



# Sri Siva Vishnu Temple

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## Skanda Shashti



Skanda Shashti marks the triumph of Lord Subramanya over the evil Sura Padma. The son of Lord Siva killed the demon Sura Padma with His Holy Spear (Vel) and brought relief and joy to the suffering Demi-Gods and humanity. Allegorically the Vel represents the Jnaana Shakti (Power of Wisdom) of the Lord and Sura Padma the demon of Ego and Ignorance within us. Lord Subramanya is hence considered to be the personification of Wisdom itself. The five days prior to the Skanda Shashti are days of severe austerities for the devotees of Muruga. The Shashti Vritam is usually in November. The day after Skanda Shashti is celebrated as Devasena Kalyanam.