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Άβαταρ

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# Ναρασιμα

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ΚΑΤΑΛΑΒΑ ΤΟ NAPAΣIMA

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أَفَاتَارَ

אַוּבְטַאַר

# Narasimha

For other uses, see [Narasimha \(disambiguation\)](#).

**Narasimha** (Sanskrit: नरसिंह; IAST: *Narasiṃha*), (Telugu:నరసింహ), (Tamil: நரசிம்மர்), (Kannada:ನರಸಿಂಹ) **Narasingh**, **Narsingh** and **Narasingha**-in derivative languages is an *avatar* of the Hindu god **Vishnu** and one of Hinduism's most popular deities, as evidenced in early epics, iconography, and temple and festival worship for over a millennium.<sup>[1]</sup>

Narasimha is often visualised as half-man/half-lion, having a human-like torso and lower body, with a lion-like face and claws.<sup>[2]</sup> This image is widely worshipped in deity form by a significant number of Vaiṣṇava groups. He is known primarily as the 'Great Protector' who specifically defends and protects his devotees in times of need.<sup>[3]</sup>

## 1 Scriptural sources



*Narasimha, Chola period, 12th –13th century, Tamil Nadu, from Museum Guimet, Paris.*

There are references to Narasimha in a variety of Purāṇas, with 17 different versions of the main

narrative.<sup>[4]</sup> The **Bhagavata Purāṇa** (Canto 7), **Agni Purāṇa** (4.2-3), **Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa**(2.5.3-29), **Vayu Purāṇa** (67.61-66), **Harivamśa** (41 & 3.41-47), **Brahma-Purāṇa** (213.44-79), **Viṣṇudharmottara Purāṇa**(1.54), **Kūrma Purāṇa** (1.15.18-72), **Matsya Purāṇa**(161-163), **Padma Purāṇa**(Uttara-khaṇḍa 5.42), **Śiva Purāṇa** (2.5.43 & 3.10-12), **Liṅga Purāṇa** (1.95-96), **Skanda Purāṇa** 7 (2.18.60-130) and **Viṣṇu Purāṇa** (1.16-20) all contain depictions of the **Narasimha Avatāra**. There is also a short reference in the **Mahābhārata** (3.272.56-60) and a **Gopāla Tapani Upaniṣad** (*Narasimha tapani Upaniṣad*), earliest of **Vaiṣṇava Upaniṣads** named in reference to him.

### 1.1 References from Vedas

The **R̥g Veda** contains an epithet that has been attributed to **Narasimha**. The half-man, half-lion *avatāra* is described as:

*like some wild beast, dread, prowling, mountain-roaming.*

Source:(RV.I 154.2a).

There is an allusion to a **Namuci** story in **RV.VIII 14.13**:

*With waters' foam you tore off, Indra, the head of Namuci, subduing all contending hosts.*

This short reference is believed to have culminated in the full puranic story of **Narasimha**.<sup>[1]</sup>

### 1.2 Narasimha and Prahlāda

**Bhagavata Purāṇa** describes that in his previous avatar as **Varāha**, **Viṣṇu** killed the asura **Hiraṇyākṣa**. The younger brother of **Hiraṇyākṣa**, **Hiraṇyakaśipu** wanted revenge on **Viṣṇu** and his followers. He undertook many years of austere penance to take revenge on **Viṣṇu**:<sup>[5]</sup> **Brahma** thus offers the demon a boon and **Hiraṇyakaśipu** asks for immortality. **Brahma** tells him this is not possible, but that he could bind the death of **Hiraṇyakaśipu** with conditions. **Hiraṇyakaśipu** agreed:

O my lord, O best of the givers of benediction, if you will kindly grant me the benediction



Viṣṇu as Narasimha kills Hiranyakaśipu, stone sculpture from the Hoysaleswara Temple in Halebidu, Karnataka

I desire, please let me not meet death from any of the living entities created by you.

Grant me that I not die within any residence or outside any residence, during the daytime or at night, nor on the ground or in the sky. Grant me that my death not be brought about by any weapon, nor by any human being or animal.

Grant me that I not meet death from any entity, living or nonliving created by you. Grant me, further, that I not be killed by any demigod or demon or by any great snake from the lower planets. Since no one can kill you in the battlefield, you have no competitor. Therefore, grant me the benediction that I too may have no rival. Give me sole lordship over all the living entities and presiding deities, and give me all the glories obtained by that position. Furthermore, give me all the mystic powers attained by long austerities and the practice of yoga, for these cannot be lost at any time.

Brahma said,

*Tathāstu* (so be it)

and vanished. Hiranyakaśipu was happy thinking that he had won over death.<sup>[6]</sup>

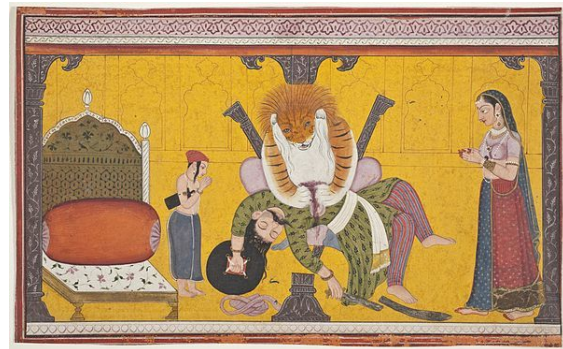
One day while Hiranyakaśipu performed austerities at Mandarācala Mountain, his home was attacked by Indra

and the other devatās.<sup>[7]</sup> At this point the Devarṣi (divine sage) Nārada intervenes to protect Kayādu, whom he describes as **sinless**.<sup>[8]</sup> Following this event, Nārada takes Kayādu into his care and while under the guidance of Nārada, her unborn child (Hiranyakaśipu's son) Prahālāda, becomes affected by the transcendental instructions of the sage even at such a young stage of development. Thus, Prahālāda later begins to show symptoms of this earlier training by Nārada, gradually becoming recognised as a devoted follower of Viṣṇu, much to his father's disappointment.<sup>[9]</sup>

Hiranyakaśipu furious at the devotion of his son to Viṣṇu, as the god had killed his brother. Finally, he decides to commit filicide.<sup>[10]</sup> but each time he attempts to kill the boy, Prahālāda is protected by Viṣṇu's mystical power. When asked, Prahālāda refuses to acknowledge his father as the supreme lord of the universe and claims that Viṣṇu is all-pervading and omnipresent.

