



AARATTU MAHOTSAVAM KARIMPUZHA SREE RAMASWAMY TEMPLE



**Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Karimpuzha

District

Palakkad



**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Karimpuzha Post Office– 700 m

Nearest Bus station

Karimpuzha Bus Stop – 450 m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Cherukka railway station – 30 km

Nearest Airport

Calicut International Airport- 73 km



Karimpuzha SreeRamaswamy Temple
Karimpuzha (PO), Sreekrishnapuram
Palakkad: 679513
Email : info@karimpuzha.com
Website : <http://www.karimpuzha.com>



TIME

DATES

February-March (*Kumbham*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

8 days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

The history of the temple dates back to the times of the Calicut Zamorin. The period from AD 700 to 1500 saw the grandeur and glory of the Zamorin's ruling period. It is during the start of the period the Zamorin's family shifted their royal residence from Kondotty to Kozhikode / Calicut. And thereby Calicut became the Economic Capital and political Hub of the dynasty. Soon after this the Zamorin was busy in expansion of his territory and many political invasions were declared. Valluvand and nearby territories came under his rule.

The Zamorin felt that Karimpuzha was a prominent location if it came under his empire. He invaded the area and declared his brother Earalppad as the ruler of the province. The zamorin continued his military invasions, maintaining Karimpuzha as the focal point. The Earalppad assisted his brother in these endeavors. Most of the areas coming under Palakkad belt were invaded on time to time basis and thereby their ruling territory expanded. In all these efforts Karimpuzha provided them a fertile soil. And so Karimpuzha, a small village occupied prime importance in the political map of Zamorin's kingdom.

During the period of AD 1000, the Zamorin now shifted his attention to revive and develop Karimpuzha. Earalppad constructed a royal palatial palace, Ettukettu, flanked by 8 built up sides, on the banks of the river. He then started the reconstruction of the temple. The temple is presumed to have been there long back even before the times of Zamorin's invasion.

During the time of the renovation of the temple, the shift in the placement of the deity's face is now observed as a holy festival. This is celebrated on the day of the 3rd Thursday between the mid Nov – mid December every year. Near the Earalppad's palace the family deity Sree Bhagavathy is sacredly placed and is now known as *Bhagavathy Kottil*. The army chieftain's home Cherulli Achan Madam is also seen near the Earalppad's palace, on to the South of the temple.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Approximately 8000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Kodiyettam
Usha Pooja
Sheeveli with Panchari
Melam
Navakam
Panchagavyam
Uchchapooja
Sree Boothabali
Kalampattu
Theeyattu
Utsava Bali
Temple arts

DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

Every year, on the *Punnartham Nakshatram*, in the *Kumbha Masam* (Feb – March), we see the temple flag flying high announcing the arrival of *Utsavam* or the temple festival. *Utsavam* starts with *Aanayottam* (Elephant Running around the temple for a specific number of times - usually 21). After this, in the late night, *Kodiyettam* or the festival flag is hoisted. The flag post is made of arecanut wood. Sri Hanuman adorns the flag post. This festival extends for 8 days.

Priority is given to traditional Rituals and other in-house temple rituals than the outdoor activities. This temple has been hosting rare rituals for centuries like *Murajapam*, *Kalampattu*, *Theeyattu*, *Kundahomam* and so on.

Every morning, *Sheeveli* will be held inside the temple accompanied by *Panchari Melam*. Temple Arts like *Kathakali*, *Oattanthullal* and *Chakyaarkoothu* will take place during the festival days. Also, *Thayambaka* by famous *Chenda* specialists will take place at night. The day before *Palli Vetta* will be *Utsava Bali* - the ritual in which all lords would be given special offerings. This is a very special ritual.

On the *Palli Vetta* day, the temple is engulfed in full grandeur and the pilgrims swarm the temple to be bestowed with the blessings of the lord. *Palli Vetta* represents the Hunting of Lord SreeRamaswamy. With the *Aarrattu*, holy bath the festivities come to an end.

Temple arts performed during the festival includes the following:

- Kathakali
- Oattanthullal, Chaakyarkoothu
- Panchari Melam, Pandi Melam
- Thaayambaka
- Panchavaadyam

