

Praanaya Kalagam



Special Thanks to Kazhiyur Vardan Swamy

Adi Brahmotsavam

The most important and the oldest Brahmotsavam called as "Adi Brahmotsavam" is performed during this month for 10 days and culminates on the next day of Panguni Uthiram. During this brahmotsavam NamPerumal has serthi with Kamalavalli Nachiyar at Uraiyr and Periya Thayar serthi at Srirangam.

Panguni Uthiram Mandapam

The utsavam takes place on 9th day of the Brahmotsavam and it's Periya Thayar thiruNakshthiram (Star birthday of SriRengaNayaki thayar). This Utsavam takes place at the royal court located at the western entrance of the great Temple of NamPerumal Ranganatha. This is the only entrance which does not have a Rajagopuram.

Pranaya Kalagam Uthsavam

An interesting event cherished as "Pranaya Kalagam Uthsavam" takes place on Panguni Uthiram day morning and in the night Gadya trayam (three gadyams) are recited in presence of the Supreme NamPerumalships which is followed by 18 times Thirumanjanam to Namperumal and Ranganayaki Thayar. Namperumal was adorned with 18 different alankarams and orious description brings to light the great things and the divine world of Vaikunta.

What is pranaya kalagam?

When Thayar comes to know of NamPerumal's visit to Uraiyyur nachiyar and gets upset with a vatsalya bhava. The dramatic events on the Panguni Uthiram day unfold as Thayar vents her Pranaya Kobam on NamPerumal Namperumal and how NamPerumal pacifies her and how in the end the divya dampati join together to bless the devotees makes this festival a feast to the soul.

When it takes place?

In the morning hours, NamPerumal aware of Thayar mood goes around the four mada streets without any musical instrument being played to collect kanikai (gifts) from devotees and thus gives darshan to everyone. He

stops at every house asking His devotees to support Him when He faces the Thayar.

When Sri RangThe NamPerumal pleads innocence and tries to appease the Thayar in many ways but all his submission is out rightly rejected . Nachiyar understands that NamPerumal coming towards Her, the temple doors are shut. For the next couple of hours, Pranaya Kalagam Utsavam (household quarrel between the NamPerumal and His consort) takes place that is wonderfully enacted by Arayar swamy..

Conversation between Thayar and Perumal

The conversations are communicated through Arayar swami (for Namperumal) and through Pandari swami (for Ranganayaki Thayar) and they never face each other during this kalagam Utsavam

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Questions from Thayar

1. Thayar questions NamPerumal about his scratch marks on His Thirukkazuthu (neck) and reason for His Thirukkangal (eyes) becoming so red.
2. She also asks why His Thiruman kappu (Tilak) and His Thirukkuzal (hair) are all messed up.
3. She also goes on to ask Him why His Thiruvadham (lips) are white and why He has kungumappoo (Saffron powder) all over his Thirumeni (body),

4. His Thiruvadigal (lotus feet) are red. Hence, She was very unhappy because of HIS indifference to her.

NamPerumal's interesting reply

1. Being the protector of the universe (Jagadhrakshakan), riding the horse in the night and fighting against all evil forces to protect my devotees I had to be awake and thus the eyes have become red.
2. These Hair locks are messed up because of the fierce winds which faced me while I was galloping on the horse.
3. This Thiruman kappu had dissolved because of the harsh sun rays during my horse ride and my lips are white because I was fighting against the asuras (demons) with single pointed concentration.
4. My neck was scratched by those thorns while I was riding through thick forests to fight the same Asuras.
5. NamPerumal further continues, these legs were red because I had to ride the horse with the feet tightly hooked in the stirrup and finally this kungumappoo is all over my body because the Devathas were happy and praised us after the victorious campaign by showering me with flowers.

Reason for late arrival

NamPerumal submits to Thayar that He was late because of all the battles he had to wage with the Asuras and due to this calamity he had lost the ring in the river Kollidam while returning. And had to get a new ring and some flowers before he meets Her. This caused Him to be late.

Thayar is still not convinced and refuses all His gifts and flowers and commands him to never come inside and return back to Uraiur where HE had been a couple of days ago.

