

# Koyil Mani

## கோயில் மணி

The Newsletter of  
Hindu Ahlaya Sangam Qld Inc.  
PO. Box 77, Mt Ommaney QLD 4074 Australia

Oct/Nov/Dec 2017 Issue 6



*Om Shivaya Namaha*

## Sri Selva Vinayakar Koyil

4915-4923 Mt Lindesay Hwy, South Maclean,

QLD 4280 AUSTRALIA. Tel: (07) 5547 7302

# Message from the President

On behalf of the Management Committee.

I wish to thank the committee and the volunteers who have supported and rendered their services to uplift the temple. We have installed the floor tiles, upgraded the kitchen and fitted new cabinets inside the temple. I wish to thank the volunteers for offering their services free of charge to upgrade the kitchen.

We have employed two highly qualified Priests (Santhan and Eeswaran Kurukkals) to conduct the rituals in and outside the temple. I have received welcome comments about their high standard of service. I wish to welcome Eeswaran Kurukkal and his family on behalf of Sri Selva Vinayakar Temple community.

Recently we have embarked on a mission to raise funds to build a Chariot (Thaer) for Sri Selva Vinayakar. One kind devotee has donated \$25,000 towards this fund and we have raised close to \$29,000. We are estimating it will cost \$125,000 to build the Chariot (Thaer) overseas, ship, assemble here and build a shelter. We have a long way to achieve this target.

We will be conducting free Religious classes in English for children aged between 4 and 12yrs and it will be on the first and third Sundays of the month in the temple from 10.30 am to 12 noon. The first class will be held on the 18 February 2018. Please contact Surendra on 0407 753 991 for registration.

We are planning to install a wider gate and upgrade the access Road to the temple inside the premises. The estimated cost is about \$40,000. Any help will be welcome. We must grow flowering plants and trees around the temple and would invite devotees to help in any way possible.

We also need an accommodation inside the premises for the second Priest who is housed in Jimboomba at present. We would appreciate any help towards this project.

Sri Selva Vinayakar Temple third annual festival for 2018 will be from the 6 April 2018 to the 16 April 2018. You may not be aware that group of suburbs have been formed to sponsor each Thiru vizhas. Please check the web site to learn more about this festival and to which suburbs you belong. Please join the group of your suburb and be part of the festival activities.

It is with much satisfaction I wish to announce that this committee has paid \$220,000 to the account against the \$300,000 bank loan raised by the previous committee. This has lowered the interest paid to the bank substantially.

I would like to mention that there are good comments in the temple web site [www.sriselvavinayakar.org](http://www.sriselvavinayakar.org) review section by members of the Hindu community who have visited the temple for prayers. This committee has been elected to serve the community and if you

have any comments to uplift the temple, kindly contact any of the management committee members. We have been elected to serve the community visiting the temple.

This is a temple built for the Hindu Community and all are welcome to be part of the journey to success.

I convey my personal appreciation to the Management Committee members who have given guidance and supported all the religious temple programs and important projects.

I have been enjoying the great company of many volunteers passionately engaging in service opportunities at the temple site. It is inspiring to see in action the "hands that help".

Volunteers and the devotees have particularly praised the positive atmosphere at the temple and have personally pledged their continuing support.

Mr Muttiah Surendra

President

05.02.2018

## Treasurer's Report

Opening balance as per cash book		\$14,223.78			
add November cheques not presented in November 17		\$72.00			
Less November 17 receipt deposited December 17		\$554.00			
Bank opening balance		\$13,741.78	\$13,741.78	As per bank statement	
Closing balance as per cash book		\$32,541.56			
add December cheques not presented in December 17		\$4,550.08			
Less December 17 receipt deposited January 2018		\$5,886.90			
Bank closing balance		\$31,204.74	\$31,204.77	As per bank statement	

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Issue 6

Publication of Hindu Ahlaya Sangam Qld inc

Oct/Nov/Dec 2017

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**He abides in the hearts of countless beings, performing**

**The mystic dance of life.**

**He stands revealed in the beauty**

**Of His varied qualities;**

**On terrestrial and celestial spheres**

**He unfolds or hides in the lore of knowledge**

**He has completely overcome my ignorance.**

**That love intense may flow from their hearts,**

**He dwells within the core of His loved ones.**

Keerthi Thiru Ahaval Thiruvagasam: 2 1-8

The essence of one's being is love. It is the rhythm of the universe. It is the structure of the dance of Shiva. The sages declare that love is Shivam. The meaning of life and of creation can be understood only through love. It is an eternal expression of love which waits for its answer from our inner self emancipated from the bondage of the lower self. The infinite is not separate. In the depth of one's being, the infinite remains consciousness. Consciousness is the self, of which everyone is aware. The galaxies of planets and stars are held together by the power of love. It is divine conscious uniting with the divine power.

There is in man a deep urge for freedom for liberation of the self in the realm of limitless, where he can realise his relationship with the truth which relates him to the universe in a disinterested spirit of love. The supreme Being is the manifestation of the transcendent Para Shivam. Therefore the seeker has to establish his realisation of the supreme Being on the foundation of the formless Para Shivam. If this is not done, then realisation of the Supreme Being will appear to be a play of Maya. The revelation of the Absolute Truth, Meiporul - Tat-Sat, the blissful essence of the Supreme Being within the core one's interior heart is internal realisation. Know thy self and be free. When the mind is turned inward, the source of illumination shines forth by itself. In this state, in deep meditation when the aspirant is in a state of yogic union with Shiva, His form, His nature and essence can be perceived enjoyed within one's heart. His wonderful voice can be heard; His touch can be felt.

Just as the supreme Being works for the well-being of the world as testified in the puranic exploits and gracious acts of Lord Shiva, so too the seers and spiritual Gurus are engaged in compassionate

acts of helping other seekers attain to their natural state of Shiva Anantham and doing good to the whole world. In the direct perception of the truth of Shiva, one is never alone. The Eye of Grace illumines within and without, and we hear the song of fulfilment reverberating in waves of pure experience – Shiva Anantham – Found the Master.

Truly, seeing Thy golden feet this day, I have gained release,  
O Truth! as the 'Omham' dwelling in my soul.

