



PERSATUAN BRAHMIN MALAYSIA

(BRAHMANA SAMAJAM, MALAYSIA)

(பிராமண சமாஜம், மலேசியா)
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No. Pendaftaran 829 (Selangor)

Visit our Website

<http://members.tripod.com/bsamajam/>

அங்கத்தினர்களின் அறிக்கை

MEMBERS' CIRCULAR

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1. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (தலைவர் பக்கம்)

Management Committees come and go, but members always remain. The Management Committee is elected to coordinate activities of the Samajam and administer the Samajam funds. Members should take active part not only in the activities but also to be involved in the organization of the activities. There is always a role for each member to participate in the organization. During my term as President, I have always requested members to come forward and organize activities (be it religious, social, cultural or educational). One good example last year was the "Nite of the Nightingale" as a tribute to M.S. Subbulakshmi. This year the "Dinner-cum-show" is being offered. Ideas can come from members themselves. I am looking forward to youths to organize at least one function this year. What about the youths who received the Merit Awards organizing a get-together? Just before Navami, a sum of about RM 300/- was spent on the cleaning of the premises particularly the glass panes, mats and the altar of Sri Rama. This could have been done by our members on a voluntary basis. There is a need to relook into our inventory and to tidy up our library and office room. Any volunteers? Please contact the Hon. Secretary.

2. HON. SECRETARY'S COLUMN (கௌரவ செயலாளர் பக்கம்)

Short video clippings of the Sri Rama Navami are available on the Samajam's Website. I have asked our Webmaster to place these on the Website. Through this, outstation members could keep in touch with the Samajam's activities. You can also find some pictures at the end of this circular. If

you wish to sponsor any events for the forth-coming Sri Rama Navami (2008) or any other functions, please send in your requests to the Hon. Secretary via e-mail or ordinary post.

Outstation members please take note: Please inform the Hon. Secretary as to how many sets of poonals are required for your family for the upcoming Upakarma in August. In order to facilitate this preparation, please send in your requests by e-mails or letters latest by May 31, 2007. Similarly, please inform the Hon. Secretary, as to how many sets of charadus you require for 2008 by December 31, 2007. Please pass the Junior's Section, to your children. Members are more than welcome to contribute suitable articles for future issues of the Circular. You may send your articles to me by e-mail or by normal post. As part of the cost-savings program, we strongly encourage members to opt for the electronic version of circulars or even retrieve them at your on leisure from the Website.

3. THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

POURNAMI POOJA - பெண்ணமி பூஜை-

APRIL 2, 2007 - (ஏப்ரல் 2) -

The Pournami pooja will be held on Monday April 2, 2007. Any member who wants to sponsor the poojai please contact the President/ Hon. Secretary. All members and their families are cordially invited to participate in the Pooja.

SAMOOHA BHAJANAI - சமூக பஜனை -

April 28, 2007 (ஏப்ரல் 28)

The April bhajanai will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2007. This bhajanai will be sponsored by members in the SS3 area. All members and their families are cordially invited to participate in the bhajanai.

4. MISCELLANEOUS (பலவகைப்பட்ட செய்தி)

- SANKARA JAYANTHI -

April 21, 2007 (ஏப்ரல் 21)

Sankara Jayanthi will be conducted in the Samajam on Saturday April 21st. This function will be conducted with Pooja & musical items from 6.30pm to 8.30 pm. All those wishing to render devotional songs please contact Mrs Radha Subramaniam (03-7956 5692).

Members are requested to attend this function and offer their kaanikai to the Guru.

