

Supplementary Information

S1. Details of Temples surveyed as possible sampling sites

Kali Mathia (KM) Temple

KM consists of an entrance from the front, which leads directly to the shrine, where the incense is burnt.

There are 2 exits located at either side of the building (refer Figure A1b). Apart from the shrine, incense is also burnt outdoors on stands, as marked in red in Figure A1b (refer Figure A1b). The shrine is located at the center of the building. The ritual consists of burning incense and taking a clockwise path around the shrine. The interior consists of large open windows with grids and openings for ventilation above the windows. There are 10 ceiling fans and 6 exhaust fans (not shown) – 4 located at the back wall and 1 each on the side.

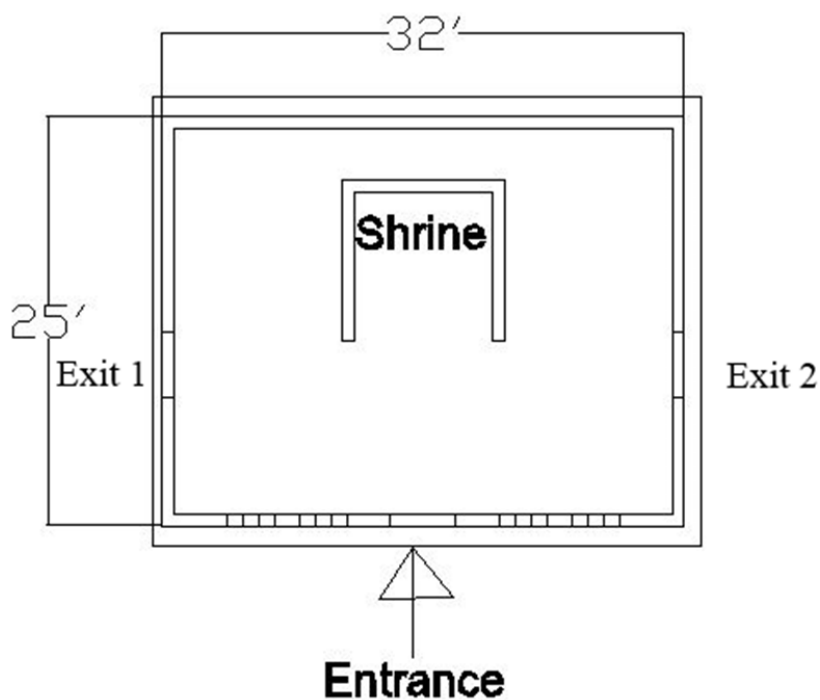


Figure S1a: Schematic of Kali Mathia Temple

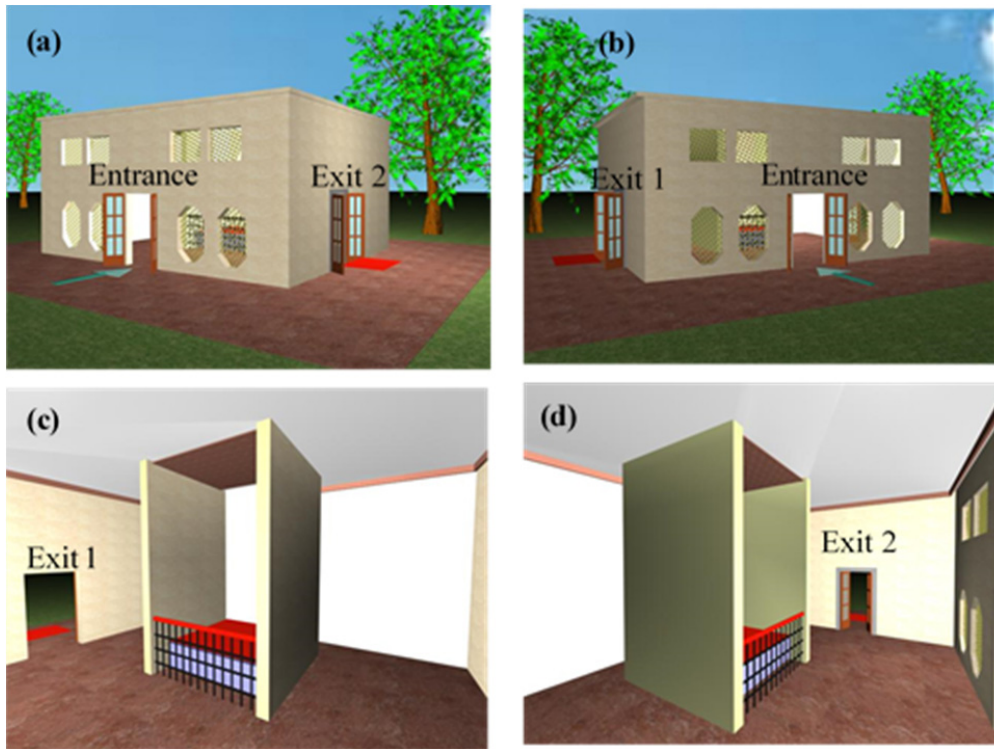


Figure S1b: Layout of Kali Mathia Temple (a) and (b) Outside View (c) and (d) Indoor view

Shani Temple (ST)

