

Sri Gnana Saraswathi Vratam

A Divine Vratam blessed by Maa Saraswathi Herself



Viswapathi

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**Om Vagdevyacha Vidmahe
Brahma Patnyacha Dhimahi
Tanno Vaani Prachodayaat**

Sreerasthu

Subhamasthu

Avignamasthu

Sri Gnana Saraswathi Vratam

(Miraculous Vrata kalpa specified by Sri Saraswathi Devi with Her Divine blessings)



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Foreword

Sharadindu Samaakare Parabrahma Swarupini Vaasaraa Peetha nilaye Saraswathi Namosthute

Saraswathi Devi is Brahma personified. She is the Ruler of all skills and education. She is the mother of vedas. The mother of education, Saraswati Devi was born on Magha Shuddha Panchami. This Vasanta Panchami is also called Sri Panchami. One would be blessed with knowledge and education, if one visits the Gnana Saraswati Devi temple on the Sri Panchami.

I studied M.Tech from REC Warangal in 1983. Then I worked in Alwyn till 1984, and then till 1989 I worked with M V S R Engineering College. In 1983 I was married to Chi. Sow. Venkata Rukmini Vaidehi. We were blessed with three children Aanandi, Aamukta and Aditya.

From 1998, I have been designing logos and naming organisations using vedas and astrology. Till now I have designed logos for more than 5000 organisations both in India and abroad. I could do all this only because of Sri Srinivasa's blessing.

Because of Sri Srinivasa's mercy, I was able to write twenty two books till now. Among these 14 are about leelas of Sri Venkateswara Swamy! It is only by his grace that these books are being read by devotees across the world. People are seeing miracles and receiving blessings upon reading these books. They are leading a satisfied life due to his grace. Among the twenty four books that I have written, Sri Venkateswara Vrata Kalpam, Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Vrata Kalpam, Sri Ananda Anjaneyam, Sri Maheswara Vratam, Sri Subramanya Vratam, Sri Sai Raksha Vratam, Sri Rama Raksha Vratam are more popularly followed. All these seven vratams are performed by numerous devotees in their houses as well as in temples across the world. I feel really blessed for being able to write these vratams by the grace of Sri Venkateswara Swamy.

From a long time devotees have been requesting me to write a vratam on Sri Saraswathi matha. I believe that No one can write any devotional book without the blessing of that particular God or Goddess. There is always a divine intervention behind each of the books that I have written. After so many years with Maa Saraswati blessing I was able to write this vratam. Some time ago we went to Basara for my granddaughter Chi.Tanvi's aksharaabhyaasam. On that day I received the blessing to write this vratam. The vratam is easy to perform, and can be done by anyone and anywhere to receive Her blessing. By praying to Saraswati Maa one can be blessed with physical brilliance, name, fame, knowledge, wisdom, work completion, early marriage, beget children, get promotions, become healthy, acquire wealth and prosper.

I am thankful to Smt & Sri P. Jagadeesh of Sri Vasavi printers, for the DTP work. I pray that Sri Saraswathi Maa should always bless them.

I am thankful to those who helped in the first print of this book, especially Sri Kaatamreddy Shiva Kumar Reddy, Smt Girija (Gautami Vidya Dhamam, S R Nagar Hyderabad), Sri Krishna Murthy, Smt Surya Kumari, Sri Jaganmohan Reddy, Smt Venkateswarmma, (Nagarjuna school, S R Nagar). I believe all this is Saraswati Maa's benevolence. I pray to mother Goddess to bless all these people and their families

I also implore Mother Goddess to bless all those who directly or indirectly contributed to the publication of the book, devotees like you who are performing this vratam or reading the stories and those who partake the prasadam should be blessed with health, wealth and prosperity.

