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# **NRI Newsletter**

# An Initiative of SRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETAM

Volume II, Issue IV – May 2020 - Kanchipuram (for private circulation only)

Message from Acharya Swamigal to NRI's devotees

Shruti Smriti Puranānām Ālayam Karunālayam Namaami Bhagavadpāda Shankaram Loka Shankaram Sadāshiva Samārambhām Shankarāchārya Madhyamām Asmad Ācharya Paryantam Vande Guruparamparām <u>Teertha Khetras & Teertha Mahima</u>

Nama Shivabhyam Nava Yavvanabhyam Parasparalinga Vapur Dharabhyam Nagendra Kanya Vrusha Ketanaabhyam Namo Namah Shankara Parvatheebhyam Shriyah Kantaya Kalyana Nildhaye Nidhayerthinam Shri Venkata Nivasayah Shreenivasaya Mangalam

In Ambattur, along with Industrial development Cultural development is also presently taking place. Many educational institutions are coming up and several temples have been constructed here in a special manner. Veda Parayanam and Bhagavatha Mela were grandly performed few years back at the Mahalakshmi Mandapam. Yantra Prathishta has been done in this temple some years back.

We recently participated in the concluding function of Thamiraparani Pushkaram at Thirupudaimarudur, Puttarjuna Kshetram, where the Pushkaram celebration happened for one year. In the Hindu Religion, rivers are worshiped as God and Theerthams are considered as Devi. We invoke all rivers wherever Kalasa Puja is performed.

Gange Cha Yamune Chaiva Godavari Saraswati Narmade Sindhu Cauvery Gangadhi Sakala Theerthan Aavahayaami

NRI Newsletter from Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. Date 29-May-2020

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Kumbhamela is famous in North, celebrated in Prayag, Nashik, Ujjain, Haridwar and similarly Kumbhabhishekam is famous in South. Both are held once in 12 years.

Our both Acharyas during their Andhra Pradesh tour in 1967, 68 camped at several places with Puja anushtanams. During that time, Acharyas established Vyasa Bharatha Kala Vidwath Sadas Samajam to benefit the devotees for getting enlightenment about Hindu Religion, Scriptures like Ramayanam, Mahabaratham, Arts, Folk dances, Bombalattam, Ashtavadanam, Shathavadanam and thereby facilitated them to get Punya along with their livelihood.

Simple methods to get Punya are by Chanting Rama Nama, Thirupavai and Thriuvempavai, performing Deepa Puja, Bhajans, giving prasadam for the patients at hospitals.

Acharyas blessed the devotees with Pidi Arsi Scheme for spreading the Dharma initiatives and enabled the offering of the collections at Patasalas, temples and for Annadanam schemes. This is called as Vaishwa Devam, one of the Pancha Yagnyas.

Both Acharyas made lot of efforts and enabled the people to stay and involve in Dharma at the time of changing environment. As part of the dharmic efforts, both Acharyas facilitated the grand performance of Godavari and Krishna Pushkarams.

In continuation of that 5-6, years back, our Acharya with all State honours accorded graced the Godavari Pushkaram at Rajahmundry and blessed the devotees. Godavari is considered as Dakshina Ganga and the Pushkaram is conducted for 1 year when Guru Bhagavan is in Simha Rasi.

#### Godavari Vimala Theertha Kruthaa Vagaaahaha

#### Lingeshu Saikathamayeshu Shivam Vibhaavya

Devotees make Siva Lingam there with the river clay as mentioned in Rudram, which is based on the historic event happened at Kanchipuram.

#### Sikatyaata namaha / Om Pravaahyaayacha namaha

Parvathi Devi worshipped Lord Siva with sand at the famous Kanchipuram and the significant place is Ekambara Kshetram, where Nayanmar got the blessings of eyesight from the Lord.

#### Umalingana Sankraantha Kucha Kankana Mudhritham

### Lingam Ekamaranathasya Saikatam Samupaaasmahe

Siva who is in Sand form is thus worshipped as Ekambareswarar who is having Kanganam on the hand signifying the worship performed by Parvathy Devi. Each deity has a symbol of significance as Mudra and 'Kanganam; is famous for Ekambareswarar.

#### Pravaahyaayacha

At the time of flood in Kambha river, Parvathy Devi made Siva Lingam with Ekambam (one form) and worshipped Lord Siva and got the blessings in that place.

