

# Katendethi Sri Bhoo Sametha Varadharaja Vybhavam

By Asuri Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar

#### Acknowledgement:

#### Jai Sriman Narayana

My Sincere Namaskaram at the Lotus feet of my Purvaja H H Srimath Katendethi Andavan of Srimath Srirangam Andavan Ashram, My Acharyan H H Sri Rangapriya Maha Deshikan, and two of my Marg Darshak Guru's whose name I cannot disclose for blessing me to do this Likitha Kainkaryam.

I am thankful to Bhagavan and Bhagavathi to bless this atom with A LOVELY KUTTI SISTER Swetha Sundaram of Canada for drawing the picture, then taking care of editing work and bringing the book in fine shape. She knows my style and my mind, and she has helped me in all my Likitha Kainkaryam. For a change asked her for foreword and she obliged as my birthday gift.

I am thankful to all the person of Internet whose pictures I have taken and done reengineering to give an idea to young kids about our Glory and Tradition. If the picture is there it is easy to drive the point to Kids.

EDITOR of our Great newspaper The Hindu (Incidentally our native is INNAMBUR the birth place of Founder of the Newspaper) a great writer Who has written lots of Historical Novel / Books like Rangaratinam, Kalachakram, Pancanarayana Kotam (Hoysala historical novel and also the Five Narayana temples established under guidance of Bhagavath Ramanuja) Magnum Opus Atghi Malai Devan (Five Part our Athivar Vybhavam also comes in it) Kudal Azagi (about Adhithya Karikala Chola), Myil Angi Mangai in Maragadha Petti (About the curse to Mysuru Maharaja Vamsam which is continuing till today) etc. TAN Annaya does lot of research then based on Authentic fact he writes the book. My Mother Smt Chandra Narasimhan who is aged 77 years is a great fan of him.

Now Annaya is going to take us in path Treaded by Sri Amarar Kalki in Great Epic and Magnum Opus Poiniyan Selvan. Annaya is going to take us in the path and we should enjoy the journey with him and step into to Chola Era in time capsule the and it is both treat for eyes and ears, link is as under for trailer.

Trailer 1 Link: <a href="https://youtu.be/bUmXhOy3Cfs">https://youtu.be/bUmXhOy3Cfs</a>

Trailer 2 Link: <a href="https://youtu.be/UrTWtdok8Fk">https://youtu.be/UrTWtdok8Fk</a>

Trailer 3 Link: <a href="https://youtu.be/pgKfOCxDH10">https://youtu.be/pgKfOCxDH10</a>

And one more added bonus is The Kalki Magazine is going to take people on conducted tour on the path treaded by and connected with the Mysterious CHOLA Dynasty history and

the topping of the treat is for first tour TAN Annaya will also accompany . Did you book the seat? if not please do it.



Even though TAN Annaya had returned from hectic tour of Thanjavur in the trail of Chola King he obliged me with FOREWORD, called me in night and blessed. Today morning (5/9/22) being my Thirunakshatram (Avani Moolam) he called and blessed me.

I am Thankful to my Thambhiandan Sri Haresh of Singapore who is my GURU BRATHA for giving a small foreword. He is my life and soul; He is a gift to me by my Acharyan Rangapriyar.

Thankful to my sister Geethmala Raghavan of Chennai. My Aruna Vasudevan Akka and my Athimber Sri Vasudevan of Hyderabad and native of Katendethi.

Last but not least I dedicate this e-book to my Mentor in Likitha Kainkaryam Sri S Parthasarathi Swamin (POIKAI ADIYAN) who was my Editor of Long serving E- Magazine SRIVAISHANAVISM he passed away few days back, he made me Sub Editor and made me write under Sridhara Srinivasan ( I was originally named by mother as Sridhara Srinivasan only ) Dedicate this book to Parthasarathi Chithappa.

TODAY IS AVANI MOOLAM the Thirunakshatram of my Purvaja H H Srimath Srinivasa Ramanuja Deshikan (Katendethi Andavan) of Srimath Srirangam Andavan Ashram. So apt day to release.

