

# BALAVIN KURAL

## Balambika Divya Sangam



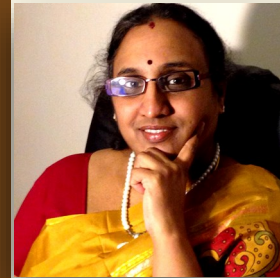
### Editor's Desk...

Over the past several weeks, we have witnessed devotional commitment and ecstasy, as crowds milled to Malur to take part in Sri Bala's birthday celebrations and for the Sanchara Dolai Utsavam – literally, where Sri Bala goes around the village in a divine procession to be in communion with the devotees. Only Ambal in Her simplicity and love that crosses the barriers of caste, creed, status, power or age can give us that satisfaction. True to Balambika Divya Sangam's commitment to spreading the message of Sri Bala in Malur Temple, our team of several dedicated volunteers have surpassed themselves in achieving this goal. As the tentative date for the *kumbhabhishekam* in April-May of 2017 draws closer with each passing day, we look forward to your continued financial support. Several levels of sponsorships will receive appropriate benefit status and privileges, that will be recognized and maintained for the donating sponsor's family and their family members, by BDS. Sponsorship of idols, individual units (*garbhagraham*, *ma-hamandapam*), and *pranaprathishtha* and *kumbhabhishekam* expenses, is a rare opportunity that comes by in a lifetime! Please do come forward and donate generously towards Sri Bala's temple

abode in Malur. We need your support to achieve this herculean task.

A recent WhatsApp post on Balambika Divya Sangam showed young children from Cambridge University chanting Vedic *slokas*, and even reciting their meanings. We may boast about being the origin of the Vedas, but it is more important to understand the content in those Vedic chants and their significance. This calls for a revolution in our education system, where young minds are lit with the knowledge in our Vedas, through *simple hymns* and verses apt for our day to day living with Hindu Dharma. Let us not stay unaware as the world takes what's growing in our own backyard, and moves forward, while we fall behind.

Do check out the articles on our Vedic astrology and how accurate and wise our Vedic seers were, with no super-computing tools or instruments, other than their own intellect. Play the game of guessing in the "Who am I" for this time! You will be racking your brain to get this right! Enjoy the experience, the melody and the lyrics of "*Ennai aalum Ambikeyum....*" as Ambal comes before Her true devotee and reveals Her simple self. Hope you enjoy this edition of Balavin Kural, just as we enjoyed bringing it together for you.



Mrs. Asha Manoharan  
President—BDS

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## Bala Speaks...



Self-confidence is a state of mind. It is believing in yourself, accepting who you are, your ability, skills and experience. It works just like a muscle - it grows in response to the level of performance required of it. Either you use it or you lose it. Look at a great win or success you've experienced and give yourself credit for your part in it. Recognizing your achievements is not egotistical, it's healthy. Stop doing these three things.

1. Stop playing different roles and squeezing yourself into boxes, based on what you think people expect you to act like.
2. Stop struggling against the things you don't like in your life. Create an environment that allows you to be you.
3. If there's something you've been struggling to understand for a while, stop trying to understand it. Accept it just as it is, fully and wholly.

### Special Pooja & Events

- ◆ The monthly Pournami pooja and Dolai Utsavam was organized on May 21st.
- ◆ Bala's birthday was celebrated at Malur on May 21st at Tirumala Choultry.
- ◆ Sanchara Dolai Utsavam was performed on 4th and 11th of June, at a village near Malur.
- ◆ The Annual Chandi Homam conducted by Balambika Divya Sangam is tentatively planned for 2nd and 3rd of July, 2016





Temple Construction Updates





This song has a special place in my heart. It was composed some 30 years ago, at a very different situation which is unthinkable on many levels.

## Down Memory Lane

By Smt. Asha Manoharan

Background behind the song *Ennai Aalum Ambikaiyum...*

It was new year's morning and one of the things that I do is to go to Samayapuram temple. It is 6 kms from my place and it was a very quiet place in those days, unlike what it is today. This day is so special, because it was the first day I wore a saree. I wanted to show Ambal and wanted to ask Her how I looked. Imagining all the expressions I would see on Her face, I stepped inside the temple. To my astonishment, it was packed with devotees. I didn't know what to do. I walked slowly through the corridors of the temple, thinking whether I should join the queue or just walk away. As I was debating with myself, I felt a tap on my shoulder. Turning, I found Bala standing there smiling; her knowing smile that always perplexes me. Understanding my silence, she asked, "What happened?" I gave out a sigh and said, "I don't know what to do, whether to stay or turn away?". "Is it very important for you to see Her today?", Bala asked. I said yes, and sat down in the corridor. Bala sat opposite to me and said, "Tell me what is so special today?"

I started narrating to her, how Mariamman Ambal had nursed me when I was sick, how She fed me when I was unable to eat, how She lovingly appreciated me for all the little things I was doing, and said finally, for the first time, I am wearing a saree today. "I wanted to show Her first and tell Her that I am a big girl now." Saying this, I smiled with a small tear in my eyes.

Bala looked at me as though she was reading my mind and then looked at me and smiled suddenly. "Ok, come with me," she said and took my hand and dragged me. I followed her not knowing where she was taking me. She stopped in front of the utsava murti, turned and said, "Wait here," and stepped inside and disappeared. I waited for a few seconds. The murti, all of a sudden, came alive, Ambal sitting there, smiling right out of a scene from a movie. She was nothing like how I had imagined Her.

She was simple, but strong with broad shoulders. Her eyes were mesmerizing, but not intoxicating, beautiful wavy hair tied with a small twig, a very subtle smile at the corner of Her lips, a short neck dropping down into stout breasts, Her hands were tough and strong at first sight, showing the children that She can take on anyone to protect them, Her radiance was the ornaments She wore, She could steal our minds with Her sparkling white teeth. In short, She is "My Beautiful Mother."

I fell in love with Her that very moment. I shed my vanity and put out my hand to touch Her. She took my hand and it was like a soft rose petal, caressing my hand. She looked at me with all the love in the world and said, "You are a beautiful woman now?" Saying this, She cupped my face in Her hands and said lovingly, "I am so happy you came to see me today. I wouldn't have missed this for the world," and smiled.

