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Subrahmaṇyā Pūjā

(A simplified & traditional worship in the home shrine to seek the blessings, grace & protection of Lord Muruga)

Ganeśa Prārthanā (Ganeśa Invocation)

Aum Śuklāambaradaram vishṇum

śaśivaraṇaṁ chaturbhujam,

prasanna vadaṇaṁ dhyāyet,

sarvavighnopaśāntaye

Aum Śri Mahā Gaṇapathaye Namaḥ

ayindhu karathanai ānai mugathanai

inthin illam pirai polum eyitranai

nandhi magan thanai jñāna kozhunthinai

pundhiyil vaitu adi potru kindraeney

*He who has the five hands and the elephant's face,
Whose tusk is even as the crescent moon,
The son of Nandi, the Flower of Wisdom,
Him I cherish in thought, His feet adore.*

Saṅkalpam (Statement of purpose/ Intention of worship)

Aum Śaravanabhavaya Namaḥ

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Aum Subrahmaṇyā pūjāṁ karishye

While chanting the mantra, take a pinch of rice or one flower and hold it at chest height in your closed right palm, with open left-hand underneath. Visualise Muruga in your mind and mentally say that you will be performing this Puja for Him to the best of your ability.

Pūjā (Worship & Offerings)

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

dhyāyāmi (Offer a pinch of rice)

āvāhayāmi (Offer a pinch of rice)

āsanam samarpayāmi (Offer a pinch of rice)

Visualize Muruga seating on a throne in front of you, smiling and waiting to be honored with your offerings

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

pādyam (Offer a spoonful of water)

argyam (Offer a spoonful of water)

āchamanīyam samarpayāmi (Offer a spoonful of water)

At each line, offer a spoonful of water to Muruga. Visualise yourself washing His feet, His hands and finally taking a sip of water from your hand.

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

gaṅgāsnānam samarpayāmi (Sprinkle water on the deity)

While ringing the bell and reciting this line, dip a flower into the water and gently sprinkle the Deity. Do this three times or more.

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

maṅgalākshatān samarpayāmi (Offer a pinch of rice)

pushpam samarpayāmi (Offer one or more flowers)

Subrahmanyā Nāmāvaliḥ & Arulmigu Muruga Peruman Portri

In this section, we chant the name of Muruga. You can choose to do either Śata Nāmāvaliḥ (16 names of Muruga) or Āshṭottara Nāmāvaliḥ (108 names of Muruga) or Portri Vazhippādu (108 praises to Muruga) As you chant each name/line, offer with your right-hand a flower, some flower petals or a pinch of rice to the deity.

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

dhūpam āghrāpayāmi (Offer incense stick/sambrani)

dhūpānantaram āchamanīyaṁ samarpayāmi (Offer a spoonful of water)

maṅgalākshatān samarpayāmi (Offer a pinch of rice)

While ringing the bell, make three circles with incense stick or sambrani in front of the deity with the first line. Then offer water & rice.

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

dīpam darśayāmi (Offer oil/ghee lamp)

dīpānantaram āchamanīyaṁ samarpayāmi (Offer a spoonful of water)

maṅgalākshatān samarpayāmi (Offer a pinch of rice)

While ringing the bell, make three circles with a lighted lamp in front of the deity with the first line. Then offer water & rice.

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

mahānaivedyaṁ nivedayāmi

While ringing the bell loudly, circle a spoonful of water on the food and offer it to the deity. Close your eyes and visualize Muruga having the food.

Mantra Pushpam (Worship with flowers)

Aum yo-pām pushpaṁ veda, pushpavān prajāvān paśumān bhavati

chandramāvā apām pushpam, pushpavān prajāvān paśumān bhavati

ya evaṁ veda, yo-pāmāyatanaṁ veda, āyatanavān bhavati.

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

mantra pushpāñjaliṁ samarpayāmi

While chanting this mantra, hold a handful of flowers in your hands in prayer position at chest height. Toss the flower in the air in front of the deity as you chant the last word samarpayāmi.

