



Sree Gurubhyo Nama:

Shraavana Yajur Upaakarmaa
(Aavani Avittam)

August 24, 2010 Tuesday



This year *Yajur Upaakarmaa* (Aavani Avittam) falls on **Tuesday, August 24th**. *Upaakarmaa* will be performed on this day in **two batches in Virginia and one batch in Maryland.**

Virginia: First batch will begin at 7:00 AM; Second batch at 9:30 AM
Maryland: Only batch will begin at 7:00 AM

HOMAM will be PERFORMED in ALL 3 Batches

Brahmacharis performing **Prathama Upakarma**: Please attend **the Second Batch**

Venues:

Virginia

Both Batches (starting at 7.00 am and 9:30 am)

Mr. Jayaraman's residence

1132 Stuart Hills Way, Herndon, VA 20170

Phone: (703) 444-5370; Email: jramamurthi@enersoltech.com

Maryland

Only Batch, starting at 7:00 AM

LOCATION: TO BE ANNOUNCED (check www.vedicpriest.com)

We invite you to join us in celebrating this *Upaakarmaa* day with devotion and enthusiasm.

M.Venkatarama Sastrigal and D. Bhaskara Sastry

Cell: (703) 400-6363 Cell: (240) 351-4903

Email: vedicsastri@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.vedicpriest.com/>

SCHEDULE

1. Samitha Dhaanam (for Brahmacharis only)
2. Kamokarsheeth Japam
3. Brahma Yagnyam
3. Mahaa Sankalpam
4. Yagnyopaveetha Dhaaranam
5. Khaandarishi Tharpanam
6. Homam
7. Veda Aarambham
8. Aaseervadham

PREPARATIONS FOR UPAAKARMAA

1. Perform Sandhya vandanam
2. Please bring Pancha Pathram set & metal plate
3. One cup of raw rice for pooja (formality)
4. Suggested donation for Upaakarmaa (\$21 per person)

For Brahmacharis performing **Prathama Upaakarma** (i.e. first Avani Avittam), please bring the following for Neivedhayam:

Nei Appam, Chundal, Coconut and Thamboolam (banana, betel leaves and nuts)

SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS FUNCTION

It is believed that Lord Sri Brahma got the *Upadesam* of Vedas (also called *Brahma Upadesam*) from Sri Bhagavan on this day. We have been celebrating this function annually for generations.

SRI GAAYATHREE DEVI'S GRANDEUR

Gaayathree is the name of one of the most important Vedic hymn, which is addressed to Surya who is the supreme force. Gaayathree is Lord Brahma, Gaayathree is Lord Vishnu, Gaayathree is Lord Shiva, and Gaayathree is The Vedas. Gaayathree came to be personified as a Goddess. She is shown as having five heads and is seated on a lotus. The four heads of Gaayathree represents the four Vedas (Rig, Yajur, Saama, and Atharvana) and the fifth head represents the almighty. In her ten hands, she holds all the weapons of Lord Vishnu and She is another consort of Lord Brahma, the Vedic scientist.

It is believed that by performing this function and by chanting the Gaayathree Mantra, we not only receive the blessings of Goddess Gaayathree but also remove our sins and save the world from calamities. It is also believed that by chanting the Gaayathree Mantra, our wisdom and intellect get enlightened to reveal the true nature of the supreme lord.

HARI OM