



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

# *History of Ve:nkata:chalam*

*A Collection of a few Historical accounts from*

**SRI: VE: NKATA: CHALA ITIHA: SAMA: LA**

*Sri Tirumalai Ananthacharya 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> Centuries AD*

**SRI: VE: NKATA: CHALA MA: HA: THMYAM**

*References from Puranas authored by Bhagavan Sri VedaVyasa*

*Release 3 (Draft)*

*This release is a Draft. The English translations of the original Samskrut scriptures presented here are yet to be reviewed by scholars. An updated release will be made available once the review by the scholars is complete.*



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Table of Contents

The Grandeur of the God of the Hills .....	6
The divine form of Sri Venkateswara .....	7
Establishing Rituals at Tirumala .....	9
Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja in Tirupati .....	11
Significance of Ve:nkata:chalam .....	14
Na:rayana:dri .....	17
Vrishabha:chala .....	18
Anjanachalam .....	19
Story of Chakravarthi - Lord Venkate:swara's Devotee .....	21
Birth of Chakravarthi .....	21
Chakravarthi gets a strange dream .....	21
Lord Sri:niva:sa in Archa Form Gives Advices to King .....	23
King Celebrates Brahmostavam and Pushpa Yagam .....	24
Lord Sri:niva:sa in Archa: Form Gives Advices to King Chakravarthi .....	26
The Battle Between King Chakravarthy and Demon Simha:da .....	28
Lord Sri:niva:sa gives his five weapons to King Charavarthi .....	29
Conversation between Ma:rkande:ya and Garuda .....	34
Story of Ma:rkande:ya visiting Holy Places .....	35
Ma:rkande:ya's Visit to Venkatachala along with Agasthya's disciple Suddha .....	37
Ma:rkande:ya's darshan of Lord Varahaswami after taking holy dip in Swamy Thi:rtha Pushkarini .....	37
Sri Ma:rkande:ya Praising Sri:niva:sa .....	37
Srinviasa's boon to Ma:rkande:ya about unlimited devotion .....	39
Sri:niva:sa's blessings to erase sins of Agastya's disciple .....	39
Suddha's describes his background to Ma:rkande:ya .....	39
Sage Agastya describing the Greatness of Venkatachala with happiness .....	40
Bramha and Rudra's arrival on Ve:nkata:chalam to see Sri:niva:sa .....	41
Srimannarayana as Srinivasa on Ve:nkata:chalam .....	41



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



Bramha and Rudra have Darshan of Lord Sri:niva:sa .....	41
Sankara explains to Kumaraswamy Ve:nkatachalam is the right place for performing penance .....	42
Kuma:ra Swamy Performs Penance .....	45
Mount Anja:na:dri moves from North to South .....	45
Benefits of meditating on Sri Lakshmi Varaha Swamy kshe:tra on Anjana:dri .....	46
Moutain gets the name Vrusha:dri .....	46
The God of Wind (Va:yu) Meditates on Supreme Lord .....	47
Kumaraswamy goes to Ve:nkatachala to perform penance .....	47
Kuma:ra Swamy's birth details .....	47
Brihaspati praises Kumaraswamy .....	49
Kumaraswamy Performing Penance .....	49
Shankara explaining the reason behind the incarnation of Lord Na:ra:yana as Sri:niva:sa.....	50
Lord Siva Obtaining The Chakra .....	50
DESCRIBING THE BIRTH OF SRI VISHWAKSE:NA TO SUVARCHALA.....	52
Significance of Seventeen Thi:rthams including Chakra Thi:rtha .....	53
Penance of Va:yu De:va .....	55
I:swara and Pa:rvathy stay in the south east direction of Se:shadri .....	56
I:swara's conversation with Lord Sudarsana.....	56
Satha:nanda's Narration about the Incarnation of the Supreme God .....	57
Expedition of Saint Agastya and others North of Seshadri .....	60
Saint Agastya and sages meet Mystic Group of Yogis .....	61
Indra and DemiGods Meditating on Se:shadri Mountain .....	63
Agasthya's dialogue with Indra, meditating for the appearance of the Lord .....	63
Agasthya visiting Sankara on the southern side of Se:shadri Mountain .....	65
Appearance of Vishwakse:nato Agasthya and Other sages on Seshadri.....	67
Divine Lakes on Ve:nkata:chalam .....	69
King Sankha .....	71
Lord Sriman Narayana narrating importance of Swamipushkarini .....	71
Penance by Agastya and Other Sages .....	73
Bruhaspathi and Shukra:charya came to Ve:nkata:cha:lam for the service of the Lord .....	73



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

King Janaka inquires Va:made:va about Uparichara Vasuvu.....	73
Journey of Uparichara Vasuvu to Pa:tha:la lo:kam .....	74
Demons who wanted to kill Uparichara Vasuvu were killed by Sudarsana .....	75
Lord Srimannarayana Sends Garuda (Divine Eagle) to pick Uparichara Vasuvu.....	75
Lord Srimannarayana with a commanding voice addressed Garuda: .....	75
Va:ma De:va narrates: .....	76
Maharshi Agastya and Sages Arrive at Ve:nkata:chalam .....	78
The description of the Lord whose appearance is celestial and divine.....	79
Lord Srimannarayana granting boons to Sage Agasthya.....	81
King Janaka obtains information on the glory of Venkatadri .....	86
Problems created by demons like De:vajit.....	88
Vima:na of Lord Venkateswara .....	90
Benefits of doing Charities on Ve:nkatachalam .....	92
Auspicious time of 30 million rivers entering into Swami Pushkarini .....	94
Janaka taking bath in Swami Pushkarini .....	95
Lord Venkate:sa: Story of His Appearance.....	97
Pa:da Padi .....	99
What is the white spot on His chin? .....	100



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

**SRI:**

**VE:NKATA:CHALA**

**ITIHA:SAMA:LA**

*Sri Tirumalai Anantacharya 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> Centuries AD*



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## The Grandeur of the God of the Hills

Throughout times, God has taken countless names and forms to reassure that He is, and always will be there for all of us unconditionally. Some of these forms are living and breathing, while others are silent and stone-like. And among all these silent forms, none is more popular in this day and age than Sri: Venkate:swara, the Majestic Lord who resides on the sacred Seven Hills in India. Temples to Lord Venkate:swara can be found not only here, but throughout the world.

No one can really say for sure when the Supreme Being first stood on the Seven Hills for the sake of all of us. But, what we do know is that about 1000 years ago, people somehow forgot who He was, and a great debate took place about Who this image form was and what His purpose was.

It was at this tumultuous moment in history when the great religious teacher and social reformer, Bhagavad Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja, came to the Seven Hills. He observed the pains of the people in trying out the purpose of the Majestic Form, and decided to put an end to people's doubts. Using ancient scriptures as evidence, Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja presented a clear and lucid set of points of how the Supreme Being Himself had taken this unique form as a temple image, for the purpose of redeeming us from our sorrows by reassuring us of His presence. All these points were put together in a work called *Sri: Venkate:swara Itiha:sa Ma:la*, a Garland of Verses about Sri: Venkate:swara's History.

The story of Venkate:swara starts with how the One Supreme Being, residing in His mysterious abode called Vai:kuntam was unable to bear the suffering of His children on Earth. He immediately decided to descend to Earth in a form that would re-assure the world that He loves and cares for all of us. He chose a beautiful location to present Himself, at the top of a scenic set of mountains. He then took the beautiful form that we now see in temples throughout the world.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## The divine form of Sri Venkateswara

The Lord presented Himself with four hands, to show that even though He Stands in one place, His power pervades everywhere. In His upper right hand, He held the Discus (Chakra) to show that it is His presence that makes everything 'move'. In His upper left hand, He held a Conch shell (Sankha), to show that He is the creator of all that we know and do not know. His lower right hand is pointed to His feet, so that we would know that we can leave all our fears and worries to Him to take care of. His lower left hand is pointed towards His thigh, to let us know that this 'ocean of samsaara' becomes knee deep if we surrender at his Lotus Feet.

But, the Lord's fondness for the mortals was so much that He was willing to even give away his divine weapons which never stay away from Him, to a devotee of his, to serve his purpose. Once, He gave His own Sankha and Chakra to his devotee, a king named Thondma:n Chakravarthy, so that he would be able to defeat his rival's army that had come to destroy his kingdom. Over the time, people began to forget who this handsome being with four empty hands was. So, lots of discussions and debates took place.

It was then, that the great spiritual leader, Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja arrived on the scene. By describing the meaning of the Lord's form as described above, he proved without doubt that Sri Venkate:swara was the most special avatha:ra of the Supreme Being, Sri:man Nara:yana who had come to Earth for the benefit of His creation. This form, according to Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja, had even more special qualities that showed His greatness and His Willingness to be there for all of us:

- 1) The Lord has matted hair, like a Muni or Rishi. This is to show us how it is His Contemplation that creates and preserves the world.
- 2) The Lord has numerous decorations that have snake images on them. This is to show that He is served in numerous ways by A:dise:sha, the Primordial Multi-Headed Serpent on which He rests.
- 3) The Pura:nas state that Kumaraswamy (Murugan, Skanda) worshiped Lord Venkate:swara here to get rid off the grave sin of killing Ta:raka:sura in a terrific battle. Kumaraswamy would bathe here three times a day and meditate on Lord Sri:niva:sa on his father's advice. The tank is called Swa:my Pushkarini because it is the best of all holy tanks. Simply dipping in it removes all our own pains and sorrows.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Despite these clear arguments, there were still some who were reluctant to accept that the Lord standing on the Seven Hills was indeed the Supreme One in Form. So, Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja set up an experiment. He arranged to have the weapons of various divinities, including Sri:man Na:ra:yana placed in the sanctum at the feet of the Lord. He then locked the sanctum doors, gave the key to an objective observer, and asked the doubters to wait till morning.

At sunrise, the doors to the temple were unlocked and the temple was opened. To everyone's surprise, the Lord appeared in all His Grandeur holding the Sankha and Chakra, the same ones that devotees see to this day. As these symbols belong only to the Supreme Being, all were now convinced that the Lord indeed had come to earth in this divine form.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Establishing Rituals at Tirumala

Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja then set about to establish the rich traditions of the temple as per the A:gama Sasthra, that we see to this day. Some of these traditions were:

1. The regular bathing of the image of the Lord on Fridays with milk and sacred waters to shower His grace on all of us.
2. The application of an upward mark made of (swetha mrutthika) earth to symbolize His Eternal Connection to us.
3. Putting eyeliner on the Lord's eyes as in Mohini avathara so that all can see His merciful glance.
4. Conducting Sayanotsavam to Lord Krishna during Dhanurmaasam.
5. Performing Sriramakalyanam on the next day of Srirama Navami.
6. Conducting temple festivals in which the processional image of the Supreme Being is brought out for all devotees to celebrate and adore.
7. Mohini alankaaram (with eyeliner and a beauty spot on the cheek) to the Lord for three days starting from Monday, his avathara day.
8. Pushpa alankaaram alone on Thursday.
9. Friday onwards usual decoration with all ornaments and garments.
10. First a:ra:dhana to Lord's divine weapons.
11. Chanting Nacchiya:r Thirumozhi during abhishekam to Lord.

For centuries, the local priests had been worshipping Sri:nivasa in accordance with the A:gama, ancient sanskrit scripture that laid out the rituals of adoration towards the Supreme Being. Bhagavad Ra:manuja maintained this worship, but he and his disciples also wanted the verses, the Divya Prabandha, of the A:zhwa:rs, the great mystical devotees to be chanted, because they offered people a message of hope and faith in Sri: Ve:nkte:swara. These verses were written in Ta:mil, their mother tongue, but were very clear in telling the world how the Lord of the Seven Hills is there for everyone. With agreement from leading scholars and priests, these sacred verses became part of the daily worship of Sri:niva:sa.

Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nujacharya then set about to establish lower Tirupati as a center for pilgrimage and learning. But just before he returned, Ya:dava Ra:ja, the local ra:ja who had been witness to the miracle of the Lord's taking on His Divine Symbols, immediately requested Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja to accept him as his disciple. Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja agreed, and in accordance with tradition, marked



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

the king's shoulders with the very same symbols that Sri:niva:sa now carried, and initiated him with Three Sacred Mantras. Ya:dava Ra:ja would become Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja's trusted assistant in spreading the message of devotion to Sri: Ve:nkate:swara.

To remove all remaining doubts and fears from the people's minds, Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja felt that an image of the Lord's Supreme compassion should be clearly seen by the devotees. Bhagavad Ra:ma:nujacharya taught the Ra:ja how Sri:man Na:ra:yana's love is so special that it has a form all its own, the eternal Mother Lakshmi. The king immediately had his finest artisans fashion a beautiful pendant of Goddess Padmava:thi, the embodiment of the Lord's compassion who resides at the base of the Seven Hills, and had Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja place this as a necklace around his neck on a Friday, when it was Sukla Dwadasi and Uttara Phalguni star.

The two great servants of Sri: Ve:nkate:swara then made their way back to the foot of the Hills.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja in Tirupati

Sri: Ra:manuja arrived in Lower Tirupati to tragic news. The sacred temple at Chidambaram of the Lord called Govindaraja, had been razed to the ground by the army of a fanatic king, Kulotthunga Chola also known as Krimikantta. Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja learned that while the devotees were able to save the smaller processional deities, the primary idol had been drowned in the sea. With the help of his new disciple, Ya:dava Ra:ja, Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja built a majestic new temple for Lord Govindaraja at Tirupati, and had the processional deities brought and installed there.

Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja received instruction from one of his a:cha:ryas, Periya Thirumala Nambi, on the hidden meanings of Ra:ma:yana at the foot of the Sacred Hills. There he learned from locals about a cave of Narasimha, another incarnation of the Supreme Lord, located on the hill. He followed clues and local legends and found the exact location where the Lord in His Majestic Man-Lion Form had appeared before some devout sages. He built a beautiful temple here that is active to this day.

Meanwhile, at the Lord's Abode on top of the Hills, a disciple of Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja experienced a unique miracle that brought a whole new message to His Divine Image Form. This disciple, Ananta:lwa:n, had been engaged by his guru to take care of the flower gardens from which garlands were prepared for the Lord. He and his wife took this job with great devotion and a sense of commitment that put this ahead of everything else, including the fact that they were expecting a child. On one especially busy day, a handsome young boy came to Ananta:lwa:n's wife and offered to help her with the heavy sack of soil she was carrying. Ananta:lwa:n who did not want to share with anyone his service to Lord was against this. He wondered who this young boy was, and what his intentions were. He repeatedly stopped him but the boy was adamant on helping the pregnant lady. Ananta:lwa:n came running over, green with jealousy, and accidentally hit the boy on the chin with his shovel. Before he could apologize, the mysterious young boy vanished. Later that morning, Ananta:lwa:n approached Sri: Venkate:swara to decorate Him with a colorful and aromatic flower garland. He nearly fainted with shock with what he saw - the Lord had blood oozing from the exact spot on which he accidentally hit the mysterious young boy. He immediately recalled one of the messages of the A:lwa:rs that said that the Supreme Being comes to our aid in the form of those who care. He sent a messenger to Sri: Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja about this incident. He then wondered how to care for the Lord's injury. He remembered that cooking camphor sometimes helps with cuts and abrasions, so he immediately rubbed some on Venkate:swara's chin. The bleeding stopped.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Ever since, the Lord and His entire replica Image Forms throughout the world are adorned with cooking camphor on the chin.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

# SRI BRAMHA:ND PURA:NA



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



## Significance of Ve:nkata:chalam

Sri Bramha:nda Pura:na, Ti:rtha Khanda, Chapter 1, 2

Once, many sages gathered around Su:tha Maharshi. These sages were very eager to know about the most sacred place on the earth. They wanted to know if there was a place which could eliminate all the sins- where the all-pervasive and compassionate Lord Srimanna:rayana always goes around happily in the company of Sri:de:vi, Bhu:devi and Ne:la:devi and a place where one can easily overcome the sorrows of life.

Then, Su:tha Maharshi revealed to the sages about what Sage Veda Vyasa Maharshi told him once, based on the conversations between Na:rada and Bhrgu Maharshi.

Once, while travelling on the Earth, Na:rada visited the hermitage of Bhrgu Maharshi with a joy filled heart. Maharshi Bhrgu along with his students cordially received sage Na:rada and after duly extending the hospitality asked Na:rada to reveal to him about a place that was best of all holy places; best of all the rivers on the Earth; a place Lord Sri:manna:rayana visits along with Goddess Lakshmi and personifies his unimaginable form to all the beings, a place where the people will be blessed to reach the abode of the Lord and a place where meditation will be successful.

In response to Bhrgu Maharshi's question, Na:rada explained the greatness of Ve:nkata:chala. This divine place called Ve:nkata:chala, is superior to all the holy places and sacred rivers. It is the most sacred place which has the power to eliminate all our sins. With His compassion towards the devotees, Lord Sri:manna:rayana left his abode to visit this mountain range along with Sridevi.

This Ve:nkata:chala has 20 names;

- 1) Anjana:dri
- 2) Vrusha:dri
- 3) Se:sha:dri
- 4) Garuda:dri
- 5) The:rdha:dri
- 6) Sri:niva:sa:dri
- 7) Chinta:mani Giri
- 8) Vrushabha:dri
- 9) Vara:ha:dri
- 10) Jna:na:dri





"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

- 11) Kanaka:chalam
- 12) A:nanda:dri
- 13) Ni:la:dri
- 14) Sume:ru Sikhara:chalam
- 15) Vaikunta:dri
- 16) Pushkara:dri
- 17) Ve:nkata:dri
- 18) Na:ra:yana Giri
- 19) Thirumalai
- 20) Simha:chalam.

Anyone who reads the names of this mountain range will be relieved of all their sins. There is no divine place equivalent to Ve:nkata:chala. There is no God equivalent to Lord Ve:nkata:chalapathi in the past, present or future. There exists an auspicious lake called Swami Pushkarini in Ve:nkata:chala, Lord Sri: Ve:nkate:swara gloriously resides on the bank of that lake.

Once Na:rada went to the milky ocean to offer his prayers to Lord Sri:manna:rayana. At that time he saw a highly elevated island called Shwe:tha Dvi:pam there. On that dvi:pam, in a forest of Kalpavriksham (wish fulfilling tree) he saw a glorious palace built with golden pillars. There he saw Lord Sri:manna:rayana who was resting on A:dise:sha.

Na:rada offered all his prayers to Lord Sri:manna:rayana and stood there with great devotion. Lord noticed him and invited him and asked if Na:rada knew a good place on the earth for him to stay. Na:rada informed The Lord about Ve:nkata:chala and told him that it would be the most appropriate place for the Lord to reside.

Also Na:rada informed Lord Sri:manna:rayana that the people in that place were leading their lives with no interest on Ve:da:s and prayer and need the blessings of the Lord. He prayed to Lord that he should reside in that place along with Goddess Lakshmi to save these people of Kaliyuga.

Then Lord Sri:manna:rayana called "A:dise:sha" and advised him to proceed to the earth and remain in the form of a mountain range at the place mentioned by Na:rada. He mentioned that he will come along with Goddess Lakshmi and reside there. A:dise:sha took the form of a mountain range on the earth. With the blessings of the Lord, all the sacred rivers and lakes flowed on the mountain range forever.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Lord Sri:manna:rayana assured that the prayers offered by devotees in this place will be successful and the wishes will be fulfilled. Then, Lord along with Sridevi, Bhudevi and Ni:la:devi proceeded to Se:sha:chalam on His vehicle Garuda.

Further, Bhrgu Maharshi wanted to know how the mountain range got the name Na:rayana:dri.





"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Na:rayana:dri

Sri Brahma:nda Pura:na, Ti:rtha khandA, Chapter 3

Once, a great devotee sat on the banks of Swami Pushkarini on the north side of mount Na:ra:yanadri and did penance for a very long time on Lord Srimannarayana. During that time of penance, peace and calmness spread around the place.

After some time, Lord Srimannarayana, giver of boons to all creatures, appeared in front of the Brahmin. Lord along with Lakshmidivi seated on his lap was sitting on the Garuda radiating brilliant light. He was wearing a golden garland and a Tulasi garland, having a mark on his chest called Sri:vathsa shining in the light emanated from Kousthubha Mani, with a pleasant face and lotus like eyes.

Seeing God in front of him, the Brahmin was in shock for a few moments. He then recovered. With tears of happiness flowing down his cheeks, he went around Lord Na:ra:yana praising him – "O king of the universe, having no one greater or equal to you! Even by doing great penance one can only know a tiny facet of your greatness! No one can ever understand your magnitude fully. Please save me. It is only Your grace that I am able to see you; your sight fills me with ecstasy."

Lord Srimannarayana asked him the reason for his penance and promised to fulfill his desires. The Brahmin replied to the lord, "Oh! Lord, my name is Na:ra:yana; I visited every place on the earth to see you but was not successful. With the guidance of the four-headed Bramha, I came to this sacred place and did penance. This kind of penance is extremely difficult for human beings. Bless us all with your presence along with mother Lakshmi Devi, Adishesha and Vishvaksena by the side of Swami Pushkarani. Please name this mountain as Na:rayana:dri."

Hearing this Lord Na:ra:yana felt happy and replied saying – "I will grant your wish. Any person - sinful or otherwise, who takes bath in this Swami Pushkarani and offers prayers to me will be liberated. They will be blessed with all the wealth of this world. From today, this mountain will be called as Na:ra:yanadri".

