



UTSAVAM THACHOLI MANIKKOTH TEMPLE



**Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Vadakara

District

Kozhikode



**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Edodi Junction – 900 m

Nearest Bus station

Sree Narayana School Road Bus Stop– 180 m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Vadakara Railway Station–2 km

Nearest Airport

Kannur International Airport –48 Km



Thacholi Manikkoth Temple
Narayana Nagar
Vadakara, Kerala 673105



TIME

DATES

February/March (*Kumbham*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

2 days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Situated 2 kms from Vadakara, this temple is unique in the sense that it is dedicated not to any God or Goddess but to the greatest wizard of Kerala martial art, Kalaripayattu. He was Thacholy Othenan who valiantly fought many a combat and emerged victorious. A true hero, he won the heart of many generations. His daredevilry, fighting technique and uprightness form the topic for a wealth of moving ballads, known as *Vadakkan Pattukal*, which is still popular among the masses. The people immortalized him by building a temple for him , complete with his image.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Approximately 5000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Procession
Thirayattom
Thacholi kali

DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

The two-day annual festival of the temple is quite different in its concept and content. On the first evening, there is a spectacular performance of the ritual dance, *Thira*, symbolically capturing the matchless valour, so characteristic of the mighty hero, *Othenan*. The same day, a holy lamp is ceremoniously brought in a procession from the nearby *Lokanarkavu* temple, where *Othenan* used to worship.

Hundreds of martial artists wearing traditional attire and carrying swords and shields participate in the procession. On the second day, the great sword believed to have been wielded by *Othenan*, is brought to the temple in a procession which arrives by the dusk.

Then follows the performance of *Thirayattom* and the rare chance to witness various facets of the ancient martial art form of Kerala. Martial dance, *Thacholi-kali* presented at nights turns out to be a unique and rare experience to the large gathering of hero-worshippers.

