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# Balavin Kural

A BDS monthly newsletter



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# What's inside:

## Devotee Speaks: "Vishnu names according to Ayudha placements", by Smt. Roopa V Rajan



In my previous article, we discussed Lord Vishnu and the pictorial depiction of the four Ayudhas in his four arms. These are representative of the four Purusharthas that one needs to accomplish in a lifetime. After discussing the Purusharthas, let us now look at the different names of Lord Vishnu. The Supreme Deity is addressed by different names like Keshava, Narayana, Madhava, Govinda, and Madhusudhana, etc. These are representative of the placement of the different ayudhas, either on the back hands or forehands.

Four hands are systematically explained here like back right hand, back left hand, front left hand, and front right

## Know your Mythology: "Takshaka and the cycle of revenge", by Thulasinathan Kandasamy



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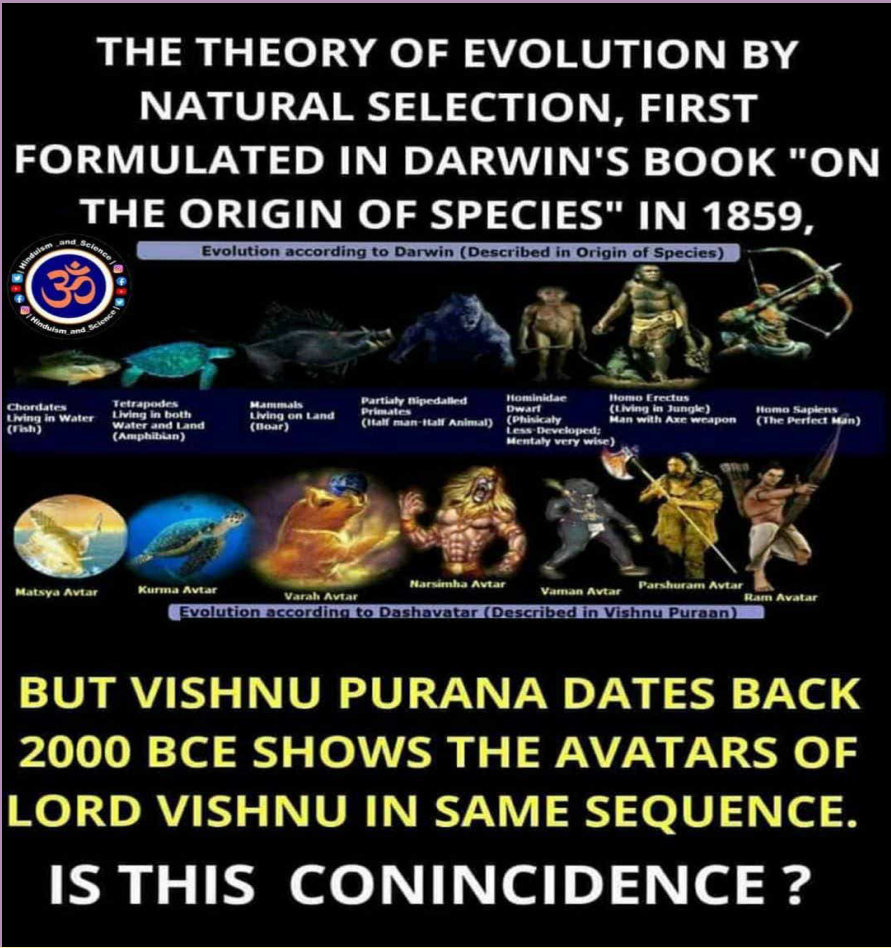
## Ayurveda Awareness: "Anjarai Petti Series: Dhania", by Dr. Saranya



Moving on with the series, today we will be discussing an important drug, Dhania.

The botanical name of Dhania is Coriandrum Sativum; it is referred to as Dhaniyalu in Telugu, Dhania in Tamil and Hindi, Kothambari beeja in Kannada, Dhanyakam in Sanskrit as it looks like a grain. Since it is used as a

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## Science Snippets: "Our Zodiac Signs – Vedic vs. Western", by Latha Chakravarthy



Our sun sign or zodiac sign in western astrology may not match the one as per Vedic astrology. Vedic astrology uses the sidereal zodiac system where planetary positions are based on where they are in the sky with respect to the fixed backdrop of constellations or the 27 nakshatras. The Sun, Earth

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are representative of the placement of the different ayudhas, either on the back hands or forehands.

