



Shiv Dham | Maa Vaishno Devi Dham | Radha Krishna Dham | Shani Dham

CHAAR DHAM

Vrindavan

The Supreme Land of Spirituality



A Divine Legacy by
Dr. J C Chaudhry

Chaar Dham, Vrindavan

*Where every breath carries the experience of the Divine —
the supreme land of spirituality.*

Chaar Dham, Vrindavan is a sacred pilgrimage where devotion is not confined to chants alone; it permeates the air and lives in every particle of the soil. With each step, the soul feels as if it is in silent dialogue with God. The resonance of temple bells and the deep devotion of seekers fill this holy land, touching the soul at its very core. Chaar Dham, Vrindavan is not merely a destination but a living, breathing experience—where the purpose of life is not just to see but to truly experience the Divine, inner peace, and one's own self. of My Life



Contents

Dr. J C Chaudhry – Founder	01-02
Chaar Dham, Vrindavan	03-04
Welcome Gate	05
Darshan Timings	06
Facilities within the Chaar Dham Premises	07-08
Bhoomi Puja (Ground-Breaking Ceremony)	09
Inauguration Ceremony	10
Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, Vrindavan	11-45
Shiv Dham, Vrindavan	46-73
Radha Krishna Dham, Vrindavan	74-93
Shani Dham, Vrindavan	94-108
Wall of Wishes (Mannat Ki Deewar)	109-110
Book Your Sacred Puja & Havan	111
Mundan Sanskar (First Hair-Cutting Ceremony)	112
Mahaprasad	113
Book Sugam Darshan and Aarti Passes	114
Donation Services	115-116
Rudra Gift Shop	117
Annekaa Heights	118-119





Dr. J C Chaudhry

Founder



1988



2017



2018



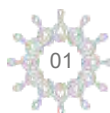
2021



2021



2025



A Divine Creation by Founder Dr. J C Chaudhry

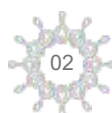
Dr. J C Chaudhry, Managing Trustee and Founder of Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, is a staunch believer of Maa Vaishno Devi, whom he considers his source of support and inspiration. To reciprocate the Maa for her infinite love and blessings, Dr. J C Chaudhry established Maa Vaishno Devi Dham in Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh, India. He built Maa Vaishno Devi Dham to replicate the experience of visiting the Vaishno Devi Shrine in Katra (J&K) for elderly people who cannot travel high up into the mountains. At the same time, it serves as a spiritual place where devotees can seek peace and spend time with the Maa.

Soon after, a thought came to his mind: Maa Vaishno Devi is Shakti (the female cosmic energy), who is regarded as the complementary partner of Lord Shiva. This thought inspired Dr. J C Chaudhry to build Shiv Dham near the Maa in Vrindavan so that Maa Vaishno Devi and Lord Shiva could be together, completing the power of the universe.

Then, he remembered Lord Shani, who is dear to Lord Shiva, as Lord Shiva is the Guru of Lord Shani. He thought of creating Shani Dham for devotees to seek the blessings of all three - Maa Vaishno Devi, Lord Shiva, and Lord Shani.

Lastly, Dr. J C Chaudhry felt that the holy land of Vrindavan (the place where Lord Krishna spent most of His childhood) would be incomplete without Lord Krishna's presence. He came up with the idea of establishing Radha Krishna Dham alongside the other three dhams to attain His blessings.

Thus, one of the most sacred and magnificent pilgrimage destinations in North India - Chaar Dham, Vrindavan - is spread over 11 acres of land.



Chaar Dham – Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh

Chaar Dham Temple is located in Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh. The temple is a highly significant and divine pilgrimage site for followers of Sanatan Dharma. It stands as a shining example of Indian culture, divine devotion, and spirituality. The four main shrines within Chaar Dham include Shiv Dham, Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, Radha Krishna Dham, and Shani Dham. The temple's architecture is especially notable for its intricately carved statues and paintings of various deities adorning its walls.



This is one of the few places in India where devotees can have darshan (sacred viewing) of Lord Shiva, Maa Vaishno Devi, Radha-Krishna and Lord Shani all in one place. Its beauty, spiritual ambiance, and the facilities provided by the Chaar Dham Temple make it a truly enriching and divine experience for every visitor. It is not just a place for worship but also a heaven for meditation, rejuvenation, and self-reflection. Visitors often describe feeling immense peace and spiritual fulfillment here, making it a beloved and revered destination for devotees.

Key Features of Chaar Dham

- The Dham premises are spread over a total area of 11 acres.
- Maa Vaishno Devi idol — 141 feet tall from ground level.
- Trident (Trishul) of Lord Shiva — 187 feet tall.
- Number of idols and murals — 165.
- Idol of Lord Shiva — 175.6 feet tall.
- A sacred cave spread across nearly 300 feet —where devotees are blessed with the divine vision (Darshan) of the nine forms of Navdurga.



Welcome Gate

On National Highway 44 (Delhi–Mathura), near the Vrindavan turn and approximately 9 kilometers before the Mathura cut, two prominent welcome gates have been constructed. Gate No. 1 leads towards Bhaktivedanta Swami Marg. Gate No. 4 is located on National Highway 44 and is locally known as Chhataikara. As devotees pass through these grand entrance gates, they are welcomed into a divine and serene atmosphere. Upon entering, visitors are blessed with the sight of various deities, instantly awakening a sense of devotion and spiritual merit within their hearts. The captivating artwork around the gates and the peaceful surroundings draw every visitor, offering a profound experience of spiritual joy and inner calm.

Darshan Timings

Morning: 07:00 AM – 01:00 PM

Evening: 04:00 PM – 08:00 PM

Idol Darshan and Museum (Free of cost)

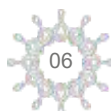
The following are strictly prohibited in the Dham Premises

- Any type of electronic device
- Bags & other belongings
- Outside food & beverages
- Smoking, alcohol, tobacco, and other intoxicants
- Indecent clothing
- Slogans & Indecent language
- Pets

Kindly Cooperate in Maintaining the Sanctity of the Dham

Your visit to this sacred place, adorned with the beauty, serenity, divinity, and devotion of Indian culture, is a journey - a pilgrimage that can bless you with divine inspirations. Kindly extend your support in preserving the sanctity and glory of this pilgrimage site.

***The temple complex is regulated & controlled
by the administrators and authorities
responsible for its management.***



Facilities at the Chaar Dham Premises

Divine Confluence of All Four Dhams in One Sacred Space

Within a single holy complex, devotees are blessed with the rare opportunity to have darshan of all four Dhams together—Shiv Dham, Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, Radha-Krishna Dham, and Shani Dham. A pilgrim visiting this place experiences all the major dimensions of a sacred pilgrimage at one destination. The compassion of Lord Shiva, the blessings of the Divine Mother, the loving divine play of Radha-Krishna, and the righteous vision of Lord Shani together transform this complex into a unique center of spiritual energy.

Safe and Convenient Parking

Keeping in mind the comfort and convenience of visitors and devotees, the Chaar Dham Temple Complex offers a well-planned and aesthetically designed parking facility. Developed with landscaping and an attractive layout, the parking area blends harmoniously with the temple environment. This thoughtfully designed facility ensures that a devotee's journey begins smoothly, warmly, and without inconvenience from the moment of arrival.

Parking Charges

Bus – ₹200 for 4 hours; thereafter, ₹50 per hour will be charged.

Car – ₹100 for 4 hours; thereafter ₹20 per hour will be charged.

Auto / E-Rickshaw – ₹50 for 4 hours; thereafter ₹10 per hour will be charged.

Bike – ₹50 for 4 hours; thereafter ₹10 per hour will be charged.

Key Features

- Clean, well-organized, and systematically planned layout
- Separate parking zones for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and VIPs
- 24x7 security with CCTV cameras, security guards, and adequate lighting
- On-site helpers are available to provide assistance Located close to the temple complex for easy and quick access
- Located close to the temple complex for easy and quick access
- Safe even during the monsoon, with excellent drainage facilities
- Vehicles are parked at the owner's risk; the management is not responsible for valuables left inside the vehicles.
- Fine for lost parking ticket: ₹20 (after verification)
- Parking timings: 7:00 AM until temple closing time
- Please keep your parking ticket safe; volunteers may check tickets



Locker Facility

The locker facility within the Chaar Dham Complex provides devotees with a safe and convenient space to store their personal belongings, allowing them to participate in worship, darshan, or events with complete peace of mind. This service enhances the overall temple experience by making it more organized, comfortable, and reliable, enabling devotees to focus fully on their spiritual activities.

Features

Secure Storage: Lockers, shelves, and hooks are available for storing valuables, clothing, and other personal items.

Well-Organized Space: Separate designated sections are available for shoes, bags, and other belongings.

Staff Assistance: Dedicated staff are available to supervise the cloakroom, provide assistance, and ensure security.

Labeling & Tagging: A numbering and tagging system ensures easy identification and retrieval of deposited items.

Rules & Important Instructions

The locker facility is available for visitors only. A fee of ₹50 per ticket is mandatory for using the locker facility and must be paid at the ticket counter.

Timings: From 7:00 AM until the temple closes.

Electronic items must be switched off before depositing them.

All deposited items will be accepted only within the specified size limits.

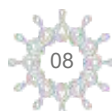
Do not deposit cash or high-value items.

Responsibility for all deposited items rests with the owner.

If you wish, I can also align this text with your parking facilities section for a uniform brochure or signage style.

Other Special Features of the Dham

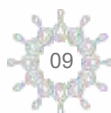
- Saraswati Spiritual Hall
- Bhagwani Block
- Nanak Block
- Gaushala (Cow Shelter)
- Yagya Shala (Sacred Ritual Hall)
- Rudra Smriti Souvenir / Gift Shop
- Kailash Yoga Hall
- Shankar Meditation Hall
- Katyayani Charitable Homeopathic Dispensary
- Radha Charitable Physiotherapy Clinic
- Maa Ki Rasoi (Community Kitchen)
- Shridhar Art Gallery





Chaar Dham Bhoomi Pujan 23rd August 2021 (Monday)

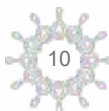
Managing Trustee, Dr. J C Chaudhry, with his wife, Smt. Kamla Chaudhry
and their sons Aashish Chaudhry & Aakash Chaudhry Bhoomi Pujan





Chaar Dham Inauguration 10th February 2025 (Monday)

With divine blessings, Chaar Dham was inaugurated
by Smt. Hema Malini, Honorable Member of Parliament, India.



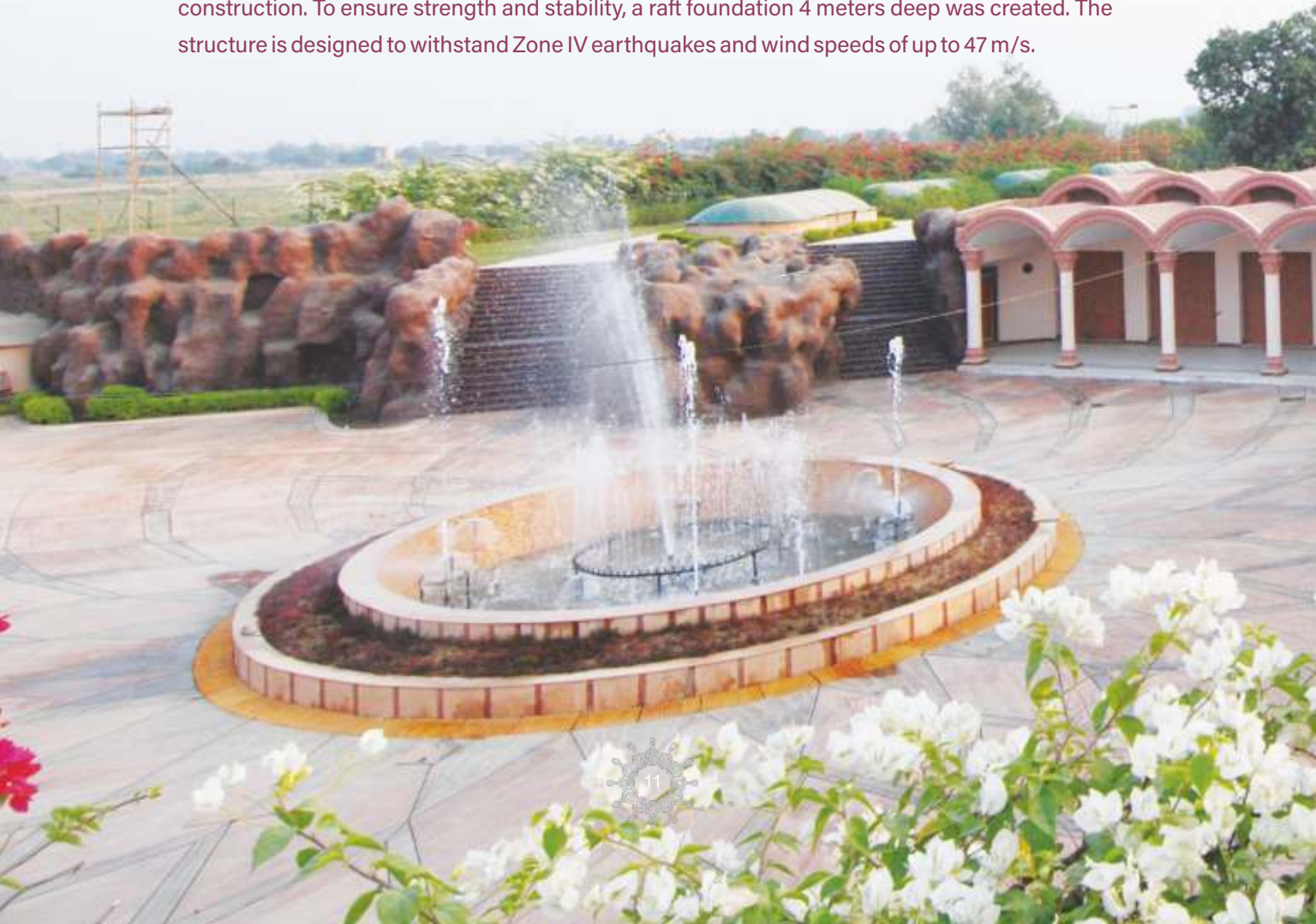
Maa Vaishno Devi Dham – Chaar Dham, Vrindavan

Experience the divine presence of Maa Vaishno Devi and the nine forms of the Divine Mother along with Her sacred powers, at Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, Vrindavan.

For the past 15 years, Maa Vaishno Dham has been a major center of devotion and attraction for devotees. Dr. J C Chaudhry laid the foundation of this Dham on 27th November 2004, and after 5 years, 5 months, and 25 days of dedicated effort, it was completed and opened to devotees on 22nd May 2010.

The vision of this grand statue and temple complex was brought to life under the guidance of Chief Consultant and Architect Mr. Arun Verma, along with the renowned architecture firm Designwell India Pvt. Ltd., and a dedicated team of young artists - Mr. Manoj Das, Mr. Ashish Tanwar, and Mr. Vineet Chaudhry.

The divine form of Maa Vaishno Devi is depicted in a radiant red saree, adorned with beautiful ornaments and divine weapons. Maa is seated majestically upon Her lion mount, while Lord Hanuman stands nearby as Her devoted protector. This sacred image represents authority, compassion, and divine protection. Including the lion and the platform, the total weight of the statue is approximately 1,700 tons, with nearly 400 tons of steel and concrete used in its construction. To ensure strength and stability, a raft foundation 4 meters deep was created. The structure is designed to withstand Zone IV earthquakes and wind speeds of up to 47 m/s.





The weapons, such as the mace, chakra, trident, bow, conch, and lotus, posed the greatest design challenge, as they required advanced cantilever structures. With precise scientific calculations and superior architectural skill, they were successfully constructed. The total height of Maa Vaishno Devi's statue, from the foundation to the crown, is 141 feet. The lion itself stands 50 feet high and 87 feet long, with a 54-foot-long tail. The statue of Lord Hanuman is 32 feet tall (tail – 38 feet; mace – 26 feet).

This Dham is renowned not only for the grandeur of the statue but also for its sacred cave and divine shrines. As devotees enter the cave, they first have darshan of Lord Ganesha, followed by the nine forms of Maa Durga, and finally Bhairav Baba, without whose blessings the pilgrimage is considered incomplete. Within the temple premises, there are also the serene statues of Ganga Maa and Yamuna Maa.

The vast temple space resonates with the chanting of mantras, devotional hymns, and the sweet sound of temple bells, filling every heart with peace and spiritual bliss. Inside the sanctum sanctorum, devotees are blessed with the darshan of Maa Vaishno Devi in Ashtadhatu form, while the hall's inner walls are adorned with intricate paintings of all deities. The outer walls beautifully depict scenes from Lord Krishna's divine pastimes.

Maa Vaishno Devi Dham (Chaar Dham, Vrindavan) is not just a pilgrimage site but a divine sanctuary where devotees can strengthen their faith, inner strength, and spiritual practice by experiencing the radiant form of the Divine Mother.

This sacred Dham is not only a symbol of devotion but also a marvelous blend of modern Indian architecture, art, and engineering. The towering statue of Maa Vaishno Devi will continue to inspire future generations with Her eternal message of strength, protection, and compassion.



Sizes of the Sacred Objects Held in the Hands of the Idol of Maa Vaishno Devi



The Jay Kay Trust installed the tallest 141-foot statue of Maa Vaishno Devi, which has been listed in the Limca Book of Records 2013 and the World Book of Records 2022, London, for its ancient temples, extensive gardens, and giant statue.



Maa Vaishno Devi Dham - Bhoomi Pujan

27th November 2004 (Saturday)

Managing Trustee, Dr. J C Chaudhry,
with his wife, Smt. Kamla Chaudhry and their sons Aashish Chaudhry
& Aakash performed the Bhoomi Pujan.





Maa Vaishno Devi Dham - Inauguration

22nd May 2010 (Saturday)

With divine blessings, Maa Vaishno Devi Dham was inaugurated by Shri Karan Singh Ji, Honourable Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Jammu and Kashmir.



The Ashtadhatu Idol of Maa Vaishno Devi

The Maa Vaishno Devi Dham at Chaar Dham, Vrindavan, stands as a unique blend of architecture and spirituality. Unlike most temples that are square or rectangular in design, this temple is constructed in an elliptical (oval-shaped) form. The special benefit of this design is that it makes the parikrama (circumambulation) of the idol much simpler and more convenient for devotees.

At the sanctum sanctorum stands the 6.5-foot-high Ashtadhatu idol of Maa Vaishno Devi, radiating divine energy. This exquisite idol was sculpted with dedication and devotion by three young artists - Ashish Tanwar, Manoj Das, and Vineet Chaudhry.



The Significance of Ashtadhatu

Ashtadhatu is a sacred alloy made from eight metals: gold, silver, copper, zinc, lead, tin, iron, and mercury. In Hindu tradition, Ashtadhatu is considered highly sattvic, pure, and holy. Since ancient times, it has been used to create idols of deities. The alloy is not only durable and everlasting but is also believed to be a conductor of spiritual energy, bringing auspiciousness and positivity into the lives of devotees.