Hiranyakaśipu points to a nearby pillar and asks if 'his Viṣṇu' is in it and says to his son Prahālāda:

*O most unfortunate Prahālāda, you have always described a supreme being other than me, a supreme being who is above everything, who is the controller of everyone, and who is all-pervading. But where is He? If He is everywhere, then why is He not present before me in this pillar?<sup>[11]</sup>*



Narasimha kills Hiranyakaśipu, as Prahālāda and his mother bow before Lord Narasimha

Prahālāda then answers,

*He was, He is and He will be.*

In an alternate version of the story, Prahālāda answers,

*He is in pillars, and he is in the smallest twig.*

Hiranyakaśipu, unable to control his anger, smashes the pillar with his mace, and following a tumultuous sound, Viṣṇu in the form of Narasimha appears from it and moves to attack Hiranyakaśipu. in defence of Prahālāda.



In order to kill Hiranyakaśipu and not upset the boon given by Brahma, the form of Narasimha is chosen. Hiranyakaśipu can not be killed by human, deva or animal. Narasimha is neither one of these as he is a form of Viṣṇu incarnate as a part-human, part-animal. He comes upon Hiranyakaśipu at twilight (when it is neither day nor night) on the threshold of a courtyard (neither indoors nor out), and puts the demon on his thighs (neither earth nor space). Using his sharp fingernails (neither animate nor inanimate) as weapons, he disembowels and kills the demon.<sup>[12]</sup>

Kūrma Purāṇa describes the preceding battle between the Puruṣa and demonic forces in which he escapes a powerful weapon called *Paśupāta* and it describes how Prahlāda's brothers headed by Anuhrāda and thousands of other demons

*were led to the valley of death (yamalayam)  
by the lion produced from the body of man-lion*

avatar.<sup>[11]</sup> The same episode occurs in the *Matsya Purāṇa* 179, several chapters after its version of the Narasimha advent.<sup>[11]</sup>

The Bhagavata Purāṇa further narrates: even after killing Hiranyakaśipu, none of the present demigods are able to calm Narasimha's fury, not even Śiva. So all the gods and goddesses call his consort, Lakṣmī, but she is also unable to do so. Then, at the request of Brahma, Prahlāda is presented to Narasimha, and finally he is calmed by the prayers of his devotee.<sup>[13]</sup> Before parting, Narasimha rewards the wise Prahlāda by crowning him as the king.

### 1.3 Narasimha and Ādi Śaṅkara

Narasimha is also a protector of his devotees in times of danger. Near Śrī Śailaṁ, there is a forest called Hatakeśvanam, that no man enters. Śaṅkarācārya entered this place and did penance for many days. During this time, a Kāpālīka, by name Kirakashan appeared before him.

He told Śrī Śaṅkara that he should give his body as a human-sacrifice to Kālī. Śaṅkara happily agreed. His disciples were shocked to hear this and pleaded with Śaṅkara to change his mind, but he refused to do so saying that it was an honor to give up his body as a sacrifice for Kālī and one must not lament such things. The Kāpālīka arranged a fire for the sacrifice and Śaṅkara sat beside it. Just as he lifted his axe to sever the head of Śaṅkara, Viṣṇu as Narasimha entered the body of the disciple of Śaṅkarācārya and Narasimha devotee, Padmapada. He then fought the Kāpālīka, slayed him and freed the forest of Kapalikas. Ādi Śaṅkara composed the very powerful **Lakṣmī-Narasimha Karāvalamban Stotram**<sup>[14]</sup> at the very spot in front of Lord Narasimha.

## 2 Mode of worship

Due to the nature of Narasimha's form (divine anger), it is essential that worship be given with a very high level of attention compared to other deities. In many temples only lifelong celibates (Brahmācārya) will be able to have the chance to serve as priests to perform the daily puja. Forms where Narasimha appears sitting in a yogic posture, or with the goddess Lakṣmī are the exception to this rule, as Narasimha is taken as being more relaxed in both of these instances compared to his form when first emerging from the pillar to protect Prahlāda.

### 2.1 Prayers



*Narasimha deity in Bhaktapur Darbar, Nepal*

A number of prayers have been written in dedication to Narasimha avatāra. These include:

1. The Narasimha Mahā-Mantra
2. Narasimha Praṇāma Prayer
3. Daśāvatāra Stotra by Jayadeva
4. Kāmaśikha Aṣṭakam by Vedānta Deśika
5. Divya Prabandham 2954

### The Narasimha Mahā-Mantra

*om hrīm kṣaum  
ugraṁ viraṁ mahāviṣṇuṁ  
jvalantaṁ sarvatomukhaṁ ।  
nṛsimhaṁ bhīṣaṇaṁ bhadraṁ  
mr̥tyormr̥tyuṁ namāmyaham ॥*

O' Angry and brave Mahā-Viṣṇu, your heat and fire permeate everywhere. O Lord Narasimha, you are everywhere. You are the death of death and I surrender to You.

### Narasimha Praṇāma Prayer

*namaste narasimhāya,  
prahlādahlāda-dāyine,  
hiraṇyakaśipuṁ vakṣaḥ,  
śilā-ṭaṅka nakhālaye*

I offer my obeisances to Lord Narasimha, who gives joy to Prahlāda Mahārāja and whose nails are like chisels on the stone like chest of the demon Hiraṇyakaśipu.