5. MEMBERS' COLUMN (அங்கத்தினர் பக்கம்)

CHANGE IN ADDRESS

- புது விவரம் -

M'ship No.	Name	Address and Contact No.
L-172	Mr. Ganesan Kailasanathan	67, JalanBK 5/11D , Bandar Kinrara 47100 Puchong Selangor Darul Ehsan. Tel:603- 62013773(O), Tel:603- 80765622(H), Mobile:012- 235-1959 email:ganasan21@hotmail. com, ganasan21@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

- புது அங்கத்தினர் -

M'ship No.	Name	Address and Contact No.
566A	Mr. Ashwin Kumar	A-10-6, Vista Kiara Condo, 7, Jalan Kiara 3, Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur Tel: 03-6201 4384, 012-316 5954 (M)

OBITUARY - மரண அறிவிப்பு -

Mrs S.A. Lakshmy Krishnan passed away peacefully in Singapore on Sunday 18th March 2007, leaving behind her beloved husband Mr V.S. Krishnan (S'pore), daughters Mrs Jayasree Ramani (L-143) Kuala Lumpur, Mrs Mythili Rajaratnam (S'pore), son-in-law and grandchildren. (Jayasree can be contacted from 31st March 2007).

Our condolences to the bereaved family.

THANKS - நன்றி -

Puan Sri Vijayalakshmi Rama Iyer and her family wish to convey their heartfelt thanks to our members and friends who turned up in big numbers to attend the Ganapathy homam, Ayushya homam and Rudrabhishekam conducted for Tan Sri Rama Iyer to celebrate his janma nakshathiram that came for the 75th time in his life on 25.2.2007. They would like to thank Dr.Kannan, the president of our samajam, Dr.Sankaran, the chairman of the Education Fund, for their kind assistance in making the function a successful one. They also wish to specially thank Ashok and Sreemathi who

prepared a very delicious and sumptuous lunch. Their sincere gratitude goes also to our new priest Brahmasri Ganesa Vadhyar and also those who accompanied him in conducting the homams in a grand manner. Tan Sri Rama Iyer and his family also take this opportunity to congratulate all the merit award winners of our community.

6. BAEF's NEWS – கல்வி நிதி-

Message from Chairman

கல்வி தலைவரின் குறிப்புகள்

In my speech at the presentation of merit and commendation awards for the year 2006 (held at the Samajam on 25th February 2007), I referred to the origin and development of the Education Fund. I would like to elaborate on this aspect, so that it can be documented and reach a wider audience.

Some members led by two former Presidents (the late Mr. V. Krishna and the late Mr. R. Subramaniam) then Samajam Secretary Mr. S. Ramaswamy Iyer, Mr. G. Krishna Iyer, myself and the late R. Ramani (my brother) met with Tan Sri G.K. Rama Iyer sometime in 1978. After being convinced that we were indeed serious, Tan Sri accepted our invitation to be the first Chairman of BAEF. We are grateful to the family of Tan Sri Rama Iyer for having sponsored the lunch for over 110 persons at the just-concluded award ceremony.

Then we went about mobilizing support for the idea. One of the first persons to pledge his support was Justice Dato Gopal Sri Ram. As one who has been associated with the development of BAEF since its inception, I can state categorically that Justice Dato has been unwavering in his support. Apart from sponsoring the R. Gopal Ayer Merit Award (for English literature and Doctoral Studies) over the past years, Justice Dato also sponsored the Inaugural R. Gopal Ayer Memorial Lecture in 2005.

There have been many other donors, some anonymous. However, it behooves me to mention also the other donors for specific awards, as follows:

- Dr. H. Ghandimathi – UPSR Merit Award
- Mr. B. Parthasarathy – PMR Merit Award
- Mr. Jayaram Krishna – V. Krishna Award (SPM)
- Datuk Dr. K.R. Ramaswami – Gomathy Rengan Merit Award (STPM/A Levels)
- Prof. Dr. K.S. Kannan – Undergraduate Degree Award for Engineering
- Mr. Venkiteswaran Sankar – A.V. Sankar Award for Accounting/ Professional Studies

- Dato' Dr. G. Sreenevasan - Merit Award for Undergraduate Medical Degree
- Mrs. Sulochana Somasundaram – K. Somasundaram Award for Youth Leadership
- Mr. V.N. Subramaniam and family – Saraswathi Subramaniam Award for Significant Achievements in Performing Arts.

We have also received general donations from the following:

- Mrs. Annapoorni Chandrasekharan
- Mr. G. Krishna Iyer
- Dr. R. Venugopal
- Mr. D.R. Vaidheeswaran

Thanks also goes to Mr. G. Subramaniam (Venu) and Mrs. Kalyani for organizing the magic show and band performance, featuring their twins Arvin and Arjun, and other youths. The youths were also represented by Pradeesh Parameswaran, who demonstrated his palm-top invention and Barath Chidambar, who talked about the Scout movement. The emcee for the event was Soumya Rama Iyer.

