
Aarsha Vidya Bharati - Aug 2021

A monthly newsletter that will bring you more happiness, more wisdom and more freedom



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Joining The dots

How Hanumānji helped fortify my faith

By Varsha Shankar, Bengaluru

During the lockdown in April 2020, one morning Amma and I were in the kitchen going about our tasks as we did every day. We got talking about how *Hanumānji* is said to be a *Ciranjīvi* (One of 8 immortals who are to remain on earth till the end of *Kali Yuga*).

I recounted a story that one of the other students had told me about her uncle who had seen him one night when he needed help. I said to Amma – “All these years I have been chanting *Hanumān* chalisa, and now I chant daily! He has to show himself to me!”

A few minutes later I went to the children’s room to open the windows and what do I see?! Out on the compound wall is the biggest, most stately monkey I have ever seen in Bengaluru! This suburb where I live is not popular with monkeys at all. Not even the small thin ones that used to hang out near my school (and deftly opened our lunch boxes!) show up here. And this one was as big as a human toddler! He had an old face and a very calm demeanour.



He slowly made his way around the building as I ran from one room to another to see him from the windows. I called out to Amma and she saw him as well. He regally climbed onto another building at the back and went out of sight. We sang the *Hanumān* chalisa. I had lived in this neighbourhood for the last 5 years and had never seen him before. I have not seen a monkey here since that day.

I remembered my Guru, lit a lamp and did a *namaskāram* to the *Hanumānji* on my altar. I felt blessed that day. Like he was telling me - don't worry, of course I am here.