

TAMILNADU DIGAMBER JAIN TEMPLE TOUR GUIDE

Tamilnadu

(Tirth Vandana)

TIRTH VANDANA

Melsittamur Temple



Agalur Arpakkam
Gingee

Magaral

Mel Sithamur

Ponnurhill
Chennai

Released at
88th Mahamastakabhisheka of

Bhagawan Bahubali,
Sravanabelagola-2018

Arpakkam

Uppuvelore

Kanchipuram

| Thiruparuthi | Kundram

Vembakkam

Thirumalai

Nelliyankulam

Mel Malayanur

Arni
Karanthai



Ponnur Hills



Thirunarumkundram

TAMILNADU
DIGAMBER JAIN TEMPLE
TOUR GUIDE
(TIRTH VANDANA)

Compilation by

Prof.Dr. N. K. Ajithadoss Jain
Er.P. Rajendra Prasad Jain

BHARATVARSHIYA DIGAMBER JAIN TIRTH
KSHETRA COMMITTEE
C.P.TANK, HEERA BAUG,
MUMBAI.

Project Initiated by

Smt. Sarita M.K.Jain

President - BDJTKC

SHREE SARITA JAIN FOUNDATION TRUST

No.5, Third Street, Wallace Garden,

Chennai - 600 006.

Phone No. 98410 18370

Email : saritaj@quibusresources.com



Compilation by

Prof.Dr. N. K. Ajithadoss Jain

☎ : 9444218594 / E-mail : ajithadoss@gmail.com

Er.P. Rajendra Prasad Jain

☎ : 9841055783 / E-mail : prprasad65@gmail.com



With best compliments from

Shri. Dinesh Sethi,

JAIN STEELS AND ALLOYS

(DEALERS IN IRON AND STEEL)

11, SEMBUDOSS STREET,

CHENNAI-600001.

☎ : 044-25246193 / Mobile : 94440 31114

Email : jainsteels_alloys@yahoo.com



DTP Work done by

Kavitha Madhisagar ☎ : 9444227315

E-mail : mummanipathipagam@gmail.com

JAINISM IN TAMILNADU

GUIDE TO VISIT DIGAMBER JINALAYAMS

Prof. Dr. N.K. Ajithadoss Jain & P. RajendraPrasad Jain

Once spread throughout Jainism is the oldest living religion in Tamilnadu; Jainism in tamil is called ‘**Samanam**’ and the Tamil Jains are called ‘**Samanar**’; the recorded history of Tamil Jains span over several thousands of years.

In recent times besides jains from other states, from abroad and non-jains individuals, students, archaeologists, historians, linguists, epigraphists, travellers Tamil writers, journalists show keen interest to know more about Tamil Jains, their temples, their rich contributions to Tamil language, literature, culture etc.; the history of native Jains of Tamilnadu and their rich contributions to Tamil language, literature, culture and development of Tamil script have no parallel in the history of any country.

There are hundreds of temples under worship, hundreds of Jaina religious vestiges, particularly hills with caverns which once served as abodes of digamber jain ascetics; in several of these hills Tamil-Brami Jaina inscriptions (datable from 3rd cent. BCE to 4th cent CE) are present; they indicate that Jainism was prevalent from ancient times throughout the length and breadth of Tamil land. These ancient inscriptions recorded the fact that all layers of the society right from common men, traders, merchants, merchant gills, assembly of villagers, heads of communities, individual men and women to the royals

patronized Jainism; in brief, the whole Tamil Society integrated itself with the religion of Ahimsa; services rendered by jains to the welfare of the society in many ways particularly imparting education to the masses is noteworthy; thus these jaina caverns are called 'pallis' meaning a center of learning; this is how all the schools Tamil nadu are called 'palli', 'pallikkudam' (place of learning); besides serving the ascetics at these centers jaina householders provided all help to the needy by way of food, shelter and medical help;

In the 7th century CE, Jainism-the Religion of Ahimsa faced devastating opposition in the name of Bhakthi movement from the brahmanical religion that promoted sacrificial way of worship; the Bakthi movement condemned violently the practices and customs of jains based on Ahimsa principle; they converted the Jaina Pandya and Pallava rulers; that had disastrous effects on the very survival of Jainism; the caverns which served not only as the meditation place of the jaina ascetics but also a centre for imparting education to the masses, were abandoned.

Jainism slowly and steadily recovered from the setback and a new phase arose by adjusting to the dominant influence of Vedic religions; then the caves abandoned earlier by the jaina ascetics were re-occupied; the cave which had only stone beds now came to possess Thirthankara and Yakshi sculptures; religious activities resumed with great enthusiasm; regular ritualistic worship was conducted; thus jaina caves turned into monastic cum temple establishments; endowments for the upkeep of

these places were made by the commoners as well as the royals; temple building activities started a new chapter in the religious history of Tamil Jains; in the Pandyan kingdom modification of caves from a place of meditation to a place of ritualistic worship of Thirthankara and Yakshi images took place in Anaimalai, Arittapatti, Komgarpuliyankulam etc.

Constructions of structural temples were initiated in Thirupparuthikundram, Perumandur, Agalur, Kilsaththamangalam etc. in the Pallava's Thondai mandalam; the Mutts(Vidyapeetams) which functioned as religious cum community centers at Tiruppatiripuliyur (the present Cuddalore), Thirupparuththikundram, Thirunarunkondai were established and they were headed by jaina ascetics Dharumasenar (later converted as the Saiva Appar), Vamanacharyar and Gunabadracharyar respectively; from 9th to 13th century during the Chola rule, Jainism if not directly promoted by the Saivite Cholas, it was not threatened; construction of jain temples gained momentum; during this period also several caverns abandoned earlier were reoccupied; images of Thirthankaras with yakshis were caused to be carved; between 9th to 13th century CE several structural temples were built at different places including Siththamur, Thirunarunkondai, Ponnur etc., all in northern part of Tamil nadu; as Jainism lost importance in the southern parts of Tamilnadu, it had gained a strong foot-hold in the northern region due to the intensive, dedicated efforts of leaders; they had awakened the community in the northern parts (Thondaimandalam) comprising the present

Kanchipuram, Villupuram, Thiruvannamalai, Vellore and Cuddalore districts;

During the Vijayanagar rule (14th - 15th century CE) the royal support was very meager; and particularly under the rule of Nayak agents of Vijayanagar kings Jainism faced great hardships almost driving the followers to the point of complete elimination similar to what it met during the bakhti movement in 7th century CE; a sizable number of people had switched over from jainism to Saivism; they are called ‘neeru pusi nainars’; these converts still follow certain customs and practices of jains.

It was a great political and religious setback from 14th century to 17th century CE; at that time a great savant Virachenacharyar of Uppuvelur village, the protector of jaina religion and community after completing religious education at Sravanabelgola returned to Tamil nadu; immediately he revived the defunct Jinakanchi jaina Mutt at Melsiththamur; accompanied by certain dedicated jains of Thayanur called ‘Udayars’. Virasenacharyar visited all villages where jains lived under threat and mobilized the entire jaina community; religious activities with fervor gained momentum in villages; Virasenacharyar and the successive Mutt Heads encouraged construction of temples; in due course each and every village had their own temples; the villagers as a mark of religious duty, gratitude and obeisance to the Jain Mutt, contributed their material and labour in the construction of the grand Parswanatha temple at Melsiththamur; the Mutt at Siththamur is called Jinakanchi Digamber jain Mutt; as on date there are about 135 digamber jain temples in Tamilnadu;

THE PURPOSE OF THIS TRAVEL GUIDE

Even today samanam (jainism in Tamil land) is a little known or unknown religious entity for majority of Tamil population and also for Jains living outside the borders of Tamilnadu as well those who migrated from outside and settled in Tamilnadu either recently or several decades earlier. This travel guide is a very helpful source of information for visiting ancient and modern temples of Tamil Digamber jains;

This travel guide is essentially a route guide for planning visits to all Digamber jain temple in Tamil nadu; we believe that a long felt need of the Jain community, local as well as those visit to Tamil nadu is fulfilled; this guide is also an effective medium to convey the glory of Jainism in Tamil nadu as it has recorded history spanning 3000 years; this guide is simple for using;

This route guide covers almost all Tamil nadu Digamber jain temples in regular worship; it is presented as a 8 day program; the first day to cover 25 temples. 2nd day-23, 3rd day-26, 4th day-23, 5th day 8 and 6th day 6 temples; Chennai (12 temples) Thiruvannamalai and surroundings(6 temples).

The salient features

1. This guide guides you to almost all the Digamber Jain temples under regular worship in Tamilnadu

2. You can plan your choice of temples to be visited among the list of temples included for each day; one or

few temples may be skipped so as to spend more time in temples of your 'his' choice; a brief account of the history and specific features of each temple is given

3. The distance between temples is given; this will help to plan the spending time in the temple and also the travelling time;

4. Among the temples listed in 8 groups for 8 days, one can choose any group for visit depending upon his convenience;

5. Google coordinates are given for almost all the temples; those having internet access on travel can very easily locate and travel to the desired Jinalayam

6. For each temple two contact numbers are given which will be useful for planning the visit

7. On the end of each day visit, places of night stay are also given- all are important Jain centers;

8. This travel guide will be very much useful not only for jains but also for research sholars, Historians, Students, art lovers, heritage enthusiasts, travelogue writers, tourism department, temple tourism promoters etc.



TAMIL NADU JAINA HERITAGE TOUR (TNJHT)

Travel Guide

Tamil nadu is endowed with several hundred very ancient sacred heritage sites, hills having 2500-3000 year old Tamil Bрами inscriptions, caves with stone beds for jaina ascetics, several hundred sculptures of Thirthankaras, Yakshis, etc. spread all over Tamilnadu; preparation of a travel guide to visit these Jaina sacred heritage places is nearing completion and it will be available to you soon.

AN EARNEST APPEAL

This is the first attempt ever made to prepare a travel guide for Digamber jain temples in Tamil nadu; as such errors might have occurred and information on few temples may be meager; few temples might have been left out unintentionally; it is our sincere appeal to one and all that omissions and commissions may be pointed out so that an error free print will be brought out in future.

Prof.Dr. N. K. Ajithadoss Jain
Er.P. Rajendra Prasad Jain

Overall view of the places for planning your visit Each day

1ST DAY : 26 TEMPLES – 287 KM

(For more information on these temples pl. see the following pages)

CHENNAI→ 70KM

KANCHIPURAM - Mettu Street – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→4KM

THIRUPARUTHIKUNDRAM - Bhagawan Mahavir & Chandraprabar Temple→16 KM

ARPAKKAM - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2 KM

MAGARAL - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→25 KM

VEMBAKKAM - Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→3KM

THIRUPPANAMUR – Bhagawan Pushpathanthar→2KM

KARANDAI - Bhagawan Kunthunath Temple & Acharya Akalanka Nishithi→17 KM

VELIANALLORE – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→7 KM

CHEYVAR - Bhagawan Parsvanathar Temple→5 KM

VELLAI – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→9 KM

NAVAL – Bhagawan Vasupoojyar Temple→22 KM

MELAPANDAL – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→4 KM

VAZHAPANDAL – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→2 KM

KOILAMPOONDI – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→21 KM

ARNI KOSAPALAYAM-Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2 KM

ARNI PALAYAM - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→1 KM

ARNI PUDUKAMUR - Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→4 KM

ARNI SEVOOR - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→5 KM

ARNI-POONDI – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→4 KM
ARNI SAIDAPETTAI, Ananthapuram Bhagawan Ananthanathar Temple → 3 KM
ARNI MULLIPATTU –Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→15 KM
SADUPERIPALAYAM - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→5KM
THACHUR - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→15 KM
THIRUMALAI - Arahantagiri Jain Mutt – ***Night Stay***

2ND DAY – 23 TEMPLES – 173 KM

Starts from THIRUMALAI - Arahantagiri Jain Mutt→16KM
KUNNATHUR (Renderipattu) Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2 KM
RENDERIPATTU – Bhagawan Neminathar Temple→16KM
KAPPALUR – Bhagawan Kunthunathar Temple→8 KM
PILLUR – Bhagawan Santhinathar Temple→28 KM
THATCHAMPADI – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→4KM
PARIKKALPATTU-Bhagawan Parswanathar Temple→6KM
EIYIL – Bhagawan Chandraprabar Temple→3KM – (Towards South)
MEL MALAIYANUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→3KM
THORAPADI – Bhagawan Pushpadanathar Temple→2KM
THAYANUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→7KM
VALATHI – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→6KM
KALLAPULIYUR – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple (Return via Valathi)→8KM
KANNALAM – Bhagawan Chandranathar Temple→2KM
ANNAMANGALAM – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→9KM

AGALUR – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→4KM.

THONDUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple & Ancient
Jaina Caves →17 Km

THIRUNATHAR KUNDRU (Singavaram) Rock cut 24
Thirthankar Panel→4KM

GINGEE, Krishnapuram – Bhagawan Munisvrathanathar
Temple→2KM.

