

# pa~njAkkarap padhigam (by thiru~njAna samba~ndhar)

(Glory of the Holy Five Letters - namaSivAya)

## Background:

When thiru~njAna samba~ndhar (திருஞான சம்பந்தர்) reached the age appropriate for upanayanam (உபநயனம்) (investiture of the sacred thread), his parents organized a ceremony. (This is usually performed at the age of 5 or 7). The learned brahmins performed the rituals and then formally initiated thiru~njAna samba~ndhar into learning vedas. They were trying to teach a child who had been fed all the knowledge by pArvathi. What an irony! The learned men, who were there to explain the gAyathri ma~nthram (காயத்ரி மந்த்ரம்) to the child, turned into disciples. They requested samba~ndhar to clarify the various doubts they had in the vedas and the various rituals. thiru~njAna samba~ndhar clarified all those doubts. After clarifying their many doubts, thiru~njAna samba~ndhar told them that the holy five letters (na ma Si vA ya) are the source for all the vedas. He then sang this padhigam praising the greatness of the holy five letters namaSivAya.

**03.022 pa~njAkkarap padhigam (by thiru~njAnasamba~ndhar)**  
thalam: podhu paN: kA~ndhAra pa~njjamam rAgam: kEdhAra gauLai

**03.022 பஞ்சாக்கரப் பதிகம் (திருஞானசம்பந்தர்)**  
தலம்: பொது பண்: காந்தார பஞ்சமம் ராகம்: கேதார கௌளை

3031 thu~njjalum thu~njjal ilAdha pOzhDhinum  
~ne~njjaga[m] ~nai~ndhu ~ninaimin ~nALdhoRum  
va~njjagam atRu adi vAzhtththa va~ndha kUtRu  
a~njja udhaththana a~njjezhuththumE

1

துஞ்சலும் துஞ்சல் இலாத போழ்தினும்  
நெஞ்சக[ம்] நெந்து நினைமின் நாள்தொறும்  
வஞ்சகம் அற்று அடி வாழ்த்த வந்த கூற்று  
அஞ்ச உதைத்தன அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(thu~njjal=sleep. ilAdha=illAdha=not. pOzhDhu=time/period. ~ne~njjagam=mind/heart.  
~nai~ndhu = with deep devotion / with a molten heart; ~ninaimin = (you should)  
think/meditate. ~nALdhoRum=daily/always. va~njjagam=deceit; cunning.  
atRu=without. adi=feet. vAzhtththu=praise. kUtRu=yama=lord of death.  
a~njja=a~njumbadi=to make scared. udhaththana=they kicked. a~njju ezhuththu=five  
letters=the holy five letters namaSivAya.)

Mediate with a molten heart on the holy five letters every day at all times - regardless of when sleeping or not sleeping. When yama, the lord of death, came to take away mArkaNdEya's life while he was praising the holy feet with a flawless heart, the holy five letters kicked yama and scared him away.

(i.e. Do not treat the holy five letters namaSivAya as just a name or a word. It is Siva indeed. Always meditate on it with deep devotion so that it becomes our nature and thus

even when we are sleeping, our subconscious mind is still immersed in it. yama cannot touch such a devotee - as seen from mArkaNdEya's life).

3032 ma~ndhira[m] ~nAnmaRai Agi vAnavar  
si~ndhaiyuL ~nindRu avar dhammai ALvana  
se~ndhazhal Ombiya semmai vEdhiyarkku  
a~ndhiyuL ma~ndhiram a~njjezhuththumE

2

மந்திர[ம்] நான்மறை ஆகி வானவர்  
சிந்தையுள் நின்று அவர் தம்மை ஆள்வன  
செந்தழல் ஓம்பிய செம்மை வேதியர்க்கு  
அந்தியுள் மந்திரம் அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(ma~ndhiram=mantra. ~nAn maRai=four vedas. Agi=becoming. vAnavar=devas. si~ndhai uL= in the mind. ~nindRu=staying; remaining; standing. avar thammai=them. ALvana=they rule. se~ndhazhal=sem thazhal=fire. Ombu=nurture; cherish; protect. semmai=beauty; red; without blemish; greatness. vEdhiyar=brahmins. a~ndhi=twilight; morning and evening period.)