From then on Lord Na:ra:yana along with Sridevi, Bhudevi and Neeladevi resided on the mount Na:rayana:dri adorning Sankha and Chakra, blessing all worldly creatures with kindness and happiness.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Vrishabha:chala

Sri Bramha:nda Pura:na, Ti:rtha Khanda, Chapter 4

Once Lord Sri:niva:sa took the form of a human hunter and went to the mount Kri:da:dri for hunting as a sport. His commander- in-chief Vishvaksena and his army accompanied him.

At that time Vrishabhasura, a devotee of Maha Siva and a powerful demon was also roaming on the mount Kri:dadri. Seeing Lord Sri:niva:sa riding a horse holding a bow, Vrishabhasura, arrogant with his strength and magical powers, attacked Lord Sri:niva:sa. Lord ordered Vishvaksena to stop Vrisabhasura. Vishvaksena and Vrisabhasura fought for some time. Seeing Vishvaksena's strength, Vrisabhasura realized he would not be able to win over Vishvaksena. He created thousands of demons and powerful weapons using his magical powers. Lord Na:ra:yana destroyed all the demons and weapons created by Vrishabhasura. Looking at this Vrishabhasura released a special magical weapon with the intent of destroying Lord Na:ra:yana and his army and disappeared from the battle ground.

Lord Na:ra:yana then deployed his powerful Sudarsana chakra to destroy the magical evil powers and kill the demon. Sudarsana destroyed all of the demons and army and charged towards Vrishabhasura to kill him. Looking at the chakra, Vrishabhasura realized that the hunter in the human form was none other than Lord Na:ra:yana, and also realized that his death, as foretold by Maha Siva, was very near. He felt happy that he would be killed by Lord Na:ra:yana which would release his soul from all the bondages of this world and take him to Paramapada.

Vrishabhasura prayed, "Oh! Na:ra:yana, the creator of all the visible and invisible worlds, the all - pervasive one! Wind blows as per your wish. Sun rises according to your wish. Fire burns because of You. Bramha and other demi-gods obey your orders. With the mere thought of You, god of death fears to approach anyone. All the greatest of the great saints look forward to get liberated by you from this materialistic world. Please pardon all my sins. I am not wishing for my life but please grant me a boon to rename this mount Kri:da:dri as mount Vrishabha:chala."

Lord Na:ra:yana with a pleasing smile granted his wishes. The Sudarsana then separated Vrisabhasura's neck from his body. The demise of the evil demon brought respite and happiness to the entire world. From that day onwards, Mount Ve:nkatachala is also called 'Vrishabhachala'.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Anjanachalam

Sri Brahma:nda Pura:na, Ti:rtha Khanda, Chapter 5

In Thretha Yuga, there lived a demon named Ke:sari. He prayed to Maha Siva wishing for a son. However as he was not destined to beget a son, Maha Siva blessed him a beautiful daughter. Kesari named her Anjana.

Anjana grew up as a beautiful and obedient daughter. She got married to a great va:nara called Ke:sari. She did not have any kids for a long time. This made her very sad. She wanted to have a son that would make her father also happy as he wished for a son. She did severe penance and prayed to innumerable sages and demigods with no result. Seeing her sorrow, god of dharma came to her and told her that she will have a son if she does penance on the banks of the spring Akasha Ganga on mount Ve:nkata:chala.

Anjana started doing a rigorous penance on Ve:nkatachalam. In the initial stages of the penance she did not eat anything. Seeing her dedication, Vayu deva used to blow a fruit, every day, into her hand from the nearby forest. Anjana used to eat that fruit. One day Maha Siva and Parvati came to Ve:nkata:chalam and were wandering around.

While enjoying the beauty of the forests, they saw two monkeys in love. They too took the form of va:nara:s (monkey like forms) and were playing on the mountain. At that time the energy from Maha Siva got blown by the God of Air into Anjana's hands which she consumed.

A voice from the sky greeted Anjana about the son she was carrying because of Maha Siva and mentioned that her son would be a great va:nara and that he would be assisting Lord Rama in killing a demon called Ravana. After some time, on an Ekadasi day in Sraavana maasa and during the Sravana star she gave birth to an amazing monkey. His skin glittered like gold. He was named A:njaneya (Hanuma:n).

A:njaneya was hungry all the time. One fine morning he saw the rising sun and thought it was a fruit. He jumped towards the sun with all his energy. He held the sun with force and got into a tussle. Seeing this, the four headed Bramha threw the powerful weapon called Bramha:stra at A:njane:ya. A:njaneya defended himself from Bramha:stra with the help of his tail. All the creatures in the world



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

were amazed at the strength of this monkey. The impact of Brahmstra was so powerful that Anjaneya fell on the ground and became unconscious.

Seeing her son unconscious, Anjana was very sad and in an angry voice, cursed the demigods and the four headed Bramha. The world came to a standstill. To pacify Anjana, demigods granted A:njaneya boons - that he cannot be harmed by any weapon or any magic, he cannot be killed by any demons or demigods and that he would be wise and very intelligent.

Bramha praised Anjana about the great penance she did which gifted her with the child A:njaneya. Because she did her penance on mount Ve:nkata:chala, he gave her a boon that the mount Ve:nkata:chala will also be called as 'Anjanachala' after her name.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Story of Chakravarthi - Lord Venkateswara's Devotee

Bramha:nda Pura:na, Thi:rtha Khanda, Chapter 7, 8

There was a king called Cholaraja. He was a very noble, honest and good king. One day he went to the Seshadri forest along with his soldiers to hunt wild animals. As the king Cholaraja was hunting, he found a beautiful flower garden.

### Birth of Chakravarthi

In that garden he saw a beautiful lady plucking flowers. He was stunned by her beauty and immediately fell in love with her. He dropped all his weapons, walked towards the lady and asked for her name and identity. He also enquired about her parents and her marital status.

She told him that she was the daughter of the snake king Dhanamjaya who lived in nether world (Pathala loka) and told him that her father was searching for a groom to marry her off. The king then proposed to her. She accepted him and both got married.

The next day the king went back to his kingdom and the beautiful Princess went to her parents in the nether world and told them about her marriage to the noble king, Cholaraja. Her parents were happy about her marriage to the noble king.

After a while, the Princess had a beautiful baby boy. The baby boy grew up to be a bright and handsome kid. One day he asked his mother about his father. He expressed his desire to meet his father. She told the boy that his father was a king by name Cholaraja and showed him the tunnel that led to the surface of the earth.

The boy travelled through the tunnel and went to the Kingdom where his father was. The king, not recognizing the boy, asked him who he was. The boy explained to his father that he was his son and his mother was the princess from the nether world. At the same time a voice from the skies said, "Oh! King! It is true, he is your son and he will be a great noble king. He will become a great devotee of lord Sri:niva:sa." The king then happily accepted the boy as his son, named him Chakravarthi. The king built a town at the forest Seshadri, where he met and married the Pathalaloka princess, and crowned him as the King.

### Chakravarthi gets a strange dream

One day a few cowherd boys approached the king Chakravarthi and reported about a strange happening near the Seshachalam mountain. The puzzled and confused cowherds told their king Chakravarthi that all their milk pots which were filled with milk broke and the milk disappeared while



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

passing through the anthill in Seshachalam. This happened everyday on their way back to the kingdom. This happened irrespective of whatever precautions they took to safeguard the milk pots.

The king was amazed. That night the king thinking about this strange phenomenon prayed to God and went to sleep and had a beautiful dream. In his dream he saw a beautiful man with lotus like eyes. The king asked him about his whereabouts and the handsome man replied that he was sent by the lord Sri:niva:sa who lives on the Devendra hill and he came to deliver the following message:

"O King! I regularly visit the mountains near Seshachalam along with my wives Sri and Bhudevi. On the north side of this mountain there is a great kingdom with so many chariots, elephants, and horses along with 33,000,000 divine people and many sacred rivers. There are 8 sages – Anima, Mahima, Garima, Laghima, Pra:pthi, Pra:ka:myamu, Eesathwam, and Vasithwam –performing penance. On the east side of this mountain there is a beautiful city called Ka:lahasthi where lord Siva is living. On the east side of this city there is a sacred river called Suvarnamukhi. Great sages like Sukamaharshi along with many others are living near that river and performing regular prayers to me. Who ever lives 7 miles around this place are blessed to reach my abode. Now can you realize how much powerful it would be if the people chant the Astakshari mantra at this place?"

In his dream the handsome man took him to the beautiful Seshadri mountain. There the king saw a flying chariot decorated with gold and diamonds. The man disappeared along with the flying chariot.

The king revealed this dream to his ministers the next day. After listening to the king's strange dream, his ministers said,"O King! God blessed you; there is no doubt that God is in that strange ant hill that the cowherd boys mentioned. Let us go there and offer the milk bath so that God can appear from that ant hill."

While the king Chakravarthi and his ministers were thinking about the dream, a hunter entered into the kingdom and told the King that he lived near the Seshachalam Mountain and offered rice and honey every day to God. Today a voice from the skies asked him to remind the king about his dream, and to confirm that God appeared in his dream. The voice from the sky commanded the hunter to bring the king to the Seshachalam Mountain.

After hearing all these incidents and experiencing God's presence in his dream, King Chakravarthi ordered the soldiers to collect all the milk from the entire kingdom and bring it to the ant hill near Seshachalam. The king along with his ministers and the hunter Sabara left for the Seshachalam mountain to offer the milk.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Lord Sri:niva:sa in Archa Form Gives Advices to King

Bramha:nda Pura:na, Thi:rtha Khanda, Chapter 9

The hunter Sabara and the King Chakravarthi reached the Seshachalam mountains. There the king saw a great white boar eating rice and roaring very loudly. He also saw a Vima:na which was very spectacular and shining, studded with diamonds and glowing like thousand Suns and was surprised. The king Chakravarthi enquired the hunter Sabara about the details of the great white boar and the Vima:na.

Sabara the hunter, told the King Chakravarthi, "Hey King! This white boar is not an ordinary boar. It is an avatara of Lord Srimannarayana who came down to earth in the form of Varaha to protect Mother Earth. This divine Vima:na also belongs to the Lord. The ant hill is also very divine because it became the residence of Lord Srimannarayana".

The hunter asked the king to dig the ant hill to see Lord. The King was hesitant and was afraid to dig the ant hill. Instead the king poured milk brought by the cowherds. Lord Sri:niva:sa appeared from the ant hill holding sankha(conch) and chakra(discus), adorned in beautiful yellow silk clothes, radiant with a crown studded with diamonds and gems, having a pleasant smile, with Srivatsa birth mark and with Sri Maha Lakshmi residing on his Chest, , who is the Lord of all the de:vata:s and is worshipped by them, who gives assurance to devotees with one hand and places his other hand near the waist pardoning the sins of all devotees.

The King paid obeisance to Lord Sri:niva:sa again and again and eulogized Him saying "Oh Lord Sri:niva:sa ! As per your divine command, the whole Universe is being governed by Deva, Bramha, Rudra, Vasu, Sadhya:s, Viswa:de:va, seven Marutha:s and many other demi gods. This divine form of Yours is not seen even by the great Yogis. You are the sacrificial fire of the Yajnas, You are the fruit of all the Yajnas. You receive the offerings in the yajna, being the indweller of all the demi gods.

You are omniscient, omnipresent and always with Sridevi. You are the Sriyah Pathi. You have no birth. You are the reason for every thing that is manifested, unmanifested and yet to manifest. You are the creator of the Universe. For ignorant people, you may appear symbolic or fictitious, but the infallible scriptures describe like this - You are the Lord with incomparable qualities is sometimes described in the Vedic literature as nira:ka:ra and nirguna only to explain that your form is beyond material imperfections. Lord Srimannarayana! You have no birth, You are the Lord of all worlds and savior of all devotees. I surrender to you. "



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Lord was pleased with his repeated prayers and asked him to seek a boon. The king replied, "I request you to please appear in this form forever, so that everyone can enjoy your divine form. Please reside in this place for ever for the benefit of all people"

Lord Sri:niva:sa was extremely pleased with the king's request and granted the boon. He blessed the King saying, "There is no one who is more devoted than you. From today onwards you are my friend." Lord Sri:niva:sa instructed the king to offer prayers three times a day. As per the instructions, the king started offering prayers sincerely and with utmost devotion. Out of his boundless compassion, Lord ignored the fact that he was in Archa form and used to give advices to the king while the king was worshipping Him.

### King Celebrates Brahmostavam and Pushpa Yagam

On the day, when the sun was in the Kanya Rasi, the king performed the hoisting of the divine flag as recommended in the scriptures. He offered prayers and hoisted the divine Garuda dwaja on a tall and grand flag staff. Chanting mantras, he invited Bramha, Indra, Dikpalakas, and Rudra along with their families to come soon to serve Lord Srinvasa.

Bramha arrived on Swan; Rudra arrived with Parvathi on His bull along with the entire Rudra battalion. Indra arrived on Airavatha elephant. All the dikpalakas arrived on their respective vehicles. They all came to mount Se:sha:dri to participate in Bramhotsavams. Sage Na:rada also arrived chanting the Hari Nama several thousands of times, playing his instrument Veena called Mahathi, meditating on Lord the resplendent Na:ra:yana and reciting the Vedas. All the kings along with their citizens arrived to do service to Lord Sri:niva:sa. A few were praying for kids while some blind people sought blessings to get back their vision. They came from all parts of the world singing the glory of Lord Sri:niva:sa.

The celebrations went on with pomp and gaiety. All were blessed by Lord Sri:niva:sa. Those who were blind by birth were blessed with sight. All the handicapped people were cured of all their physical deficiencies and became normal healthy people. Deaf and dumb were able to hear and talk. Lame people were able to run. From that year onwards, each and every year, whoever offered services to Lord Sri:niva:sa were blessed with prosperity. As per the command of Indra, the king of demi gods, the Rain God made the surroundings clean and pleasant with a drizzle. On the eight day, Lord Sri:niva:sa was taken around in the gold chariot which was studded with precious gems and stones.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

After the eight days of festivity, with the approach of auspicious Vishnu Nakshatra (star) called Sravana, the yajna was concluded. Then, as per the command of Lord Sri:niva:sa, Sudarsana Chakra, was taken to Swami Pushkarini for the auspicious bath ("avabhrutha snanam") to mark the conclusion of the event. That night as per the Sastra, the Garuda flag was brought down by the scholars, and several offerings were made.

On the following day, Sri Pushpa Yajna was performed by worshipping Lord Sri:niva:sa with many different kinds of fragrant flowers. Then Lord Sri:niva:sa bid farewell to Bramha, Rudra, Indra and the demi Gods who humbly offered their obeisances.

The king Chakravarthi felt blessed for conducting this event and reached home with a joy filled heart.





"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

"Worship your own  
Respect All"



## Lord Sri:niva:sa in Archa: Form Gives Advices to King Chakravarthi

Bramha:nda Pura:na, Teertha Khanda, Chapter 10

One day, a great scholar and a devotee by name Krushna Sarma visited the king Chakravarthi. The King paid his respects to Krushna Sarma and offered food and water to him and his wife Sudharmini and their infant son.

Krushna Sarma was planning to travel to Kashi. As he couldnot take his weak wife and the 3 month old son along with him, Krushna Sarma requested the King to provide shelter to them until he returned. The King ordered his servants to build a luxury house with food arranged for 6 months and ordered Krushna Sarma's wife and son to live in the house without coming out. Later the King became very busy in ruling the kingdom and forgot about Krushna Sarma's family.

After visiting Kashi, Krushna Sarma returned to the kingdom. He met the king and asked about the well being of his family. Only after seeing Krushna Sarma, the king realized that he totally forgot about the family and became worried. The King ordered the guard to enquire about the Sudharmini and the boy. The guard returned with the sad news that both Sudhramini and her son were lying dead due to starvation.

King felt extremely sorry for them. Scared to reveal the truth the king told Krushna Sarma, "Oh! Dear brahmin, your wife and son went to visit Lord Sri:niva:sa with my permission and they will be back by tomorrow. So please be my guest and take rest today and you can meet them tomorrow."

In the evening the King went to Ve:nkatchalam and visited Lord Sri:niva:sa to offer prayers. With lot of hesitation and guilt, the king confessed about the sin he committed. The King prayed, "Oh my dear Lord! My saviour! Lord of all worlds and Gods! I have committed a great crime and sin of ignoring to take care of Krushna Sarma's family. I have arranged food and water for six months only after which they died due to starvation. Due to my negligence and ignorance, I have killed two people. Please protect me and save me from this great sin. Please give life to Krushna Sarma's family and save me from this great sin."

Then Lord Sri:niva:sa said "Oh! My dear King! Don't worry, I will tell you a way to bring Krushna Sarma's family back to life. Krushna Sarma took my permission before leaving to Kashi and his wife Sudhramini is my devotee and she always worshipped me."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Lord Sri:niva:sa ordered Sri Vishwakse:na, commander of Lord's army to bring the sacred water from Asthi kootam, the sacred pond on the Ve:nkatachala Hill, and then sprinkle on the dead bodies of Krushna Sarma's wife and son. Vishwakse:na did as Lord commanded and Sudharmini and her son became alive.

Lord Sri:niva:sa called both Krushna Sarma and his wife and son and said, "I would like to grant you a wish". Then Sudharmini said, "Oh! My Lord, please bless me so that my mind is always focussed on you with utmost devotion and I always worship you". And Lord Sri:niva:sa granted the wish and said Krushna Sarma and his family will worship the Lord and spread the Vedic knowledge to every one even in their next life and reach Vaikuntam, the divine abode of Lord Srimannarayana. Krushna Sarma and the King were very happy and offered prayers to God. The King gave gifts to Krushna Sarma and sent him home. From that day onwards the King worshipped Lord Sri:niva:sa every day in Ve:nkatachalam.

Sage Na:rada prophesied that in Kali Yuga, Lord Sri:niva:sa will reside on the Hills happily along with Sridevi, receiving prayers from the devotees and surprising them with His divine qualities and deeds while receiving services from De:vata:s and Siddhas.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## The Battle Between King Chakravarthy and Demon Simha:da

Bramha:nda Pura:na, Thi:rtha Khanda, Chapter 11

Sage Bhrgu wanted to know more about the greatness of Lord Srinvasa. He requested sage Na:rada to look into the future and reveal the greatness of Lord and the happenings in Kaliyuga. Sage Na:rada pleased with Maharshi Bhrgu replied:

“When King Chakravarthi ruled the Earth, there lived a strong and powerful demon called Simha:da. This demon performed penance two miles north of Papanasanam to please Lord Bramha. He took bath three times a day in the pond, Aghavinasa. He praised four-headed Lord Bramha saying “O Prajapathi, I have none other than you in this Universe. Let me be prosperous. May my desires be fulfilled!”

After one year of Simha:da’s penance, Lord Bramha appeared in front of him seated on his vehicle, the Swan. Lord Bramha said, “Simha:da, I am very happy with your staunch penance. Good wishes to you. You will be happy. Ask me a boon. I will give it to you”

Then Simha:da said, “O, Universal God, Lord Bramha. You are the reason for all the causes on this earth and the nature. I humbly request you to grant me a boon. Please grant me a boon where other demons, celestial gods, snakes and demi-gods like Gandharvas, Yakshas will be commanded by me. I should not be feared by them.” Lord Bramha granted the boon immediately and disappeared.

Since then the demon, Simha:da started harassing and troubling the demigods, rulers, sages and other human beings. Unable to bear the torture by Simha:da demon, Rushis, Sages, demigods collectively went to Lord Venkatesa and requested the Lord to protect them from the demon.

They prayed to Lord Sri:niva:sa thus – “Dear Lord! You are the only one who can protect us from the cruel demons. You are the God of all Gods. You are the protector of the beings who surrender to you. Please protect us from the wicked and cruel demon, Simha:da. He made us suffer a lot by not allowing us to live in peace. He is troubling the people from all the worlds. He harasses beautiful women. He is a pitiless man. He got boons from Lord Bramha (the four headed God)”

After hearing the words of his devotees, Lord Venkateswara graced them with the following words – “Dear Bhaktha:s, Bramha has granted a boon to this cruel demon, Simha:da. It protects him from being killed by other demons, demi-gods, snakes, human beings. In addition to that, he is being



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

helped by so many other demons. Six of those demons are the mostcruel. They are Kara, Kada:ra, Pinga:ksha, Kanaku, Kadruva and Kasi. They all belong to Ba:nu dynasty, the most cruel one.

Also I have given a boon to Bhaktha Prahla:da that none of the demons belonging to his lineage will be punished by me. But, I will reveal the secret to kill Simha:da:. There is a King by name Chakravarthi. He lives in a very pleasant place called Kalahasthi. It is on the Western side of the river, Suvarnamukhi. He is my devotee. You make him very strong by giving all your powers to him. King Chakravathi will kill the strong and powerful Simha:da just like Lord Rama killed all the demons. All of you will be prosperous. I bless you all."

Saying so, Lord Sri:niva:sa disappeared. Following the orders of Lord Sri:niva:sa, demi-gods went to King Chakravathi. The sages and all demi-gods disguised as Brahmins visited the King and blessed him. King invited them gracefully and asked them about their welfare.

The demi-gods replied "O King. We are all safe because of you. You are a wise ruler. There is a very cruel demon called Simha:da. He is harassing all the devotees. He is not letting us perform yajnas and prayers. Please kill the cruel demon Simha:da. We, the de:vata:s came here to bless you."