GINGEE, Chakkarapuram – Bhagawan Ananthanathar
Temple→4KM

PERUMPUGAI – Bhagawan Mallinathar Temple→14KM

VIZUKKAM – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple with Golden
Chariot→2KM

ILAMANGALAM - Bhagawan Ananthanathar Temple→6km

MEL SITHAMUR - Bhagawan Parsvanathar Jinalayam
Night Stay

3RD DAY – 26 TEMPLES – 180 KM

Starts from MELSITHAMUR SRI MUTT→12KM

VEERANAMUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2KM

MEL ATHIPAKKAM – Bhagawan Ananthanathar Temple
→2KM

ETHANEMILI – Bhagawan Neminathar Temple→5KM

VELLIMEDUPETTAI – Bhagawan Ananthanathar
Temple→5KM

GUDALUR – 12 Ft Adhinathar statue facing Highway &
Bhagawan Kunthunathar Temple in the Village→5KM

THELLAR - Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→10 KM (via
Nadukuppam, Eambalam)

MUDALUR (Ramasamuthiram) - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→3 KM
KIL VILLIVALAM – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→2KM
NALLUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2KM
ERAMALUR – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→6KM
NELLYANKULAM–Bhagawan Neminathar Temple→14KM
ELANGADU – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→3KM
PONNUR VILLAGE–Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2KM
VANGARAM – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→5KM
KILSATHAMANGALAM - Bhagawan Chandraprabar Temple→2KM
VANDEVASI – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→2KM
BIRUDUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→6KM
SATHARAKUPPAM – Bhagawan Parsvanathar Temple→10 KM
SALUKKAI - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→5KM
VENKUNDRAM - Bhagawan Parsvanathar Temple→5KM
THEN SENDAMANGALAM – Bhagawan Parsvanathar Temple→3KM
AYALAWADI – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→3KM
ERUMBUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→17KM
PERANAMALLUR - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→17KM
PERIYA KOZAPPALUR - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple → 32 KM
PONNUR HILLS - Kunda Kunda Acharya Sri Padam on the Hill, Panchakooda Temple Complex with Nandheeswar Dweep, Samavasaran. **Night Stay**

4TH DAY – 23 TEMPLES – 213 KM

Starts from **KUNDA KUNDA ACHARYA SRI PADAM** on the Hill. Bhagawan Seemandara Swamy Temple at the base of the hill→0.5 KM

Bhagawan Adhinathar & Ajithanathar Temples, 12 Ft high Statue of Acharya Kund Kund Dev in Kayotsarga in Sri Visakhacharya Tapo Nilayam Complex at the base of the hill Bhagawan Munisvrnath Temple in ITI (AKKITC) campus at the base of the hill Thirukkural Research Centre→7 KM

THIRAKOIL – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple – Chathurmuka Bimbas on a boulder & Hillock Adhinatha Jinalayam→ 2 KM

DESUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→5 KM

SITTHARUGAVUR - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→ 7KM

MANJAPPATTU – Bhagawan Mallinathar Temple→7KM

SEEYAMANGALAM HILL–Thirthankaras Rock-cut cave → 1.5KM

THENNATHUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2KM

ISAKOLATHUR – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→3KM

SOLAI ARUGAVUR – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→2KM

GUNAMBADI – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2KM

PERIA KORAKKOTTAI – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→2 KM

AGARA KORAKKOTTAI – Bhagawan Parsvanathar Temple→46 KM

PERAVUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→8KM

UPPU VELORE – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple & 18 ft. Bahubali Statue→18 KM

KALLAKOLATHUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→12 KM

KEEZ EDAYALAM – Bhagawan Chandraprabar Temple→18 KM

VEEDUR – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→26 KM

KOLIYANUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→46 KM

THIRUNARUMKUNDRAM – Bhagawan Appandai Nathar (Parswanathar Cave Temple) Temple. **Night Stay.**

5TH DAY – 8 TEMPLES – 244 KM

Starts from **THIRUNARUMKUNDRAM**→53KM

PERANI – Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→6 KM

KEEZ VAYALAMUR - Bhagawan Mahavir Temple
→22KM

NEDI MOZHIANUR – Bhagawan Neminathar Temple
→4KM

SENDIYAMPAKKAM – Bhagawan Parsvanathar Temple
→20KM

ALAGRAMAM – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→10KM

PERAMANDUR – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→6KM

VEMPOONDI – Bhagawan Munisvruthanathar Temple
→3KM

TINDIVANAM – Bhagawan Parsvanathar Temple

EASTERN TAMILNADU – 6 Temples

Starts from **THIRUNARUMKUNDRAM**→108 KM

KUMBAKONAM - Bhagawan Chandraprabar→38KM

THANJAVUR – Karanthattankudi – Bhagawan
Adhinathar Temple→44 KM

MANNARGUDI – Bhagawan Mallinathar Temple→35 KM

DEEPANGUDI – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→124KM

CUDDALORE – Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple→44 KM

PANRUTI – Bhagawan Parsvanathar (Chandraprabar)
Temple.

DIGAMBER JAIN TEMPLES IN THIRUVANNAMALAI

(Surroundings beyond Gingee – Yatris planned to extend
can have Darshan–**Starting from Gingee**)

Starting from **GINGEE**→22 KM

KATTU CHITTAMUR - Bhagawan Sri Sithalanatha
Thirthankar Temple→17KM

KATTU MALAIYANUR - Bhagawan Mahavir Temple→10 KM

SOMASIPADI - Bhagawan Santhinathar Temple→10KM

MALAPPAMPADI - Bhagawan Vasupoojyar Temple→5KM

THIRUVANNAMALAI - Bhagawan Sreyamsanathar
Temple→7 KM

NALLAVANPALAYAM - Bhagawan Adhinathar Temple
→6 KM

DIGAMBER JAIN TEMPLES IN CHENNAI

- (1) **BHAGAWAN CHANDRAPRABU JINALAYAM**,
Subramani Street, Sowcarpet.
- (2) **BHAGAWAN ADINATH JAIN MANDIR**, 11, Kondal
Aiyer St, Kondithope (Sowcarpet).
- (3) **BHAGAWAN CHANDRAPRABU JINALAYAM**,
Chandrappa Street, Sowcarpet – Nr. Yaanai Kowni.
- (4) **BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR JINALAYAM**, Vinayagar Koil
Street, Sastry Nagar, West Saidapet
- (5) **BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR JINALAYAM**, 15, Gandhi
Saalai, Vanuvampettai, Adambakkam
- (6) **BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR JINALAYAM**, Annai Mary
1st Cross Street, Kamarajapuram, Pammal,
- (7) **BHAGAWAN AJITHANATHAR JINALAYAM**, Balaji
Nagar, Ambattur O.T.
- (8) **BHAGAWAN CHINTHAMANI PARSWANATHAR
DIGAMBARA JINALAYAM**, Lakshmi Ammal Koil
Street, Puzhal.
- (9) **BHAGAWAN VIJAYA PARSWANATHAR JINALAYAM**,
Hussain Colony, Vivekanandar Salai, Kolathur,
- (10) **ADHINATHA BHAGAWAN JINALAYAM**, Rathna
Nagar, Shaikmanyam, Porur,
- (11) **SRI ADHI BHAGWAN & SRI MAHAVIR BHAGWAN
JINALAYAM**, Kolapakkam-
- (12) **SRI NAMINATHA BHAGWAN JINALAYAM**,
Maraimalai Nagar.
- (13) **SRI CHANDRAPRABA THIRTHANKAR JINALAYAM**,
Mugappair West.

TAMIL NADU JAIN TEMPLE TOUR **- TNJTT**

Thondai Mandalam – Northern Tamil Nadu :
5 Districts (Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kanchipuram,
Thiruvannamalai & Villupuram)

Chennai : Accommodation Available at just 2 Kms
from Chennai Central Railway Station :

1) **CHANDRAPRABU DIGAMBARA JINALAYAM**,
34, Subramani Street, Sowcarpet, Chennai - 600 079.

Google coordinates : 13.0969179, 80.2796502

Contact : 044 – 25242319,

Contact : Mr.Vijayraj(Manager) - 9884260893,
Mr.Saroj Kumar, JB Traders – 09444921982

*5 Nos. of double Bed Rooms and a Dormitory to
Accommodate 30 People available.*

2) **ADINATH DIGAMBAR JAIN MANDIR**, 11, Kondal
Aiyer Street, Kondithope (Sowcarpet), Chennai 600
079.

Google coordinates : 13.1015739,80.2772839

Contact : Mr.Mahendra Kumar Dhakda, 25296812,
09444028522, 09884031151,
Mr.Rajkumar Sarogi : 09381005476.

5 DAYS PLAN

1ST DAY : 26 TEMPLES – 287 KM

Starts from Chennai

(1) **BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE** - Mettu Street – Kanchipuram Tk & Dt.- 631501 — **70KM**

Period : 19th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.827452,79.706052,

Contact : Rajendran.S.V. : 9940734975,

Sowdharmendran : 9443483909

Importance : Fairly an old temple; now under reconstruction:

(2) **Thiruparuthikundram - BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR & CHANDRAPRABAR TEMPLE**, Kanchipuram-Tk. & Dist, PIN : 632502 - **4 KM**

Most Sacred Athisaya Kshetra of Tamilnadu.

Period : 6th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.830245,79.680892,

Contact: Er.Rajakumar.D-9486621441,

Appandai-09600711195

Accommodation : Dormitory type available

Importance : Under the control of TN Arch. Dept. The ancient Jain temple in Tamil Nadu; it was one of the Vidhyasthana – Jinakanchi Jain Mutt of Digambar jains, (the other three being Delhi, Kolhapur and Penukonda); the place has a recorded history dated back to 6th century CE; there are two temples one, the earliest extant structural temple is dedicated to Chandraprabha Thirthankar built by the Pallava Vishnusimma; the other one larger is dedicated to Varthamana who is called Thrilokyanatha (Lord of the three worlds), as such the temple is called Thrilokyanatha temple; this temple contains the main shrine for Varthamana and several sub shrines; the massive

image of Varthamana is a stucco figure, so also the images of Pushpadantha, Vasupujya and Padmaprabha Thirthankaras; a stone image of Parswa Thirthankara is also present; another important feature is paintings on the ceiling depicting the life histories of Rishaba, Neminatha, Varthamana and Ambiga; there are number of inscriptions and foot prints of great ascetics, Vamanacharya, Pushpathantha charya, etc, this sacred place is a must for every jain to have Darshan atleast once in his life time.

To the South of the Temple, there are nishithis for the great Acharyas Vamanacharya, Pushpathanthacharya, etc. present in the agriculture field.

A monograph of this temple by Sri.T.N.Ramachandran is available in the Chennai Museum.

In his writings, Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang mentioned the presence of a large number of Buddhists and Jains lived in and around of Kanchipuram during his visit to the Pallava country in 7th century AD.

(3) Arpakkam - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Kanchipuram-Tk & Dt.-631603 – 16 KM

Period : 9th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.7331073, 79.7577011

Contacts : Jayakumar-9600482346,

Arugakeerthi : 9487589185.

Importance : One of the ancient and most popular jain temples in Tamilnadu; the 4 ft tall mool nayak sculpture in round, is devoid of any other attributes (Without Ashtamaha Prathikaryas like ashoka tree, trichatra etc..) which indicates the antiquity; the temple has a sculpture of 24 Thirthankaras carved in a single stone; Number of metal idols of Thirthankaras, attendant deities are present; Most of the Tamil Jains consider it as their family deity.

(4) Magaral - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,

Kanchipuram-Tk & Dist.- 631603 – 2 KM

Period : 9th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.717879,79.7507431

Contacts : Jayakumar-9600482346,
Arugadevan-9843872070

Importance : The present was temple newly built in the place of ancient dilapidated temple. The moolnayak Image is simple, confirming its antiquity. Metal Idols of Thirthankaras, Yaksha, Yakshis are present.

(5) Thiruppanamur – BHAGAWAN PUSHPATHANTHAR

Vembakkam-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. 604410 - 3KM.

Period : 9th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.761057,79.58727

Contact: Adhiraj-9994632143,

Importance : A beautiful Jinalaya dedicated to a 4 feet pure white stucco image of Sri Pushpathantha (Suvidhi) Thirthankara. The temple was completely reconstructed in 15th century CE, has a lofty Manasthamba; the temple has three memorials (Nishidhis) for Digamber munis - Dharmasagar, Sudharmasagar and Gajapathi sagar; who took sallekhana; the temple has many stone and metal images. The annual grand unique float festival for Sri Dharanendra and Sri Padmavathi, attracts thousands of devotees from different places;

(6) Vembakkam - BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE

Vembakkam-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. 604410 – 25 KM.

Period : 18th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.7895544,79.5901021

Contact : Kumar-09843500727, Aravind-09790192012

Importance : the stone image of Varthamana Thirthankar has all the features of a Thirthankara; metal images of thirthankaras and others are present; sub shrines for Brahmadevar, Dharmadevi, and Padmavathi Devi are present; the temple tower has many Thirthakara images;

(7) Karandai - BHAGAWAN KUNTHUNATH TEMPLE & ACHARYA AKALANKA NISHITHI, Vembakkam -Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. 604406, – **2KM**

Most Sacred Athisaya Kshetra of Tamilnadu

Period : 9th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.75957, 79.59114

Contact : Padmaraj-09840249293,
Chinnadurai-09380070093

Importance : This temple complex is one of the ancient, largest and grand digamber jain temples in Tamilnadu. Besides the main shrine dedicated to Sri Kunthunatha, it has 5 sub shrines dedicated to Sri Mahavira, Sri Parswanatha, Sri Rishabanatha, Sri Brahmadeva and Sri Dharmadevi (Ambiga); The images of Kunthu and Mahavir Thirthankaras are stucco (lime – mortar) about 7 feet high; a separate mandap and nishidhi are dedicated to Acharya Akalanka; A separate temple is dedicated to Sri Dharmadevi (Ambiga Yakshi), the popular deity in Tamilnadu; the temple has many inscriptions dated from 9th century CE; the Bahubali image carved in stone is unique and a rare specimen in having the jata (lock of hair) falling on his shoulders;

(8) Velianallore – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE, Cheyyar-Tk, Thiruvannamalai Dist, – **17KM**

Period : 9th Century CE 604407

Google coordinates : 12.6619313,79.5876456

Contact : Appandairaj-9444972322,

Swarnadas-9788019856

Importance : The original ancient temple in highly dilapidated condition was completely demolished and a new temple was constructed recently. It has many metal idols & a subshrine for yakshi; the mool nayk is ancient.