#### Foreword - 1

from: Narasimhan T A - Ogmail.com>

to: Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar <shrihi.sridhar@gmail.com>

date: Sep 4, 2022, 10:07 PM

subject: Re: Request for foreword

mailed-by: gmail.com

signed-by:gmail.com

Being called as Kalachakram Narasimma I do believe in time and I have my own time travel machine to crisscross various periods of history. And during my travels, I very often come across a person riding a magic carpet with his companions, all small kids.

My friend Asuri Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar, who commands the magic carpet like Aladdin, handpicks the places of holy visit. He ensures that his readers derive the maximum enjoyment after reading his travelogues. His choices of places, itself creates an urge in us to travel to that spot immediately. And his narration, creates a feeling and we are able to visualise the deities, he introduces to us. We are extremely satisfied, and this satisfaction gives place to another feeling. This is ecstasy, and behind the ecstasy is something else, which is hard to explain. A sense of oneness with Sriman Narayana himself arises. A thrill of gratitude to Asuri Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar follows reading the travelogue

Having travelled to Sringeri, Gaya, Pancha Brindavan of Sri Narasimhapuram and written innumerable travelogues, my friend Sridhar now narrates to us the story of Katendethi Sri Bhoo sametha Varadaraja.

Beautiful illustrations and photographs accompany his narration. It looks as though the author seems to be sitting beside us, looking at us directly and talking just as he really would

Katendethi Vaibhavam is a triumph of a storyteller. It was enchanting and I did not want to rush it as every sentence was beautifully crafted and packed with information.

A sampradaya lover's dream. For sure!

T. A NARASIMHAN

05 September 2022

#### Foreword - 2

from: haresh@gmail.com

to: Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar <shrihi.sridhar@gmail.com>

date: Sep 4, 2022, 10:21 AM

subject: Re:

mailed-by: gmail.com

signed-by:gmail.com

Sri:

Sri Rama Jayam

It is a great honor to provide this small forward requested by my revered brother, Shirman Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar( affectionately known as Anna) Our association goes back nearly 20 years since our first meeting in Bangalore.

For a number of years I had also been his travel companion and experienced first hand many of the temples he has written about. While I have not visited Kadanthethi personally, this narration has made up for that in many ways.

Anna's timeless story telling style which combines fantasy and fact is something I truly enjoy even at the age of 46. I can only imagine the delightful reaction of the many children, who will be greatly entertained and benefitted from this book.

It is also worth mentioning that we both have links with the acharyas mentioned in this book thus creating between us the special bond of brotherhood, I mentioned from the beginning of this write up.

It is my heartfelt desire that my anna should continue producing more literature like this that will help preserve and promote the history of our temple and also communicate the teachings of Sanatana Dharma as envisioned by our great Acharyas.

Love and Prayers

**B** Haresh

05 September 2022

#### Foreword -3

from: Swetha Sundaram <@gmail.com>

to: Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar <shrihi.sridhar@gmail.com>

date: Sep 5, 2022, 8:15 AM

subject: Re:

mailed-by: gmail.com signed-by:gmail.com

I feel honoured to respond to the request of Shri Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar of Bangalore (whom I call anna (big brother)) to write a foreword for his excellent book, "Katendethi Sri Bhoo Sametha Varadharaja Vybhavam" an interesting travelogue on the Sthalapurana of Katendethi Sri Bhoo Sametha Varadharaja Perumal temple. Shri Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar hails from the lineage of HH Srimath Katendethi Andavan. He is the great-great-grandson of HH Srimath Katendethi Andavan; so, who better to narrate the history of Katendethi Kshetram than the direct descendant of HH Srimath Katendethi Andavan!

Shri Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar has a unique knack for storytelling! He uses his story telling skills to make children take interest in our sampradayam. His writing skills came to light in his very first book, "Footprints of Ramanuja in Melnadu" in which he elaborates on the sthala puranam of the temples in Karnataka (Melnadu) visited by Sri Swami Ramanuja. He keeps the interest of the readers both adults and children captivated from start to finish.

