

# BALAVIN KURAL

**Balambika Divya Sangam**



## Editor's Desk...

Since time immemorial, ever since the fire was discovered by early man, it has been esteemed by the human race, and man's fascination for this element has grown. Of the pancha bhutas (earth, water, fire, air and sky), the Vedas proclaim fire and water to be the most venerate. The Hindu religion reveres fire in the form of Agni, and the hallmark of Hindu worship is the homam or fire ritual, for it is through Agni that we can invoke the deity of our choice, and ensure that our offering has been accepted by the deity. Spirituality apart, it is also a scientifically proven fact that the gases emanating from a homam or yagnam have great healing powers, and one should consider himself fortunate to be able to witness a homam. There are as many homams as there are Gods, each with its own benefit and significance. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2016, Balambika Divya Sangam (BDS) performed the Chandi Homam at Malur, a divine and spectacular event that was witnessed by people from places near and far. The Chandi Homam is a tribute to Adi Parashakti – the collective energy of Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswati.

Goddess Chandi is extolled in the Devi Mahatmyam, which is a part of the Markandeya Mahapuram. Also referred to as Sri Durga Saptashati or Chandi Path, Devi Mahatmyam eloquently describes the victory of Goddess Chandi over the demons Madhukaitabha, Mahishasura and Shumba-

Nishumbha. The key to contemplating and understanding Her, lies in the elegant verses of the Devi Mahatmyam – literally the 'Glory of the Goddess'. Here, Goddess Chandi is glorified through Her three identities – Mahakali, Mahalakshmi and Mahasaraswati. Goddess Chandi's nine-lettered Navakshari mantra bestows great benefits on the person chanting the mantra. While Goddess Chandi can be meditated upon by reading the Devi Mahatmyam, the Chandi Homam directly invokes the supreme Goddess in all Her splendor, and the effects of a Chandi Mahayagnam is overwhelming. Those associated with such a divine invocation are rewarded with peace, prosperity and spiritual knowledge. She is our mother, the primordial Shakti, and we have been created from Her cosmic womb. This homam is, but an occasion for us to offer our reverence to Goddess Chandi.

For those of you who are on the BDS WhatsApp group, you may have seen the screenshot of the poornahuti, at the conclusion of the Chandi Homam, wherein Sri Bala is seen along with Sri Lalitha Parameshwari. What more do we need as an endorsement of Her acceptance of our humble offerings and our sincere devotion! Now, with added fervor and rejuvenated minds, we can continue to move forward together as one large BDS family with the goal of spreading the message of sarvejana sukhino bhavanthu.



**Mrs. Asha Manoharan**  
**President—BDS**

## Inside this issue:

Bala Speaks	2
Special Pooja & Events	2
Chandi Homam Photos	3—9
Krishna & Sahadev	10—11
BOPS Photos	12—13
Demystifying Science	14
Who am I?	15
A Journey through...	17, 18
Bala Sahasranamam	19—25
Chandi Homam Sponsors	28

**B**alambika Divya Sangam  
313/5, Sri Raja Rajeshwari Illam,  
6th D Cross, Venkatapura,  
Bangalore—560034  
Email: [balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com](mailto:balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com)

## Bala Speaks...



Karma. The word that everyone uses quite often, the word that scares everyone, the word which is mysterious to many. This karma is nothing but action. The action of every human being, the past and the present. What you have started comes back to you as karma. Nothing ever happens to you unless you deserve it. You receive exactly what you earn, whether it is good or bad. You are the way you are now, due to the things you have done in the past. Your thoughts and actions determine the kind of life you can have. If you do good things, in the future good things will happen to you. If you do bad things, in the future bad things will happen to you. Every moment you create new karma by what you say, do, and think. If you understand this, you do not need to fear karma. It becomes your friend. It teaches you to create a bright future.

### Special Pooja & Events

- ♦ The Annual Chandi Homam was conducted at Tirumala Choultry at Malur on 2nd and 3rd of July, 2016. Hordes of devotees participated and made this event a spectacular success.
- ♦ BDS Events team had organized Pournami Pooja and Dolai Utsavam at Patalamma Temple in Malur on 20th June.
- ♦ With the reopening of schools in Malur, the Breakfast Meal program has been resumed and many patrons have come forward to sponsor.
- ♦ The Health & Hygiene and Reading Club activities as part of BOPS have also been kick-started under a new season.





**ಶ್ರೀ ಬಾಲಾಂಜನ ಗಣಪಾಲಯ**  
ಮಾತುಕಿ ಬಡಾವಣೆ, ಮಾಲೂರು

**ಚಂಡಿಹೋಮ ಮಹೋತ್ಸವ - 2016**  
**ಸಮಾರಂಭ**

ಸ್ಥಳ: ತಿರುಮಲ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಮಂಟಪ, ಮಾಲೂರು.

