Ugadi: Puja Vidhi

Wednesday 7 April 2027

Ugadi, the first day of the lunar year, is New Year for Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana (Gudi Padwa in Maharashtra). The day is about beginnings: a clean home, new clothes, and accepting both the bitter and the sweet. This guide gives the full home puja step by step. Instructions are in English; every mantra is printed in Kannada script with a Roman transliteration below it.

What you need

- Fresh mango leaves for the toran, and marigolds
- Neem flowers or tender neem leaves and jaggery for bevu bella
- Oil for the oil bath
- Turmeric, kumkum, flowers, lamp and incense
- Ingredients for obbattu or holige, and a seasonal dish
- The new year panchanga (almanac), printed or online

Before the puja

- Clean the house and wash the doorway.
- Tie the mango-leaf toran over the main door and draw a rangoli.
- Have an oil bath at dawn and wear new clothes.

Food to offer

Bevu bella, obbattu or holige, mango chitranna, kosambari and payasa.

Opening

1. Sit facing east or north. Light the lamp and say the lamp prayer.

> ಶುಭಂ ಕರೋತಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಮ್ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಂ ಧನಸಮ್ಪದಃ । ಶತ್ರುಬುದ್ಧಿವಿನಾಶಾಯ ದೀಪಜ್ಯೋತಿರ್ನಮೋಽಸ್ತು ತೇ ॥
>
> śubhaṃ karoti kalyāṇam ārogyaṃ dhanasampadaḥ | śatrubuddhivināśāya dīpajyotirnamo'stu te ||
> I bow to the light of the lamp, which brings goodness, health and wealth, and removes harmful thoughts.

2. Achamana: sip a few drops of water from the right palm three times, once with each name.

> ಓಂ ಕೇಶವಾಯ ಸ್ವಾಹಾ । ಓಂ ನಾರಾಯಣಾಯ ಸ್ವಾಹಾ । ಓಂ ಮಾಧವಾಯ ಸ್ವಾಹಾ ॥
>
> oṃ keśavāya svāhā | oṃ nārāyaṇāya svāhā | oṃ mādhavāya svāhā ||

3. Pray to Ganesha first, to remove obstacles.

> ವಕ್ರತುಣ್ಡ ಮಹಾಕಾಯ ಸೂರ್ಯಕೋಟಿ ಸಮಪ್ರಭ । ನಿರ್ವಿಘ್ನಂ ಕುರು ಮೇ ದೇವ ಸರ್ವಕಾರ್ಯೇಷು ಸರ್ವದಾ ॥
>
> vakratuṇḍa mahākāya sūryakoṭi samaprabha | nirvighnaṃ kuru me deva sarvakāryeṣu sarvadā ||
> O Lord with the curved trunk and mighty body, shining like a million suns, remove the obstacles from all my work, always.

4. Sankalpa: hold a little water and akshate, say the resolve for worshipping your family deity, then let them fall on a plate.

> ಮಮ ಸಕುಟುಮ್ಬಸ್ಯ ಕ್ಷೇಮಸ್ಥೈರ್ಯ ಆಯುರಾರೋಗ್ಯ ಐಶ್ವರ್ಯಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧ್ಯರ್ಥಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ಪ್ರೀತ್ಯರ್ಥಂ ಯಥಾಶಕ್ತಿ ಧ್ಯಾನಾವಾಹನಾದಿ ಷೋಡಶೋಪಚಾರಪೂಜಾಂ ಕರಿಷ್ಯೇ ॥
>
> mama sakuṭumbasya kṣemasthairya āyurārogya aiśvaryābhivṛddhyarthaṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai prītyarthaṃ yathāśakti dhyānāvāhanādi ṣoḍaśopacārapūjāṃ kariṣye ||
> For the safety, long life, health and prosperity of my family, and to please the deity, I perform this worship with the sixteen offerings, as well as I can.

5. The sixteen offerings (shodashopachara). Before each one say "Om Shri iṣṭadevatāyai namah", then the line below, and make the offering.