Shivapuranam Thiruvagasam: 1 32 -33

Editor: T. Sivanathan

## The Management Committee of HASQ 2017/2018

M Surendra	President	<b>Committee Members:</b>
T Sivanathan	Vice President	T Surendran
Mrs Ratnes Paramanathan	Secretary	Dr Nalayini Jeyarajan
M A Srirajalingam	Treasurer	S Selvamanikkam
		S Palamuthusingam
		Mrs Ratha Nithiyananthan
<b>Co-Opted Members:</b>		
	R Kamalakanthan	
	T Yogeswaran	
	Mrs Vasuki Sabanathan	

## Maha Shiva Rathri - The Legend

According to Puranas, once the other two of the triads of Hindu Gods, Brahma and Vishnu were fighting over each other's prowess. Horrified at the intensity of the battle, the other gods asked Shiva to intervene. To make them realize the futility of their fight, Lord Shiva assumed the form of a flaming Linga in between Brahma and Vishnu and challenged both by asking them to measure the gigantic Linga (phallic symbol of Lord Shiva).

Awestruck by its magnitude, Brahma and Vishnu decided to find one end each to establish supremacy over the other. Lord Brahma took the form of a swan and went upwards while Lord Vishnu assumed the form of Varaha - a boar and went into the earth towards nether land. Both searched for thousands of miles but neither could find the end

On his journey upward, Brahma came across Ketaki flower. Exhausted and bewildered with his search to find the uppermost limit of fiery column, Brahma made Ketaki assent to lie that he had seen the top of the column where the flower had previously resided. Accompanied by his accomplice, Brahma confronted Vishnu and asserted that he had indeed discovered the origin of the cosmic column.



At this point, the central part of the pillar split open and Shiva revealed himself in his full glory. Overawed, both Brahma and Vishnu bowed before him accepted lord Shiva's supremacy. Lord Shiva also explained to Brahma and Vishnu that both of them were born out of him and that the three were then separated out into three different aspects of divinity.

However, Lord Shiva was angry with Brahma for making a false claim. The Lord cursed Brahma that no one would ever pray to him. (This legend explains why there is hardly any Brahma temple of significance in India.) Lord Shiva also punished the

Ketaki flower for testifying falsely and banned her from being used as an offering for any worship.

Since it was on the 14th day in the dark fortnight of the month of Phalguna that Shiva first manifested himself in the form of a Linga, the day is extremely auspicious and is celebrated as Mahashivaratri - the grand night of Shiva. To celebrate the occasion, devotees of Lord Shiva fast during the day and pray to the Lord throughout the night. It is said that worshipping of Lord Shiva on Shivaratri bestows one with happiness and prosperity.

## **Shivaratri Stories and Poojas**

### **Maha Shivaratri - Puja timings**

First Kala Puja - 7:30pm;

Second Kala Puja - 10:30pm;

Third Kala Puja - 12:00am (Midnight);

Forth Kala Puja - 4:30am.

Shiva rathri is one of the most auspicious vratas for the devotees of Lord shiva. The purANas explain the grand significance of this vrata. Especially Skandha Maha puraNa has the details of the way to observe the vrata.

### **Stories of shivaratri**

Once when everything in all the worlds got reduced into Lord shiva, in that darkness of nothing present, the mother pArvati worshipped Lord shiva in the Agamic way with great devotion. The parameshwar pleased by Her prayer blessed Her. She asked for the benefit of all the creatures that in future whoever worships the Lord on the shiva rAtri day with devotion, they should be blessed and should be given the ultimate liberation. The pashupati granted that showing way for all of us to get blessed easily.

Every month in Krishna paksha chaturdasi (fourteenth moonday) is called masa Shivaratri. The one that comes in the month of "Masi" (mid February to mid March) is called Maha Shivaratri. This is considered as the most important vrata by the devotees.

There are many incidents told about the greatness of this day. Once a hunter in a jungle after searching throughout the jungle, was quite tired and could not get any animal. In the nightfall a tiger started chasing him. To escape from that he climbed a tree. That was a Bilva tree. The tiger sat under the tree waiting for him to come down. The hunter who sat on a branch of the tree was quite tense and didn't want to sleep. He was plucking the leaves and putting them down as he was not able to be idle. Below the tree there was a Shiva lingam. The whole night went on like this. God was pleased with the Upavasa (hunger) and the Pooja the hunter and the tiger did even without knowledge. He is the peak of the grace. He gave the hunter and the tiger "Moksha".

In a Shiva temple on a Maha Shivaratri day the lamp kept in the altar was very dim. That time a mouse which came to take its prey touched the flame. Due to the heat it moved its head immediately. In the process it kindled the lamp and the altar was illuminated well. Lord Shiva, pleased by this deed made the mouse Mahabali, the renowned asura king.

There are many incidents like this told in our Puraanas. If we do the vrata with pure devotion and love there can be no doubt about getting the Grace of the Almighty.

### **When is shivaratri observed**

skandha puranam describes about four shivaratri. The first one is *nitya shivaratri* (daily shivaratri - every night). The second one is the *masa shivaratri* which is observed on the Krishna paksha chaturdasi (fourteenth moonday on the moon's diminishing phase). The third one is the *maha prathamadi shivaratri* which is observed for the thirteen days starting from prathama tithi in the month maha (masi) and on the chaturdasi night the Lord is worshiped throughout the night.

The fourth one is observed on the mAsi (mAga) month kR^iShNa paxa chaturdasi. This is the one observed in a widespread manner. It is also called mahA shivarAtri.

## Meaning of Thiruneeru

The devotees who worship Lord Shiva apply the holy ash known as Thiru-neeru

(Vipoothy) in there forehead, shoulders, hands and chest. They apply thiruneeru as three parallel lines. (In the picture right, note the application of Thiru-neeru)

The holy ash or thiruneeru is obtained by burning the husk of rice along with the dung of sacred cow.

An emperor may reign a great empire and a poor may live off of alms of others. On death their bodies will be cremated and what will be left behind at the end of all would be a handful of ash which will soon mixed off with the soil and disappear.



By applying 'thiru neeru', we are reminded of this great philosophy that 'we don't bring any thing when we arrive and we won't be taking any when we depart' and so we must refrain from committing sins after sins. What is counted in the court of the great Lord is our good deeds vs baddeeds.

When we apply thiruneeru, we must utter the name of the lord; 'siva, siva' or

'ohm namashivaya'

## Idol Worship



While on his all India trip, Swami Vivekananda came to Alwar on the way. He was received by the king Mangal Singh. They talked casually. King expressed that he doesn't believe using idols to worship to be a right practice.

Swamiji called Diwan (minister) who was standing at nearby. **"Please spit on the image of King's father, hanging there."** Swamiji pointed towards the photo of Mangal Singh's father. Diwan hesitated and did not do as Swamiji requested.

Swamiji concluded

**"Though that image is your father's and not your father, minister is hesitant to spit on it because it reminds of your father. Same way images/idols remind us of God. We don't worship the stone/metal that the idol is made of, it is the ideal & qualities that the form reminds that we worship."**

Mangal Singh agreed, it made sense now.

<http://aumamen.com>

By M A Srirajalingam

## Story of King Janaka & a monk



A wandering monk once visited the city of Mithila, ruled by the Sage King Janaka. "who is the best teacher around here?" He asked around. To his surprise every spiritual person around referred to him the name of King Janaka.

The monk was both puzzled and furious. "How can a King be spiritually that high. These people don't know what true spirituality is." he thought.

He went to the King and asked him **"O King, learned people around here, speak highly of you, how can you a worldly man of pleasures be more spiritual than those who have given up their everything for the sake of knowing the highest truth?"**

"Dear one, you have come from a far place, you must have been tired, Let's eat and rest for the day, we can discuss further tomorrow."

The King took him to the royal dinner table, fed him variety of foods, pleased his palates. He took him to a spacious room and told him to rest there.

There was a huge sword hung from the ceiling, hanging just above the bed. "What is this?" asked the monk.

**"Oh don't mind it, it has been there for ages, it is an old custom, just have a good sleep. See you in the morning."** said the King and rushed out hurriedly.

The monk was worried that the sword might fall on him and kill him during the night, he couldn't close his eyes even if he tried.

The king met him tomorrow, **"Sir, how was the night, I hope you slept well"** asked the King.

**"How could I sleep? there was a huge sword hanging at my neck."** monk explained his troubles.

"When one knows death is certain, how can the pleasures of world sway him away, how the worldly duties can ever limit his eyes from the supreme goal?" said the King answering the Monk's earlier question.

<http://aumamen.com>

By M A Srirajalingam

## **God always helps us – we should have belief in him**

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There was a devotional person in a village, he usually spent his day remembering, chanting and serving God.

People used to go to him for help, he always used to preach that God always comes to help us whenever we are in trouble.

One day in his village it was continuously raining and the whole village was covered by floods. He started praying and calling God. He went to first floor to save himself from the rising waters, a boatman came in his boat and asked him to jump into the boat. But he refused and said God will come and help him out, so the boatman went away.

Water started increasing and the man climbed to second floor and continued praying again, the boatman came again and asked him to come into the boat, but again the person refused and said God will come to help him.

The water level increased further, and he went to terrace and continued praying God, again the boatman came to rescue him but he ignored him and continued praying for

help.

Unfortunately water level increased further and he was washed away by the floods, his soul reached heaven and he met God and asked, '**why didn't you come to rescue me when I was struggling in floods, you know that I never missed remembering and praying you. But you still didn't come to help me out during my struggle.**'

God replied '**I came to help you, but you weren't willing to take it, not only once but thrice in the form of the boatman, but you couldn't recognize me**'

We should never expect god to come directly and help us, he will send someone or he will come in any form to help, we should see God in all and help others and make all happy, then God will be pleased by us because we are indirectly making God happy.

<http://aumamen.com>

By M A Srirajalingam

## கடவுளை நினைக்கும் நேரம்!



மகாபாரத போரில் வெற்றி பெற்ற தர்மர் பட்டம் சூட்டிக்கொண்டார். பாண்டவர்களின் தாயான குந்தியிடம் விடைபெற கிருஷ்ணர் வந்தார்.

குந்தி அவரிடம் "எங்களை விட்டுச் செல்கிறாயே! இனி உன்னை காணும் பாக்கியம் இல்லாமல் போய் விடுமே" என வருந்தினாள்.

"கவலை வேண்டாம். விரும்பும் வரம் கொடுக்கத் தயாராக இருக்கிறேன்" என்றார் கிருஷ்ணர்.

அதற்கு குந்தி "கிருஷ்ணா! தினமும் வாழ்வில் சிறு துன்பமாவது நேரும் வரம் கொடு" என்றாள்.

"எல்லாரும் இன்பமாக வாழ வேண்டும் என்று தானே கேட்பார்கள். நீங்கள் மாறாக கேட்கிறீர்களே!" என்றார் கிருஷ்ணர்.

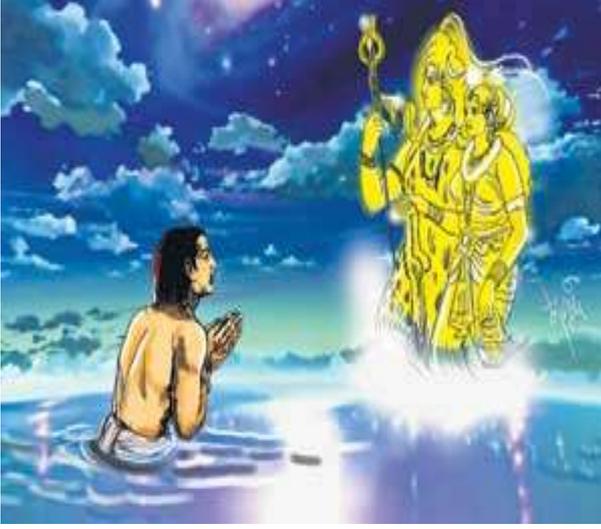
"கிருஷ்ணா! இன்பம் வந்தால் கடவுளின் நினைவு வருவதில்லை. துன்பப்படும் போது

தான் வருகிறது. உன்னை தினமும் நினைக்க வேண்டும் என்பதால் இப்படி கேட்டேன்" என்றாள் குந்தி

From Dinamalar

By M A Srirajalingam

## பாவம் எப்போது தீரும்



கங்கையில் நீராடினால் பாவம் தீருமா என்ற சந்தேகம் பார்வதிக்கு எழுந்தது. இல்லை என சிவன் மறுக்க, பார்வதி குழம்பினாள். இதை உணர்த்த ரிஷி வடிவில் சிவன் பூலோகம் வந்தார். ரிஷிபத்தினியாக பார்வதியும் தொடர்ந்தாள்.

கங்கை நதிக்கரையில் சிவன், இறந்தவர் போல கீழே கிடக்க, இறுதிச் சடங்கு செய்ய யாராவது உதவ வருமாறு ரிஷிபத்தினி வேண்டினாள்.

இரக்கப்பட்ட சிலர் முன் வர, "என் கணவர் ரிஷியானதால், கொள்ளி வைப்பவர் பாவம் செய்யாதவராக இருப்பது அவசியம்" என்றாள் ரிஷிபத்தினி.

