2021 Rama Navami

Lord Rama was born on Navami Tithi during Shukla Paksha of Chaitra month. Each year this day is celebrated as birthday of Lord Rama. Lord Rama was born during Madhyahna period which is middle of Hindu day. Madhyahna which prevails for six Ghatis (approximately 2 hours and 24 minutes) is the most auspicious time to perform Rama Navami Puja rituals. The mid-point of Madhyahna marks the moment when Shri Rama was born and temples symbolize this moment as birth moment of Lord Rama. The chanting of Shri Rama and celebration reaches its peak during this time.

Due to widespread use of western clock and Gregorian calendar people assume 12 p.m. as Madhyahna moment. This could have been correct if sunrise and sunset occur exactly at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. respectively but at most places sunrise and sunset timings are different from six O'clock. Hence the exact time to celebrate birthday of Lord Rama falls between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. for most Indian cities. DrikPanchang.com list Hindu midday moment for all cities and this moment should be used to mark the birth of Shri Rama.

Ayodhya is birthplace of Lord Rama and Rama Navami celebrations in Ayodhya are remarkable. Devotees come to Ayodhya from far-flung places. After taking holy dip into river Sarayu Devotees visit Rama temple to participate in birthday celebrations.

Eight Prahar fasting is suggested during Rama Navami. Which means devotees should observe the fast from sunrise to sunrise. Rama Navami Vrat can be observed in three different ways, casual (नैमित्तिक) - which can be observed without any cause, continual (ननत्य) - which can be observed throughout life without any desire and desirable (काम्य) - which can be observed to fulfill any desire.

We are giving detailed Rama Navami Puja Vidhi which is observed on Rama Navami day. The given Puja Vidhi includes all sixteen steps which are part of Shodashopachara (षोडशोपचार) Rama Navami Puja Vidhi.

1. Dhyanam (ध्यानम)
Puja should begin with the meditation of Lord Rama. Dhyana should be done in front of already installed Lord Rama statue in front of you. Following Mantra should be chanted while meditating on Lord Shri Rama.

Komalaksham Vishalakshamindranila Samaprabham
Dakshinange Dasharatham Putravekshanataparam
Prishthato Lakshamanam Devam Sachchhatram Kanakaprabham
Parshve Bharata Shatruhnau Talavrintakaravubhau
Agreva gram Hanumanam Ramanugraha Kankshinam

Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah
Dhyanat Dhyanam Samarpayami
2. **Avahanam (आवाहनं)**

After Dhyana of Lord Rama, one should chant following Mantra in front of the Murti, by showing Aavahan Mudra (Aavahan Mudra is formed by joining both palms and folding both thumbs inwards).

Om Sahasrashirsha Purushah Sahasrakshah Sahasrapata
Sa Bhusamam Vishvato Vritva Atyatishthaddashangulam

Avahayami Vishvesham Janakivallabham Prabhum
Kaushalyatanayam Vishnum Shriramam Prakriteh Param
Shri Sita Sahita Shri Ramachandram Sangam
Saparivaram Sayudham Sashaktikam Avahayami

3. **Asanam (आसनं)**

After Lord Rama has been invoked, take five flowers in Anjali (by joining palm of both hands) and leave them in front of the Murti to offer seat to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.

Purusha Evedagam Sarvam Yadbhutam Yachchha Bhavyam
Utamritatvasyeshanah Yadannenatirohari

Rajadhiraja Rajendra Ramachandra Mahipate
Ratnasimhasanam Tubhyam Dasyami Svikuru Prabho
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah Asanam Samarpayami

4. **Padya (पाद्य)**

After offering seat to Lord Rama offer Him water to wash the feet while chanting following Mantra.

Etavanasya Mahima Ato Jyayagamshcha Purushah
Padoasya Vishva Bhutani Tripadasyamritam Divi

Trailokyapavananananta Namaste Raghunayaka
Padyam Grihara Rajarshe Namo Rajivalochana
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah
Padayoh Padyam Samarpayami

5. **Arghya (अर्घ्य)**

After Padya offering, offer water to Shri Rama for head Abhishekam while chanting following Mantra.
Tripadurdhva Udaipurushah Padoasyehabhaematpunah
Tato Vishvagvyakramat Sashananashane Abhi
Paripurna Paramanda Namo Ramaya Vedhase
Grihanarghyam Maya Dattam Krishna Vishno Janardana
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah Arghyam Samarpayami

6. Achamaniyam (आचमनीयं)
After Arghya offering, offer water to Shri Rama for Achamana (water for sipping) while chanting following Mantra.
asmadviradajayata Virajo Adhi Purushah
Sa Jato Atyarichyata Pashchadbhumimatho Purah

