



Balavin Kural

BALAMBIKA DIVYA SANGAM
ISSUE 4 AUGUST 2011 NEWSLETTER

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TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

- Draft of the Balambika Divya Sangam trust deed has been created by the lawyer.
- Appropriate legal fees have been paid to the lawyer.
- The website design for Malur Sri Balambika Temple is close to completion.
- Fund raising committee is designing a banner for display at the Malur temple site.

Bala speaks

Devi says: " He whose heart is purified and who is free from Sankalpa and Vikalpa (doubt and mental phenomena), knows It and Its glory and is free from sorrows and troubles. Know this Atman and the Buddhi as the charioteer, the body as the chariot, and the mind as the reins. The senses and their organs are the objects and the horses and the objects of enjoyments are the aims."

Lalitha Homam details:

Preparations and festivities are ongoing for the Lalitha Homam. For more information regarding timing and venue please refer to the time table.

Upcoming religious events:

Sahasranamam recitals are conducted every month.

Next Lalitha Sahasranamam *parayanam* is scheduled on September 12th at Anu Srinivasan's residence.

Contact: asriniv65@gmail.com

Next Bala Sahasranamam *parayanam* is scheduled on September 3rd at Bala's residence.

Contact: myyasundar@gmail.com

2011 Lalitha Homam and Temple Festivities

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Name of the event</i>
21 August 2011	5:00PM — 8:00PM	Indiranagar	Cultural events
22 August 2011	9:00AM – 12:00 Noon	Koramangala	Anignyai Ganapathy Homam Ashtadashakriyai
22 Aug 2011	5:00PM—7:00PM	Koramangala	Vaastu Shanti Mridashankarahanam Ankuraarpanam Nashabandhanam
22 Aug 2011	7:00PM – 8:30PM	Koramangala	Deepa Poojai
23 Aug 2011	9:00AM -12:00 Noon	Koramangala	Lalitha Homam Poojai
23 Aug 2011	5:00PM—9:00PM	Koramangala	Ambal Prathishta Poojai Mudal Kaala Poojai
23 Aug 2011	5:00PM—9:00PM	Malur	Bali Poojai
24 Aug 2011	6:00AM - 7:30AM	Koramangala	Bala Tripurasundari Homam Ambal Prathishta Poojai Rendaam Kaala Poojai
24 Aug 2011	7:00AM	Malur	Ganapathy Homam Navagraha Homam Sangusthapanam



Much thanks to

Archana Contribution

Rukmani Chakravarthy
Vivek Raman
Ramesh Chakravarthy
Akhilesh

Flower & Oil Donation

Mrs. Jayalakshmi Ananthakrishnan
Mrs. Sowmya Ganesh
Mrs. Bhuvana Krishnaswamy
Mr. Raghuraman
Mrs. Purnima Prasad
Mrs. Indumathi Sundar

Souvenirs & Advertisements

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the contributors for the Lalitha Homam, sponsors for the souvenir, and to the advertisers and patrons. We welcome each and everyone to the much awaited Lalitha Homam, and look forward to seeing one and all.

Wish list & Volunteer needs

If you would like to participate, contribute or require more details please contact us via email or web-site*

Contribution can be made in cash/cheque/DD/online transfer etc. For complete details do email us.

Balavin Pathala Krishnar

It was summer vacation. Mala was enjoying her holidays in her usual style. Bala was there with her everyday. They had a small toy house built and both of them played in it for hours. Bala had her own route to come on to the terrace. The houses were all lined up closely together one after another with no wall separation. Even if there were one it was small and the crossing over was much easier. She just went from one end to the other end very easily.