ದಿನಾಂಕ / ವಾರ	ಹೋಮದ ವಿವರಣೆ	ಸಮಯ
2-7-2016 ಶನಿವಾರ ದೇಶಗೃ	ಗಣಪತಿ ಹೋಮ ಬಾಲ ತ್ರಿಮುರಸುಂದರಿ ಹೋಮ	ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 8.00 ರಿಂದ 10.00 10.30 ರಿಂದ 12.30 ವರೆಗೆ
2-7-2016 ಶನಿವಾರ ಸಂಜೆ	ದೀಪ ಪೂಜೆ ಚಂಡಿಹೋಮ ಕಳಶ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ರಿಂದ ರಾತ್ರಿ 7.30 ವರೆಗೆ
3-7-2016 ಭಾನುವಾರ ದೇಶಗೃ	ಗೋ ಪೂಜೆ ಚಂಡಿ ಹೋಮ	ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 8.00 ರಿಂದ 9.30 9.30 ರಿಂದ 12.30 ವರೆಗೆ
3-7-2016 ಭಾನುವಾರ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ	ಅನ್ನದಾನ	ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 1.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

ವಿಜ್ಞಾಪನಾ: ಈ ಹೋಮಕ್ಕೆ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯರ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಹೊರಗಿನಿಂದಲೂ ಭಕ್ತರನ್ನು ಸ್ವಾಗತಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಇವರಿಗೆ ಸ್ವಾಗತವಾಗಿ ದೀಪಕವನ್ನು ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಸ್ವಾಗತದ ನಂತರ ದೀಪಕವನ್ನು ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಸ್ವಾಗತದ ನಂತರ ದೀಪಕವನ್ನು ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೇವೆ.

ಸರ್ವಕಾರ್ಯದ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ: ಸ್ವಾಮಿಗಳಾದ ದೀಪಕವನ್ನು ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಸ್ವಾಮಿಗಳಾದ ದೀಪಕವನ್ನು ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಸ್ವಾಮಿಗಳಾದ ದೀಪಕವನ್ನು ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೇವೆ.

ಫೋನ್ : ಶ್ರೀ ಬಾಲಾಂಜನ ದೀಪಕ ಸಂಘ (ರ) ಮಾಲೂರು.





























# Krishna & Sahadev

By Thulasinathan Kandasamy

Sahadeva!...Sahadeva!...He realized that someone was calling. He looked to find his eldest brother Yudhisthira was the one that was calling.

Yudhisthira handed over a thin rolled cloth and said, "This is a message for Vasudev Krishna and hand this off to him," and left thoughtfully. It was way before the war, and way before the gambling itself. Just hearing the word Krishna made Sahadeva feel joyous. He looked at the message, and looked at the sky, his lips murmured, "Kumbha Vrishti" (downpour of rain). Though youngest of the Pandavas, he was the wisest. Also, he was one of the very few like Bhishma and Vidura, who knew that Krishna was not just a normal person. He knew everything including the past, present and future, best of the best astrologers, a yogi and saint. He is also the calmest among the Pandavas (he could be the calmest person that walked on Earth at that time). He was told by Krishna not to speak much and to answer people in questions when the information is crucial.

He kept the message safely in his cloth. He took a weird looking sword that had many blades which were flexible and long. Went to his horse and murmured something in its ear. It nodded its head as if it understood. Sahadeva had special affection for the horses, especially his one, for he himself is an Ashwini Kumar. He climbed the horse and briefly entered the state of dhyana. He sought his parents' blessings, first earthly and then divine. He prayed to be one with the Universe and five basic elements (Bhoomi, Jal, Agni, Vayu and Akash), paid respect to Varuna. A gentle and mild droplet of water fell on his head. He realised that was the blessing from Varuna himself.

He looked at his body and said, "You are going to stretch a bit but be with me". He gently massaged his long arms and climbed his horse. The journey started into the forest and then the plains, and then it was Kumbha Vrishti. A heavy rain. Before entering into the rainy area, Sahadeva took out his sword in one hand and started spinning and swirling the sword to ward off the rain. After sometime, he changed his hand and continued. It took a long time and the rain didn't give up either. On entering Krishna's palace, the first question from him was, "Sahadeva, wasn't it Kumbha Vrishti and you are not drenched?" Sahadeva looked at him and smiled. Krishna looked into him and knew what happened. He realized that if Sahadev takes a sword and enters into war, Arjuna and Bhima won't be able to fulfil their vows.

Krishna looked at Sahadeva and told, "Sahadeva, I need a promise from you that you will not use your sword in the Mahabharat war." Sahadeva looked at Krishna and at his feet, and paused for a moment. Krishna knew that Sahadeva is looking at the feet and they both knew that the feet is going to be eventually aimed at by a hunter. "You didn't promise yet," Krishna added with a mischievous sternness to his voice. Sahadeva said, "Anything for you." Krishna hugged Sahadeva. Sahadeva was always special to Krishna, he would always get a special blessing, a gentle tap on his head innumerable times.

"They say you are a Trikala Jnani (knower of all three times, past, present and future)," Krishna started in a mischievous voice. Sahadeva looked at Krishna's adorable face and smiled. However, he didn't say anything. Krishna asked Sahadeva,



"Can you tell me, how can the Mahabharat war be avoided?" Sahadeva answered, "There are a few things that should be done. "Like?" Krishna still continued in the same mischievous tone. Sahadeva replied, "The following have to be done,

1. Krishna has to be tied and put into imprisonment.
2. Karna has to be made the king.
3. Draupadi's head should be shaved and she should not be allowed to grow hair.
4. All Kuru clan (minus Karna) have to be sent to live in the forest.
5. and....

"Whoa, whoa...wait," Krishna intervened, "The first in the list, tying me and imprisoning. Who is capable of doing that?" There was an artificial proudness in his voice. Sahadeva smiled and said, "Many, someone being called as Sahadeva can as well." Krishna showed a mischievous anger, "So, you can do that? and how? Do you need a rope? Bear in mind, nobody succeeded in Brindavan." Sahadeva smiled and walked towards a tree. Krishna asked, "So, you are going to jump on me from the tree?" Sahadeva sat under the tree, closed his eyes, sought his parents' blessings and entered into a state of dhyana. In his dhyana, he saw a dark skinned child with Blueish touch floating on a leaf. He took the child and kept it on his lap. Krishna said, "Alright, alright...leave me...I can't move..." Sahadeva responded back in Krishna's mind, "Why should I leave you?" Krishna said, "I bless you and you will always be with me and so will I." Sahadeva left the child back on the leaf. Sahadeva continued his dhyana. Krishna blessed him again and walked away, letting Sahadeva to be in that state for some more time.













