

Balambika Divya Sangam

Balavin Kural

BDS Events

Bala Sahasranamam

Parayanam:

Mythili Sundararajan's residence, Bangalore, India

◆ myyasundar@gmail.com

Chakravarthy's residence, Ohio, USA.

◆ 95chikki@gmail.com

Anuradha Srinivasan's residence, Chicago, USA

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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 Smt. Asha Manoharan

◆ asha.raji@gmail.com

Annadanam and Milk Scheme:

Annadanam and serving of milk to nursery children, is performed at Modern English School, Malur.

Those who are interested in contributing towards this cause, please contact

Smt. Asha Manoharan

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Editor's Desk...

During one of my classes we happen to discuss about gnana and atma Gnana. Any knowledge that takes place in the intellect - be it the knowledge of mathematics, economics or physics is called gnana. This can be extended to atma gnana as well. Knowing the atma, its working and understanding, the sukshma is also gnana because atma gnana also takes place in the intellect. Whenever the intellect is involved, logic or reasoning is involved. Without logic the intellect will not be convinced because reasoning is the only language the intellect can understand. So self-knowledge requires the intellect and reasoning - buddhi and tarka. But a serious problem arises here. How can we say that spiritual knowledge depends upon buddhi and tarka when we have been reading that atma is beyond buddhi and reason? The Vedas assert that the mind (meaning intellect) does not know the atma, which means atma does not involve the buddhi. So it is clearly non intellectual knowledge. Yet we are saying that atma gnana requires the buddhi and reasoning. Sankaracharya very clearly and beautifully resolves this confusion in his commentary on the Brahma Sutras. Both buddhi and reasoning are of two types - the buddhi and reasoning that is based on perceptual (non scriptural) data and the buddhi and reasoning that is backed by scriptural data. Sankaracharya says: (not only in this commentary but in his other works also) "that whenever we say atma is beyond the buddhi or atma gnana is beyond the buddhi, it means it is beyond non scripture-backed buddhi". So we do require a buddhi or intellect to know the atma. And what type of buddhi is it? It is scripture-backed buddhi. In his commentary on the Bhagavad Gita, He says in the second chapter, that the only instrument that can give atma gnana, is the buddhi. The Upanishads also point out that with the help of the mind alone must atma gnana be gained. This subtle atma has to be known by the buddhi alone.



Mrs. Asha Manoharan
President of Balambika Divya Sangam

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Bala Speaks

The biggest lesson that life teaches you is adaptation. When presented with new a life situation you feel very uneasy and uncomfortable. You want to revert that situation instead of getting adapted. You should adapt yourself like water. Look at the river that flows, it flows through mountains, plains and plateaus. It never stops flowing because it is uncomfortable. It makes effort to remove its obstacles if not it goes around it, but it never stops. So be wise and adapt yourself to the needs of nature and circumstances, as water molds itself to the pitcher.

Schedule of Events

- ◆ Mon—Fri all working days—Milk distribution at Modern English School—Malur

[MARCH 2014]

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5 Panchami	6	7	8
9 Devi Bhagavat-	10	11	12	13	14 Karada-yan Nombu	15
16	17	18 Bala Abhishekam	19	20	21 Bala Abhishekam	22
23 Devi Bhagavat-	24	25 Bala Abhishekam	26	27	28 Bala Abhishekam	29
30	31					

[APRIL 2014]

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Bala Abhishekam	2	3	4 Bala Abhishekam	5
6 Devi Bhagavat-ham	7	8 Bala Abhishekam	9	10	11 Bala Abhishekam	12
13	14	15 Bala Abhishekam	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Siddhar Tharesanam: Sundaranandar Siddhar

Sundaranandar is the disciple of Siddhar Sattamuni. It is believed that he got a Siva Lingam from Siddhar Agasthiar, established it in Saduragiri and worshipped it.