I was lost for words, I felt the same way, I wouldn't have missed it for the world, our love was locked in each other's arms.

Tears flooded my eyes, my throat went dry, I have grown up seeing Her, my little successes, huge failures, my highs and lows, everything was shared with Her and here, She is sitting in front of me as a great Mother, still not forgetting Her innocence. How could She do this?

How can She be beyond debates of assumption and presumption? How can She be so calm and peaceful when there is chaos around Her?

My head reeled and in a distance, I heard Her voice coaxing me to sing a praise for Her? "Oh. No, me singing in front of you, how is that possible?" I heard myself defending the request She just made.

"I am so happy now, sing for me," She said and closed Her eyes.

Seeing Her in that yogic mood, I recited this song. It was first unveiled 30 years ago, lying hidden until now, so here it is for you to enjoy.



## என்னை ஆளும் அம்பிகையும்

என்னை ஆளும் அம்பிகையும் நீதான்  
 உன்னை இங்கு பாட வந்தேன் நான் தான்  
 கேட்க நீயும் வருவாய், பாடி நானும் மகிழ்வேன் (2)  
 தாயே தேவி கருமாரி..... தாயே தேவி கருமாரி.....

தாமரையை ஏந்தி வந்த கைகளிலே  
 முத்தம் ஒன்று கொடுத்திடவே ஏங்கினேனே  
 ஜோதியாக நின்றாய், நெருங்கிடவே பயந்தேன் (2)  
 வந்தாய், தந்தாய் அன்பையே  
 வந்தாய், தந்தாய் அன்பையே  
 (என்னை ஆளும்)

சிவந்த உன் பாதத்தினை நான் தொழுதேன்  
 அள்ளி என்னை நீயும் தானே அணைத்துக் கொண்டாய்  
 கனிவுடனே பார்த்தாய், மனம் உருகி போனேன்... (2)  
 மகிழ்ந்தேன் தொலைந்தேன் உன்னிடமே  
 மகிழ்ந்தேன் தொலைந்தேன் உன்னிடமே  
 (என்னை ஆளும்)

கொஞ்சம் வார்த்தை கொடுத்தவளும் நீதான்  
 நினைத்தவரின் நெஞ்சினிலே நிறைந்தாய்  
 சிவனின் பாதி நீதான், உன்னில் கலந்தேன் நான்தான் (2)  
 பிரிவு நமக்குள் கிடையாது  
 பிரிவு நமக்குள் கிடையாது  
 (என்னை ஆளும்)



## ENNAI AALUM AMBIKAIYUM

Ennai aalum ambikaiyum nee than

Unnai ingu paada vanthen naan than

Ketka neeyum varuvai, paadi naanum makizhven

Ketka neeyum varuvai, paadi naanum makizhven

Thaaye devi karumaari.....thaaye devi  
karumaari.....

Thaamaraiyai enthi vantha kaikalile

Mutham onru koduthidave engine

Jothiyaaga ninrai, nerungidave bayanthen

Jothiyaaga ninrai, nerungidave bayanthen

Vanthai, thanthai anbaiye

Vanthai, thanthai anbaiye

Ennai aalum ambikaiyum nee than

Unnai ingu paada vanthen naan than

Ketka neeyum varuvai, paadi naanum makizhven

Ketka neeyum varuvai, paadi naanum makizhven

Thaaye devi karumaari.....thaaye devi  
karumaari.....

Sivantha un paadathinai naan thozhuthen

Alli ennai neeyum thaane anaithukkondaai

Kanivudane paarthaai, manam urukipponen.....

Kanivudane paarthaai, manam urukipponen.....

Makizhnthen tholainthen unnidame

Makizhnthen tholainthen unnidame

Ennai aalum ambikaiyum nee than

Unnai ingu paada vanthen naan than

Ketka neeyum varuvai, paadi naanum makizhven

Ketka neeyum varuvai, paadi naanum makizhven

Thaaye devi karumaari.....thaaye devi  
karumaari.....

Konjum vaarthai koduthavalum neethaan

Ninaithavarin nenjinile nirainthai

Sivanin paathi neethan,

Unnil kalanthen naan than

Sivanin paathi neethan,

Unnil kalanthen naan than

Pirivu namakkul kidaiyathu

Pirivu namakkul kidaiyathu

Ennai aalum ambikaiyum nee than

Unnai ingu paada vanthen naan than

Ketka neeyum varuvai, paadi naanum makizhven

Ketka neeyum varuvai, paadi naanum makizhven

Thaaye devi karumaari.....thaaye devi  
karumaari.....



## ಎನ್ನೆ ಆಳುಂ ಅಂಬಿಕ್ಕೆಯ್ಯುಂ

ಎನ್ನೆ ಆಳುಂ ಅಂಬಿಕ್ಕೆಯ್ಯುಂ ನೀದಾನ್  
 ಉನ್ನೆ ಇಂಗು ಪಾಡವಂದೇನ್ ನಾಂದಾನ್  
 ಕೇಟ್ಟು ನೀಯುಮ್ ವರುವಾಯ್, ಪಾಡಿ ನಾನುಮ್ ಮಘಳ್ಳೇನ್ (2)  
 ತಾಯೇ ದೇವಿ ಕರುಮಾರಿ....ತಾಯೇ ದೇವಿ ಕರುಮಾರಿ....  
 ತಾಮರಯ್ಯ ಯೇಂದಿ ವಂದ ಕೈಗಳಿಲೇ  
 ಮುತ್ತಂ ಒಂಡ್ರು ಕೊಡುತಿಡವೇ ಯೇಂಗಿನೇನೇ  
 ಜ್ಯೋತಿಯಾಗ ನಿಂಡ್ರಾಯ್, ನೆರುಂಗಿಡವೇ ಭಯಂದೇನ್ (2)  
 ವಂದಾಯ್ ತಂದಾಯ್ ಅನ್ನಯೇ  
 ವಂದಾಯ್ ತಂದಾಯ್ ಅನ್ನಯೇ  
 (ಎನ್ನೆ ಆಳುಂ)

