

An Incarnation and a Paramahansa is born in Tiruvannamalai: Story of a conscious birth

It was under the glow of the mighty mountain Arunachala and in the holy energy center reinforced by the *jjotirlingam* Arunachaleshwara, that nithyananda was born as the second child of Arunachalam and Lokanayaki.

Nithyananda says, remembering his conscious birth:

'It was neither dark nor light-filled; an indeterminate color covered planet Earth. Suddenly a bright and brilliant light appeared from a region, which I now see as Southern India. I entered into that light in the form of a brilliant meteor. The very next sight that I perceived with my inner eye was Arunachala, and I knew that I had assumed the body once more; I had entered the womb of my mother. It was a conscious birth. I entered into the body at 11:45 pm. I took a *muhurta*, which is a period of about 45 minutes in the Hindu system of time measurement, to settle into the body.'

nithyananda's mother discovered that she was with her second child when she was on a pilgrimage to the holy temple town of Tirupati. She was sick and when the doctor examined her, she was found to be pregnant. nithyananda's connection with Lord Venkateshwara at Tirupati, another form of Lord Vishnu, thus started well before his birth. His mother had actually wanted a daughter, as a second child since her first born was a boy, and was somewhat disappointed when the second child too, was a male child.

nithyananda was born on 1st January 1978 at 32 minutes past midnight in the holy town of Tiruvannamalai in South India.

He was named after his mother's father as Rajasekaran, as per the local custom. The name referred to Siva, and meant 'King of Gods'. nithyananda was born in the Tamil month of *Margazhi* (December-January). Lord Krishna refers to Himself as *Margazhi* amongst the months. It is the month of the *brahma muhurta* – the period of the *Devas*, (divine beings), their early morning, the holiest time of the day. It is the month in which many great sages and enlightened Masters have been born: Ramana Maharishi, J Krishnamurthi, Sharada Devi, Seshadri Swami, Vivekananda and many others. It is considered the holiest of the months.

Quantum Spirituality

nithyananda was born in Tiruvannamalai, on the *ashtami* day, the eighth day of the waxing moon. *Ashtami* is considered to be worldly and therefore not considered a favorable period by ascetics. Legend has it that *ashtami* prayed to Krishna to redeem itself and Krishna decided to be born on the *ashtami* day to prove to the world that spirituality can be pursued by a person of the world, while still leading a material life of comfort.

It is very much in this tradition of Krishna's philosophy that Nithyananda preaches today the concept of Quantum Spirituality where materialism and spirituality meet, seamlessly combining material success and spiritual evolution. There is no need to make a choice, Nithyananda says, between the normal life of material goals of family, career, money and success that one seeks and spiritual values of renunciation and perceiving the rest of the world to be one's own. This concept has changed the lives of many who have heard Nithyananda, by removing the feeling of the guilt of having to make such a choice.

This is a beautiful story from the epic Mahabharata, as told by the sage Markandeya to the Pandava Prince Yudhishtira: