



PERSATUAN BRAHMIN MALAYSIA

NOMBOR PENDAFTARAN: PPM-004-14-22101954

MEMBERS' CIRCULAR APRIL 2019

Issue No.04/19

President's Message	Management Committee	Education Fund Board
SRI RAMA NAVAMI The Sri Rama Navami festival is a major annual event of the Samajam. This year's Sri Rama Navami is to be conducted from Wednesday April 10th to Sunday April 14th, 2019. This Annual celebration is without a doubt our most popular and well attended function. Most attendees are however, from the Klang Valley. I would like to extend a special invitation to all our outstation members to participate in this function so that families and friends from around the country can meet and make it a more meaningful and joyous occasion for one and all. Also an appeal to our outstation members to donate towards the expenses of this event. We further request members and their families to cooperate by assisting in the preparation for the poojas & cultural items, cleaning up the hall and the altar after the prayers, rinsing the utensils and keeping the premises tidy. Members are also requested to bring along flowers and other pooja items. Please treat the premises as your own home. Please also donate generously as this is our major annual event. Sponsors for daily poojas @ RM 300/- are welcome. A tentative program is attached. Let us make this year's Sri Rama Navami a united and memorable event.	65TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Samajam's 65th AGM is scheduled on Sunday April 28th, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the Samajam premises The relevant documents will be sent via e-mail or post, exactly as you receive your monthly circulars. Hard copies will be available during the AGM Please keep the date free to attend the AGM and share your views and help the Management Committee to plan activities for the year. EDUCATION FUND MERIT AWARD The Merit Award presentations will be held on April 28th, 2019 @ 11.30 am after the 65th AGM. <i>(Refreshments will be served before the AGM and lunch after the Merit Award presentations)</i>	The Education Fund Board has planned some social, educational and fun activities as follows: a) Visiting elders in our community We have been visiting some elders in the community. Those interested in joining these visits please call: Dr. Sundari: 017 2745647 b) Study Loans Applications for study loans from members for their children studying at local institutions of higher learning for the calendar year 2018 are now open. Interested members may contact Dr. Geetha @ 012 3191363 for further details regarding the procedure for the application. c) Merit Awards 2019 Applications are invited for the Education Fund Merit Awards (for excellence in the year 2018) in the following categories: • UPSR • PMR • SPM (or equivalent) • STPM (or equivalent) • Bachelor's Degrees • Master's Degrees • Medical degrees • Engineering degrees • Professional Qualifications • Significant achievements in Music, Social (or Community) services, Youth leadership and Writing Applications for the above categories should be sent on or before April 14th, 2019 with relevant certificates to: Sundari Ramakrishna (sunsam59@yahoo.com.au)

April Events	POURNAMI POOJAI (Friday April 19th, 2019) (7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.) The Pournami Poojai will be held on Friday April 19th, 2019 at the Samajam premises. This Chitra Pournami poojai will be sponsored by Mr. V. Subramanian (L-107) and family	VISHNU SAHASRANAMAM RECITAL There will be no Vishnu Sahasranamam recital as we will be conducting the Sri Rama Navami event this month
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Members' Column

DEATH

1. Mr. Ashok Padmanabhan (230), a familiar face at Samajam activities and a truly valued member passed away on Tuesday February 26th, 2019. He will be missed but fondly remembered

Our deepest condolences to the bereaved family members.

"We, Srimathi, Sri Ram and Jaya Ram together from all at home, would like to humbly thank all the members of the Bramana Samajam for being with us during this difficult time.

All acts of kindness have not gone unnoticed and we sincerely appreciate the support that has been given to us.

Ashok has been an active member of the Samajam and it is very heartwarming to see so many friends and family come forward to help us out in many different ways.

He will be deeply missed. Thank you all once again, we are eternally grateful"

From: The family of late Mr. Ashok

2. Dr Gitu Chakravarthy (L-123) passed away on Saturday March 23rd in Penang

Our deepest condolences to the bereaved family members.

3. A memorium on the late Mrs Sulochana Somasundram is enclosed

WISHING ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

HAPPY TAMIL NEW YEAR
"VIKAARI"

புத்தாண்டு
("விகாரி")
நல் வாழ்த்துக்கள்

Sumuga Valampuri Vinayagar Temple is having a *Sirappu Sangabishegam pooja commencing 4.30 am and ending 7.30 am.*

Paambu Panchangams

A limited number of Paambu panchangams for the coming New Year are available @ RM 5/- per copy, Please contact the President/Hon. Treasurer.

