



চিত্তরঞ্জন পার্ক কালী মন্দির সোসাইটি (রেজিঃ)

# NEWSLETTER

## KALI MANDIR NEWS

CHITTARANJAN PARK KALI MANDIR SOCIETY (REGD.)

□ ফাল্গুন-চৈত্র, ১৪৩২

□ April, 2026

### SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Dear Devotees and Members,

The month of March was marked by a series of spiritually uplifting and culturally enriching events at the Kali Mandir, bringing together devotees and members of the community in devotion, celebration and shared joy.

**Holika Dahan – March 2** : We began the month with the observance of Holika Dahan on March 2nd, celebrated with devotion and reverence at the Mandir premises. The sacred fire was enjoyed by the devotees who gathered in large numbers to participate in this traditional ritual.

**Holi & Prabhat Pheri – March 4** : This was followed by the joyous celebration of Holi on March 4th, beginning with the much-awaited Prabhat Pheri. Members of the KMS family assembled in the morning at the Mandir premises and proceeded in a devotional procession through the main roads of Chittaranjan Park, singing traditional songs associated with the festival of colours. The procession passed through key landmarks of the locality before returning to the Mandir. The sight of participants dressed in vibrant hues of yellow, orange, red and green added to the festive charm, while the spirit of togetherness and devotion was evident throughout the event.

**E-Rickshaw Dedication – March 13** : A significant milestone for the Mandir was achieved with the dedication of an e-rickshaw, generously gifted to the Kali Mandir by NTPC Limited as part of their CSR initiative. The vehicle was formally dedicated by Shri Pavitrananda Brahmachari, Trustee of Sri Sri Balanananda Trust, Deoghar. The occasion was also graced by Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury, former CMD of NTPC and an Expert in Governance of KMS. This replaces the existing rental arrangements that we had for the e-rickshaw service that we have been running for quite some time.

**EBDP Foundation Day – March 18–19** : The Mandir premises also hosted the Foundation Day celebrations of the East Bengal Displaced Persons (EBDP) on March 18th and 19th. The event was very well attended and featured a range of thoughtfully curated programmes that showcased the rich history, resilience and cultural heritage of Bengalis who migrated to Delhi in the aftermath of the partition of East Bengal. The celebrations served as a poignant reminder of shared roots and collective memory, and added a meaningful dimension to the Mandir's role as a cultural as well as spiritual hub.

**Annapurna Puja – March 26** : The spiritual highlight of the month was the celebration of Annapurna Puja on March 26th, performed with deep devotion and solemnity. The worship of the Divine Mother Annapurna, the giver of nourishment and abundance, was carried out with traditional rituals, followed by the distribution of Bhog and Prasad, in keeping with the Mandir's enduring spirit of seva and community sharing.

**Cultural Evening – March 26** : The evening of March 26th unfolded into a truly memorable cultural and artistic experience. The programme commenced with the formal presentation of an evocative **artwork titled "Resonance of Migration", graciously donated to the Mandir by Dr. Nila Dey**. This unique work of art was created in a rare live session, during the EBDP Foundation Day, that brought together two distinguished artistes—renowned painter Shri Deepak Kumar Ghosh and Siddha Veena maestro Shri Siddhartha Banerjee—in a remarkable jugalbandi of visual art and music. The painting, born out of this live creative dialogue, was subsequently acquired by Dr. Nila Dey at an auction for a sum of Rs. 50,000/- and generously donated to the Mandir. Rich in symbolism and emotion, the artwork beautifully captures themes of movement, memory and belonging, and will remain a cherished addition to the Mandir's cultural heritage.

This was followed by a captivating presentation of **"Ramprasad'er Shondhane" (In Search of Sadhak Ramprasad)**, conceptualised and presented by our very beloved **Shri Ashish Ghosh**, truly a pride of Chittaranjan Park. Presented in the traditional Bengali style of Katha-Katha (musical narration), the programme wove together storytelling, music and devotional expression to bring alive the spiritual legacy of Ramprasad. Shri Ashish Ghosh, a noted children's theatre activist, stage performer and actor, held the audience spellbound with his evocative narration, captivating music and expressive delivery. He was ably accompanied by accomplished musicians—Shri Dipankar Das on tabla, Shri Pankaj Misra on flute, and Shri Ashim Banerjee on harmonium—whose contributions added depth and richness to the performance. The programme provided a fitting and elevating cultural culmination to a spiritually fulfilling day.

