



# "SHIVA SAKTHI"

AND HIS FOLLOWERS.

MAHAVISHNU & LAKSHMI'S

108

DIVYA DESAM TEMPLES



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DIVYA DESAM TEMPLES

Published by

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Namaste :

I am K. Sathya Murthy Author of this book would like to inform you , I am not professional writer, I am professional Engineer. I published book with the intension of sharing very valuable information about Sanatan Dharma. If you find any mistake please let me know we will rectify the same in our next publication. Unknowingly if I have made any mistake in this book my Sincere apologies.

Our first Edition Book "**Mahavishnu, Alvar's and 108 Divya Desam**" book. Our Second edition Book "**Shiva Sakthi & his followers Mahavishnu, Mahalakshmi 108 Divya Desam**" book.

Both books Soft copy available in our website please visit our website :

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Printed at  
Peacock Advertising India Pvt. Ltd.,  
[www.peacockgroup.in](http://www.peacockgroup.in)

1<sup>st</sup> Edition : 24<sup>th</sup> - March - 2024 - 5,000nos

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“Om Ganeshaya Namaha”



“Maha Mrityunjaya Mantra”

Om Tryambakam Yajamahe Sugandhim Pushti Vardhanam ।  
Urvaarukamiva Bandhanaan Mrutyormukshiyi Maamrutaat ॥

## PREFACE

Namaste,

When Buddhism and Jainism spread all over Indian sub-continent in the early centuries. Hinduism lost its presence in the society, however between 6th - 8th Centuries Tamil saints Nayanmars spread Shaivism in Tamil nadu and in the 12th Century Basavanna the founder of the Lingayat's sect succeeded in bringing back the glory of Shavisam in Karnataka.

The Nayanmars. {Tamil: நாயன்மார்கள்} great devotees of God Shiva, group of 63 Tamil saints some of them were rulers & poets, along with Manikavasagar and few saints approximately 1400- 1500 years ago. their influence made a titanic shift in the the Shavism Bhakti movement in Tamil Nadu.

Nayanar's devoted to their entire life in glorifying & worshiping God Shiva, some of them constructed marvellous temples with stunning architectures.

The Basavanna. was a great devotee of God Shiva the founder of the Lingayat's sect started Bhakti movements in norther part of Karnataka in the 12th Century, approximately 900 years ago, later his followers carried on his legacy, now his bhakti movement which is spread all the south India.

Second part of this book we have provided details of “Maha Vishnu's and Lakhmi's 108 Divya desam temples” location wise details few other Important details regarding Sanathana Dharma.

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## THE SUPREME GOD SHIVA & PARVATHI



**Shiva the supreme GOD** usually worshipped in the form of lingam also known as "The Destroyer" within the Trimurti includes Brahma and Maha Vishnu. Shiva is the Supreme God who protects and transform the universe fearsome.

**Birth of Shiva.** Shiva first appeared when Brahma and Vishnu were arguing about which one of them was more powerful. Their argument was interrupted by the sudden appearance of a great blazing pillar, whose roots and branches extended beyond view into the earth and sky. Brahma became a goose and flew up to find the top of the pillar, while Vishnu turned into a boar and dug into the earth to look for its roots. Unsuccessful in their search, the two Gods returned and saw Shiva emerge from an opening in the pillar. Recognizing Shiva's great power, they accepted him as the third ruler of the universe.

**What is Jotirlinga.** Joytir means Divine light - Linga means symbol of Shiva. According Shiva Purana, once Brahma and Vishnu had an argument over their Supremacy.

To settle the debate God Shiva pierced the three worlds appearing as a huge infinite pillar of light asked both of them to find light in the end of pillar {infinite light means endless light in the pillar above space and below the earth}.



Maha Vishnu assumed as Varaha avatar decided go down the below the earth to find out the end of infinite pillar light.

Brahma went above the space to find out end of the infinite pillar light.

Brahma lied that he had discovered the end of the light. while Vishnu admitted that he could not find the end of the light from his journey. The dishonesty of Brahma angered Shiva causing him to curse the creator deity that he would not be worshipped. Shiva also declared that Vishnu would be eternally worshipped for his honesty.

Wherever the lights fallen and column of fire appread as lingam of lights is called as Jotirlinga. There are 12 jotirlingas most powerful temple of God shiva.

**Shiva** is considered to be incomplete without his wife Shakti, who gives him his complete form that's Ardhnareshwarar.

**Parvati, Uma Maheswari** or Gauri goddess of power, energy, nourishment, harmony, love, beauty, devotion, and motherhood also known as Adi Shakti, the great power behind the creation of the universe, the creator and destroyer. She is the supreme Goddess in Shaivism. Along with Lakshmi and Saraswati, she forms the Tridevi.

Parvati is generally portrayed as a gentle, nurturing mother Goddess, but she is also associated with several terrible forms to vanquish evil beings such as Durga, Kali, the ten Mahavidyas, and the Navadurgas.

**Ganga** is often mistaken as second wife of God Shiva which is actually not true. Ganga was in love with him but had not received the right as his wife as Shiva is married only to one soul Shakti.

## “SHIVA” MEANS SUPREME GOD OF DESTRUCTION.

- **Other names of Shiva** : Shankara , Bholenath , Maheshwara, Rudra, Pashupati Mahadeva, Mahakala Sadashiva , Bhairava, Nataraja, Paramatman , Ishvara, Parabrahaman.
- **Consort/ Wife** : Sati was the first wife of shiva also know as Dakshayani after Sati's death in Daksha's yajna, Shiva married Parvati, she considered to be as incarnation of Sati.
- **Son's** : Ganesha, Karthikeya. Sastha.
- **Deities** : Sadasiva, Bhairava, Rudra ,Virabhadra.

- **Mantras** : “Om Namah Shivaya”, “Mahamrityunjaya Mantra” & “Om Namo Bhagavate Rudraya.”
- **Crescent Moon** : Shiva bears crescent moon on his head. "Having the moon as his crest" Chandra means MOON, Sekhara means Crown- Chandraśekhara.
- **Day** : Chandra also known as Soma in Sanskrit, so Monday is the first day of the week considered to be a moon day. Which is very auspicious to God Shiva.
- **Practices** : Vibhuthi, Rudraksaha, Pachakshara, Bilva.
- **Festivals** : Maha Shivaratri, Shravana, Kartik Purnima, Pradosha, Pournami Bhairava Ashtami and Karthik Somwara's.
- **Third Eye** : called "Tryambakam with which he burned Desire (Kāma) to ashes.
- **Ashes** : Shiva bhasma, vibhuti spiritual liberation is important.
- **Blue Throat** : nīla = "blue", kaṅṭha = "throat" Since Shiva drank the Halahala poison churned up from the Samudra Manthana to eliminate its destructive capacity.
- **Meditating Yogi** : his iconography often shows him in a Yoga pose, meditating, sometimes on a symbolic Himalayan Mount Kailasha as the God of Yoga.
- **Sacred Ganga** : Gangadhara, "Bearer of the river Ganga" (Ganges). The Ganga flows from the matted hair of Shiva.
- **Vasuki** : Garlanded with the serpent Vasuki. Vasuki is the second king of the nāgas, Vasuki was blessed by Shiva and worn by him as an ornament after the Samudra Manthana.
- **Trident** : called Trishula. the Trishul represents Shiva's three aspects of "creator, preserver and destroyer. drum:- is known as a damaru. Shiva in his famous dancing representation known as Nataraja. Axe: - (Parashu) and Deer are held in Shiva's hands.
- **Rudraksha Beads** : He is garlanded with string of rosary beads in his right hand typically made of Rudraksha. This symbolises grace, mendicant life and meditation.
- **Nandī** : Is the name of the bull that serves as Shiva's mount. Paśupati.
-

- **Mount Kailasa** : In Himalayas is his traditional abode of God Shiva and his family which resembling a Linga, representing the center of the universe.
- **Varanasi** : also called as Kashi, one of the holiest place of pilgrimage city Benares having more than 2500 years of history considered loved by Shiva.
- **Scriptures and Texts** : Vedas, Agama-Tantras, Shivasutras, Tirumurai- Tevaram, Vachanas.
- **God Dakshina Murthy** : is a powerful Avatar of the God Shiva, He is the ultimate Guru or teacher to guide one on the right path. This divine form of God Shiva is the personification of all types of knowledge like yoga, music, meditation and various other artistic abilities. The Avatar of God Shiva as Jnana Dakshinamurthy is generally with four arms and seated under a banyan tree facing the south.
- **Bhairava** : Idols are situated in the north, facing Western direction. Normally in Shiva temples He is also called Kshetrapālaka. He appears in a standing position with four hands. His weapons are drum, pāśa (noose), trident and skull. Kala means "fearsome". Bhairava means "terribly fearsome form". It is also known as one who destroys fear or one who is beyond fear. He protects his devotees from dreadful enemies, greed, lust, and anger. These enemies are dangerous as they never allow humans to seek God within. KalaBhairava protects all Shiva devotees particularly timid women devotees.
- **Veera Bhadra Swamy & Bhadrakali** : God Shiva avatar is Veerabhadra swamy. Veerabhadra went and destroyed Daksha's yajna and cut off Daksha head. The ultimate destroyer of ego. Sati attends his father's Yajna against his wishes of Shiva but Daksha humiliates Sati and Shiva in front of everyone. So, Sati jumps herself in the Agnikunda enraged at the insult and death of his spouse, Shiva gets very angry and he plucked his hair and thrashed it on the ground then both Veerabhadra and Bhadrakali were born from it.
- **Importance of Maha Shivaratri** there are 3 versions according to different legend and puranas.
  1. This is the night when Shiva performs the heavenly cosmic dance of creation, preservation and destruction.
  2. This is the night when Shiva and Parvati got married.
  3. This is the night also believed on this particular day Shiva gulped the poison which produced during the Samudra Manthana and beheld it in his neck which was bruised and turned blue, after which he acquired the regard as Nilakantha.



- **Siva Panchakshara Mantra :** In Sanskrit words PANCHA means “Five”. Na-Ma-Shi-Va-Ya. This five words we chant as OM Nama Shivaya, which is a powerful mantra purifies and helps to meditative.



## 63 NAYANMARS & MANIKAVASAGAR.



**Who are The Nayanars or Nayanmars.** were a group of 63 tamil Hindu Saints, Their complete deep devotion, their influence made huge impact in promoting Shavism Bhakti movement in Tamil Nadu they are called as Nayanars, during the 6th to 8th centuries CE approximately {1400- 1500 years ago}.

There were 3 High prolific Nayanmars and a saint Manivakvachagar collectively called as "NALVAR "means group of four.

- **Thirujnana Sambandar Nayanmar** also called as SAMBANDAR.
- **Thirunavukkarasar Nayanmar** also called as APPAR.
- **Sundaramurthy Nayanmar** also called as SUNDARAR.
- **Manivakvachagar.** {a saint was not Nayanmar}.



## SHAIVISM BHAKTI MOVEMENTS IN TAMIL NADU

- Even though Hinduism is more than 4000-5000 years old rich history in the early 5th centuries {year 400- 500 AD}, Jainism and Buddhism was dominance in Indian subcontinents.
- One by Mahaveera the founder Jainism and the other by Gowthama Buddha under Ashoka. Buddhism and Jainism enjoyed the royal patronage of the many great Hindu empires.
- 5th to 10th centuries Alvar's Bhakti movements flourished Vaishnavism part of Tamil Nādu, During the same time 6th to 8 th Centuries Nayanmar's Bhakti movements made a remarkable and titanic shift of Shaivism in southern India.
- More than 2500 shiva temples in which 276 incredible ancient shrines were built by great King / Emperors. Where the **Nayanmars and Manikavasagar** composed & sung soul-stirring hymns in praise of the supreme deity God Shiva in Tamil language.
- Thier divine hymns of are known as "**Thevarams**" & "**Thiruvasagam**" praising the God Shiva in 276 sacred shrines which are called the Paadal Petra Sthalams. {the temple revered by songs}. without 63 Nayanmars and Manikavasagar Shaivism would not have flourished at all.





