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[Jaya Upadhyaya](#)

[@Jayalko1](#)



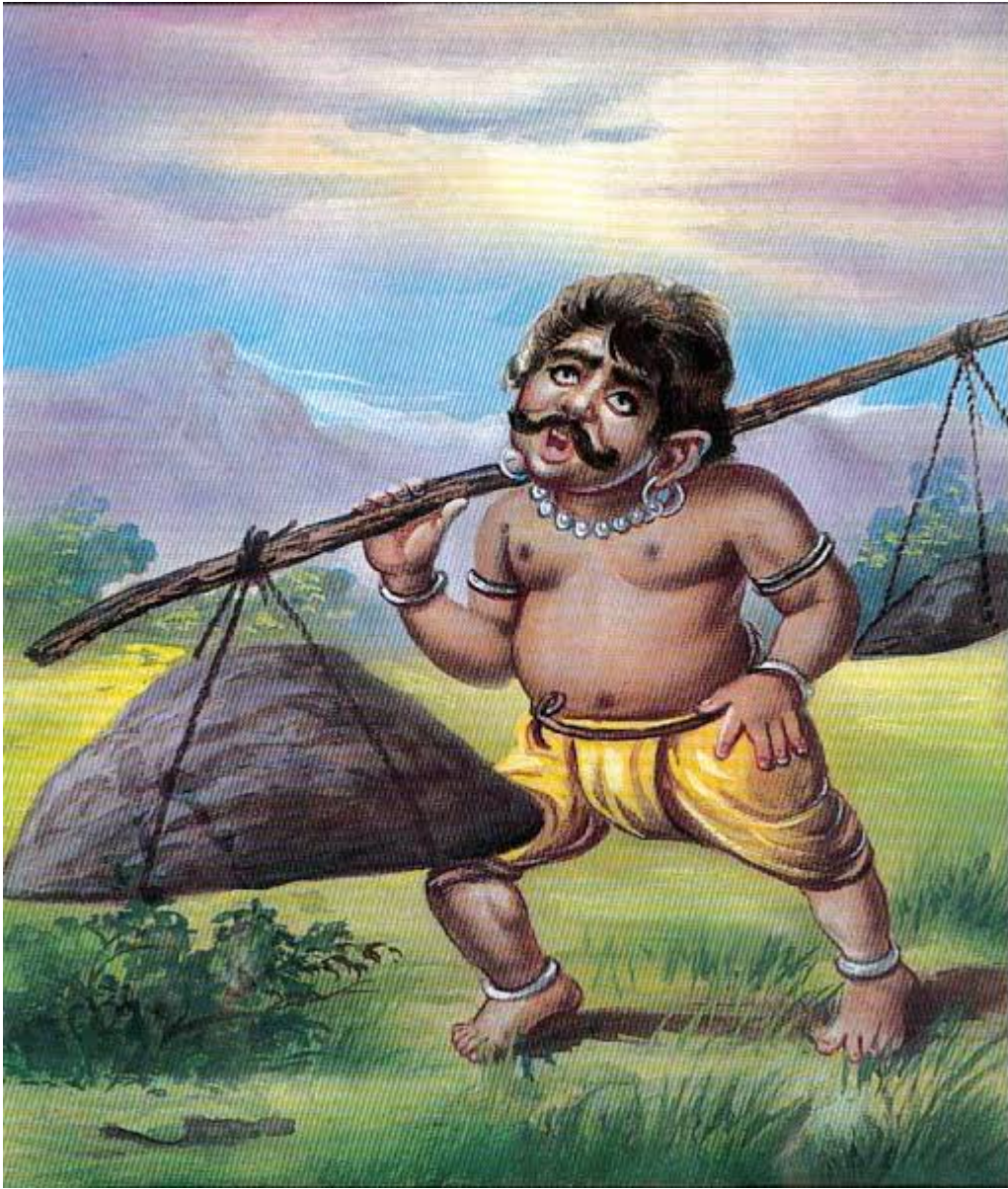
STORY OF KAVADI ON THAIPUSAM

Bearing Kavadi to Sri Murugan on Thaipusam is of great significance as it brings peace and good luck. So why is Kavadi bore?

Idumban was a highly devoted student of Rishi Agasthiar. One day, Rishi asked him to bring 2 hills occupied by Sri Murugan.



The two hills were Sivagiri and Shakthigiri. As a trial, Idumban first lifted them up n both the mountains came up easily. Satisfied with his efforts, he kept them back and started preparing to take them to his Guru. Sri Murugan decided to test Idumban's determination n devotion.



He took the form of a young boy and stood atop a hill. Idumban tried to lift the hills this time but failed. He asked the boy to get down but the boy refused. So Idumban attacked him but got defeated. Then realising who the boy was, Idumban bowed in reverence.

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Pleased Murugan appointed him as his guard and declared that people who carry Kavadi, which symbolises the hills of burden taken by Idumban, will be blessed.

It is believed that the burden in the life of a devotee who carries Kavadi is lessened by Murugan.

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