"இல்லாவிட்டால் என்னாகும்?" என அவர்கள் கேட்க, "பாவம் செய்திருந்தால் தலை சுக்குநூறாக வெடிக்கும்" என்றாள்.

இளைஞன் ஒருவன் துணிவுடன் சம்மதிக்க, மற்றவர் விலகினர்.

"கங்கை தாயின் மீது எனக்கு நம்பிக்கை இருக்கிறது. அவளருளால் என் பாவம் தீரும்" என்று சொல்லி ஆற்றில் குதித்தான். மூன்று முறை மூழ்கி அவன் எழுந்தபோது ரிஷியும், ரிஷிபத்தினியும் சிவபார்வதியாக காட்சியளித்தனர். நம்பிக்கையுடன் நீராடுவோருக்கு மட்டுமே பாவம் தீரும் என்பதை அனைவரும் அறிந்தனர்.

From Dinamalar

By M A Srirajalingam

## வேலுண்டு வினையில்லை! மயிலுண்டு பயமில்லை!



- \* முருகனின் வெற்றி வேலை வழிபட்டால் நம் முன்வினைப் பாவம் ஓடி விடும் . மயிலை வணங்கினால் பயம் நீங்கி .தேரியம் பிறக்கும்
- \* முருகனின் திருவடிகளை நம்பி சரணடைந்தால், வாழ்வில் ஆறுதல் நிலைத்திருக்கும்.
- \* கள்ளம் கபடமற்ற வெள்ளை உள்ளத்தையே, தன் இருப்பிடமாக கொண்டிருக்கிறான் முருகன்.

\* பலபேர் கூடி கையெழுத்திட்ட விண்ணப்பத்திற்கு, அதிகாரிகள் உடனடியாக நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பர். அதுபோல கூட்டுப் பிரார்த்தனைக்கும் உடனடியாக தீர்வு அளிப்பார்.

\* குளிக்காவிட்டால் நஷ்டம் நமக்குத்தான், தண்ணீருக்கல்ல. அது போல் கடவுளை நினைக்காவிட்டால் நஷ்டம் நமக்குத்தான்.

\* எந்த வேளையும் கடவுளை நினைக்க வேண்டும். அது முடியவில்லையானால், காலையில் எழும்போது, உணவு உண்ணும் போது, இரவு தூங்கும் போதாவது நினைக்க வேண்டும்.

\* உலகம் என்னும் கடவுளின் சன்னதியில் நாம் வாழ்கிறோம். அதனால், நல்ல சிந்தனை, சொல், செயல் என்று நம்மை இறைவனோடு மட்டுமே தொடர்புபடுத்திக் கொள்ள வேண்டும்.

\* ஒருவரை பலவிதமான புகைப்படம் எடுப்பது போல, பக்தர்களுக்கு அருள்புரிய பலவித வடிவங்களில் கடவுள் தோன்றுகிறார்.

\* தேங்காய் உடைத்ததும் வெண்மையான பருப்பு தெரியும். மனதை சுத்தமாக வைத்துக் கொள் என்பதே இதன் தத்துவம்.

\* மற்றவர் தயவில் கிடைக்கும் பால் சோற்றை விட, சுய உழைப்பில் கிடைக்கும் தண்ணீரும் சோறும் உயர்வானது.

\* இரவில் தேவையானதை பகலில் தேடி வைத்துக் கொள்வது போல, முதுமையில் தேவையானதை இளமைக் காலத்தில் தேடி வேண்டும்.

\* உண்மை பேசுங்கள். தர்மவழியில் வாழ்வு நடத்துங்கள். பெற்றோர், குருவை தெய்வமாக வழிபடுங்கள். இவையே நல்லவர்களின் இயல்பு.

\* கடவுள் நமக்குச் செய்வது அத்தனையும் அருள் தான். சில சமயத்தில்

சோதனை போல வாழ்வில் துன்பம் நேருவதாக தோன்றலாம். அதுவும் கூட அறியாமையே.

\* உன் குணம் எப்படி இருக்கிறது என ஆய்வு செய்து பார். அதுவே உயர்ந்த பண்பு.

\* ஒரு விதை நூறாக பெருகுவது போல, செயலின் பலனும் நூறாக பெருகி நம்மை வந்து சேரும்.

\* தெய்வத் தன்மையை அடையவே நாம் பிறந்திருக்கிறோம் எனவே, உருவத்தில் மனிதனாகவும், உள்ளத்தில் மிருகமாகவும் இருப்பது கூடாது.

நல்வழி காட்டுகிறார் வாரியார்

From Dinamalar

By M A Srirajalingam

## கடைசி வரை யாரோ!

பல ஊர்களுக்கும் யாத்திரை சென்ற குரு, ஒரு ஊரில் தங்கினார். பணக்காரர் ஒருவர் குருவை தன் வீட்டிற்கு விருந்துக்கு அழைத்தார்.

"இந்த ஊரிலேயே பெரிய பணக்காரன் நான் தான். நினைத்தை சாதிக்கும் பலம் என்னிடம் இருக்கிறது. உங்களுக்கு உதவி தேவைப்பட்டால் கேளுங்கள்," என்று பெருமையுடன் தன்னை அறிமுகப்படுத்திக் கொண்டார்.

சற்று யோசித்த குரு, "நல்லது.. எனக்கு ஒரு உதவி வேண்டும்," என்றார்.

"எதுவாக இருந்தாலும் சொல்லுங்கள், செய்கிறேன்" என்ற பணக்காரரிடம், தன் பையில் இருந்து ஊசி ஒன்றை எடுத்துக் கொடுத்த குரு, "இதைப் பத்திரமாக வைத்திருங்கள். நாம் மேலுலகத்தில் சந்திக்கும் போது திருப்பிக் கொடுங்கள்," என்றார்.

"இறந்த பிறகு இந்த ஊசியை எப்படி கொண்டு வரமுடியும்?" என்று கேட்டார் பணக்காரர்.

சிரித்த குரு, "இந்த உலகை விட்டுப் போகும்போது, சிறு ஊசியைக் கூட கொண்டு போக முடியாது என்று நீங்களே ஒத்துக் கொள்கிறீர்கள். ஆனால் நினைத்தை சாதிக்கும் வலிமை இருப்பதாக பெருமை பேசுகிறீர்கள்... ஒருவன் செய்த நன்மை, தீமை மட்டுமே இறந்த பிறகும் கூட வரும். செல்வத்தை

இல்லாதவர்களுக்கு கொடுத்து உதவுங்கள். அது தான் மகிழ்ச்சி தரும்," என்று அறிவுரை கூறினார்.