(9) Cheyyar (Thiruvaththipuram) - BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR TEMPLE, Cheyyar-Tk,

Thiruvannamalai-Dist.-604407 – **7 KM**

Period : 20th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.672564,79.536928

Contact : Baskar-09843798939, Durai-07598855415

Importance : the temple is of recent origin has many metal idols and a sub shrine for Padmavathi Yakshi.

(10) Vellai – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Cheyyar-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, 604401– 5 KM.

Period : 18th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.6485059,79.5170957

Contact :Selvaraj-9443884805,S.S.Vathy-9941775251

Importance : The vimana has Thirthakara images on four directions; the main image Rishabha, 4feet high is made of stone; the temple houses stone and metal images of deities;

(11) Naaval – BHAGAWAN VASUPOOJYAR TEMPLE, Cheyyar-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, 604505 – 9 KM

Period : 16th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.6303293,79.4888551,

Contact :Mayil-9788889191 ,Jinendradas-9444444089
Importance : One of the few temples dedicated to Vasupoojya Thirthankara; it has many stone and metal images;

(12) **Melapandal (Melapazanthai) – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE**, Arcot-Tk, Vellore-Dt., 632318 – **22 KM**

Period : 19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.65692, 79.39304 –

Contact:Dharamabalan-9751193220,Sripal-9962432101

Importance : recently renovated; it has many stone and metal idols;

(13) **Vazhapandal – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE**, Arcot-Tk, Vellore-Dt, PIN: 632318 – **4 KM**.

Period : 14th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.6300915,79.3755499

Contact :Kumar.C-9626990838, Pradeep-9566121207

Importance : One of the oldest temples in the district completely rebuilt to its original; has many stone and metal idols

(14) **Koilampoondi – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE**, Arcot-Tk, Vellore-Dt, PIN: 632318 – **2 KM**.

Period : 10th Century CE

Google Coordinates :

Contact : Dharamabalan - 9751193220,
Sripal - 9962432101.

Importance : The largest temple in dilapidated condition; many stone images of Thirthankaras are present; Sanctum has Shri Adhinathar, with Samavasarn's eight features sculpted on the

vedi-pedestal. The Mahamandap and Mugamandap consist round pillars. In the southeast side of corridor Shri Mahaveerar and Shri Kooshmandini stone idols are present.

(15) Arni Kosapalayam - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Arni-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, 632301–21 KM

Period : 14th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.66954, 79.27852,

Contacts : Ravindran-9865523834,
Raja-9443036308

Importance : Fairly a large renovated temple has a beautiful and majestic Manasthamba; the temple has a large collection of idols; paintings portraying samavasarana, life history of Rishaba etc., add beauty; at one side of the main temple a lawn called Maduvana with 24 Thirthankaras has been created recently; devotional verses from Tamil literary works are written on the walls of a 16 pillared hall; the temple has collection of old palm leaf manuscripts kept in agam bhandar:

(16) Arni Palayam-BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Arni-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, PIN : 632301 – 2 KM.

Period : 19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.674738,79.2886173,

Contact : Jayaraj-9444795094,
Madanarajan.U-9790308972

Importance : A modern image of Rishaba is the main deity of this temple constructed recently; metal images of Thirthankaras and other deities are worshipped.

(17) Arni Pudukamur-BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE, Arni-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. 632301–1 KM.

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.6403761,79.2931072,

Contacts : Sigamani-9842992691,
Rajasekar-8015449902

Importance : The temple has two shrines one at the base dedicated to Mahavira and the upper one has Santhinatha in the garbagriha;

(18) Arni Sevoor - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,

Arni-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, 632316 – 4 KM

Period : 15th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.685136,79.267355,

Contacts : Adhiraj-9751567048, Baskaran-9788265395

Importance : It is newly built temple in place of the 16th Century temple dedicated to Adhinatha; has many stone images of attendant deities, the temple is located near Arni town;

(19) Arni-Poondi – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE

– known as **Ponneyil nathar**, Arni-Tk,

Thiruvannamalai-Dt, PIN: 632317 - 5 KM

Most Sacred Athisaya Kshetra of Tamilnadu

Period : 13th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.6974, 79.30167

Contact : Gunasekar-09443335474,
Appandairaj-09842329279

Importance : The temple complex was built by Vira Vira Sambuvaraya, a chieftain under the later Cholas; containing 2 main shrines, one dedicated to Parswanatha, (16th century CE) and the other to Rishaba (13th century CE), the subshrines accommodate Jina sasana devathas; A beautiful Manasthamba erected in 1942 adorns the temple;

Parswanatha is 5feet in height in Kayothsarga position; the Rishaba stone image is 2.5' high; and a majestic three tire entrance tower add grandeur to the temple ; Inscriptions about land endowments in different villages are there.

(20) **Arni Saidapettai (Ananthapuram) – BHAGAWAN ANANTHANATHAR TEMPLE**, Arni-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. 632317 - **4 KM**

Period : 14th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.6675281,79.2719254

Contacts : Santha Kumari. P-8300152929, Sreyankumar.D-9840342503

Importance : Ancient temple has stone and metal idols of Thirthankaras, attendant deities; the temple houses a stone image of Thirthankara discovered from a nearby field.

(21) **Arni Mullipattu – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE**, Arni-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt,632317 - **3KM**

Period : 13th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.6677154,79.2596168

Contact : Raji-7598753880

Importance : Renovation underway. Seated Stone images of Mahavira and Brahmadevar are present; Has stone and metal idols of Thirthankaras and attendant deities.

(22) **Saduperipalayam - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE**, Arni-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.606907 – **15KM**

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.578722,79.242119

Contact : Jinadattan-9994784895.

Importance : A moderate size temple dedicated to Adhinatha; metal and stone images of Thirthankaras, attended deities present;

(23) Thachur - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,

Arni-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. 632326—5 KM

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.5734625, 79.2689015

Contact : Nirmalkumar K P -9865929005,
Tamizhmaran-9790967458.

Importance : The 16th century CE temple, recently renovated, has Adhinatha as its Mool nayak; besides metal idols enchanting stone images of Nava Devathas, Chathurvimsathi Thirthankara are present here; Sun rays fall on the mool nayak Adhinatha image during February 27, 28, and March 1. A great Jain scholar Sripal varniji who had published Thathvaarth Suthra, Dravya sangraha and helped in the publication of Sri Purana (abridged version of Mahapurana) was born here; he later became the Head of Simmanagaththe (N.R.Pura) Digamber Jain Mutt-Karnataka, as well Jinakanchi Digamber Jain Mutt –Tamilnadu; a Jain scholar Manicka sastri of this village published Padmapurana.

(24) Thirumalai - ARAHANTAGIRI JAIN MUTT, Polur-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, PIN : 606907 - 15 KM.

Most Sacred Athisaya Kshetra of Tamilnadu.

Night Stay

Period : 9th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.561957, 79.201445,

Phone : 04181 244325

Contacts : Ashokkumar - 9362694745,
Satish -9944755218.

Importance : 9th CE Bhagawan Mahavir Temple at the ground level and Cave Temples at the Top of the Hill, under ASI. One of the ancient, sacred Digamber Jaina centre in Tamilnadu; has long history dated from 9th century CE; the hillock in the middle part has, the famous 16 feet beautiful statue of Neminatha the 22nd Thirthankar only one of its kind in India carved on a huge boulder. A subshrine for Sri parswanatha, foot prints of jaina sages, inscriptions are present at the top of the hill and has two Jinalayams located one above the other, the one at the ground level is dedicated to Sri Varthamana and the one above it is dedicated to Sri Neminatha; the Neminatha Jinalayam is a gift of the famous **Chola princess Kunthavai, elder sister of Emperor RajaRaja- I**; Two caves are present in the middle part of the hill near the Neminatha temple, the smaller one has the images of Ambiga Yakshi, Bhahubali, Parswa and Adhinatha sculpted in a row; the Bhahubali image is, perhaps the earliest one (9th century CE); this image has a unique feature that the creeper is shown to entwine his legs only (differs from others where the creeper is shown entwining the legs and hands); According to the legends, the Neminatha Statue was caused to be made by the Pandavas, when they visited this part of Baratha country. The Sacred Foot prints of Varadatta, the principle Ganathara of Nemi Thirthankara are present with inscriptions at the top of the Hill.

Arahanthagiri Digamber Jain Mutt with a temple complex dedicated to panchakula devis is headed by **Swasthi Sri Tavalakeerthi Bhattarak Swamigal**.

Acharyasree Akalanka Educational Trust runs one Primary School and one Higher Secondary School, Hostel for Jain students available.

Goshala – taking care old age cows **Accommodation & Bhojanalay Available** : A/c, Non A/c Rooms and Dormitory type.

5 DAYS PLAN

2ND DAY – 23 TEMPLES – 173 KM

Starts Thirumalai - Arahantagiri Jain Mutt

(1) Kunnathur (Renderipattu) - BHAGAWAN

ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Polur-Tk, Thiruvannamalai Dist,

PIN : 606803 - **16KM**

Period : 15th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.516815,79.1364374

Contacts : Devadas - 9159662550.

Importance : During the rule of Devarayar II, (1441 AD), a beautiful Jinalaya was built by the native Jains Dedicated to Shri Adhinatha in the village. But the old temple got renovated. Residual work is still remaining. The Moolnayak in black stone in sitting posture has eight features of samavasarn Jinar, having no Lanchan at the bottom, denotes as old sculpture.

(2) Renderipattu–BHAGAWAN NEMINATHAR TEMPLE,

Polur-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, PIN : 606803 - **2 KM**

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.5242178,79.1271049

Contacts : Padmaraj - 9092005537,
Gubaran.M - 9585744054.

Importance : This 20th Century Temple has the moolnayak Neminathar statue of 4 feet height with samavasaran Jinar's eight features, was brought from Visharam, near Arcot. Has features of 12th Century. It has Stone and metal idols of Thirthankara and attendant deities. It is being remodeled now.

(3) Kappalur – BHAGAWAN KUNTHUNATHAR TEMPLE,
Polur-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, 606751-16KM

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4526695, 79.0947626

Contacts : Arunprasad-9962299140,
Rishabadas-9787472306

Importance : This 20th Century Temple has the moolnayak Kunthunathar statue with samavasaran Jinar's eight features, was brought from Kasthanbadi near Tiruvannamalai town and has features of 12th Century. Subsequently this was replaced by the White Marble Statue recently. In addition to this three white marble idols of Shri Adhinathar, Shri Parswanathar and Shri Mahaveera. Also has metal idols of Thirthankaras and attendant deities.

(4) Pillur – BHAGAWAN SANTHINATHAR TEMPLE,
Polur-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, PIN : 606751 - 8 KM

Period : New

Google Coordinates : 12.4318988, 79.0933282,

Contacts : Santhakumar - 9444524801,
Mohan kumar - 9585529697.

Importance : The new Jinalaya being built on completely ruined 10th Century Jinalaya. The moolnayak Santhinatha was found buried and unearthed alongwith the attendant Deity Brammadeva.

(5) Thatchampadi – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,
Polur-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt, 606902-28 KM

Accommodation available

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4816973,79.267795,

Contacts : Jinakumar.N-9442389309,
Elango.A -9843482517

Importance : This temple also has foot prints of a Digamber Jain Muni Devaraja who wrote a kind of literary work called Thirupugazh; Temple renovated recently and has a collection of stone and metal idols; A small outcrop nearby has carvings of foot prints and a Thirthankara image; A Yatri Nivas is available with kitchen facilities.

(6) Parikkalpattu - BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR TEMPLE, Polur-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt,606902 - **4KM**

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4634193,79.2829151,

Contacts : Vasu - 9487681273,
Santhakumar-9940223225

Importance : Besides a beautiful black stone image of Paswanatha in the sanctum, the temple has metal idols of Thirthankaras and attendant Deities; recently a Manasthambam was erected.

(7) Eiyil - BHAGAWAN CHANDRAPRABAR TEMPLE, Mel Malaiyanaur-Tk, Villupuram-Dt - 604204 - **6KM**

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.406045,79.326888,

Contacts : Yasodaran.P - 8754405465,
Appandairaj.G - 9003438686

Importance : one of the older Jaina villages; the temple has a beautiful Manasthamba and the Chandra praba Thirthankar image in the sanctum is attractive; several metal images are present.

(8) Mel Malaiyanur - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR

TEMPLE, Mel Malaiyanaur-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. 604204

- 3KM - Towards South

Period : 13th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.3400436,79.3176412,

Contacts : Suresh - 9092080577,

Chandraguptan.V - 9443539297

Importance : Temple is an ancient one; Has many metal and stone images of Thirthakaras, attendant deities; Adinatha stone image in the sanctum is finely chisled and very attractive one; The two tier vimana over the Sanctum has thirthankara Images on four sides. Subshrines have Brahmadevar and Dharmadevi stone sculptures.

