



## Srirangam Srimath Andavan asramam, Covai

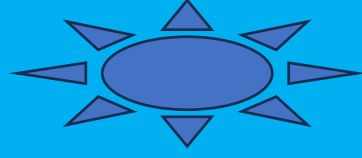


ஸ்ரீ வேதாந்த ராமானுஜ மஹாதேசிகன்  
வழுத்தூர் ஆண்டவன்



ஸ்ரீ வேதாந்த ராமானுஜ மஹாதேசிகன்  
தேரமுந்தூர் ஆண்டவன்

Thirunakshatram of Vazhatur andavan  
& Thezhendur Andavan  
Aavani Poorattadhi-1.09.2023



## Vazhatur Andavan

Avataram	1743
Ashrama Sweekaaram	1763
No.of Chaturmasyams	52
Adorning Thirunadu	1815

## Thezhendur Andavan

Avataram	1872
Ashrama Sweekaaram	1908
No.of Chaturmasyams	23
Adorning Thirunadu	1932

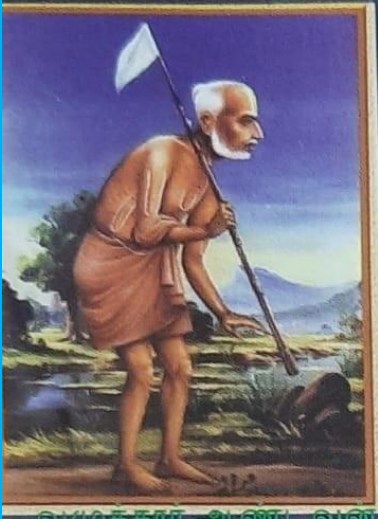


With the blessings of  
Sri SriVarahaMahadesikan

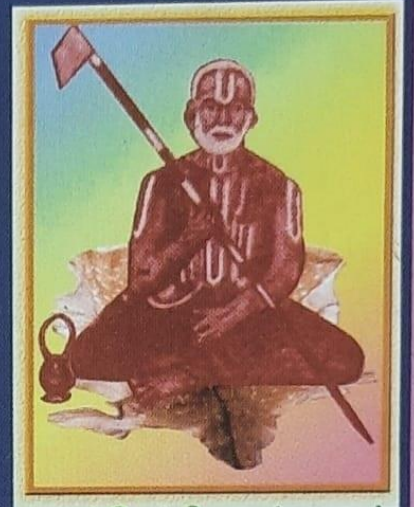


श्रीमद्वेदान्त रामानुज यतिकृपया रङ्गिणि न्यस्तभारं  
तत्सम्प्राप्तागमान्त द्वितयमनुगणं शिष्टतापूर्णमग्र्यम् ॥  
श्रेष्ठ श्रीरङ्गरामानुजमुनिकरुणालब्धमोक्षाश्रमं तं  
सत्त्वस्थं श्रीवराहं यतिवरमनघं देशिकं संश्रयामि ॥

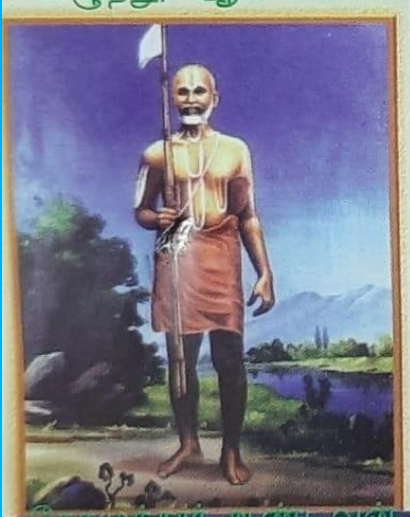
# 5 Andavans' Thirunakshatra vaibhavams in Aavani



