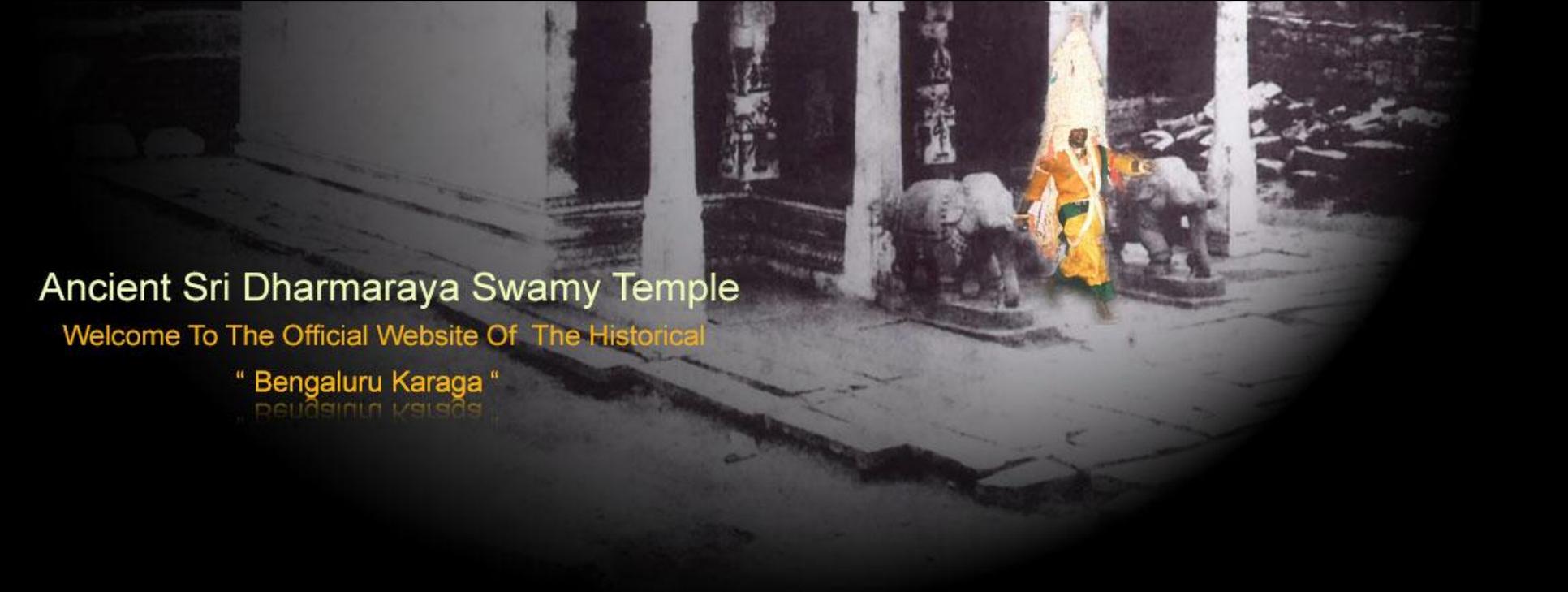




**We Greet All Our National & International Media A Warm
Welcome to know more About the Temple History &
The main Festival “ BengaluruKaraga ”**



Ancient Sri Dharmaraya Swamy Temple

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“ Bengaluru Karaga ”
“ BEṆḌSIRUṆḌ KṆṆḌḌḌ ”

❖ Sri Dharmaraya Swamy Temple Situated in the Heart of Old Bangalore/ Bengaluru has a vast History beneath its Glory & Significance.

❖ Sri Dharmaraya Swamy Temple in Bengaluru is one of its kind in the whole world where you never find All the Hero's of Mahabharatha 'The Pandava's & Draupadi' .

❖ In this Temple there are various Festivals & Utsava's are celebrated & the important festival Being is "The Historical World Famous Bengaluru Karaga" celebrated every year on the Chaitra Pournami Day/ Full Moon Day of every calendar year.

❖ Now Coming to the history of the temple even though there are no written documents Available to justify the age of this temple and from when the Karaga Festival is being Celebrated.

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❖ But The Archeology & survey department Of India had under-taken the study of the stone & masonry & declared that the age of this temple is more than (800 years) .

❖ And to justify the same we can see the Ancestors of this caste is being lived here Bangalore from 8 to 10 generations and is proved to be more than 900years.

