



Sankranti Daan



Sannyasa Peeth, Munger, Bihar, India





Sankranti Daan

Located at Paduka Darshan, Munger, beside the banks of the river Ganga, Sannyasa Peeth was established in 2009 to fulfil the mandate given by Sri Swami Satyananda to create a place for the development of the sannyasa tradition. Sannyasa Peeth provides the opportunity for aspirants from all walks of life to connect to the ancient system, teachings, philosophy and spirit of sannyasa through its manifold activities. Some of the trainings and anushthanas of the vedic and tantric traditions and the astra yajnas are intended for sannyasins of the highest calibre who tread the path of sannyasa in all earnest, invoking higher forces to break through the barriers and bondages of material life. Other programs are intended for sincere aspirants and the general public who wish to imbibe positive samskaras and samskriti in their life.

Through the activities of Sannyasa Peeth the ancient traditions, philosophies and observances are presented with a modern application for the betterment of the individual, society and the environment. In 2019, under the inspiration of Swami Niranjanananda Saraswati the Sankranti anushthana



commenced at Sannyasa Peeth as part of the revival of *Surya Siddhanta*, the ancient tradition of solar worship. Sankranti is part of the Saurya or Surya tantra, one of the five tantric traditions in India. As a philosophy, sadhana and lifestyle this ancient wisdom is now practically extinct, yet fragments of the teachings have survived in Bihar. Since time immemorial, Bihar, and in particular Munger, has maintained a special relationship and connection with the Saurya traditions. King Karna of Mahabharata fame was an accomplished Saurya tantra sadhaka and performed many austerities in the place where Ganga Darshan ashram is now situated.

The word *sankranti* is comprised of two words, *san* meaning good and *kranti* which comes from *kraman* meaning movement or transition. Sankranti is the transition that occurs when the sun moves from one *rashi* or constellation of the zodiac to another. During Sankranti the forces of continuity and order, as well as the power of transition involved with



leaving one condition or state and moving into another are activated. These forces also connect the individual with *prakriti*, the manifest creation and the cycles of nature. This has been considered an auspicious day for spiritual and charitable acts since ancient times.

According to the ancient scriptures of India, daan given on Sankranti creates a matrix of auspiciousness and goodness that extends towards the donor and the donee and brings upliftment in the lives of both. The ancient scriptures state that the merit of daan given on Sankranti is eternal and imperishable, and the positive conditions created by this daan will follow the donor life after life. Daan given on the Sankranti day is aligned with the cosmic solar prana. The sankalpa made at the time of giving is strengthened and its power intensified by the grace of Surya, the deity of the sun. It brings health, good eyesight and spiritual wisdom, longevity, pranic vitality, lustre and good fortune.



Each month, different groups are called from the local community to receive the Sankranti daan. These groups of people represent the sections of society that are easily ignored and forgotten, from coolies to ricksha drivers, thelawalas, farmers, fishermen and those who have nothing at all. It is the contribution of these people to society and the services they perform for the benefit of others that is honoured and respected through daan. According to the ancient scriptural references, the *deya* or item of daan indicated as most auspicious according to each Sankranti are given. Not only the material item is given, but also the blessings of Sri Swami Satyananda are invoked. It is his sankalpa for the peace, plenty and prosperity of all that is the spiritual force illuminating every action of daan at Sannyasa Peeth. Those who wish to participate and contribute to this Sankranti anushthana may contribute by providing the items of daan.

The *deya* that have been selected as the most auspicious according to the Sankranti and appropriate to the need of the recipient are listed here.

Deya or Items of Daan

Anna Daan

Rice, dal, oil, salt, sugar, whole-wheat flour, jaggery



Vastra Daan

Females: Sari, blouse, cardigan, topi, thermals, socks, shoes, umbrella

Males: Kurta, pyjama, dhoti/lungi, sweater, vest, banyan, thermals, socks, topi, muffler, shoes, umbrella

Grih Daan

Pressure cooker, handi, topia, chakla belan, karai, tawa, kamandal, thali, glass, katori



Blankets, razai, bedsheets, bedcovers, towels



Buckets, mugs, stools, chairs, torches, rug/ carpets, mat/chattais





For further information, please contact:

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