



OTTAPALAM NERCHA FESTIVAL



LOCATION

Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation

Ottapalam

District

Palakkad



ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction

Ottapalam Head Post Office – 45m
Ottapalam Taluk office- 550m

Nearest Bus station

Ottapalm bus stand – 400m

Nearest Railway
station

Ottapalam railway station – 220 m

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport –92 Km



CONTACT

Ottapalam Juma Masjid
Sunder Iyer Rd
Ottapalam
Palakad- 679101
Kerala.



TIME

DATES

January- February

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

10 days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Ottapalam Nercha is an annual festival celebrated at Ottapalam Juma Masjid, where the mortal remains of Saint Uthman Auliya, a revered man in Muslim community, is entombed. The ten day festival is held in the month of January-February to commemorate the death anniversary of the saint.

Nercha stands for celebration or festival. Although elaborate displays of cultural exposition are not in accordance with the austere form of worship followed by austere Muslims who forbid the holding of such festivals on the tombs of dead persons, several elaborate preparations made for the festival beforehand. weather is pleasant during the season and pilgrims in their thousands flock to the mosque. There is a cultural extravaganza that extends over three days intensively but is celebrated over two extra days to begin and wind up the festivities.

While several expert gives musical renditions the pilgrims pay their obeisance at the mosque and sit a while to enjoy the divine music. A large number of stalls selling all kinds of wares ranging from mouth-watering dishes to exotic clothing, jewelry, toys, decorative and utility items besides any number of household utensils. The festival is organized by Muslims and people from other religions jointly.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)



**NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED**

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Duffu muttu
Kolkali
Aravanamuttu
Religious Discourses
Cultural Events

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

The special feature of this festival is a grand procession bringing ceremoniously various articles such as rice and coconut to the Masjid. *Neichor* or ghee rice is provided to devotees and poor people.

Duffu Muttu, Kolkali, Aravanamuttu are conducted during the festival. Religious discourses and musical renditions are also organized apart from cultural extravaganza. The premises of the mosque wear a festive look with small traders and hawkers making the best out of the large number of people visiting the mosque. Next day, a grand feast is held where the various articles from the procession offerings are cooked and distributed to the poor.