The sixteen offerings

1. Dhyana: close your eyes and picture the deity.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಧ್ಯಾಯಾಮಿ ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dhyāyāmi ||

2. Avahana: invite the deity into the image or kalasha.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಆವಾಹಯಾಮಿ ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | āvāhayāmi ||

3. Asana: offer a seat; place a few grains of akshate.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಆಸನಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | āsanaṃ samarpayāmi ||

4. Padya: offer water for the feet with a spoon.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಪಾದ್ಯಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | pādyaṃ samarpayāmi ||

5. Arghya: offer water for the hands.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಅರ್ಘ್ಯಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | arghyaṃ samarpayāmi ||

6. Achamana: offer water to sip.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಆಚಮನೀಯಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | ācamanīyaṃ samarpayāmi ||

7. Snana: bathe a metal image, or sprinkle water on a picture.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಸ್ನಾನಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | snānaṃ samarpayāmi ||

8. Vastra: offer a cloth or a cotton thread.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ವಸ್ತ್ರಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | vastraṃ samarpayāmi ||

9. Abharana: offer ornaments, bangles or a turmeric thread.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಆಭರಣಾನಿ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | ābharaṇāni samarpayāmi ||

10. Gandha: offer sandalwood paste, turmeric and kumkum.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಗನ್ಧಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | gandhaṃ samarpayāmi ||

11. Pushpa: offer flowers.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಪುಷ್ಪಾಣಿ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | puṣpāṇi samarpayāmi ||

12. Dhupa: wave the incense.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಧೂಪಮ್ ಆಘ್ರಾಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dhūpam āghrāpayāmi ||

13. Dipa: show the lamp.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ದೀಪಂ ದರ್ಶಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dīpaṃ darśayāmi ||

14. Naivedya: offer the food, sprinkling water around it.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ನೈವೇದ್ಯಂ ನಿವೇದಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | naivedyaṃ nivedayāmi ||

15. Tambula: offer betel leaves, nut and fruit.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ತಾಮ್ಬೂಲಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | tāmbūlaṃ samarpayāmi ||

16. Nirajana: do arati with camphor or ghee lamp.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ನೀರಾಜನಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | nīrājanaṃ samarpayāmi ||

17. Mantrapushpa: offer flowers with folded hands.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಮನ್ತ್ರಪುಷ್ಪಂ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | mantrapuṣpaṃ samarpayāmi ||

18. Pradakshina: turn around once clockwise and bow down.

> ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಇಷ್ಟದೇವತಾಯೈ ನಮಃ । ಪ್ರದಕ್ಷಿಣನಮಸ್ಕಾರಾನ್ ಸಮರ್ಪಯಾಮಿ ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | pradakṣiṇanamaskārān samarpayāmi ||

Mantras for Ugadi

> ಶತಾಯುರ್ವಜ್ರದೇಹಾಯ ಸರ್ವಸಮ್ಪತ್ಕರಾಯ ಚ । ಸರ್ವಾರಿಷ್ಟವಿನಾಶಾಯ ನಿಮ್ಬಕಂ ದಲಭಕ್ಷಣಮ್ ॥
>
> śatāyurvajradehāya sarvasampatkarāya ca | sarvāriṣṭavināśāya nimbakaṃ dalabhakṣaṇam ||
> We eat the neem leaf for a long life, a strong body, prosperity, and the removal of all troubles.

Closing

- Ask forgiveness for anything missed, then share the prasada with everyone.

  > ಮನ್ತ್ರಹೀನಂ ಕ್ರಿಯಾಹೀನಂ ಭಕ್ತಿಹೀನಂ ಜನಾರ್ದನ । ಯತ್ಪೂಜಿತಂ ಮಯಾ ದೇವ ಪರಿಪೂರ್ಣಂ ತದಸ್ತು ಮೇ ॥
  >
  > mantrahīnaṃ kriyāhīnaṃ bhaktihīnaṃ janārdana | yatpūjitaṃ mayā deva paripūrṇaṃ tadastu me ||
  > Whatever I have offered, without the right words, actions or devotion, please accept it as complete.

A home puja guide from VedaVidesh. Mantras are given in their common short forms; families and regions vary, so follow your own tradition where it differs, and ask a priest or elder to check pronunciation if you are learning. Dates are for India.