“Sarve Janaa Sukhino Bhavantu”

**“Sri Saraswati Kataaksha Siddhirasthu
Samasta Sanmangalaani Bhavantu”**

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How to Perform this Vratam

- This book can be read by anyone, anytime. There is no limitation of age, caste or creed. It can be read by both men and women, in any month or any day.
- It is very auspicious to read on Panchami, Ekadasi, or pournami tithi. Reading it on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday is much more auspicious. The bad deeds of previous births will be removed. One will be blessed with a lot of punyam.
- There is no need to observe any fast when doing this vratam.
- Before starting the vratam offer obeisance to Lord Ganapati, Navagrahas and Astadikpalakas. After that one can state in your mind your name, names of your family members and gotram. Read the Astotram of Saraswati Devi followed by the five stories of Saraswati Maa and finally offer any fruits as Naivedyam.
- Children who are writing exams should read the five stories and offer bananas to Saraswati maa. Maa Saraswati will bless them with success in the exams.
- One can read the five stories in any Shaarada Matam and offer bananas to Devi Saraswati to maximise the benefits. Whatever one wishes for would come true. Unmarried will get married, childless will beget children, children will get good results in their exams. Reading can be done either in morning or evening and no specific requirement of fasting to perform this vratam.
- ***This vratam can be performed in any of the educational institutes. If it is performed in the educational institute owner's house, the institute would prosper. Every year as soon as the school or college opens, the teachers can read the five stories to the students, offer bananas to Maa Saraswati and then distribute the same to the children as prasadam. Those who partake this prasadam would be blessed by Maa. They would study with a lot of interest, they would develop remembrance power and concentration. On any day, (morning around 9AM) the teacher can keep the photo of Maa Saraswati on the table and read the five stories for the students.***
- ***Before the exams, on any auspicious day the teacher can make the children listen to these five stories, offer bananas as neivedyam. Children who partake this prasadam would get good marks in their exams and pass with distinction.***
- ***On the day of aksharaa bhyaasam, if one performs this vratam, their children would be blessed with knowledge and intelligence.***
- Performing the vratam before attempting any competitive exams would result in achieving success. One can perform this vratam before attending Interviews and would be succeed in those.
- There is no requirement for both husband and wife to do the vratam together. Whenever husband or wife is free they can perform it. If both have time to perform together they can very well do so.

- Under unfortunate circumstances of being a widow or widower even they can, without hesitation, perform the vratam. Those who perform will be blessed with peace of mind.
- Childless couple will be blessed with children, if this vratam is performed on any Friday. If unmarried girls or boys read the book, their marriage would be fixed quickly.
- One can perform the vratam or read the book for the benefit of one's children or relatives if they are unable to do so for any reason (out of country, health problem etc). You can perform or read the book on a Friday in any temple to obtain the blessings of Devi Maa, be it for child, marriage, job, health etc.
- ***By performing this vratam, the natural progression of losing memory power will be stopped and one's memory would increase. Concentration on the work would be more. There will be mental peace.***
- People who want to be artistically oriented in music, dance, singing or arts should perform the vratam on any Friday to get maximum results and would earn fame. They will get recognition in their chosen field. Performing the vratam before the exams in these fields would lead to success.
- In this way one can perform the Sri Saraswati Mata vratam in any way, on any day to receive the blessings of Maa.

