

Thiruppaavai – Day- 18

உந்து மத களிற்றன் ஓடாத தோள் வலியன்
நந்தகோபாலன் மருமகளே! நப்பின்னாய்!
கந்தம் கமழும் குழலீ! கடைதிறவாய்
வந்தெங்கும் கோழி அழைத்தன காண்! மாதவிப்
பந்தல் மேல் பல்கால் குயில் இனங்கள் கூவின காண்
பந்தார் விரலி! உன் மைத்துனன் பேர் பாட
செந்தாமரைக் கையால் சீரார் வளையொலிப்ப
வந்து திறவாய் மகிழ்ந்து ஏல் ஓர் எம்பாவாய் - 18

undhu madhakaLitran odaadha thoL valiyān *
nandha gopaalan marumagaLe Nappinnaay *
kandham kamaLum kuLali kadai thiravaay *
vandhengum koLi aLaiththana kaanN * maadhavi
ppandhal mel palgaal kuyil inangaL kuuvina kaanN *
pandhaar virali un maiththunan per paada *
Sendhaamarai kkaiyaal Siiraar vaLai olippa *
vanndhu thiravaay magiLndhu elor embaavaay. – (Repeat) -18

O NiiLaa Dhevi, with fragrant tresses! The daughter-in-law of Nandha-Gopaala, who is having an undefeatable army of mighty elephants, please open the door. All the cocks are crowing. All the nightingales are cooing in the beautiful Maalathi groves. We came here to sing the praises of your brother-in-law, Lord Sri-Krishna. Please open the door with your beautiful hands, holding a play-ball of flowers and with the tinkling sounds from red-lotus color bangles. Please consider our prayers (to complete the MaargaZhi-Vratham).

(This Nappinnai, also known as NiiLaa-dhevi, was sent to the Nandha-Gokulam by none other than Sri Maha-Lakshmi Herself. Some scholars consider her as the daughter of Yasodha's brother, Kumbha or Kumbhaka. Very few Sri-Vaishnva scholars accepted that Nappinnai is Radha or Radhaa-RaaNi or RaDhika, of Sri-Krishna's childhood pastimes at Brundavan. Some scholars considered Nappinnai as Naagnajithi, daughter of King Nagnajith, whom Lord Sri-Krishna married after subduing seven unbridled bulls in a Svayamvaram, as given in Srimath-Bhaagavatham of Vedha-Vyaasa. Lord Sri-Krishna will do whatever Nappinnai asks Him to do. Lord Sri-Krishna and Nappinnai played a game with flowers-play-ball.



A bet is waged that the winner can command the loser to do anything he / she wants. Nappinnai won the game and ordered Lord Sri-Krishna not go anywhere, after tying Him up with a garland of flowers. The Jagannaatakasuuthra-Dhaari Lord Sri-Krishna, is just pretending to obey Nappinnai's orders. The Bhakthi of the Gopikaas is unimaginable pure love, mixed with abundance of devotion to Lord Sri-Krishna and He enjoyed their pure love and unalloyed devotion, even though they are not exactly in the highest plane of Jnaana-Yoga. NiiLaa-dhevi is also given the role of recommending all the Souls for salvation, in this verse – Purushakaara role. This verse is famous for our Great Aachaarya, Bhagavad-Raamaanuja seeing Nappinnai while accepting the bhiksha from Aththulai, daughter of Periya-nambi and the great Aachaarya went into a trance looking at the red-bangles adorning



the hands of Aththulai).