Thayar is asking for proof

Namperumal with a very innocent look replies saying that He doesn't know the place called Uraiyur and has never been there. Ranganayaki Thayar asks the NamPerumal to prove His statements. To prove his innocence NamPerumal offers to put His hands in a vessel full of snakes, cross any ocean of Thayar choice and offered to promise on His devotees that He has never seen Uraiyur. Sri Ranga Nachiyar rebukes HIS explanations. She replies, He, the one who sleeps on a bed of Adhi Sesha (Serpent bed) would never be harmed by any snakes. He, the one who lies in the great milk ocean (ThiruppArkadal) and for whom the river Yamuna parted to let Him through as baby Krishna will have no problem crossing any ocean. Also, HE, whose lotus feet are sought after by all His devotees would never be betrayed by them. Unmindful , she exhibits her annoyance of Pranayakalpa by throwing milk, curd, butter and flowers on Him .

NamPerumal Ranganatha now pleads innocently then says that He has come to meet Her after going through such difficulties and She is not letting Him in. He says He feels very depressed and embarrassed as She shut the door in His face. The NamPerumal says - "andha avamanam umakku andri yamakku illai" meaning "this embarrassment is not for me but for you."

Naamzwar Enternace to the Kalagam

Seeing the NamPerumal is feeling very sad, our great Nammazwaar, acts as the mediator and approaches mother Sri Ranganayaki and says that if the

supreme NamPerumal and Thayar are upset against each other, then that would be the end of all known universe (Pralayam).

He requests Mother and prays that the NamPerumal is for all and She has to understand that He is sought after by all and so She should be able to let Her Azhagiya MaNavalan go to His devotees too as well for granting their prayers and uplift them finally. So, He humbly requests that Sriranganachiyar forgive the NamPerumal and allow Him to enter Her premises.

Thayar Ranganayaki understands Nammazwars reasoning and commands Her assistants to let Her NamPerumal enter inside. NamPerumal Ranganatha and Ranganayaki come together and exchange garlands, Kasturi Thilakam, turmeric and necklaces making a benchmark of a divine couple .

NamPerumal Entrance to Thayar Sanadhi

As soon as the door is opened, NamPerumal Azhagiya Manavalan is delighted and rushes in to be with His consort. A beautiful scene transpired here. The NamPerumal does not go immediately to our Sri Ranganayaki sannidhi . But rather goes to the mudhal mandapam and stands there, as if to ascertain whether our Thayar has really accepted and forgiven him.

NamPerumal sends his vastram across to Thayar, which is accepted by the Thayar. After this the NamPerumal then directly heads towards and Thayar Sannidhi and then he seats directly across Sri Ranganayaki Thayar.

Thayar and Perumal alone

Now our Azhagiya Manavalan looks at our Lokamatha Thayar's eyes directly as if to ask "why did you make me go through this struggle" and Thayar in turn asks him "Why did you go away without telling me".

At this point of time other than the Sri Ranganayaki's Archakas and our Sriranganathan's Archakas, no one is allowed to be present. The sweet conversation takes place between our NamPerumal and Thayar as it would take place between any husband and wife. After they have talked for a long time, our Azagiya manavalan asks Thayars permission to go and complete the Panguni uthram thirunal as several devotees are waiting. Thayar replies that how can she let him without having performed any upacharam. She then gets delicious and sumptuous "Akkara adasil" (Sweet pudding) prepared for him, with copious amount of milk, rice, dhal (lentils) , jaggery and lots pure ghee.

Both together and have the delicious "Akara adisil" ! The happiness of the NamPerumal and Thayar can be seen in the eyes of NamPerumal who cannot take his eyes away from the Thayar! After this beautiful sight, the NamPerumal then decides to head towards the beautifully renovated Panguni Uthram mandapam. As soon as our Azagiya manavalan reaches the mandapam in the afternoon, our Thayar immediately, but silently and surreptitiously enters the mandapam as if she doesn't want anybody to talk about or ask her about what had happened . NamPerumal is standing majestically as usual and more beautiful and graceful today due to the compassionate looking pirAtti and is enjoying the beauty of Her NamPerumal without taking Her eyes off Him even for a second.

Night Event

That night, Incredibly Swamy Ramanuja chose this blessed day for reciting the wonderful hymns the **Gadya Trayam- Saranagathi gadyam, Sriranga gadyam and Vaikunta gadyam**, unambiguously outlining the doctrine of **Surrender** .(SharaNagati-which is atma Vivaham) wedding of the

jivAtma to the paramAtma. Along with the Gadya Threyam .Thirumanjanam is performed for 18 times reminding us of Swamy Ramanujar's visits to Thirugoshtiyur.

