



# HINDU FUNERAL RITES

डिन्दु संस्कार अंतिमविधि



Bolton Hindu Forum  
1 Thomas Holden Street, Bolton, BL1 2QG

**Tel: 01204 238 997**

Email: [pm@boltonhinduforum.org.uk](mailto:pm@boltonhinduforum.org.uk)

[www.boltonhinduforum.org.uk](http://www.boltonhinduforum.org.uk)



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# OM NAMAH SHIVAY

ॐ नमः शिवाय

## Gayatri Mantra

Om Bhur Bhuvah Svaha,  
Tat Savitur Varenyam,  
Bhargo Devasya Dhimahi,  
Dhiyo Yonah Prachodayat

ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यम

भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात्

## Meaning

We meditate on that most adored Supreme Lord, the creator, whose effulgence (divine light) illuminates all realms (physical, mental and spiritual). May this divine light illuminate our intellect.

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## Your local community Hindu specialist funeral home.

**It is an honour and a privilege to care for those dearly departed, and nothing comes more natural to us than caring for those that are bereaved. You can trust our family to walk alongside you and yours every step of the way.**

We are a family team headed by Mike Oglesby. With years of experience in arranging and conducting Hindu funerals, we can offer you compassionate support and guidance when you need it most. You can trust us to look after you and yours whilst following religious protocol and guidelines at all times. We're here to help.

## Covering the whole of Bolton and surrounding areas

- The provision of all our professional services - 24/7 support and guidance, use of our facilities, the preparation, collection and care of a loved one, completion of all documents and liaison with specific third parties.
- Provision of a hearse and one limousine.
- Provision of an oak effect coffin with Hindu emblem.
- Use of our large chapel for prayers.
- Provision of a cremation at Overdale Crematorium.

**We're pleased to offer a further £200 discount, if at the time of making the funeral arrangements you quote Bolton Hindu Forum.**

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[oglesbyfuneraldirectors.co.uk](http://oglesbyfuneraldirectors.co.uk)**

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## FOREWORD

The aim of this booklet is to provide information to the family members at the time of bereavement.

This booklet contains the final rites which are deemed necessary at home as well as in the crematorium.

The funeral rites do not have to be followed completely as each family is unique and have their own interpretation and adaption.

We hope this booklet proves to be useful and beneficial to the Hindu community.

If you require any further support, please contact Bolton Hindu Forum at:

Tel: 01204 238 997

Email: [pm@boltonhinduforum.org.uk](mailto:pm@boltonhinduforum.org.uk)

# ITEMS REQUIRED FOR THE FUNERAL CEREMONY

Chandan	ચંદન
Kanku	કંકુ
Tal (sesame seeds)	તલ
Jav (Barley)	જવ
Sandalwood garland	સુખડનો હાર
4 pieces of sandalwood	4 સુકડના લાકડા
Gangajal	ગંગા જળ/ચણોમૂત
Small piece of gold or silver	સોનું અથવા ચાંદો (રેખડા)
Pavitri ring (Ring made with wet kusha / darbha grass)	પવીત્રી વીંટી (દર્ભને પલાળીને બનાવવામાં આવે છે)
Mala	માળા
2.5 metres white cloth (To lay the coffin on at home)	અઢી મીટર સફેદ કપડું (ઘરે પેટી નીચે પાથરવા)
2.5 metres white cloth (To cover the body)	અઢી મીટર બીજી સફેદ કપડું (મુતદેહ ઉપર ઓઢાડવા માટે)
Mindol (for bachelors only)	મીંઢોળ (કુવારા મૃત્યુ પામ્યા હોય તેના માટે)
Tulsi Kanthi	તુલસી કંઢી
5 Coconuts (without water inside, make a hole and take out the water)	૫ નાળિયેર (અંદર પાણી વગર, છિદ્ર કરો અને પાણી કાઢો)
Tulsi Leaves	તુલસી પાન
Diwo	દિવો
4 packs Incense	૪ અગરબત્તી
5 Packs of butter/Ghee	૫ બટર/ ઘી
Loose flower petals	છુટા ફુલ
Flower garland	ફૂલનો હાર
Holy grass	દાભડો (દભે) અથવા ઘાસ
6 Pind (make with sesame seeds and milk) (Made from rice flour 250g)	૬ પીંડ બનાવવા માટે (તલ અને દૂધ સાથે બનાવો) ચોખાનો લોટ (૨૫૦ ગ્રામ)
Clay pot (Doni)	માટીનું વાસણ (માંટલી - દોણી)