Ambaa Kampa Pradha Kampaa Nadhi Poorna Manasa Thapah Kamakshayalinkitha Ekamranatha Sam Shobithe

Theerthas are important in India, thus at Godavari, 'Parthivaa Shiva Lingam Worship' is special where thousands of Siva Lingams are made by devotees and worshipped.

Sahasralinga worship is significant in Kanchipuram. With Veda Parayana Chanting, the Shilpis made the Sahasra Shiva Lingam at Thenambakkam, which has to be made with divinity not only with the sound of hammer but also with the sound of Veda and that Sahasra Shiva Lingam is lying elegantly and beautifully on the third floor with 16 pillars as base in the temple at Prayag on the banks of Ganges. Devotees going there can worship that Shiva Lingam.

Rudraksha Vimanam also is there at Prayag temple. Gopura darshanam is considered as 'Koti Punyam'. The devotees taking bath at the Triveni Sangamam at Prayag can have Gopura darshan of the Temple where the Prathishta of Perumal, Kamakshi and Sahasra Lingam have been done.

This temple is the Sangamam of Vaishnavam, Saivam, Saktham and is at the Sangamam of the 3 rivers (Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswathi). Thus, this place is sacred not only for the Sangamam of 3 rivers but also for the Sangamam of 3 forms of worship as preached by Adi Sankaracharya. This temple is also famous for Adi Sankara Vimana Mandapam.

#### Anthaha Shaaktaha Bahih Shaivaha Vyavahaarecha Vaishnavaha

Adi Sankara blessed us with Soundaraya Lahiri Slokams and the Acharya is the testimony for all the three forms of worship. The significance of the sangamam of the three rivers has been stated in the Veda and also references about Ganga, Yamuna rivers mentioned.

#### Sithaa Sithe Saritho Yatra Sangathe

We can see the difference in colours clearly at the Sangamam point and this has been stated in Rig Veda. Kumbha Mela has taken place in Prayag.

Krishna, Cauvery, Thamiraparani Pushkarams are held when Guru Bhagawan is in Kanya Rasi, Thula Rasi and Vrischika Rasi respectively. Now Sindhu Pushkaram is taking place and also at Brahmaputra Pushkaram is being conducted. This year, from November 20 to December 2 Thungabadhra Pushkaram will be celebrated.

Like that India is famous for Punya Kshetrams and Punya rivers. Temples have been constructed specially to know the significance of Hindu Religion. Temples represent as the Hindu religious embodiment and also a place for spiritual education. Temples have to be preserved with its Sakthis for peace and divinity.

Vaikanasa Sastra Patasala is being run at Avadi. Here, Veda Patasala, Veda Parayana, Bhajans, Thiruvilakku puja at Kanchipuram every year, Naga vagana seva through a family, are all taking place. Devotees are unitedly doing kaingariyam for this one-week camp. After this will go to Nellore, various religious program will be conducted.

Temples have to be preserved for dharma, promoting dharma and for spiritual enhancement. Like schools and colleges, we have to facilitate education for each art. We have to know the importance of all these aspects and learn dharma.

After completing Dhanurmasa Puja at one place, today we went to a school before coming here Like South Chennai, here in North Chennai also many religious activities are taking place. With Divine and Guru's blessings everyone have to be prosperous with spiritual development, good programs, cultural enhancement and employment opportunities

# Acharya Swamigal's Anurgraha Bhashanam at Perumal Temple, Ambattur on 27 January 2020

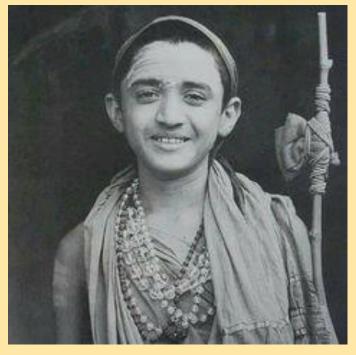


Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara



**Editorial:** Acharya Swamigal is camping in Tenambakkam from 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Senior devotees recalled that after receiving Sanyasa Sweekara from His Holiness Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal on 29th May, 1983, the first camp for His Holiness Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal was to Tenambakkam. On 29th May 1983, Pujas were held at Kamakshi Temple and both the Acharyas stayed for

the night at Sankara Math at Big Kanchipuram. On 30th the camp moved to Tenambakkam. After four to five days, His Holiness Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal resumed his Yatra and proceeded to Tirupati. From 30th May 1983 onwards for next few weeks Acharya Swamigal stayed alone in Tenambakkam and then embarked on his first yatra "by foot" to join his Guru & Paramaguru at Kurnool for His first Chaturmasyam. The heavens poured when the Kamakoti Triveni met at Kurnool. While people wondered about Chaturmasya Anushthana on the dry river bed of Haindri (Tunga Bhadra) at Kurnool in the morning, on the eve of Vyasa Puja on Pradosha when all three Acharyas met, it rained so heavily that the river was in-spate. The people were thrilled to have a glimpse of Kanchi Acharyas even in the heavy rains. May be



the Gods thought of the rare & sacred moment and poured Amruta from the heavens. Let our minds always be full of prayers at the Holy Feet of Kamakoti Triveni and receive their bountiful blessings.