The Spiritual Essence

The Ashtadhatu idol of Maa Vaishno Devi is far more than a sculpture - it is a divine center of faith and devotion. Devotees who behold the idol experience not only the darshan of the Divine Mother but also an inner sense of purity, peace, and divine energy. This sacred idol, enshrined within the elliptical temple, stands as a timeless treasure of Indian tradition, craftsmanship, and spirituality. It continues to inspire generations with its message of faith, devotion, and cultural heritage.



Maa Ganga – Symbol of Life, Purity, and Salvation

The idol of Maa Ganga is not just a statue but a living symbol of purity, salvation, and deep faith. Installed within the Maa Vaishno Devi Dham complex, this beautiful artwork is significant not only from a religious point of view but also as a masterpiece.



Maa Ganga is also called Tripathaga because she flows through all three worlds - Heaven, Earth, and the Underworld. Her descent to Earth is linked to the penance of King Bhagirath and the divine act of Lord Shiva holding her flow in His matted locks. This story makes Maa Ganga known as the giver of salvation (moksha) and the remover of sins. It is believed that bathing in her waters or drinking Gangajal cleanses sins and purifies the soul.

Behind the idol, a waterfall has been created to give the impression that the Ganga is continuously flowing. The detailed carvings and fine polishing of the statue make it appear almost lifelike. The surroundings are designed in such a way that devotees feel as if they are standing on the banks of the sacred river.

The idol of Maa Ganga teaches us that, just as the Ganga flows selflessly for everyone, human life too should be dedicated to service and kindness. Her pure waters represent purity, life-giving energy, and selfless love. This divine idol is not only a place of worship but also a unique union of art, faith, and nature.





Maa Yamuna – Symbol of Devotion, Compassion, and Purity

The idol of Maa Yamuna is not just a within, but a living symbol of devotion, compassion, and life-giving energy. Installed within the Maa Vaishno Devi Dham complex, this wonderful creation is significant not only from a religious point of view but also as a masterpiece of art and architecture.



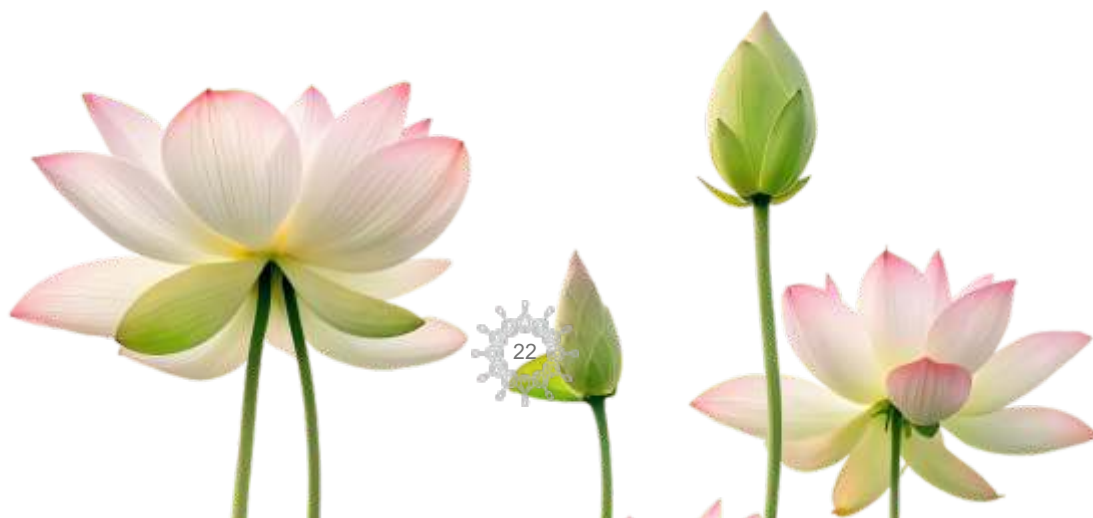
The idol is 9.2 feet high, 5.7 feet wide, and 5.6 feet in diameter. Maa Yamuna is shown seated gracefully in a lotus posture, which in Indian culture represents purity and divinity. On both sides of the idol, tortoises are carved, which symbolizing her vehicle. The tortoise represents patience, stability, and the protection of life. Maa Yamuna is adorned with shining ornaments and beautiful garments, which reflect her life-giving and benevolent power. In one hand, she holds a kalash (pot) from which the holy Yamuna water is shown flowing, and her other hand is in var mudra, blessing devotees with grace and protection.

Maa Yamuna is known as the daughter of the Sun and the sister of Yama (the God of Death). Her story is connected with Surya (the Sun God) and his wife, Sanjna. The festival of Yam Dwitiya (Bhai Dooj) is celebrated in remembrance of the bond between Yamuna and Yama. On this day, bathing in the Yamuna and worship have special importance. The water of the Yamuna is considered cool, gentle, and life-giving. Bathing in it is believed to destroy sins and grant virtue. Maa Yamuna holds a special place in Vrindavan and Mathura, as the childhood pastimes of Lord Krishna took place on the banks of the Yamuna. This is why she is lovingly called Bhaktavatsala (protector of devotees) and Krishnapriya (beloved of Krishna).

Behind the idol, a waterfall has been created, giving the impression that the Yamuna is constantly flowing. The detailed carvings and fine polishing make the idol appear almost lifelike. The surroundings are designed in such a way that devotees feel as if they are standing on the natural banks of the Yamuna.

The idol of Maa Yamuna teaches us that, just as she nourishes the lives of those along her banks, human beings too should dedicate their lives to service, devotion, and love. Her flow represents sweetness, balance, and coolness in life. Her compassionate and pure form assures us that she always protects her devotees and leads them towards salvation.

This divine idol is not just a religious center but also a unique combination of art, faith, and natural beauty.



1

Shailputri



2

Brahmacharini



3

Chandraghanta



4

Kushmanda



5

Skandamata



The nine forms of Maa Vaishno Devi are great symbols of Shakti (divine power) and faith in Hindu mythological tradition.

The Navdurga forms and the victory of righteousness over unrighteousness.

Within the holy cave of Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, the nine divine forms of Maa Durga have been installed in a most beautiful and spiritually uplifting manner. This extraordinary sight gives devotees the living experience that the Divine Mother herself is present here in all her manifestations. The cave walls and the surrounding atmosphere reflect a unique confluence of devotion, power, and divinity.

The darshan of these nine forms **Shailputri, Brahmacharini, Chandraghanta, Kushmanda, Skandamata, Katyayani, Kalaratri, Mahagauri, and Siddhidatri** bestows inner strength, courage, faith, and transcendental energy upon devotees. Navdurga represents the nine divine manifestations of Maa Vaishno Devi, worshipped during the festival of Navratri. Their story is closely associated with the tyranny of the demon king Mahishasura.

6

Katyayani



7

Kalaratri



8

Mahagauri



9

Siddhidatri



According to Hindu mythology, the nine-day-long battle between Goddess Durga and the demon king Mahishasura symbolizes the nine stages or forms, of the Goddess, culminating on the tenth day, celebrated as **Vijayadashami (the Day of Victory)**.

This form is not merely physical but transcendental, beyond the worldly realm. The first step to experiencing it is meditation. Through meditation, one begins to experience the universe itself. This is why Lord Buddha emphasized not merely talking about deities but practicing meditation. Instead of only thinking about God, one should enter the inner void within. Upon reaching this state, the next phase unfolds, where various mantras and spiritual energies appear to awaken. In Buddhist traditions as well, these divine feminine forms are worshipped.

For this reason, all acts of worship begin with meditation, a tradition that has continued for thousands of years. It serves as a means to awaken the various elements of the soul. Recognizing the power inherent in each of the nine names and forms of Maa Durga is the true purpose of Navratri. The nine nights of the Navratri festival are dedicated to these nine forms of the Divine Mother, collectively known as Navdurga. These nine days of immense joy and spiritual celebration conclude with the festival of Dussehra, symbolizing the victory of good over evil.

The Holy Cave (Gufa)

Where Navdurga's Nine Forms Radiate Divine Power

The sacred cave pilgrimage at Maa Vaishno Devi Dham in Chaar Dham, Vrindavan, is not only a symbol of devotion but also offers devotees a divine experience of the Goddess's various forms. Inspired by the world-famous holy cave of Maa Vaishno Devi in Katra, Jammu, this cave has been created to provide devotees with the opportunity to experience peace and purity while having darshan of nine forms of Maa Durga (Navdurga)



The Sacred Cave Journey at Maa Vaishno Devi Dham

As you step into the divine cave, the first blessings come from Lord Shri Ganesh Ji, the remover of obstacles, along with Riddhi (prosperity) and Siddhi (spiritual powers).

Inside the cave are nine beautiful idols representing the Nine Forms of Maa Durga – Shailaputri, Brahmacharini, Chandraghanta, Kushmanda, Skandmata, Katyayani, Kalaratri, Mahagauri, and Siddhidatri. These sacred idols are gracefully placed within the natural rocky alcoves of the cave, leaving devotees spellbound.

One of the most unique features of this holy cave is that a cool stream of water flows beneath the devotees' feet during darshan, symbolically washing away their sins and filling their hearts with purity and devotion. Passing through this stream makes the journey deeply satisfying and spiritually uplifting.

In terms of structure, the cave stretches a total of 300 feet in length, including both the entrance and exit passages. The journey concludes with the darshan of Shri Bhairavnath Ji, the divine protector, whose blessings complete this sacred pilgrimage, as per Maa's boon.

This cave is not only a magnificent artistic creation but also a soulful spiritual experience, recreating the divine essence of Maa Vaishno Devi for those who may not be able to travel to Jammu.

As you enter the cave, the first divine darshan is of Shri Ganesh Ji, along with Riddhi and Siddhi





Shri Ganesha with Maa Riddhi and Siddhi – A Divine Union of Prosperity and Perfection

As soon as you enter the sacred cave of Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, the very first darshan is of Vighnaharta Shri Ganesha. Along with him, Maa Riddhi and Maa Siddhi are also seated. This divine sight blesses devotees with joy, prosperity, and completeness.

The idol of Shri Ganesha is about 5.7 feet in height, 4.9 feet in width, and 3.11 feet in diameter. He is seated on a golden throne. One of his hands is in var mudra (blessing pose), granting blessings to devotees, while in the other hand, he holds his favorite modak, a symbol of happiness and prosperity. At his feet sits his vehicle, the mouse (mooshak).



The idols of Maa Riddhi and Maa Siddhi are 6.3 feet in height, 2.6 feet in width, and 2.3 feet in diameter. They are seated gracefully on either side of Shri Ganesha. Maa Riddhi, the Goddess of prosperity, and Maa Siddhi, the Goddess of spiritual power and wisdom, are adorned with beautiful ornaments and traditional attire. In their hands, they hold chamars (fans), symbolizing service and devotion.

According to the scriptures, Maa Riddhi and Maa Siddhi are considered the divine consorts of Shri Ganesha. Together, they bless devotees with both material prosperity (Riddhi) and spiritual perfection (Siddhi). This is why Shri Ganesha is also called Siddhi Vinayak.

There is also a divine story related to their marriage. Once, the gods and sages asked Lord Brahma why Shri Ganesha, who removes all obstacles, always remained unmarried. To answer this, Lord Brahma decided to give his two daughters, Riddhi and Siddhi, in marriage to Shri Ganesha. After the marriage, Maa Riddhi blessed Ganesha with wealth and prosperity, while Maa Siddhi blessed him with wisdom and spiritual strength. From them, Shri Ganesha had two sons—Shubh (symbol of good fortune and auspiciousness) and Labh (symbol of prosperity and progress).

That is why devotees worship Shri Ganesha as Siddhi Vinayak. His worship brings both Shubh and Labh into life.

This divine trio teaches us that life is not complete with only material wealth (Riddhi) nor with only spiritual practice (Siddhi). A balance of both leads to true happiness, success, and fulfillment in life.





Maa Durga and Shri Hanuman Ji – A Unique Union of Power and Devotion

After the darshan of Shri Ganesh Ji with Maa Riddhi and Siddhi, devotees are blessed with the divine sight of Maa Durga and Shri Hanuman Ji. In this sacred image, Maa Durga is seated on a lion, representing courage, strength, and the protection of dharma. She holds many weapons in her hands – trident, mace, sword, discus, lotus, and more – symbolizing that she destroys evil and protects her devotees. The idol of Maa Durga is majestic: Height – 7.3 ft, Width – 5.11 ft, Diameter – 3.3 ft.

On the other side, Shri Hanuman Ji is bowing humbly at Maa Durga's feet. This shows that even the greatest devotee and warrior of Lord Rama, Hanuman Ji, worships Maa Durga with full surrender and devotion. The idol of Shri Hanuman Ji is 2.7 ft in height, 2.5 ft in width, and 1.6 ft in diameter.



Power and Devotion Together

Maa Durga is the goddess of divine power, while Hanuman Ji is the embodiment of devotion and strength.

Whenever evil and injustice increased on earth, Maa Durga appeared to destroy the demons. Similarly, Hanuman Ji used his courage, wisdom, and devotion to serve Lord Rama and defeat Ravana.

Together, they symbolize the perfect balance of Shakti (Power) and Bhakti (Devotion).

Hanuman Ji's Devotion to Maa Durga

According to the scriptures, before flying to Lanka to search for Sita Ji, Hanuman Ji meditated upon Maa Durga. With her blessings, he successfully crossed the ocean.

It is also said that Hanuman Ji composed a Durga Stuti (prayer) to please the Goddess, showing that without Maa Durga's grace, no great task can be achieved.

Maa Vaishno Devi and Hanuman Ji

A famous story tells that when Maa Vaishno Devi was performing penance on Trikuta mountain, she appointed Hanuman Ji as her gatekeeper. Even today, in the Maa Vaishno Devi temple, Hanuman Ji holds a special place. Devotees believe that without his permission, no one can receive Maa's blessings.

Maa Durga gives us courage, strength, and self-confidence. Shri Hanuman Ji shows us the path of devotion, service, and loyalty. When power (Shakti) and devotion (Bhakti) unite, no obstacle in life can remain unconquered.

This divine union teaches us that strength without devotion is incomplete, and devotion without strength is powerless. The Nine Avatars of Vaishno Maa have great significance in Hindu mythology.

The nine avatars of Vaishno Maa have great significance in Hindu mythology and are detailed as follows:

1. Maa Shailputri – First Avatar of Durga:

Maa Shailputri is the daughter of 'Parvata Raj' (mountain king) – Himalaya / Himvanth. She is the first among nine avatars of Maa Durga and is worshipped on the first day of Navaratri. In her previous birth, she was 'Sati Bhavani Maa', the daughter of King Daksha. Maa Shailputri, also known as Parvati, got married to Lord Shiva. On the first day of Durga Navratri, Paravathi Devi is worshipped. Maa Shailputri holds a 'Trishul', a weapon, in her right hand and a lotus in her left hand. She rides on a bull. She has a pleasant smile and blissful appearance.



2. Maa Brahmacharini – Second Avatar of Durga:

Maa Brahmacharini is worshipped on the second day of Navaratri. Brahmacharini is the goddess who performed 'Tapa' (penance) (Brahma – Tapa, Charini - Performer). Maa personifies love and loyalty. She holds a japa mala in her right hand and a Kamandal in her left hand. She is also called 'Uma' and 'Tapacharini' and provides knowledge and wisdom to her devotees.



3. Maa Chandraghanta – Third Avatar of Durga:

Maa Chadraghanta is worshipped on the third day of Navratri. She is very bright and charming. Durga Maa is astride a tiger, displaying a golden hue to Her skin, possesses ten hands and 3 eyes. Eight of Her hands display weapons while the remaining two are respectively in the mudras of gestures of boon giving and stopping harm. Chandra + Ghanta means supreme bliss and knowledge, showering peace and serenity like a cool breeze on a moonlit night.



4. Maa Kushmanda - Fourth Avatar of Durga:

Maa Kushmanda is worshipped on the fourth day of Navratri. She shines brightly with a laughing face in all ten directions as the Sun. She controls the whole solar system. In her eight hands, she holds several types of weapons in six hands and a rosary and a lotus in the remaining hands. She rides on a lion. She likes offerings of 'Kumhda' hence her name 'Kushmanda' has become popular.



5. Maa Skandamata - Fifth Avatar of Durga:

Skandamata is worshipped on the fifth day of Navratri. She had a son 'Skandaa' and holds him on her lap. She has three eyes and four hands; two hands hold lotuses while the other 2 hands respectively display defending and granting gestures. It is said that by the mercy of Skandmata, even the idiot becomes an ocean of knowledge. The great and legendary Sanskrit scholar Kalidas created his two masterpiece works "Raghuvansh Maha Kavya" and "Meghdoot" by the grace of Skandmata. Mata is considered a deity of fire. She rides on a Lion.



6. Maa Katyayani - Sixth Avatar of Durga:

Maa Katyayani is worshipped on the sixth day of Navratri. Rishi Katyayan observed a penance to get Jaganmata as his daughter. She blessed him and was born as his daughter on the bank of the river Yamuna to get Lord Krishna as a husband. She is considered the prime deity of the Vraj Mandal. Maa Katyayani has three eyes and four hands. One left hand holds a weapon and the other a lotus. She rides on a lion.



7. Maa Kalratri – Seventh Avatar of Durga:

Maa Kalaratri is worshipped on the seventh day of Navratri. She is dark and black like night, hence she is called 'Kalratri'. Her hair is loose, and she has three eyes and four hands, while the remaining 2 are in the mudras of "giving" and "protecting". HER vahana is a faithful donkey. She



is a destroyer of darkness and ignorance. She spews out fire from her nostrils. She holds a sharp sword in her right hand and blesses her devotees with her lower hand. As she blesses her devotees with prosperity, she is also called 'Shubhamkari'.

8. Maa Maha Gauri – Eighth Avatar of Durga:

Maa Maha Gauri is worshipped on the eighth day of Navratri. Maha Gauri looks as white as the moon and jasmine. She has four hands. Peace and compassion radiate from Her being and She is often dressed in a white or green sari. She holds a drum and a trident and is often depicted riding a bull. Her upper left hand is in a fearless pose and she holds 'Trishul' in her lower left hand. Her upper right hand holds a tambourine and her lower right hand is in the blessing mudra.



9. Maa Siddhidatri – Ninth Avatar of Durga:

Maa Siddhidatri is worshipped on the ninth day of Navratri. Maha Shakti gives all the eight siddhis – Anima, Mahima, Garima, Laghima, Prapti, Prakamya, Ishitva and Vashitva. According to 'Devi Puran', the supreme God Shiva got all these siddhis by worshipping the supreme Goddess Maha Shakti. With Her grace, his half body has



become that of the Goddess, hence Lord Shiva's form as 'Ardhanarishvara' became famous. According to some sources, she rides on a lion. Other sources say, she is seated on a lotus. Siddhidatri Devi is worshipped by all Gods, Rishis, Munishwaras, Siddha yogis and all common devotees who want to attain the spiritual attainment.