# WHAT TO DO WHEN SOMEONE DIES

## **Someone has died.**

### **What practical things do I need to do straight away?**

When someone dies, the first steps you need to take will depend on how and where they died. You can also contact us and we will be able to provide support throughout this difficult period.

You can contact our 24 hour line at: **01204 238 997**

### **IMPORTANT: Immediate Preparation**

Close the mouth and straighten the body in a respectable fashion.

The body may freeze into a position after death due to rigor mortis so it is important that mouth and eyes are closed, and the body put into a straight respectable fashion.

### **If someone dies at home and their death was expected.**

Call the family doctor and nearest relative. If the death was expected, for example due to a terminal illness, the doctor will give you a medical certificate showing the cause of death. They will also give you a formal notice saying they have signed the medical certificate and telling you how to register the death. Once the doctor has issued the medical certificate, and when you feel ready to do so, you can call a funeral director who will move the body to a funeral home.

### **If someone dies at home unexpectedly call 111 immediately and ask for advice.**

An unexpected death may need to be reported to a coroner. A coroner is a doctor or lawyer responsible for investigating unexpected deaths. They may call for a postmortem or inquest to find out the cause of death. This may take some time, so the funeral may need to be delayed.

### **If someone dies in hospital**

The hospital will usually issue a medical certificate and formal notice. They will support you with the next steps you need to take. The body will usually be kept in the hospital mortuary until the funeral directors or relatives arrange a chapel of rest, or for the body to be taken home. A chaplaincy service is also available 24/7 at the hospital. You will need to contact the hospital switchboard.

### **If someone dies abroad**

If someone dies abroad, register the death according to the regulations of the country. Register it with the British Consul in the country too, so you can get a consulate death certificate and a record can be kept in the UK.

## RITES PERFORMED ON THE DAY OF THE FUNERAL

Preparation of the last rites at home can be emotional and stressful, but it is a very important ceremony as it provides peace to the departed soul and comfort to family members.

1. Liaise with the funeral director to carry out bathing and dressing of the deceased's body at the place of rest and bring the body home at a convenient time for the family.
2. Divo of ghee should be lit as soon as possible in front of a photograph of the deceased.
3. Family members should be invited during the ceremony.
4. Before the family arrives, place 2.5m long white cloth on the floor, Gangajal, sesame seeds, flowers and holy grass so the place is purified.
5. When the body arrives home make sure that the head of the deceased is placed facing North.
6. Any family member can perform the final rites.

# CEREMONY PERFORMED AFTER THE FUNERAL

1. The remembrance service starts after the funeral. Place and time is dependent on the family. It is usually held at the family home or in a hall.
2. According to the custom, close family conduct sutak for 13 days.
3. Further ceremony of shradhha is conducted from the third day and is concluded up to the eleventh day after the death.
4. The ashes of the deceased are scattered in a holy river or the sea. (see scattering of ashes)
5. On the twelfth day the water giving ceremony is performed by the family members.

## **SUTAK**

### WHAT IS SUTAK?

According to the Garuda Purana, Sutak is a period of abstinence related to ritual purity, which should be observed at the time of birth and death but in different ways. When someone dies, the family observes Sutak for up to 10-13 days.

Traditionally the Bhagavad Gita is read within the first 13 days if possible, and the Bhagavata afterwards. As much japa and kirtan as possible should also be done.

The spirit of the deceased is believed to be in this world during this time. The immediate family and relatives call a priest to narrate the Garuda Purana and follow the rules of Sutak.

On the thirteenth day or the kriya ceremony, the Garuda Purana is concluded and that ends the sutak period.

