Shree Shree Sharodio

2026

Durga Puja



16th October - 20th October

NORTH LONDON PRABHATI SANGHA

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Message from Our Chairman

Nomoshkar and a very warm welcome,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to our annual North London Prabhati Sangha (NLPS) Durga Puja. As Chairman, I feel truly blessed to have received the company, affection, and support of so many members and well-wishers throughout my tenure.

NLPS was founded by a dedicated group of individuals who had a clear vision: to celebrate the rich heritage and traditions of the Bengali Hindu community in North London. Our goal has always been to share the joy of our festivals, honour our Gods and Goddesses, and ensure that our culture continues to thrive for generations to come.

A key focus for NLPS has been the younger, British-born generation. We believe it is vital to nurture their awareness of our cultural heritage and inspire them to carry forward our traditions. Through activities such as Bengali language classes, classical music and dance lessons, and devotional Kirtan, we strive to keep our cultural roots alive and relevant.

In recent years, NLPS has also played a role beyond celebration, standing up for justice and human dignity. We have raised awareness of the atrocities and genocide taking place in our motherland and have organised peaceful protests to express solidarity with the victims of racial violence in Bangladesh.

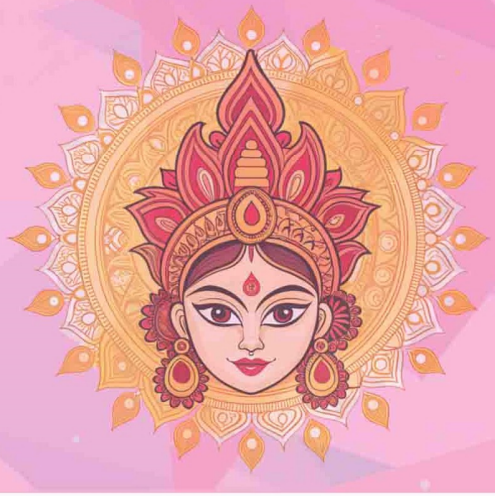
As we gather for Durga Puja, let us remember that this five-day festival is more than a celebration, it is a reminder of Ma Durga's triumph over evil. I invite you all to join us in experiencing the joy of music, dance, drama, and of course, delicious prasad. None of this would be possible without the tireless efforts of our members, who gave their time, energy, and devotion. I extend my heartfelt thanks to each one of them.

To every member of the Bengali Hindu community, and to all our friends and guests, I wish you joy in celebrating Ma Durga and our culture. I look forward to welcoming you.

Kind regards,

Niranta Chandra Deb

- Chairman



Durga Puja Celebration 2026

Dear Devotees

North London Prabhati Sangha (NLPS) cordially invites you to join us with your family and friends in celebrating Durga Puja.

Friday 16th October 2026	**MAHA SHASHTI**
Adhibas & Shashti Puja	4 pm – 10 pm
Saturday 17th October 2026	**MAHA SAPTAMI**
Saptami Puja	10 am
Anjali	1 pm
Sandhya Aroti	6 pm
Aroti Kirton	7 pm - 8 pm
Cultural programmes	8 pm - 10 pm
Sunday 18th October 2026	**MAHA ASHTAMI**
Ashtami Puja	10 am
Anjali	1 pm
Sandhi Puja	4 pm
Sandhya Aroti	6 pm
Cultural programmes	7 pm – 10 pm
Monday 19th October 2026	**MAHA NABAMI**
Nabami Puja	9:30 am
Anjali	1 pm
Sandhya Aroti	6 pm
Cultural Programmes	7 pm – 10 pm
Tuesday 20th October 2026	**MAHA DASHAMI**
Dashami Puja	12 pm
Sindur Pradan & Shanti	2 pm
Sindur Khela	3 pm - 4 pm
Dhamail	4 pm - 6 pm

Durga Puja will be performed by our priest Sri Tanay K Mukherjee

There will be cultural programmes and activities throughout the week
Programme schedule is subject to change

Prasadam will be distributed and served after Bhog Aroti and during the evening, after Sandhya Aroti

Account Name: **NLPS Durga Puja**
Account Number: **24706221**
Sort Code: **50-30-09**

For further information:
Sri Niranta Deb 07789 705 661
Sri Jahar Shil 07760 391 987

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Message from Our General Secretary

Dear devotees, friends and members of our community,

On behalf of North London Prabhati Sangha (NLPS), I would like to give you all my warmest greetings on the occasion of Durga Puja 2026. This festival is a time when we come together not only to worship but also to share joy, culture and fellowship. It is a time when families and friends unite and when we remember the strength that comes from being part of something greater than ourselves.

For me this celebration always carries a very personal meaning. I have been with this Sangha (NLPS) since the very beginning in 1991. More than thirty years have passed and in that time I have seen so much change but also so much continuity in the devotion of our members. I began as an ordinary member, then became Cultural Secretary, and now I have the honour of serving as your General Secretary. Each role has taught me something new. Each role has given me experience, responsibility and, above all, the sense of belonging to a family.

