



Austin Hindu Temple & Community Center



Presents

Kalayana Utsavam for Andal (Goda Devi) & Lord Ranganatha on Tuesday, January 13, 2015



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| 9:00 am | Thiruppalliyezhuchi & Thiruppaavai |
| 9:30 am | Thirumanjanam (Abhishekam) |
| 7:00 pm | Kalyana Utsavam for Lord Ranganatha & Andal |

Aandaal is 10th century Tamil saint and one of the twelve Azhwars (saints) and the only woman Azhwar of Vaishnavism. She wrote the great Tamil works of Thiruppaavai(30 verses) and Naacchiyaar Tirumozhi(143 verses). Andal is known for her unwavering devotion to Lord Vishnu.

Andal was discovered under a Tulasi plant in the temple garden of Srivilliputtur, by Vishnuchitta who was one of the most revered saints in Hinduism, Periyazhwar. She was named Kodhai or Goda. As she grew, her love and devotion for the Lord grew to the extent that she decided to marry none but the Lord Himself. She started to live in a dream world with her beloved Lord and was constantly fantasizing about marrying Him.

Goda made flower garlands for her beloved Lord at the temple. She started wearing the flower garland which was meant to be offered to the Lord before sending it to the temple. One day, she was caught red-handed by her father. The Lord appeared to Vishnuchitta in his dream and told him that He whole-heartedly accepted Goda's offering. From this day on, Goda was respected by the devotees and came to be known as "Aandaal", the girl who "ruled" over the Lord. She is also known as "Soodi kodutha Sudarkodi".

Periyazhwar took Andal to Srirangam to marry Lord Ranganatha. She entered the temple sanctum sanctorum and became one with Him.

Any of the following items for Prasadam (without onion or garlic) would be very welcome:
Coconut Rice, Tamarind Rice, Sambhar Rice, Vegetable Rice, Curd Rice, Sundal, Chakkarai Pongal

Suggested Sponsorship for Kalyanam: \$51

AHT requests devotees sitting for the Kalyanam to come in traditional Indian dress.

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