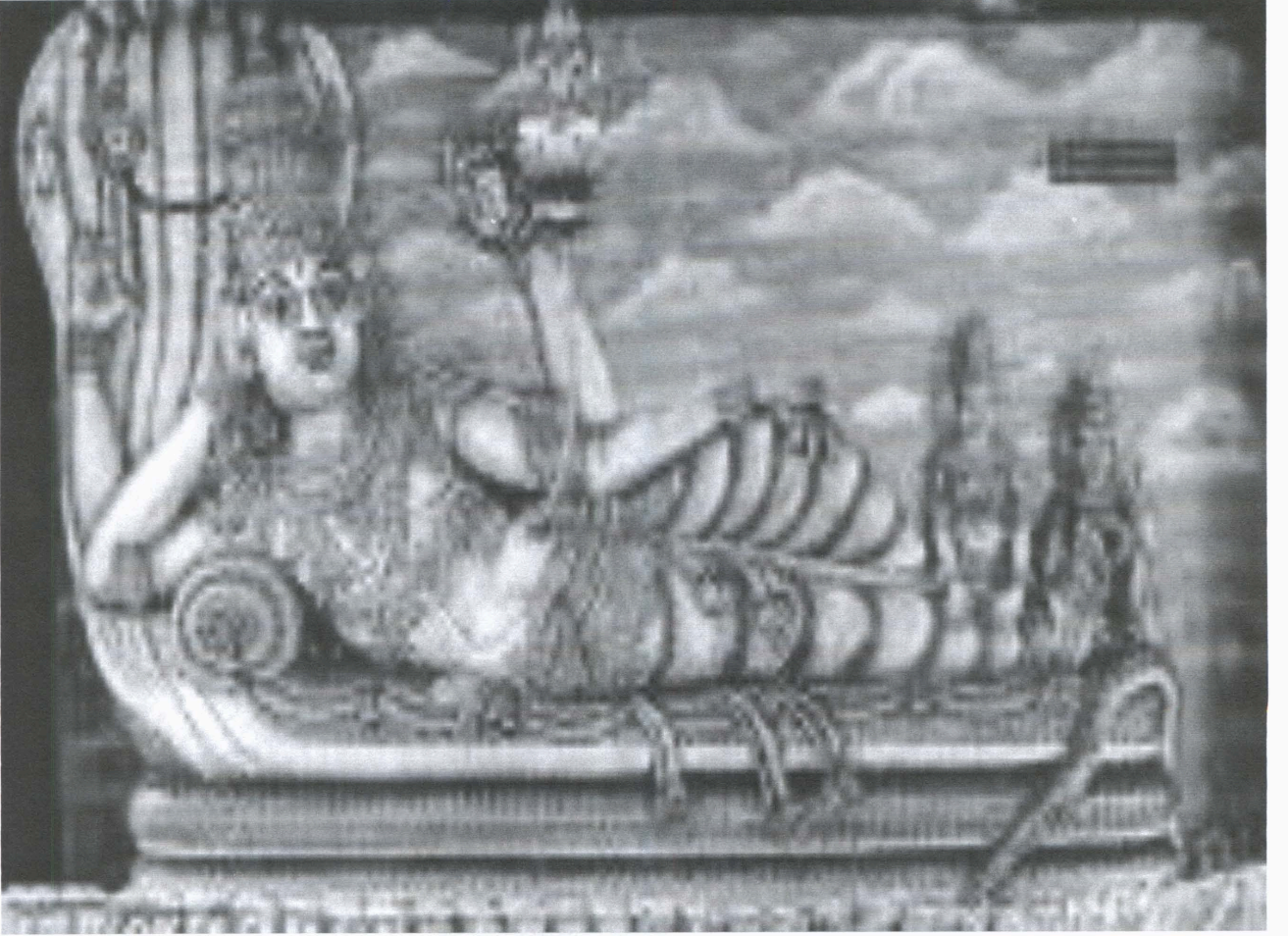


Path to Dharma

தர்ம நெறி (Dharma Neri)

53



Sri Sankar Publications

Kshethra Vinayaka Temple, Sri Munneswaram, Chilaw, Sri Lanka.
கேஷத்திர (வயல்) விநாயக ஆலயம், ஸ்ரீ முன்னேஸ்வரம், சிலாபம், ஸ்ரீ லங்கா.

Author - B.S.Sarma
hot mail; kshethravinayaka@yahoo.com; kshethravinayaka5@gmail.com

May 2012 மே (சித்திரை/வைகாசி)



Editorial.

'Path to Dharma' the monthly publication, published by Kshethra Vinayaka Temple, Sri Munneswaram, Chilaw, Sri Lanka, is presenting the 53rd issue this month. The primary objective of this magazine is to communicate the concepts related to Hinduism and its ceremonial rituals, customs and dharma, to the anxious readers.

The elucidation and investigation from the readers are appreciated.

B.S.Sarma,
Kshethra Vinayaka Temple,
Sri Munneswaram, Chilaw, Sri Lanka. May, 2012

Dear Sarma,

You are doing an excellent service. The theme of the article dealt in the last (April) issue is an outstanding commentary. All these are very much useful for all of us. Thanks very much.

