

**The Offering of DHAAR and the Nimbu (Lemon/Lime) Lamp, garland, a single lime and lime water to Devi during every Tuesdays, Fridays or in the Navaratri period.**

When you are or a loved one is going thru severe trails and tribulations (seeking better health, employment, etc) I humbly suggest doing the below for 7 or 9 consecutive days, OR every Tuesdays or Fridays. Tuesday is Mother Durga's day.



**Offering of Dhaar daily to the Divine Mother for success and removal of obstacles and protection from your enemies...**

Do the Dhaar offerings daily or every Tuesdays and Fridays.

Firstly light your house Lakshmi Lamp

then offer Surya Jal praying to Surya deva to remove all obstacles etc from your life.

Then at your Devi Thaan pray to either Mother Durga or Mother Bandi or Ma Kali.

Light a tablet of camphor with a few cloves on it. Then light that. Pray to the Mother.

Weather you get a beera or not that's inconsequential.

Then offer one lota dhaar (not 9), offer 6 drops and the 7<sup>th</sup> one swirl the lota and then offer the remainder of the Dhaar in the Thaan.

Pray to the Mother for what you desire.

You may then chant the Durga or Kali Chalisa

or you may chant

Om Dum Durgaayai namah X 21 or 108 times

or

Om Aim Hreem Kleem Chamundaye Viche namah X 108 times.

Bow and then leave.



Devi is very pleased with either the lime lamp, lime water or a lime garland (or just one lime).

So in front of a Devi photo or murti write (with a koki pen) on the lime your name and problem with a black felt pen that needs to be resolved. Keep aside for now.

Keep the lime lamp as I have instructed below in front of the photo or murti of devi.

The lime water in a lota is kept in front of the photo or murti of devi.

Should you have a murti then make a garland of 3 or 5 or 7 or 9 limes.

**\*\*\*** Do note that you need not offer all these items. And should be within your financial means. These prayer limes in South Africa are rather expensive.

Now you are ready to start. Wash your hands and with folded hands pray to Devi for success in your offerings to Her in the next 7 or 9 days. And should there be any mistakes that you kindly beg for her forgiveness.

\* Turn the single lime 3, 5 or 7 times around Devi and pray for what is your desire to be fulfilled. Place this lime in front of the photo or murti. This remains by the photo or murti for the duration of the 7 or 9 days. Once the 7 or 9 days is up then it disposed off in water (river). Should you prefer to cut and eat it then that is up to you.

\* Now light the lime lamp and turn the lime water three times around the photo or murti (in a clockwise direction) and pray to Devi for what is your desire to be fulfilled. Leave the lime water for about half an hour in front of Devi and then empty that into another cup and drink that as Devi maha-prashadam. This is potent stuff. Don't underestimate its power.

The lime lamp should be changed daily if possible. If the lamp remained intact then it can be used again.

\* Now you may garland Devi with the lime garland. This is if you have a murti. Pray for what is your desire to be fulfilled and garland Devi. Remove after 7 or 9 days.

You may do this once a month should this be your desire.

### **Offering of the Nimbu (Lemon/Lime) Lamp to Devi**

Srimad Devi Bhagavatam 8th book chapter 24 "On the worship of the Devi"

Lord Narayana said:- O Devarsi Narada, Devi becomes very pleased when one offers to Her the following item:- Jambira (lemon/lime citrus fruits). Durga Saptashati (Markandeya Purana) Chapter 12, Durga Devi said "I will accept with love the sacrifice and worship that are made in the offerings to Me. This glorification of mine draws a devotee very near to Me and by the means of the finest flowers, incenses, perfumes, lamps and various other offerings and gifts I will accept"

Hence we offer Devi a Nimbu Lamp as this pleases our warrior goddess immensely.

**Requirements:-** You will need a large lime, handful of white rice or basmati rice, butter ghee, one wick, one inch aluminum foil and a shallow clay lamp.