Timmaraju Viswapathi Rama Krishna Murthy

Sri Saraswati Astotra Satanaamaavali

Om Saraswatyai Namaha	Om Bhogadaayai Namaha	Om
Om Mahabhadraayai Namaha	Om Bhaaratyai Namaha	Dhoomralochanamardanaayai
Om Maha mayaayai Namaha	Om Bhaamaayai Namaha	Namaha
Om Varapradaayai Namaha	Om Govindaayai Namaha	Om Sarvadevathastutayai
Om Shripradaayai Namaha	Om Gomatyai Namaha	Namaha
Om Padmanilayaayai Namaha	Om Shivaayai Namaha	Om Saumyaayai Namaha
Om Padmaakshyai Namaha	Om Jatilaayai Namaha	Om Suraasura namaskrutaayai
Om Padma Vaktra kaayai	Om Vindhyaavaasayai Namaha	Namaha
Namaha	Om Vindhyaachalaviraajitayai	Om Kaalaraatryai Namaha
Om Shivanujaayai Namaha	Namaha	Om Kalaadhaaraayai Namaha
Om Pustakabhrite Namaha	Om Chandikaayai Namaha	Om
Om Gyanamudraayai Namaha	Om Vaishnavyai Namaha	Roopasubhaagyadaayinyai
Om Ramaayai Namaha	Om Brahmayai Namaha	Namaha
Om Paraayai Namaha	Om	Om Surapujitaayai Namaha
Om Kaamarupayai Namaha	Brahmagyanaikasaadhanaayai	Om Suvaasinyai Namaha
Om Mahaa Vidyaayai Namaha	Namaha	Om Sunaasaayai Namaha
Om Mahaa Paataka	Om Saudaaminyai Namaha	Om Vinidraayai Namaha
naashinyai Namaha	Om Sudhaamurtyai Namaha	Om Padmalochanaayai
Om Mahaa Shrayaayai	Om Subhadraayai Namaha	Namaha
Namaha	Om Mahankushaayai Namaha	Om Vidyaarupaayai Namaha
Om Maalinyai Namaha	Om Sitaayai Namaha	Om Vishaalaakshyai Namaha
Om Mahaa Bhogaayai	Om Vimalaayai Namaha	Om Vaagdevyai Namaha
Namaha	Om Vishvaayai Namaha	Om Varaarohaayai Namaha
Om Mahaa Bhujaayai Namaha	Om Vidyunmalaayai Namaha	Om Varaahyai Namaha
Om Mahaa Bhaagaayai	Om Vaishnavyai Namaha	Om Vaarijaasanaayai Namaha
Namaha	Om Chandrikaayai Namaha	Om Chitraambaraayai Namaha
Om Mahotsaahayai Namaha	Om Brahmajayaayai Namaha	Om Chitragandhaayai Namaha
Om Divyangaayai Namaha	Om Mahaphalaayai Namaha	Om Chitramalyavibhushitaayai
Om Suravanditaayai Namaha	Om Trayimurtaye Namaha	Namaha
Om Mahakaalyai Namaha	Om Trikaalagynayai Namaha	Om Kanthaayai Namaha
Om Mahaapaashaayai	Om Trigunaayai Namaha	Om Kaamapradaayai Namaha
Namaha	Om Shaastrarupinyai Namaha	Om Vandyaayai Namaha
Om Mahakaaraayai Namaha	Om Shumbhaasura	Om Vidyadharasupoojitayai
Om Chandravadanaayai	Pramathinyai Namaha	Namaha
Namaha	Om Shubhadaayai Namaha	Om Shwetāsanaayai Namaha
Om	Om Saratmikaayai Namaha	Om Nilabhujaayai Namaha
Chandralekhavibhushitaayai	Om Rakta Beejanihanthyai	Om Chaturvarga
Namaha	Namaha	Phalapradaayai Namaha
Om Savityai Namaha	Om Chaamundayai Namaha	Om Chaturaanana
Om Surasaayai Namaha	Om Ambikaayai Namaha	Saamraajyaayai Namaha
Om Devyai Namaha	Om	Om Raktamadhyaayai
Om Divyaalankarabhushitaayai	Mundakaayapraharanaayai	Namaha
Namaha	Namaha	Om Niranjanaayai Namaha
Om Vagdevyai Namaha		Om Hamsaasanaayai Namaha
Om Vasudaayai Namaha		Om Nilajanghaayai Namaha
Om Tivraayai Namaha		Om
Om Mahabhadraayai Namaha		Brahmavishnushivaatmikaayai
Om Mahabalaayai Namaha		Namaha

Aksharaabhyaasa Puja

(This has to be read when Aksharaa Bhyaasam for a child is done)

Saraswathi Namastubhyam Varade Kaamarupini |
 Vidhyarambham Karishyami Siddhir Bhavatu Me Sada |
 Padmapatra Vishaalakshi Padmakesari Varnani |
 Nityam Padmaalayaam Devi Saamaampaatu Saraswati |

Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Shiromepaatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Phaala Me Paatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Netrayugmam Paatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Naasaam Paatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Jyestam Paatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Dhantam Pankti Paatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Kantam Paatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Paksham Paatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha Jihvaagrasinyai Paatu
 Om Aim Saraswatyai namaha (3 times)

One has to offer prayer to slate and book with these beejaksharams and then teach the writing '**Om Shivaaya Siddham Namaha**'

Sri Saraswati Dwaadasha Naama Stotram

Saraswati Thwiyam Drusthyaa Veena Pustaka Dhaarani
Hamsavaaha Samaayukthaa Vidyaadaanakaree Mama