(9) Thorapadi-BHAGAWAN PUSHPADANTHAR TEMPLE,

Mel Malaiyanaur-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.604204 - **3KM**

Period : 10th Century CE

Google Coordinates :

Contacts : Settu - 9751117671,

Nakendran - 9443234547.

Importance : The beautifully carved moolnayak Pushpadanta is enchanting to the devotees. The temple has 24 Thirthankaras placed on the outer walkway inside the main shrine; Metal and stone idols are present.

(10) Thayanur - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Mel

Malaiyanaur-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. 604204 - **2KM**

Period : 13th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.331512,79.307973,

Contacts : Ajithadoss - 9600168849,

Mahendrakumar - 9444000904

Importance : The temple was originally dedicated to Varthamana; later replaced by Adhinatha; it is believed that Gommateswara was the moolnayak in the distant past when there was a Mutt in this place. Sub shrine has Brahmadeva, Padmavathi and Dharmadevi. Manasthampa installed recently. Udayars of this place played a major role in the revival of Jainism threatened by the tyranny of Gingee Nayaks.

(11) Valathi – SRI 1008 BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR

TEMPLE, Mel Malaiyanaur-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. 604204

– **7KM Period** : 13th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.3465648,79.3709542,

Contacts : Lakshmi chandrakumar - 9965625090,
Pandian-9524877106.

Importance : The temple has a beautiful Manasthamba and a vimana; The temple tower has three tiers; Two Chaturvimsathi Thirthankara and Sruthaskandam stone sculptures are found fixed on the compound wall. Nithya Pooja performed on a Marble Idol. Has stone and metal idols. At a distance of 1KM from the south of the temple a small cave with Parswa Thirthankara image is present;

(12) Kallapuliyur – SRI 1008 BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR

TEMPLE, Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. 604208 – **6KM** –

Return via Valathi

Period : 15th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.381566,79.436524,

Contacts : Sudhakar-9677606885, Babu-9500104690

Importance : The temple belongs to the Vijayanagara period; Parswanatha, the Moolnayak is in Kayothsarga posture; Stone and metal idols are present; Sub shrines for Padmavathi and Navagraha are present.

**(13) Kannalam – BHAGAWAN CHANDRANATHAR
TEMPLE, Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. 604208 - 8KM**

Period : 15th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.332867,79.380026,

Contacts : Lalitha - 7639165099,
Padmavathi - 9486166878

Importance : The Temple is beautifully located at the base of a hillock and the moolnayak Chandraprabha Thirthankar is a stucco image; a newly erected manasthamba adorns the temple; it has many stone and metal idols.

**(14) Annamangalam – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR
TEMPLE, Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.604210 – 2 KM**

Period : New

Google Coordinates : 12.3340302,79.3912893,

Contacts : Jeevendradasan - 9345171342,
Udayakumar - 9487238262.

Importance : This present Jinalayam in black stone has been built on a completely ruined ancient temple. This beautiful temple has many metal idols. To the north of the village, a Thirthankara image is found sculpted on a rock called Vaniyan sunai.

**(15) Agalur – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE & ROCK
CUT PARSVANATHAR IN JAINA HILLS, Gingee-Tk,
Villupuram-Dt. - 604203 - 9KM**

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.321272,79.482231,

Contacts : Appandainathan.V - 9751036930,
Joladass.A - 9487389741.

Importance : The present 16th century temple was

constructed at the place of the ruined 8th century temple; besides many metal images, it has subshrines for padmavathi yakshi and Kshetrapala; two learned sravakas became the pontiff of Jina kanchi Digamber Jain Mutt; it has a collection of palm leaf manuscripts.

(16) Thondur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE AND ANCIENT JAINA CAVES, Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. - 604210 - **4KM.**

Period : 15th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.3499097,79.4674705

Contacts : Chandraguptan.J - 9786467720,
Rajesh - 9962681888

Importance : An ancient village; the temple has many metal and stone images of Thirthakaras, attendant deities; an hillock near the village has a cave and muni stone beds; a bas relief of Parswa thirthankara is present in the cave; at the entrance of the cave, ancient Tamil-Brahmi inscription is present.

(17) THIRUNATHAR KUNDRU (SINGAVARAM), Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt, PIN : 604202 – **17 Km**

Most Sacred Siddha Kshetra of Tamilnadu

Period : 5th Century CE

Google Coordinates :12.3068566,79.4048736

Contacts : Settu-9751117671, Jayapal-8608080110.

Importance : A famous, sacred hillock, only one of its kind in whole of India having a panel of 24 Thirthankaras sculpted in two rows and a Bas Relief of standing Thirthankara Image of 9th century CE also present on a huge boulder; also it is sacred having two sites in the hillock having Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions

(3rd - 4th century CE) denoting the Sallekhana of two nirgranth Muniswara; it has an ancient cave;

(18) Gingee, Krishnapuram – BHAGAWAN

MUNISVRUTHANATHAR TEMPLE, Gingee - Tk,

Villupuram -Dt, PIN : 604202 - **4KM**

Period : New

Google Coordinates : 12.2535789,79.4066093

Contacts : Settu - 9751117671, Jayapal - 8608080110

Importance : It is located at the foot of the historically important Gingee - Rock fort. An old temple in the district left unnoticed for centuries; recently discovered in a dilapidated condition; fully rebuilt and dedicated to Munisvruthanatha; has stone and metal idols.

(19) Gingee, Chakkarapuram – BHAGAWAN

ANANTHANATHAR TEMPLE, Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt,

PIN : 604202 - **2KM.**

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.250385,79.418137,

Contacts : Gowthamsagar-9842345678,
Kumar-8608997797.

Importance : A moderate size renovated temple under worship for long period of time in the heart of the town; has stone and metal images; A shrine of shri Padmavathy is constructed at south-west and at north-west Navagraha thirthankars are present.

(20) Perumbugai – BHAGAWAN MALLINATHAR

TEMPLE, Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt, 604202 – **4KM**

Period : 11th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.266146,79.4451916,

Contacts : Selvamani.M - 9751581375,
Abilash.S - 9786503050.

Importance : On the pillars of mandap Thirthankars, Brahmadevar, Jwalamalini, Dharmadevi are engraved, which belong to 15th Century CE. 16 Vidhyadevis' (edification goddess) statues are fixed on the outer wall of Mahamandap. Unique in having a Vimana that is dome shaped; it has many metal and stone images of Thirthankaras, jina sasana devathas ; Sruthaskandham, Jinavani etc;

(21) Vizukkam – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE – Golden Chariot, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt, PIN : 604206 – **14KM**

Accommodation Available

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.2582702,79.535967,

Contacts : Jayaprakash-9787380870,
Parsvanathan-9688950685.

Importance : Dedicated to Adhinatha; it has a Parswanatha stone image for which daily pooja is conducted; the temple houses number of metal and stone images of Thirthankaras, Sasana devathas, struthaskandham, etc; a separate subshrines are dedicated to Sri Padmavathi Yakshi, Navagraha thirthankars and kshetrabalagar. The temple has a Gold gilded ratha (Chariot) for conducting car festivals; a beautiful Manasthamaba adorns the temple;

Grand Pooja is conducted on Ugadi day for the foot prints of highly venerated Acharyasri Guna Sagar-Celebrated Tamil grammarian.

(22) Ilamangalam - BHAGAWAN ANANTHANATHAR
TEMPLE, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. 604206–**2KM**
Period : 17th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.2831941,79.5328039

Contacts : Perumal-9443285965

Importance : One of the oldest temples in the district; has stone and metal images.

(23) Mel Sithamur - BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR
JINALAYAM, Mel Sithamur, Gingee-Tk, Villupuram–Dt.
604206 - **6KM**.

Most Sacred Athisaya Kshetra of Tamilnadu.

Parsvanatha as Moolnayak with huge Vimana – largest in Tamilnadu, Neminathar Temple, Mahavir Temple, 8th CE Malainathar Temple, Inscriptions, Chariot – Car & 16 Pillared Mantap with 192 Carvings, Paintings.

Night Stay – Non A/c Rooms and Dormitory type
Accommodation available / Bhojanalay Available

Period : 9th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.270556, 79.513400,

Jinakanchi Jain Mutt - **Head Mutt of Tamil Jains -**
headed by His Holiness Swasthi Sri Lakshmisena
Bhattarak Swamigal.

Contacts : Swasti Sri Lakshmisena Bhattarak
Swamigal – 9443153753

Sri.Samuthira Vijayan – Secretary : 9025514465

Sri.Jayapal – Treasurer : 8608080110

Sri.Sigamani : 9442235316, 8754203091

Importance : Jina Kanchi Digamber Jain Mutt is one of the four great and ancient Digamber Jain Mutts established in

India . This famous mutt headed by Sri Abhinava Lakshmisena Bhattaraka Bhattacharyavarya Mahaswamigal was first established in south west part of Kanchipuram called Jina kanchi (the other parts of Kanchipuram were called Siva kanchi, Vishnu kanchi, and Buddha kanchi).

Due to political, religious antagonism and animosity against Jainism, it was shifted to the present location at Mel sithamur, near Gingee in Villupuram district, Tamilnadu. Jinakanchi Digamber jain mutt is the principal religious center of the Tamil Digamber Jain community. It is the sole protector, guide and religious head of all Digamber jains living in Tamilnadu.

This Jinakanchi mutt played a very crucial role 200 years back for the protection of Jainism in Tamilnadu. But for its saviour role, the name Tamil Jains (called Samanar) would be seen only in history books; such a catastrophic situation arose during the cruel rule of local chieftains, with the sole aim of annihilating the Tamil jains. Thanks to the providence of one Virasenacharyar the Jinakanchi Jain mutt was revived and located at Melsiththamur;

Two temples, one **Parswanatha temple** and other known as **Malainatha temple** containing rock-cut bas relief images of Bahubali, Parsvanatha, Adinatha, Neminatha and Ambika yakshi carved in one panel (9th century CE). This religious centre has inscriptions of Pallava, Chola, Pandya, Vijanagara, Sambuvarayas and Nayakar periods; the temple has Karnataka connection as the Manasthambha (The pillar of Humility) was erected by a devotee, One Busi Chetty son of Boyee Chetty of Mahanaga Kulam, Karnataka.

The magnificent 14 feet high Parswa Thirthankara image in artha paryankasana has no parallel for its serenity, beauty, meditative posture, grandeur, divinity etc. one should

be fortunate to have a darshan of this Thirthankara image at least once in his/ her life time;

The temple complex has several subshrines and a major shrine for Nemi Thirthankara, (the stone image was brought from Mylapore, Chennai, two centuries back due to the threat from Portuguese occupation ;

The Jain Mutt after shifted from Kanchipuram did not have a building for a long period for its administrative uses; about 100 years back construction of Mutt headquarter was started and completed by Veeranmur Bhattarak; the present Jain Mutt building that stands magnificently has completed 100 years .

Another speciality attached to this Mutt is that it has a huge temple car used for Car festival once in a year on the Day of Mahavir Janma kalyan. No jain temple in Tamilnadu has such a grand awe inspiring temple car. This car festival called Rathotsavam is celebrated along with a ten day Brahmothsavam conducted for Parswa Thirthankara.

The temple complex, the rath festival (Temple car festival), Sri Mutt, Lakshmisena Bhattarak swamiji, Brahmothsavam, etc; attract large number of devotees to this Place; the mutt provides food and place for stay for the devotees; large number of devotees from other states, Research scholars, students, commoners also visit this jain centre; to serve devotees during festival time, to organise a meeting of trustees of 135 Jinlayas, to arrange a meeting of temple archakas, to arrange a cultural function for propagation of Jina dharma, for arranging a literary meet by scholars a spacious multipurpose centenary hall is present.



5 DAYS PLAN

3RD DAY – 26 TEMPLES – 180 KM

Starts from Melsithamur

(1) **Veeranamur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. 604203 - **12KM**

Period : 11th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.3356225,79.5153284

Contacts : Rajasundar.V-9790461994,
Gunasekar.A-9094752323.

Importance : In ancient days it has the name of Panditha chozhanallur. Originally the temple is of vijanagara period but extensively renovated; besides Mool nayak, the temple has many metal and stone images; Two learned persons from this village Chinna kulanthai and Appavu nainar became the head of the Jinakanchi digamber jain mutt at Melsiththamur; the temple has a majestic manasthamba ;

(2) **Mel Athipakkam – BHAGAWAN ANANTHANATHAR TEMPLE,**
Gingee-Tk,Villupuram-Dt. 604207-**2KM**

Accommodation Available

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.3263033,79.5377279

Contacts : Parsvanathan - 9003841031,
Nemikumar - 9444522867.

Importance : The shrine contains a beautifully carved 16th century CE stone image of Anantha Thirthankara ; a group of metal images of 13 Thirthankaras with Anantha Thirthankara in the centre is an added feature of this temple; Brahmmadeva stone

image is popular one; A separate Temple for Jinavani, Jinaagam and sruthaskandam with Yathi Nivas. Renovated recently.

(3) **Ethanemili – BHAGAWAN NEMINATHAR TEMPLE**,
Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. 604207 - **2KM**

Period : 17th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.3301236,79.5381483

Contacts : Vijayakumar-9790465001,
Sigamani-8754508972

Importance : This Nemi Thirthankar temple is a remodeled one; the original temple facing the east was changed to one facing the north; the ancient stone image of Neminatha is replaced with new; Subshrine for Dharmadevi present. Renovated recently.

(4) **Vellimedupettai - BHAGAWAN ANANTHANATHAR TEMPLE**, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.604207 - **5KM**

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.3373632,79.5810401

Contacts : Jeevaga Prasad.A-9626880993

Importance : has a beautiful manasthamba; a separate subshrine for Padmavathi yakshi; many metal and stone idols are present.