This issue covers the Holy Camp from 15<sup>th</sup> April by HIS HOLINESS PUJYASRI SANKARA VIJAYENDRA SARASWATI SANKARAACHARYA SWAMIGAL:

Period	Camp Location	
15-April-2020 till date	Thenambakkam Shivaasthanam	

Devotees are encouraged to share spiritual/religious events in their respective cites which can be included in the subsequent edition. You are invited to get in touch with any one of the devotees comprising the editorial team of this issue of the Newsletter.

To make the future NRI Newsletters more informative and useful, we welcome your feedback.

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Veda Patha Nidhi Trust, a Trust established by Kanchi Mahaswami to support elderly Vedic Vidwans, conducts Shraddhanjali Function for the Mahaswami on 8th January (Samadhi Day) every year at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore, Chennai. The trust sends monthly honorarium to elderly Vedic Vidwans on a monthly basis.

This year a book "Embodiment of Truth" by The Hindu Publications on Kanchi Mahaswami was also released. Acharya Swamigal after completing the Pradosha Puja at Astika Samajam, Alwarpet arrived at the function and blessed the gathering. His Holiness also released the book. The Video contains Anugaraha Bhashanam delivered by Acharya Swamigal on 8-Jan-2020 (video below)



# Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peeta Vaidika Dharma Rakshana Sabha extends support - Second Disbursement (15-Apr-2020)

With the blessings and directions of HH Pujyashri Sankaracharya Swamigal, Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peeta Vaidika Dharma Rakshana Sabha with support of Veda Vidwans & Astikas has extended financial support of ₹3000 each for the Vaidikas who are facing financial difficulties due to the current situation.

In the first disbursement, the Sabha had extended financial support for about 225 Vaidikas through bank transfer.

Now, support was extended to as many as 144 Vaidikas. As planned earlier the Sabha additionally extended Rs. 2000 each to 85 persons who assist in the Vaidik services.

# Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peeta Vaidika Dharma Rakshana Sabha extends support (21-Apr-2020)

# Third Disbursement

With the blessings and directions of Acharya Swamigal, **Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peeta Vaidika Dharma Rakshana Sabha** with support of Veda Vidwans & Astikas has extended financial support of ₹3000 each for the Vaidikas who are facing financial difficulties due to the current situation.

In the first & second disbursement, the Sabha had extended financial support for about 225 + 144 Vaidikas & 85 persons who assist in the Vaidik services through bank transfer.

In the third instalment support was extended to as many as 150 Vaidikas & 200 support personnel. The total now stands at 519 Vaidikas & 285 support staff.

# **Financial Support to 512 Archakas**

With the divine blessings of Aacharya Swamigal, **Sri Pratyaksha Charitable Trust** with spontaneous contribution from devotees offered financial support of 1000₹ each to about 850 Archakas belonging to North Arcot, South Arcot, Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram, Pondicherry, Tiruvarur & Kumbakonam, Nagapattinam, Ramanathapuram districts of Tamilnadu state. The third list of about 512 Archakas was collected and disbursed yesterday. This is the third list. As the information of support has trickled down till deep villages, the list

contains many number of Archakas from Rural and extremely rural areas. The trust which is planning to extend this support for the next month too has so far reached out to 1350 Archakas in Tamilnadu.

