

AUGUST 2017



Navratri (nine nights) is one of the greatest Hindu festivals. It symbolises the triumph of good over evil. Navratri takes place around harvest time and, as the name implies, this festival is celebrated for nine days. Navratri is also known as Durga Puja.

During this period, Durga, Laxmi and Saraswati are worshipped as three different manifestations of Shakti, or cosmic energy.

The festival is dedicated to Durga, the mother goddess who also represents power. Durga annihilated the demon Mahishasura after a relentless battle lasting nine days and nights.

Navratri is a festival in which God is adored as Mother. It is said that Shiva gave permission to Durga to see her mother for nine days in the year and this festival also remembers this visit.

Hinduism is the only religion in the world which has emphasised to such an extent the mother hood of God.

JAI AMBE MAA



BARDAI BRAHMIN SAMAJ LONDON • THE BRAHMIN SOCIETY NORTH LONDON • UK VALAM BRAHMIN ASSOCIATION

NAVRATRI 2017

Dear Members,

It gives us great pleasure in inviting you to celebrate the auspicious festival of Navratri.

When & Where?

22 Sept Friday	8pm to 11:30pm	27 Sept Wednesday	8pm to 11:00pm
23 Sept Saturday	8pm to 11:30pm	28 Sept Thursday	8pm to 11:00pm
24 Sept Sunday	8pm to 11:00pm	30 Sept Saturday	8pm to 11:30pm
06 October Friday 8pm to 11:30pm (Sharad Purnima)			

Note: There will be NO Navratri programme on Thursday 21/09, Monday 25/09, Tuesday 26/09 and Friday 29/09 due to other events taking place at JFS School.

Venue: JFS School, The Mall, Kenton HA3 9TE

Daily Entrance

Senior (**65 & Over**) & Junior Members (**under 16** years): **£1**
Guests/Non-Members (All Ages): **£5**

Adult Members: **£3.50**
Disabled: **Free**

Daily Tickets – Can only be purchased on the day and by those attending the programme and for those present at the front ticket desk. So please park your vehicles and accompany your family and friends to buy your tickets together.

Fast Track Pass (7 Nights)

Senior (**Over 65**) & Junior Members (**under 16** years): **£7**

Adult Members: **£22.50**

Fast Track Pass - Can be obtained in advance by completing the attached application form and returning it to the address on the form together with your payment and a self-addressed stamped envelope by no later than 10 September 2017. The organisers will not be held responsible for non-receipt of applications or applications lost in the post.

22, 23 & 30 Sept: Members Only until 9:00pm after which Guests and Non-Members will be allowed subject to capacity

Management reserves the right of entry. In order to comply with Health and Safety Legislation, entry will be on a first come first served basis except for Fast Track Pass holders.

Membership - You are strongly advised to renew your membership prior to the start of the Navratri and ensure that you bring your membership card when attending.

Musicians - Music will be provided by "Musical Stars", managed by Dhruv Gadhvi who also coordinates the Zee TV "Out and About" programme.





BARDAI BRAHMIN SAMAJ LONDON • THE BRAHMIN SOCIETY NORTH LONDON • UK VALAM BRAHMIN ASSOCIATION

Order of Proceedings

Samaiyo — 8pm followed by **Garba**: This is a daily ritual whereby any family may request the honour of welcoming **Mataji** to our **Garba**. The first **Garba** is performed by the family carrying the lit **Garbo** (ladies on the head, men on the shoulder). Contact Darshna Pandya on 07833 963597 if you wish to perform the **Samaiyo**.

Aarti — 9.30pm (approx): Anyone is welcome to perform the **Aarti** however please bring one **Aarti Thali** (with one **divo** only) per family and ensure you collect it at the end of the evening. There is no charge for performing the **Aarti**.

Prasad — End of the Evening: Any member is welcome to bring **Prasad**, however please ensure all sweets etc. are approved as suitable for vegetarians so that they are appropriate for offering to **Mataji** and make organisers aware of / label items containing nuts to avoid risk of allergic reaction. Remember to collect your containers at the end of the evening.

How Can I Get Involved?

Mataji ni Chundadi — Community Members wishing to donate a new **Chundadi (Sari)** to **Mataji**, please kindly contact Darshana Pandya on 07833 963597 The **Sari** will be placed on the **Madh** and returned to you as **Prasad** during the same evening. **Saris** will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

Dussera Yajman Bidding — On Thursday 28 September (**Aatham**) there will be bidding for the honour of being **Yajman** at the **Dussera Havan** at SKLP Community Hall, West End Road, Northholt, Middlesex UB5 6RE on Saturday 14 October 2017. This **Havan** is organised by BSNL, however, the bidding is open to all members from all three **Samajs**.

What Can I Do To Help?

Become a Volunteer — You can offer your time and join up as a volunteer – as such, you will be given duties which you will be responsible for completing. Please contact Hasit Purohit on 07431 367137.

To all those taking part in Duke of Edinburgh Award, this will count towards your 'Volunteering' section of the award—Help Your Community and Let Your Community Help You!

Donations & Sponsorship — You can provide refreshments (water, soft drinks), make a donation towards the cost of the Hall Hire for each evening, either in the name of a family member, individually or anonymously. We are also offering advertising at this festival for your company or organization, please contact Harsha Trivedi on 07956 586 926 or any JSC member for further details.

Food Bank - Support Our Local Community

Food banks collect and distribute donated food supplies to low income families. They are often the last resort for families facing food poverty in the UK. Each year Navratri festival presents us with an opportunity to unite and donate generously. Those wishing to donate should bring NON-PERISHABLE items only.

BRAHM SAMAJ JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE (JSC) MEMBERS

Bharti Vyas	BSNL	07802 888 707
Bhasker Dave	BBSL	07776 254 637
Bhavesh Yagnik	BSNL	07714 342 327
Chetna Thanki	BBSL	07814 498 903
Darshana Pandya	UKVBA	07956 289 473
Dinesh Acharya	UKVBA	020 8900 9226
Hasit Purohit	UKVBA	07421 367137
Madhav Vyas	UKVBA	07854 689 746
Parul Jani	BSNL	07940 584 321
Pradip Acharya	UKVBA	07916 330 489
Pradip Pandit	BBSL	07930 527 589

Rashmi Dave	BBSL	07931 913 600
Sarla Modha	BBSL	07930 200 198
Vandana Joshi	BSNL	07944 913 208

Sub-Committee / Volunteers:

Dharmendra Purohit	UKVBA	07956 289 473
Gunvant Dave	BSNL	07877 565 747
Harendra K Raval	BSNL	07956 428 050
Harsha Trivedi	BSNL	07956 586 926
Manoj Pandya	UKVBA	07799 226 323
Pallavi Purohit	UKVBA	07956 811 521