



# ARAKURISSI UDAYRKUNNU POORAM

## ARAKURISSI UDAYARKUNNU BHAGAVATHY TEMPLE



Panchayat/  
Municipality/  
Corporation

Mannarkad Municipality

District

Palakkad

Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction

Mannarkadu Town – 600 m

Nearest Bus station

Mannarkad Town Bus Stop – 600 m

Nearest Railway  
station

Melattur Railway Station – 27 Km

Nearest Airport

Calicut International Airport- 70Km



Udyarkunnu Bhagavathy Temple,  
Arakurisi,  
Mannarkkad,  
Palakkad Dt. –678582  
Phone: +91-4924-223 954  
Website : [www.mannarkadpooram.com](http://www.mannarkadpooram.com)



DATES

February/March (*Kumbhom, Makariyam star*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

7 Days



## ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

The Word Mannarkkad is derived from the words *Mannu*(Soil), *Aru* (river)and *Kadu* (forest). Mannarkkad has memories of the invasion of Tippu Sultan . The former Ruler/ *Desavazhi* of Mannarkkad is known as Mannarkkadu Muppil Nair. He was a *Samantha* under Valluvakonathiri of Valluvanadu. The town has for ages attracted immigrants from all over and is an amazing community of people who speak multiple languages including Kannada, Telugu, Tulu, Tamil etc. For this reason, you will find shades of a metropolitan city in terms of harmony among multiple cultures in this rather small town.

In olden days the place was known as Udayarkunnu. There is a mythical story which narrated how the name was evolved. There are different regions around this place relating to Kunthi devi and sons like Bheemanadu, Arakkuparambu, Pathrakadavu, etc. A man from tribal community named Udayanan provided shelter to Kunthidevi and Pandavas during their stay at forest (*ajmathavasam*). This place was later known as Udayarkunnu in his memory. The *chaithanyam* of Thirumandham kunnilamma was brought by a devotee of Nair community from Mannarkad and a *kavu* was erected at Udayarkunnu called Udayarkunnil amma. This is the diety presiding in Arakurssi Udayarkunnu Bhagavathy temple.

The Temple belongs to Mannarkkad Nair Veedu (Kunnathu Madampu Swaroopam), who were the *Samanthas* of Valluvanad Raja. The presiding Deity of the Temple is Thirumandhamkunnu Bhagavathi. The old Daru *vigraha* is replaced by *sila vigraha* a decade ago.



**RELEVANCE-**  
(Local / National / International)

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED**

Approximately 6000

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Pooram purappadu  
Patahadi Mura  
Dhwajadi mura  
Kodiyettam  
Valiya aarattu  
Chettivela  
Thalapoli  
Vidyarambham  
Nira  
Prathistadinam  
Cheriya Aarattu  
Valiya Aarattu  
Chettivela

## DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

Mannarkkad Pooram is one of the oldest temple festivals in the State that attracted large number of people from different parts of the district, particularly the *Adivasis* from nearby Attappady Hills.

It falls in the Malayalam month of *Kumbham*. The beginning of festival celebration is marked by *pooram purappadu* at the midnight of Makayiram naal in the month of *Kumbham*. The first two days of *pooram* is in 'Patahadi Mura' and will turn to 'Dhwajadi Mura' from third day onwards with *Kodiyettam*. *Valiya Aarattu* is on the seventh day of the *Pooram* and ends with *Chettivela* on the eight day. The *Thalappoli* of the temple is in the first tuesday of the month *Dhanu*. *Vidyarambham* and *Nira*, *Prathishta Dinam* are the other important occasions of the Temple. *Aarattu* is the special events here in this temple. Both *Cheriya Aarattu* and *Valiya Aarattu* are performed in the month of *Kumbham* on 6th day and 8th respectively. Festival ends with *Chettivela*.

The festival is celebrated by people of different religions and communities. The town has for ages attracted immigrants from the southern States and is an amazing community of people who speak multiple languages including Tamil, Kannada, Telugu and Tulu. Thus, Mannarkkad Pooram is a festival of harmony of cultures. The festival also provides the tribal people a market for trading their products.

