



NAVARATRI UTSAVAM

MRIDANGA SAILESWARI TEMPLE



LOCATION

**Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Peravoor Grama Panchayat

District

Kannur

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Iritty Town – 7Km

Nearest Bus station

Muzhakkunnu Bus Stop – 700m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Thalassery Railway Station- 45Km

Nearest Airport

Calicut International Airport-138 Km



ACCESSIBILITY



CONTACT

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TIME

DATES

October

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

9 Days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Navaratri is a festival dedicated to the worship of the Hindu deity Durga. The word Navratri means 'nine nights' in Sanskrit, *Nava* meaning nine and *Ratri* meaning nights. During these nine nights and ten days, nine forms of Devi are worshiped. The tenth day is commonly referred to as Vijayadashami. The major story associated with Navratri is the battle between the great Goddess Durga and the demon Mahishasura, who represents Egotism. Navratri is an amalgamation of various themes, with the common theme of the victory of good over evil.

According to a Puranic legend, the mighty demon Mahishasura defeated the gods and their king Indra. They then approached Brahma, Vishnu, and Maheshwar, who decided to destroy the demon. So they all combined their energies, and gave rise to Shakti and appealed to Goddess Durga to come to their aid. Goddess Durga equipped with lethal weapons and riding a ferocious lion, the Goddess in all her awesome majesty, destroyed the evil one without much ado. The 10th day, on which the goddess killed Mahishasura, is celebrated as Dusshera or Vijayadashami as the victory of good over evil. Dussehra (tenth day) is one of the significant Hindu festivals, celebrated with pomp and fervor all over the country.

Navaratri is divided into sets of three days to adore different aspects of the supreme goddess. On the first three days, the Mother is invoked as a powerful force called Durga in order to destroy all our impurities, vices and defects. The next three days, the Mother is adored as a giver of spiritual wealth, Lakshmi, who is considered to have the power of bestowing on her devotees the inexhaustible wealth. The final set of three days is spent in worshipping the mother as the goddess of wisdom, Saraswati. In order to have all-round success in life, we need the blessings of all three aspects of the divine mother; hence, the worship for nine nights. The last three days of the Navaratri are called Durgashtami, Mahanavami, and Vijayadasami, and they are considered more sacred than the other days for Devi worship.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Approximately 6000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Kathakali
Sarawathy pooja
Ayudha pooja
Poojavauppu
Pooja eduppu
Vidyarambham

DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

During Navaratri uthsavam is celebrated for a period of nine days in the month of October (Kanni). Various cultural and religious programmes form a part and parcel of the celebrations. Different programmes included are Kalasamskarika sammelanam, adyamika prabhashanam, dance programmes, kathakali , navarathri sangeetholsavam, sangeetha kacheri, bhakthigana sudha, classical fusion, veda manthrarchana, sangeetha sadassu, veena kacheri, bhakthi ganasadassu, classical music, etc. *Arangettam* will be performed by children on various performance arts and music.

The Saraswati puja and Ayudha Puja are performed. On the Durgashtami day a ceremony called Poojavaipu is performed in the evening .Puja is performed to Saraswati during which fruits, beaten rice, roasted paddy (malar), jaggery etc, are offered to Her. The following day is known as Mahanavami and it is totally devoted to the worship of Saraswati Pooja is performed both in the morning and in the evening.

On the Vijayadasami day after a Puja in the morning, the Books and implements are removed from the room and this ceremony is called `Puja Eduppu`.

The time for the breakup of the puja marks the beginning of learning and work. At this auspicious moment the children for the first time are given instructions to write the first few alphabets on rice or sand. They are thus initiated into the world of knowledge. This is called `Ezhuthinu Iruthu`.

