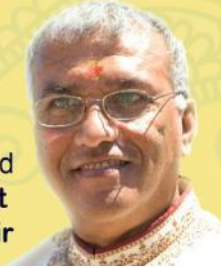


# Radha Krishna Mandir

Dwarka Persaud  
President  
Radha Krishna Mandir



## Puja Ritual

As we discussed Puja is a form of showing respect. It is an opportunity to show reverence and to give thanks.

Bhagwan can be worshipped with and without form. However, the saints have decreed that it is easier for man in this age of Kali Yuga for man to use a form of God to bring him closer.

That is why we can use any form – as a child, as a youth, as an adult, male or female or both as we concur that Bhagwan comes to earth from time to time as Shree Krishna says in the Shreemad Bhagwad Gita. We usually use the form that is most appealing to us

Some Hindus even chose their Guru as the person to be worshipped as they recognize that through worship one can get to Godhead.

Consequently, there are many methods of worship and many practices. In the western culture high ranking officers are saluted in a certain fashion and a head of State is usually offered a Red Carpet. This is a form of respect and can be called a Puja.

At our Mandir we use the following order for Puja

1. We mediate on the deity by reciting the Gayatri of the Deity or form of God
2. We then invoke the deity whose puja we will begin. This is called Dhyanaam
3. We then invite the deity to sit amongst us. This is called Asaan
4. We then wash the Deity's feet. This is called Paadyam
5. We then wash the Deity's hands. This is called Arghyam
6. We then give the Deity some water to sip. This is called Aachmanyam
7. We then bathe the Deity. This is called Snaanam
8. We then bath the Deity with Panchamrit. This is called Panchamrit Snanaam
9. We then clothes the Deity. This is called Bastram
10. We then give the Deity some water to sip. This is called Aachmanyam
11. We then give the Deity (males are offered Janeyo and females are offered Unee or UPA Vastra
12. We then offer make an offering of rice which is called Akshataam
13. We then make an offering of Flowers which is called Pushpan and or a Mala which is called Pushpa Mala
14. We then make an offering of perfume called Sukhandit Drubhyam
15. We then make an offering of incense called Dhoopam
16. We then make an offering of a light called Deepam
17. We then make an offering of Prasadam called Nayvedyam
18. We then make an offering of fruits called Ritu Phalam

19. We then make an offering of cloves, elaichi and paaan called Tamboolam
20. We then make an offering of money called Dhruva Dakshna
21. We then make an offering of Prayers called Praathnaa
22. We then make an offering of aarti on the diety
23. We then make Final Prayer called Pushpanjali
24. We then do circumambulation in a clockwise manner called Pradakshina
25. WE then offer flowers and bow