Four hands are systematically explained here like back right hand, back left hand, front left hand, and front right hand. Here is an explanation of each representation of Lord Vishnu.

1. Keshava has a Shanka in his back right hand, a Chakra in his back left hand, a Gadha in his front left hand, and the front right hand has Padma. He is the Lord who helps in averting bad luck or ill omens.
2. Narayana has a Padma in his back right hand, Gadha in his back left hand, Chakra in his front left hand, and Shanka in his front right hand. Lord Narayana helps calm the mind, is the place of

refuge or resting place.

3. Madhava has Chakra in his back right hand, Shanka in his back left hand, Padma in the front left hand and Gadha in the front right hand. Madhava is the Supreme Godhead who helps bring fortunes.
4. Govinda in his back right hand has Gadha, has Padma in the back left hand, Shanka in the front left hand, and Chakra in the front right hand. Govinda helps devotees get power and fame.
5. Vishnu has the Padma in his back right hand, Shanka in his back left hand, Chakra in his front left hand, and Gadha in the front right hand. Lord Vishnu helps with preservation, protection, and transformation.
6. Madhusudhana has the Shanka in his back right hand, Padma in the back left hand, Gadha in the front left hand, and Chakra in the front right hand. The killer of asuras Madhu and Kaitabha, helps one destroy internal demons and provide nourishment.
7. Trivikrama has the Gadha in his back right hand, Chakra in the back left hand, Shankha in the front left hand, and Padma in the front right hand. Lord Trivikrama helps control ego and arrogance. He is the upholder of law.
8. Vamana has the Chakra in his back right hand, Gadha in the back left hand, Padma in the front left hand, and Shanka in the front right hand. He is the god of protection and sustenance.
9. Sridhara has the Chakra in his back right hand, Gadha in his back left hand, Shanka in his front left hand, and Padma in the front right hand. Sridhara is the bestower of great wealth and bliss.

10. Hrishiksha has the chakra in the back right hand, Padma in his back left hand, Shanka in his front left hand, and Gadha in the front right hand. He is the controller of senses.
11. Padmanabha has the Padma in the back right hand, Chakra in the back left hand, Gadha in the front left hand, and Shanka in the front right hand. Padmanabha bestows mental clarity and focus.
12. Damodara, has the Shankha in his back right hand, Gadha in his back left hand, Chakra front left hand and Padman in the front right hand. Damodara helps self control and purification of the mind.
13. Samkarshana has the Shanka in his back right hand, Padma in his back left hand, chakra in his front left hand, and Gadha in his front right hand. He is the bestower of wealth and courage to his devotees.
14. Vasudeva has the Shankha in his back right hand, Chakra in his back left hand, Padma in the front left hand, and Gadha in the front right hand. He dwells in all living beings.

ॐ सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः ।  
सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः ।  
सर्वे भद्राणि पश्यन्तु ।  
मा कश्चित् दुःख भाग्भवेत् ॥

May all sentient beings be at peace,  
may no one suffer from illness,  
May all see what is auspicious, may no one suffer.  
Om peace, peace, peace.

**Image courtesy:**

<https://www.hindu-blog.com/2018/11/ayudha-purushas.html>

## **Know your Mythology: "Takshaka and the cycle of revenge", by Thulasinathan Kandasamy**

Takshaka the snake, and his son Aswasena, escaped when Arjuna and Krishna assisted Agni with burning the Khandava forest. The wife of Takshaka perished in the fire along with many of their relatives. Takshaka and Aswasena wanted revenge. During the Kurukshetra war, when Karna was battling Arjuna, Aswasena saw an opportunity to avenge his mother's death and aided Karna by transforming into an arrow in his quiver. When Karna shot the same arrow, it sailed with the intent to kill; the all-knowing Vasudev Krishna then pressed down his feet, causing the chariot to sink and the horses to bend their knees. The chariot lowered itself, causing the arrow to strike Arjuna's crown, shattering it. Takshaka calmed his son down and asked him to avoid these things since he feared losing him. He knew that as long as Krishna protected Arjuna, no harm could come to him. However, Takashaka's revenge attempt became fruitful many years later.