வழுத்தூர் ஆண்டவன்



காடந்தேத்தி ஆண்டவன்



தேமுந்தூர் ஆண்டவன்

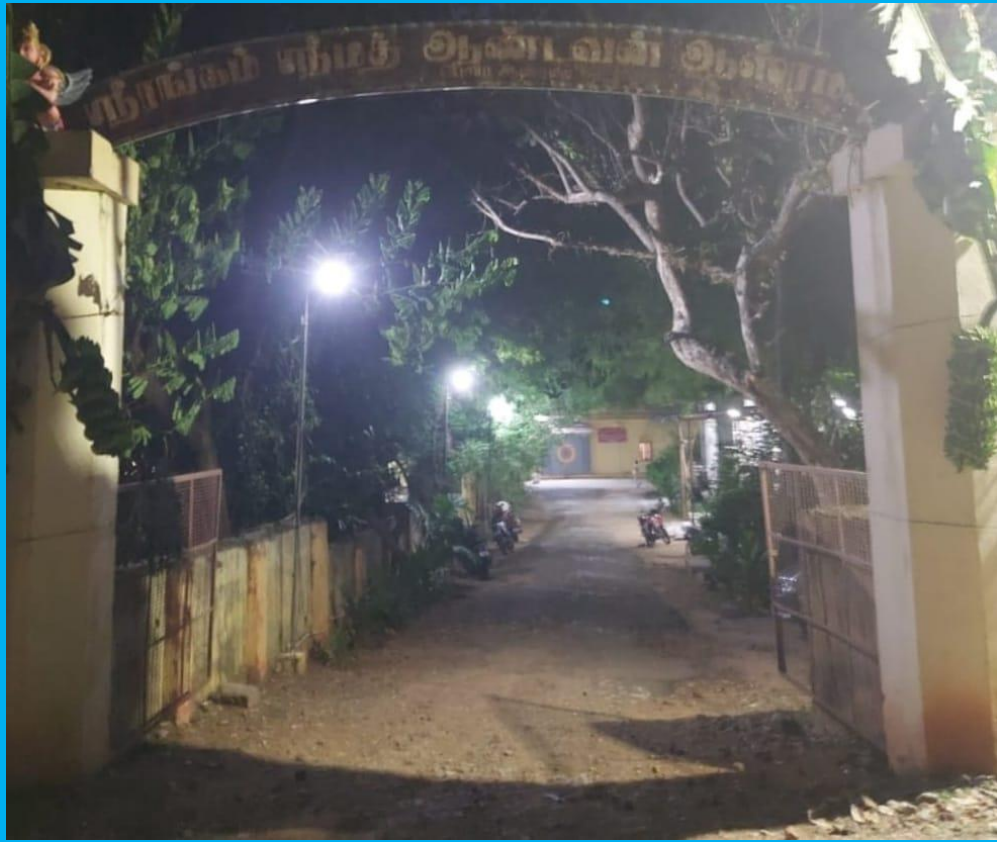


தென்பிறை ஆண்டவன்



மைஸூர் ஆண்டவன்

# Srirangam Headquarters of the asramam





**SRIMAD VAZHUTHUR ANDAVAN  
SRI VEDANTA RAMANUJA MAHADESIKAN**

**BIRTH STAR: AVANI PURATTATHI (PURVA BHADRAPADA)**



**ஸ்ரீ வேதாந்த ராமானுஜ மஹாதேசிகன்  
வழுத்தார் ஆண்டவன்**

## Thaniyan

*gopāla-deśika padābja madhu-vratasya  
prajña-virakti-karuṇā-mukha sat-guṇābdheḥ  
vedānta-lakṣmaṇa-mune śrita-bhāga-deyaṁ  
pādāravinda-yugalaṁ śaraṇaṁ prapadye*

गोपालदेशिकपदाब्जमधुव्रतस्य  
प्रज्ञाविरक्तिकरणामुखसद्गुणाब्धेः ।  
वेदान्तलक्ष्मणमुनेश्चित्तभागधेयं  
पादारविन्दयुगलं शरणं प्रपद्ये ॥

கோ<sub>3</sub>பாலதே<sub>3</sub>ஸிக பதா<sub>3</sub>ப்ஜ மது<sub>4</sub>வ்ரதஸ்ய  
ப்ரஜ்ஞா<sub>3</sub>விரக்தி கருணாமுக<sub>2</sub>ஸத்<sub>3</sub>கு<sub>3</sub>ணாப்<sub>3</sub>தே<sub>4</sub>:|  
வேதா<sub>3</sub>ந்த லக்ஷ்மணமுநே: ஸ்ரிதபா<sub>4</sub>க<sub>3</sub>தே<sub>4</sub>யம்  
பாதா<sub>3</sub>ரவிந்த<sub>3</sub>யுக<sub>3</sub>ளம் ஸரணம் ப்ரபத்<sub>3</sub>யே ॥

**Srimad Vazhuthur Andavan Sri Vedanta Ramanuja Mahadesikan** was born in the Tamil month of Avani with *Purattadhi* as his birth-star in the *sashti-samvatsara* year of Rudrotkari in 1743 AD to Sri U. Ve. Madabhushi Srinivasachar Swami in the village of Vazhuthur.

