

Thiruvempavai



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Thiruvempavai by Manikkavasakar

Adhium an^dhamum illA arumperuny
chOdhiyai yAmpAdak kEttEyum vAlthadaN^kaN
mAdhE vaLarudhiyO vancheviyO n^inchevithAn
mAdhEvan vArkazalkaL vAzththiya vAzththolipOy
vIdhivAyk kEttalumE vimnivimmi meymmaRan^dhu
pOdhar amaLiyinmEl n^inRum puraNdin^N^an
EdhEnum AgAL kidan^dhAL en nEenne
IdhE en^thOzi parichElOr empAvAy - 01

Meaning:

We are singing the beginning and endless rare great Flame. In spite of listening to it, Oh the girl with sword like sharp beautiful eye, you still have not opened your eyes(sleeping). Is your ear senseless ? On hearing the praise of the perfect feet of the Greatest dEva, which sound of praise arises at the start of the street, one has forgotten herself weeping and weeping ! You as if nothing happened are turning here and there enjoying the soft flowers spread bed coolly, what a pity what a pity !! Is this your behavior my dear friend ?!

pAcham paranychOdik kenbAy irAppakaln^Am
pEchumpO dheppOdhip pOdhar amaLikke
n^Echamum vaiththanaiyO n^ErizaiyAy n^ErizaiyIr
chIchi ivaiyuny chilavO viLaiyAdi
Echum idamIdhO viNNOrkaL EththudhaRkuk
kUchu malarppAdhan^ than^dharuLa van^dharuLum
thEchan chivalOkan thillaichiR RambalaththuL
IchanArk kanbAryAm ArElOr empAvAy - 02

Meaning:

The friends: Whenever we talk day and night you used to say, "Our bond is with the Supreme Luminance." Oh slim beautiful girl!, but did you keep all your liking to this floral soft bed ?!

The girl on the bed: Oh slim beautiful girls!, How can you talk (mock) like this ?

The friends: Is it the place to play mocking each others ? Who are we ? The Luminous, the One in the world of *shivam*, the Lord of small abode at *thillai*, who blesses us giving His Floral Feet, for praising which even the celestial elements (*viNNOrkaL*) are scared of their qualification, to that Lord we are lovers.

muththanna veNNakaiyAy munvan^ dhedhir ezun^dhen
aththan Anan^dhan amudhan en RaLLURith
thithtikkap pEchuvAy van^dhun kadaithiRavAy
paththudaiyIr Ichan pazavadiyIr pAN^gudaiyIr
puththadiyOm punmaithIrth thAtkoNdAR pollAdhO
eththOn^in anbudaimai ellOm aRiyOmO
chiththam azakiyAr pAdArO n^amchivanai
iththanaiyum vENDum emakkeElOr empAvAy - 03

Meaning:

The Friends: Oh one with pearl like charming smile ! You would come getting up early and speak in the sweet words with the heart soaked in those words saying, "My *aththan*, ecstasy, nectar" (praising the God). Come and open your doors!

The girl on the bed: Oh the people with the ten great characters, the people committed to the oldest feet of the Lord, my friends!! I being new slave, is it wrong if you correct my bad behaviors and take me to the
the right path?!

The friends: Oh dear, don't we know your love? Don't the people of beautiful heart sing our Shiva? Come let us get those (good qualities).

oNNith thilan^agaiyAy innam pularn^dhinRO
vaNNak kiLimoziyAr ellArum van^dharO
eNNikko duLLava chollukOm avvaLavum
kaNNaith thuyinRavamE kAlaththaip pOkkAdhE
viNNuk korumarun^dhai vEdha vizupporuLaik
kaNNuk kiniyAnaip pAdik kachin^dhuLLam
uLn^ekku n^inRuruga yAmAttOm n^IyEvan^dhu
eNNik kuRaiyil thuyilelOr empAvAy - 04

Meaning:

The friends: Oh the girl of charming smile! Is it not yet dawn?