The holy five letters - namaSivAya - are the source of all manthras and vedas. The holy five letters abide in the hearts of devas and rule them. The holy five letters are the manthras that the brahmins, who perform rituals nurturing the fire , meditate on during dawn and dusk. (i.e. the holy five letters are the vedas.)

3033 Unil uyirppai odukki oNsudar  
~njAna viLakkinai EtRi ~nanpulaththu  
Enai vazhi thiRa~ndhu EththuvArkku idar  
Ana keduppana a~njjezhuththumE

3

ஊனில் உயிர்ப்பை ஒடுக்கி ஒண்சுடர்  
ஞான விளக்கினை ஏற்றி நன்புலத்து  
ஏனை வழி திறந்து ஏத்துவார்க்கு இடர்  
ஆன கெடுப்பன அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(Un=flesh; meat; body. uyirppu=breath. odukku=suppress; control; reduce. oN=bright. sudar=light; fire/flare; sun/moon. ~njAnam=knowledge. viLakku=light/lamp. EtRu=to light a fire; to raise. ~nan=good. pulam=place; field; sharp intellect. Enai=other. vazhi=way/path. thiRa=open. Eththu=praise; worship. idar=misery; distress. kedu=destroy. )

For the yogis who control their breathing and meditate on the holy five letters (namaSivAya), lighting the lamp of knowledge inside and channeling the spiritual energy through the other pathways, it destroys their misery. (i.e. The holy five letters destroy the miseries and grant the 'samadhi' that the yogis seek).

3034 ~nallavar thIyar enAdhu ~naccinar  
sellal kedac civa muththi kAttuva  
kolla ~naman thamar koNdupOm idaththu  
allal keduppana a~njjezhuththumE

4

நல்லவர் தீயர் னனாது நச்சினர்  
செல்லல் கெடச் சிவ முத்தி காட்டுவ  
கொல்ல நமன் தமர் கொண்டுபோம் இடத்து  
அல்லல் கெடுப்பன அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(~nallavar=good people. thIyavar=evil people. enAdhu=ennAdhu=without differentiating. ~naccinar=those who love. sellal=misery. keda=destroying. sivamuththi=Siva mukthi=mOksham=liberation. kAttuva=they show. kolla=to kill. ~naman=yama=lord of death. thamar=relative; friend; servant. koNdupOm idaththu=koNdu pOgum pozhudhu=when they take (you). allal=misery/distress/misfortune.)

The five letters are great. (~na ma si vA ya = implies Siva here). They will destroy the troubles of those who seek Siva, regardless whether they are good or bad. They will show them Siva's path to release (from cycle of birth and death). When yama's servants take us (at death) for torturing, the five letters will destroy that problem too.

(i.e. Siva will protect the devotees from all problems in this life and beyond, regardless of whether they are considered good or bad by the society).

3035 ko~nggalar vanmadhan vALi ai~ndhagaththu  
a~ngguLa bUdhamum a~njja aimbozhil  
tha~nggaravin padam a~njjum thammudai  
a~nggaiyil aiviral a~njjezhuththumE

5

கொங்கலர் வன்மதன் வாளி ஐந்தகத்து  
அங்குள பூதமும் அஞ்ச ஐம்பொழில்  
தங்கரவின் படம் அஞ்சும் தம்முடை  
அங்கையில் ஐவிரல் அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(ko~nggu= pollen; honey. alar=flower. van=val=strong. madhan=god of love; arrogance. vALi=arrow. ai~ndhu=five. agam=inside; house. a~nggu=there. uLa=uLLa=existing; present. bUdham=elements = the basic 5 elements of the universe. a~njja=a~njju =5. aim=5. pozhil=forest. tha~nggu=stay; present. aravu=snake. padam=snake's hood; picture. tham udai=his. a~nggai=palm of hand. ai=5. viral=finger.)

The powerful god of love (i.e. strong manmadhan) carries arrows of 5 honey filled flowers. The basic elements are 5. The forests are 5. The hoods on the snake on Siva are 5. The number of fingers on his palm are 5. The letters of his name also number 5.

