

Austin Hindu Temple & Community Center

Presents

Kalayana Utsavam for Andal (Goda Devi) & Lord Ranganatha

on Friday, January 13, 2017



7:00 AM	Thiruppalliyezhuchi & Thiruppaavai
7:30 AM	Thirumanjanam (Abhishekam)
6:30 PM	Kalyana Utsavam for Lord Ranganatha & Andal

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

Andal was discovered under a <u>Tulasi plant</u> in the temple garden of Srivilliputtur, by <u>Vishnuchitta</u> who was one of the most revered saints in Hinduism, <u>Periyazhwar.</u> 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 <u>Srirangam</u> to marry Lord Ranganatha. She entered the temple sanctum sanctorum and became one with Him.

AHT Will be celebrating Andal (Goda) Kalyanam on Friday, January 13, 2017 Please come and join in this special occasion.

We welcome you to sponsor and be part of the divine wedding function Suggested Sponsorship for Kalyanam: \$51

Please bring any of the following items for Prasadam (without onion or garlic) Coconut Rice, Tamarind Rice, Sambar Rice, Vegetable Rice, Curd Rice, Sundal, Chakkarai Pongal AHT requests devotees sitting for the Kalyanam to come in traditional Indian dress.

NOTE: The regular Thirumanjanam (Abhishekam) for Sri Andal on 11th Wednesday is shifted to Friday, 13th Morning at 7:30 AM.

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