The support was also extended to those who are performing Pujas in temples & Adhishthanams belonging to Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam

#### **Support to Purohitas**

With the blessings and directions of Acharya Swamigal, support has been extended to Purohitas belonging to various parts of the state. The Purohita Sabha at Arcot was extended with financial support and a special financial package was given to 60 Purohitas belonging to the Thanjaur District. At Kanchipuram, the Purohitas were given Rice, Dal and other groceries of 1000Rs each to 70 members. Purohitas are a small community who cater to the religious & cultural aspirations of the larger Hindu Community across Tamilnadu

# Support to Bhagavathas, Oduvars, traditional cooks

With the blessings of Acharya Swamigal **Sri Kamakoti Ghatikasramam Trust** has extended financial support to Bhagavathas, Oduvars, Archakas belonging to Madurai District and others involved in cultural services across Tamilnadu

#### Support to Shilpis

With the divine blessings & directions of Acharya Swamigal, **Sri Mahalakshmi Charitable Trust** has extended financial support to Shilpis and construction workers involved in temple construction in a major way. The trust has also supported for a few Gurukkals, Bhattacharya, Pandits & Othuvars

## Support to Swacha Bharat Volunteers

With the blessings of Acharya Swamigal, **Sri Kamakoti Ghatikasramam Trust** has extended support to 300 volunteers from Tirupur, Coimbatore region who are involved in Swach Bharat work

# Annadaana

Sankar Math at Madurai, Tiruvidaimarudur, Chennai, Kumbakonam and several organisations under auspices of Sri Kanchi Math are organising Nitya Annadanam at various places to needy people and migrant workers. **Sri Kamakoti Ghatikasramam Trust** is participating in Nitya Annadana activity in a big way at Chennai & Mumbai. Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Chennapuri Bhakta Jana Samajam is also extending wheat flour to north Indian migrant workers stranded at some places on daily basis along with Annadaana

#### South Indian Society London

With blessings of Acharya Swamigal, **The South Indian Society, London** has donated to PM Cares, Archaka Scheme and Food for front line doctors & nurses in UK

#### Purnahuti & Rama Pattabhisheka Pujas

It is well known that Navaratri celebrated in Vasantha Masa is known as Vasantha Navaratri and that it attains a special significance by Rama Navami which falls on the penultimate day. Every year, in Srimatam, both the Navaratris, Vasantha & Sharad are observed with elaborate pujas for Maha Tripura Sundari Sametha Chandramouleeshwara & Sri Rama by Acharya Swamigal and Yagashala Pujas are also held.

After the observation of Vratas & Pujas for nine days, on the Dashami Day, Purnahuthi & Rama Pattabhishekam is performed. Chamaka Prashna from the Krishna Yajur Veda is chanted during Vasordhara & Purnahuti which signals the completion of the Vratas. All that is needed for Mankind, Atmagunas, good intellect, food, wealth, health, offspring, pure water, pure air, pure soil, pulses, disease free life etc - from Mundane to Gnana, forms part of the prayers.

Rama Pattabhisheka marks the victory & coronation of Dharma and signifies Man becoming God by adherence to Dharma.

On auspicious Akshaya Tritiya (26-Apr-2020), video containing Purnahuti & Rama Pattabhisheka Pujas in presence of Acharya Swamigal is presented  $\rightarrow$  <u>https://youtu.be/O\_p-\_10P191</u>

Acharya Swamigal delivered Anugraha Bhashanam on 26-Apr- 2020 for Akshaya Tritiya & Sankara Jayanthi. Importance of Dana on Akshaya Tritiya, Satsanga (Association with noble persons) & greatness of Adi Sankara, Acharyas' imprints in Mokshapuri Kanchi are some of the aspects of the Anugraha Bhashanam

#### Tamil

Telugu



# Anugraha bhashan - Sankara Jayanthi (Gist of the talk given in Hindi)

All have done the pooja for Akshaya Tritiya yesterday. Tomorrow is the Janma Diwas (Sankara Jayanthi) of Adi Sankara. For the welfare of humanity, Vedas should be protected. This human birth is to do good things. It should be useful for us and the people. For this direction is important. With the Buddhi, we can do work- with Ishwara Samarpita Buddhi as directed by Veda & Sastras we can get Punya and Anuboothi. The Tatva that Brahman alone is true and for the establishment of dharma , the Avataara of Acharya took place. In Avatars, God comes in the form of human beings and any other forms too. For example, the lost Vedas were protected by Matsya Avataar.

Due to ignorance we suffer. Gnana is important both for Para & Apara Vidyas. In Kaliyuga for Aryamba and Siva Guru, a son was born after tapas. Sankara Avataar took place in Kalady, in Kerala. As a child, he followed Brahmacharya Asram and sought Biksha in front of a house. There the house lady came out and saw with

affection and fear, wondering what to give to the Brahmachari due to her poverty. Seeing the poverty of the house lady, he prayed to Goddesses Lakshmi (Kanaka Dhara Stotram) to bless the woman by removing poverty.