With kind regards,

Balagurusamy Sarma Gopalakrishnan, U.K

Dear Sarma,
'Path to Dharma'

The April, 2012 issue of Dharma Neri was captivating with invigorating illustrations. The narration of the story starting with selection of a site ending with kumbabhishekam of the temple at Rockbank was moving with its many-sided details.

Thanks to you.

With kind regards,

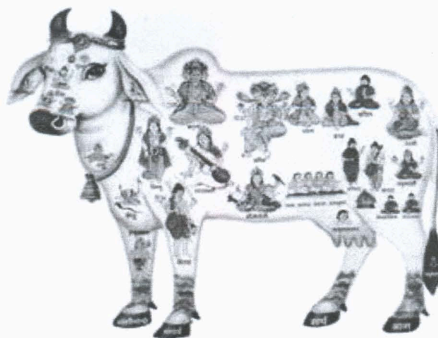
Vasudheva Achariyar Seshadhri
27, Laanecoorie Drive, Lysterfield, Victoria, Australia.

Dear Sarma,
'Path to Dharma'

2012 the April, issue of 'Path to Dharma' was appealing with stimulating concepts. The account commencing with initial stages like choice of a site concluding with Maha kumbabhishekam of the temple at Rockbank was very useful with multifaceted details.

Thanking you.

K.S.Murugaiah, Melbourne, Australia.



1. Elucidate on 'alwar' with reference to Vaishnavism?

The **alwar (azhwars)** were Vaishnava saints of south India who lived between the 6th and 9th centuries A.D. and embraced 'emotional devotion' (**bhakti**) to Visnu (Krishna) in their songs of desire, delight and service. The sacred devotional outpourings of Alvars, compiled during the early medieval period of Tamil history, helped revive the bhakti movement. The collection of their hymns is known as *Divya Prabandha*.

The Bhakti (emotional devotion) literature that sprang from Alvars, contributed to the instituting and sustenance of a culture that broke away from the ritual-oriented Vedic religion and rooted itself in devotion as the only path for salvation.

Vaishnavism flourished in South India with the devotional hymns of the prominent twelve Alvars are namely;

1. Poigai Alvar
2. Bhoothathalvar
3. Peyalvar
4. Thirumalisai Alvar
5. Madhurakavi Alvar
6. Nammalvar
7. Periyalvar
8. Andal
9. Kulasekara Alvar
10. Thondaradippodi Alvar
11. Thiruppaana Alvar
12. Thirumangai Alvar

The twelve Alvars were all inspired and dedicated devotees who conveyed their divine fascination to millions followers. Their eternal legacy of devotional poetry -**Naalaayira Divya Prabhandham** (considered to be the essence of the Vedas, written in Tamil, in praise of Lord Vishnu) are the master pieces in field of Tamil literature.

Nammalvar is considered in highest regard among the Alvars is. He lived during the 9th century CE. His contribution to the four thousand prabandhams (type of hymns in Tamil) is as many as 1352. His hymns are considered the essence of the Vedas. Nammalvar's scripts namely, *Thiruvasiriyam*, *Thiruviruttam*, *Periya Thiruvandhadhi* correspond to the Yajur, Rig and Atharva Vedas respectively. Another script of Nammalvar namely

Thiruvaaimozhi (Divine words) is one of the significant writings available in Vaishnavism.

Periyalvar related in worshipping Vishnu as mother. Periyalvar has written 440 verses assuming himself as Yashoda and Narayana as Krishna.

Andal was the daughter of Periyalvar, is credited for the eminent script of *Tiruppaavai*, a most impressive collection of 30 verses which shows the expression to the purest love of God.

Thirumangai Alvar has done mangalasanam (sung in praise) of maximum number of Divya Desams.

Sri Manavalamuni was the last acharya (guru) of the Thenkalai Guruparampara, has composed " *Upadesa Rathnamalai*" a hymn of 72 verses which acclaims the services of Azhwars.

2. Explain very briefly about the Vaishnavism and its sects?

Vaishnavism is the monotheistic traditional faith adoring Vishnu (or his forms) as the supreme. Of the 108 Upanishads of the Mukhika, 13 are considered Vaishnava Upanishads. They are listed with their associated Veda namely Sama Veda (SV), Sukla Yajur Veda (ŚYV), Krishna Yajur Veda (KYV), Atarvana Veda (AV)):

1. Nṛsiṃhatāpanī Upanishad (AV)
2. Mahānārāyaṇa Upanishad (AV)
3. Rāmarahasya Upanishad (AV)
4. Rāmatāpanī Upanishad (AV)
5. Vāsudeva Upanishad (SV)
6. Avyakta Upanishad (SV)
7. Tārasāra Upanishad (SYV)
8. Gopālatāpanī Upanishad (AV)
9. Kṛṣṇa Upanishad (AV)
10. Hayagrīva Upanishad (AV)
11. Dattātreyā Upanishad (AV)
12. Gāruḍa Upanishad (AV)
13. Kali-Saṅtāraṇa Upanishad (KYV)

Within Vaishnavism there are four main disciplined lineages (sampradayas), all epitomized by a specific Vedic personality. The four sampradayas follow imperceptibly dissimilar philosophical systems regarding the relationship between the soul (jīva) and God (Vishnu or or his forms), while the preponderance of other core doctrines are indistinguishable.