Listening to them, King Chakravarthi said, "I am capable of killing Simha:da with your blessings. Please tell me more about him and his strengths". Then the devataas said "We have no doubt about you killing that cruel demon. Simha:da is very strong and wicked because of the boon from Lord Bramha. No demi-god can kill him. He cannot be killed even by Lord Vishnu. We will bless you with all our powers." Saying thus the de:vata:s disappeared.

After his regular prayers, King humbly folded his hands and requested the Lord Sri:niva:sa saying thus, "Dear Lord Sri:niva:sa, de:vata:s came to me and handed over the job of killing Simha:da: to me. What do you want me to do? Please guide me Lord".

### **Lord Sri:niva:sa gives his five weapons to King Charavarthi**

Hearing the kind words of the King, Lord says, "Dear King! You are a sensible person. I will give my five weapons to you. They are the heavenly conch (Pa:nchajanya), disc (Sudarshan Chakra), a mace (Kaumo:daki), a bow (Sa:ranjga), a sword (Nandaka). By wearing all these weapons, you kill that wicked demon. With the help of your relatives, ministers, demi-gods defeat him in the battle field." Saying these kind words to King Chakravarthi, Lord Sri:niva:sa gave him the five weapons.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Immediately, the King went to his kingdom. He summoned his huge powerful army. Then he took the form of a barbarian being possessed by all the demi-gods along with their enormous strengths. All his army dressed up like hunters and followed the king, who was very eager to start the war.

The huge army started riding towards the forest where Simha:da: lived. On the way to Pa:pana:sana, the powerful army hunted many tigers, wolves, lions, cheetahs, hogs, bores and wild pigs. The confident Simha:da: came out of his palace and saw the huge army of King Chakravathi and laughed at them. He felt no fear thinking that no de:vata:s, demons, human beings and even the King Chakravathi can do any harm to him due to the boon he got from Bramha.

The cruel Simha:da: confidently came out on his lion vehicle along with his army and attacked the army of King Chakravathi. His confidants Khara came out with millions of soldiers, Kadar with 60 million soldiers, Pinga:ksa with 70 million soldiers, Kanaka with 100 million soliders, Kadru with ten thousand million soldiers and Kapi with thousand million soldiers (100 crores). The other friendly demons came out with 100 akshouhini soldiers. The blessed, strong and powerful King Chakravarthi went with 300 akshouhini soldiers and fought equally with the cruel army of Simha:da:. The battle between these two armies was very horrifying and it looked like a war between the rivers Ganga and Yamuna.

One Akshouhini constituted 21,870 chariots, 21870 elephants, 65610 horses and 1,09,350 foot-soldiers. The total number of soldiers comes up to  $(109350 + 65610 + 21870 + 21870) = 218700$ . Adding the charioteers and mahouts (assuming one per chariot and elephant), the total number of people involved in one Akshouhini comes to  $(218700 + 21870 + 21870) = 262440$ .

All the tensed de:vata:s and other godly people enthusiastically came on their vehicles to watch this ferocious war from the sky. Even Bramha and other Gods too came to see the war. Meanwhile the celestial damsels started fighting among themselves for the brave soldiers who died in the battle and reached the heaven.

Meanwhile, seeing his weakening army, King Chakravarthi started using sharp arrows with the help of Sa:rangam, Lord Na:ra:yana's bow. With each arrow, King killed several million soldiers of Simha:da:. Simha:da: became very angry after watching the prowess of Chakravarthi. He went fast on his Lion and gave a huge blow on the King's horse with his mace.

Chakravathi immediately left his dead horse and made an elephant his vehicle resembling Lord Indra on Aira:vatham, an elephant. Chakravathi then used the mace, Kaumo:daki, given by Lord Na:ra:yana



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

on Simha:da's army. The Kaumodaki immediately killed 60 Akshouhini soldiers of Simha:da: and returned to King Chakravathi.

But, Simha:da:, using his magic powers, gave back life to all the soliders who were killed by Kaumo:daki. Seeing this all, the gods exclaimed with surprise. Later King Chakravathi, cut the head of Simha:da: for one hundred times using sa:ranga, the bow and an arc shaped arrow. In spite of cutting the head several times, Chakravarthi could not kill Simha:da. The demi-gods became very unhappy.

The way Lord Rama used Ga:ndharva, a powerful arrow that was intended for fainting Ravana's army, King Chakravarthi too used the Gandharva on Simha:da's army. The effect of that weapon was so powerful that the cruel soliers of Simha:da started fighting between themselves and eating each other.

At that time, Lord Bramha ordered the God of Air (Va:yudeva) to teach Sudarsana shadakshari (6 lettered manthra) to King Chakravarthi. Immediately, Vayudeva took the form of a brahmin and taught the sudharshana mantra, "Om Sudarsana:ya", to the King in his ears and told him to cut off the head of Simha:da: for the welfare of cows and the devotees and disappeared.

Listening to the Lord Va:yu, the wise King Chakavarthi, took the Na:ra:yana's disc, Sudarsana into his hands. Suharsana disc has thousands of sharp teeth. King Charavarthi prayed humbly to Lord Srimannarayana and killed Simha:da with Sudarsana. Simha:da's soldiers were still standing still as statues due to the effect of the weapon, Gha:ndharva. King Chakravarthi did not withdraw the weapon as per the wishes of celestial gods. All gods showered flower rain on King Chakravarthi for killing Simha:da:.

Thus, Sage Na:ra:da completed the story and said "O Maharshi Bhrigu, this is the story as told by Maharshi Agasthya. But there is some more narrative to be told.

In Kaliyuga, during nights, human beings can still hear the cries of those cruel soldiers of Simha:da:. With the orders from the King of that region, Simha:da's soldiers will keep roaming everywhere but they are not visible to human beings. After killing Simha:da, King Charavarthi went to Lord Venkate:swara and narrated all the happenings. Later King gave back the five weapons of Lord Sri:niva:sa.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Lord Sri:niva:sa, very happy with King Chakravarthi, blessed him saying, "Dear King! I bless you with these weapons. Whenever you want to be victorious in a battle ask for help. These weapons of mine will come and help you. "

Lord Na:ra:yana told his weapons, "Dear Conch, Disc, Bow, Sword and Mace. You all should provide help to the King whenever he asks for your help. You can go back to your places after providing the necessary help to the King. You will also serve my devotees who come to take bath at your holy place and help them to unite with me. You may move freely wherever you want while praying to me. I have given you all to this King. I do not want to break that intimate union by accepting you all back. Whenever I feel like having you, you will immediately come to me.

For some time, I will continue to be visible to the devotees without weapons, Conch and Disc. After some time during Kaliyuga, due to some reasons, I will be decorated with a replica of Conch and Disc by a righteous preacher. He will also construct a temple for me. Due to his prayer and utmost devotion towards me, I will be very happy and continue to show grace on devotees. I will grant all my devotees' wishes with my hand displayed in a position of assurance and safety. To the satisfaction of my devotees, I will also wear those beautiful Conch and Disc on my both hands in honor of that greatest devotee. I will stay like that till the annihilation of this Universe. So, O! King! Now you go to your kingdom and continue to be my devotee."

Thus ordered by the Lord, all the five weapons of Lord Na:ra:yana went back to their places. The son of King Chola, Chakravathi also reached his kingdom as Lord Indra reached his place, Amara:vathi.

Listening to the wonderful glory of Lord Venkate:swara from Sage Na:rada Muni, Maharshi Bhrugu became very enthusiastic about the Lord. His urge to pray to Lord Sri:niva:sa increased and immediately started travelling towards Se:sadri, the place of Lord Venkate:swara.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

# SRI: MA:RKANDE:YA PURA:NA



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



## Conversation between Ma:rkande:ya and Garuda

Sri Ma:rkande:ya Pura:na Chapter 1

All the rishi:s approached Su:ta maharshi and asked: "Dear Su:ta ! You have read all the scriptures! You know all the details described in Vedas and sastra:s. Please tell us now about the greatness of Sri: Ve:nkata:chala." Su:ta maharshi replied:

"Once upon a time, there lived Ma:rkande:ya, son of Mrikanda. After receiving the boon of long life and bliss by worshipping Lord Simannarayana, he went back to his hermitage and prostrated to his parents in front of all other sages.

He told his parents about all things that happened thus far and expressed his intention of visiting holy places. "Oh mother and father! Here is my wish. Please listen. I received blessings from the Lord and have attained full life. I now wish to go on a pilgrimage and see all the holy places and take a bath in all the holy rivers. Please wish me a safe trip and send me with delighted heart. The scriptures say that one should take permission from his/her father when executing worldly duties or performing any vedic rituals. Hence, father! Please give me permission to go on this pilgrimage."

Sage Mrikanda said, "Dear son, our lineage is sustained by your very thought of undertaking such a pilgrimage. Although your intention to go on a holy trip is very appropriate, how can we send you? It is as such difficult for any parent to let their son go on a long trip. It is further more difficult to be away from a great and noble son like you. Great people define the characters of noble people as follows:

- Son is the one who gives happiness to father by his good behavior.
- Wife is the one who bears all difficulties for the welfare of her husband.
- Friend is the one who behaves in the same manner during good and bad times.

Only a very blessed person can have association with all these three types of people. You are very dear to us. You are a wise man. You follow the path ordained by the scriptures by having faith in them and in God. How can we bear this separation from you?

Parents are only happy when they have their son around them. And son is only happy when he stays close to his parents serving them. This is a remarkable attribute of the nature. Now tell us son, how you can go on your pilgrimage leaving us alone here."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Ma:rkande:ya replied, "Dear Parents! Do not worry about me. I will come to see you every year. You have heard of the fact that pilgrimage to holy places and bath in holy rivers will cleanse the entire clan and lineage. Therefore, please bless me and send me off on this trip". Parents hugged and blessed him and said: "Son, you should have a long blissful life. Always give us happiness by your good behavior and character and follow the righteous path". Ma:rkande:ya bowed to his parents and offered his salutations to them with circumambulation. With their blessings he proceeded to visit the holy places.

### Story of Ma:rkande:ya visiting Holy Places

With the desire to see the holy places, Ma:rkande:ya flew to Varanasi and took a holy dip in river Ganga. On the banks of the river, he first prostrated to Lord Viswanatha. There, he saw the noble devotee of Lord Vishnu, Garuda – the king of birds.

He said to Garuda, "Salutations! Oh Lord Garuda! Where are you going? I came here on a pilgrimage to visit all the holy places. Please give me information on the most sacred places on earth." Garuda revealed to Ma:rkande:ya about the truths and secrets of Sri Ve:nkatachala Mahathmyam as follows:

"O! Sage Ma:rkande:ya, of all the holy places and holy rivers existing, the best one is located in the south direction along the banks of the river Suvarnamukhi on the mountain called Sri Ve:nkatachalam. Everyone will be blessed in this place. Yogis always go to Sri Ve:nkatachalam to see and serve the Lord Sri:niva:sa. There are many names to this mountain. Some of those names are Sri Ve:nkatachalam, Seshadri, Na:ra:yana:dri, Anjana:dri, Swarna:chalam, Swarna:dri, Ratna Maheedharam, etc"

"O Muneedra (pious one)! Just by praising the holy place Sri Ve:nkatachalam, all our sins get washed away. Just by bowing to this mountain, we obtain all pleasures. Even de:vata:s come to worship the Lord here. There are many holy rivers that are flowing on this mountain. Among all these rivers, the primary tank is Swamipushkarini.

What can I say about the glory of this mountain? On the west side of this mountain, Lord Bhu Varaha Swami resides along with his consort Bhu:devi blessing all the devotees in the world. On the south of Swami Pushkarini resides Lord Vaikunthanatha along with his consort Lakshmi gracefully granting boons.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

All the de:vata:s live on this mountain serving the Lord Sri:niva:sa. You should go to this Ve:nkatachalam, take your holy bath in Swami Pushkarini and then seek the blessings of Sri Ve:nkatachalapathi and obtain all prosperities, peace, and pleasures. I am also travelling to that mountain to see Lord Sri Venkate:swara. Vishvaksena and Sesa serve Sri Venkate:swara all the time. There is no other holy place more sacred than Sri Ve:nkatachalam and no other river as sacred as Swami Pushkarini on this Earth (Bhuloka)." Garuda reached Ve:nkatadri after informing Ma:rkande:ya about the greatness of Ve:nkatachala hill. Ma:rkande:ya was amazed by the words of Garuda and felt extremely happy for becoming aware of the holiest place on Earth, i.e Sri Ve:nkatachalam. His desire to visit this holy place grew stronger."





"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Ma:rkande:ya's Visit to Venkatachala along with Agasthya's disciple Suddha

Ma:rkande:ya Pura:nam Chapter 2

Sri Su:ta Maharshi continued and told the sages about Ma:rkande:ya's visit to Ve:nkata:chalam:

"The sage Ma:rkande:ya reached Suvarna Mukhari river. There he saw the Se:shadri mountain in the north direction. At the same time Agasthya's disciple Suddha also visited a place in the vicinity of Ve:nkatachalam. Ma:rkande:ya along with Agastya's disciple took holy bath in all seventeen thi:rthams including Chakrathi:rtham, Indra thi:rtham, Vishvakse:na thi:rtham, Pancha thi:rtham, Agni thi:rtham, Bramha thi:rtham, Sapta thi:rtham in Ve:nkata:chala.

Then, they continued their journey climbing the Ve:nkatachalam hill. On the way, they visited the world famous Na:rasimha cave. Ma:rkande:ya offered prayers to Lord Na:rasimha saying

*lakshmi:nrusimha! prahla:da varada a:nanda vaibhava |  
da:sa:nuda:sam de:ve:sa ma:m pa:hi madhusu:dana ||*

Oh Lakshmi: Narasimha! Saviour of Prahla:da! Please protect me, the servant of your servants!  
Ma:rkande:ya had the divine sight of Sri Vara:ha Swamy.

### Ma:rkande:ya's darshan of Lord Varahaswami after taking holy dip in Swamy Thi:rtha Pushkarini

In Swami Pushkarini, Ma:rkande:ya took holy dip as per the recommendations in sastras. There he prostrated and started praying to Swe:tha Vara:ha Swamy and Bhu:Devi who resided in western side of the Pushkarini.

"Oh! Narayana! Please shower your blessings on me. You saved the entire mankind by lifting the earth that was drowned in the water using your tusks. Thus You protected all the beings living on the earth. You have taken the form of Vara:ha Avatara. I offer my sincere prayers to you. You are blessing devotees by residing near Swami Pushkarini. Oh Varahaswami, the giver of all good things to the world, the protector for all the protected, I offer my prayers to you."

### Sri Ma:rkande:ya Praising Sri:niva:sa

After praying to Lord Vara:ha Swamy, Ma:rkande:ya felt blessed and took thi:rtham. From there he went to Lord Sri:niva:sa's temple which is on the southern side of the Vara:ha Swamy temple.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

He offered salutations from outside the temple and then crossed all the temple towers. Then he went inside the temple to see the Lord Sriniva:sa. He praised Lord thus:

*I offer prayer to Ve:nkata Chalapathi  
Who has Sun and Moon as his eyes  
Who has Goddess Lakshmi as her husband  
Who is responsible for creation and protection  
Whom Sages always meditate upon  
Who is the protector of the whole universe  
Whom I:shwara the husband of Parvathi is devoted to  
Who is the father of Manmadha  
Who protects from all the sins...  
Swami, Sriman Narayana,  
Narayanadri Mountain is your abode.  
You are controller of all lo:kas  
You have shown unlimited kindness towards devotees.  
Please accept my prayers.*

*vina: ve:nkate:sam nananatho: nanathaha  
sada: ve:nkate:sam smara:mi smara:mi  
hare! venkatesa! prasi:da prasi:da  
priyam venkatesa! prayaccha prayaccha.*

Oh Venkate:sa! there is no saviour other than you.  
I meditate on you always Venkatesa!  
O Venkatesa! please show your grace and bless us.

*aham du:rathasthe pada:m bhoja yugma  
prana:mecchayagatya se:va:m karo:mi  
sakrutse:vaya nityase:va: phalam tvam  
prayaccha prayaccha prabho: ve:nkatesa.*

O Lord! I came from a long way with a desire to offer service to your lotus feet.  
Hey Venkatesa! Please give me the boon to serve you always and worship you.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

*ajna:nina maya: do:san  
ase:sa:n vihitha:n hare!  
ksamasvathvam ksmasvathvam  
se:sha saila sikhamane*

O Hari! The jewel-crest of Sesa:dri! Pardon me for all the sins committed by me, an ignorant being. Please bless me to be at your service every day. Please pardon my sins and mistakes.

### **Srinviasa's boon to Ma:rkande:ya about unlimited devotion**

Lord Sri:niva:sa appeared and said "Oh Markande:ya I am pleased with your devotion. You have followed Garuda's suggestion and came to Se:shadri Mountain to seek blessings by offering prayers. Let me know what you need!

Ma:rkande:ya said, "Sri:niva:sa, Please bless me to have uninterrupted devotion on you. You always have love for your devotees. Bless me!" Lord Sri:niva:sa granted the boon to Ma:rkande:ya.

### **Sri:niva:sa's blessings to erase sins of Agastya's disciple**

Sri:niva:sa said, "Oh Suddha (Disciple of Agastya), You have done uncountable sins. However, on seeing me, all of your sins have been burnt. Sri:niva:sa ordered Suddha, "Make a pradakshina around my Vima:na and go to your Guru's ashram and practice good things." Suddha obeyed the Lord. Then Ma:rkande:ya asked Suddha about his Guru and ashram.

### **Suddha's describes his background to Ma:rkande:ya**

Suddha tells Ma:rkande:ya, "Oh Ma:rkande:ya! I belong to a town called Kanchi Pattanam. I have many kids. To feed my family I have taken several undeserved offerings. Due to that, I could not live in a house and started roaming around. I have eaten food that is offered to dead. I have eaten so many such meals and have accumulated so many sins.

I have never followed the practices like taking a shower, doing sandhya, Japa, Homa, Deva Puja, offering food to guests and deserved people, Bramha Yajna etc. People in my own village used to



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m Nam:o: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

scold me for being unethical. My wife Revathi said, "You have committed all sins to feed the family, yet you could not even save some money. You wore the clothes that were given to the dead people. We are starving for food. We do not even have clothes to cover our body. Still you never realized your mistake."

"The great people have said that if we offer prayers to Sri Venkatachalapati, he will bless us with life, health, wealth and all other desires. Hence, please visit Venkatachalam. In the northern direction, there is a river called Suvarna mukhari. On the banks of the river, there is Venkatachala mountain, the abode of Sri:niva:sa. Taking my wife's advice I have reached Venkatachalam."

"In five days I went to Agasthya Ashram after visiting Suvarnamukhari river. There I have offered prayers to sage Agasthya who was doing penance, sitting opposite to Siva. Agasthya enquired about my sadness and offered help. I told Agasthya that I was the greatest sinner and he could visualize my past sinful life with his divine vision. I prayed to him to accept me as his disciple and purify me from all the sins."

Agasthya said, "O Suddha, with my divine vision I saw all your past sins. You have already purified yourself with the thought of going to Ve:nkata:chalam. Go there and have darshan of Bhru Varaha Swami and Sri:niva:sa and come back to Ashram. Once you get rid of all those sins with the darshan of Sri:niva:sa I will suggest to you how to lead life".

Thus Sudha became the disciple of Agasthya.

He asked Ma:rkande:ya if he wanted to visit Agasthya ashram who experienced Sri Venkatachala's divine power. Ma:rkande:ya and Suddha arrived at Agasthya ashram on the banks of river Suvarna Mukhari. Sage Agasthya explained the stories of Lord Venkatachalapati in detail to all other fellow sages.

### **Sage Agastya describing the Greatness of Venkatachala with happiness**

"In Bhru:loka, there is a temple for Sri:niva:sa on Sri Ve:nkatachalam. It has several names viz., Sresha:dri, Vrishabha:dri, Garuda:chala etc. Garuda brought a play mountain of Srimannarayana from Vaikuntam to the vicinity of Swarnamukhi river. Lord Srimannarayana along with his consort Lakshmi Devi resides in the Ananda Nilayam on top of the mountain to protect all of us."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

### **Bramha and Rudra's arrival on Ve:nkata:chalam to see Sri:niva:sa**

"Once we all came to Vrishabha:dri in search of Srimannarayana who is the only protector on the advice of Bramha. Group of Sages and Rushis came to Vrishabha:dri and did tapas for hundreds of years. All the sages took the holy dip in the Pushkarini. To have darshan of Lord Sri:niva:sa, Bramha and all de:vata:s, Sanaka Sananda yogindra visited Ve:nkata:chalam. Eswara along with Pramatha ganas, Siddhas who live in milky ocean and Devaguru Brihaspati, and Rakshasaguru Sukracharya and Hari Bhakta Parayana Vasuraju also visited Venkatachalam.

De:vata:s, Rishis, Siddhis, Charans, AsthaVasus, Kinneras and all have taken holy dip in Pushkarini with peaceful mind. They all were meditating upon God of all Gods Srimannarayana!