For thousands of years, well known sages and *siddhars* lived near Saduragiri, worshipping the Siva Linga called "*Sundara Mahalingam*". This mountain shrine is considered a dwelling place of *siddhars*. This can also be attributed to the numerous medicinal plants available here. There is also a cave called "Thavasi Parai". Sundaranandar and his Guru Sattamuni lived there.

Siddhar Bogar sings about Sundaranandar in songs 5828 and 5829 in his book "*Bogar 7000*". He says that Sundaranandar was an expert in space travel and *samadhi yoga*. In songs 5920 and 5921, Bogar says that Sundaranandar was born during the Tamil month of *Aavani* (August - September) on the star *Revathi* (3rd part). He is the grand son of Navakanda Rishi living in the Kishkinta hills and that he belonged to *Agamudayar* (*Thevar*) class.



Sri Sundaranandar

Temples, Shiva, Ambal and more...

At Mahalakshminathar temple -Tirunindriyur, Ambal is known as Loganayagi and Shiva is known as Mahalakshminathar, Jamadhakneesar and Parikeswarar. Noted saints and poets like Sambandar, Thirunaavakaarasar and Sundarar, have sung songs about this place, Ambal and Lord Shiva. This temple is situated on the Sirkazhi- Mayildathurai Road in Tamil Nadu. Parusuramar and Mahalakshmi are believed to have worshipped Lord Shiva here.



Om and its meaning...

Bhutam bhavad—bhavisyad—iti sarvam Omkara eva (Mandukyopanisad)

"What had happened before , what is now and what will be later— everything is just Om."

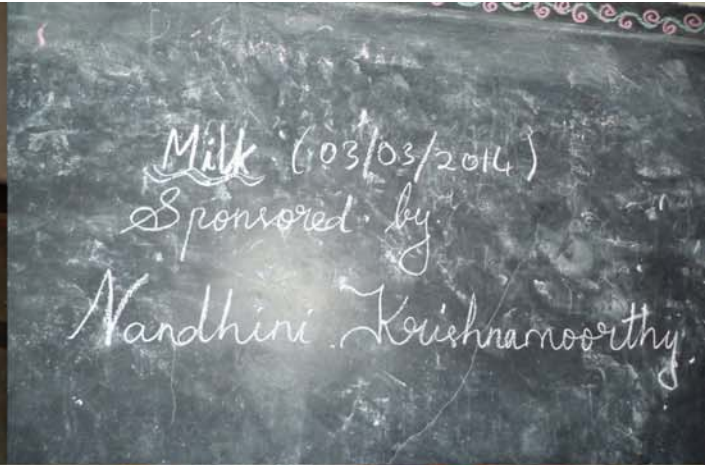
Vedas explain Om to be made up of three parts. There is 'a' plus 'u' and 'm'. 'a' is a vowel and 'u' is also a vowel and 'm' is a consonant. Thus 'a'+ 'u' = O and 'm' together makes it Om. The letter 'a' stands for the entire physical world that you experience, 'u' is the thought world- your imagination; 'm' is your experience in deep sleep.

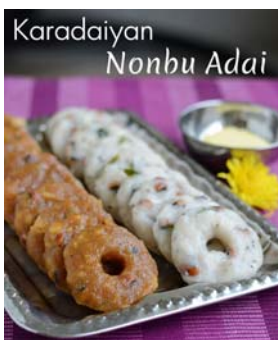












Karadaiyan adai is prepared with rice flour, jaggery and karamani.

Karadaiyan Nombu or Savithri Vratam should be done exactly at the time when Tamil month Masi ends, and the next month Panguni starts.

Karadayan Nombu...

Karadayan Nombu or Savithri Vratam should be done exactly at the time when Tamil month Masi ends, and the next month Panguni starts.