ಸಿವಂದ ಉನ್ನೆ ಪಾದತಿನೈ ನಾನ್ ತೊಳ್ಳುದೇನ್  
 ಅಳ್ಳಿ ಯೆನ್ನೆ ನೀಯುಮ್ ದಾನೇ ಅಣೈತ್ತುಕ್ಕೊಂಡಾಯ್  
 ಕಣಿವುಡನೇ ಪಾರ್ತಾಯ್, ಮನಮ್ ಉರುಗಿಪೋನೇನ್ (2)  
 ಮಘಿಳ್ಳ ದೇನ್ ತೊಲೈಂದೇನ್ ಉನ್ನಿಡಮೇ  
 ಮಘಿಳ್ಳ ದೇನ್ ತೊಲೈಂದೇನ್ ಉನ್ನಿಡಮೇ  
 (ಎನ್ನೆ ಆಳುಂ)

ಕೊಂಜುಂ ವಾರ್ತೈ ಕೊಡುತ್ತವಳುಮ್ ನೀದಾನ್  
 ನಿನ್ನೈತ್ತವರಿನ್ ನೆಂಜಿನಿಲೇ ನಿರೈಂದಾಯ್  
 ಸಿವನಿನ್ ಪಾದಿ ನೀದಾನ್, ಉನ್ನಿಲ್ ಕಲಂದೇನ್ ನಾಂದಾನ್ (2)  
 ಪಿರಿವು ನಮಕ್ಕುಳ್ ಕಿಡೈಯಾದು  
 ಪಿರಿವು ನಮಕ್ಕುಳ್ ಕಿಡೈಯಾದು  
 (ಎನ್ನೆ ಆಳುಂ)



## ఎన్నై ఆళుం అంబిక్కైయ్యుం

ఎన్నై ఆళుం అంబిక్కైయ్యుం నీదాన్  
 ఉన్నై ఇంగు పాడవందేన్ నాందాన్  
 కేట్టు నీయుం వరువాయ్, పాడి నానుం మఘుళ్వేన్  
 కేట్టు నీయుం వరువాయ్, పాడి నానుం మఘుళ్వేన్  
 తాయ్ దేవి కరుమారి....తాయ్ దేవి కరుమారి....

తామరయై యేంది వంద కైగళిలే  
 ముత్తం ఒండ్రు కొడుతిడవే యేంగినేనే  
 జ్యోతియాగ నిండ్రాయ్, నెరుంగిడవే భయందేన్  
 జ్యోతియాగ నిండ్రాయ్, నెరుంగిడవే భయందేన్  
 వందాయ్ తందాయ్ అన్బయే  
 వందాయ్ తందాయ్ అన్బయే  
 (ఎన్నై ఆళుం)

సివంద ఉన్నై పాదతివై నాన్ తొళ్ళుదేన్  
 అళ్ళి యెన్నై నీయుం దానే అణైత్తుక్కొండాయ్  
 కణివుడనే పార్తాయ్, మనం ఉరుగిపోనేన్....  
 కణివుడనే పార్తాయ్, మనం ఉరుగిపోనేన్....  
 మఘిళ్వే దేన్ తొలైందేన్ ఉన్నిడమే  
 మఘిళ్వే దేన్ తొలైందేన్ ఉన్నిడమే  
 (ఎన్నై ఆళుం)

కొంజుం వార్తై కొడుత్తవళుం నీదాన్  
 నిన్నైత్తవరిన్ నెంజినిలే నిరైందాయ్  
 సివనిన్ పాది నీదాన్, ఉన్నిల్ కలందేన్ నాందాన్  
 సివనిన్ పాది నీదాన్, ఉన్నిల్ కలందేన్ నాందాన్  
 మఘిళ్వే దేన్ తొలైందేన్ ఉన్నిడమే  
 మఘిళ్వే దేన్ తొలైందేన్ ఉన్నిడమే  
 (ఎన్నై ఆళుం)



## Krishna & Bhima

By Thulasinathan Kandasamy

We usually read a lot about Krishna and Arjuna; there are also interesting snippets on Krishna and Bhima, Krishna and Sahadeva... This one is about Krishna and Bhima.

Jarasandha was measuring the three people in front of him with his eyes. He always allowed *Snatakas* in reverence and gave them audience any time including nights. Now these three people entered the Saba itself pretending to be brahmins. However that is not a crime because *Brahmanas*, *Kshatriyas* and *Vaishyas* all can be *Snatakas*. He had some doubt and when he offered prayer, Krishna gently refused and revealed true identity of his and others. Krishna asked "O! King, whom do you wish to fight with? Who of us need to prepare for the fight?".

Jarasandha absolutely loved fights. Fights any time, he personally practiced many things creating various chemicals that gave extraordinary strength. "I will fight with him", he pointed at Bhima and further said, "No point fighting men that look like women". Krishna and Arjuna looked at each other, smiled and sat as the audience silently. Some of Jarasandha's ministers, court men and his own Son had joined the audience.

As far as Bhima was concerned, the most important things in his after life his mother and brothers are, fighting and eating. He was glad that there is going to be good fight. They both got ready for the dual. Said *namaste* to each other and bounced on each other. Jarasandha absolutely loved and appreciated Bhima's swift moves and his enormous strength and countered all his locks. Jarasandha put locks and made Bhima fall few times. Bhima started realizing that this is not going to be a short fight. Every time Bhima put down Jarasandha, he recovered and returned the favour. Bhima started feeling pain deep in his bones. He noticed something different with Jarasandha, there was a thick line that almost ran through Jarasandha's entire body as if separating it in two symmetric parts head-to-toe.

Bhima took his usual tactic, which is to look too weak when he has full energy and to fight more aggressively when he is actually weak (or hungry). He got out of Jarasandha's lock and pushed him like an elephant. Jarasandha has lost his balance and was struggling to recover. Bhima started punching him continuously with no gap. His unusual speed which once cast a spell on his brothers when he ran behind the arrow that Arjun shot and brought it back, was working to his benefit this time. Before Jarasandha could recover Bhima pushed him to the ground held his one leg and tore him from the other leg and released a sigh of relief.

