



Sydney Murugan Temple

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STAGE 1
YEAR 1
TERM 2

Prayers

1. Aum Vigneswaraaya Namaha (3 Times)



2. Aum Shivaya Namaha (3 Times)



3. Aum Shakthi Aum Parashakthi (3 Times)



4. Aum Saravanabavaaya Namaha (3 Times)



5. Aum Sri Narayanaya Namaha (3 Times)



Gayathri Mantra



Om Bhur Bhuva Swaha
Tat Savitur Varenyam
Bhargo Devasya Dheemahi
Dhi Yo Yonah Prachodhayat

Meaning

Oh lord, you are the protector of life
You destroy all our problems and bring happiness
You create knowledge and Light.
You remove our sins.
Please guide us into the right direction.

LESSON 1

Piglet Story (God's mercy)

Near the banks of river Vaigai, a village was situated with a big forest. A lot of animals lived in that forest. Along with cruel, man-eating wild animals such as fierce tigers, leopards, foxes, and wolves, lived many herds of pigs in that forest. There was a pig king to those herds of pigs. The pig king lived at a cave in the middle of the forest with his wife and their twelve newborn piglets (baby pigs).



Those twelve piglets looked beautiful. The parent pigs were very fond of their babies. They were living peacefully and happily in that forest. But all were about to change and as a result lives of those piglets are going to be affected pathetically.

As we all know that the pigs are very peaceful animals and they never harm anyone. But, the cruel animals such as tigers, leopards, foxes, and wolves always hunt them for their food. However, they were busy killing the domestic animals such as cows and goats and at times humans too by ambushing them in the village Kuruvaruntha-thurai. This in a way helped the pigs to live in peace without troubles but the villagers were badly affected and so they complained to the officials.

King Rajarajan got that news and in order to protect his people, he began a massive hunt for the cruel animals living in the forest. During those days, hunting and killing cruel animals in the forest was also a duty of the kings. Skillful hunters showed him the way in the dense forest. The king's team reached the dense forest. Talented hunters showed them the ways to the hiding places of the wild animals, as the king and his hunting team killed many wild animals with their weapons.



One older pig saw all these and came running to its pig king. He called louder, “Oh king, a great danger is nearing us. The Pandiya King and his big hunting team are nearing our place and are killing all wild animals. What can we do?”. The pig king replied boldly, “Do not be afraid, I will fight those hunters until my last breath to protect you all”. The pig king made preparations for a big fight. The wife pig saw the arrangements and was worried. The wife pig strongly said, “ I shall come with you to fight with those cruel hunters. Your enemy is always my enemy and I will fight those enemies till my death if it is necessary” she told bravely. When they saw their parents leaving, the twelve little piglets began to follow them crying. But, they could not catch their parents’ speed. So, the tiny piglets sat together on a small mound and stayed back. They met the king and his hunting team with valor and fought fiercely. But in the end, all the pigs died, including the 12 piglets' parents.

The piglets became weak with hunger and cried loudly calling their parents.



The cries of the tiny piglets were heard up to the sky. The cry was heard by Lord Shiva and Devi Uma, the divine parents to all living beings in the world. Lord Shiva came down immediately to the place where the piglets were lying. To pacify their hunger, Lord Shiva appeared before them in the form of their mother pig. In the form of their mother, Lord Shiva called upon the babies for feeding. The twelve baby pigs which were hungry ran towards their mother like pigs with eagerness. The holy mother pig gave them milk which held boundless divine wisdom, which gave the piglets the ability to sort out good from bad, physical and mental strength, and enlightenment.



With the divine knowledge given to them by the Lord himself, they realized that the ‘pig mother’ who had fed them was none other than the merciful Lord Shiva himself and they worshiped him with love and devotion. After Lord Shiva left, the twelve wise piglets joined together to praise Lord Shiva. They looked like suns with wisdom and discipline and had a godly appearance.

At the same time, Mother Uma Devi asked her doubts to Lord Shiva, “My dear Lord, pigs are considered to be the ugliest and foolish among all animals living in the world. But, you have shown your grace to them and given your divine knowledge as milk to them. What is the reason behind this act, my Lord?”. Lord Shiva smiled with love and kindness. “In my view, I never see any difference between the love of man, animals or birds; or beautiful or ugly. When the innocent newborn babies cried in hunger, it has become my duty to protect them. So, I gave them pure divine wisdom and strength mixed with the motherly milk. Now, they have become bodily and mentally strong and wise with divine knowledge”.



Moral of the piglet's story

Lord Shiva gives every living being the same amount of kindness, and provides them with his blessings and needs.

- (1) **What is the moral?**
- (2) **How should we live?**

We should respect every living being & nature such as plants, wetlands, land, air and earth. We should also show kindness to everyone.