### **Srimannarayana as Srinivasa on Ve:nkata:chalam**

During that time, divine bright light appeared. From the center of that brilliant light, all powerful Vima:na appeared. In the center of the Vima:na, Lord Srimannarayana appeared in the form of Sri:niva:sa with conch and disc and one hand showing his lotus feet for the devotees. Lord's left hand enlightens devotees that who all surrender at the lotus feet of God will easily cross the ocean of samsa:ra. Lord Sri:niva:sa has a weapon in his hand to protect his devotees, a smile on his face that signifies the Lakshmi Nivasam. Everyone had darshan of Lord Sri:niva:sa."

### **Bramha and Rudra have Darshan of Lord Sri:niva:sa**

Bramha and Rudra also offered prayers to Lord Sri:niva:sa as follows: " One who resides on Venkatachala, one who is filled with compassion, please protect us. Please accept our prayers. Oh Lord of the Universe! Please fulfill all of our desires."

Lord Srinva:sa granted a boon to all De:vata:s and said, "I bless all of you and will protect you to fulfill all of your desires". All Munis and sages offered prayers and requested Lord Sri:nivasa to stay on Ve:nkata:chalam. Munis and Sages said that by having the divine darshan of Lord, all the human beings will get rid of their sins. Thus to help all the human kind Lord Sri:niva:sa along with his consort Goddess Lakshmi stayed on the banks of Pushkarini.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Sankara explains to Kumaraswamy Ve:nkatachalam is the right place for performing penance

Ma:rkande:ya Pura:na, Sri Ve:nkatachala Mahatmyam, Chapter 4

The Great Maharshi Agasthya told the assembled devotees, "I will explain about the importance of Kuma:radha:rika. Once upon a time, Kuma:ra Swa:my, son of Sankara, killed Ta:raka:sura and due to that he has incurred the sin of Bramha Hathy pa:thakam (a sin of killing a Vedic scholar). Kuma:ra Swa:my pleaded to his father to help him to get rid of this sin. Sankara explained to Kuma:ra Swa:my the importance of Na:ra:yana maha: manthra and asked him to visit Ve:nkatachalam located on the banks of Suvarnamukhi river.

Ve:nkatachalam is the abode of Lord Srimannarayana and has many divine rivers on it. Some of the main waterbodies (thi:rtha) include Chakra thi:rtham, Swami thi:rtham, Mathsya thi:rtham, Pa:ndava thi:rtham, Na:ga thi:rtham, Bilwa thi:rtham, Jaba:li thi:rtham, A:kasaganga thi:rtham, Pa:pana:sanam, Thumburu thi:rtham, Va:mana thi:rtham, and Kuma:ra thi:rtham. Whoever remembers these divine waterbodies on Ve:nkatachalam, their sins will be erased. Lord Sri:niva:sa always resides on the bank of Sri Swami thi:rtham and blesses all devotees whoever remember Lord in the name of Venkate:swara.

Lord Sankara advised Kuma:ra Swa:my to go to Ve:nkatachalam and perform penance chanting the Ve:nkatachalapathi's manthram – "o:m sri: ve:nkate:sa:ya namaha" three times a day in the Kuma:ra thi:rtham. Kuma:ra Swa:my followed his father's advice and took a divine dip in Chakra thi:rtham and proceeded towards Sri Swamy Puskarini. Bramha Hatya dosha couldn't follow Kuma:ra Swa:my and it stopped before the Ve:nkatachalam. Kuma:ra Swa:my took bath in Sri Swamy Puskarini and prostrated in front of the Lord praying – "Oh My Lord! – You are served by Bramha and Rudra and it is my great opportunity to serve you today! Please save me from my curse and remove all my difficulties." Kuma:ra Swa:my then proceeded in the North-western direction after taking a bath in the Pa:pana:sanam.

Kuma:ra Swa:my sat in the east and performed penance day and night without any food except a few fruits and water. After a long time, Lord appeared to Kuma:ra Swa:my on a full Moon day in Kumbha ma:sa (month), Makha Nakshatra (star) on Wednesday afternoon. Kuma:ra Swa:my saw the beautiful form of Lord Sri:niva:sa holding Sankha & Chakra, with one hand on the waist and another hand pointing to his Lotus feet. Kumar Swamy prostrated before Lord Sri:niva:sa, Sridevi and Bhudevi and prayed to the Lord – "Oh My Lord, Sri:yah Pathi! You are the controller of the universe and I'm prostrating before you".



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

*jaya de:va! jaganna:tha! jaya! lakshmi: pathe:! hare: |  
jaya lo:ke:sa! sarve:sa! do:sha:paha namo:namaha ||*

To celebrate this auspicious moment, all the demi gods, sages, Indra, Bramha, Sankara along with Vighne:swara and the battalions, Na:rada, Na:ga, Vaikhanasa:s, Apsara:s, Gandharvas eulogized the Lord in the following way:

*jaya jaya ve:nkata saila na:tha! vishnoho! munijanase:vita! se:shasailava:sa |  
sakala jana hita:vati:rna! de:va! jaya jaya bhkatajana:bhira:ma! pa:hi ||*

Lord was pleased and blessed Kuma:ra Swa:my.





"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

# SRI VA:MANA PURA:NA



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## **Kuma:ra Swamy Performs Penance**

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 21

Kumaraswamy was convinced about the auspicious Vishnu kshethra (place) that removes all sins, and asked his father another question, "Oh! Father! Which is a suitable place for me to meditate? In which place there would be no interruption or disturbance to my penance? Oh accomplished one! Tell me who removes worldly sorrows? Who is respected by great sages and has a calm and peaceful personality? I would perform penance if you enlighten me."

I:swara, happy with the question, paused and glanced at Parvathi and thought for some time. Then he suggested Kuma:raswa:my to travel on his vehicle, the peacock, to Vrusha:dri mountain to perform penance.

Kumaraswamy said, "Dear Father! You told me earlier that Vrusha Mountain is not a part of the Kulachala parvathas. Where is this mountain? Why was Vrusha performing penance? Who is Vrusha? Is he Vrushabham (Bull) or Dharma or Manu? Tell me who he is.

### **Mount Anja:na:dri moves from North to South**

I:swara replied, "Son! Vrushadri is not Kula:chala. He is the son of Mount Meru, a great mountain. It is well known as "Mount Anjana:dri." It so happened that Adishesha and Va:yu once had a huge argument resulting in the displacement of the mountain to the south.

This mountain "Anjana:dri" represents a great pilgrimage, most auspicious and divine place not easily found by man on this earth and Lord Srimannarayana determined it should remain in the south direction. But this mountain with the permission of Lord Srimannarayana wanted to stay with his father mount Meru. Later when Adishesha and Va:yu had a heated argument, which shook the universe, Vrusha Mountain was instructed by his father Mount Meru to move towards south, 40 miles (5 Yojanas) from the ocean on east and 180 miles (36 Yojanas) from South Ocean towards north near the Suvarnamukhi river bed. On the north side the 5 miles (2 ½ Kroshas) area was decorated with yellow sandal wood trees and a beautiful garden.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

### Benefits of meditating on Sri Lakshmi Varaha Swamy kshe:tra on Anjana:dri

Accomplished saints always did penance here. People who do not have respect for Ve:da:s or who do not have faith in God cannot visit this mountain. It is a sacred mountain worshipped by Suka Maharshi, Bhrgu Maharshi and several other great saints. Great devotees like Prahlada, great kings like Ambarisa considered this mountain as the body of Lord Vishnu Himself. They feared to step on the mountain and only took the sacred water flowing from the mountain and performed all rites in the water staying close to the mountain. They performed penance to Lord Srimannarayana to appear, which is why this mountain is considered as the most sacred mountain. It is said that just by looking at the crown of the mountain all sins are removed immediately. On this mountain Lord Srimannarayana, in the form of Vara:ha, is holding Bhudevi seated on his lap close to him. He is worshipped by all the great saints three times a day. This place has become famous as Varaha Kshe:tra.

If Varaha mantra is chanted with dedication for one month following all the rules laid out in the sa:stra:s in the auspicious Varaha Kshe:tra in Ve:nkatadri, all wishes will be fulfilled. They will be blessed with land and property immediately. Kings/Rulers who wish to rule the kingdom forever, should do sixteen types of charity and please Varahaswamy and Bhudevi. It is said, Varahaswamy blesses such king/rulers with good land/kingdom free from all troubles and removes all the obstacles to flourish for a long time. Those who do not worship Bhudevi (Lakshmi) with Varahaswamy and proceed to rule the kingdom will be troubled by famine, floods and face problems with enemies, robbers and sickness throughout the kingdom. Hence, all rulers should worship Lord Sri Lakshmi Vara:ha Swamy.

### Moutain gets the name Vrusha:dri

Opposite to Varahaswamy, there is a waterbody called Swamy Pushkarini, the most auspicious of all the waterbodies, which has the power to purify all living beings in this universe. Son! Sada:nana! All sacred rivers in the universe get purified by this waterbody, Swamy Pushkarini.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Vaivaswatha Manu was ruling the world with his power whereas Dharmaru:pa Manu was performing penance. He was also called "Vrusha". When he performed this penance there was peace and prosperity along with righteousness in the kingdom. Varahaswamy along with Bhudevi appeared and said, "Oh Vrusha:! Your penance has enhanced the righteousness. I am very pleased. So this mountain will be named after you as 'Vrusha:dri'. You will rule the world after King Yama," and disappeared. Vrusha also left after that.

### **The God of Wind (Va:yu) Meditates on Supreme Lord**

The most powerful wind god who represents life, meditated on the taraka mantra. He performed a great penance on Lord Srirama wishing to see Lord Srimannarayana along with Bhudevi, the Lord with all his auspicious qualities, the one who has four arms decorated with the crown, Conch, Discus, bow and arrow, the Supreme God and the master of the universe.

After I:swara explained the story, the well versed Kumaraswamy asked, "Oh Father! Please teach me the most powerful Vishnumantra among all the Vishnu mantras which will bestow all the benefits very soon and which will show the way to attain the God's grace". Then I:swara initiated Kuma:ra Swamy with Ta:raka manthra.

### **Kumaraswamy goes to Ve:nkatachala to perform penance**

Kumaraswamy was satisfied and took blessings from his parents performing circumambulation to them with all humbleness. Then he travelled towards Ve:nkatachala on his peacock along with Indra and all devathas. All reached Ve:nkatachalam, which is abundant with one lakh twentyfive thousand streams. Being tired, he sat on the mountain and suddenly became sad as he missed his parents.

### **Kuma:ra Swamy's birth details**

At the request of Indra, Bruhaspathi and all the de:vata:s approached Kumaraswamy to make him happy. He said, "Oh my son, do you know who you are? Did you forget about the divine place Vaikunta?" Kumaraswamy asks them, "Oh Guru! Who am I? Please tell me."

Bramha who has knowledge of past and future explained thus:



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

“Devathas suffered due to Tarakasura and prayed for a commander-in-chief. Satidevi after being insulted by Daksha Prajapathi created fire with her power and sacrificed her body in it. I:swara took a vow that he would not marry anyone other than Satidevi. Without wearing clothes and lifting his hands in air, he stopped breathing and meditated on the inner self and conducted great penance. At the same time Tarakasura pleased Bramha with great penance and asked for a boon that no one except the son of I:swara could kill him. With this boon it was impossible for anyone to kill him except the son of I:swara.

Satidevi took rebirth as the daughter of Parvatharaja and was brought up by Menaka. The de:vata:s decided to pray to Sankara to marry Pa:rvathi and bless them with a son with the power of Vishnu who can kill Tarakasura. On the request of Indra, Rati Devi and Manmadha (God of Love) decided to allure I:swara to fall in love with Parvathi. They went to the abode of Siva and Parvathi. Manmadha aimed his arrows towards Siva. Siva got disturbed and became very angry. I:swara burnt Manmadha by opening his third eye and left the ashramam.

I:swara decided to go to north side of Kailasa mountain to an asramam to continue his penance. Later Parvathi performed penance and pleased I:swara who married her and also gave life to Manmadha. Later I:swara started living with Parvathi in the Himalayas fulfilling all desires for several hundreds of years. Then Indra and other devathas approached and prayed to him, “Oh! Sankara! we are subjected to torture by sinful Tarakasura, please give us a powerful son to kill this asura”.

I:swara asked the devathas to go away and the devathas realizing I:swara was angry had fled in all directions. I:swara emitted his power in all directions. Mother Earth could not withstand the heat of the power. It occupied the whole earth. Mother Earth requested Wind god to take the power of Sankara but Wind god did not respond. Later Fire god accepted the power and saved the Mother Earth from trouble. Parvathi was pleased with Fire god for taking the power of Sankara and blessed Agnihotra with a great son, “Since you hold the power of Sankara in your womb, you act as fire or hunger for all creatures.” She further said, “Whoever prays to Agni with devotion will be blessed with sons.” She cursed Wind god that his wife would never get children. She cursed Mother Earth that she would not beget children and would become wife for many. Later she went to Brigu mountain ranges to perform penance along with Sankara.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

The devathas saddened by this, prayed to Bramha, "Oh four faced Bhagwan! We followed your order but it did not work and we got cursed. What can we do now and what is our fate?" Listening to the prayers of the devathas, Bramha said, "Parvathi's words will not go waste and it will happen as said" and suggested to pray to Agnihotra that he could give some of Sankara's power and then to pray to Ganga to take that power. Ganga agreed to take that power after listening to the prayers of devathas. After some time Ganaga was not able to withstand the power and left it in Parvathi's ashramam and the whole garden turned bright like gold. Devathas were happy to see you born and sent six krithika:s to take care of you, the six faced one."

### **Brihaspati praises Kumaraswamy**

"Oh! Son! You are capable of removing the sorrows and troubles of devathas. Oh! Sankara's son and giver of happiness! You have the powers from Vishnu, four faced Bramha and Rudra. You are six faced and a great peacock rider. As you are young you can kill Tarakasura."

"You were born on grass weeds. You are holding a weapon Shakti, you are the son of river Ganga and born from fire god. You have one face, two hands and perform great things. You are wearing 6 faces to please your mothers. You give happiness to Parvathi. A person like you wearing twelve eyes and six faces and being the son of Sankara you are very courageous. Oh! Kumara! One who wears twelve bright weapons, killer of demons, Oh lord! Showing brightness like twelve suns. Oh! Kuma:ra Swa:my! Bless us"

Kuma:ra swamy was pleased and travelled on his peacock to Ve:nkatachalam.

### **Kumaraswamy Performing Penance**

On that mountain he found a holy place which was suitable for bath and also had lotus flowers which could be used for worship. Kumaraswamy took a bath in the lake and saw Va:yu performing penance nearby. He also started meditating on the Lord Srimannarayana with Sankha, Chakra and continued the great severe penance standing on his two feet, for Srimannarayana who is the greatest.





"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Shankara explaining the reason behind the incarnation of Lord Na:ra:yana as Sri:niva:sa

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 22

Sage Valmiki along with other sages asked, "Sri Na:rada, Please narrate what happened after Kumara swami reached Vrusha:dri". Na:rada continued:

"Oh! Brahmanas, the fair and radiant Kumaraswami left for Mount Vrusha:dri to do penance, accompanied by his army of de:vata:s. Meanwhile in Kailasha, Parvathi Devi out of love and affection for her son asked Lord Siva "Oh Lord! How can our little son, Kumaraswami, have the darshan of Lord Na:ra:yana which is difficult even for Lord Bramha?"

Lord Siva smiled and replied "Oh Devi, Let me share with you the future that is destined to happen. In the future, many sages who wish to have the Lord Na:ra:yana's darshan will arrive at Mount Vrusha:dri. Many great men, Pitru de:vata:s, Gandharvas, Sidhdhas, Garudas, Nagas and even some great Rakshashas will desire to see Lord Na:ra:yana with their own eyes and perform severe penances.

Some of them will worship me, Lord Bramha, our son Kumaraswami, and Indra. Some of the Rakshasas will worship us to gain victory over the de:vata:s. But both of us will also visit mount Vrusha:dri to see Lord Na:ra:yana. In order to have the vision of Lord on Ve:nkatachala, we will also perform severe penance."

### Lord Siva Obtaining The Chakra

*Lord Siva continues:*

"Both of us along with de:vata:s and rishis should visit a place where a chakra with the name 'Kaala chakra' is performing penance for me. This chakra which is suffering because of separation from me is greatly troubled and is staying at a place called Chakra Thi:rtha as per the order of Lord Na:ra:yana."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

At this, Parvathi devi asked. "Oh Lord! I am very surprised to know that the chakra is doing penance for you. The divine chakra is the weapon of Lord Na:ra:yana and is always in one of his hands. Why would the chakra do penance for you? What is the bonding between you and the chakra?"

Lord Siva replied thus:

"Devi, The chakra who has no birth and death, who is unimaginable and the most powerful, with thousands of sharp edges and more brilliant than millions of suns and who has the name Sudarsana belongs to Lord Na:ra:yana. No one else can even attempt to hold that chakra. This chakra has once destroyed the city of Kashi, which is my capital and most beloved to me. He destroyed the Kashi city in order to destroy the demons occupying that city.

I did a penance on Lord Narayana. After some time, Lord Na:ra:yana showered his grace on me and asked me to wish for a boon. I asked him for the chakra (who destroyed my city of Kashi) to be given to me and I do not need anything else.

When I asked for the chakra, Lord Na:ra:yana smiled, held my hand and told me that just as light cannot stay away from the sun, Devi Lakshmi, the Kaustubha gem, the chakra, Garuda, Sa:ranga the bow etc., who always long to be with him cannot stay with anyone else. He also said that he never utters untruth and thus blessed me with the boon to have the chakra. He said that the Sudarsana chakra will take an incarnation as another chakra, which will be created by Lord Bramha. That chakra will be known as the Ka:la chakra and will stay with me for a period of thousand years. He then said that the chakra will return to its original form when I offer it back to Lord Na:ra:yana.

After I received the boon, I used the Ka:la chakra to punish many demons and to protect the de:vata:s. During my war with Tripura:sura, Lord Na:ra:yana taught me the mantra to get success in order to kill the demon. I offered the Ka:la chakra back to Lord Na:ra:yana as dakshina. That Ka:la chakra is now doing penance at Chakra Thi:rtha for the removal of separation from me."

On hearing this, Parvati devi asked Lord Siva about the location of the Chakra Thi:rtha.

Lord Siva then said, "On the south side of Vrisha:chala, on the river bank of Bahuprasravana, there are seventeen pious Thi:rthas. Chakra Thi:rtha is the first and foremost of them. It is below the Vajra Thi:rtha and this is where the Ka:la chakra did penance. After the great Sage Kapila (another incarnation of Lord Na:ra:yana) used this water, it came to be known as Kapila Thi:rtha. People can wash away all their sins by taking bath in this Kapila Thi:rtha."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



## DESCRIBING THE BIRTH OF SRI VISHWAKSE:NA TO SUVARCHALA

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda,Chapter 23

Pa:rvati after listening to the details about ka:la chakra, asked Siva, "Who is Vishwakse:na? How did he do the penance? Please tell me what boon he got and what are his whereabouts"? Siva felt very happy listening to her questions and said thus:

Long ago in Kruta yuga, a beautiful celestial nymph (apsara) called Kuntala went to the asramam of Durva:sa muni by the command of Indra. She performed dance in front of Durvasa muni when he was in deep penance. The disturbed Durvasa became very angry and cursed her saying, "Oh Kuntala, one with bad intentions! You will lose your position in heaven." Kuntala got scared and prayed to him by saluting with both her hands.

"Oh! Great Saint! I am following Indra's command. Please forgive me for the mistake." Durvasa said to her, "My words never become false. I will tell you the way to get rid of the curse.You will go back to heaven as soon as you give birth to a kid". Kuntala requested Durva:sa, "Please bless me with a kid who has a long life, a great devotee and has the valor like Vishnu." Durvasa granted her wish.

Kuntala was reborn as a daughter to Vi:raba:hu, a cruel personality. She was named as Suvarchala. She made her parents very happy while growing up. She became very famous for her beauty and good character. Vi:raba:hu performed her marriage ceremony with Bhadra who was the son of Dharma.

One day in the Phalguna month, sukla paksha, she finished her bath in the river Narmada and stood near the mountain. Varuna deva saw her beauty and was very much impressed and asked her to wish for a boon. Suvarchala asked him to bless her with a good son which he readily granted. Suvarchala felt very happy.

After some time, Suvarchala gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. When he was born, the auspicious signs like the sound of celestial drums was heard, flowers rained from the sky, and the breeze blew with fragrance. The baby's face was shining like a full moon, with lotus eyes, his skin was like pure gold and his feet had the impressions of conch, chakra and the mace. He was born in the star of Pushya. He was growing like a moon in the sukla paksha with valor. When the boy reached his tenth year, Suvarchala passed away. His father also left him.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

The boy became an orphan and started wandering in the surroundings of the kashyapa ashramam. Sage Kashyapa grasped that this boy was from the royal family and the son of Varuna. He accepted the boy as his student (Sishya).

Kashyapa gave the upadesam of Gayathri mantra and taught him all the Vedas along with Siksha and Vyakaranam. After the completion of his education, the boy sought permission from sage Kashyapa to do penance. Kashyapa allowed him with blessings.

The boy went to Vrusha:dri and started rigorous penance with austerities. Lord Srimannarayana appeared in front of him and blessed him with the boon of becoming the army chief of Lord Srimannarayana. He was also blessed with a divine form similar to Lord Narayana (sa:ru:pyam) having sankha, chakra and gada in his hands.