Darshan of Shri Bhairavnath Ji

In the sacred cave of Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, after completing the parikrama and having darshan of all nine divine forms of Maa Durga (Navadurga), devotees are finally blessed with the darshan of Shri Bhairavnath Ji, the eternal protector and true servant of Maa. The idol of Shri Bhairavnath Ji is about 5.11 feet in height, 5 feet in width, and 4.7 feet in diameter. This grand idol, with its powerful and divine



aura, fills the cave with devotion and reverence. Around the idol, beautiful artistic depictions of the holy mountains of Jammu are created, giving devotees the true feeling of being on the sacred journey to Trikuta Parvat. It feels as though one is actually walking the holy path of Maa Vaishno Devi.

Shri Bhairavnath Ji is not just a statue – he is the living symbol of devotion, surrender, and service.

According to the Puranas, when Maa Vaishno Devi destroyed the demons and purified the world through her tapasya and devotion, Bhairavnath followed her till the cave, testing her divine power. In the end, on Maa's command, he surrendered himself. Pleased with his devotion and sacrifice, Maa blessed him with a boon:

"My darshan will never be considered complete until devotees also have your darshan." That is why, even today, the pilgrimage of Maa Vaishno Devi is regarded as incomplete without the darshan of Shri Bhairavnath Ji. The idol of Bhairavnath Ji conveys a deep message – that true devotion lies in service and surrender. He is the protector of the Goddess and her most faithful servant. When devotees bow before him, they feel as if they are truly under Maa Vaishno Devi's divine shelter. This cave is not just a work of art; it is a spiritual journey – where every step is filled with devotion, every idol radiates divine energy, and every sacred chant vibrates with spiritual power.

This holy place is especially created for those devotees who, for any reason, cannot undertake the difficult journey to Jammu, yet wish to experience the grace and blessings of Maa Vaishno Devi. Here, they feel the same devotion, purity, and divine presence just as they feel at the holy cave of Trikuta Parvat. With the darshan of Shri Bhairavnath Ji, the sacred journey reaches its true completion.



The Divine Experience of Circumambulation – Where Devotion, Art, and Spirituality Converge

Maa Vaishno Dham is not just a sacred site of faith and devotion but also a marvel of architecture, giving it a unique identity among other temples. Unlike the traditional square or rectangular designs, this temple is built in an oval structure, making it rare and extraordinary. This distinct shape not only adds to its divine beauty but also makes the act of parikrama (circumambulation) smooth and effortless for devotees. During the parikrama, devotees not only receive the blessings of Maa Vaishno Devi's Ashtadhatu form but also witness the magnificent carvings of deities and divine pastimes depicted on the walls. Each step feels as if the soul is journeying through higher spiritual realms, experiencing glimpses of the celestial worlds.

The circumambulation here is not merely a physical act; it is a sacred spiritual journey. The artistic depictions along the walls are so captivating and lifelike that devotees feel no fatigue. Instead, they sense their spirit moving closer and closer to the Supreme. This divine walk feels like a vision of the three worlds - Brahmalo, Shivalo, and Vishnulok with the deities themselves appearing present to shower their blessings. Situated in the holy land of Vrindavan, where the eternal pastimes of Shri Krishna resound, this Dham emerges as another profound spiritual center. The temple's architecture, vibrant hues, wall paintings, and enchanting tableaux together create an atmosphere brimming with peace, devotion, and divine love.

Maa Vaishno Dham is not just a place of worship; it is an emotional, spiritual, and transcendental experience. Here one feels as though the entire universe, all divine realms, and every deity are gathered in one sacred space.

If you seek a true union of devotion, architecture, and spiritual bliss, then Maa Vaishno Dham at Chaar Dham, Vrindavan must be your next destination. It is not merely a site of darshan, but a divine bridge that connects life itself with devotion and eternal divinity.



Entrance Gate of Maa Vaishno Devi Dham – A Divine Glimpse of Shri Krishna's Love and Leelas

As soon as devotees step into the holy premises of Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, their souls are filled with a profound spiritual vibration. This place is not merely a religious site but a divine realm where the sanctity of Vrindavan and the enchanting pastimes of Lord Shri Krishna come alive.

The grand and soulful sculptures engraved on the entrance walls immediately transport devotees to the sacred land of Vrindavan. At the very center of this divine artwork stands the idol of Radha and Krishna. Shri Krishna is depicted playing His flute while Radhaji, immersed in devotion, sits beside Him. This is not just a scene of love; it is a symbol of the eternal union of the soul with the Supreme. The image radiates the sweetness (madhurya bhava) that fills every lane, every particle, and every tree of Vrindavan with divine bliss.

Alongside, one can see Shri Krishna and Balram with their childhood friends and numerous cows - grazing in the forests, playing, and rejoicing. The trees, deer, birds, flowing river, and rising sun all embody the beauty of nature and the sacred aura of Braj. This sculptural depiction feels like a living vision of the divine Braj Dham.

This masterpiece is not just a creation of art; it is a spiritual gateway that immerses devotees into the eternal memories and pastimes of Shri Krishna. As one enters through this divine door, it feels as though one has stepped directly onto the holy land of Vrindavan. The heart overflows with peace, love, and devotion.

At Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, the experience is not merely that of darshan, but of stepping into the transcendental beauty of Vrindavan and the divine world of Krishna's eternal love. It is a sacred confluence where devotion, emotion, and the Supreme merge into one.

The Living Panorama of Devotion on the Sacred Walls – A Journey of the Soul towards the Divine

The walls of this Dham are not merely built of stone; they are a living scripture of divinity. Each carving, each painting, each figure engraved upon them tells an eternal tale of faith.

As devotees perform the sacred parikrama, every wall, every mural, and every idol unfolds a new chapter of devotion. These depictions are not just visuals to admire; they are spiritual dialogues in imagery, carrying the seeker beyond the boundaries of time, space, and the material world, gently leading the soul into the embrace of the Divine.





**Founder of Sikhism –
Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji**



**Maa Saraswati – Goddess of
Knowledge and Wisdom**



**Shri Radha-Krishna's
Divine Raas Leela – An Eternal
Symbol of Devotion and Love**



**Sanjeevani-Bearing Hanuman –
An Eternal Symbol of Devotion,
Valor, and Selfless**



**Shri Jhulelal Ji – The Revered Deity
of the Sindhi Community**



**Shri Venkateshwara – The Divine
Kaliyuga Manifestation of Lord Vishnu**



**Lion-Riding Maa Durga
Slayer of Mahishasura**



**Maa Saraswati seated on a white lotus
Goddess of Knowledge, Music, and Arts**



**Shri Siddhivinayak – The Auspicious
Right-Trunked Remover of Obstacles**



**Padmanabhaswamy – Lord Vishnu
Resting upon Sheshanaga**



**Jagannath Dham, Puri – A Sacred Center
of Eternal Faith and Spirituality**



**The Divine Moment of the Bhagavad Gita –
Arjuna's Vision of the Cosmic Form**



Lord Gautam Buddha – The Embodiment of Wisdom, Compassion, and Peace



The Supreme Ideal of Love – The Divine Union of Radha and Krishna



Shrinathji – The Child Form of Govardhan-Dhari



Shri Dwarkadhish – The Divine Regal Form of Lord Krishna



Lord Shiva Receiving the River Ganga in His Locks – The Sacred Descent of the Ganga



The Divine Form of Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lakshmi – A Symbol of Balance, Prosperity, and Unwavering Devotion



**The Divine Ram Darbar of Maryada
Purushottam Lord Rama – A Symbol of
Dharma, Devotion, and the Ideal Life**



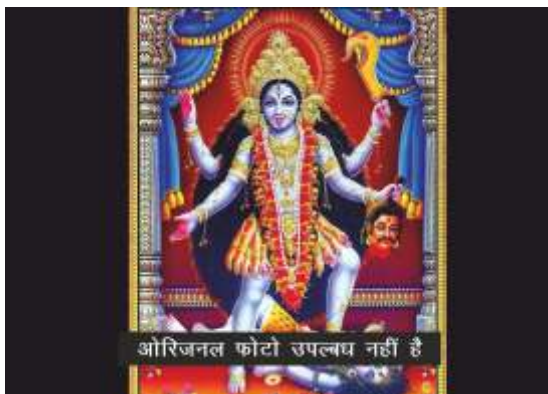
**Shirdi Sai Baba – “Sabka Malik Ek”
(One God for All), the Eternal Message
of Love and Service**



**Maa Lakshmi on a Lotus – Goddess
of Wealth, Prosperity, and Abundance**



**The Divine Trinity – Brahma,
Vishnu, and Mahesh**



**Maa Kali – The Supreme Goddess
of Power and Destruction**



**Shri Krishna Lifts Govardhan –
The Divine Protector of Brajwasis**



**Lord Kartikeya – The God
of War and Victory**



**The Shiva Family – Symbol of Power,
Wisdom, and Victory**



**Shri Ganesha – The Lord
of Riddhi and Siddhi**



**Victory Over Kaliya Naag –
Protection of Dharma**



Maa Vaishno Devi Dham – Jagran Venue A Peaceful, Spacious, and Divine Atmosphere

Within the premises of Maa Vaishno Devi Dham, this dedicated Jagran venue is thoughtfully provided for devotees in the divine presence of the Mother. Here, you can conduct all kinds of religious and spiritual programs such as spiritual discourses, Jagran, Mata Ki Chowki, Bhajan Sandhya, Havan, and other sacred ceremonies with complete peace and devotion.

The Jagran venue covers an area of 8,565 square feet, offering a clean, calm, and well-ventilated environment. It is perfectly suited for large religious gatherings. The space provides ample room for a stage, sound system, prasad distribution, and decorations and can comfortably accommodate around 250 people. Continuous 24-hour electricity is also available.

Blessed by the sacred presence of Maa Vaishno Devi, the spiritual energy of Ganga–Yamuna, and the serenity of a nearby peaceful waterfall, this venue offers an extremely divine, positive, and spiritually uplifting atmosphere.







Sacred Wish Thread Offering at Maa Vaishno Devi Dham

After completing the sacred Yatra of Maa Vaishno Devi, devotees can tie a wish thread here with faith, purity, and devotion.

While tying the thread, offer your heartfelt wishes and prayers to the Divine Mother. The wish thread symbolizes faith, commitment, and surrender.

It is believed that wishes asked from Maa with a pure heart and true devotion are always heard and fulfilled.

Kindly maintain the sanctity of the premises and place your complete trust in the blessings of the Mother.

Shiv Dham

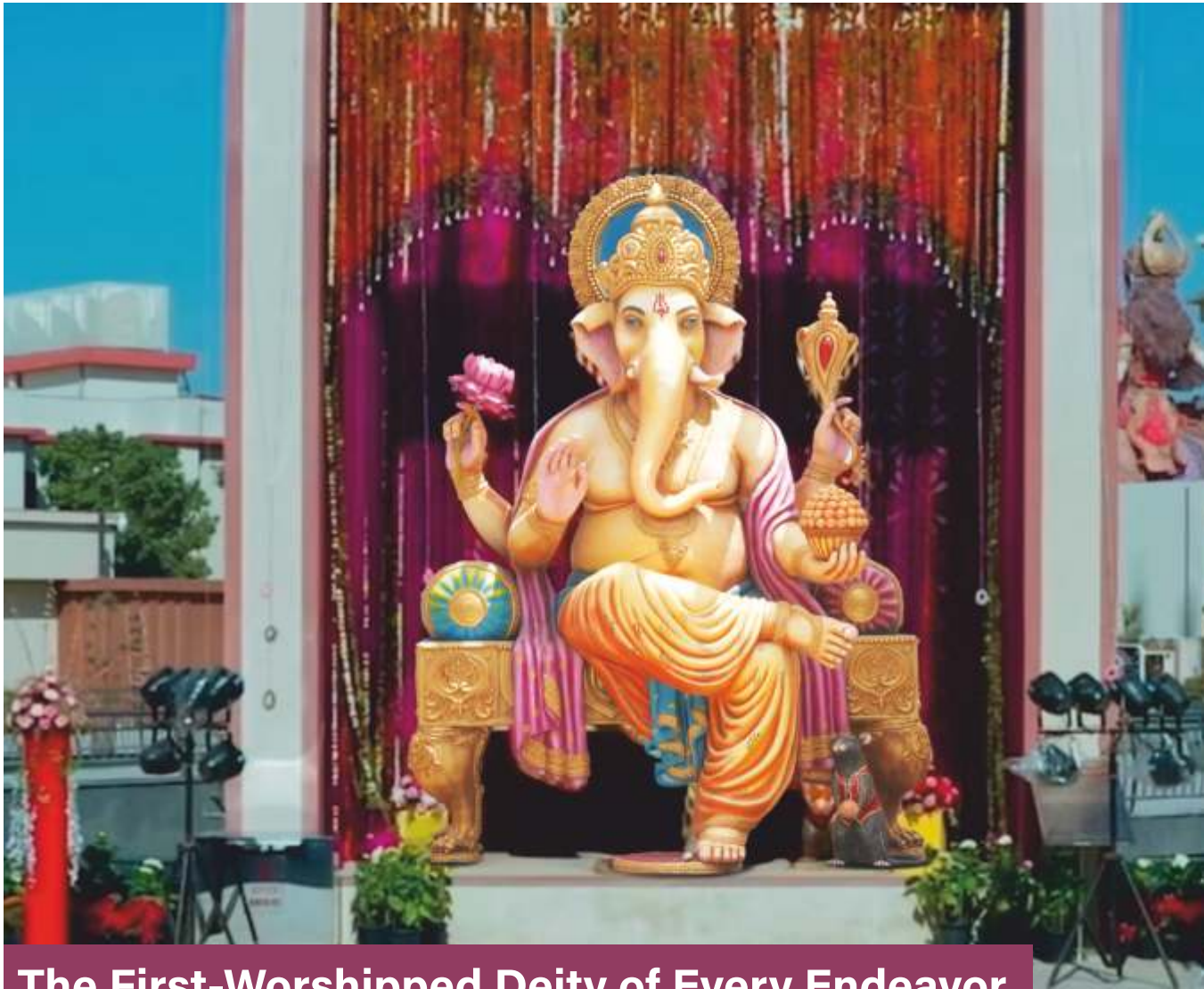
Where devotion, beauty, and peace unite divinely



Shiv Dham: A Divine Blend of Grandeur, Faith, and Peace

There are many temples and statues of Lord Shiva around the world, but some are so **majestic and awe-inspiring** that they become special places for devotees. One such amazing statue is the **175.6-foot-tall idol of Lord Shiva**. Along with it, there is also a record-breaking **187-foot-high Trishul** (trident), which has been recognized in the Guinness World Records. Here, Lord Shiva sits calmly in a **serene meditative pose under the open sky**. When people stand in front of this colossal statue, it feels like Lord Shiva Himself has descended from Mount Kailash to bless this sacred space. The **peaceful and powerful aura** of this statue fills the hearts of devotees with calmness and spiritual energy.





The First-Worshipped Deity of Every Endeavor

As you enter Chaar Dham through Gate No. 4, the first divine sight is that of **Lord Ganesha's magnificent presence**, the beloved son of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati. This **grand idol**, standing 15 feet in height and 13 feet in width, radiates his **auspicious and protective energy**. Lord Ganesha, revered as the remover of obstacles and the giver of blessings, blesses every devotee with his **elephant-headed grace and divine compassion**.

Lord Ganesha: The First-Worshipped and Remover of Obstacles

According to beliefs and Hindu scriptures, Lord Ganesha, also known as Gajanana (the one with an elephant face) and Vighnaharta (the remover of obstacles), is one of the **most cherished and worshipped deities** in Hinduism. He is revered as the **God of wisdom, intellect, and success**, and every auspicious task begins by seeking his blessings. Let us explore his fascinating story and understand why he is worshipped first.



The Story of His Birth

Once, Goddess Parvati created a **beautiful child from turmeric paste** while preparing for a bath. She gave life to him and instructed him to **guard the entrance and allow no one in**.

Soon, Lord Shiva arrived, but the boy stopped him at the gate. Angered, Shiva **severed the boy's head**. Seeing this, Goddess Parvati was heartbroken and furious. To console her, Lord Shiva replaced the boy's head with that of a **baby elephant**, bringing him back to life. From that moment, he was named **Gajanana (elephant-faced)**.

Why Is Ganesha Worshipped First?

A debate once arose between Lord Kartikeya and Lord Ganesha about who should be worshipped first in every ritual. Lord Shiva proposed a challenge: "Whoever circles the entire world and returns first will be honored as the one to be worshipped first." While Lord Kartikeya took off on his swift vehicle, Ganesha quietly circled his parents, Shiva and Parvati, and declared:

"For me, my parents are my entire world."

Pleased with his wisdom and devotion, Shiva blessed him with the title of **Pratham Pujya (the first to be worshipped)**. Since then, no religious ceremony begins without invoking Lord Ganesha.

The Festival of Ganesh Chaturthi

Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated in the month of Bhadrapada (August–September) to mark the **birth of Lord Ganesha**. Devotees bring home beautifully crafted idols of Ganesha and offer **prayers, sweets, and heartfelt devotion**.

Some Interesting Facts About Ganesha

- **12 Sacred Names:** He is known by names like Sumukha, Ekadanta, Kapila, Gajakarna, Lambodara, Vikata, Vighnaraja, Vinayaka, Dhumraketu, Ganadhyaksha, Bhalachandra, and Gajanana.
- **Marriage:** Lord Ganesha married Riddhi (prosperity) and Siddhi (success), and had two sons – Shubh (well-being) and Labha (profit).
- **Mahabharata Connection:** Sage Ved Vyasa dictated the Mahabharata, and Ganesha became the **scribe who immortalized the epic**.



Lord Kartikeya – The God of War, Wisdom, and Victory

After the divine darshan of Lord Ganesha, devotees are blessed with the sight of **Lord Kartikeya's powerful presence**, located to the left of Lord Ganesha. This **grand idol**, measuring 15 feet in height and 13.5 feet in width, depicts the **valiant son of Goddess Parvati and Lord Shiva**, the younger brother of Lord Ganesha. His divine blessings bestow **courage, strength, and success** upon every devotee.

Lord Kartikeya: The God of War and Wisdom

According to beliefs and Hindu scriptures, Lord Kartikeya (also known as Skanda, Murugan, Kumaraswamy, Shanmukha, and Subramanya) is the **revered son of Shiva and Parvati**, celebrated as the god of war and the commander of the divine army. Especially in South India, he holds a **deep cultural and spiritual significance**.



The Story of His Birth

Lord Kartikeya was born to defeat the demon Tarakasura, who had a boon that only Shiva's son could destroy him. To fulfill this, the gods urged Shiva to marry Parvati. After their marriage, a **divine spark** was created, so powerful that even Agni (the fire god) could not contain it. He placed it in the river Ganga, where the energy manifested as **six radiant children**. Goddess Parvati later gathered them and merged them into **one divine being with six faces**, giving birth to Lord Kartikeya, also called **Shanmukha (the six-faced one)**.