# Demystifying Science...

## Rama Sethu—the bridge to Lanka

We have all grown up reading or listening to stories from the great epic Ramayana. Quite amusingly, when we come to the part where Lord Rama builds the bridge to Lanka to rescue Mother Sita from Ravana, we imagine the scene to be filled with an army of industrious monkeys and fervent squirrels, whose only goal was to cross the ocean and reach Lanka. In today's world, we quickly dismiss any curi-



ous questions that inquisitive young ones might pipe out regarding the truth as to whether this mythical bridge could actually have been built across an ocean. Feed the cynical minds a little more, and the next question is, “Ok. Then is it still there now?” The short, historical and scientific answer is ‘yes’, it is called Adam’s Bridge – Rama Sethu, that it runs from Dhanushkodi (India) to Mannar Island (Sri Lanka) and luckily, science has advanced so much that there is NASA satellite imagery that could help back this myth! Skeptics might argue, spiritualists might go ecstatic, while some might still waver. So, first and foremost, let’s get the facts straight. Based on archaeological studies, the dating of the bridge formation coincides with the timeframe of the Ramayana, which took place during the Treta Yuga more than one million seven hundred thousand years ago. The shape, structure and composition of this 30 Km long chain of limestone shoals, with layers of marine sand assembled over sandstone and boulders above hard rock, also suggests its man-made nature. Finally, global warming and rising ocean levels, not to mention continental drifts, could have resulted in the bridge that was more superficial back then, to be submerged under water now. While we feel awe and wonder for this legendary landmark and civil engineering marvel, we also experience a sense of deep spirituality and unconditional trust that God’s existence is unquestionable. So next time, whether it is a non-believing teenager, a skeptical youngster or the atheist co-worker who taunts your beliefs, get yourself all armed and reveal the bare facts.

