





VARAHA JAYANTHI PANNIYOOR SRI VARAHA MOORTHY TEMPLE

 LOCATION	Panchayath/ Municipality/ Corporation	Pattambi
	District	Palakkad

 ACCESSIBILITY	Nearest Town/ Landmark/ Junction	Kumbidi post office – 1 Km
	Nearest Bus station	Kumbidi Bus Stop -850 m
	Nearest Railway station	Kuttipuram railway station – 7 km
	Nearest Airport	Calicut International Airport- 57km

 CONTACT	<p>Panniyoor Sri Varaha Moorthy Temple Kumbidi Palakkad District Kerala- 679553 Phone : 0466 202 2125</p>
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TIME

DATES

March-April (*Meenam*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

7 days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Panniyoor Sri Varaha Moorthy Temple is the only temple in Kerala that worships the 'Varaha' avatar of Lord Vishnu. Around 4000 years old, the temple was built by Parashurama. Located in Kumbidi village in Palakkad, the other deities worshipped here are Lord Shiva, Ayyappa, Durga, Ganesha, Subramanya and Lakshmi Narayan.

The temple of Sri Varaha Murthy was built by Parashurama about 4000 years into the past. For around 3000 years since its inception this temple was considered as the prime temple of Kerala.

It is also said that for an approximate period of 1300 years ranging from 800BC (when the Brahmanas ruled Kerala) to 600 AD (around the end of Peranakan rule), Sri Varaha Murthy, the reigning God of Kerala's renowned village Panniyur, was worshipped as the supreme god of Kerala. Some recently found stone engravings at Panniyur reveal that 1200 years ago there was an active organisation by the name 'Panniyuraayiram', which as its name suggests had 1000 members who were devoted towards carrying out the various cultural and religious activities of the temple. This again stands to emphasise the prominence that this temple enjoyed in those days.

Sri Varaha Moorthy Temple also has a stage and a huge ground to accommodate spectators. The legendary 'Panniyur thura' is located just to the North of the Mahakshetra. It is believed that the fishpond constructed by Parashuram used to be located just a little south of the temple. Among the different *pujas* conducted here the most important one happens to be the 'Abhishta Sidhdhi Puja'. This puja is believed to pave way for 'Abhishta Karya Sidhdhi'. This puja is booked in advance till a long time into the future. Yet with due consideration to those who visit this temple, 3 days in a week have been earmarked for the conduct of this puja immediately or as soon as can be managed for all such devotees. '*Sandhya Deeparadhana*' is considered as the most auspicious time to seek the blessings of Sri Varahamurthy. Covered in sandalwood paste and adorned in scintillating jewellery, the divine form of Sri Varahamurthy is for every mind to embrace and seek solace with.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED

Approximately 8000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Procession
Usha Pooja
Uchcha pooja
Athazha pooja
Cultural programmes
Music programmes
Kalam ezhuthu paattu

DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

Varaha Jayanti is the birth celebration of the third incarnation of Lord Vishnu. He incarnated himself as a boar to save the world and held Earth on the two tusks from under the ocean. Varaha Jayanthi at Panniyur Varaha Moorthy temple is celebrated in the Malayalam month of *Meenam* (March/April).

Temple is open from 6 AM to 10 AM and from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Three poojas are held daily - *Usha Pooja* (6:30 AM), *Uchcha Pooja* (9:30 AM) and *Athazha Pooja* (7:30 PM). The Varahajayanthi temple starts with special *poojas* and offerings to the devotees. The seven day festival ends with elephant procession with *Panchavadyam*.

After the *Deeparadhana* in the evening temple premises offers visual treat to the devotees with various cultural programmes like dance and music. *Kalam ezhuthu paattu* is on the sixth day. *Kalam* is a unique drawing also called *dhulee chithram* or powder drawing. The artist uses the floor as his canvas. *Kalamezhuthu pattu* is performed as part of the rituals. The *kalams* or drawings are erased at the end of the ritual to the accompaniment of musical instruments like *ilathalam*, *veekan chenda*, *kuzhal*, *kombu* and *chenda*.

