



Shiva-Vishnu Temple

Om Namah Shivaya Om Namo Narayanaya

Hindu Community and Cultural Center

1232 Arrowhead Ave, Livermore, CA 94551

A Non-Profit Organization since 1977

Tax ID# 94-2427126; Inc #D0821589

Tel: 925-449-6255; Fax: 925-455-0404

Web: <http://www.livermoretemple.org>

HCCC Guidelines for Conduct (All visitors and devotees)

Aesthetics and Atmosphere:

- HCCC is primarily a place of worship, which aims at introducing, educating and promoting the Hindu religion and its philosophies. In addition, cultural, educational and human service activities are also conducted.
- Every visitor is requested to co-operate in maintaining a serene and peaceful atmosphere.

Clean-up after puja:

- Please leave the area you used for puja (like Homa kunda) clean after you finish the puja. Clean the area after you distribute the Prasada.
- Dispose trash only in designated trash containers. Please put empty plastic/paper bags, cups and other used items in trash containers.
- Do not leave crushed lemons or coconuts in the parking lot after finishing your vehicle puja. Please pick them up and throw in the nearest trash container.
- Remember “Cleanliness is next to Godliness”.

Common Customs & Traditions:

- It is suggested that you pray to your Ishta or Kula Daivam (God) before you start your trip to the Temple.
- Do not enter the Temple, if according to custom or tradition you have been requested not to enter. For example, traditionally devotees do not enter the temple for 10 days after a birth or death in the family. Please check with the priests or your family elders if you have any questions.
- Please do not stand on the steps of the sanctum sanctorum.
- Only priests authorized by temple management are allowed to enter the sanctum sanctorum.

Conduct Inside the Temple:

- When you are in the Temple please observe the following:
 - Concentrate on the deities in the Temple.
 - Observe silence and recite or chant any name of the God or Goddess of your choice. Respect ancient customs and usages.
 - Respect and promote religious sentiments of your fellow devotees.
 - Respect the privacy of your fellow devotees.
 - Refrain from touching the religious temple items such as vahanas, uthsava murthi's etc. Please make sure that your children also refrain from such activities.
- Please do not prostrate (Sashtaanga pranaam) in the outer sanctum.
- Please do not rush in for Darshan, but take your turn in the queue.
- Do not block the doorways (Temple & Sanctums) at any time as this might cause a safety hazard.
- Please stand sideways or slanting to prevent obstructing the view of deity and to minimize obstructing the view of devotees standing behind you in the line.
- After major pujas where there are a large number of devotees, please wait for appropriate instructions. Please wait for your turn to take Thirtha Prasada
- Avoid noise of any kind; please talk softly if you must.

Dress Code:

- **We request every visitor to follow certain etiquette and modesty.**
- We request that visitors of all ages to dress neatly and cleanly.
- Dress should provide appropriate body coverage at all times on the HCCC premises. For example short shorts, short skirts etc should be avoided.
- Clothing with inappropriate and implied language or message should be avoided.
- Please enquire with the priests regarding traditional attire suggested for special Puja or homa.

Donations:

- HCCC runs primarily by devotee donations in the form of Hundi collections and registration in the front office. Donations may be also be offered online.

Entry to facility:

- No one will be admitted into the facility before the Temple opens and allowed to stay after closing time without prior permission from manager.
- Educational guided tours may be arranged for groups with prior approvals of the management. Visitors are requested to comply with HCCC guidelines. Please make prior arrangements with temple manager to avoid disturbing regular programs and to get the rich educational experience.

Food:

- You may bring freshly cooked prasada to Temple. Priests can offer it to any deity of your choice. You may take it to the back of the Temple and leave it there for other devotees to share your prasadam.
- Please do not bring food cooked the previous day or food with onions and garlic as offerings (naiyedhyam) for deities.
- Non vegetarian food-items (egg/ meat/ fish/ seafood) are not permitted on HCCC premises.
- Food / Prasad given out during weekend lunch are largely through Annadaana sponsored by devotees like you. Please participate in Annadaana program
- Devotees should not eat any food including prasada inside the main temple. They should eat only in the designated dining area.
- Feed your children only in the designated areas and not in the Temple main hall or in the sanctums, infant feeding room is available – please ask the manager.

Footwear:

- All visitors must remove their shoes or any kind of footwear before entering the Temple.
- Place footwear in the racks that are provided.
- Please consult with the temple manager if you have any special requirements such as use of prosthesis, orthosis & wheelchairs for mobility inside the Temple.

Indemnity:

- HCCC is **NOT RESPONSIBLE** for accidents, injuries or loss of property or damage of persons or property anywhere in the premises.

Parking and Parking lot:

- Do not park or drive any motor vehicle in areas that are not designated for those purposes. Honking, speeding and yelling in the parking lot are strictly prohibited.
- Limit the speed of your vehicles to 5 mph inside the temple premises and also in the adjacent parking lots. Always watch for all pedestrians.
- Please do not park in the spots allotted for priests or staff. Please do not park in the fire-lanes around the Temple.
- Please do not park in designated handicapped spots unless you have a DMV permit.
- Any vehicle parked overnight in the temple parking lot with out permission from temple management will be reported to police and towed.
- To avoid theft, please do not leave valuables in your vehicle and always leave your vehicles locked. HCCC cannot be held responsible for any lost property or damage to your vehicle in our parking lot.
- Any spills of hazardous materials should be promptly cleaned. The dumpster in parking lot may not be used to dump hazardous materials such as used engine oils, vehicle batteries and other toxic substances.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE: Do not disturb residents around the temple by honking, racing or reviving your vehicle engines.**

Photography, Video & Mobile Phones:

- HCCC strictly prohibit photography or videography of the Deities (Moola Murthies) at any time inside the Temple.
- Only designated individuals may take photos or video of the gatherings and/or Uthsava Murthies. Check with temple manager or priests for guidelines.
- Private Pujas, restricted to the individual private puja, proceedings may be photographed and video taped.
- Please switch off all cell phones prior to entering the Temple.

Puja materials (Dravya)

- Devotees may bring puja materials like milk, yogurt, honey, naivedhyams, rice, fruits. However, please understand that excess will be used for prasadam.
- Devotees are encouraged to bring flowers for deities as offerings.
- Please note that lighting lamps by devotees will be restricted to designated areas only.

Smoking, Drinking & Possession of Weapons:

- Smoking, consumption of alcoholic beverages, or possession of harmful weapons, controlled substances or illegal drugs are prohibited anywhere in the temple premises, including parking lots. Coming to temple premises intoxicated is also strictly prohibited
- Please report any suspicious packages and activities on the premises to a temple manager

Strollers:

- We restrict/ limit strollers in the main temple hall and sanctums.
- If there is an absolute necessity exceptions can be obtained from a manager.

Solicitation and advertisements

- Any kind of advertisement and solicitation is not allowed on HCCC property without prior approval by management.

Supervision of Children:

- All parents/ guardians are required to keep their children under control and avoid damage to themselves and the temple property.
- Children are requested to refrain from running around, screaming or shouting in the temple premises. Keep your voice down and promote an atmosphere for worship.
- Please avoid giving loud instructions to your small children, especially when you are close to Moola Murthies (Diety)

Volunteerism-

- Please note that except for a hand-full of staff members, the entire organization is run by the efforts and dedications of volunteers. Devotees are encouraged to Volunteer wherever possible and contribute to your community. Please check with temple managers for registration details and organizational needs.

NOTE: Temple Management reserves the right to take appropriate action, including asking the devotee to leave the premises.

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