Shree Shree Sharodio Durga Puja 7th October - 11th October 2016



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



NORTH LONDON www.nlps-uk.com
PRABHATI SANGHA Charity Number:1147144

#### Happy Durga Puja



#### **Goddess Durga**

In Sanskrit, Goddess Durga means "the inaccessible or the invincible." Goddess Durga is a form of Shakti (Goddess Parvati). She is one of the most popular incarnations of the Devi. She is the resemblance of infinite power and Mother of the universe. Durga is the destroyer of evil and the protector of her devotees. Durga was created to slay the buffalo demon Mahishasura. She was created by Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva and the demigods who were otherwise powerless to defeat him. These Gods embodied their collective energy (shakti) to give her the power she needed to defeat Mahishasura. Durga is both derivative from the male divinities and the true source of their inner power. She is the divine spouse of Lord Shiva and is the mother of Ganesha & Karthikeya.

The festival of Durga puja is very popular among Bengalis. It is one of the most important festivals for the Hindu community. We celebrate this every year depending on the Hindu calendar during the month of Ashwin, which falls between the English months of September–October.

This puja is also well known as Sharadiya Durga puja. Shardiya Puja is said to have been first performed by Lord Rama in Autumn. The autumnal Puja is different from the conventional Durga Puja, which is usually celebrated in the spring time. So this Puja is said to be 'AKAL-BODHAN', or 'out of season worship'.

The Puja lasts for five days- Shashiti, Saptami, Ashtami, Nabami and Dashami. It is also the occasion of reunion. Durga Protima is the symbol of such reunion. We worship DURGA along with LAKSHMI, SARASWATI, GANESH, KARTIKEYA AND SHIVA. There are endless depictions of Ma Durga's appearance. The most common and usual imagery of Durga is that she has ten arms holding various items which are: Sword, Conch Shell, Discus, Rosary, Bell, Wine Cup, Shield, Bow, Arrow and Spear. She is often seen riding her lion named Singhasta.

Durga Puja marks the victory of Goddess Durga over the evil buffalo demon Mahishasura. Durga Puja festival epitomises the victory of Good over Evil. Durga is also worshipped as Durgotinashini, the destroyer of evil and the protector of her devotees. Durga is the symbol of female dynamism. She exists eternally, always abiding in her own sweet nature and inhabits the hearts and minds of her devotees.

It is a universal celebration. Therefore during the Puja we celebrate the occasion with all human beings irrespective of any race, colour, cast with great passion and devotion.



#### Durga Puja 2016 Timetable and Programme

Friday 7th October 2016	MAHA SHASHTI	
Adhibas & Puja	4 pm – 10 pm	
Saturday 8th October 2016	MAHA SAPTAMI	
Puja	10 am	
Anjali	1 pm	
Sandhya Aroti	6 pm	
Special Saptani Attraction - 'Chandi Paat' by children;		
finishing with Aroti Kirton	7pm - 10pm	
Sunday 9th October 2016	MAHA ASHTAMI	
Puja	10 am	
Anjali	1 pm	
Sandhya Aroti	6 pm	
Special Astomi Attraction - Ramayan Kirton by NLPS	5;	
finishing with Aroti Kirton	7 pm – 10 pm	
Monday 10th October 2016	MAHA NABAMI	
Puja	10 am	
Anjali	1 pm	
Sandhya Aroti	6 pm	
Special Nabami Attraction - Padabali Kirton by GP D	)eb	
& Party; finishing with Aroti Kirton	7 pm – 10 pm	

*There will be	Cultural Programm	nes and Activities th	roughout the week*

**MAHA DASHAMI** 

3 pm - 7 pm

10 am

1 pm

**Tuesday 11th October 2016** 

Sindur Pradani & Shanti

Puja

**Anjali** 

Prasadam will be distributed and served after Anjali and during the evening, after Sandhya Aroti

#### Other Events:

We also arrange many other Pujas & cultural activites, throughout the year: Saraswati Puja, Doljatra, Janmashtami. Kali Puja, Boishakhi, Cultural and Bangla Classes, Gita Recitations, Seaside Trips and Sports Days.

If you are interested, please feel free to contact us by phone/email.

#### **Contacts:**

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For Donations: NatWest Bank a/c NLPS Durga Puja: Sort Code: 50-30-09 A/C No. 24706221



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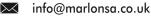
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