At the war's end, Ashwathhama killed all the Pandava sons and attacked Abhimanyu's wife Uttara's womb. He used the mighty Brahmastra to kill the unborn baby; Vasudev Krishna let the weapon attack and kill Parikshit since he did not want to demean the unstoppable weapon. After that, with His eternal potency, Krishna revived Parikshit in her womb with His blessing.

After Krishna departed for Vaikuntam and the Pandavas renounced

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Medicine starts from home, when we eat the right quantity, we are healthy. It is widely grown all over India, and in native gardens during the cold seasons. The fruit, stem, flower and leaves of the plant are utilized.

Apart from being used as a diuretic, it is mixed with sugar and honey

to make a concoction called Dhanyaka Hima, which helps quench thirst. For people experiencing ailments due to body heat, hot water with dhania and jeera provides relief.

For controlling loose stools, a concoction of chukku, vilvam and dhania is effective. In addition, ginger and dhania mix helps relieve gas.

**Image courtesy:**

<https://spiceandcolour.com/en/coriander-seeds-dhania/>

# Did you know? Theory of Evolution in Vishnu Purana?

## THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION BY NATURAL SELECTION, FIRST FORMULATED IN DARWIN'S BOOK "ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES" IN 1859,



Evolution according to Darwin (Described in Origin of Species)



Chordates  
Living in Water  
(Fish)

Tetrapodes  
Living in both  
Water and Land  
(Amphibian)

Mammals  
Living on Land  
(Boar)

Partially Bipedalised  
Primates  
(Half man-Half Animal)

Hominidae  
Dwarf  
(Physically  
Less Developed;  
Mentally very wise)

Homo Erectus  
(Living in Jungle)  
Man with Axe weapon

Homo Sapiens  
(The Perfect Man)



