



Ayodhya Gurdwara Brahmakund Sahib

One of oldest shrines on banks of River Saryu

Story & photos: V.V.S. Manian

Gurdwara Brahmakund Sahib, one of the oldest Gurdwaras, is located on Brahmaghat, on the banks of the River Saryu, a few hundred meters east of the Ram Janmabhoomi site in Ayodhya. The Brahmakund, an ancient site of significance, predates the establishment of the Gurdwara.

According to Hindu mythology, it is believed that Lord Brahma meditated at this location for 5,000 years, which is why the Gurdwara built here came to be known as *Gurdwara Brahmakund*. This sacred site has been visited by several Sikh Gurus, including Guru Nanak, Guru Tegh Bahadur, and Guru Gobind Singh, who meditated here and offered valuable guidance to devotees.

The Gurdwara is also an important historical site for the Sikh community, with significant connections to the events surrounding Ram Janmabhoomi. Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru, played a pivotal role in protecting the sacred site of Ram



Janmabhoomi during Mughal invasions.

The Gurdwara also houses preserved artifacts, including the weapons used by the Sikh forces during the battle. Guru Gobind Singh Ji is believed to have stated that scriptures can be protected with weapons, and his role in safeguarding sacred sites is well-documented. He was deeply devoted to Lord Ram, as evidenced by his visit to Ayodhya and his role in securing Ram Janmabhoomi.

The historical significance of the Gurdwara dates back to the early 1500s.

Guru Nanak, the first Guru of the Sikhs, is said to have visited Ramnagari (Ayodhya) while traveling from Haridwar to Jagannath Puri and lit a fire at the Brahma Tapsyathan, situated on the banks of the Saryu. This site later became the location of Gurdwara Brahmakund.

In 1668, Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Guru, visited the place while traveling from Assam to Anandpur Sahib. He meditated for 48 hours at Brahmakund and left his sandals with a Brahmin servant as a memento. These sandals are still

preserved at the Gurdwara.

In 1672, Guru Gobind Singh, then a child, visited the site with his mother and maternal uncle during his journey from Patna to Anandpur Sahib. After his visit, the site faded into relative obscurity for over a century. However, in 1785, Baba Gulab Singh revived the site, established the Nishan Sahib, and began efforts to restore the sacred place. His successor, Baba Shatruijit Singh, further developed the Gurdwara in 1846.

In 1919, during the tenure of the third



Mahant, Jaswant Singh, the Gurdwara was officially registered. Since then, it has been an important centre of Sikh devotion. Every year, on the martyrdom day of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the Gurdwara celebrates the event by reading the Guru Granth Sahib 100 times, a tradition that has been practiced for centuries.

The Guru Granth Sahib, with its 1,430 pages, 5,894 verses, and over a million letters, is central to the Sikh faith. A handwritten copy of the Guru Granth Sahib, written by Bhai Daulat Singh on the

orders of Guru Arjan Dev, is preserved at the Gurdwara. The Gurdwara also holds the speeches of the six Gurus and 15 devoted saints, including Kabir, Farid, and Tulsidas, whose hymns are compiled in the sacred scripture.

Today, Gurdwara Brahmakund Sahib remains an important spiritual centre, attracting devotees from around the world, commemorating the Sikh Gurus' visits, and preserving the rich historical legacy of the Sikh community in Ayodhya.



TTD mulls model temple during Kumbh Mela

As the prestigious Kumbh Mela is all set to be held at Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh from January 13 to February 26, 2025, Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), apart of promoting Hindu Sanatana Dharma across the country, asked the Kumbh Mela authority for an appropriate place to set up a model temple of Venkateswara Swamy for the sake of nationwide devotees.

In connection with this, TTD Joint Executive Officer (Health and Education) Gowthami has formally met the Kumbh Mela Authority Officer Vijay Kiran Anand at Prayagraj on Saturday. The Kumbh Mela Authorities have allotted a piece of land to the extent of 2.5 acre in the Sixth Sector, for TTD to set up the replica temple

of Sri Venkateswara Swamy.

Later the JEO also inspected the land allotted to TTD by the Kumbh Mela authorities along with the TTD officials of team and made some valuable suggestions to the team of officers on the arrangements to be made for the mega religious event keeping in view especially the North Indian devotees who throng the event. The team included HDPD secretary Sriram Raghunath, SE-1 Jagadeeshwar Reddy, EESurendranath Reddy, and others.

Meanwhile, to accommodate the millions of devotees expected for the Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj the Uttar Pradesh government is setting up a luxury tent city with more than 2,000 Swiss cottage-style tents in Sector

20 (Arail) of the Mahakumbh Mela area.

The project is being carried out by the Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation Limited (UPSTDC), in collaboration with six key partners, including Aagaman, Kumbh Camp India, Rishikul Cottage, Kumbh Village, Kumbh Canvas, and Era.

