

Mudalayiram English translation

FOREWORD

The Svami of all worlds, Sriman Narayana, in his Infinite Mercy, handed over Vedasas the repository of all Knowledge, for the benefit of living beings, to Brahma, the creator, after creating him. To understand the contents of Vedas, He also taught many Vedangas and Upangas for people to benefit from. However, owing to inability on various counts, He also, from time to time, incarnated, sent emissaries, protected the Sacred knowledge from adversities etc., by many means.

In the kali yuga, seeing the meagre faculties and high incidence of impediments, for seekers, Bhagavan sent His emissaries as Azhvars and Acaryas, to redeem bound living beings. This has produced their nectarian outpourings of the experience of Sriman Narayana in all His glory, in the language of the masses, i.e, Tamil. There are 12 + 1 azhvars and through 24 works, totally 4000 divine devotional songs, called Nalayira Divya Prabandham.

For making their contents accessible to those not familiar with Tamil and also to explain their meanings in English, Sri C.B. Srinivasan, a renowned senior advocate of Bangalore and scholar of the SriVaishnava sampradaya, by virtue of serious study and belonging to the lineage of Sri Abhinava Ramanuja Brahmatantra Parakala Swami, in his Purvasrama, has produced the current volume, covering the first thousand [947 to be precise] verses.

The translation follows the Manipravala [Sanskrit-Tamil mixed] commentary of Peria Parakala Swami and is in lucid style. He has also introduced a unique style of versifying the commentary in English, with each stanza starting with the same English alphabet in every quarter. Needless to stress on the demands on expertise for achieving such a laudable output successfully.

Hence, I wish to appreciate the author's special efforts to reach out to all and produce a work of utility and excitement. May Lord Lakshmi Nrisimha shower His choicest blessings on him to complete the rest of the texts and also embark upon many more such sampradayic treatises.

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