

Path to Siva

A Catechism for Youth

Satguru Bodhinatha Veylanswami

Lesson 36



What Is Our Heritage of Gurus?

Enlightened Beings...



Since the beginning of time, the power, or shakti, of God Siva has been carried forth by enlightened beings, satgurus.

Parampara or chains of gurus...

Many of these masters trained other great souls and passed on their power to them.

As this happened again and again for thousands of years, many chains of gurus, called parampara, were formed.



The Kailasa Parampara

Our lineage is called the Kailasa Parampara.

It means the lineage from Siva's Himalayan mountain, Kailas.

It began thousands of years ago.

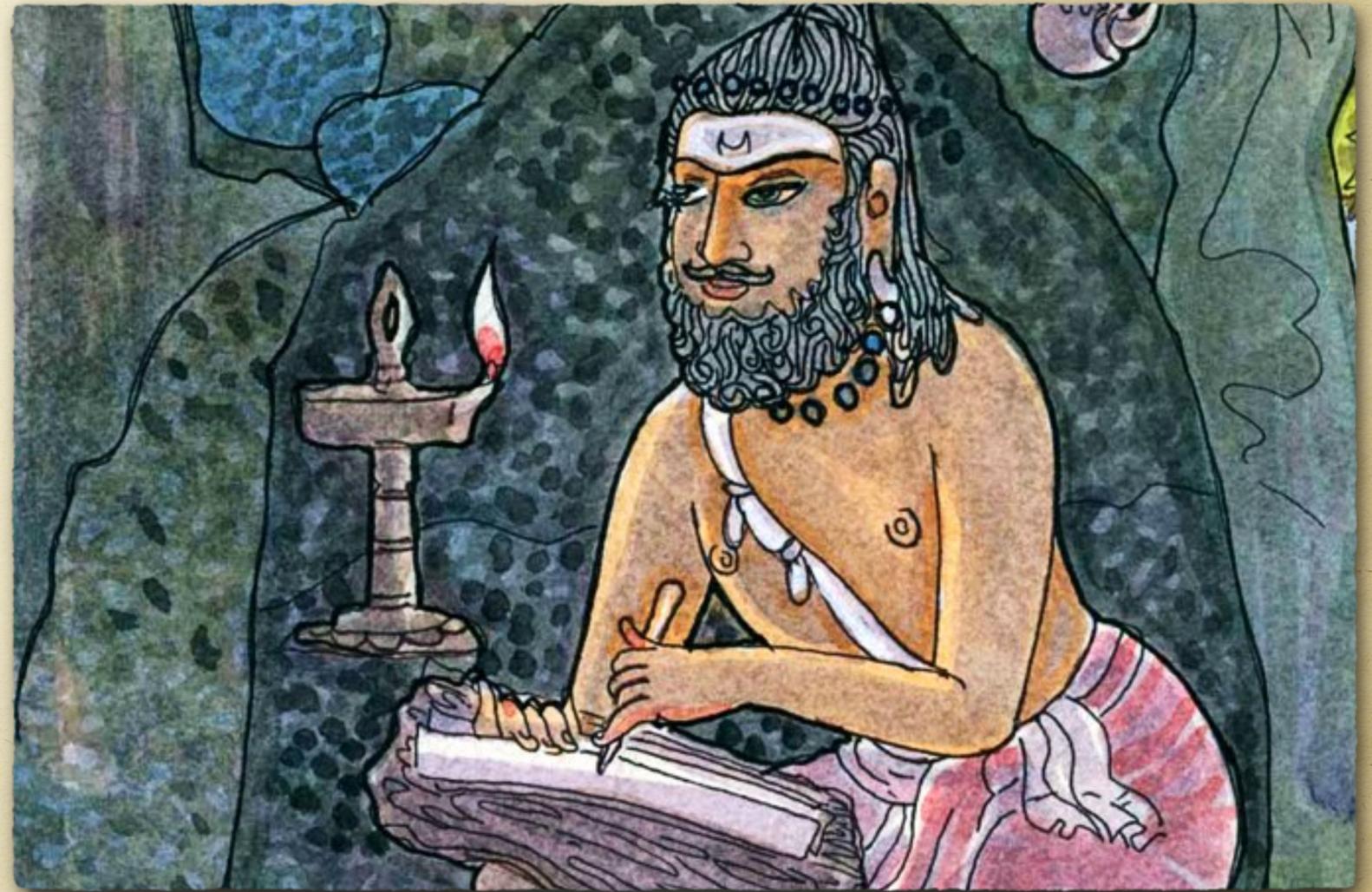
The first master that history records is Maha rishi Nandinatha (ca 250 bce).



Rishi Tirumular wrote the Tirumantiram

He passed his power to Rishi Tirumular, a sage who wrote a yoga text called Tirumantiram.

After him, over 150 rishis carried the shakti of Siva forward, their names lost to history.



Himalayan rishi to Kadaitswami

In the 19th century, a nameless Himalayan rishi of this lineage traveled to Bengaluru in South India.