3036 thummal irumal thodar~ndha pOzhdhinum  
vemmai ~naragam viLai~ndha pOzhdhinum  
immai vinai adarththu eydhum pOzhdhinum  
ammaiyinum thuNai a~njjezhuththumE

6

தும்மல் இருமல் தொடர்ந்த போழ்தினும்

வெம்மை நரகம் விளைந்த போழ்தினும்  
இம்மை வினை அடர்த்து எய்தும் போழ்தினும்  
அம்மையினும் துணை அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(thummal=sneeze. irumal=cough. thodar~ndha pOzhdhinum=when they come after (you).  
vemmai=hot. ~naragam=hell. viLai~ndha pOzhdhinum=when they result/become.  
immai=this life. vinai=results of previous bad karma. adarththu = getting close; attack.  
eydhum pOzhdhinum=when it reaches. ammai=next life; mother. thuNai=protection;  
company; support. )

When diseases come after us, when life becomes unbearable like a hot hell, when our  
previous bad karma catches up with us in this life and causes misery, and when we move on  
to a future life, the holy five letters will protect us.  
(i.e. the holy five letters is the best protection we have at all times and under any  
circumstances).

3037 vIdu piRappai aRuththu meccinar  
pIdai keduppana pinnai ~nALdhoRum  
mAdu koduppana mannu[m] mA ~nadam  
Adi ugappana a~njjezhuththumE

7

வீடு பிறப்பை அறுத்து மெச்சினர்  
பீடை கெடுப்பன பின்னை நாள்தொறும்  
மாடு கொடுப்பன மன்னு[ம்] மா நடம்  
ஆடி உகப்பன அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(vIdu=death; house. piRappu=birth. aRu=cut off; remove. meccu=praise.  
pIdai=misery; evil influence of planets. kedu=remove; destroy. pinnai=furthermore;  
moreover; afterwards. ~nALdhoRum=daily. mAdu=wealth; cattle. kodu=give.  
mannum=permanent; enduring; staying. mA=great. ~nadam=dance. Adu=dance.  
ugappu=happiness; desire; satisfaction.)

They cut off the death and birth of those who praise them. They destroy their miseries.  
Furthermore, they give wealth every day. They love to dance the enduring great dance. They  
are the holy five letters indeed.  
(i.e. Siva, who performs the cosmic dance, and the holy five letters namaSivAya are one and  
the same. Praise the holy five letters. In this life, your miseries will be destroyed and you  
will receive all kinds of wealth. After this life, you will be released from the cycle of birth  
and death).

3038 vaNdamar Odhi mada~ndhai pENina  
paNdai irAvaNan pAdi uy~ndhana  
thoNdargaL koNdu thudhiththapin avarkku  
aNdam aLippana a~njjezhuththumE

8

வண்டமர் ஓதி மடந்தை பேணின  
பண்டை இராவணன் பாடி உய்ந்தன  
தொண்டர்கள் கொண்டு துதித்தபின் அவர்க்கு

அண்டம் அளிப்பன அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(vaNdu=bee. amar=sit; remain. Odhi=kU~ndhal=woman's hair. mada~ndhai=woman. pENu=cherish; protect; worship. paNdai=long ago; antiquity. irAvaNan=rAvaNan. pAdu=sing. uydhal=salvation; redemption; escape from difficulty, danger, etc. thoNdargaL=devotees. koNdu=with. thudhi=worship; praise. pin=afterwards; rear. avarkku=to them. aNdam=heavens. aLi=give; bestow; )

The lady, with hair where bees rest, cherished and worshipped them. Long ago rAvaNan sang them and escaped (from the tight spot he was in). (This refers to him getting crushed by Siva when rAvaNan tried to lift kailAsa mountain and then pleasing Siva by his singing). They grant the heavens to the devotees after they worship with them. They are the holy five letters namaSivAya.