## THIRU JNANA SAMBANDAR NAYANAR.



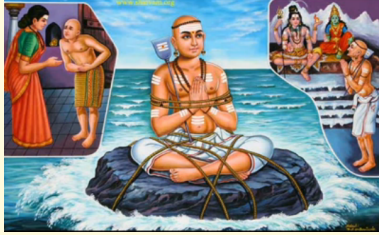
- **SAMBANDAR** One of the prominent and foremost 3 Important Nayanmars lived between 7th century {between 600-700 years was born to Sivapada Hrudiayar and his wife Bhagavathiar who lived in Sirkazhi.
- At the age of seven he is said to had very clear and understanding of the Vedas with clarity. Sri Sankaracharya who lived in the subsequent century has also referred to Sambandar in one hymn of Soundarya Lahari praising him as a gifted Tamil child (Tamil Sisu) who was fed with milk of divine and knowledge by goddess Uma.
- According to legend, when Sambandar was three years old his parents took him to the Shiva temple **Sattainathar temple, Sirkazhi** (also called **Brahmapureswarar temple** and **Thoniappar temple**) where Shiva and Parvati appeared before the child. The goddess nursed him with breastfeeding after few moments Samandar father saw few drops of milk on the child's mouth and asked who had fed him, whereupon the boy pointed to the sky and responded with the song "Thodudaya Seviyan" { "God God with a ring in His ears appear" } - This song is the first Thirumuria of Tevaram which was sung by thiru Jnana Sambandar as follows:-

"Thoodudaiya cheviyan vidai eeriyoor thuven madhi choodi  
Kaadudaiya sudalaip podi poosy ennullam kavar kalvan  
Eedudaiya malaran munainaat panindheetha arul seidha  
Peedudaiya piramaapuram meeviya pemman evan andree" 1.

{தோடுடைய செவியன் விடையேறியோர் தூவெண்மதி சூடிக்  
காடுடையசுடலைப்பொடிபூசினன் உள்ளங்கவர் கள்வன்  
ஏடுடையமலரான்முனைநாட்பணிந் தேத்தஅருள் செய்த  
பீடுடையபிரமாபுரம்மேவிய பெம்மானிவனன்றே. 1}

Meaning of above song: - "The God with a ring in His ears appear on the Holy Bull (creation), He has the moon on his head (protection\*). He wears the ash of the burnt bodies in the cremation ground (destruction), He- that thief- has stolen my heart (Hiding), He blessed the Brahma, who is on the Lotus, when he prayed the God in the past (blessing), He is that Peruman of the great Piramaapuram. {1} { this song has total 11 stanza } for full songs pls visit [www.shaivam.org/thirumurai](http://www.shaivam.org/thirumurai)

## TIRUNAVUKKARASAR NAYANMAR



- **APPAR** one of the most prominent of the sixty-three revered Nayanmars, Saint also called as Thirunavukkarasu nayanmar was born a seventh-century sometime between 570 and 650 CE in the Guruaruludaiyan kothiraam of the Vellalar caste.
- Also called as Appar composed 4,900 devotional hymns out of which 313 have survived and are now canonized as the 4th, 5th & 6th volumes of *Tirumurai*.
- He was Jain and head of a Jain monastery. After he returned to Shaivism and began composing devotional hymns to Shiva, he has been historically referred to as Appar after the child poet-saint Sambandar lovingly called him Appar.

## SUNDARA MURTHY NAYANAR



Sundara Murthy Nayanmar also called as SUNDARAR sent by God Shiva itself to recognise all Nayanmars and their great contributions towards Shivism.

Sundarar was born in Thirunavalur into an Adi Saiva Brahmin family, who worked as temple priests. His original name was Nambi Aroorar. The chieftain ruler of the local kingdom (Thirumunaipadi-Nadu), Narasingamunaiarayar, enthralled by the divine aesthetic possessed by young Sundarar who was playing in the street, adopted him and brought him up as his own son.

- Sundarar one of the most prominent Nayanars of eighth-century {700-800 CE} poet who sung the Shaiva bhakti (devotional) poets of Tamil Nadu. He was a contemporary of Cheraman Perumal and Kotpuli Nayanar who also figure in the 63 Nayanmars.
- Thirumurai seventh volume of Tevaram - 1026 songs were composed by Sundarar,
- Sundarar is unique among the Nayanars, since both of his parents are also recognized as Nayanars.

Sundarar was a contemporary of the great Pallava emperor Rajasimha, who was also a Nayanmar saint as well as the author of many devotional hymns works in Tamil literature.

Once Sundarar breaking of promise which he made to God and he crossed the border of Tiruvotriyur, he suddenly lost his eye-sight and fell down on the ground. The God is impartial. None can escape the operation of the Law of Divine Justice. Sundarar slowly regained his consciousness. Immediately he realised his fault and prayed to the God for forgiveness, asking for the grant of the eye-sight. Then he got eye sight back.

Another Instance Sundara Murthy nayanmar went to **Thyagaraja Temple** located in the town of Thiruvuru.... At the entrance mandapam few Nayanmars and devotees were sitting by side, Sundarar didn't notice them went straight inside the temple. Those devotees were sitting in Mandapam felt they were disregarded so got angry with Sundarar and there was an argument between Sundarar and others, then God Shiva intervene and happened to teach Sundara Murthy nayanmar to be very humble to all Shiva devotees before worshipping him. So Sundarar sung a tevaram song "I am the Slave of Andhanar {priest of thillai temple}, Nayanmars and all other great shiva devotees as follows: -

"Thillai vaazh andhanartham adiyaarkum adiyaen  
Thillai vaazh andhanartham adiyaarkum adiyaen  
Thiruneela kandathu kuyavanaar kadiyaen  
Illaiyaen enadha iyarppagaikkum adiyaen  
Illaiyaen enadha iyarppagaikkum adiyaen  
Ilaiyaandren kudimaaran adiyaarkum adiyaen  
Ilaiyaandren kudimaaran adiyaarkum adiyaen" { 1 }

The meaning of the verse is:

I, by the name of Aarooran, who is a humble slave of the God of Aaroor, is a humble slave of the following: the devotees of the Brahmins dwelling in Thillai; Thiruneelakandar, the potter;

Iyatpapai who never says the word 'no' (to those who come to him with a request); the devotees of Maaran of Ilaiyaankudi; Meypporul who successfully adhered to his principle (even at the cost of his life);

Viranmindar of Kundraiyaar which is surrounded by extensive gardens;

Amarneedhi who wears a beautiful garland of Arabian jasmine (mullai) with soft petals'.

Total 11 paragraph

for full songs pls visit [www.shaivam.org/thirumurai](http://www.shaivam.org/thirumurai)



## MANIKAVASAGAR- Manikam { Gems }



**Manikam** means man with words as precious as born in Vadhavoor known today as Thiruvathavur, near Madurai in the year 9th century {between 800-900 years' duration}

- He was Tamil saint and poet who wrote Tiruvasakam, a book of Shaiva hymns. He was been a minister to the Pandya king Varagunavarman II 862 CE–885 CE.
- He is revered as one of the Nalvar ("group of four" in Tamil), a set of four prominent Tamil saints alongside Appar, Sundarar and Sambandar
- In his expression of intimacy to God, Manikkavacakar devoted, sincere and simple-hearted love towards God Shiva in order, he also expressed that the five letters of NA– MA– SI-- VA– YA alone give one mukti. mirrored the sentiments expressed by his fellow Bhakti period saints referring to the God as the "Divine Bridegroom". Manikkavacakar's work has several parts. The Thiruvempavai, a collection of twenty hymns in which he has imagined himself as a woman following the Paavai Nonbu and praising Shiva.
- There is a famous saying " திரவாசகத்தக்க உரகார் ஓர் வாசகத்திற்கும் உரகார்" There is popular saying in the world, that one is not touched Thiruvasagam would not have and cannot be touched by anything is Scholarly verdict.
- God shiva himself came as devotee to Manikavasagar expressed him to hear him sing and praise of the God, the saint manikavasagar was too happy to please the devotee. After God shiva wrote songs "written as sung by the saint" put his signature as TIRU CHITTRAMBALAM UDAYAR. And disappread in the shrine of God Nataraja the temple was named as thillai Thiruperudurai.
- God Nataraja statues along with Sivagami you can see Manikkavachakar statue also with Tribhanga holding Palm leaf written "Om Namah Shivaya"



**Manikkavasgar's Thiruvagam- Shivapuranam** is very important and powerful hymn which is written by God Shiva himself when Manikkavasagar dictated him.

Namasivaya vaazhga, Nadan thal vazzhga,  
Imai podum yennenjil neengaadhan thal vazhga.  
Kokazhi anda guru manithan thaal vaazhga,  
Agamam aagi nindru annippan vaazhga,  
Yekan anegan iravaian adi Vaazhga(1-5)

#### **Meaning of song**

Hail, the five letters! Hail, foot of the God !  
Hail, foot of Him Who not for an instant quits my heart !  
Hail, foot of the Guru-pearl that rules in GOgari !  
Hail, foot of Him Who becomes, abides, draws near as the Agamam !  
Hail, foot of Him, the One, the Not-One, and the King ! (1-5)

total 95 lines pls visit website for full song

[www.shaivam.org](http://www.shaivam.org) thiruvagasam

## 63 NAYANMARS

1. Sundaramurthi Nayanar
2. Tiru Neelakanta Nayanar
3. Iyarpahai Nayanar
4. Ilayankudi Mara Nayanar
5. Maiporul Nayanar
6. Viralminda Nayanar
7. Amaraneedi Nayanar
8. Eripatha Nayanar
9. Enadinatha Nayanar
10. Kannappa Nayanar
11. Kungiliya Kalaya Nayanar
12. Manakanchara Nayanar
13. Arivattaya Nayanar
14. Anaya Nayanar
15. Murthi Nayanar
16. Muruga Nayanar
17. Rudra Pasupathi Nayanar
18. Tiru Nalai Povar Nayanar
19. Tiru Kurippu Thonda Nayanar
20. Chandesvara Nayanar
21. Tiru-Navukkarasar Nayanar
22. Kulacchirai Nayanar
23. Perumizhalai Kurumba Nayanar
24. Karaikal Ammaiyar
25. Appuddi Nayanar
26. Tiruneelanakka Nayanar
27. Nami Nandi Adigal
28. Tiru Jnana Sambandar
29. Eyarkon Kalikama Nayanar
30. Tiru Mula Nayanar
31. Dandi Adigal Nayanar
32. Murkha Nayanar
33. Somasira Nayanar
34. Sakkiya Nayanar
35. Sirappuli Nayanar
36. Siruthonda Nayanar
37. Cheraman Perumal Nayanar
38. Gananatha Nayanar
39. Kootruva Nayanar
40. Pugal Chola Nayanar
41. Narasinga Muniyaraiyar
42. Adipattha Nayanar
43. Kalikamba Nayanar
44. Kalia Nayanar
45. Satti Nayanar
46. Aiyadigal Kadavarkon Nayanar
47. Kanampulla Nayanar
48. Kari Nayanar
49. Ninra Seer Nedumara Nayanar
50. Mangayarkarasiyar
51. Vayilar Nayanar
52. Munaiyaduvar Nayanar
53. Kazharsinga Nayanar
54. Seruthunai Nayanar
55. Idangazhi Nayanar
56. Pugazh Tunai Nayanar
57. Kotpuli Nayanar
58. Pusalar Nayanar
59. Nesa Nayanar
60. Kochengat Chola Nayanar
61. Tiru Neelakanta Yazhpanar
62. Sadaya Nayanar
63. Isaijnaniyar

List of the Nayanmars was first compiled by Sundarar, he identified 60 Nayanmars later sage **Sekkilar's** who wrote Periya Puranam of Thirumurai -12. He include Sundarmurthy nayanmar and his parents Sadayan Nayanmar {father } & His mother Isaignani as Nayanmars. So total 63 Nayanmars.

**Some of the Nayanmars were rulers: -**

**Pugal Chola Nayanmar** was Chola King.

**Narasinga Muniyaraiyar Nayanar** - He is also king and Foster father of Sundara Murthy Nayanar.

**Ninra Seer Nedumaara** was Pandya King.

**Mangayarkarasiyar** – Queen and wife of Nindra seer Nedumaran.

**Cheraman Perumal Nayanar** – Chera ruler

**Kulachirai Nayanar** - He became the Prime Minister of the Pandyan King Koon Pandiyan.

**Kannappa Nayanar** - Believed to be a reincarnation of Arjuna.

As Dandi Adigal was blind few mocked Dandi Adigal's blindness and in some versions, promised to leave the town if Shiva would restore Dandi Adigal's eyesight Rudra Pasupathi Nayanar was an ardent Shiva devotee. He used go to the water tank in the early morning and evening and chant Shri Rudram Chamakam hymn with folded hands raised above his head

Sambandar died around 655 CE at the age of 16, at the age of seven, have expounded the Vedas with great clarity. Sambandar attained liberation mukti at the age of sixteen soon after his marriage on the day of his wedding when Shiva met him and took his relatives and him to his abode.