அன்று முதல் பணக்காரர் தான, தர்மங்களில் ஈடுபட்டார்.

From Dinamalar

By M A Srirajalingam

## தெரியாமல் சொன்னாலும்..



தெலுங்கானா மாநிலம்  
செகந்திராபாத்தில் காஞ்சி  
பெரியவர் முகாமிட்ட போது, சில  
பக்தர்கள் சந்திக்க வந்தனர்.

“இங்கே வேதம் கற்ற  
சமஸ்கிருத பண்டிதர்கள்  
யாருமில்லை. பொருள்  
தெரியாமல், மந்திரத்தை  
ஒப்பிக்கிற சாஸ்திரி ஒருவர்  
இருக்கிறார். அவர் சொல்லும்  
மந்திரங்களின் பொருள்  
என்னவென்று எங்களுக்கு  
தெரியாது. சடங்குகளை மந்திர  
சாஸ்திர விதிமுறைப்படி  
சிரத்தையாக செய்ய நாங்கள்  
விரும்புகிறோம். சமஸ்கிருத  
ஞானம் மிக்க பண்டிதர்  
ஒருவரை தாங்க அனுப்ப  
வேண்டும்," என கேட்டனர்.

அப்போது அன்றைக்கு வந்த தபால்களை மடத்து ஊழியர் சுவாமியிடம் கொடுத்தார். உறைகளின் மேல் முகவரியும், கீழே 'பி.ஐ.என்' (PIN Code) என போட்டு பின்கோடு நம்பர் எழுதப்பட்டிருந்தது. சுவாமி சிரித்தவாறே வந்தவர்களிடம், 'இந்த உறைகளின் மீது 'பிஐஎன்' என்று இருக்கிறதே? என்னவென்று தெரியுமா?'

எல்லோரும் திகைத்தனர். யாருக்கும் 'பிஐஎன்' என்பதன் விரிவாக்கம் தெரியவில்லை. சுவாமி தொடர்ந்து பேசினார்.

'பிஐஎன்' என்றால் 'போஸ்டல் இன்டெக்ஸ் நம்பர்' (PIN – Postal Index Number). அதன் சுருக்கம் தான் பின்கோடு. ஆனால் இந்த விளக்கம், தபால்களை கொடுத்த ஊழியருக்கு தெரியாது. அஞ்சல் அலுவலருக்கே கூட தெரியாமல் இருக்கலாம். நமக்கு தபால் அனுப்பியவருக்கும் பின்கோடு எண் தான் தெரிந்திருக்குமே தவிர, அதன் விளக்கம் தெரியாதிருக்கலாம். விளக்கம் தெரியாமல் எழுதினாலும், அது உரிய ஊரிலுள்ள நபருக்கு போய் சேர்கிறது இல்லையா? அது மாதிரி தான் மந்திரமும். உங்கள் ஊர் சாஸ்திரிகளுக்கு அதன் பொருள் தெரிந்தால் நல்லது. ஆனால் கட்டாயம் தெரிய வேண்டும் என்ற அவசியமில்லை.

உங்களுக்கும் கூட தெரிய வேண்டும் என்ற கட்டாயமில்லை. தெரிந்து சொன்னாலும், தெரியாமல் சொன்னாலும், அதற்கான பலன் கிடைக்கும். சாஸ்திரிகளை யாரும் குறைத்து பேச வேண்டாம். குருவாக அவரை ஏற்று கர்மாக்களை சிரத்தையுடன் செய்யுங்கள்," என்றார்.

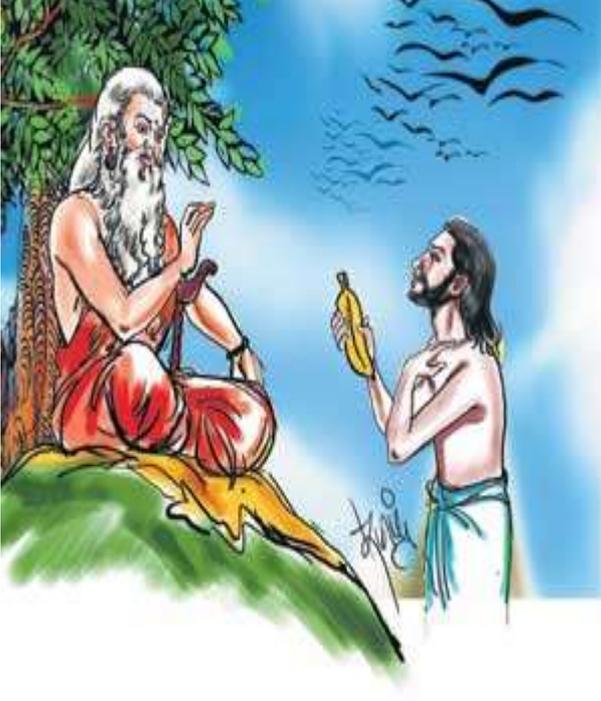
பொருள் தெரியாமல் சொன்னாலும், மந்திரம் பலன் தரும் என்ற விளக்கம் கேட்டு பக்தர்களின் மனம் நிறைந்தது.

From Dinamalar

By M A Srirajalingam



## கடவுளின் கண்கள்



கர்நாடகாவில் வசித்த மகான்  
வியாசராஜரை தரிசிக்க வந்த பக்தர்  
ஒருவர், வாழைப்பழங்களை கொடுத்தார்.  
அவற்றை சீடர்களுக்கு வழங்கிய  
வியாசராஜர்,  
“யார் கண்ணிலும் படாமல் மறைந்திருந்து  
பழத்தை சாப்பிடுங்கள்,” என்றார்.  
குரு ஏன் இப்படி சொல்கிறார் என புரியாத  
சீடர்கள், மறைவிடம் நோக்கி ஓடினர்.  
கனகதாசர் என்ற சீடர் மட்டும், தயங்கி  
நின்றார்.  
வியாசராஜர், “கனகதாசா! ஏன் நிற்கிறாய்?  
ஏதாவது மறைவிடம் நோக்கி ஓடு,” என  
சொன்னார்.

“குருநாதரே! மனிதர்களின் கண்ணில் படாமல் வேண்டுமானால் ஒளிய முடியும்.  
ஆனால், கடவுளின் பார்வையில் இருந்து யாரும் தப்ப முடியாதே? நான் பழத்தை  
சாப்பிடுவதை அவர் பார்க்கத்தானே செய்வார்,” என்றார் பணிவுடன்.

இது கேட்ட வியாசராஜர் மனம் நெகிழ்ந்தார்.

