



Srī:

Srī Bhū Nīlā Samétha Srī Vénkatésa Parabrahmané namaha

RICHMOND HILL HINDU TEMPLE, CANADA

8th Annual Aruḷiccheyal Utsavam Invitation
March 14, 2021 – April 03, 2021

Dear Devotees:

*It gives us great pleasure to inform you about the **Eighth Annual Aruḷiccheyal utsavam** in our Richmond Hill Hindu temple starting from the first day of the Tamil month of Panguni, which falls on the 14th of March, 2021. This festival essentially consists of the **Pārāyanam (recitation)** of the entire 4000 verses of the **Āzhwārs' Aruḷiccheyal** (the works born out of the grace of the Lord and the Āzhwārs) namely the **Nālāyira Divya Prabhandham** in front of **Perumāḷ** and **Thāyārs** over a period of 21 days.*

*The word "**Adhyayana**" means "learning" or "study". It is usually used in the context of learning or studying Védic verses. The 4000 divine verses of the āzhwārs constituting the "**Nālāyira Divya Prabhandham**" text in Tamil are traditionally considered equivalent to the **Védas**. They are often called the "**Tamizh marai**" and "**Drāvida Védam**". **Srī Nammāzhwār** himself is known as "**Védam Tamizh Seytha Māran**". It is said that Lord of **Srīrangam** was quite pleased with **Sri Thirumangai āzhwār's** prabhandham called **Thirunedunthāndakam**. He granted two wishes to **Sri Thirumangai āzhwār**, who was the youngest of all the āzhwārs. The latter requested the Lord to grant status equal to the **Védās** for the **Thiruvāimozhi pāsūrams** of **Sri Nammāzhwār** and also requested him to listen to **Thiruvāimozhi** for ten nights following the **Sukla ékādasi (Vaikunta ékādasi)** in the Tamil month of **Mārgazhi**. The Lord acceded to these requests of the **Āzhwār**.*

*Subsequently, **Sri Thirumangai āzhwār** brought **Sri Nammāzhwār's** **vigrahm** from **Thirukkuruḡūr** and performed the **Adhyayana utsavam** for 10 nights during which time the Lord along with **Thāyārs** listened to **Thiruvāimozhi**, one hundred verses each night. During the time of the **Āchāryā**, **Sri Nāthamuni** and later during **Sri Rāmānuja's** period, this was extended to 21 days of utsavam with recitation of the pāsūrams of all the **Āzhwārs**. It also came to be known as "**Paghal Patthu and Irā patthu**" utsavam meaning "festival of ten days and ten nights". It is also known as "**Tamizh Thirunāl**" and "**Periya Thirunāl**" since it glorifies the "**Tamizh Védās**" and is the longest festival of the year lasting for 21 days. The festival in **Srirangam**, usually starts 10 days before **Vaikunta ékādasi**. And on day 1 of the festival, **Thirunedunthāndakam** of **Sri Thirumangai āzhwār** is recited.*

*On the tenth night after the 10th decad of **Thiruvāimozhi** of **Sri Nammāzhwār** is recited, the utsavam actually enacts "the eternal union or **Mōksha** of the **Āzhwār** at the feet of the Lord. It is also termed "**Āzhwār Thiruvadi Thozhuthal**". On the next day, the "**Iyarpa**" pāsūrams are recited.*

This utsavam later on came to be observed in other divya désams including Thiruppathi. It is observed now in all famous Srī Vaishnava temples in Tamilnādu. However, there are slight variations depending on the particular divya désam. For instance the first three Thiruvandhādhis of the Mudhal Āzhwārs which form part of the "Iyarpā" are recited in Srirangam after Thiruvāimozhi utsavam is completed. They are recited first in Thiruppathi, presumably because the Mudhal Āzhwārs glorify the Lord of Thiruvēnkātam in their many pāsūrams. They also declare loud and clear that Vēnkātam alone is their desired mountain, "வேங்கடமே யாம் விரும்பும் வெற்பு" (Vēnkātamē yām virumbum verpu) (Irāndām Thiruvandhādhī – 53). In Thirukkudanthai, the utsavam starts on the first day of Mārggazhi irrespective of when Vaikunta ēkādasī falls.

*We have been very blessed to have had āzhwārs and the āchāryās in our Richmond Hill Hindu Temple for several years (from year 2002). We celebrate them once a year for three days in the form of the Āzhwārs' utsavam. The first time Āzhwārs' utsavam was actually held in our temple was in Sept 2003. It therefore becomes important that we should also recite at least once a year the 4000 verses of the Āzhwārs in front of our Perumāḷ and Thāyārs. The temple board approved the request of the devotees and we had this Adhyayana Utsavam in our temple twice in the Tamil month of Mārggazhi. It was a very joyous and blissful experience. However, since the winter weather in December - January gets very hard sometimes (like the ice storm we had in Dec 2015), it was felt that we should move this utsavam to the month of Panguni (March 15- April 15). We have done so beginning in 2016 and we have also renamed the utsavam as "**Aruliccheyal Utsavam**" since it consists of recitation of the divya prabhandham pāsūrams, graced by the āzhwārs. This year, like in the previous years, "The "**Aruliccheyal Utsavam**" will take place with utsava mūrthies of Perumāḷ and Thāyārs seated in the middle on Sēsha vāhanam with all the āzhwārs and the āchāryās seated in front on both the sides. The utsavam will commence on the first day of the Tamil month of Panguni which will fall on the 14 th of March, 2021. The Thiruvāimozhi recitation will finish on Sunday the 28 th of March, 2021. On that day "Āzhwār Thiruvadi Thozhuthal" utsavam will be held. The Aruliccheyal utsavam will conclude on the 3 rd of April, 2021.*