There he passed the thread of power to Kadaitswami (1804–1891) and sent him to Sri Lanka to strengthen Saivism there.



Chelappaswami to Satguru Yogaswami ...

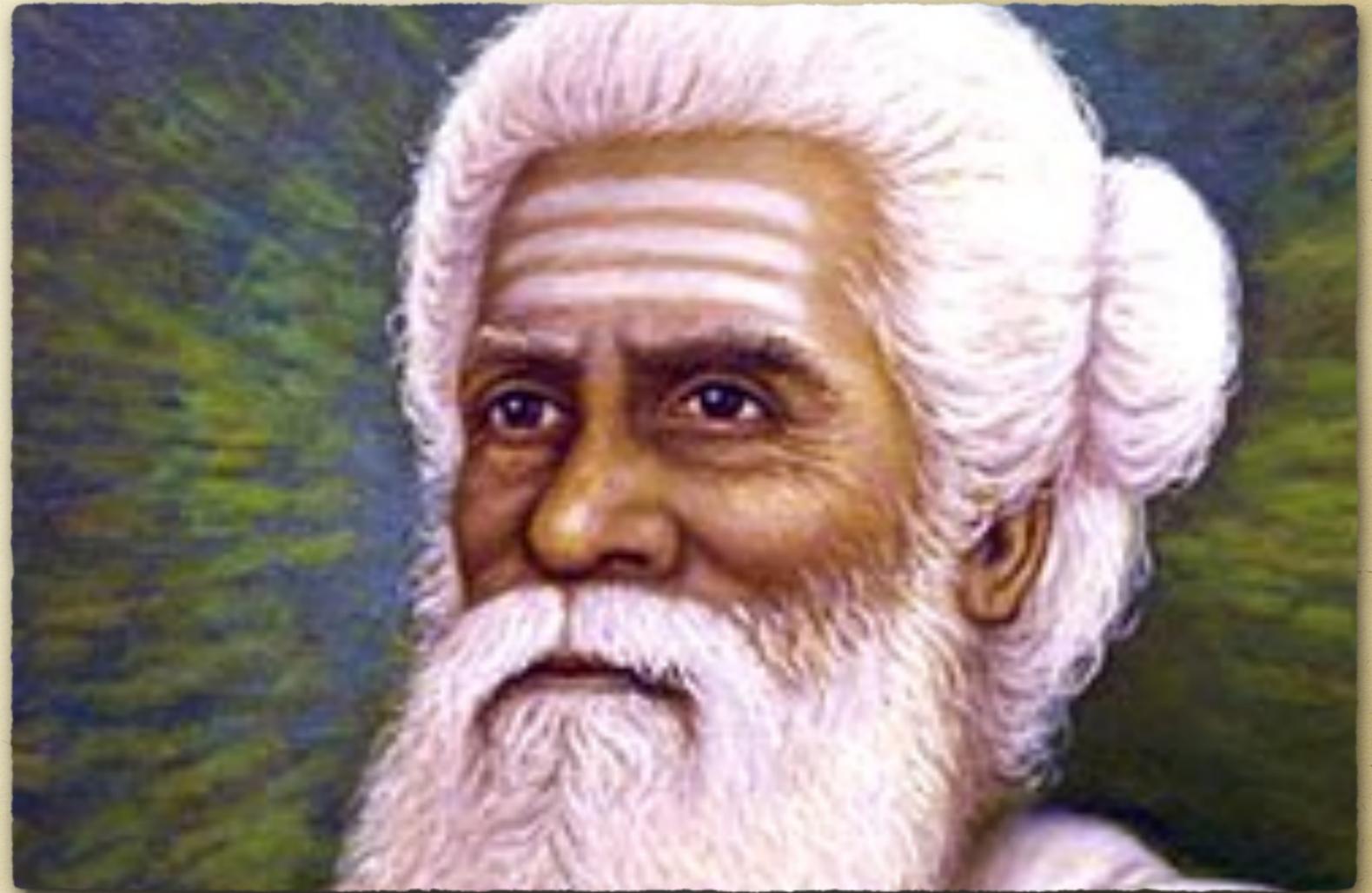
Kadaitswami passed his power to Sage Chellappaswami (1840–1915).



Chelappaswami to Satguru Yogaswami ...