ST layout consists of a common entrance and exit as shown in the Figure A1c(refer Figure A1c). The door opposite to the entrance is kept closed at all times. The temple is open to the atmosphere on one side. The interior consists of 6 exhaust fans as shown in the Figure. Two big trees are present in the interior of the temple beside the shrine, with the trunks going through the ceiling. The shrine is located in the center of the building, in front of which worshippers form a line, after which they burn *Diyas* under the trees (marked in red).

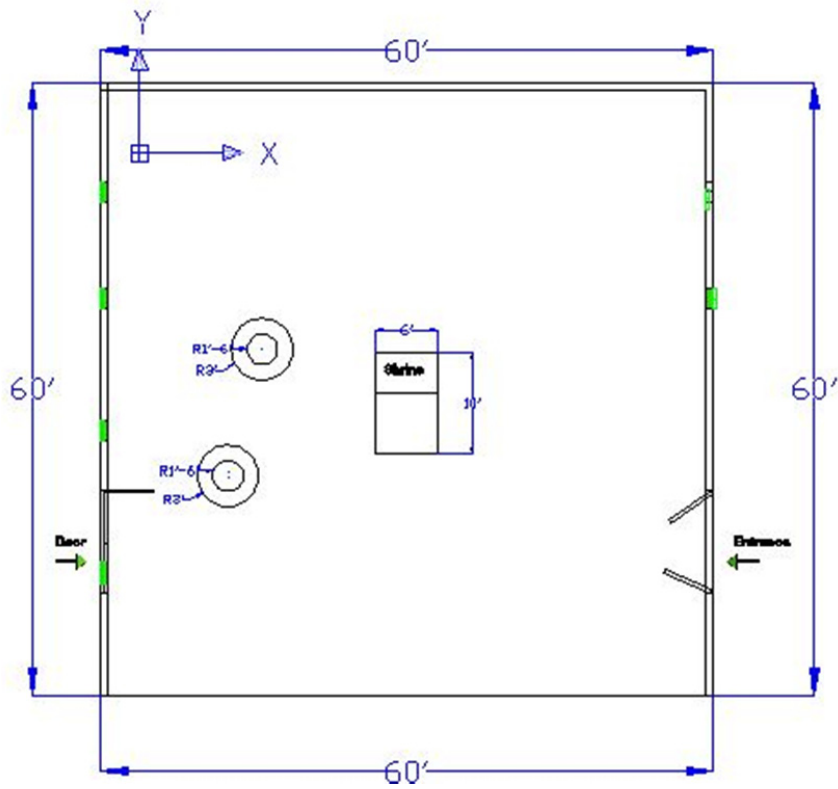


Figure S1c: Schematic of Shani Temple



Figure S1d: 3D Layout of Shani Temple



Figure S1e: Outdoor image of Panki Temple

S2. Pre sampling preparation

Substrates were placed in an oven at 180°C for four hours to remove moisture and any volatile compounds. They were then kept in cases and conditioned in a desiccator for 24 hours. Each substrate was then labeled and weighed 3 times using a microbalance (METTLER MT5 Analytical Microbalance) before sampling. Upon completion of the sampling, the substrates were again conditioned in the desiccator for 24 hours and were weighed. Particle mass collected in each stage was determined by taking the difference of the two readings.

