



BRAHMAN MAHA MANDAL KASHMIR (Regd.)

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HEIRATH UTSAV

A doubt has been created in the minds of the people. Whether the “Heirath” is on 26th or 27th of Feb. 2014. The matter was taken up with the Editors of both the Jantries by the Brahma Maha Mandal in the capacity of being the Patron of the Sanatan Dharma. It was discussed with both the (Ganeth kartas) and the Satisar foundation. It was also discussed in the Jyotish Parishad of the Mandal, which comprises of the learned Educated Scholars, Shastries and known Jyotishis of the community. After consulting all these luminaries the Mandal is of the opinion that the “Heirath” Vatuk Puja is on 26th Feb. 2014, and the Maha Shivratri (Salam) should be observed on 27th Feb 2014.

As per the Shaivic tradition and Bairavyag granth, Heirath is attributed to Vatuk Bhairva and Maha Shivratri is attributed to Lord Shiva. As per grantha, this festival is celebrated either on dwadashi or triyodashi, subject to the amount of effect of triyodashi on the dwadashi (saparsh). Since 13th day of Phagun Krishna Paksh of Feb. 2014 (Thruvah) ends at 8-18 Pm on 27th and (Chodah) Starts for the whole night as such Vatuk Poojan can not be performed on (Chodah) i.e. 27th Feb. On 26th Feb. 2014 triyodashi is for the whole night The Heirath is not a fast (Vrat), it is utsav i.e. celebration of Shiv revealing himself in the form of Fire Piller (Agni Stambh) before Lord Vishnu and Lord Bramha. This Fire Piller is being limitless could not be even measured by the prime Gods. It is a fact that Vatuk Pooja of Vutuk Bhairav is performed only by Kashmiri Pandits, not by other Hindus.

It is pertinent to mention here that this is not a Pradosha Vrat. Pradosha Vrat is a separate subject that has nothing to do with Heirath (Har Ratri) celebrations. In fact the Heirath Vrat is observed till the offerings are offered to Lord Shiva in Bhairav Form. After the puja is completed, even the pujak too becomes a part of the celebration.

As such, we request the Kashmiri Pandits not to mix Heirath and Shivratri together otherwise a time will come that Vatuk Poojan (Heirath) will loose its Shaivic importance and ultimately will come to an end. Maha Shivratri is also our festival. On this day we worship Shiva by attending the Shiv temples as other Hindus do.

Generally it has been observed that both the Jantries are always at variance, so for Heirath and other Tithies are concerned. To over come this difficulty. Brahma Maha Mandal with the active Participation of Satisar foundation is thinking of giving an alternative in the best interest of the community as a whole in the near future.

(Prof. R.K. Ganjoo)
General Secretary