

## Kumbhabhishekam

The Long Awaited Event Since 1961  
Simha Langam 10-30 A.M. To 11-00 A.M.  
on the 7<sup>th</sup> Of June, 1973

The long-awaited event since 1961, of the Kumbhabhi-shikam of Lord Sivaskanda at least arrived. The auspicious time fixed was between 10-30 A.M. and 11-00 A.M., on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, 1973.

His Holiness Jagatguru Shri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Swamikal- Paramcharya – was invited personality by Shri R.Venkataraman, President to grace the occasion and perform the Kumbhabhishekam. Due to His Holiness's advanced age, the Paramcharya could not undertake the strenuous journey to Delhi, but instead, was gracious enough to depute His Holiness Jayendra Saraswati Swamikal on his behalf. President Shri R. Venkataraman was extremely happy. He immediately made all the arrangements by contacting all the person concerted, including the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttra Pradesh to extend due countesies to his Holiness Jayendra Saraswati and his entourage on his Padayatra from Kanchipuram to Delhi. His Holiness commenced his Padyatra of 2,500 kms, in Febuary 1973 itself to reach Delhi by June. After covering the distance on foot, he arrived in the capital a week earlier to the date fixed for his entourage, two representatives of the Samaj had joined His Holiness Party at Hyderabad's ro ensure his personal conveniences. On the arrival of his Holiness party at the borders of Delhi, he was received with due temple honours.



His Holiness Jayendra  
Saraswati Swamikal performing  
the Kumbhabhshekam

Kumbhabhi-shekam. A yaga had to be performed initially to propitiate the Presiding Deity of Lord Swaminatha Swami, followed by Yagas for the Pariwara Devatas. At the foot of the Uttara Swamimalai, a large Yagasala with the maximum number 33-Yagakundas as prescribed in the Agama Shastras, had been laid out. Siva Sri Aiyamani Sivam, an authority on Sivagamas was chosen as the Chief Sivacharyas, hailing from different temples of tamilnadu all well versed in the Agama Shastras, to conduct the Yagas. Serval sacred ingredients, associated with the conduct of Yagas biz:- twigs of holy trees, rare herbs, roots of medical plants, incence materials, native drugs, special products like kasturi, korojana, red sandal-wood, black sandalwood, etc. had to be

procured at different place in the country and sent to Delhi. The holy Yagasala fire was lit in the



His Holiness blessing the devotees after the Kumbhabhishekam  
Shri R.Venkataraman, President is also seen accompanying His  
Holines.

presence of His Holiness Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal and several Thousands of  
Aahootis where offered over six kaalas.



A distinguished gathering witnessing the Kumbhabhishekham

A very large number of devotees had gathered round the mound since early morning to witness the holy kumbhabhtsheltam of Lord Siva Skanda. Amongst them, were many prominent personalities Governors, Chief Ministers of States, Members of the Union Council of Ministers, State Ministers and former Ministers-Sarva Shri K.K.Shah,

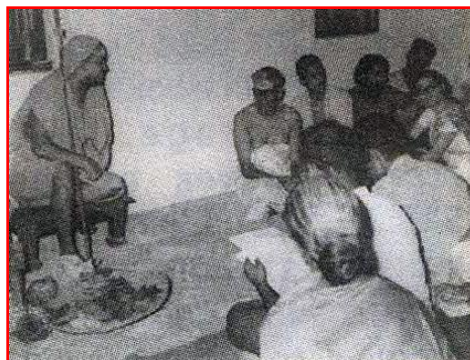
Kamalapathr Tripati, K.L.Rao, C.Subramanian, Jag Jivan Ram, Brahrnananda Reddy, Bhaktavatsalam, Radha Rarnan, Uma Shankar Dixit. T.A, Pai and many others who were present to



A large gathering of ardent devotee public, witnessing the Kumbhabhshekam.

witness the Holy Kumbhabliishekam of the Lord. Shrimati M.S.Subbulakshmi, the celebrated vocalist. was also present. In the presence of His Holiness and in the midst of Vedic chantings, agamic rituals and Nadaswaram music, the holy waters brought from the sacred rivers of India, further sanctified, by the Vedic mantras recited in the Yagasalas at the foot of the mound, were brought to the top of the hillock.

His Holiness performed The kumhhabhsheiram, in the presence of an unprecedented gathering assembled round the mound. Uttara Swamimalai was, thus. sanctified with due reverence. intense Bhakti Bhavana permeated in the hearts of each one of the assemble devotees.



The Holiness addressing a Press Conference after the Kumbhabhishekam.

Smt. M. S. Subbu-lakshmi sang ecstatic Bhajans and other devotional songs in praise of the Lord, in her usual melodious voice. It might be recalled that, as has been her usual feature,she had given earlier in 1971, a full fledged benefit performance for the

construction of the temple at the Vigyan Bhavan auditorium, before a very large gathering of distinguished personalities and devotees. The performance had earned a sizeable revenue out of which the construction activities received a spurt.



Shrimati M.S.Subbulakshmi singing Bhajans  
Ramudu Iyer provide accompaniment.

Shri R.Venkataraman, President, had meticulously planned and personally supervised all the arrangements to ensure that the Kumbhabhishekam was conducted, in all solemnity and the VIPs and other guests were received, with due dignity and honour. With the Grace of Lord Sivasltmda, the whole function-the long awaited event went off very well. The common people of Delhi event went of very well.The common people of Delhi reverentially coined the name "**Malai Mandir**"- (Hill temple or a temple on a hill)-- a happy union of a Tamil word and a hindi word-to depict the temple complex and the whole area round It. It has since become a very important land mark in the heart of the city.