The girl on the bed: Have all the girls of pretty parrot like voice come?

The friends: After counting we are telling the fact. Don't waste the time in sleep. The Medicine for the whole space, the Great declaration of *vEda*, the Charming one for eyes, Him, we are singing with the melting heart outpouring love. We won't (count for you wasting our time). You come and count for yourself and if it is less continue your sleep.

mAlaRiyA n^Anmukanum kANA malaiyinain^Am
pOlaRivOm enRuLLa pokkaN^ga LEpEchum
pALURu thEnvAyp padiRI kadaithiRavAy
nyAlamE viNNE piRavE aRivariyan
kOlamum n^ammaiAt koNdaruLi kOdhAttuny
chilamum pAdich chivanE chivanEenRu
Olam idinum uNarAy uNarAyKAN
Elak kuzali parichElOr empAvAy - 05

Meaning:

Oh cheat! the girl of milky honey speech, who tells lies from the heart that we know the Mount that was not known by *vishNu* and not seen by *brahma*, come and open the house door ! The One who is difficult to be understood by the world, space and others, His form and His great deed of taking us as His slaves and caring a lot for us, that we sing and scream, "Oh shiva! Oh shivA !!" But still you never felt it ! never felt !! Oh nice plaited girl, Is this your quality!!

mAnEn^I n^ennalai n^ALaivan^ dhuN^gaLai
n^AnE ezuppuvan enRalum n^ANAmE
pOna dhichaipagarAy innam pularn^dhinRO
vAnE n^ilanE piRavE aRivariyan
thAnEvan^ dhemmaith thalaiyaLith thAtkoNdaruLum
vAnvAr kazalpAdi van^dhOrkkun vAythiRavAy
UnE urugAy unakke uRum emakkum
EnOrkkum thaN^kOnaip pAdElOr empAvAy - 06

Meaning:

Oh deer ! You told yesterday that you yourself would come and wake us up the next day. But where did you go (today)? Are you not ashamed? Is it not yet dawn? The One who is difficult to be understood by the space, earth and others, His coming by Himself to own us making us superior, singing that sky-like Great feet we have come. Reply to us. Oh flesh, melt! Let us sing the King of you, us and others.

annE ivaiyuny chilavO pala amarar
unnaR kariyan oruvan irunychIrAn
chinnaN^gaL kEtpach chivan enRE vAythiRappAy
thennaen nAmunnam thIchEr mezugoppAy
ennAnai en araiyan innamudhen RellOmuni
chonnON^kEl vevvERay innan^ thuyiludhiyO
vannenychap pEdhaiyarpOl vALA kidaththiyAl
enne thuyilin parichElOr empAvAy - 07

Meaning:

Oh girl ! Is it a play? For many eternal things (*amarar*) He is not even thinkable. The One with nice wealth. On hearing His symbols you would open your mouth saying "shiva". Even before completing the word saying "Oh the Lord of South", you would become like the wax put on the fire. We are all saying my One, "My King, Sweet nectar" and so many other things, hear. Still are you sleeping ? You are lying like the crude hearted females. How powerful is this sleep !!

kOzi chilambach chilambuN^ kurugeN^gum
Ezil iyamba iyambumveN chaN^geN^gum
kEzil paranychOdhi kEzil paraN^karuNai
kEzil vizupporuLkaL pAdinON^ kEttilaiyO
vAziyI dhenna uRakkamO vAythiRavAy
AziyAn anbudaimai AmARum ivvARO
Uzi mudhalvanAy n^inRa oruvanai
EzaipaN^ gALanaiyE pAdElOr empAvAy - 08

Meaning:

The hens started shouting, so are the sparrows. The yAz and white conches (*chaN^gu*) produced their sound everywhere. We are singing the Supreme Luminance, Supreme Grace and the great things, didn't you listen ? What a sleep it is, long live ! Open your mouth. Is this the way of loving the One with the disc weapon in His hand ? One who stood beyond the deluge, Him, who shares the body with the slim lady (*umA*) (it could also be interpreted as the Partner of poor), let us sing !

munnaip pazamporutkum munnaip pazamporuLE
pinnaip pudhumaikkum pErththum ap peRRiyanE
unnaip pirAnAgap peRRavun chIradiyOm
unnadiyAr thALpaNivOm AN^gavarkke pAN^gAvOm
annavarE eN^kaNavar AvAr avar ukan^dhu
chonna parichE thozumbAyp paNicheyvOm
inna vakaiyE emakkeN^kOn n^alguthiyEl
enna kuRaiyum ilOmElOr empAvAy - 09

Meaning:

Oh the Oldest thing of the oldest things ! The recently named latest of the newest things ! We, Your disciplined slaves, who got Yourself as our Lord, would bow down to the foot of your slaves; would become friends of them only; One like them only would become our husband; we would serve the way he likingly tells. If you, our King, bless us this way we are free from any unfulfilment.

pAdhALam EzinuN^kIz choRkazivu pAdhamalar
pOdhAr punaimudiyum ellAp poruLmudivE
pEdhai orupAl thirumEni onRallan
vEdhamudhal viNNorum maNNun^ thudhiththAlum
Odha ulavA oruthOzan thoNdaruLan
kOdhil kulaththaran than kOyiR piNAppiLLaikaL
Edhavan Ur EdhavanpEr Ar uRRar Ar ayalar
Edhavanaip pAdum parichElOr empAvAy - 10

Meaning:

Even below the seven underneath worlds is the Beyond-words Flower of foot ! The Splendid Hair of floral fragrance is the end of all matters !! Female oneside, His Holy Form is not one. Beginning vEdhAs, even if the celestial powers and earth praise, Indescribable, that One Friend, residing in the hearts of His servants. The hara of flawless tradition. Which one is His town ? Which one is His name ? Who related and who not ? What is the way to sing Him?!

moyyAr thadampoykai pukku mugErennak
kaiyAR kudin^dhu kudain^dhun kazalpAdi
aiyA vaziyadiyOm vAzn^dhON^kaN ArazalpOR
cheyyAveN NIRAdi chelvA chiRumaruN^gul
maiyAr thadan^kaN madan^thai maNavALA
aiyan^I AtkoN daruLum viLaiyAttin
uyvArkaL uyyum vakaiellAm uyn^dhozin^dhOm
eyyAmaR kAppAy emaiElOr empAvAy - 11

Meaning:

The pond filled with the reverberations of the flies, bathing in that striking the water with our bud like hands singing your ornated foot, Oh Great, your traditional slaves, we lived. Oh Red one like the fierce fire ! Oh White Ash smeared Rich ! The Lord of the fragrance of the Lady with nicely dyed, well formed eyes and small vulva. Oh Great, in your play of blessing by taking as slaves, the way people get rescued we all got rescued off. Save us.

Arththa piRavith thuyarkedan^Am ArththAdum
thIrththan n^aRRillai chiRRambalaththE thiyAdum
kUththan ivvAnum kuvalayamum ellOmum
kAththum padaiththum karan^dhum viLaiyAdi
vArththaiyum pEchi vaLaichilamba vArkalaikaL
Arpparavam cheyya aNikuzalmEl vaNdArppa
pUththikazum poykai kudain^dhudaiyan poRpAdham
Eththi irunychunain^I rAdElOr empAvAy - 12

Meaning:

The One with chaste water(river), whom we chant and dance in order to get rid of the roaring suffering of birth. The Fire Dancer at the tiny hall of nice *thillai*. Protecting, creating and removing this sky, world and all of us as a play, speaking the (sacred) words, the bangles tingling, the ornating snakes hissing, the bees buzzing on the decorated plait (He dances). Striking the (water in the) floral pond, praising the Golden Foot of the Lord, take bath in this nice water.