Lord Ranganatha directed Srimad Vazhuthur Swami, and two others, Srimad Vatthirayiruppu Swami, and Srimad Seyyanam Swami, to go to Srimad Gopalarya Mahadesikan, also known as Thirukkudanthai Desikan, and learn the *sampradaya-granthas* or the traditional literature and esoteric mysteries of Srivaishnavism, and to spread it far and wide.

Srimad Thirukkudanthai Desikan too had a dream that he should teach the divine mysteries of Sri Vaishnavism to these three great souls.

Thus the tradition was given the name '*Munitraya*', or the tradition of the three great *munis* or saints, because of two reasons: first because of the three early founders of the tradition: Sriman Natha Muni, Srimad Yamuna Muni and Srimad Ramanuja Muni; and second because of the three great saintly disciples of Srimad Thirukkudanthai Desikan: Srimad Vazhuthur Swami, Srimad Vatthirayiruppu Swami and Srimad Seyyanam Swami, who were considered to be *amsha-avatars* or partial incarnations of the original three munis.

After learning the scriptures at the feet of Thirukkudanthai Desikan, Srimad Vazhuthur Swami accepted the ascetic order of *sannyasa*, and came to be known as Sri Vedanta Ramanuja Mahadesikan. When He was in Vazhuthur for more than 30 years, he performed *mangalasanam* prayers every day at the temple of Sri Jagathrakshaka Perumal. It is well known to many that when the curtain was drawn in front of the Deities of the temple, Vazhuthur Swami used to have a direct dialogue with the Deity.

Later he moved to teach in Srirangam, where he lived in a small hut on the banks of the river Coleroon. He used to award the sacraments of *samashrayanam* and *bharanyasam* to



thousands of disciples at the shrine of Sri Ranganayaki in the temple. At that time, he was also known as ‘Srirangam Swami’.

Once, Srimad Vazhuthur Swami Sri Vedanta Ramanuja Mahadesikan, went to meet his *acharya* Srimad Thirukkudanthai Desikan to seek his blessings.

Remembering the causeless compassion and grace of his preceptor, and the unpayable debts to the *acharya*, Vazhuthur Swami offered his prostrations at the feet of Srimad Thirukkudanthai Desikan and sang one of the verses of Nammalvar from the Thiruvaimozhi which had been written in praise of Sri Aravamudan.

The verse had the sentence: *theera vinaigal theera ennai andaai – thirukkudanthai oora* (Oh, resident of Thirukkudanthai, you rule over me – *andaai* – by removing all those faults which cannot be erased!). Srirangam Swami used this verse as a reference to Srimad Thiukkudanthai Desikan and repeated this verse over and over again, with tears brimming from his eyes. At that time, Srimad Thirukkudanthai Desikan immediately picked up his worthy disciple and uttered the words: ‘*Neere emmai andavan! Neere nam sampradayathai aala vantha Andavan!*’ (You are the person who rules over me. Indeed, you are the person who has come to rule and guard over our *sampradayam*).

Later, Srimad Vazhuthur Swami Sri Vedanta Ramanuja Mahadesikan returned to Srirangam and proceeded to the temple to serve the Lord. As soon as he arrived, the Deity of Lord Ranganatha Himself came to the flag-pillar or the *dvija-stambha* at the temple to receive Vazhuthur Swami. Lord Ranganatha embraced him by calling out: ‘*Emmai anadavane, varuga*’, which translates as, ‘Welcome to He who rules over me as *andavan*’.

Vazhutoor Swami’s *acharya* and the Divine Lord, had both addressed him with the title of ‘*Andavan*’. Since then the *acharyas* of the tradition are known as ‘*Andavan*’, which is considered to be a title directly awarded by the Supreme Lord Sri Ranganatha Himself. Thus Vazhuthur Swami became famous by the name Srimad Vazhuthur Andavan.