Heavily breathing, Bhima turned to where Krishna and Arjuna were sitting only to realize there is no joy in their face. While he was wondering, he heard the clapping hand, and turn around to see Jarasandha in one piece and ready to fight again. "Really!! None of those *Asuras* that I have beaten to death were able to do that", Bhima was wondering. Jarasandha released a fearsome laughter and said "Bhima, seems like you have practised well with imaginary enemies. The catch with imaginary enemies is, you always win. May not be the case with real fights".

Bhima said with a smile, "I am not too good with words. Let us get back to what we both are good with". There ensued a fight again. Pretty much a repeat. Every time Bhima tore Jarasandha came back again. Bhima in all sweats and bleeding looked for Krishna as he always did during desperate moments. When their eyes connected, Krishna took a slice of grass, tore it, turned it upside down and threw it in the opposite directions so that the symmetric portions don't face each other. Bhima got the clue, all this while Jarasandha was using Bhima's back as punching bag. Bhima turned around with great force and started putting entirely new set of locks on Jarasandha. In an opportune moment, he tore him as symmetric halves again. However this time, he turned one of them upside down and threw them in opposite directions as far as he could manage.

Waited and ensured that the halves don't become one again. Turned and walked to Krishna to seek his blessings. Krishna hugged him with joy and pride.

## Demystifying Science...

Most of us have heard and chanted hymns and verses from our Vedas, which are a treasure trove of knowledge and wisdom. Passed down by the great sages down the generations, our pristine Vedas stand sublime and bear testimony to our great intellect. Our Vedic texts are an indispensable resource in the field of science, mathematics, philosophy and astronomy, to name a few. For instance, without a high power telescope or computing tool, Vedic astrology/astronomy bases its prediction on the major celestial or heavenly bodies – Sun (*Surya*), Moon (*Chandra*), Mars (*Mangal/sevvai*), Mercury (*Budha*), Jupiter (*Guru*), Venus (*Shukra*), and Saturn (*Shani*). These 7 major celestial bodies have a significant connectivity with our lives, as opposed to the newly discovered planets – Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. In fact, Pluto was recently taken off the list of planets!

Starting from Mercury with the shortest orbital period of 88 days to Saturn with the longest orbital period of 29.5 years, every detail was used scientifically. Our ancient seers knew exactly which planets would impact our lives and followed through with only those. Again, it was no coincidence that *Rahu* was assigned the serpent-head and *Ketu*, the serpent tail! For *Rahu* depicts the moon's position as it ascends from the southern to northern hemisphere (ascending lunar node), and *Ketu* symbolizes the moon's position as it descends from the northern to southern hemisphere (descending lunar node). Vedic astrology was even scientific in relating the moon's effect to our minds! We all know how the moon causes the ebb and flow of tides, lifting tons of gallons of water day after day. Imagine the moon's effect on our body, which is about 70% water. Would that not affect our minds on an individual scale? Vedic astrology takes into account our entire galaxy – The Milky Way, and our Vedic sages even tried to name the stars/*nakshatras* based on their positions in the galaxy. Take for example, the *nakshatra* called *Mula* (Mulam), which means 'root'- the center point. *Mula* is in the beginning of the zodiac sign Sagittarius, which is the location of the galactic center (black hole)! The great sages knew about the galactic center which took the Hubble of today to find out. Indeed, one can only feel awe and respect for our wise seers and their efforts in uplifting our Vedas, which stand unparalleled despite the ravages of time!



















**BALA**

Bala the goddess who has been watching us, our actions, our movements, the goddess who always washes our sleep and moves to do so. I am sure she will see our sleep tonight. She will feel so good tomorrow because tomorrow's her birthday! Many many happy returns the day Bala. I hope you like I have written. May you keep safe and sound.

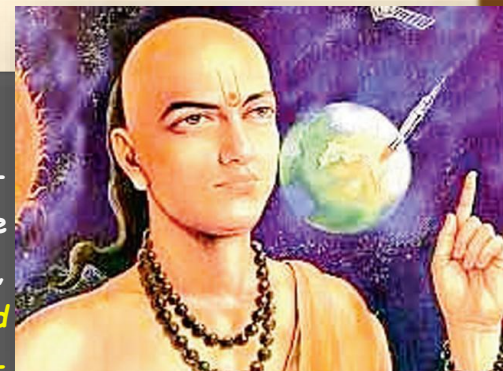


## Who am I?

1. I was born in 476 BC in Tarenga, a town in present day Bihar.
2. I travelled to Kusumapura for education.
3. I eventually became the Head of the Institution in Kusumapura.
4. Bhaskara, was one of my key disciples.
5. My work, *Ashmakatantra*, is written in the very terse style typical of sutra literature.
6. The place-value system was part of my work and implied the implicit knowledge of Zero.
7. I worked on the approximation of pi and also concluded that it is irrational.
8. I also provided a verse that speaks about calculating the area of a triangle.
9. I discussed the concept of sine (trigonometry) in my work, by the name of *ardha-jya*, which literally means "half-chord".
10. My method of solving Diophantine equations ( $ax + by = c$ ) became popular as part of my treatise on Algebra called "*kuttaka-ganita*".
11. I insisted that the earth rotates about its axis daily, and that the apparent movement of the stars is a relative motion caused by the rotation of the earth.
12. I described a Geocentric model of the solar system, in which the Sun and Moon are each carried by epicycles.
13. I also scientifically explained the occurrences of Solar and Lunar eclipses.
14. I calculated the sidereal rotation (the rotation of the earth referencing the fixed stars) as 23 hours, 56 minutes, and 4.1 seconds. This is the modern measure of a day and also can be extrapolated for the measure of a year.
15. My works inspired many, and in particular, had a major impact on the Arabs and their *Jalali* calendar.
16. The first Indian Satellite was named after me and also a Lunar Crater was named in my honour.

## Aryabhata

was the first of the major mathematician-astronomers from the classical age of Indian mathematics and Indian astronomy. His works include the *Āryabhaṭīya* and the *Arya-siddhanta*. In the words of Bhaskara, "*Aryabhata is the master who, after reaching the furthest shores and plumbing the inmost depths of the sea of ultimate knowledge of mathematics, kinematics and spherics, handed over the three sciences to the learned world*". Aryabhata had an immense influence on mathematics and astronomy during the Vedic times.





