

# The Great Vishnu Laxmi Shankh

## Conch Anatomy

We can proudly say that we are the first people to give such a detailed anatomy of the great Dakshinawarthy Valampuri shankha & this has been further copied by other vendors.

We believe you would like to know;

How to check whether the conch is right handed or left handed?

Hold the conch in such a way that its "head" (broad part) points towards your chest with the conch cavity "aperture" facing upward or rather facing the sky, in such a position if the conch open towards the right it is called as a "right handed conch" & vice versa. Kindly see the images given below.

Let us further understand the Valampuri Dakshinawarthy shankh.

Conch Apex: This is the topmost tip of the conch.

Spire of the conch: It is a crown like structure of the conch or in simple words 'Conch head'.

Sutures: These are the circular whorls on the conch head.

Conch Apperture: It is a conch cavity or the conch opening.

Pilae (plaits): These are the vertical ridges in the conch cavity coiling right upto the internal top "head" of the conch. They are 2 to 7 in number.

Inner lip of the conch: It is a fold like structure of the conch cavity on which the pilae lie.

Outer lip of the conch: It is opposite to the inner lip of the conch. It is also called as "conch margin."

Conch tail: The narrow end portion is called conch tail.

Siphonal canal: It is an open pipe like structure of the tail region of the conch.

Inner & outer margin of siphonal canal: These are located right next to the siphonal canal, on observing the inner & outer margins of siphonal canal of a shankha with the naked eye for the first time one would feel that the conch is artificially joined, but this is not the case as it can be identified with the help of X-ray.

Umbiculus: It is a small hole like structure on the tail region. It is seen in a few varieties of Indian conch.

Kindly note: many a times the inner margin of siphonal canal & the umbiculus are not well formed & look as merged together. At times the inner margin of siphonal canal & the umbiculus are absent due to excess polishing of the shankha.

Dorsal: The curving back portion of the shankh is called the dorsal surface.

Periostracum: This is the thick brown outer coating, also known as "skin", usually seen in a un-cleant Shankha. When conches are collected from the sea they all have a dirty olivaceous green to gray covering scientifically known as 'Periostrachum'. It is the conch protein called as 'Conchin'. Function of 'Periostrachum' is to protect conch from any minor fractures or injuries caused by other predators, enemies & clashing against rocks. It acts as a binding covering and helps conch animal to retain the conch in the course of repairing of fracture. This plays a very important role in the survival & fitness of the conch as it helps it to repair its fractures.

There are total six known varieties of the species *Turbinella pyrum*. There is little difference in their appearance but not their characteristics. To certify it as authentic the presence of below mentioned characteristics is important

- 1) The most important characteristic of a dakshinawarty valampuri is that
  - a) It should be from south India,
  - b) Opening towards the right &
  - c) Should have 2-7 natural continuous spirals (pilae) running right from the opening to the internal top "head" of the conch.
- 2) The variation noticed in different varieties are usually in terms of
  - a) Body texture (smooth, semi smooth (net like surface or light lines) & with contours)
  - b) Pilae (these might vary in number from 2 to 7)
  - c) Shape (round, elliptical & top like)
  - d) colour (this is a characteristic that depends majorly on the water content & the absorption of same by the sacred conch, they appear in varied colors, in combination of colors & with natural colored spots too..)

To know more about the different species visit [varieties of Dakshinwarthy valampuri Shankha](#).

Well, after knowing the great Shankh one would surely like to know about the authenticity of the same. We at RudraBlessings are proud to share the authenticity methods with our esteemed clients which will further help them check the authenticity of the dakshinawarthy shankha on their own without depending on anyone.

To know more view [Authenticity of The great Dakshinawarthy Valampuri Shankha](#)

Possess the Power of Dakshinawarthy Valampuri Shankha.....RudraBlessings.