

Darwin. It will be surprising to find that information in Sivapuranam.

புல்லாகிப்பூடாய்ப்புழுவாய்மரமாகி.....- 26-31

*In this ever-growing mixture of plants,
I took all these births, and am tired, my Lord --
As a blade of grass, a bush, a worm, a tree,
A stone, a human, a ghost, various groups,
Strong demons, sages, and demi-gods[Devas]!*

He goes beyond humans in the evolution ladder, and includes spirits and spiritual beings. Unless Manickavasakar has had that knowledge, how could he have written it in an orderly way? We are also schooled that it was Galileo Galilei, who discovered that the Earth is round, or a sphere, and, until that time, everyone thought it was flat as a board. Again, we can disprove that claim from 'திருவண்டப்பகுதி' [Thiruvandap pakuthi] of Thiruvasakam .

அண்டப்பகுதியின் உண்டப்பிறக்கம்..... 1-6

*The parts of the universe are of round spheres
With a nature that is immeasurable, big beautiful scene;
If we compare one by one and describe their beauty,
They spread to more than one hundred crores;
If we compare them to the small dust particles
That floating in the beam of sunlight entering the house,
The Supreme Sire [Siva] is larger than those.*

What a great description of Siva using the knowledge of the Universe! Manickavasakar says that this Universe[அண்டம்] consists of billions of stars that are of varied size, those look like the dust particles that float around in the beam of sunlight that we can see inside the house; if we compare the greatness of Siva, he is much greater than these stars as well as the universe. In these lines, he also describes the power of Lord Siva. All these stars, the Universe that gave birth to these stars are dust particles compared to Him. He creates an image of Lord Siva from human of view -- if he is our size, all these stars are like small dust particles. All his statements about the stars, their count, the shape of universe -- all are agreed upon by our scientists.

When the westerners were saying the the world is flat, Manickavasakar boldly stated that every planet, stars are spheres, the universe gave birth to them, and they are countless [when somebody says the count is more than one hundred crores, they imply that the count is almost infinite].

Next let us see his medical knowledge. He knew how the fetus grows inside the womb of its mother, and what dangers it faced before completing its growth and the pain it endured in childbirth! He describes this in detail in போற்றித் திருவவகல்[Potri Thiruvavakal] .

யானைமுதலானும்புநாய

உணமில்யோனியில் உண்வினைமிழைத்தும்

மானுடப்பிறப்பினுள்மாதாஉதரத்(கு)

ஈனமில்லிருமிச்செருவினில்மிழைத்தும்.....- 11-25

*Escaping from the internal problems of
Non-defective wombs of elephant to small ants,
Escaping without damage from innumerable germs,
As human fetus inside mother's stomach,
In the size of Thandri , without splitting into two in first
month,
Escaping from incessant attack as a single entity in
second month,
Escaping from fatty liquid immersion in third month,
Escaping from total darkness in fourth month,
Escaping from death in fifth month,
Escaping from intolerable irritation in sixth month,
Escaping from miscarriage due to excess drooping in
seventh month,
Escaping from constriction in eight month,
Escaping from the pain of not coming out in ninth
month,
Bearing the vast ocean of pain during birth
Along with mother and escaping death in the tenth
month.*

Is it not surprising to read the enumeration of particular type of attacks a fetus has to face, tolerate, grow, undergo the pain of birth along with mother, and survive! The pain of childbirth a mother undergoes is known to us all, but not the pain of the fetus to grow inside the womb, and the pain it undergoes to come out of mother's womb during its birth. A new-born child is unable to describe its pain to anyone because it does not know the language. It bears its silently and cries when it comes out.

Manickavasakar had this knowledge that is now known to us through medical science. Since he was a Siva-bhakta unparalleled, we should not conclude his sphere of knowledge was limited only to spirituality; he is well knowledge in science, and shows it in his poems.

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