



KODIYETTU MAHOTSAVAM

PONGINI SREE BHADRAKALI PARADEVATHA PULLIMALAMMA TEMPLE



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Kaniyambetta Panchayat

District

Wayanad



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/
Junction**

Koodothummal Junction -500 m

Nearest Bus station

Pachilakkad Bus Stop – 1.4 Km

**Nearest Railway
station**

Kozhikode Railway Station – 89 Km

Nearest Airport

Calicut International Airport – 100 Km



CONTACT

Sree Bhadrakali Paradevatha Pullimalamma Temple
Pongini
Wayanad – 670721
Phone: +91-4936-289676



DATES

January – February (*Makaram*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

7 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

The festival is a celebration of the power and auspicious aura of Goddess *Bhadrakali*. Her worship is believed to purify devotees and liberate them from the cycle of birth and death. The demon *Darika*, after intense ascetic penances and practices, secured a boon from Lord Brahma that he would be invincible and would not get killed by any man. He began to harass the world and commit numerous crimes. When Lord Shiva came to know about the misdeeds of the demon, he became infuriated and created the Goddess to kill the demon. Full of wrath, he opened his fiery third eye and the massive flaming form of *Bhadrakali* emerged. She was huge, wore a ferocious look and had countless heads, hands and legs. When *Darika* saw *Bhadrakali* and her largely female army coming, he laughed and dismissed her, forgetting that his boon of invincibility did not prevent his being killed by a woman. After a fierce battle, *Bhadrakali* and her assistants finally finished him off, and the Goddess returned, full of wrath and excitement and holding the head of *Darika* in her left hand. When she reached *Kailash*, her husband Shiva tempted to calm her wrath by dancing before her and offering her worship. She was satisfied and henceforth began to receive offerings from devotees as a boon from Shiva. The temple is a complex of *Paradevatha*, *Bhadrakali* and *Pullimalamma* shrines situated in a hilly area surrounded by green beauty. The name "*pongini*" (*pongi née*) indicates that this deity was *swayambhoo* (self existent) .There are number of living examples of Devi's blessed devotees and events in and around Wayanad.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED**

Over 10000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Kalkazhukichootu
Kalavara Nirakkal
Kodiyettam
Poomoodal
Kolkkali
Bhajana
Pallivetta
Pongala

DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

The festivities begin with a ritual called *Kalavara Nirakkal* which is the collection and storing of rice, coconut vegetables etc. required for the feast during the festival. Large number of people participate in the feast called *Kalkazhukichootu* unlike *Annadanam* in other similar places. Two elderly people are chosen for the ritual in which their feet are washed before serving them a full meal. This symbolic ritual is followed by meal to the gathering at the festival. Others like *Poomoodal* also take place in which the idol of the Goddess is covered with flowers amidst holy chants. Cultural events like music, dance and folk art forms make a mark during the festival. Women offer *Pongala* (offerings) prepared in earthen pots over hearths to please the Goddess.

