श्रीमते रामानुजाय नमः

SRI BALAJI TEMPLE FOUNDATION GENEVA

Rāmānujadayāpātram

A Spiritual Newsletter for Sri Balaji Temple in Switzerland



OUR SANKALPAM

Blessed by the divine grace of **Sriman Narayana**, our Foundation is committed to the Bhagavad Kainkaryam of establishing a permanent abode for Sri Venkateswara Perumal (Balaji Mandir) in Switzerland.

- **Sampradaya Samrakshanam** (Preservation): To preserve and propagate the timeless teachings of **VishishtAdvaita** and the sacred Srivaishnava Sampradayam, ensuring the wisdom of our Alwars and Acharyas reaches every heart.
- **Bhagavata Sambandham** (Global Connection): To strengthen the bond between Bhagavatas across the globe by sharing community updates, temple vaibhavams, and collective milestones in our spiritual journey.
- **Vidya & Samskaram** (Nurturing the Future): To ignite the spark of devotion in the hearts of our younger generation, providing them with the Samskaram (values) and knowledge needed to carry forward our rich heritage with pride.
- **Satsangam** (Global Belonging): To foster a deep sense of belonging within our **Vasudaiva Kutumbakam,** creating a unified platform where every devotee, regardless of where they reside, feels connected to the **Divya Dhampathi** and our shared traditions.

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This newsletter serves as a bridge connecting our community, sharing the timeless wisdom of our Acharyas, celebrating our festivals, and keeping devotees informed about our temple project's progress. May Lord Venkateswara bless us all.



FOREWORD

by Thirukkudandhai Dr Shri U Ve Venkatesh



Srimate Ramanujaya Namah

By the infinite grace of Sriman Narayana and the anugraham of our revered Guruparampara, Adiyen deems it a sacred privilege to pen this foreword for the inaugural newsletter of the Sri Balaji Temple Foundation of Geneva, being released on the most auspicious occasion of Ramanuja Jayanthi.

On this holy day, we offer our pranam at the divine lotus feet of Bhagavad Ramanujacharya, who, out of His boundless compassion, established and nurtured the path of Visishtadvaita Siddhanta, illuminating for all devotees the way of bhakti and saranagati. His divine teachings, preserved through the unbroken lineage of Acharyas, continue to guide us in the observance of anushtanam and in the pursuit of parama purushartham.

It is indeed heartening to note that such a noble kainkaryam has taken shape in a distant land, reflecting the unwavering devotion (achala bhakti) of devotees.

This newsletter, envisioned as a sethu, serves to connect the community, share the progress of the temple project, and bring to light matters of sat vishayam, thereby nurturing spiritual awareness and reinforcing our sampradaya traditions.

Such efforts, rooted in sincerity and guided by Acharya Krupa, stand as a testament to the enduring relevance of our tradition. May this initiative grow in strength and purpose, becoming a source of inspiration for present and future generations.

I offer my humble prayers at the sacred feet of Lord Srinivasa– the Kaliyuga Varadan–that He may shower His choicest blessings upon this endeavor and upon all those engaged in this divine kainkaryam.

Adiyen dasanudasan,
Dr. Venkatesh





EDITORIAL MESSAGE

A Message on Ramanuja Jayanthi and Our Sacred Mission

Srimathe Ramanujaya Namaha. As we enter the sacred month of Chithirai, our hearts overflow with devotion as we prepare to celebrate **Sri Ramanuja Jayanthi**—the divine appearance day of our beloved Yatirāja, Bhagavad Ramanuja.

The significance of **Chithirai** cannot be overstated in our Srivaishnava tradition. It marks the beginning of the Tamil calendar year and brings with it the celebration of numerous divine occasions. Most importantly, it is during this auspicious month that **Sri Ramanujacharya**, the great reformer and philosopher, blessed this world with his divine presence over a thousand years ago.

Yatirāja Vaibhavam—Ramanuja was not just a philosopher; he was the embodiment of compassion (Daya). His Vaibhavam lies in his dual role as a master administrator of temples like Srirangam and Tirumala, and as the visionary who harmonized the Sanskrit Vedas with the nectar-like Tamil Divya Prabandham. He taught us that every soul is a spark of the Divine, and every act—be it worship or social service—is a **Kainkaryam to Sriman Narayana.**

It is with this same spirit of inclusive devotion that our Foundation works tirelessly toward establishing a **Sri Venkateswara Temple here in Switzerland**. Under the divine grace of Lord Balaji, we envision creating a **Bhagavad-Anubhavah**—a sacred space where devotees can experience the Lord's presence, learn the profound teachings of our Acharyas, and preserve our traditions for future generations.