*Paadal Petra Sthalams* are 276 temples that are revered in the verses of Tevaram and are amongst the greatest Shiva temples

Pugal Chola ruled the Chola kingdom from its capital Uraiyur, presently a neighbourhood of the Indian city of Tiruchirappalli

There were 63 Nayanmars in which 3 were female Nayanmars Mangayarkarasiyar was the queen of Pandian empire. Isaiganiyar and Karaikkal Ammaiyaar .

only 17 were brahmins, remaining 6 were belongs to kshatriyas (one queen and rest all kings). and the rest 40 are Vaishya and shudras sub caste.....





## “TEVARAM” & “THIURVASAGAM” HYMENS.



276 temples where Tevaram song sung by 63 Nayanmars and other saints this temple are called as “Tevara Paadal Petra Sthalams”. With this songs Nayanmars glorified and sung song deeply touched, soul-stirring hymns praise of God Shiva, their Expression of complete devotion, heart-warming and intimacy towards God.

**Both Tevaram & Thiruvagasam are Shiva’s very powerful hymns on this Earth.**

- **Birth of Thirumurai** thirumurai means 12 volumes holy division of Tevaram & Thiruvagasam songs / hymns which praise of God Shiva.
- During the reign Chola dynasty in the 10th century {1000 years ago} King Rajaraja I once listen Tevaram in his court, he delighted and asked for the support and help of a priest in a temple named Nambi Andar Nambi to retrieve Tevaram, Thiruvagasam literary works cover almost 600 years.
- Thus, the Chola king became renowned as Tirumurai Kanda Cholan {the king who saw great legend called Tevaram} which meant the one who saved Tirumurai. Till now, the temples of God Shiva which contained images of gods and deities only. But after the emergence of Rajaraja Chola I, the images of the Nayanar saint poets were also installed in the Chidambaram temples.
- Nambi Andar Nambi ( 1000 years ago ) said to have compiled and assembled 11 books of total 12 books which widely believed that by divine intervention granted a revelation by God Shiva himself at Tiruvapur. thirumurai of all of the Nayanars, adding to them the works of several other famous poets which he found Inside a chamber of 2nd division in Thillai Nataraja Temple, Chidambaram.



## 12 HOLY DIVISIONS OF THIRUMURAI

### Thirunana Sambandar Nayanmar

- Thirumurai 1 - 1469 Tevaram songs.
- Thirumurai 2 - 1331 Tevaram songs
- Thirumurai 3 – 1358 Tevaram songs. Total 4154 songs.

### Thirunavukkarasu Nayanmar.

- Thirumurai 4 - 1070 Tevaram songs,
- Thirumurai 5 - 1015 Tevaram songs
- Thirumurai 6 – 981 songs Tevaram . Total 3066 songs.

### ➤ Sundaramurthy Nayanmar Thirumurai-7 Tevaram - 1026 songs.

- **Manikavasagar.** Thirumurai - 8 Thiurvasagam ,Thiruvempavai - Total 1056 songs

### ➤ **Few Nayanmars.** Thirumurai -9 Thiruvissappa thirupplandu - 301 song.

### ➤ **Thirumular-** Thirumirai -10 Thirumandiram -3047 songs.

- **Thirumirai** -11 - Tiruvanthathi – 1385 songs compiled by Karaikal Ammaiyar, Cheraman Perumal, Nakeerar, Pattintha, Kapilar, Nabi andar nabi and others Tirutotanar

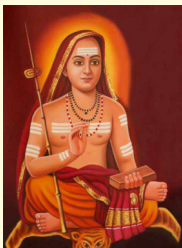
### ➤ **Sekkilar's** Thirumurai -12 – 4286 songs - Periya Puranam.

- Total 18326 songs – 76 books by 27 Saints and Nayanmars .....

For all above songs please visit :- [www.shaivam.org](http://www.shaivam.org) thirumurai



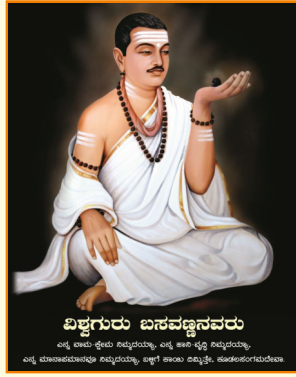
## JAGADGURU ADI SHANKARACHARYA



- **Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya** also called **Adi Shankara** Born in Kalady Ernakulam district of Kerala 1200 years ago and lived short life of 32 years only, at the age of 12 he wrote major scriptural text, at age of 16 he travelled across the ancient Bharath giving message of the vedas.
- Apart from being the champion of Advaita philosophy, one of his invaluable contributions towards Hinduism was the reordering and restructuring of the ancient Sannyasa order. These Sannyasis help eternal code of life contained in the Vedas, still flows as the dynamic force underlying and unifying all humanity reach the masses.
- From the southern state of Kerala, the young Shankara walked about 2000 kilometres— to the banks of the river Narmada, in the central plains of India, to his Guru— Govindapada. He stayed there serving his Guru for four years. Under his teacher's compassionate guidance, the young Shankaracharya mastered all the Vedic scriptures. , however its heads are called "Acharya" or "Jagadguru" instead of "Shankaracharya".
- The four ancient Shankaracharya Mutts were established by Adi Shankaracharya himself

Direction	South India	West India	North India	East India
Place	Sringeri	Dwaraka	Badrinath	Puri
Math Name	Sringeri Math	Sarada Math	Jyotir Math	Govardhan Math
Acharya	Sureswara	Hastamalaka	Trotaka	Padmapada
Veda	Yagur	Sama	Atharva	Rik
Mantra	Aham brahmāsmi	Tattvamasi	Ayamātmā brahma	Prajñānam brahma
Sanyasa Order	Saraswati, Bharati, Puri	Tirtha, Ashrama	Giri, Parvata, Sagara	Vanam, Arany

## SHIVITES BHAKTI MOVEMENTS IN KARNATAKA.



- **Sree Basaveswara** was born 1134 born in Basavana Bagewadi in the northern part of Karnataka, the founder of the Lingayat's sect he was great Shiva bhakta and started Shiva bhakti movement in AD 12th-century CE.
- Basaveshwara was an Indian statesman, philosopher, poet, social reformer and , during the reign of the Kalyani Chalukya/Kalachuri dynasty.
- He focussed bhakti movement constant reminder of one's bhakti (devotion) to Shiva. image of the Shiva Liṅga, to every person regardless of their birth.
- His teachings and verses such as Káyakavé Kailása (Work is the path to Kailasa [bliss, heaven], or Work is Worship) became popular.
- Basavanna spread social awareness through his Vachanas. { poetry } rejected discrimination, superstitions strong promoter of ahimsa, he also condemned human and animal sacrifices.
- Basavanna literary works include the Vachana Sahitya. He is also known as Bhakti Bhandar.
- As the chief minister of his kingdom, he introduced new public institutions such as the Anubhav Mantapa ("hall of spiritual experience"), which welcomed men and women from all socio-economic backgrounds to discuss spiritual in open forum.
- Lingayat, also known as Veerashaiva. Even today Veerashaiva tradition play essential in role and is continued to preserved and transmitted by five peethas of Rambhapuri, Ujjaini, Kedar, Shreeshail, Kashi.



### One of Famous Basavana Vachana :

The rich will make temples for Shiva, What shall I, a poor man do?  
My legs are pillars, the body the shrine, the head a cupola of gold.

Listen, O God of the meeting rivers, things standing shall fall,  
but the moving ever shall stay.

by Basavana.

ಉಳ್ಳವರು ಶಿವಾಲಯವ ಮಾಡುವರು, ನಾನೇನು ಮಾಡಲಿ ಬಡವನಯ್ಯೆ?  
ಎನ್ನ ಕಾಲೇ ಕಂಬ ದೇಹವ ದೇಗುಲ, ಶಿರವೇ ಹೊನ್ನ ಕಳಸವಯ್ಯೆ!  
ಕೂಡಲಸಂಗಮ ದೇವ ಕೇಳಯ್ಯೆ, ಸ್ಥಾವರಕೃಳ್ಳಿವುಂಟು ಜಂಗಮಕೃಳ್ಳಿವಿಲ್ಲ

### LIST OF NOTABLE LINGAYATS SAINTS& LINGAYATISM.

- **Saints :-** Basavana, Allama prabhu { nephew of Basavanna } , Akka Mahadevi, Siddharma, Channabasavanna {nephew of Basavanna} Siddhalinga, Chamarasa, Somatha & Sri Revanna Siddeshwara Swamy.
- **Beliefs and practices -** Guru, Lingam, Vibhuti, Jangam, Ashravarana, Shatsthala, Panchachara, Ishatalinga, Kayakave Kailasa, Sharana, & Pranalinga.
- **Scriptures -** Vachana Shitya, Karan Hasuge, Basava purana, Shunya sampadane & Mantra Gopya.
- **Pilgrim Place -** Kudalasangama, Basavakalyana, Srisailam, Ingaleshwara, Ulavi, Yedeyuru, Solapura & Basavanagiri. Anubhava mantapa.



## AKKA MAHADEVI

ಅಕ್ಕ ಮಹಾದೇವಿ



- She was born in Udatadi (c.1130–1160), near Shivamogga , one of the early female Kannada and a prominent person in the Lingayat Shaiva sect in the 12th century.
- She is seen as an inspirational woman in Kannada literature and in the history of Karnataka. She considered the god Shiva ('Chenna Mallikarjuna') as her husband.
- Tharu and Lalita also document a popular claim that a local Jain king named Kaushika sought to marry her, but that she rejected him, choosing instead to fulfil the claims of devotion to the deity Para Shiva. In her vachana she lays down three conditions for marrying the king, including control over the choice to spend her time in devotion or in conversation with other scholars and religious figures, rather than with the king.
- when King Kaushika violated the conditions, she had laid down, Akka Mahadevi left the palace, renouncing all her possessions including clothes, Legend has it that due to her true love and devotion with God her whole body was protected by hair.
- to travel to Srisailam, home of the god Para Shiva. Some other sources suggest that Akka Mahadevi's act of renunciation was a response to the king's threats after she refused his proposal It is likely that she visited the town of Kalyana en route, where she met two other poets and prominent figures of the Lingayat movement, Allama and Basava.
- She is believed to have travelled, towards the end of her life, to the Srisailam mountains, where she lived as an ascetic and eventually died. A vachana attributed to Akka Mahadevi suggests that towards the end of her life King Kaushika visited her there, and sought her forgiveness.

## ALLAMA PRABHU

ಅಲ್ಲಮ ಪ್ರಭು.



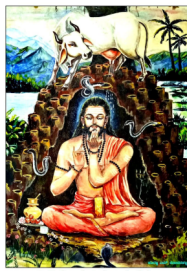
- **Allama Prabhu** was a 12th-century mystic-saint and Vachana poet of the Kannada propagating the unitary consciousness of Self and Shiva.
- Allama Prabhu is one of the celebrated poets of the Lingayata movement.
- Allama prabhu used poetry, now part of Vachana Sahitya literature, to criticise rituals and social conventions, to break down social barriers and to emphasize moral values and devotional worship of Shiva.
- Allama died in Kadalivana near Srisaila which is also known us Dakshina Kedara means Kedarnath of the South ancient Srisailam.



## CHANNABASAVANNA & SIDDALINGESHWARA



ಚನ್ನಬಸವನ ಚಿತ್ರಣ



ಸಿದ್ಧಲಿಂಗೇಶ್ವರನ ಚಿತ್ರಣ

- **Chanabasavana** also known as " Guru Channabasaveshwara " was Basava's nephew and one of the foremost Sharanas of the 12th century. He along with Basava, Allama Prabhu and Akka Mahadevi, played a pivotal role in the propagation of the Lingayat faith.
- He composed many Vachanas under the pen name Kudala Channasangama. His young shoulders carried on the legacy of Basava after the latter's departure to Kudalasangama in 1162 AD. He was a strong advocate of the Ishtalinga wearing and expounded the material as well as the esoteric meaning of that divine symbol.
- Following the assassination of Kalachuri King Bijjala II in 1167 A.D, Channabasava along with his followers migrated to Ulavi safeguarding the Vachana literature. He attained Samadhi state there at the age of 25 passing on the leadership of the movement to Siddarama.
- **Yedyuru Siddhalingeswara** is a very famous pilgrimage place situated in Yedyuru @ Kunigal. temple it contains Nirvikalpa Shivayoga Samadhi of Tontada Siddalinga, a Great revered Lingayata Saint who flourished during the end of 15th century.
- Sri Siddalingeswara Swamy a great revered Sharana Saint in the path of Lingayatha Shiva Sharana Parampare of diffusion of Thatva of Life called VACHANAS. He travelled far and wide preaching Sharana faith which is predominantly praying with ISHTA LINGA (atma linga) as envisaged by Basavanna, Allamaprabhu and a vast group of learned men and women from all walks of life (12th century in present-day Bijapur district).
- He headed the Murugi Mutha and had a large following of disciples some of who wrote on Lingayat faith and philosophy. Hence Yedeyuru is deemed to be a seat of awakened spiritual consciousness. Sri Siddalingeswara Swami is hailed to be an embodiment of God Shiva. His life and values held by him demonstrated the divine powers attained by him to heal the sick and suffering.

