Austin Hindu Temple and Community Center

ॐ नमः शिवाय ! श्री मात्रे नमः ! ॐ नमो नारायणाय !

MAHA SIVA RATRI
FEB 27, 2014 (6pm—7am)

Worship of Lord Siva, while performing **Mahanyaasa poorvaka abhishekam and with Bilva patra** during **Chaturyaamam** (or 4 kaalaas or times) with utmost devotion on this auspicious day, absolves the devotee of all sins and grants immense divine blessings.

AHT invites all devotees to join the festivities in celebrating Maha Sivaratri. Please **Register** using the link at the bottom of the page for sponsoring or participating in any event.

Maha Siva Ratri means "the Magnificient night of Lord Shiva" where devotees worship Lord Shiva in Linga roopa from sunset to sunrise. **"leenam gamayati iti lingam"**, that which shows the all pervading reality is Lingam.

Mahanyaasam, meaning the great nyasa (purification), is recited to purify the body, mind and soul of all the impurities and also called "**Raudrikarana Vidhana**" . Unless this Raudrikarana is done, the sadhaka is not entitled to worship Rudra by Abhisheka and Archana. Thus the vakya "**naarudro rudramarchayet**" exemplifies the power of performing Mahanyaasam before performing RudrAbhisheka and Archana.

The **Bilva Patra** represents the Trinetra or three eyes of Lord Shiva. Girija lives on the root of the tree, Maheswari on its shoulder, Dakshayani on its branches, Parvati among its leaves, Katyayani in its fruit, Gowri in its flowers, while in thorns the numerous Shaktis find a home. One who performs **Bilva pooja** on this day achieves Shiva loka, the abode of pure

Maha Siva Ratri Darshan
- **6 pm Start (Continue through the Night)**
  - Abhishekam offerings
  - Lighting of 1 Lakh diyas
  - Bhajans
- **12 am** – Lingodhbhavam
- **12 am** – Sahasra Jyothi

Chaturyaama Rudrabhishekam, Kalyanam, Homam
- **7 pm** – Mahanyasa Poorvaka Saamoohika Rudrabhishekam
- **8:30 pm** – Siva Parvathi Kalyanam
- **10 pm** – Rudra Homam & Mrityunjaya Homam
- **12 am, 3 am, 6 am** – Rudrabhishekam

SPONSORSHIP
- **$101** for all 3 Events
  - Perform Saamoohika Rudrabhishekam
  - Kalyanam (Sankalpam only)
  - Homam (Sankalpam only)

- **$51** for any One Event

To Participate in the Mahanyasa Poorvaka RudrAbhishekam Program: Please click here to register
Contact Info: info@austinhindutemple.org   Phone 512-927-0000