Commander of the Gods

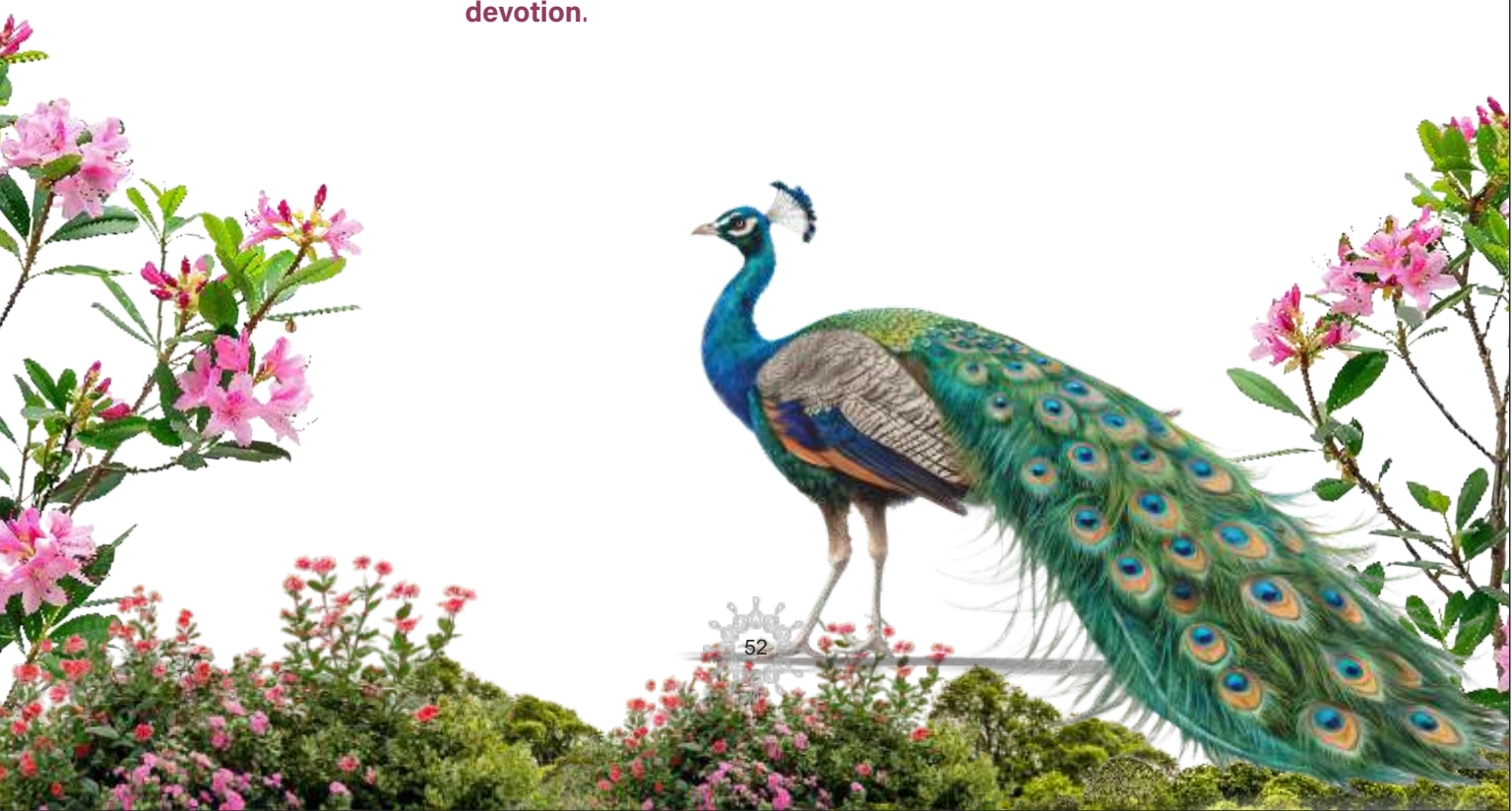
After his birth, Kartikeya mastered **warfare and divine wisdom**, becoming the commander of the gods and defeating Tarakasura. He is therefore a **symbol of strength, discipline, and valor**.

Worship and Significance

In South India, grand temples dedicated to Lord Murugan, such as Palani, Thiruttani, and Swamimalai, are **centers of devotion and celebration**. Festivals like Thaipusam and Skanda Shashti honor his **courage and divine leadership**.

The Message of Kartikeya

While Ganesha represents wisdom and auspiciousness, Kartikeya embodies **strength and heroism**. Some traditions describe him as celibate, while South Indian lore considers him married to Valli and Devasena. His life inspires us to **embrace courage, discipline, and devotion**.





Nandi – Symbol of Devotion, Strength, and Faith

After the darshan of Lord Ganesha and Lord Kartikeya, devotees are blessed with the sight of **Nandi's majestic form**, seated in a 7,600 sq. ft. circular space surrounded by **serene water fountains**. This **grand idol**, measuring 7 feet in height and 11 feet in width, is revered as **Shiva's divine bull and guardian of Kailash**. In Sanskrit, the name "Nandi" signifies **joy and bliss**, symbolizing **devotion, strength, and unwavering service** to Lord Shiva.

Nandi: The Sacred Mount and Devotee of Lord Shiva. Nandi is one of the **most cherished attendants of Lord Shiva**, serving as His sacred mount and gatekeeper. In nearly every Shiva temple, Nandi is seated in front of the Shivlinga, facing it in **deep meditation**. He embodies **pure devotion, strength, and patience**, reminding devotees to cultivate **faith and surrender**.



Symbol of Devotion and Surrender

Nandi represents **unwavering loyalty** and **total devotion** to Lord Shiva, always ready to serve with a heart full of love.

The Divine Gatekeeper

As the **guardian of Mount Kailash**, Nandi protects the entrance to Shiva's abode, ensuring that only the pure-hearted reach Him.

Fulfiller of Wishes

It is believed that whispering your wish into Nandi's ears carries it directly to Lord Shiva, who blesses devotees with **fulfilled prayers and guidance**.

Symbol of Dharma

Nandi is also seen as a **symbol of righteousness and justice**. Ancient rulers placed Nandi idols near their thrones as a reminder to uphold **fairness and dharma**.

The Origin of Nandi

According to legend, Nandi was born to Sage Shilada, who performed **severe penance** to please Lord Shiva. Impressed by his devotion, Shiva blessed Nandi to become his sacred mount and **leader of his divine attendants (Ganas)**.

Nandi in Shiva Temples

In every Shiva temple, Nandi's statue faces the Shivlinga in **silent devotion**, encouraging worshippers to cultivate **patience, humility, and perseverance**.

The Bond Between Nandi and Shiva

The relationship between Nandi and Shiva reflects **deep love, trust, and loyalty**. Nandi's presence beside Shiva is a **testament to perfect service, surrender, and spiritual strength**.





Lord Nataraj – The Divine Dance of Creation and Destruction

To the left of Nandi's statue, devotees are blessed with the **divine darshan of Lord Nataraj**, whose idol slowly rotates on its axis amid serene **water fountains**. This **magnificent idol**, measuring 20 feet in height and 16 feet in width, depicts Lord Shiva as Nataraja, performing the **cosmic dance, the "Tandava,"** symbolizing the rhythm of **creation and destruction**. His divine dance inspires the soul to **break free from worldly attachments** and move towards **self-realization**.

Nataraj: The Cosmic Dance of Shiva and the Mystery of Creation

Lord Nataraj is one of the **most profound and iconic forms** of Lord Shiva, depicted performing the cosmic dance, **Tandava**. This divine form represents the **eternal cycle of creation, preservation, and dissolution**, mirroring the rhythm of the universe and the flow of life itself.



The Divine Elements of Nataraja The Dance (Tandava):

Nataraj's cosmic dance embodies the **dynamic energy of the universe**, portraying the continuous process of **creation and renewal**.

Fire (Symbol of Destruction): In one hand, Shiva holds fire, symbolizing **destruction that clears the way for new beginnings**.

Damaru (The Sound of Creation): The drum in his other hand represents the primordial sound "Om," the **vibration from which the universe was born**.

Abhaya Mudra (Gesture of Fearlessness): The raised hand assures devotees of **protection and liberation from fear**.

Dwarf Under Foot (Conquest of Ignorance): The dwarf crushed beneath his foot represents **ignorance and ego**, which Shiva subdues to establish wisdom.

Ring of Fire (Cycle of Time): The flaming circle around Nataraj represents the **endless cycles of time**, continuously revolving and continuing infinitely.

Serpent (Kundalini Energy): The serpent coiled around Shiva's neck symbolizes **spiritual energy**, waiting to awaken within us.

Who Is Under Nataraj's Feet, and What Is Its Significance?

Under Nataraj's right foot lies Apasmara, a dwarf demon symbolizing **ignorance and arrogance**. Granted immortality, Apasmara tormented sages until Lord Shiva subdued him by pressing him underfoot during his cosmic dance. Shiva's action teaches that **ignorance must be controlled, not destroyed**, to maintain balance between wisdom and unawareness. Thus, Apasmara represents the **triumph of knowledge over delusion**.





Lord Ardhanarishwara – The Divine Union of Shiva and Shakti

To the right of Nandi's statue, devotees are blessed with the darshan of **Lord Ardhanarishwara**, whose idol gently rotates on its axis amidst **flowing fountains**. This **magnificent idol**, measuring 20 feet in height and 12 feet in width, beautifully depicts the combined form of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati. The **right half represents Shiva**, while the **left half represents Parvati**, symbolizing the perfect balance of **masculine and feminine energies** that sustain the universe.

Ardhanarishwara: The Divine Union of Shiva and Shakti

Ardhanarishwara is a **unique and powerful form** where Shiva is depicted as half-male and half-female. This form teaches that **both energies are equally vital**, interdependent, and complementary, revealing the **cosmic balance necessary for creation and existence**.



Meaning of Ardhanarishwara

The word Ardhanarishwara means **“Half Man, Half Woman.”** The **right side embodies Shiva's masculine energy**, while the **left side represents Parvati's feminine power**. Together, they symbolize the **unity of opposites** that form the foundation of life.

The Significance of Ardhanarishwara

This form teaches that **harmony between masculine and feminine energies** is essential for life and spiritual growth. It reminds us that **unity and balance** are the keys to fulfillment and that opposites complement rather than contradict each other.

Why Did Lord Shiva Assume the Ardhanarishwara Form?

According to legend, Lord Brahma, tasked with creating life, became troubled by the endless cycle of birth and death. Seeking guidance, he approached Shiva, who appeared as Ardhanarishwara to reveal that **creation thrives only when both male and female energies unite**. Thus, this form stands as an eternal symbol of **creative energy, balance, and interdependence**.

The Message of Ardhanarishwara

Ardhanarishwara reminds us that **both male and female energies are two sides of the same divine force**, inseparable and essential. Together, they nurture life, love, creativity, and spiritual growth.

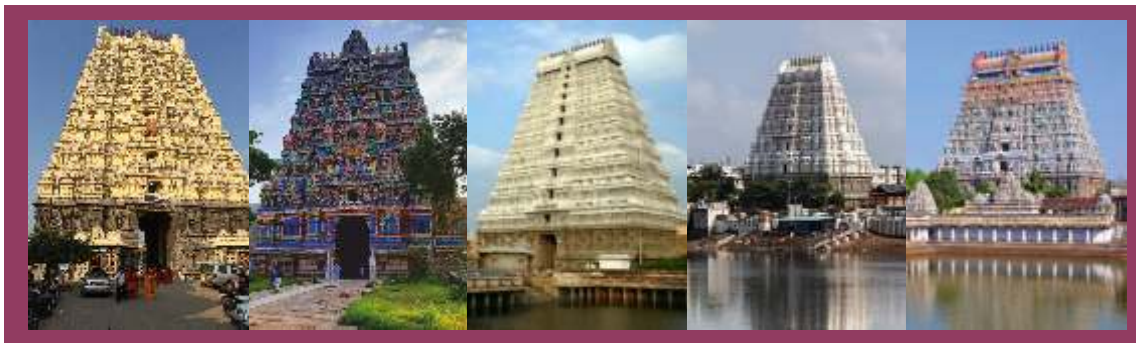




Divine Blessings of Pancha-Bhuteshwara lingas at Shiv Dham

At the sacred **Chaar Dham in Vrindavan**, the manifestation of **Pancha-Bhuteshwara lingas** represents the five elements – Earth, Water, Fire, Air, and Space – symbolizing Lord Shiva's presence in every aspect of creation.

Here, devotees can **experience the divine darshan of Mahadev in his five elemental forms**, all at a single holy site. This **sacred experience is a blessing** for those unable to travel to distant temples but still yearning to immerse themselves in the profound energy of these elements.





In the abode of Lord Shiva, the devotees have the fortune of witnessing the Pancha-Bhuteshwara Lingas

Shivalinga	Established Element	Dimension
Kalahasti Ishwara	Air	Height: 3 feet Diameter: 2.6 feet
Jambukeshwar	Water	Height: 2.5 feet Diameter: 1.3 feet
Arunachaleswar	Fire	Height: 2.5 feet Diameter: 1.3 feet
Ekambareswar	Earth	Height: 2.2 feet Diameter: 1.3 feet
Nataraj Ji	Ether	Height: 2.2 feet Diameter: 2 feet

Pancha-Bhuteshwara Lingas: The Five Elemental Forms of Shiva

The Pancha-Bhuteshwara Lingas are a representation of **five ancient temples**, each dedicated to one of nature's five great elements. Together, they offer a powerful spiritual connection to the forces that shape our world.

The Pancha-Bhuteshwara Lingas and Their Elements

- 1. Earth (Prithvi) – Ekambareswarar Temple, Kanchipuram**
Represents the grounding energy of Earth.
- 2. Water (Jal) – Jambukeswarar Temple, Thiruvanaikaval**
Represents the nourishing energy of Water.
- 3. Fire (Agni) – Arunachaleswarar Temple, Tiruvannamalai**
Represents the transformative energy of Fire.
- 4. Air (Vayu) – Kalahasteeswarar Temple, Srikalahasti**
Represents the life force of Air.
- 5. Space (Akash) – Chidambaram Nataraja Temple, Chidambaram**
Represents the infinite energy of Space.

Worshipping at these sacred Panch-Bhoota Shivalings is believed to bring **peace, wisdom, spiritual strength, and liberation**. Now, at **Chaar Dham, Vrindavan**, all five forces unite in one place, creating a **unique and spiritually powerful pilgrimage destination**.





Pancha-Bhuteshwara Lingas : Significance and Spiritual Essence

The Pancha Bhuta Shiva Lingas hold immense significance in Indian religion, particularly within the Shaiva tradition. The term "Pancha Bhuta" refers to the five great elements—Earth, Water, Fire, Air, and Space (Ether)—from which the entire universe is formed. These five elements are worshipped through five sacred manifestations of Lord Shiva, collectively known as the Pancha Bhuta Lingas.

Characteristics of Each Pancha-Bhuteshwara Linga

Prithvi Linga (Earth Element) – Ekambareswarar, Kanchipuram: This Shiva Linga represents the Earth element and is believed to be formed of earth. Lord Shiva is worshipped here as the supreme controller of the Earth element. Goddess Parvati is said to have performed intense penance at this sacred site. This temple is one of the most prominent Pancha Mahabhuta shrines of South India.

Ap Linga (Water Element) – Jambukeswarar, Tiruchirappalli (Trichy): This Linga symbolizes the Water element. Water continuously flows beneath the Shiva Linga, highlighting its association with this element. Goddess Akhilandeshwari is worshipped here as the embodiment of Shakti.

Agni Linga (Fire Element) – Arunachaleswarar, Tiruvannamalai: Representing the Fire element, this sacred site is renowned for the grand Karthigai Deepam festival. During this festival, a massive flame is lit atop the hill, symbolizing Lord Shiva as the infinite pillar of fire.

Vayu Linga (Air Element) – Sri Kalahasti: This Shiva Linga signifies the Air element. Lord Shiva is worshipped here in the form of Vayu (wind). A remarkable phenomenon at this temple is that lamps continue to flicker even in the absence of any visible airflow, which is regarded as a divine miracle.

Akasha Linga (Space/Ether Element) – Nataraja, Chidambaram: Here, Lord Shiva is worshipped as Nataraja, the cosmic dancer. Unlike other shrines, the Shiva Linga is not visible; instead, the Akasha (space) element is worshipped in the form of divine emptiness. This temple is celebrated as a profound confluence of science, philosophy, and spirituality.

Special Significance: These five Shiva Lingas symbolize the fundamental elements of creation and convey the truth that Lord Shiva embodies the entire universe itself. Pilgrimage to these sacred sites is believed to lead to spiritual elevation, balance of the five elements within the human body, and ultimately, the path toward liberation (moksha).





Jalabhishek Shiva Linga

At the Chaar Dham Shiv Dham Temple, a special Jalabhishek Shiva Linga has been installed for devotees. Here, devotees can perform abhishek by offering water, milk, and other sacred items to the Shiva Linga and receive the divine blessings of Lord Shiva. Water, milk, and all necessary worship materials are conveniently available within the temple complex, allowing devotees to perform Jalabhishek with ease, devotion, and reverence.

Come, offer sacred water to Lord Shiva and receive peace, energy, and positivity in your life.





Important Guidelines for Jalabhishek

Jalabhishek holds a special place in the worship of Lord Shiva. Without it, Shiva worship is considered incomplete. It is believed that performing ritual worship of the Shiva Linga with proper devotion fulfills desires and brings positivity into life. During the sacred month of Shravan, devotees worship not only Lord Shiva but also His entire divine family.

Correct Order for Offering Water

- First, offer water to Lord Ganesha, as he is the first to be worshipped.
- Next, offer water to the Shiva Linga.
- Then, offer water at the feet of Goddess Parvati.
- Finally, offer water to Mother Earth.
- This should be the sub-heading
- While offering water, stand facing the north direction and sit facing the south direction.
- Chant "Om Namah Shivaya" or the Shiva Gayatri Mantra during the ritual.
- Use vessels made of gold, silver, brass, copper, or a clay pot (kalash).
- Perform parikrama (circumambulation) of the Shiv Linga.
- The most auspicious time for Jalabhishek is between 5:00 AM and 11:00 AM.
- Always use both hands while offering water.
- Do not use a conch (shankh) for pouring water on the Shiva Linga.

Should the Water Offered to the Shiva Linga Be Consumed?

Water offered to the Shiva Linga is considered sacred, like Charanamrit, and may be consumed. It is believed that drinking this holy water removes sorrow, relieves mental stress, and brings peace. Sprinkling this water in the home is also considered beneficial, as it helps eliminate negative energies.





