



The Story of Goddess Vasavi Matha

Presented by Sukrutha and Vidhatri



Birth of Vasavi

- The story takes place in Penugonda, located in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh.
- Penugonda was ruled by Arya Vyshya King Kusuma Shresthi and Queen Kusumamba who were childless. They performed a Putrakameshti yagna for children.
- Parashakthi appeared and gave payasam to the couple.



- On Vaishaka Shuddha Dashami day, the queen gave birth to twins, one boy and one girl.
- The boy was named as Virupaksha and the girl was named as Vasavi.
- Vasavi was an incarnation of goddess Parashakthi.



Childhood of Vasavi

- Virupaksha learnt politics and martial arts while Vasavi learnt fine arts and music.
- Vasavi Devi was a worshipper of Lord Shiva and wanted to remain unmarried.
- She became a teenage girl of exceptional beauty.



- One day Emperor Vishnuvardhana visited Penugonda and was honoured by King Kusumashresti.
- During the visit, he saw Vasavi and was mesmerized by her beauty.



- Vishnuvardhana wanted to marry Vasavi at any cost.
- He expressed his desire to the King Kusumashresti and proposed to marry his daughter Vasavi.
- The king and queen were greatly shocked by Vishnuvardhana's wish.



- The king had a meeting with elders of 714 gothras and the family priest to decide on the marriage of Vasavi.
- Everyone agreed that they should follow Vasavi's wishes of remaining unmarried.
- Vishnuvardhan got mad with this news and wanted to start a war against Penugonda.



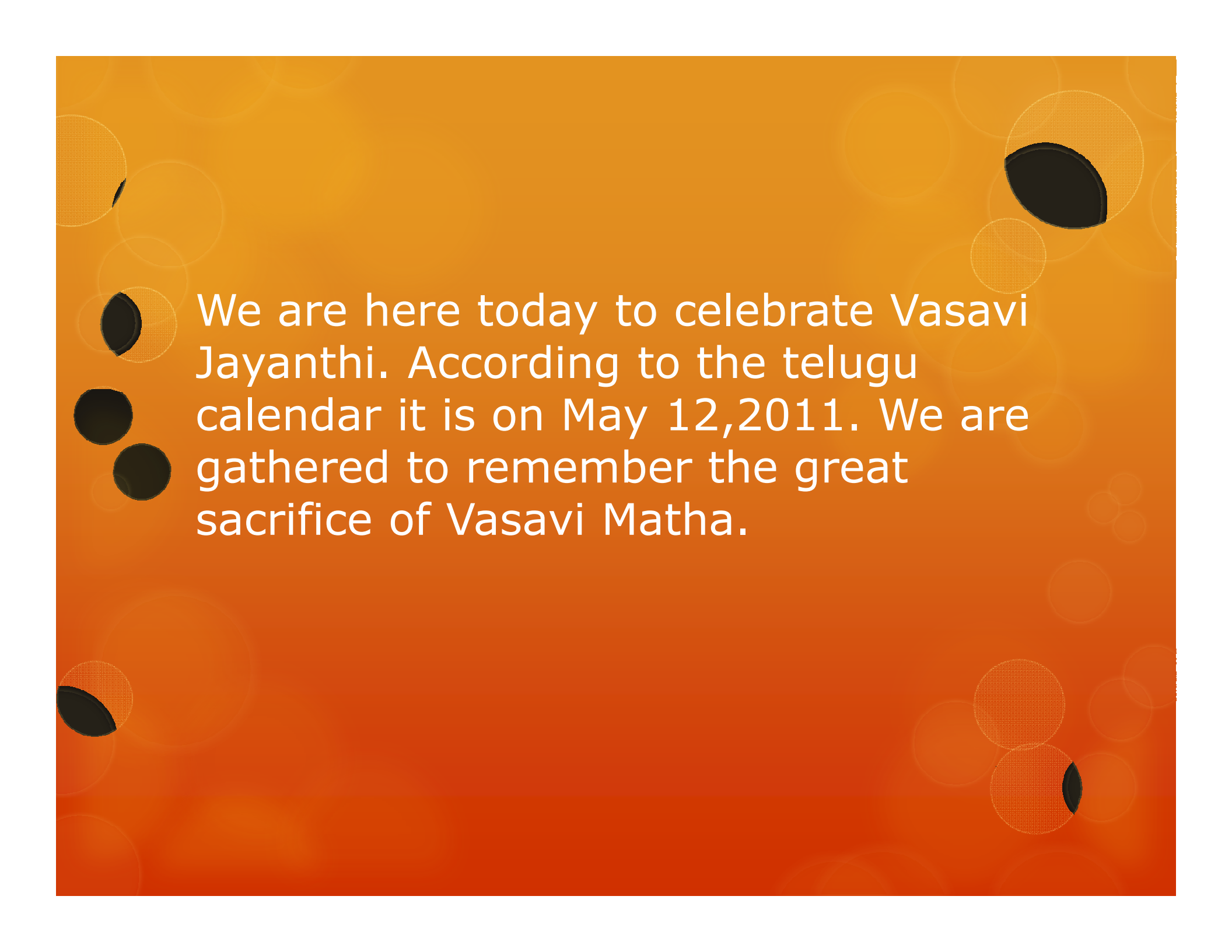
- Vasavi had a meeting with the family priest and said that she wanted to uphold the dignity and honour of womanhood.
- She also indicated that her purpose of birth was preaching non violence.
- Then she displayed her original form of Adiparashakthi to everyone.



- To support nonviolence, Vasavi decided to enter the sacred fire.
- Supporting her action, couples from 102 gothras also entered the sacred fire with her on Magha Shuda Padyami.
- Vasavi was emerged from the fire as Kanyakaparmeshwari and displayed her original form of Adiparashakthi with 18 arms.



- She preached social religiousness, spirituality, love, peace, and non-violence.
- When Vishnuvardhana heard the news of Vasavi's sacrifice, his head broke in to thousands of pieces.
- The day of her sacrifice is celebrated as Atmarpana Day across all Vasavi Temples.
- The 102 couples who entered the fire with her were pardoned of their curses for 16 generations.



We are here today to celebrate Vasavi Jayanthi. According to the telugu calendar it is on May 12,2011. We are gathered to remember the great sacrifice of Vasavi Matha.