

**Bhavabodhacharya**  
**Shri Raghuttama Teertharu**  
**Period: 1537-1595 A D**

-Chippagiri Mohan

**Bhavabhodha Krutham SeveRaghoththama Mahaa GuruM|**

**Yat shishyashishyaadhyaa TippaaNaacharya SangnithaaH||**

Shri Raghuttama Teertharu is one of the dazzling unblemished stars among the Madhwa Yathigalu. Shri Raghuttama Teertharu has come in the lineage of Shri mathUttaradimath. His mammoth contribution to the Shri Madhwa Philosophy is incredible and uncountable. The entire credit of the great success of Shri Raghuttama Teertharu goes to his humble and beloved guru Shri Raghuvarya teertharu who has brought and nourished him when he was of quite young age. He has practiced Sri Madhwa Shastra under many contemporary scholars .

One day Shri Raghuvarya teertha started "TattavaPrakashika" Teeka which is based on Sri Jayathirtharu teeka Granta of Srimad Acharya's "Sri Brahmasutra Bhasya". It was a great experience for Shri Raghuttama Teertharu use to comprehend very easily . Shri Raghuvarya thirtharu got amazed at this unbelievable learning capacity of Shri Raghuttama Teertharu . He appreciated him on his exceptional learning endeavour of Shri Madhwa Philosophy. This became an unforgettable experience in the life of Shri Raghuttama Teertharu.

On one auspicious day Raghuvarya teertharu gave Ashrama to Shri Raghuttama Teertharu . He is one among of the few Madhwa Yathis who took the reigns of Shri Uttaradimath at the very young age. He served the Peeta for more than 32 years and his period is treated as a golden period. After some years Shri Raghuvarya Teertharu entered the Brindavana in

Navavrindavana which was 5<sup>th</sup> Brindavana of that times .Navabrindavana is located near Anegondi

After the Brindavana pravesha of his guru he continued to his learning under the guidance of Sri Varada charya. He is used to visit the Shri Raghuttama Teertharu regularly and teach him. Varadacharya was a typical teacher and he used to think that there was nobody more learned than him in teaching the Madhwa Sasthra with his arrogance he stopped visiting Shri Raghuttama Teertharu.

One day Raghuttama Teertharu sent words to Varada Char for the classes. Varadachar replied bluntly and said he would not go to his place for teaching, on the other hand he insisted him to come to his place in case he is interested in learning the Shatra .

As there was no other way to pursue the Shatrapatha he decided to visit the Varadacharya's place and he did so. One day Varada char admonished him with his harsh and proud behaviour. Shri Raghuttama Teertharu came back to Samstanna and he was fully depressed and he could not sleep properly and he was worried about great Samstanam. Next day early morning Shri Raghuvarya Teertharu appeared in the dreams of Raghuttama Teertharu and wrote "Bijashkara" on his tongue and also said "Raghuttama" do not worry for what has happened . From tomorrow onwards do your rituals as usual and after that you start teaching your disciples. Soon you will be earning name and fame and disappeared.

Next day, Shri Raghuttama Teertharu woke up with great expectations and his mind was fresh and there was a new strength and confidence with that he called the students and started teaching SrimanNayaSudha as an experienced teacher to them. Days and Months passed. Shri Raghuttama Teertharu

earned the laurels from the people and many students started coming to study under the guidance of Raghuttama Teertharu

Soon the greatness of Shri Raghuttama Teertharu and his teachings fell on the ears of Varadachar one day he visited the Raghuttama Teertharu's place and stood behind the wall and started listening the lessons which were being taught by Shri Raghuttama Teertharu to his disciples. Sri Varadachar could not believe and he was surprised listening to his brilliant teaching . He realized his mistakes and surrendered before the Swamiji and begged him to pardon for the mistakes he has committed to him and prostrated before shri Raghuttama Teertharu. The Swamiji said you are my Guru and definitely I will forget what has happened earlier. Varadachar became the disciple and stayed in the Math serving Swamiji from then onwards.