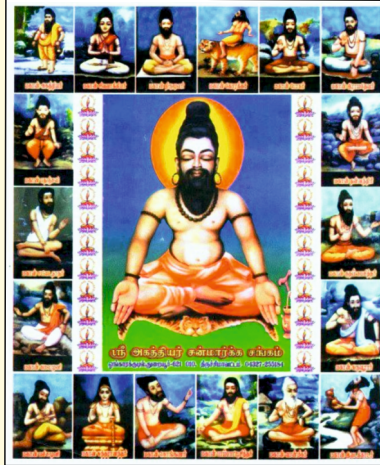
## MAHADESHWARA SWAMY



- **Male Mahadeshwara Betta** ಮಲೆ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರ is a pilgrim town located in ChamaraJanagar district southern Karnataka about 210 km from Bengaluru. The ancient and sacred temple of Sri Male Mahadeshwara is a pilgrim centre where Mahadeshwara lived, practiced medicine as Siddha, taught ahimsa to people in and around the seven hills.
- The God Sri Mahadeshwara born in Kali Yuga is believed to be the incarnation of God Shiva. Historical evidences suggest that the Saint Mahadeshwara must have lived during the 15th century. About 600 years ago, he came here to perform penance and it is believed that he is still performing penance in the temple's Garbha Gudi in the form of a Linga. The Linga, worshipped now in the Garbha Gudi, is a self-manifested (swayambhu) one. Sri Male Mahadeshwara Swamy was moving on a tiger known as Huli Vahana (Tiger as a vehicle) and performed a number of miracles around the Betta to save the people and saints living there.
- He was spiritually guided by the then pontiff of Suttur Mutt and Kunthur Mutt (Veerashaiva Lingayat Mutts). The young saint is supposed to have come from Srishaila to this part of the state.
- He is said to have performed several miracles in his life, in these places. Afterwards he is said to have gone to the hills of Male Mahadeshwara. It is a dense forest area surrounded by seventy-seven peaks in seven circles. It was not a safe place for human habitation. It was about six centuries ago that the young saint went in to the forest area, to save the saints who were performing penance and were taken captive by an evil king known as Shravana who possessed abundant black magic power. Apart from this there were tribes living here and there in small groups who were devoid of any rays of human civilization.
- According to tradition there are seven peaks identified in the legend - Anumale, Jenumale, Kanumale, Pachchemale, Pavalamale, Ponnachimale and Kongumale. These seven peaks together form the Male Mahadeshwara Betta.



## The Siddhar {Tamil: சித்தர்}



- There were 18 siddhars in the Tamil Siddha Tradition The word Siddhar is from Sanskrit: siddhar who has achieved a high degree of physical as well as spiritual perfection or enlightenments. Siddha practitioners believe that five basic elements – earth, water, fire, air, sky – are in food, "humours" of the human body,
- there are five elements that exist in nature: earth, water, fire, air, and ether, all of which form the original basis of all corporeal things. They can bend the sky like a bow. Fire cannot harm siddhars
- Tamil tradition who has attained spiritual powers named Their one of the objectives may be to experience the Sivam (the supreme God) in their respective human frame.
- They are knowledgeable in science, technology, astronomy, literature, fine arts, music, drama, dance, and provided solutions to common people in their illness and advice for their future.
- The siddha system of medicine is based on the principles of Panchabootham (Five basic elements), 96 Thathuvas, (Factors), Mukkuttram (3 humours) and Arusuvai (6 tastes).
- siddhar have had some miraculous powers, as per various yogic and religious texts. They also are said to have the power of converting their mass to energy and thereby traveling to different universes.

## 18 “SIDDHARS” IN THE TAMIL SIDDHA TRADITION

1. Siddhar Nandeeswarar / Nandi Devar. Place of Samathi : Kasi (Benares)
2. Siddhar Thirumoolar. Place of Samathi : Chidambaram.
3. Siddhar Agastiyar. Place of Samathi : Anandasayana. Thiruvanatha puram
4. Siddhar Kamalamuni. Place of Samathi : Aarur (Tiruvarum).
5. Siddhar Patanjali Pathanjali. Place of Samathi : Rameshwaram.
6. Siddhar Korakkar (Gorakkar). Place of Samathi : Poyur { perur , Girnar}.
7. Siddhar Sundaranandar. Place of Samathi : Madurai.
8. Siddhar Konkanavar. Place of Samathi : Tirupathi.
9. Siddhar Sattamuni. Place of Samathi : Srirangam.
10. Siddhar Vanmeegar / Valmiki. Place of Samathi : Ettikudi.
11. Siddhar Ramadevar (yacop). Place of Samathi : Alagar Malai.
12. Siddhar Dhanvanthri. Place of Samathi : Vaideeshwaram.
13. Siddhar Idaikkadar. Place of Samathi : Thiruvannamalai.
14. Siddhar Macchamuni. Place of Samathi : Tirupparankundram.
15. Siddhar Karuvoorar. Place of Samathi : Karuvai (Karur).
16. Siddhar: Bhogar. Place of Samathi : Palani.
17. Siddhar Paambatti. Place of Samathi : Harisankaran Koil
18. Siddhar Kuthambai, Place of Samathi : Mayavaram.

Bognathar who is also known as the Palani Malai Siddhar is one among the 18 yoga siddhas. He was initiated by Kalanginathar and Agastyar.

The basic motto of Siddha science is,

**“Food itself is medicine and medicine itself is food”.**

## 12 JYOTIRLINGAS



Jyotirlingas are devotional representation of God Shiva. In Sanskrit compound of Jyoti's 'radiance' and linga.

According to Shiva purana, there was once an argument between Vishnu and Brahma with each claiming to be the supreme power. In order to put them to test, Shiva pierced the three worlds into an enormous pillar of light called the jyotirlinga.

Following are the 12 Jyotirlinga very important temples of God Shiva.

1. SOMNATH JYOTIRLINGA
2. MALLIKARJUNA SWAMY JYOTIRLINGA.
3. MAHAKALESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA
4. OMKARESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA
5. BAIDYANATH JYOTIRLINGA
6. BHIMASHANKAR JYOTIRLINGA
7. RAMANATHASWAMY JYOTIRLINGA
8. NAGESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA
9. KASHI VISHWANATH JYOTIRLINGA.
10. TRIMBAKESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA
11. KEDARNATH JYOTIRLINGA.
12. GHRISHNESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA

## SOMNATH JYOTIRLINGA



Is first jyotirlinga, originally believed to have been made of pure gold and silver, the temple witnessed massive destruction from Arab and Afghani invaders and by the Mughal emperor, Aurangzeb during different time periods attacked 17 times and looted by Muslim rulers they even destroyed sanctum, later it was re-built In 1947, the temple was restored on the orders of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and the Jyotirlinga was installed by the then president Dr. Rajendra Prasad. Temples is about 1800 km from Bangalore.

## MALLIKARJUNA SWAMY JYOTIRLINGA.



in Srisailam is the Second jyotirlinga, built around 1234 AD, by the Hoyasala King, vira Narsimha, this ancient temple of Mallikarjuna still stands in pride Dravidian style of architecture According to the Shiv Purana, God Shiva took the form of Jyotirlinga here on the Krauncha Mountain, when he along with his wife, Goddess Parvati visited their son, Kartikeya to console him of his anger owing to the marriage of his younger brother, God Ganesh, The temple constitutes the deities of Mallikarjuna (God Shiva) and Bhramarambha (Goddess Parvati). This is the only temple where pilgrims can touch the idols, which is not allowed in any other south Indian Shiva temple. This temple which is about 500 km from Bangalore it considered to be one of the 18 maha Shakthi peeta Bramaramika devi.

## MAHAKALESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA



Situated in the historical city of Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh on the banks of River Kshipra, the Mahakaleshwar Temple. Main highlight of this temple is its 'Bhasma - Aarti' that is the first ritual performed in the morning during which the Shivalinga is bathed with the ashes taken from a fresh funeral pyre. Special poojas especially during the month of Sawan and on Nag Panchami .

There are many mythological stories Temple the one that is most frequently heard is that God Shiva appeared in Ujjain from the ground to vanquish a demon called Dushana whose tortures on the people and Brahmins of the Ujjain city had crossed all the limits.

After killing the demon, God Shiva took the form of Jyotirlinga and since then, he has been residing in this holy city, showering his holy blessings. Temple which is about 1400 km from Bangalore, third jyotirlinga, one the 18 Maha Shaktipeeta of Mahakali devi.

## OMKARESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA



Which is in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh, Omkareshwar and 'Mamleshwar' temples at the banks of Narmada River on an island called Mandhata. It is believed that the island is in the shape of 'Om' – a spiritual symbol. Thousands of devotees gather here for the darshans of Omkareshwar Jyotirlinga on the occasions of Shivratri, Mahashivratri and Kartik Poornima. Serene Vibes and picturesque views of the sacred Narmada River adds to the divinity of these shrines. The temple of Mamleshwar is separated from Omkareshwar by a narrow bridge. God Shiva, in the form of Omkareshwar, defeated the Asuras during a violent war between Devas and Asuras. Temple is about 1250 km from Bangalore.



## BAILYANATH JYOTIRLINGA



in Deoghar, Baidyanath Dham in Jharkhand temple complex is located in Deoghar in the Santhal Parganas division, adorned with the presence of 21 temples. The sacred Shivalinga existing here is decorated with precious gems. Not only it is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas but also a prominent Shakti peeth, where body parts of Goddess Shakti fell.

During Mughal Rule, Raja Man Singh, the ruler of Amber is said to have built a pond here which is known as Mansarovar. The temple's pyramidal tower is 72ft high. The eight petaled lotus known as Chandrakanta Mani is the most beautiful sight to behold.

### God Shiva as Vaidya-(Doctor)

One popular legend here states that this place is where Ravana sacrificed his ten heads in order to gain favour of God Shiva. The heads were then joined back by God Shiva, who acted like a Vaidya (Doctor), and thus, the place was named as Baidynath Dham. There is a popular belief claiming that offering prayers in this temple renders devotees a healthy and prosperous life. This temple 1600 km from Bangalore, also one of the 18 maha Shakti peeta of Mata Jayadurga.

## BHIMASHANKAR JYOTIRLINGA



It is situated Sahyadri Hills near Pune in Maharashtra. The temple's Garba Griha is a beautiful amalgamation of Rajasthani and Gujarati influences in its Nagara (Indo Aryan architecture) style. The outer walls of the temple depicts the scenes from Shiv leela, Krishna Leela, Ramayana and Mahabharata.

This mesmerizing piece of worship was built by Nana Phadnavis in the 18th century. According to the Hindu Puranas, God Shiva took a rudra avatar to kill a wicked demon called Tripurasura, who was in rage of destroying the three looks: Heaven, Hell and Nether world (Patal). After killing the demon, the God sat down on the Sahyadri Mountains to take some rest. It is then, when the sweat from his body started flowing and turned into the Bhima River. On request from Devas, God Shiva stayed on these mountains in the form of Jyotirlinga. is about 950 km from Bangalore.

## RAMANATHASWAMY JYOTIRLINGA



Ramanathaswamy Temple is the pillar of God Rama's never-ending faith for God Shiva.

It is said that Rameshwaram was sanctified by God Rama by worshipping God Shiva after returning from Lanka, who killed the demon Ravana for abducting his wife Goddess Sita.

Get moksha for his sins, he wanted to pray to God Shiva in the form of Shivling. So, he sent God Hanuman to get the biggest lingam from the Himalayas. As God Hanuman took very long to get the Shivling, Goddess Sita created a Shivalinga from sand.

Before entering the inner sanctum residing the Shivling, it is mandatory for all devotees to take bath in the 22 'theerthams' or the holy water tanks in the temple complex.

Around the temple, there are many more sacred sites that include the 'Agniteertham', 'Gandhamadhana Parvatham Temple', 'Panchmukhi Hanuman Temple', 'Rama Setu', 'Jada Tirtham Temple' and 'Kothandaramaswamy Temple'. Tamil Nadu which is about 600 km from Bangalore.

## NAGESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA

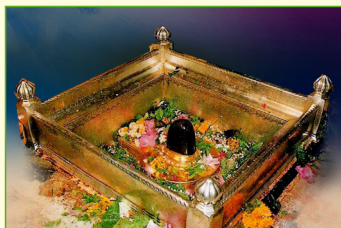


in Dwarka, The creation date of the temple remains unknown, but at present the temple was renovated by Late Gulshan Kumar in 1996. Thousands of pilgrims visit the temple every year to seek blessings from the God Shiva who is worshipped here in the form of 'Nagdev'. A 25-meter-tall statue of God Shiva in a seated position is a great attraction of this temple and provides a perfect backdrop for a nice remembrance picture.

As per the Shiv Purana, a demon named Daruka was blessed by Goddess Parvati, who was a wife of God Shiva. Misusing her blessings, Daruka tyrannized the local people and imprisoned a Shiva devotee named Supriya along with some other people.

On advice of Supriya, everyone started chanting the Shiv Mantra to save themselves from Daruka. Seeing this, Daruka raged in anger and ran to kill Supriya, when suddenly God Shiva in the form of Jyotirlinga appeared to protect her and other devotees. Since then, the Jyotirlinga is revered here in the Nageshwar Temple. Gujarat very near Dwarka temple and which is about 1900 km from Bangalore.

## KASHI VISHWANATH JYOTIRLINGA.



In Varanasi, With almost 2000 temples in the city of Banaras/Varanasi, the most sacred is believed to be the 'Kashi Vishwanath Temple', The temple originally dates back to the 11th century and was plundered many times by Afghan and Arab invaders. The present temple was renovated by Rani Ahilya Bai Holkar in the year 1780. The towers of the temple are gold plated with a golden chhatra on the

top.

Along with the Kashi Vishwanath Temple, other sacred sites including the 'Annapurna Mata Temple', 'Visalakshi Temple' and 'Kalbhairav Temple' are visited by many pilgrims. Temple which is about 1800 km from Bangalore, also one of the 18 maha shakti peeta of Vishalakshi devi.

## TRIMBAKESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA



in Nasik, Brahmagiri Hill and Kalagiri hill adds to the divine radiance of this temple. There is a pond named Kushavarta in the premises of the temple which is said to be the origin point of Godavari River.

The most fascinating sight is the three faced Shiva Linga which embodies God Shiva, God Vishnu and God Brahma. The Linga is decked with numerous precious stones like Diamond and emeralds etc. Apart from the main shrine of Trimbakeshwar, God Krishna, Goddess Gangadevi, God Jaleswara, Lakshmi Narayan, God Kedarnath, God Rama, God Parsurama, God Rameshwaram and God Gautameshwar adorn the temple. Maharashtra which is about 1000 km from Bangalore.

## KEDARNATH JYOTIRLINGA.



In Rudraprayag, situated in the Himalayan Range in Uttarakhand, the 'Kedarnath Temple' is the highest amongst the twelve Jyotirlingas. The origin of the temple is believed to have been during the time of Mahabharata.

The Kedarnath Temple is also one of the 'Chota Char Dham' pilgrimage sites for Hindus. Owing to extreme cold weather on the hills during winters, the temple is

closed and the idol of God Shiva is brought down at 'Ukhimath' where the deity is worshipped during the winter months.

The idol is reinstated in the Kedarnath Temple during the month of Vaisakh as per the Hindu calendars, during which the temple is set open for pilgrims.

According to the legends, Pandavas performed a great penance here to God Shiva to absolve their sins after the battle of Mahabharata. Pleased with the Pandavas, God Shiva appeared in the form of a triangular Jyotirlinga. The temple was originally built by the Pandavas and was afterwards rebuilt by the Hindu Guru, Adi Shankaracharya. The temple is in Uttarakhand which is about 2000 km from Bangalore.

## GHRISHNESHWAR JYOTIRLINGA



In Aurangabad located at a village called Verul, near Aurangabad in Maharashtra, the 'Grishneshwar Temple' dates back to the 18th century. The architecture, paintings and sculptures on temple walls remind the excellent architectural skills of the artisans of the bygone era. Made up of five-tier 'shikara' it is the smallest Jyotirlinga temple in India.

According to the Shiv Purana, there was a lady named Ghushma whose son was killed by her own sister. Out of grief she started praying to God Shiva, pleased with the devotion of Ghushma, Shiva blessed her with a son. On request of Ghushma, Shiva resided here eternally in the form of Grishneshwar Jyotirlinga which is about 950 km from Bangalore.



## ASHTADASA {18} MAHA SHAKTI PEETHAM



### WHAT IS SHAKTI PEETA.

Wherever Sati's {first wife of Shiva} body parts fell on the earth each places called as "Shakti peeta".

Various Puranas, Srimad Devi Bhagavatam there are 51 Shakti peeta but Adi Shankara's in his Stotram identify and mentions 18 locations known as the Maha Shakti Peetas details are given below.

According to legend, Sati mother goddess Shakti was also known as Dakshayani. She considered the first wife of Shiva, the other being Parvati, who was Sati's reincarnation after her death.

Sati daughter Daksha Prajapati, who is also son of God Brahma.

Sati marries Shiva against her father's wishes so Daksha performed a yajna with a desire to take revenge on God Shiva, for yajna {fire sacrifice} he invited everyone in the universe except God Shiva and Sati, but sati attends his father's Yajna against wishes of shiva but Daksha humiliates sati and shiva Infront of everyone.

According to shiva purana Sati jump herself in the Agnikunda to protest against humiliation of God shiva and uphold the honour of her husband, enraged at the insult and death of his spouse, Shiva gets very angry and he plucked his hair and thrashed it on the ground then both Veerabhadra and Bhadrakali were born from it. Veerabhadra shiv avatar went and destroyed Daksha's yajna and cut off daksha head. after Sati's death grief-stricken Shiva picked up her deep sacred mortal self remains and performed Tandava {celestial dance of destruction} others God could not see the agony of shiva frightened they requested mahaVishnu to intervene to stop this destruction. As a recourse, Vishnu used the Sudarshan Chakra on Sati's corpse and cut into several pieces and various parts of Sati's body to fall at several spots across the world.





Three Shakti Peetha are regarded as the most sacred most important aspects of the Mother Goddess.

1. Kamakhya devi Creation (Kamarupa Devi), regarded as living goddess.
2. Sarvamangala Devi/Mangalagauri for Nourishment.
3. Mahakali Devi of Ujjain for Annihilation

Name Of Shakti	Part of the Body Fallen	Temple Place - distance from Bangalore
1. Kamakshi Devi	Navel	Kanchi (Tamilnadu) –275 km from Bangalore
2. Chamundeshwari Devi	Hair	Mysore (Karnataka) -- 161 km
3. Jogulamba Devi	Upper Teeth	Alampur (Telengana) – 385 km
4. Bhramarambaika Devi	Neck	Srisaillam (Andhra Pradesh) – 500 km
5. Mahalakshmi Devi	Left eye	Kolhapur (Maharashtra) – 610 km
6. EkaveenikaDevi	Right Hand	Nanded (Maharashtra) – 800 km
7. Mahakalai Devi	Upper Lip	Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh) --1400
8. Puruhuthika Devi	Left Hand	Pithapuram (Andhra Pradesh)—870 km
9. Baidyanath Jayadurga Shakti Peeth	Heart	Deogarh in Jharkhand—1600 km
10. Manikyamba Devi	Left Check	Draksharamam (Andhra Pradesh) -850km
11. Kamakya Devi	Vulva	Gawhati (Assam) – 2900 km
12. Alopi sankari devi	Fingers	Prayaga (Uttar Pradesh)— 1730 km
13. Jwalamhuki Devi	Head	Jwala (Himachal Pradesh)-2500 km
14. Sarvamangala Devi	Breast	Gaya (Bihar) – 2100 km
15. Vishalakshi Devi	Wrist	Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)1800 km
16. Shrunkala Devi	Stomach	Praddyumnam (West Bengal)-1800
17. Sharada shakthi peeta	Right hand	In Pakistan occupied Kashmir – 2500 km
18. Sankari Devi	Thigh Part	Trincomalee (Sri Lanka) – 1600 km

## SRI ANNAPOORNA ASHTAKAM



**Annapurna Stotram** is a divine hymn composed by Guru Adishankara Charya in praise of Goddess Annapurneshwari, the bestower of food and prosperity and the consort of God Shiva. The main motive of reciting this hymn is to request the goddess Annapurneshwari to provide food, wealth, prosperity, and wisdom in our lives and to the world.

Nithyaananda kari,Varaa abhya karee,Soundarya rathnaakaree,  
Nirddhotahakila ghora pavaanakaree,Prathyaksha Maheswaree,  
Praaleyachala vamsa pavavakaree,Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree. || 1 ||

Naana rathna vichitra bhooshana karee,Hemaambaradambaree,  
Mukthaa haara vilamba maana vilasa,Dwakshoja kumbaan dharee,  
Kasmeera garu vasithaa ruchi karee,Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 2 ||

Yogaanandakaree ripu kshyakaree,Dharman artha nishtaakaree,  
Chandrarkaanaala bhasa maana laharee, Trilokya rakshaa karee,  
Sarvaiswarya samastha vaanchithakaree,Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 3 ||

Kailaasaachala kandharaa laya karee, Gowree , uma sankaree,  
Kaumaree nigamartha gochara karee, Omkara beejaksharee,  
Moksha dwaara kavata patana karee, Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 4 ||

Drusyaa drusya vibhootha vahana karee, Brhmaanda bhando dharee,  
Leelaa nataka suthra kelana karee, Vijnana deeptham guree,  
Sree viswesa mana prasaadhana karee, Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 5 ||

Urvee sarva janeswaree bhagawathee, Maatha krupaa sagaree,  
Venee neela samaana kunthala dharee, Ananda dhaneswaree,  
Sarvanandakaree bhayaa shubhakaree, Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 6 ||

Aadhi kshaantha samastha varna nikaree, Shabho tribhaava karee,  
Kasmeeraa tripureswaree trilaharee, Nithyaamakuree sarvaree,  
Kamaa kamksha karee janodhaya karee, Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 7 ||

Devee sarva vichitra rathna rachithaa, Dakshayanee sundaree,  
Vama swadu payodhara priyakaree, Sownhagya maaheswaree,  
Bhakthaabhishatakaree, sadaa shubhakaree, Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 8 ||

Chandrakaanala koti koti sadrusaa, Chandramsu bhimbaan dharee,  
Chandrakaagni samaana kunthala dharee Chandrarka varneshwaree,  
Maala pustaka pasasangusa dharee, Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 9 ||

Kshatrathraanakaree, mahaa bhayakaree, Mthaa krupaa sagaree,  
Sakshaan mokshakaree sadaa shiva karee, Visweshwaree sridharee,  
Daksha krundha karee niraa mayakaree, Kasi puraadheeswaree,  
Bhikshaam dehi, krupaa valambana karee, Mathaa Annapurneswaree || 10 ||

Annapurne sadaa purne, Sankara praana vallabhe,  
Jnana vairagya sidhyartham, Bikshaa dehee cha parvathy.

Mathaa cha Parvathy Devi, Pithaas cha Maheswara  
Bandhawa Shiva Bhakatamscha, Swadesho Bhuvana Trayam.

sarva-mangala-mngalye sive sarvartha-sadhike.  
saranye tryambake gauri narayani namo\_ tu te



## God SHIVA'S PANCHA BHootA STALAM.



Pancha Bhoota Stalam {Five elements of place} Five prime elements of nature – WATER, SKY, FIRE, AIR, EARTH. refers to the 5 Shiva temples 4 in Tamil Nadu and 1 in Andhra Pradesh.

1. Jambukeswarar Temple, Varuna Lingam representing **WATER**.
2. Thillai Nataraja Temple, Indra Lingam representing **SKY**.
3. Annamalaiyar Temple Agni Lingam representing **FIRE**.
4. Srikalahasti Temple Vayu Lingam representing **AIR**.
5. Ekambaranathar Temple representing **EARTH**.