The different Vaishnava schools (sampradayas) and the principle teachers (guru/acharyas) connected with them are as follows: **Rudra Sampradaya** (Philosophy: Shuddhadvaita - "pure nondualism"): In Hinduism, the Rudra Sampradaya is, a tradition of disciplic succession. In Vaishnavism Vishnu or His avatars is considered the Supreme God. Rudra-Sampradaya was espoused by the ascetic Vishnuswami. According to the tradition, Vishnuswami was 15th in the line of passing of the knowledge from teacher to student. The date of formation of the sampradaya is disputed. The beliefs of the sampradaya was further propagated by Vallabha Acharya (1479 – 1531). Rudra sampradaya has two main sects: Vishnuswamis, that is, followers of Vishnuswami and the Vallabhas or Pushtimarg sect, founded by Vallabha. The philosophy of the sampradaya is Shuddhadvaita, pure monism to Krishna. The sampradaya worship the youthful Krishna, alone or with his consort Radha. Another form of Krishna, the Bala Gopala or infant Krishna is also worshipped by the sampradaya.

The Brahma Sampradaya: In this tradition Vishnu, is considered the para-brahma (Universal Creator). Brahma-sampradāya denotes to the religious succession (sampradaya) of gurus starting with Brahma. This sampradaya explains the principles and wisdoms of Dvaita ("dualism"), philosophy of Madhvacharya. This further explains the teachings of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and his Gaudiya doctrine. A few global religious activities belong to this sampradaya, as well as ISKCON, a derivative of Gaudiya Vaishnavism.

According to this concept, this sampradayas originated at the creation of the universe and sustained to the current moment by guru (teacher) Syshya (student) linkage. Due to the consistency of the transmission of knowledge, all the previous gurus are present in the teachings of the present spiritual master.

Sri Sampradaya (Laksmi Sampradaya): The origin of Sri Sampradaya or Sri Vaishnavism may date back to about 10th century with its Philosophy called Vishishtadvaita ("special-dualism"). The foundation of Sri Sampradaya is related with a collection of the devotional holy hymns by Alvars being organized by Nathamuni. Nathamuni is honoured, as the first guru (teacher) of the sect. Nathamuni is considered the forerunner who wrote the sacred scripts, organizing the Sri Vaishnava theology, fundamentally in debate with Gauttama philosophy of Buddhism.

Yamunacharya an eminent grand-teacher of Ramanujacharya followed Nathamuni. Two different tilaka (pundra) markings are worn by the representative of two different sects within the Sri Sampradaya following Ramanujacharya: Then-galais (Southern sect) and Vada-galais (northern sect), both attributing the markings to the footprint of Vishnu on the forehead. The prefix 'Sri' in Sri Sampradaya is to contribute special importance to the worship of the Goddess Lakshmi, the consort of Vishnu, whom they trust to act as a mediator between God and man.

Kumara Sampradaya is the tradition associated with Four Kumaras: The Philosophy of this Sampradāya is known as Dvaitadvaita ("duality in unity"). The Nimbārka Sampradāya, also known as the Hamsa Sampradāya, Kumāra Sampradāya, Catuh Sana Sampradāya and Sanakādi Sampradāya.

Vaishnavism flourished in South India with the devotional hymns of the prominent twelve Alvars are namely:

3. Write some basic personal details of all the twelve Alvars?

Some important basic personal details of all the twelve Alvars are given below; Traditional datings take them to the age of Sukhaacharya (Srimad Bhagvatam) who while delivering the work to parrekshit spake of Alvars as Vaishnavaita saints and many are from Dwapura yuga, while swami Nammalwar belongs to the commencement of Kali yuga. Kalou Kalu Bhavishyanti Narayana parayana. Kvachit Kvachin Mahabhago dramideshucha pureesha tamrabharani nadhi yatra kruta malaa payasvini kaavericha mahaabhago pradeeseecha mahaanadhi.(srimadh bhagvath purana).

No	Alwar Saint	Period and Place	Other names	Month	Nakshatra	Sign
1	<u>Poigai Alvar</u>	7th C. AD, Kanchipuram	Saro-yogi, Kaasaara-yogi, Poigai-piraan, Padma-muni, Kavinyarporeyeru	Aiypassee	Thiruvonam (Sravana)	Panchajanya (Name of Lord Shri Krishna's Conch -Sanskrit translation means five senses)
2	<u>Bhoothathalvar</u>	7th C. AD, Thirukadalmalai (Mahabhalipuram)		Aiypassee	Avittam (Dhanishta)	Kaumodakee (Mace/Club)
3	<u>Peyalvar</u>	7th C. AD, Mylapore	Kairava-muni, Maha- daahva-yaar, Thamizh- Thalaivan	Aiypassee	Sadayam (Satabhishak)	Nandaka (Sword)
4	<u>Thirumalisai Alvar</u>	7th C. AD, Thirumazhisai	Bhakthi-saarar, Bhaargavar, Magisaaraapuriswarar, Mazhisai-piraan	Thai	Magam (Makha)	Sudarshanam (Name of Lord vishnu's weapon -"Discus", Sanskrit translation means good sight / view)