Many illustrious people became *sishtyas* or disciples of Srimad Vazhuthur Andavan Sri Vedanta Ramanuja Mahadesikan. Prominent among them are:

**01** –Srimad Thiruthuraiipoondi Andavan Sri Srinivasa Ramanuja Mahadesikan, who succeeded him to the *acharya-pitam* of the Andavan Ashramam

**02** –Srimad Annarya Mahadesikan – also known as Navalpakkam Swami – who spread the *sampradayam* in places such as Thirukkudanthai, Thiruvaheendapuram and Navalpakkam, while staying in *grihasth-ashrama* or householder life

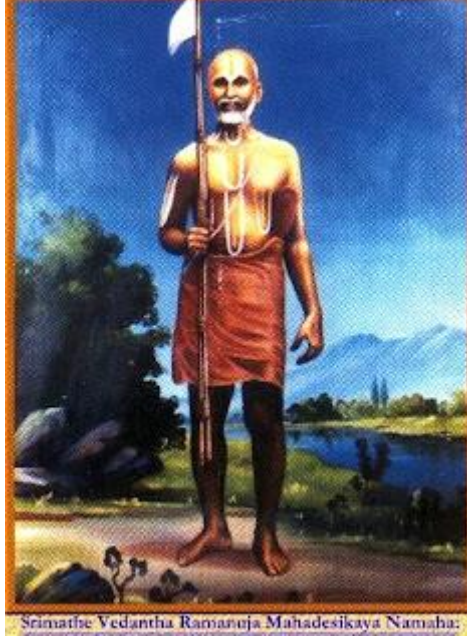
**03** –Vangipuram Vedanta Ramanuja Mahadesikan also known as Srirangam Aandikadu Swamy

Through these 3 *acharyas* who were *sishtyas* of Srimath Vazhuthur Andavan, the Andavan Ashramam *sampradayam* has spread to all over the world like a big banyan tree.

Vazhuthur Andavan	Avatara varusham	Asrama Sweekaram	No.of Chaturmasyams	Attained Thirunadu
	1743	1763	52	1815



## Srimath Nammandavan- Srimath Vedantha Ramanuja Mahadesikan Srimath Therazhundur Andavan



Thirunakshatram: Avani PoorattAdhi

Thanian:

**Srimath Srivasa yogeeshwara padhavinatham labdha vEdhaantha yugmam  
Sri paadooSEvi raamaanuja munithilakaath thathpadha nyastha Baaram  
Srimath Srivasa raamaanuja munimaNEr labda mokshaasramam tham  
Srimath vEdhaantha raamaanuja yathi nrupathim sumsrayE gnyana vaardhim**

Avani poorattadhi is the thirunakshatram of Srimath ThErzhundur Andavan Sri Vedhantha Ramanuja Mahadesikan. His poorvashrama Name was Sri Varadhachar. Sri Varadhachar Swami was born in the year Prajothpathi (1871) in the month of AvaNi in ThErzhundur village in Tanjore district in Tamilnadu. He belonged to Eyunni vamsam and Bharadwaja Gothram. At very early age, he was trained at vedha adhyayanam, kavyam and nataka alankaram at his birth place. To learn Tharka, vyAkaranA, and meemAmsA he went to Srirangam, offered his obeisance at the feet of PeriAndavan who in turn blessed Sri VaradhAchar swami with pancha samskaram and manthra upadesam. Sri VaradAchAr swami learnt Tharka and nyAya sAsthrA from the great scholar Vilakkudi Vedhanthachar swAmi. He under went intensive training under the great pandit pudhu-agrahAram Brahmasri Kuppuswami sastrigal in meemAmsA and vyakaranA. He had performed Atma samarpanam at the holy feet of Nam Perumal by Srimath ChinnAndavan - Srimath Paduka Sevaka Ramanuja Maha Desikan.

He was married at the age of 18 years to Sowbhagyavathi Sengamala Ammal, daughter of Sri Annasami Ayyangar of Thirukkudanthai Ayyangar street . Sri Varadhachar swami became a disciple at the holy feet of Srimath ChinnAndavan - Srimath PAduka Sevaka Ramanuja Maha Desikan and learnt kalakshEpa grantha chathushtyams from His Holiness, His Holiness Srimath Chinnandavan who was very much impressed with Sri VaradhAchar Swami called him one day and told, "You are going to be the Sampradhaya Pravarthaka of this Asramam" . When Srimath Chinnandavan's health was affected, he longed for a successor for this sampradhaya. Sri VaradAchAr swami, at that young age readily offered himself for the ascetic order. But some concerns were raised from very close circle of Varadhachar swamy. HH adorned thirunadu in Vijaya varusham (1894) in the month of thai without appointing a successor to Asramam. Sri VaradAchAr swami, after completion of Chinnandavan's kainkaryams, purchased a house at Srirangam and lived there with his parents and wife. He visited the Brindavanam of asramam daily, performed ThiruvArAdhanam, and pAdukArAdhanam in morning and offered ThiruviLakku at evening and after all kainkaryams, he used to return home only at night.