Shiv Parivar – The Eternal Source of Harmony, Strength, and Bliss

The **inner sanctum of Shiv Dham**, spanning 7,909 sq. ft., offers devotees a chance to receive blessings from the **divine Shiv Parivar**. At its center stands a **grand idol of Shiv Parivar**, measuring 11 feet in height and 12 feet in width, radiating **divine grace and spiritual energy**. The temple's **intricate carvings and paintings** of Lord Shiva mesmerize visitors, while the surrounding **sacred water reservoir** and **Pancha-Bhuteshwara Lingas** create a serene and uplifting atmosphere.

The Divine Members of the Shiva Family

Lord Shiva, the destroyer of evil and the transformer of the universe, revered as **Mahadev, Neelkanth, Shankar, and Mahesh**. He embodies both **ascetic calm and cosmic power**.



Goddess Parvati

The consort of Shiva, representing **Shakti—the divine energy of creation and nurturing strength**, is worshipped in forms like **Uma, Durga, and Kali**.

Lord Ganesha

The remover of obstacles, deity of **intellect and prosperity**, and beloved son of Shiva and Parvati. Known as the **Lord of new beginnings**, he is the husband of **Riddhi and Siddhi**.

Lord Kartikeya

The warrior God and commander of the divine armies, symbolizing courage, valor, and youthful energy.

Other Sacred Presences

- **Ashok Sundari**, daughter of Shiva and Parvati, is mentioned in the Padma Purana.
- **Nandi**, the sacred bull and devoted mount of Lord Shiva.
- **Ganas**, the celestial attendants appearing in forms like spirits and kinnaras.

The Message of the Shiva Family: This divine household teaches us to:

- **Balance love and strength** to create harmony in life.
- Thrive through **cooperation, devotion, and mutual respect**.
- **Worship the Shiva Family** to invite peace, happiness, and prosperity into our lives.

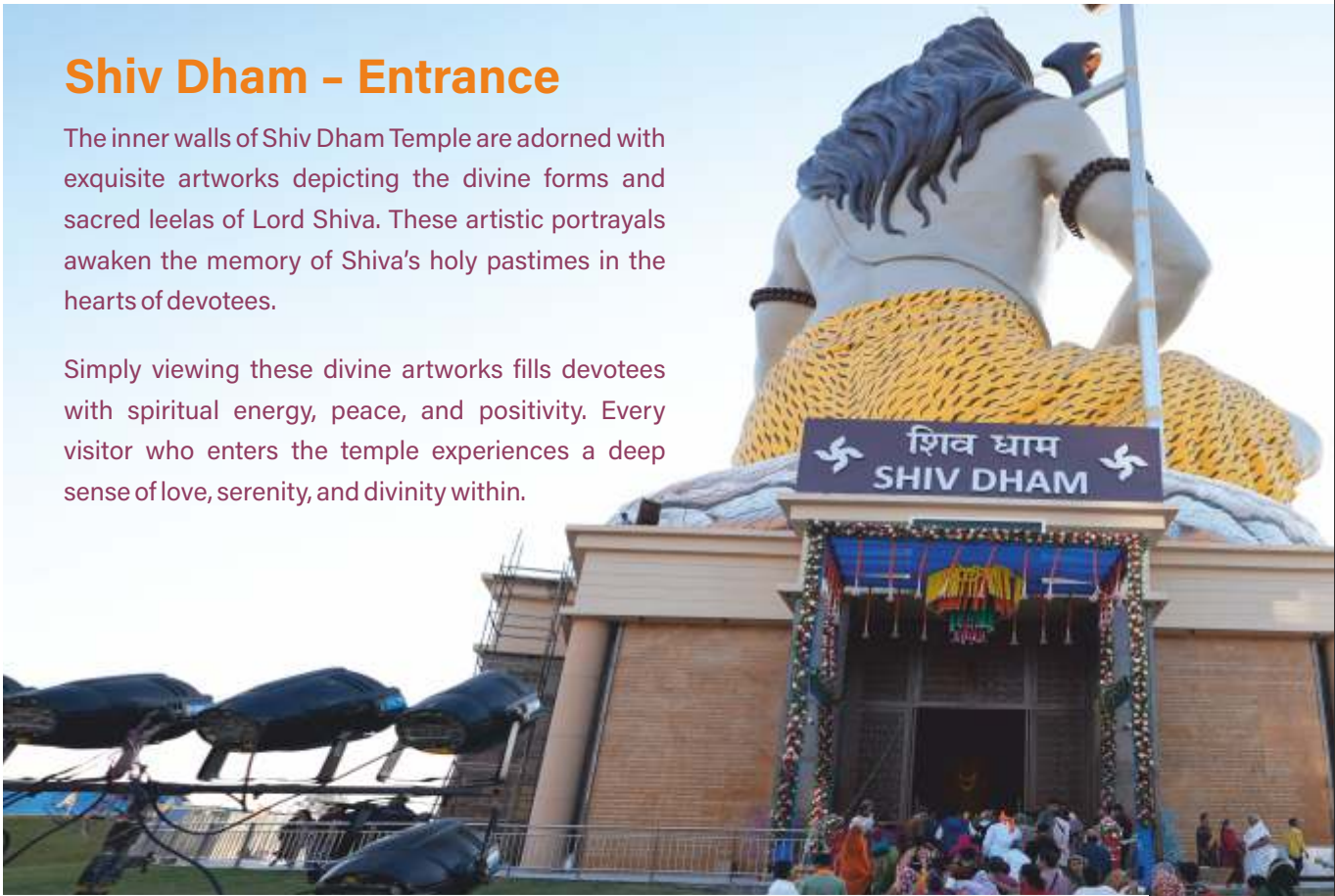
"Wherever the Shiva Family resides, obstacles dissolve, and divine bliss flows endlessly."



Shiv Dham – Entrance

The inner walls of Shiv Dham Temple are adorned with exquisite artworks depicting the divine forms and sacred leelas of Lord Shiva. These artistic portrayals awaken the memory of Shiva's holy pastimes in the hearts of devotees.

Simply viewing these divine artworks fills devotees with spiritual energy, peace, and positivity. Every visitor who enters the temple experiences a deep sense of love, serenity, and divinity within.



This entire composition, spread over an area of 20.10 × 7.09 feet, is a magnificent confluence of Shiva's power, rhythm, and divinity. This artwork beautifully depicts the various divine forms of Lord Shiva. On the left, Shiva's calm and meditative face symbolizes compassion and serenity. In the center, Shiva is in the Nataraja pose, representing creation, preservation, and destruction. On the right is a stern expression with the third eye, Trishul (trident), and damaru (drum), signifying the three gunas and the cosmic sound of creation.



This 20.38 × 7.10 ft artwork depicts Lord Shiva in deep meditation. On the left, Nandi symbolizes devotion. At the center, Shiva sits on a lotus with six hands, four of which hold vessels, representing the five elements and life-giving forces, as the Ganga flows from his matted locks. On the right, the trishul, damaru, and crescent moon embody power, cosmic rhythm, and calmness. This composition reflects Shiva's penance, sacrifice, and compassion as the creator, preserver, and destroyer of the universe.



This artwork, spread across 20.43 × 7.09 ft, showcases the divine Tandava form of Lord Shiva. On the left, the meditative Shiva with Nandi symbolizes devotion. The trishul (trident), damaru (drum), and crescent moon represent Shiva's power, cosmic rhythm, and serenity. At the center and right, the Nataraja's Tandava form signifies the cosmic rhythm of creation, preservation, and destruction.





This artwork, measuring 20.47 × 7.07 feet, is a magnificent depiction of Lord Shiva's family and wisdom-filled form. On the left, Shiva is seated in deep meditation. Beside him, Nandi the bull symbolizes devotion and service, while Kartikeya and Goddess Parvati sit nearby, reflecting the grace of Shiva-Parvati's household life. At the center, Lord Ganesha is seated, representing wisdom, prosperity, and auspiciousness. The surrounding natural beauty conveys the message of simplicity and balance in life. On the right, Lord Shiva and his ascetic yogic form are depicted. In the background, the churning of the ocean and mountain ranges symbolize Shiva's completeness and cosmic power. This entire composition is a divine confluence of Shiva's penance, wisdom, and the serene atmosphere of his family life.



This artwork, created in a composition of 20.43 × 7.9 feet, depicts Lord Shiva in his standing in cosmic space, surrounded by planets, stars, and galaxies, revealing his cosmic presence. In this form, he is beyond worldly attachments, meditating in cremation grounds and places of intense austerity, detached from the world and the knower of the secrets of the universe. This form of Lord Shiva inspires devotees to embrace sacrifice, inner strength, victory over the fear of death, and the pursuit of deep spiritual discipline in life.



This artwork, measuring 20.41 × 7.8 feet, depicts three forms of Lord Shiva together. On the left, Shiva is shown seated in a meditative posture, symbolizing inner peace and detachment. At the center, Shiva is in a yogic asana with a divine aura behind him, representing his form as the awakener of inner energy through yoga. On the right, Shiva is seen meditating beside the Shiva Linga, with a serpent hood spread behind him, reflecting his profound tantric and ascetic aspect. The vast ocean and sky in the background depict the infinite cosmic form of Lord Shiva. Lord Shiva is revered as Adiyogi, the first yogi, and the guardian of yoga, meditation, and all arts. According to ancient legends, Shiva first imparted the knowledge of yoga to his seven disciples, the Saptarishis, on the banks of Kanti Sarovar in the Himalayas. It is believed that Shiva has complete mastery over all dimensions of yoga—body, mind, and consciousness—and he is the supreme guru of asana and meditation practices.



This artwork, created in the composition of 20.08 × 7.07 feet, depicts Lord Shiva in his Nataraja form, performing the cosmic Tandava dance. This form of Shiva symbolizes not only the cycle of creation, preservation, and destruction but also establishes him as the originator and protector of music and dance. At the center, Lord Shiva is shown dancing in the Tandava posture with one foot placed upon Apasmara (the demon of ignorance). In the background, artists and devotees are seen playing musical instruments, participating in the divinity of Shiva's Tandava, and bringing its rhythm to life. The depiction of conch shells, drums, mridangas, and various instruments signifies the origin and significance of music. This form of Lord Shiva as Nataraja teaches us that music and dance are not merely art forms, but a path to conquer ignorance and to maintain energy, balance, and creativity in life.

A Divine Journey Through the Sacred Symbols of Mahadev

At Shiv Dham, sacred symbols of Lord Shiva adorn the temple walls, creating a beautiful harmony of devotion and divinity. The Tripundra, Damaru, Trishul, Rudraksha, and other Shiva symbols enhance the temple's grandeur and make devotees feel the living presence of Mahadev.

These divine symbols awaken a deep spiritual vibration, inspiring meditation, surrender, and inner peace. Each symbol carries profound meaning, representing wisdom, balance, self-discipline, and cosmic energy, guiding seekers on the path of truth and spirituality.

Every view at Shiv Dham reminds us that Shiva is not outside us; He resides within—waiting to be experienced.







Radha Krishna Dham

Experience the divine union of devotion
and love with Radha and Krishna.



Radha Krishna Dham

Radha Krishna Dham is situated on the sacred land of Vrindavan within the Chaar Dham complex. The Radha Krishna Dham Temple stands 123 feet tall, with an interior area of 4,788 square feet. beautiful artworks depicting the life of Lord Krishna remind devotees of his divine pastimes.

At the temple entrance, a magnificent representation of Govardhan Hill can be seen, where Lord Krishna is depicted holding the hill in his finger, offering a truly awe-inspiring sight. To its left, there is a vivid and captivating depiction of Lord Krishna subduing the serpent Kaliya in the Yamuna River.



Here, devotees experience love and devotion while witnessing the divine form of Lord Krishna's beloved flute on this Love Mountain, a symbol of love. Seeing Lord Krishna playing the flute is itself a deeply blissful experience for the devotees. It is said that when Lord Krishna played his flute in Vrindavan, the trees, plants, animals, birds, and all people would lose themselves in its sweet melody. It would feel as if nature itself were swaying to the tune of His flute. According to a famous legend, Lord Krishna would communicate with Radha Ji through the sweet sound of his flute, a message that only Radha Ji could understand.

This Dham is not merely a temple; it offers devotees a spiritual journey filled with love, devotion, and peace. Within the sanctum, divine idols of Radha and Krishna, crafted from Ashtadhatu (an eight-metal alloy), are installed, and just by witnessing these sacred deities, the heart of every devotee is filled with reverence and tranquility.

The beauty of Radha Krishna Dham lies in its remarkable craftsmanship and serene spiritual atmosphere, where every devotee finds themselves completely immersed in love and devotion.





Kaliya Naag Mardan – The Divine Leela of Krishna

To the left of the Govardhan Parvat, a vivid and captivating sculpture depicts Lord Krishna subduing the serpent Kaliya in the Yamuna River. The sculpture is 12 feet high, 10.5 feet wide and 10 feet in diameter, creating a lifelike scene that inspires devotion in all who witness it. Among the many enchanting and inspiring stories from Lord Krishna's childhood pastimes, the subduing of Kaliya (Kaliya Naag Mardan) holds a special place. In this divine act, Lord Krishna crushed the pride of the serpent Kaliya and freed the Yamuna River from his deadly poison.

According to the legends, Kaliya was a son of Kadru and belonged to the serpent race of the Pannaga. Initially, he lived on the island of Ramanaka, but due to enmity with Garuda, he had to leave and eventually settled in the Yamuna River. Kaliya created a poisonous pool in the Yamuna, and due to his venom, the water would constantly boil. The toxic air around the pool would scorch trees and plants along the river banks, and even the birds flying above would fall dead due to the poison.



When Lord Krishna saw that Kaliya's poison was troubling the people of Vrindavan and polluting the sacred Yamuna, He decided to teach Kaliya a lesson. One day, Krishna was playing ball with his friends. During the game, the ball fell into the Yamuna. The child whose ball it was began insisting, "Krishna, please get my ball back." To fulfill his friend's request, Krishna climbed a Kadamba tree and jumped into the Yamuna to retrieve the ball.

As Krishna began playfully splashing in the water, Kaliya became enraged upon seeing a young boy fearlessly enjoying the poisonous waters. In his anger, Kaliya approached Krishna and captured him in his coils. Seeing this, the people of Gokul, the gopis, cows, Mother Yashoda, and Nanda Baba all became worried and deeply distressed.

When Krishna saw that his play had caused such concern among his devotees, Krishna expanded His divine form and freed himself from Kaliya's coils. Krishna then climbed onto Kaliya's head and began to dance gracefully. Kaliya is described as having a hundred heads, and each time he tried to raise one, Krishna would gently step on it, forcing him down. Eventually, Kaliya became weak and helpless and sought refuge in Lord Krishna.

At that moment, Kaliya's wives approached Krishna and prayed,

"Lord, whatever you do is for the welfare of all beings. Please forgive my husband's mistakes and return him to me."

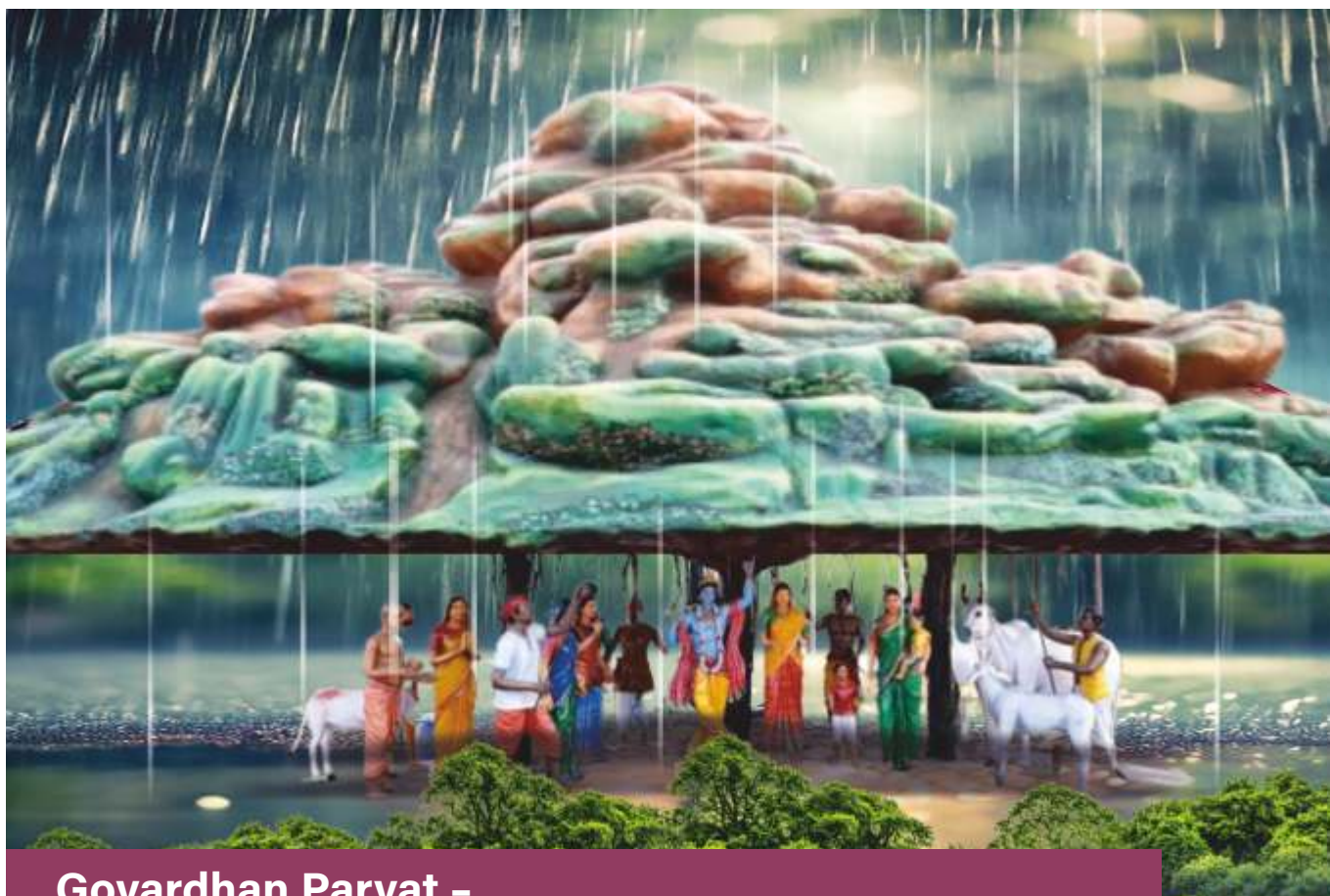
Lord Krishna, full of compassion, said to Kaliya,

"You should no longer stay here. Now that my footprints are upon your body, Garuda will no longer harm you. Leave this place immediately with your family."

After bowing to Krishna with deep gratitude, Kaliya left the Yamuna with his family. By Krishna's divine grace, the waters of the Yamuna became pure and life-giving once again.