The recitation of the Gadya Thrayam begins at about 11 P.M. . Those heavenly chants fill the air with beatitude and immense happiness. At this time the whole srirangam is very festive and people make sweets and savories as if there is a marriage in their own house.

Gadya Thrayam Recitation order

Starts with the chant of "Vaikunta Gadyam" and then proceeds with the "Sri RangaGadyam" and at last ends with the beautiful chant of the "Sarangadhi gadyam"!

NamPerumal and Peria pirattlar are seated together. NamPerumal is standing majestically and pirAtti is enjoying the beauty of Her NamPerumal, and Ramanujar felts that this was the right opportunity ask for favors from them.

Moksham from Samsaram

Swamy Ramanuja worshipping them, submits his deep fear of samsara and begs the NamPerumal to save him. Swamy Ramanuja surrendered his all to the NamPerumal and begged Him to be his sole savior.

Saranagati Gadyam

Swamy Ramanuja first addresses Sri as the mother of the Universe, as his own mother, and as the loving consort of his NamPerumal, and seeks her intercession on his behalf. This is itself a saranagati addressed to the mother. In the first verse called 'Saranagathi Gadya,' a delighted Ramanuja

on finding the divine couple together at the Serthi Mandapam approaches Ranganayaki Thayar, sings in praise of Her and seeks Her blessings to make NamPerumal Ranganatha to accept his total surrender at his feet.

Sriranga Gadyam

The Sriranga gadyam is a shorter piece and is essentially the same as the Saranagati gadyam. Sree BhaashyakArar has recalled the meaning and significance of the dhvaya mantram. Sree BhAshyakArar has given here the dhvayArtha (Meaning of dhvayam) in a summarized form.

In the second composition called 'Ranga Gadhya,' he sings in praise of NamPerumal Ranganatha and shares to the world the many virtues of the NamPerumal.

Vaikunda Gadyam

Explain the beautiness of vaikundam and what a jeevan has to do once reached vaikundam. He rendered 16 verses in praise of NamPerumal and Thayar at the Serthi Mandapam. On the Panguni Uthiram night, Namperumal was adorned with 18 different alankarams various description brings to light the great things and the divine world of Vaikunta.

In memory of his contributions, these three compositions of Ramanuja was rendered in front of the Serthi Mandapam at 1 a.m. on the Panguni Uthiram night.

Next day event

Later, saatrumarai goshti is done at Udayavar (Ramanujar's)sannidhi in the early hours. After all this, the NamPerumal then requests Thayar's permission to go and complete the remaining procession. At this request, our

Thayar's face drops and looks downcast, which indicates her reluctance to part with the NamPerumal at this point of time. But , thayar then mentions that First she will leave and return back to her Moolasthanam after which the NamPerumal can start.

This shows the patience, forbearance and the humility of our beloved Thayar. The NamPerumal then starts to leave towards the "Goratham (Chariot), before which he peeps into Sri Ranganyaki Thayrs sannidhi, as if to take a glimpse of his beloved wife and say "Bye" before proceeding . After this the NamPerumal starts for the procession.

Special about the day

On Panguni Uthiram day, only Thayar sannidhi is kept open and it is not possible to have Sri Ranganathar(moolavar) darsanam on that day. A war of words ensues between the two with the NamPerumal trying his best to convince Thayar of his commitment to her. During the 90-minute debate, which was one of the biggest highlights of Panguni Uthiram festival, the Araiyaars , represented Namperumal (waiting outside the entrance of the Thaayar Sannidhi) and PandAris/ KaimkaryaparALs represents Thayar.

Following the debate, Namperumal enters the Thayar Sannidhi and for almost 10 hours, the divine couple give darshan to the devotees at the Serthi Mandapam. Thousands of devotees thronge to the temple to worship the Serthi Darshan.

This is the only occasion in the year when NamPerumal and Thayar are seen together and hence this is a very sacred occasion. Belief is that a visit to the Srirangam temple on this day for the 'Serthi Seva' will relieve one of all sins.

Thayar Sita and NamPerumal Rama was conducted on Panguni Uthiram day.