# SCATTERING OF ASHES /ASTHI VISARJAN

In the Hindu religious tradition for the dearly departed loved ones, the sacred writings such as the Vedas prescribe a final stage to achieve the complete repose of the Hindu mortal soul. The Hindu holy scriptures state that the soul's journey does not become complete without the final resting homage. The religious obligation of Asthi Visarjan is performed in a prescribed manner and as soon as possible.

Asthi Visarjan can be done in Fleetwood and Liverpool.

## **Liverpool**

Mersey Ferry

Pier Head | Georges Parade,

Liverpool L3 1DR, England (Central Liverpool)

0151 330 1444

## **Fleetwood**

The Esplanade

Fleetwood, Lancashire, FY7 6DN

01253 874000

[fleetwoodlifeboat.org](http://fleetwoodlifeboat.org)

## EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

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### **Samaritans**

**116 123**

If something's troubling you, get in touch

### **1Point Bolton**

**01204 917744**

Emotional and practical support

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### **Kooth.com**

online support service

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### **Sanctuary Bolton**

**0300 003 7029**

Crisis Helpline - provides a place of safety overnight for adults (aged 18+) who are experiencing panic attacks, anxiety, feeling low or suicidal.

# *Maha Mrityunjaya Mantra*

*Om Trayambakam Yajamahe,  
Sugandhim Pushtivardhanam  
Urvaarukamiva Bandhanaan  
Mrityor Muksheeya Maamritaat*

ॐ त्र्यम्बकं यजामहे सुगन्धिं पुष्टिवर्धनम्  
उर्वारुकमिव बन्धनान् मृत्योर्मुक्षीय मामृतात्

## **Meaning**

We meditate on the Three-eyed supreme reality (Lord Shiva) which permeates and nourishes all like a fragrance. May we be liberated from death for the sake of immortality, seamlessly as a ripe fruit falls from its stem, by making us realize that we are never separated from our Immortal Nature.

# PRIEST CONTACTS

## **Ranjit Giri Goswami**

Mobile 07763 201315  
Home: 01254 721 694  
(Blackburn)

## **Pinakin Guru**

Home Number: 0113 204 0921

## **Vishnu Purohit**

Mobile: 07877 358116  
Home: 01772 253246 (Preston)  
Email: sonawish@yahoo.co.uk

## **Maheshbhai Nimavat**

Mobile 07977579065  
Home: 0161 344 1618

## **Mr Pinakin Bhatt**

Mobile: 07417 389830  
Home: 0161 355 5345  
(Ashton Under Lyne)

## **Kiritbhai Agravat**

Mobile: 07950794885  
Home: 0161 425 3087  
(Oldham)

## **Dilipibhai Trivedi**

Mobile: 07506 404272  
Home Telephone 01204 408063  
Email: dilipbrahim2@hotmail.bo.uk

## **Krishnakant**

Mobile: 07865 449406  
(Oldham)

## **Kamleshbhai Bhatt**

Mobile: 07939 758153  
Home Telephone: 01204 370503

## **Pradipbhai**

Home: 0161 344 1092  
(Ashton)

## **Mahendrabhai Bhatt**

Mobile: 07737 702642  
Home Telephone: 01204 493416

## **Gita Bhavan Manchester**

### **Shyam Sunderji**

Home: 0161 861 0606



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Bolton, Lancs, BL3 3QD

**Tel No:** 01204 655869 | **Open** – 9.00am to 5.00pm

504 Chorley Old Road  
Bolton, Lancs, BL1 6AB

**Tel No:** 01204 844469 | **Open** – 9.00am to 5.00pm

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Bolton, BL3 3JD

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# **BOLTON HINDU FUNERAL SERVICE**

**We are here to help!**

Bolton Hindu Forum can support you in all services leading up to, at the time, and after the passing of a loved one.

Contact our funeral coordinator:

**Tel: 01204 238 997**

**Mob: 07711 203 611**

**Email: [pm@boltonhinduforum.org.uk](mailto:pm@boltonhinduforum.org.uk)**

Notify the community of memorial and funeral details on our website bereavements page.

**[www.boltonhinduforum.org.uk](http://www.boltonhinduforum.org.uk)**