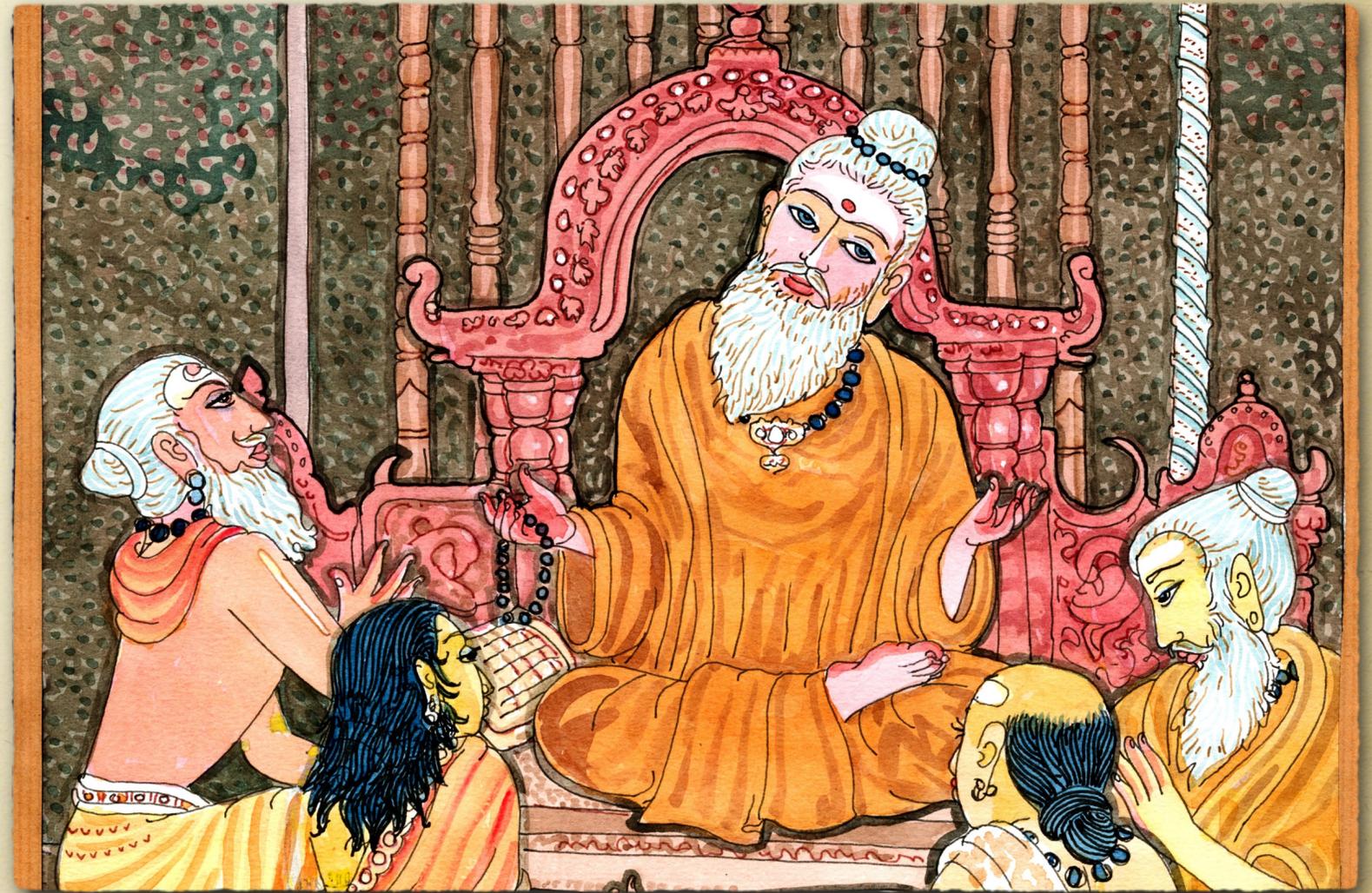
He, in turn, initiated Satguru Yogaswami
(1872–1964).

In 1949, Yogaswami ordained our
Gurudeva, Sivaya Subramuniaswami
(1927–2001).



Gurudeva Sivaya Subramuniaswami

Gurudeva brought Saivism to the West and established Kauai Aadheenam, his monastery, on the Hawaiian island of Kauai in 1970.



Gurudeva to Satguru Bodhinatha Veylanswami

In 2001 he initiated Bodhinatha
Veylanswami as his successor.

The power from all previous gurus and
the blessings of the devas that assist
them abide in the current preceptor.



Gurudeva says:

Hindu temples sustain Hinduism
around the world.

Scriptures keep us always reminded of
the path we are on and the path we are
supposed to be on, but only from the
satguru can you get the spirit, the shakti,
the sustaining spirit, to make it all come
to life in you, to make the temple
meaningful and to complement the
scriptures with your own sight, your own
third-eye sight.



QUESTIONS for Lesson 36



36.1 The Sanskrit term for chains of gurus is

(Check the correct answer)

- A. Diksha
- B. Parampara
- C. Dakshinamurti

36.2 The Kailasa Parampara began hundreds of years ago.

- True
- False

36.3 Number the satgurus of the Kailasa Parampara in chronological order from 1 - 8

- ___ A nameless Himalayan rishi
- ___ Maharishi Nandinatha
- ___ Yogaswami
- ___ Kadaitswami
- ___ Veylanswami
- ___ Rishi Tirumular
- ___ Chellappaswami
- ___ Subramuniaswami

36.4 Kadaitswami traveled from South India to which place to strengthen Saivism?

(Check the correct answer)

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. North India
- C. England

36.5 The power from all previous gurus and the blessings of the devas that assist them abide in the

(Check the correct answer)

- A. Previous preceptor
- B. Current preceptor
- C. Only some of the preceptors