(i.e. The holy five letters are great. pArvathi worships them. rAvaNan was saved by singing it. They bestow the devotees with heavenly powers after this life)

3039 kArvaNan ~nAnmugan kANudhaRku oNAc  
cIrvaNac cEvadi sevvi ~nALdhoRum  
pErvaNam pEsip pidhatRum piththargatku  
ArvaNam Avana a~njjezhuththumE

9

கார்வணன் நான்முகன் காணுதற்கு ஓணாச்  
சீர்வணச் சேவடி செவ்வி நாள்தொறும்  
பேர்வணம் பேசிப் பிதற்றும் பித்தர்கட்கு  
ஆர்வணம் ஆவன அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(kAr=black; cloud; rain; a type of paddy. vaNam=vaNNam=color; beauty; nature/character/quality. ~nAnmugan=one with four faces=brahma. kANudhal= to see/perceive; to experience; to worship; to investigate. oNA=oNNA=not possible/feasible. sIr=beauty/gracefulness; evenness. sEvadi=lotus-red feet. sevvi=beauty; sight; quality; time/season. ~nALdhoRum=daily; always. pEr=name. pEsu=speak; talk. pidhatRu=rave like a mad person. piththargaL=mad persons. Ardhal=to experience; to reach; to obtain. Avana=they are.)

The dark colored one (vishNu) and the four faced one (brahma) could not see the sight of the beautiful lotus-red feet (of Siva). The holy five letters make it possible for the mad devotees, who rave daily speaking the glory of his name, to reach them (Siva's holy feet).

(i.e. Even vishNu and brahma could not see Siva's holy feet. But the holy five letters namaSivAya enable the devotees to reach/experience them. Such is the power of chanting lord's name ~namaSivAya).

3040 buththar samaN kazhuk kaiyar poygoLAc  
ciththaththavargaL theLi~ndhu thERina  
viththaga ~nIRaNivAr vinaippagaikku  
aththiram Avana a~njjezhuththumE

10

புத்தர் சமண் கழுக் கையர் பொய்கொளாச்

சித்தத்தவர்கள் தெளிந்து தேறின  
வித்தக நீறணிவார் வினைப்பகைக்கு  
அத்திரம் ஆவன அஞ்செழுத்துமே

(buththar=buddhists. samaN=jains. kaiyar=mean persons; ignorant persons/fools. poy=lie/untruth/falsehood. koL= buy; learn; consider. koLA=koLLAdha= without buying/considering. ciththam=mind; firm conviction. ciththaththavargaL=those with mind. theLi~ndhu= coming to a conclusion; becoming evident. thERu= accept as true. viththagam=knowledge; wisdom; ~nIRu=vibUdhi=ash=holy ash. aNivAr= those who wear. vinai=karma=effects of past action. pagai=enmity; hatred; counteraction. aththiram=asthram=arrow/missile/weapon.)

Those with a firm mind, that has rejected the untruths uttered by ignorant persons such as buddhists and jains, have realized the truth of the holy of letters namaSivAya after considerable inquiry. The holy five letters are the weapon that destroys karma of those who wear the wisdom giving holy ash (i.e. Holy ash and the holy five letters namaSivAya will give us the discriminating wisdom to distinguish between truth and untruth. The holy five letters will also lead to mukthi (release) by destroying our karma)

3041 ~natRamizh ~njAna samba~ndhan ~nAnmaRai  
katRavan kAzhiyar mannan unniya  
atRamil mAlai Irai~ndhum a~njjezhuththu  
utRana vallavar umbar AvarE

11

நற்றமிழ் ஞான சம்பந்தன் நான்மறை  
கற்றவன் காழியர் மன்னன் உன்னிய  
அற்றமில் மாலை ஈரைந்தும் அஞ்செழுத்து  
உற்றன வல்லவர் உம்பர் ஆவரே

(~nal=good. thamizh=Tamil language. ~njAnam=knowledge; wisdom. ~nAnmaRai=four vedas. katRavan=one who has mastered/learnt. kAzhi=sIrkAzhi, the birthplace of thiru~njAna samba~ndhar. mannan=king. unniya=thought by. atRam= destruction; falsehood; blemish. mAlai=garland; evening. Ir ai~ndhu= twice five = 10. utRadhu= event/occurrence; that which actually happened. uRudhal=exist; happen; dwell/reside. vallavar=those who are capable; those who have mastered. umbar=elevated spot; sky; heaven; devas/gods. Avar=they will become.)

thiru~njAna samba~ndhan is the master of the good Tamil language. He is learned in the four vedas. He is the king of sIrkAzhi town. The blemishless/faultless garland of ten songs containing the holy five letters arose in his mind. All those who master these songs will become devas.

(Note: This is the 'thirukkadaikkAppu' song describing the benefit of this padhigam.)

thiruccitRambalam  
திருச்சிற்றம்பலம்