(5) **Gudalore – 12 Ft ADHINATHAR TEMPLE** facing Highway & **BHAGAWAN KUNTHUNATHAR TEMPLE** in the Village, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.604406-**5KM**.

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.38175, 79.55715

Contacts : Rajkumar-9443080167,
Parswanathan-8428834561.

Importance : The wonderful image of Adhinatha, 12' in height facing the Vandavasi-Tindivanam Highway, is great attraction to one and all; by the benevolence of **His Holiness Swasthi Sri Lakshmisena Bhattarak of Kholhapur Digamber Jain Mutt**. Shri Nanthidevar yaksha, Shri Chakreswari yakshi are also present. There is an ancient temple dedicated for Kunthunatha, 0.5 KM from Highway in the village. Elegant Mugamandap decorated by designed pillars, two remarkable sculptures of Emperor Bharath and Bhagavan Bahubali, the sons of Lord Rishabh.

(6) Thellar - BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,

Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604406 - **5KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.39902, 79.54668

Contacts : Anantharaj - 9442247331,
Ilampooranan - 7418617366

Importance : Mahavira is called Trilokyanatha; a new image of Mahavira is added to the the older one; many metal and stone idols are present; a separate shrine for Padmavathi is also present. recently a manasthambam has been erected.

(7) Mudalur(Ramasamuthiram)-BHAGAWAN

ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai
- Dt.- 604406 – **10 KM** (Via Nadukuppam, Eambalam)

Accommodation Available

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.42945, 79.60204,

Contacts : Appandairajan - 9952552156,
Sukumar - 9597170443.

Importance : One of the ancient jaina villages ; in the distant past this 16th century CE temple was used by three neighboring villages; three learned persons from this village became the Head of The Kholhapur Digamber Jain Mutt ; it has an ancient statue of Adhinatha which is one of the biggest in Tamilnadu; there are several metal idols; the manasthamaba is an attractive feature.

(8) Keez Villivalam – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.- 604408 – **3 KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.44043, 79.62229,

Contacts : Jayapal - 9443098549,

Sukumaran - 9629303185

Importance : The image of Mahavira in the sanctum is attractive; East side got three shrines of Shri Brahmadevar, Shri Dharmadevi, Shri Padmavathy stone statues. At the end of the corridor a Navagraha idol platform also built inside the Jinalaya. Beautiful Manasthampa also present.

(9) Nallur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.- 604406 – **2 KM**

Period : 16th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.40958, 79.62169,

Contacts : Selvaraj - 7708306367,

Mahaveer - 9894026907.

Importance : Apart from Moolnayak, Stone idols of Brahmadevar seated on an elephant and Kooshmandini Devi were installed on pedestals of the aisle. The temple has a subshrine having marble idols depicting panchakalyana events. Temple has many metal and stone sculptures of Thirthankara

and attendant deities; On the northside of corridor got a pavilion, there were the miniature arrangements of Jinar preaching venue ie reflections of Samavaran model, having all the specimens at Samavasarana. Also a Navagraha idols shrine is adjacent to the pavilion. The lotus type pedestal having nine metal alloy images of Navagraha images is distinct one.

(10) Eramalur - BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,

Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604406 – **2 KM**

Period : New

Google Coordinates : 12.4075053,79.6292064

Contacts : Vijayakeerthi - 8754201441,
Subash - 9003030338.

Importance : Recently constructed Jinalayam. In front of the moolnayak, white marble idols of Adhinathar, Parswanather, Shanthinathar and Chandraprabhar were displayed decoratively on a separate platform. On the side a pedestal got marble statue of Padmavathy devi.

(11) Nelliyankulam – BHAGAWAN NEMINATHAR

TEMPLE, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604405–**6KM**

Period : 17th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.42903, 79.64538,

Contacts : Appandairaj - 9487233641,
Rajasekar - 7418105247

Importance : One of the beautiful temples in Tamilnadu; the imposing Nemi Thirthankara statue in the sanctum is attractive; a smaller shrine has Parswa Thirthankara, Bramma deva and Dharma devi stone images; metal idols of twenty four Thirthankaras is unique; the temple has palm leaf scripts;

(12) Elangadu – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604408 - **14KM**
Period : 15th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.46515, 79.56363

Contacts : Devakumar-9952753826,
Panneer Selvam.N-7845692260.

Importance : His Holiness Jinasenachariar established the moolnayak in the temple in 15th century CE. It has a 16th century CE metal idol of Neminatha and Yakshi Dharmadevi which were brought from Mylapore, Chennai. Present new structure built on the dilapidated temple. Subshrines for Brahmadeva, Dharmadevi, 24 Thirthankars, Sruthaskandam, Nandeewara dheebam and Navagraha thirthankar.

(13) Ponnur Village – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR
TEMPLE, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604408–**3KM**

Period : 11th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4705462,79.5395078

Contacts : Ravichandran - 9787073049,
Vijayan - 9600048803.

Importance : 11th century CE temple on a huge flat rock; At the bottom, a Ahimsa pillar invites the devotees. Ancient stone image of Rishaba; venerable Elacharya is connected with this temple; several inscriptions are found; a majestic manasthamba and life size Image of Acharya Kuntha Kuntha. metal images of Thirthankaras are present. The village is also called as Swarnapuram and Kanagagiri. So the Moonayak mentioned as “Kanagamalai Aazhwar” in the poems. Jinavani and Padmavathy idols were established inside for worship.

(14) **Vangaram – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604408 – **2KM**

Period : 15th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4954562,79.547324

Contacts : Appandairaj.N - 9487302885

Importance : Ancient Jinalayam renovated and has stone image of Rishaba, Metal idols of Thirthankaras, Nandeewar dweep, Jinavani, etc; A stone sculpture of Thirthankara discovered in Avanavadi is kept here. Newly built subshrine for Navagraha Thirthankar and Padmavathy Thwajasthamp, Manasthamp are present.

(15) **Kilsathamangalam -**

BHAGAWAN CHANDRAPRABAR TEMPLE, Vandavasi-Tk,
Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604408 Rock Inscriptions of 8th
CE - **5KM**

Accommodation Available

Period : 8th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.48996, 79.57899

Contacts : Iyyadurai-9488468848,
Deepak-9524066773.

Importance : One of the ancient temple with a beautiful manasthamba and a large collection of metal idols; a large Pushpathantha Thirthankara metal image is attractive; subshrines for Navadevathas, Sammetha shikarji and Jinasasana devathas; just few meters away outside the temple 8th century CE Pallava period inscriptions are found on a rock ; a three tier Vimanam over the sanctum with 24 thirthankar statues, six numbers on each side. Which is higher than the Manasthamp is also unique one. Five tier entrance tower (Gopuram) with thirthankar statues was built recently.

(16) **Vandavasi – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604408 - **2 KM**

Accommodation Available

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.5018132,79.6021043

Contacts : Jeevagan.N.C-9443643054,
Vijayakumar-9442412855.

Importance : There existed small Jinalayam with Jain Bhavan in the last Century. Now newly constructed modern Jinalayam with Mahavira, Santhinatha and Munisvratha Thirthankaras in separate sub shrines; the temple has a separate sub shrine for Sri Padmavathi Yakshi; in the heart of the town, where more than 200 Jain families live now and the Town is surrounded by about 30 Jaina Vilages.

(17) **Birudur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604408 - **2KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Tallest Mahavira Statue in India

Google Coordinates : 12.498358,79.6294103

Contacts : Selvakumar.R - 8148456186
Jeevagan.C - 8189935445,

Accommodation Available

Importance : Has two shrines; the main one with ancient Adhinatha as mool Nayak; A 16 feet free standing Mahavira statue is the only one of its kind in India; the sacred foot prints of twenty four thirthankaras were installed in recent years. Subshines for yakshies, Kshetra palagar are present besides many metal & stone images.

In the south pavilion, the Navagraha idols are present a Manasthamp made of single stone pillar having four thirthankar sculptures at the bottom and a viman at the top, four thirthankars statues face four directions.

Yathi Nivas and Yatri Nivas available. More than 80 Jain families living today, largest among any other village in Tamilnadu.

(18) Saetharakuppam – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604408-**6KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4765918,79.6252953,

Contacts : Parsvanathan-9003575745.

Senguttuvan - 9442311064

Importance : a temple of recent construction; besides Mahavira in the sanctum it has collection of metal idols.

(19) Salukkai - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604408 – **10 KM**

Accommodation Available

Period : 11th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.5365898,79.6252499

Contacts : Keerthi Kumar-9344643926.

Importance : It was referred as VeeraKeralaperumPalli during 11th Century CE in an inscription found near a temple. Salukkai is a historically importance place of Chola dynasty. A new temple was built upon the ancient basement. . 5 feet high Adhinathar granite statue Inside the sanctum. An old statue of Thirthankar without lanchan placed separately.

(20)Venkundram-BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR

TEMPLE,Vandavasi-Tk,Thiruvanamalai-Dt.-604408-5km

Period : 7th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.5199779,79.5892452

Contacts : Gubendran-9786097210,
Danapal.A-9842302727

Importance : This is an ancient village, once a celebrated division as Venkundra kottam in the Chola empire; has a beautiful temple dedicated to Parswanatha; it has sanctum sanctorum, Arthamandap, Mahamandap, Munmandap, 16 pillar Utsav mandap, a 7th century CE stone image of Adhinatha is kept in a mandap; Dharmadevi stone image of 4'height is present in a separate subshrine; several metal images are kept in a separate shrine.

(21) Then Sendamangalam –

BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR TEMPLE, Vandavasi-Tk,

Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604404 - **5KM**

Period : 14th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.536247,79.536905

Contacts : Jayapal-9443098549,
Elango - 9444044966

Importance : A 14th century CE temple dedicated to Parswa Thirthankara represented by a standing stone image, finely carved; stone images of Rishaba, Srutha skandham and many metal idols are present; a stone image of Mahavira discovered from a nearby village Karani lake is kept in a mandap adjoining the temple.

(22) **Ayalawadi – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. 604505 - **3KM**

Accommodation Available

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.551139,79.516091,

Contacts : Ravi.C - 9486178039,

Sundardas - 9787478913.

Importance : The temple is dedicated to Adhinatha, (a marble image); metal images of Thirthankaras, attendant deities are present; On the northeast of open corridor Navagraha idols are kept on a platform. An altar and cement mortar made Manasthampa with Thirthankar engravings on four sides. **A yatri nivas is also present.**

(23) **Erumbur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604404 - **3KM**

Period : 7th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.5358207,79.5292756

Contacts : Santhakumar.A-9994654774

Appandai - 9940071694.

Importance: Dedicated to Adhinatha, this temple has been renovated and Panchakalyana Prathista done recently; unique features of this temple include the presence of standing stone images of Rishaba, Baratha and Bahubali each 5feet high; Marble images of Trikaal Thirthankaras (72), Manathunga Acharya, Kundha Kundha Acharya, Subadra sagar Digamber Muni, Nava devatha etc; the vimana over the sanctum has a small shrine with Mahavira as the main deity.

(24) **Peranamallur-BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604503–**17KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.573087,79.4330627

Contacts : Baladevan.C - 9787906923.

P.S.Chandranathan - 8681947749.

Importance : Dedicated to Adhinatha, this temple has a beautiful vimana over the sanctum; besides stone images of Dharmadevi (Ambika) and Bramma deva, metal idols of Thirthankaras, Nandeewara, Siddha paramesti, sasana devathas etc. are present; a manasthamba of 30 feet height, made of cement mortar with Thirthankars on four sides add grandeur to the temple.

(25) Periya Kozappalur - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR

TEMPLE, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-632313—17 KM

Period : 14th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.558567,79.3196293

Contact : Appasami - 8144719053,

Rajesh - 9600788516

Importance : Dedicated to Rishaba Thirthankara , this temple repeatedly renovated; dates back to 14th century CE; one of the ancient temples in Thiruvannamalai district; a stone sculpture of Bhagwan Bahubali is unique in that on the back of the image the jata (flock of hair) is shown in 5 bundles growing up to the knee. Metal Idols of Thirthankara and Sasana devathas present.

(26) Ponnur hills - KUNDA KUNDA ACHARYA SRI

PADAM on the Hill, PANCHAKOODA TEMPLE Complex with NANDHEESWAR DWEEP, SAMAVASARAN,

Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604408 – 32 KM

Night Stay - Accommodation – Newly constructed Pushpadant sagar Yatri Nivas having 26 Rooms with A/C and 2 Bed, Non A/c Rooms and Dormitory type also available.

Bhojanaly with South & North Indian Food Available @ 1008 Shri Adhinath Panchakooda Jinalayam, Kundha Kundhar Nagar, Ponnur Hills, Chetpet Road, Vadavanakkambadi [PO], Vandavasi -TK, Thiruvannamalai - Dt, Tamil Nadu -604502.

Hostel facilities for Jain students and Goshala also being managed by “Sri Kund Kund Syadvadh Digamabar Jain Trust”

Google Coordinates : 12.501443,79.52403,
Contact :S.Srenigarajan Jain (President) – 9443263352,
S.Sanjay Tholiya (Secretary) – 9443616595,
Appasamy Jain (Manager) - 9840351183.

Importance : At the top of the hill sacred foot prints of Acharya Kuntha Kuntha; a tall Dharmachakra at the foot of the hill.



