

# BALAJI



# VANI

Volume 5, Issue 4

April 2011



Shri N. Swamiji performing Aarthi

**VISAYA VINIVARTANTE NIRAHARASYA DEHINAH |  
RASAVARJAM RASO PY ASYA  
PARAM DRSTVA NIVARTATE ||**

The man who physically fasts from sense objects finds that the sense objects fall away for a little while, leaving behind only the longing for them. But he who beholds the Supreme is freed even from longings.

**YADA SAMHARATE CAYAM  
KURMO NGANIVA SARVASAH |  
INDRIYANINDRIYARTHEBHYAS  
TASYA PRAJNA PRATISTHITA ||**

When the yogi, like a tortoise withdrawing its limbs, can fully retire his senses from the objects of perception, his wisdom manifests steadiness.



Devotees praying to Lord Shiva

## HARI OM

March 1<sup>st</sup>, Swamiji returned from India where he visited holy places and sister branch in Bangalore. And a fruitful trip to Maha Sarovar (West Kolkata) water to celebrate Mahashivatri here in our temple Sunnyvale. Shiva Abhishekham was performed every 3 hrs with milk, yogurt, sugar, juice and other Dravyas. The temple echoed with devotional chanting of Shiva Panchakshari Mantram, Om Namah Shivayah. During day long Pravachan Swamiji narrated 2 special stories. The first one was about Ganga, and why we pour water on top of Shiva Linga and the second one about Bhasmasura. King Sagar performed powerful Ashwamedha Yagna (Horse sacrifice) to prove his supremacy. Lord Indra, leader of the Demi Gods, fearful of the results of the yagna, stole the horse. He left the horse at the ashram of Kapila who was in deep meditation. King Sagar's 60,000 sons (born to Queen Sumati) and one son Asamanja (born to queen Keshini) were sent to search the horse. When they found the horse at KapilaDeva's Ashram, they concluded he had stolen it and prepared to attack him. The noise disturbed the meditating Rishi/Sage KapilaDeva and he opened his eyes and cursed the sons of king sagara for their disrespect to such a great personality. Fire emanated from their own bodies and they were burned to ashes instantly. Later king Sagar sent his Grandson Anshuman to retrieve the horse. Sage Kapila Deva returned the horse and advised Anshuman that all the sons of king Sagar could come back to life if river Ganges water descended from Heaven to earth and if they bathed in Ganges waters. Bhagiratha (Anshuman's grandson and great great grandson of king Sagara) meditated for years for the salvation of his ancestors. Pleased with his devotion Lord Brahma granted a wish. Bhagiratha requested the Lord to send the river Ganges down to earth from Heaven so that she (Ganges) could flow over his ancestor's ashes, and wash their curse away allowing them to come back to go to Heaven. Lord Brahma granted his wish but asked him to pray to Lord Shiva, for he alone can withstand the heavyweight of her (water) descent. So Bhagiratha prayed to Shiva and Shiva allowed Ganges to descend on his head. After winding through Shiva's thick matted locks, the Holy river Ganges gently reached earth and onto the ancestors who came back from ashes and went to heaven. That is why we pour water gently on the Shiva Linga. By doing so all our sins are washed away and we also will attain salvation and reach Heaven! The second story was of a rakshasa (demon) named Bhasmasura (Bhasma = Ashes, Asura=demon). He performed severe penance on Shiva. Lord Shiva was very pleased appeared before Bhasmasura and granted him boon. Bhasmasura with evil intentions asked the Lord to grant him whatever he touched with his right hand to turn into ashes. Shiva granted by saying Tataastu-so be it. Bhasmasura eager to test his boon wanted to touch shiva's head with his right hand. Lord Shiva ran for his life and Bhasmasura chased him. Lord Vishnu saw this from vaikuntha. Vishnu transformed himself as a beautiful maiden Mohini and appeared before Bhasmasura. Bhasmasura who was busy chasing Shiva was distracted by seeing the beautiful dancing maiden Mohini. Awe struck with her beauty, he started dancing with her and forgot what and who he was running after? He asked Mohini to marry him she asked him to swear and so he did by putting his right hand on his own head and turned into ashes.

There are many stories as to why we fast and keep awake all night worshipping Lord Shiva. On Fridays, Rama Krishnan is giving Satsanga about Bhagavat Geeta and life. All devotees were content with the blessings they received at the Balaji Temple.

--Balaji Temple board

### MONTHLY EVENTS

#### April 2nd, Saturday

Free Medical Check Up: Dr. A. Kumar 10 am to 12:30 PM

#### April 3rd, Saturday

Amavasya Shiva Abhishekam 8.00 AM to 9.30 AM  
Mata ka Rani Bhajans and Prasadham 4.00 PM to 7.30 PM

#### April 4th, Monday

Ugadi Chandramana & Ganesha Abhishekam 9:00 AM

#### April 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

AKANDA RAMAYANA PARAYANAM – Tulasi Das Goswami

#### April 14th Thursday

Ekadasi & Souramana Yugadi & Sai Baba Bhajans 7:00 PM

#### April 15th, Friday

Pradosham & Rudrabhishekam & Lakshmi Puja 5:30 PM

#### April 17th, Sunday

Hanuman Jayanthi, Satyanarayana Puja 6:00 PM  
& Special Abhishekam for Balaji

#### April 20th Wednesday

Sankashta Hara Chaturthi 7:00 PM  
& Ganesha Abhishekam

#### April 23rd, Saturday

Sri Hanuman Chalisa 108 times 6:00 PM  
& Sundara Kandam & Pot Luck prasadam

#### April 24th, Sunday

Vishnu Sahsrnama stotram 7:00 PM

#### April 28th, Thursday

Ekadasi & Sai Baba Bhajans & Arthi 7:00 PM

#### April 30th, Saturday

Vasavi Mata Bhajans, Puja & Pot luck Prasadam 4:00 PM  
Mahapradosham Rudrabhishekam 6:00 PM

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

#### Temple Timings

On Weekends, open all day from 7:30 AM to 9:00 PM  
Monday through Friday, open from 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 4:00 to 9:00 PM

#### Daily Puja & Aarti

Morning	8:00 AM
Afternoon	12:30 PM
Evening	8:00 PM

#### Every Monday

Rudrabhishekam (Shiva Puja) 7:00 PM

#### Every Tuesday

Hanumanji Puja 7:00 PM

#### Every Wednesday

Meditation 7:30 PM

#### Every Thursday

Shri Sai Bhajans 7:30 PM

#### Every Friday

Santoshi Mata Puja 7:00 PM  
Lakshmi Puja, Lalitha Stotram & Mahaprasadam

#### Every Saturday

Sri Venkateshwara 8:00 AM  
Suprabhatam Seva & Vishnu Stotram

#### Every Sunday

Yoga & Childrens class by Pushpa Dhar 9:30 AM  
Bhajans, Puja & Aarti 7:00 PM

#### Every Sankasthahara Chaturthi

Sri Ganesha Puja 7:00 PM  
Every Purnima  
Sri Satyanarayana Puja 6:30 PM

#### Third Thursday of every month

Vedic Anna Dana for India

### OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of Balaji Temple is to form a Hindu Temple and Vedic Cultural Center on the Peninsula in the heart of Silicon Valley where people can come together to study and worship, regardless of our different backgrounds. Our aim is to promote the feeling of universal love and unity among all people.

We will share the ancient wisdom of the Vedas and the Upanishads (sacred texts of India) with individuals of all ages and backgrounds. We will celebrate the One Truth behind all religions: that God is One and in all of us. Our worship services are free and open to all who wish to celebrate with us. All are welcome.

Construction approved at 5004 N. First Street, San Jose, P.O. Box 1146, CA 95002 for our new temple. Construction to begin soon. Please donate generously to expedite this good cause.

### BALAJI MATHA BOARD MEMBERS

President	Sri N. Swamiji	(408) 203-1036
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Non-Profit Organization



Picnic at Bolado