



## A Study of The Varaha Avatar of Lord Vishnu: The Boar 's Message for Earth's Conservation

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### Abstract

द्वितीयं तु भवायास्य रसातलगतां महीम् ।  
उद्धरिष्यन्नुपादत्त यज्ञेशः सौकरं वपुः ॥१.३.७॥

### Transliteration

Dvitiyam Tu Bhavaaya-Asya Rasaatala-Gataam Mahiim |  
Uddharissyann-Upaadatta Yajnye[a-Ii]shah Saukaram Vapuh ||1.3.7||

### Translation

Second, certainly (incarnate as Varaha), for the benefit of this World (the Lord raised) the Earth fallen into Rasatala (the Netherworld) (by the influence of the demon Hiranyaksha). Lifting (the Earth on his tusks) the Lord Protected her; The Lord Who is the Lord of the Yagnas and have the Form of a Boar (Varaha).

In this work, an ecological perspective on the case study of Lord Vishnu's Varaha avatar is then discussed as a tool to reach ecological stability and overcome modern environmental problems. As per the Hindu scripts, lord Vishnu represents the Varaha to save Mother Earth from total destruction and depletion and there are profound symbolic suggestions in this regard regarding the demand for environmental awareness, the victory of virtue over vice, and the rehabilitation of balance. Vishnu appears as a boar to save the surface (Bhudevi) of the world from the demon Hiranyaksha, who had plunged it in the cosmic sea.

**Keywords:** *Varaha Avatar, Boar, Earth, Environment, Ecological balance*

### Introduction

Varaha lifts the Earth out with his tusks. (Religion, 2024) When contrasted with modern ecological issues (e.g., climate change, habitat loss, depletion of resources, etc., that this work highlights, ancient wisdom continues to exhibit demonstrably useful teaching value in the formulation and execution of sustainable practices. Multi directionally, it focuses the importance of collaborative burden and costly labour in safeguarding and nurturing the Earth. In addition to its devotional view, the Varaha Avatar is a symbolic blueprint for ecological balance in modern age.

O Kesava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari,  
who have assumed the form of a boar! All  
glories to You! The earth, which had become



merged in the Garbhodaka Ocean at the  
bottom of the universe, sits fixed upon the tip of  
Your tusk like a spot upon the moon.

**Sri Dasavatara Stotra, 3rd Sloka**

*(The Hare Krsnas - the Philosophy - Incarnations of the Lord - Matsya, n.d.)*

Traditionally rooted, the story of the Varaha Avatar speaks to contemporary environmental pressures by providing recurrent wisdom on the significance of protecting our home.

In an era marked by climate change, deforestation, and ecological imbalance, the teachings of the Varaha Avatar serve as a metaphorical guide for sustainable practices and collective responsibility. Through the analysis of this version, it is possible to draw comparisons between its contents and the pressing importance of international environmental preservation, highlighting the applicability of traditional knowledge for the resolution of modern problems.

As per legends in Hindu scriptures, Iravan was one who pushed the earth to the bottom of the ocean. In order to preserve it, Lord Vishnu took the form of a wild boar (Varaha Avatar). It is thought that combat may have gone on, at least, for one millennium, i.e., a thousand years. Varaha then used its tusks to kill the demon and lift the earth from the bottom of water. The Varaha Avatar is usually described in its animal guise or even as half being the form of man and half that of boar in a hybrid incarnation. He is typically pictured as a fearsome boar who supports the ground from beneath with one of his tusks.

His hybrid, half-animal-half-human embodiment is depicted carrying the burden of Bhuma Devi on his calf. In Satya Yuga, Lord Vishnu manifested in the form of Varaha to liberate the Earth from the Asuras and revive Dharma. He even transformed into a boar to guard Prithvi, that is, the earth. In the Rig-Veda, "Varaha" is translated as "wild boar."

**Objective**

- Discuss symbolic lessons on safeguarding and restoring ecological balance of the Varaha Avatar.
- To provide the Varaha Avatar as a case study for contemporary environmental challenges.