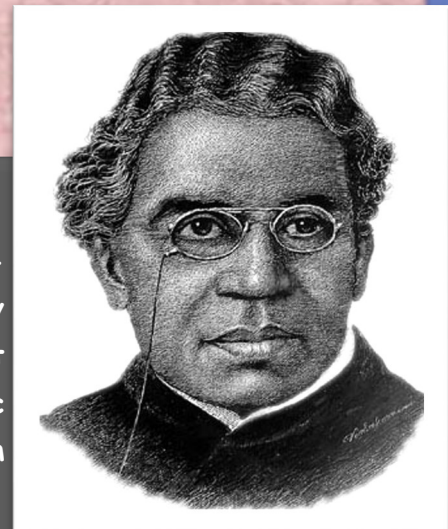


## Who am I?

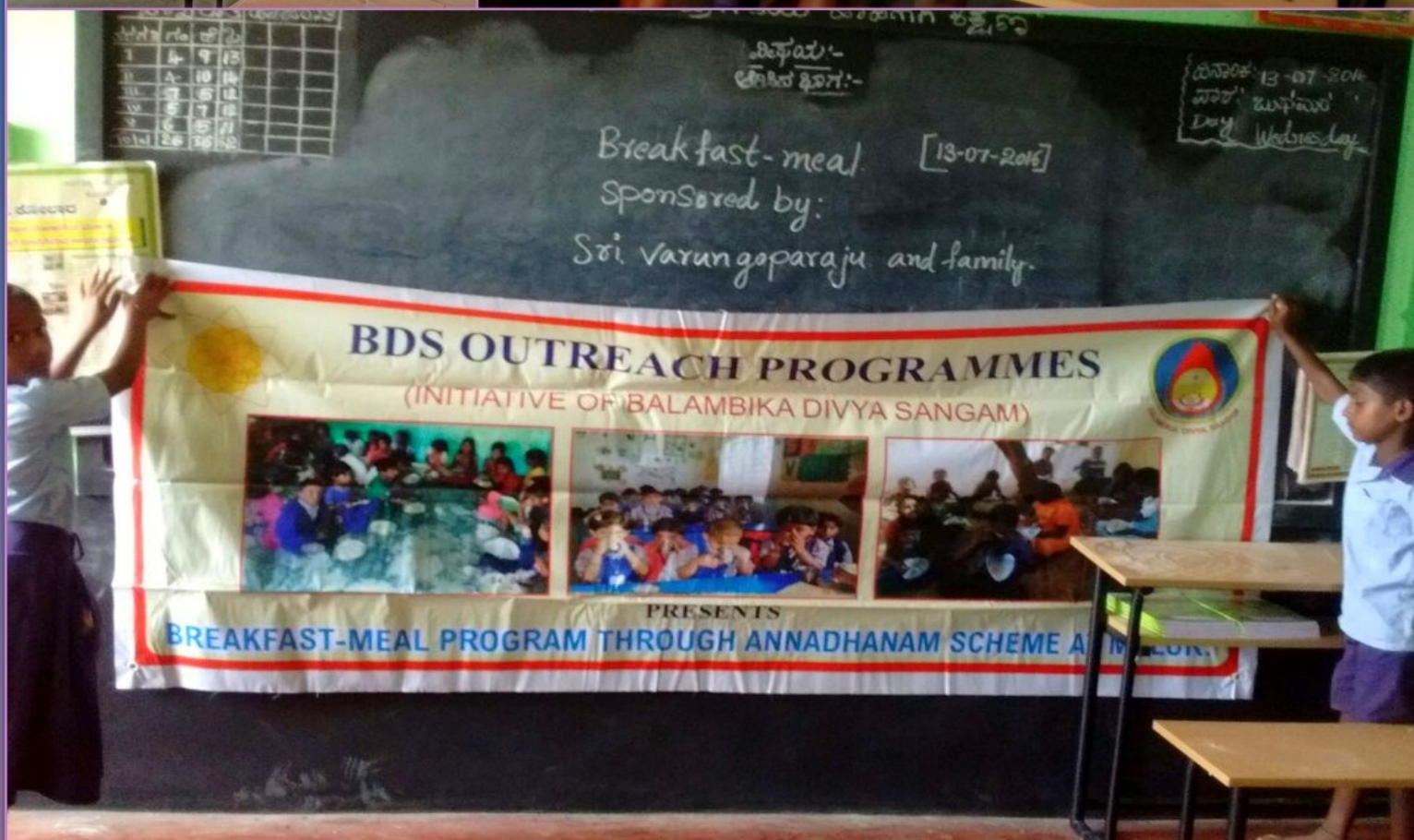
1. I was born on 30th November 1858 at Mymensingh in a Bengali family.
2. The varied background of my playmates in a vernacular school and their stories of birds, animals and aquatic creatures, inculcated an interest to investigate the workings of nature.
3. I adored Karna of the Mahabharata for his steadfastness and getting success in a defeat.
4. Further, in St. Xavier's College, Calcutta, I came in contact with Jesuit Father Eugene Lafont who helped crystallize my interest in natural science.
5. My father was a Civil Servant (Deputy Magistrate), but dissuaded me from going to London for Indian Civil Service.
6. I finally managed to get admission in Christ's College, Cambridge, to study Natural Science.
7. I conducted research with the Nobel Laureate Lord Rayleigh at Cambridge and later returned to India.
8. I joined the Presidency College of University of Calcutta as a Professor of Physics.
9. I discovered electromagnetic waves of wavelength 2-5 mm and understood the disadvantages of long waves for studying their light-like properties.
10. I was the first to use a semiconductor junction to detect radio waves.
11. I was the inventor of "Wireless Telecommunication", but was never interested in patenting the invention.
12. I proved that plants are sensitive to heat, cold, light, noise and other external stimuli - just like human beings.
13. I performed a comparative study of the fatigue response of various metals and organic tissues in plants.
14. The British Government conferred "Knighthood" on him and the title "Sir" was prefixed to his name.
15. My books include "Response in the Living and Non-Living" (1902) and "The Nervous Mechanism of Plants" (1926).
16. I was also the author of one of the first works on Bengali science fiction.
17. I passed away on 23rd November, 1937 at the age of 78.

## Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose

was a polymath, physicist, biologist, biophysicist, botanist and archaeologist, as well as an early writer of science fiction. Bose's place in history has now been re-evaluated. He is now credited with inventing the first wireless detection device, discovering millimetre length electromagnetic waves, and being a pioneer in the field of biophysics. He left behind him his courage, sense of adventure and scientific spirit for others to emulate.









# A journey through the extensive history of India...

India is the seventh largest country by area, second most populous and the largest democracy in the world. With a history spanning 9000 years, and a region comprising various ancient trade routes and powerful dynasties, the diversity of India is truly evident in its multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious society.

The name **India** is derived from **Indus**, which originates from the Old Persian word **Hindu**. The latter term stems from the Sanskrit word **Sindhu** (a large body of water, sea, or an ocean), which was the historical local appellation for the Indus River. The greatness of India has been aptly summarized by German indologist and Sanskrit scholar Max Mueller as:

*"If I were asked under what sky the human mind has most fully developed some of its choicest gifts, has most deeply pondered over the greatest problems of life, and has found solutions of some of them which well deserve the attention even of those who have studied Plato and Kant, I should point to India."*

Throughout India's enduring history, several different cultures have engaged in a struggle for supremacy and survival. These numerous races, religions and languages have always tried to divide the people, and impart differences between the various ethnicities. Even with this variance and diverse makeup, how did India manage to sustain its culture for generations? This poses an intriguing question.

In order to answer this question and embrace our varied culture, we need to understand our history. History and information from the past serve as our most vital evidence in the never ending quest to understand why societies and humans behave as we do. Most importantly, history provides us with a sense of identity or where we came from, in addition to helping us answer compelling questions about how families, groups, institutions and whole countries formed and evolved.

A timeline of the momentous and extensive history of the Indian subcontinent from the Indus Valley civilization till independence has been outlined in the table in the next page!

In forthcoming newsletters, we will attempt to provide an insight into the history of ancient India, starting with the Indus Valley civilization, the largest known ancient civilization in the world. The historical facts contained have been compiled from numerous sources, some of which are listed at the end for further reading, if interested. In the next few newsletters, a description of the Indus Valley Civilization will be provided, covering, but not limited to, the following topics:

- i. Discovery and excavation
- ii. Chronology
- iii. Geography
- iv. Cities and governance
- v. Technology and arts
- vi. Religion and writing

## References

### Books:

1. Mountjoy, S. (2005). Rivers in World History: The Indus River. Chelsea House Publishers.
2. Sen, S.N. (1999). Ancient Indian History And Civilization. New Age International Publishers.

### Documentaries:

The Story of India: Michael Wood for PBS and BBC.

