

THE CALL OF SHAKTI

What is this place where reigns absolute silence ?

The woods ,far from the madding crowd ! In this beautiful stillness blooms the spirit of the dark Goddess ,Karumariammen.

She is like Sri Maariammen ,the Goddess of Rain . Rain is the source of fertility,the feminine nature of Divinity. St Thiruvalluvar devotes a whole chapter {ch2 --VAAN SIRAPPU} on Rain in the Thirukural.

Darkness symbolises ignorance ,fear,terrorism, absolute poverty. This darkness is total chaos and inflinges dire sufferings on humanity. Out of this darkness shines forth the essence of life. Out of these woods emerge the healing energy of Sakti dispelling all worries and fear of people passing nearby.

Some hundred years ago , labourers and forest workers woke up at dawn ,to walk up to the fields for daily chores. They were hearing regularly the noise of trailing feet in the rear. They knew Mother Nature was guiding their path against all adversities. They halted and their intelligence corroborated with the Supreme Intelligence in the flora.....

They offered their prayers to Mother Nature.

--- AMMA AMMA TAYE UNGA KAVALVELLICCHAM TAARUNGAL !

O ! MOTHER NATURE, PROTECT US WITH YOUR GRACEFUL WATCHLIGHT.

Every year at a particular time people gather and offer milk and rice and partake the sacred food {prasadam} with the Dark Goddess Devi KARUMARIAMMEN.

The name of one of the earliest devotees which came to mind was one Mr Arjun ,an inhabitant of Henrietta who led these devotees to pray at this particular place called Closel ,Tamarind Falls.

The serene scenery in this wildeness would call faithful devotees to communicate unhesitatingly with the power of sakti all around.The right environment and the right mood for people to pray

This sacred plot is close to the gateway leading to the beautiful view on the Sept Cascades, situated on the far extreme point of the village , Henrietta. The place is reachable by bus and car and the sunny time invites for physical exercises by walking and jogging which are spiritual activities too.

Those people who went for the canjee ceremony last year would be mostly delighted to see a beautiful kovil erected on the spot . Mother Nature,Sri Karumariammen emerging from the woods,has decided to sit and wait for her devotees. Her accessibility is becoming more needed at the times where strange calamities are striking the formerly known paradise of Mark Twain,Mauritius .

At present the Tamarind Falls are becoming more attractive with the installation of Arulmigu Devi Karumariammen Thiru kovil. Since the MahaKumbabishegam in late April and the Canjee offerings on the 1st May 2013,over one thousand people have already sought the Darisanam of Devi Karumariammen of Sept Cascades.

Mark me! soon we shall count hundred thousands of devotees seeking the grace of the Goddess. AUM PARASAKTI at this particular place. The real place of God is in nature.

The divine Sakti of Shivaperuman is worshipped as the inseparable power of Parasivam.

To the Vaishnavar,She is Sri.To the Sakta She is the great Goddess ,the Maha Shakti ,the mother of Creation. She creates ,preserves,and dissolves and directs all the activities of the Universe. She reveals to her true devotees ,her transcendental truth and makes them experience her own blissful Being for their beatitude . SHE REVEALS HERSELF AND SINCERE DEVOTEES CAN FEEL HER BLISSFUL BEING. This enchanting mood was strongly felt during the canjee ceremony at Arulmigu Thiru Karumariammen Kovil of Sept Cascades. Devotees were dazzled and so many were saying "Mo ti pu chagrin si mo pa tivin la !!!!!" The Goddess takes care of her devotees.

Devi Karu Mariammen has a long history since time immemorial. In all historical notes Devi Karumariammen hails from Tamil Nadu ,emerging in vast crop fields and in the forests and wastelands. She was not born but She appeared. Her apparition has been frequently noted through out time. She came to herald difficult times in the lives of people. She came to offer her protection.

Many are her names and forms .Many are her activities and cosmic functioning .The popular form in which she is worshipped in All India is Kali-Mari-Durga,dispeller of all calamities and confusion.

Subramania Bharathiyar , the Tamil poet whose patriotic works should be known by all Indians,principally ,the Tamil people , writes:

Ode to Maha Shakti

Mother bade me serve and prosper

and ignore the fruits of Action

She has absorbed my sorrows dire

and immersed me in bliss serene.

Finding Her in the clear moonlight

I took my refuge in her

My senses subdued at last

I've chased away vain desires.

The shining stars up above

The high speed of the winds

The expansive space beyond

And the joy in my heart

'Tis all her Grace.

Mother Sakti inspires hopes,achievements,dreams and visions.

Sri Karumariammen is praised as "Karuvil illada Karumari" meaning

One who is not born in the womb. She has made apparitions since time immemorial.

It is quite common to read in the news of the apparitions of the Black Virgin in European cities and in villages of South America amidst staunch catholic people. In India, she has appeared in wastelands, forest landscapes, riversides and in vast crop fields. In Tamil Nadu, besides the desolated places, she appeared in kovilyards and in places close to burial grounds.

Lord Shiva is the Supreme Deity of all these places.