Almost everyday she was there before Mala. Mala took her breakfast of 'idli' and 'chutney' up to the terrace and had it along with Bala. They had fun together all day long and Bala brought 'Knowgu' (it is a palm fruit available only in summer) and they shared them. It was one such morning when Mala went upstairs and didn't find Bala. Mala sat there and looked at the toys that were lying all over the place. She was in no mood to put them in the basket. She looked lazily at the clouds, when she remembered Bala telling her that if she wanted her to come she could tell the clouds and they would take the message and convey it to her. Mala saw a snowy white cloud just above her; she waved to the cloud and said, "Hey, beautiful cloudie will you tell Bala that I am waiting for her?" The cloud moved swiftly and Mala waited. She heard a noise behind her; she turned and there was Bala. Mala chuckled and asked Bala if the clouds told her that she was waiting for her. Bala nodded yes. Bala stopped for a moment, turned around and asked Mala if they can go to the Krishnar Sannathi. Mala said, "Why not come let's go. Oh! I didn't have my bath. I will go and have my bath and will be ready in 10 minutes. Is that ok?" Bala nodded yes. "I will meet you at the end of the road." saying which she disappeared.

Mala went downstairs, told her mom that she wanted to go to the temple, ran to the bathroom to have her bath and her mom shouted back that she should not go alone. Mala opened her bathroom door and said "Amma, I am going with my friend." Her mother muttered something, which Mala never bothered to listen. She quickly had her bath and got dressed. She combed her hair; Sarasu Aunty had given her some flowers the previous day, she quickly pinned it to her hair, and took some for Bala. Both of them loved jasmine and the red 'kanakambharam'. The flowers had a combination about it and looked so beautiful. Mala had long hair, so she preferred a double plait and at the end she just left it without a ribbon and it didn't open out since her hair was quite curly. She just plaited them quickly and dashed to the slipper rack for her slippers and opened the door and quickly closed it behind her.

She walked quickly down the streets. It was a little bit crowded. There were

people cleaning their front entrance, a ritual which is followed and done every morning. As they did so, they would stand and talk to their neighbours. It was a vibrant neighbourhood with everyone knowing each other and their were children playing in the middle of the road without the fear of cyclists. Raju the vegetable vendor was selling vegetables with his cart in the middle of the road and there were few ladies standing around him bargaining with him. He loved the bargaining. He would start with 50p per kilo for tomato and would end up selling for 10p per kilo. Raju stopped his bargaining and shouted out to Mala, "Are you going to the market Mala? I told amma that I will get her carrots." Mala said, "No Raju Anna. I am going to the temple. Amma is waiting for you." "Ok...Ok. I am on my way," he said and continued his bargaining with the ladies. Mala passed Mani Vathiyar's house and Lo! Ambujam Patti was there. If she started talking she would never stop. So Mala turned the other way and moved on. Ambujam Patti called out behind her, "Mala, where are you going? Come here." Mala turned to her and said, "Patti, I am going to the temple, 'manjakappu sevai' will be over. I will come back and talk to you." Then she started running down the road. Ambujam patti was a woman of around 75 years; she was Mani Vathiyar's 'Athai'. She lived in their house since she didn't have any other relatives. She was quite a stocky woman and very sharp; she observed everyone walking past her and engaged them in conversation; she had to know what everyone was upto, but she was very kind to children and often invited them for all the festivals and gave them 'sundal' and 'paruppu thenkai' which is very tasty. Today Mala didn't have time to stop by and talk to Patti. Ambujam Patti liked Mala for some reason and so Mala always stopped by to talk to her which is why Patti was perplexed when Mala didn't stop to say a "Hi" to her, but nevertheless she called out behind her, "Get some 'prasadam' when you come." Mala nodded her head and ran.

At the end of the road, Bala was waiting for her near the well. Mala ran up to her panting. "What happened? Why did you come running? Are the dogs chasing you?" Bala teased her. "No. Worse than that! Ambujam Patti caught me!" Together they laughed and started walking. Mala told her how she escaped from everyone and told her about each one of them. Both of them laughed as Mala narrated. Bala put her hand on Mala's shoulders and together they walked. They walked down East Chitra Street and through the morning market and entered Pattabiraman Street. The crowd here was thinning out because it was a more residential area. The houses here were quite big. Among the line of houses was the Agobala Mutt and its boarding houses for pilgrims. They crossed the Chithamani Super Market and down South Chitra Street. The street here was quite broad because during the Chitrai Month, the temple would have its Car Festival. Huge crowds would be there during that period, but today it was empty with few people around. Mala and Bala moved towards the west and after walking for quite a while Bala turned left. It was the Kadaitheru — the two sides were lined with shops. It was quite early, so not many shops were open. Bala stopped before a small temple. It was Pathala Krishnar Sannathi.