*ito nṛsimhaḥ parato nṛsimho,  
yato yato yāmi tato nṛsimhaḥ,  
bahir nṛsimho hr̥daye nṛsimho,  
nṛsimhaṁ ādim śaraṇaṁ prapadye*

Lord Nṛsimha is here and also there. Wherever I go Lord Narasimha is there. He is in the heart and is outside as well. I surrender to Lord Narasimha, the origin of all things and the supreme refuge.<sup>[15]</sup>

### Daśavatāra Stotra by Jayadeva

*tava kara-kamala-vare nakham  
adbhuta-śrṅgaṁ,  
dalīta-hiraṇyakaśipu-tanu-  
bhṛṅgaṁ,  
keśava dhṛta-narahari-rūpa jaya  
jagadīśa hare*

O Keśava! O Lord of the universe. O Hari, who have assumed the form of half-man, half-lion! All glories to You! Just as one can easily crush a wasp between one's fingernails, so in the same way the body of the wasp-like demon Hiraṇyakaśipu has been ripped apart by the wonderful pointed nails on your beautiful lotus hands.(from the Daśavatāra-stotra composed by Jayadeva)<sup>[15]</sup>

### Kāmaśikhā Aṣṭakam by Vedānta Deśika

*tvayi rakṣati rakṣakaiḥ kimanyaiḥ,  
tvayi cārakṣāti rakṣākaiḥ ki-  
manyaiḥ ।  
iti niścīta dhīḥ śrayāmi nityaṁ,  
nṛhare vegavatī taṭāśrayaṁ tvam  
॥8॥*

O Kāmaśikhā Narasimha! you are *sarva śakthan*. When you are resolved to protect some one, where is the need to seek the protection of anyone else? When you are resolved not to protect some one, which other person is capable of protecting us?. There is no one. Knowing this fundamental truth, I have resolved to offer my *śaraṇāgatī* at your lotus feet alone that rest at the banks of Vegavatī river.

### Divya Prabandham 2954

*āḍi āḍi aḡam karaindhu isai  
pāḍip pāḍik kaṇṇīr malgi engum  
nāḍi nāḍi narasingā endru,  
vāḍi vāḍum ivvāl nuthale!*

I will dance and melt for you, within my heart, to see you, I will sing in praise of you with tears in joy, I will search for Narasimha and I am a householder who still searches to reach you (to attain Salvation).

## 3 Symbolism



Narasimha claws Hiraṇyakaśipu at Banteay Srei in Cambodia.

- Narasimha indicates God's omnipresence and the lesson is that God is everywhere. For more information, see *Vaishnav Theology*.
- Narasimha demonstrates God's willingness and ability to come to the aid of His devotees, no matter how difficult or impossible the circumstances may appear to be.

- Prahlāda's devotion indicates that pure devotion is not one of birthright but of character. Prahlāda, although born an asura, demonstrated the greatest **bhakti** to God, and endured much, without losing faith.
- Narasimha is known by the epithet **Mūga-Śarīra** in Sanskrit which translates to Animal-Man. From a philosophical perspective. Narasimha is the very icon of Vaiṣṇavism, where jñāna (knowledge) and Bhakti are important as opposed to Advaita, which has no room for Bhakti, as the object to be worshipped and the worshipper do not exist. As according to Advaita or Māyāvāda, the jīva is Paramātma.

## 4 Significance

In South Indian art – sculptures, bronzes and paintings – Viṣṇu's incarnation as Narasimha is one of the most chosen themes and amongst [[Avatar]]Avatāra]s perhaps next only to Rāma and Kṛṣṇa in popularity.

Lord Narasimha also appears as one of Hanuman's 5 faces, who is a significant character in the Rāmāyaṇa as Lord (Rāma's) devotee.

## 5 Forms of Narasimha



Yoga Narasimha form at a temple in Vijayanagara, Hampi, India

There are several forms of Narasimha, but 9 main ones collectively known as Nava-narasimha:

1. Ugra-narasimha
2. Kroddha-narasimha
3. Vīra-narasimha
4. Vilamba-narasimha
5. Kopa-narasimha
6. Yoga-narasimha
7. Aghora-narasimha
8. Sudarśana-narasimha
9. Lakṣmī-narasimha

In Ahobila, Andhra Pradesh, the nine forms are as follows:

1. Chātra-vata-narasimha (seated under a banyan tree)
2. Yogānanda-narasimha (who blessed Lord Brahma)
3. Karañja-narasimha
4. Uha-narasimha
5. Ugra-narasimha
6. Krodha-narasimha
7. Malola-narasimha (With Lakṣmī on His lap)
8. Jvālā-narasimha (an eight armed form rushing out of the pillar)
9. Pavana-narasimha (who blessed the sage Bharadvaja)

Forms from Prahlad story:

- Stambha-narasimha (coming out of the pillar)
- Svayam-narasimha (manifesting on His own)
- Grahaṇa-narasimha (catching hold of the demon)
- Vidāraṇa-narasimha (ripping open of the belly of the demon)
- Saṁhāra-narasimha (killing the demon)

The following three refer to His ferocious aspect:

- Ghora-narasimha
- Ugra-narasimha
- Candā-narasimha

Others:

- Pañcamukha-Hanumān-narasimha, (appears as one of Śrī Hanuman's five faces.)
- Pṛthvī-narasimha, Vayu-narasimha, Ākāśa-narasimha, Jvalana-narasimha, and
- Amṛta-narasimha, (representing the five elements)
- Jvālā-narasimha (with a flame-like mane)
- Lakṣmī-narasimha (where Lakṣmī pacifies Him)
- Prasāda/Prahlāda-varadā-narasimha (His benign aspect of protecting Prahlad)
- Chatrā-narasimha (seated under a parasol of a five-hooded serpent)
- Yoga-narasimha or Yogeśvara-narasimha (in meditation)
- Āveśa-narasimha (a frenzied form)
- Aṭṭhasa-narasimha (a form that roars horribly and majestically strides across to destroy evil)
- Cakra-narasimha, (with only a discus in hand)
- Viṣṇu-narasimha, Brahma-narasimha and Rudra-narasimha
- Puṣṭi narasimha, (worshipped for overcoming evil influences)