In his stories, facts and fiction come together to create a magical world featuring travels on a Magic Carpet with poorvacharyas like HH Srimath Rangapriya Mahadesikan and HH Srimath Katendethi Andavan. In his book, "Vedu and his omachi thatha", we travelled with Vedu on a magic carpet with HH Srimath Rangapriya Mahadesikan to know the life history of HH Srimath Katendethi Andavan. Through the banter between Vedu and the great acharyas, we are able to feel the author's acharya bakthi. We also shared in the adventures of Vedu when we visited other kshetrams like Gaya, Sringeri and Pancha Brindavan of Sri Narasimhapuram. Adults and children enjoy the magical world featuring Vedu, Viku, Hiranmayi and other characters like Srikara, Nachu Thatha, Chandra Patti. His storytelling style is reminiscent of **R.K.Narayan's Malgudi Days**.

Shri Lakshminarasimhan Sridhar is doing yeoman service to the Srivaishnava community by writing splendid stories that captivate the attention of children, youth and even adults and make them take interest in our sampradayam.

Let us now travel on the magic carpet, this time under the guidance of HH Srimath Katendethi Andavan and enjoy the Sthalapurana of Katendethi Sri Bhoo Sametha Varadharaja Perumal Temple.

Namo Narayana,

Swetha Sundaram

#### **AUTHOR'S NOTE**

Dear Children,

You had given me an opportunity to present to you my Chithra Desikeeyam and Srinivasa Kalyanam long long ago , they both were PowerPoint Show like a e-Pictorial Book you read . Then we have travelled to the Pancha Brindavan of Sri Narasimhapuram which houses the Five Brindavans of the Five Great Azagiasingars of Ahobila Muttam, and Hanumanth Prabhavam the Namakkal Kshetra Mahima.

Then the pictorial Power point show on Haritha Vamsam.

We had traveled in Magic carpet to know the Life history of Srimath Katendethi Andavan along with my Acharyan H H Rangapriya Swami and my Hero Sri Vedu to all places associated with Katendethi Andavan.

We travelled to Sringeri and Gaya with above mentioned personalities.

Enhance your imagination and now we will travel to Katendethi in magic carpet with our ever green hero VEDU and his Bhandhu's and for a change instead of my Acharyan Rangapriyar we will travel with my Purvaja H H Srimath Srinivasa Ramanuja Maha Deshikan ( H H Katendethi Andavan ).

Get Set ready GO00000000

## The Vybhavam of Katendethi Sri and Bhoo Devi Sametha Varadharajan Temple

Our hero Vedu was very happy to hear the news from his father Srikara that the Lord Sri and Bhoo Devi Sametha Varadharajan's temple in Katendethi is going to undergo Samprokshanam (consecration) and it is taking place in June and the Mandala Puja will also be conducted. It was the news from his Athai Aruna and his Athiber Vasudevan from Hyderabad. Vedu is very much attached to his Acharyan H H Rangapriya Maha Deshikan and his Purvaja H H Srinivasa Ramanuja Maha Deshikan of Srimath Andavan Ashram. In fact, he is happy as he is named after them only and he is born out of the blessings of the two great Acharya's. His full name is Varadha Vedanta Deshikan. His Purvaja s name was Kavi KunjAram Sathavadhani Varadha Vedantha Char a very learned Scholar of yester years and His Acharyan in Puvaashrama was known as Prof H S Varadha Desikachar who was equally learned Scholar (This introduction I am giving as some of you may be newbie).

Vedu's school has started and was little thrilled as it was going to be hybrid mode of classes (mixture of On and Offline classes). The life had become full of boredom due the Pandemic Covid 19, and lot of catastrophes has taken place in his life; he lost his Maternal and his Paternal Grandfather. He was happy as well as sad because once the school starts, he cannot go to Katendethi for Samprokshanam on June 19th, 2022, and final Mandala Puja Conclusion Day was on 4th August 2022, as he cannot take leave from school and also the tests are at that time. Our Vedu had never visited Katendethi, because they have lost touch with the roots there, Now the locals, other natives of Katendethi and his Aruna Athai's family and Sri Vilakkudi Sridhar Swami (Abu Dubai) of Katendethi came forward to renovate the Temple and the villagers also cooperated. Time flies and the Samprokshanam is done, and the Mandala Pooja is done successfully. School has opened and Vedu is busy there. Spending time in School, playing with his friends and partner in mischief, his cousin Vikunth, his sister Hiranmayi, and cousin sister Varadhakshi (are you wondering what is this unique name? Yes, another Maha Purusha H H Sridhar Swamin a great Prayogi had named her, it is name of Maha Lakshmi and Kolhapur Maha Lakshmi is also known as Varadhakshi). But Vedu is inquisitive to know the Sthalapurana of Katendethi so that he can tell his friends about it.