Namah Satyaya Shuddhaya Nityaya Jnanarupine
Grihanachamanam Rama Sarva Lokaika Nayaka
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah Achamaniyam Samarpayami

7. Madhuparka (मधुपर्कः)
After Achamana offering, offer honey and milk to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.
Yatpurushena Havisha Deva Yajnamatanvata
Vasanto Asyasidajyam Grishma Idhmashtaraddhaviih

Brahmandodara Madhyasthitaistithaishcha Raghunandana
Snapayishyamaham Bhaktya Tvam Prasida Janardana
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah Snanam Samarpayami

9. Panchamrita Snana (पञ्चचृत्य स्नान)
After Snanam, now give a bath with Panchamrita (the mixture of milk, curd, honey, Ghee and sugar) to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.
Om Tam Yajnam Barhishi Praukshan Purusham Jatamgratah
Tena Deva Ayajanta Sadhya Rishayashcha Ye
Om Upaitu Mam Devasakhah Kirtishcha Manina Saha
Pradurubhutoasmi Rashtresminkirtimriddhim Dadatu Me
Tapta Kanchana Samkasham Pitabaram Idam Hare
Tvam Grihana Jagannatha Ramachandra Namoastu Te
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah | Vastram Samarpayami ||

11. **Yajnopavita (यज्ञोपवीत)**
After Vastra offering, offer Yajnopavita to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra. Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah |

Yajnopavitam Samarpayami ||

12. **Gandha (गन्ध)**
After Yajnopavita offering, offer scent to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.

Tasmadyajnatsarvahutah Richah Samani Jajnire |
Chhandansi Jajnire Tasmat Yajustasmadajayata ||
Gandhadwaram Duradharsham Nityapushtam Karishinim |
Ishwarim Sarvabhutanam Tamihopahvaye Shriyam ||
Kumkumagaru Kasturi Karpuronmishrachandanam |
Tubhyam Dasyami Rajendra Shri Rama Svikuru Prabho ||
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah |
Gandham Samarpayami ||

13. **Pushpani (पुष्पाणि)**
After Gandha offering, offer flowers to Lord Rama while chanting following Mantra.

14. **Atha Angapuja (अथ अङ्गपूजा)**
Now worship those Gods who are body parts of Shri Rama itself. For that take Gandha, Akshata and Pushpa in left hand and leave them near to Lord Rama Murti with right hand while chanting following Mantra(s).

Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah | Padau Pujayami ||
Om Rajivalochanaya Namah | Gulphau Pujayami ||
Om Ravanantakaya Namah | Januni Pujayami ||
Om Vachaspataye Namah | Uru Pujayami ||
Om Vishvarupaya Namah | Janghe Pujayami ||
Om Lakshmanagrajaya Namah | Kati Pujayami ||

Om Vishvamurtaye Namah | Medhra Pujayami ||
Om Vishvamitra Priyaya Namah | Nabhim Pujayami ||
Om Paramatmane Namah | Hridayam Pujayami ||
Om Shrikanthaya Namah | Kantham Pujayami ||
Om Sarvastradharine Namah | Bahu Pujayami ||
Om Raghudvahaya Namah | Mukham Pujayami

Om Padmanabhaya Namah | Jihvam Pujayami

Om Damodaraya Namah | Dantan Pujayami

Om Sitapataye Namah | Lalatam Pujayami

Om Jnanagamyaya Namah | Shirah Pujayami

Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah | Sarvangani Pujayami

15. Dhupam (धूपं)
After Anga Puja, offer Dhupam to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.

Vanaspatirasodhuto Gandhadhyo Gandha Uttamah
Ramachandra Mahipalo Dhupoayam Pratigrihyatam
Yatpurusham Vyadadhuh Katidha Vyakalpayan

Mukham Kimasya Kau Bahu Kayuru Padavuchyete
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah

Dhupam Aghrapayami

16. Deepam (दीपं)
After Dhupam offering, offer Deep to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.

17. Naivedya (नैवेद्य)
After Deep offering, offer Naivedya to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.

Idam Divyannamamritam Rasaih Shadbhih Samanvitam
Ramachandresha Naivedyam Sitesha Pratigrihyatam
Om Chandrama Manaso Jatah Chakshoh Suryo Ajayata

Mukhadindrashchagnishcha Pranadvayurajayata

Om Ardram Pushkarinim Pushtim Suvarnam Hemamalinim
Surya Hiranmayim Lakshmim Jatavedo Ma Avaha