Prathamam Bharatheenaamaam Dwitheeyam Cha Saraswathi
Trutheeyam Sharadaa Devi Chaturtham Hamsavaahani

Panchamam Jagathee Kyaatham Shastam Vaageeshwari Thadhaa
Koumaari Sapthamam Proktham Ashtamam Brahmachaarinee

Navamam Buddhidhaathree Cha Dashamam Varadhaayini
Ekaadasham Kshudhraghantaa Dwaadasam Bhuvaneshwaree

Braahmee Dwadasanaamaani Trisandyam Yah Patennaraha
Sarva Siddhi Karee Tasya Prasanna Parameshwari
Saame Vasathu Jihvaagre Brahmaroopaa Saraswathi

Sri Gnana Saraswati Vratam

First Chapter

Rama Sharma Story

In olden days there was a village Ramapuram on the banks of River Gautami. A couple named Rama Sharma and Sumathi lived in that village. Rama Sharma was a priest in the Sri Seeta Rama temple of that village. He also used to perform pouruhithyam in the houses of villagers when required. The couple were happy except that they were childless. Even after six years of marriage they didn't have children. They performed a number of vratams for begetting children, prayed to a number of Gods, and visited numerous religious places and temples. Still there was no result. They were upset with this matter.

One day a Sage from a distant place came to the village. He stayed along with his followers under a big tree outside the village. Throughout the day he would perform puja and sing bhajans and in the evening he would teach good things to the people. He would not visit anyone's house even if they forced him to. People believed that the Sage had special powers and that he could read past present and future. After coming to know of this, Rama Sharma along with his wife went to the Sage for his darshan. The couple bowed down to the sage and requested to show them a way to beget children. The Sage closed his eyes for some time, then took a mango and gave it to Sumati. He blessed them saying that the next day was Ekadasi and that she should take bath early in the morning and then eat the mango, and that they would be blessed with a son soon. The couple bowed down to the sage and returned home.

When they reached home they saw that Sumati's brother and his family were waiting outside the house. Sumati was very happy to see them. She entered into the house and kept the mango safely in a cupboard. They slept very late as they were chit chatting into the night.

As Sumathi's brother, Krishna Sharma, had to leave home on some work in the morning, she woke up early and cooked food for him. Due to the busy schedule she completely forgot about the mango. Rama Sharma couple remembered about it only at night. So the next day after taking bath Sumathi took the fruit into her hand to eat. She however observed that on one side of the fruit there were ants. She cleaned the fruit and reverently ate it. In her mind she requested pardon from the Sage for forgetting about the fruit. She prayed to all the Gods to bless her with good children.

With the blessing of eating the mango Sumathi got pregnant and delivered a beautiful baby boy. They named their son Prabhakar Sharma and brought him up with lot of love and affection. In his fifth year they sent him to Ashram school. As a result of Sumathi neglecting the fruit given by the Sage, Prabhakar Sharma was unable to study even with the best efforts of the teachers. After three years also he

was not at all literate. One day, Rama Sharma was upset and with annoyance shouted at him. Prabhakar Sharma was very unhappy with his father's words. He left the house the next day morning and walked into the forest outside the village.

Rama Sharma searched for his son everywhere but could not find him. Prabhakar Sharma roamed in the forest here and there and by nightfall reached an old house. It looked like a temple. As it was getting dark he was scared and decided to stay in the temple. He entered the sanctum sanctorum, cleaned the place and slept to one side. In the night a Celestial being appeared before him and said 'Son! I am Saraswati, the Supreme Goddess of knowledge. You have cleaned my temple which has been neglected from a long time. Today is Vasant Panchami, a very auspicious day. It is very dear to me. You are blessed as you had cleaned my temple on this day. I am granting you all kinds of education and skills. Go to your house in the morning. All good would happen for you'. Saying so She disappeared.