I would like to thank all other donors, well-wishers and those who attended the awards ceremony and ensured its success.

I am also pleased to report that repayments from loan recipients are continuing, and the Board is in a healthy financial position. I wish to thank all Board members (Venkiteswaran Sankar, Subramaniam Sivaswamy and Subramaniam Sankar –co-opted) as well as the Samajam President and Management Committee members for their invaluable support.

Dr. Sankaran Ramanathan (Chairman, Education Fund Board)

for his services to Samajam members are given in the Samajam directory. For non-members the rates are double. The rates do not include materials for the poojas and prasadhams that have to be borne by the members. Members are requested to requisition for his services by filling the form available for this purpose. Receipts will be given by the priest according to the rates given.

4. Rates for the temple functions are fixed separately by the Temple Association which are separate from those for the members. For some of the functions prasadhams are prepared by the temple itself.

5. In view of financial constraints, the Association requests members to sponsor the daily abhishegams and materials, monthly Chathurthi homams and sahasranamam archanas and ganapathy homam and poojas during members' anniversaries. Members can also donate moneys for purchase of the materials.

6. The Temple Association also requests members to donate generously for the priest's monthly salary of RM1,000/=.

7. The Association wishes to thank both Madam Shanta Krishna Iyer for donating Astro decoder and a DVD player and Tan Sri G. K. Rama Iyer for agreeing to pay for a year's subscription of Astro services for the priest's entertainment.

8. Details for other activities like pooja classes for members will be announced in the next monthly news. *VTMA management welcomes all members to take part in the activities of the Temple such as Chathurthi Homam and prayers. Any member wishing to sponsor the events can contact V. Subramaniam (Temple Hon. Secretary) or N. Srinivasan (Temple Hon. Treasurer). Members are welcome to come to the temple to offer their prayers and get the blessings of Sumuga Vinayagar.*

- Hon. Secretary, VTMA -

7. TEMPLE NEWS – (ஆலய விபரங்கள்) -

1. The Persatuan Pengurusan Kuil Vinayagar plans to hold the 14th Annual General Meeting on 15th April 2007 at the Samajam premises. The AGM documents will be sent out by the end of March.

2. For the tamil varushapirappu, Sarvachitu, that falls on 14th April 2007, the temple is having special ganapathy homam, sanghaabhishegam, allangkaram, poojas and prasadam is also served. All members are welcome to get the blessings of Sumuga Vallampuri Vinayagar. The event starts at 6.30 am and expected to be over by 9.30 am. Members can sponsor the whole event for RM350/=. Members can also contribute to the material cost in the form of donations.

3. All members are encouraged to make avail of the priest's services. Sri Ganesan vadyar is available at the Samajam and the Temple premises daily. He can be contacted at the mobile phone no. 012-2504864. The rates

8. JUNIOR'S SECTION – (சிறுவர் பக்கம்)

Good Deeds are Always Rewarded

Once upon a time, there lived a merchant in a far away village in India. The man owned a young donkey and as the animal was full of life and energy, he was put to the toughest tasks. Years after, the donkey had grown old and a little 'gaga' senile. Whilst he was looking down an empty well, he fell into it. He yelled for help. "Master! O! Master! Take me out! I have fallen into the well! The merchant came with his wife and his sons. They were followed by all the villagers who, moved by curiosity, did not want to miss the event. The merchant looked down the well and gasped: " There is no need to pull out the wretched animal; he is too old to be of any use; the well also is old and has dried up; let us fill the well with earth so that our children may not, by accident, fall into it; at