**Jambukeswarar Temple** one of the pancha bhoota stalam representing **WATER**.

**Thillai Nataraja Temple**, Chidambaram one of the pancha bhoota stalam representing **SKY**. was built in the 10th century when Chidambaram was the capital of the Chola dynasty, Shiva as Nataraja is the primary deity of the temple, Nataraja Shiva and his "dance of bliss" The temple has nine major gopuram gateways connecting the various courtyards. Four of these are huge and colorful The Govindaraja shrine is one of the 108 holy temples of Vishnu called divyadesam, revered by the 7th-to-9th-century saint poets of Vaishnava tradition, Alvars Kulashekhar Alwar The **Govindaraja Perumal Temple**, also called **Thiruchitrakoodam**, is a temple dedicated to the Hindu god Vishnu, situated in Chidambaram, a town in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

**Annamalaiyar Temple** one of the pancha bhoota stalam representing **FIRE**.

**Srikalahasti Temple** one of the pancha bhoota stalam representing **AIR**.

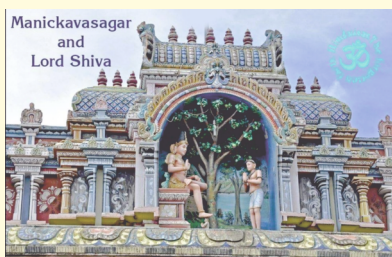
**Ekambaranathar Temple** one of the pancha bhoota stalam Kanchipuram representing **EARTH**. . one of the temples associated with the five elements, the Pancha Bhoota Stalas, and specifically the element of earth, temple is one of the most ancient in India having been in existence since at least 600 CE The Vijayanagar kings, during the 15th century, also made lot of contributions to the temple and later developed by Vallal Pachiyappa Mudaliar used to go regularly from Chennai to Kanchipuram to worship in this temple, he spent significant money he amazed during British rule on the temple renovation, Pachiyappa Mudaliar seated at horse back can be seen in the temple pillar. At the later stage a similar temple with same name Ekambareswarar was constructed in Chennai by Pachiyappa Mudaliar in order to avoid travelling time to Kanchipuram.

## God SHIVA'S FAMOUS ANCIENT TEMPLES. BRIHADESWARA TEMPLE.



Thanjavur. one of the largest Shiva lingas in India (29 ft) high, Nandi is a monolithic one and is one of the largest in the country. Thanjavur south bank of the Kaveri river. was built by stunning monument built by Raja Raja Cholan in 1009 CE for worshipping God Shiva. world's tallest vimanam (temple tower) At a height of more than 212 feet tall and its Kumbam (the structure on the top) weighs approximately 80 tons.

## TIRUPPERUNTHURAI



Manikkavasagar's Tiruvasaki, originated from this shrine.

- This temple also called the Athmanathaswamy temple, Pudukkottai district of Tamil Nadu. It was built to honor God Shiva in 10th century.
- The temple covers an area of over 10 acres (40,000 m<sup>2</sup>) with three enclosures and faces south, constructed so that the setting sun strikes the sanctum even though it is cloistered within three circumambulatory paths.
- The presiding deity is formless (Atmanatar); there is no Śivalingam but only a pedestal (Āvudayar) located in the sanctum, hence the name Avudayar Koil.
- This one of the rarest Saivite shrine in whole of India to portray the supreme truth symbolically. Since the soul (athma) has no form, the deity is called Athmanathar. There are five lamps in the sanctum indicating the five time scales and 27 lamps indicating the 27 Nakshatras of stars seen as forming in the sky.



## THILLAI NATARAJA TEMPLE – THIRUCHITRAMBALAM.



- “For Vaishnavas temples means Sri Rangam similarly for Shaivites temples means Thillai Nataraja temple @ Chidambaram”.
- Chidambaram is an Important and historical temple in Tamil Nādu, temple is spread around 40 acres with four sides entry, A silver Nataraja Ānanda-tāṇḍava is the principal icon in this temple not Shivalinga Shiva himself is presented as the Nataraja performing the Ananda Tandava ("Dance of Delight") in the golden hall of the shrine Pon Ambalam.
- During 10th Century, Chola kings rebuild the Chidambaram temple with stone and gold they renamed it to Chidambaram temple and its capital, Chola kings family deity was Nataraja Shiva.
- Rajendra Chola I constructed the temple in the 11th century.
- Another unique feature is the presence of the God Govindaraja Perumal { Divya desam temple } making it one of the rare temples dedicated to both the Shaivite and Vaishnavite deities.

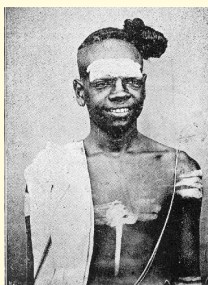
The word Chidambaram comes from the Tamil word Chitrambalam meaning "wisdom atmosphere.

Chidambara Rahasiyam means there is a secret message conveyed through the embossed figure near the shrine of Shiva in the Chidambaram Temple. Since ancient times, it is believed that this is the place where Shiva and his consort Parvati are present, but invisible to most people. In the temple, Chidambara Ragasya is hidden behind a curtain (symbolic of Maya). Worship, or darshan is possible only when priests open the curtain for special pujas. Behind the curtain are golden leaves, signifying the presence of Shiva and Parvati. It is believed that saints can see the gods in their physical form

**THE CHIDAMBARAM TEMPLE SANCTUM CONTAINS A SILVER SCULPTURE OF SHIVA IN HIS ĀNANDA-TĀNDAVA NATARAJA ASPECT. IT SIGNIFIES:**

- The demon under God Nataraja's feet signifies that ignorance is under His feet.
- The fire in His hand means He is the destroyer of evil.
- The crescent moon in His hair signifies benevolence and beauty.
- The arc of fire called Thiruvashi or Prabhavati signifies the cosmos and the perpetual motion of the earth.
- The dreading of His hair and drape signifies the force of His dance.

**THILLAI DIKSHITAR are exclusive priest for CHIDAMBARAM” temple**



- Chidambaram Thillai Dikshitar (Thillai Vazh Anthaanar) are a Vedic Shaiva Brahmin servitor community. They are also called Thillai Muvayiravar or the Three Thousand of Thillai.
- As per puranas 3000 Anthannar have reached thillai {Chidambaram } from mount Kailash along with Shiva thousands of years back they are the main priest of temples till today, their population have shrunk to 1200.
- Every Dikshitar once he is married becomes as of right a trustee and archaka of the Nataraja temple. A practice unique to the community is that the priests wear the tuft of hair in front of the head similar to the Nambuthiri Brahmans of Kerala.
- Most of the historic temples will have 63 Nayanmars and Manikavasagar idols in the temple complex.
- God shivas wish any devotees who go historic temples a devotee should pray and worship all Anthaanar, Nayanmar's & Manikavasagar first then God shiva.

## NAVA { 9 } KAILASAM TEMPLES IN THIRUNALVELI

**Nava Kailasam** refers to nine individual ancient temples of God Shiva in southern districts of Tamil Nadu. These temples are located in the districts Tirunelveli and Tuticorin.

Sage Agasthiyar was performing penance in the Podhikai Hills. One of his prime disciples was Uromacha Munivar. He prayed to God Pashupathi to attain liberation. The God desired to bestow this blessing upon him through his guru, Agasthiyar. Agasthiyar placed nine flowers in the river and instructed Uromacha Munivar to install a Shiva Lingam as Kailasa Nathar wherever the flowers settled on the riverbank. Finally, Munivar was to bathe and worship the God at the spot where the river meets the ocean.

By following these instructions, he would attain his desired outcome. Remaining faithful to his guru's words, Munivar worshipped the God, with the nine flowers transforming into Shiva Lingams at the nine locations where they came to rest. Ultimately, he bathed at the point where Thamiraparani merged with the ocean and achieved liberation. These nine divine abodes are known as Nava Kayilayam.

These nine Siva temples are located uniquely on the river bed of Thamirabarani river. They are:

Sl. No.	Location	Temple	Planet
1	Papanasam, Tirunelveli Dist	Arulmigu Papanasa Nathar Temple	Suriyan
2	Cheran Mahadevi	Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Temple	Chandran
3	Kodaganallur	Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Temple	Chevvai
4	Kunnathur	Arulmigu Kotha Parameswarar Temple	Raghu
5	Murappanadu	Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Temple	Guru
6	Thiruvaikundam	Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Temple	Sani
7	Thenthirupperai	Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Temple	Buthan
8	Raajapathy	Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Temple	Kethu
9	Saendha Poomangalam, Tuticorin	Arulmigu Kailasa Nathar Temple	Sukran

## HOLY MOUNT KAILASH PARVAT.



Finally, we are ending the chapter with one of the world's most sacred and mysterious mountain peak it is traditionally recognized as the abode. Where God resided with Parvathi devi, Ganesh and Karithikeya. Its is the Stairway to Heaven and the most important mountain range is the whole of Himalayas Mount Kailash is 22,000 ft from the Tibetan Plateau is largely considered to be holy palce for Hindus, Jains and Buddhists.

Two beautiful lakes, namely Mansarovar and Rakshas Tal, are located at the base of Mount Kailash. Of the two, Mansarovar, which lies at an altitude of 14,950 ft, is considered the highest freshwater body in the world.

While Mansarovar has a deep spiritual significance, its antithesis, Rakshas Tal, was born of the intense austerities performed by the demon King Ravana to please God Shiva. the Rakshas Tal Lake is endowed with salty water and deprived of aquatic plant life and marine life.

Walking around the mountain Kailash is called as parikrama which take 3 days.

The mountain is located in a particularly remote and inhospitable area of the Tibetan Himalayas. For varied reasons for the different faiths that revere the mountain, setting foot on Mount Kailash's slopes and attempting to climb it is forbidden.



## Part - 2

### 108 DIVYA DESAM TEMPLES OF MAHAVISHNU AND MAHALAKSHMI





## 108 DIVYA DESAM OF VISHNU AND LAKSHMI TEMPLES



**Divya Desam** means this are the 108 Vaishnava's Mahavishnu & Lakshmi Auspicious Temples mentioned and praised by Tamil Azhvar's (saints) in the Divya Prabandham a collection of 4,000 Tamil verses.

105 Divya Desam temple are in India.

Mukti Nath is the only Divya Desam is in Nepal.

last two are believed to outside the planet earth, human being cannot visit Tirupparkatal {milky oceans} and Vaikuntam. {Parama padam}.

Srirangam is famous for Sri Ranganathan temple which is one of the 108 Vaishnava temples and is called Earthy Heaven (Boologa vaikundam)

Ulagalantha perumal temple in Kanchipuram in the only temple complex actually houses four Divya Desam's in its different precincts, namely, Tirukkaravanam, Tirukarakam, Tiruneerakam, and Tiruürakam.

4000 hymens { Naalayira Divya Prabandham } are still sung extensively even today in 108 Divya Desam of Vishnu and Lakshmi temples during festivals.

In these 108 Divyadesams, can be found in 3 positions towards all four directions as mentioned below: -

- Sleeping Position {KidanthaThirukkolam}— 27 Divyadesams
  - Sitting Position {VeetirundhaThirukkolam }— 21 Divyadesams
  - Standing Position {NindraThirukkolam}— 60 Divyadesams
- 
- Towards East direction – 79 Divyadesams
  - Towards West direction – 19 Divyadesams
  - Towards North direction – 3 Divyadesams
  - Towards South direction – 7 Divyadesams.

## 108 DIVYA DESAM LOCATION WISE.



### 108 Divya Desam temples

Tamil Nadu 84 Divya Desam temples

Kerala 11 Temples

Andhra Pradesh 2 Temples.

Gujarat 1 Temple, Uttar Pradesh has 4 Temples, Utrakkhand has 3 Temples.

Nepal 1 temple.

