

Puja perfection

Dilip Dhoot of RR Dhoot and Company, Budhwar Peth, knows a great deal about different Hindu puja customs



Purana Bazaar

Prayer is an active effort to communicate with a deity or a spirit either to offer praise, to make a request, seek guidance, confess sins, or simply to express one's thoughts and emotions. Dilip Dhoot takes care of the spiritual needs, whatever be the occasion. Visit him in happiness and in grief. And you will seldom be disappointed. Whether it's a gruha pravesam, bhoomi pooja, Satyanarayana

vratham or a any puja in the family, he is the man to rely on. His shop in Budhwar Peth is the one-stop shop for all pooja objects - that's RR Dhoot and Company for you. Dhoot caters to followers of Hinduism and over the years, he has won over the confidence of devout Hindus. Located in the congested bazar near the Pasodya Vithoba temple, Dhoot's shop is well known. And thereby hangs a tale. It was actually

his father, Ramchandra Dhoot, who established the shop 46 years ago. In keeping with his line of work, Dhoot is conversant with many different and unique puja ceremonies. "There are variations according to sect, region, caste and family traditions. It is important that all these are remembered," he says. His customers come from all over the city. The unique thing about him is that he doesn't need much explaining. Just tell him what the occasion is and he delivers the required goods.

If it is an order for a funeral, he knows what Hindus of different regions and castes require. "Certain items like sandalwood, rose water, perfume and agarbatti sticks are common," he says. Adding variety to his products, Dhoot sells about 60 different types of agarbattis, 70 types of malas and a wide variety of perfume blends besides some rare puja items. It really wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that he knows just about everything to do with Hindu religious ceremonies.

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