## 6 Early images

In *Andhra Pradesh*, a panel dating to third-fourth century AD shows a full theriomorphic squatting lion with two extra human arms behind his shoulders holding *Vaiṣṇava* emblems. This lion, flanked by five heroes (*vīra*), often has been identified as an early depiction of Narasimha.<sup>[16]</sup> Standing cult images of Narasimha from the early Gupta period, survive from temples at Tigowa and Eran.<sup>[17]</sup> These sculptures are two-armed, long maned, frontal, wearing only a lower garment, and with no demon-figure of Hiranyakaśipu. Images representing the narrative of Narasimha slaying the demon Hiranyakaśipu survive from slightly later Gupta-period temples: one at Madhia and one from a temple-doorway now set into the *Kūrmamaṭha* at Nachna, both dated to the late fifth or early sixth century A.D.<sup>[18]</sup>

An image of Narasimha supposedly dating to second-third century AD sculpted at Mathura was acquired by the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 1987. It was described by Stella Kramrisch, the former Philadelphia Museum of Art's Indian curator, as "*perhaps the earliest image of Narasimha as yet known*".<sup>[18]</sup> This figure depicts a furled brow, fangs, and lolling tongue similar to later images of



*Narasimha statue*

Narasimha, but the idol's robe, simplicity, and stance set it apart. On Narasimha's chest under his upper garment appears the suggestion of an amulet, which Stella Kramrisch associated with Visnu's cognizance, the *Kauṣṭubha* jewel. This upper garment flows over both shoulders; but below *Hiranyakaśipu*, the demon-figure placed horizontally across Narasimha's body, a twisted waist-band suggests a separate garment covering the legs. The demon's hair streams behind him, cushioning his head against the man-lion's right knee. He wears a simple single strand of beads. His body seems relaxed, even pliant. His face is calm, with a slight suggestion of a smile. His eyes stare adoringly up at the face of Viṣṇu. There is little tension in this figure's legs or feet, even as Narasimha gently disembowels him. His innards spill along his right side. As the *Matsya purana* describes it, Narasimha ripped "apart the mighty *Dāitya* chief as a plaiter of straw mats shreds his reeds".<sup>[18]</sup> Based on the *Gandhara*-style of robe worn by the idol, Michael Meiste altered the date of the image to fourth century AD.<sup>[18]</sup>

Deborah Soifer, a scholar who worked on texts in relation to Narasimha, believes that "*the traits basic to Viṣṇu in the Veda remain central to Viṣṇu in his avataras*" and points out, however, that:

*we have virtually no precursors in the Vedic material for the figure of a man-lion, and only one phrase that simply does not rule out the possibility of a violent side to the benign Viṣṇu.*

Soifer speaks of *the enigma* of Viṣṇu's Narasimha avatāra

and comments that *how the myth arrived at its rudimentary form [first recorded in the Mahābhārata], and where the figure of the man-lion came from remain unsolved mysteries.*<sup>[19]</sup>

An image of Narasimha, dating to the 9th century, was found on the northern slope of Mount Ijo, at Prambanan, Indonesia.<sup>[20]</sup> Images of Trivikrama and Varāha avatāras were also found at Prambanan, Indonesia. Viṣṇu and His avatāra images follow iconographic peculiarities characteristic of the art of central Java. This includes physiognomy of central Java, an exaggerated volume of garment, and some elaboration of the jewelry. This decorative scheme once formulated became, with very little modification, an accepted norm for sculptures throughout the Central Javanese period (circa 730–930 A.D.). Despite the iconographic peculiarities, the stylistic antecedents of the Java sculptures can be traced back to Indian carvings as the Chalukya and Pallava images of the 6th–7th centuries AD.<sup>[21]</sup>

## 7 Cultural Tradition of Procession (Śrī Nṛsimha Yātrā)



*The Nṛsimha Yatra of Lalitpur, Nepal*

In Rājopadhyāya Brahmins of Nepal, there is a tradition of celebrating the procession ceremony of the deity Narasimha avatar, in Lalitpur district of the Kathmandu Valley in Nepal. The Lunar fifth day of the waning phase of the moon, in the holy Soli-lunar Śrāvaṇa month i.e. on Śrāvaṇa Kṛṣṇa Pañcamī of the Hindu Lunar Calendar is marked as auspicious day for the religious procession, Nṛsimha Yātrā. This tradition of the holy procession has been held for more than a hundred years. This is one of the typical traditions of the Rājopadhyāya Brahmins, the Hindu Brahmins of the locality.<sup>[22]</sup>

In this Nṛsimha Yātrā, each year one male member of the Rājopadhyāya<sup>[22]</sup> community gets the chance to be the organizer each year in that particular day. He gets his turn according to the sequence in their record, where the names of Rājopadhyāya Brahmins are registered when a brahmāṇa<sup>[23]</sup> lad is eligible to be called as a Brahmin.<sup>[24]</sup>

## 8 Temples dedicated to Narasimha

Temples indicated with \* and in italics are actually Places of Pilgrimage (Tīrtha Yātrā).

