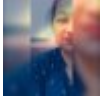


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VARADARAJA PERUMAL, KANCHIPURAM (TN)

Sri Varadaraja Swamy is the presiding deity in this kshetram which is on a hillock called Hastigiri.

Once, Brahma performed a yagna in which he failed to invite Devi Saraswati. Thus angered, Devi took the form of a river (Vegavathi).



Sri Narayana lied down across the flooded river to save the yagna. When the yagna was completed, Sri Varadaraja appeared from the yagna agni with his consorts, Sridevi and Bhodevi.

As Prabhu emerged from fire, he acquired pinkish spots on his face.



Near the sanctum, there is a carving of 2 lizards- in gold and silver.
It is said that once Rishi Gautam cursed 2 of his disciples as the water brought by them for pooja had two lizards in it which were not noticed by them. They were cursed to become lizards.



They attained moksha after praying to Varadaraja. It is said that the taint of lizard falling on our bodies is removed by mere touching of the carvings.

The tank here is special. Under it is hidden the Aththi Varadar, wooden replica of Prabhu that is brought out every 40 years.



Separate thread on Athi Varadar done earlier

<https://t.co/5s8PDdb76t0> <https://t.co/qkYfl1qqnT>

ATHI VARADAR:

VARADARAJASWAMY PERUMAL MANDIR

The 12-foot high murti of Athi Varadar (made out of fig tree), lies in a silver casket under water in the Mandir tank. In the 16th century, the murti was immersed in the Mandir tank to protect it from being plundered by invaders.
pic.twitter.com/B06utz77th

— Jaya_Upadhyaya (@Jayalko1) [December 8, 2020](#)