5 DAYS PLAN

4TH DAY – 23 TEMPLES – 213 KM

Starts from Ponnur Hills

(1) Darshan of **KUNDA KUNDA ACHARYA SRI PADAM** on the Hill.

(2) **Ponnur hills - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR AND AJITHANATHAR TEMPLES**, 12 Ft high Statue of Acharya Kund Kund Dev in Kayotsarga in Sri Visakhacharya Tapo Nilayam Complex about 0.5 KM from the base of the hill.

Has Yathi Nivas, Yatri Nivas, Bhojanalay, Primary School, Library, Goshala; 2 decades old, Founded by Kshullak Sri Siva Adhinathan with the blessings and Guidance of Munisri (now Acharyasri) Arjava Sagarji Maharaj, Now efficiently managed under the guidance of Brahmachary Sri.Santha Kumarji.

Apart from Daily Pooja, all Jain Parvas like Astanik, Dasalakshan, Sodasakaran etc. are celebrated with the participation of large number of Shravaks and Shravikas. Swathyay, Spiritual Discourses conducted regularly.

Contacts : Padmaraj.A.V-9443520000, Ramasamy-9442974869, Kumar.J-9444710668, 8807584099, Devadas-9442311015.

(3) **Ponnur hills - BHAGAWAN SEEMANDARA SWAMY TEMPLE** - Has Yatri Nivas, Bhojanalay, Library

Contacts : Rajiv-9976975074

(4) **Ponnur hills - BHAGAWAN MUNISVRUTH NATH TEMPLE** in ITI (AKKITC) campus – Managed by Acharya Kund Kund Education Foundation

Contacts : Baratheswaran-9444784052,
C.S.P.Jain-9444053510

(5) **Ponnur hills - THIRUKKURAL RESEARCH CENTRE** – once in two months special oration on Thirukkural by scholars arranged.

Contacts : Aravazhi.A.P- 9442310894,
Sundardas-9841411787, Ashokkumar-9443036507

(6) **Thirakoil – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE** – and Hillock Adhinatha Jinalayam, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604501 – **7 KM**

Athisay Kshetra

Period : 10th Century CE

Google coordinates : 12.4522833,79.4965801

Contacts : Nagaraj.P.D - 9443090203,
Kumar.C - 9677843678

Importance : Thirakoil is an important jain site with a Jinalayam at the base of a hillock dedicated to Mahavira and a small shrine at the top of the hillock for Adhinatha; the attraction of this place is an isolated huge boulder having Thirthankaras carved on four sides mimicking the lower portion of a Manasthamba; they are Adhinatha, Parswanatha, Mahavira and Chandranatha. These invaluable objects of veneration are the creations in 9th century CE ; at a different location of the hillock a cave is present with a Thirthankara image drawn in thin lines.

(7) **Desur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE**, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604501 – **2 KM**

Period :18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4347191,79.4791633

Contacts : Jinadas-9994589781, Kavitha-7639230576

Importance : The temple has a beautiful manasthamba; twenty four Thirthankaras ;a separate sub shrine for Yaksh, and Kshetrapala.

(8) **Sittharugavur - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604501 – 5 KM.

Period : 17th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4061389,79.4785802,

Contacts : Jeevagan.C - 9790456383

Importance: The mool nayak Adhinatha is carved as a bas relief on a stone slab; it has all the features such as three umbrellas, ashoka tree, chamaradharis, prabhavalay etc; many metal idols and stone idols are preent; stone sculptures of Dharmadevi and Brammadevar are also present.

(9) **Manjappattu – BHAGAWAN MALLINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604501 – 7 KM

Period : 19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4269085,79.4643442

Contacts : Durai - 9942253729,

Parsvanathan - 8903188340.

Importance : The east facing Jain temple of Manjappattu is one of the very few temples dedicated to Malli Thirthankara;the temple exhibiting Dravidian architecture has several stone & metal idols. Navagraha and Shri Padmavathy Yakshi have sub shrines.

(10) **Seeyamangalam Hill–THIRTHANKARAS** in Rock cut cave, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604501–**1.5KM**

Period : 9th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4324544, 79.4663835

Contacts : T.D.Doss - 9677487648, J

Jinadas - 9994589781

Importance : Rock cut images of Mahaveerar, Parshavanthar and Bahubali on the brow of a small east facing cave were caused to be made by the Western Ganga King Rajamalla II during the end of 9th century. hillock as per the inscription is called Vidyadri; recently a new Mahaveerar marble statue is kept and worshipped by nearby Tamil Jains. There are two inscriptions found in this hillock. First one is seen near the relief sculptures (right side of Mahaveerar) and it was engraved in Grantha script and Sanskrit language. It is a mixture of prose and poetry. It explains that Rajamalla established two temples for Jinaraja in Vidyadri (hillock) in Saka 815 (892-93 A.D). It also explains Arunkal-anvaya (school of Jain Monks), which was adorned by illustrious pontiffs, who had successfully crossed the vast expanse of the sea of knowledge of all the sciences, belonged to Nandi Sanga of Jinendra Sanga.

The second inscription which was engraved in Tamil (Tamil portion, prose) and Grantha (Sanskrit portion, poetry) characters, located at the foot of the hillock in the northern side of the temple. The Sanskrit portion explains the exaltation to the Arunkal-anvaya belonging to the Nandi Sanga of Dravida Sanga. The Tamil portion records that Vajranandhi-Yogindrar, the disciple of Gunaviradevar who was the Mandalacharya of Arunkal-anvaya ; a flight of steps were caused to be constructed by Vajranandhi Yogindrar;

(11) **Thennathur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt.- 604502 – **2 KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4377278,79.4443773

Contacts : Doss-9677487648, Mani.A-8681842740.

Importance : The old name is Naligapuram; the image in the sanctum is beautifully carved on a stone slab showing features of a Thirthankar image in samavasaran; many stone metal images of Thirthankaras,Navadevathas, yaksha, yakshis, Bahubali are present. A separate image is kept in the mahamandap for conducting Pooja and abijshek;the walls of the mahamandap (bigger hall)has paintins of brahmadeva ,yaksha Yakshis;.Parswanatha images at the entrance attract the attention of the devotees.

(12) **Isakolathur – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,**
Chetpet-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604502 – 3 KM

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.4442729,79.4333397

Contacts : Parsvanathan - 9941101868,
Durai.C - 9445296816

Importance : The 4.5 feet high bas relief of Mahavir image has all the features of a Thirthankar image; 5feet high Yakshi Dharmadevi is the most popular deity; many stone and metal images are present. Being renovated now, circumference pathway laid recently.

(13) **Solai Arugavur – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,**
Chetpet-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604402 – 2 KM

Period :19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.449602,79.444284,

Contacts : Udayakumar.S - 9677514410,
Ashok - 9841677785

Importance : The mula nayak is 4.5 feet in height ; images of Shanthinath, Kunthunath Thirthakaras, Ganathara paramesti, Jinavani ,dharmadevi, Brahmadevar are present.

(14) **Gunambadi – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE**,
Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt. - 604406 – **3 KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.401927,79.508849,

Contacts : Ramadoss.K.B-9443968002,
Sridhar-9688523427.

Importance : The image of Malli thirthankar has all the features of a Thirthankar sculpture; a small marble image is kept for the daily pooja;a separate subshrine has Dharmadevi Yakshi;the Manasthamba is impressive with a beautiful top portion having four seated Thirthankara images one each on four directions.

(15) **Peria Korakkottai – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE**,
Vandavasi-Tk,Thiruvannamalai-Dt.-604501–**4KM**.

Period : 18th Century CE

Accommodation Available

Google Coordinates : 12.3992332,79.5128712

Contacts : Sundar-9444502490, Barath-9786242527.

Importance : The temple has an imposing temple tower over the entrance; the image in the sanctum is beautifully carved; large metal idols are present; images of yakshis and Brahmadevar are present in subshrines; to the north of the temple ,on a rock called samiyar paarai (muni rock) foot prints of a jain muni are present.

(16) **Agara Korakkottai – BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR TEMPLE**, Vandavasi-Tk, Thiruvannamalai-Dt-604406–**2 KM**

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.40945,79.537935,

Contacts : Bharathan - 9943491966,
Chinnadurai - 9003583774.

Importance : The shrine has several metal images; birth place of great jaina scholars Banurasan and Srichandran, powerful orators and writers -both of them brothers.

(17) **Peravur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE**, Vanur-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. - 604154 – **46 KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.128988,79.794107

Contacts : Santhakumar-9486762235.

Importance : The temple has pillars exhibiting Chola period workmanship; besides the mula nayak ,it has many metal and stone images; birth place of a famous jaina singer Sangeetha Bhushanam Kuppusamy nainar.

(18) **Uppu Velore – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE & 18Ft.BAHUBALI**, Vanur-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.-604154–**8 KM**

Place of tallest Bahubali Statue in Tamil nadu

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.128988,79.794107

Contacts : Varthamanan-7373131732,
Jayaprakash-9600039535.

Importance : The Rishaba statue in the sanctum is an imposing figure;the temple has beautiful metal and stone sculptures of Thirhankaras, Bahubali, Brahmadevar, Padmavathi, Dharmadevi ;recently a 18feet Bahubali stone sculpture was erected.

(19) **Kallakolathur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE**,Tindivanam-Tk,Villupuram-Dt.-604304–**18 KM**

Period : 18th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.136844,79.651755,

Contacts : K.C.Chinnappa - 9443987737,
Dhanyakumar.S - 9486518529.

Importance : Centrally located temple in the village; the temple has sanctum, mahamandapam, and manasthambam; it has many stone and metal idols; stone images of attendant deities are present; on a rock to the north of the village foot prints of a jaina ascetic Parama Jinadeva with inscription are engraved.

(20) **Keez Edayalam – BHAGAWAN CHANDRAPRABAR TEMPLE**, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.-604302 – **12 KM**

Period :19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.163621,79.633733,

Contacts : Jayachandran-9443045390,
Dhanyakumar.S-9486518529.

Importance :The temple is ancient and consists of sanctum, arthamandap, mahamandap, muga mandap and subshrines ; a chola period Dharmadevi sculpture is present; near the temple ,on the lake bund foot prints of Mallisena Vamana Achrya , kamandal, chowries,and book rest are engraved on the rock; prayer to the muniswara is engraved in a circular line around them; in the same rock another pair of foot prints and a book-stand are engraved with a name Vimala Jinadeva;the balipitha has an inscription;it is believed that the original shatgandagama palm leaf scripts were transferred from here to Karnataka; Mudubidri.

(21) **Veedur – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,**
Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. - 605652 – **18 KM**

Period : 19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.0672265,79.5935494

Contacts : Barath - 9750564455.

Devakumar - 9940125530

Importance : the temple has a highly damaged inscription of 10th centuryCE indicating the temple's antiquity; due to renovation at different periods it has 19th century architectural features ;the arthamandap has several metal images;on the ceiling paintings depict certain events related to the life of Rishaba and Mahavira; a Mandap whose pillars were said to have been brought from the ruined Koliyanur temple has stone images of Thirthankaras; a small sub shrine has a stone image of Sreyamsa Thirthakara. A Dam of moderate size present adjoining the village.

(22) **Koliyanur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Villupuram -Tk, Villupuram-Dt, PIN : 605103 – **26 KM**

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 11.92822,79.544132,

Contacts : Ananthakumar-7708790579, 9443249251,
Rajendran-9442928365.

Importance : Koliyanur, originally -few centuries back- was a famous Jaina center with a very beautiful Jinalayam dedicated to Sri Adhi Bhagwan-Rishabha Deva. Due to animosity of people dead against Ahimsa dharma, the temple was treacherously destroyed ,all the jain population en mass left due atrocities as had happened in Madurai in the 7th- 8th centuries.The temple was razed to the ground. The grandeur

and beauty of that temple can be seen even now at Veedur- a famous jaina village where a mantap constructed with the materials like pillars etc brought from the destroyed Jinalayam of Koliyanur.. The temple site -very sprawling one was recovered from encroachment; a beautiful temple was constructed with a newly sculpted image of Adhinatha; the temple has 24 Thirthankaras arranged in two groups in the spacious hall; there are three sub shrines, for Mahavira , Padmavathi Yakshi,kshetra palaka.

(23) Thirunarumkundram – BHAGAWAN APPANDAI NATHAR, Ulundurpet-Tk, Villupuram-Dt, 606102 – **46 KM**

The famous & most sacred Athisay Kshetra of Tamilnadu - Bas Relief Parsvanathar on the Hillock

Night Stay - Accommodation – Rooms and Dormitory Available

Sri Adhinath Seva Trust built an Yatri Nivas with A/C & non A/C Rooms and Dormitory type Accommodation & Bhojanalay Available.

Period : 9th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 11.81195,79.28253,

Contacts : Chakravarthy-9790889092, Jeevakumar-7708263984, Bharatha Chakravarthi-9629419093.

Importance : The most popular cave temple worshipped by all, irrespective of the religious mark; very ancient centre ; there are two temples at the top of the hillock dedicated to Chandranatha and Appandainatha(Parswnatha); it is a sacred place where once a sanga called Virasangam established by the sage Gunbadracharyar existed; the hillock has a cave with several ascetic stone beds ,number of inscriptions

recording large number of land endowments to this complex; here Parswa Thirthankara is known as Appandainatha which is the household name among thousands of Digamber Jain families and people belonging to other religion; the Chandrapraba image is a 5 feet massive white stucco image; Appandainatha (Parshwanatha) is a bas relief image of 9th century CE; Subshrines for Jinavani, Padmavathi, people take Girivalam (walk around the hill) on full moon days. Annual function samyak Dharsan festival takes place.



