

AUGUST 2016



Navratri (nine nights) is one of the greatest Hindu festivals. It symbolises the triumph of good over evil. Navratri takes place around harvest time and, as the name implies, this festival is celebrated for nine days. Navratri is also known as Durga Puja.

During this period, Durga, Laxmi and Saraswati are worshipped as three different manifestations of Shakti, or cosmic energy.

The festival is dedicated to Durga, the mother goddess who also represents power. Durga annihilated the demon Mahishasura after a relentless battle lasting nine days and nights.

Navratri is a festival in which God is adored as Mother. It is said that Shiva gave permission to Durga to see her mother for nine days in the year and this festival also remembers this visit.

Hinduism is the only religion in the world which has emphasised to such an extent the mother hood of God.

**JAI AMBE MAA**



BARDAI BRAHMIN SAMAJ LONDON • THE BRAHMIN SOCIETY NORTH LONDON • UK VALAM BRAHMIN ASSOCIATION

## NAVRATRI 2016

Dear Members,

It gives us great pleasure in inviting you to celebrate the auspicious festival of Navratri.

### When & Where?

01 Oct Saturday  
04 Oct Tuesday to 10 Oct Monday      Sunday to Thursday = 8pm to 11pm  
14 Oct Friday                                      Friday & Saturday = 8pm to 11:30pm

**Venue: JFS School, The Mall, Kenton HA3 9TE**

Note: There will be NO Navratri programme on Sunday 02/10 and Monday 03/10 due to other events taking place at JFS School.

### Daily Entrance

Senior (Over 65) & Junior Members (under 16 years): £1      Adults: £3.50  
Guests/Non-Members (All Ages): £5                                      Disabled Members: Free

**Daily Tickets** – Can only be purchased by those attending the programme and for those present at the front ticket desk. So please park your vehicles and accompany your family and friends to buy your tickets together. NOT available for purchase in advance.

### Fast Track Pass (9 Nights)

Senior (Over 65) & Junior Members (under 16 years): £9                                      Adult Members: £25

**Fast Track Pass** - Can be obtained in advance by completing the attached application form and returning it to the address on the form together with your payment and a self-addressed stamped envelope by no later than 18 September 2016. The organisers will not be held responsible for non-receipt of applications or applications lost in the post.

01, 07 & 08 Oct: Members Only until 9:00pm after which  
Guests and Non-Members will be allowed subject to capacity

Management reserves the right of entry. In order to comply with Health and Safety Legislation, entry will be on a first come first served basis except for Fast Track Pass holders.

**Membership** - You are strongly advised to renew your membership prior to the start of the Navratri and ensure that you bring your membership card when attending.

**Musicians** - Music will be provided by "Musical Stars", managed by Dhruv Gadhvi who also coordinates the Zee TV "Out and About" programme. It is anticipated that we shall be filmed for this TV show during one of the nights.

**Charity Disco Dandia – Saturday 17 Sept**  
**Open to All – £6 per Person (All Ages) 8pm to 11:30pm JFS School**





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### Order of Proceedings

**Samaiyo — 8pm followed by Garba:** This is a daily ritual whereby any family may request the honour of welcoming *Mataji* to our *Garba*. The first *Garba* is performed by the family carrying the lit *Garbo* (ladies on the head, men on the shoulder). Contact Darshna Pandya on 07833 963597 if you wish to perform the *Samaiyo*.

**Aarti — 9.30pm (approx):** Anyone is welcome to perform the *Aarti* however please bring one *Aarti Thali* (with one *divo* only) per family and ensure you collect it at the end of the evening. There is no charge for performing the *Aarti*.

**Prasad — End of the Evening:** Any member is welcome to bring *Prasad*, however please ensure all sweets etc. are approved as suitable for vegetarians so that they are appropriate for offering to *Mataji* and make organisers aware of / label items containing nuts to avoid risk of allergic reaction. Remember to collect your containers at the end of the evening.

### How Can I Get Involved?

**Mataji ni Chundadi —** Community Members wishing to donate a new *Chundadi* (*Sari*) to *Mataji*, please kindly contact Darshana Pandya on 07833 963597 The *Sari* will be placed on the *Madh* and returned to you as *Prasad* during the same evening. *Saris* will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

**Dussera Yajman Bidding —** On Sunday 09 October (*Aatham*) there will be bidding for the honour of being *Yajman* at the *Dussera Havan* at Kadwa Patidar Centre (KP Centre), Kenmore Avenue Harrow, Middlesex HA3 8LU on Saturday 22 October 2016. This *Havan* is organised by BSNL, however, the bidding is open to all members from all three *Samajs*.

### What Can I Do To Help?

**Become a Volunteer —** You can offer your time and join up as a volunteer – as such, you will be given duties which you will be responsible for completing. Please contact Hasit Purohit on 07956 811521.

To all those taking part in Duke of Edinburgh Award, this will count towards your 'Volunteering' section of the award—Help Your Community and Let Your Community Help You!

**Donations & Sponsorship —** You can provide refreshments (water, soft drinks, milkshake etc.), make a donation towards the cost of the Hall Hire for each evening, either in the name of a family member, individually or anonymously. We are also offering advertising at this festival for your company or organization, please contact Harsha Trivedi on 07956 586 926 or any JSC member for further details.

### Food Bank - Support Our Local Community

Food banks collect and distribute donated food supplies to low income families. They are often the last resort for families facing food poverty in the UK. Each year Navratri festival presents us with an opportunity to unite and donate generously. Those wishing to donate should bring NON-PERISHABLE items only.

#### BRAHM SAMAJ JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bharti Vyas (BV)	BSNL	07802 888 707
Bhasker Dave (BD)	BBSL	07776 254 637
Bhavesh Yagnik (BY)	BSNL	07714 342 327
Darshana Pandya (DMP)	UKVBA	07833 963 597
Dharmendra Purohit (DNP)	UKVBA	07956 289 473
Dinesh Acharya (DA)	UKVBA	020 8900 9226
Minaben Joshi (MJ)	BBSL	07821 676 527
Hasit Purohit (HP)	UKVBA	07956 811 521
Hitesh Purohit (HMP)	BSNL	07882 571 234
Pradip Acharya (PA)	UKVBA	07916 330 489
Pradip Pandit (PP)	BBSL	07930 527 589

Radhika Modha (RM)	BBSL	07585 907 002
Sarla Modha (SM)	BBSL	07930 200 198
Trupti Joshi (TJ)	BSNL	07947 807 147
Vandana Joshi (VJ)	BSNL	07944 913 208

#### Sub-Committee / Volunteers:

Gunvant Dave (GD)	BSNL	07877 565 747
Harendra K Raval (HR)	BSNL	07956 428 050
Harsha Trivedi (HT)	BSNL	07956 586 926
Manoj Pandya (MP)	UKVBA	07799 226 323
Paresha Purohit (PDP)	UKVBA	07956 578 733