May Emperumanar's blessings guide our every step in this sacred Kainkaryam.

Adiyen Ramanuja Dasan

"SHARANAGATI IS THE PATH OF COMPLETE SURRENDER TO THE LORD, ACCESSIBLE TO ALL SOULS SEEKING HIS DIVINE GRACE." – SRI RAMANUJACHARYA

Rāmānujadayāpātram

CHITHIRAI 2026

Sri Vaishnava Dinacharyā & Parvakaalam

Sri Balaji Temple Foundation Geneva - Calendar

Date	Day	Utsavams & Sevakalams	Imp Nakshatrams / Thithis
Apr 22, 2026	Wed	Sri Bhagavad Ramanujar Thirunakshatram	Chitirai Thiruvadirai
Apr 27, 2026	Mon	Ekadasi Vratam	
Apr 28, 2026	Tue	Pradosham	Dwadasi Paranai - 06:31 - 09:20
Apr 30, 2026	Thu	Sri Nrusimha Jayanthi. Madhurakavi Azhwar Thirunakshatram	Chitirai Chitirai - Madhurakaviazhwar
May 1, 2026	Fri	Swathi	
May 3, 2026	Sun	Geneva Sri Nrusimha Jayanthi Public Program	15h - Salle Communale Des Délices



SCRIPTURAL INSIGHTS

Bhagavad Gita: The Song Divine



सर्वधर्मान्परित्यज्य मामेकं शरणं व्रज ।
अहं त्वां सर्वपापेभ्यो मोक्षयिष्यामि मा शुचः ॥ १८-६६ ॥

sarva-dharmān parityajya mām ekaṁ śharaṇaṁ vraja
ahaṁ tvāṁ sarva-pāpebhyo mokṣhayiṣhyāmi mā śhuchaḥ

The essence of the **Charama Shloka**, as illuminated by Alavandar and Ramanuja, lies in the transition from self-effort to total reliance on Divine Grace. **Ramanuja** clarifies that **sarva-dharmān parityajya** does not command the abandonment of righteous action, but rather the "renunciation of agency"—extinguishing the ego that claims "I am the doer." **Alavandar's** influence is felt in the soul's recognition of its own akinchanya (utter helplessness); when a devotee realizes that Karma, Jnana, and Bhakti Yogas are beyond their limited capacity, they turn to Krishna as the **Siddhopaya** (the "Ready Means"). By seeking Him as the sole refuge (mām ekaṁ), the devotee stops trying to "buy" salvation and instead accepts it as a gift from the Lord, who is both the path and the destination.

The second half of the verse provides the ultimate psychological relief through the promise **mā śhuchaḥ** ("do not grieve"). Ramanuja explains that the Lord takes personal responsibility (Aham) for the devotee's liberation, pledging to dissolve the mountain of accumulated sins (**sarva-pāpebhyo**) that hinder the soul's journey to Vaikuntha. In the Sri Vaishnava tone, this is the "Grand Guarantee": the moment a soul performs **Saranagathi** (surrender), the burden of salvation shifts entirely from the frail shoulders of the individual to the omnipotent shoulders of Narayana. To worry after surrendering is to doubt the Lord's capability; therefore, the essence of this shloka is a call to live in a state of fearless joy, anchored in the certainty of His protection.



SCRIPTURAL INSIGHTS

Divya Prabhandam

உந்து மத களிற்றன் ஓடாத தோள் வலியன்
நந்தகோபாலன் மருமகளே! நப்பின்னாய்!
கந்தம் கமழும் குழலி! கடை திறவாய்
வந்து எங்கும் கோழி அழைத்தன காண்
மாதவிப் பந்தல் மேல் பல் கால் குயிலினங்கள் கூவின காண்
பந்து ஆர் விரலி! உன் மைத்துனன் பேர் பாடச்
செந்தாமரைக் கையால் சீரார் வளை ஒலிப்ப
வந்து திறவாய் மகிழ்ந்தேலோர் எம்பாவாய்.



