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SURYA NARAYAN SWAMY, ARSAVALLI, SRIKAKULAM (AP)

#bharatmandir

One of the oldest Surya kshetra in India.

It is a Panchayatana shrine (with Suryanarayana, Shiva-Parvati, Vishnu, Ganesh and Indra) Believed to have curative powers. It's original name was Harshavalli (Abode of Joy)



Once, Indra went to meet Shiva. He tried to force his entry at a time when Mahadev was with Devi Parvati. Nandi who was standing as dwarapalaka, kicked Indra. This left Indra wounded and senseless. Indra, then, had a dream that worshipping Surya would cure his wounds.



Indra found this murti of Surya at Arsavalli where he prayed and got relief. Here, Surya is with his consorts-Usha, Chaaya and Padmini. The base has Mathara and Pingala as dwarapalakas. At the top, Rishis Sanak and Sanandana are holding an umbrella.

[@GunduHuDuGa](#)



The shrine is built such that the sun's rays are focussed on the feet of the murti twice a year in March and September for a few minutes in the early hours of the day even when 5 entrance gates are closed.
The main festival celebrated here is Ratha Saptami.

