

<b>Deities in the Temple</b>	
<p><b>Sri Ganesh:</b> Son of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, he is worshipped by Hindus in all regions as prime deity. Every ritual begins with a prayer offered to Sri Ganesh. He is the remover of all obstacles (Vighnaharata) in the proper conduct of Dharma; Siddhi Vinayaka, the leader who guides us in attaining our goals. Prodding us to complete all our tasks through proper conduct of spiritual life. His association with the mouse as his vehicle emphasizes equality of all creatures in God's eyes.</p> <p>The broken tusk is symbolic of knowledge, and he is credited for being the scribe for Mahabharata.</p>	
<p><b>Lord Subrahmanya:</b> the second son of Shiva and Parvati is a creation of Shakti (Agni) for saving the world from the tyranny of the demon Tarakasura. He rides a peacock and carries a spear (Vel) with which he guards the spiritual progress of the world.</p>	
<p><b>Sri Durga:</b> the cosmic energy in its dynamic form is symbolized in the form of SHAKTI, the universal mother, the force by which God creates, preserves and destroys. Her other names and forms include Uma, Kamakshi and Kali.</p>	
<p><b>Sri Krishna with Radha:</b> The eighth avatar of Lord Vishnu, born the son of Vasudeva and Devaki, and raised by Yashoda and the cowherd Nanda. He annihilated Kamsa, the tyrant king of Mathura who reigned in terror and planned to control the world.</p> <p>His various roles include the childhood pranks as a cowherd, his love for Radha, his supernatural powers and most important of all, his role in the Bhagvat Gita when he acted as a friend, advisor, charioteer and teacher to his friend Arjun in the great Mahabharata war. His revelation of his Vishwaroopa to Arjuna as the Supreme being is the ultimate understanding of God.</p>	
<p><b>Sri Hanuman:</b> Sri Hanuman was the son of the wind God Marut and Anjana, is also known as Maruti and Anjaneya. He embodies the extraordinary virtues of humility, strength, sacrifice, self-control and wisdom. He is recognized for his superior intellect and as a Vedic scholar. He was gifted with swiftness and the power to live as long as he willed. His love for Rama expressed itself in unquestioning obedience and devoted service.</p>	
<p><b>Lord Shiva:</b> Soon after creation of the universe, Lord Shiva is believed to have appeared as a pillar of fire, reaching the outer space and originating in the depths of the earth. The auspicious and benevolent Shankara is symbolized in the Lingam, representing the pillar of cosmic power and light.</p>	

<p><b>Nandi:</b> Nandi (the bull) is Lord Shiva's vehicle, symbolizing the soul of man, the jeeva, the yearning for Nirvana, the paramatman</p>	
<p><b>Sri Lakshmi Narayan:</b> Sri Vishnu, the preserver and sustainer of the universe is blue, symbolizing infinity. He holds a chakra (discus) in one hand, denoting that he maintains Dharma (righteousness) and order in the universe. The Shankha (conch) in the other hand symbolizes Nada Brahman (music of the cosmos) to remove ignorance. The gada (mace) is to eliminate evil and the lotus is the symbol of beauty, purity, serenity and perfection.</p> <p>Lord Vishnu appeared as nine avatars (incarnations) with the tenth avatar yet to appear. The seventh and the eighth avatars are popularly worshipped as Rama and Krishna.</p> <p>Lord Vishnu's consort is Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. Her right hand has a Abhaya Mudra (fear not gesture) and her left hand is in Varadh Mudra (gesture to grant boon)</p>	
<p><b>Sri Ram Parivar:</b> Sri Rama, the seventh avatar of Vishnu, created Rama Rajya, an ideal welfare state. His life is exemplified with total detachment from lust of power and authority. And virtues such as compassion, forgiveness and vindication of justice.</p> <p>Sita, incarnate goddess Lakshmi, and Lakshman, his brother, a manifestation of the serpent king Adidesha along with his devoted servant Hanuman, a manifestation of Shiva and born as the son of Vayu, constitute the Ram Parivar.</p>	
<p><b>Nataraja:</b> Nataraja is God Shiva in the dance of the cosmos. He has four hands. In one he holds the Drum by the beat of which he determines the time and the pulse of manifestation, evolution and renewal. In another hand are flames which consume all things in their eternal destiny. One hand is in Abhaya Mudra (fear-not gesture) while the other is pointing downwards to the earth, upon which the lord is firmly established, crushing the demon dwarf Muyalaka,</p> <p>His face has a faint smile; his thoughts absorbed in himself from his universal perspective that there is no good or evil, pleasure or pain, life or death - only the unremitting rhythm of release. The symbols in his crown reiterate his cosmic identity - the Ganges flowing through his hair. He wears a man's ear ring in one ear and a woman's ear ring in the other. The king of snakes, the cobra adorns his arm.</p> <p>In this form</p>	