

Srimathe Ramanujaya Namaha

Sri Rangapriya Divya Padhukabhyam Namaha

Dear Bhagavathas,

Bhagavad anubhavam happens on a spiritual realm...so different from material happiness and distress. There is a sense of constancy and timelessness in bhagavad anubhavam. Mukthinath is a place that is so divine that it awakens our senses and connects us with Perumal and Thayaar.

I would like to share my final post today.

### **Nepal Trip – Post 4(Final) – Experience of Mukthinath**



Picture Courtesy: [www.mukthinathyatra.com](http://www.mukthinathyatra.com)

Saligramams everywhere...millions of saligramams rolling and floating through Gandaki.... sublime powers sequestered in silence...

As the jeep drove from Jomsom to Mukthinath, I was stunned and quietened by the sight of Gandaki flowing smoothly at times.... fiercely at times.... The towering Himalayan ranges lacing along Gandaki appeared as Adishesha.... hooding the countless saligramas....

When we rode on the river bed and water splashed on our face, the sprinkling of water gave a tingling sensation. Our first blessing of the holy waters.

I wondered about the Saligramas... who are you? Are you the valiant Rama? Are you here to offer abhaya...? Are you my darling Krishna... waiting to embrace me...?

Reciting dwaya manthram.... I say sharanam to you...to each one of you Oh Saligrama...I am your dasa...I seek refuge in you...govern me... protect me...With saligramams in sight, reciting

dwaya manthram felt more and more powerful...Prostrating to asmad Acharyan, I journey along a rocky ride against jagged edges and rapturous sceneries.

As I reached the foothills of Mukthinath, I saw a steep climb ahead of us...Horse came to my rescue! As the horse took me through some spectacular views of the mountain, the one question in my mind was” how is Perumal in Mukthinath...” I saw streams of water flowing from the snow-clad mountains...It looked as if Adisesha was bejeweled with a lustrous flowy chain...There were many streams running from top to bottom in full force... Is Adisesha bringing water for thirumanjanam to Perumal straight from the Himalayas...The white snowy mountains looked like Adisesha’s inner soft white bed...what a perfect seating and setting for Perumal...

As I dismounted from the horse, I saw the temple gopuram...There were a few more arduous steps to climb... I finally reached the temple precincts... Adisesha gave darshan, held my hands and brought me all the way from Jomsom To Mukthinath.

The temple courtyard looked simple and welcoming...I got ready to take bath in 108 dhara (spouts) of sacred water that represent Pushkarini waters from all the 108 Sri Vaishnava Divya Deshams. Continuously reciting dwaya manthram, I walked under the spouts...as freezing cold water fell on my head, I shivered... My mind was housed with the divine dwaya manthram...and after some time all I could hear was the word Narayana echoing through my entire self. That’s all I could hear...that’s all that mattered...

After walking through 108 dhara I also took a dip in two sacred pools of water. Feeling extra ordinarily refreshed, I stood in line to see Perumal. Reciting Thirumangai Alwar’s pasurams Kalaiyum kariyum parimaavum, I moved forward...as I was reciting the 10<sup>th</sup> pasuram Thaaraa aarum vayal suznda shaalakkiramathadigalai, I stood right at the entrance, right in front of Perumal... Thirumangai Alwar led me step by step to the very door step of the Lord of Mukthinath...

Perumal looked astonished...perhaps amazed at his own creation...Perumal was seeing me with full open eyes and saying “You finally came to me my child... It must have been a long journey...” Perumal’s gazing eyes kept following me, my thoughts, my presence and my existence .... Flanked by the divine consorts, Sri Devi and Bhu Devi on either side, possessing prayoga chakra, shankha, gadha and padma Perumal looked magnificent...Thaayars were gesturing with their hands to pay obeisance to the supreme Lord. I sensed urgency in Thayar’s gesture. “Come on my child, don’t delay anymore, here is your father, here we are... waiting to receive you with open arms...”

There were vigrahams of Garudalwar, Thirumangai Alwar and Ramanujar too.

My namaskarams to you Oh Garuda...Are you having fun serving as a vahana for Perumal in the Himalayas....My prostrations to you Thirumangai Alwar for your lovely pasurams that made me think of the different avataharams of Lord Narayana and also for your benediction to let my mind sail to Saligrama...My humble namaskaramas to you Sri Ramanuja, I am experiencing all this only because of your kindness...

After having darshan of Perumal, I sat in the temple precincts to take in the glory of the place. I started reciting Thirumangai Alwar's pasurams once again to take in the beauty of the place...The pasuram lines Vaanaay, theyay, marudhamaay, malaiyay, alai neer ulaganaithum thanai...took form right in front of my eyes...Yes I see the majestic mountains... feel the blustery wind...hear the gurgling water...gaze at the open sky...I also see fire that has emerged on its own...I see life stirring in all directions...I see all this as your creation...I see a graphic depiction of Chith, Achith and Ishwara....

I see your presence in creatures small and big...I see you in miniscule pebbles and also the gigantic mountains...Oh Narayana I see you everywhere...

I was pleasantly surprised to find a huge crowd of Srivaishnavas. We recited saatrumurai to our heart's content and the priest blessed us with vasthrams adorned by Perumal and abharanams adorned by Sri Devi and Bhudevi...

Thank you for taking the time to read these posts. Sharing my experiences with all of you has enriched my experiences even more...

Sarvam Krishnaarpanamasthu

Seeking blessings

Adiyen

Hema Srinath