

# Thi Pongal



We celebrate Thi Pongal to thank the god sun for helping farmers by providing them the rain and sun energy at the right time for the plants to grow. Plants like Paddy, corn, sugar cane, grains and vegetables. At the beginning of planting, the farmers plough the soil and they need water to plough soil. Then they sow the paddy seeds and pour water. Sun helps them by raining. For the germination of the paddy seed and the seeds to become a plant. Water and sun energy is important for photosynthesis. Once the paddy seed becomes a plant, it absorbs the water from the soil and they bloom. The flower becomes a fruit where the food produced in the plant during the photosynthesis is saved. The farmers need sunlight for the fruits to dry, and to harvest the dried seeds. On January 14<sup>th</sup> normally the farmers finished harvesting. They separate rice from the paddy which they use for Pongal.

They buy new pots, they setup fire place in the farm they put water, milk, rice, green gram, salt, nuts, jaggery, ghee and raisins in the pot and cook pongal, that is sweet rice. They offer this pongal to the sun with other fruits and vegetables, sugar cane and etc. They pray and sing holy hymns, and share the pongal to all. This is mostly celebrated by All Asians. This shows the love to the nature.

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