Hey Pa:rvathi! Vishwakse:na's birth was not based on karma. Vishwakse:na took incarnation by accepting the command of Srimannarayana when the demi gods prayed to Him.

### Significance of Seventeen Thi:rthams including Chakra Thi:rtha

There are five holy lakes close to Vishwakse:na's ashram. These lakes are protected by the pancha:yudhas of Lord Srimannarayana and are in the shape of panchayudhas and can be seen even today on the mountain. Agnihotra did penance at the sarovaram (pond) located near these lakes and this waterbody was extremely deep and difficult to reach. It has the reputation of removing sins and is called Lake Agneya.

Further ahead there is the holy Bramha pond. The saptharshis' (seven rushis) asramams and lakes are situated on top of Bramha sarovar. Each of the seventeen thi:rtha:s have the power of eradicating sins. One could get rid of sins by taking a dip in the holy pond or by chanting the name of the thi:rtha:s, or by taking a sip of water from the ponds and remembering the greatness of the history of the ponds.

Parvati wanted to know a bit more about these ponds which have the power of eradicating the greatest of sins committed. Sankara explained thus – "Oh Pa:rvathi! Earlier Bramha told Durva:sa about the significance of these waterbodies. Please listen to me carefully. Sage Kapila had kapila lingam in the nether world (pa:ta:la lo:kam) and he did abhishekam (holy bath) to that every day with the milk of ka:madhenu.

One day after the abhishekam with the ka:madhe:nu milk, the lingam started growing and came out of the Earth. Ka:madhe:nu got angry and it ordered the lingam not to grow any more by pressing with



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

her ribs. Kapila lingam followed Ka:madhe:nu 's order and it never grew after that. Kapila lingam looked scary with five faces, 3 eyes and with five different colors in it. In Kruta yuga, it was called Kapila lingam as it was offered the prayers by Kapila maharshi. The lingam was glorified as Aagneyam in Treta yugam as the prayers were offered by Agni during that time.

The lingam doesn't have the beginning or end as it exists in all the Yugams. Ka:la Chakra offered the prayers in Dwapara yugam and Kapila maharshi offered the prayers in Kaliyugam. There is a pushkarini in front of the Kapila lingam. It is called "Kaapilam" as the lingam came out of the pa:thalam to bhu:lo:kam and it shows the way to reach to Kapila maharshi ashramam in pa:thalam. This water filled lake removes all the sins just by visiting it.

Just by seeing this lake men and women are rewarded the heaven. People will get rid of death and old age by just taking bath in it. One gets the fruit of Va:jape:ya and Ashwame:dha yagas by taking a holy dip only once in this lake. The one who performs the ya:gam of Va:jape:ya will have rebirths but one who takes bath in this lake will never be re-born.

The one who takes the bath in Vajra thi:rtham which is situated on top of this, will get the punyam 10 times greater and then goes to deva lo:kam. Vishwakse:na kunda gives hundred times more result compared to Vajra thi:rtham. This way all these seventeen theerthas give great results.

During ka:rthika ma:sam, on the full moon day afternoon, all the thi:rthams from the three worlds join in Kapila thi:rtham . If one takes bath during this time, he/she will get rid of all sins and go to Bramha's world. One will get the result of donating gold of the size of Meru mountain by just donating the gold of sesame seed size at this thi:rtham. It gives chandra lokam by just donating a fistful of rice. One will get Swarga, kailasa, vaikunta, Bramha lokams by giving away a cow, donating land, imparting knowledge, giving a girl or doing mantra upadesam.

The one who chants the mantra " A:ya:nthi sarva theerdhaani madhyahne kaapilam saraha" and takes bath in the afternoon of a full moon day during kaarthika masam will get the above result.

Oh parvathi! you are so fortunate to listen to the mahatyam of these thi:rthams. Now I will tell you about the penance of Va:yudeva".



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Penance of Va:yu De:va

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 24

I:swara giving more details about the penance of Va:yu De:va said, "Hey Pa:rvathi I will elucidate the way Va:yudeva did the meditation. Va:yudeva stood in the midst of five fires in summer, stood on earth during rainy season and spent the spring and autumn seasons near Swami Pushkarini. He meditated for thousand years." Then Pa:rvathi asked I:swara, " Hey lord! Did lord Narayana appear before Va:yudeva? How did he appear? What boons was he granted by lord Narayana?" I:swara replied:

"After thousand years, Lord Srimannarayana appeared along with Sri: and Bhu:devi seated on Garuda, adorning sankha, chakra, sa:ranga and arrows, along with Se:sha, the thousand hooded serpent. Va:yu deva, who moves among all the beings, saw the lord and stood up in surprise. He became too excited at the divine appearance of Lord and lost his sanity momentarily. Out of happiness, he moved up and down and moved in spirals. The lord, who is not visible even by doing penance or chanting Vedas, appeared before him. He bowed down again and again to offer obeisances to Lord.

Va:yudeva eulogized Lord Srimannarayana by singing his glory who took various incarnations to protect his devotees. Lord was pleased and asked Va:yudeva to wish for something. Va:yudeva said that he did not want a boon, but prayed to be in the Lord's presence always.

Listening to the wish of Va:yudeva, Lord replied:

- Whoever chants the sixty four slo:kas you sang now will get my grace and will have all the prosperity in this world and other worlds
- Whoever chants these sixty four slokas with a peaceful mind and devotion, three times a day for six months will surely reach my abode.
- Whoever chants these slokas, will have all their wishes fulfilled.

After receiving the boon he wished, Va:yudeva left for heaven.

In an invisible form, Lord Srimannarayana along with Sridevi and Bhu:devi moved around the Venkatachala hill. The abode was also invisible. The Swamy Pushkarini was laden with trees and fruits in all the six seasons. Lord Srimannarayana, looking as handsome as millions of manmadha:s, moved around along with Goddess Laksmi devi and Bhu devi, like a sixteen year old.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Siva said to Pa:rvathy, "Our son also had the vision of the lord and is staying on the banks of the lake Kuma:radha:rika. The Bramha hathya sin which has an unbearable and frightening appearance disappeared as soon as he saw the Ve:nkatachala hill".

After many years, Lord Garuda had a thought to take Ve:nkatachala back to Vaikunta. On perceiving this, Lord Narayana said, "Oh king of birds! We shall all continue staying on this mountain. You stay in the southern part of the mountain. Sesa, you become mountain beneath Garuda. I will stay here to protect the world until the dissolution. In each Yuga, this mountain will be known with a different name. In Kruta Yuga, it is Vru:shadri, Thre:tha Yuga Garuda:chala, Dwa:para Yuga Se:shadri, Kali Yuga Ve:nkata:chala. Various sages and devotees will also call this mountain as Na:ra:yana:dri across different yugas."

I:swara told Pa:rvathy, "Hey Pa:rvathi, we too will stay with Kuma:ra Swamy who is on Ve:nkata:dri hill".

[I:swara and Pa:rvathy stay in the south east direction of Se:shadri](#)

Narada said "I:swara along with Pa:rvathi and His consorts left to visit Se:shadri mountain. On reaching there, they took bath in a special Lake called Asthiku:tam. If the ashes of any dead person were mixed in Ashthiku:tam, they would regain their original form completely – such was the speciality of the lake. After paying obeisance to Lord Sri:niva:sa, they all moved in the south east direction of Ve:nkata:chalam to the banks of Lake Kapila Thir:tha and appeared in front of Lord Sudarasan who was doing penance there.

[I:swara's conversation with Lord Sudarsana](#)

Being pleased with Sudarasana's penance, I:swara asked Lord Sudarsana to choose any boon he wanted. Sudarsana requested I:swara to be in his soul permanently. On hearing that I:swara said, "O Sudarsana! I am very pleased with your penance. You were given as a boon to me by Lord Vishnu. Hence you have developed this intense friendship towards me. You requested me to stay within your soul. However it's appropriate only for Narayana. You are making this request because of the intense love you have developed for me. I had a desire to physically touch Lord Narayana for a very long time. Due to my thamasic quality, I am afraid and unable to do so. It's surprising that both our desires are the same. I'll hence enter your body since you are close to Lord Narayana's body all the time. This way both of our desires will be fulfilled. Lord Sudarsana after gaining these boons went to Pancha:yudha Thi:rtha.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Satha:nanda's Narration about the Incarnation of the Supreme God

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 25

### SATHANANDA:-

Many saints from different corners of the world attended King Janaka's fire sacrifice called, Aswamedha ya:gam, that was performed on the banks of river Ganga. Janaka felt grateful for the benevolent appearance of the saints; offered obeisance and requested to bless him with their association. Saints acknowledging Janaka's humility, agreed to stay back. All the saints, before resting for that night, narrated the auspicious qualities of the Supreme Lord, Sriman Na:ra:yana, to Janaka.

On the morning of the next day, after performing the prescribed Vedic duties such as Sandhya-Vandanam and Agni-Ka:ryam, the saints came back to the place where Yagam (fire sacrifice) was being performed. They continued their discussion on the glories of the Supreme Personality of God-head Sriman Na:ra:yana. To everyone's surprise, a very effulgent and pious personality by name Va:made:va arrived. All the saints stood up and offered their respects and started addressing him as follows: "Oh! Va:made:va, you wander all over this earth in search of knowledge and thus have accumulated abundant wealth of divine knowledge serving many learned personalities. So, we are all eager to hear from you, about the divine glories of Lord Simannarayana. King Janaka would also like to know about Lord Simannarayana's current appearance as Lord Sri:niva:sa." Va:made:va addressed King Janaka and the saints as follows:

### Va:made:va:-

"Oh! The best among the twice born, Vipravara:s, the sacred mountain ranges of Ve:nkata, known as Ve:nkata:chalam, are situated at a distance of about two hundred yojanas (1 yojana = 8 miles) from here in the southern direction. They are also referred to as Na:ra:yanaadri mountains, inhabited by different demi-gods such as De:vata:s, Gandharvas, Siddhas including many sages and saints performing penance by regulating their food. I have personally witnessed many great sages such as Agastya, Na:rada, Pulastya, Pulaha, Kratu, son of Angeerasa, Daksha, and Jaabaali and have inquired, after humbly offering obeisances, what brought them here to Na:ra:yanadri.

All saints were in deep meditation on the Supreme Lord Na:ra:yana and none answered my plea except Saint Agastya, who out of pure compassion, revealed the reason of their stay on Na:ra:yanadri Mountain. Agastya informed that long time ago, Sage Na:rada observed penance for Lord Na:ra:yana



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

on the banks of Goda:vari and went to the celestial Milky Ocean to see Lord Na:ra:yana. But to his surprise, Sage Na:rada didn't find Lord Na:ra:yana in the Milky ocean. Sage Na:rada, then went to his father's abode Satya loka, and requested his father, Lord Bramha, to disclose where Lord Na:ra:yana was. Bramha came out of his meditation to answer his son's plea and said – "Oh my dear son, Na:rada! The Supreme Lord Na:ra:yana, along with His consort Sridevi, is visiting a mountain called Na:ra:yanadri on Planet Earth. Please visit Na:ra:yanadri, if you want to see Lord Na:ra:yana."

Agastya then continued, "By the will of providence, all these sages including myself met and hence accompanied Sage Na:rada on his way to Na:ra:yanadri. All of us searched for Lord Na:ra:yana all over this Ve:nkatadri mountain ranges but couldn't find Lord Na:ra:yana. To help us out, including the de:vata:s, headed by Lord Bramha, along with their consorts set out in search of Lord Na:ra:yana, but none could trace the supreme lord.

Finally, Lord Bramha instructed us that we stay back here on this auspicious Ve:nkatadri Mountains and perform penance by circumambulating the mountain to visit all the holy rivers, lakes and ponds present on the mountain and meditate upon Lord Na:ra:yana until he grants his divine appearance" and left to his own abode, Satya Loka.

**Va:made:va continued** - King Janaka! Agastya offering his obeisance's to Bramha, along with all others headed north, crossing the western portion of the Ve:nkatadri Mountain to perform penance as instructed by Lord Bramha. After performing deep penance on Lord Na:ra:yana for a long time, Agastya, along with his fellowship witnessed a miracle. A brilliantly shining huge crystal with smooth surfaces resembling that of a marble stone appeared, on whose top, a mystical self-effulgent hand of some personality that resembled a mountain top appeared. He had broad shoulders and chest, anointed with red sandalwood paste, dressed in red clothes, wore a fragrant garland of red flowers around his neck. He wore a marvelous crown bedecked with rare jewels and had a bodily effulgence of the shining sun. Everyone awestruck by the amazingly beautiful sight of this mystical personality, offered obeisances and started to inquire about him as follows.

**Agastya**, with folded palms pleaded saying, "Oh! Great personality, who are you? Who is your father and where have you come from? Please reveal your real identity and please do not lie to us."

**Va:made:va continued** - All the saints became ecstatic and got captivated by the beauty of this effulgent, mystical personality and started to gaze at him with wide open eyes. The mystical personality simply looked at the Saints without replying and disappeared into thin air after a while. Everyone was awestruck by this mysticism and concluded that the mystical personality to be none



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

other than Lord Na:ra:yana himself. They offered their obeisance and continued further north in great jubilation of finding Lord Na:ra:yana.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Expedition of Saint Agastya and others North of Seshadri

Va:mana Pura:na Kshe:tra Khanda. Chapter 26

**Va:made:va:** Saint Agastya, along with other saints, set out for an expedition on northern side of Seshadri Mountain ranges, in quest of finding supreme lord Sri:niva:sa. Along the way, the saints came across a mystical location filled with Jambu trees having huge branches, tagged with nectarine fruits and blossomed flowers, whose white trunks resembled the sparkling glow of a crystal. Also, there were charming splendid rivers flowing with serene and auspicious waters. Saint Agastya, along with other sages, bathed ecstatically in those soothing waters, attained great peace and attended to their daily Vedic rituals meditating on the all-pervasive form of Lord Sriman Na:ra:yana, known as Va:sudeva and continued their pursuit heading further north on Seshadri mountains.

One fine day, towards far North, Saint Agasthya and the sages became jubilant on noticing a picturesque forest densely filled with beautiful radiant trees surrounded by thick dark clouds resembling great mountain ranges. The forest had a habitat of a wide-variety of animals, snakes, cobras, birds and beasts. There were many placid lakes and ponds filled with tranquil waters, covered with beautiful flowers, and gentle soothing breeze. Drinking the nectar from the fully blossomed fragrant flowers, the maddened bumblebees produced a pleasant humming sound that complimented the cooing of the cuckoos, chirping of various birds and the dancing of the peacocks from the nearby caves and treetops. There were a variety of auspicious trees such as Asvattha, Plaksha, Bilva; nectarine fruit bearing trees such as Ma:di, Sirisha, Simsupottala, Hitala and Panasa; aromatic flower bearing trees such as Timisa, Vakula, NaktaMa:la in addition to many varieties of regular and exclusive red sandalwood trees.

In the middle of such beautiful forest, Saint Agastya's fellowship became ecstatic on the sight of a spectacular heart captivating lotus pond, known as Padma Sarovaram, whose shores were bedecked with jubilantly glowing gems. The glitter from moon light and the fragrance from the fully blossomed Lotus flowers and other aromatic flowers within the pond gave the waters of the pond a touch of mysticism. The Lotus pond was not only a favorite destination for the demi-gods and celestial personalities such as Gandharvas, Yakshas and Vidya Dharas but also was a sporting ground for a variety of animals such as Lions, tigers, deers, elephants including royal birds such as Krouncha and Hamsas (Swans).

Saint Agastya urged the fellowship to take bath in the Lotus Pond expounding the significance of how the holy dip in Padma Sarovaram is well reckoned for the fact of cleansing one's sins and thus putting an end to miseries of life. He also explained how a single dip in this pond equalled the pious result of taking bath in all the thousands of sacred ponds and rivers throughout the creation.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

### Saint Agastya and sages meet Mystic Group of Yogis

After taking a dip in the holy pond, the group of sages witnessed a group of deeply meditating Mystics, underneath a tree on the eastern banks of the Lotus pond and approached them.

The Mystics duly welcomed Sage Agasthya and others, as per prescribed Vedic injunctions. Later on, Saint Agastya, who was adept in addressing elderly and saintly learned scholars, humbly inquired from the mystics if they have witnessed any miracles or wonders around this Padma Sarovaram. He also asked if the Mystics knew which of the divinities resided in that place, who were they meditating upon and what brought them to the banks of Padma Sarovaram.

Sanath Kumara, the Celestial Mystic Saint, yielding to the appropriate addressing of Saint Agastya replied – “Oh Great Saint, the all pervading Supreme Lord Vishnu, is residing on these Seshadri Mountains. Lord Vishnu alone is the indisputable object of everyone’s Meditation. Such Lord Vishnu is beyond anyone’s material contemplation as he can only be understood through Vedic Literature. He alone is the source of all the cosmic manifestation. Furthermore, He is the only eternal personality who is present in all the three times, namely, past (before creation), present (along way of creation) and future (after creation). Oh! Saint, know this for sure without any doubt! We meditate upon such Lord, Sri Maha Vishnu, alone, who is the supreme personality of Godhead and no one else. We witnessed such Supreme Lord Hari, one time, who is worshipped even by the best of the de:vathas. Pretty soon you all, will be the object of mercy of Supreme Lord and will be blessed to see him. If you head towards the east of these auspicious hills of Ve:nkatadri, you can witness a miraculous surprise. The king of heavens, Lord Indra, who has the weapon of thunderbolt, is there along with other denizens of the heavenly planets. Along with the other sages, head towards east.” Having said so, the mystics at once disappeared. The group of saints was awestruck by the disappearing of the mystics from their sight.

### The Sages meet the group of Seven Celestial Saints - *Sapta Rishis*.

Continuing further East, the fellowship witnessed a humungous radiant tree with huge branches, resembling the throne of Lord Indra. The tree was so big and its branches were so full of dense flowers and fruits that the weight of the flowers and fruits made the tree bend over and lean towards the ground that it practically appeared to be covering the whole mountain by its thick shadow. Underneath this beautiful tree, were seated the Seven Celestial Saints, known as Sapta Rishis, whose effulgence resembled that of the radiance of sun. The Sapta Rishis, welcomed Agastya and the sages in a friendly manner and offered their respect as per the Vedic injunctions. Later on, Agastya, with utmost respect inquired from the Sapta Rishis as what brings them to this, king of sacred mountains, Ve:nkatadri Hills? And, whom are they meditating upon with such rapt attention and fervor? Having



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

heard the humble and meek plea of Agastya, the Sapta Rishis replied – “Oh worshipable one, listen carefully. We are here to gain the divine sight of the Lotus eyed one, who is the protector of the three worlds and who is the Supreme Controller and Lord Master of the entire universe. He is unborn, therefore is referred to as ‘Ajah’. He is supremely attractive, attracting everything and everyone towards him and therefore called as ‘Krushna’. He never lets his devotees go astray to fall in to lower (hellish) planetary systems, therefore called as ‘Achyutha’. He is the benefactor of all desires, therefore called as ‘Varada’. Only such Supreme, lord of the lords, is indeed worshipable entity and is the object of everyone’s meditation, including ours.” The Sapta Rishis continued, “You shall also be blessed with the auspicious and glorious sight of such Supreme Lord Master and controller of the entire cosmic manifestation, Lord Srimannarayana. Go towards the east of this sacred Simhadri Mountains.”

**Va:made:va continued:** “Thanking the Sapta Rishis, Agastya meditating on the auspicious qualities of the Supreme Lord Sriman Na:ra:yana, continued his expedition on the eastern side of the mountain ranges.

Oh! King Janaka, thus Saint Agastya, witnessing miraculous places and mystical people on the Northern parts of the mountain, came back to where he started his expedition, i.e., Eastern portion of the mountain circumambulating without getting to know the whereabouts of the Supreme Lord, Pura:na Purusha. Here the Supreme Lord, Srimannarayana is addressed thus, as Srimannarayana is the one who was present even before the manifestation of this entire cosmic world; He is referred to as the ancient amongst the ancients, Pura:na Purusha.

Thus ends the 26th chapter of Kshe:tra Khanda, signifying the “Glories of the Auspicious Ve:nkata Hills”, of the Va:mana Pura:na wherein, the unique and never seen transcendental findings by Sage Aghasthya and other saints and their meeting with Celestial Saints and Mystics such as Sanath Kumara and Sapta Rishis is described.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Indra and DemiGods Meditating on Se:shadri Mountain

Va:mana Pura:na Kshethra Khanda, Chapter 27

Va:made:va -

On the eastern side of that great mountain Na:ra:yanadri, Agasthya saw, Jani trees; great seers immersed in meditating on the Lord, who are as radiating as the Sun; trees that resemble mountain peaks that are full of flowers and with big hanging branches shining with blossoming flowers; tall and huge elephants that have beautiful tusks, roaring lions, running wild boars; Siddhas, Kinnaras, Gandharavas, thousands of Yakshas and other demi gods. On moving further, he saw the eastern side of that mountain which is being served by great seers; one that's worthy of great worship, one that is extremely pure, one being served by the residing animals, one with trees that have flowers and fruits all the time; one with great elephants, one with resounding sweet sounds coming from cuckoo birds; one dazzling with beautiful and high standing peaks; one with fiery snakes, one with great rocks, one that confers auspiciousness, one with tall gooseberry trees; one with great peaks and the one that causes great awe.