In the morning, as soon as Prabhakar Sharma woke up he saw the divine Maa Saraswati Idol. He cleaned the temple again and offered his obeisance to the Goddess. Suddenly he was able to recite beautiful poetry and he praised Maa Saraswati with poems. With Her blessings he reached home and narrated the whole experience to his parents. Rama Sharma couple were very happy. They gathered the village elders and went to the forest in search of depilated temple. Together they cleaned the premises and conducted a big festival. The reading on the walls of the temple indicated that the Saraswati idol was enshrined by none other than Sri Vyasa Maharshi. In a few years, the temple came to be known as one of the famous Sri Saraswati Maa temples. Devotees realised that whoever worships Her would be blessed with full knowledge.

Mother Goddess of education and knowledge was born on Magha Suddha Panchami. She is kindness personified for Her devotees. She blessed Her devotee Sri Timmaraju Viswapati Rama Krishna Murthy on Vaisakha Suddha Panchami with Sri Gnana Saraswati vratam. If one performs this vratam in any month on panchami they will get good results. Especially on Vasantha Panchami, if the vratam stories are read in any Saraswati temple or any educational institutions and the prasadam is partaken then they would be blessed with abundant knowledge. Offering of Naivedyam can be either banana, sugarcane pieces or jujube fruits. The children of devotees who perform the vratam would be well educated. They would attain success in all exams. The family would be blessed with prosperity.

|| End of First Chapter ||

Sri Gnana Saraswati Vratam

Second Chapter

Divine Story of Gnana Saraswati Peetam

On the banks of River Godavari, in Andhra Pradesh, there was a village Mahadevapuram. There used to be a very old Shiva temple in the village. It was believed by the villagers that Brahma himself had enshrined the Shiva Linga in this temple. The people of Mahadevapuram used to help each other and lived peacefully. The village did not have a school and hence children had to go to a faraway place to study. Although the village elders planned a number of times to build a temple they were unable to do so due to various reasons. Every time some or the other hurdle would crop up.

Once a Pandit named Purushotam Shastri came to the village along with his family. Purushotam Shastri was a very knowledgeable person and well versed with all Shastras. The villagers requested him to stay in their village. They pleaded that they would construct a house with all facilities for his family so that he could teach their children. Purushotam Shastri agreed for the proposal. In a few days, a small school started functioning in the village with all the children studying there.

Purushotam Shastri's school went on well for two years, however from the third year it started facing problems. Somehow the children were unable to study well. Hence the parents slowly started withdrawing the children from the school and sent them to another village. In a span of five years only five children were left in the school. Purushotam Shastri was very unhappy. He realised that he cannot run the school anymore. He however did not want to leave the village also. In the last five years, he had developed affection towards the village and its people.

One day Purushotam Shastri got an idea. He wanted to receive the blessing of Saraswati Devi who is the Goddess of education. He thought only with Her mercy the school would get back its previous glory. He strongly believed that he had to obtain Her blessing. From the next day he started worshiping Saraswati Devi by singing Her praises. He also undertook strict fast by eating only fruits and nothing else.

On the fortieth day Saraswati Maa showed mercy. She appeared in his dream and said 'Oh Son! Purushotam Shastri! I am pleased with your devotion. I will tell you a way to attain the previous glory for this school. Listen patiently. Son! You perform Gnana Saraswati vratam. It is very dear to me. This vratam is very powerful. Perform this vratam as soon as possible in the school premises. Due to this, the school would earn a lot of name and fame. Those who read the five stories in the vratam would be blessed with knowledge. People who perform the vratam will be blessed with good

life. The vratam can be performed in any school, any educational institution, any teacher, owner of the educational institutions or even the villagers. If it is performed in any school at least once a year the children of that school would be very knowledgeable and intelligent. They master all skills. They would receive my blessings. They would be blessed with memory power. If any student reads all the five stories before the exams, they would pass with flying colors. The vratam can be performed in the school in any month on Panchami or Ekadasi. Making the students listen to the five stories would make them achieve good education. They will pass with distinction. If any educational institution performs on '**Sri Panchami**' the children of that institute would conquer all the exams. That institute would attain a lot of fame and name. Next week is '**Sri Panchami**'. You perform the vratam in the school. You will be blessed'. Saying so she disappeared.

