



Go Green

# Hindu Temple and Cultural Center

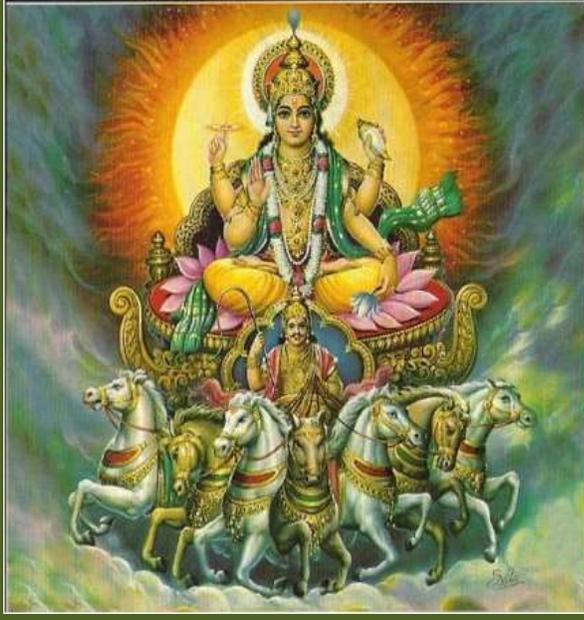
(A Non-Profit Organization Registered in the State of Washington)

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## Makara Sankranti/Pongal, Monday 14th January 2019



As per Vedic Hindu philosophy, Lord Sun is the king of all the planets. And Makara in Sanskrit literally means Capricorn whereas, Sankranti denotes transition. Hence, Lord Sun's transition from Sagittarius to Capricorn sign in the northern hemisphere, during winter is called 'The Makara Sankranti'.

Makara Sankranti is celebrated in Kerala at Sabarimala where the Makara Jyothi is visible followed by the Makara Vilakku celebrations. Devout Hindus believe that the *jyothi* is a celestial phenomenon and its sighting is auspicious.

### Pooja Schedules

- ❖ 07:00 PM - Sri Ayyappa Abhishekam  
Followed by Padi Puja, Bhajans
- ❖ 08:00 PM - Archana and Ārati

### Sponsorship Opportunity

- ❖ Sri Ayyappa Abhishekam (\$51.00)
- ❖ Pushpa Māla Alankāram\*
- ❖ Annadānam (\$151.00, Food Sponsorship)\*
- ❖ Archana (\$10.00)

Note: \* Contact Office for scheduling

### Makara Sankranti celebrations

Makara Sankranti festival is celebrated for innumerable reasons and in innumerable ways depending on cultural background and location in various states of India. Apart from geographical significance this festival also has historical and religious significance. Uttarāyana marks the beginning of the days of Devas and it was on this day that lord Vishnu ended the terror of asuras or demons and buried their heads under mandar parvat.

The festival is celebrated with distinct names and varied customs all over India. In Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh the festival is called Pongal, in Punjab it is known as Lohri, in Gujarat and Rajasthan it is known as Uttar āyan and in Assam it is known as Bhogali bihu. In rest of the Indian states including Mahārāshtra, it is known as Makar Sankranti or Makara Sankranti. In Gujarat the kite flying is very famous.

This year on Sankranti day, visit the temple with your family and friends and take blessings of Lord, as well as greet your fellow brothers and sisters.