Whenever injustice and evil increase in the world, the Lord incarnates to protect His devotees and restore balance. Through this Leela, Krishna showed that no matter how venomous or arrogant one may be, when they surrender at the Lord's feet, their end transforms into their welfare and the welfare of the world.





Govardhan Parvat – The divine mountain that removes devotees’ sorrows and showers boundless grace.

Near Radha Krishna Dham, a replica of Govardhan Parvat has been constructed with a length of 30 feet, a width of 15 feet, and a height of 12 feet. In beautiful and intricate artwork, it depicts how Lord Krishna lifted Govardhan Parvat on His little finger to protect the people of Gokul from the floods sent by Indra, the king of the gods. This sacred hill, also known as Giriraj Parvat, is located in the Mathura district, Uttar Pradesh, India. It is an important pilgrimage site in Hinduism, especially for devotees of Lord Krishna. During the Dwapar Yuga, Lord Krishna inspired the people of Gokul and Vrindavan to worship Govardhan Parvat. Since then, devotees have been worshipping this sacred mountain with deep faith and devotion.

Historical Significance of Govardhan Parvat

The history of Govardhan Parvat is connected to the Mahabharata. According to one legend, during his pilgrimage, Rishi Pulastya came near Govardhan Parvat and was mesmerized by its beauty. He requested Dronachal Parvat, the father of Govardhan, to give him his son so that he could take him to Kashi and establish him there for worship.



Dronachal was saddened to part with his son, but Govardhan Parvat told the sage that he would go with him under one condition:

"Wherever you place me on the ground, I will stay there permanently."

Sage Pulastya agreed to this condition. Govardhan then said:

"I am eight yojanas long (about 64 miles), five yojanas wide (about 40 miles), and two yojanas high (about 16 miles). How will you take me to Kashi?"

Pulastya Rishi replied, "With the power of my penance, I will lift you on my palm." Govardhan Parvat agreed and accompanied the sage.

Govardhan's desire to stay in Braj

While passing through Braj Bhumi, Govardhan thought, "Lord Krishna will perform many divine pastimes here during his childhood and youth. If I remain here, I will be able to witness His divine leelas." Thinking this, Govardhan Parvat began to feel heavier in the sage's hand.

Feeling the need to rest, Pulastya Rishi placed Govardhan down in Braj, forgetting his promise that he should not place the mountain down anywhere. After some time, when the sage tried to lift the mountain again, Govardhan spoke:

"O Sage, I can no longer move from here. I had already informed you that wherever you place me, I will remain there permanently."

Pulastya Rishi tried to take him by force, but the mountain would not budge. Angered, the sage cursed Govardhan:

"Since you did not fulfill my wish, you will diminish gradually, little by little every day, and one day, you will merge completely into the earth."

Since then, Govardhan Parvat has been gradually sinking into the earth, and it is said that by the end of Kalyug, it will be completely merged into the ground.

The Significance of Govardhan Parikrama

Govardhan Parikrama refers to circumambulating the sacred mountain with faith and devotion. Devotees walk barefoot around Govardhan Parvat, completing a parikrama of approximately 21 kilometers, which is believed to bestow immense spiritual merit and blessings.

The Parikrama traditionally begins and ends at Mukharai Village. However, Govardhan Parikrama is not merely a religious ritual; it is a journey of devotion, love, and inner purification. Every step in this journey is offered at the feet of Lord Krishna, each place on the path bears witness to his divine pastimes, and every devotee walking this path feels the touch of the Lord's presence in the sacred land of Braj.



Love Mountain The Beloved Flute of Shri Krishna – A Symbol of Love, Devotion, and Sweetness

At Chaar Dham Vrindavan, on the Mountain of Love (Prem Ke Prateek Parvat), the divine and enchanting form of Lord Shri Krishna's beloved flute is installed. Here, devotees experience the Lord's love, sweetness, and compassion through the darshan of this sacred flute.

Lord Shiva Gifted Krishna the Flute

During the Dwapar Yuga, Lord Vishnu incarnated on Earth as Lord Shri Krishna, and to witness this divine form, various deities descended to Earth in different forms. According to legend, Lord Shiva also wished to meet Krishna and wondered what unique and special gift he could offer that Krishna would always keep with him. It then occurred to Shiva that he possessed a powerful bone from Sage Dadhichi's body. Shiva fashioned this bone into a beautiful flute and presented it to Lord Krishna when he met him on Earth. From that day, Lord Krishna has always kept the flute with him, and his adornment is considered incomplete without it.



Another Legend About Krishna Receiving the Flute

According to another story, Krishna first received a flute from a flute seller named Dhvan. When the seller asked Krishna to play it, he was spellbound by the Lord's sweet melody. The flute, crafted from bamboo, became the dearest to Lord Krishna and is known by various names such as Vamsi, Venu, Vanshika, and Murali.

Other Names of Krishna's Flute

Among the many symbols of Lord Krishna, the flute is prominent and is seen in every image of him. As the flute-loving Lord, Krishna is also known by many names, such as Bansi, Venu, Vanshika, Bansidhar, and Muralidhar. The Shrimad Bhagavat Purana also contains many stories related to Krishna's flute. Interestingly, the word "Vanshi" (flute), when reversed, forms "Shiv," symbolizing Shiva within the flute. Shiva captivates the entire universe with His love, and the scriptures testify to the inseparable bond between Shiva and Vishnu. Both complement each other, and their speech and conduct are as sweet as Krishna's flutes are known by names like Mahananda, Sammohini, Aakarshini, and the largest of them, Anandini.

When Krishna Broke His Flute

It is believed that during Krishna's last meeting with Radha, he asked her for a final wish, and Radha expressed Her desire to hear the melody of His flute once more. Listening to the divine music, Radha left Her mortal body, and unable to bear the pain of separation, Krishna broke His flute and discarded it.

The Flute – a Symbol of Love and Devotion

Lord Krishna's flute is not merely a musical instrument; it is a symbol of love, devotion, and connection with the Divine. Whenever we behold Krishna's flute, it teaches us to empty ourselves of ego and to fill our lives with the sweetness and compassion of the Lord.





Lord Garuda Symbol of Devotion, Courage, and Humility

The divine statue of Lord Garuda, located a short distance from the main gate of Radha-Krishna Temple at Krishna Dham, Chaar Dham Vrindavan, reminds every devotee of devotion, courage, and dedication. Measuring approximately 10 feet in width, 12 feet in height, and 6 feet in depth, this grand sculpture symbolizes the vastness and strength of Garuda Ji. While Garuda Ji is revered as the vehicle of Lord Vishnu, he is much more than a vehicle - he is a symbol of righteousness, service, and humble devotion.

In this statue, Garuda Ji stands with wings spread wide and hands folded in deep reverence. The expression on his face radiates brilliance, gentleness, and calm, instilling positivity and devotion in every devotee who beholds Him. His wings represent his power and swiftness to soar across the skies, yet his bowed head before the Lord teaches us that no matter how powerful one may be, true life lies in bowing with humility and devotion at the feet of the divine.



Behind the statue, the giant hands of Lord Krishna holding the flute symbolize divine love and melody, filling the entire Chaar Dham complex with peace and divinity. It is believed that the mere sight of Garuda Ji helps remove serpent doshas (afflictions), fear, and obstacles from one's life while attracting the special blessings of Lord Krishna and Lord Vishnu.

Garuda Ji is known by many names, including Vinayak, Garutmat, Taatarshya, Vaainteya, Nagantaka, Vishnurath, Khageshwar, and Suparna. He is revered in both Hinduism and Buddhism. The Mahabharata also mentions the Garuda flag, and the Garuda Purana is regarded as a significant text guiding souls before and after death.

Inspiring Stories of Garuda Ji:

Garuda Ji was born in Satyuga and to free his mother Vinata from the slavery of serpents, he courageously and wisely brought the pot of nectar from the heavens, demonstrating exemplary valor and devotion. Impressed by his selflessness, Lord Vishnu blessed him with immortality and the honor of becoming his vehicle.

In Treta Yuga, when Lord Rama was bound by the Nagapasha (serpent noose), Garuda Ji freed him by defeating all the serpents, clearing his doubts about Lord Rama's divinity after hearing the Ramayana from Lord Shiva and Kakabhushundi.

In the Dwapara Yuga, when Garuda Ji, the Sudarshan Chakra, and Satyabhama developed pride in their respective powers, Lord Krishna crafted a divine play to dissolve their ego. Garuda Ji was sent to bring Lord Hanuman, but Hanuman arrived before Garuda, humbling Garuda Ji's pride. This divine play dissolved the pride of Satyabhama's beauty, Sudarshan Chakra's power, and Garuda Ji's speed, leading them to bow at the feet of the Lord.

The statue of Garuda Ji installed at Krishna Dham is not merely an architectural marvel but also serves as a living inspiration for every visitor, reminding them of the true purpose of life – devotion, humility, and complete surrender to the Lord.





Where Every Symbol Speaks of Krishna's Divine Presence

Along the outer walls of the Radha-Krishna Dham Temple, numerous divine objects and symbols associated with Lord Shri Krishna are crafted with great beauty and artistic finesse. These elements are not mere decorations; they serve as a profound remembrance of Krishna's life, His divine pastimes, and His eternal form. Surrounding the temple, one finds sacred symbols such as Shri Krishna's flute, peacock feather, conch, discus, mace, lotus flower, and even references to the Bhagavad Gita, each carrying deep spiritual meaning. Each object is created with such elegance, delicacy, and devotion that the very sight of them draws the mind into the infinite leelas of Shri Krishna.

The flute reminds one of Krishna's enchanting melodies, while the butter pot evokes the playful charm of Bal Gopal. The peacock feather shines as a symbol of His divine beauty, and the sacred footprints give the feeling that Krishna Himself once walked by these walls. Each symbol tells its own story of love, devotion, compassion, and joy. Merely beholding them fills the devotee with a gentle spiritual energy. The mind becomes calm, the heart feels light, and a sense of divine positivity awakens within, as if Krishna is lovingly bestowing his blessings through these symbols, whispering, "May My remembrance always remain with you."

Thus, the Krishna-related motifs adorning the outer walls of the Radha-Krishna Dham Temple are not just works of art, but a living spiritual experience. Every visitor who gazes upon them feels a sweet touch of love, peace, and devotion, and experiences the deep presence of Krishna within the heart.



Kadamba Tree- A Symbol of Devotion, Love, and Krishna's Memories



Lotus Flower-The Sacred Connection Between Lord Krishna



Sudarshan Chakra-Symbol of Krishna's Divinity & Protection of Dharma



The Divine Golden Gita Model at Krishna Dham: A Living Guide to Timeless Wisdom



Kaumodaki (Gada)- Symbol of Strength and Justice



Panchajanya Shankh- Symbol of Victory, Dharma, and Krishna's Power



Krishna's Flute-A Melody of Love, Devotion, and Divine Grace



Peacock Feather- The Divine Bond Between Krishna and the Peacock Feather





When Every Wall Tells a Story of Love, Leela, and Dharma

The inner walls of the Radha-Krishna Dham Temple appear like a living spiritual gallery. Here, numerous sacred leelas, events, and divine moments from the life of Lord Shri Krishna are artistically depicted. Each painting is created with such fine detail and deep love that the viewer feels transported to the very time and place of those divine pastimes. In one scene, Bal Gopal is seen smiling as he steals butter, while in another, Shri Krishna enchants the hearts of the people of Braj with the sweet melody of his flute. Elsewhere, the beautiful Raas Leela of Radha and Krishna unfolds, and in some places, Krishna's heroic form is shown ending the tyranny of King Kansa and protecting dharma. Every form and every divine emotion of the Lord is portrayed on these walls with exceptional beauty and grace. The moment a devotee gazes upon these artworks, a unique sense of divinity begins to flow into the heart.

The spiritual energy emanating from these paintings calms the mind of the devotee and draws the soul into the love of the Lord. It feels as though Krishna Himself, through his leelas, is gently conveying the message, "Do not worry; I am always with you." Whoever comes here does not merely see a temple, but experiences the ever-flowing presence of Krishna. Every line, every color, and every form on the walls awakens feelings of love, devotion, and peace within the devotee. The mind naturally becomes tranquil, and the heart is filled with a sweet, sacred joy. Thus, the artworks within the Radha-Krishna Dham Temple are not just paintings, but divine glimpses infused with spiritual energy, planting the message of Krishna's love in the heart of every visitor and creating a lasting, heartfelt connection with this holy abode.



This mural on the wall of Radha Krishna Mandir, measuring 12.67 × 5.47 feet, is a divine depiction of Baby Krishna with Mother Yashoda and Nand Baba. The painting illustrates the sacred moment when, witnessing Krishna's miraculous childhood pastimes, Yashoda and Nand Baba wondered whether Krishna would follow the path of scriptures (Shashtra) or weapons (Shashtra) in life. In this episode, Krishna chose the path of knowledge and dharma, indicating that the true purpose of human life is to walk the path of wisdom and righteousness. Later, on the battlefield of Kurukshetra, Krishna delivered the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita to Arjuna, which became a timeless guide for humanity on dharma, duty, devotion, and knowledge. Krishna taught that one should walk the path of knowledge and peace, and only take up arms when it is necessary for the protection of righteousness.



This mural, measuring 13.23 × 5.48 feet, is a divine depiction of Lord Krishna, Mother Yashoda, and Radha. On the left, Krishna is shown playing the flute in his enchanting form. In the center, Krishna is seen running away in fear of punishment after mischievously breaking a pot of butter, while Mother Yashoda tries to catch him. On the right, Radha is shown with a flute. This artwork beautifully portrays the deep, unconditional, spiritual love and devotion between Krishna and Radha, who loved each other selflessly and purely.



This mural, measuring 13.27 × 5.53 feet, beautifully depicts the divine forms of Lord Krishna and His elder brother Balarama. In a lush natural setting along the serene lakeside, Balarama is shown holding a plough and mace, while Krishna plays the flute, spreading a message of joy and love. A cow is also depicted alongside them, symbolizing the tradition of cow service in Gokul and Vrindavan and reminding us of Krishna and Balarama's life as cowherds. This artwork represents the mutual love, brotherhood, protection of dharma, and joyful life of Krishna and Balarama. It inspires devotees to live a life of simplicity, love, righteousness, and devotion.



This mural, measuring 12.52 × 5.45 feet, beautifully depicts the divine Raas Leela of Lord Krishna. Amidst a lush natural setting with trees and serene waters, Krishna is shown playing the flute while performing the Raas Leela with the Gopis. The Gopis, dressed in colorful attire, are dancing around Krishna, immersed in joy and devotion. This painting illustrates the sacred moment of the Raas Leela, where Krishna, through the divine union of devotion and love, granted the Gopis the experience of spiritual bliss. Vanshi Vat is one of Krishna's most beloved Raas Leela sites, the place where Radha and Shyam perform many divine, love-filled pastimes with the Gopis. This scene inspires devotees towards love, devotion, and complete surrender, showing that true happiness in life can be attained by immersing oneself in love and devotion to the Lord.



This mural, measuring 12.61×5.46 feet, beautifully portrays the divine love and eternal bond of Lord Krishna and Radha Rani amidst the breathtaking beauty of nature. Surrounded by lush green mountains, cascading waterfalls, blooming flowers, and serene waters, the divine couple is depicted seated gracefully on a swing beneath a tree, radiating peace, love, and spiritual bliss. The enchanting scenery, filled with vibrant colors and natural harmony, symbolizes purity, devotion, and the joyful essence of divine companionship. This artwork captures a sacred moment of love and serenity, inspiring viewers towards inner peace, faith, and devotion.



This picture, measuring 12.61×5.46 feet, captures the sacred moment of the auspicious festival of Gopashtami — a day considered one of the most significant among all the divine pastimes of Lord Shri Krishna. Celebrated on the eighth day (Ashtami) of the Kartik month, Gopashtami marks the first time when Nand Maharaj sent his sons, Krishna and Balaram, to graze cows. On this holy day, Lord Krishna would walk barefoot in the dust, leaving footprints of divine grace wherever he stepped. This is one of the reasons why the beauty of Vrindavan is considered extraordinary. The image beautifully portrays the moment when Krishna, Balaram, Sudama, and their companions are seen for the first time leading the cows out to graze. Surrounded by lush greenery, the gentle flow of a nearby river, and serene natural beauty, this journey becomes even more enchanting. This picture is a vivid representation of our cultural and historical heritage.



This picture, measuring 12.76 × 5.45 feet, captures a sacred moment that symbolizes the divine love and spiritual unity of Radha and Krishna. Their union is not physical, but considered the highest expression of soulful and transcendental love. Shri Krishna, in his characteristic blue form, is adorned with yellow garments (Pitambar). His radiant face glows with divine brilliance, and his posture exudes peace and love. Seated beside Him to His left is Radha Rani, dressed in traditional pink and green attire that reflects her grace and gentleness. In Radha Rani's hand is a pot filled with water, seemingly drawn from the nearby river — symbolizing her spirit of service and surrender. The divine couple is seated upon a rock, with serene waterfalls flowing behind them, surrounded by lush greenery and colorful flowers, creating a heavenly atmosphere. This image serves as a source of meditation and devotion for all devotees who wish to absorb the sacred love and divine pastimes of Radha and Krishna into their lives.



This painting, measuring 12.61 × 5.46 feet, portrays the divine love, beauty, and deep connection of Radha and Krishna with nature in an exceptionally captivating manner. It is not just a picture, but a vivid experience of devotion, love, and spiritual essence. In this divine artwork, Lord Shri Krishna, in his dark-hued (Shyamvarn) form, is seen standing affectionately beside Radha Rani. She is adorned in traditional red attire, radiates a celestial beauty that symbolizes love, modesty, and gentleness. Behind them lies a tranquil blue lake, surrounded by flowering trees and far-stretching green mountains, which add a heavenly charm to the scene. This painting symbolizes the soulful and spiritual love of Radha and Krishna — a love not confined by worldly bonds, but rather, an expression of the union between the soul and the Supreme Being.



This magnificent artwork, crafted in the dimensions of 12.75 × 5.43 feet, vividly captures the divine love of Radha and Krishna, the festivity of Holi, and the spiritual richness of Braj culture. It is not merely an image, but a soul-stirring reflection of devotion, color, and eternal love. In this mural, Lord Krishna, depicted in his graceful dark (Shyam) complexion and dressed in golden-yellow garments (Pitambar), is shown joyfully coloring Radha with vibrant hues. Radha, adorned in traditional red attire, stands with a gentle smile and a shy expression, radiating beauty, grace, and divine charm. Surrounding them is a breathtaking natural setting - lush greenery, the shade of trees, and a serene lake — creating an almost celestial atmosphere that enhances the divine aura of the scene.