5 DAYS PLAN

5TH DAY – 8 TEMPLES – 244 KM

Starting from **THIRUNARUMKUNDRAM**

(1) **Perani – BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,**
Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. - 605651 – **53KM**

Period :19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.1127016,79.5521356

Contacts : Kunthunathar - 9094192259,
Anandakumar - 9443661951.

Importance : This temple is of moderate size; has several stone & metal idols of Thirthankaras; attendant deities; a subshrine has Padmavathi yakshi; chola period pillars are also present in the temple;

(2) **Keez Vayalamur - BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE,**
Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. - 605651 – **6 KM**

Period : 11th Century CE

Google Coordinates :

Contacts : Aswinmaran - 9788352801,
Rajendran-9488456327.

Importance : one of the oldest temples in Tamil nadu; once it was the only temple for eight other villages surrounding it; the temple has number of stone images including Neminatha, Brammadevar and Dharmadevi (Ambika yakshi).

(3) **Nedi Mozhianur – BHAGAWAN NEMINATHAR**
TEMPLE,Tindivanam-Tk,Villupuram-Dt.-605651–**22 KM**

Period : 19th Century CE

Google Coordinates :

Contacts : Appandai - 9943781819,
Vijayalakshmi - 9994314567

Importance : the temple of 200 years old has a manasthamba; stone and metal idols of Thirthankaras, Attendant deities are present.

(3) Sendiyampakkam – BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR TEMPLE, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.-605651–4 KM

Period :13th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.1254752,79.5484045

Contacts : Appandairaj : 8122256185

Importance : Jinalaya shows certain Chola period architectural features ;In artha mandap metal images of Thirthankaras, Yaksha idols are present. It has a sub shrine for Shri Padmavathi Yakshi.

(4) Alagramam – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt. - 604302 – 20 KM

Period :19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.167366,79.571332,

Contacts : Suresh - 9487433422,
Rajendran - 9790106874.

Importance : This is one of the very few temples that conducts a 10 day brahmotsav annually; the temple has several stone and metal images of Thirthankaras and Yaksha, yakshis; it has a metal covered flag staff;

(5) Peramandur – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt, PIN : 604206 – 10 KM

Period : 9th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.2140018,79.5902776

Contacts : Vijayan.A - 9159290555,
Anand.A.V - 9841389215.

Importance : Dedicated to Adhinatha ,this temple has a beautiful vimana over the sanctum; besides stone images of Dharmadevi (Ambika) and Bramma deva,metal idols of Thirthankaras, Nandeewara,Siddha paramesti, sasana devathas,etc.are present; there is another temple dedicated to Chandrapraba Thirthankar that dates back to 12th century CE; there are three inscriptions one belongs to 9th CE (Pallava Nandhivarman) and the other two of 13th CE are of Kulothunga chola III.

(7) **Vempoondi – BHAGAWAN MUNISVRUTHANATHAR TEMPLE**, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.-604001– **6KM**

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.2140502,79.5901403

Contacts : Sukumar - 9443094509,
Jambukumar - 9486430176

Importance : newly reconstructed temple; originally dedicated to Neminatha Bhagwan; recently replaced by Munisvratha Thirthankar ;has many metal and stone idols of Thirthankara and sasana devathas.

(8) **Tindivanam – BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR TEMPLE**, Tindivanam-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.-604001 –**3KM**

Period :20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.234726,79.651409,

Contacts : Srenigarajan - 9443263352,
Babu - 9443987762.

Importance : The temple dedicated to Parswanatha is located at the centre of the town ; besides metal images of Thirthankara it has idols of yakasha-yakshis, sruthaskandha,; the inner walls are covered with paintings depicting Lok swarup, etc; it has a Manasthamba; students hostel situated nearby the temple has a 18thcentury CE stone image of Chandrapraba Thirthankara ;it is a sculpture in round without any features such trichatra, prabhavalay, chamaradharis etc.



DIGAMBER JAIN TEMPLES
(EASTERN TAMILNADU)

– 6 TEMPLES.

6th Day – Cholamandalam (Eastern Tamilnadu)

Starts from **THIRUNARUMKUNDRAM** on 5th Day Morning

Route : Ulundurpettai – Vridhachalam.

(1) Kumbakonam - BHAGAWAN CHANDRAPRABAR

TEMPLE, No.4, Ramasamy Koil West Street,

Kumbakonam-Tk, Thanjavur-Dt, – **108 KM**

Period :19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 10.9574123, 793733886

Contacts : Ravichandran - 9443222951,

Vijayraj - 8870942604, Prem - 9443650929

Importance: One of the oldest temples dedicated to Chandrapraba Thirthankara; a marble image Chandraprapa is the mool Naayk; several Thirthankara metal idols are present;

(2) Thanjavur – Karanthattankudi - BHAGAWAN

ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Thanjavur-Tk, Thanjavur-Dt, –**38KM**

Period : 13th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 10.8049869, 79.1333629

Contacts : Appandairajan - 9442993174,

Sukumaran - 9486634442, Nemikumar - 9884043336.

Importance : Thanjavur Karunthattankudi Sri Adheeswara Bhagwan Jinalayam is a jaina heritage Jinalayam In Southern part of Tamilnadu This Jinalayam is unique in many aspects. Among others It has a very beautiful individual shrine dedicated to Jinavani (Saraswathi) Padarthasaram-

the sacred scripture in print form was released from this temple by the efforts of Rajalakshmi Ammaiyar . Another sacred soul who nurtured this temple was Rev.Chakravarthi nainar, who became The Head of Sri Jinakanchi Lakshmisen Sri Digamber Jain Mutt-MelSithamur. Several metal idols of Thirthankaras, attendant deities, sruthaskandham, etc are present; separate sub shrines house stone images of Brahmadeva, Jwalamalini ,Dharmadevi and Padmavathi Yakshi , a stone image of Acharya Kundh Kundha is kept in the Jinavani shrine, Navagraha stone images are kept in a separate sub shrine;

(3) Mannargudi – BHAGAWAN MALLINATHAR TEMPLE,
Mannargudi-Tk, Thiruvarur-Dt, – **44 KM**

Period : 11 Century CE (modernized)

Google Coordinates : 10.6736085, 79.43761

Contacts : Padmaraj - 9486277277,
Ramesh - 9976377957, Chandru - 9487357171.

Importance : Also called Rasamapuram. The famous Digamber jinalayam in the south; the temple is unique in having a main shrine and 8 sub shrines with vimanas ; The temple architecture has that of Tamil nadu and Karnataka ;the main shrine dedicated to Mallithirthakara has a beautiful , images rich vimana over it; recently the vimana was entirely reconstructed; 8 sub shrines are those of chaturvimsathi Thirthankar, Sruthaskandham,Rishaba Thirthankar, Padmavathi Yakshi, Dharmadevi Yakshi,Brahmmadevar, Jwalamalini Yakshi, Kshetrapalakar; the temple has a beautiful richly decorated palanquin for the use of a grand festival conducted annually.

(4) **Deepangudi – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,**
Thanjavur -Tk, Thanjavur-Dt, – 35 KM

Athisay Kshetra

Mayiladuthurai – Sirkazhi – Chidambaram – Cuddalore
– 124 KM

Period :10th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 10.8288612,79.5180245

Contacts : Appandairajan - 9442993174,

Sukumaran - 9486634442, Nemikumar - 9884043336

Importance : Deepamkudi is a very old Jaina village situated in Kodavasal taluk , Thiruvavur district. Tamil nadu. It has a very beautiful Jinalayam dedicated to Sri Rishaba -popularly worshipped as Deepanayaga swami. The temple is said to be more than 1,000 years old. It has been told as hearsay that the Twins of Lord Sri Rama Lava and Kusa while wandering in the forest during heavy rain and gusty winds saw a light burning in the middle of the forest unaffected disturbed by the whirlwind. They were surprised. when they approached they saw the light burning under the open sky above and in front of Lord Rishaba image. They stayed there and offered prayers. The temple has unique architectural features; The ceiling is dome shaped and the pillars are also different from those seen in other temples. the dome like architecture resembles the one found in Karnataka. It is said that Deepamkudi temple is the last of the jain temples in series built on the route of the Kaveri river. Apart from the main shrine for Sri Rishaba the temple has 9 individual smaller sub shrines for Sruthaskandham. Brama deva, Dharmadevi, Padmavathi, Jwalamalini etc. The inner ceiling of front Mantap has 24 Thirthankara made of bricks and lime motar, The gopuram at the front entrance is imposing

in 5 tiers. The vimana built over sanctum has images of Thirthankaras, Yakshi etc. There are several metal idols whose iconography takes back to chola period. The temple has many palm leaf manuscripts. Deepamkudi has got immortalized in the literary world also as two great Tamil savants lived here. One was Poet Jayam Kondan who wrote 'Kalingaththu parani' - a poetic variety in praise of the Chola King Kulothunga I. Another one is Amrita sagara who wrote a grammar work called 'Yapparungkala Karigai'. An unparalleled contribution to Tamil Grammar by a jaina Ascetic. This temple complex was renovated recently.

(5) Cuddalore – BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE,
Cuddalore -Tk, Cuddalore -Dt, - **124 KM.**

Period : 19th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 10.8288612,79.5180245

Contacts : Jayasundar - 7502088802,

Ghanshyam - 9443336303, 9940792172.

Importance : During the reign of Mahendravarma Pallava (6th century CE) the present Cuddalore was called Padaliputram; at that period a famous jain mutt functioned here; when Mahendravarman was converted to Saiva faith, the Jain Mutt was destroyed deliberately and a saiva temple called Gunabartheeswaram was built with the materials of the jain mutt; in 1881 a stone image of Rishaba was discovered from the area supposed to be the place where jains lived in the distant past; the present Jinalayam was built a new and the ancient Rishaba image was consecrated; stone and metal images of Thirthankaras and yaksha yakshis are present.

(6) **Panruti – BHAGAWAN PARSVANATHAR
(CHANDRAPRABAR) TEMPLE**, Panruti-Tk, Cuddalore -
Dt, - **44 KM**

Period : 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates :

Contacts : Vijayraj Kasliwal - 9344727355,
Ashokkumar Kasliwal - 9150084303, Das-9150470904

Importance :A newly built Jinalayam ; besides the mool nayk
the temple has marble images of Thirthankaras and
attendant deities.



DIGAMBER JAIN TEMPLES in Thiruvannamalai
surroundings beyond Gingee – Yatris planned to
extend can have Darshan–Starting from Gingee

(1) **Kattu Chittamur - BHAGAWAN SRI SITHALANATHA THIRTHANKAR TEMPLE**, Gingee-Tk, Villupuram-Dt.-
604152 – **22 KM**

Period :21st Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.2252043,79.2598462

Contacts : Vimalraj - 9597110994,
Nemidas -9791761996.

Importance : A newly built Jinalayam with sanctum and artha mandap; two niches in the artha mandap one each for Jinavani and Daranendra-Padmavathi are present; the entrance has a Thirthankara image.

(2) **Kattu Malaiyanur - BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR TEMPLE**,
Thiruvannamalai-Tk & Dt.- 606755 - **17 KM**

Period: 20th Century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.1806623,79.1670858

Contacts : Niranjan.

Importance : Kattumalayanur, a small village having a recently constructed Jinalayam . the Thirthankara stone image discovered from a riverbed is believed to be 500 years old. Besides a Parswa Thirthankar image the temple has images of attendant deities.

(3) **Somasipadi - BHAGAWAN SANTHINATHAR TEMPLE**,
Thiruvannamalai-Tk & Dt. - 606611 - **10 KM**

Period : 19th century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.2357563,79.1449929

Contacts : Prabhu - 9500585900,
Padmaraj - 9944996484.

Importance : This is the only temple in Tamilnadu having about a five feet Santhinatha Thirthankar as the principal deity; metal idols of Mahameru, Shri Parswanathar, Navadevatha, panchaparameshti, Yaksha and Yakshis ,ashta mangala are kept in the Arthamandap. Navagra idols are also present. 24 Thirthankar stucco images are placed on the compound wall.

(4) **Malappampadi - BHAGAWAN VASUPOOJYAR**

TEMPLE, Thiruvannamalai-Tk. & Dt. - 606611 - **5 KM**

Period : 20th century CE

Google Coordinates : 12.243743,79.1163683

Contacts : Jeevagan - 9677856988,
Vijayabalan - 9443969229.

Importance : This is one of the two temples in Tamilnadu dedicated to Vasupujya Thirthankar; the other one is at Naval village ; besides the main image in the sanctum ,the temple has images of Thirthankaras, attendant deities.

(5) **Thiruvannamalai - BHAGAWAN SREYAMSANATHAR**

TEMPLE, Thiruvannamalai-Tk. & Dt. - 606602 - **7 KM**

Period : 21st Century

Google Coordinates : 12.2217806,79.0800276,18

Contacts : Jagarbalan - 9962693237,
Arugadas - 9442973816.

Importance : A 4 feet black marble image of Sreyamsa Thirthankaris the principal Bhagwan; number of metal

images including Chathurvimsathi Thirthankar, Pancha parameshti, Parswa Thirthankar, Digamber Muni, Pancha Meru, Nandeewar dweep etc. are present.

(6) Nallavanpalayam - BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR TEMPLE, Thiruvannamalai-Tk. & Dt.- 606603 - 6KM

Period : 20th centuryCE

Google Coordinates : 12.1992023,79.0455817

Contacts : Sampathraj - 9443541770,
Munivaradas - 9486235096.

