



SARVALAYA DEEPAM

**ON DECEMBER 11, 2008 (THURSDAY) AT 7.15 PM.
JYOTHIR LINGA PUJA FOLLOWED BY
LIGHTING OF 108 LAMPS AT BHARATIYA TEMPLE.**



On Poornima in the Souramana Karthik month, (Nov 15th through Dec 15 approximately) South Indian temples and homes hold the festival of lamps for three days. The last day is marked by a special puja for Siva in the form of Jyotir Linga especially in Arunachalam or Thiruvannamalai temple. A huge lamp is lit on top of the hill where the temple is situated during the festival.

The belief is that Siva manifested here as Jyoti or Fire to remind Vishnu and Brahma the other two of the Trinity that he is Brahman with no beginning or end. The manifestation is one of the five forms that Siva takes as seen in five different temples in the South. They are Prithvi or Earth in Kanchi, Appaha or water in Thiruvanaikkaaval near Tiruchi, Jyothi or Agni in Arunachalam or Thiruvannamalai, Vayu or Air in Kalahasthi and Akash, Sky or vast expanse in Chidambaram.

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