



Thirukachi Nambi Life story

Thirukkachi Nambi also known as Kanchi Puranar was born in Poondamalli. He was most popularly known for his thiruvAlavatta (fan) service for Deva Perumal of Kanchipuram and his regular conversations with Deva Perumal and Perundevi Thayar.

When rAmAnujar returns to Kanchipuram from after escaping from the plan to kill him, his mother instructed him to take shelter of Thirukkachi Nambi who was a sishya of ALavandhAr and a close confidante of dhEva perumAL. Ramanuja on Nambi's instruction, undertook the service of bringing water from a well for dhEva perumAL temple.

Ramanuja developed great attachment towards Thirukkachi Nambi and requested him to perform pancha samskAram to him and accept him as his sishya. But Nambi due to his great humility, did not want to become a formal AchArya Ramanuja who was a brahmana. Ramanuja became very dejected but accepted Thirukkachi Nambi's stand.

Eating the food remnants of an acharya purifies the disciple. So Ramanuja invited Thirukachi Nambi to his home so that he could eat Thirukachi Nambi's food remnants. Nambi accepted Ramanuja's request. Overjoyed, Ramanuja instructed his wife to prepare a great feast. After performing his daily routines, Ramanuja went to meet Nambi and bring him to his home. Meanwhile Thirukachi Nambi came to Ramanuja's home and requested Ramanuja's wife that he is in a hurry to return to his service. So, he quickly accepted the prasAdham and left. Ramanuja's wife promptly cleaned the place unaware of Ramanuja's intention to eat Nambi's food remnants. Ramanuja became very upset and left the house.

Nambi was well known for his conversations with Deva Perumal. When Ramanuja had a few doubts, he asked Thirukachi Nambi to ask Devaperumal. Tirukkachi Nambi obtained from Lord Varadaraja the famous ' Six Words ' and passed them on to Ilayalwar. The six words provided the guidelines for Ramanuja to follow. They were:-

1. Lord Narayana is the Paramatma.
2. The individual souls are different from Paramatma.
3. Surrender is the means to attain salvation.
4. Remembering the lord at the time of death is not necessary
5. Moksha (Liberation) is obtained after death for one who has surrendered.
6. Ramanuja should accept Periya Nambi as his spiritual teacher

Name:

Date:

Answer the following questions without turning over the page 😊

1. Give another name to Ramanuja
2. What service did Thirukachi Nambi perform?
3. What are the names of the Perumal and Thayar's names of Kanchipuram?
4. What service did Nambi ask Ramanuja to perform? Do you know why?
5. Why did Nambi refuse to be a guru (spiritual teacher) to Ramanuja? What are your thoughts on this? Your sentence must include if Ramanuja accepted this position.
6. How did Thirukachi Nambi clarify Ramanuja's doubts?
7. Write at least one 'word' from the famous 'Six Words' of Deva Perumal.
8. If you were to have conversations with Deva Perumal, what would you be talking about and why?



Name:

Date: