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[sriram](#)

[@SriramKannan77](#)



ThiruVellankulam Annan Koil –

#108DD

Known as elder brother of Venkateshwara Perumal is located near Seerkazhi. This is the only DD we have the perumal to be called “Annan. It’s credence that we have people visiting this divine kshetram who cannot go to Tirupati.



Here we have perumal to be with Alar Mel Mangai Thaayar different from Tirupati where he is seen alone. The only DD where the deity and Goddess have the same names as in Tirupati.

Background –

Once lived a king named “Dhundhu Maaran” of “Surya Dynasty” who had a son who was destined to die when he is 9. King Maaran who was upset with this had requested sage Vasishtha for remedy, in turn he had asked the son to come here to Annankovil

and penance by chanting the Narasimha Mrutyanga Mantra sitting before Lord Srinivasa to increase his lifetime. The kid followed it so meticulously that with his devotion Bhagwan himself appeared in front of him & gave him what he was looking (increase his lifetime).

Perumal then iterated that one who chants the Narasimha Mrutyanga Mantra 8000 times, would be relieved from fear of Death.

Azhwar Reputation –

Thirumangai Azhwar selected the word Anna to call the Bhagwan only in two temples and this is one amongst them. The other is Tirupati Tirumala. As we have Azhwar calling perumal as Anna first, he has become the Anna (elder Brother) of bhagwan venkateshwara.

The name Annan Perumal for the Thirunangur Kshetram came from this story, according to tradition.

Further Background -

Per Tradition, the women from the heavenly world used to come down to Thirunangur to gather the Kumudam flowers from the tank here. Kumudavalli, one among them lost her power to go back to her place as the vision of a man fell on her.

On having heard the news that Kumudavalli is stuck here in here, Neelan, an army commander wanted to marry her. Kumudavalli came with a # of conditions to Neelan to marry him. Neelan the army commander completed all her wishes.

At last, Kumudavalli asked him to feed the Vaishnava devotees. Seeing his work perumal was pleased with and gave him Darshan and elevated him to the status of Azhwar. Since then, he was called Thirumangai Azhwar (as it was through a mangai (Woman) he became to be a Vishnu devotee