

MAKARA SANKRANTHI

Surya, the Sun God, moves from one Rasi into another every month. This is referred to as Sankramana or Sankrantha. Since there are 12 months in a year, there are 12 Sankramanas taking place. Nobody takes cognizance of Sankramana taking place every month.

Pooja procedure : During this Uttarayana punyakala, people take a dip in the sea or a holy river and offer oblations to forefathers. Womenfolk give “Chillya-pillya vana” by offering a vessel (usually a pot filled partly with sugar candy, peanuts, betel nuts, white til, turmeric, kumkum, dakshina to other suhasins invoking the Sun God to bless their children with long life and happiness. Children seek the blessings of the elders. Chakkara pongal (sweetened jiggery rice) is prepared and is shared.