**paiN^kuvaLaik kArmalarAR cheN^kamalap paimpOdhaal
aN^gaN^ kuruginaththAr pinnum aravaththAl
than^kaL malaN^kazuvu vArvan^dhu chArdhalinAl
eN^gaL pirAttiyum eN^kOnum pOnRichain^dha
poN^gu maduviR pugappAyn^dhu pAyn^dhun^any
chan^gany chilambach chilambu kalan^dhArppak
koN^gaikaL poN^gak kudaiyum punalpoN^gap
paN^gayap pUmpunalpAyn^ dhAdElOr empAvAy - 13**

Meaning:

Because of the greeny dark *kuvaLai* flower, because of the fresh bud of the red lotus, because of the buzzing sound of the small-bodied creatures, this brimming pond appears, with the arrival and taking refuge of those who want to wash away their impurities, like our Lordess and our King. Jumping into this pond of lotus floral spring with our conches roaring, anklets clinging each other, breasts booming, bathing pond booming, swim in the pond.

**kAdhAr kuzaiyAdap paimpUN kalanAdak
kOdhai kuzalAda vaNdin kuzAmAdach
chIdhap punalAdich chiRRam balampAdi
vEdhap poruLpAdi apporuLA mApAdich
chOdhi thiRampAdich chUzkonRaith thArpAdi
Adhi thiRampAdi an^dhamA mApAdip
pEdhiththu n^ammai vaLarththeduththa peyvaLaitan
pAdhath thiRampAdi AdElOr empAvAy - 14**

Meaning:

The earring dancing, worn ornaments dancing, the Lady's plait dancing, the crowd of gasps dancing, bathing in the chill water, singing the Tiny Hall, singing the Meaning of *vEdhAs*, singing the Being of that, singing the nature of the Luminance, singing the enclading bunch of flower *konRai*, singing the nature of the Source, singing the Being of the end, singing the nature of the foot of the Lady who brought us up, bathe.

OrorukAL emperumAn enRenRE n^amperumAn
 chIrorukAL vAyOvAL chiththan^ kaLikuRa
 n^IrorukAL OvA n^edun^thArai kaNpanippap
 pArorukAL van^dhanaiyAL viNNoraith thAnpaniyAL
 pEraraiyark kiN^N^anE piththoruvar AmARum
 Aroruvar ivvaNNam AtkoLLum viththakarthaL
 vAruruvap pUNmulaiyIr vAyAra n^AmpAdi
 Eruruvap pUmpunal pAyn^dhu AdElOr empAvAy - 15

Meaning:

Now and then she utters, "My Lord", thus her mouth never relent in the praise of the glory of Our Lord ! With the mind rejoicing, never stopping long streams of tears wetting the eye, not even once coming to this world, not bowing down to the celestial powers, to the Emperor one becomes mad like this. One who takes slaves like this, that Proficient's foot, Oh girls of ornated breasts, let us sing and swim in the floral stream.

munnik kadalaich churukki ezun^dhudaiyAL
 ennath thigazn^dhemmai ALudaiyAL ittidaiyin
 minnip polin^dhem pirAtti thiruvadimER
 ponnany chilambiR chilambith thiruppuruvam
 ennach chilaikulavi n^an^thammai ALudaiyAL
 thanniR pirivila eN^kOmAn anbarkku
 muni avaLn^amakku munchurakkum innaruLE
 ennap poziyAy mazaiyElOr empAvAy - 16

Meaning:

Earlier raising condensing the sea, appearing like the Lordess, shining and booming like the waist of Her who rules us, clinging like the clings of the golden anklet over the foot of our Lordess, appearing as a bow like Her eyebrow, like the grace She comes forward and gives first to the lovers of our Lord who is inseparable from Her who enslaved us, shower, Oh rain !