the same time, we will bury the old donkey.” “Master, please don’t bury me alive! Remember all the work I performed for you, day and night. I carried bundles and bundles of provision and luggage on my back, your wife to the market and your children to the village school” cried the heart-broken donkey. He could not, nonetheless, move the heart of his master. Well, ain’t it in the nature of some people to forget the seva that we render to them? Fortunately, God does not forget our good deeds at all. Good deeds are always rewarded. To come back to the story, the merchant, his wife, his sons and all the villagers got hold of a spade and they started to throw heaps of earth over the donkey. The donkey wept in silence, but in his heart, he kept repeating ‘Ram! Ram!’ (The name of God). As the earth fell over the donkey each time, it slipped over his old, weary back and dropped at his feet; instinctively, each time, he climbed on the heaps. He continued to climb until he finally reached the top of the well and walked off, under the flabbergasted eyes of all. By the Grace of God, he was saved! The morale of the story is God never forgets. Man may forget and even bury us alive with dirt and filth when we are of no use to them. God remembers always and the more people try to bury us alive, the more we climb up in our esteem because only God knows the goodness in us.

Gayathri mantra – A Scientific Explanation
Sent in by D. Subramaniam (L-47)

Gayatri mantra has been bestowed the greatest importance in Vedic dharma. This mantra has also been termed as Savitri and Ved-Mata, the mother of the Vedas.

The literal meaning of the mantra is:

Quote:

O God! You are Omnipresent, Omnipotent and Almighty.

You are all Light.

You are all Knowledge and Bliss.

You are Destroyer of fear, You are Creator of this Universe, You are the

Greatest of all.

We bow and meditate upon Your light.

You guide our intellect in the right direction.

The mantra, however, has a great scientific importance too, which somehow got lost in the literary tradition. The modern astrophysics and astronomy tell us that our Galaxy called Milky Way or Akash-Ganga contains approximately 100,000 million of stars. Each star is like our sun might be having its own planet system. We know that the moon moves round the earth and the earth moves round the sun along with the moon. All planets round the sun. Each of the above bodies revolves round at its own axis as well. Our sun along with its family takes one round of the galactic centre in 22.5 crore years. Our All galaxies including ours are moving away at a terrific velocity of 20,000 miles per second. And now the alternative scientific meaning of the mantra step by step:

(A) Om bhur bhuvah swah: Bhur-the earth, bhuvah-the planets (solar family), swah-the Galaxy.

We observe that when an ordinary fan with a speed of 900 RPM (rotations per minute) moves, it makes noise. Then, one can imagine, what great noise would be created when the galaxies

move with a speed of 20,000 miles per second. This is what this portion of the mantra explains-that the sound produced due to the fast-moving earth, planets and galaxies is Om. The sound was heard during meditation by Rishi Vishvamitra, who mentioned it to other colleagues.

All of them, then unanimously decided to call this sound Om-the name of God, because this sound is available in all the three periods of time, hence it is sat (permanent). Therefore, it was the first ever revolutionary idea to identify formless God with a specific title (form) called upadhi. Until that time, everybody recognized God as formless and nobody was prepared to accept this new idea. In the Gita also, it is said, "Omiti ekaksharam brahma", meaning that the name of the Supreme is Om, which contains only one syllable (8/12). This sound Om heard during samadhi was called by all the seers nada-brahma (a very great noise), but not a noise that is normally beyond a specific amplitude and limits of decibels suited to human hearing.

Hence the rishis called this sound Udgith-musical sound of the above, i.e., heaven. They also noticed that the infinite mass of galaxies moving with a velocity of 20,000 miles/second was generating a kinetic energy = $\frac{1}{2} MV^2$ and this was balancing the total energy consumption of the cosmos. Hence they named it Pranavah, which means the body (vapu) or store house of energy (prana).

(B) Tat savitur varenyam: Tat - that (God), savitur-the sun (star), varenyam-worthy of bowing or respect.

Once the form of a person along with the name is known to us, we may locate the specific person. Hence the two titles (upadhi) provide the solid ground to identify the formless God, Vishvamitra suggested. He told us that we could know (realize) the unknowable formless God through the known factors, viz., sound Om and light of suns (stars). A mathematician can solve an equation $x^2+y^2=4$; if $x=2$; then y can be known and so on. An engineer can measure the width of a river even by standing at the river bank just by drawing a triangle. So was the scientific method suggested by Vishvamitra in the mantra in the next portion as under:-

(C) Bhargo devasya dheemahi: Bhargo-the light, devasya-of the deity, dheemahi-we should meditate.