Matsya Avatar



Kurma Avatar



Varah Avatar



Narasimha Avatar



Vaman Avatar



Parashuram Avatar



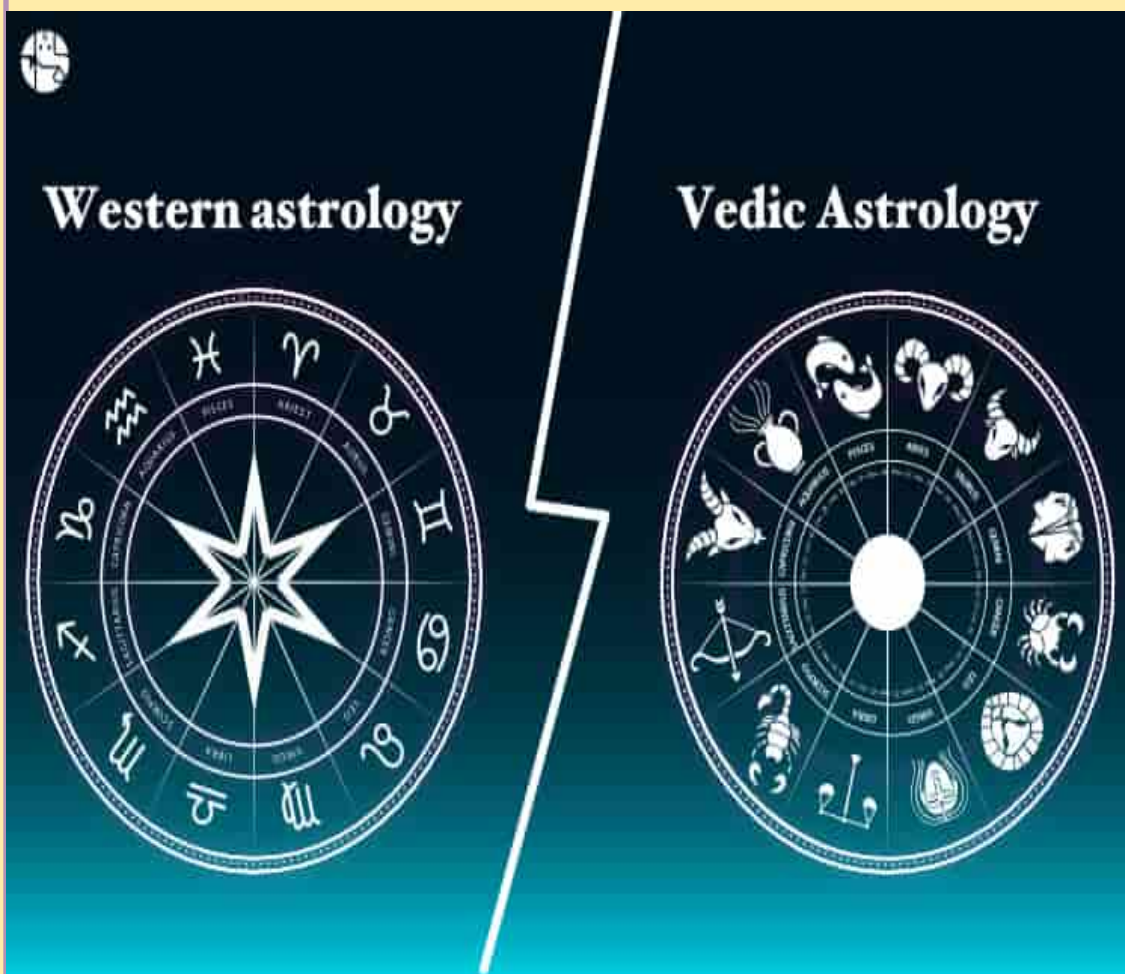
Ram Avatar

Evolution according to Dashavatar (Described in Vishnu Puran)

**BUT VISHNU PURANA DATES BACK  
2000 BCE SHOWS THE AVATARS OF  
LORD VISHNU IN SAME SEQUENCE.**

**IS THIS COINCIDENCE?**

# Science Snippets: "Our Zodiac Signs – Vedic vs. Western", by Latha Chakravarthy



Our sun sign or zodiac sign in western astrology may not match the one as per Vedic astrology. Vedic astrology uses the sidereal zodiac system where planetary positions are based on where they are in the sky with respect to the

fixed backdrop of constellations or the 27 nakshatras. The Sun, Earth and other planets trace an ecliptic path as they traverse the space encompassed by these constellations. Vedic system thus marks the sign of Aries (Mesha) as April 13th- May 14th, Cancer (Karkata) from July 15th - August 14th, Libra (Thula) from October 16th- November 14th, and Capricorn (Makara) from January 14th - February 11th. Western astrology uses the tropical system which is based on the sun's movement through the seasons due to the tilt of the Earth's axis, and marks the sign of Aries as the beginning of the vernal equinox on March 21st - April 19th in spring; Cancer as the beginning of the summer solstice on June 21st - July 22nd in summer; Libra as the beginning of the autumnal equinox on September 23rd - October 22nd in fall, and Capricorn as the beginning of the winter solstice on December 22nd - January 19th in winter. A person born on March

23rd will have his Vedic zodiac sign as Pisces (Meena March 13th - April 12th), while his western zodiac would be Aries (March 21st - April 19th). Up until about 2000 years ago, both systems followed the planets along the same ecliptic path to base their signs. But as the Earth spins on its tilted axis, it experiences a phenomenon called the Precession of the Equinox, which has caused the ecliptic plane to shift by about one degree every 72 years. This causes a progressive drift between the two systems which is about a difference of 24 degrees in the present day. Thus lining up the zodiac signs according to the seasons (western) can cause a big mismatch as time goes on, whereas lining up the zodiac signs according to the fixed stars (Vedic) is more permanent. The striking point here is that our ancient Vedic astrologists had already factored in this discrepancy, and were able to base the zodiac on the more concrete system. It truly speaks a lot about how advanced they were in terms of their mathematical accuracy as well as astrological knowledge!

**Image courtesy:**

[https://www.ganeshaspeaks.com/learn-astrology/  
comparision-of-vedic-and-western-astrology/](https://www.ganeshaspeaks.com/learn-astrology/comparision-of-vedic-and-western-astrology/)

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