### 8.1 In Andhra Pradesh



*A representation of Śrī Narasimha in Kadiri, Andhra Pradesh.*



*Lord Narasimha statue on walls of Simhacalam Temple*

1. \**Ahobilam* or Ahobalam is a major center of pilgrimage in South India, located in the Nandyal Taluka of Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh, India. According to local legend, this is where Lord Narasimha blessed Prahlāda and killed the demon Hiranyakashipa. It is an important place of worship for Vaiṣṇavas and is one of the 108 Divya Desams.
2. \**Penna Ahobilam Lakṣmī Narasimha temple*
3. \**Yoga Narasimha Swamy, in Dharmapuri, Karimnagar District, Telangana state. It is said that at Dharmapuri, Narasimha Deva meditated in Yoga mudra, after his Ugrarūpa.*
4. Kotla-Narasimhulapalle, Karimnagar, Telangana state
5. \**Kadiri Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy temple in Kadiri, Anantapur Dist, Andhra Pradesh.*
6. \**Śrī Yogānanda Narasimha Swamy, Vedadri, near Vijayawada*
7. \**Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple, Nacharamgutta, Medak district, Telangana state.*
8. \**Śrī Panakala Narasimha Swamy, Mangalagiri, near Vijayawada*
9. Śrī Śobhanācala Vyāghra Narasimha Swamy, Aagiripalli, near Vijayawada
10. \**Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy, Antarvedi, Sakhinetipalle, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh*
11. \**Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy, Peruru Village, Amalapuram, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh*
12. \**Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy, Yadagiri Gutta,<sup>[25]</sup> near Bhongir, Nalgonda District, Telangana state. See Yadagirigutta (Temple)*
13. Śrī Matsyagiri Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Devalayam, Vemula Konda, Valigonda mandal, Nalgonda district, Telangana state. The temple of Lakṣmī Narasimha swamy is on the rock hill (konda) in Mastya avataram.
14. Śrī Varāha Narasimha Swamy, is the combination of Varaha avatar and Narasimha avatar. When Prahlada was thrown into the sea, Śrī Varaha Narasimha swamy protected prahlada and raised a mountain. This mountain is the Simhachalam \*Simhachalam, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
15. Yoga Narasimha temple also known as Dakshina Simhachalam Singarayakonda, Ongole, Andhra Pradesh
16. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy, Mallooru, Warangal District (~70KM from Bhadrachalam), Telangana state.
17. Śrī Yogānanda Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy, Matapalli (at the confluence of Krishna and Musi rivers), about 15 km from Huzurnagar taluq, Nalgonda District, Telangana state (Bus available from Miryalaguda/Kodada).
18. Vadapally, Near Miryalaguda, Nalgonda District, Telangana state
19. \**Śrī Lord Lakṣmī-Narasimha Swamy temple, Korukonda, near Rajahmundry, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh.*
20. \**Śrī Malayadri Lakṣmī Narasimha temple, Malakonda, near Kundakur, Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh.*
21. Śrī Prasanna Narasimha Swamy temple, Singarakonda, Prakasham district, Andhra Pradesh
22. Śrī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Khammam, Khammam District, Telangana state.
23. Śrī Penusila Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy, Penchalakona, Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh
24. Śrī Limbadri Narasimha Swamy, Bheemgal taluk, Nizamabad district, Telangana state
25. Cheeryala Sree Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Devastanam, Cheeryala, Keesara Mandal, Rangareddy district, Telangana state
26. Phani Giri gutta, Near Kottapet, Hyderabad, Rangareddy District, Telangana state # Vedagiri Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimhaswamy, Narasimha Konda, Near Nellore, Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh.
27. Śrī Jvālā Narasimha Temple, Parvathapuram, Feerjadiguda, Uppal, HYD, Telangana state
28. Śrī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Sigotam (singapatnam), Kollapur, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state.
29. \**Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple, Road No.12 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana state.*
30. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple of Penchala Kona, Nellore(dt), Andhra Pradesh
31. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple garlavoddu, enkoor mandal, Khammam district, Telangana state
32. \**Guttameeda Narasimha swamy Temple Inugurti village, K Samudram Mandalam, Khammam District, Telangana state*
33. \**Tarigonda Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Tarigonda, Gurramkonda mandal, Chittoor Dist. A.P*

34. Narasimha Swamy Temple Kalwa Village, Adilabad Dist . Telangana state.
35. Śrī Nallakunta Lakṣmī Narsimha swamy Temple, Nallagutta,RR Dist, Near Jeedimetla bus stand;Hyderabad;Telangana
36. **Narasimhaswamy Temple, Marripudi''''Bold text',Prakasam Dist.Andhrapradesh.**

## 8.2 In Karnataka



*Lord Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy at ŚRĪ HARI VAIKUṆṬHA KṢETRA Bangalore*

1. \*Śrī Guru Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam<sup>[26]</sup> at Śāligrama, Udupi district, Karnataka. Narasimha Idol here is in Yogānanda Narasimha posture and is from the 8th century as per historians.<sup>[27]</sup>
2. Balele Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple, Narasimha Gudda, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka
3. \*Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple at Roopena Agrahara, Hosur Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka. This is the only temple in India which has "Narasimha Meru" belonging to ancient period. "Narasimha Meru" is a hill shaped cakra made specifically for Narasimha Swamy. Pradakshana to this Chakra and Narasimha Swamy will clear **kuja doṣa**.<sup>[28]</sup>



*NARASIMHA MERU at ŚRĪ HARI VAIKUṆṬHA KṢETRA Bangalore*

4. Śrī Yoga Narasimha, on a hilltop fortress at Melkote, Nagamangala, Mysore District, Karnataka. In Kannada, the term means, top (mele) fort (kote). The fort, situated on a near-vertical hill is a strategic area, overlooking the plains. Melkote is also the site of the famous Cheluvanarayana Temple and the annual Vairamudi festival, where the deity is adorned with a crown of dazzling uncut diamonds.
5. Śrī Narasimha Swami Zarni Cave Temple, Bidar District, Karnataka - It is said that Lord Narasimha after killing Hiranyakashpu, proceeded to kill a demon named Jalasura. Jalasura was a staunch devotee of Lord Śiva. After he was killed by Lord Narasimha, Jalāsura turns into water starts flowing from Lord's feet. And to this day water keeps flowing from lord's feet and fills the cave.
6. Śrī Yoga Mudre Lakṣmī Narasimha Swami, Mudugere, near Hassan, Karnataka. Considered one of the most powerful forms of the Deity.
7. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha, Marehalli, Malavalli taluk Mandya district Karnataka.