### Electronic sources:

1. <http://www.indohistory.com/>
2. <http://www.culturalindia.net/>
3. <http://www.webindia123.com/history/facts/time.htm>
4. <http://www.ancientindia.co.uk/>
5. <http://www.metmuseum.org/>
6. Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_India](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_India)
7. <http://www.historians.org/pubs/free/WhyStudyHistory.htm>



3300 - 1300 B.C	<b>Indus valley civilization, also known as Harappan Civilization</b>
1500 - 500 B.C	Vedic period: The first wave of Aryan immigration into India began
326 B.C	Alexander the Great of Macedonia invaded the Indus valley, and fought the famous battle with King Porus
300 B.C	Earliest references to the South Indian Chola dynasty
323 - 185 B.C	Mauryan Empire - the first dynasty in the history of India; reign of Ashoka (269 - 232 B.C.); spread of Buddhism
320 to 550 A.D	Gupta Empire: Golden Age of India marked by extensive inventions and discoveries in science, technology, engineering, art, etc. Aryabhata developed the concept of Zero
600 A.D	Pallava dynasty governs southern India from Kanchipuram
985 A.D	Rajaraja Chola I extends the Chola Empire to all of South India and builds the temple at Thanjavur in 1010 A.D
1210 - 1526	Delhi sultanate ruled Northern India
1398	Mongol conqueror Timur invaded India and defeated the Delhi sultanate
1336 - 1660	Vijayanagar empire
1498	Vasco-da-Gama landed at Calicut
1510	Portuguese capture Goa
1526 - 1857	Mughal dynasty: Babur wins the First Battle of Panipat and lays the foundation of the Mughal Empire in 1526 A.D. Shahjahan built the Taj Mahal in 1653 A.D
1600	East India company was established
1857	First War of Independence
1942 - 43	Quit India Movement
1947	India gains freedom, and Jawaharlal Nehru is sworn in as the first Prime Minister of independent India
1950	<b>India becomes a Republic. Dr. Rajendra Prasad becomes the first President of India</b>



# Sri Bala Sahasranamam

*With Meaning & Commentary by Smt. Asha Manoharan*

References to Goddess Balambika (Bala) can be found in the Brahmanda Puranam. Sri Bala Sahasranama Stotram describes and praises the various attributes of Sri Balambika in 113 verses. Since each *nama* represents a unique nature and quality of Sri Balambika, it can be interpreted and discussed to cater to the different needs of an individual. Along with a direct meaning of each *nama*, Smt. Asha Manoharan has provided us with intriguing commentary and examples that a common man can relate to and apply in everyday life. So the next time we chant Sri Bala Sahasranamam, we will not only know the literal meaning of the *stotram*, but will also find a unique way to connect and relate to Sri Balambika.

*suprabhā kaumudī kāntā bindu nāda svarūpiṇī /  
kāmeśvarī kāmakalā kāmīnī kāma vardhanī //*

## Suprabha: She is radiant and illuminating

Ambal's dynamic thoughts and the words she utters is the light that alone will awaken us to the truth of what we are and the purpose of our life on Earth.

So what are principles which we need to adhere to?

### 1. Forbearance:

It is a quality to remain calm and composed under all circumstances. I know it is difficult, but we need to practice them at all times.

### 2. Forgiveness:

It is a quality of a person who is very strong mentally. We all think it is a sign of weakness to forgive a person who has hurt us in our life. We carry that vengeance around not knowing that it is damaging us more than the person who has hurt us. So you might ask how can I forgive a person who has cheated me or lied to me?

The answer is my dear friend, you need to address this issue right away with the person who has done that to you, and make him/her understand what you are going through because of their actions. Resolve it as soon as possible, remember to bring about a closure. Every event or incident needs a closure, it might be painful, but it needs to be addressed. So waste no time in doing it because without that a relationship does not survive; not only with that person, but with the rest of the world as well. So closure is the best remedy for any hurtful feelings.

### 3. Control of your senses:

One should keep one's sense of action and knowledge under control at all times. There are five senses for acquiring knowledge, namely:

- A. hearing
- B. seeing
- C. feeling
- D. smelling
- E. tasting

They are also known as the Jnanendriyas. We gain knowledge of the external world through these five senses.



The five sense of action also called the karmaendriyas,

- A. speaking
- B. grasping
- C. walking
- D. procreating
- E. excreting

These are controlled by the eleventh sense known as the mind according to samakya philosophy, because of its role in processing and directing the other senses.

So these basic principles need to be adhered to lead a happy and a harmonious life on Earth.

### **Kaumudi: She is cool as a moonlight**

Here Ambal is compared to the cooling effect of the moonlight. Under the influence of moonlight, a person tends to be less agitated, more romantic and truthful. Similarly, Ambal's presence would bring about the change necessary to lead a fruitful life on this Earth.

Let us look at the effect she has when she is present around you,

1. Your head starts clearing and that sharpens your thinking. So be careful how you live, be wise make the most of every opportunity given to you.
2. Peace: with Ambal comes peace. When you understand that, she is around you all the time, you realize the inward calm despite the chaos around you. She has a profound effect on you, when you start believing She is by your side, any time, all the time.
3. Encouragement: always be strong and courageous, do not fear looking at situations and circumstances for they were created only to test your inner strength. She will help you and lift you from the brink of disaster. She stands there tall, to rejoice in your success, to wipe your tears when in pain, calm you down with her love; so do not lose heart.
4. Contentment: with Ambal by your side, what else can you ask for. Does it mean Ambal is going to provide you whatever you ask for? In reality, No.

What she does is, she gets you being satisfied with what you are, what you have and where you are going with it. So stop worrying and start living your life like never before.