5	<u>Nammalvar</u>	9th C. AD, Azhwar Thirunagari (Kurugur)	Sadagopan, Sadaari, Paraankusun, Maaran, Vakulaa Baranan, Kurugaiyar-kone	Vaigaasi	Vishaakam (Vishaaka)	Vishvaksena (Commander)
6	<u>Madhurakavi Alvar</u>	9th C. AD, Thirukollur	Inkaviyaar, Azhwaarukku Adiyaan Kolli-kaavalan, Koodalnaayakan,	Chitthirai	Chitthirai (Chithra)	Vainatheya (Garuda)
7	<u>King Kulasekhara Alvar</u>	9th century AD, Thiruvanchikkulam, Later Chera kingdom	Koyikone, Villavarkone, Cheyralarkone etc.	Maasee	Punar Poosam (Punarvasu)	Kaustubha (Gem Necklace)
8	<u>Periyalvar</u>	9th C. AD, Sri Villiputhur	Vishnu-chitthar, Pattaanaadan, Battar-piraan, Sri-Villiputthooraar, Sriranganaatha-Svasoorar	Aani	Swathi (Swaathee)	Garuda (Eagle)
9	<u>Andal</u>	9th C. AD, Sri Villiputhur	Choodikoduttha Naacheyaar, Godai, Godai-piraatti Vibranaaraayanar, Thirumandangudiyaar,	Aadi	Pooram (Poorva Phalguni)	Bhoodevi (Sanskrit means Bho = Earth, Devi = Goddess)
10	<u>Thondaradippodi Alvar</u>	8th C. AD, Thirumandangudi	Bhakthangirirenu, Palliunartthiypiraan Paanar, Muni-vaahanar,	Maargazhi	Kettai (Jyeshta)	Vanamaalai (Garland)
11	<u>Thiruppaan Alvar</u>	8th C. AD, Uraiyur	Yogi-vaahanar, Kaveeswarar Kaliyan, Aalinaadan, NaaluKaviPerumaal,	Kaarthigai	Rogini (Rohinee)	Srivatsa
12	<u>Thirumangai Alvar</u>	8th C. AD, thirukurayalur	Arulmaari, Parakaalan, Mangaiyarkone	Kaarthigai	Krithikal (Kritthikaa)	Saranga (Bow)

4. What is *Vada-galai* and *Then-galai* with reference to Hinduism in very brief?

Ramanuja (round about the year 1100) was the leader of the poets who composed songs of Vishnu and high priest of all Vishnuvites of the South. After him there were striking arguments among groups. His following fell apart into two schools of thoughts, in the North called *Vada-galai* in the South *Then-galai*. The Northern school held that divine grace was 'co-operative', which means, that man must bear his share, The Southern school says that it is 'irresistible', and falls on a man, a passively involuntary resignation like the Grace of God that passeth all understanding. Both schools of thoughts accept the bhakti doctrine of faith, love, and adoration. The theologians shows that the northern teaching the 'Monkey' school, since the monkey clings to its mother, and the southern the 'Cat' school, where the mother does all the carrying.

5. Prana very briefly about the services of the most important Vaishnava Saints?

One important group of such saints is the 12 Alvars who lived in South India in the 8th and 9th centuries. They wrote hymns that expressed the strongest love and passion for Vishnu and longing for His presence. One group of modern Vaishnava saints are the Bauls ("madmen for God"), who live in Bengal. They show their devotion by singing and dancing, throughout in the countryside. Many other historical Vaishnavites are admired for their devotion to Vishnu as well. Some of the most beloved Vaishnava saints are;

1. **Antal** (725-755), was the daughter of Periyalvar. She insisted she would have no husband but God until her family finally took her to the Srirangam temple of Vishnu so she could marry him. It is said that her love for Vishnu was so strong that she physically merged into an image of him at the temple.
2. **Jnanadeva** (1275-1296), who wrote a commentary on the Bhagavad Gita and had himself entombed alive at the age of 21 so he could die while focusing on attaining union with Krishna.
3. **Mira Bai** (1498-1546), a Rajput princess. Her ecstatic songs of love to Krishna are still sung throughout India. She is said to have merged into a statue of Krishna at Dvaraka.
4. **Chaitanya** (1486-1533), regarded as an incarnation of both Krishna and his consort Radha. He traveled throughout India chanting Krishna's name and dancing in the streets.
5. **Tulsi Das** (1532-1623), a poet best known for his retelling of the *Ramayana* in the *Rama Charita Manasa*.
6. **Tukaram** (1600-1650), a poor farmer who became a famous Hindu poet.
7. **Anandamayi Ma** (1896-1982), known as "the Blissful Mother," who is said to have lived in complete God consciousness from birth. She traveled throughout India wherever God directed her, sharing her insight into the unity of all things.

6. What is meant by the terms Advaita..... Prana in short?

Advaita (non-dualism) is the Vedanta philosophy which teaches that ultimate reality is of the 'conscience'. lies beyond the individual condition, outside the dualism of subject and object in which thought operates.

Buddhi The higher faculty of the mind, which evaluates and selects. Often translated as 'intellect' or 'higher reason', it also has a good deal in common with the western idea of 'conscience'

Kundalini; In Tantra, the Kundalini is the life-energy (symbolized as a serpent), which blocks the spiritual ascent of man. When 'awakened' or brought into consciousness it becomes the vehicle for the ascent.

Pingala; In Tantra, the name of a subtle channel, not physically apparent, through which the life energies flow.

Sushumna; In Tantra, the central subtle channel which connects the *Chakras* within the human body.

Manas; The lower faculty of the mind, as opposed to *Buddhi*. *Manas* has

Two aspects. As the sense-mind, it grasps causality and builds sensory information into perceptions. As the discursive reason, it forms concepts, calculates outcomes, and weighs advantages.