Bala stopped and said, "Do you know the significance and the ritual followed here?" Mala shook her head. Bala said, "Namperumal comes in procession from the sanctum sanctorum to the Sri Pandaram on the Panchrathra SriJayanthi day. Namperumal moves to the temple kitchen (madapalli) itself to have first hand information of Appam, Seedai, Murukku etc. At Sri Pandaram, Thirumannjanam is performed while Araiyaar would be reciting Periyazhavar Thirumozhi. It is Periyazhavar who in his Periyazhavar Thirumozhi brings out Krishna's pranks from the time of incarnation. Hence Araiyaar 's recitation of Periyazhavar Thirumozhi. In the night Krishna's Vighraha in the Kannan Sannathi will be given milk in a white conch. This temple of Krishna was built in the year 1232 by Uma Devi, the queen of Veera Vallabadeva. The donor lived in the time of Narahari Bhupala known as Veera Narasimhall, a Hoysala King. The Hoysalas were camping at Kannanur now called Samayapuram and were assisting the Cholas who were very weak then and were guarding them from any possible attack from the Pandiyas. This was named Tirukkuzhaluudina pillai (Krishna). She created endowments to offer to Krishna curd and ghee in pots with special cakes everyday. As far as this place is concerned this is the third Vibuthi not fitting into Leelavibuthi or

Nithyavibuthi .” Mala quickly said, “I was here for Sri Jayathi Bala. Krishna moves around the streets in a Pallaku and drops of gingely oil is offered to all of us, and they call it 'Yennaivilayattu'. Then Ranganatha with his consorts moves on a procession to Yadava Mandapam near Thirumanjana Cauveri. In the evening Namperumal is adorned with 'Kilimalai' (a garland with lot of of parrots made out of green leaves).” Bala said, “He wears this Kilimalai, and he wears this occasionally only, like Vaikunta Ekadasi day.” “Yes”, replied Mala. “The Sathatha Vaishnavas who hold the hereditary rights offer this type of garland and in return are offered a ride in the temple elephant.” Bala continued, “In the evening Krishna will be leading the procession followed by Namperumal with Upayanaachimars. After going around the Chitra Streets the procession will reach southern entrance near Pathala Krishnan Sannathi where Lord Krishna will break the pots containing milk, curd and turmeric water. This is called 'Uriyadi'. After this, Namperumal and Lord Krishna will reach the sanctum sanctorum. Namperumal will order through the utterances of Sthanika to leave the sathhani at his house in the temple elephant as an honour.”

Mala said, “It is really very nice to watch! “Do you like being here?” Bala asked. Mala said, “Yes, why do you ask?” Bala said do not miss these festivals and its traditions. You will need them anyway, a thing to cherish, saying which, she opened the small door, sat in front and closed her eyes. Mala stood just behind Bala, wondering why Bala had become very serious. Mala really could not understand Bala. She sighed and closed her eyes. Her mother had taught her Krishna Astangam. She said the first verse, and opened her eyes. To her astonishment, the Krishnar which used to be 5 feet below the ground had risen up to the surface! Mala was always very scared to look down fearing that she might fall into it, but today to her surprise the Krishnar had come up! Bala offered butter and 'pongal' to Krishnar, lighted the lamp, showed 'arathi' and turned around to give 'arathi' to Mala. Mala by now was used to Bala's ways, so she didn't ask her anything, and took the 'arathi'. Bala got up and after that the Krishnar went down slowly. Bala closed the door, turned around to Mala and said, “Shall we go?”, as though nothing had happened. Mala nodded and both the girls turned around and Mala saw that no one had seen what had just happened. Bala never spoke a word about it, gave Mala the 'prasadam'. Mala was hungry by now, so she took it from her gratefully. Both of them walked quietly for some time, each one lost in their own thoughts.....

Leelaikal Thodarum.....

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