### **Bindu: small particle or point**

Ambal is the starting point of all creations. From Her, life on Earth started. Its representation is seen everywhere,

- a plant growing from a seed
- a child from a single cell
- the entire food chain is dependant on the single celled organism
- Sun's energy from one single fusion of hydrogen atoms

The list is endless...



So let us see how we can make Bala the single most important aspect of our life.

#### 1. Seek knowledge:

We all depend on a specialist to solve a particular problem. When we are sick we go to the doctor. When we need to look into our accounts, we look for help from the accountant. Like that for spiritual wisdom, we need to seek knowledge from Ambal and transform our lives into a worthy one. This has to come only from God. No other professional can give us the help that we need.

#### 2. Be alert to wrongful acts around you:

We need to not only seek knowledge from Ambal, but be careful about the pitfalls in life. This world is filled with temptations, corruptions, greed etc., So we need to keep away from such acts so as to protect our sanctity, to allow God help us to lead a very spiritual and devoted life.

#### 3. Following Ambal's directions:

Ambal has laid out a plan for us. This plan will be revealed to us on a daily basis so that each day is a new one and an interesting one. We need to follow this in life, to forget our anxieties, troubles, expectations and selfishness.

We need to believe that God's plan for us is unique and it is formed as we speak; it reaches us when we are ready. Live each day as if it was your last so that your life is always filled with joy.

Bindu instills in you hope, joy, and fearlessness. Do not forget Ambal stays with you and showers everlasting happiness.

## Nadam: sound

Ambal is the nadam of this universe. She is present in every organ, every tissue and every cell in our body.

Once, I had a conversation with a gentleman who had asked me, "How do you talk to Ambal?"

I replied, "Silently." He looked perplexed. I laughed.

It is a harmony between atman and paramatman, it is brought about by the internal sounds within oneself. It is the final symphony between the body, atma and God. This can be attained by experiencing the four levels of sound in one's spiritual journey.

#### 1. First level - baikari level.

That which is audible to everyone. The vibration of the vocal chord is an example, leading to talking, singing etc.

#### 2. Second level - Madhyama level.

It is a whispering sound inside you. It is the murmur that you hear everyday, which otherwise can be called as conscience. Here, the sound is formed and crystallized.

#### 3. Third level - Pashyanti level

That which exists in the deeper levels of the mind. It is also called the intellectual sound. The ragas produced by great musicians are churned and created from here. This is not heard or seen, it transforms itself into music which is heard and celebrated by millions.

#### 4. Fourth Level - Para Nada

The sound which has infinite wavelength. This is heard in the pure state of consciousness. This is the silent sound heard when



we are one with Ambal, there is complete divine bliss, wherein the atman performs a divine dance with the paramatman. The union takes place here. There is only one sound. The silent sound.

Nadabindu Upanishad describes these levels, as starting from the sounds of oceans, to playing a musical orchestra and then on to ringing of bells, finally leading to the subtle sound called the silent sound.

Ambal is also the embodiment of these sounds and She makes us experience all these levels in our lifetime. The divine voice, the unblemished ragas, the quivering conscience and the roaring silence.

Hence, She is affectionately called Nadam.

## **Svarupini: She has own form and character**

There are different interpretations of Ambal, but when I look around nature, it gives me a totally different meaning. So I started on a journey to explore, and here is what I found.

Love is the foundation of character and the law of Ambal. Be it the life of an insect or a marine animal, we see that they are equipped with instincts that will help in their survival.

The amazing quality of Godly love even encompasses love towards non-believers.

One great sage asked non-believers to describe God they didn't believe in. After listening to their reply, he said that he too didn't believe in the God they had just described.

Modern men often search for God in vain.

The main reason is that most people receive their concept of Ambal from other people, rather than from Her inspired words, the Devi Gita, etc.

Without the will of Ambal, you cannot understand Her. Human beings are helpless in seeking to comprehend the things of God. So, what are the qualities a man needs, to have a complete knowledge of God.

### **1. Surrender:**

The first step to understanding God's ways is total surrender. Our motive of surrender should not be for personal gains at all. True surrender will go beyond natural devotion.

### **2. Dedication in doing God's work:**

You should not only earn a living for your family, but also do services to Ambal by helping the poor, spreading Her message to the world, understanding Her attributes to implement that in our daily life.

### **3. Following Ambal's ways:**

Many of you might ask what are Her ways.

- Spreading love and joy to the world.
- Preserving nature.
- Being selfless in your activities.

These small things will better your life and bring you closer to Ambal.



## Kamesvari: Ambal is Inspirational

We all look at Ambal as a distant entity, who exists in a non real world. We have a lot of assumptions about Her. In fact, She is very simple, realistic and inspiring to all mankind.

We always mistake Her patience for Her absence. Her timing is always perfect and Her presence is constant, and She is always with you.

She teaches simple life skills through Her creation.

Let us look at some of the examples.

1. Look at the sun, it will not supercede the sunset, but again, it will rise to bring us a new dawn.

It inspires every man on Earth, that every person has bad days. It needs to be overcome, he cannot run away from it, but face it, because after the bad day, a new day opens up with new opportunities and new experiences.

2. Look at the trees, they stand tall, they face the heat, wither in autumn, lay dormant in winter and blossom in spring.

Ambal shows mankind how to lead his life.

- stand up to hostilities
- dispel ignorance
- lay humble to acquire knowledge
- blossom when opportunity comes your way, never be afraid to face life

Grow taller as you walk with the trees, for they show you what life is all about.

