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# Balavin Kural



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# What's inside:

## Devotee Speaks: "Influence of planets on life on Earth", by Smt. Roopa V Rajan



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### The influence of the nine planets on life on earth.

**Sun:** The sun offers the Prana or life force that all living beings on earth need for their existence. Sun is the overlord of all the actions in the day and influences our Rajo Guna.

**Moon:** It provides the mind, intellect and sensory knowledge required for life forms to function.

**Mars:** There are various conflicts such as caste, religion fights, wars and battles that involve blood loss due to

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In life, there will always come moments when decisions weigh heavily on us, pulling us in conflicting directions. Yudhishtira, seeking guidance from the wise Bhishma, posed this question: Should one make decisions quickly or reflect at length before acting? Bhishma's response anchors us in the importance of deep thought, especially when faced with difficult moral dilemmas.

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Sri Gurubyo Namah.

Sri Balambika charanam.

The next Shakthi peetam is Shankari Shakthi peetam located in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. There is a beautiful story known around this place.

Ravana, who was a great Shiva bhakta, wanted Shiva and Parvathi to stay together. So he built a huge Trikona temple and worshiped them. The whole country was prosperous.

But when he abducted Seeta, Goddess Shankari advised him to send Sita back. He refused and Goddess Shankari left the temple. Later, when Vibhishanan became the king, the Goddess returned.

It is inscribed that this temple will face danger from

## Cultural Connect: "Mundaka Upanishad"

The Mundaka Upanishad is an ancient Sanskrit Vedic text, embedded inside Atharva Veda. It is one of the primary Upanishads among the 108, and one of the most widely translated. The verses are presented as a dialogue between sage Saunaka and sage Angiras. It is a poetic verse style Upanishad, with 64 verses, written in the form of mantras, used for teaching and meditation on spiritual knowledge, and not for the typical rituals. The following is from verse 2.2.4:

प्रणवो धनुः शारो ह्यात्मा ब्रह्म तल्लक्ष्यमुच्यते ।  
अप्रमत्तेन वेद्व्यं शरवत् तन्मयो भवेत् ॥ ४॥

praṇavo dhanuḥ śāro hyātmā brahma tallakṣyamucyate .  
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Om is the bow; the atman is the arrow; Brahman is said to be the mark. It is to be struck by an undistracted mind. Then the atman becomes one with Brahman, as the arrow with the target.

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## **The influence of the nine planets on life on earth.**

**Sun:** The sun offers the Prana or life force that all living beings on earth need for their existence. Sun is the overlord of all the actions in the day and influences our Rajoguna.

**Moon:** It provides the mind, intellect and sensory knowledge required for life forms to function.

**Mars:** There are various conflicts such as caste, religion fights, wars and battles that involve blood loss due to Mars influence.

**Mercury:** Shastrajñana, knowing right from wrong, knowledge in mathematics, science and arts is due to the influence of Mercury.

**Jupiter:** influences education, expertise in science knowledge, devotion, yoga, and man's roaming mind in dreams is due to the



influence Jupiter.

**Venus**: Interest in sensual pleasures, physical bliss, dance, music, feasts, festivals, life of comfort and worldly pleasures is due to the influence of Venus.

**Saturn**: Saturn action is like inflicting punishment for a person's evil actions. Duty, honesty, justice, court cases, time in jail, police departments, military and defence is influenced by Saturn. Saturn is the Lord of Dharma and pushes people into deep sleep and death.

**Rahu**: is a shadow planet that is responsible for a cruel mind and evil actions, it is also responsible for wealth, trade, and prosperity.

**Ketu**: Responsible for man's physical desires and spiritual growth. Its locus is in muladhara from where these actions influence.

In planets other than the earth, the intermixing of the elements doesn't occur. But here on earth, the four elements like fire, water, air, and space mix with Prithvi tattva.

Gratitude to siddhas.

Taken from Brahma Rahasyam.

Balambika Charanam

**Image courtesy:**

<https://astrotalk.com/astrology-blog/>

9-planets-and-their-influence-in-astrology-insideastro-iatb9-5/

# Know your Mythology: "The Wisdom of Reflection: A Tale of Duty, Mother, and Father", by Thulasinathan Kandasamy



In life, there will always come moments when decisions weigh heavily on us, pulling us in conflicting directions. Yudhishthira, seeking guidance from the wise Bhishma, posed this question: Should one make decisions quickly or reflect at length before acting? Bhishma's response anchors us in the importance of deep thought, especially when faced with difficult moral dilemmas.

This lesson comes to life in the story of Chirakarin, a man renowned for his reflective nature. Chirakarin was known for thinking long and hard before making decisions, something that others misunderstood as indecision.

Chirakarin's father, Gautama, a revered sage, commands his son to kill his wife for a transgression. Yet, Chirakarin, true to his nature, took time to ponder the morality of such an act. He was torn between two duties: the son's obedience to his father and the son's duty to protect his mother. But Chirakarin hesitated from committing the grave sin which was killing his own mother.

He reflected on what the father meant to him. The father is the source of life and knowledge, the one who lays down the law, the one whose command is the highest duty of a son. He thought of the sacredness of fatherhood — how a father shapes his child's future even before birth. The father, as Bhishma had taught, was the son's highest duty, above all else. To disrespect the father would be to dishonor the very essence of one's life.

Chirakarin's reflection deepened as he thought of his mother—the source of his protection, the one who bore and nurtured him. Without her, he would not exist. She was his anchor, always welcoming him home, shielding him from harm. Could he, in good conscience, harm the woman who gave him life? The more he pondered, the clearer it became: a mother's love transcends all. A father may give life, but a mother sustains it. She keeps the flame of existence burning. Without her, what would he be?

As the days passed, Chirakarin delayed his decision, caught between two sacred duties: to his father and to his mother. His nature, reflective and thoughtful, was guiding him towards a decision that did not rush to the conclusion of obedience or defiance but sought a solution that honored both his parents. He did not act out of haste, but with wisdom.

His father, Gautama, after a long period of time, retracted his rash command. He saw in his son's delay the wisdom of reflection, and understood that Chirakarin's hesitation was a sign of his great intelligence, not weakness. Gautama's grief transformed into a moment of deep joy as he embraced his son and praised his wisdom. "By delaying, you have saved us both from a grievous mistake," Gautama said, seeing that reflection had been the key to avoiding regret.

This story reminds us that reflection is not procrastination but a vital tool for navigating life's complexities. While both parents are pillars in

our lives, true wisdom lies in pausing before acting, ensuring we honor them without regret.

Chirakaran's lesson is clear: in a fast-moving world, the most important decisions are often those made with careful thought, especially when they concern those to whom we owe everything.

**Image courtesy:**

<https://brahmavidyablog.wordpress.com/2017/10/27/yudhisthiras-question-to-bhishma/>

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It is inscribed that this temple will face danger from people with different colour eyes. Later, the Dutch invaded and took away all jewels given by Ravana. Later the temple was rebuilt by the Cholas.

Now, the temple looks like a recently constructed one and not ancient. It is on the edge of a cliff and looks beautiful. There is a huge vilva tree



in the temple. It is visited by all Hindus. Shivaratri and Navratri are celebrated on a grand scale. In spite of Buddhism being popular, it is still maintained well by the Hindus.

**Image courtesy:**

<https://behindeverytemple.org/hindu-temples/shakti/shankari-devi-temple/>

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