In Mauritius the sugar cane fields and riversides are the chosen residential places for the Goddess felt-presence. Such examples--Tookay Ammen at Camp Diable {Camp d'arbres as named by the French} Parasakti at Chebel, Karumariammen at Trianon and the list continues.

Karumariammen emerges from dark places to enlighten people to practice good living full of mercy and love towards others. In this Kaliyuga, injustice and sins are growing more and more. Even good people are becoming bad. Long ago at the end of tetra yugam, situation was similarly bad. Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu appeared to Parasakti for assistance. She came as Karumaari and took up her cane and whipped down all evil minded people. A sugar cane is noted in her hand. The great Siddhar Agasthyar worshipped her on Taipoossam Day and She blessed the rishi to propagate Tamil language and grammar through out Tamil Nadu and India. Devi Karumariammen is prayed with milk to appease the kundalini in the self which arises by her sakti. As Naagamaari, She decreases the bad effect of planets Rahu-Ketu.

She comes to the rescue of devotees during rahu kalam when people are affected by negative forces. She accepts betel leaves to relieve people of indigestive diseases. This is her astral nature. Lord Balamurugan liked to offer betel leaves to his Mother, Koravai.

Lord Murugan offered Her, the mount Lion {Singam} after redeeming the demon Sinhamuki, symbolising the taming of Anger, one of the three basic evil nature, after greed and jealousy, the all-components of Ego, the origin of sin. Her abode at Thiruvankadu, Tamil Nadu has been sung by Gnanasambandar, Arunagirinathar, Sekilar in their works.

She is KumbaMaari--She becomes Ganga, sacred water in a kumbam{kodon} mixing the panjabutam--five elements protecting all with her presence in the neem leaves to expel off deadly effect of epidemics. The tumeric pastes are used to invite prosperous marriages and cure infertility to beget children. Her kunguman calls for victorious events and loyalty with God. Her trident comes from Lord Shiva to conquer birth, life, and death. To give moksha.

The saffron cord is to retrieve erring souls. The Kumbamari is the Goddess Head--the Karagam.

Above on the head of a devotee she blesses all those who come to venerate her.

She is Annapoorani, the giver of food, from the physical food to the spiritual food in the image of a Maavilakku, a lamp made of groundrice mixed with honey and burned up in cow ghee. She lives in vast crop fields blessing life in all forms. The best way to keep something in mind and make it alive is by materialising it--making a statue of it. This is why murthis are necessary for people to pray. Our minds alone are not still and cannot concentrate on God. We need some support

We pray to the spirit overhauling the object and we are not interested in the material and object.

We are more concerned with the spiritual power of the mind.

How to pray Karumariammen ?

Burn a Maavilakku in SamyArai {pujaroom} or under a holy tree in the garden.

Recite or sing appropriate prayer .

Offer turmeric paste and kungumam over betel leaves. Light camphor and agarbatti for Arathanai.

Thank Ammen for her grace.Partake the burned lamp as prasadam

This food takes down the grace of shakti in the body and enlightens the soul.

Sundays are best for celebrating Karumariammen as She taught the Sun planet to be more attentive in its Dharmam{ duty}

On all Tuesdays ,Karumariammen is worshipped during Rahu kalam to minimize the effect of Rahu and Ketu as inflicted on karmic life.

Sri Karumariammen is worshipped during the whole year . Her festivities are in the following periods,namely

Month of Tai {January --February} Pongol days and Taipoossam

Month of Maassi { February--March} Maasi Magam

Month of Sittirei { April--May} chitra poornami

Month of Vaikaassi { May-june} Vaikaassi Visagam

Month of Aadhi {july- August} the whole month with canjees.

Aadhi padinettam peruku.

Month of Aipassi { October--November} Navaratri poossai ,Teemeedee.

Month of Kartigai { November --December} Skanda Shasthi--Aadhi Sakti.

Every month on fullmoon days, ceremonies are dedicated to Sri Karumariammen

Aadi Masam ,the 4th month in the panjagam,starts on the 17th July to end on the 17th August on 8.30 a.m . The period is termed inauspicious by many as Dakshinayana Punyakalam ,not favourable which calls for intense prayers to remedy to the ill-effect of the sun ,causing monsoons very disastrous to nature , high temperature and flooding weather.Ammen is most sought as a God Grace to protect humanity. No marriages are held in this month.However many religious ceremonies are celebrated in honour of Ammen,the compassionate universal mother who takes pity on the worries {tookon} of people.

On the 31st July ,devotees carry cavadee for Lord Murugan celebrating Aadi Kartigai

On the 3rd August ,Padinettam perukku is celebrated by married couples renewing their faith in wedlock with the blessing of AMMAI while doing the River worship with the grace of Sakti.

On the 9th August Aadi Puram is dedicated to Sri Andal for her love for Lord Krishna.

On the sixteenth August ,Varalaxmi poossai is celebrated calling for prosperity,peace and love for all people on earth.

And on the 17th August morning at latest 7.30 a.m Aadi kazavu is performed to Lord Saniswaran to ward off evil effects of karmic diseases.

Wishing all the best to all.

VAAZHGA VALAMUDEN

Gopalsamy Pillay Mauree.