undhu madha kalittran ōḍādha thōḷ valiyan |
nanda gopālan marumagaḷē! nappinnāy!
gandham kamazhum kuzhalī! kaḍai tiravāy |
vandengum kōzhiyazhaitthāna kāṇ |
mādhavi pandhal mēl palkāl kuyil inangaḷ kūvina kāṇ |
pandhār virali! un maitthunan pēr pāḍa |
centhāmarai kaiyāl cīrār vaḷai olippa
vandhu tiṛavāy magizhndēlōr empāvāy ||

Azhwargal Amudham: Thiruppavai Pasuram 18

Oh, dear **Nappinnai**! the daughter in law of the great Nandagopa who is strong shouldered to face any enemy in a war and is compared to the musth elephant! Oh, the one with fragrant hair, please open the door! Roosters are crowing in all directions indicating dawn. Even cuckoos are cooing. Oh, the one holding the ball! we have come to sing the names of your beloved Krishna. Please come with joy and open the door with your jingling bangled lotus-red hands.

Bhagavad Ramanujar was fondly called as "**Thiruppavai Jeeyar**" for his fondness towards Thiruppavai. He used to recite Thiruppavai when he went for seeking bhiksha (alms). One such morning when he walked reciting this very Pasuram and stood in front of his Acharyan **Periyanambi's Thirumaaligai** (divine residence), immersed in the Pasuram, when **Atthuzhai** (Periyanambi's daughter) opened the door, Swami Ramanujar fainted thinking that Nappinnai herself had opened the divine doors for swami. Frightened Atthuzhai went in and informed Periyanambi, who immediately understood the scene and asked Atthuzhai if that Swami was reciting Undhu Madha kalittran Pasuram when she opened the door. Such was Bhagavad Ramanujar's (Jagadhacharyan's) bhakthi and complete focus when reciting pasurams.

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Divya Desa Anubhavam

Sri Ranga Kshetram: Bhuloka Vaikuntam



The Sacred Abode of Lord Ranganatha

Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple at **Srirangam** stands as the foremost among the **108 Divya Desams** and is revered as **Bhooloka Vaikuntam**—Heaven on Earth. This magnificent temple, sprawling across 156 acres with seven prakarams (enclosures), is the largest functioning Hindu temple in the world. I**t is the first and foremost of the Swayamvyakta Kshetras** (self-manifested abodes). Historically, the temple's connection to Sri Rama is profound, as the deity of Lord Ranganatha was the Kuladhana of the Ikshvaku dynasty, worshipped by Rama before He gifted Lord Ranganatha to Vibhishana during His coronation.

The presiding deity, Sri Ranganatha Perumal, reclines in **Yoga Nidra on Adi Sesha,** blessing devotees with His divine grace. This sacred kshetra holds immense significance in Sri Vaishnava tradition—it was here that our beloved Acharya Sri Ramanujacharya spent the final years of his life, establishing the systematic worship practices that continue to this day.

The temple's rich heritage includes the works of the Alwars, particularly Thirumangai Alwar who contributed extensively to its grandeur. The annual **Vaikunta Ekadasi** festival draws millions of devotees who seek darshan through the sacred Paramapada dwaram.

Beyond the architectural majesty of the golden Vimana and the towering Rajagopuram, the **true essence of Srirangam lies in the Utsava Vaibhavam.** From the grand Vaikunta Ekadasi celebrations to the intimate daily rituals, the Lord is treated as a sovereign King and a beloved child. The sight of **Namperumal** decked in shimmering jewels and garlands, emerging from the sanctum to bless the Goshti (assembly), is a transformative experience. For a Sri Vaishnava, Srirangam is not merely a destination; it is the ultimate refuge where the Lord's Kalyana Gunas (auspicious qualities) shine brightest, inviting every seeker to find eternal peace at His lotus feet.



SRI BALAJI TEMPLE FOUNDATION NEWS

Sri Nrusimha Jayanthi Celebrations 2026

Registration: https://bit.ly/narasimha26

Join us for a blessed celebration of Sri Nrusimha Jayanthi, honoring the divine appearance of Lord Nrusimha, the fierce protector of His devotees.

Date: Sunday, 3rd May 2026

Time: 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Venue: Salle Communale Des Délices

Rue de Colovrex 20

1218 Le Grand-Saconnex

The program will include special pujas, bhajans, cultural performances, and prasadam distribution for all attendees.

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Bank : Postfinance

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COME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE AND RECEIVE THE DIVINE BLESSINGS OF LORD NRUSIMHA .