2016-06-04: Balambika Sanchara Dholai, Malur

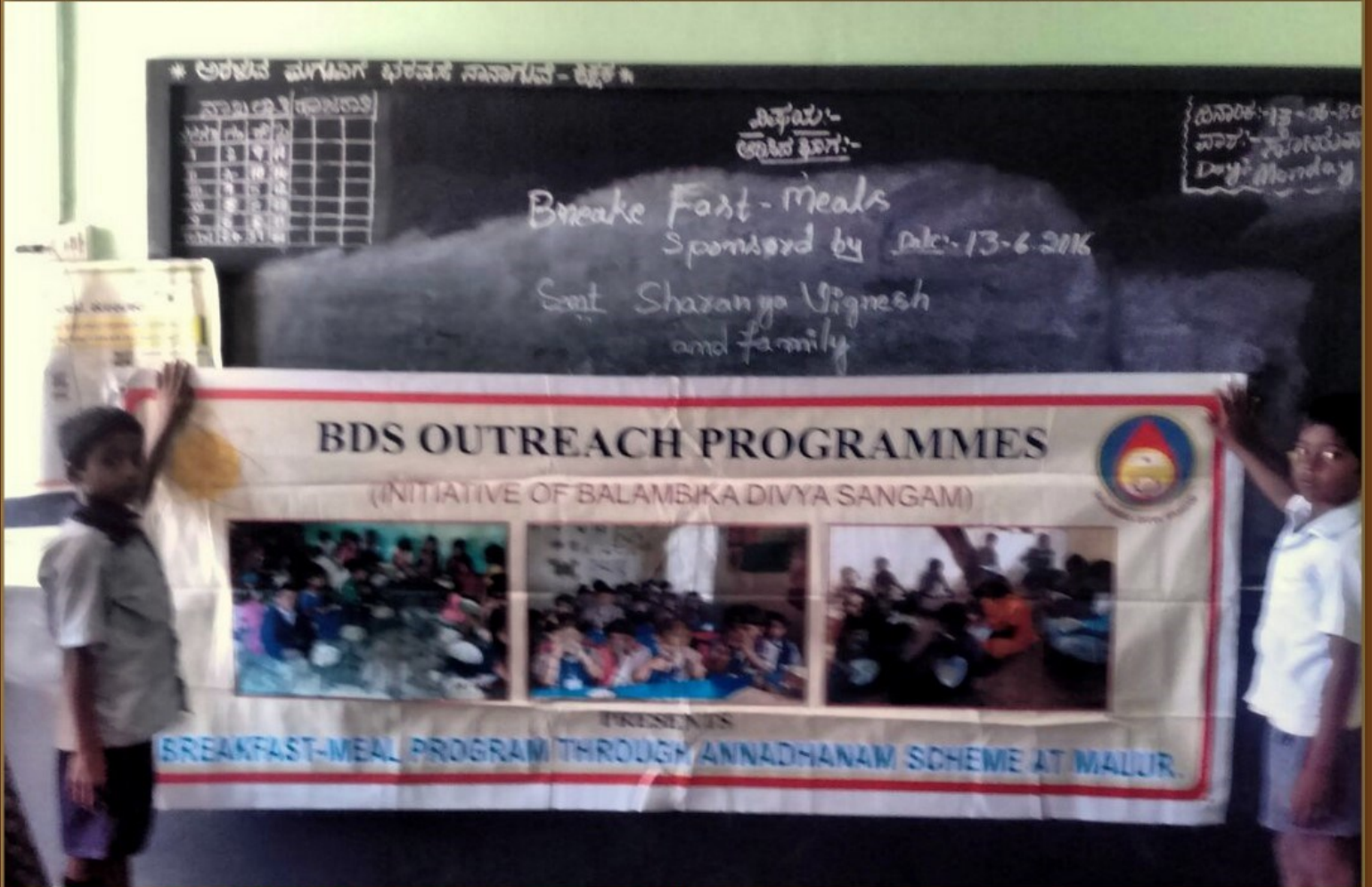




2016-06-11: Balambika Sanchara Dholai, Malur









# 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.

*māninī mādhavī mādhvī madarūpā madotkaṭā /  
ānanda kandā vijayā viśveśī viśvarūpiṇī //*

## Manini: A very proud Mother

Have you ever wondered what would make Ambal proud? She is very proud of YOU when you understand her words, and follow them. You need to become the source of Ambal's pride. How do you do that?

First learn to accept who you are, learn to being successful at being yourself.

1. Speak good things about yourself:

Tell yourself everyday "I am the righteousness of Ambal. She has accepted me. She loves me. She made me with Her own hands, Ambal doesn't make mistakes".

2. Avoid comparing yourself with others:

Ambal must love variety, or all of us wouldn't look so different. She has created each of us differently right down to our fingertips. We can look to certain people as good examples to follow, but even then, good traits if duplicated will manifest differently through our individual personalities.

3. Focus on your potential instead of your limitations:

Refuse to concentrate on your weaknesses except in an effort to turn them into strengths. Keep your flaws in perspective. Focus on your strengths instead of your weaknesses.

4. Learn to cope with criticism:

If you dare to be different, you'll have to expect some criticism. Going along with the crowd when you know in your heart that Ambal is leading you in a different direction is one of the reasons why you don't succeed at being yourself. You won't be comfortable in your own skin if you go against your own convictions.

Remember this: Ambal will never anoint you to be anyone other than yourself. Let now be your time to go forward and be set free from the torments of comparing yourself with others and trying to be someone you are not. Ambal is proud of who She made you to be!

## Madhavi: She is like the sacred basil

*"yan moole sarva tirthaam,  
yan nagre sarva devataa,  
yan madhye sarva vedaascha,*



*tulasi taam namaamyaham."*

Meaning:

I bow down to the tulasi at whose base are all the holy places, at whose top resides the deities and in whose middle are all the Vedas.

Here Ambal is compared because of tulasi plant's sacred qualities. Ambal is so sensitive that she understands our shortcomings, our weakness and is willing to help if we have the mind to accept and adapt.

Ambal is not separate from what she does. Everything she does speak of Her.

Her every action declares her name and nature. So prepare yourself to accept Her.