Through this Sangha I have not only gained skills in leadership and organisation but also a deeper knowledge of our culture, traditions and religion. It has been a guide and a teacher to me. I believe many of you may feel the same if you are a regular associate of NLPS.

When I reflect on what our Sangha represents I feel truly proud. In a society as diverse and multicultural as the one we live in, our Sangha shines brightly and holds its place with dignity. It stands as an example of harmony and positivity. We are able to preserve the beauty of Hinduism while also sharing it openly with the wider community around us.

Looking ahead I would like to see our Sangha continue to grow in its activities and extend its work with other organisations across the United Kingdom. By doing so we will build new friendships and show how the values of our faith can enrich not only us but society as a whole.

One of the greatest responsibilities we carry is to our younger generation. They are the future and the ones who must carry our heritage forward. If we do not guide them and pass on our traditions then our efforts risk being forgotten. Every programme we arrange, every celebration we hold, is not just an event for today but a lesson and a gift for tomorrow. We want our children and grandchildren to know their roots, to be proud of their culture and to carry these values into the future with confidence.

The main purpose of our Sangha is simple but very meaningful. It is to preserve and promote our culture in a way that is true, joyful and respectful. We must ensure that our faith and our traditions are never lost or misunderstood. Hinduism teaches peace, respect, tolerance and spiritual strength. These teachings are as important today as they have ever been and it is our duty to keep them alive within this society.

As your General Secretary I see this not just as an obligation but as a privilege. I am here to serve you, to work alongside our members, our volunteers, our elders and our youth. With your support and with your encouragement I believe our Sangha will continue to flourish and achieve even more in the years ahead.

Finally let us remember that Durga Puja is not only a time of devotion but also a time of community. It is about standing together, supporting each other and sharing joy. I pray that this year's 2026 Puja brings peace, happiness and prosperity to you and to your families. May Maa Durga bless us all with strength and wisdom.



Thank you. Kind regards

Johar Shil

- General Secretary

Kali Puja	**Sunday 8th November 2026**
Saraswati Puja	**TBC - Visit Website for more details**
Dol Purnima	**TBC - Visit Website for more details**
Janmashtami	**TBC - Visit Website for more details**

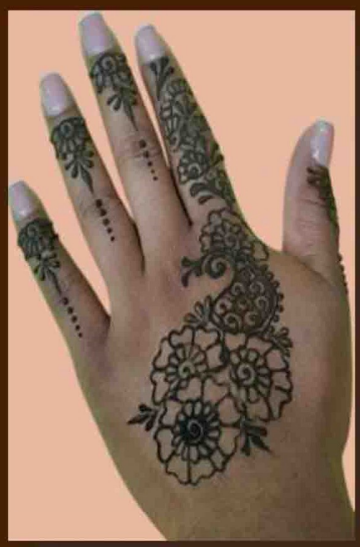
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The Meaning of the Days of Durga Puja

Day 1
Maha Shashti

Significance - On this day, the idol of Goddess Durga is traditionally unveiled and placed in the pandal (a temporary structure or decorated altar).

Rituals - The rituals include "Bodhan," the awakening of Goddess Durga, and inviting her to bless the devotees. A "Kalparambha" ritual may be performed, which involves the symbolic planting of a banana tree and offering prayers.

Day 2
Maha Saptami

Significance - On this day, the main rituals and prayers dedicated to Goddess Durga commence.

Rituals - Devotees offer anjali (ritualistic offerings) to the goddess and seek her blessings. Many rituals are performed, including "Kola Bou Snan" (bathing a banana tree symbolizing Goddess Durga), "Saptami Puja" (ritual worship of the goddess), and "Navapatrika Puja" (worship of nine different plants representing the nine forms of the goddess).

Day 3
Maha Ashtami

Significance - This day is considered one of the most significant days of Durga Puja, signifying the battle between Goddess Durga and the demon Mahishasura.

Rituals - The day begins with "Sandhi Puja," which is performed during the transition from Ashtami to Navami. Devotees offer 108 lotus flowers to the goddess. Kumari Puja, where a young girl is worshipped as a representation of the goddess, is also a significant part of Maha Ashtami.

Day 4
Maha Nabami

Significance - On this day, the worship of Goddess Durga intensifies, and special offerings are made.

Rituals - Devotees perform the "Nabami Puja" with great devotion and offer bhog (food offerings) to the goddess. In some traditions, a "Siddha Kubera Puja" is conducted to seek prosperity.

Day 5
Maha Dashami

Significance - This day marks the farewell to Goddess Durga, as she departs for her heavenly abode.

Rituals - Devotees perform "Dashami Puja" to bid farewell to the goddess. The idol of Goddess Durga is taken in grand processions for immersion (Visarjan) in rivers or water bodies, symbolizing her return to Mount Kailash.

