



Sri Rama Sivan (Ramanujachari)
Purohit & Jyotish

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REQUIREMENTS FOR A SMALL YAJNA

coconuts [with husk if possible]	3
bananas	6
seasonal fruit 5 kinds	5 of each
betel leaves	1 packet
betel nuts (whole)	5
flowers	2 bunches
ghee	250 gms
camphor blocks	5
rice [white]	1 kg
Rice flour	500 gms
matches or lighter	1
incense sticks	1 pkt
Dollar coins	10
Havan Samagri	1 Pkt.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

wood for fire — unused, unblemished twigs	1 box
mango leaves unblemished	5
trays and vessels [brass, copper, steel]	3
new tea towels OR	2
paper towels	1 roll

Instructions

I will arrive half an hour before the puja - please have all the puja items ready as per the list - all fruit to be washed.

The ceremony will begin at exactly the appointed time whether the guests have arrived or not.

The family should take a bath before the ceremony and wear clean clothes. Loose fitting white clothes for men are preferable (kurta pyjama or dhoti and anga vastra) and coloured for ladies. Jeans are not suitable.

All preparation should be completed before the ceremony starts as all fiddling and ferreting in the kitchen during the ceremony is discouraged. Explanations will be given in English before and during the ceremony, all chatting and gossiping is to be avoided so that those who are serious can concentrate fully on the Puja.

Until now we have avoided setting fees for Pujas, since it is our sacred duty and not our business, but due to the fact that some yajamanas have been unfair in their charity, indifferent to the value of our time and unmindful of the cost of living to which we too are subjected, we are now compelled to set a minimum dakshina of \$250 per ceremony.

Terms of Address

Please note — Hindu Domestic Priests are never addressed as "sir" or "mister". The appropriate forms of address are varied and include any of the following:—

swami, pandit, guru, gurudeva, maharaja, acharya, dvija, dvijottama, vadhyar.
Upadhyaya etc.

Temple priests are referred to as: — swami, archaka, pujari, bhataraka