Outside Earthly Realms are 2 divya desam

- Sleeping Position {KidanthaThirukkolam} – 27 Divyadesams
- Sitting Position {VeetrirundhaThirukkolam } – 21 Divyadesams
- Standing Position {NindraThirukkolam} – 60 Divyadesams

Sl No	Name of Temples	Thayar (Lakshmi)	Perumal (Vishnu)
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#### Tiruchirappalli- 6 Divya Desam Temples

1	Srirangam	Ranganayagi	Sri Ranganathar (Periya Perumal)
2	Thirukkozhi Uraiyur	Kamalavalli Vasalakshmi	Sri Azhagiya Manavala Perumal
3	Thirukambanur	Poornaavalli	Sri Purushothama Perumal
4	Thiruvellarai	Rakthapankajavalli	Sri Pundarikaksha Perumal
5	Thiruanbil	Soundaryavalli	Sri Sundaramoorthaye Vadvivzhagiya Nambi Poornaya Perumal
6	Thirupernagar	Indravalli	Sri Appalakuudathan Ranganatha Perumal

### Thanjavur & Kumbakonam- 13 Divya Desam Temples

7	Thirukandiyur	Kamalavalli	Kamalanatha, Sri Hara Saabha Vimocchana Perumal
8	Thirukoodalur	Padmasani	- Sri Aaduthurai Perumal / Jagathrakshaga Perumal
9	Thirukavithalam	Ramamanivalli	<b>Sri Gajendra Varadha Perumal</b>
10	Thiruppullamboothangudi	Hemabja	<b>Sri Valvil Ramar Perumal /</b> Thrudathanvee Ramabadhra Perumal
11	Thiru Aadhanoor	Ranganayagi	<b>Sri Aandu Alakkum Ayan Perumal /</b> Varshakalathinayaka Perumal
12	Thirukudanthai	Komalavalli	<b>Sri Saarangapani Perumal</b> Apyaphamrutha Perumal
13	Thiruvinnagar	Boodevi	<b>Sri Oppiliappa Perumal /</b> Lavanavarjitha Srinivasa Perumal
14	Thirunaraiyur	Vanjulavalli	<b>Sri Thirunarayoor Nambi Perumal /</b> Srinivasa Perumal
15	Thiruchera	Saranayagi	- <b>Sri Saranathan Perumal</b>
16	Thirunandhipura Vinnagaram	Shenbagavalli	<b>Sri Jaganatha Perumal</b>
17	Thiruvelliyangudi	Maragadhavalli	<b>Sri Kola Valvilli Ramar Perumal /</b> Srungarasundara Danushbani Ramaya Perumal
18	Thirukannamangai	Abishegavalli	<b>Sri Bhaktavatsala Perumal</b>
19	Thiruthanjai Mamanikoil	Rakthapankajavalli	<b>Sri Neelamega Perumal</b>

### Mayiladuthurai – 7 Divya Desam Temples

20	Thirukannapuram	Kannapura	Sowriraja Perumal
21	Thirukannangudi	Loganayagi	Lokanatha Perumal
22	Thirunagai	Soundaryavalli	Soundararaja Perumal
23	Thiruvazhundur	Rakthapankajavalli	Devadhiraja Perumal
24	Thiruchirupuliyur	Dhayanayagi	Krupasamudra Perumal
25	Thiruthalaichanga Nanmadiyam	Siras sanga	Chandrasabahara Perumal
26	Thiruindalur	Pundareegavalli	Parimalaranganatha Perumal

### Sirkazhi – 13 Divya Desam Temples

27	Manikundram	Ambujavalli	Maniparvatha Perumal
28	Thanjaiyali Nagar	Thanjanayagi	Narasimha Perumal
27	Thirukazhicheerama Vinnagaram	Loganayagi	Lokanatha Thrivikrama Perumal
28	Thirukkavalambadi	Pankajavalli	Gopala Krishna Perumal
29	Thiruarimeya Vinnagaram	Amrudhagadavalli	Gadakeli Narthanaya Perumal
30	Thiruvanpurushothamam	Purushothama	Purushothama Perumal
31	Thirusempoisaikoil	Sweda Pushpavalli	Hemaranganatha Perumal
32	Thirumanimadakoil	Pundareegavalli	Sashvatha Deepaya Narayana Perumal
33	Thiruvaigunda Vinnagaram	Vaigundavalli	Vaikuntanatha Perumal
34	Thiruthetriambalam	Rakthapankajavalli	Lakshmiranga Perumal
35	Thirumanikoodam	Boonayagi	Varadharaja Perumal
36	Thiruparthanpalli	Kamala	Parthasarathy roopa, Kamalathayee Perumal
37	Thiruvali & Thirunagari	Amrudhagadavalli	Kedarapathivaraya Perumal
38	Thiruthveanarthogai	Samudradanaya	Devanayaka Perumal
39	Thiruvellakulam	Padmavathi	Srinivasa Perumal

### Cuddalore - 3 Divya Desam Temples

40	Thiruchitrakoodam {Chidambaram }	Pundareegavalli	Govindaraja Perumal
41	Thiruvaheendrapuram	Hemabujavalli	Devanatha Perumal
42	Thirukkoyalur	Pushpavalli	Thrivikrama Perumal

### Kanchipuram- 15 Divya Desam Temples

43	Thirukkachi – Atthigiri	Perundevi	Devathiraja Perumal
44	Ashtabuyagaram	Padmasani	Gajendravarada Perumal
45	Thiruthanka	Maragadhavalli	Deepaprakasa Perumal
46	Thiruvellukai	Amruthavalli	Sundharayoghanarasimha Perumal
47	Thiruneeragam	Boovalli	Jagadeeswara Perumal
48	Thiruppadagam	Rukmani Sathyabama	Pandavadootha Perumal
49	ThiruNilathingal Thundam	Chandrasoodavalli	Chandrasooda Perumal
50	Thiruooragam	Amudavalli	Thrivikrama Perumal
51	Thiruvehka	Komalavalli	Yathokthakari Perumal
52	Thirukkaragam	Padmamani	Karunagara Perumal
53	Thirukkarvaanam	Kamalavalli	Neelamega Perumal
54	Thirukkalyanur	Sundarabimbavalli	Choranatha Perumal
55	Thiruppalavannam	Pravalavalli	Pravalavarna Perumal
56	Thiruparamechura Vinnagaram	Vaigundavalli	Vaikundanatha Perumal
57	Thirupputkuzhi	Maragadavalli	Vijayaraghava Perumal

### Chennai- 7 Divya Desam Temples

58	Thirunindravar	Sudhavalli	Bhaktavatsala Perumal
59	Thiruvallur	Kanagavalli	Vaidhya Veeraraghava Perumal
60	Thiruvallikeni	Rukmani	Parthasarathy Perumal
61	Thiruneermalai	Sundaravalli	Jalathivarnaya Perumal
62	Thiruidaventhai	Komalavalli	Lakshmiravara Perumal
63	Thirukkadalmallai { mahabali }	Boosthalamangadevi	Sthalasayana Perumal
64	Thirukkadigai {sholingar }	Amruthabalavalli	Yoganasimha Perumal



### Gujarat- 1 , Uttar Pradesh- 04 , Uttaranchal-03 temples.

65	Thiru Ayothi { Uttar Pradesh)	Seethadevi	Ramachandra Perumal
66	Thirunaimisaranayam {U P)	Sriharilakshmi	Devaraja Perumal
67	Thirupruthi { joshimutt}	Parimalavalli	Paramapurushaya Perumal
68	Thirukkandamenum(Devaprayag)	Pundareegavalli	Neelamega Perumal
69	Thiruvadariyachramam(Badrinath)	Aravindavalli	Badrinarayana Perumal
71	Thiruvadamadurai Govardhanesan)	Sathyabama	Govardhanagiridhari Perumal
72	Thiruvaipadi	Rukmani Sathyabama	Navamohanakrishna Perumal
73	Thirudwaragai Dwaraka, Gujarat)	Lakshmi	Dwarakadeesa Perumal

### Nepal - 1 Divya Desam Temples

73	Thirusalakraamam {mukthinath }	Sridevi	Srimoorthi Perumal
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### Andhra Pradesh- 2 Divya Desam Temples

74	Thiruvengadam(Tirupati)	Padmavathi	Srinivasa(Venkateswara) Perumal
75	Thirusingavelkundram(Ahobilam)	Amruthavalli Senchulakshmi	Lakshminarasimha Perumal

### Kerala - 11 Divya Desam Temples.

76	Thirunavai	Padmavathi	Narayana Perumal
77	Thiruvithuvakodu	Vithuvakoduvalli	Sri Abhayapradhaya Perumal
78	Thirukatkarai	Vathsalyavalli	Katkaraswami Perumal
79	Thirumoozhikkalam	Madhuraveni	Sookthinatha Perumal
80	Thiruvallavazh	Vathsalyavalli	Sundaraya Perumal
81	Thirukkadithalam	Karpagavalli	Amruthanarayana Perumal
82	Thiruchengundrur	Rakthapankajavalli	Devathideva Perumal
83	Thirupputiyur	Hemalatha	Mayashaktiyuthaswamy Perumal
84	Thiruvaranvilai	Padmasani	Vamana Perumal
85	Thiruvanvandoor	Kamalavalli	Kamalanatha Perumal
86	Thiruvananthapuram	Harilakshmi	Ananthapadmanabha Perumal

### Tirunelveli - 12 Divya Desam Temples (Nava Tirupathi Also Located Here)

87	Thirukkurungudi	vamanashetravalli	Vamanakshetrapoornaya Perumal
88	Thirucheeravaramangai	Chireevaramangaivalli	Thothadhrinatha Perumal
89	Thiruvattaru	Maragadhavalli	Adhikesava Perumal
90	Thiruvanparisaram	Kamalavalli	Thiruvazhmarbhan Perumal
91	Thiruvaigundam (Navathirupathi)	Boonayagi, Vaigundavalli	Vaikuntanatha Perumal
92	Thiruvargunamangai (navathirupathi)	Varagunavalli	Vijayasana Perumal
93	Thiruppuliangudi (Navathirupathi)	Boonayagi	Boompalaya Vairinedharchidha Gopaya Perumal
94	Thirutholaivillimangalam(Navathirupathi)	Visalakrishnakshidevi	Aravindhalochana Perumal
95	Thirukkulandai(Navathirupathi)	Baligavalli Padmavathi	Srinivasa Perumal
96	Thirukkolor(Navathirupathi)	Kolurvalli	Nikshepavithaya Perumal
97	Thirupperai (Navathirupathi)	Kundalakarnadevi	Dheerga Magarakundaladharaya Perumal
98	Thirukkurugur (Navathirupathi) birth place Nam alvar - <b>Alwarthirunagari</b>	Aadhinathavalli	Aadhinatha Perumal

### Madurai Divya 8 Divya Desam Temples-

99	Thiruvillipputhur { villipurthoor}	Kodhadevi	Vadapathrasayee Perumal
100	Thiruthangal { sivakasi}	Rakthapankajavalli	Narayana Perumal
101	Thirukkoodal	Madhuravalli	Sangamasundharaya Perumal
102	Thirumaliruncholai	Sundaravalli	Chorasundara Perumal
103	Thirumogur	Mohavalli	Kalamega Perumal
104	Thirukkoshthiyur	Mahalakshmi	Uraga Mrudusayanaya Perumal
105	Thiruppullani { ramanathpuram}	Kalyanavalli, Padmasani	Kalyana Jagannatha Perumal
106	Thirumeyyam	Ujjevana	Sathyagirinatha Perumal

### Outside the Earth 2 Divya Desam

107	<b>Thiruparkadal</b>	<b>Sridevi</b>	<b>Venkatesa Perumal</b>
108	<b>Thirupparamapadham</b>	<b>Mahalakshmya</b>	<b>Paramapadhanathaya Perumal</b>

## THIRU AYODHYA DIVYA DESAM SREE RAM JANMABHOOMI



Sree Ram 7th Avatar of Mahavishnu

Ayodhya is a place where Sree Ram born, it's a Moksha Puri and Thiru Ayodhi is one of the most important 108 Divya Desam temples.

Sri Rama ruled his kingdom 7000 years back in Treta Yugam and established Dharma in the world.

During 1550-1650 AD, Sri Ram temple RAM LALLA was demolished by enemies now same has been re-constructed in the same place after 500 years. RAM LALLA the infant form of Rama, is the presiding deity of the Ayodhya temple.

Shree Ram Janmabhoomi temple, RAM LALLA inaugurated by our Spiritual Indian prime minister Mr Narendra Modi on a Very Suspicious day 22nd Jan,2024. Between 12.30-12.45 Noon, Abhijeet Muhurat Pran-Prathishta held.

Like Nayanmars and Acharyas Sree Modiji was on an 11-day special ritual visited all the holy places important to lord Ram and did the Mangalasanam {Pooja & Pran Prathishta} ceremony at Ram Mandir in Ayodhya. {**Mangalasanam** means a devotee offers their salutations and felicitations upon God}



Truly the Greatest Historical Moment in Indian History.

## IMPORTANT DETAILS MAHAVISHNU DASAVATARAM



Matsya Avatar, Kurma Avatar, Varaha Avatar. Narasimha, Vamana, Parashurama, Rama, Krishna, Buddha / Balarama, Kalki



## ALVAR SAINTS AND THEIR AVATARS IN VISHNU



12 “ALVARs” one who were immersed completely in Bhakti and deep devotion of Supreme GOD MahaVishnu and 108 Divya Desam {Premium temples} which is revered by Alvar’s during 5th to 10th centuries.

1. **Poigai Alvar** – Panchajanya { Vishnu’s couch}
2. **Bhoothe Alvar** – Kaumodaki { Vishnu’s Mace}
3. **Pey Alvar** – Nandaka { Vishnu’s sword}
4. **Thirumalisai Alvar** – Sudharshan Chakra { Vishnu’s discuss}
5. **Nammalvar** – Vishvaksena { Vishni’s commander}.
6. **Madhurakavi Alvar** – Padma { Vishnu’s Lotus }.
7. **Kulasekhara Alvar** – Kaustubha { Vishnu’s Jewel}
8. **Periyalvar** – Garuda.
9. **Andal** – Incarnation of Bhudevi {goddess of earth}.
10. **Thondardippodi Alvar** – Vanamalai { Vishnu’s garland}.
11. **Thiruppan Alvar** – Srivatsa { Goddess Lakshmi mark on chest}.
12. **Thirumangai Alvar** – Sharanga { Vishnu bow}.