According to Hindu mythology, Krishna would travel from Mathura and Nandgaon to Barsana to play Holi with his beloved Radha and her companions. In Braj, Holi is not merely a festival of colors, but a spiritual celebration of divine love. It is observed with great devotion, joy, and cultural fervor over several days. Various forms of Holi — such as Lathmar Holi, Phoolon ki Holi (Flower Holi), and Rangbhari Holi — reflect the deep-rooted traditions and faith of the people of Braj. This mural not only depicts the joy of Holi, but also stands as a symbol of love, devotion, and India's rich cultural heritage. It reminds devotees of the divine play (Leela) of Radha and Krishna, where love flows like color, and devotion rains down like vibrant hues, soaking every heart in spiritual bliss.

Shani Dham

Justice, Discipline, and the Power of Karma



Shani Dham Temple, Vrindavan

A Grand Spiritual Abode of Justice and Cosmic Energy

The renowned Shani Temple at Chaar Dham, Vrindavan is dedicated to Lord Shani, the deity of justice and one of the nine celestial planets in Hindu astrology. This temple is not only revered for its divine spiritual energy, but it also stands out due to its unique architecture, vast structure, and deep religious significance. The temple reaches a height of approximately 95 feet, and the total inner area spans around 4,799 square feet, reflecting the grandeur and artistic excellence of its architecture.

Inside the temple, the walls are adorned with depictions of various forms of Lord Shani, illustrating his power, grace, discipline, and divine justice. These depictions are not only artistically striking but also serve as spiritual lessons, offering deep insights into the principles of karma and dharma.

Navagraha Worship – A Bridge to Balance and Inner Peace

In Indian culture and Hindu philosophy, Navagraha Puja holds immense spiritual significance based on the ancient science of Vedic astrology, this practice recognizes that all life events are, in some way, influenced by the positions and movements of the nine planets. Hence, before initiating any auspicious ceremony or during challenging phases of life, worshipping the Navagrahas is considered a vital spiritual remedy. It is believed to appease negative planetary forces and attract positive energy and blessings.

This serves as a powerful reminder that all planets are interconnected, and each exerts influence over our destiny, emotions, intellect, and actions, thus highlighting the holistic approach of Hindu astrology.



The Wish Wall – Where Devotion Meets Karma

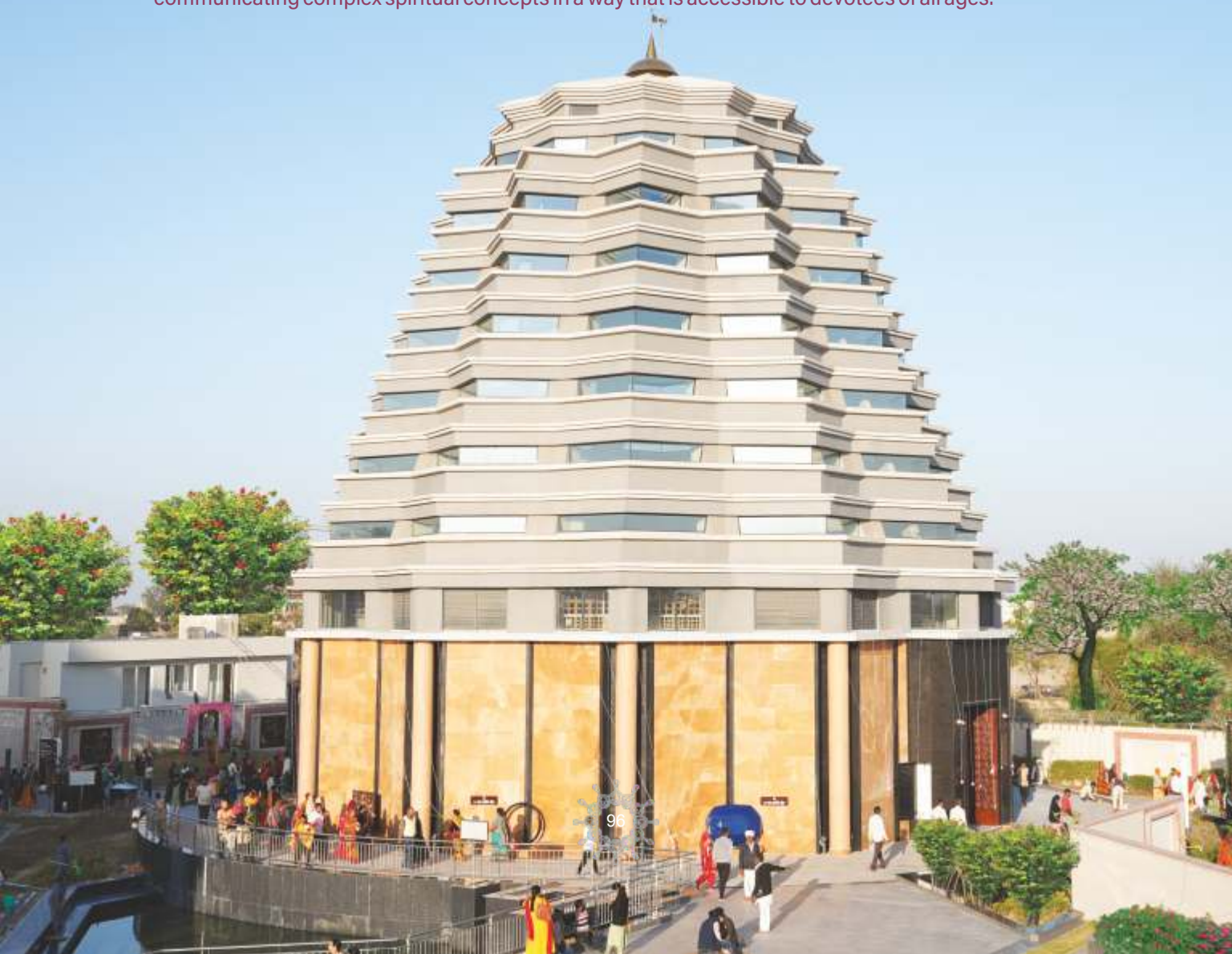
Within the temple complex lies the sacred “Mannat Ki Deewar” (Wish Wall) — a deeply revered site where devotees tie threads and offer heartfelt prayers for the fulfillment of their desires. However, this wall is more than a symbol of hope; it is a testament to faith and righteous action. It reminds visitors that Lord Shani blesses not merely through prayers, but through sincere, truthful, and selfless deeds. True grace from Shani Dev is earned through disciplined and ethical living.

Symbolic Structures – Time, Karma, and Divine Order

Among the temple’s standout features are the Sun Chariot, Sun Dial, and symbolic representations of Shani Dev’s vahanas (vehicles). These artistic elements reflect cosmic principles the Chariot of the Sun and the Wheel of Time symbolically represent the uninterrupted flow of time and the certainty of karmic outcomes. Just as the Sun moves tirelessly, so too does the cycle of action and consequence a central theme in Shani Dev’s teachings.

Vastu and Sculptural Grandeur – Astrology in Visual Form

The outer walls of the temple feature intricately designed models of objects associated with Shani Dev, seamlessly blending Vedic astrology and traditional Indian craftsmanship. These sculptures not only elevate the aesthetic appeal of the temple but also serve an educational role, visually communicating complex spiritual concepts in a way that is accessible to devotees of all ages.



Serene Atmosphere and Cultural Harmony

The overall ambiance of the Shani Dham Temple is ideal for meditation, prayer, and spiritual retreat. The echoes of Vedic chants, the rhythm of temple bells, the glow of sacred lamps, and the aroma of incense create a deeply sanctified environment. The temple also hosts numerous festivals, rituals, and cultural events, which connect devotees to their spiritual roots and foster a sense of community and service.

Beyond being a place of worship, the temple is dedicated to charity, social service, community meals (bhandara), and organized gatherings, exemplifying the compassionate and collective spirit of Sanatan Dharma.

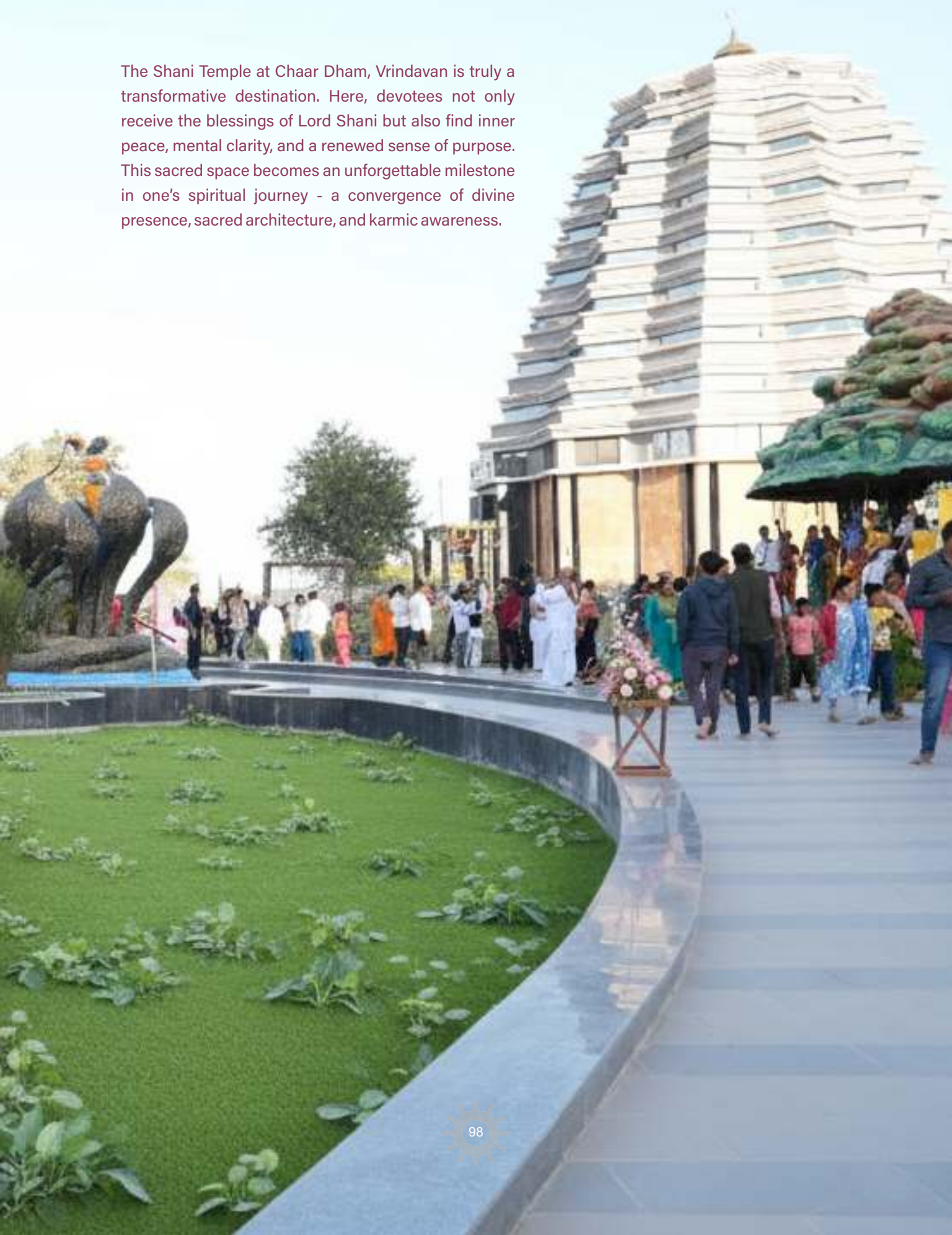
Karma and Dharma - The Path of Righteous Justice

Lord Shani is revered in Hinduism as the dispeller of illusion and the dispenser of justice, who delivers outcomes based strictly on one's deeds. Every wall, sculpture, and space within this temple echoes the eternal law: "As you sow, so shall you reap."

This Shani Temple is not merely a place of religious observance; it is a living message that guides every devotee towards a life of integrity, mindfulness, and balanced karma.



The Shani Temple at Chaar Dham, Vrindavan is truly a transformative destination. Here, devotees not only receive the blessings of Lord Shani but also find inner peace, mental clarity, and a renewed sense of purpose. This sacred space becomes an unforgettable milestone in one's spiritual journey - a convergence of divine presence, sacred architecture, and karmic awareness.





Navagraha Worship

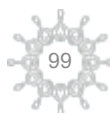
The Path to Cosmic Balance and Spiritual Harmony

One of the most remarkable features of the Shani Temple at Chaar Dham, Vrindavan is the Navagraha Puja Sthal (Nine Planets Worship Site) located right at the entrance. This sacred space is dedicated to all nine planetary deities — Surya (Sun), Chandra (Moon), Mangal (Mars), Budh (Mercury), Guru (Jupiter), Shukra (Venus), Shani (Saturn), Rahu, and Ketu. Although Lord Shani is the central deity of the temple, the presence of the entire planetary system highlights the belief that every celestial body exerts a significant influence on human life. Before entering the main sanctum, devotees offer prayers here to receive positive cosmic vibrations from all the planets. This ritual not only purifies the soul but also brings balance and peace in one's spiritual and karmic journey.

This sacred site reminds us that all planets are interconnected, and the alignment and movement of each directly impact our actions, choices, and life outcomes.

Planets, Birth Charts, and Their Influence on Life

When a child is born, the exact position of the nine planets at that moment forms the basis of their birth chart (Janma Kundli). This chart outlines the individual's life path, including fortune, struggles, health, success, and emotional patterns. The planetary movements and their phases (dashas) influence a person's fate, well-being, career, relationships, and mental state. If the planets are favorably aligned, life tends to flow with ease, prosperity, and success. But if they are in adverse positions, one may face delays, stress, or obstacles. This is why maintaining planetary harmony is considered essential for a balanced and prosperous life.





Why is Navagraha Puja Necessary?

Navagraha Puja is a spiritual practice that enables individuals to neutralize the negative effects of certain planets while drawing in their positive energies.

Benefits of Navagraha Puja:

- Brings stability and equilibrium in life
- Helps in fulfilling desires and ambitions
- Promotes mental peace and emotional calm
- Removes obstacles and opens new opportunities
- Aids in career, business, education, and success
- Supports spiritual growth and inner awareness

A Crucial Part of Every Auspicious Ceremony

According to Vedic astrology, no sacred event is considered complete without first performing Navagraha Puja. Whether it's marriage, a housewarming (Griha Pravesh), starting a new business, or any major undertaking, this worship ensures that planetary energies are aligned in favor of success and longevity. If any planet in an individual's chart is positioned unfavorably, this puja helps pacify its effects and invoke blessings. It transforms celestial challenges into opportunities and aligns life with dharma and harmony.



Navagraha Puja – Not Just a Ritual, but a Spiritual Elevation

Navagraha Puja is more than a religious ritual — it is a path to inner balance, mental clarity, and spiritual prosperity. When we understand the subtle energies of the planets and learn to live in alignment with them, life's challenges begin to transform into opportunities.

By worshipping the nine planets, we not only invite their blessings into our lives but also embark on a deeper journey into self-awareness and cosmic understanding. It is a way to rise spiritually and live in sync with the universe's eternal rhythm.



Surya Rath at Shani Dham

A Grand Symbol of Cosmic Order, Time, and Dharma

The Shani Dham Temple at Chaar Dham is not just a center of reverence for Lord Shani, but also houses a magnificent and spiritually charged Sun Chariot (Surya Rath), which stands as a beacon of cosmic wisdom and divine light. This chariot is a unique confluence of mythological, astrological, and cultural symbolism, deeply rooted in the Vedic tradition. The chariot's impressive dimensions - 42.5 feet in length, 12 feet in width, and 11 feet in height reflect not only its grand scale but also its religious and philosophical significance. Since Lord Shani is believed to be the son of Surya (the Sun God), the presence of the Sun's chariot in this temple holds profound meaning.

This divine chariot represents not only the radiance and vitality of Surya but also emphasizes deeper teachings about karma, time, and justice, all of which are intricately linked to the roles of both Surya and Shani. While the Sun bestows life and energy, Shani delivers justice based on one's actions, emphasizing the eternal bond between illumination and accountability. To behold the Surya Rath at Shani Dham is to experience a surge of inner energy and enlightenment. The chariot serves as a spiritual reminder that, like the ever-moving Sun, we too must remain steadfast on the path of righteous action. With commitment, discipline, and truthful deeds, the darkness of life can be dispelled.

Vedic Symbolism of the Surya Rath: A Sacred Journey of Light and Time

In Hindu scriptures and Puranic literature, Surya is revered as the embodiment of energy, light, and the life force. Beyond being a major deity, he is also regarded as the controller of time, direction, and the cycles of seasons that sustain the universe. His chariot, known as the "Saptashwa Rath" (Chariot of Seven Horses), is a symbolic representation of this divine role.

The Seven Horses – Vedic Metaphors of Cosmic Rhythm

The seven horses pulling Surya's chariot are not just mythical steeds—they symbolize the seven Vedic meters (chhandas): Gayatri, Brihati, Ushnik, Jagati, Trishtubh, Anushtubh, and Pankti. These are used in sacred hymns and represent rhythmic balance in the universe.

They also correspond to: The seven rays of the Sun

The seven days of the week, the seven colors of sunlight (as shown in the prism spectrum), and the seven Vedic meters together represent the cosmic rhythm, balance, and divine order of the universe. The chariot, thus, is a symbolic reminder that nature operates on a divinely orchestrated and precise system.



Aruna – The Charioteer of the Sun

The charioteer of the Sun is Aruna, the elder brother of Garuda and son of Sage Kashyapa. He is typically depicted in a red hue, symbolizing the glow of the rising Sun. Aruna signifies the divine guidance and control needed to regulate the immense power of Sun. Mythologically, Aruna is believed to possess the heavenly vision and restraint to handle the Sun's intense brilliance, guiding it across the sky from east to west.

The Wheel of the Chariot and the Twelve Spokes

The Sun's chariot has only one wheel, symbolizing time (Kaal), and this wheel represents the full solar year (Samvatsara). The twelve spokes of the wheel signify the twelve months of the year, and the twelve zodiac signs. This structure emphasizes that the movement of the Sun governs time, seasons, and the rhythm of life on Earth. Without this divine cycle, life and growth would not be possible.

Scriptural and Mythological References

The Surya Rath is described vividly in several Hindu scriptures, including the Rigveda, Bhagavata Purana, Mahabharata, Vishnu Purana, and Surya Upasana texts. It is through the Sun's chariot that the cosmic cycle of day and night, seasons, and the passage of time is maintained. Each day, as the Sun rises in the east and sets in the west, it is believed that Surya travels in his chariot across the sky, bringing light, time, and life.

Scientific Symbolism in the Surya Rath

While the Surya Rath holds great mythological significance, it also embodies profound scientific insights: The seven horses represent the seven colors of light observed in the spectrum of sunlight (as seen through a prism). The single wheel with twelve spokes mirrors the structure of the solar calendar, astronomical motions, and astrological calculations. The design of the chariot aligns with the fundamentals of astronomy, timekeeping, and light physics, showcasing how ancient Vedic knowledge intricately linked the cosmos with spiritual understanding.