While moving around on that mountain with great seers, he saw a spectacle: something that resembles the nether worlds, one that scares the spectators and one that was never seen before by humans. He saw a fiery crater, by seeing which humans would faint, and approached it along with the seers. After seeing it again and again, Agasthya who knows dharma very well said 'Anyone who climbs this mountain to watch this crater will faint and fall down. This scary crater appears as if death is waiting with its mouth wide open'. Then, at once, due to the influence of Agasthya the crater disappeared.

### Agasthya's dialogue with Indra, meditating for the appearance of the Lord

It appeared as a great spectacle. After the crater disappeared, Agasthya, travelling on the sacred mountain of Ve:nkatachalam, at one place, saw a tall maddhi tree that had many branches, One that caused great awe, one that had blossoming flowers and one that was not visible to human beings. After seeing that tree, Agasthya filled with awe approached the tree and witnessed Sachidevi's husband who was meditating at the base of the tree. One who had great arms resembling the great branches of maddhi tree, one who was dazzling and wearing a crown that radiated the light of many diamonds; one who had ear ornaments named kundalas which were dazzling with shining diamonds; one who was shining like Srimannarayana; one who was wearing Vajrayudha, one who had wide eyes;



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

one who was being served by demi gods Surya, Agni, Yama, Vasu, Aswini de:vata:s, Kubera, Varuna, Gandharva, Kinnara pungavas wearing great ear ornament and divine clothes. Thus he saw Indra being served by great demi gods. Immediately, Agasthya, who possessed the great attributes of demi gods approached Lord Indra. Then he worshipped Agasthya and other seers as per the sastras."

Then Agasthya smiled and asked them, "Oh De:vata:s! Why did you all come here? What are you meditating for? Why did you see this mountain with great awe? Please answer me. I want to listen about this from all of you."

Then the de:vatha:s said, "Great seer Agasthya! We came here to Simha:dri and are meditating on Srimannarayana who has lotus like wide eyes, who is adorned with auspicious weapons Sankha (conch shell), Chakra (dazzling discus), Gada (divine mace); who is the saviour of the surrendered souls and who permeates all the worlds. We desire to win over the powerful Devajitth and other demons and hence we are praying to Lord Srimannarayana".

Agasthya, after leaving the demi gods and the eastern side of the mountain went to the southern part of the mountain along with other seers. On the south-eastern side they saw Sankha (conch), Chakra (discus), Gada (mace), Sarnga (bow), Naagali (plough), Khadga (sword) sitting in their original forms and were brilliant and radiant, wearing divine ornaments, scented solution (raktha chandanam) applied on their bodies, wearing divine flower garlands around their ankles, shoulders and waist and appearing very pleasing to the sight.

Seeing them, Agasthya reached them at once in joy, circumambulated them with great awe along with the other seers and eulogized them. Then they proceeded to see primordial lord, the destroyer, Sankara. They climbed the mountain and circumambulated it.

Thus concludes the twenty seventh chapter where Agasthya witnesses meditating Indra and other demi gods, divine weapons of Lord on Sesa:dri mountain, of Sri Ve:nkatachala Mahathyam which is a part of the Kshe:tra Khandam of Sri Va:mana Pura:na



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Agasthya visiting Sankara on the southern side of Se:shadri Mountain

Va:mana Pura:na Kshethra Khanda, Chapter 28

Agasthya reached the southern side of the mountain that had dark clouds, shrubs and trees full of flowers, ripened fruits habited by many animals and birds like swans, eagles, wood peckers and sweet singing chakravaka birds. It is covered with rocks that were dark, It also had many herbs, beautiful rivulets, and was a suitable place for the demi-gods.

On the Southern side he saw a rare tree which was unseen before. Agasthya along with all the seers took a closer look at the huge tree which had several branches. He suddenly saw someone who had three eyes that burnt like red fire with long hair. He was none other than Sankara (uma:pathi) who was sitting facing north. He possessed four hands and his throat was dark colored. He was holding the pina:ka (bow) weapon. He had a peaceful appearance and was wearing ear ornaments that were shining with studded diamonds. He was being worshiped by valorous servants with thousands of hands, Durva:sa, Nandike:swara, Ba:na:sura, Yaksha:s, Kinnara:s, Haahaa gandharva:s and HUUUU gandharva:s.

After seeing Sankara, Agasthya prostrated in front of Him. The seers kept requesting, "Oh! Dear Lord Sankara! Please bless us, please bless us". Agasthya prayed to Sankara, "O Lord! Why aren't you responding? Who are You meditating on? Who's the supreme God who resides here?"

Sankara replied, "From Bramha to the smallest of the beings, including me meditate on Lord Srimannarayana who resides in everything, who is the creator of all the worlds, who is the Lord of all the entities, who is prayed by humans. Srimannarayana is the only one who can be meditated upon."

"There is no one else in the entire creation who is worthy of meditating on other than Srimannarayana who permeates all the worlds and who is the supreme Lord. That Srimannarayana, who is the creator of all the worlds, is residing on this Na:ra:yana:dri mountain."

"As I was in deep meditation on the supreme God Srimannarayana, I couldn't speak to you. I know you are in search of Srimannarayana. You will see Him. Bramha and I have conveyed you the same. Very soon Srimannarayana will come to you. Until then you should continue moving around this mountain. You shouldn't be sad. Keep meditating on Srimannarayana."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Agasthya bowed to Sankara many times. While the great seers and Agasthya were watching, Sankara and others disappeared. Agasthya and rest of the seers left the place." This spectacular dialogue between Agasthya and Sankara was spread across the entire world by the seers.

Then Sage Va:made:va said, "O King Janaka! I have told you about this historical event, which when heard, will destroy all the sins. What else would you like to hear?" King Janaka replied, "Oh great seer Va:made:va! You have revealed this amazing event to me. I have listened with great joy. I want to hear what Agasthya did next". Va:made:va replied to King Janaka, "After bowing to Sankara, Agasthya left the southern side and went in the southwestern side of Mount Na:ra:yanadri."

*Thus concludes the twenty eight chapter, Agasthya visiting Sankara on the southern side of the Sheshadri, of Sri Ve:nkata:chala Maha:thmyam which is a part of the Kshe:tra Khandam of Sri Va:mana Pura:na*





"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Appearance of Vishwakse:nato Agasthya and Other sages on Seshadri

Sri Va:mana Pura:na, Chapter 29

Va:made:va continued telling Janaka about Sage Agastya's journey to Seshadri mountain. Sage Agasthya saw Viswakse:na, sitting on a rock beneath a tall tree with several branches. The tree was so huge that it resembled mountain Mandhara. Nityasuris are the eternal members of the abode of Srimannarayana, the paramapada. Sri Vishwakse:na the administrator of nityasuris, is the commander-in-chief of all the battallions. He has a bright aura and always meditates on Srimannarayana.

Vishwakse:na resembled Lord Na:ra:yana Himself and was surrounded by melodiously singing Gandharvas, Kinnaras, nymphs (apsarasa:s) , Siddhas, De:vata:s along with other Bramharshis. Sage Agasthya was amazed to see Vishwakse:na and did sashtanga namaskara (a salute made by touching the whole body to the earth in a posture in which the 8 key parts of the body touch the earth).

Vishwakse:na addressed the Sages, "Lord Srimannarayana who has the entire universe as his body can be seen on this mountain. We constantly serve the supreme Lord Srimannarayana, whom Vedas declared as the most powerful one, the victorious and the brightest one, along with his Sankha and Chakra, the Lord of all. Together let us all pray to God Srimannarayana."

Vishwakse:na along with his battalion disappeared after receiving the salutations from all the sages and de:vata:s. All the sages, after saluting Vishwakse:na, saw the mountain filled with the most beautiful flowers, decorated in different ways, covered by black and white clouds and served by the great angels, demons, gandharvas, yakshas, kimpurushas and vidyadharas.

While the sages experienced great astonishing joy, Agasthya said, "Oh! Great sages! The king of de:vata:s, Indra has won many wars with the help of these great warriors. After visiting them we shall go to the great mountain to see Lord Srimannarayana. While Sage Agasthya was wandering on the auspicious mount named 'Vrishabha:dri', he saw many mighty trees, rivers filled with pure water and small mountains filled with various forests. The black colored mountain reverberated with the noises of swans, birds, deer and elephants. He took bath in the holy waters of the rivers that were surrounded by various kinds of trees and finished his prayers. He also saw the other sages who were recollecting the words of Bramha and were waiting for the auspicious appearance of Lord Srimannarayana.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Sage Agasthya and rest of the sages took bath in the pond where Kumara Swami (son of Siva) was meditating on Lord Sri:niva:sa three times a day. Taking a sip of water, with tranquil mind they all prayed to Lord Srimannarayana offering fragrant flowers waiting for His appearance. With complete surrender all the sages started praying, meditating, and taking a dip in all the holy water bodies, eager to see mother Sridevi and Lord Srinivasa.

Thus concludes the 29<sup>th</sup> Adyaya of Kshe:tra khanda of Va:mana Pura:na which describes Agastya and all the sages meeting Sri Vishwakse:naand His attendance.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Divine Lakes on Ve:nkata:chalam

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 30

After hearing the account of Agastya seeing the divine mountain Ve:nkata:chalam, King Janaka requested Va:ma:deva to give further details about the divine water bodies on Ve:nkata:chalam, their significance and the benefit one would get by taking bath in them. Va:made:va responded, "It is not possible to describe the greatness of the sacred ponds in detail. Even hundreds of years would not suffice to share all the glories and greatness. Let me share in brief about the thirty-five divine lakes that Sage Agasthya saw on the Ve:nkata:chalam:

1. Va:ra:ham
2. Va:manam
3. Soumyam
4. Panchanadam
5. Sila:to:yam
6. Maha:thi:rtham
7. Padma Sarovar
8. Aparam
9. Pa:pana:sanam
10. Aindram
11. Va:yavyam
12. Va:runam
13. Bramhathi:rtham
14. Aghagham
15. A:gne:yam
16. Sarvaka:madam
17. Panchathi:rtham
18. Gowri:thi:rtham
19. A:svinam
20. Pa:rame:swaram
21. Chakrathi:rtham
22. Sankhathi:rtham
23. Vijayam
24. Vimalam
25. So:kana:sanam
26. Matsyam



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

27. Kaurmam
28. Ga:rudam
29. Pa:ndavam
30. Ma:ya:mayam
31. Maha:thi:rtham
32. Ka:ndavam
33. Ka:halam
34. Da:dimam
35. Madhuram

On the northern side of the hill there are six more punya thi:rtha:s namely

- a) Sa:liva:hanam
- b) Ro:ganam
- c) Sa:ntham
- d) Sakaladukha prasam
- e) Krushna nidhya:nam
- f) Swa:my Thi:rtham

Of all the thi:rtha:s, Swamy Thi:rtham is the most divine one. It is also called Swami Pushkarini. Lord Sri:niva:sa along with Lakshmidēvi spend their pleasure time around the shore. All the animals come to Pushkarini to drink water. Pushkarini is well known for having crystal clear water. It is not humanly possible to describe about its greatness. Pushkarini is well known and is worshipped by all the de:vata:s.

Just saying "Swami Pushkarini" in the morning can help one attain a higher state in their life. If one takes bath or drinks the water, they would reach heaven in a special divine plane. People will get rid of their sins, improve their health and get happiness without worries in their lives.

Sage Va:made:va continued "Hey King Janaka! Lord Srimannarayana Himself told all the sages and de:vata:s that Swami Pushkarini is as holy as River Ganga in eradicating the sins of people". Hearing this, King Janaka requested the sage to describe in detail about the glories of Swami Pushkarini. The sage agreed and proceeded to tell the story of King Sankha and his devotion towards the Lord Sri:nivasa and the advice he received from the Lord.

Thus concludes the 30<sup>th</sup> Adyaya of kshe:tra khanda of Sri: Va:mana Pura:na which describes the importance of Swa:mi Pushkarini and all the other ti:rtha:s



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## King Sankha

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshethra Khanda, Chapter 31

Long time ago there was a great king named Sankha who was from Haihaya dynasty and ruled Shatrupura. His father's name was Shruta. Shatrupura was filled with beautiful royal gardens, mountains and forests. King Sankha had all qualities of Prahalada. By virtue of his good deeds he was very famous.

King Sankha was a great devotee of supreme Lord Srimannarayana and worshipped him by performing many Ashwamedha Yajnas. As part of the yajnas the king distributed gold, silver, jewels, gems, garments and horses in large numbers. He had the qualities of a great sage. Despite all these qualities, King Sankha was not content with all the materialistic achievements. He yearned to see God. With eagerness to see Lord Srimannarayana, he performed several such Yajnas and was eventually able to see Lord Srimannarayana after some time.

### Lord Sriman Narayana narrating importance of Swamipushkarini

Seeing the condition of King Sankha, Lord Srimannarayana out of his compassion, in celestial announcement (akasa:vani) suggested, "Oh King! Perform penance on the banks of the river which is on the divine mountain Narayana:dri. This tirtha, famous by the name Swami Puhkarini, is as sacred as river Ganga. This pushkarini removes the sins of everyone who take bath in it. After doing penance for thousand years with a clear mind, the great sage Agastya, with intense devotion, will visit Narayana:dri with hundreds of other sages with the wish of seeing my divine form. With My blessings you will get the divine vision pretty soon. Don't be sad. I will fulfill your wish. Don't you cry! Go to the Narayana:dri mountain."

Sage Vamadeva said, "In this way, Lord Simannarayana, who is the supreme God, narrated to the world the sacredness of Swami Pushkarini. King Sankha was pleased to hear the words of Lord Simannarayana. He crowned his son as the king and went to Narayana:dri to do penance. On the banks of the river Swami Pushkarini, as per the command of Lord Srimannarayana, he focussed on the supreme Lord Srimannarayana and prayed and meditated upon him for thousand years.

Even the most sinful on the Earth who serve Swami pushkarini, can be freed from their sins and will be enlightened by the grace of Srimanna:ra:yana! Sages and devotees take bath in Swami Pushkarini daily and pray to Lord Sri:niva:sa. Many thousands of gandharvas, visit the banks of Swami



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Pushkarini and serve Him. Kinnera:s sing melodiously and serve Sriniva:sa. Apsara:s sing and dance day and night in different ways and serve Lord Srinimanna:ra:yana! It is quite astonishing that being on the earth, the river Swami Pushkarini is being served and prayed by all the demigods. The presence of this river on Na:ra:yana:dri, depicts that it is very near and dear to Srimanna:ra:yana. Isn't this amazing?"





"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



## Penance by Agastya and Other Sages

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 32

Meanwhile, Sage Agastya and many other sages came to Venkata:dri to have the divine vision of God. They took bath in the Swa:mi Pushkarini and other hundreds and thousands of sacred rivers and prayed to Sriyahpathi (Lord Simannarayana) - who is the king of all the time (past, present and future), who is present in all the living and non-living things in the world, who possesses lotus like eyes, who can create, sustain and destroy the universe like a child's play, who is the divine husband of Sri:.

With the wish of seeing the Lord, Agastya and all the sages roamed around on the mountain for hundreds of years. However they couldn't see the creator of this universe, the one who nourishes and controls every one. All the sages were unhappy that they were unable to have the vision of God and surrounded Agastya. While looking around the mountain and thinking, "Why didn't Lord appear before us?", they consoled themselves reminiscing Bramha's assuring words that they would see Lord one day.

### Bruhaspathi and Shukra:charya came to Ve:nkata:cha:lam for the service of the Lord

Bruhaspathi, the guru of de:vatha:s, and Shukracha:rya , the guru of ra:kshasas, arrived at a cluster of trees on top of the mountain Na:ra:yana:dri. At the same time Uparichara Vasuvu also came to the mountain. He was a great devotee but a Brahman cursed him to be thrown into the nether world (Pa:tha:lam). However, through the grace of Lord Srimannarayana, he was saved.

### King Janaka inquires Va:made:va about Uparichara Vasuvu

King Janaka asked Va:made:va why Uparichara Vasuvu was cursed by a Brahman to be thrown into the nether world and how was he saved by Lord Srimannarayana? Janaka was curious to listen to this story.

Va:made:va, who was knowledgeable of all the essence of the scriptures, heard Janaka's request and said "Oh King! Listen carefully to this very astonishing and sacred story. This is sacred because of Lord Srimannarayana. Once upon a time, the sages, Indra and the other demigods went to Uparichara Vasuvu to clarify a doubt (dharma sande:ham) at his residence. King Vasuvu came to know about the arrival of the sages and demigods, he came down from his throne and received them according to scriptural recommendations. Folding his hands with utmost respect he requested them to be seated. The king offered them chairs studded with gold and diamond statues. After they were all seated, King



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Uparichara Vasuvu asked them politely, "What is the reason for your arrival? Please let me know in what way I can be of service to you."

The Demigods and sages spoke to the king as follows: "We have a doubt which we thought you can help us clarify. Oh King, Can citizens perform Yajnam with animals? Or should they use herbs (O:shadhis). Please let us know in detail and clarify our doubts."

King Uparicharavasuvu with folded hands enquired, "Great Sages and devathas! Please let me know what your opinion on this matter is." Sages mentioned that they differed in their opinions. On one hand the sages felt that yajnam should be performed by meditation. On the other hand, the de:vatha:s were of the opinion to use animals in Yajnam.

After hearing from sages and demigods King started answering humbly, "Between great sages and the demigods we need to perform religious rituals to demigods first! Since it is the demigods's opinion that Yajnam should be performed using animals, it is desired to use animals."

### **Journey of Uparichara Vasuvu to Pa:tha:la lo:kam**

Listening to the opinion of King Uparichara Vasuvu, the sages became angry and cursed King. "Oh! King! If what you uttered is not the absolute truth, you will be sent down to the nether world. If what you said is the absolute truth, then we will be sent to the nether world. Lord Srimannarayana, the creator, the most revered and the all pervading one with lotus-like eyes is the only one who can know Dharma Thathvam (the Absolute Truth). Other than Lord Srimannarayana only Lord Bramha and Lord Siva, the destroyer of demon Tripura:sura, may know the absolute truth." As soon as sages completed uttering this Uparichara Vasuvu at once went to the nether world.

On his way to pa:tha:lam King Uparicharavasuvu prayed with utmost devotion to Lord Srimannarayana, the savior, the one who killed demon Madhu and the one who created the entire world just through his thoughts (sankalpam). Hearing this prayer in the tunnel to the nether world the wind god realized that this was a devotee of Lord Vishnu passing through. So he carefully carried him gently to nether world (pa:thala lo:kam).

King Uparichara Vasuvu, famous throughout universe, prayed with the **dwadashakshari** mantra "O:M NAMO: BHAGAVATE: VA:SUDE:VA:YA" to Lord Srimannarayana, the one who saves his devotees from not falling prey to the cycle of birth and death, the controller of Universe, the son of Vasudeva, the ruler of demigods, the one who carries Panchayudhas (the five weapons), and the one who can easily



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

create, protect and destroy the entire universe. Despite his entry into Pa:tha:lam, the king was able to control his senses and with great devotion continued praying to Lord Srimannarayana and didn't feel sad, ignorant or fearful.

### **Demons who wanted to kill Uparichara Vasuvu were killed by Sudarsana**

In the nether world, the demons wanted to harass Uparichara Vasuvu. Hundreds and thousands of demons with terrible teeth surrounded the king quickly. However, they were incompetent to kill Uparichara Vasuvu after using all of their weapons including the Bramha:stra. All the weapons that were released by the demons were disabled by Sudarsana (the holy discus) that was sent by Lord Srimannarayana to protect King Vasuvu. Having lost to the power of Sudarsana, the demons returned to their places.

### **Lord Srimannarayana Sends Garuda (Divine Eagle) to pick Uparichara Vasuvu**

Uparichara Vasuvu continued to sing glory of Lord Srimannarayana. Knowing the whereabouts of Uparichara Vasuvu, Lord Srimannarayana, the one who creates, the one who nourishes all the life supporting systems of this universe, the one above all beings, the supreme soul, the omnipotent, the all-pervading one, the one who sleeps on Adi-shesha(1000 hooded Serpent bed), the one who killed a demon called Madhu, the Compassionate one, the Supreme Lord of demigods, the one who lives in the milky ocean, and the husband of Sri: was thinking about Garuda. The moment Lord thought about him, Garuda stood in front of lord Srimannarayana.

### **Lord Srimannarayana with a commanding voice addressed Garuda:**

"Vinata:nandana! My great devotee Uparichara Vasuvu is in the dangerous nether world! Even after all the great troubles, he is still praying for me every minute by fixing his mind on me with utmost devotion and sincerity.

Listening to command of Lord Srimannarayana, Garuda immediately started his journey to the nether world at the speed of light. While Garuda was travelling through the tunnel at light speed, thousands of resilient demons were terrified, all mountains were crumpled and giant trees were uprooted from



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

the ground. All the demigods were petrified and ran to heaven. Finally Garuda reached Uparichara Vasuvu who was praising the Lord Srimannarayana.

As soon as Vasuvu saw Garuda the divine vehicle of Lord Srimannarayana, he was enlightened and got up and with folded hands respectfully started praying. Garuda started addressing, "Oh! King Uparichara Vasuvu, I am here by the command of Lord Srimannarayana. He commanded me to bring you back to Earth. I am here based on his order, Please climb onto my shoulders".