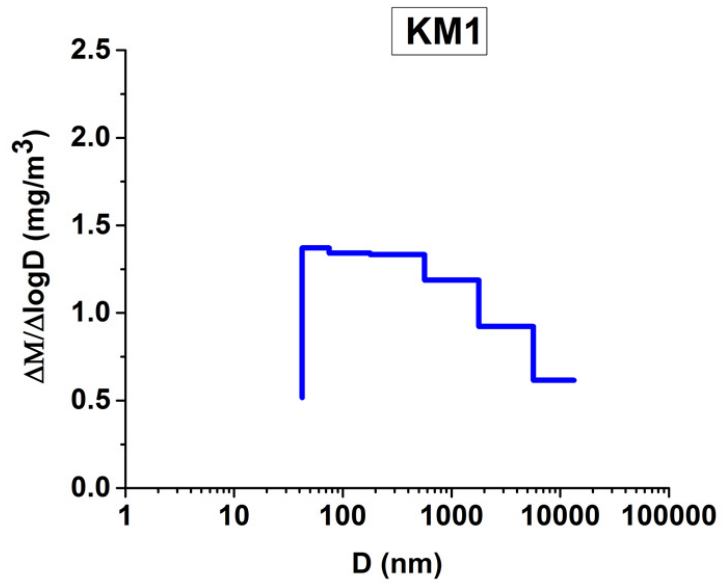


Figure S2a

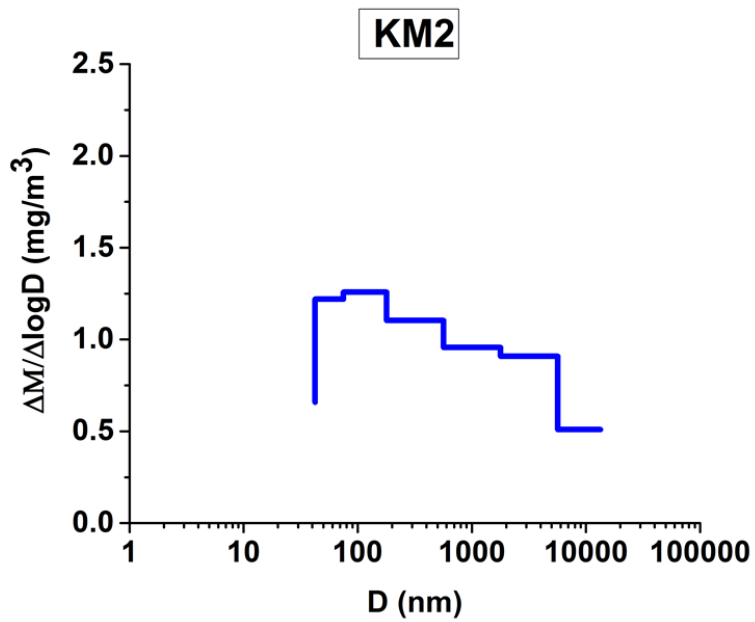


Figure S2b

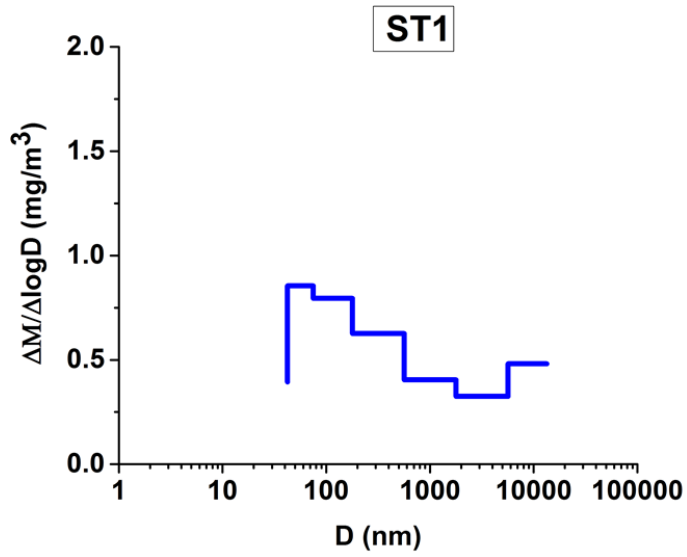


Figure S2c

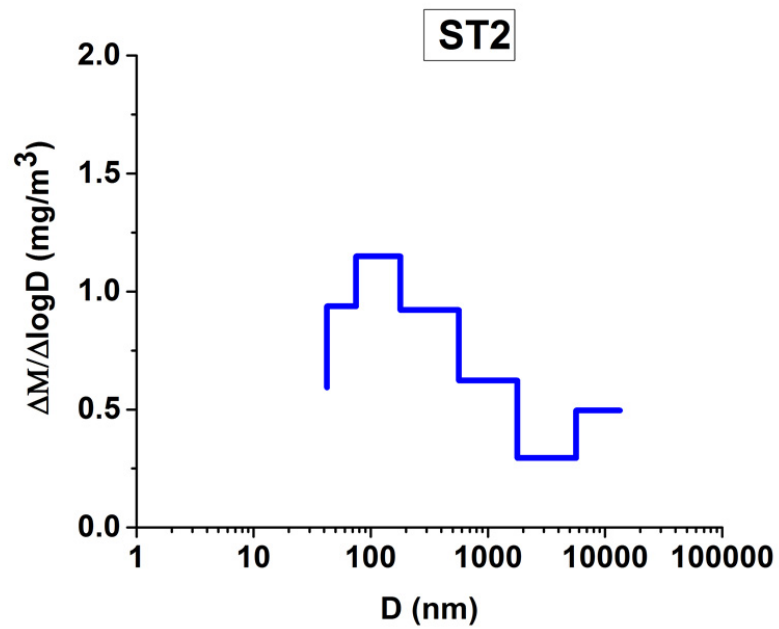


Figure S2d

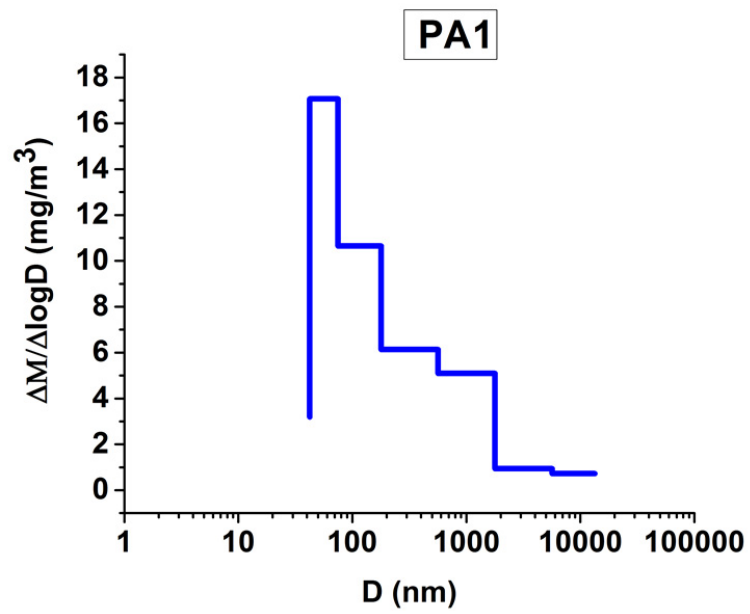


