

By Mangalam Vasan

As ancient as Hinduism, is the art of temple building. Many materials have been used in temple building but granite is such an age defying stone endowed with unique strength. That is why our ancestors have chosen this wonderful stone for building the house of God. One does not need to go any further than look at the architectural marvel of the grand Brhadeeswarar temple in Thanjavur. That it has withstood the onslaught of the invaders and the elements for over a thousand years, is not only a testimony for the extraordinary Tamil King Raja Raja Cholan's vision but also to the power of the granite stones used in the construction.

Granite transformation of inner shrines of the oldest Ganapathy temple(consecrated in 1992) in Melbourne started in the latter part of 2019. In September of 2019 Ganesha with his parivaar moved out to the Baala aalyam (baby temple). Granite work had commenced in south India and crafted pieces were planned to be shipped for assembling in a sense and further work in Melbourne. Nineteen artisans arrived from Chennai and little did they realise they were going to be in isolation in the temple premises for months chiselling away. 2020 for all its downside, saw the completion of this wonderful house of God. To the delight of devotees who have been holding their breath for the reopening of the Sri Vakrathunda Vinayagar Temple, the date has been set for the 25th of January 2021. The Maha Kumbhabhishekam ie the grand ritualistic moving of Ganapathy from Baalaalayam into the new temple will be held on Monday, 25th January 202, the auspicious time being from 9:15am to 10:30am. The preparatory rituals will start on Sunday, 17th January 2021 and will be performed upto the 25th. The 45-day Mandalabhishekam programme will start from Tuesday, 26th January 2021.

For all details refer to the temple website: http://www.mvhs.org.au/ or https://sites.google.com/view/mahakumbhabhishekam/book-appointment

VINAYAGAM

PRE-ORDER NOW - $50 per book



A 500-page illustrated hardcover Kumbhabhishekam Souvenir marking Sri Vakrathunda Vinayagar Temple's Historic Granite Transformation featuring...



- Pictorial history of the first Hindu temple in Victoria
- Miracles of Sri Vakrathunda Vinayagar
- Stories and slokas of Ganesha for the young and old
- Messages from Sri Shankaracharya and dignitaries
- Interesting insights into granite temple building
- Detailed information on the Temple's granite shrines
- List of donors for posterity
- Articles on Hinduism in English and Tamil





... and so much more.

A collector's item not to be missed!

Place your order with the Temple Office: 0436 001 881