At the conclusion of the celebrations on the 7th of June,1973, His Holiness was pleased to confer the Award of "Sat Seva Ratnam" on Shri R.Venkataraman, President, "Silpa Kala Ratnam" on Shri V.Ganapati Sthapati, Superintendent, Sculptural Training Centre. Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu, and "Sivaagama Mani" on Sri Ayyamani Sivam, Sarva Sadakam,Tiruvadanai.

During his stay at the temple complex from the 1st of June to the 7st of June, 1973, His Holiness had given pravachanams every evening at the temple. Many prominent personalities called on him, including the then Prime Minister, Smt Indira Gandhi. After performing the Kumbhabhishekam, His Holiness stayed at different places in Delhi, giving darshan to the devotees. He then continued his Padayatra to Haridwar, Rishikesh, Bhadrinath and Kedarnath- that was really his Digvljaya Yatra.

Before concluding the paragraphs relating to a description of the Kumbhabhishekam it might perhaps. be of Interest to know the high degree of sanctity of the Yantram

placed in the Garbhagraham of Lord Swaminatha Swami. His Holiness the Paramacharya had entrusted the making of the yantram to Shri Ayyamani Sivacharya. A one square foot 24 ct gold plate was provided to Shri Ayyamani. Shri Ayyamani Sivam prepared the yantram and took it to six Kshetras of Lord Murugan and after due worship at all those six places, placed it before His Holiness Paramacharya. He explained to His Holiness that since the temple of the Lord at Delhi was to be a new one, he had combined, in the new Yantram, the Janakarshanam Yantram, embedded below Lord Ranganatha Swami at Srirangam and Dhanakarshana Yantram, embedded below Lord Venkateswara at Tirupati. The combined Yantram could be named as “**Sarva Vasikarna Yantram**” His Holiness kept the Yantram.

Above his head for some time and instructed that it should be taken 45 days ahead of the Kumbhabhishekam to Delhi and daily poojas performed to the Yantram, at the Balasthapanam temple, and then have it delivered to His Holiness Jayendra Saraswati 10 days in advance, at the place he would be camping at that time, on his Padayatra to Delhi to participate in the Kumbhabhi-shekam. The Junior Acharya was to perform poojas both for Lord Chandra Mouliswara and for the Yantram for those ten days. Thereafter, he would do the Yantra Sthapanam. Accordingly, the sanctified Yantram was delivered to the Junior Acharya at Brindavan, on his way to Delhi. H.H.Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal performed the Yantrasthapanam as per the directions of the Paramacharya before the Kumbhabhishekam.



It is customary to leave an opening in the Ardha Mandapam or the Maha mandapam of the Presiding Deity of South Indian temples to enable the rays of Lord Sun to fall on the Presiding Deity, either in the mornings or in the evenings, On some days, in a year. On those days, poojas to Lord Soorya are usually performed.

A few months before the Kumbhabhishekam, the Indian Meteorological Department' had been approached by the Samaj to advise it about the diurnal motion of the Sun and the angle at which its rays would fall on the Presiding Deity, to be installed in the temple. That would enable the Samaj to have an opening made in the ceiling, at the desired place and at the desired angle. The Departmental authorities, however, could not be of much help. In their opinion, they would need to observe the diurnal motion of

the Sun for a whole year to determine the days, on which the rays would fall, at a particular spot at a particular angle. The Kumbhabhishekam day was approaching fast and the Samaj could not wait. It was therefore, decided to close the ceiling without leaving any opening and proceeding ahead with the Kumbhabhishekam.

In March 1974, nearly nine months after the Kumbhabhishekam, one of the office bearers of the Samaj had some urgent work inside the Garbhagraham. The temple was opened at 6.A.M., one hour earlier than the usual scheduled time of 7.A.M. At about 6-15 A.M. the left side of the idol of Lord Swaminatha Swami was suddenly effulgent with the rising sun's rays falling on it. Continuing the observations for a few more days, it was found that the sun's rays were moving from left to right, for five days from the 20<sup>th</sup> of March to the 24<sup>th</sup> of March, the entire Vighraha was brilliantly covered by the sun's golden rays. The Samaj, thereupon, decided to observe the five days from the 19<sup>th</sup> of March to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, every year as the days of Soorya Pooja. March 21<sup>st</sup> being the Equinox day for the Northern Hemisphere, and Lord Swaminatha Swami's idol facing East, the observance of the Soorya Pooja on those five days is very appropriate. It may be relevant to recall, in this connection, that H.H. the Paramacharya himself had advised the Samaj to shift the main front door opening a few feet away, to ensure that the Sun's rays fall on the Deity at the proper angles. It was the benediction of the Lord that there arose a need for the Samaj to open the Garbhagraham round about the crucial equinox day in 1974, much earlier to the usual hour and thereby, observe by chance, the effulgence of the Sun's rays falling upon the Presiding Deity at the appropriate angle, by the adjustments suggested by H.H.the Paramacharya. It has already been observed that there is no temple of importance in the whole of North India, where Lord Swaminatha Swami- Kartikeya is worshipped as the Presiding Deity. the Samaj, in all humility, would like to record that with the infinite grace of the Lord and the whole hearted cooperation of the general devotee public from all India, it was able to construct the temple complex at Uttara Swami Malai and perform Kumbhabhi-shekam thereby filling the void in the North, in an admirable manner, --the essence of the temple art and culture over of the South, has, thus, been pleasingly integrated with that of the North.