

SHREE SHREE SHARODIO DURGA PUJA

Celebration 2019

প্রভাতী
3rd Edition



4th - 8th October

Chestnuts Community Centre
280 St Ann's Rd,
London N15 5BN



**NORTH LONDON
PRABHATI SANGHA**

www.nlps-uk.com Charity Number: 1147144 info@nlps-uk.com

Contacts

Sri Goura Pada Deb	07814 262 530
Sri Niranta Deb	07789 705 661
Sri Susitol Deb	07967 967 855
Sri Shubash Deb	07956 395 387
Sri Alok Mukherjee	07801 513 494
Sri Jahar Shil	07760 391 987

PUJA DONATION DETAILS

Bank Name: **NatWest**
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Account Number: **24706221**
Sort Code: **50-30-09**

Message of gratitude to our donors

NLPS would like to cordially thank all our donors within and outside of our community for selflessly donating a substantial amount to our monetary fund which in turn has allowed us to support our spiritual cause - Durga Puja - but also indirectly helping to promote our culture and religion. We really appreciate the generosity of all the donors. We will forever be in debt to their kind gestures and continued paramount support and are extremely grateful for it. May Maa Durga bless them to be blissful in all their activities.

Thank you once again.

Kind regards, NLPS.



Durga Puja Celebration 2019

Dear Devotees

North London Prabhati Sangha (NLPS) cordially invites you to join us with your family and friends in celebrating Durga Puja.

Friday 4th October 2019

Adhibas & Puja

Saturday 5th October 2019

Puja

Anjali

Sandhya Aroti

Aroti Kirton

Matri Sangeet

Sunday 6th October 2019

Puja

Anjali

Sandhya Aroti

Special Ashtami Attraction - 'Chandi Paat'
by children and cultural programmes

Monday 7th October 2019

Puja

Anjali

Sandhya Aroti

Cultural Programmes

Tuesday 8th October 2019

Puja

Anjali

Sindur Pradan & Shanti

Sindur Khela

Dhamail

MAHA SHASHTI

4 pm – 10 pm

MAHA SAPTAMI

10 am

1 pm

6 pm

7 pm - 8 pm

8 pm - 10 pm

MAHA ASHTAMI

10 am

1 pm

6 pm

7 pm – 10 pm

MAHA NABAMI

10 am

1 pm

6 pm

7 pm – 10 pm

MAHA DASHAMI

10 am

1 pm

3 pm - 4 pm

4 pm - 7 pm

7 pm - 9 pm

There will be Cultural Programmes and Activities throughout the week
Prasadam will be distributed and served after Bhog Aroti and during the evening, after Sandhya Aroti

Origin of the

Durga Puja



Durga Puja - the ceremonial worship of the mother Goddess, is one of the most important festivals throughout the world. Apart from being a religious festival for the Hindus, it is also an occasion for reunion and rejuvenation, and a celebration of traditional culture and customs.

Durga Puja is celebrated every year in the Hindu month of Ashwin (September/October) and commemorates Prince Rama's invocation of the Goddess before going to war with the Demon King Ravana. This Autumnal ritual was different from the conventional Durga Puja, which is usually celebrated in the spring time. So, this Puja is also known as 'Akal-Bodhan' or out of season worship.

The first grand worship of Goddess Durga in recorded history is said to have been celebrated in the late 1500s. Folklores say the landlord of Dinajpur and Malda initiated the first Durga Puja in Bengal. Another source, The Raja Kangshanarayan of Taherpur organised the first Sharadiya or Autumn Durga Puja in Bengal in c.1606.

The origin of the community puja can be credited to the twelve friends of Guptipara in Hoogly who collaborated and collected contributions from residents to conduct the first community puja called the 'Baro-Yaari' Puja in 1790. The Baro-Yaari Puja gave way to the Sarbojanin or community puja. In 1910, they organised the first truly communal puja in Kolkata with full public contribution, control and participation.

The research paper further indicates that high level British officials regularly attended Durga Pujas organised by influential Bengalis. British Soldiers actually participated in the pujas and even saluted the Deity. The most amazing act of worship was performed by the East India Company itself in 1765 (Sukanta Chaudhury, Calcutta City Vol. 1) and it is reported that even the company auditor general John Chips organised Durga Puja at his Birbhum office.

The traditional icon of the Goddess worshipped during Durga Puja is Pratima or Kolabou, made of banana tree. This is the symbolic form of Durga. The tableau of Durga features her two children Kartikya and Ganesh with Saraswati and Lakshmi. Lord Shiva is also worshipped during the puja as well. Those images are made of clay under one structure, known as Ek-Chala. In the present day, people are decorating pandals in an artistic way. At the same time, people are offering their devotion to Maa Durga during the four days of the Puja.