**Temple Management System – Digital Initiative installed on Mar 31, 2026** : In line with the Mandir's ongoing efforts to modernise and streamline its administrative processes, we are happy to share that a Temple Management Software system has now been implemented at the Mandir office. This

system, sourced from a reputed software company which specializes in temple automation, marks a significant step towards greater efficiency and transparency in our operations. The first, or base module, has been successfully installed and is currently undergoing trial runs. Donations and bookings for various Mandir Sevas, which were earlier recorded manually, are now being processed through the system. The new platform offers several enhanced features, including integration with accounts, generation of printed receipts, and the facility for WhatsApp and SMS-based acknowledgements, along with a range of useful management reports. We expect the system to go into full production mode on the auspicious occasion of Poila Baisakh, the Bengali New Year. **This initiative represents a major step towards the digital transformation of the Mandir's administrative processes.**

**Issue of new identity cards:** This is to again remind our members, both new and old, that they may get new ID cards issued free of charge. Please bring a photograph and submit it at the Mandir office. Please do so by April 30, 2026 – you will appreciate that we would need a minimum viable number of ID cards before we send to the printers.

As we move forward, may the spirit of devotion, fellowship and cultural richness that marked March continue to guide our collective journey. Let us remain united in service to the Mandir and to one another, drawing strength from faith and from the bonds that make our community truly special.

With respectful regards and prayers for all.

**Rajiv Nag**  
Secretary

## From Study Circle to Sanctum: A Journey of Devotion Since 1951



Every year, on the sacred occasion of ফাল্গুন শুক্র দ্বিতীয়া তিথি according to the Bengali almanac, the consecration day of Chittaranjan Park Kali Mandir is observed with deep devotion and heartfelt gratitude. On this very auspicious তিথি, the worldwide brotherhood of Ramakrishna

Math and Ramakrishna Mission celebrates the holy birth anniversary (তিথি) of Sri Ramakrishna. This sacred concurrence is far more than a coincidence of dates; it stands as a living testimony to the profound spiritual bond that unites Chittaranjan Park Kali Mandir with the Ramakrishna Order in one continuous stream of divine grace. This year, the blessed occasion was observed on 19th February 2026.

To understand this blessed connection, we must gently turn the pages of history.

In the year 1951, a small band of about twenty-five earnest devotees residing in the Government colonies of South Delhi, inspired by the luminous guidance of revered monks such as Swami Ranganathanandaji and Swami Suddhasatwanandaji of the Ramakrishna Mission, New Delhi, began a humble yet powerful spiritual endeavour—a Kathamrita Study Circle (কথামৃত পাঠচক্র). Every Monday evening, in the sanctified atmosphere of devotees' homes, they gathered to read and reflect upon the immortal words of the Master. Once every month, a revered Swami from the

Ramakrishna Mission, New Delhi, would grace the assembly with a discourse on the Sri Sri Ramakrishna Kathamrita, kindling the flame of devotion and discrimination in eager hearts.

After 1961, these monthly spiritual gatherings found a larger platform at the Vinay Nagar Bengali School. Alongside the study of the Kathamrita, annual public meetings were organised across South Delhi to disseminate the spiritual ideals of the Holy Trinity—Sri Ramakrishna, Sarada Devi, and Swami Vivekananda. Recitation competitions on the stirring speeches of Swami Vivekananda were conducted among school students, sowing seeds of strength, service, and spirituality in young minds.

In 1962, this dedicated group formed a committee to celebrate the birth centenary of Swami Vivekananda. The sacred fervour of that celebration gave birth, in 1964, to the Vivekananda Centenary Library at Sarojini Nagar (erstwhile Vinay Nagar)—a beacon of spiritual and cultural enrichment.

