



HINDU TEMPLE OF WISCONSIN

MAHA SIVARATHRI CELEBRATION

Shiva Parvathy Kalyana Utsavam Saturday, February 13th, 2010

As per Puranas, Sati's marriage to Shiva, against her father Dhaksha's wishes, results in her self-immolation at Daksha's Yagna, leaving Shiva grief-stricken.

Sati appears before Shiva in her divine form and reassures him that she will return as *Himavan's daughter*. Sati is reborn as Parvati, the daughter of *Himavan* and her only goal was to reunite with Shiva.

Years of penance finally brings Shiva before Her one day as an old man and He asked why a beautiful woman such as her should waste time dreaming of an old man like the one wearing tiger skin and smearing his body with ashes.

Parvati was deeply offended and scorns the old man for saying such things about her beloved. Her objection convinced Shiva of Her love for and showed His true form.

Thus, Parvati underwent severe penance to regain Shiva as her husband. This depiction of Parvati's marriage to Lord Shiva, in the Shiva Purana, could be seen as an allegory illustrating the desire of an individual to achieve a state of liberation from strife and banality.

Parvati symbolizes many different virtues esteemed by Hindu tradition: fertility, marital felicity, devotion to the spouse, asceticism and power.

It is said in the Saundarya Lahari, a famous literary work by Sir SankarAcharya, on the goddess, that She is the source of all power in this universe and that because of her, Lord Shiva gets all his powers.



Program

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| 06: 15 PM | Kalyana Mahotsavam Procession |
| 06: 45 PM | Vigneswara Puja |
| 07: 00 PM | Exchange of Garlands, Vara Puja, Punayaahavaachanam, Raksha Bandanam, Kanya Danam, Mangalya Dharanam |
| 08: 00 PM | Archana; Nivedana, Mantra Puspham |
| 08: 30 PM | Maha Mangala Arathi |
| 08: 45 PM | Prasadam / Light Dinner |

May Lord Siva & Parvathi's blessing be always with us

Sponsorship - Kalyana Utsavam February 13th, 2010

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