1. Trust in Ambal:

We all have problems trusting one another, and it is all the more difficult to put your trust in God. We all are Me-centric; turn that to God-centric

2. Surrender yourself:

Surrendering means waiting for God's timing without knowing when it will come. Trusting God's purpose without understanding the circumstances.

3. Accept Her:

Praying is a way to start a relationship with God. It is far more simpler than laying out facts about God. The very nature of praying will bring you closer to Her, then that intimacy will blossom into love, which will allow you to accept Her.

4. Remember to ask for Her guidance at all times.

5. Talk to Her in your own words. At least once in a way, let Her know that she is your Way, the truth and your life.

## **Madhvi: Her words are sweet as honey**

Ambal's words are as sweet as honey, because that is the truth.

A woman was washing her driveway when a little child walked over it with dirty shoes, the woman yelled at the child, hearing the shouting the husband came out and asked "I thought you liked children, why are you shouting at the child?"

The woman replied, "I like children in abstract, but dislike them when they are on my drive way".

Many of us are like that when it comes to spiritual truth. We like it when it is abstract, we keep talking about it but when we need to apply it in real life - we don't like it. It is like saying I like mankind but cannot stand its people.

Personal application of Ambal's truth must be the outcome of any spiritual inquest. So here are the basic 3 places where you can start applying Ambal's truth.

1. At home:

Learn to speak the truth to your family. This will instill confidence in them towards you. For example, you would have borrowed some money to meet the house expenses, many a time you don't want to tell them about it. When you start telling them,

A. they understand your financial situation and start cooperating with you to reduce the expenses.

B. you have been open and kind, which they will soon reciprocate if not immediately.

2. At work:

It is the simple basic sincerity and dedication to the work at hand. Whatever work is assigned to you, big or small, do it with sincerity and dedication. That is the spiritual truth required at work places.



### 3. Community service and temple service:

We think the phrase "Makkal sevai, is Maheshan sevai" is only for politicians. No, it is for everyone. Do little you can for the poor also. For example, for a little child on the road who is hungry and sick, you can buy fruits and and some food for the child. You find a old person on the road, see if you can help them in any way. Don't walk around as though it doesn't affect you. This is the absolute Ambal's truth before you.

## **Madarupa: Her form is inspirational**

Life is a journey; at times it is hard, frustrating and lonely.

We all need that spiritual encouragement from time to time. Ambal's form does just that. She sits on the lotus inspiring us to move forward.

So we need to understand the following:

#### 1. Pain is the part of life:

Many of us are afraid of our own truth, and it sometimes gives us pain. It is just a feeling, it is part of you, so stand up to feel the pain. Endure it, deal with it, don't run away from it. It will help you grow into a strong, wise and enduring person.

For example, if you having cancer - fight it, endure it, own the pain, stand up against it and win it. It will make you emerge stronger, wiser and help you understand that life is not all about money and wealth.

#### 2. Mindset:

Life isn't perfect, but it sure is good. Our goal is not to create a perfect life, but to live an imperfect life in radical amazement.

For example, get up in the morning, look around you instead of running straight to work, take in everything as though it is a special gift. To be spiritual is to be amazed in every way.

#### 3. Live in the present:

The present is all you really have to deal with. You cannot go back and correct things that you have done incorrectly. You have no idea what is in store for you in the future. What you have is today, and is what you have to work on, you can walk today and prepare for an idealized tomorrow. But it doesn't matter if it didn't turn out the way you wanted, so live today.

#### 4. There is always something to be thankful for:

Life is better when you are smiling. Be thankful for all the small things in life, because when you put them all together, you will see just how significant they are. At the end of the day, it is not happiness that makes you thankful, but thankfulness that makes you happy.

## **Madotkata: She is furious**

Ambal is described to be furious and deadly when Her children are affected by demons. It is difficult to understand Her grace in destructing the demons within us, without understanding Her law. The law which tells us how to live our lives.

The law of Ambal is like a mirror and when we look into the mirror we find smudges of dirt, we don't wipe the mirror to remove the dirt, because we know it is there on us , not in the mirror. Like that, Ambal's law reveals our shortcomings and our sins.



To help Ambal remove the sins and demons from within us - we need to,

1. Come to Her in truth and humility:

We can experience Her love and grace when we come to Her in all truth and humility. When we come to Her, she like all mothers would guide us how to live our life in this world with honesty and truthfulness.

2. Come to Her with faith:

We need to humble ourselves to receive Her blessings, for that we need to have faith in Her. We can tell Her we are falling short in areas like sharing, empathy, desires, selflessness and so on. She will meet us in that need with Her grace. Ambal is never demanding that we have to change ourselves, instead she just asks us to come to Her in all honesty and faith.

3. Believe in Her to receive Her love:

If you believe that Ambal loves you,

If you believe that she is trustworthy,

If you believe that Her kindness is sincere,

that will bring Her close to you. She will redeem you from your evil thoughts and actions, she will gain strength from you to fight battles with your sins, to devour your demons and help you conquer yourself from the worst of your enemies.

So surrender yourself today unto her.

## **Ananda: happiness**

Happiness is an attribute of Ambal's love. It has no limits, and yet the mind denies this fact. Many of us were taught to be afraid of Ambal. If so, then we are scared of Ambal's love and in turn scared of happiness - isn't it?

So stop thinking Ambal is fearful, and start emphasizing on the right thing, happiness is Ambal's love towards us. Trusting Ambal and her will for our lives, brings peace within us.

So there is only one place to look for happiness. It is in Ambal's love.

How can we have Her love and the happiness we are after?

1. Trust the knowledge of Ambal:

Ambal cares for humanity and plans to bring us into Her family which is filled with love. Knowing Her intention will help us understand Her ways, so knowing Her is very important for our Happiness.

2. Using Ambal's wisdom:

Wisdom is practically the application of Ambal's law on this this Earth. By following her law, we gain wisdom and that helps us to decide what is needed in our lives, which transforms itself into happiness.

3. Do not give up hope during troubled times:

Never lose hope when you are in trouble, because it is the beginning of the road to happiness where Ambal with all her love would rescue you, when you have shown courage and determination to overcome the trouble you have faced.

4. Learn to face difficulties:

When you face your difficulties it helps you develop inner strength and courage to face life in a new light and that strength is what Ambal is looking for in each one of us. "Never say you can't, say you can!!!"