Hearing this Uparichara Vasuvu was ecstatic and said, "Please pardon me Vinathanandana! I cannot climb on the top of your shoulders that Srimannarayana sits on. The great Lord Srimannarayana is the protector the entire universe. I don't feel eligible to share the same seat".

Garuda was impressed and embraced the king with his wings and addressed," Oh King! You are a real devotee and revealed your great quality by showing your concern of sharing same seat as Lord Srimannarayana". As per Garuda's advice, King Uparichara Vasuvu held Garuda's stomach firmly. Garuda immediately started flying ferociously with great strength, light speed and a kind heart. All serpents, including chief of serpents, sprinted out looking for shelter. Looking at Garuda's valor, hundreds and thousands of demons ran out in different directions thinking Lord Krishna was on his way out. Garuda reached safely from Pa:thala Lo:kam to Uparichara Vasuvu's kingdom on Earth (Bhulokam). King Uparichara Vasuvu was happy to have his kingdom back. By grace of liberator of universe, all pervading one Lord Srimannarayana, King Uparichara Vasuvu attained liberation (Moksha).

Garuda, on my command at once reach out to Uparichara Vasuvu and transport him to his kingdom. It's unfair for such a great king and devotee to live under such conditions."

**Va:ma De:va narrates:**

Listening to command of Lord Srimannarayana, Garuda immediately started his journey to Pa:thala Lokam at a lightning speed. While Garuda was travelling through the tunnel at whirlwind speed, thousands of resilient demons were terrified, all mountains were crumpled and giant trees uprooted from ground. All the demigods were petrified and ran to heaven. Finally Garuda reached Uparichara Vasuvu who was praising the Lord Srimannarayana.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

As soon as Vasuvu saw Garuda the divine vehicle of Lord Srimannarayana, he was enlightened and got up and with folded hands respectfully started praying. Garuda started addressing, "Oh! King Uparichara Vasuvu, I am here by the command of Lord Srimannarayana. He commanded me to bring you back to Earth. I am here based on his order, Please climb on my shoulders".

Hearing this Uparichara Vasuvu was ecstatic and said, "Please pardon me Vinathanandana! I cannot climb on the top of your shoulders that Srimannarayana sits on. The great Lord Srimannarayana is the protector of the entire universe. I don't feel eligible to share the same seat".

Garuda was impressed and embraced the king with his wings and addressed," Oh King! You are a real devotee and revealed your great quality by showing your concern of sharing same seat as Lord Srimannarayana". As per Garuda's advice, King Uparichara Vasuvu held Garuda's stomach firmly. Garuda immediately started flying ferociously with great strength, lightning speed and kind heart. All serpents including chief of serpents sprinted out looking for shelter. Looking at Garuda's valor, hundreds and thousands of demons ran out in different directions thinking Lord Krishna was on his way out. Garuda reached safely from Pa:tha:la Lo:kam to Uparichara Vasuvu's kingdom on Earth (Bhulokam). King Uparichara Vasuvu was happy to have his kingdom back. By grace of liberator of universe, all pervading one Lord Srimannarayana, King Uparichara Vasuvu attained liberation (Moksha).

Va:ma De:va continued to narrate, "Oh Great King Janaka! I told you the life history of Vasuvu. This is how King Uparichara Vasuvu attained liberation (moksha) with the blessings of Lord Srimannarayana. Anyone who reads, listens, sings or explains the Uparichara Vasuvu's liberation from pa:tha:la lo:ka and sings the glory of Lord Srimannarayana with interest and devotion will also be liberated from all earthly sorrows/bondages (samsaram) and attain lotus feet of Lord Srimannarayana."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Maharshi Agastya and Sages Arrive at Ve:nkata:chalam

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 33

While Agastya and the other sages were sitting depressed for not being able to see the Lord, Bruhaspathi, the guru of demigods (devathas), Shukracha:rya , the guru of demons(rakshasas), and Vasuvu arrived on top of the mountain Na:ra:yana:dri. On seeing the three sages, all the other sages stood up. After greeting each other, the three divine personalities asked Agastya and other sages, "Oh sages! Why are you so sad and depressed? Why did you all gather here? Are you waiting here to meet someone?"

Agastya and other sages replied, "We came here to see the Supreme Lord Srimannarayana, who is adorned with sankha and chakra, who wears yellow pithambara, who redeems people from the viscous cycle of life and death, who lives on Narayandri, who is the ruler of this whole universe, who blesses all beings with good things. We have been searching for him for ages, but not able to find him. Hence we are all depressed and sitting on this mountain in sorrow."

The three sages, Bruhaspathi, Sukracharya and Vasuvu told them, "There is a king named Sankha who is meditating on the banks of Swami Pushkarini as per the command of Lord Sri:niva:sa. Lord promised him that he would be blessed with the divine darshan after sometime. Now, that time has approached. Soon, Lord will appear to king Sankha. Lets all go to Pushkarini."

Taking the advice of the three divine personalities, all felt happy and travelled towards Swami Pushkarini; talking about the greatness of the river and the hill Na:ra:yana:dri while reminding themselves that Ve:nkata:chalam is his most auspicious place among all the places where Lord resides. Since Narayana loves this mountain, it is named after him as "Na:ra:yana:dri".

All the sages along with king Sankha did deep penance for three days. On the fourth day, Lord Srimannarayana appeared before them. All the Devathas led by Bramha, pure minded Agastya with his disciples, ascetics from Sweta Islands, Brihaspati, Uparichara Vasuvu, Sukracharya, Durvasa Muni, Seven Rishis, Sanaka and other yogis had assembled and offered their repeated oblations to Srimannarayana standing around Him.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## The description of the Lord whose appearance is celestial and divine

Va:mana Pura:nam, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 34

Janaka asks Va:made:va, "Oh great soul! Can you please describe the physical form of my Lord Srimannarayana? How many shoulders does he have? How many faces does he have? How many divine weapons adore the Lord? In what form did the ancient sages and monks see Him?"

Va:made:va replied to Janaka, "Oh Emperor Janaka! Whatever has been heard from the great sage Agasthya, I would let you know. Listen carefully! The physical form of Lord Srimannarayana cannot be perceived by anything or anyone. The Lord's eyes shine like the Sun, and His crown is bedecked with many types of precious stones. His face is blissful and smiling. His shoulders are decorated with gold, coral and diamond ornaments. Many beautiful and multi colored celestial jewels and ornaments embellish the Lord from his head to toe. He has hundreds and thousands of faces with large eyes. His neck is shaped liked the divine conch. His chest is wide and shoulders are broad. His entire form emits divine radiance. The Lord possesses many divine weapons which are engraved with precious stones and majestic shape.

The shoulders of Lord that carry these weapons of great beauty and valor are bejewelled too. They are long like the vast branches of a Banyan tree. These shoulders shine like the mid-day Sun, having fingers and nails with smooth and soft tips. They are unusually black and pleasant. Being long and smooth, these shoulders resemble the huge trunks of elephants. Lord's palms shine with the most beautiful shade of sun with auspicious lines. The seven Oceans, seven mountains, seven islands and the seven worlds including the nether worlds are a part of these shoulders. They form the abode to demi-gods, humans, demons and every living and non-living creature of this entire Universe. These shoulders that have annihilated demons are capable of driving away the grief of Vishnu's devotees. The Devathas take refuge in the strength of these divine shoulders. Such shoulders of Lord Srimannarayana appear like the shimmering rays of the rising sun.

The Lord adorns a necklace made of a collection of many precious stones dazzling like the lightning of the rainy season. His divine form is enchanting with a deep blue complexion like that of a water laden rain cloud. His pink lips and red eyes exhibit his compassion and radiance. He has shining well shaped eyebrows that look like a curved bow. His thighs are like the trunks of the grand elephant Airavatham.

A gold Yagnopavitham, the sacred thread which is embedded with priceless stones and beads adorns the Lord. The wide chest shines like a thousand suns resembling the "Meru" mountain. The holy "Vaijyanthi Maala" decorates his shoulders. His whole form emanates radiance. His lotus feet are



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

adorned with shimmering anklets made of gold. The effulgence radiated from his feet equals thousands of suns and spreads in all the ten directions. The nails of his feet appear like the rising moon while the edges are red in color.

The feet of the Lord are like lotuses with the signs of 'Ankusam', 'Dhwajam', 'Chakram', 'Sankham', and 'Vajram' embedded on the soles of the feet. Diamonds and Pearls embellish the Lord from top to bottom like the rays of the sun.

The fingers of the Lord are adorned by rings studded with precious stones. His soft and curly hair flows down from the crown. His face is pleasant like that of the moon covered with clouds. The Lord is magnificent and charming. His wide lotus like eyes spread radiance in all the directions. His divine charisma is simply awesome. His compassionate brilliance luminates the universe in all the directions just like the rising sun does from the east.

All the demigods, sages and all living forms in the universe keep waiting to have his grace. The effulgence emitting from the Lord's hands dazzles his divine weapons. They shine like rising suns enveloping the universe with their rays.

The divine form of the Lord is pure and enchanting. His eyes are like lustrous lotuses with deep red color. Just a vision of the Lord is enough for thousands of demons to be drowned in fear and lose their lives.

The Lord's weapons are extremely powerful. All living and non-living beings form his divine body. His crown is multilayered and lustrous.

This concludes the description of the "Divya Mangala Vigraham" of Lord as described in the 34th Adhyaya of Sri Ve:nkatachala Mahatmyam, Kshe:tra Khanda in Va:mana Pura:nam.

All the Sages and Rishis who were on the Venkata:dri mountain eulogized Lord Srimannarayana on seeing him. All the demi gods blew their conches in unison creating despair in the demons and joy among the devotees. Hearing the great sound, Lord Brahma along with demi gods, Gandharvas and munis arrived on the mountain. Lord Sankara arrived along with Durva:sa Muni. Similarly Indra, Devathas, Vishvaksena and the Seven Rishis too came there.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Lord Srimannarayana granting boons to Sage Agasthya

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 36

All the Devathas led by Bramha, pure minded Agastya and his disciples, ascetics from Sweta Islands, Brihaspati, Uparicharavasuva, Sukracharya, Durvasa Muni, Seven Rishis, Sanaka and other Yogis assembled and offered their repeated oblations to Srimannarayana.

Lord Narayana who is lotus eyed and has broad shoulders was riding on his vehicle the Garuda, the divine bird. He was emanating the brilliance all around in the exalted assemble as Sun would spread the light in all directions. The Naga damsels, belonging to Serpent dynasty started praising Lord Narayana's divine activities. Gandharvas, the celestial beings praised Lord Narayana for slaying the mighty Ravana. Some other Gandharvas praised Lord's annihilation of evil Kansa, Keshi, Jara Sandha, Salva Rakshasas, Bana and Durydhana. Few other Gandharva women praised Lord's slaying of Hiranya Kashipu. Few other Gandharvas sang the glories of Rama and Krishna incarnations including the creation of sentient and insentient beings in the Universe.

Several heavenly damsels assembled and started singing with various music instruments. The sound of instruments reverberated the entire gathering.

Srimannarayana showed His Universal Cosmic Form to Agastya and thousands of prominent Rishis. Everybody gazed at Lord's Cosmic Form revealing mountains, townships, rivers, forests, humanity, de:vata:s, rakshasas, seven worlds, all the islands, yakshas, nagas, Alakapuri the township of de:vata:s), all movable beings such as animals and birds, immovable beings such as trees, stone boulders, forests, Nagas and the previously unseen worlds. Everybody was wonder struck with the cosmic form of Srimannarayana.

Seeing the cosmic form, the onlookers eyes got dazzled and were frightened. The compassionate and lotus eyed Srimannarayana looked at everybody who had gathered. As soon as Srimannarayana looked at Bramha and Rudra, their disturbed minds were calmed. Srimannarayana who adorned the cosmic form spoke to all De:vata:s and Rishis. His voice reverberated like thunder of a cloud but yet very pleasant. He started conversing with all the rishis.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Srimannarayana said, "Oh Brilliant ones! Whatever you wish, go ahead and seek without any hesitation. No need to ponder. Human beings' desires get fulfilled on seeing Me. They will be liberated in time."

Munis replied, "Hey Bhagavan! Our lives ambitions are fulfilled after seeing you. Lord! Without your grace, your darsan is not possible. We have been roaming everywhere seeking your darsan. The mountain of Na:ra:yana:dri has been sanctified by the touch of your feet. Seeking liberation, we take refuge at your lotus feet."

Va:made:va told Janaka that Lord Narayana, the Purushotthama, is the Lord of all entities – past, present and the future.

Srimannarayana blessed, "Whoever surrenders to me sincerely, will have their wishes fulfilled. There is no doubt about this. You will be granted liberation at the time of dissolution. Until then, stay in the world practicing severe austerities and keep listening to my stories and narrate my stories to other devotees."

The father of the Universe (Bramha) prostrated before Lord Narayana and pleaded to Him saying, "Oh! Lord, your brilliance is complete with '*shadguna:s*' (six categories of auspicious qualities), you are the embodiment of all yajnaas. Raakshasas have driven out Indra and all the de:vata:s and are enjoying all the Yajna oblations. De:vata:s are denied their legitimate share. De:vata:s are not able to defeat Raakshaas in the war. Please wipe off all the unruly raakshaas.

Lord Narayana listened to Bramha's request and called courageous Vishwaksena and instructed him, "Raakshasaas are reckless, full of deceit and are skillful warriors. You shall end them with their relatives and allies."

Lord Srimannarayana told Uparichara Vasuvu, "Hey Chedi Raja! I have already granted you liberation, You are a great devotee like Prahlada, the son of Hiranyakasipu. Agastya! Hey great Brahmin! Express your wish. I will grant any wish of yours, have no doubt."

Agastya, in ecstasy, replied with folded hands, "Lord! I have moved on Nara:yana:dri for hundreds of years and could not find you. Because of your grace, now I have had your Darshan. With your permission, let me express my wish. May my dedication be unshaken for ever!"



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Srimannarayana replied, "Agastya! I am pleased with the penance you have performed on this mountain and I have granted your wish."

Agastya requested, "Hey Lord Srimannarayana, the benevolent one, please stay on this divine mountain so that You are accessible to all the living beings for ever."

Bhagavan blessed Agastya saying, "Oh Sinless One, I will descend on this divine mountain with Sri Devi and Bhudevi and we will be accessible to all living beings. My Vimana which flies in the air, is divine. It is beyond the imagination and is capable of granting liberation. Whoever climbs this Narayanaadri mountain, takes bath in the Swami Pushkarini lake and meditates on Me being seated in the divine Vimana, shall be granted all his/her wishes. Devotees who may be thousands of miles away from the divine Narayanaadri mountain, if offer their prayers in the direction of Narayanaadri mountain, their sins will be annihilated and they will reach my heavenly abode, the Paramapada. The devotees, who offer their prayers at the Swami Pushkarini Lake, will enjoy all the comforts in this world and also in higher worlds. There need not be any doubt.

Thus the thirty sixth chapter of Sri Venkatchala Mahatyam concluded where Srimannarayana grants the wish of Sage Agastya.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Descriptions of the Divya Vima:na of Lord Sri Venkate:swara

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 37

**Va:made:va said,** "Oh King, the sages had an unprecedented vision of the divine Vima:na rising on the south side, along the banks of sacred Swami Pushkarini on Venkata:dri. The divine Vima:na was the abode of Lord Srimannarayana, completely transcendental in appearance, eternal in nature, dazzling to the eyes of the beholder, immaculately pure, shining like a cloud in the sky. It was adorned with many crests bedecked with all kinds of pure gems, pearls, and diamonds radiating their light in all the 10 directions, standing very high in the sky, giving immense joy to the sages looking at it, effulgent in an unparalleled manner and never seen by anyone before.

All the sages with tears of happiness flowing from their eyes had the darshan of this divine Vima:na along with Lord Sri:niva:sa and exclaimed how this was hidden by the Lord Himself till now, even though it was situated on the banks of Swami Pushkarini. They understood that this happened only due to His grace. While the sages stood there with awe, Lord Srimannarayana said to Srutha, the King of Haihaya and son of a Gandharva: "Oh king, I am very much pleased, you may ask for anything you wish and I'll grant all your wishes."

*King Sankha said very humbly* – "Oh Lord, you are the protector of all beings, you are the source of innumerable auspicious qualities, and you are the creator of this entire universe. My hair stands on edge as I see your divinely effulgent form. I wish to attain your eternal abode. There is nothing else I hanker for other than your abode".

*Lord looking very attractive with his enchanting smile, said* – "Oh Sankha, you have lead a very praiseworthy life, you will attain the abode of Indra and other de:vathas (demi-gods) and receive their respects till the end of great delusion(Pralaya). Lord, creator of even Bramha and other gods, one who maintains the whole universe just with his most compassionate glances, one with fully blossomed lotus like wide open eyes, one who is the only shelter to the gods, disappeared from the external vision of Bramha, Siva and other gathered sages. Then all the sages offered their obeisances again and again from all directions and shared the following feelings among themselves:

*Description of the glorious Vima:na of Lord Sri:niva:sa* – "Lord's activities are beyond the reach of one's senses. This whole universe is pervaded with His brilliance. His weapons are so dazzling as though they are going to dry up the oceans, they are radiating the compassionate glances of the Lord in all directions. Such Lord is residing on this great Venakatachalam. How can we describe the greatness, purity and auspiciousness of this Venkatachalam? Even if we are great poets with purity of



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

thought and mind, we can't describe the glories of it even in one hundred years. In this entire universe, there is no place equal to Venkatachalam and there is no God equal to the Lord of Venkatachalam, Sri Venkatesa, either in the past or in the future. There is no other ti:rtha equal to the most sacred Swami Pushkarini. And there is no sinner equal to the one who says otherwise."

*ve:nkata:dri samam stha:nam bramha:nde na:sthi kinchana |  
ve:nkate:sa samo: de:vo: na bhu:to: na bhavaishyati ||*

*Va:made:va further said, "After Bramha and other gods shared their ecstatic feelings, they took bath, drank the sacred Swami Pushkarini waters followed by the darshan of the great Vima:na of Lord Venkateswara. This airplane was unseen by anyone before, inside it they saw Lord Srimannarayana with 4 hands, radiating brilliant light in all directions, the one who never abandons his devotees, one who always looks after the welfare of his devotees, one who is adorned with innumerable gold, gems and other splendid ornaments, one with 5 weapons in his hands, one who bestows all kinds of boons to his devotees, one who is wearing pure yellow clothes, one who is always very peaceful in appearance, one who can remove all difficulties of those taking shelter at his lotus feet, one with lotus like wide eyes filled with compassion on all beings, one who is always served by Sri Lakshmi Devi standing beside Him, one who is also served by the most beautiful Bhoodevi without a moment of separation, one who created this entire universe, that Lord is Sri Sri:niva:sa." With their eyes wide open with astonishment and happiness, they offered their obeisances and glorified him with all the Vedic chantings, circumambulated the Vima:na, again and again, offered obeisances to Lord Sri:niva:sa, and praised the greatness of the "king of all mountains", the most sacred Sri Venkatachala, and started to return back to their places. Siva with his devotees and associates also started heading back to his home, Kailasa mountain, which was decorated with Pa:rija:ta plants and inhabited by the most austere sages and Sidhas.*

Thus ends the 37th chapter in Kshe:tra Khanda of Va:mana Pura:na in Sri Venkatachala Mahatmyam named  
"Sages seeing the Lord's Vima:na".



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



## King Janaka obtains information on the glory of Venkatadri

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 40

King Janaka enquired Va:made:va about the Lord who is being worshipped by Rushis (Muni:ndra:s) in the Northwestern direction of Venkatadri. Va:made:va said that the mountain is well known as Na:ra:yana:dri and Srimannarayana Himself resides on the mountain.

King Janaka then enquired Va:made:va about the reason for virtuous Uparichara Vasuvu to perform a severe penance in the waters of Swami Pushkarini.

Va:made:va replied, "King Uparichara Vasuvu lived with great devotion towards Lord Srimannarayana. When the Lord disappeared, the king started worshipping Narayana in that Vima:nam itself. He used to take bath in the Swami Pushkarini and chant the twelve syllabled manthra "om namo: bhagavathe: va:sude:va:ya", known as Dwadasaakshari. Thus he meditated on the Lord chanting the Dwadasaakshari for 12 years."

Vama Deva told King Janaka, "After the disappearance of Lord, all the demigods, Sukra:cha:rya, Bruhaspathi and Saptha Rushis paid their respects to Srimannarayana and returned to their abodes praising the greatness of Ve:nkata:chalam. The king of heavens Indra too received blessings from Lord Srimannarayana and left to his place. Lord Vishwakse:na along with his powerful ministers killed all demons as asked by Bramha.

There is a divine *Vima:na* on the Ve:nkata:chalam that purifies the worlds. But it is not visible to all. In every Yuga, whoever meditates on the Lord would be able to see this divine *Vima:na*. This divine plane will be visible to devotes only with the grace of Srimannarayana.

In the Kali yuga, people can see the *Vima:na* built with all good features by the devotees on the mountain. In that divine *Vima:na*, Lord Srimannarayana, the all powerful and Supreme Lord, would reside. He will show his four shoulders, holding his weapons the Sankha and Chakra, and having Srimahalakshmi with him. People's sins would be washed off if they pray to the *Vima:na* and it will be famous in all the three worlds.