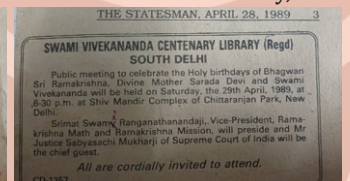
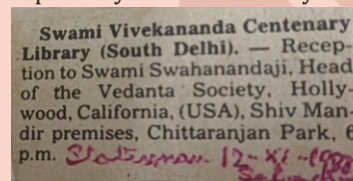
With the emergence of Chittaranjan Park from 1970 onwards, many devotees shifted to this newly developing colony. Thus, Chittaranjan Park gradually blossomed into a vibrant epicentre for the dissemination of the teachings of the Holy Trinity. Around 1974, monthly Kathamrita discourses by monks such as Swami Vandananandaji and Swami Budhanandaji of the Ramakrishna Mission, New Delhi, began in the forecourt of the old Shiva temple, drawing gatherings of more than 150 devotees.

Between 1977 and 1978, the Vivekananda Centenary Library was relocated to the Kali Mandir complex at Chittaranjan Park. In a blessed and historic moment in May, 1979, Swami Budhanandaji, then Secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission, New Delhi, laid the foundation stone of the Chittaranjan Park Kali Mandir—an act that further sanctified the spiritual destiny of the locality.

The sacred tradition of monthly Kathamrita discourse on every third Saturday continued uninterruptedly at the Kali Mandir complex, led by revered monks such as Swami Gokulanandaji and Swami Shantatmanandaji. Annual celebrations of the birthdays of the Holy Trinity were organised under the aegis of the Vivekananda Centenary Library. These gatherings were illumined by the presence of eminent monks like Swami Ranganathanandaji, and Swami Swahanandaji, and distinguished personalities such as Dr. Karan Singh and many Supreme Court Judges, whose reflections deepened the understanding of the Master's message. The 40th Annual Celebration was held on 25th April 1992. Thereafter, the Vivekananda Centenary Library merged with the Chittaranjan Park Kali Mandir Society, and its sacred activities continued seamlessly under the Society's banner.

Over the years, several revered Presidents and General Secretaries of the Ramakrishna Order—including Swami Gahanananda, Swami Swahananda, Swami Chetanananda, Swami Sridharananda, and Swami Suvirananda—have sanctified the Mandir either by presiding over annual celebrations or by offering obeisance to the Divine Mother.

The very fixing of the consecration date of the Kali Mandir bears the touch of divine will. The sculptor entrusted with the octo-alloy (অষ্টধাতু) ingot for crafting the sacred idol of Maa Kali repeatedly deferred delivery date. In this hour of uncertainty, Shri



Notices in newspaper of RKM, Annual Celebrations at KMS, CRP.



Swami Gahananandaji, then General Secretary Ramakrishna Math and Mission – Year 1990



Swami Gahananandaji, then General Secretary Ramakrishna Math and Mission addressing the gathering – Year 1990



Swami Swahanandaji, Head of Vedanta Society of Southern California, Hollywood presiding over a Public meeting at Netaji Subhas Hall. With him is Swami Gokulanandaji, then Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission, New Delhi and Swami Ishtanandaji – Year 2000



Visit of Trustees of Ramakrishna Math and Mission – From L-R, Swami Mumukhsanandaji, Swami Prabhanandaji, Swami Atmaramanandaji & Swami Shivamayanandaji (at the back). With them is Swami Gokulanandaji



Monthly Kathamrita discourse in progress

Manoranjan Bhowmick of the Managing Committee sought assistance from Shri C. C. Sinha, associated with the Vivekananda Centenary Library. On contacting, Swami Budhanandaji provided a letter of introduction to Swami Gahananandaji, then Secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission Seva Pratisthan, Kolkata. When approached, Swami Gahananandaji summoned the sculptor and firmly urged him to declare a delivery date. Upon his silence, the Swamiji resolved to consult the almanac himself. The earliest auspicious day he found was the birthday (তিথি) of Bhagawan Sri Ramakrishna. Thus, by divine ordination, the consecration of Chittaranjan Park Kali Mandir was fixed on ফাল্গুন শুক্র দ্বিতীয়া তিথি—forever linking the Mandir's spiritual destiny with the birth anniversary of the Master.