Āratī (Waving of Camphor/Flame)

Aum kartigeyāya vidmahe

Śakti hastāya dhīmahi

Tannōh skanda prachōdhayāt

Aum Subrahmaṇyāya Namaḥ

karpura niranjanaṃ samarpayāmi

(Offer a flower)

āchamanīyaṃ samarpayāmi

(Offer a spoonful of water)

maṅgalākshatān samarpayāmi

(Offer a pinch of rice)

While ringing the bell, make three circles with the camphor in front of the deity with the first few lines of the chant. Take a flower, make a circle around the flame and offer it to Muruga. Then offer water & rice.

Chanting of traditional prayers

ēRumayil ērivīLai yādumugam ondrē

īsarudan jñanamozhi pēsumugam ondrē

kūRumadi yārgaLvīnai thīrku mugam ondrē

kundRuruva vēL vāngi nindRa mugam ondrē

māRu padu sūraraiva thaiththa mugam ondrē

vaLLiyai maNam puNara vandha mugam ondrē

ārumuga mānaporuL nīyaruLal vēndum

ādi aruNāchalam amarndha perumālē.

*Mounting the peacock that is my mind, You fly around sportively;
coming as my Master, kindly preach True Knowledge to me;
kindly destroy all my past deeds;
wield Your spear to destroy my delusion and attachments;
kindly suppress my two slags, namely, egoism and possessiveness; and
take me over to keep me affixed to Your hallowed feet.*

You can now sing a selection of verses from Thevāram, Thirupugazh, Kandar Anubhuti or Kandar Alangāram followed by traditional/devotional songs such as Avinasi Pattu, Ārumuga Swami Virutham, etc.

Prayaschittam (Apologies)

Aum avahanaṃ na jānāmi na jānāmi visarjanam, pūjāñchaiva na jānāmi kshamyatām parameśvara. mantrahinaṃ kriyāhīnam bhaktihinaṃ sureśvara, yat pūjitam mayā deva paripūrṇam tadastu te, anyathā śaraṇaṃ nāsti tvameva śaraṇaṃ mama, tasmāt kāruṇyabhāvena raksha raksha Subrahmaṇyā.

Aum tat sat Aum.

While chanting this mantra, keep your hand in prayer position. It is an apology in case we have made any mistake during our offering. We end by asking Muruga for His protection. You may take three turns on yourself in a clockwise position at the same time doing three claps with your hands.

Mangalam

āriru thadanthol vāzhga, ārumugam vāzhga veRppai
kūru sei thanivēl vāzhga, kukkudam vāzhga sevvēl
yēRiya manjai vāzhga, ānai than ananggu vāzhga
māRila valli vāzhga, vāzhga seer adiyār yellām.

uruvāi aruvāi uladhāi iladhāi
maruvāi malarāi maniyāi oliyāi
karuvāi uyirāi gathiyāi vidhiyāi
guruvāi varuvāi arulvāi guganē.

mangalam mangalam Śaravanabhavaya namah aum (3 times)

Vēl Vēl Muruga Vetri Vēl Muruga

Jñana Vēl Muruga Śakti Vēl Muruga

Vadivēl Muruga Vīra Vēl Muruga (2 times)

mangalam mangalam Śaravanabhavaya namah aum (3 times)

Śaravanabhavaya namah aum (3 times)

Vetri Vēl Muruganukku. Hara Haro Harā!

Śakti Vēl Muruganukku. Hara Haro Harā!

Jñana Vēl Muruganukku. Hara Haro Harā!

You may now bow down to take the blessings of Muruga and any elders present for the prayer.

It is also advisable that everyone who has participated in the prayer to sit silently for a few minutes and absorb the vibrations from the Pūjā. Conclude by chanting Aum three times.

Additional Resources:

1. Subrahmanyā Āshṭottara Nāmāvaliḥ ([lyrics](#) + [video](#))
2. Arulmigu Muruga Peruman Portri ([lyrics](#) + [video](#))
3. Subrahmanyā Pūjā with [audio chanting](#)