**Literal Narrative**

It's the fascinating life of Varaha Avatar, which extends from the custodians of Lord Vishnu's path (or pad) to the lord Vishnu himself. Vaikuntha Loka is the notorious residence of Lord Vishnu. The two strong guards, Jaya and Vijaya, did guard it. They swore to watch for Lord Vishnu out of their bottomless love for him, and devotion without anything else. Here, in this tale, they're known to have the power to admit the mortal subjects to the Vaikunta Loka, the house of the godly (that is, to see the creator, God). Legend has it that formerly Lord Vishnu was paid a visit by Lord Brahma's four sons in his heavenly residence of Vaikunta Loka. But at



that time Lord Vishnu was lying down, well deserves its rest. To that end, Jaya and Vijaya stopped them from seeing Lord Vishnu. Jaya and Vijaya had managed to dodge the wrath of Lord Brahma's sons, leaving them seething with anger. Jaya and Vijaya were also doomed to be expressed as mortal and be born in this world. Pleading for amnesty by Jaya and Vijaya, still, Lord Brahma's sons didn't react. Lord Vishnu also graced them with his presence. He expressed remorse for the bearings of his guards. He revealed to the sons of Brahma they were acting upon the protocols introduced to them by Lord Vishnu. However, the sons of Lord Brahma remained unmoved in their ordnance, refusing to change their minds and claiming that the curse couldn't be broken. The unfortunate situation was explained by Vishnu to Jaya and Vijaya and was told to them in such a way that the only result to the curse was to meet their demise at his own hands.

However, the fate of this body of bottom dogfaces supposedly didn't give them any pause at all. However, they were revived as the sisters Hiranyakashipu and Hiranyaksha by destiny. Hiranyaksha's love for Lord Brahma was veritably profound. After times of devoted deification, he entered an important boon from Lord Brahma himself- the assurance that no being, godly or mortal, could ever bring about his demise. Hiranyaksha was percolated with an insurmountable feeling since he allowed, he'd arrived at a state of immortality. His heinousness knew no bounds also as he began inflicting excruciating pain upon unknowing victims on our planet. Hiranyaksha extorted annihilation on the Devas and indeed went so far as to launch an attack on Indra's elysian palace. The Devas are banished from their houses and take sanctum in retired apartments under the ground in the earth. Then Hiranyakshila got possession of the Earth and plunged it into the intestine of Patal Loka. It led to the Earth to collapse because the weight of the Earth was too important for the ocean to support. During these gatherings, the Earth was the home of the important Manu and Shatrupa. Manu and Shatrupa went to Lord Brahma for solace in the face of immense grief.

According to legend, Lord Brahma told a man that pursuing Lord Vishnu was the only possibility left. Lord Brahma also turned his inner aspect towards Lord Vishnu. A bitsy piglet was seen arising from his nostrils. The bitsy beast also went through an awful change, continuously growing until it stood over the horizon as a giant hill. This was an icon of Lord Vishnu. By a bent tone he blazoned he'd divide himself from the depth of the dark blue and deliverance mother Earth. A roaring roar, Lord Vishnu's godly form turned into a fierce boar and bounded in the sky, and his hooves tore through flying clouds. Unconstrained by a will of its own, he bounded headlong into the belly of the ocean, on a hunt to meet Mother Earth. Venturing across the vast ocean, he eventually arrived at the other side and made an inconceivable discovery-deep within its mysterious depths lay Bhoomi devi, the deified Mother Earth herself. As he travelled through the vast breadth of the ocean, he came face to face with Varuna, the potent Lord of the Seas. He ventured to dispute with Varuna Deva a fight with the same vigour with which he must contend. Varuna's cunning plan involved satisfying



Hiranyaksha that the only good adversary for him was none other than Lord Vishnu himself. Therefore, Hiranyaksha was forced to enter into a bloody fight with the important god.

Suddenly, Narad appeared out of nowhere! Hiranyaksha demanded to know the position of Lord Vishnu. Narad bared to Hiranyaksha Lord Vishnu had accepted a dangerous task of delivering Mother Earth from the intestine of the ocean. (In the fury against all a part of himself Hiranyaksha broke the boundary of the deep sea. Most honourably Lord Varaha put his potent tusk at ocean and lifted the Mother Earth upon it. He made a concentrated gusto, and with that, he demurred up at the candescent, smooth surface. And in a great battle, Hiranyaksha rushed to the side of Lord Varaha with his important mace. The battle continued to intensify. The evil lurks about and must be defeated by the time evening arrives or his evil witchery will unmask over the globe. During the fight between Varaha Avatar and Hiranyaksha, the important Varaha struck Hiranyaksha with a sonorous fist to the face. He caught him in a flash, and threw him up and skyed him. Hiranyaksha at last met death falling over and expiring on the spot. (*Dasavatara*, n.d.)