These tents will be constructed to world-class standards, offering five-star hotel-like facilities. The tent city will offer accommodations in four categories, including Villa, Maharaja, Swiss Cottage, and Dormitory, with prices ranging from Rs 1,500 to Rs 35,000 per day.

Additional charges of Rs 4,000 to Rs 8,000 will apply for extra guests (excluding



dormitories). This ambitious project aims to cater to the expected 45 crore visitors from 75 countries.

The tent city is being developed in line with the vision of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

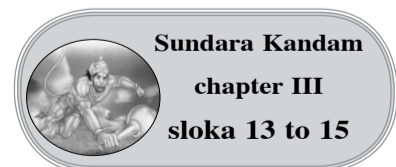
With an estimated 45 crore pilgrims expected to visit, these tents will be operational from January 1 to March

5, offering world-class accommodation facilities.

Visitors can book accommodation via the UPSTDC website or the Maha Kumbh app. To ensure the comfort of guests, the tent city will feature Villa Tents spanning 900 square feet, Super Deluxe Tents range from 480 to 580 square feet and Deluxe Blocks covering 250 to 400 square feet. These tents will be equipped with modern amenities such as air conditioning, double beds, mattresses, sofa sets, customized interiors, writing desks, electric geysers, fire extinguishers, quilts, blankets, mosquito nets, WiFi, dining areas, and common sitting spaces, all with scenic views of the riverbank.

Additionally, the tent package will include information on yoga, cultural

events, and significant religious and historical sites in Prayagraj and surrounding areas.



तां समीक्ष्य पुरी रम्यां राक्षसाधपितेः शुभाम्।
अनुत्तमामुद्धुधुतो च नितयां मास वीर्यवान्॥5.3.13॥

Thām samīkṣya purī ramyāṁ rākṣasādhapitēḥ śubhām।
anuttamām rddhiyutāṁ cintayā māsa vīryavān॥5.3.13॥

Gazing at the enchanting, auspicious, and prosperous city of the mighty king of demons, Hanuman began to reflect:

नेयमन्येन नगरी शक्या धर्षयति बलात्।

रक्षिता रावणवैरुद्धतायुधधारिणिः॥5.3.14॥
nēyamyēna nagaṛī śakyaḥ dharṣayituṅ balāt।

rakṣitā rāvaṇa balaṛi udyatāyudha dhāribhiḥ॥5.3.14॥

It is not possible for outsiders to attack this city, as it is protected by Ravana's forces, with their weapons ready to strike.

कुमुदाङ्गदयोरवापा सुपेणस्य महाकपेः।

पूर सुद्धेयं भवेद्भूमि र्मैन्दवविदियोरपी॥5.3.15॥
Kumudā aṅgada yōrvāpi suṣṇasya mahākapēḥ।

prasiddhēyaṅ bhavēd bhūmir mainda dvidiyōrapī॥5.3.15॥

This land can be reached by Kumuda, Angada, the great vanara Sushena, and even by Mainda and Dvidida.

- V.V.S. Manian

Hanuman reflects on ways to attack Lanka

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"The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, if the borrower clears the dues of the "M/s Neo Growth Credit Private Limited" together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred, at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured assets shall not be sold or transferred by "M/s Neo Growth Credit Private Limited" and no further step shall be taken by "M/s Neo Growth Credit Private Limited" for transfer or sale of the secured assets.

Name and address of the Borrower/ Guarantor/Mortgagor	Description of Secured Assets (Immovable Property)	Total Outstanding	Date of Demand Notice
1. Blesse Beauty Parlour	All that piece and parcel of land and building, bearing Plot No.35A Western Side, Comprised in Old S.No.26/3, as per tsr new old S.No.26/4, New T.S.No.37/2, Ward No. F, Block No.43, measuring with an extent of 716.25 Sq. Ft., of land along with 166 Sq. Ft., of passage admeasuring an extent of 882.25 Sq.Ft., situated at Door No.8B, Kannagi Street, Chennai, Hasthinapuram Village, Pallavaram Taluk, Chengalpattu District, Situated Within The Sub-Registration District Of Pallavaram and in the registration district of Tambaram, Chennai - 600064 Tamil Nadu And Bounded by:- East:-Land Belongs to Mr. Durai & Mrs. Vadivambal and Passage Leading to Kannagi Street, West:- Vacant Land North:- Land Belongs to Mr. Kuppan & Mrs. Mala, South:- Land Belongs to Mrs. Athinamaniammal & Mr. Durai, Land Measuring- 506.25 Sq.Ft., East to West on the Northern Side : 21 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side : 24 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side : 21 Feet, North to South on the Western Side : 24 Feet And Passage Measuring- 212 Sq. Ft.-:East to West on the Northern Side : 10.6 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side : 10.6 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side : 24 Feet And North to South on the Western Side : 16 Feet.	Rs. 29,65,479.77/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Nine & Paise Seventy Seven Only)	24-09-2024 05-12-2024
2. Jayavel Ammu			

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Place: Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Sd/-
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