The rishi instructs us to meditate upon the available form (light of suns) to

discover the formless Creator (God). Also he wants us to do japa of the word Om (this is understood in the Mantra). This is how the sage wants us to proceed, but there is a great problem to realise it, as the human mind is so shaky and restless that without the grace of the Supreme (Brahma) it cannot be controlled. Hence Vishvamitra suggests the way to pray Him as under:

(D) Dhiyo yo nah prachodayat: Dhiyo-intellect, yo-who, nah -we all,

prachodayat-guide to right direction. O God! Deploy our intellect on the right path.

Full scientific interpretation of the Mantra:

The earth (bhur), the planets (bhuvah), and the galaxies (swah) are moving at a very great velocity, the sound produced is Om, (the name of formless God.) That God (tat), who manifests Himself in the form of light of suns (savitur) is worthy of bowing/respect (varenyam). We all, therefore, should meditate (dheemahi) upon the light

(bhargo) of that deity (devasya) and also do chanting of Om. May He (yo) guide in right direction (prachodayat) our (nah) intellect (dhiyo). So we notice that the important points hinted in the mantra are:- (1)

The total kinetic energy generated by the movement of galaxies acts as umbrella and balances the total energy consumption of the cosmos. Hence it was named as the Pranavah (body of energy). This is equal to $\frac{1}{2} mv^2$ (Mass of galaxies x velocity²). (2) Realizing the great importance of the syllable Om, the other later date religions adopted this word with a slight change in accent, viz., amen and ameen. (3) The God could be realized through the saguna (gross) upasana (method), i.e., (a) by chanting the name of the supreme as Om and (b) by meditating upon the light emitted by stars (sun).

9. SOCIAL SECTION (கலாச்சார பகுதி)

ஸ்ரீ தியாகராஜ சுவாமிகுளும் பஞ்சரத்தன்
கீர்த்தனைகளும்

By Puan Sri Vijayalakshmi Rama Iyer (Presentation at Sangeethalayam seminar held in conjunction with Thyagaraja Aradhanai, January 13, 2007).

எழுத்தாளர் : திருமதி புவான் ஸ்ரீ
விஜயலக்ஷ்மி ராமையர்

(3-ம்-பாகம்)

இசைத்துறை அந்தந்த நாடு
கண்டங்களுக்கெற்ப வளர்ச்சியுற்றது. தென்
இந்தியாவில் கர்நாடக சங்கீதம் என்று
வளரலாயிற்றது. அதற்கேற்ற

இலக்கணங்களை மேற்கூறிய மகான்கள்
வரையறுத்தனர். வேங்கடமகி கர்நாடக
சங்கீத ராகங்களை 72 மேளகர்த்தாக்களாகப்
பிரித்தார். இவைத் தாய் ராகங்கள். இந்த 72
ராகங்களுக்கும் ஏயாளமான ஜன்ய ராகங்கள்
தோன்றின. இந்த 72 ராகங்களும் 12
சக்கரங்களாகப் பிரிக்கப்பட்டது, ஒரு
சக்கரத்திற்கு 6 மேளகர்த்தா ராகங்கள்
என்று அமைக்கப்பட்டது. அந்த 6
ராகங்களுக்கும் வரிசையாக “பா, ஸ்ரீ, கோ,
ழ, மா, ஷ” என்ற சங்கேத அக்ஷரங்கள்
அல்லது குறிஎண்கள் அளிக்கப்பட்டன. 12
சக்கரங்களும், இந்து, (சந்திரன் 1) 1ம்
சக்கரம், நேத்ர (கண்கள் 2) 2ம் சக்கரம்,
அக்னி (நெருப்பு 3) 3ம் சக்கரம், வேத
(வேதங்கள் 4) 4ம் சக்கரம், பாண

(பாணங்கள் 5) 5ம் சக்கரம், ருது
(ருதுக்கள் 6) 6ம் சக்கரம், ரிஷி
(சப்தரிஷிகள் 7) 7ம் சக்கரம், வசு
(வசுக்கள் 8) 8ம் சக்கரம், ப்ரஹ்ம
(பிரம்மாக்கள் 9) 9ம் சக்கரம், திசி (திசி
10) 10ம் சக்கரம், ருத்ர (ருத்ரர்கள் 11)
11ம் சக்கரம், ஆதித்ய (சூரியர்கள் 12)
12ம் சக்கரம் என்று அறிவுப்பூர்வமாக
வரிசைப்படுத்தப்பட்டன.

