

The efficacy of Ramanama



My grand father used to emphasise the efficacy of Ramanama and in his day today conversation with everyone he always breathed "Sri Ram. Sri Ram" and not a single word came out of his lips before uttering the Ramanama.

Is Rama nama so powerful? I need not dwell on this and answer. The following calculation explains.

An old exponent of Ramayana was teaching Vishnu Sahasra naamam to a group of young boys.

The Guru chanted the slokam : **"Sri Raama Raama Raamethi
Rame Raame Manorame
Sahasranaama Tathulyam Raama Naama Varaanane "**

Then he explained the boys: "if you chant Raama naamam 3 times, it is equivalent to chanting the whole Vishnu Sahasranaamam or chanting Lord's Naamam 1000 times.

One of the boys did not agree with this logic and he was bold enough to question the guru

" Guru, how can 3 times reciting Rama would equal chanting it 1000 times? I do not get the logic. How 3 naamams =1000 naamams?

The smart Guru, a great devotee of Lord Raama smiled at the boy, appreciated his curiosity and spontaneously explained:

"Lord Shiva says that the name of Lord Rama is the sweetest of all the words & chanting this name would be equivalent to chanting the whole Vishnu Sahasranama or thousand names of Vishnu".

Here is the interesting calculation to prove that 3 times chanting of Rama naamam is equal to chanting a thousand times the whole Vishnu Sahasra naamam.

Take the name Rama. It has two Sanskrit letters **RA & MA**

RA (2nd consonant in Sanskrit : ya, **ra**, la, va, sa and sha)

MA (5th consonant in Pa, Pha, Ba, Bha, MA)

Substitute the value of RA & MA as 2 & 5 to make RAMA : 2 X 5= 10

So Rama Rama Rama = in nos: 2x5 x 2x5 x2x5 = 10x10x10 = 1000.

Three times chanting Rama naamam is equivalent to chanting it 1000 times.

The boy was happy with the answer and started learning Vishnu Sahasranaamam with full concentration and devotion. Let us thank the naughty boy and spread this to many friends for their information and chant Rama Namam at least "3" (1000) times both morning and evening at least. Can we?

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