



MULLACKAL CHIRAPPU

SREE RAJARAJESWARI TEMPLE, MULLACKAL



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Alappuzha Municipality

District

Alappuzha

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Alappuzha Town – 1 Km

Nearest Bus Station

Alappuzha Bus Station –1 Km

**Nearest Railway
Station**

Alappuzha Railway Station –4 Km

Nearest Airport

Nedumbassey International Airport –83 Km



ACCESSIBILITY



CONTACT

Mullackal Sree Rajarajeshwari Temple
Mullackal P.O,
Alappuzha- 688011
Phone: +91-477-2230015(Temple)



DATES

November/December/January
(Vrishchikam/Dhanu); the last 11 days of
this festival are called Chirappu festival.

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

41 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

It is one of the famous temples in Alappuzha. Mullakkal Rajarajeswari temple is situated in the heart of the Alleppey Town. Goddess Rajarajeswari is the main deity in the temple. There are other deities in the temple – Hanuman, Ganapathi, Subramanya, Nagaraja, Navagraha, Sree Krishna and Ayyappa. The idol faces West unlike most temples where the deity faces East. It's a unique temple which has beautiful architecture in traditional Kerala style. The major attraction of this shrine is the main roof that is kept opened and is specially designed for Vana Devi. This is more than 500 years old temple. There are plenty of stories behind the origin of the temple. As per the legend, the soldiers of Thekkumkur King have brought the idols in this temple and all the idols were supposed to place in a jasmine garden but later on a temple was constructed in this garden by Devanarayana, the king of Chembagasery.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



PARTICIPATED

Over 50000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Annadanam
Cultural Programs and folk arts
Spiritual discourses
Seminars
Trade Fair
Percussion Music
Musical Concerts
Classical Dance
Drama
Kadhakali
Ottanthullal
Thiruvathira
Bharathanatyam
Mohiniyattam
Kadhaprasangam

DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

The annual chirappu festival is celebrated in great pomp. The main Mullackal chirappu is in the Malayalam month of vrishchikam (November–December). It attracts thousands of devotees including foreigners. A number of foreign tourists visits the temple and the streets which bear a festive look with illuminated gopurams and stalls selling a variety of merchandise. Special *poojas* and cultural programs mark the festival. The shrine is traditionally decorated with plantain, coconut leaves, flowers, leaves, traditional lamps and lights. Festivities take place here in all the evenings throughout this month. *Kalabham Charth* (application of perfumed sandalwood powder) on the idol occurs at the temple during these days. The mullackal streets are usually filled with a stream of people during the chirappu evenings. Many small stalls pop up along the sides of the street selling toys, bangles etc. The firework display at the end of the festive ceremony is usually very elaborate and attractive to watch. The fireworks are followed by many cultural programs like music, dance etc. Many renowned Malayalam singers sing here during this time. Apart from cultural programs, also *annadanam* is a part of this spectacular event. The first Sunday of December is celebrated as women's festival. On this day all rituals and worships are done by women only. Ladies come from different areas and they light lamps in the temple.