cheN^ka NavanpAl thichaimukanpAl dhEvarkaLpAl
 eN^gum ilAdhadhOr inbamn^am pAladhAk
 koN^guN karuN^kuzali n^an^thammaik kOdhAtti
 iN^gun^am illaN^gaL thORum ezun^dharuLich
 cheN^kamalap poRpAdhan^ than^dharuLuny chEvakanai
 aN^kaN arachai adiyON^kat kAramudhai
 n^aN^kaL perumAnaip pAdi n^alan^thikazap
 paN^kayappUm punalpAyn^dhu AdElOr empAvAy - 17

Meaning:

With the red eyed one, with the direction faced one, with the dhEvAs - the joy that is not present anywhere, giving that joy to us, bee eating plaited girl, the Red one who pampers us, residing and blessing in all our homes, blessing us giving the red lotus like Golden foot, Charming eyed king, the great Nectar for we slaves, our Lord, singing Him with the goodness booming bathe in the lotus floral water.

aNNA malaiyAn adikkamalam chenRiRainychum
viNNOr mudiyin maNiththokai vIRaRRArpOl
kaNNAr iravi kadhIrvan^dhu kArkarappath
thaNNAr oLimazuN^gith thArakaikaL thAmakalap
peNNAgI ANAy aliyAyp piRaN^goLichEr
viNNAgI maNNAgI iththanaiyum vERAgik
kaNNAr amudhamumAy n^inRAN kazalpAdip
peNNEip pUmpunalpAyn^dhu AdElOr empAvAy - 18

Meaning:

As the heaps of precious gems on the crowns of the celestial powers lose their radiance, when they go to salute the feet lotuses of the Lord of aNNAmalai, the stars fade away with their cold luminance when the one in the eye - Sun comes to remove the darkness. Being female, male, neuter, rays filled sky, earth and Being apart from all these, One who stands as the nectar for the eyes, singing His ornated foot, Oh girl, bathe in this floral stream.

uN^kaiyiR piLLai unakke adaikkalam enRu
aN^gap pazanychoR pudhukkum em achchaththAl
eN^gaL perumAn unakkon RuraippOmkeL
eN^koN^gai n^in anbar allArthOL chEraRka
eN^kai unakkalla dheppaNiyuny cheyyaRka
kaN^gulpagal eN^kaN maRRonRuN^ kaNaRka
iN^gip parichE emakkeN^kOn n^algudhiyEl
eN^gezilen nyAyIRu emakkeElOr empAvAy - 19

Meaning:

"The child in your hand is your own refugee", because of our fear of that adage coming to existence, our Lord, we tell you something, listen ! Let our breast not join the shoulder of somebody who is not Your lover; Let my hand not do any service other than for You; Night or day let my eye not see anything else. If You, my Lord, give us this gift, let the Sun rise wherever, what is our problem?

pORRi aruLukan^in AdhiyAm pAdhamalar
pORRi aruLukan^in an^dhamAny chen^thaLirkaL
pORRiyel lAvuyirkkum thORRamAm poRpAdham
pORRiyel lAvuyirkkum pOgamAm pUN^kazalkaL
pORRiyel lAvuyirkkum IRAM iNaiyadikaL
pORRimAl n^AnmuganuN^ kANAdha puNdarikam
pORRiyAm uyya At koNdaruLum ponmalarkaL
pORRiyAm mArkazin^Ir AdElOr empAvAy - 20

Meaning:

Praises, bless (us) Your flower of feet, the beginning !
Praises, bless Your red tendershoots, the end !
Praises to the Golden feet, the origin of all lives !
Praises to the Floral ornated feet, the pleasure of all lives !
Praises to the Parallel feet, the termination of all lives !
Praises to the Lotus not seen by vishNu and the four faced !
praises to the Golden flowers that bless us taking as slaves !
Praises ! Bathing in the *mArkazi* month !

***** The End *****