Nirguna; 'without qualities'. In the Upanishads, the Absolute Reality is often regarded as without qualities, since any quality constitutes a limitation.

Prakriti; The original, inert substance of the universe upon which all forms are impressed. The undifferentiated potential form which all matter and the entire world arises.

Prana; The life energy-of which breathing is only the most obvious aspect-which activates both mind and body. At death, the Prana withdraws from the body, taking with it the other subtle elements.

7. What are the 108 'Divya Desams' referred in Hinduism?

'Divya' in Tamil language indicates premium and 'Desam' indicates the location or temple. There are 108 Vishnu temples referred to as 'Divya Desams'. These 'Divya Desams' are mentioned in the writings of the Azhvars (saints). Of these 105 Divya Desams are located in India, one in Nepal, while two are located outside of the Earthly realms.

108 Divya Desams				
North India	Malai Nadu	Madurai	Kanchipuram	Chennai
1. <u>Ahobilam - Andhra Pradesh</u> 2. <u>Mukthinath, Saligramam Nepal</u> 3. <u>Naimisaranya - Uttar Pradesh</u> 4. <u>Mathura - Uttar Pradesh</u> 5. <u>Gokul - Uttar Pradesh</u> 6. <u>Devaprayag - Uttarakhand</u> 7. <u>Thiruppirithi - Uttarakhand</u> 8. <u>Badrinath temple - Uttarakhand</u> 9. <u>Ayodhya - Uttar Pradesh</u> 10. <u>Dwarka - Gujarat</u>	11. <u>Thiruvananthapuram - Kerala</u> 12. <u>Thirukatkarai</u> 13. <u>Moozhikkalam</u> 14. <u>Tiruvalla</u> 15. <u>Thirukadithanam</u> 16. <u>Sengunroor</u> 17. <u>Thiruppulivoor</u> 18. <u>Thiruvaaranvilai</u> 19. <u>Thiruvanvandoor</u> 20. <u>Thiru naavaay</u> 21. <u>Viththuvakkodu</u>	22. <u>Thirumeyyam</u> 23. <u>Thirukoshtiyur</u> 24. <u>Koodal Azhagar Temple</u> 25. <u>Azhagar Kovil</u> 26. <u>Tirumogoor</u> 27. <u>Srivilliputhur</u> 28. <u>Tiruthangal</u> 29. <u>Thiruppullani</u>	30. <u>Thiruvengadam</u> 31. <u>Tirukkacchi</u> 32. <u>Ashtabujakaram</u> 33. <u>Tiruvekkaa</u> 34. <u>Tiruththanka</u> 35. <u>Tiruvelukkai</u> 36. <u>Tirukalvanoor (inside Kamakshi Amman Temple)</u> 37. <u>Tiru oorakam</u> 38. <u>Tiru neeragam</u> 39. <u>Tiru kaaragam</u> 40. <u>Tirukaarvaanam</u> 41. <u>Tiru parameswara vinnagaram</u> 42. <u>Tiru pavala vannah</u> 43. <u>Tiru paadagam</u> 44. <u>Tiru nilaaththingal thundam (inside Ekambareswarar Temple)</u> 45. <u>Thiruputkuzhi</u>	46. <u>Thiruvallikeni</u> 47. <u>Thiruneermalai</u> 48. <u>Thiruvidandai</u> 49. <u>Thirukadalmallai</u> 50. <u>Thiruninravur</u> 51. <u>Thiruvallur</u> 52. <u>Thirukkadigai</u>
Maviladuthurai and Sirkazhi	Thanjavur	Trichy	Tirunelveli	Kanyakumari
53. <u>Thiruvazhunthoor</u> 54. <u>Thiruindaloor</u> 55. <u>Kazheesirama Vinnagaram</u> 56. <u>Thirukkavalampadi</u> 57. <u>Thiruchsemponsey</u> 58. <u>Thiruarimeya Vinnagaram</u> 59. <u>Thiru Vanpurushothamam</u> 60. <u>Thiruvaiyandu vinnagaram</u> 61. <u>Thirumanimadam</u> 62. <u>Thiruthavanarthogai</u> 63. <u>Thiruthetriyambalam</u> 64. <u>Thirumanikkoodam</u> 65. <u>Thiruvellakkulam</u> 66. <u>Thirupparthanpalli</u>	70. <u>Thiruccithra kootam</u> 71. <u>Thirukkannangudi</u> 72. <u>Thirunagai</u> 73. <u>Thiru Thanjai</u> 74. <u>Tirukkoilur</u> 75. <u>Thirukkoodaloor</u> 76. <u>Thiru Kavith Thalam</u> 77. <u>Thiru Adhanoor</u> 78. <u>Thirupullabhoonthangudi</u> 79. <u>Thirukkudandhai</u> 80. <u>Thiruccherai</u> 81. <u>Thirunandipura Vinnagaram</u> 82. <u>ThiruNaraiyoor</u> 83. <u>Thiruvinnagar</u> 84. <u>Thiruvelliyangudi</u> 85. <u>Thirukkanamangai</u> 86. <u>Thirukkannapuram</u> 87. <u>Thirukkandiyur</u>	88. <u>Sri Rangam</u> 89. <u>Thirukkozhi</u> 90. <u>Thirukkarambanoor</u> 91. <u>Thiruvellarai</u> 92. <u>Thiru Anbil</u> 93. <u>Thirupper Nagar</u> 94. <u>Thiruvanthipuram</u>	95. <u>Thiruvaramangai</u> 96. <u>Thirukkurungudi</u> 97. <u>Srivaikundam</u> 98. <u>Thiruvaramangai</u> 99. <u>Thiruppulingudi</u> 100. <u>Thirukkurugoor (Azhwar Tirunagari)</u> 101. <u>Thirutthulaivillimangalam (Irattai Tirupathy)</u> 102. <u>Thirukkuloor</u> 103. <u>Thirukkulandhai</u> 104. <u>Thentirupperai</u>	105. <u>Thiruvattaru</u> 106. <u>Thiruvanparisaram</u>

