

Sri Kurathazhwan

Sri Krishna Parabrahmane Namaha

Kure:sa misrulu also known as Kurathalwan was Ramanuja's ardent disciple. He was elder to Bhagavath Ramanuja and had boundless affection for Ramanuja. Once the Raja of Chola, who couldn't bear the Pravachanams being delivered by Ramanuja, wanted to harm the seer. With an intention of saving Bhagavath Ramanuja, Kurathalwan put on the Kashayam robes, and holding the Tridandam posed as Ramanuja and walked into the kings palace. The king asked Kure:sa to convert himself into a faith that he believed in. However Kuresa gave numerous explanations and proofs from Sastras to convince the king that he was on the wrong path. But the king was an obstinate person, he tried to remove the eyes of

Kure:sa as a punishment. Kure:sa didn't want to get his eyes removed by such a lowly king and hence plucked away his own eyes.

Later he came back to Sriranga Kshetram in a very pitiable state. Since Chola Bhupa:La was a king, he passed an order prohibiting all of Ramanuja's devotees from entering the temple. Kure:sa, ignorant of the kings' orders, went to the

Srirangam temple to have Darshan of Lord Ranganatha. He was stopped at the entrance of the temple by one of the guards. Soon he overheard another guard saying - "Why are you stopping this great person ? Let him go. He can never have ill intentions towards anyone. Once he cut a banana leaf from a tree and the tree starting oozing a milky liquid. Unable to bear the feeling that he had caused a lot of pain to the tree he collapsed. Such is his compassion for all

the beings. Similary once when a snake was suffering with a thorn pricking its tongue, inspite of the unbelievable risk, he removed the thorn with his hand and let it go. He is a man who has genuinely learnt how to love all beings."

Sir Ramanuja's association was of prime importance for Kure:sa, not the relation with Sri Ranganatha. To reach Sri Rangnatha, its only through the association and blessing of the Acharya, it becomes feasible.

Kure:sa thought "If one suggests that I should leave the association of the Acharya and directly approach Lord Ranganatha, its a very dangerous thought. The relationship with Acharya is like the one that a Lotus flower has with water. As long as the Lotus flower is in water it blooms with the Sun's exposure. Without the sun it shrivels up. However if the Lotus thinks thats it's blossoming only because of the sun and hence tries to move out of water, or if

its kept on the ground away from the water, the same rays of the sun will dry it up. All the Jeevas are all like a Lotus flower, and if we want to blossom our lotus like hearts, we need Acharya's Krupa to support it. If we diassociate ourselves from our Acharya, the Paramatma (Sun) will not blossom our heart -"ravihi so:shayathi na Tho:shayathi"

It's enough if there is water that supports me. Its ok even if I don't fly into the skies. I don't need an association with Lord Ranganatha without the association of Ramanuja."

Thinking thus, kuresa left without entering the temple. Such was his staunch belief in Acharya. Thats the reason he is held in such high esteem by one and all. He never caused any harm to others. Hence none had an inclination to cause him any harm.

This is a great quality that is worth cultivating and practising by one and all.