“கனகதாசா....கடவுள் எங்கும் இருப்பதை நீ உணர்ந்து விட்டாய். உனக்கு அவரின்  
அருள் பூரணமாக கிடைக்கும்,” என்று வாழ்த்தினார். பின்னாளில், இந்த சீடர் கன்னட  
மொழியில் பக்தி கீர்த்தனைகள் பாடி புகழ் பெற்றார்.

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## நமச்சிவாய வாழ்க! நாதன் தான் வாழ்க!

சிவபக்தன் ஒருவன், மாதந்தோறும் திருவாதிரை நட்சத்திரத்தன்று விரதம்  
இருந்து சிதம்பரம் நடராஜரை தரிசித்தான்.

அவனது ஆயுட்காலம் முடிந்ததும், சிவ கணங்கள் அவனை சிவலோகத்திற்கு  
அழைத்து சென்றனர். மண்ணில் வாழும் காலம் வரைக்கும் பக்தனை விட்டு  
விலகாமல், தான் உடனிருந்ததை தெய்வீக சக்தியால் எடுத்துக் காட்டினார்  
சிவன்.

கடந்து வந்த பாதை எங்கும் அவனுக்கு பின்னால் இரண்டு பாதங்களின் தடம் இருப்பதைச் சுட்டிக் காட்டிய சிவன், “பக்தனே... எப்போதும் உன் பின்னால் நான் தொடர்ந்து வந்ததைப் பார்” என்றார்.

உன்னிப்பாக பார்த்த அவனுக்கு மகிழ்ச்சியை விட கவலை மேலிட்டது.

“ஏன் கவலைப்படுகிறாய் மகனே...” என்றார் சிவன்.

“சுவாமி... தாங்கள் சொல்வது உண்மை என்றாலும், சில இடங்களில் எனக்கு பின்னால் உங்களின் காலடிச் சுவடு தெரியவில்லை. அந்த காலம் நான் துன்பப்பட்ட நேரமாக இருந்ததை என்னால் உணர முடிகிறது. மகிழ்ச்சியில், உடனிருக்கும் நீங்கள் துன்பத்தில் காணாமல் போனது நியாயமா? இதற்காகவா நான், இமைப்பொழுது கூட மறக்காமல் தினமும் பக்தியுடன் சிவபுராணம் படித்தேன்” கேட்டான்.

அதைக் கேட்டு பலமாக சிரித்தார் சிவன்.

“அட... பைத்தியக்காரா! எப்போது நான் உன்னை தனியாக விட்டேன். முன் வினைப்பயனால் நீ கஷ்டப்பட்ட காலத்தில் கூட, உன்னைத் தூக்கிக் கொண்டு நடந்தேன். துன்ப காலத்தில் தெரிவது உன் காலடிகள் அல்ல. உன்னை தோளில் சுமந்து கொண்டு நடந்த என் காலடித் தடங்கள்” என்றார்.

பரவசம் அடைந்த பக்தன், 'நமச்சிவாய வாழ்க! நாதன் தாள் வாழ்க! ' என சிவபுராணம் பாடி சிவனை வணங்கினான்.

From Dinamalar

By M A Srirajalingam

## Kannappar- The Hunter

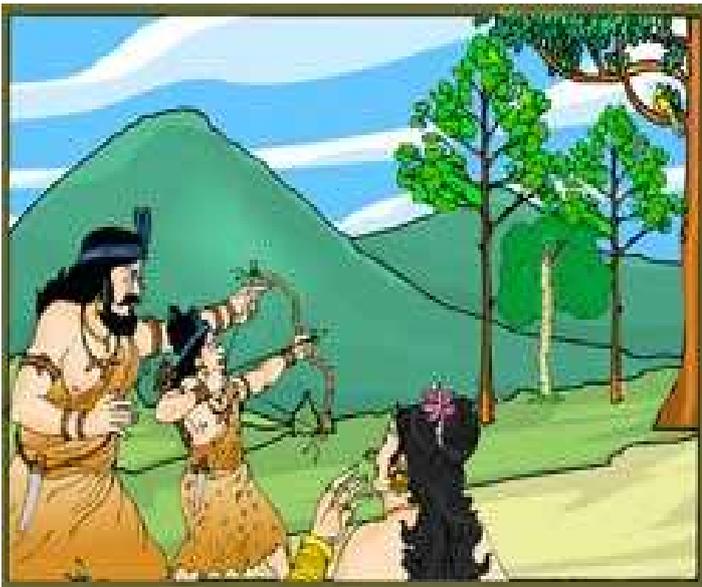
*This is a story on Lord Shiva and his devotee, Thinnanar who is one of the 63 'Nayanars'.*

Many years ago, there was a mountainous region called 'Poththappi' in South India. There were lots of hillocks and tall forest trees in this mountainous region, which seemed to reach out to the skies. In the middle of this region was a village called 'udupoor' where hunters lived with their families. The chieftain of the hunting community was 'Nagan'. His wife was 'Thatthai'.



This couple was childless for many years. This grieved them a lot and they appealed to lord Muruga. The graceful God, Lord Muruga blessed them with a beautiful baby boy. Since the baby was fat and chubby at birth, they named it 'Thinnan'(the strong and sturdy one) and brought it up with much love.

Thinnanar grew up learning well all the different forms of the art of hunting. He was able to handle the bow and arrow, the sword, the spear and the knife with equal skill.



His father was getting old and was unable to go hunting as in his younger days.

So he wanted to make his son Thinnanar, who just turned sixteen, as the chief of the hunters. He called for the chief priest of hunters, 'Devaratty' and consulted with him. With the blessing and good wishes of Devaratty, Thinnanar was made as the chieftain.



Next morning, Thinnanar set out his first hunting expedition. He put on the garment made of tiger's skin, and armed himself with the sword, spear, bow and arrow. The first hunt was known as the maiden hunt.

Setting out of the new chieftain, on the maiden hunt, was a cause for celebration among hunters. The hunters and their women folk were dressed gaily. Playing their native musical instruments, they danced, sang and feasting happily.



Then Thinnanar started out on his hunting expedition with his close friends. Nannan, Kaadan and other youths. The hunting dogs ran with them close on their heels.

The hunters entered the dense forest and hunted all kinds of animals - deers, rabbits and wild boars were killed for their food. Wild animals like tigers, leopards, foxes and wolves that harm men were also killed by them.

When they were hunting thus, a big fat boar cut through the hunting nets, freed itself and escaped fast. Thinnanar and his two friends Nannan and Kaadan ran chasing after the wild boar.