Kali Puja Celebration



Sunday 27th October 2019
5 pm - 10 pm

Venue:

Chestnuts Community Centre
280 St Ann's Road
London N15 5BN

Whenever peace is disturbed on Earth or in the universe a spiritual form reincarnates. Many thousands of years ago when the demons, Shambhu and Nishambhu, disturbed the peace of Indra, the king of Gods, and his empire (heaven), Indra and the Gods went on to extensive and endless battles, but the Gods lost all hope and the demons became stronger.

The despondent Gods took refuge in the holy mountains of the Himalayas where Lord Shiva & Parvati (Durga) reside. The shaken and downhearted Gods wanted protection from Mahamaya Durga, the Goddess of Shakti (ultimate spiritual power). Durga then miraculously created Kali, another Shakti from Her forehead also known as Kal Bhoi Nashini. Kali was created to save Heaven and Earth from the growing cruelty of the demons. Along with Dakini and Jogini, Her escorts, Kali set her way to end the war and kill the devils.

There was chaos all around. After slaughtering the demons, Kali made a garland of their heads and wore it around her neck. In the bloodbath, she lost control and started killing anyone who came her way. Even the Gods started running for their lives. The only source of protection seemed Lord Shiva, Durga's consort.

Seeing the endless slaughter, Shiva devised a plan to save the world. He lay down in the path of the rampaging Kali. When the Goddess unknowingly stepped on him, she regained her senses. The well-known picture of Ma Kali, with her tongue hanging out, actually depicts the moment when she steps on the Lord and repents.

This momentous day is known as Kali puja, and is held to diminish the ego and all negative tendencies that hinder spiritual progress & material prosperity.

The North London Prabhati Sangha cordially invites you, your family & friends to celebrate this auspicious & momentous day once again.

Upcoming Celebration

Kali Puja

Sunday 27th October 2019

Saraswati Puja

Venue: Chesnut Community Center

Thursday 30th January 2020

Dol Purnima

Venue: Chesnut Community Center

Saturday 14th March 2020

Janmashthami

Venue: Chesnut Community Center

Sunday 30th August 2020

Venue: Chesnut Community Center

**Confirmation of Venue and Time please visit :
www.nlps-uk.com / @NLPSUK Facebook Page
closer to the date of the celebration**

Mehndi Designs



Get a beautiful henna design here by expert, young designers from the NLPS community during NLPS Durga Puja 2019 from the following dates:
4th-8th October 2019



Strip Henna Hand Designs

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Henna Tattoos

All contributions go towards Durga Puja



NORTH LONDON PRABHATI SANGHA

Trustees and management committee

The North London Prabhati Sangha is controlled by Trustees. The trustees of the charity are volunteers; they provide the full range of experience and expertise required to add significant value to the work of the charity. They do not receive any remuneration for their roles as trustees.

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- Sri Goura Pada Deb - Chairman **(Trustee)**
- Sri Sukanto Deb - Vice Chairman
- Sri Niranta Deb - General Secretary
- Sri Susitol Deb - Cultural Secretary **(Trustee)**
- Sri Ranadhir Deb - Treasurer **(Trustee)**
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Who we are and what we do

North London Prabhati Sangha is a registered charity and governed by its memorandum and articles of association. The Board of Trustees are the members of the association.

The organisation was established over 27 years ago, in 1991.

Our main objective is to promote and celebrate the culture and traditions of Hindu way of life and facilitate the integration of the people from the Indian sub-continent with the community in the UK.

We provide education and facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and other leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life of the community. We provide music, dance and Bengali class.

We celebrate all major Hindu pujas – including Dol Jatra, Janmashtami, Kali Puja, Saraswati and Durga puja.

We organise social and cultural events Bhoishaki (Bengali new year), seaside trip, annual sports day, Christmas and end of year social event.

What we did in the last twelve months

Some of our activities are outlined below.

Boishakhi – Bengali New Year celebration

We celebrated the Boishakhi – Bengali new year – for the 6th year running. There was music from children, amateurs, professionals artists who performed to the joyous crowd.

The celebration was attended by people from across the community including prominent local Islington councillors and Right Honourable Emily Thornberry, Shadow Foreign Secretary.

