

Ganapati Atharvasheersha Sahastravartan Preparation Guidelines

|| Preparation & Dais Arrangement ||

- Check all the Pooja samagri again as per the Samagri List at least one hour in advance.
- Tie the door hanging to the main door. Decorate your main entrance with colorful Rangoli.
- Play some divine music like Sitar, Shehnai, Santoor, Flute etc... to create a holy atmosphere.
- Check if your camera and camcorder are in working conditions; batteries charged.
- Prepare the Prasad (offerings to the god like food, minimum 21 Modak, sweets etc...) well in time.
- Before starting the Pooja the host couple should wear dresses suitable and appropriate for the Pooja as per the family tradition. Typically the husband should wear Indian silk Dhoti and the silk kurta or regular Kurta Pajama. Wife of the host should wear a sari or salwar kamiz dupatta etc...
- Follow the steps given below and the pictures for preparation of Pooja.

|| Ganesh Pratishthapana Pooja Dais Arrangement ||

- A Chaurang is to be used as Pooja Dais for Pooja.
- Place the chaurang against a wall in such way that the deities on the chaurang are facing east (if not west is also OK). Place a nice decorative cloth on it.
- Keep all the Pooja samagri in different plates on the right side of the chaurang. Prepare a bowl full of Panchamrut by adding 2-3 tea spoon curd, 1 spoon honey, 1-2 spoons pure ghee & 1 spoon sugar to about 1 cup milk. If required prepare more panchamrut enough for all the guests invited for the Pooja.
- Keep 2 flowerpots at the 2 back corners of the Chaurang with some decorative flowers of different types in them.
- In the center of the Chaurang put handful of rice grains and place silver or copper Kalash.
- Fill the Kalash with water, just a little over half. Put 1 Beatle nut, 1 Quarter coin, 1 flower & a little akshata (rice grains mixed with kumkum) in the Kalash. If you have, put some Ganga Jal in the Kalash. Place a piece of cloth (blouse piece or handkerchief etc...) around the Kalash.
- Place 5 Beatle nut leaves on the edge of the silver or copper Kalash with the stems inside the kalash & the ends outside the kalash. Place a Tamhan (copper or silver plate) on the Kalash. Fill the tamhan with rice grains till the inner rim. Draw a "Swastik" symbol with kumkum in the middle on the rice and place one Beatle nut at the center of the swastika.
- Place the Bell (Ghanta) at the front left corner of the Chaurang and place the Conch (Shankha) on the front right corner of the Chaurang with its tail facing you. Keep some rice grains below the conch to make a proper base for it.
- Keep the Lord Ganesh Murti in front of the Kalash at the center and keep murti or coin or photo of Lakshmi to the right side of Lord ganesh.
- Keep all other deities as per your family tradition e.g. Kuladevata on the Chaurang at a suitable place. Photos can be also placed on the wall if needed.

Arrangement around the Chaurang:

- Place sufficient aluminum foil (about 2 feet wide strip) on all the 3 sides of Chaurang (front, left & right side) so that the floor will not get spoiled due to Pooja material.
- Keep one oil lamp (Samai) and one Ghee Lamp (Niranjan) on the right hand side of the Chaurang on the foil. Use a small plate below Samai or niranjan so that the oil or ghee will not spill outside.
- Keep the incense stick (Agarbatti) in a proper holder next to the ghee lamp on the right side of Chaurang.
- Keep 5 coconuts with water in front of the Chaurang on the aluminum foil. Keep one Beatle Leaf in front of each coconut. Keep one dollar note folded on each leaf, keep one quarter coin on each dollar note, keep

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one Beetle Nut on each coin. Keep one piece of dry coconut on each Beetle Leaf and keep a small piece of "Desi Gud" i.e. Jaggery on each piece of dry coconut. Keep small quantity of 5 types of dry fruits like cashes nuts, almonds, resins, pistachio, dry dates etc...

- Keep one Jug full of water near the Chaurang. Keep a big utensil or big bowl to keep the used water.
- Keep two mattresses one each for the husband and wife performing Pooja in front of the Chaurang about 2 feet away from the Chaurang. Husband will seat facing the Chaurang and the wife will seat on the right side of the husband. The Chaurang should be in the center for both to perform Pooja comfortably.
- Keep one mattress on the left side of the Chaurang for Panditji who will be facing the couple performing the Pooja. If the host is facing East Panditji should be facing West and if host is facing West Panditji should be facing East.
- Keep all other Pooja material on the right side of the Chaurang duly arranged in different plates as per the samagri list without fail (Please do not keep the Pooja Samagri in the plastic carry bags). Double check all the material as per the list is available. (Do not misplace Pooja Samagri and very important; do not fight with each other over keeping Samagri. ☺)

All the above preparation should be done before arrival of Panditji so that Pooja can be finished in time and all the Guests, the hosts and Panditji can have Prasad in time. ☺