67. <u>Thalai Sanga</u> <u>Nanmathiyam</u>				
68. <u>Thiruchsirupuliyoor</u>				
69. <u>Thiruvalli-</u> <u>Thirunagari</u>				
Vinnulagam (Outside the Earthly realm)				
107. <u>Thirupaarkadal</u>				
108. <u>Thiruparamapadham</u>				

Direction of the holy face in these 108 Divyadesams

Vishnu faces various directions to grant His (blessing) seva, in 108 Divyadesams, as follows:

Facing direction Divya desam

East	79
West	19
North	3
South	7
Holy	2

List of Deities in Divyadesams

S.No.	<u>Divyadesam</u>	<u>Thayar (Lakshmi)</u>	<u>Swamy (Vishnu)</u>
1	<u>Srirangam</u>	Ranganayagi	Ranganathar
2	<u>Thirukozi</u>	Kamalavalli Vasalakshmi	Sundaravaraya Perumal
3	<u>Thirukarambanur</u>	Poornaavalli	Purushothama Perumal
4	<u>Thiruvellarai</u>	Rakthapankajavalli	Pundareekatcha Perumal
5	<u>Thiruanbil</u>	Soundaryavalli	Sundaramoorthaye Poornaya Perumal
6	<u>Thruppernagar</u>	Indravalli	Appala Ranganatha Perumal
7	<u>Thirukandiyur</u>	Kamalavalli	Kamalanatha, Harasabavimochana Perumal
8	<u>Thirukoodalur</u>	Padmasani	Jagathrakshaga Perumal
9	<u>Thirukavithalam</u>	Ramamanivalli	Gajendravaradha Perumal
10	<u>Thiruppullamboothangudi</u>	Hemabja	Thrudathanvee Ramabadhra Perumal
11	<u>Thiruaadhanur</u>	Ranganayagi	Varshakalathinayaka Perumal
12	<u>Thirukudanthai</u>	Komalavalli	Abaryapthamrutha Perumal
13	<u>Thiruvinnagar</u>	Boodevi	Lavanavargitha Srinivasa Perumal
14	<u>Thirunaraiyur</u>	Vanjulavalli	Srinivasa Perumal
15	<u>Thirucherai</u>	Saranayagi	Saranatha Perumal
16	<u>Thirunandhipura Vinnagaram</u>	Shenbagavalli	Jagannatha Perumal
17	<u>Thiruvelliyangudi</u>	Maragadhavalli	Srungarasundara Danushbani Ramaya Perumal
18	<u>Thirukannamangai</u>	Abishegavalli	Bakthavatchala Perumal
19	<u>Thirukannapuram</u>	Kannapura	Sowriraja Perumal
20	<u>Thirukannangudi</u>	Loganayagi	Loganatha Perumal
21	<u>Thirunagai</u>	Soundaryavalli	Neelamega Perumal
22	<u>Thiruthanjai Mamanikoil</u>	Rakthapankajavalli	Neelamega Perumal
	<u>Manikundram</u>	Ambujavalli	Maniparvadha Perumal
	<u>Thanjaiyali Nagar</u>	Thanjanayagi	Narasimha Perumal
23	<u>Thiruvazhundur</u>	Rakthapankajavalli	Devadhiraja Perumal

