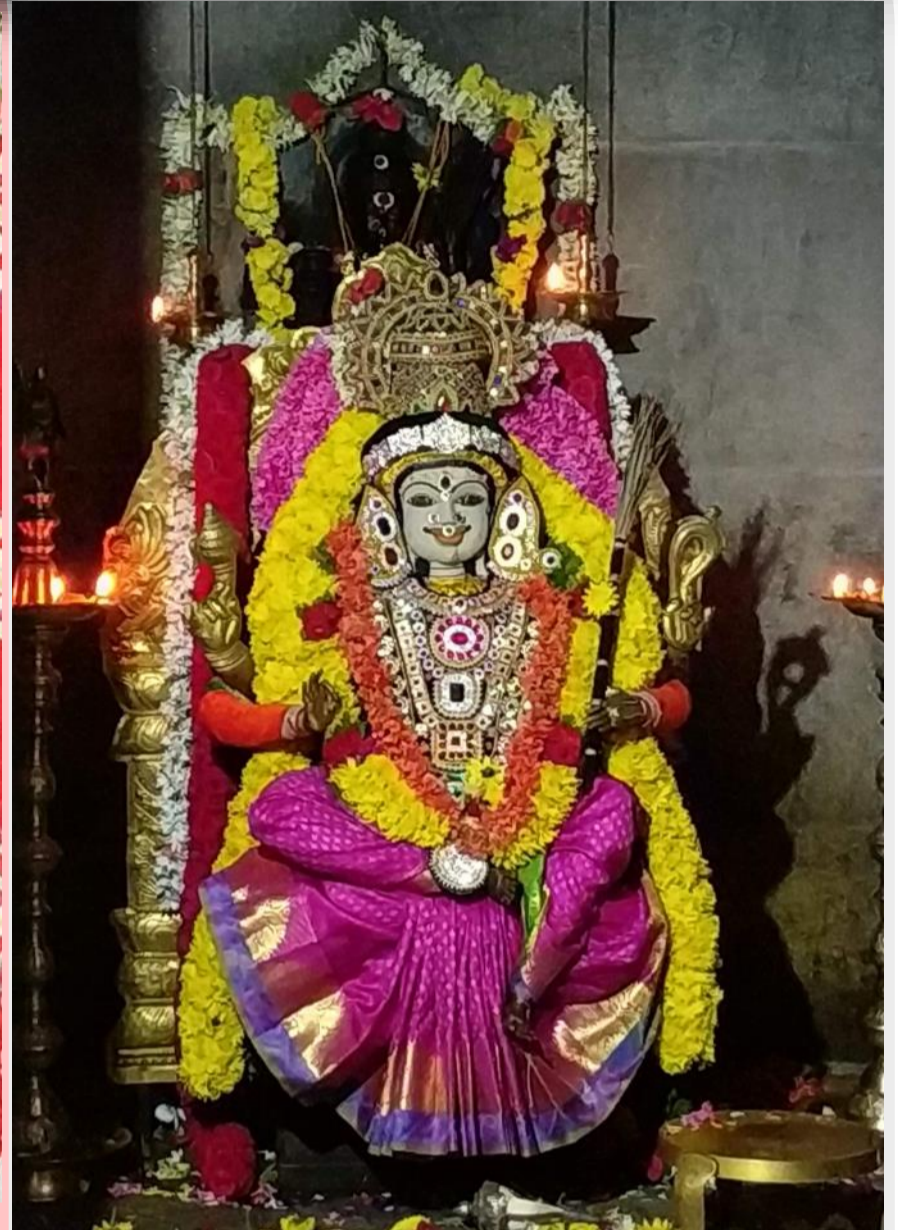
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Above: Raja Bala in her elegant and wonderful attire of colorful fresh fruits and vegetable , awakens us to Her love as Shakambari Devi



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PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 8