This '*Vima:nam*' is worshipped by all Rushis, Gandharvas, Yakshas, demons and de:vata:s. Along with Goddess Lakshmi, Lord Srimannarayana who was earlier seen in the *Vima:nam* by the devotees resides there. This '*Vima:nam*' is having lot of divine power and can destroy sins. It is the greatest *Vima:nam* in the whole universe. Agastya muni saluted Srimannarayana, received many boons and left



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

to Mahindra Mountain along with rishis. Thus Va:made:va explained to King Janaka, the glorious history of Srimannarayana's Vima:nam on Venkatadri and its emergence in the future (Kali Yuga)."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



## Problems created by demons like De:vajit

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 41

King Janaka wondered about Vishwakse:na, and asked Va:made:va about the history of Vishwakse:na killing powerful Rakshasas after receiving order from Srimannarayana. Then Sage Va:made:va started telling the history, "Once upon a time there used to be three brothers named Devajith, Mruthyujith and Shathrujith in the lineage of Hiranyaksha. They were very powerful in using magical powers. They prayed Lord Bramha and received wishes from him that they will not be killed by De:vata:s. Then they started hurting people. They used to consume even the offerings of Yajnas which were meant for De:vata:s. They started disturbing the Sages. Due to their cruel activities, the oceans started drying up, the sunlight decreased, the mountains started melting. All the de:vata:s surrendered to Lord of Narayana:dri seeking refuge.

Lord Srimannarayana ordered Vishwakse:na to save the earth from these demons. Vishwakse:na appeared in the sky with his seven ministers and thousands of solders. Knowing that Vishwakse:na came for war against them, all demons who were in forests, rivers, mountains got ready to fight against Vishwakse:na.

A great war started between both the groups. The weapons in the sky were looked as if the sky was burning. Devajit threw a weapon named ma:ya on solders of Vishwakse:na. Vishwakse:na's minister named Medha:vi with his intellegence supressed the Ma:ya weapon. Medha:vi threw the powerful arrow which he received from Lord Srimannarayana, which killed many demons. Then Mruthyujith threw ma:ya weapon. Vishwakse:na's minister named Shathragna, cut off the head of Mruthyujith with his sword. But Mruthyujith using his magical powers got another head. He took a scary form and threw maha: ma:ya weapon, which made Vishwakse:na's soldiers lose their power. Another minister of Vishwakse:na named Ka:lagni with his weapon named Shakthi ended the Demons.

But the three brothers were not really killed; they were feigning death. They all stood up and threw va:yuvya:stra, varuna:stra, surya:stra, agneya:stra, indra:stra, raudhra:stra, yama:shtra, gandhrva:stra, jrumbha:kastra, kube:rastra etc continuously one after another on Vishwakse:na's soldiers. Sun, moon and various planets disappeared and it was looking as though the world came to an end.

By looking at this situation, Vishwakse:na with his golden bow threw Nara:yana:stra which was more powerful than any other weapons ever used. All creatures, mountains, rivers were scared of the fire emitting from the Narayana:stra. All the demons got killed and fell down on the earth like the birds that lost their wings. Sage Va:madeva explained to Janaka that the whole earth was covered by dead



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

bodies of the demons. Seeing this, De:vata:s and Sages started praising Vishwakse:na that it was not possible for anyone else to kill these Demons. Thus waging one of the most dangerous wars ever, Vishwakse:na and his battalion left to their abode.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Vima:na of Lord Venkateswara

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 42

Sage Agasthya then foretold the future to all the sages, "In Kaliyuga, the Vima:na of Srimannarayana will not be visible to the devotees. A beautiful Vima:na will be constructed on Ve:nkata:chalam on the banks of Swa:mi Pushkarini and it will be full of splendor and luminous as the Sun and it will become the most desired one for everyone".

The Vima:na is the abode of Srimannarayana Himself along with his consorts Sridevi and Bhudevi. All the Rishis, Gandharvas, Yakshas, Nagas, 12 Adithyas (sons of Aditi and Kasyap the original prajapati and his wife), 8 Vasus (sons of Bramha) , 11 Rudras, 8 Dikpalalakas (rulers of 8 directions), 9 Vayus (or 9 different types of winds), the 4 faced Lord Bramha, and Lord Siva first take bath in the Swami Pushkarini on the Ve:nkata:chalam and pray to Lord Venkateswara chanting hymns seeking his blessings.

It is said that even great sinners who pray to the Vima:na of the lord will be liberated from their sins and attain salvation. It is also believed that no matter where you are located, just by turning towards the direction of the Vima:na of Srimannarayana, you will be liberated from all difficulties in this life. With the above description of the Vima:na, Va:made:va Maharshi then went on to explain in greater detail about the history and sacredness of the Vima:na of Srimannarayana (Lord Venkateswara) on Ve:nkata:chalam tso King Janaka.

He said that, Srimannarayana lives among the hilltops, lakes and caves of the Na:rayana:dri hills of Ve:nkata:chalam. Srimannarayana takes several different forms in these hills. In some places he appears as his own divine self, in other places he appears as a human being and sometimes He does not mind even to appear in the form of an animal or a plant.

Lord Srimannarayana always resides in the hearts of all his devotees. It is believed that even a mere 24 minute stay in Vrishabha:dri, would liberate one from all his past sins. But it is important to note that any wrong doing in Ve:nkata:chalam is also accompanied by an immediate punishment.

A legend in Ve:nkata:chalam claims that Vishvaksena (the commander-in-chief) is supposed to have given permission to the Gandharvas who live in Ve:nkata:chalam to destroy anyone who knowingly does bad deeds there.

Sage Va:made:va then proceeded to tell King Janaka that he was once told by Sage Agastya himself that the animals and birds that live in the neighborhood of Ventatachalam are very special and are



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m Nam:o: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

none other than the demigods (de:vatha:s) who take this particular form to serve Lord Venkateswara in Ve:nkata:chalam.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Benefits of doing Charities on Ve:nkatachalam

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 43

King Janaka thanked Va:made:va Maharshi and asked him, "Dear Va:made:va Maharshi, you told me about the significance of all the sacred places of Lord Venkateswara on Ve:nkata:chalam. You also described the necessary charities to be performed here to obtain salvation and grace of the Lord. Now please tell me in more detail, what specific charities need to be performed on Narayana:dri as a result of which a person can get rid of all his past bad karma."

Va:made:va Maharshi replied, "There is no higher charitable act than the donation of food on the banks of the Swami Pushkarini in Venkata:dri and those will be gifted with perfect health."

Devotees who donate food, property, gold or silver; people who perform kanya: da:nam and those who offer sesame seeds (til) for the departed souls would attain heavenly abode and will be worshiped in the Vishnu Loka (or the abode of Lord Vishnu).

People donating food on Venkata:chalam seeking nothing in return would be blessed with pure devotion for Lord Sri:niva:sa. In the end they will attain the highest possible place, the Paramapadam.

He who bathes in Swami Pushkarini and drinks the holy water (or Thirtham) will be similarly blessed with liberation from past bad deeds and obtain Vishnu Loka after death. Donating cows, gold, clothes, property and (Til) sesame seeds according to one's capability on Venkata:dri will give one a long life with perfect health, with all material benefits in this life, and in the end bless him with eternal bliss.

Va:made:va then continued to tell King Janaka about what Lord Bramha told him once about the history of Ve:nkata:chalam and Swami Pushkarini. Va:made:va had meditated on Lord Bramha for several centuries and was granted him a boon. Then he requested Lord Bramha to tell him about the glory of Swami Pushkarini ( the lake ) on Ve:nkata:chalam.

Lord Bramha responded, "Long time ago, Chandra (the Moon) donated gold ornaments at the banks of Swami Pushkarini and attained eternal beauty in return. Lord Kamadeva or Manmadha (the God of Love) gave his daughter away in marriage at the same banks of Swami Pushkarini and obtained a very desirable appearance and beauty that enchants everyone who sees him. Similarly Kubera (the god of wealth) got his riches by donating gold here. Lord Indra donated sixteen different items at the banks, as a result of which he was able to conquer the most formidable demons. A Brahmin named Kavyavitta obtained Bramha jna:nam (knowledge of the almighty God) and became known as a



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

renowned scholar. Whoever donates any item at the banks of Swami Pushkarini will obtain higher abode after death”.

Saying so, Lord Bramha continued to sing the glory and praise of Lord Venkateswara at Ve:nkata:chalam, “The festival of Sri:niva:sa at the banks of Swami Pushkarini was conducted by me during the month of Bha:drapadam. This is called Bramho:tsavam. From then onwards people have been celebrating sacred ceremonies and Bramho:tsavam in Bha:drapada ma:sa for Lord Sriniva:sa. It is said that even a small prayer in the name of Lord Vishnu during this month will help fulfill the wishes of the devotees. Every step towards Narayana:dri hills during Brahmotsavam, according to Lord Bramha, will provide the same results as would be obtained by performing a major Yajna.”

Va:made:va then asked Bramha about the benefit of serving devotees who attend the Brahmotsavam. Lord Bramha replied that Lord Venkateswara would fulfill their heart’s desires. However the greedy ones would be punished. Whoever builds a beautiful flower garden at Swami Pushkarini could enjoy such a garden in the heaven. Any good deed done at Swami Pushkarini would reward one with endless benefits.

After listening to all this, King Janaka was very much inspired. After having handed over the reins of administration to his able ministers, Janaka travelled to Ve:nkata:dri to worship Lord Venkateswara there.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Auspicious time of 30 million rivers entering into Swami Pushkarini

Va:mana Pura:na, Kshe:tra Khanda, Chapter 44

Long ago, on the banks of river Ganga, sage Markande:ya meditated upon four headed Bramha, the creator of the whole world. After a long time, Bramha appeared in front of him and said, "O Great Sage! Ask what your desire is." Then Markande:ya asked Bramha, "O Great grandfather! Please give me a boon such that I would be able to get the power and strength to go and take bath in all the holy waters that are present in all these three worlds."

Listening to the prayer of Markande:ya, Bramha laughed and replied, "It is not possible for even Sankara (Lord Siva) to bathe in all the holy waters. So I will tell you another idea. To the southern side, two hundred yojanas (about 1600 miles) away, in Dravida region, there is a famous hill called Ve:nkata:chalam, which is utmost pure and is worshipped by Devathas (demigods). On the highest peak of that hill, there is a sacred lake called Swami Pushkarini which is the purest of all rivers and is the remover of all sins and the fulfiller of all the desires.

That Swami Pushkarini is the purest of all the holy waters of these three worlds. On the twelfth day of the waxing moon phase (Dwa:dasi) in Margasi:rsha month, during the early morning hours (dawn), all the popular holy waters of the three worlds come to Swami Pushkarini and enter it. Those holy waters join Swami Pushkarini's sacred water to get rid of all the sins accumulated to them due to the sins left by the sinners by taking bath in them. By taking bath in Swami Pushkarini during that time, you will get the complete result of bathing in the holy waters of all the three worlds. That is why it has got the name "Swami Pushkarini". It was named in that way because it is the queen of all the holy waters."

"I am telling you another secret which is explained in scriptures by knowing which nothing else will be remained to be known. Don't we hear from Sruthis, Smruthis and Pura:na:s about the result that is obtained by offering donations, doing penances, sacrifices etc in all the auspicious rivers on the earth like Ganges etc., and in the auspicious rivers that flow on the top of the great mountains like Me:ru, Kailasa, Mandara and other shores?

Those who want to obtain all those results in a single attempt, have to donate different kinds of things to a brahmin who possesses the knowledge of all Ve:das, who is a devotee of Lord Vishnu, a calm and peaceful one without any jealousy for anyone, on the day of Sukla Dwadasi, in Ma:rgasirsha month, on the banks of Swami Pushkarini on the sacred Ve:nkata:chala hills. Such donation will bestow the fruit of giving alms in all the auspicious rivers of the world."



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m Nam:o: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

Saying this, Bramha disappeared from the sight of Ma:rkande:ya. Being surprised and overwhelmed, Ma:rkande:ya went to Na:ra:yana:dri hill and saluted and took bath in Swami Pushkarini with pure mind and devotion. He later worshipped Lord Sri:niva:sa residing on the banks of it. He lived for three years on that hill.

With the grace of Lord Srimannarayana, every year, in Ma:rgasira month, on the day of Sukla paksha dwa:dasi, Ma:rkande:ya obtained the boon of having the ultimate joy of chanting the mantra that describes that all the holy waters entering into Swami Pushkarini and taking bath in it.

Those who narrate or listen to the greatness of Swami Pushkarini on Mar:gasira Sukla dwadasi day would get their wishes fulfilled by the grace of Lord Srimannarayana. Those who observe fasting on Sukla Eka:dasi of Ma:rgasira month and bathe in the Swami Pushkarini on the Dwadasi (next day) and worship Lord Srimannarayana residing on the banks of Swa:mi Pushkarini , would get all their sins annihilated and attain salvation with the grace of Lord Srimannarayana.

### Janaka taking bath in Swami Pushkarini

Sage Sata:nanda was telling the greatness of Swa:mi Pushkarini to King Janaka. Further continuing, he said, "Ve:das are the greatest among all the Sa:stra:s. Sri:manna:rayana is the greatest and supreme among all the Gods and Swa:mi Pushkarini is the greatest among all the auspicious waters. Hence! O king! You go to Na:ra:yana:dri, take bath in Swa:mi Pushkarini with pure mind and worship Sri:manna:rayana , who is residing on its banks and to whom all the creatures surrender and get all your wishes fulfilled."

When Sata:nanda said this, King Janaka was overwhelmed with joy and immediately went to Vrisha:dri along with his ministers, took bath in Swa:mi Pushkarini and offered prayers to Lord Sri:niva:sa, Sri:devi and Bhu:devi. He lived there for a very long time and got all his wishes fulfilled. Then he came back to his kingdom Mithila again and ruled the earth.

This is the 44<sup>th</sup> chapter from Va:mana Pura:na , Kshe:trakhanda, Sri:Ve:nkata:chala maha:thmyam, describing how all the 30 million holy waters of the universe come and enter Swa:mi Pushkarini.

Let Lord Sriniva:sa who has an immense love for Goddess Sri:Lakshmi and the one who resides on Ve:nkata:chalam bless us all with endless wealth and prosperity.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

sri: ve:nkata:dri nilayaha kamala: ka:mukaha puma:n |  
abhangura vibhutihaha tarangayathu mangalam ||



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## Lord Venkate:sa: Story of His Appearance

Lord Venkate:sa: is none other than Lord Narayana who appeared on this earth in the Swe:tha Va:ra:ha Kalpa. The story of His appearance is tied with another avatha:r (incarnation) of Lord Narayana, which is the Vara:ha Avathar. Lord Vishnu took the incarnation of Vara:ha Swamy, to rescue Mother Earth from a demon called Hiranya:ksha. After He killed Hiranya:ksha, He ordered Brahma: to begin creation on Earth once again. Lord Brahma prayed to the Lord that he be allowed to be with Him on this earth and Lord agreed. However, Lord was still very angry over Hiranya:ksha's deeds. So Brahma prayed to Lord that He appear in a gentler form with a smiling face. Lord agreed to this request as well and this form of Lord is what we call as Lord Ve:nkate:swara Swamy. 'Ven' means sins and 'Kata:' means cut away, so Venkate:sa is the one who removes all of our sins.

Once the Lord agreed to be on Earth, His divine vehicle, Garuda, went to Vaikunta and picked up Kri:da:gri, the sporting hill place of Lord Narayana and placed it on the Earth. This place came to be known as Tirumala. 'Tiru' means divine and 'mala' means hills in Tamil. Hence, the word Tirumala means divine hills. Along with the divine hills, Garuda also brought down the divine lake 'Airamadam' and that became Swami Pushkarini. Tirumala became the abode of Lord Ve:nkate:swara Swamy. Actually, Tirumala is a mountain with seven peaks. Since this mountain was brought down to Earth by Garuda, one of the peaks is named as Garu:da:dri. Anjana Devi, mother of Hanuman, gave birth to Hanuman here and so one of the peaks came to be known as Anjana:dri.

When the Lord appeared on this earth, He was not easily visible to everyone. People had to perform penances for long periods and only then would he appear before them. King Dasaratha performed penance to Lord Venkate:sa and was then blessed with four children. King Janaka also performed a similar penance and received blessings of Lord Venkate:sa. Lord would disappear after he blessed people, but he would always be present in Tirumala in the form, that Brahma requested him to.

However, an incident occurred that made Lord very unhappy and he became ( an idol) the deity form that we see today. There was a king by name Tondaman. He was a devotee of Lord Venkate:sa. Lord Venkate:sa was also very friendly with Thondaman Chakravathi. Chakravarthi means King in Sanskrit. A Brahmin wanted to go on a pilgrimage and requested King Thondaman to look after his family while he was gone. King Thondaman agreed and provided all the necessary things required by the Brahmin's family for the next six months. Later he completely forgot all about them. Only when the Brahmin came back and asked him about his family, did the King remember about them. He rushed to the



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

place where the Brahmin's family was staying, but unfortunately, all of them had died. Only the bones remained. Realizing what a grave mistake he had committed, he rushed to Lord Venkateswara and asked the Lord to revive them. Lord Venkateswara was very upset with King Thondaman, for not doing his Dharma (duty). He also felt that King Thondaman had misused the friendship and took the Lord for granted. However, Lord did not disappoint the King. He asked him to put their skeletons in the Asthi Sarovara. The king did as was instructed and the Brahmin's family became alive. This incident made Lord very sad and from that day onwards, He became a deity atop the hills of Tirumala.

Tirumala is such a sacred and powerful place that even if one were to think of this place, would get his sins wiped off. Now, you can imagine the benefits one would get if they were to go on a visit to this place to have the darshan, and receive the blessings of the Lord.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



## Pa:da Padi

Bhagavad Ramanuja used to learn the secrets of Ramayana as presented by the acharyas of Vedic tradition from Tirumalai Nambi, at a place near the foothills of Tirumala. Tirumala Nambi taught Sri Ramanyana 18 times to Ramanuja, each time interpreting and presenting it in a different way. It revealed the great virtues of the Lord according to the Vedas.

One day while Tirumala Nambi was teaching Ramayana to Bhagavad Ramanuja, they suddenly smelt pure camphor. Bhagavad Ramanuja searched for the source of fragrance and found the footsteps of Lord Srinivasa, close to the place where he was learning Ramayana.

Bhagavad Ramanuja understood the reason for Lord's appearance. Many a times, his guru Tirumala Nambi, had felt sad that he was away from Lord Srinivasa. To remove the feeling of separation, Lord Srinivasa himself had come down to bless them.

The place where Bhagavad Ramanuja discovered Lord's footsteps is called, "Pa:da Padi". Devotees who climb Tirumala by foot, begin their journey from this point. Devotees first offer prayers to the 'feet of the Lord' at Pa:da Padi and then climb the seven hills.



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

## What is the white spot on His chin?

If you have observed Lord Venkateswara closely, you will find a beauty spot on his chin. Do you know how he got this? Here is the story.

Ananthacharya was a great devotee of Lord Venkatesa. He was instructed by his guru Sri Bhagavad Ramanuja to serve the Lord of Seven Hills doing 'pushpa Kainkaryam'. So to offer beautiful flower garlands to Lord, he needed to grow a good garden. For that water was needed and so he started digging a well. His pregnant wife too used to help him by carrying away the dug soil from the sight. Thus they toiled day and night. Observing this, Lord Sri:niva:sa's heart melted with compassion. He wanted to help Ananthalwan somehow. But Ananthalwan did not like to share his service to Lord with anybody.

One day when his pregnant wife was carrying mud basket on her head, she felt extremely tired. A boy came in and started helping her out by carrying the mud. Ananthalwan was surprised that she was moving quickly and asked her how she was able to work at a fast pace. She replied that a boy was helping her. Then, he instructed her not to take any help while performing the service to the Lord. The boy, however, kept nagging them. Ananthalwan grew angry with the boy and threw a digging iron rod at him.

The rod struck the boy on his chin and he ran away. The next day when Ananthalwan went to the temple, he saw blood oozing out from the Lord's chin. He was shocked and grief-stricken. He understood at once that the boy who helped his wife was none other than Lord Venkateswara.

He felt extremely sorry for his careless act. He asked the priests (Archakas) to apply white cooking camphor to his chin so that it could provide relief to the Lord. Since then Lord Srinivasa has been adorned with white camphor (that looks like a white spot) on his chin. As a mark of respect to Ananthalwan as well as to reveal his great love for his dedicated devotees, God asked that the rod with which Ananthalwan struck him be hung in the middle of the mandapam right in front of the deity, so that people could know its significance. We can see it hung above the entrance door (right side) of the gopuram till today. Such is the love of Lord Venkateswara!



"Serve All Beings As Service  
to God"



"Worship your own  
Respect All"



O:m NamO: Ve:nkate:sa:ya | Jai Srimannarayana!

As the Lord loves to be adorned with different fragrant flowers in this place, Tirumala Tirupathi is called as Pushpa Mandapam. Once a week, Lord Venkateswara is fully adorned with only fragrant flowers, while the Na:mam is made of ornaments, as ordained by Ramanujacharya.

*o:m namO: ve:nkate:sa:ya!*

*o:m namO: ve:nkate:sa:ya!*

*o:m namO: ve:nkate:sa:ya!*

*sriyah ka:ntha:ya kalya:na nidhaye: nidhayerthina:m |  
sri:ve:nkata niva:sa:ya sri:niva:sa:ya mangalam ||*