The recipe for this *nombu* is sweet *payasam* and *karadayan adai*. This *adai* is prepared with rice flour, jaggery and *karamani*. During the *pooja*, a banana leaf is laid out in the *pooja* room with a colourful *rangoli* and one *karadaiyan adai*, a blob of fresh butter, two bananas, *arali* flowers, betel leaves and nuts, and the most important *Nonbu Charadu*. *Nonbu Charadu* or *Manjal Saradu* is a sacred yellow cotton thread dipped in turmeric paste and tied in the middle with some flower. The puja starts and the *naivedyam* is offered to Goddess Gowri (Kamakshi) or Goddess Shakti. While offering, the women chant this mantra:

"Urugada Vennaiyum Oradaiyum Naan Tharuven

Orukaalum En Kanavar Ennai Piriyadirukkanum."

After performing the *pooja* the *Nonbu Charadu* is tied around the neck. While wearing the *Nombu Charadu*, the following sloka is to be chanted.

"Throram Krishnami Subhake Saharithamdharami Aham

Bharthuyayushya Sidhartham Supreethabhava Sarvadha."

Date : 14.03.2014

Fasting: 06:22:34 to 17:41:41

Manjal Saradu Muhurtham = 17:41:41

Acharya Charaka...



Maharishi Charak
Author of the Charaka Samhita

Acharya Charaka (600BCE) has been crowned as the Father of Medicine. His renowned work, the "Charak Samhita", is considered as an encyclopedia of Ayurveda. Acharya Charaka revealed through his innate genius and enquiries the facts on human anatomy, embryology, pharmacology, blood circulation and diseases like diabetes, tuberculosis, heart disease, etc. In the "Charak Samhita" he has described the medicinal qualities and functions of 100,000 herbal plants. He has emphasized the influence of diet and activity on mind and body. He has proved that the correlation of spirituality and physical health contributed greatly to diagnostic and curative sciences. He has also prescribed an ethical charter for medical practitioners two centuries prior to the Hippocratic oath.

Bala Prastha

A demon named Tripura performed a long and difficult *tapasya* and was granted a boon by Brahma. This boon made him very powerful and he conquered heaven. When the gods were driven out of heaven, they were helpless and went to Brahma for help. Brahma did not know how to solve the problem and sent them to Shiva. Shiva decided to help the gods, and went to fight with Tripura. He killed him with an arrow. But while he was fighting a few drops of perspiration from his body fell on earth. Rudraksha plants grew in the places where the drops fell. The seed of the Rudraksha plant has a lot of religious significance. It is believed that counting the Rudraksha beads while chanting Shiva's mantra cleanses a person of sin.



Riddles

1. If I have it, I don't share it. If I share it, I don't have it. What is it?
Answer: A Secret.
2. What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?
Answer: A palm!
3. They come out at night without being called, and are lost in the day without being stolen. What are they?
Answer: Stars!
4. You use a knife to chop off my head
And weep beside me once I am dead.
Answer: Onion



Unforgettable proverbs

1. Something done at the wrong time should be regarded as not done.
2. Faith keeps the world going.
3. Where the needle goes, the thread follows.
4. Advice sharpens a rusty opinion.
5. Better to have a diamond with a few small flaws than a rock that is perfect.









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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.

Sarve Janah Sukhino Bhavanthu

We are on the Web!

<http://balambikathirupanitrust.webs.com/>

We thanks our Sponsors!

Archana Contributions:

1. Natarajan
2. Bharath Bhushan
3. Rohit & Rekha Joshi
4. Trishtaa
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6. Zeel
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8. Suresh & Vijaya Devarajan
9. Parthasarathy Sridharan
10. Saroja Narayanan
11. Srinivasan Chakravarthy
12. Sudarshan Chakravarthy
13. Murali Chakravarthy

Pooja Items—Bala's House:

1. Vasanthi
2. Lakshmi V
3. Roopa V
4. Banumathi
5. Jayalakshmi A
6. Sowmya Ganesh
7. Gowri Shekar
8. Radhika Venkat
9. Shashikala V
10. Thothadri
11. Bhuvana K
12. Lalitha R
13. Purnima Prasad
14. Indumathi Sundar
15. Usha Srikanth
16. Muralidharan & family

Annadhanam & Milk Scheme:

1. Ananth Narasimhan
2. Nandhini Krishnamoorthy



1. **Balaji**
2. **Senthil**