Hearing Devi Maa's words Purushotam Shastri was very happy. He praised Her in various ways for blessing him. Next day morning he called all the villagers and explained his dream. Everyone was happy to hear it. On **Sri Panchami** day, with the help of the villagers, Purushotam Shastri, performed **Sri Gnana Saraswati vratam** on a grand scale. With the vratam blessing, the school in a few days picked up and improved. Within a short period it attained the name of good school in the surrounding villages. A few years later it was known as Sri Gnana Saraswati peetham and later as a big University.

Saraswati Maa is kind hearted. People who worship Her would be bestowed with education and good behaviour. They would have complete dedication and concentration towards education. They would be blessed with the capacity to absorb what they learn. Memory would increase. As Mother Goddess explained everyone can perform Sri Gnana Saraswati vratam and live happily.

|| End of Second Chapter ||

Sri Gnana Saraswati Vratam

Third Chapter

Divine Story of Gopayya

Once upon a time on the banks of river Krishna there was an Agraharam (name given to the Brahmin quarter of a heterogenous village or to any village inhabited by Brahmins) called Panditapuram. It was occupied by a number of Brahmin families. There was a big veda school in the agraharam. Children from neighbouring villages also used to come and study here. Children who studied in this school had earned a lot of fame as they became masters in various shastras. People used to believe that Maa Saraswati lived in this school. The school was so well known.

There were a number of teachers and children in the school. Veerayya used to sweep and clean the school every day. The school was located in a very big area, spread across almost five acres. In the premises there was a beautiful Hayagriva statue (a horse-headed avatar of the Lord Vishnu) and in the prayer hall there was a very nice statue of Saraswati Devi. Everyday morning children would offer prayers to Saraswati Devi in the prayer hall, followed by Lord Hayagriva in the compound and then go to their classes.

Veerayya used to clean the prayer hall every day. Veerayya's son Gopayya who was three years old also used to accompany him. Gopayya used to go around the whole school along with his father. He was very much attracted to the divine Saraswati Devi statue. He was mesmerised with the love and affection that was visible in the eyes of Devi Maa. Everyday morning he would sit in front of the statue and stare at it.

In a few years he was five years old. He saw that children of his age were going to school. He also wanted to study. However, he learnt from his father that it would not be feasible. He used to go around the school every day along with his father and if he saw any books he would offer prayers to them. Some children used to throw their books here and there. Gopayya would reverently pick them up and set them aside properly. Spending his time in the school he became twelve years old. During the day he used to help his father in the fields. In the morning he alone would clean the whole school premises. At the end he would pray to the Saraswati Maa statue. He used to pray her to bless him to study in the same school in his next birth. Observing him everyday Mother Goddess was pleased, She decided to bless him.

One day a Pandit from Kanchipuram came to the school. In his honour, the next day a big meeting was arranged. That day morning along with his father Gopayya cleaned the meeting place very nicely. After some time, the whole place was filled with Veda Pandits, Veda school teachers and students. The Kanchipuram Pandit was honoured as a special guest. Gopayya was observing all this from a distance with a lot of interest. Various Pandits spoke on different shastras. Lastly the Pandit

from Kanchipuram went on to the dias and spoke on different subjects. At the end of his speech he posed a question on grammar and requested the attendees to answer the same. He said that he had asked the same question in many Veda meetings but no one could answer it. Everyone listened to the problem silently, however none of the Pandits, teachers or students could answer the same.

At that moment Maa Saraswati wanted to bless Gopayya. Immediately, Gopayya who was standing very far said in a loud voice 'I have the answer to the problem'. Everyone was shocked to hear it. Before anyone could object Gopayya clearly explained the solution to the problem posed by the Pandit. Everyone was stunned. Shocking everyone, there was a voice from the Saraswati statue saying 'Children! Gopayya has a lot of interest in education. Even though he does not know any slokas, he always worshipped me. Now I have blessed him with all knowledge'. People present there were ashamed of their ego and honoured Gopayya who was blessed by Saraswati Maa. In a few years Gopayya was known as a good Scholar and he trained a number of students under his guidance.