Om Namo Ramachandraya

Shri Janaki Sahita Ramachandraya Namah
Naivedyam Samarpayami

18. Phalam (फलम्)
After Naivedya offering, offer fruits to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.
Idam Phalam Mayadeva Sthapitam Purastava I
Tena Me Saphalavaptirbhavet Janmani Janmani I
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah I
Phalam Samarpayami I

19. Tambulam (ताम्बूलं)
After Phalam offering, offer Tambula (Paan with betel nuts) to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.
Hiranya Garbha Garbhastham Hemabijam Vibhavasoh I
Ananta Punya Phalada Athah Shantim Prayachchha Me I
Om Shri Ramachandraya Namah I
Suvarna Pushpa Dakshinam Samarpayami I

21. Nirajan (नीराजन)
Now offer Nirajan (Aarti) to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra. After chanting Nirajanam Mantra perform Shri Rama Aarti.

22. Mantra Pushpanjali (पुष्पाञ्जलि)
Now offer Pushpanjali to Shri Rama while chanting following Mantra.

23. Pradakshina (प्रदक्षिणा)
Now offer symbolic Pradakshina (circumambulate from left to right of Shri Rama) with flowers while chanting following Mantra.
Nabhya Asidantariksham Shirshno Dyauh Samavartata
Padabhym Bhumirdishah Shrotrat Tatha Lokan Akalpayan
Ardram Yahkarinim Yashtim Pingalam Padmamaliminim
Chandram Hiranmayim Lakshmim Jatavedo Ma Avaha
Yani Kani Cha Papani Brahmahatyasamani Cha
Tao Sha Ramasyaand Brahma Nama
tane Tani Vinashyanti Pradakshine Pade Pade
Pradakshinam Samarpayami

24. Kshamapana (क्षमापण)
After Pradakshina, seek pardon from Shri Rama for any known-unknown mistakes done during Puja while chanting following Mantra.

Aparadha Sahasrani Kriyante Aharnisham Maya
Dasoayamiti Mam Matva Kshamasva Purushottama
Yantu Deva Ganah Sarve Pujam Adaya Parthivim
Ishta Kamyartham Siddhyartham Punaragamanaya Cha

भये प्रगट कृपाला, दीनदयाल कौशल्या हितकारी
हरित महतारी, मुनि मन हारी अदभूत रूप विचारी
लोचन अभिरामा, तनु घनश्याम निज आयुध भुज चारी
भूषण बल वाला, नैन विशाला शोभासिधू खरारी
कह दुर्ग कर जोरी, अस्तुति तोरी कही बिधि करो अनंता
करुना गुण प्राख्यातेन अभिनव वेद युगान्ति श्रद्धां शंता
सो मम हित लागी, जन अनुरागी भयो प्रगट...

Bhye pragat Krupala, Deendayala, Kaushalya hitkari
Harshit Mahatari, muni man haari, adbhut roop vichari
Lochan abhirama, tanu ghanshyama, nij aayudh bhuj chaari
Bhushan gal mala, nayan vishala, Shobhasindhu kharari
Kah dui kar jori, astuti tori, kehi bidhi karu Ananta
Maya Gun Gyanatit Amana, vedh Puran Bhananta
The merciful lord, who is compassionate to the poor and benefactor of Kaushalya appeared. The mother became joyous on seeing him, the thought of whose marvelous form steal the hearts of sages.

The delight of all eyes, his bodily complexion was like that of a rain-cloud, and he had his weapons in his four hands.

Adorned with a necklace of forest-flowers, and having large eyes, the slayer of demon Khar was an ocean of beauty.

She said, joining her palms, "O infinite lord, in what ways do I sing your glories?"

Vedas and puranas declare that you are beyond maya, beyond all attributes and knowledge and immeasurable.

You are the repository of compassion and bliss, and the ocean of all virtues; the vedas and the holy men sing your glories.

O the beloved of all, the lord of Laxmi, you have appeared for my sake.

Vedas declare that you create a universe from each pore of your body by your delusive potency. That you lived in my womb, even wise men will find it difficult to believe this wonder. When this knowledge dawned upon the mother, the lord smiled and said that he would perform various sportive acts.
He recited various delightful stories to her so that she could love him as her child.

The mother's mind was changed and she said, "O lord, kindly give up this form." Kindly perform childlike acts - that will be so endearing to me and the joy that I will gain from it will be unparalleled.

On hearing these words, the all-knowing lord of immortals began crying like a child. Whoever sings these glories will attain the abode of Hari and will never fall back into the well of this