This was his daily activity for 11 long years from Vijaya varusham 1884 Thai month to Visuvavasuv-Avani -1905, when 76 years old KAdanthethi SathavadhAnam Varadha vEdhanthAchAr swami, a disciple of PeriAndavan, was requested by all Andavan Ashramam sishyas and other bhagavathas to take up sanyasam from Thirukkudanthai Srimath Azhagiya singar. . Accordingly Srimath Srinivasa SatakOpa Yattheendra Maha Desikan (38th Jeer of Sri Ahoibila Mutt) who was camping at Nrusimhapuram gave thureeyAsramam to KAdanthethi swAmi in presence of a large Srivaishvaite gathering. Thus 76 year old KAdanthethi swami became the Asrama Head of Srimath Andavan periAsramam as Srinivasa RAmAnuja MahA DEsikan.

The health of KAdanthEthi Andavan deteriorated during 1905 and all asramam sishyas immediately rushed to Sri VaradAchar swami and requested to take up sanyasam from KAdanthEthi Andavan. Sri VaradAchAr swAmi readily acceded to their request by leaving the family to take up ascetic orders. He received thureeyAsramam from the holy hands of KAdanthEthi Andavan Srinivasa Ramanuja Maha Desikan in the year KEELAKA VARUSHAM-AVANI MADHAM (sep-oct ,1908 ) and was named Sri VEdAntha RAmAnuja MahA dEsikan- also known as & ThErzhundur Andavan. And NammAndavan. Both AchAryAs were together for a period of 6 months. Srimath KAdanthEthi Andavan attained thirunAdu in Keelaka varusham-masi madham-krishnapaksham-dwadasi thithi (17.02.1909).

Ever since Srimath NammAndavan took up sanyasam, His Holiness had assimilated in himself strict austerity, extreme rigid and rigorous routines of a sanyAsi, leading a highly puritan's life of his poorvacharyas, rejecting all luxuries and conveniences. He travelled by walk only like his predecessors observing " pAdhayAthra" to visit holy shrines. Good personality, majestic look, pleasing voice, convincing talk etc were his great traits. His discourses were full of humor , with penetrating perception of holy life of sages Alvars and ArchAvathAras. He attracted all sections of vaishnavite community, vedic scholars and VEdhAnthis, by his philosophic lectures. His deliverance of Sri BAshyA, Bhagavath vishyam and other granthAs, were with such ease and perfection, that they attracted a large gathering around him, wherever he lectured. People in those days used to say that, Peria perumal is namm Perumal, jewel among alvars - is nammAlwAr and jewel among acharyas- is NammAndavan .

Some of the great scholars who studied, swaroopA granthas under His Holiness srimad NammAndavan were:-

Sri U.Ve. Rangachar swami (who became Akkur Andavan-Srinivasa Maha Desikan later)

Sri U.Ve.Tenpirai Venkata Raghavachar swami( who became Thenbarai Andavan-Sri RanganAtha Maha Desikan later)

Dimmakudi sri U.Ve .Srinivasachar (Sri Ramanja Yattheswarar)  
Thirukkudanthai Vairakya Nidhi Sri U.Ve. Rajagopalachar ( Sri Narayana Yattheswar)  
Rayampettai GanapAdi Vidwan Seemachar ( Sri Srinivasa Ramanuja Maha Desikan ) and many others.

His holiness adorned thirunAdu in PRAJOTHPATHI year (1931)-Aadi -Poorattadhi Krishna panchami day,that was on 03.08.1931 at the age 59 years and 11 months shortly before celebrations of His shashti-abtha-poorthi.

Courtesy:: Srimath Andavan Thiruvadi Perungadambanur Parthasarathy Sreenivasan

## SriMushnam periandavan at thezhendur for HIS Chaturmasya vratam



## Brindavanam of Thezhendur Andavan