❖ It is also evident that, the Kempegowda Gopuras (towers) were built in the four corners of the city keeping the Sri Dharmaraya Swamy Temple vimanagopura kalasa as a centre point. It is Ulsoor tower in the North-East, The Bellary Road Tower in the North-West, The Lalbagh Tower in the South-East, The Gavipura Tower in the South-West to the temple, which gives more intensive relations to the Kempegowda's developmental works.

❖ Mysore Dasara and Bengaluru Karaga are the world famous festivals of Karnataka. The Bengaluru Karaga is the festival of Vanhikula Kshathriyas (Thigala) community scheduled to perform on Chaitra Pournami day of every year. This is the festival of Adhishakthi Draupadi.

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Why Karaga Festival is celebrated ??

- ❖ Karaga Festival takes us back to the period of Mahabharatha i.e. dated back to 5000yrs
- ❖ After the Epic Mahabharatha War , The Pandava's (Dharmaraya also known as Yudhishtir, Arjuna also known as Paartha, Bhima also known as Ghadhadhar, Nakula & Sahadev also Known as ashwini devtas & Draupadi also known as Paanchaali) starts their yatra towards Himalaya's to wash away their sin's of killing their opponents 'The Kaurava's' .
- ❖ During their yatra in Himalaya's they had a boon from lord Krishna that if Pandava's have The glimpse of Lord Shiva who attains different avatar's (in the form of cow, in the form of Vrushabh/buffalo etc) will attain moksha and can reach heavenly abode.
- ❖ At the time of yatra Lord Bhima along with all Pandavas glimpses the lord Shiva in Vrushabha avatar .
- ❖ After having the darshan the Pandava's along with Draupadi ascends towards Swargarohini Peak near Badrinath (Himalaya's) to the heavenly abode.

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- ❖ During the ascent The Pandavas's will be ahead of the Draupadi & she gets tired and starts To faint and she will fall behind Pandava's .
- ❖ Seeing the condition of Draupadi the Demon / Raakshas Thimirasur tries to take advantage Of her helpless situation.
- ❖ During this Draupadi chants the name of Lord Krishna & Sri Krishna explains her power's that She inherits in her because she was born from Fire and has the Power & Possess the Prowess Aadhisakthi & later Lord Krishna disappear's.
- ❖ Now realizing Her own Prowess / Power She arises in the form of Aadhisakthi who's head Touches the Sky high and her feet to paathal holds The Thrishul & Creates the Army from her Fore -Head , Ears, Mouth, & Shoulder's.
- ❖ Seeing the Lord Aadhisakthi Draupadi's Avatar ,the demon Thimirasur tries to escape from Each and every corner of Himalaya's , but the Army brings him back towards Aadhisakthi And The Goddess Destroys the Demon Thimirasur.

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❖ After Destroying The demon the Godess Aadhishakthi Draupadi dissappears.

❖ Seeing this ,the Army created by the Godess feels that they are left alone and they didn't know what was their work on the earth and then they started chanting the name of Lord Krishna as ' Govinda-Govinda' during this the lord Krishna appears and tells the Army men that your Godess has the solution for all and pray her.

❖ Hearing this form the Lord Krishna , The Army men starts hitting from their swords On their Bare Chest chanting Amma(Godess/Mother) Dikh-Dhe.. Dikh-Dhe (Dikku thoru/ show us the way to lead our life).

❖ By seeing the plight of her own Son's (Army men) she created for useful purpose, She appears and guides the Army by their duties stating that the main purpose for creating you on this holy earth is:

To Safeguard the Dignity of the Women.

To Safeguard the Kamadhenu or holy cow from being destroyed.

To Safeguard the Nature from being destroyed.

To create the Oneness in the Society.

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❖ And Tells them that on this holy day we have Killed the asura's / Rakshas , to signify this On each and every year of this Chaitra Pournami day for 9 days I will come and stay On this Holy Earth & gives them a Boon and disappears.

❖ Hence to signify this, on each year the first Navarathri Festival on Chaitra maasa is Celebrated as “Karaga Festival” for 9 days.

The sources/references are taken from Vanhipurana/Agni purana one of 18 Ancient Scripts of Hinduism, & From Devi Bhagavatha... The Story of bangalore karaga is also being described from the saints and poets from Centuries...

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DEVI BHAGAVATHA