8. Śrī Śoḍaśa Bahu Narasimha Swamy, Karpara Kshetra, Koppara village, Raichur District, Karnataka. Koppa Śrī Narasimha Devaru (Also known as Vruksharoopi Narasimha Swamy Temple) located in Raichur District, Devadurga Taluk, this Śrī Kṣetra is about 6 km from Devadurga.
9. Śrī Yoganarasimha Devālaya, Mysore, Karnataka.
10. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy, Malleswaram, Bangalore<sup>[29]</sup>
11. Śrī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Hatyal, C N Halli, Tumkur, Karnataka
12. Śrī Ugra Narasimha Swamy Devasthana at Maddur, Karnataka
13. Śrī Kambada Narasimha Swamy Devasthana at Sugganahalli, near Kudur, Tumkur district, Karnataka
14. Śrī Kambada Narasimha Swamy Devasthana at Sondalagere, Kunigal taluq, Tumkur district, Karnataka
15. \*Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Devasthana at Śrīrangapatna, Mandya district, Karnataka<sup>[30]</sup> this temple is situated near Śrī Raṅganātha Swamy Temple, ŚrīRangapatana Town, Mysore.
16. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Devasthana at Kamasandra, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Karnataka
17. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Devasthana at Balepet, Balepet Circle, Near upperpet Police Station, Bangalore.
18. Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple, Bhadravathi, Karnataka, (built by Hoysalas) located in old town area of Bhadravathi.
19. Śrībi Narasimha Swamy Temple, Sheebi, Tumkur Dist, Karnataka.
20. \*Yoga Narasimha Swamy, Boga Narasimha Swamy temple, Devarayanadurga, Karnataka
21. \*Śrī Ugra Narasimha, Śrī Vijayendra Tirtha Prathistapitha, Moolky, Karnataka<sup>[31]</sup>
22. Śrī Lakṣmī-Narasimha swamy temple, Dodadalavatta, Madhugi taluq, Tumkur district, Karnataka
23. Śrī Lakṣmī-Narasimha Swamy Temple, Holenarsipura, Hassan district, Karnataka
24. \*Sāvandurga Narasimha Swamy Temple, Savana Durga, Magadi taluk, Ramanagar District
25. \*Holay Narasipura, Hassan district, Karnataka.
26. \*Hatyaalu Betta, Tiptur Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka
27. \*Śrī Yoga Narasimha Swamy Devasthana at Gorur, Hassan District, Karnataka
28. \*Lakṣmī narasimhaswamy Temple at Nagamangala, Hassan District.
29. \*Gunja Narasimhaswamy Temple at T. Narasipura, Chamarajanagar District.
30. \*Śrī Narasimhaswamy Temple at Jekkenahalli, Tumkur District.
31. \*Śrī Lakṣmī narasimha swamy Temple at B. R. Koppulu, Śrīrangapattana.
32. \*Thoravi Narasimhaswamy Temple at Bijapur.
33. \*Śrī Narasimhaswamy Temple, Śrī Kṣetra Shurpali on the banks of river Kṛṣṇa Tq. Jamkhandi Dist :Bagalkot
34. \*Narasimha Temples run by GSB community in Karnataka are located at Mulki (Śrī Ugra Narasimha of S. V. Temple),<sup>[32]</sup> Mogarnad (Panemangalore) and Kambada Narasimha at Nagar (Shimoga District)
35. \*Kambada Narasimha Swamy Temple at Alisandra, Nagamangala, Mandya District. (Behind Nagathihalli on Bangalore - Mangalore road close to bellur cross)
36. \*Śrī Gunjam Narasimha Swamy, Baburayana Koppalu, Śrīrangapatna, Mysore.
37. \*Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple, On O.P.H Road, Shivajinagara, Bangalore, behind Bowring Hospital.
38. \*Śrī Yoga Narasimha Devaru Temple, (Angaara Narasimha) Narasimha Teertha, Sree Padaraja Mutt at Mulbagilu Kolar District.
39. \*Śrī Nadi Narasimha Temple, on the banks of Kanva river, Dodda Mallur, Channapatna, this place is about 2 km from the famous Aprameya Swamy Temple on the way to Bangalore-Mysore Highway.
40. \*Śrī Yoga Narasimha Swamy Temple, with Narasimha Dandam, at KereThonnur/Thondanur, built on small hillock situated at Śrīrangapatna Taluk, Mandya District, this place is about 8 km from Pandvapura, and 20 km from Melekote, on Melekote-Śrīrangapatna Highway.
41. \*Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple, No.224, 7th Cross, Teachers Colony, Kaderenahalli, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560070.
42. \*Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Near Jayanthi Tiles Factory, R. T. Nagar Post, Bangalore - 560032.
43. \*Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple (Sudarshana Narasimha) Ahoabilla Mutt, on 3rd Main Road, Prakashnagar, Bangalore - 21. (next to Mudhaliar Choultry)



44. \*Śrī Kambada Narasimha Swamy Temple,(also known as Ranganatha Swami temple)in Tattakere Village, Solur Hobli, this place is also called as Dhurvasamuni Kṣetra, about 4 km from Solur Bus stand on the way to Kunigal.
45. \*Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Sripathihalli, Kalya post, Magadi Talq, Ramanagar District
46. \*Śrī Champakarnya Lakṣmī NarasimhaSwamy, Champakaranya Beta a small hillock just behind the famous Champakadhamaswamy Temple, Temple Road, Bannerghatha Village, Bangalore.

