



## HINDU AHLAYA SANGAM QUEENSLAND INC.

### POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Position Title:</b>	Temple Senior Priest (Senior Kurukkal).
<b>Location:</b>	Sri Selva Vinayakar Koyil, South Maclean – Brisbane, Australia. <a href="http://www.sriselvavinayakar.org">http://www.sriselvavinayakar.org</a>
<b>Position Reports To:</b>	Management Committee of Hindu Ahlaya Sangam Qld Inc.
<b>Award:</b>	Religious Worker – Minister of Religion.
<b>Uniform</b>	To comply with the Saiva Agama Vedic tradition.

### 1.0 Hindu Ahlaya Sangam Queensland Inc. Mission and Values:

The Senior Priest / Senior Kurukkal will undertake a commitment to the Mission and Values of Hindu Ahlaya Sangam, Queensland Incorporated (HASQ), and endeavour to promote the organisation's ethos and values in all actions and activities related to their position.

### 2.0 Position Statement:

Under the auspices of the Management committee of the HASQ, the Senior Priest / Senior Kurukkal shall oversee and help in the smooth operation of Sri Selva Vinayakar Koyil in accordance with Saiva Agama Tradition.

### 3.0 Key Position Responsibilities:

#### 3.1 Mission and Values

- Promote the Mission and Values of HASQ.
- Practice, maintain and promote Saiva Agama Tradition.

#### 3.2 Principal Duties

- Engage with other priests in planning, preparation and performance of all daily Poojas including Nithiya Pooja and Abishekams. All the festivals shall be performed in accordance with Saiva Agama Tradition.
- Ensure deity attire, garlands, fruits, and any other items required for the Pooja are made available before the Pooja begins.
- Decorate Deities in a manner that is attractive to all devotees (to suit the type of Utsavas).

- Ensure the Kalasams and Sangus are cleaned well before Kalashabishekam or Sangabishekam.
- Ensure that all the major Poojas, Abishekams and Festivals commence and finish at the scheduled times.
- Ensure that the interior of all the sanctums, deities and the temple are always kept clean.
- Ensure that the clothes used to dress the deities are washed regularly.
- Ensure that all brassware and Utsavamoorthis are cleaned and always maintained. This activity to be performed in the temple premises only.
- Ensure Vibuthi and Kumkum packets are always available.
- Provide Prasadam for Poojas in accordance with the Saiva Agamic Tradition.
- Be able to perform marriage and special religious services according to Saiva Agamic Tradition.
- Clean up the area after the Pooja before retiring to their house of residence.

### **3.3 Financial Administration**

- Ensure Poojas and Archanas are performed with a valid ticket.
- Ensure that the sponsor is made aware of the rates determined by the HASQ for all Poojas, Abishekams and Festivals before the event, and the event is performed upon presentation of a valid receipt/ticket.
- Inform the HASQ representative of any donation of cash or goods.

### **3.4 Other Duties**

- With the prior approval from HASQ representative, the Senior Priest / Senior Kurukkal may undertake private religious ceremonies for the Hindu community members. These may be held at the temple, homes, or other venues but such services shall be performed outside of the individual Kurukkal's regular duty hours without any interruption to the Priest's rostered regular duties at the temple.
- Participate in meetings/conferences that will promote Hindu culture and tradition in Queensland.
- Provide religious speeches and talks as required by the HASQ.
- Accept and adhere to Workplace Health and Safety requirements to ensure Government health and safety obligations and a safe working environment are met.
- Accept and adhere to all policies and procedures of HASQ.
- Ensure that the accommodation, furniture, fittings, and appliances provided for the priest are maintained in good condition.
- Treat all devotees equally inside the Temple with due respect. There should be no special consideration to any of the Management Committee members.
- Assist the Management Committee members to identify new Poojas and fund-raising activities for the temple.
- Welcome all devotees by offering them Vibhuthi, Theertham, Kumkum and flowers. This must be done even if the devotee does not perform Archana.
- Make sure each devotee leaves the temple happy, content and spiritually fulfilled.

- If it is necessary, request the services of the Assistant or Voluntary Priest when the workload is heavy.

#### **4.0 Pre-requisites for a Temple Senior Priest:**

- Certificate of completion of 5 years training from a Saiva-Agama Padasalai (School of Saiva-Agama Training) or from a recognised Gurukulam of Training.
- Certificate of ability to perform rituals in a temple.
- Must be well versed in Sanskrit language: read & write Grantham Text and Devanagari Text at the beginners' level.
- Must be well versed in Tamil language (read and write Tamil text).
- Knowledge in any other Indian language and basic English knowledge will be considered an advantage.
- Must be able to recite Vedas & Manthras with Swara Knowledge & clarity.
- Must be able to perform Daily Pooja traditions and Archanais, Kumba Pooja, Agni Kaariam (performing Homam), Swami Alankaram, Alankara Pooja, Kodiyetram and Utsava rituals.
- Must have experiences in Kumbabisheka kriyai.
- Must have obtained a Guru title having performed Archariya Abishekam.
- Must have obtained valid certificate of advanced training from an experienced senior Archaarya.
- Must have valid certificates of character and work ethics in keeping with employment as a Senior Priest from trustees and administrators of temples from previous employments.
- Holding a driving licence for a car will be an advantage.

#### **5.0 Engagement and Remuneration:**

Monthly allowance (as per government regulated wage structure) will be paid during the probation period. This will be reviewed after the probation period. Commissions for Abishekams and special Poojas will be discussed at the time of awarding the contract. Six monthly reviews of the performance will be carried out by the HASQ Management Committee.

Accommodation on the temple premises (or equivalent accommodation close by) including all the utilities will be provided at market rate, and will include gas, water, and electricity.

All Thatchanai money paid directly to the Priest is the priests' private income and must be declared by the priest on their personal tax return.

#### **6.0 Probation Period:**

Initial period of six months from date of commencement of employment.

#### **7.0 Contract Period:**

Initial contract is for 2 years which includes a 6 month of probationary period. If the initial probationary period is completed to satisfaction, the remaining period of contract will be finalised.

#### **8.0 Temple opening, closing and Pooja times:**

##### **Monday to Friday:**

**Opening Times:** 7.30 am to 12.00 noon & 5.00 pm to 8.30 pm.

**Pooja:** 9.00 am & 7.00 pm.

##### **Saturday and Sunday (including Public Holidays):**

**Opening Times:** 7.30 am to 1.00 pm & 5.00 pm to 8.30 pm.

**Pooja:** 9.00 am & 7.00 pm.

#### **9.0 Application closing date:**

4 weeks from the date the advertisement is published on the webpage (advertised on 16 Jan 2024 and closing date for applications is 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024).

The applications should be sent to [hasq.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:hasq.treasurer@gmail.com)

Enquiries to M Surendra on Whatapp/phone + 61 407 753 991