Message of gratitude to our donors

NLPS would like to cordially thank all our donors within and outside of our community for selflessly donating a substantial amount to our monetary fund which in turn has allowed us to support our spiritual cause - Durga Puja - but also indirectly helping to promote our culture and religion. We really appreciate the generosity of all the donors. We will forever be in debt to their kind gestures and continued paramount support and are extremely grateful for it. May Maa Durga bless them to be blissful in all their activities.

Thank you once again.

Kind regards, NLPS.



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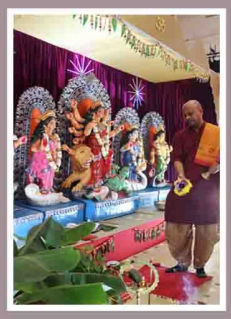
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Glimpse of Durga

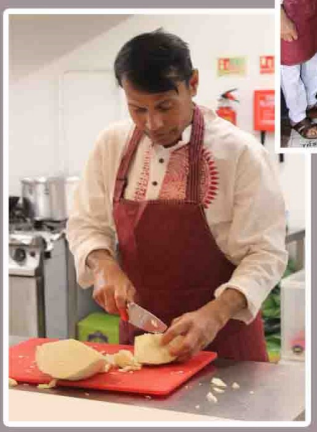

























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Puja 2025



































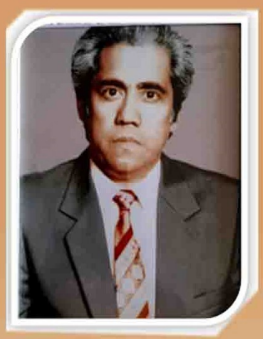
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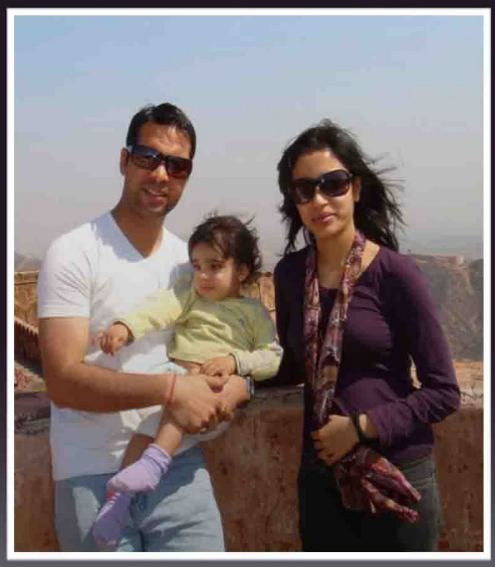
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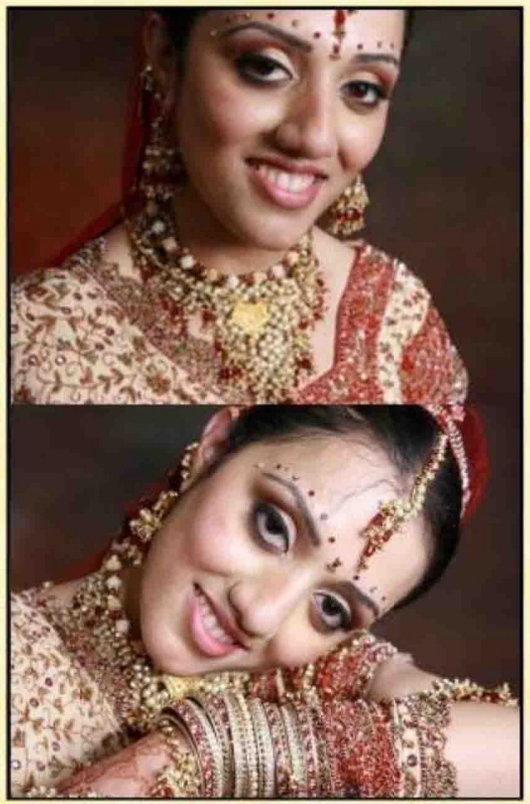
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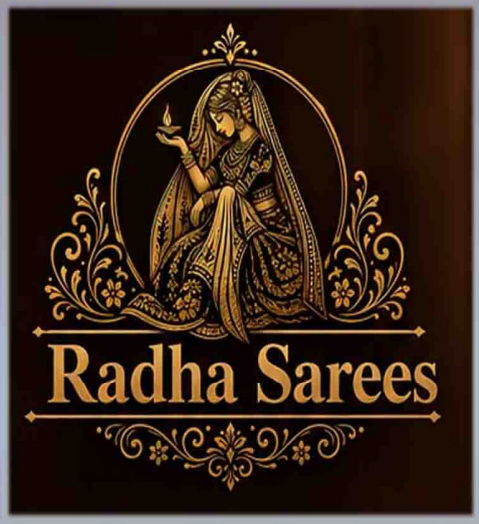
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