It is very easy to participate in this utsavam. There is no sponsorship for this utsavam. Devotees can offer Tulasi, flowers, dry and/or fresh fruits as prasādams for Perumāḷ and the Āzhwārs. Due to Covid pandemic in person recitation will only take place between 10 to 11.30 AM each day. We expect only one or two couples participating in person. We do however fervently encourage and hope that many devotees would use the printed schedule and recite these divine verses at their homes in the respective Perumal rooms. The Pārāyanam is bound to evoke the auspicious grace of the Lord, the Āzhwārs and the Āchāryās. Above all the recitation itself will bring joy and bliss to those who participate in the recitation.

Respectfully submitted by / adiyēn ranganathan, on behalf of the

*President and the Board of Trustees,
The Hindu Temple Society of Canada*

Āzhwārgal āchāryargal Thiruvadigalé śaranam



Ōm namō Nārāyanāya

The Hindu Temple Society of Canada

10865 Bayview Ave, Richmond Hill, ON, L4S 1M1

Tel: 905-883-9109 Web: <http://www.rhht.ca/temple> Fax: 905-883-9834

Srī:

**Aruliccheyal Utsavam (March 14 -2021 – April 03 - 2021)
Divya Prabhandham Pārāyanam - Recitation Schedule**

**The First Ten days: Mudhal Mūndru Thiruvandhādies, Mudhal Āyiram, Periya Thirumozhi,
Thirukkurunthāndakam and Thirunedunthāndakam
Mornings: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

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|--------|----------------------------|---|
| Day 1 | March 14-2021 Sunday | Thiruppallāndu, Mudhal Thiruvandhādhi (Sri Poikai Pirān's) Irandām Thiruvandhādhi (Sri Bhudat āzhwār's) |
| Day 2 | March 15-2021 Monday | Mūndrām Thiruvadhādhi (Sri Pei āzhwār's) Thirucchanda Viruttam (Sri Thirumazhisai Pirān's) |
| Day 3 | March 16-2021 Tuesday | Peri āzhwār Thirumozhi |
| Day 4 | March 17-2021 Wednesday | Perumāḷ Thirumozhi (Sri Kulashékara āzhwār's), Nāchiyār Thirumozhi (Sri Āndāl's) |
| Day 5 | March 18-2021 Thursday | Thiruppalliyechucchi, Thirumālai, (Sri Thondaradippodi āzhwār's), Amalanādhpirān (Sri Thiruppānāzhwār's) , Kanninun Chirutthāmbu (Sri Madhura Kavi āzhwār's) |
| Day 6 | March 19-2021 Friday | Periya Thirumozhi (Sri Thirimangai āzhwār's) Decads 1 and 2 |
| Day 7 | March 20-2021 Saturday | Periya Thirumozhi Decads 3 and 4 |
| Day 8 | March 21-2021 Sunday | Periya Thirumozhi Decads 5 and 6 |
| Day 9 | March 22-2021 Monday | Periya Thirumozhi Decads 7 and 8 Thirukkurunthāndakam |
| Day 10 | March 23-2021 Tuesday | Periya Thirumozhi Decads 9, 10 and 11 Thirunedunthāndakam |



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Divya Prabhandham Pārāyanam - Recitation Schedule**

The Second Ten days: Thiruvāimozhi.

Mornings: 10:00 – 11:30 AM

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|---------|----------------------------|--|
| Day 1 | March 24-2021 Wednesday | (Sri Nammāzhwār's) Thiruvāimozhi- Decads 1 and 2 |
| Day 2 | March 25-2021 Thursday | Thiruvāimozhi – Decads 3 and 4 |
| Day 3 | March 26-2021 Friday | Thiruvāimozhi - Decads 5 and 6 |
| Day 4 | March 27-2021 Saturday | Thiruvāimozhi - Decads 7 and 8 |
| Day 5 | March 28-2021 Sunday | Thiruvāimozhi - Decads 9 and 10 Sri Nammāzhwār Thiruvadi Thozhuthal |
| Day 6 | March 29-2021 Monday | Nānmukan Thiruvandhādhi (Sri Thirumazhisai Pirān's) |
| Day 7 | March 30-2021 Tuesday | Iyarpā Thiruviruttham, Thiru āsiriyaṁ,(Sri Nammāzhwār's) |
| Day 8 | March 31-2021 Wednesday | Periya Thiruvandhādhi (Sri Nammāzhwār's) |
| Day 9 | April 01-2021 Thursday | Thiru Ezhukūtrirukkai, Sīriya Thirumadal, Periya Thirumadal, (Sri Thirumangai āzhwar's) |
| Day 10 | April 02-2021 Friday | Rāmānuja Nūtrandhādhi |
| Day 11. | April 03-2021 Saturday | Āchāryās' Prabhandhams Prabhandha Sāram - Pillai Andhādhi - Upadēsa Rattinamālai |

Kanninun Chirutthāmbu will be recited prior to Thiruvāimozhi pārāyanam.



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