## IMPORTANT DIVINE DETAILS OF SANATHANA DHARMA

- **Sree Rama** born to Kausalya and Dasaratha, 7100 years ago {5114 BC} at Ayodhya, in Tetra yuga.
- **Sree Krishna** born to Devaki and Vasudeva, said to have born 5252 years ago {3228 BC} in Mathura- Vrindavan at end of Dwapara yuga beginning of Kaliyuga. Sree kirshna lived 125 years, was married to Rukmini and Satyabhama and his foster mother was Yashodha.
- **Brahma**: presiding deity of creation.
- **Vishnu**: presiding deity of goodness & preservation.
- **Shiva**: presiding deity of destruction.
- **Char Dham** means 4 highly sacred pilgrimage place. Once in a life time visiting these pilgrimage site helps us to achieve moksha. 4 Dham's are defined by Jagadguru Adi are **Badrinath, Dwarka, Puri Jaganath & Rameswaram**.
- **Chota Char dham** are **Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath** all are in Devabhoomi Uttarakhand.
- **Amarnath Temple**: Shiva explained the secret of life and eternity to Goddess Parvati. Shiva Linga which is made up of ice. The worshippers believe that the lingam grows and shrinks according to the phases of the moon.
- Kal Bhairav Nath is known as '**Kotwal of Varanasi**' is considered to be the fiercest form of God Shiva and there is a belief that death is also afraid of him.
- Kailash temple build in 8th century in cave 16 of Ellora Caves in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, Kailasanatha temple is the largest monolithic, it is one of the exceptional and mysterious temples of India owing to its mind-boggling carvings, massive size, and amazing architecture. It was built in 18 years removing 4,00,000 tonnes of rock.
- Jwala Devi Temple: The temple is located in Kangra in Himachal Pradesh. The temple has a set of flames which is always burning. goddess Dakshayani's body tongue fell here.
- Moksha means that you can skip the circle of life and death and attain Nirvana. One can visit these cities to get the utmost peace. Seven of holy cities of Sapt Puri are Ayodhya, Mathura, Maya (Haridwar), Kasi (Varanasi), Kanchi (Kanchipuram), Avanti (Ujjain) and Dvaravati (Dwarka).

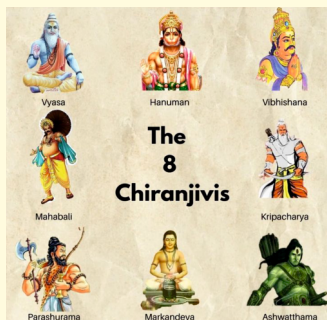
OM BHUR BHUVAH SUVAHAA;  
TAT SAVITUR VARENYAM  
BHARGO DEVASYA DHIMAHİ;  
DHIYO YO NAH PRACODAYAT



The **Gayatri mantra** is considered one of the most powerful mantras in the universe

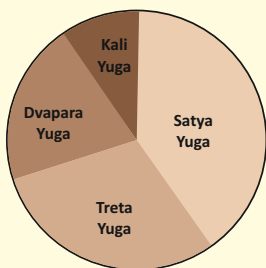
- Gayathri mantra of Ganesha - **“Om Eka Dandhaya Vidmahe Vakratundaya Dhimahi Tanno danti Prachodayat”.**
- Gayathri mantra of God shiva- **“Om Tatpurushaya Vidmahe Mahadevaya Dhimahi Tanno Rudrah Prachodayat”.**
- Gayathri mantra of Parvathi devi **“Om Prithvi Devayei Vidmahe Sahasramurtayei Dhimahi Tanno Prithvi Prachodayat”.**
- Gayathri Mantra of Maha Vishnu - **“Om Narayanaya Vidhmahe Vasudevaya Dheemahe Thanно Vishnu Prachodayath”**
- Gayathri Mantra of Maha Lakhmi: - **Om Maha Laxmayei Vidmahe Vishnupriyayei Dhimahi Tanno Laxmi Prachodayat”.**
- Gayathri Mantra of Hanuman - **“Om Anjanisutaya Vidmahe Vayuputraya Dhimahi Tanno Maruti Prachodayat”.**

## THE EIGHT CHIRANJEEVI'S



1. **Ved Vyasa** :- The sage who composed the Mahabharata.
2. **Hanuman** :- Courage, devotion, strength, celibacy and righteous conduct.
3. **Parashurama** :- The sixth avatar required to save mankind during the end times.
4. **Vibhishana** :- Brother of Ravana. got boon of longevity is to remain on the earth.
5. **Ashwatthama** :- The son of Drona. He is immortal.
6. **Mahabali** :- The ruler of the asuras, he is still revered in Kerala during Onam.
7. **Kripa** :- The royal guru of the prince in the Mahabharata. lone survivor of war.
8. **Markandeya** :- Markandeya is an ancient rishi born in the clan of Bhriгу.

## VEDIC TIME IS CYCLICAL LIKE THE FOUR YUGA'S THAT'S



1. Satyuga as golden age.
2. Treta Yuga - Silver age.
3. Dvapara Yuga as bronze age.
4. Kaliyuga as iron age.

The four ages of a chaturyuga rotate without end

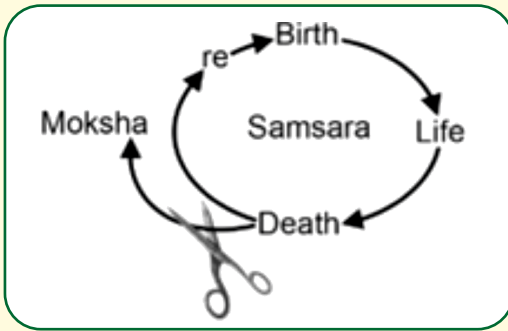
1. Dham of **Satyuga**- Badrinath, Uttarakhand.
2. Dham of **Tretayuga** -Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu
3. Dham of **Dwaparayuga** – Dwaraka. Gujarat
4. Dham of **Kaliyuga** - Jagannatha Puri, Odisha.

## Finally, Last but Not the Least “MUKTI AND MOKSHA”

**Mukti** is attained when one is alive. Mukti means getting rid of all happiness, Desire, Lust, greed, attachment, Jealousy and additionally supreme sacrificing of highest bliss in the present kaliyuga life's, which is very difficult for many human being.

**Mukti** is right path for Moksha.

**Moksha** is one experience after the death, Moksha means liberation of the soul, freedom from the eternal cycle of life, death, and rebirth. there is no rebirth after attaining Moksha.



According to Sree Krishna there are three ways to attaining Moksha.

### **BHAKTI, GNANA AND KARMA.**

God Krishna also says the KARMA yoga is easiest path to attain Moksha.

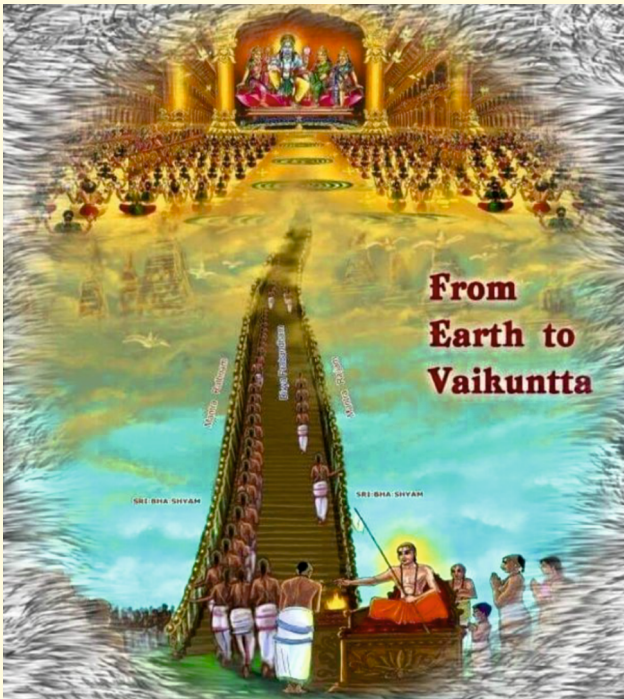
“**Karma**” means, a person’s good intent and good deeds contribute to good karma and happier rebirths, while bad intent and bad deeds contribute to bad karma and bad rebirths {one’s life with lot of misery}.

In this world one enjoy some advantages and disadvantages it is because of one’s previous life’s Karma.



Ultimate aim of a great devotees is to get into Moksha Loka “**VAIKUNTAM**” after death, a place beyond life and death, once moksha has been attained the soul discards the human existence and proceeds to the **Vaikuntam**.

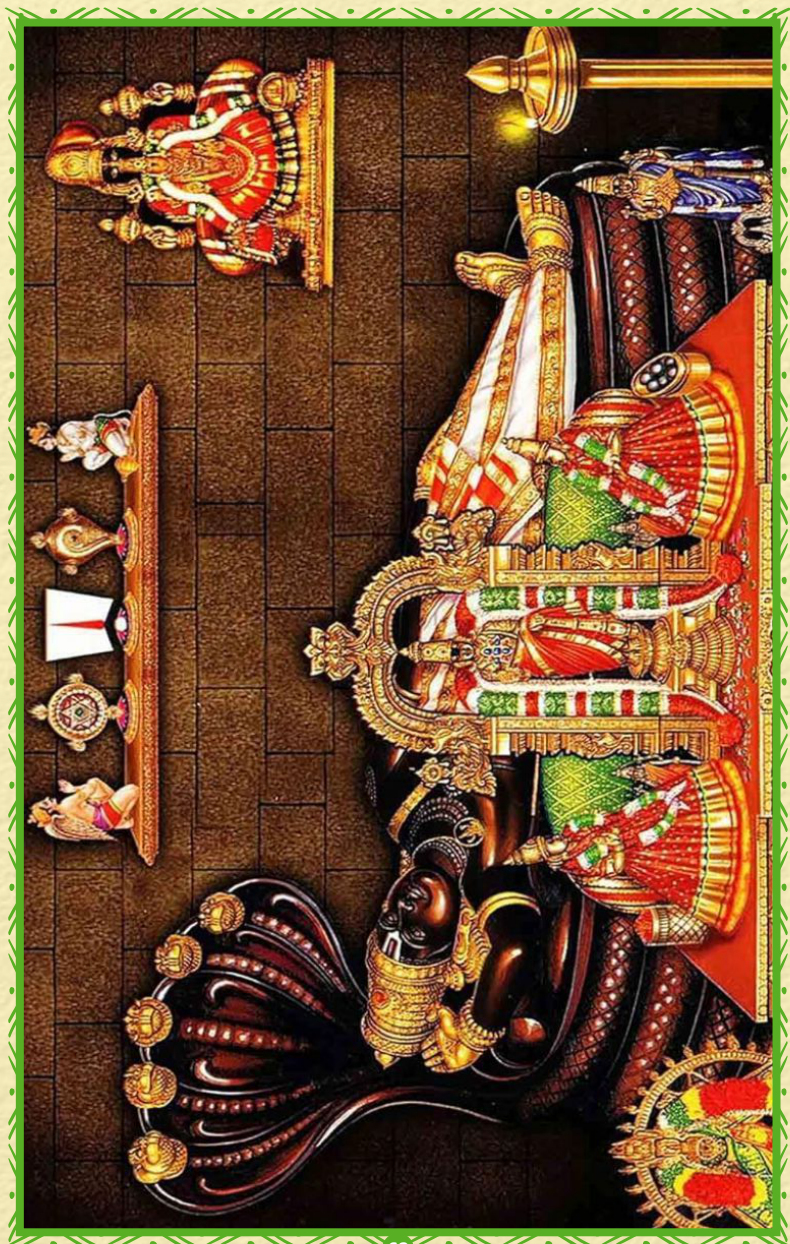
**Paramapadham** means obtain a supreme position in life to join to the feet of GOD. **Paramapadham** is the supreme abode of Vishnu and Mahalakshmi, the ultimate place that a Jeevathma {physical body} an earthly soul can hope to reach. Once any soul attains Moksha and enters the **VAIKUNTAM** it does not return to the human universe of earth.



**ARUNACHALESHWARA, THIRUVANMALI**







SREE RANGANATHA, SRIRANGAM



**MADURAI MEENAKSHI, MADURAI**





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