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 Devanagari 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.

> शुभं करोति कल्याणम् आरोग्यं धनसम्पदः । शत्रुबुद्धिविनाशाय दीपज्योतिर्नमोऽस्तु ते ॥
>
> 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.

> ॐ केशवाय स्वाहा । ॐ नारायणाय स्वाहा । ॐ माधवाय स्वाहा ॥
>
> oṃ keśavāya svāhā | oṃ nārāyaṇāya svāhā | oṃ mādhavāya svāhā ||

3. Pray to Ganesha first, to remove obstacles.

> वक्रतुण्ड महाकाय सूर्यकोटि समप्रभ । निर्विघ्नं कुरु मे देव सर्वकार्येषु सर्वदा ॥
>
> 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.

> मम सकुटुम्बस्य क्षेमस्थैर्य आयुरारोग्य ऐश्वर्याभिवृद्ध्यर्थं श्री इष्टदेवतायै प्रीत्यर्थं यथाशक्ति ध्यानावाहनादि षोडशोपचारपूजां करिष्ये ॥
>
> 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.

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । ध्यायामि ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dhyāyāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । आवाहयामि ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | āvāhayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । आसनं समर्पयामि ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | āsanaṃ samarpayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । पाद्यं समर्पयामि ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | pādyaṃ samarpayāmi ||

5. Arghya: offer water for the hands.

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । अर्घ्यं समर्पयामि ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | arghyaṃ samarpayāmi ||

6. Achamana: offer water to sip.

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । आचमनीयं समर्पयामि ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | ācamanīyaṃ samarpayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । स्नानं समर्पयामि ॥
>
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | snānaṃ samarpayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । वस्त्रं समर्पयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | vastraṃ samarpayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । आभरणानि समर्पयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | ābharaṇāni samarpayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । गन्धं समर्पयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | gandhaṃ samarpayāmi ||

11. Pushpa: offer flowers.

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । पुष्पाणि समर्पयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | puṣpāṇi samarpayāmi ||

12. Dhupa: wave the incense.

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । धूपम् आघ्रापयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dhūpam āghrāpayāmi ||

13. Dipa: show the lamp.

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । दीपं दर्शयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dīpaṃ darśayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । नैवेद्यं निवेदयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | naivedyaṃ nivedayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । ताम्बूलं समर्पयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | tāmbūlaṃ samarpayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । नीराजनं समर्पयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | nīrājanaṃ samarpayāmi ||

17. Mantrapushpa: offer flowers with folded hands.

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । मन्त्रपुष्पं समर्पयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | mantrapuṣpaṃ samarpayāmi ||

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

> ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । प्रदक्षिणनमस्कारान् समर्पयामि ॥
> oṃ śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | pradakṣiṇanamaskārān samarpayāmi ||

Mantras for Ugadi

> शतायुर्वज्रदेहाय सर्वसम्पत्कराय च । सर्वारिष्टविनाशाय निम्बकं दलभक्षणम् ॥
>
> 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.

  > मन्त्रहीनं क्रियाहीनं भक्तिहीनं जनार्दन । यत्पूजितं मया देव परिपूर्णं तदस्तु मे ॥
  >
  > 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.