Then Vedu asked his father to tell the Sthalapurana of Katendethi. But due to hectic Office work and work in farm " Sri Rangapriya Vanam" Srikara expressed his inability. Instead, Srikara advised, "Vedu Meditate on your Great Great grandfather Katendethi Andavan and he will reveal the Sthalapurana if you pray sincerely." Then, after evening Sandhya Vandana Vedu meditates on his Purvaja. He meditates as taught by his Acharya H H Rangapriya Maha Deshikan. Vedu feels very happy. Then goes to sleep in second floor with his cousin Vikunth as he was angry with his sister Hiranmayi, because of her he got scolding from his Chandravalli Patti . Then in the Middle of the Night he sees a Vision of His Great Great Grandfather Whom he addresses as Periya Omachi Thatha (Big Godly Grandfather). Acharya Katendethi Andavan calls Vedu, "Vada Kuzanthai", and then Vedu prostrates before his Great Great Grandfather. Acharya Katendethi Andavan asks for the reason why Vedu meditated on him. Vedu says," Thatha you know what is on my mind, you are like my Acharyan Rangapriyar" O.k so you want to travel to Katendethi on my magic carpet like how you travelled to Know my life history to Katendethi and other places associated with me, then to Sringeri and Gaya Kshetram with your Acharyan Rangapriyar" in Magic carpet Vedu nods his head.



**Art by Swetha Athai of VEDU** 

Then he says, "there is a special request. I want to bring few more people with us on Magic carpet with your permission." Thatha asks who are the co passengers. Vedu says, "I want to bring Viku Anna, Aruna Athai from Hyderabad although she has visited the Katendethi for Samprokshanam, Vyjvanathi Athai from USA (Because she often teases him and few days ago asked if he will take her also on the Magic Carpet) and his pet Athai, Swetha Athai from Canada (He has named her story teller ATHAI)." Periya Omachi Thatha asks, "will you not take your sister Hiranmayi and Varadhakshi", Vedu says, "Thatha both fought with me and got me scolding from Chandravalli Patti. So only came to second floor to sleep with Vikunth, I don't want them to come with us, they will fight there also.". Thatha replies," You should not do like this and you as an elder brother should forget and take them along with you. You should develop the character of forgiving other people. You should emulate your Acharyan Rangapriyar who is Shantha Swaroopi." Vedu relents and tells, "ok Thatha we will take them also." Thatha says," ok in five minutes we will start and pick up everyone on our Magic Carpet. We will go and pick up our co-passengers."

First, they travel to Hyderabad pick up Aruna Athai, then to USA to Pick up Vyjyanathi Athai and then they travel to Canada and pick up Swetha Athai, Then Vedu says," Thatha can we pick up Pankajam Saranathan Patti? (She is also the purva ashrama Dhouhitha ). Thatha Nods his head. Vedu says," he has long list of Athais for journey, like Sudha Athai from Australia, Neela Athai from Hyderabad etc." Thatha says, "Vedu some other time please." Then all travel back to Bharatha Varsha then Vedu tells Thatha, "We have to pick up Geethmala Athai (He has named her as Big Storyteller Athai), as she teaches Narayaneem and Sri Lakshmishasaram to his mother Krishne and he too listens to it whenever he has and through Geethmala Athai only I have heard about Katendethi." Thatha Obliges his pet, Vedu. All the kids are thrilled and feel as if they are flying in Airplane. They fly to Mannargudi and have the darshan of Lord Sri Vidhya Rajagopalan, Vedu wanted to ask the Sthalapurana of Mannargudi. Omachi Thatha told Vedu some other time I will take you, today we must go before Uchi Kala Puja and have the darshan of Lord Sri Bhoo Devi Sametha Varadharajan and the Vynatheyan who did the Prathistai of the Archa. Vedu nods his head. Before that they all have the breakfast of Koil Idli and Koil Dosa which they got as Prasadam at Mannarqudi temple through Geethmala Athai's influence. Then they travel over the lush green village of Katendethi. There is a Pond near the temple. Everyone sits there and Katendethi Swami starts a small discourse on how the Archa of Lord Varadhan temple came into existence.



