



OACHIRA KALI

OACHIRA PARABRAHMA TEMPLE



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Oachira Grama Panchayat

District

Kollam



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Oachira Town – 1.5 Km

Nearest Bus station

Oachira Bus Stop – 300 M

**Nearest Railway
station**

Oachira Railway Station – 3 Km
Kayamkulam Railway Station – 8 Km

Nearest Airport

Trivandrum International Airport – 104 Km



CONTACT

Oachira Parabrahma Kshethram
Oachira
Kollam- 690533
Phone 1: +91-9847074125
Phone 2: +91-474-2690721



TIME

DATES

June - July (*Mithunam*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

2 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Oachira Kali is a martial arts festival celebrated in commemoration of the battle of Kayamkulam, fought between Marthanda Varma, the Maharaja of Travancore and the Raja of Kayamkulam, on the plains of Oachira. The *Padanilam* or battlefield is a paddy field adjacent to the famous Oachira Parabrahma temple and the festivities are part of a ritual associated with the shrine. The Oachira temple is unique as it does not have covered structures and people worship the *Para Brahma* (the original formless power - Lord Shiva) under neatly preserved trees.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Approx.1,00,000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

Oachira Kali
Karshika Chantha
Cattle Fair

The two-day festival is a mock battle enacted between groups of men dressed as warriors. They perform a martial dance standing in knee-deep water, brandishing swords and shields and splashing water in every direction. The battle is conducted by trained warriors representing 52 karas or divisions under Onattukara area consisting of Karunagappally, Karthikappally and Mavelikkara taluks. Each team is headed by martial arts masters or 'Kalari Ashan' who train them. Over 200 teams ensure their presence in the battlefield. The performances are complemented by the ceremonious sound of drums. A big cattle fair is held as part of the festival. Exhibition of agricultural products and its trade also takes place during the event. The celebrations are held during the Malayalam calendar month of *Mithunam*.