### **The Fate of Varaha Avatar**

Arguably, it is one of the questions that has been attracting much attention, as it is popularly believed, according to Hindu scriptures, that the Varaha Avatar of Lord Vishnu did not perish. Having achieved the mission of the incarnation by saving the globe and defeating the evil Hiranyaksha the Varaha Avatar left to the place of Lord Vishnu. The avatar is not taken as being mortal and so does not die in the same way. On the other hand, it reintegrated itself into the infinite nature of Lord Vishnu and perpetuated itself into the heavenly dimension.

### **Teachings of Varaha Avatar**

Varaha, the boar is commonly depicted in the form of being half-man and half-animal. This powerful form is typically portrayed extending the burden of the world backward on his single great tusk. This form of Lord Vishnu is thought to be a representation of, sacrifice. The narrative exemplifies the introduction of peace in the midst of the mayhem. It describes the victory of being over bad because Hiranyaksha is vanquished.

Many temples in the Northeastern region of India are temple institutions that celebrate the birth of Lord Varaha on Varaha Jayanti.

### **Relating Varaha Avatar to Today's Need to Protect Earth**

The tale of the Varaha Avatar is full of deep symbolism that is also relevant in today's environmental issues. Lord Vishnu, assuming the form of an ungulate boar for the benefit of Mother Earth highlights the extreme importance of protection and conserving our earth.

- **Environmental Redemption:** By Varaha saving the earth from the ocean bottom, humanity now faces the problem of taking the earth out of the tropical bed of pollution, deforestation, and climate change.



- **Palm of Good over Evil:** The win triumphantly over Hiranyaksha, the epitome of fermentation and desolation, presents critical need to take collaborative action against the contemporary "devils" similar as environmental pollution, cupidity and exploitation of the resources of nature.
- **Symbol of Sacrifice:** In the sense that, he was willing to down-size as Lord Vishnu selflessness for the protection of terrain, the act of Varaha depicts the situations of offerings that would be needed for the same so encourages both individualities and communities to balance ecological sustainability rather than making immediate earnings.
- **Preservation of Dharma:** Re-creation of Dharma (cosmic balance) relates to the task of revitalizing ecological balance by using sustainable methods and practicing symbiosis with the land.
- **Divinity is Responsible:** The Varaha Avatara is a testament that mankind has a divinity to protect and preserve earth for future generations.

This eternal narrative motivates ultramodern environmental activism by appealing to us to act resolutely in prostrating environmental problems, just like Varaha fought for Earth.

### Conclusion

The Varaha avatara of Lord Vishnu is of great significance in Hindu tradition. This boar form is allowed to have landed in order to save the earth from the bottom of the cosmic ocean. In the form of this icon, Lord Vishnu shows unwavering fidelity to securing the macrocosm and to the dharma. The narrative of Varaha provides a memorial of the good versus evil and the palm of the godly power.

Lord Vishnu's Varaha Avatar story educates one on the crucial point current, that is, ecological sustenance and environmental conservation during these times in the human society. The powerful narrative behind the avatar creates not only the symbol of the divine but necessary intervention required to ensure equality, balance, as well as giving a paradigm framework to approach contemporary times facing environmental issues.

"Saving the earth from extermination in this case was handed to Bhuma Devi emblemizing earth by that savage boar".

It fulfilled both its main objectives in this research-the two being to study the symbolic lessons behind the Varaha Avatar, using it as a case study for present-day environmental problems-and tells the story of Varaha about how, to save his kin, the animal sacrifices his own form and shows victory over good over evil values, thus being very much applicable directly to combating the present day environmental crises of climate change, deforestation, pollution, and more.

Furthermore, the fight for the Earth continues to echo down through the ages, from the ancient ages of the Varaha Avatar to the present times. Though in the repeating pattern (cyclic) of



Yugas, the earth is continuously faced with troubles and a proper imbalance, yet the principle of ecological protection still holds good indeed moment. The battle for the planet's preservation is not limited to just one era but continues to evolve across each Yuga, stating that the work of preservation is eternal. Just as Lord Vishnu's Varaha Avatar fought to restore balance to a turbulent age, the same must be done on the part of humanity if it is to heal and protect the environment, leaving the task to be handled by generations and epochs coming after.

The Varaha icon shows the need for a consolidated trouble to save the terrain, nudging individualities and communities likewise towards a balance of ecology, not instant earnings. It is the harbinger of the need to recover balance or Dharma so that there will be continued harmony within Earth. The lessons that can be drawn from this current situation through the Varaha Avatar encourage the modern world's effort to save our earth; they focus on our theological obligation towards future generations by conserving our planet.

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