#### Katendethi History

Once Lord Garuda was very Proud that he is carrying the almighty and sarva Vayapi Lord Sriman Narayana on his shoulders and there is none mightier than him in the universe.

Our sage Naradha having come to know of the way Lord Garuda felt, went, and met Garuda and told, "Hey Garuda Bhagavan why are you looking tired? You are looking very weak as if you have lost all your energy." Then our Vynatheyan asks Naradha," Do I look like a weakling! There is none equal to me in

power in this world, and you are calling me a weakling!".

"Hey Garuda! You are talking without knowing about your strength. Have you heard about the episode of Kamadhenu who destroyed the entire troop of Kaushikarajan?" (Vedu was wondering who Kaushikarajan was when Omachi Thatha told him that it is the poorvashrama name of Rajarishi Vishwamithra). When the troops of Kaushikarajan forcibly tried to take Kamadhenu away without the permission of her master great Sage Vashista, do you know what she did? She blew away the entire world with her breath. Can you estimate her strength?

Garuda with full pride replied," Hey Sage, you are comparing with a meek cow! She does not even have 1/1000<sup>th</sup> of my strength!" Naradha says, "Garudadeva why should we argue! Let's have a competition and if you win, we will accept you as very powerful person." Once again Garuda with pride says," I am ready to accept any challenge and will compete to prove my might."

Naradha says, "Vynatheya, ok can you do one thing please? Visit sage Vasishta's ashram and lift Kamadhenu with your legs and bring her here." Then both descend to Sage Vasishta's



Hermitage. Garuda tried to lift the Kamadhenu with his legs but could not move even an inch, then he grew and tried to lift her again but, could not do anything. Instead, he felt very tired.



Meanwhile, Sage Vashista came out of his hermitage and saw this unusual feat of Vynatheya, and he got wild and asked, "How dare you try to take Kamadhenu without my permission? How can you do like this. She is my beloved cow. I hereby curse you that your wings will fall apart, and you will lose all your strength!"

Our Vynatheyan with great difficulty reached Vaikuntham the abode of Sriman Narayana. There our Lord Sriman Narayana was surrounded by all his parivara Devatha's. Then Vynatheyan started narrating the story that all of a sudden, he developed pride that he carried Perumal on his back and that he was the most powerful person. Then he had accepted a challenge with Sage Naradha who asked him to lift the Kamadhenu the Celestial Cow belonging to Sage Vashista. "I trespassed into the Sage Vashista hermitage and tried to lift the Kamadhenu the celestial cow, but unfortunately, I failed due to my pride. By that time Sage Vashista came out and saw me trying to lift Kamadhenu. He cursed me that I will lose both wings and my strength." Then, Maha Vishnu Says, "Pride is biggest sin. Don't worry please go the southern portion of Bharatha on the banks of Harithra

there is a place known as Jabeshwaram (Katendethi) and there resides my beloved Shastha. Do the Prathistai of Sri Bhoo Devi Sametha Varadharajan and meditate on me and you will be relieved of your ailment when ripe time comes."

As instructed by Karuna Murthy, Garuda established a temple, did the Sthapana of Archa of Sri Bhoo Devi Sametha Varadharajan. He also established a Thatkam which is now known as Garuda Pushkarni.



Garuda daily took bath in the Pushkarni and worshipped Perumal. He did other rituals, did the penance for nearly a year. Then, one day a radiant light appeared and there appeared our Lord with his consorts. Garuda was very happy to see the Jagath Rakshakan, he started praising lord and requested Lord to reside in Katendethi and bless all the devotees who pray to him, and our Karuna Murthy told Thathasthu. From that day, Perumal blessed all the people who took bath in Garuda Pushkarni and prayed at His Sannidhanam. With His blessings our Vedathama regained his valour and strength. Our Pranava Pakshi happily left for Sri Vaikuntham to do Kainkaryam.

