

Group 1 - Thirugnanasampanthar

Thirugnanasampanthar is my favourite Saiva saint, because he was a little child like me when he first sang about Lord Shiva!

One day, when he was 3 years old, Sampanthar and his father went to the Temple. His father went to bathe in the Temple Tank, and left Sampanthar on the steps. Suddenly, little Sampanthar could not see his father and became frightened. He looked up at the Temple and cried out “Ammah! Appah!”

Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvathi heard his cries and came down from heaven to comfort him! Goddess Parvathi fed him with her own divine milk in a golden cup. As he drank, wisdom dawned! Then Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvathi vanished!

When his father came out of the water, and saw the milk dripping from his son’s mouth, he asked Sampanthar who had given the milk. But all he did was smile and point to the Temple! His father became very angry and raised his hand to hit Sampanthar. Then the little boy sang his first composition – “Thodudaiya Seviyan!”

After this miracle, he was known as Thirugnanasampanthar and was loved by all for his wonderful Thevarams.