

Kurai Onrum Illai.

Raga: Raagamaalika.

Talam: Adi

Version: M.S. Subbulakshmi

Lyrics & Original Audio Courtesy: Lakshman Ragde

Aro/Ava information: Rani, www.karnatik.com

Meaning: Courtesy, www.ChennaiOnline.com

(rAgA: shivaranjani)

Pallavi: kurai onrum illai maraimUrti kaNNA kurai onrum illai kaNNaa kurai onrum illai gOvinda

Anupallavi: kaNNukku teriyAmal nirrkinrAi kaNNA kaNNukku teriyAmal ninrAluum enakku
kurai onrum illai maraimUrti kaNNA

Charanam 1: vEnDiyadai tandiDa vEnkaTEsan enrirukka vEnDiyadu vErillai maraimUrti kaNNA
maNivaNNA malaiappA gOvinda gOvinda

(rAgA: kApi)

Charanam 2:

tiraiyin pin nirkinrAi kaNNA unnai marai Odum jnAniyar maTTumE kAN pAr enrAlum
kurai onrum enakkillai kaNNA enrAlum kurai onrum enakkillai

Charanam 3: kunrin mEl kallaAgi nirrkinra varadA kurai onrum illai maraimUrti kaNNA
kurai onrum illai marai mUrti kaNNamaNivaNNA malaiappA gOvinda gOvinda

(rAgA: sindhubhairavi)

Charanam 4:

kalinALukkirangi kallilE irangi nilaiyAga kOyilil nirkinrAi kEshavA
kurai onrum illai marai mUrti kaNNA



Charanam 5:

yAdum marukkAda malaiyappA un mArbil Edum tara nirkkum karuNai kaDalannai
enrum irundiDa Edu kurai enakku onrum kurai illai maraimUrti kaNNA
maNivaNNA malaiappA gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda

Meaning: (Adapted From <http://www.chennaionline.com/music/thamizhsongs/2004/song17.asp>)

Pallavi: I do not ("illai") have any ("onrum") problem ("kurai") Oh, kaNNA the vEdAs ("marai") personified ("murthi")! I do not have ("onrum illai") any problem ("kurai"), kaNNA! I do not have any ("onrum illai") complaint ("kurai"), Oh, gOvinda!

Anupallavi: You are ("nirkinrai") invisible ("kannuku theriyaada"), Oh, kaNNA! But even ("ninraalum") when you remain invisible ("kannuku theriyaada"), I ("yenakku") do not have any ("onrum illai") problem ("kurai"), Oh, kaNNA!

Caranam1: When there is ("enrirukka") Venkatesan to give us ("thandhida") what we want ("Vendiyadhai"), we shall not want ("Verillai") anything ("Vediyadhu"), Oh, kaNNA! maNivaNNA! malaiyappA! gOvinda!

Caranam2: You are standing ("nirkinrai") behind ("pin") a screen ("tiraiyin"), kaNNA! Only ("mattume") the wise men ("jnaaniyar") who are well-versed in the vEdAs ("marai Odum") can "see" ("kaan paar") you ("unnai"). Still ("enraalum") I do not have a ("onrum illai") problem ("kurai") (if I cannot see you).

Caranam3: You ("varadaa") are standing ("nirkkinra") like a stone ("kallaagi") on the hilltop ("kunrin mel"). I do not have any problem ("kurai onrum illai") still.

Caranam4: You have taken ("kalinaalukkirangi") this stone-form ("nilayaaga") recognising this kaliyuga ("kalile"). You are permanently here ("nirkinrai") in this temple ("koyilil").

Caranam5: You do not refuse ("marukkaada") the request ("yAdum") from your devotees. The ever-merciful ("karunai-kadal") Goddess Lakshmi ("kadal annai") is residing in your ("un") chest ("maarbil"). In that situation ("enrum irundida") what ("Edu") deficiency ("kurai") can I ("ennakku") have? I do not have any complaint ("kurai onrum illai"), kannA, maNivaNNA, malaiyappA, gOvinda!

General comments:

This song is unusual in several ways. First of all it is a rare composition by a person who is not a regular composer or a musician. Although Rajaji was a popular writer, he was not recognised as a composer. Secondly, unlike other devotional songs which lament the status of the composer and request the Lord to save them (authors) in this and the next life, this song does not lament nor request special favours. Instead, the song describes the contented state of mind of the composer. The composer does not want anything. He is just content with seeing and worshipping the Lord. He just admires the everlasting grace of Lord Venkatesa of Tirupati.

Rajaji does not make any distinction here between Lord Venkatesa of Tirupati and the incarnation Krishna (known as kaNNA in Thamizh). He uses the names interchangeably. He expresses only a common concept that the Lord, though present in the stone form, is taking care of the needs of the devotees. However, the concept comes out so crystal-clear when one hears the song. Perhaps it is the melody because there is no splendour of diction in this song. The words used are so commonplace.

Another distinctive feature of this song is that this was sung by MS Subbulakshmi at her United Nations concert in 1969 arranged by the then UN Undersecretary-general C V Narasimhan. The song was set to music by Kadayanallur Venkataraman who has worked with MS for decades. It is

now a highly popular song in the concert circuit. Almost every musician keeps it in his/her repertoire to be rendered either as a regular item towards the end or to be rendered at the request of the audience.

Rajaji also composed a benediction verse in English to be rendered at the same UN concert by MS.

(rAgA: shivaranjani)
 ARO: S R2 G2 P D2 S ||
 AVO: S D2 P G2 R2 S ||

Pallavi:

kurai onrum illai maraimUrti kaNNA kurai onrum illai kaNNaa kurai onrum illai gOvindA (twice)

I do not ("illai") have any ("onrum") problem ("kurai") Oh, KaNNA the vEdAs ("marai") personified ("murthi")!

g G- g ; G G ; G ; | g P - g p D - p | pgG ; G ; ||
 Kurai on - rum il- lai ma rai mU - - rti kaN-- - NA
 [r]
 r G - s ; R D , s ; - sg | R ; ; ; | s g r s D P ||
 ku rai on - rum il- lai - kaN Naa - - - - -

I do not have ("onrum illai") any problem ("kurai"), kaNNA! I do not have any ("onrum illai") complaint ("kurai"), Oh, gOvindA!

p D - s ; R gpg- g rS, - rd | S ; S ; | ; ; ; ; ||
 ku rai on - rum il- - lai - - gO vin dA - - - -

Anupallavi:

kaNNukku teriyAmal nirrkinrAi kaNNA kaNNukku teriyAmal ninrAluum enakku
 kurai onrum illai maraimUrti kaNNA

You are ("nirkinrai") invisible ("kannuku theriyaada"), Oh, kaNNA!

; , p , p P d P - p ; P | P P PG ; | ; D dp- P ||
 --kaN -Nukku te ri yA - mal nir kkin rAi- kaN- -- NA

; , p , p P d S - dp ; P | P P P , g | ; D dp- P ||
 --kaN -Nukku te ri yA - mal nir kkin rAi- kaN- -- NA

But even ("ninraalum") when you remain invisible("kannuku theriyaada"),

; , p , p P d S - dp G - G | G , - g ; R | S G R ; ||
 --kaN -Nukku te ri yA - mal nin- rAl - uum e na kku

I ("yenakku") do not have any ("onrum illai") problem ("kurai"), Oh, kaNNA!

g P - d p g - rs; R ; R ; | d S - d G - R | rrS; S ; ||
 kurai on - - rum il - lai marai mU - rti kaN- - NA

Charanam 1:

vEnDiyadai tandiDa vEnkaTEsan enrirukka vEnDiyadu vErillai maraimUrti kaNNA
 maNivaNNA malaiappA gOvindaA gOvindaA

When there is ("enrirukka") Venkatesan to give us ("thandhida") what we want ("Vendiyadhahi"), ...

; P p p P D D D ; | pg; g P , p | sd; d S S ||
 vEn Diyadai tan di Da vEn- ka TE-san en - ri rukka

... we shall not want ("Verillai") anything ("Vediyadhu"), Oh, kaNNA! maNivaNNa! malaiyappA! gOvindaA!

; S s s S d s r s D P | g P - ds rg, R | g r s d p g - r s ||
 vEn Diya du vE - - - ril lai marai mU - - - rti kaN- - NA- ma Ni

G , - g ; - p g P , p ; d p | d S - s ; rd | S ; S ; ||
 vaN NA - malai ap pA - gO- vin- dA - gO- vin- dA -

(rAgA: kApi)

22 kharaharapriya janya
 ARO: S R2 M1 P N3 S
 AVA: S N2 D2 N2 P M1 G2 R2 S

Charanam 2:

tiraiyin pin nirkinrai kaNNA unnai marai Odum jnAniyar maTTumE kAN pAr enrAlum
 kurai onrum enakkillai kaNNA enrAlum kurai onrum enakkillai

You are standing ("nirkinrai") behind ("pin") a screen ("tiraiyin"), kaNNa!

s S - np ; P M P pgR ; | M ; P ; | ; P p n s r ||
 tirai yin - pin nir kin rAi - kaN- NA - kaN- NA- -

r S - np ; P M P pG R | M ; P ; | ; pS P P ||
 tirai yin - pin nir kin rAi - kaN- NA - - unnai

Only ("mattume") the wise men ("jnaaniyar") who are well-versed in the vEdAs ("marai Odum") can "see" ("kaan paar") you ("unnai").

mr R - r ; M ps N_rS - n P | M G M ; | p n mp p n s r ||
 marai O - dum jnA - - - niyar maTTum mE- kAN- - pAr --

[snp ;]
 g R - s ; S N rs ; s n P | sn N S ,n | R ; snp P ||
 tirai yin - pin nir kin rAi - kaN- NA - - un- - nai

g G - g ; M sg M_nP - m G | G G g m g r | rsN ; S ; ||
 marai O - dum jnA - - - niyar maTTum mE- kAN- - pAr --

Still ("enraalum") I do not have a ("onrum illai") problem ("kurai") (if I cannot see you).

N , n ; N s N - g ; G | n P - mg_G ; R | s s mg R ; ||
 en rA - lum kurai on - rum ena kkil- - - lai kaN-- NA

G , p ; P p P- p ; P | p N - nm ; P | sn N S ; ||
 en- rA - lum kurai on - rum ena- kkil - lai kaN-- NA

Charanam 3:

kunrin mEl kallaAgi nirkkinra varadA kurai onrum illai maraimUrti kaNNA
kurai onrum illai marai mUrti kaNNAmaNivaNNA malaiappA gOvinda gOvinda

You ("varadaa") are standing ("nirkkinrai") like a stone ("kallaagi") on the hilltop ("kunrin mel").

S S n s r g G , - g ; G | ; G R sn | N G R ; ||
kunrin mEl- - kal- laA - gi - nir kkin ra - vara dA -

N S r m p m G , - g ; G | ; G R sn | N G R ; ||
kunrin mEl- - kal- laA - gi - nir kkin ra - vara dA -

I do not have any problem ("kurai onrum illai") still.

g S - np ; P pGr ; R ; | r M- pN m P - P | sn N S ; ||
kurai on- - rum il - - - lai- marai mU - - rti kaN- NA

n S - g ; M r M g ; G | g R - s ; S | r s n p m g - r s ||
kurai on - rum il - - - lai marai mU - rti kaN- - NA- mani

G , - g ; - r m P , p ; m p | N , - S ; rn | S ; S ; ||
vaN NA - malai ap pA - gO- vin- dA - - gO- vin- dA -

(rAgA: sindhubhairavi)
10 naaTakapriya janya
Aa: S R2 G2 M1 G2 P D1 N2 S
Av: N2 D1 P M1 G2 R1 S N2 S

Charanam 4:

kalinALukkirangi kallilE irangi nilaiyAga kOyilil nirkinrAi kEshavA (twice)
 kurai onrum illai marai mUrti kaNNA

You have taken ("kalinaalukkirangi") this stone-form ("nilayaaga") recognising this kaliyuga ("kalile").

p D - s ; S S S S ; | ; g s , ndD ; | D D D ; ||
 kali nA - Luk ki ran gi - - kalli - lE - - I ran gi -

You are permanently ("nilayaaga") here ("nirkinrai") in this temple ("koyilil").

d D - d ; D md nsN D D | P dp mG ; | P , p P ; ||
 nilai yA - ga kO - - - yi lil nirkin- rAi - - kE-sha vA

p D - ng ; G G G G ; | ; g r , snN ; | S S S ; ||
 kali nA - Luk ki ran gi - - kalli - lE - - I ran gi -

n N - s ; S g g s n D P | P dp mgG ; | P , p P ; ||
 nilai yA - ga kO - - - yi lil nirkin- rAi - - kE-sha vA

g G - g ; G gm S S ; | s G - pm G - M | P ; P ; ||
 kurai on - rum il - - lai marai mU - rti kaN- NA

Charanam 5:

yAdum marukkAda malaiyappA un mArbil Edum tara nirkkum karuNai kaDalannai
 enrum irundiDa Edu kurai enakku onrum kurai illai maraimUrti kaNNA
 maNivaNNA malaiappA gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda gOvinda

You do not refuse ("marukkaada") the request ("yAdum") from your devotees.

; S , S , g S - n D- P | g P- d ; S | ; ; ; ndD ||
 -yA -dum maru kkA - da malai ya - ppA - - - - -

; pdds G - G , g G - g ; - G | g g G rmgg | ^x R , ^x grR ; S ||
 -yA - dum maru kkA - da malai ya ppA un mAr- - bil

The ever-merciful ("karunai-kadal") Goddess Lakshmi ("kadal annai") is residing in your ("un") chest ("maarbil").

; N , N , s S - s ; S | ; p d , s rg | gs N - nd ; - P ||
 E - dum tara nir - kkum - karu - Nai- kaDa- lan - nai

In that situation ("enrum irundida") what ("Edu") deficiency ("kurai") can I ("ennakku") have?

; , d ; D d D- d D ; | ; , p ,d- m p | G P M ; ||
 - - en - rum I run di Da- - - E du kurai e na kku

pmg-sgm pd ; D d D- d D ; | ; S s- d P | M D P ; ||
 en- - - - rum I run di Da- -E du kurai e na kku

I do not have any complaint ("kurai onrum illai"), kannA, maNivaNNa, malaiyappA, gOvindA!

; P , D , s S - s ; S | n S - n sr- S | nD ; P P ; ||
 on -rum kurai il - lai marai mU -r ti kaN- - - NA

; gmgg ; G n gs; - nd ; P | g P - d S- S | g g sn dp - m g ||
 - on - rum kurai il - lai marai mU -r ti kaN- - - NA- maNi

P , p ; - g p D , d ; pd | S , s ; gmG | gR; - s ; pd ||
 vaNNA malai ap pA - gO- vin dA - gO- vin- dA - gO-

S , s ; gmG gR; - s ; pd | S , s ; gmG | gR; - S S ; ||
 vindA - gO- vin- - dA - gO- vin-dA -gO- vin- - - dA