S.No.	<u>Divyadesam</u>	<u>Thayar (Lakshmi)</u>	<u>Swamy (Vishnu)</u>
24	<u>Thiruchirupuliyur</u>	Dhayanayagi	Krubasamudra Perumal
25	<u>Thiruthalaichanga Nanmadiyam</u>	Siras sanga	Chandrasabahara Perumal
26	<u>Thiruindalur</u>	Parimalaranga	Parimalaranganatha Perumal
27	<u>Thirukazhicheerama Vinnagaram</u>	Loganayagi	Logaganatha Thrivikrama Perumal
28	<u>Thirukkavalambadi</u>	Pankajavalli	Gopala Krishna Perumal
29	<u>Thiruarimeya Vinnagaram</u>	Amrudhagadavalli	Gadakeli Narthanaya Perumal
30	<u>Thiruvanpurushothamam</u>	Purushothama	Purushothama Perumal
31	<u>Thirusemponsaikoil</u>	Sweda Pushpavalli	Hemaranganatha Perumal
32	<u>Thirumanimadakoil</u>	Pundareegavalli	Sachvada Deepaya Narayana Perumal
33	<u>Thiruvaigunda Vinnagaram</u>	Vaigundavalli	Vaigundanatha Perumal
34	<u>Thiruthetriambalam</u>	Rakthapankajavalli	Lakshmiranga Perumal
35	<u>Thirumanikoodam</u>	Boonayagi	Varadharaja Perumal
36	<u>Thiruparthanpalli</u>	Kamala	Parthasarathyrooba, Kamalathayee Perumal
37	<u>Thiruvai & Thirunagari</u>	Amrudhagadavalli	Kedarapathyvaraya Perumal
38	<u>Thiruthethevanarthogai</u>	Samudradanaya	Devanayaka Perumal
39	<u>Thiruvellakulam</u>	Padmavathi	Srinivasa Perumal
40	<u>Thiruchitrakoodam</u>	Pundareegavalli	Govindaraja Perumal
41	<u>Thiruvaheendrapuram</u>	Hemabujavalli	Devanayaka Perumal
42	<u>Thirukkoyalur</u>	Pushpavalli	Thrivikrama Perumal
43	<u>Thirukkachi - Atthigiri</u>	Mahadevi	Devathiraja Perumal
44	<u>Ashtabuyagaram</u>	Padmasani	Gajendravarada Perumal
45	<u>Thiruthanka</u>	Maragadhavalli	Deepaprakasa Perumal
46	<u>Thiruvellukkai</u>	Amruthavalli	Sundharayoghanarasimha Perumal
47	<u>Thiruneeragam</u>	Boovalli	Jagadeeswara Perumal
48	<u>Thiruppadagam</u>	Rukmani Sathyabama	Pandavadootha Perumal
49	<u>Thiru Nilathingal Thundam</u>	Chandrasoodavalli	Chandrasooda Perumal
50	<u>Thiruoogaram</u>	Amudavalli	Thrivikrama Perumal
51	<u>Thiruvehka</u>	Komalavalli	Yathokthagari Perumal
52	<u>Thirukkaragam</u>	Padmamani	Karunagara Perumal
53	<u>Thirukkarvaanam</u>	Kamalavalli	Neelamega Perumal
54	<u>Thirukkalvanur</u>	Sundarabimbavalli	Soranatha Perumal
55	<u>Thiruppavalavannam</u>	Pravalavalli	Pravalavarna Perumal
56	<u>Thiruparamechura Vinnagaram</u>	Vaigundavalli	Vaigundanatha Perumal
57	<u>Thirupputkuzhi</u>	Maragadavalli	Vijayaraghava Perumal
58	<u>Thirunindravur</u>	Sudhavalli	Bakthavatsala Perumal
59	<u>Thiruevvul</u>	Kanagavalli	Vaithya Veeraraghava Perumal
60	<u>Thiruvallikeni</u>	Rukmani	Vengadakrishna Perumal
61	<u>Thiruneermalai</u>	Sundaravalli	Jalathivarnaya Perumal
62	<u>Thiruidaventhai</u>	Komalavalli	Lakshmiraraha Perumal
63	<u>Thirukkadalmallai</u>	Boosthalamangadevi	Sthalasayana Perumal
64	<u>Thirukkadigai</u>	Amruthabalavalli	Yoganarasimha Perumal
65	<u>Thiruvayothi</u>	Seethadevi	Ramachandra Perumal
66	<u>Thirunaimisaranayam</u>	Sriharilakshmi	Devaraja Perumal
67	<u>Thirupruthi</u>	Parimalavalli	Paramapurushaya Perumal
68	<u>Thirukkandamenum Kadinagar</u>	Pundareegavalli	Neelamega Perumal
69	<u>Thiruvadariyachramam</u>	Aravindavalli	Badrinarayana Perumal
70	<u>Thirusalakraamam</u>	Sridevi	Srimoorthi Perumal

