



AYYANTHOLE POORAM

AYYANTHOLE KARTHYAYANI TEMPLE



**Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Thrissur Corporation

District

Thrissur



**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Ayyanthole – 1.6 km

Nearest Bus station

Thrissur K S R T C Bus Stand – 3 km

**Nearest Railway
station**

Thrissur Railway Station – 3.4 km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 57.1 km



The President/Secretary
Karthiyani Kshethra Kshema Samithi,
"Alankara Gopuram/Nadappura"
Ayyanthole(PO), Thrissur, Kerala-680003
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TIME

DATES

April - May

FREQUENCY

Annually

DURATION

8 days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

One of the stories related to this temple is *Dakshayaga*. When Siva started his *Thandava* dance carrying the dead body of *Sathi Devi*, who gave up her life in the *Yagna Sala* unable to suffer the humiliation any more, Lord Vishnu to pacify the outrages Siva shot an arrow and cut the body of *Sathi Devi* into fragments. It is said, *Sathi's* bodies was cut into 108 pieces and one of the pieces is believed to have fallen in the place where this temple is located. Later on during *Thretha Yuga* , Lord Vishnu reborn as *Parasurama* found out this place and performed penance to have *Darsan* of *Devi*. Pleased with this penance, *Devi* appeared before *Parasurama* and later immediately made an idol identical to *Devi's* appearance and he duly performed the installation ceremony on his own according to the custom and entreated *Devi* to protect the people of the area from all adversities and calamities. The idol of this temple is exactly the same that was installed by *Parasurama* in the *Thretha Yuga*. Another story connected to this temple, in the *Bhagavatha* is as follows. Lord *Vishnu* was reborn as a child of *Devaki* as *Sree Krishna* and at the same time *Adi Parasakthi* took birth as a daughter to *Yasoda*. As directed by the Lord, *Vasudevan* exchanged the children and King *Kamsa* saw a female child born to his sister. As his usual practice, *Kamsa* wanted to kill this daughter also by striking it against the rock. When he lifted the child by her feet in his attempt to strike on the rock, the beautiful child escaped from his hand by pushing herself by kicking on the shoulders of *Kamsa* and flew away in the space and at last came to the Temple in *Ayyanthole* and merged with the idol installed by *Parasurama*. *Ayyanthole* is so called because; it is the place that *Devi* chose for merging with God after kicking on the shoulders of *Kamsa*.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

International



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Lakhs of people

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

Kodiyettu

Procession

Panchavadyam

Uthram Vilakku

The most important festival of the temple is that in connection with the famous Thrissur Pooram which take place during the month of Medam (April/May) every year. Hoisting of temple flag is an important function in this connection. The flag mast (kodimaram) made of areca nut tree is readied by the entitled carpenter family and fixed on the appropriate spot by the local people. The temple priest(Thanthri) hoist the flag(Kodiyettu) on the mast after the necessary Poojas and invocations.

The next seven days are busy with the festival rituals and preparations on the day of Pooram, Devi sets out to Vadakkumnathan on the elephant backs at 6 AM accompanied by Thavil, Vadya, thala and Mela. All the people of the area including the friends and relatives assembled in the temple sufficiently early to have a glimpse of the spectacular possession and show of divine splendor. It is the custom of the people to accompany the Devi to some distance and also decorate the street with flowers and place lighted traditional lamp (Nilavilakku/Nirapara) on either side of the road along which Devi may pass. There will be three elephants and Nadapandi until the possession reaches Kottappuram Railway bridge.. The Ayyanthole pooram with Thirteen elephants, the biggest of the Constituent Poorams and next Only to Thiruvambadi and Paramelkkavu Pooram, goes upto Sree Moola Sthanam and Melam.