3. Look at the buzzing bees, they travel from flower to flower to collect food, their hard work transforms into a honey comb, invites other bees to make it bigger and they all share the hard work.

So, small efforts will give us small delights, which is what happiness is all about.

Share your joy, it only multiplies, never depletes.

## Kamakala:

Kama means seed; kala means sprout.

The seed has two Tattvas:

1. Mind
2. Maya

The mind is also called the Antahkarana. It has 3 fundamental parts, called the strands or threads.

i. Life thread: It extends from the soul to the heart. The beating of the heart and the working of the lungs are all controlled by the soul through this thread. It exists naturally as physical life and living.

ii. Consciousness thread: It extends from the soul to the mind of the person. Unlike the life thread, it does not exist naturally, it is built through various processes.

iii. Creative thread: The creative impulses of the soul travel to the mind through this thread. This inspires the mind to think of innovative ideas, when the mind is ready after it uplifts the consciousness thread.



The upliftment of the soul is attained through these disciplines by way of meditation, service to mankind and by developing an abstract mind.

The next discipline is Maya.

Maya rises from Prakriti, which is nature or pradhana, the primal energy.

Ma - source

Ya - proceeds

Maya is the cause for various manifestations in this world. It is the force behind all diversity, activity and movement in this Universe. Maya is often referred to as illusion. It is not because it does not exist, but because it changes constantly, it is not what it appears to be all the time.

The individual soul is caught up in this illusion only as long as it is caught up in materialistic things.

When the mind and senses are withdrawn, ego gets subdued. When ego is removed, the veil of ignorance is lifted and the soul is released from the bondage of nature or Maya.

## Kamini: Loving and affectionate

We have heard of love and being affectionate several hundred times. The love as I understand is conditional, we love someone because they fulfill a condition that we require before we love them. We often say, "I love you, because you take care of me or are good to me and so on." It is not only conditional, but unstable as well. The love that we show is based on feelings and emotions that change from one moment to the next.

The closest to God's love is the one we receive from our parents. We coin that as unconditional love. No matter what we do, they don't stop loving us even if we don't meet their expectations. It is the way Ambal loves us or even more. She loves us because She is love Herself. She created us to have a loving relationship with us.

Ambal's love for us is deep, unconditional, assuring, and incomparable to any act of love or forgiveness. She gives everyone several chances to change, She not only forgives, but also forgets our misdeeds. She waits patiently for us to see the truth. She overlooks our weaknesses, our failures, as She welcomes us back to serve Her.

For those of you who think how do I understand Ambal's love, here is the proof.

1. She lets you make your own choices and lets you go your own way. She respects your free will. She will not force Herself on you.
2. She reaches for you. When you are away from Her, She not only loves you, but keeps looking out for you.
3. She will welcome you with open arms like a mother welcoming her lost son. She won't scold you, She won't hold you at arm's distance, She won't hold grudges against you. She just loves you, forgives and accepts you.

## Vardhani: seed of life grows under Her guidance

As I have explained the meaning of the word kama in my earlier post, let me expand it a little further to see how She helps us to grow by nurturing us throughout our entire life.



Ambal is our shield, our keeper, a fortress, refuge and shelter. She is the pillar of our life.

1. She protects us from our own karma, which will appear strange to many. When you walk in the path of righteousness, She will understand that you are determined to change and that you have realised your karma and its implications. She is ready to pardon you for all your actions by redeeming you of your sins and showing you the path to redemption.
2. She nurtures you when you have trust in Her. When you believe in Ambal's way, you will see Her unseen hand covering you and protecting you from evil. He who believes in Her, shall fear no one.
3. With Ambal by your side, you will be hard pressed, but never crushed, you might be ridiculed but never persecuted, you might be struck down but never destroyed, you will be tested at all times, only to be taught a new lesson which otherwise you would never pay heed to, because those lessons will help you, along the way as you walk down Her noble path.
4. Learn to love Ambal with all your heart, for She will recognize true love, and do not lean on your understanding, but acknowledge Her presence and accept the life She chose for you, for She never meant harm to befall you.

She directs your paths, in doing so, directs your life as well.

Bala Sahasranamam on Website, Facebook and YouTube







**Malur Balambika Temple**  
Chronology of Construction

- 2017: Kumbhabhishekam
- 2016: Gopuram & Garbhagraham
- 2015: Maha Mandapam
- 2013: Ardha Mandapam
- 2011: Bhoomi Pooja

*A Temple is not just a Religious Edifice*

**Malur Balambika Temple**  
*Kumbhabhishekam*  
2017
































**BDS: MALUR BALAMBIKA TEMPLE - KUMBHABHISHEKAM**

As we fervently move towards the completion of the Temple construction and Kumbhabhishekam, here is a video which traverses through this beautiful journey. The Kumbhabhishekam is the divine culmination of a beatific dream and we want all of you to join hands and be a memorable part of it.