S.No.	Divyadesam	Thayar (Lakshmi)	Swamy (Vishnu)
71	<u>Thiruvadamadurai</u>	Sathyabama	Govarthanagiridhari Perumal
72	<u>Thiruvaipadi</u>	Rukmani Sathyabama	Navamohanakrishna Perumal
73	<u>Thirudwaragai</u>	Lakshmi	Rukmanyadhi Ashtamahishi, Dwaragadeesa Perumal
74	<u>Thirusingavelkundram</u>	Amruthavalli Senchulakshmi	Lakshminarasimha Perumal
75	<u>Thiruvengadam(Mel Thirupathi)</u>	Padmavathi	Srinivasa Perumal
76	<u>Thirunavai</u>	Padmavathi	Narayana Perumal
77	<u>Thiruvithuvakodu</u>	Vithuvakoduvali	SriAbayapradhaya Perumal
78	<u>Thirukatkarai</u>	Vathsalyavalli	Khatkaraswamy Perumal
79	<u>Thirumoozhikkalam</u>	Madhuraveni	Sookthinatha Perumal
80	<u>Thiruvallavazh</u>	Vathsalyavalli	Sundaraya Perumal
81	<u>Thirukkadithalam</u>	Karpagavalli	Amruthanarayana Perumal
82	<u>Thiruchengundrur</u>	Rakthapankajavalli	Devathideva Perumal
83	<u>Thiruppuliyur</u>	Hemalatha	Mayasakthiyuthaswamy Perumal
84	<u>Thiruvaranvilai</u>	Padmasani	Vamana Perumal
85	<u>Thiruvanvandoor</u>	Kamalavalli	Kamalanatha Perumal
86	<u>Thiruvanandapuram</u>	Harilakshmi	Anandhapadmanabha Perumal
87	<u>Thiruvattaru</u>	Maragadhavalli	Aadikesava Perumal
88	<u>Thiruvanparisaram</u>	Kamalavalli	Vamanaya Perumal
89	<u>Thirukkurungudi</u>	vamanashetravalli	Vamanashetrapoornaya Perumal
90	<u>Thirucheeravaramangai</u>	Chireevaramangaivalli	Thothathrinatha Perumal
91	<u>Thiruvaigundam (Navathirupathi)</u>	Boonayagi, Vaigundavalli	Vaigundanatha Perumal
92	<u>Thiruvaragunamangai (navathirupathi)</u>	Varagunavalli	Vijayasana
93	<u>Thiruppuliangudi (Navathirupathi)</u>	Boonayagi	Boombilaya Vairinedharchidha Gobaya Perumal
94	<u>Thirutholaivillimangalam(Navathirupathi)</u>	Visalakrishnakshidevi	Aravindhalochana Perumal
95	<u>Thirukkulandai(Navathirupathi)</u>	Baligavalli Padmavathi	Srinivasa Perumal
96	<u>Thirukkolor(Navathirupathi)</u>	Kolurvalli	Nishevavithaya Perumal
97	<u>Thirupperai (Navathirupathi)</u>	Kundalakarnadevi	Dheerka Magarakundaladharaya Perumal
98	<u>Thirukkurugur (Navathirupathi)</u>	Aadhinathavalli	Aadhinatha Perumal
99	<u>Thiruvillipputhur</u>	Kodhadevi	Vadabathrasayee Perumal
100	<u>Thiruthangal</u>	Rakthapankajavalli	Narayana Perumal
101	<u>Thirukkoodal</u>	Madhuravalli	Sangamasundharaya Perumal
102	<u>Thirumaliruncholai</u>	Sundaravalli	Sorasundara Perumal
103	<u>Thirumogur</u>	Mohavalli	Kalameha Perumal
104	<u>Thirukkoshtiyur</u>	Mahalakshmi	Uruga Mrudusayanaya Perumal
105	<u>Thiruppullani</u>	Kalyanavalli, Padmasani	Kalyana Jagannatha Perumal
106	<u>Thirumeyyam</u>	Ujjevana	Sathyagirinatha Perumal
107	<u>Thirupparkadal</u>	BooSamudradhanaya	Sheeraphthinatha Perumal
108	<u>Thirupparamapadham</u>	Mahalakshmya	Paramapadhanathaya Perumal

8. What is Nalayira Divya Prabandham ?

The **Nalayira Divya Prabandham** (நாலாயிர திவ்ய பிரபந்தம்) is a collection of 4,000 Tamil verses (Naalayira in Tamil means 'four thousand') composed prior to 8th century AD, by the 12 Alvars, and Nathamuni compiled them in its present form during the 9th – 10th centuries. The hymns of Nalayira Divya Prabandhams by the 12 *Vaishnava* poet saints, are still sung widely even today.

The Prabandha sings the praise of Narayana (Vishnu) and his many forms. The Alvars sung these songs at various sacred shrines. These sacred shrines are known as the Divya Desams. *Thiru Vaaymozhi* ("words of the sacred mouth") is very prominent hymns among the 4,000 verses comprising of 1,100+ verses

Details of Pasurams

The following table shows the details of the 4000 *pasurams*(hymns).

Sl no	Name of the prabandham	Starting from	Ending with	Number of pasurams	Sung by
1	Periazhvar thirumozhi	1	473	473	Periyalvar
2	Thiruppavai	474	503	30	Aandaal
3	Nachiar Tirumozhi	504	646	143	Aandaal
4	Perumal thirumozhi	647	751	105	Kulasekara alvar
5	Thiruchchanda Viruththam	752	871	120	Thirumalisai alvar
6	Thirumalai	872	916	45	Thondaradipodi alvar
	Thiruppalliyezhuchchi	917	926	10	Thondaradipodi alvar
8	Amalanadhi piran	927	936	10	Thiruppaan alvar
9	Kanni Nun Siruththambu	937	947	11	Madhurakavi Alvar
10	Peria Thirumozhi	948	2031	1084	Thirumangai alvar
11	Kurun Thandagam	2032	2051	20	Thirumangai alvar
12	Nedum Thandagam	2052	2081	30	Thirumangai alvar
13	Mudhal Thiruvandhadhi	2082	2181	100	Poigai Alvar
14	Irandam Thiruvandhadhi	2182	2281	100	Bhoothathalvar
15	Moonram Thiruvandhadhi	2282	2381	100	Peyalvar
16	Naanmugan Thiruvandhadhi	2382	2477	96	Thirumalisai alvar
17	Thiruviruththam	2478	2577	100	Nammalvar
18	Thiruvasiriyam	2578	2584	7	Nammalvar
19	Peria Thiruvandhadhi	2585	2671	87	Nammalvar
20	Thiruvezhukkurirukkai	2672	2672	1	Thirumangai alvar
21	Siriya Thirumadal	2673	2673	1	Thirumangai alvar
22	Peria Thiru Madal	2674	2674	1	Thirumangai alvar
23	Thiruvay Mozhi	2674	3776	1102	Nammalvar
	Total number of surams			3776	