



## Sammakka Saralamma Jathara

**Source: PIB**

Recently, the Prime Minister of India extended greetings at the start of the **largest tribal festival, Sammakka Saralamma Jathara or Medaram Jathara**

- Medaram Jathara (primarily celebrated by the **Koya tribe**) is the **largest tribal religious congregation in the world**, held biennially, with approximately 10 million people converging on the place, over four days in the month of **'Magha' (February)** on the full moon day in Medaram.
  - Medaram is a remote place in the **Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary, Telangana.**
- Medaram Jathara commemorates the **bravery of Sammakka and Saralamma**, tribal goddesses who fought against injustice.
  - It is a festival with no **Vedic or Brahmanic influence.**
- **Folklore:**
  - Sammakka, found as a newborn amidst tigers, grew up to become a tribal chief and married Pagididda Raju (Kakatiya feudatory chief), she had two daughters, **Sarakka and Nagulamma, and a son named Jampanna.**
- During the Jathara people offer **bangaram (gold) in the form of jaggery** of a **quantity equal to their weight** to the goddesses and take holy baths in the **Jampanna Vagu (stream).**
- **Jampanna Vagu, a tributary of River Godavari**, named after tribal warrior Jampanna, runs red with his blood from battle against the **Kakatiya Army.** Tribals bathe here to honour his sacrifice and gain courage.



**Read more:** [Medaram Jathara Festival](#)

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