



Revival and Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies (Teerthas) - Vali Teertham



By
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Location: On the way to Gandha-madhana-parvatham from Main Sri Ramanathasamy temple approximately 2.5 Km

Structure:

As per literature it is a pond like structure but now it is in the form of well.

Mythological Story of Teertham:

Vali is the initial king of the monkeys in Kishkindha. He's a very powerful being in his own right, and also has the special power of being almost invincible. When someone wishes to fight Vali, they give up half their power to Vali, making him even stronger. However, this power makes Vali an unwilling listener. He banishes his brother, Sugreeva, because he was unwilling to listen to Sugreeva's truthful account of a past event, and instead Vali chose to believe that Sugreeva wanted to usurp the power. This lack of rational and considerate thought leads Rama to side with Sugreeva and kill Vali.



Vali is the undisputed king of kishkindha and was winning every opponent he faced. He used to take bath in the sea while doing shiva Pooja. During that time, he had a darshan of Lord Vishnu. He prays to Lord Vishnu that he should be killed by Lord Vishnu and not by anybody else. Lord Vishnu said that there is a pond in Gandhamadhanaparvatham area of Rameswaram Island and he told him to have a dip in the pond and do pooja for him. Mighty Vali went to Gandhamadhanaparvatham and did the penance and Lord Vishnu appeared and said you will get Moksha in the Rama avatar and asked him to wait. After his getting Moksha this pond became Vali Teertham.

Issue of encroachment

When VK-Nardep team located the Vali Teertham, they realized that it has been fenced by the nearby land owner and they were claiming that the Teertham belongs to them. In addition, they told that the names written in the inscriptions inside the Well are of their ancestors. Realising the seriousness of the problem, VK-Nardep approached both the HR&CE and the Revenue



department to conduct a joint survey to resolve the dispute. They carried out a joint survey on 02 November 2019 and further talks happened on 8 November 2019. Finally, the encroachers agreed that the well belongs to Government and thus it paved the way for renovation.

Renovation Pooja of Vali Teertham

On 24th December 2019 VK-Nardep conducted the renovation pooja of Vali Teertham by performing Ganesh Pooja and by breaking the coconut. Local stake holders and Green Rameswaram volunteers participated in the function. Prasadam was distributed to all the persons present.



City Union Bank, Kumbakoam has given a grant under CSR for renovation of this Traditional Water Body.