During his regime Shri Raghuttama Teertharu toured extensively throughout the country . Traveling from place to place on bare foot. He has written magnificent works known as "Bhava Bodhas". After Sri Jayatirtharu Shri Swamiji became famous as a "Teekakara" As days passed Swamiji's name became popular and many devotees came forward to donate . With those donations His Holiness improved the math to grow. Many reputed end scholars became passionate disciples under the Swamiji.

One interesting incidents used to take place every day. One day when Swamiji used to commence Shri Mularama Puja, the Eight Digpalakas used to be present near the Puja Mantap. Once the Purva Ashrama mother of Shri Swamiji who came for darshan got afraid to see Yama and others standing around the Puja Mantap. They disappear from the physical sight when Swamiji requested. It is said that Shri Swamiji was very attached to Purva Asahrama mother. That's why till today we can witness Swamiji's Mother's face fixed to the Brindavana. This incident clearly tells that Shri Raghuttama

Teertharu is a Samsha devathe ie., he is the Amsha of devatha Nirruthi, the Niruthya Digdevatha.

Shri Swamiji's age has been considered as Golden tenure and though many Tippanikaras were there but his name was personified as Bhavabhodharu and his disciples also became great Tippanikararu .

As a head of the Shri Uttaradimath he enhanced the dignity of the math with the highest dignity .One of the outstanding facts about Shri Raghuttama Teertharu is that he was a great healer and helper of mankind. Shri Raghuttama Teertharu is known as "Chintamani" a precious divine pearl who accomplish all the desires of all his beloved devotees by their mere Sankalpa. He has showed many mahimas to the devotees and disciples.

**Brindavana Pravesha:** Tirukoilur is located on the banks of the Pinakini River. On Vaikunta Ekadasi in the year 1595 he entered the Brindavana . This Brindavana is a unique one and it is situated in an open space with a fruiting Dhatri Tree to its east, the holy river Pinakini to its south, the Ashwattha Tree to its west, with its fluttering leaves (due to constant wind flowing from the river) which is an abode of the trinity Brahma, Vishnu and Maheshwara, and a tamarind tree to its north, which does not cast its shadow over the Brindavana (over a period of time, if its branches grow bigger so as to cast their shadow on the Brindavana, they get burnt off immediately!).

Only on the Aradhane day, The Brindavana will be decorated. First they will cover the Brindavana with wet Shati(cloth) and they will finish whole Puja before the Shati(Ochre robe or cloth) gets dried . Once it dries they will remove the alankara this is standing as a great proof as he gives less significance towards worldly showiness.

One who wants to see the Brindavana in the Alankara can only witness on the Aradhana day. Till today the same method is being followed.

### **Works of Shri Raghuttama Theertaru**

The Bhavabhodas of Shri Raghuttama Teertharu have been written to bring out the nature and the hidden meanings of the works of Sri Madhwacharya and Sri Jayatirtharu.

### **The five Bhavabhodas are:**

- Brihadaranya Bhavabhoda
- Nyaya vivarana Bhavabhoda
- Gitabhashya Bhavabhoda(Prameya dipika Bhavabhoda)
- Vishnu tatvanirnaya Bhavabhoda
- Tatvaprakashika Bhavabhoda
- He is also known to have authored two other works
- Vivaranoddhara
- 2.Nyayaratnasamband ana dipika

With the blessings of Hari Vayu Gurugalu Iam bringing this small write up on the auspicious Aradhana day of this great pontiff Shri Raghuttama Teertharu who is famous as Bhavabodhacharya and I conclude this with a charana of Sridha Vittala Kruthi on this great Yathigalu

**Noodideno Gurugala Paadabjava|Paadidenu Thanna Mahimagalana||**

**Bedidenu Manadhaniya Varagala| Eedu Ilade Koduva Prabhugala||**

**SriBarathi Ramana Mukhya Prana antargatha SriKrishnarapanamastu**