Maa Saraswati is very kind hearted. Those who constantly pray to her will be blessed with knowledge of all shastras. They will achieve success in all exams and all tasks. We offer our obeisance to Her.

|| End of Third Chapter ||

Sri Gnana Saraswati Vratam

Fourth Chapter

Divine Story of Shankara Shastri

Once upon a time on the banks of river Ganga there was a city named Maheswarapuram. There was a huge Shiva temple in the city and there was also a well-known music college. Children from not only the neighbouring villages but also from distant places used to come to this college to study music. The teachers in the college were experts in various forms of music. Especially very knowledgeable professors were employed there. The Principal of the college, Sri Rama Sharma was well known in the Hindustani music.

Sri Rama Sharma's son was Shankara Shastri. Sri Rama Sharma always wished to make his son a very accomplished Veena player (expert in playing veena). After the primary education, he joined his son in his college for learning veena. To master veena and write the exams one has to study for five years. Shankara Shastri completed the five years but could not pass the exams. Sri Rama Sharma was very unhappy with this.

After one year, Shankara Shastri again attempted the exam. Again he failed. Sri Rama Sharma thought he was not destined to see his son as a veena scholar. When Shankara Shastri failed in his third attempt, Sri Rama Sharma was very disappointed. Unfortunately he was affected with paralysis and was bedridden. He was worried that he would die without seeing his son's success. Shankara Shastri was unhappy and decided at any cost he had to clear the exams. Every day morning he would go to the banks of River Ganga with his veena and practise very hard. Throughout his practice he would only think of Saraswati Maa. After 40 days, Saraswati maa who was watching his dedication wanted to bless him, hence She appeared before him and said 'Oh Son! I am pleased with your dedication. Tomorrow perform Gnana Saraswati vratam. You will not only pass with distinction but also in the future you will be known as great scholar'. She explained the process of the vratam and disappeared. Shankara Shastri was extremely happy with the blessing of mother Goddess and sang praises of Her. He returned home and explained everything to his father. Sri Rama Sharma was very happy that Maa Saraswati had finally blessed his son.

Next day morning Shankara Shastri woke up early in the morning, took bath and performed Sri Gnana Saraswati vratam. After the vratam, he played veena for an hour praising Mother Goddess. Suddenly a miracle happened. Due to the divine waves from the divine veena, Sri Rama Sharma was completely cured of his paralysis. He got up from bed and perfectly healthy. Seeing the blessing, all the family members sang praises of Saraswati Maa and later ate the vrata prasadam.

In the next exam Shankara Shastri passed with distinction. In a few years' time he earned the name as a very learned scholar. His father's dream was fulfilled. The family continued worshipping Maa Saraswati and finally attained salvation.

Maa Saraswati is very kind hearted. She would bless Her devotees who worship her with belief and devotion. She blessed her devotee, Sri Thimmaraju Viswapati Rama Krishna Murthy with the Gnana Saraswati vratam which is very powerful. Devotees who perform this would attain mastery in all types of arts. They would achieve name and fame as artists, musicians and learned and knowledgeable people. Our obeisance to Mother Goddess.

|| End of Fourth Chapter ||

Sri Gnana Saraswati Vratam

Fifth Chapter

Divine Story of Bharadwaja

In the olden days, a Brahmin called Koundinya used to live on the banks of river Godavari. He was very pious and used to spend all his time meditating on God. He used to perform pourohityam as was his family tradition and used to earn a little for his living and was happy with it. He was known to be a good person amongst the villagers. Together the villagers built a small house for him. He used to live happily in that house along with his wife and son.

Although everything was fine, Koundinya was unhappy. His son Bharadwaj was not studying well. Although Bharadwaj knew he had to follow the family tradition of pourohityam for his livelihood, he was still unable to study. He always used to pass only in third class and finally reached the fifth year in his veda school. He has to complete seven more years, only then he will be completely knowledgeable. However, every year he used to score very less marks in his exams. Koundinya was very worried.

In a week's time the fifth year exams would start. This exam would be harder than the previous four years. Koundinya was worried whether his son would pass the exams or not. The servant of the neighboring village Landlord came to him and said 'Sir! Our village Landlord had asked you to come at 6am day after tomorrow. He is performing Saraswati Vratam and asked you to conduct it'. Koundinya thought 'Saraswati Vratam? I have never heard about it. Any way I will learn once I go there'.

