

Dattatreya Devotees And Krishna River Pushkaraalu – 2016

There is a great connection between Dattatreya and the river Krishna.

Water is one of the most important of the five elements (Pancha bhutalu) of life. According to the Bruhajabala Upanishad, only water existed before the universe came into existence. The water that we consume is mainly divided into 3 parts. Most part of it is discharged from the body in the form of sweat or urine. Little part of it into blood and very little part of it becomes Life (Pranam).

According to the Adarvana vedam, water in the vapour form in the sky, while coming down, hits with the cloud called Ahi, and pours down in the form of rain. The water thus pouring down in the form of rain, is the main source of water for the Rivers. Nadhi(River) is extracted from the word Nadha (which means sound). Nadhi(River) is the form of mother as per Markhandeya Puranam.

In a book called 'Munibhava Bhodini', it is clearly mentioned about each River and its importance. According to it, during Pushkar time, if we take a holy dip/bath in Ganga, it will wash away our sins and gives us wisdom. A holy dip in Yamuna River during Pushkar will get rid of any mental illness. Bath in Narmada, will give health. Bath in Saraswathi will give purity of speech and glowing body. Bath in Godavari, will get rid of diseases. **A bath/dip in Krishna river during Pushkar time, will establish GuruBhakthi in us and develops our mental relationship with the Guru.** While bath in all the other rivers works on us physically, it is only the River Krishna, which helps us to develop close relationship with the Guru. For a Datta devotee, it is mandatory to take bath in Krishna river during Pushkar time.

All the rivers in other countries will have only Pravaha/flow shakthi. But all the rivers in India, will have Teertha shakthi (Sacred power) along with Pravaha shakthi.

Origin of River Krishna

Krishna river is one of the most important Rivers in Southern India. It is also called as 'Bhumadhya nadhi'. Krishna River is created by Lord Dattatreya (the Vishnu Amsa). Lord Brahma accepted Krishna River as His daughter and has given all His powers to her.

Lord Krishna requests Lord Brahma to release the powerful Krishna River as per the prayer of Sahyamuni of Sahyadri mountain (Lord Dattatreya resides on Sahyadri mountain). Krishna attains the form of Ashwatha tree(peepal tree/Raavi chettu) on Sahyadri mountain, and the River Krishna flows down on the Sahyadri from the left side of the the Ashwatha tree. This place on Sahyadri mountain is called as 'Chakra Teertham'. As Krishna River has come on to Sahyadri, it is the most favorite river of Lord Dattatreya.

From Chakra Teertham, Krishna River slowly flows down and comes out of the Gomukham (Cow's mouth) in Mahabaleshwar temple (a sacred temple of Lord Shiva located in Maharashtra) and gets released in the open space reachable for the common man. In this way, Krishna River is the combination of all the powers of Vishnu, Brahma and Shiva.

From Mahabaleshwar, River Krishna still flows down, and unites with the River Veni (born from Shiva) and thus called as "River KrishnaVeni". In this way, River Krishna is the Trimurthi Swarupam/Guru form.

Further from Maharashtra, Krishna River flows and enters Karnataka state (Karnataka Telangana border, Tangidigi village, Raichur) where Bhima River unites with Krishna. Little further from here, at the great Kshetram Gangapur, Bhima river unites with the River Amaraja and becomes BhimaAmaraja sangamam. Bhima is one of the most important tributaries of Krishna River.

In this way Krishna River is related to Dattatreya Swamy in many ways like:

- Krishna river first came down on to Sahyadri mountains, where Lord Datta resides.
- From Chakra Teertham, Krishna flowed to Mahabaleshwar through Gomukham (cow's mouth). We can always see a cow with Lord Datta.
- Sri Kshetram Gangapur, where Bhima unites with Amaraja, is the sacred place where SriNrusimha Saraswathi Swamy (Lord Datta's second incarnation) spent many years and His Nirguna padukas are installed there.
- All Datta avatars ended their incarnation in Krishna River.

River Amaraja

Amaraja is a very small river. The origin of Amaraja river is at Dattagram (7 to 10km from Kadaganchi). From here, it flows in Gulbarga district(Kalaburgai) for only 60kms and unites with Bhima river at Gangapur. People of Dattagram say that, once the idols of Lord Dattatreya and SriNarasimha Saraswathi got immersed in the water of Amaraja. The power of those idols is transferred into the water of Amaraja river. This river has got no Pushkaras.

Another powerful river called Kundali river, unites with Bhima river in Karnataka.

In Summary, River Amaraja unites with Bhima at Gangapur, Kundali river unites with Bhima in Karnataka and in turn, River Bhima unites with Krishna at Raichur...making Krishna river more powerful.

Krishna river gets pushkaram when Bruhaspati (Guru graha/Jupiter) enters into Kanya Raasi (Virgo).

Origin of Pushkaram

The master of water is Lord Varun. Bruhaspati is the great grandson of Lord Varun. In this way, Bruhaspati hails from the family of Water God.

Pushkar resides in the water pot(Kamandalam) of Lord Brahma. Bruhaspati does penance to Lord Brahma with an intention to attain Pushkar.

Lord Brahma blesses Bruhaspati by giving Pushkar. In this way, Pushkar stays with Bruhaspati on the first and last twelve days of his(pushkar) entering into 12 Raasis. First 12 days are called 'Aadi Pushkaram' and the last 12 days are called 'Anthya Pushkaram'. Both hold the same importance. During the whole year (when Bruhaspati enters into Kanya raasi), Bruhaspati, Pushkar and Lord Brahma reside in the River Krishna for about 45 minutes during the afternoon. So if anyone misses to take bath during Pushkar time (first and the last 12 days), they can take bath anytime during the year in the afternoon time.

Donation (Daanam) during Pushkaram

To get rid of Prarabdha Karma (Prarabdha is that portion of the past karma which is responsible for the present body), one need to donate/do daan during Pushkaram to get ultimate result. Taking a holy dip in the Krishna river during Pushkar, yields the result equivalent to taking bath in 12 rivers. One Pushkara bath is equal to one Ashwametha Yagam.

Daanam during the 12 days of Pushkaram:

Day 1: Annadanam or mix rice flour in Krishna river

Day 2: Godanam or Lavana (salt) danam

Day 3: Fruits or Jaggery

Day 4: Panchamruta danam

Day 5: 2 types of grains

Day 6: Sandal or other medicinal herbs

Day 7: Money

Day 8: Flowers

Day 9: Pinda Pradhanam (Shraadh ceremony). Very important of all 12 daanas

Day 10: Guru Pooja and cloth daanam for river

Day 11: Donate Books, Yagnopaveetham (Yagnopaveetham is the triple stranded sacrificial strand of thread joined by a knot called Brahmagranthi that is worn by those initiated into the Gayathri recital

Day 12: Tila daanam (sesame seeds)

In summary, River Krishna is the form of Guru. Sacred bath in Krishna, will increase our devotion towards the Guru and takes us more close to Him. It will develop our mental relationship with the Guru. So bath in River Krishna during Pushkar time is mandatory for a Datta Devotee.

Jai Gurudatta

Thanks To Smt. Kranthi Ji For Translation