Importance : The temple is built on the first floor ,the ground floor being used as a religious multipurpose hall; a three feet high black marble statue of Adhinatha is the principal Bhagwan ; a stone image of a Thirthankara, is also present; metal images of Pancha parameshti, Sidhdha parameshti, a group of 14 Thirthankaras, ashtamangala etc are present.



DIGAMBER JAIN TEMPLES IN CHENNAI

(1) BHAGAWAN CHANDRAPRABU DIGAMBARA JINALAYAM

Address : 34, Subramani Street, Sowcarpet, Chennai
- 600 079.

Accommodation : Available. 5 nos of double Bed Rooms and a Dormitory to Accommodate 30 People available. it is just 2Kms from Chennai Central Railway Station.

Contact : 25242319, Vijayraj (Manager):09884260893, Mahendra Kumar Dhakda:9444028522, 9884031151.

Importance : The first Digamber Jain temple in Sowcarpet, Chennai; the 150 years old temple completely got demolished and a three floor newer one was built; a beautiful marble image of Chandrapraba Thirthankar is the Mool nayak; number of metal images of Thirthankaras, Srithaskhandham, Yaksha, Yakshis are prest; in the top floor, Sri Anantha Thirthankar image is kept;

(2) BHAGAWAN ADINATH DIGAMBAR JAIN MANDIR

Address : 11, Kondal Aiyer St, Kondithope (Sowcarpet), Chennai- 600 079.

Google Coordinates : 13.1020034,80.278147

Accommodation : Available.

Contact : 25296812, Sarojkumar - 9444921982.
Rajkumar - 9381005476

Importance : Digamber Jinalayam having many metal idols, Yaksha, Yakshis, paintings of sacred places adorn the walls.

(3) **BHAGAWAN CHANDRAPRABU DIGAMBARA
JINALAYAM**

Address : 2, Chandrappa Street, Sowcarpet - Near
Yaanaikowdi, Chennai - 600 079.

Google Coordinates : 13.0901408, 80.2801793

Contact : Manager - Baradeswaran - 9840542615.

Importance : Digamber Jain temple of Kanji Swami
following ; has a charming Chandrapraba marble image.

(4) **BHAGAWAN MAHAVIR DIGAMBARA JINALAYAM**

Address : 24/2, Vinayagar Koil Street, Sastry Nagar,
West Saidapet, Chennai-600 015

Google Coordinates : 13.0229322, 80.2142444

Contact : Barathakumaran.K.A. - 9444043521,
Padmaraj - 9841613764, Hari - 9444475640.

Importance : The only Jinalayam dedicated to Sri
Varthamana Mahavira at Saidapet -Chennai-Tamilnadu.
A two story building constructed in 2012 has in the ground
floor, a small sub shrine for Padmavathy Yakshi ;the first
floor is the Mahavira Jinalayam besides Mahavira, the
sanctum has stone images of Adhinatha (9th Cent CE) and
Bahubali; many metal images of Thirthankaras, Sidhdha
parameshti, Ashtamangala etc are present; the second floor
is used for conducting Swadhyay classes, religious
discourses, religion and community development related
meetings; the terrace has a beautiful vimana represents
the 24 Thirthankar Moksha kshetras over the sanctum with
four marble Thirthakara images each one in four directions;
and foot prints of Adhinatha & Mahaveera in the corners.
Thirshla women self-help group functions here that helps
the culinary needs of jains.

(5) **BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR DIGAMBARA JINALAYAM**

Address : 15, Gandhi Saalai, Vanuvampettai,
Adambakkam, Chennai – 600091.

Google Coordinates : 12.9801807, 80.1981902

Contact : Sri.Simmachandra Sastriyar : 9444406133,
Banukumar : 9841519278

Importance : The first Jinalayam constructed on the outskirts of Chennai; caters the need of a large number of Tamil jains living in the southern suburb of Chennai; the Jinalayam has an ancient stone image of Adhi Bhagwan ,discovered in the area; the first floor is the main shrine and the ground floor has a small shine for Adhibhagwan –a marble image; a small subshrine has Dharma Devi Yakshi; the top floor is panned to have 24 Thirthakaras; the temple has a Manasthamba; several metal images of Thirthankaras, Pancha parameshti are present.

(6) **BHAGAWAN ADHINATHAR JINALAYAM**

Address : Annai Mary 1st Cross Street, Kamarajapuram,
Pammal, Chennai - 600 070.

Google Coordinates : 12.9735662, 80.1248438

Contact : Vijayakumar - 9791060135,
Agasthiappan - 9444202958,
Ravichandran - 9444917400.

Importance : This is another temple in Chennai suburb ;the moolnayak, Adhinatha is a black marble image; it has several metal images of recent make; in the hall padmavathi Yakshi is placed on a raised stage; to the temple ,a student hostel is attached that serves about 5-10 students, the terrace has a small shrine called Kannagi Kottam in which a 6 feet stone sculrture of jain Sravaki Kannagi, the heroine of the great Tamil epic ‘Silappathikaram’ had been installed.

(7) **BHAGAWAN AJITHANATHAR DIGAMBARA JINALAYAM**

Address : Balaji Nagar, Ambattur O.T.Chennai-600056.

Google Coordinates : 13.1258976, 80.140308

Contact : 26573587, Ajithadass.K.V.-9962573587,
Ananthavijayan - 944410481.

Importance : Sri Ajithanatha Thirthankar Jinalayam at Ambatore is - one of the recently constructed one on the Northern outskirts of Chennai , besides a beautifully carved stone image of AjithaThirthankar, the temple has many metal idols; in the first floor of the temple religious classes are conducted in the first floor.

(8) **BHAGAWAN CHINTHAMANI PARSWANATHAR
DIGAMBARA JINALAYAM,**

Address : Lakshmi Ammal Koil Street, Puzhal,
Chennai - 600 066.

Google Coordinates : 13.1626191, 80.205445

Contact : Babu - 9600075022, Ashok - 9940261199,
Selvaraj - 9176993681.

Importance : This Jinalayam has a Samavasaran type of sanctum in which Parswa Thirthankar stone images are kept on four sides; the temple has pancha parameshti, Parswanatha, Mahavira stone images ; stone images of Brammathevar and Padmavathi Yakshi are placed in a small open cabinet like shelf separately.

(9) **BHAGAWAN VIJAYA PARSWANATHAR DIGAMBARA
JINALAYAM.**

Address : 92, Hussain Colony, Vivekanandar Salai,
Kolathur, Chennai - 600 099.

Google Coordinates : 13.2227298, 80.2027917

Contact : Ramesh-9381000075,

Dharanendradas - 9840769444.

Importance : Built in 2002 the Kolaththur Vijaya Parswanathar Jinalayam is located in the northern outskirts of Chennai ; the jinalaym is a three tire one having a shrine for Sri Parswanatha at ground level, Samavasarana temple in the middle and Sri Vasupooyaya Thirthankara temple at the top; it is attached to bigger multi-function halls in all the three floors with centralised A.C facility. A kitchen with a big dining hall is also present ; besides metal idols of Thirthankaras, the temple has stone images of Dharmadevi, Padmavathi, Kshetrapalaka; another very important valuable addition to the temple is that it has library containing a rare collection of religious books donated by the late Sri Devendra nainar jain of Arni.

(10) **ADHINATHA BHAGAWAN JINALAYAM, Address** :
25, 1st Street, Rathna Nagar, Shaikmanyam, Porur,
Chennai 600 116

Contact : 9710885118, 9600049447

Importance : Newly constructed Jinalayam with two stone sulptures of Thirthankaras,Adhinatha and Mahavira.

(11) **SRI ADHI BHAGWAN AND SRI MAHAVIR BHAGWAN
JINALAYAM**

Address : 127, Pillaiyar Koil Street, Kolappakkam,
Chennai 600 122.

Google Coordinates : 13.0113106, 80.1491288

Contact : Udayakumar : 9884909599.

Importance : Newly constructed Jinalayam for two ancient

Thirthankara images left uncared in a piece of vacant land at Kolappakkam, a small village near Guindy - Chennai - Tamil Nadu. the small piece of corner vacant place was the original site of a Jinalayam (Jain temple) in the past the temple has added several metal idols of Thirthankaras, ashtamangal etc recently.

(12) SRI CHANDRAPRABA THIRTHANKAR JINALAYAM.

Address : Vellala Street, Mugappair West, Chennai.

Google Coordinates : 13.0858834, 80.1710016

Contact : Sivakumar.A.P. : 9382199583

Dhanjayan : 9444004155.

Importance : The stone idols of Chandrapraba Thirthankar and Yakshi Jwalamalini were discovered at Mugaper; they are now kept in a small enclosure.

(13) MARAIMALAI NAGAR-SRI NAMINATHA BHAGWAN JINALAYAM, Maraimalai Nagar.

Google Coordinates :

Contact : Rajasekar : 9941113737

Santhakumar : 9445777193

Importance : Maraimalai Nagar is a satellite town developed in the Chennai Metropolitan area. It lies between Chennai and Chenglepet, on the Grand Southern Trunk road (GST) (around 20 Km from Chennai airport; this is the only temple dedicated to Nami Thirthankar; few metal idols are present; recently Kshetra palak was added to the temple.

TNDJT Tour Guide - Village wise Alphabet Index

Sl.No.	Village	Page No.
1	Aarpakkam	20
2	A galur	35
3	A garakorakottai	61
4	A la gramam	67
5	Annamangalam	35
6	Arni - Kosapalayam	25
7	Arni - Saidapet	27
8	Arni - Pudukamur	25
9	Arni - Palayam	25
10	Arni - Poondi	26
11	Ayalawadi	52
12	Birudur	49
13	Cheyyar	23
14	Cuddalore	73
15	Deepangudi	72
16	Desur	56
17	Elangadu	47
18	Eramalur	46
19	Erumbur	52
20	Etha Nemily	43
21	Eiyil	32
22	Gingee-Chakkarapuram	37
23	Gingee-Krishnapuram	37
24	Gunambadi	60
25	Gudalore	43

TNDJT Tour Guide - Village wise Alphabet Index

Sl.No.	Village	Page No.
26	Illamangalam	39
27	Isakolathur	59
28	Kalla kolathur	62
29	Kallapuliur	34
30	Kanchipuram	19
31	Kannalam	35
32	Kappalur	31
33	Karandai	22
34	Kattu Chittamur	75
35	Kattu Malaiyanur	75
36	Keez Edayalam	62
37	Keez Sattamangalam	48
38	Keez Vayalamur	66
39	Keez Villivalam	45
40	Kolianur	63
41	Kumbakonam	70
42	Kunnathur	30
43	Magaral	21
44	Malappambadi	76
45	Manjappattu	57
46	Mannargudi	71
47	Mel Sittamur	39
48	Melappazandai	24
49	Mel Athipakkam	42
50	Mel Malayanur	33

TNDJT Tour Guide - Village wise Alphabet Index

Sl.No.	Village	Page No.
51	Mudaloor	44
52	Mullipattu	27
53	Naaval	23
54	Nallavan Palayam	77
55	Nallur	45
56	Nedi Mozhianur	66
57	Nelliyankulam	46
58	Panruti	74
59	Parikkalpattu	32
60	Peramandur	67
61	Perani	66
62	Peravoor	61
63	Periya Korakottai	60
64	Periya Kozappalur	53
65	Peranamallur	52
66	Perumbugai	37
67	Pillur	31
68	Ponnur Village	47
69	Ponnur Tapo Nilayam	55
70	Ponnur-Sanskriti centre	55
71	Ponnur-AKK ITI	56
72	Ponnur-Sridhar Nainar Chatram	56
73	Ponnur-Thiruvalluvar Research Centre	56
74	Renderipet	30
75	Salukkai	50

TNDJT Tour Guide - Village wise Alphabet Index

Sl.No.	Village	Page No.
76	Saduperipalayam	27
77	Seeyamangalam	58
78	Sendiyampakkam	67
79	Setharakuppam	50
80	Sevoor	26
81	Sittarugavur	57
82	Somaspadi	75
83	Solai Arugavur	59
84	Thachur	28
85	Thatchambadi	31
86	Thanjavur	70
87	Thayanur	33
88	Theallar	44
89	Thennathur	58
90	Then Sendamangalam	51
91	Thirakoil	56
92	Thirumalai	28
93	Thirupparuthikundram	19
94	Thirunathar Kundru	36
95	Thirunarunkundram	64
96	Thiruppanamur	21
97	Thiruvannamalai	76
98	Thondur	36
99	Thorappadi	33
100	Tindivanam	68

TNDJT Tour Guide - Village wise Alphabet Index

Sl.No.	Village	Page No.
101	Uppu Velore	61
102	Vazappandal	24
103	Valathy	34
104	Vandavasi	49
105	Vangaram	48
106	Veedur	63
107	Vellai	23
108	Veeranamoore	42
109	Veliyanallur	22
110	Vellimedupettai	43
111	Vempoondy	68
112	Venkundram	51
113	Vembakkam	21
114	Vizhukkam	38
115	Chennai Temples	78
	Sowcarpet	78
	Kondithope	78
	Kondithope (Nr.Yaanai Kowni)	79
	West Saidapet	79
	Adambakkam	80
	Pammal	80
	Ambattur	81
	Puzhal	81
	Kolathur	81
	Porur	82
	Kolappakkam	82
	Mugappair West	83
	Maraimalai Nagar	83



Thirumalai



KARANTHAI



THIRUPARUTTİKUNDRAM



THIRUPARUTTİKUNDRAM