It is only fitting to recall with gratitude those devoted souls who tirelessly nurtured this spiritual movement in Chittaranjan Park—Sarvashri Charu Chandra Sinha, Sudhir Chandra Bose, Prafulla Kumar Ganguly, Biren Banerjee, Hari Narayan Gupta, D. P. Roy, Chittaranjan Pal, Nimai Gopal Das, Himangshu Sengupta and Paritosh Ghosh and also Smt. Hanshi Bardhan Roy, Smt. Hanshi Banerjee and Smt Anjali RoyChoudhury—whose silent dedication became the foundation of a living spiritual heritage.

Today, by the grace of the Holy Trinity and under the benign blessings of Swami Sarvalokananda, the present Secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission, New Delhi, the sacred tradition of monthly Kathamrita discourse continues uninterruptedly on every third Saturday at Chittaranjan Park Kali Mandir.

May this blessed confluence of devotion, service, and spiritual wisdom continue to illumine countless hearts, and may the Divine Mother and the Holy Trinity guide us ever onward on the path of truth, purity, and love. (Photos from archives of Sudev Sinha)

— Salil K Sinha



Bhaktas offering Anjali during Ma Annapurna Puja



Senior citizens partaking the Bhog of Ma Annapurna



The Tolo for the service of the Bhaktas. A CSR initiative



# CALENDAR FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK OF APRIL TO 1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK OF MAY 2026

## PUJAS AND OTHER EVENTS IN THE MANDIR

| DATE   | DAY       | TIMINGS  | EVENTS  |
|--|-----------|----------|---|
| 01.4.26  | Wednesday | 7:00 pm  | Sri Satynarayan Puja  |
| 04.4.26  | Saturday  | 7:00 pm  | Sri Shoni Puja  |
| 13.4.26  | Monday    |          | Ekadashi/ Neel Puja   |
| 15.4.26  | Wednesday | 5.30 am  | Nababarsha Varan, Surya Pronam  |
|  |           | 7:30 pm  | Gunijan Sambardhana   |
| 16.4.26  | Thursday  | 8:00 pm  | Amabasya Kalika Puja  |
| 20.4.26  | Monday    | Morning  | Shiv Mandir Prathishtha Divas   |
| 27.4.26  | Monday    |          | Ekadashi  |
| 1.5.26   | Friday    | 7:20 pm  | Sri Satyanarayan Puja   |
| 2.5.26   | Saturday  | 7:30 pm  | Sri Shoni Puja  |
| 13.5.26  | Wednesday |          | Ekadashi  |
| 15.5.26  | Friday    |          | Vishnupadi Sankranti  |
| <b><i>Sankirtan on Ekadashi Days at Radha-Krishna Mandir (after evening Arati)</i></b> |           |          |   |
| 13.4.26  | Monday    |          | Sankirtan by Hari Sabha   |
| 13.5.26  | Monday    |          | Sankirtan by Hari Sabha   |
| <b><i>Religious Discourses</i></b>   |           |          |   |
| 5.4.26   | Sunday    | 11:00 am | Discourse by Devotees of Sri Sitaramdas Omkarnath Dev at Sant Kutir   |
| 12.4.26  | Sunday    | 6:00 pm  | Discourse by Devotees Sri Sarada Sangha, in Netaji Subhash Hall   |
| 11.4.26  | Saturday  | 6:00 pm  | Discourse by Devotees of Sri Mohananand Maharaj at Sant Kutir   |
| 25.4.26  | Saturday  | 6:00 pm  | Discourse on Sri Sri Ramakrishna Kathamrita by Swami Sarvalokanandaji, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission, New Delhi. |
| 18.4.26  | Saturday  | 6:00 pm  | Discourse by Devotees of Sri Sri Thakur Anukul Chandra  |
| 3.5.26   | Sunday    | 11:00 am | Discourse by Devotees of Sri Sitaramdas Omkarnath Dev, at Sant Kutir.   |



*"Ramprasader Shondhane" - a scintillating performance by Sh Ashish Ghosh*

