

12th Episode – Nandi is all about sitting active, full of alertness, full of life.

Following 11th episode of “*Navagrahas, partial secret revealed*”, towards Maha Kumbhabhisekam of Panching Gua Charas Jalalingeswarar Shivan temple, with good intention and thoughts for all devotees, the following write-up is prepared.

As discussed in the previous 11th episode, Quote “It is important for each of us to meditate and look inward, because it will **raise our consciousness and also raise beyond the planets and their effects**. Jalalingam temple is a perfect place as the energy in existence will help each of us to concentrate and bring our mind and body to ease”.

As such, in this 12th episode (final episode for month of Jan 2020), we will look into significance of Nandi and Tortoise in temples. Many of us may wonder or ask the question within ourselves why Nandi and Tortoise is often sighted in temples – Mostly in Shivan temples.



To make it interesting, in Jalalingam temple not only we have significant Nandi but also Tortoise whom lived in the cave for many years and eventually his shell is placed near meditating Buddha given us insights if we are willing to see “things are they are”.

Nandi is the symbolism Nandi is the symbolism of eternal waiting. Waiting is considered as the greatest virtue in Indian culture. One who simply knows how to sit and wait is naturally meditative. Nandi is not expecting for Shiva to come neither he is anticipating or expecting anything.

He is just waiting; he will wait forever. That quality is an essence of receptivity that Nandi is Shiva’s closest companion. The closer **you go to a temple**; you need to have quality like Nandi. You are not trying to go to heaven. You are not trying to get this or that. **You simply sit.**

People have always **misunderstood meditation as some kind of activity**. No, it is a quality. That is the fundamental difference. On the other hand, prayer means you are trying to talk to God, Meditation means you are willing to listen to God.

You are just willing to listen to existence, to the ultimate mature of creation. You have nothing to say, you simply listen. That is the quality of Nandi. He just sits alert. This is very important, **he is alert**, not sleepy or sitting in a passive way. **Sitting active, full of alertness, full of life.** That is meditation.

Meditation essentially means one is not doing his own thing, he is just there. Once you are simply there, you become aware of the larger dimensions of existence, that is always in action. You become aware that you are a part of it. Even now you are part of it, but becoming aware of it is meditateness.

Nandi is symbolism of that. He just sits and reminds everyone; you must sit like me.

As for Tortoise, in the Bhagavad Gita Lord Krishna says that; *“One who is able to withdraw his senses from sense objects, as the tortoise draws its limbs within the shell, is firmly fixed in perfect consciousness”*.



A tortoise can totally cocoon itself in its shell just like when a yogi meditates, he cocoons himself from the world too and gets inside his meditative shell. He renounces all material possessions or even a thought of it. Tortoise is at the entrance of the temple which signifies, we need to detach ourselves from the materialistic world while entering the temple.

Or sometimes tortoise is in front of Nandi, which signifies, you mediate like Nandi and detachment like tortoise will follow automatically. So, the next time you go to Jalalingam temple, remember to withdraw your mind from materialistic world like tortoise and sit like Nandi, full of alertness, full of life and that is meditation. There are ample of place in our temple to do the meditation and for this very purpose after June 7th 2020, we will have a specific mediation place at Hanuman sanctum, which will be build.

Shiva Shambo
Om Nama Siva Ya Om
Help Ever Hurt Never
Service to Society is Service to Almighty
Master Ir. Sivabalan - Temple Trustee
30th Jan 2020