**Method:-** Now roll the lime until the insides are fairly soft. Then cut the lime in half. Then remove the insides of the lime (keep the fleshy parts aside for later use). Invert the lime so the inside part is now on the outside. Wipe the lime with a paper towel. Add ghee and a wick in the lime. Where the wick is place the foil so the wick rests on the foil. The reason for the foil is that the wick don't burn the skin of the lime. In the shallow clay lamp add the rice and then place the nimbu lamp on the rice (this is done so that the nimbu lamp has balance and not fall over. Also rice represents Annapurna devi. Anna in Sanskrit means grains. And Annapurna devi is a form of Mother Durga who nourishes us with grains and from which flour is derived and so forth.

When Devi is invoked when the lamp is lit pleases Devi immensely.

Offering of the Nimbu (Lemon/Lime) garland to Devi (photo attached)

So following from the previous page where Devi is pleased with offerings to Her. In all South Indian prayers to the Mother, it is a must to offer Devi a Nimbu Garland as this pleases Devi immensely. In Sanskrit, the lemon fruit is translated as "Nimbu phala".

In Satya Yuga, there lived a Rakshasa (demon) by name Nimbasura who had the blessings and boons of Lord Shiva and Lord Brahma. He was a fanatical Lord Shiva bhakta and used to perform much prayers to Lord Shiva daily. He used to adorn bhasma (ashes) on his forehead at all times. With this, he literally looked like another avatar of Lord Shiva. He ruled his kingdom with the name of Lord Shiva on his lips. But this demon created havoc on this earth. Sage Agasthya performed penances, contemplating on Devi to end the demon's misdeeds. Pleased with the sage's penance, the Mother appeared and killed Nimbasura thus ending the great famine. She brought back vegetation on earth and since then she is worshiped as Shakambhari Devi (Sanskrit "Shakha" – fruits and vegetation, "Ambhari" the one that nourishes us). Before dying, the demon gained divine knowledge and prayed the Mother to give him permanent place in her holy feet. The most merciful Mother gave him that boon and henceforth Nimbasura adore her in the form of Nimbu phala. Thus after killing the demon Nimbasura she assumed the name - Nimishamba Devi.

When Maharishi Vyasa commenced to compile the Devi Purana, he first invoked Devi and asked Devi, ""Mother, please let me know the esoteric meaning of the lime fruit"", To which Devi replied, ""Veda-Vyasa, you are an avatar of Lord Krishna, you are all knowing, however let me clarify your doubts for the sake of greater good of humankind". ""The lime fruit is derived from the essence of Nimbasura, the layers inside this fruit is a representation of Nimbasura's powers, its seeds, represent birth and death, its juice represents the attachment and devotion Nimbasura has for me. It also represents the Moksha I have granted him. The leaves of the tree represent the boons Shiva and I bestowed upon him. When a garland of limes adorns me, I assume the form of Nimishamba. Whoever offers me the juice of limes out of genuine love and affection shall receive my blessings and protection, just like Nimbasura derived from me."" Saying this, Devi left Veda-Vyasa after blessing him.

**Nimbu Pani (Lemon water)** - (photo attached)

Continuing from above ... It is due to these words of Devi that a drink called panaka {a beverage or drink} made from limes came into existence in this world. Panaka is a sweet drink prepared with jaggery (a form of sugar), lots of lemon and pepper. This is an Indian version of lemonade and uses jaggery instead of sugar. Cardamom, fine pepper powder, and grated ginger are also added to make this refreshing drink. After killing Nimbasura, Devi, who was in Her ugra roopa (a very angry form), and filled with Pitta {one of the three Doshas or bodily humors as per Ayurveda, Pitta is the Hot, light,

intense, penetrating, pungent, sharp, and acidic dosha. Those with a predominance of the Pitta principle have a fiery nature that manifests in both body and mind}. On seeing this Ugra roopa of Devi, the devas chanted Shanti (cooling) mantras and offered her panaka made from this fruit, after which she cooled down. With this, Panaka prepared from lime fruit became her favourite cooling drink. The insides of the lime that was from the Nimbu lamp is used here.

Jai Mata Di. All glories to our Divine and Amazing Mothers.

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When Devi is invoked by the Pundit then the lamp is lit which pleases Devi immensely.

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