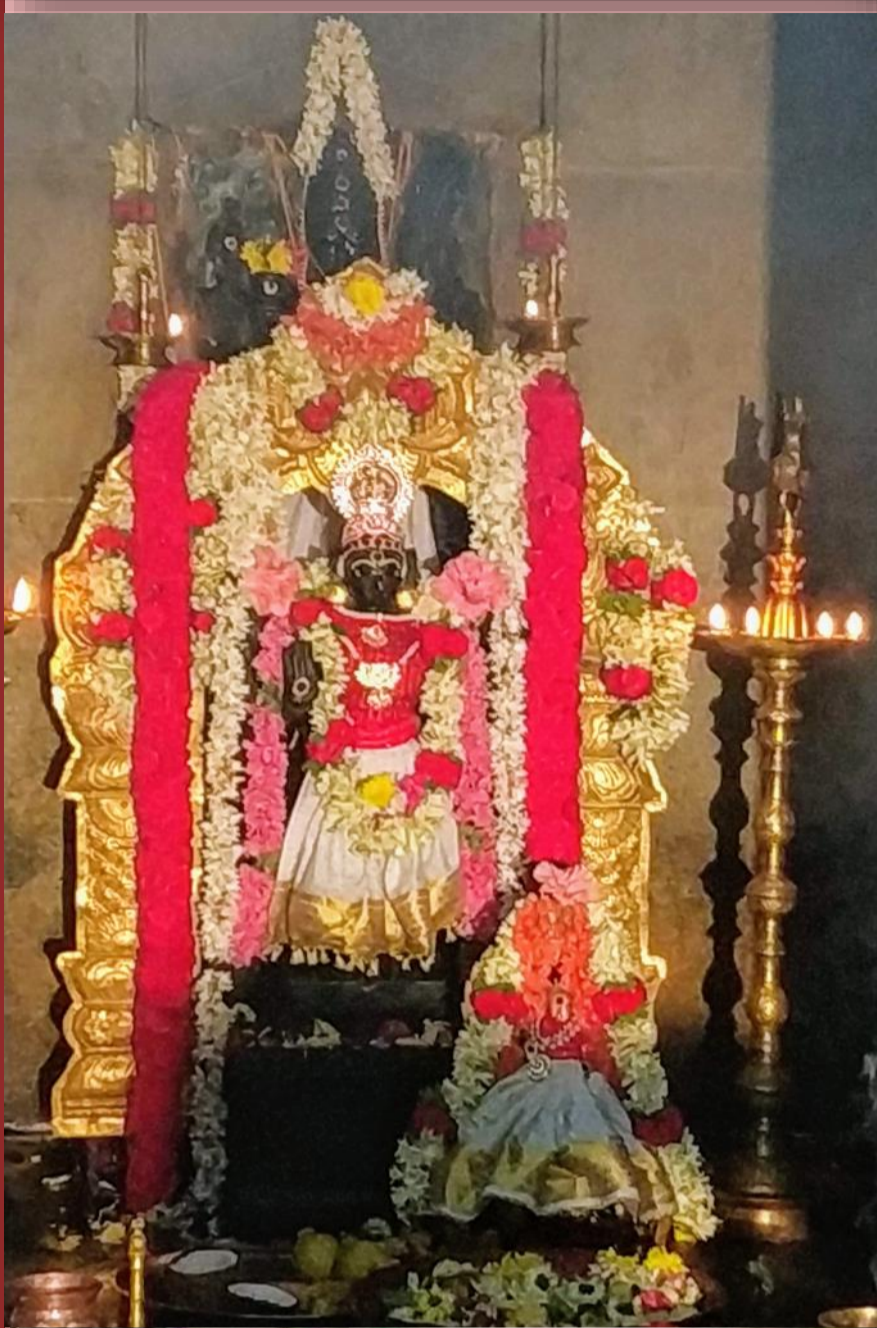


Above: Glowing during the Sri Sooktha Homam, Raja Bala as Raja Rajeshwari was majestically bestowing Her love to help remove all the devotees fears.



Left: Devotees gleefully dancing and singing during palanquin procession around the temple on the 8th day of Navaratri..

PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 9



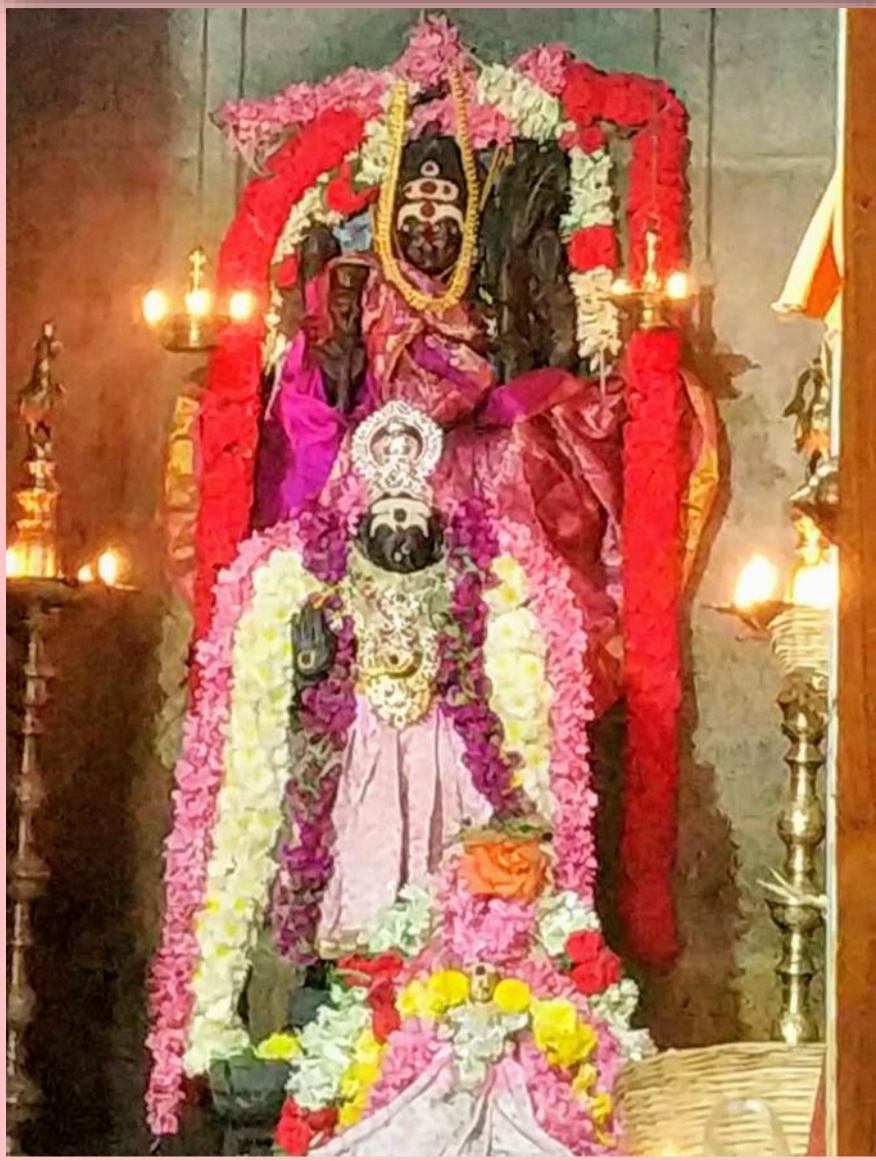
Above: Raja Bala in Her purest form as Sri Maha Saraswathi Devi looking angelic and divine during the 9th day of Navaratri celebrations at the temple



Left: Sri Saraswathi Homam in all its grandeur at the temple.

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PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DAY 10



Above: Raja Bala as Mahishasuramardhini radiating valour and strength during the Maha Mangala Arthi.

Below: The last day of Navaratri coming to a grand close with Chandi Homam also called as Mahishasuramardhini Homam and the horse decorated palanquin procession. The procession concluded with a bow and arrow shot indicating the killing of the demon Mahishasura by Devi in her majestic form as Mahishasuramardhini on a horse, blessing the devotees to help kill their own demons of anger, hatred, pride and ego



PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI ACTIVITIES



All: Devotees including little kids performing various tasks during the 10 day celebrations of Navaratri at the temple



PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI GOLU



All: The various golu bommais at the temple

PHOTO ESSAY: NAVARATRI DECORATIONS



UPCOMING TEMPLE EVENTS:

CALENDAR	EVENT	DIETY
October 21st, Monday	Ashtami	Abhishekam for all deities
October 27th, Sunday	Deepavali	Abhishekam for all deities
October 29th, Tuesday	Visagam	Abhishekam for all deities
October 31st, Thursday	Chaturthi	Abhishekam for Siddhi Vinayagar
November 1st, Friday	Panchami	Abhishekam for all deities
November 5th, Tuesday	Ashtami	Abhishekam for all deities
November 12th, Tuesday	Pournami	Abhishekam for Kutti Bala
November 15th, Friday	Sankarahara Chaturthi	Abhishekam for Siddhi Vinayagar

Malur Sri Balambika Temple

Address:

Maruthi Extension 2nd stage,
Kasaba Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District,
Karnataka—INDIA

Temple Timings:

Monday - Sunday

Mornings: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Evenings: 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM



Email: contactus@malurbalambikatemple.org

Website: <http://malurbalambikatemple.com>