(தோடரும்)

10. CONTACTS (தொட்பு)

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Samajam's Priest (வாத்தியார்)

Shri Ganesan Vadhyar 012-2504864

Disclaimer

While all attempts are made to ensure the contents of this Circular are factual, the Management Committee is not responsible for any omissions or incorrect information printed.

12.CALENDAR OF EVENTS – சிறிய பஞ்சாங்கம்-*Wishing all members a Happy Tamil New Year***தங்களுக்கும் தங்கள் குடும்பத்தினருக்கும் எங்களது இனிய சமீழ் புத்தாண்டு நல்வாழ்த்துகள்**

April '07 ஏப்ரல் '07			Pangguni பங்குனி	
1	18	ஞாயிறு	Pangguni Utthiram	பங்குனி உத்திரம்
2	19	திங்கள்	Pournami Poojai (7-9 pm)	பௌர்ணமி பூஜை (மாலை 7-9)
4	21	புதன்	<i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	<i>சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்</i>
5	22	வியாழன்	<i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	<i>சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்</i>
6	23	வெள்ளி	Sankatahara Chathurthi	சங்கடஹர சதுர்த்தி
7	24	சனி	Varaaha Jayanthi	வராஹ ஜெயந்தி
9	26	திங்கள்	<i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	<i>சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்</i>
10	27	செவ்வாய்	Kaala Bhairavaashtami	கால பைரவாஷ்டமி
11	28	புதன்	<i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	<i>சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்</i>
12	29	வியாழன்	Sravana Vrudham; <i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	சிரவண விரதம். சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்
13	30	வெள்ளி	<i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	<i>சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்</i>
Sarva Jitthu Varudam Chitthirai Maatham 2007 April சர்வ ஜித்து வருடம் சித்திரை மாதம் 2007 ஏப்ரல்				
14	1	சனி	Tamil Varuda Pirappu; Maatha Pirappu; Punyakaalam	தமிழ் வருட பிறப்பு, மாத பிறப்பு, புண்யகாலம்
15	2	ஞாயிறு	Pradosham	பிரதோஷம்
17	4	செவ்வாய்	Sarva Amavasai	சர்வ அமாவாசை
19	6	வியாழன்	Krithikai Vrudham	கிருத்திகை விரதம்
20	7	வெள்ளி	Chathurthi Vrudham; Akshayathruhiyai	சதுர்த்தி விரதம் - அக்ஷயத்ருதியை
21	8	சனி	Sankara Jayanthi (6:30 – 8:30pm)	சங்கர ஜெயந்தி (மாலை 6:30-8:30)
22	9	ஞாயிறு	Sashti Vrudham	சஷ்டி விரதம்
23	10	திங்கள்	<i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	<i>சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்</i>
26	13	வியாழன்	<i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	<i>சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்</i>
28	15	சனி	Ekadasi; Bhajanai (7-9 pm)	ஏகாதசி. பஜனை (மாலை 7-9)
29	16	ஞாயிறு	Pradosham; <i>Subha Muhurtham Naal</i>	பிரதோஷம். சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்

May '07 மே '07				
2	19	புதன்	Chithra Pournami	சித்ரா பெளர்ணமி
4	21	வெள்ளி	Subha Muhurtham Naal	சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்
6	23	ஞாயிறு	Sankatahara Chathurthi	சங்கடஹர சதுர்த்தி
9	26	புதன்	Subha Muhurtham Naal	சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்
13	30	ஞாயிறு	Sarva Ekadasi; Subha Muhurtham Naal	சர்வ ஏகாதசி. சுப முஹூர்த்தம் நாள்
14	31	திங்கள்	Pradosham	பிரதோஷம்.

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