

Skanda Sashti Puja at AVG



Lord Muruga also known as Subrahmanya, Karthikeya, Skanda and Kumara is the son of Lord Siva and Goddess Sakthi. In Bhagavat Gita, the Lord says that He is Skanda among the army generals (Chapter X Verse 24). Lord Muruga as the Commander-in-chief of the Devas' army fought for six days against the armies of the asuras Simhamukha, Surapadman and Tarakasura. On the sixth day he vanquished all of them. The sixth day or sashti of the waxing moon in the month of Ashada (October-November) is celebrated as Skanda Sashti.

On October 29, 2014, Skanda Sashti was celebrated at the Murugan temple situated atop the hill at Anaikatti. The temple was decorated all around elegantly, creating a

festive atmosphere. The presiding deity, **Sri Kalyanasubrahmanyaswamy with his consorts Valli and Devasena** were worshiped with an elaborate puja, eleven dravya abishekam, chanting of Subrahmanya astotram and devotional songs. The puja concluded with Mahadeeparadana.

All the Swamis, Swaminis, long term course students and campers attending Rajkot Swami Paramatmananda's camp participated in the puja. It was a grand sight to see the temple and the precincts overflowing with devotees, worshipping the Lord with devotional fervor and enthusiasm.

Report by N.Avinashilingam