Figure S2e

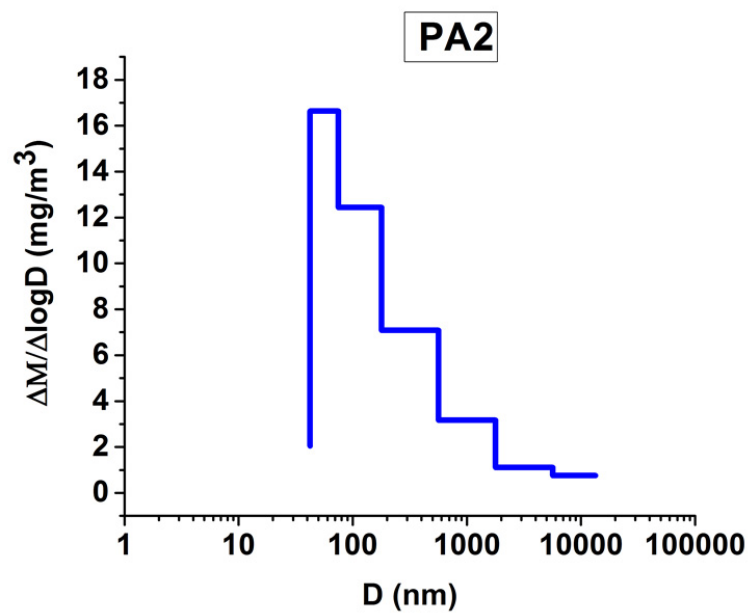


Figure S2f

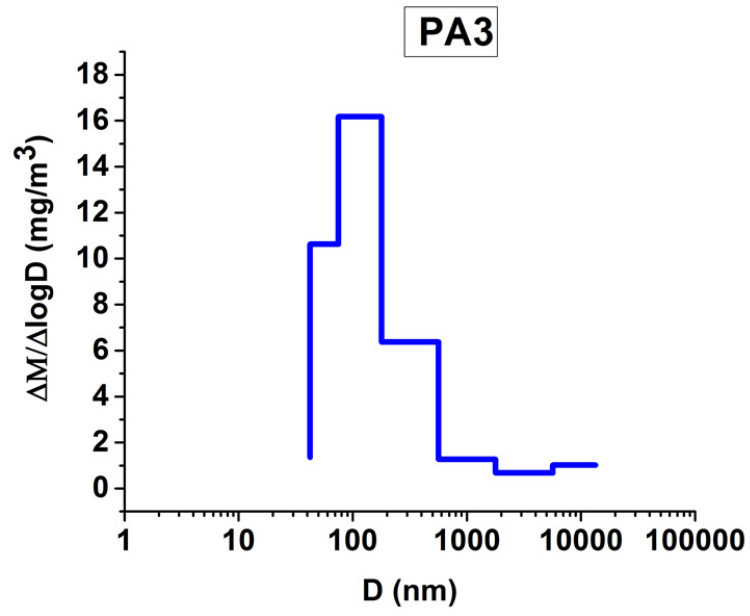


Figure S2g

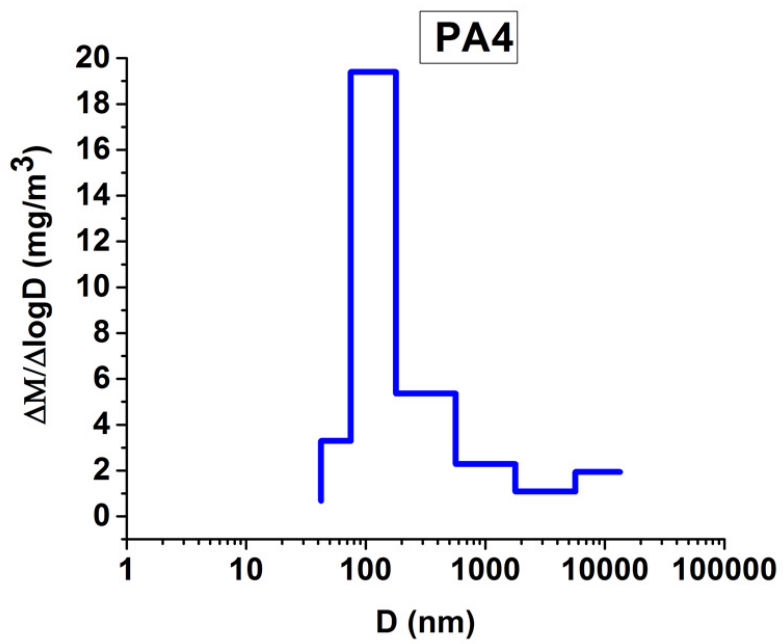


Figure S2h

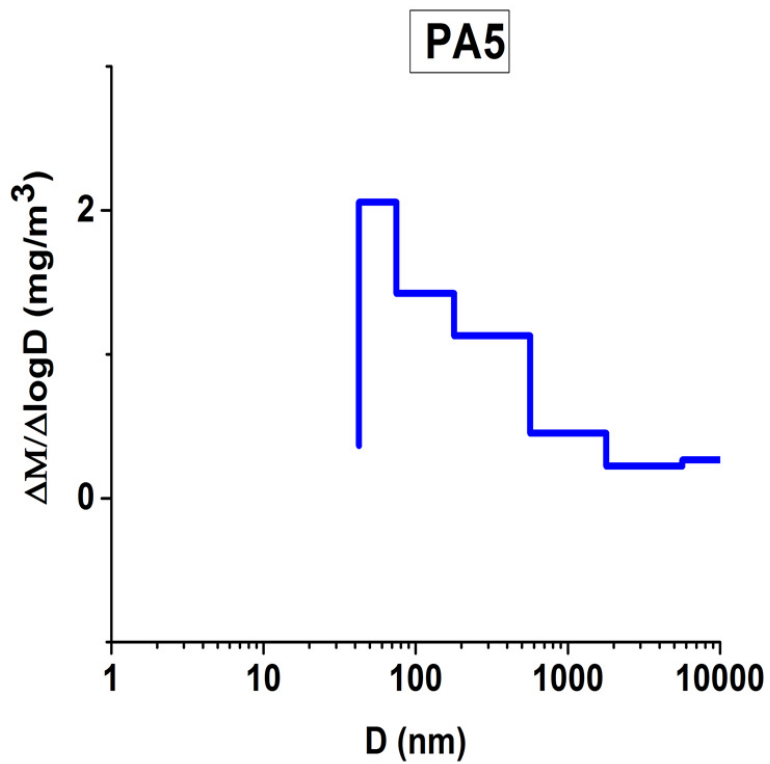


Figure S2i

Figure S2 Total particle mass-size distribution for all samples