Narahari

### 8.3 In Maharashtra and Goa

1. Śrī Narsimha Temple- Madgi,Center in Wainganaga River, Tah. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara, 441913 Maharashtra.*Religious Fair every year at the end of month December.*
2. \*Śrī Lakṣmī Narsimha Temple in Ranjani, Tal Ambegaon, near Manchar, District Pune-410504, Maharashtra.
3. Śrī Jvālā Narasimha Temple in Kole Narasimhapur, Walva, Sangli District, Maharashtra.
4. Śrī Ugra Narasimha Temple, Holi, Nanded, Maharashtra
5. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple, 1420 Sadashiv Peth, Pune, Maharashtra.
6. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple in Ranjani, Tal Ambegaon, near Manchar, District Pune, Maharashtra.
7. \**Tathavade, Near Chinchwad, Pune district, Maharashtra*
8. \**Nira Narsingpur, Indapur taluq, Pune district, Maharashtra*
9. Śrī Lakṣmī Narsimha Temple in Veling (Mhardol), Tal Ponda, Goa
10. Pokharni, Parbhani district, Maharashtra.
11. \**Sangawade, Taluka Karveer, District Kolhapur, Maharashtra (uniqueness here is that, Goddess Laxmi is sitting on right lap of the deity whereas else where she is on the other side)*
12. Śrī Lakṣmī Narsimha Temple, Dhom, Tal. Wai, District Satara, Maharashtra
13. At Post - Nittur, Taluka - Chandgad, Dist- Kolhapur (around 40 km inside maharashtra from Belgaum. It is said that this temple was built by Pandvas when they were in exile. This is ancient temple in a big rock, it is engraved in a big solid rock.
14. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Mandir, Partur, Dist Jalna, Maharashtra.
15. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Mandir, Mandavgan,dist ahmednagar
16. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Mandir, Mayani tal khatav Dist Satara old peth mayani,behind the postoffice,Dashputre wada
17. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Mandir, Raheer, Tal Naigaon(Kh), Dist Nanded, Maharashtra - Hemadpanthi Mandir on banks of Godavari river
18. Shri Laxmi narsinha temple , pusad , chowbara chowk in old pusad
19. Shri Laxmi Nrusinha Mandir , Kasaba Sangameshwar , Tal Sangameshwar, Dist Ratnagiri

### 8.4 In Tamilnadu

1. Śrī Malola Narasimha Swamy peetam velachery chennai 600042
2. Singaperumal Koil Sri Ugra Narasimhar, at Tambaram, 25 kms from Tambaram and the temple is just 100 meters off the GST Road.
3. Śrī Azhagaiya Nrsinga Perumal Temple, at Ennayiram, Ponducherry area, 123 km outskirts by the Cholan dynasty.
4. Ramapuram Narasimhar, also known as Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimhar, at Ramapuram, Chennai.
5. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Kovil, Nangavalli (Near Mettur) Salem district, Tamil Nadu.
6. \**Śrī Azhagaiya Singar at Parthasarathy Kovil in Tiruvellikeni, Chennai.*
7. Śrī Narasimha temple, Parikkal, Tamil Nadu
8. \**Śrī Yoga Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy temple, Ghatikachala, Sholinghur, Tamil Nadu.*<sup>[33]</sup>
9. Śrī Yoga Narasimha Kovil at Chintalavadi, Tamil Nadu
10. Śrī Kāṭṭu Azhagaiya Singar, Srirangam, Tiruchirapalli
11. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Temple, Ukkadam, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
12. \**Śrī Ukkara Narasimha Temple, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu*
13. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Thirukoil, Pollachi, Tamil Nadu
14. Śrī Yoga Narasimha Temple, Aanaimalai, Othakkadai, Madurai, Tamil Nadu

15. Śrī Ugra Narasimha Temple, Singaperumalkoil, near Chengalpattu
16. \*Ugra Narasimha at Śrī Prasanna Venkatachopathy Temple, Keelapavoor, near Tenkasi also known as South Ahobhilam
17. Śrī Yoga Narasimha Swamy Temple at Velachery, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
18. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swami Temple, (Lakṣmī Narasimha with 4 hands, in Śānta rūpa with His consort(LakshmiLakṣmī) on His right lap (usually He will have His consort(Lakṣmī) on His left lap).], vellore District.
19. Padalathri Narasimha Swamy, Singa Perumal Koil, near Chennai, Tamil Nadu
20. Nava Narasimhar Temple, Avaniyapuram, Tamil Nadu
21. Śrī Yoga Narasimha Swamy Temple, Keelavasal, near thanjore palace, Thanjavur.
22. Śrī Yoga Narasimha Swamy Temple, Vallam, Thanjavur Dist.
23. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple, injeemedu, near Vandavasi, Tamil Nadu.
24. Śrī Amirthavaiilli Nayaga Samadha Śrī Yogānanda Narasimha Swamy Temple Sogathur 6 km from Vandavasi, Tiruvannamail DT. and 46 km from Kancheepuram
25. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimhar Temple, Polur, near Thiruvannamalai
26. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimhar Temple, PV Kalathur, near Chengalpet
27. Śrī Yoga Narasimhar Temple, Kanchipuram - (Tiruvelukkai one of the 108 divya desams)
28. Śrī Bhārgavī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Narasapuram (Sandar Setty Palli), Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri District
29. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Krishnagiri, Krishnagiri District. 1500 years old temple
30. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimhar temple, Ammapettai, Thanjavur (Moolavar - wooden daity is carved in Vellerukku) (20 km east of Thanjavur, towards Nagapatnam)
31. Śrī Vīra Narasimhar (Thiru Thanjai Yali temple) Palli Agraharam, Thanjavur = One of the 108 Diya sthalams
32. Śrī Yoga Narasimhar, East Gate, Thanjavur
33. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimhaswamy, Poovarasamkuppam, Villupuram, Near Kottayam Town, Kerala.
34. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimhaswamy temple, Singirikoil, Cuddalore.
35. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimhaswamy temple, halepuzha, near pennagaram, Dharmapuri district