So the day after, Koundinya woke up early in the morning, took bath, wore clean clothes and reached the neighboring village Landlord's house by 6am. The Landlord told Koundinya 'Swamy! I have heard of this Gnana Saraswati vratam only last week. Last Saturday I went to Ramapuram on some work which is ten miles from here. There I saw the vratam being performed in someone's house. If one performs the vratam their children would be blessed with good education, knowledge and behaviour. I have learnt the procedure for the vratam. I request you to make us conduct the vratam. My children are wayward. They do not have any values and obedience. I hope that by performing the Gnana Saraswati vratam their behaviour would change.'

Koundinya made the couple perform Gnana Saraswati vratam. The stories of the vratam were wonderful. While reading the stories Koundinya could see Saraswati Maa standing in front of him. After the vratam, he packed some prasadam, took leave from the Landlord and returned home. He shared Sri Gnana Saraswati vrata prasadam with his wife and son. Bharadwaj ate the prasadam with reverence.

As Bharadwaj ate prasadam from the miraculous Sri Gnana Sarawasti vratam, he was blessed by Devi Maa and wrote the fifth year exams well. As soon as the exams were completed, Koundinya along with his wife and son performed Sri Gnana

Sarawasti vratam at his home. Due to the blessings, Bharadwaj passed the exams in first class. Koundinya was extremely happy that at last Maa Saraswati had showered Her blessings. From then on, every year they performed Sri Gnana Sarawasti vratam without fail. Bharadwaj passed in first class the rest of the seven years. He was known as a knowledgeable Scholar. Every year the family used to perform Sri Gnana Sarawasti vratam and lived happily.

Sri Gnana Sarawasti vratam is very powerful. It is very easy to perform the vratam. Every year if the educational institutes perform this vratam, the students from that institute would prosper. They would all pass in first class. They would also be well behaved. They would be cultured and would lead a righteous life. They would be placed in high positions. The vratam blessed by Sri Gnana Sarawasti Maa to Sri Timmaraju Viswapati Rama Krishna Murthy is the easiest way to attain success in education. Let us humbly prostrate before Mother Goddess who has blessed us with such an easy vratam.

|| End of Fifth Chapter ||

Sri Gnana Saraswati Prayer

Shudham Brahma vichara Saara Parmamadyam Jagadvyapineem |
 Veena Pustaka Dhaarineem Abhayadaam Jadyaandhakaaraa paha |
 Haste Sphaatika maalikaam Vidadhateem Padmasane Samsthitam |
 Vandethaam Parmeshvareem Bhagawateem Buddhihi pradaam Shaaradaam ||

Yaa Kundendu Tusharahara Dhavala Yaa Shubhra Vastranvita |
 Yaa Veena Varadanda Manditakaraa Yaa Shweta Padmasana |
 Yaa Brahmachyuta Shankara prabritibihi devaih Sadaa Vanditaa |
 Saamaam Paatu Saraswati Bhagavatee Nishesha Jaadyapahaa ||

Yaa Maayaa Madhu-Kaittabha-Pramadhanii Yaa Maahishonmoolinii |
 Yaa Dhuumreksshana-danda Munndda-Madhanii Yaa Rakta beejaasinii |
 Shaktih Shumbha-Nishumbha-Daitya Dalinii Yaa Siddhalakshmii Paraa |
 Saa Chandee Nava Kotti Moorthy Sahitaa Maam Paathu Vishveshwarii ||

Siddha Lakshmi, Moksha Lakshmi, Jaya Lakshmi, Saraswati |
 Sri Lakshmi, Vara Lakshmischa, Prasanna Mama Sarvadaa ||

Sarva Mangala Maangalye Shive Sarvaartha Saadhike |
 Sharannye Tryia Ambake Gauri Naaraayanni Namostute ||

Saradindu Samakare Parabrahma Swarupini |
 Vaasaraa Peetanilaye Saraswathi Namosthuthe ||



Oh Mother! I thought of you and held the book. You live in me and guide me with divine knowledge. Jaganmohini! Please bless me good words, good voice to talk to others softly. Pullabhjakshii! Saraswati! Bhagawati! Purnendu Bimbaananaa!



**Saradindu Samaakare Parabrahma Swarupini
Vaasaraa Peethanilaye Saraswathi Namosthute**