Table S1

Table 4. Sampling schedule for OPC in temples

Sampling Code	Time	Sampling Duration (min)
PA 1	4.51 AM	45
PA 2*	NOT USED	-
PA 3	8.57 AM	45
PA 4	7.30 PM	45
PA 5	9.10 AM	45
KM 1	6.53 AM	120
KM 2	7.23 AM	120
ST 1	12.18 PM	45
ST 2	6.43 PM	45

* OPC experienced clogging during the PA 1 sampling, and as a result, sampling for PA 2 set, later the same day as PA1, could not be conducted.

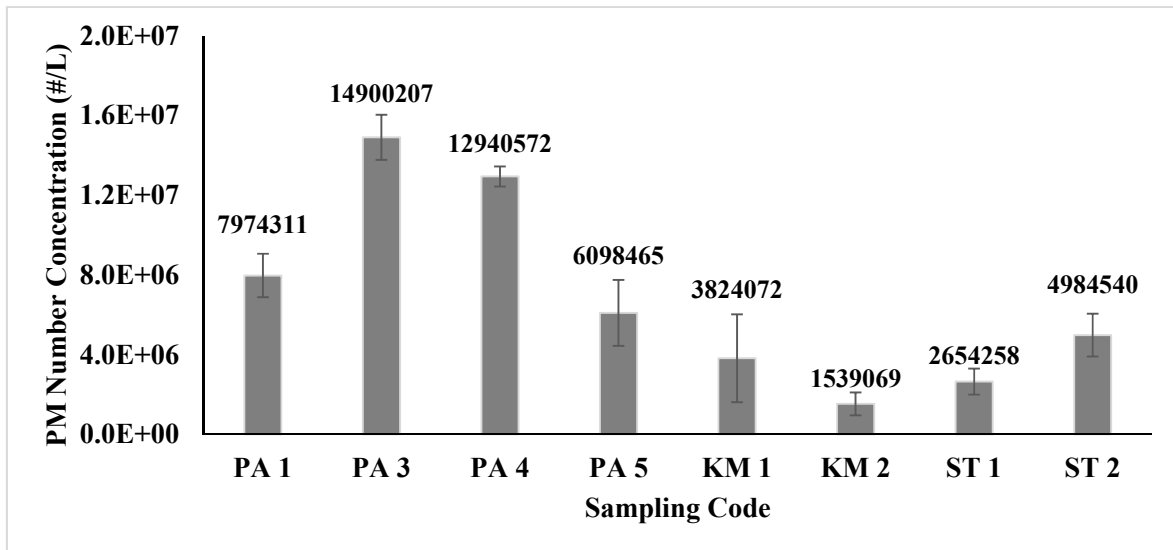


Figure S3 Average particle number concentration measured by the OPC in temples