



Social Capital

By
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Teertha Pooja - Jata Teertham (Traditional water body)

Teertha Pooja was organized by the local community at Jata Teertham. Ms.Sarah from England and Smt.Jayshree Balachander participated in the Pooja. Around 25 villagers including kids gathered at the Teertham and were singing devotional songs about lord Shiva in the temple. Simultaneously women were also cooking Sweet Pongal (Rice) to be offered to the God. Then everybody gathered around the Teertham for prayers. Shri.Pakshi Sivarajan, Priest from Rameswaram guided the gathering on Teertha Pooja. He was chanting mantras and the gathering were repeating the same. After the completion of the Teertha Pooja, people offered flowers to the Teertham and sprinkled the Holy water on their heads.



Locals getting ready for the pooja

Pooja at Kapi Teertham

On May 14, 2019 at around 11.30 AM, Deepa Pooja was performed at Kapi Teertham, Pamban. Around 15 Women mostly teachers from the opposite school and the other locals participated. They all welcomed Ms.Sarah and other guests. Smt.Jayshree Balachander lighted the lamp and did Deeparadhana to complete the pooja. Lemon Juice was offered to the gathering. Then the team visited Bhairava Temple and seen the Inscriptions found in the temple.



Smt. Jayshree Balachander doing Aarathi



Gathering interacting with Ms. Sarah

Teertha Pooja @ Gnanavapi Teertham on May 23, 2019

Cleaning of the Teertham

Volunteers from Erakaadu village gathered around 8.30 am in the morning on May 23, 2019. They all started cleaning the Teertham in and around. All the debris and liquor bottles were gathered in one place and was thrown to a place where the wastes are dumped.

Teertha Pooja

Teertha Pooja started around 9.00 AM. Shri. Pakshi Shiva guided the entire gathering with the chanting of Mantras. Crowd also repeated the chanting. Pooja started with the Ganapathi mantra and worship of Rama sethu and Ramanathasamy. Then people offered Turmeric to the Teertham as a symbol to purify the water followed by Deepa pooja.

Teertha Water offered to the main deity at Village temple (Sri Pudhu Mariamman Temple)

Around 11 pots were filled with Teertha water and the women from village walked from Teertham to the Sri Pudhu Mariamman Temple in the center of the village and offered to the village deity and king Perumpidugu Mutharaiyar idol placed in the village. People offered sweet pongal to the god and gave it to all the people

Tree Plantation

Village youth gathered around and planted 15 plants in the entrance of Erakadu village.



Village Volunteers cleaning the Teertham



People offering areca leaf plates lamp to Teertha



People offering flowers to the Teertham. Shri.Pakshi Sivarajan chanting mantras before offering flower



Tree Plantations in the entrance of Erakaadu. Kids were motivated to plant the trees

Teertha Pooja @ Agni Teertham and Kapi Teertham on May 19, 2019

Teertha Pooja is regularly happening at Kapi Teertham and Agni Teertham on all full moon days from January 2019. This month, full moon day - pournami pooja was conducted on May 19, 2019. As usual Agni Teertham witnessed the maximum crowd with more than 100 people participating in the pooja. On the same day pooja was organized at Kapi Teertham with the support of locals and the Vivekananda Vidyalaya Matriculation school at Pamban.



Kapi Teertham Deepa Pooja



Agni Teertham Deepa Pooja Maha Arathi

Tree Plantation activity in Temple on May 22, 2019

Om Namashivaya Uzhavara Pani kuzhu volunteers visited Ramanathasamy temple on May 21 & 22, 2019. They brought 110 volunteers with them for the temple cleaning. They helped in cleaning the North west outer portions of the temple for plantation of trees.



Volunteers cleaning the debris and cutting the unwanted plants

Planting trees in North East part of the outer portion of the temple

To feed the elephant named Ramalakshmi inside the temple, we have planted grass CO₃ variety in the North East direction. 6 volunteers came for our support and planted grass after completing the soil preparation.



Planting CO₃ Variety of Grass volunteers in action