The boar which ran like lightning reached a grove that was at the foot of a hill. It hid itself behind a tree. While both Nannan and Kaadan stood exhausted, Thinnanar alone reached it bravely and killed it with sword. His friends praised him for his brave act.

Then they addressed Thinnanar and said,

“Chief, we have come very far from our village. We all are very thirsty and hungry. We shall roast this boar, eat it, satiate our hunger, quench our thirst and then return home.”

“Oh yes, we’ll do that. But then, where shall we go for water? Asked Thinnanar.

“There is a large hillock beyond the grove over there. At the foot of the hillock runs the ‘river ponmugali’ replied Kaadan.

“All right, we shall go there and you carry the boar there”, Thinnanar ordered and walked ahead. Nannan and Kaadan walked towards the river bank carrying the boar. On reaching the bank of river Ponmugali, they lighted a fire and made preparation to roast the boar.



Thinnanar was attracted by the beauty of the river Ponmugali which bubbled past. On the bank of the river, farther away was a pretty hillock covered with green trees. Thinnanar expressed his desire to go and the hillock.



“You have well said chief... That hill is known as ‘Thirikkaalaththy where lord Shiva, resides in the form of Shivalinga. Let’s us worship him who is known here as ‘Kudumithevar’” answered Naanan.

On hearing this, Thinnanar’s heart was filled with a sort of strange, unexplainable eagerness and rediance. He was impatient to go and see Kudumithevar immediately.

He Ordered Kaadan to roast and season the boar and addressed Nannan and said, “Nanna, take me to the place where Kudumithevar is”. With Nannan leading the way, Thinnanar followed, climbing the hill rapidly.



While Thinnanar climbed up and up over the hill, his heart was filled with love for the Lord. With all his links to the world being severed one by one, he seemed an embodiment of love. With Naanan preceding and his love on God, leading him, Thinnanar climbed the hill rapidly.

On reaching the hill summit, he saw Kudumithevar, that is, Lord Shiva in the form of Shivalinga. The beautiful sight made him forget everything else. He forget himself, the

friend stand in besides him and the world around him. He became unaware of everything around him.

Overjoyed on seeing the Lord, he embraced the Shivalinga and danced and sang with happiness.



Suddenly a thought stopped him and made him to worry. The Lord resides alone here in this dense jungle, where wild animals like elephant, leopard, tiger, wolf and fox too live.

Many dangers await him in this wild forest. He worries further that the Lord does not seem to have eaten anything. May the Lord be hungry,...He wondered.

“Naana?.. Come, we shall bring some meat for Kudumithevar”, said Thinnanar and started down the hill. He came down to the foot the very reluctantly, unwilling to distance himself from the Lord.

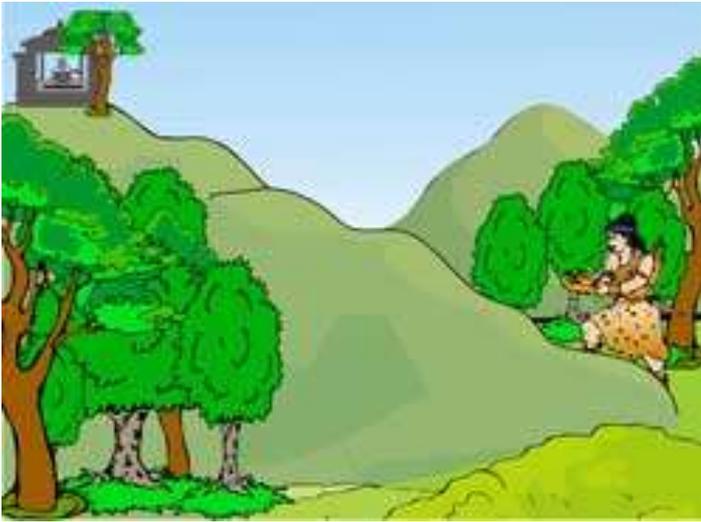
Kaadan had chopped the boar into small pieces, seasoned them, cooked them and had them all ready to eat.

Not wasting even a minute, Thinnanar picked up the meat pieces with the sharp point of his arrow and cooked them over the fire again.



Then he bit on the pieces of meat, tasted them and selected the tastiest and tenderest of them. He then gathered them on a large teak leaf.

He plucked some wild flowers and inserted them in his hair. He waded into the river ponmugali and filled his mouth with clean water. With the bow in one hand and the meat wrapped up by leaf in the other hand, he climbed up the hill swiftly.



Both Naanan and Kaadan, who were watching these strange acts of their chief, became very worried. Thinking that their chief had gone insane, they left for their village to inform Thinnanar's father.

Thinnanar who climbed the hill and reached Kudumithevar's place, was worried that the Lord might be very hungry.

He used his footwear clad feet to remove the flowers which were on the Shivalinga and spat the water that he had brought in his mouth on top of Shivalinga. He took out the flowers that he had inserted in his hair earlier and adorned the Shivalinga.

Then, placing the meat that he had brought in front of the Lord and said, " Lord, I brought this meat as I thought you might be hungry. Please, do eat it".



At that moment... A wondrous incident happened. All the meat on the leaf vanished in a fraction of a second. Lord Shiva was moved by the affectionate gesture of his devotee, who was a personification of a love.

Therefore, he accepted his devotee's offering and consumed the meat with great happiness. Thinnanar was overjoyed on seeing this.

At the same time, the sun set over the horizon and dusk set in. Thinnanar thought that the kudumithevar would be in danger from wild animals during the night.



He decided to do something about this. So, he armed himself with the bow and arrow in one hand and the sword in the other hand, and kept guard the whole night, walking side to side and front to behind of Kudumithevr.

When the sun rose the next morning, Thinnanar went down the hill for hunting in order to bring food for Kudumithevar.

After his departure, an anthanar (Brahmin Priest) by name Sivakosariyar came to the hill.

He used to come there every morning and perform shivapooja to Kudumithevar according to *agama* rules.

When he approached the Shivalinga to perform pooja as usual, he saw leftovers of meat and bones scattered all over the place. The sight pained him. He thought that some senseless hunters must have done these wicked deeds in a holy place like this and praying the god to forgive them and then he cleaned the area and did the shivapooja as usual and then left for home.



Little later the Thinanar returned hurriedly. He removed the flowers and leaves placed by the anthanar, with his footwear. And as before, spat the water in his mouth over the linga, decorated him with flowers and fed him with the meat. Then he kept guard over the Lord all through the night. He did not sleep even a wink.

Five days passed like this.