## 8.5 In Kerala

1. Sri Padmanabhaswamy temple: Lord Narasimha Murthy is one of the main deities in the temple.
2. Śrī Narasimhaswamy Mahakshetram(Thuravoor Mahakshethram), Thuravoor, Cherthala, Alappuzha
3. Chathankulangara temple in Chengannur, Alappuzha District, Kerala
4. Śrī Narasimha Swamy temple, Yeroor, kollam, kerala
5. Śrī Narasimhaswami Temple, Aymanam, Kottayam, Kerala
6. Anayadi Pazhayidam Śrī Narasimha Swami Temple, Sooranad, Kollam, Kerala
7. Sri Edappurathu Lakshmi Narasimha Moorthi Temple, Puthuruthy, Kerala
8. \*Kulasserry Temple Thrissur, Kerala
9. Śrī Narasimhaswami Temple, Kadungalloor, Aluva
10. Śrī Narasimha Parthasarathy Temple, Thiruvangore, Kozhikode
11. West Pattissery Śrī VISHNU Temple CHALISERY PALAKKAD
12. Narasimha Temples run by GSB community in Kerala are located at Manjeshwar,<sup>[34]</sup> Ullal, Thuravoor and Alappuzha
13. Śrī Lakṣmī Narasimha Swamy Temple. Thalasserry, 670101. Kerala. This is an important pilgrim centre for GS Brahmins in the Northern parts of Kerala, and is located in the heart of Tellicherry town, in the Kannur district of Kerala. The Temple is less than half a kilometre from both the Railway station and the Bus stand. The temple and prathista faces North which is a unique feature. The temple established in 1831 A.D.
14. Srinivasa Kovil, thekkumbhagam, Tripunithura - Here the god is Ugranarasimha. Ernakulam District
15. Śrī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Kadungalloor, Alwaye, 683 108, Kerala,
16. Pandavath Śrī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Aymanam, Near Kottayam Town, Kerala.

17. Nechiyil Sree Narasimha kshetram, Rg:No 203/93, Cherapadum.(po) k.v.kavu, malappuram, kerala,673637
18. Śrī Narasimha Swamy Temple, Peruva, Kottayam District, Kerala
19. Muriyamangalam Narasimha swamy Temple,Mamala,Thrivankulam,Ernakulam Dist (near Chottanikkara Devi temple) Kerala.
20. Śrī Ramamangalam Bala Narasimha Temple,Muvattupuzha to piravom route ( via ) pampakkuda. 15 km, Ernakulam, Kerala. Sree Shadkala Govinda Marar sung here. Both the highest koddī Maram of Kerala for Narasimha and shortest Koddī Maram for Ovu ( Pranala) Thangi Unni Bhootham is here in this Temple.30 km from Ernakulam Railway station.
21. Narasimha Moorthy Temple - Thiruvazhiyadu - Nemmara - Palakkad Dist.
22. Sri Narasimha Moorthy Temple - Rishinaradaman-galam - Palakkad Dt.



Lord Narasimha kills demon hiranyakāṣipu.(At left)The prahalāda bows before lord

## 8.6 In Rajasthan

1. Śrī Narsinghji temple, Amer, Rajasthan
  2. \*Śrī Narsinghji Temple at Gudha, Rajasthan
  3. Śrī Narsinghji Temple at Garhi, Hindon-Karoli Road, Karoli, Rajasthan
  4. Śrī Narsingh Mandir, Hasampur, Between Kotputli and neem ka thana, Rajasthan
  5. Narsinghji Ka Mandir, Holidada, Ajmer, Rajasthan
  6. Narsinghji Ka Mandir, Lokhotiyon Chowk, Bikaner, Rajasthan
  7. Narsingh Mandir, Daaga Chowk, Bikaner, Rajasthan
  8. Narsimha Mandir, Khandela, Sikar, Rajasthan
  9. Śrī khakhee jee ki bagichi,Bidasar,Churu,Rajasthan
  3. Narsinghji + Navgrahvatika + NrisinghKund, Goverdhan, Mathura District, Uttar Pradesh
  4. Narasimha mandir, Indore.
  5. Narsinghji temple, Ghadiyali Pole, Vadodara, Gujarat.
  6. \*Narsinghpur, Madhya Pradesh
  7. \*Śrī Marjāra Nṛsimha Temple, in his mighty cat-lion form near Nṛsimhanātha, Baragarh district, Oḍiṣā
  8. Narasimha Temple, near Gundicha Temple, Puri, Oḍiṣā
  9. Nṛsimha mandira, Nalabanta, Aska, Ganjam, Oḍiṣā
  10. Nṛsimha mandira, Sunamba Street, Aska, Ganjam, Oḍiṣā
  11. Nṛsimha mandira, Bada Bazar, Bramhapur, Oḍiṣā
- Sri Lakshmi nursigh temple.(Lalit) Azad chowk. kotputli. Jaipur

## 8.7 In other places

1. Talala Gir Near River Junagadh Dist Gujarat. (Patel)
2. \*Megdi, Garuḍa Taluk (Tehsil), Bageshwar District, Uttaranchal
13. Vāra-Lakṣmī Narasimhanātha Temple, Warsaw, Poland
14. Simhachalam (ISKCON), Jandelsbrunn, Bavaria, Germany.<sup>[36]</sup>

## 9 See also

- Lion man of the Hohlenstein Stadel
- Narasimha Purāṇa
- Narasimha Śātkam

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- [4] Steven J. Rosen, *Narasimha Avatāra, The Half-Man/Half-Lion Incarnation*, p1
- [5] Bhag-P 7.4.1
- Lord Brahma was very much satisfied by Hiranyakaśipu’s austerities, which were difficult to perform.
- [6] Bhag-P, Canto 7 7.3.35-38
- [7] Bhag-P 7.7.6 “The victorious demigods plundered the palace of Hiranyakaśipu, the king of the demons, and destroyed everything within it. Then Indra, King of heaven, arrested Prahalāda’s mother, Hiranyakaśipu’s wife Kayādu, the Queen”
- [8] Bhag-P 7.7.8 “Nārada Muni said: *O Indra, King of the demigods, this woman is certainly sinless. You should not drag her off in this merciless way. This chaste woman is the wife of another. You must immediately release her.*”
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- [10] Bhag-P 7.8.3-4 “Thus he finally decided to kill his son Prahlad. Hiranyakaśipu was by nature very cruel
- [11] “Bhag-P 7.8.12”. Srimadbhagavatam.com. Retrieved 2013-06-17.
- [12] Bhag-P 7.8.29
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## 11 External links

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# Narasimha

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## English

### Etymology

From Sanskrit नरसिंह (*narasiṃha*)

### Proper noun

#### Narasimha

1. An avatar of the Hindu god Vishnu literally means man-lion.
2. A male given name

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