<https://youtu.be/HuUSJdzg4Fg>



## BDS: Upcoming Events...

<b>Fri Jul 15</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> 
<b>Mon Jul 18</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI NITHYA SUNDARESHWARAR AND SRI ANNAPOORNESHWARI - BALA'S HOUSE</b> 
<b>Tue Jul 19</b>	10:00am – 11:00am 4:00pm – 7:00pm	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI SIDDHI VINAYAGAR - AT BALA'S HOUSE</b>   ⊕  <b>POURNAMI PUJA AT MALUR - MALUR</b>
<b>Fri Jul 22</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> 
<b>Mon Jul 25</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI NITHYA SUNDARESHWARAR AND SRI ANNAPOORNESHWARI - BALA'S HOUSE</b> 
<b>Tue Jul 26</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI SIDDHI VINAYAGAR - AT BALA'S HOUSE</b>  
<b>Fri Jul 29</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> 
<b>Mon Aug 1</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI NITHYA SUNDARESHWARAR AND SRI ANNAPOORNESHWARI - BALA'S HOUSE</b> 
<b>Tue Aug 2</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI SIDDHI VINAYAGAR - AT BALA'S HOUSE</b>  
<b>Fri Aug 5</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> 
<b>Mon Aug 8</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI NITHYA SUNDARESHWARAR AND SRI ANNAPOORNESHWARI - BALA'S HOUSE</b> 
<b>Tue Aug 9</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI SIDDHI VINAYAGAR - AT BALA'S HOUSE</b>  
<b>Fri Aug 12</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕  <b>ABISHEKAM TO SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> 



## A big Thank You to **Chandi Homam** Sponsors!!!

Sharanya	Rajalakshmi	(Malur)-36
Thangam/Kannan/Malar/ Varalakshmi	P S Vijay	Mythili Sundarajan
Suryavarshini	Vivekanandan(Sharanya)	Shankarappa
Anuradha Srnivasan	Thiruvenkata Chari(Sharanya)	Krishna Rao
Murali Chakravarthy	Bangaraj (Charanya)	Indra Sampath
Ramesh Chakravarthy	Ramanuja (Charanya)	Padma Priya
Jayanth and Family (Chinu)	Vinay (Charanya)	Lakshmi (Malur)
Ambika/Shanka	Dr. Suma (Charanya)	
Chandralekha	Rukmini (Sarojini)	
Janaki	Srimathi Vijay( Malur)	
Gowri Shankar	Munireddy( Choultry)	
Richa & Anthil	Kasturirangan	
Padma	Arun (Delhi)	
Usha (Padma)	Chitra (Neighbours)	
Chitra Chandrashekhar	Srikanth (Padma)	
Jaya Nandini(Myla)	Meera (Priya)	
Babu and Family	Radha Kumar (Priya)	
Srinidhi	Deepa Pooja (Malur)-26 Devo- tees	
Raghuraman	Chandi Homam Sankalpam	





## BDS Contacts

### Bala Sahasranamam Parayanam:

Chakravarthy's residence, Ohio—USA.

• [95chikki@gmail.com](mailto:95chikki@gmail.com)

Anuradha Srinivasan's residence, Chicago—USA

• [asriniv65@gmail.com](mailto:asriniv65@gmail.com)

### Dolai Utsavam:

Dolai Utsavam will be performed for Sanchara Bala, in the privacy of one's home, amidst a social gathering.

Devotees who are interested, please contact Temple Manager:

[balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com](mailto:balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com)

### Annadhanam Scheme:

We are feeding the under nourished, low income children in government higher primary school.

Those who are interested in sponsoring, please contact Temple Manager :

[balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com](mailto:balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com)

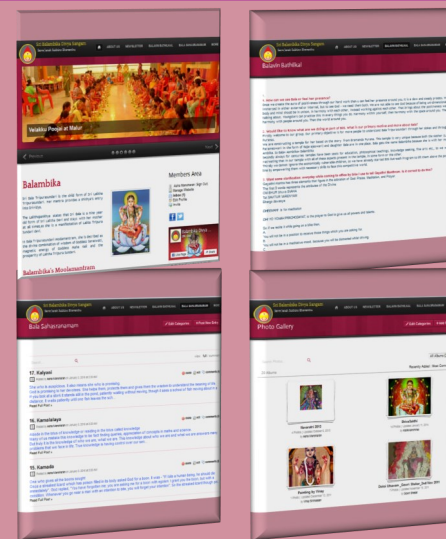
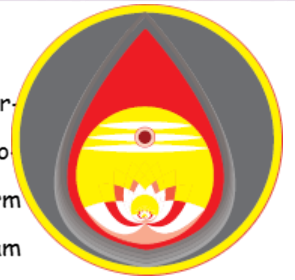
### BDS Outreach:

We are having health and hygiene awareness and also dental care for children , if you could sponsor for this program, we would cover more children and help them have proper dental care.

Those who are interested in contributing towards this cause, please contact Temple Manager : [balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com](mailto:balambikadivyasangam2015@gmail.com)

## Vision of Balambika Divya Sangam

As passionate devotees of Goddess Balambika, and overwhelmed by her grace and benevolence, we have come together from diverse scenarios as one unifying force to form Balambika Divya Sangam. The principal focus of the Sangam is to pursue the age old tenet—**sarvejana sukhinobhavanthu** and pay obeisance to the divine Mother, who is the cause of welfare of the world. Through worship we realize that cast, creed, religion and social status, all melt away before her, for in her eyes, we are all her children.



### We are on the web!

<http://balambikathirupanitrust.webs.com>

This is a good place to catch up on all the Sangam activities such as About Us, Temple Updates, Balavin Bathikal, Bala Sahasranamam, archives of earlier Newsletters

### Join us on WhatsApp!

To join Balambika Divya Sangam WhatsApp group, please send an email along with phone# to our President Smt. Asha Manoharan at [asha.raji@gmail.com](mailto:asha.raji@gmail.com)



### Archana Contributions

Meghana Murali

Usha & Murali

S. Muralidharan

Sharanya Vignesh

Vaishnavi Mukundan

Latha Chakravarthy

### Annadhanam

Varun & family

Parthasarathy Sridharan

## Sponsor's Corner

### Sanchara Dholai Sponsors

Murali Chakravarthy & family