Then it is Uchikala Puja time. Our Yathulan Bhattar had to come to Katendethi that day as a Bhakta had offered sambhavana for special puja. Everyone has the Darshan (Everyone is visible to the Residents of Katendethi except our Katendethi Andavan). Yathulan Swami gives everyone the Teertha prasadam and the prasadam. Vedu likes the Sheeraannam and looks at Yathulan Bhattar , who gives him a second helping and his sister Hiranmayi teases, "Sapaturama!" va vituku Appa kitai solren Pakki that you second helping of Prasadam , For that our fellow without any body knowing pulls her hair. She complains to her Aruna Athai and Geethu Athai , both tell Vedu to not torment Hiranmayi. Then they take leave and the temple closes. Elders due to Bharasamparnam stay back in Katendethi temple premises.

Then kids wanted to visit nearby Poorna Pushkala Shastha Temple. Thatha nods his head, only kids go to temple. They are greeted by ever smiling Shivachariyar Sri B.



Shivanthamajan Swamin. He was known to Vedu's father Srikara, and he could recognize Vedu as he resembled his father,

They have nice Darshan. Shivachariyar tells the Shastha Sthalapurana. temples I† Shivachariyar 's father who had guarded the Archa of Varadhan and his parivara and looked after the old until Katendethi temple the residents took up building the new temple, and restored the old temple and other process Samprokshanam etc. was over. Our fellow Vedu naughty asks Shivachariyar can he have the darshan of Veda Muni' Archa, He knew some secret so he wanted to have his Darshan, Shivachariyar takes them to have darshan. He is

satisfied and he prays to him that you helped my Purvaja with Mantra Shakthi etc. please help me also.

Everyone gets on the Magic carpet , He mischievously looks at his Big Omachi Thatha and tells he had good darshan of Veda Muni , then Thatha whispers in his ears don't do any mischivious prayer to him like Kunthi Devi of Mahabharata , he says time comes he will definitely help you and his grace is also there for you and they first travel to Chennai, then to Hyderabad, Canada , then USA and at last Thatha drops Vedu, Viku, Hiranmayi and Varadhakshi and gives a hug and kiss to all kids . All of them thank Thatha for wonderful journey and Prasadam.

**Garuda Pushkarni near Temple** 



Then Vedu's Alarm bell rings on his mobile. He goes to the ground floor finishes his morning ablution and goes to school. During free period he thinks of the Anubhavam of Magic carpet. That evening when he comes back, all the four Athais and Pankajam Patti call and tell him that they dreamt that they travelled to Katendethi with him!





A fine picture by Yathulan Swami of Temple against the twilight





Sri Lakshmi Narsimha. It is symbolic that Lord Narahari and Varadhan are inseparable, like Kanchi here in Katendethi also Lord Adhbhutha Kesari is present.

\*

#### Important Local Contact in Katendethi

Sri Yadulan Swamin: 9578289842 (He will come on special Occasion and give guidance)

Sri Varadharajan Swamin : 8144195876 (For Temple of Varadhan) In case you cannot reach him kindly contact Smt. Vaidehi: 9787272338

Shivachariyar B. Shivanthamajan Swamin: 9786793576
For Darshan of Shastha Temple and in case of emergency facilities at Katendethi.

Katendethi is a small village, facilities are less so plan your visit with prior intimation.

### Periya Thirivadi and Seriya Thirivadi



Vynatheyan of Katendethi is Varaprasadhi and Anugruha Murthy.



Hi Kutti's did you like the travel in Magic carpet along with my hero Vedu and his bunch of Tailless monkeys, now on pipe line is travel to Bhadri Kshetram to listen to Nara Narayan Vybhavam, Bhadri Narayan Vybhavam, also Bhadri Dham Vybhavam this will be in Magic Carpet along with my Acharyan H H Sri Rangapriya Maha Deshikan along with Band of tailless monkeys led by VEDU. Then Dasaavathara Vybhavam in Sathyagalam (No luxury of Magic carpet) in Farm House named Sri Rangapriya Vanam with Nachu Thatha and Chandravalli Patti and band of tailless monkeys you can enjoy the customs, culture, the values of Joint family, traditional food, Prasadam, village sports, cricket match etc. Till then goodbye from Sridhar Uncle. Did you like the story please write to me email: <a href="mailto:shrihi.sridhar@gmail.com">shrihi.sridhar@gmail.com</a> or 9738859553 (whatsapp) or 7019640006