SAMAJAM WEBSITE

Our new Samajam Website address is: <http://brahmanasamajammalaysia.com/>
Feedback on our Website are welcome
For the uninitiated, Samajam is also on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/people/BrahmaSamajam/100005120146084>

Management Committee

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Education Fund Board-

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CREDIT TO SAMAJAM ACCOUNT

For those who prefer to bank-in their subscriptions/donations directly - our Bank Account, the details are:

"Persatuan Brahmin Malaysia CIMB Bank Account Number 8000210874"

Kindly inform the President/Hon. Treasurer when you transfer any funds to the Samajam account directly.

Calendar of Events

English	Tamil தமிழ்	DAY	EVENT	
APRIL 2019	PANGUNI பங்குனி			
2	19	TUESDAY செவ்வாய்	PRADOSHAM	பிரதோஷம்
4	21	THURSDAY வியாழன்	AMAVASAI	அமாவாசை
6	23	SATURDAY சனி	YUGATHI (TELEGU NEW YEAR)	யுகாதி (தெலுங்கு வருட பிறப்பு)
10	27	WEDNESDAY புதன்	Start of Sri Rama Navami Utsavam in Samajam	ஸ்ரீ ராம நவமி உற்சவம் ஆரம்பம்
13	30	SATURDAY சனி	SRI RAMA NAVAMI	ஸ்ரீ ராம நவமி
	CHITHIRAI சித்திரை			
14	1	SUNDAY ஞாயிறு	TAMIL NEW YEAR VIKAARI SEETHA KALYANAM & SAMARADHANAI (a.m.) ANJANEYAR UTSAVAM (p.m.)	தமிழ் வருடப்பிறப்பு விகாரி சீதா கல்யாணம், சமாராதனை (காலை) ஆஞ்சநேயர் உற்சவம் (மாலை)
15	2	MONDAY திங்கள்	EKADASI VISHU	ஏகாதசி விஷு
17	4	WEDNESDAY புதன்	PRADOSHAM	பிரதோஷம்
19	6	FRIDAY வெள்ளி	POURNAMI POOJAI CHITRA POURNAMI (7.00 p.m – 9.00 p.m.)	சித்ரா பௌர்ணமி பூஜை
22	9	MONDAY திங்கள்	SANKADAHARA CHATHURTHI	சங்கடஹர சதுர்த்தி
28	15	SUNDAY	65TH AGM of PBM @ 10.00am	ஆண்டு பொதுக் கூட்டம்
30	17	TUESDAY செவ்வாய்	EKADASI	ஏகாதசி
MAY 2019				
2	19	THURSDAY வியாழன்	PRADOSHAM	பிரதோஷம்
4	21	SATURDAY சனி	AMAVASAI	அமாவாசை

In conjunction with the Tamil New Year, Vikaari, on *Sunday April 14, 2019* the Sumuga Valampuri Vinayagar Temple is having a *Sirrappu Sangabishegam pooja commencing 4.30 am and ending 7.30 am*. There will be Homam, Sangabishegam, Allankaram and Deeparathanai at 7 am.

Wishing all Members “Ellarukum Puthandu Nalvalthukal”

Committee
Vinayagar Temple Management Association

IN MEMORIUM

Srimathi Sulochana Somasundaram (19 September 1932 to 21 February 2019)

***Guru Brahma, Guru Vishnu Guru Devo Maheswaraha
Guru Sakshat Para Brahma, Thasmai Shri Guruve Namaha***



I came into contact with Srimathi Sulochana Somasundaram (or Babu Maami as she was fondly called) in 1991. I remember distinctly that it was during the Sri Rama Navami celebrations in Samajam, after hearing her vocal performance, I enquired if she taught music. She enthusiastically invited me to her home that weekend to discuss further.

That weekend, at her home I was received just like any aunt would to her nephew. Thus began a decade long music training and a wonderful lifetime relationship!

Babu Maami's gurukulam was not only in music, culture and rituals but extended to cooking, making condiments, home remedies and household management! In the end it was the music that was the jewel in her crown.