## **Kanda: it means stem of the devotee's spiritual life**

Ambal is the stem of our life. She gives us a structure to our spiritual life. Her doctrines or teachings form the layers which will help us during troubled times.

So what are the teachings which will help us sail through troubles?

1. Don't be afraid:

Look at trouble in the eye, face the situation with all your might. Troubles are scared of truth, so here we are "the truth", ready to defy it, be aggressive and face it.

2. Stop compulsive worrying:

Most of us start our day by recollecting what we are worrying about the previous day. You can stop this by just living in the present.

3. Don't chase happiness:

When you were a student, you believed getting admissions into a good college will make you happy. In college, you believed if you get a good job, you will be happy. When you got a job, you believed getting a promotion and a raise will make you happy. Happiness eludes you every time. Have you wondered why?

4. Don't try to control situations:

The only thing in your control is your attitude and your reaction to situations, not the situations by themselves.

5. Accept you have limitations:

Everyone has their own limitations. So figure out what your limitations are. It could be economical, intellectual, physical etc., Understand it, accept it, and turn that as your strength. Don't be scared to face failures. Failure does not mean you are broken, it simply means you are courageous to dare.

## **Vijaya: the One who brings victory**

Ambal is a sign of victory. With Ambal by your side, victory is not far behind.

So here are a few steps you can take to emerge victorious in life,

1. Realize your achievement is in Ambal:

With Ambal by your side, all things are possible. Understand your achievement in life is what Ambal wanted you to have. Proclaim your achievement as an act of Ambal; every step you take is given to you by Ambal. Take pleasure in submitting yourself to Her because she guides us to the path that is suitable for you. It is a unique path that she has chosen just for you. Realize you are very special to Her.

2. Do not be envious of others:

Do not worry or be jealous of others. It is not going to help you, it will make you unhappy and depressed. Look to Ambal and thank her for what you already have. Your focus should be on Ambal and not on outside circumstances.

3. Commit your ways to Her:

Hand over all your concerns into the hands of the holy Mother. She will prove your innocence, support you and protect you. Lift you from sinking situations and let you shine.



#### 4. Wait patiently:

Cultivate calmness within you, believe that Ambal can solve your problems. Meditate on Her, it will take the stress out of your life, your problems will get solved, not the way you wanted it, but the way it should be.

#### 5. Refrain from anger:

Anger is a killer. You will lose control and act foolishly, in the process losing friends and making more enemies easily. So be patient and let Ambal handle things for you. Remember it is not your battle, it is Hers.

This dear friends is a way to a victorious life together with Ambal which brings everlasting happiness and joy into your lives.

### **Visvesi: goddess of the Universe**

Ambal is the sovereign leader of this Universe. She controls all animate and inanimate alike. She is not required at any time, to give any person, any explanation for anything she says or does. She is the super power above all powers in every area of Her creation.

Let us try to understand Her better by,

#### 1. Knowing her plans for your life:

For starters, to understand her plans for you, learn to walk with Her. You might ask how? You must seek to know Her and not to seek to know about Her.

#### 2. Getting committed to Her will:

When you get committed to her will, she reveals the beautiful life she has planned for you. Ambal doesn't wave her magic wand, but reveals magical things.

#### 3. Listening to your conscience:

Your conscience is the one that connects you and Her. It is tuned and wired to receive Her message and convey to you. So listen and you will understand Ambal's ways laid out for you.

#### 4. Taking a good look at your circumstances:

Ambal clearly demonstrates her plan by lining up the circumstances in obvious ways. It is not Her will for you to take the job that is not offered to you, she is pretty good at opening and closing doors. She closes one door and opens another filled with fantastic opportunities. So understand what she can do and what you can do, that will bring hope and happiness into your life.

### **Visvarupini: all pervading form**

Ambal exists everywhere; she is diffused throughout this Universe, making trees, rocks, animals, stars and people are all part of Her.

She is also inside you. She understands you, she feels for you and wants to help you.

So here are the ways that Ambal can help you,

#### 1. When you face an unusually hard day:

Ambal sees you and helps you when you have had a rough day. She provides the hope that is needed and helps you to regain your strength. She provides you with a hope for living the next day.



## 2. When you are insecure and frustrated:

Ambal is your guiding light, when the life circumstances makes you very insecure and frustrated, she is there right beside you, placing her loving hands on your shoulders to comfort you, make you feel loved. Remember to think that she is your refuge, in Her you can confide your deepest thoughts and the ugliest of your actions.

## 3. When you are weary and tired:

She is your mother, she understands your burden, she gives you a helping hand when you are weary and tired. She wants you to trust her for She is ever pervading and loving.

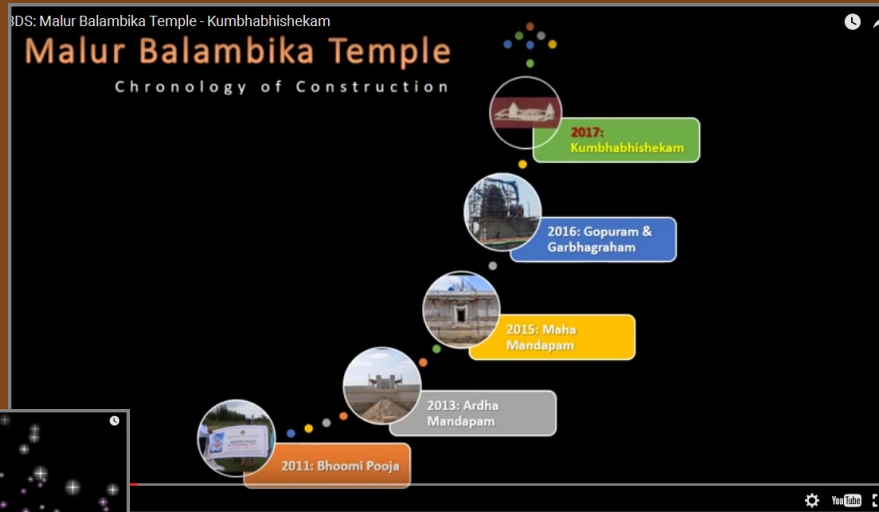
## 4. When you are feeling discouraged:

Struggles in life are inevitable, remember that your character should always be stronger than your circumstances. She is always standing by you during such times. We cannot control what happens to us, but we can control how we choose to respond to it. Ambal helps you to stay positive during hard times, so stay positive for the tide to turn your way.