Sivakosariyar was very much devoted to lord Shiva. That someone wicked should spoil his pooja and litter the sanctuary with meat and bones hurt him very much. He went to sleep very disturbed.

Lord shiva appeared in his dream and said, "My devotee, you need not worry. The man who performs pooja for me with meat and the rest is not an ordinary hunter. He is very much devoted to me.



..His heart and soul are filled with love and devotion for me...

...The water he brings in his mouth and spits over me is more holy than the waters of the river Ganga. When his footwear clad feet touches me to clean me, I feel more joy than when my dear son Muruga kicked me with his tender legs. His loving words are more powerful than the veda mantras...." ...

"Tomorrow morning, after finishing your pooja, hide yourself from his view. I will show you the strength and power of his love".

Sivakosariyar work up with amazement. He was eager to see the devotee of whom Lord Shiva spoke in his dream. Yet, he waited patiently for dawn, then got up and went to the hill.

He performed the Shivapooja as usual and hid himself as the Lord had told him to. Lord Shiva wanted the whole world to know the unbound love that Thinnanar had for him.

On the sixth day, Thinnanar came up the hill rapidly, as usual, with meat, flowers and water. His only thought was that the Lord would have to be fed immediately.

When Thinnanar approached the Shivalinga, he stood still in shock. The sight he saw made him tremble with grief. Blood was flowing from the right eye of the Shivalinga."



When he saw this, Thinnanar cried aloud with concern, his heart beating faster. He went running towards Kudumithevar and not knowing what to do, he fainted. Then, consoling himself, he got up and went near the Shivalinga.

He was furious that some wicked people or animal should have hurt and wounded Kudumithevar. Drawing his sword, he ran in all directions, looking for the culprits.

But there was no one around.

He embraced the Shivalinga affectionately and began to weep, "Lord, who did this wicked deed to you? What shall I do now?" he cried. Then he ran nearby and plucked medicinal leaves and applied them to the bleeding eye, but bleeding did not stop.

Then he remembered a saying that was common among hunters, "skin can be replaced only by skin." Wasting not even a second, he took out a sharp arrow. He plucked his right eye with the arrow and fixed it to the bleeding right eye of the Lord.



How amazing...The flow of blood stopped. Thinnanar was overjoyed.

He jumped about in happiness as the Lord's affliction had been cured.



But, Thinnanar had another test waiting for him.

The Lord wanted to test him further. As a result, blood started flowing copiously from the left eye of the Shivalinga.

Thinnanar was shocked for a moment to see it. But, he did not worry and weep as before, because now he knew the cure for the maladv.

He decided to pluck his eye and fix it on the Lord. But there was a small problem. He was left only with one eye and if he plucked it off, he would be sightless.

Then how would he fix the plucked eye in the right place of the Lord? Thinnanar thought for a second, and then he found a way.

He raised his left leg and placed his foot close to the bleeding left eye of the Lord, for identification. Then, taking his sharp arrow out, he began to dig and pluck his left eye.



The anthanar Sivakosariyar's heart began to tremble on seeing this blood curdling scene. His hair stood on end. Uttering the Lord's name, "Siva-sivaa....Siva-sivaa.. "He joined his hands in prayer.

Lord Shiva who is an embodiment of kindness was moved by Thinnanar's act of pure love. The next instant... He extended his hand from within the Shivalinga. Lord Shiva's hand held on to Thinnanar's poised hand. "Stop, kannappa...stop... My ardent devotee... stop, kannappa.." said Lord Shiva in his thunderous voice.



Shivakosariyar's body shivered on seeing this rare and wonderous sight. Coming out and uttering the lord's name "Ohm Nama Shivaya.. Ohm Nama shivaya", he lifted his hands above his head and worshiped the Lord and his great devotee.



Devas showered flowers from the skies. The Shivaganas chanted, "Harahara...Sivasiva..Harahara Sivasiva", in accompaniment. "Kannappa, I am moved by your devotion. Henceforth, you will remain on my right side as my personal guard forever". said the Lord.

Shiva affectionately unified Thinnanar, with himself. From then on Thinnanar came to be known as "Kannappa Nayanar".

Kannappa Nayanar had expressed his love for the Lord through very difficult feats. Feats not easily possible for any of the Lord Shiva's devotees. And he had achieved this in mere six days and had attained the lotus feet of Lord Shiva.

Many poets have sung in praise of his rare feats. Ways and means that considered unholy, dirty and ugly by our Hinduism, were handled with love by Kannappa Nayanar and therefore he was able to receive God's blessing.

Though he was a hunter by birth and illiterate, his heart and soul were filled with pure love for Lord Shiva. This was the reason why he was graced with God's love so soon.

*Note: The Place where Kannappa Nayanar worshiped Lord Shiva is presently known as "Sri Kalahasti", a popular pilgrimage center. This place where thousands flock to worship the Lord Shiva, is close to Tirupathy, a famous pilgrimage center of Lord Vishnu.*

From [hindukidsworld](#)

By [M A Srirajalingam](#)

## Significance of Shivratri

Festival of Mahashivaratri is the most important festival for the millions of devotees of Lord Shiva. The festival has been accorded lot of significance in Hindu mythology. It says that a devotee who performs sincere worship of Lord Shiva on the auspicious day of Shivratri is absolved of sins and attains moksha.

### Significance of Shivaratri in Hinduism

Festival of Mahashivaratri has tremendous significance in Hinduism. According to sacred scriptures, ritual worship of Lord Shiva on Shivratri festival that falls on the 14th day of the dark fortnight in the month of Phalgun (Maasi) pleases Lord Shiva the most. This fact is said to have been declared by Lord Shiva himself, when his consort Parvati asked him as to which ritual performed by his devotees pleases him the most.

Even till date, devotees of Lord Shiva perform the ritual worship of Shivratri with care and devotion. They observe day and night fast and give sacred bath to Shiva Linga with honey, milk, water etc. Hindus consider it extremely auspicious to worship Lord Shiva on a Shivaratri as it is believed that worship of Lord Shiva with devotion and sincerity absolves a devotee of past sins. The devotee reaches the abode of Lord Shanker and lives there happily. He is also liberated from the cycle of birth and death and attains moksha or salvation.

### Significance of Shivaratri for Women

Mahashivratri Festival is also considered to be an extremely significant festival by women. Married and unmarried women observe fast and perform Shiva Puja with sincerity to appease Goddess Parvati who is also regarded as 'Gaura' - one who bestows marital bliss and long and prosperous married life. Unmarried women also pray for a husband like Lord Shiva who is regarded as the ideal husband.

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