We are grateful to London Borough of Islington for their generous ongoing support of our annual Boishakhi celebration

Saraswati Puja

The Saraswati Puja festival (also known as Basant Panchami or Vasant Panchami) is a festival devoted to Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge, music and art.

Children, in particular, joined in the celebration and prayers and seeking blessings of the goddess for success in learning, arts and crafts.

Dol Purnima

Doljatra is the festival is also known as 'Dol Jatra', or the 'Swing Festival' commonly referred to as the festival of colours and this is an occasion to pray for the ushering in of joy and happiness

We celebrated the festival at a community centre, in Islington, with great fanfare. There were bhajans and prasads were distributed lavishly and people indulged in putting coloured powder on each other.

Janmasthanami

Janmashtami is the celebration of Sri Krishna's birthday.

We had a full day of celebration and guests came from all places including from far away as Birmingham and Loughborough.

We had Bhajan Kirtan, pujas, and a speech on Bhagbhatam by monks from ISKON. Our young children performed plays based on the life of Krishna which mesmerised our audience.

Kali Puja

Maa Kali is the fearful and ferocious form of the mother goddess Durga. The main purpose of the puja is to seek the help of the goddess in destroying evil – both in the outside world and within us.

We celebrated Kali puja on a November night with hundreds of devotees coming together to make it a very special and enjoyable night. There were prayers, songs, art performances and served Prasad.

Durga Puja

We celebrated our second year of Durga Puja at Chestnut Community Centre in Haringey.

It was a massive success with nearly 1000 visitors over the five days of celebration. Everyday we served fresh vegetarian food, cooked on site, to our visitors throughout the day.

Highlights included Bhajan Kirtan, pujas, music and dance.

We have over 30 members who helped with organising and running of the five day activities. In addition we have army of volunteers - men, women, and children who gave up their time to come and help us.

Summer activities

We held a sports day and picnic for families at a north London park. Activities included football, cricket, egg and spoon and sack races. Families brought cooked dishes and shared with each other to make it a very family friendly day out.

NLPS organised a seaside trip to Broadstairs. Over 50 people – young and old - from the community came on the trip for a wonderful summer day at the seaside.

End of Year celebration (Sonkranti)

NLPS celebrated another eventful year, and invited all members, volunteers and the community to come together and reflect and say farewell to 2018.

As well as celebrating Christmas we also celebrated Sankranti in advance – as that is usually on or around the 13th of January. It is a harvest festival and consequently families brought in home made savouries and dishes to celebrate the coming of the New Year.

Arts and performance

We held a number of arts and performance activities for young children to take part in cultural songs and dances, ably taught by an experienced teacher of Bengali music.

Children took part in short religious plays and we are actively encouraging all families to encourage their children to be more involved in cultural art and music.

Glimpse of Durga



Puja 2018



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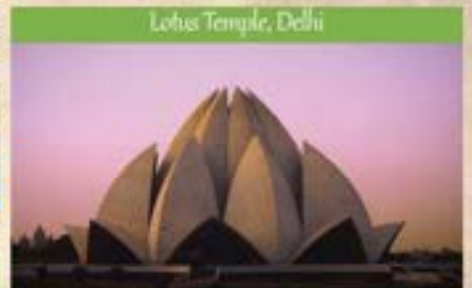
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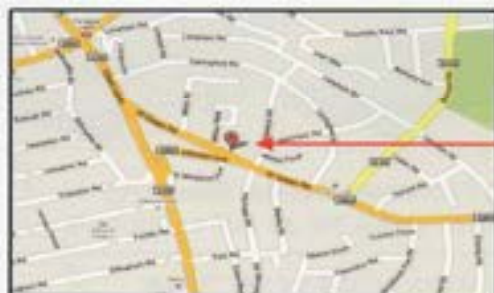
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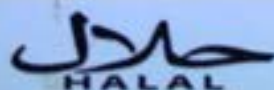
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NLPS CULTURAL CLASS

NLPS plays a dynamic part in promoting its cultural values by holding cultural classes in which Bengali language, music and drama are taught regularly. NLPS also holds religious classes which teaches children and adults of our Hindu background to promote Hinduism and expose its roots to the new generation.



If you are interested to participate in these classes please contact:

Mr Goura Pada Deb - 07814 262 530

Mrs Mahamaya Shil - 07957 716 892

Happy Durga Puja

From NLPS



Support us on Social Media. North London Prabhati Sangha (@NLPSUK) is on Facebook and Instagram. Like and follow us to show your support and to keep updated on our activities and events.

And if you are posting pictures from this year's Durga Puja please use following hashtags:



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NLPSUK



LIVE

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