Religious Importance and Worship

The Surya Rath is revered in many Sun temples across India, most notably the Konark Sun Temple in Odisha, which itself is shaped like a grand Sun chariot. In Shani temples and Navagraha shrines, representations of the Sun chariot are also created, signifying Surya as the source of all planetary energies. During festivals like Ratha Saptami, Surya Saptami, and Makar Sankranti, special worship and rituals are conducted in honor of Surya's chariot to invoke blessings of health, energy, and spiritual light.

A Symbol of Life, Energy, and Existence

The Surya Rath is not just a mythological concept—it is a powerful metaphor for life itself. Just as the Sun's chariot moves without pause, our life journey too is a continuous movement, where time, direction, rhythm, and balance are all essential.

The chariot symbolizes:

- Self-awareness
- The value of time
- The necessity of spiritual light

It connects philosophy, astronomy, astrology, and spiritual life into one unified vision. It reminds us that our existence rides on the chariot of karma and time, and it is up to us to steer it with wisdom, integrity, and balance.



Sun Dial

The sundial installed at Shani Dham is a remarkable and unique structure that represents a profound harmony of science, astrology, and spirituality, beyond being merely a tool for measuring time. It reflects the scientific wisdom of ancient Indian knowledge traditions and reveals how deeply our sages were connected to the laws of nature.



This sundial has an approximate diameter of 19.6 feet and a width of about 4 feet, giving it a grand and impressive presence. At its center stands the gnomon (a vertical rod or pointer), which directly interacts with the rays of the Sun. When sunlight falls on the gnomon, it casts a shadow on the dial plate below. The markings engraved on this dial indicate the precise time according to the position of the shadow.

As the Sun moves from east to west during its daily journey, the direction and length of the shadow continuously change. This movement reflects the passage of time and is based on the Earth's rotation, the Sun's position, and precise geometrical calculations making the sundial a living, elegant example of scientific principles in action.

From a spiritual perspective, the sundial serves as a constant reminder of the importance of time and the law of karma. Its presence at Shani Dham conveys a powerful message: time is the witness to all actions, and every deed inevitably bears fruit at its destined moment. The union of Shani Dev's justice and the Sun's life-giving energy inspires discipline, patience, and a commitment to truth in human life.

Standing near this sundial, devotees do not merely observe time; they experience the transience of life and the inevitability of karma. This structure elevates Shani Dham beyond a religious site, transforming it into a center of knowledge, science, and spiritual awareness.

Thus, the sundial of Shani Dham serves as a silent teacher, reminding every visitor that time is precious, action is unavoidable, and justice is eternal.



Shani Dev Dham: Where the Divine Visions of Karma, Justice, and Compassion Come Alive on the Walls

The inner walls of Shani Dev Dham resemble a living spiritual gallery. They are adorned with exquisitely crafted depictions of Lord Shani in his various forms, showcasing his divine powers and numerous mythological episodes. Each artwork is created with such fine detail, devotion, and reverence that the viewer feels transported into the very time and atmosphere of these sacred events. In some images, Lord Shani is depicted seated in his traditional form holding the scales of justice, while in others he appears mounted on his various vahanas - the crow, vulture, horse, elephant, and lion—bestowing the fruits of karma. Certain murals portray him in deep, serene meditation, governing the cosmic cycle of actions, while others reveal his radiant, formidable, and protective form as he brings an end to injustice and tyranny.

Every form, posture, and vehicle is depicted so vividly that devotees naturally realize that Lord Shani is not only the deity of justice but also a symbol of compassion, balance, patience, and truth. Merely gazing upon these divine artworks fills the heart with a profound sense of calm, discipline, and spiritual energy. It feels as though Lord Shani himself is speaking through these images, conveying a timeless message: "Perform your duties, walk the path of truth, and know that I am always with you." Every visitor who enters this sacred space does not simply witness a temple, but experiences the continuous presence and protective grace of Lord Shani.

Each line etched on the walls, every color, and every form awakens feelings of devotion, inner strength, and divine equilibrium within the devotee. The moment one steps into the Dham, the mind naturally becomes tranquil, and the heart is filled with pure energy and a gentle assurance of Lord Shani's protection. Thus, the artworks of Shani Dev Dham are not mere paintings; they are divine reflections infused with spiritual inspiration, planting within every visitor the eternal message of faith, truth, and the power of karma, and forging a deep, lasting connection with this sacred abode.



The Divine Form of Shani Dev



Shani Dev's Vehicle – The Buffalo



Shani Dev's Vehicle – Garuda (Eagle)



Shani Dev's Vehicle – The Crow



Shani Dev's Vehicle – The Peacock



Shani Dev's Vehicle – The Black Horse



Lord Shiva & Lord Shani- A Divine and Philosophical Depiction



Shani Dev's Vehicle is an Elephant



Shani Dev's Lion Mount:
A Symbol of Divine Justice and Strength



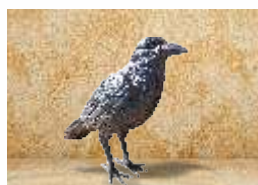
Divine Symbols of Lord Shani on the Outer Walls of Shani Dham Temple

The outer walls of the Shani Dham Temple are beautifully adorned with numerous divine objects and symbols associated with Lord Shani, crafted with exceptional artistry and devotion. These elements are not merely decorative; they serve as profound reminders of Lord Shani's form, his principles, and his powerful cosmic influence. Encircling the temple, these sacred symbols include all the auspicious emblems connected with Lord Shani: black sesame seeds, the blue sapphire (Neelam), the horseshoe, the Aparajita flower, the crow, the buffalo, the oil vessel, and the scales of justice each rendered with delicate detail and deep emotion. Every symbol conveys the feeling that Lord Shani himself is protecting the entire complex with his divine energies.

In some depictions, the blue sapphire symbolizes Lord Shani's strength, endurance, and inner stability, while the imagery of black sesame seeds conveys the message of compassionate and righteous justice. The crow, a key symbol of Lord Shani, reminds devotees of his vigilant gaze and the immutable law of karma, while the buffalo, his vehicle, represents courage, perseverance, and steadiness. The scales of justice clearly symbolize that Lord Shani dispenses fair judgment to every being strictly according to their actions.

Merely beholding these sacred symbols awakens a powerful spiritual energy within devotees. The mind becomes calm, the heart turns humble, and a sense of positivity and inner strength begins to arise. It feels as though Lord Shani himself is offering blessings through these symbols, gently conveying the message: "Perform righteous deeds; justice stands with you."

Thus, the Shani-related symbols engraved on the outer walls of Shani Dham Temple are not just works of art, but a living spiritual experience. Every visitor, upon witnessing these divine emblems, feels a sacred touch of discipline, devotion, karma yoga, and peace, and experiences the deep, reassuring presence of Lord Shani within their heart.





The Wall of Wishes: A Sacred Confluence of Faith, Karma, and Divine Trust

Located within the Chaar Dham Temple complex, the Wall of Wishes is a sacred space where devotees express their heartfelt desires by tying a holy thread. It is not merely a wall, but a spiritual bridge between the devotee and the Divine, where faith, belief, and righteous action come together.

Here, devotees offer their wishes with deep devotion to three divine forms: Lord Shiva, Radha-Krishna, and Lord Shani. Every thread tied on this holy wall carries within it a hope, a belief, and a sincere prayer.

Lord Shiva: Blessings of Resolve and Purity

When devotees tie their wishes in the name of Lord Shiva, they also absorb the depth of his teachings. Shiva, the deity of both destruction and creation, reminds devotees that wishes are fulfilled only when the heart is pure, resolve is firm, and life is guided by truth and discipline. His blessings remove negativity from life and infuse the devotee with renewed energy, clarity, and inner strength.

Radha-Krishna: The Embodiment of Love, Devotion, and Compassion

A thread tied in devotion to Radha-Krishna is not merely a desire for fulfillment, but a symbol of pure love and surrender. Their divine presence teaches that wishes gain meaning only when they are rooted in love, devotion, and sincerity, free from deceit, ego, or resentment.

The blessings of Radha-Krishna calm the mind, bring sweetness into relationships, and allow the gentle flow of love and compassion to enter one's life.

Lord Shani: The Path of Karma, Justice, and Truth

The most profound message of the Wall of Wishes comes from Lord Shani. It reminds devotees that grace is not attained by tying a thread alone but through truthful, disciplined, and righteous actions. This wall silently proclaims that Lord Shani is the Lord of karmic results. He blesses those who are honest, patient, and steadfast on the path of justice.

Through his blessings, a person remains stable even in adversity and gains the strength to move forward on the right path in life.

One Wall, One Unified Divine Energy

This sacred wall within the Chaar Dham Temple is a powerful convergence of the energies of all three deities:

Lord Shiva – the deity of purity and unwavering resolve.

Radha-Krishna – the eternal source of love and devotion.

Lord Shani – the master of karma and justice.

The Wall of Wishes conveys a timeless truth: faith may begin with tying a thread, but one's action and character shape the fulfilment of a wish. Simply standing before this wall fills the heart with peace, stability, and a sense of divine energy. Every devotee who visits leaves with deep faith, believing that their prayer has been heard - and that if their deeds remain righteous, their wish will surely be fulfilled.



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- Rituals performed by experienced Brahmin priests
- Arrangement for Yajna and Havan (holy fire ceremony)
- Well-trained barbers available for the ceremony

For bookings Visit : www.chaardham.in



Log in on
the website



Select Mundan
Ceremony

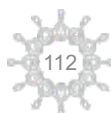


Enter details of
devotees participating



Make online
payment

***A Sanskar (ritual) is not just a tradition –
it is a way of life. Come, make it sacred and memorable.***



Mahaprasad

Available at Chaar Dham

Devotees can receive the sacred Prasad offered to Lord Shiva, Mata Vaishno Devi, Radha-Krishna, and Lord Shani Dev here.



What Makes the Prasad Special



Prepared after
performing rituals as
per sacred traditions



Made using pure
desi ghee and sattvic
ingredients



Beautifully packed
in safe and hygienic
packaging



Suitable for
taking home or offering
as a devotional gift

Location:
Chaar Dham Temple Complex
– Mahaprasad Counter

Timings:
Daily from 7:00 AM to 8:30 PM

**Take the sacred Prasad home
Receive both blessings and spiritual merit!**

Call: +91 9997000603, 8272050191



Book Sugam Darshan and Aarti Passes

Visit: www.chaardham.in



Shiv Dham Darshan



Maa Vaishno Devi Darshan



Radha Krishna Darshan



Shani Dham Darshan

Aarti and Darshan are just a booking away

Sugam Darshan

Morning Time 07:00 AM – 01:00 PM

Evening Time 04:00 PM – 08:00 PM

₹500 per person

Aarti

A maximum of 15 persons can attend each Aarti.

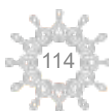
Mangla Aarti : 07:00 AM - 07:30 AM

Sandhya Aarti : 06:00 PM - 06:30 PM

₹1100 per person per Dham Aarti

Terms and Conditions

- The temple doors are open for Darshan during the given hours. After these timings, the temple will be closed.
- Please carry a hard copy of the ticket at the time of Darshan and Aarti
- No ticket is required for children below 12 years.
- Once booked, the Sugam Darshan date cannot be rescheduled, and the payment is non-refundable.
- At the time of Aarti and on special days Sugam Darshan is not allowed.
- Devotees can book sugam darshan only in available darshan slots for the day.
- Same day booking is available only at the helpdesk counter.
- Devotees are advised to enter the temple half an hour before the Aarti.
- On call booking facility is not available.





Divine Contribution for Eternal Blessings

Donation is a divine medium for spiritual growth and selfless service. When we donate with a pure and selfless heart, we also invite positive deeds and inner peace into our lives. The sacred scriptures state that charity leads to the accumulation of merit and attracts divine blessings. Donations offered in temples help preserve devotion, culture, and sacred traditions. Whatever you offer at the feet of the Lord with faith and sincerity returns manifold in the form of happiness, prosperity, and peace in your life.

Donate



paytm

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Shraddha Samarpan (Offering with Faith)

A sacred offering that connects the devotees' faith and merit with divine service.

₹51, ₹101, ₹501, ₹1100



Daily Bhog Offering

Daily food offering service for the Lord.

₹11000



Annadan Seva

Offering meals for devotees as a service of compassion and devotion.

₹11000



Shringar Seva

Offering garments and adornments for the deities.

₹21000



Gau Seva Fund

For cow protection services and maintenance of the Gaushala.

₹11000



Spiritual Decoration Offering

Temple decoration service for spiritual and festive occasions.

₹21000



Temple Seva Fund

For cleanliness and maintenance of the temple premises.

₹11000



Nitya Seva Fund

For regular and continuous temple services.

₹51000

Together, we create a space for peace, growth, and devotion

Chaar Dham Rudra Gift Shop

Every Item, **A Symbol of Faith.**

Every Design, **A Mark of the Divine.**



Visit Rudra Gift Shop & Carry Your Devotion Home.



T-Shirt



Cap



Umbrella



Mug



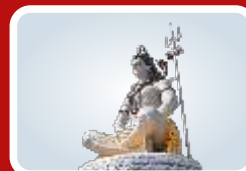
Wall Clock



Pen



Spiritual Stole (Scarf)



Statues

And many other gift items are available - each blessed by Chaar Dham.



A Spiritual Retreat Adjacent to Chaar Dham, Vrindavan



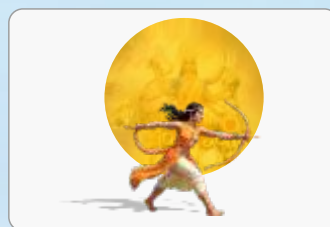
Facilities for Mind, Body & Soul



Yoga Hall



Meditation Hall



Spiritual Shows



Located in the heart of India's spiritual city, Vrindavan, Annekaa Heights is a unique rest house where the comforts of modern living blend seamlessly with spiritual energy. It is an ideal stay for devotees and travelers seeking peace, devotion, and a divine atmosphere.

Surrounded by sacred temples, beautiful gardens, and holy places, this serene destination offers an environment filled with positivity, tranquility, and spiritual bliss. Here, relaxation is not only for the body but also for the soul.

Come and experience spiritual rejuvenation at Annekaa Heights, where comfort meets divinity.

You can also organize special events here:

- Jagran and Bhajan Sandhya
- Weddings & Reception Ceremonies
- Corporate Seminars & Professional Programs
- Yoga & Spiritual Discourses
- Cultural & Religious Events
- Other Celebrations and Private Functions

24-Hour Power Backup

Fully Air-Conditioned

Parking Facility



Saraswati Spiritual Hall



**Swami Vivekananda
Lecture Hall**



Arjun Amphitheatre



Indra Multipurpose Hall



Brahma Multipurpose Hall



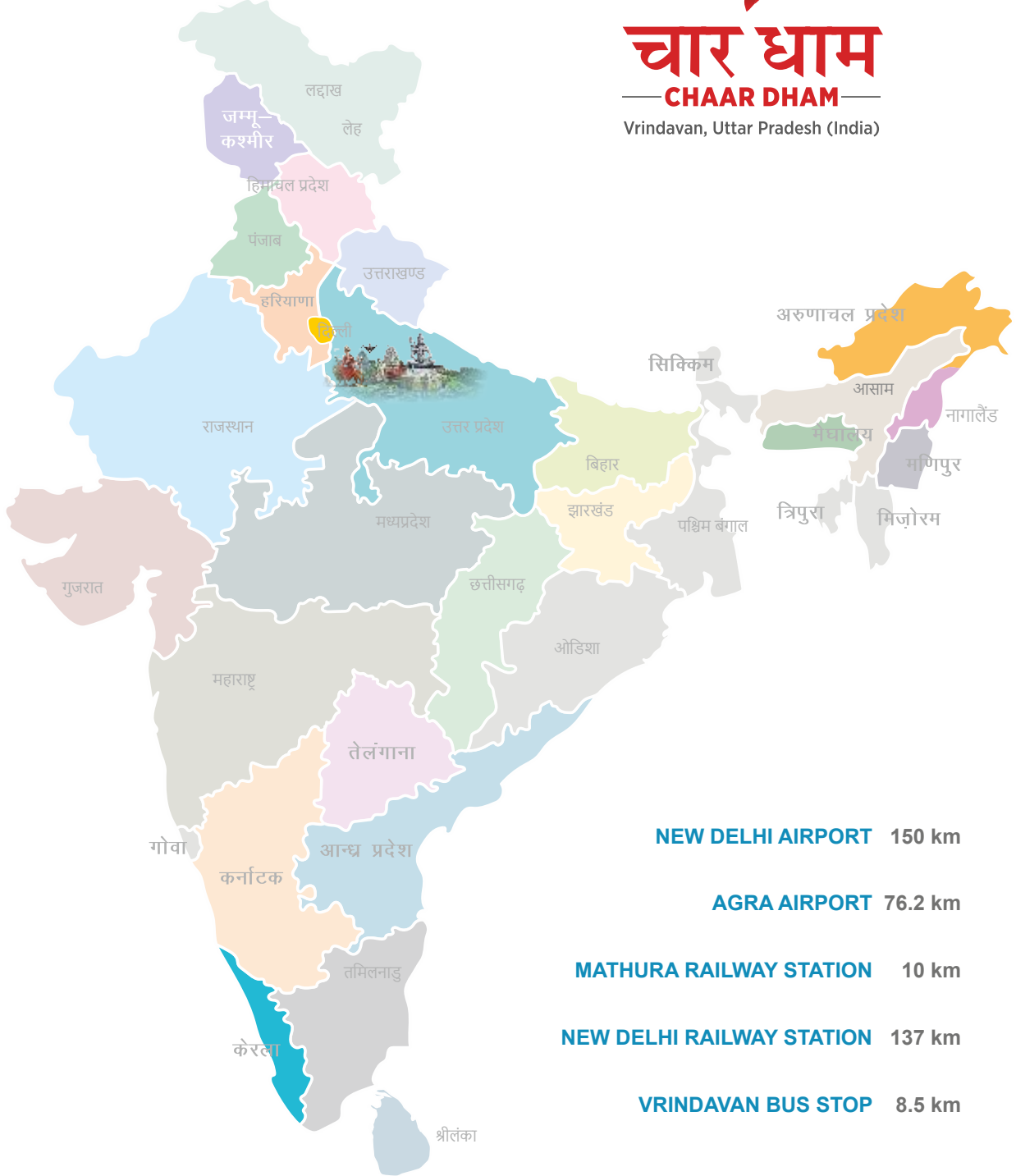
Jagran Sthal



चार धाम

—CHAAR DHAM—

Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh (India)



NEW DELHI AIRPORT 150 km

AGRA AIRPORT 76.2 km

MATHURA RAILWAY STATION 10 km

NEW DELHI RAILWAY STATION 137 km

VRINDAVAN BUS STOP 8.5 km

ॐ



NH-2 (New NH-44) & Bhaktivedanta Swami Marg, Chhatikara, Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh 281121

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www.chaardham.in | www.annekaaheights.com