**Bala Sahasranamam on Website, Facebook and YouTube**







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/IK6VZZYuDcl>



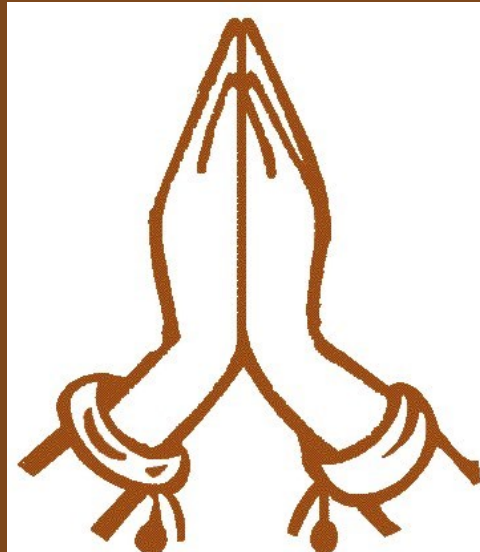
## BDS: Upcoming Events...

<b>Fri Jun 17</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> ☐
<b>Mon Jun 20</b>	10:00am – 10:45am 4:00pm – 7:00pm	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI NITHYA SUNDARESHWARAR AND SRI ANNAPOORNESHWARI</b> - Bala's house ☐ ⊕ <b>POURNAMI POOJA</b> - Malur, Karnataka 563130, India
<b>Tue Jun 21</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI SIDDHI VINAYAGAR</b> ☐
<b>Fri Jun 24</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> ☐
<b>Mon Jun 27</b>	10:00am – 10:45am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI NITHYA SUNDARESHWARAR AND SRI ANNAPOORNESHWARI</b> - Bala's house ☐
<b>Tue Jun 28</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI SIDDHI VINAYAGAR</b> ☐
<b>Fri Jul 1</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> ☐
<b>Sat Jul 2</b>	5:00pm – 7:00pm 8:00am – 11:30am	⊕ <b>VELLAKKU POOJAI</b> - Malur, Karnataka 563130, India ⊕ <b>GANAPATHI HOMAM &amp; BALATIRUPURASUNDARI HOMAM</b> - Malur, Karnataka 563130, India
<b>Sun Jul 3</b>	7:30am – 1:00pm	⊕ <b>CHANDI HOMAM and ANNADHANAM</b> - Malur, Karnataka 563130, India
<b>Mon Jul 4</b>	10:00am – 10:45am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI NITHYA SUNDARESHWARAR AND SRI ANNAPOORNESHWARI</b> - Bala's house ☐
<b>Tue Jul 5</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI SIDDHI VINAYAGAR</b> ☐
<b>Fri Jul 8</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> ☐
<b>Mon Jul 11</b>	10:00am – 10:45am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI NITHYA SUNDARESHWARAR AND SRI ANNAPOORNESHWARI</b> - Bala's house ☐
<b>Tue Jul 12</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI SIDDHI VINAYAGAR</b> ☐
<b>Fri Jul 15</b>	10:00am – 11:00am	⊕ <b>ABISHEKAM FOR SRI BALAMBIKA AND SRI MAHALAKSHMI</b> ☐



## Thanking the Sponsors for Bala's Birthday and Pournami Pooja

#	Name of the Person or Family	Event Sponsored
1	Sharanya Vignesh & family	Dholai and Cake
2	PS Vijay & family	Pournami Pooja and Abhishekam
3	Srinivasan Chakravarthy & family	Ambal Paavadai
4	Mylarasi Kannan & family	Abhishekam, Prasadam, Pournami Pooja and Sumangali Pooja
5	Chandra & family	Birthday Celebrations
6	Padma Srinivasan & family	Birthday Celebrations
7	Ambika Aravind & family	Ambal Paavadai
8	Harini Karthik & Lavanya Karthik	Prasadam
9	K Srinivasan	Birthday Celebrations
10	Ranganathan & family	Abhishekam, Ambal Paavadai
11	Shashikala & family	Ambal Paavadai
12	Vivek Raman & family	Birthday Celebrations
13	Senthil Kumar	Abhishekam
14	Chandrashekar	Pournami Pooja, Birthday Celebrations
15	Vani Muralidharan & family	Dampatti/Kanya/Sumangali Pooja, Birthday Celebrations
16	Priya Kasturi & family	Kanya Pooja
17	Lakshmi Ammal	Birthday Celebrations
18	Chitra & family	Birthday Celebrations



## 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)

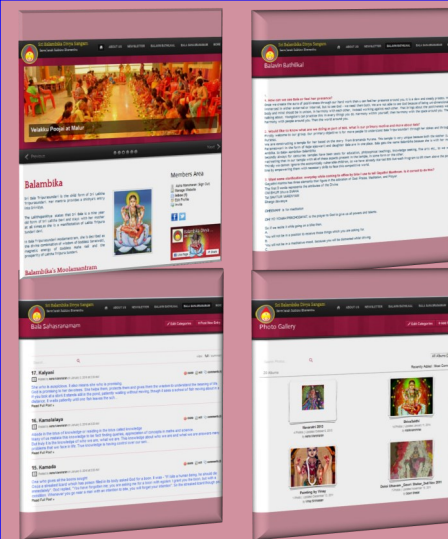
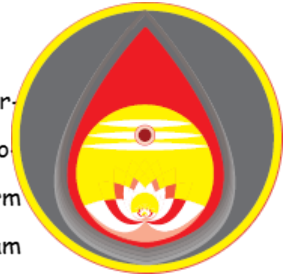
### BDS Outreach:

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 Bathilka, 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

Srinivas  
Mukundhan  
Sanjana  
Srinivasan & Anuradha  
Kanchana  
Gayathri Hariharan

## Sponsor's Corner

### Temple Donation

Ranganathan & family  
Shashikala & family  
Priya & family

### Sanchara Dholai Sponsors

Ramesh & family  
Babu & family