Her music can be described as chaste with bhava. Her knowledge on the subject matter was vast. Her teaching was indeed much disciplined. No going further until you got it right! The reason that I can still recall until today, the sarali, jantha, hecchustayi and sapta tala lines, is due to her structured and no nonsense approach to imparting her knowledge. When it came to the kirthanai, I was made to listen to recordings of the great vocalist. "These are the bench mark to attain" she said. The pronunciations, the tempo, the raga was given the usual discipline touch.

Given her music knowledge, she was looked upon by many musicians as a point of clarification. She was also invited many a times as a judge in music competitions. Babu Maami was conferred The Saraswathi Subramaniam Award for Music by the Samajam for her contribution towards this divine art.

Despite her discipline, she had a loving spot for all her students. She was a fountain of compassion as always finding the good quality of a person and building on it. No student was ever given a scolding and was reminded with an anecdote to complete the work at hand.

Apart from being the guru, she was also a great friend. We discussed many topics of mutual interest. Be it in the home front, politics or social aspects, she always had an interesting view. Some best times I had was when she and her son were shifting to their own home. We went out shopping nearly every weekend to find specific items for the new home. One can see her discipline of purchasing, ensuring each item had a utility before buying it.

One advice that she always gives, 'It is not necessary to know a lot of things. Knowing little and knowing it well is an achievement in itself'. I can keep on writing on her many facets. In the end, let us not be sad that she is no longer with us as she has left part of her in each one of us via her music, advice, compassion and friendship.

Let us thank the Almighty for showing us His benevolence thru her.

Om Shanti! Om Shanti! Om Shanti!

With Namaskarams – Rajkumar Sahasranaman

SREE RAMA NAVAMI 2019 PROGRAMME (subject to change)

DAY	EVENT	SCHEDULE	SPONSORS
Wednesday April 10, 2019	- Poojai & Bhajanai - Cultural programme	6.00 pm – 8.00 pm: Vishnu Sahasranamam & Bhajanai 8.00 pm – 8.45 pm: Smt. Bavani Balachandran and students 8.45 pm - 9.00 pm: Deeparathanai & Prasadam	(i) Families of Mdm Thangam Sankar & Mdm Gopala Iyer
Thursday April 11, 2019	- Poojai & Bhajanai - Cultural programme	6.00 pm – 8.00 pm: Vishnu Sahasranamam & Bhajanai 8.00 pm – 8.45 pm: Kum. Saradha Lakshmi Hariharan (dance) 8.45 pm - 9.00 pm: Deeparathanai & Prasadam	(i) Sri B Ramakrishna and family (ii) Group 8
Friday April 12, 2019	- Poojai & Bhajanai - Cultural programme	6.00 pm – 7.45 pm: Vishnu Sahasranamam & Bhajanai 7.45 pm – 8.30 pm: Smt. Jayalakshmi Sekhar and students 8.30 pm - 9.00 pm: Sruthi Laya Gana Vidyalaya 9.00 pm – 9.15 pm: Deeparathanai & Prasadams	(i) Sri T V Sekhar & Smt Jayalakshmi (ii) Sri E Subramanian (Subash)and family
Saturday April 13, 2019	Avathara Kattam Deepa Pradhakshinam	4.15 pm – 5.00 pm: Rendition of Avathara Kattam 5.00 pm – 7.00 pm: Vishnu Sahasranamam & Bhajanai 7.00 pm – 8.45 pm: Deepa Pradakshinam 8.45 pm – 9.00 pm: Deeparathanai & Prasadam	(i) Dr S Raman & Group (ii) Youths
Sunday April 14, 2019	Seetha Kalyanam Samaradhanai	7.45 am – 8.30 am: Vishnu Sahasranamam 8.30 am – 12.30 pm: Seetha Kalyanam 12.30 pm: Deeparathanai & Prasadams 12.30 pm – 2.00 pm: Samaradhanai	Sri A V Subbaraman & family Sri Balaji Pitchaimani & family
	Anjaneya Utsavam	7.00 pm – 8.30 pm: Poojai & Anjaneya Utsavam 8.30 pm – 9.00 pm: Deeparathanai & Prasadams	Sri E Subramanian (Subash)and family