Even at the young age he prayed for issues related to basic human needs. He then sought mother's permission to renounce and he met his Guru.

He composed various stotras, wrote various books and commentaries on Gita and major Upanishads & Brahma Sutras. In Ishavasya Upanishsd it is said that everything belongs to the God.



Only through culture we will have unity. That is why we are having unity from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

Vishwas, Vignan and Gnan are important and Sankaracharya worked for it. We need to protect this knowledge Parampara. In our country Dharma Prachar should take place. In every house we should perform Dharmic deeds as the foremost activity. Let us derive guidance from his works and do good work. We need to develop Guru Bhakthi. Acharya has said Vidya,wealth, strength ,good name, Punya are important. Let us make efforts and pray for all.

# Nrusimha Jayanthi - (06-May-2020)

Jagadguru Sankarabhagavatpada has written two stotras on Narasimha, Mahavishnu's Vishesha Avatara . They are Lakshmi Nrusimha Karunarasa Stotram & Lakshmi Nrusimha Pancharatnam.

On auspicious Narasimha Jayanthi day, devotees may hear to both the Stotras in the voice of Acharya Swamigal. Moreover the Narasimha Avatara Ghatta in Narayaneeyam is part of the rendition.

# Nrusimha Jayanthi Anugraha Bashanam (in Tamil, Telugu & Hindi respectively) below



Acharya Swamigal described the potency of Sri Lakshmi Nrisimha mantra in overcoming hurdles and trials. A special incarnation of Narayana, which was neither human nor animal, the form was in total compliance with the boon Hiranyakasipu had obtained from Brahma to thwart defeat and death. In order to prove child devotee Prahlada's words, He appeared without delay in that unique form, which caused mortal fear in the hearts of those on the wrong side and gave courage and confidence to those on the right path.

Quoting from 'Sri Lakhminrisimha Karunarasa Sthotram (Karavalambam)' and 'Sri Lakhminrisimha Pancharatnam' — both composed by Adi Sankara — Acharya Swmigal exhorted people to meditate on the Narasimha form to lead the world out of the Pandemic situation. Also these hymns serve as ideal tools to cross the ocean of mortal life and turn the distracted human mind towards the lotus feet of Narasimha. Through prayers, the grace of the deity, worshipped and eulogised by sages, including Prahlada, Parasara, Ambareesha, Pundarika, Vyasa, Narada and so on can be obtained to overcome fear and anxiety, said the Acharya. Just as the Kalpavriksham, which is known to grant any wish, prayers to Narasimha will yield benefits.

In conclusion, Acharya Swmigal said that the understanding among people, palpable during this challenging period, should blossom into a stronger link, which unites them in leading a life of Dharmic principles.

Jagadguru Sankarabhagavatpada has written two stotras on Narasimha, Mahavishnu's Vishesha Avatara . They are Lakshmi Nrusimha Karunarasa Stotram & Lakshmi Nrusimha Pancharatnam. On this auspicious Narasimha Jayanthi day, devotees may hear to both the Stotras in the voice of Acharya Swamigal

# Sri Lakshmi Nrusimha Karunarasa Stotram



Nrusimha Avatara Ghattam from Narayaneeyam



#### The Anuradha Nakshatra which was on 08-May-2020 is very special since as per Chandramana Calender the

Jayanti of Kanchi Mahaswami is being observed. In the coming month the Vaikashi Anusham Jayanti will be observed. His Holiness spoke on Kanchi Mahaswami's life, his message to mankind and stressed devotees to concentrate on developing Gnana - Knowledge, Asakti- Interest & Nishtha -Dedication in Sanatana Dharma.

The Video also contains photos of Brahmapureeswara Temple, Tenambakkam and the place where the Mahaswami spent considerable years in Tapasya.



#### Large number of events with Anugraha Bashanam (from file)

Acharya Swamigal on the conclusion of Tamraparni Pushkaram in November 2019, camped in Tiruppudaimarudur - Putarjuna Kshetram, Tirunelveli District. Acharya Swamigal also visited some villages in the region. The video with Anugraha Bhashanam was recorded while visit to Kalladaikurichi village.



# जटा माला शिखा रेखा ध्वजो दण्डो रथो घनः॥



Jata, Mala, Shikha Rekha, Dhvaja, Danda, Ratha, Ghana are the eight Vikruti Pathas in Rig Veda. The Vedic chanting generally known to us is Samhita. The Samhita is then separated as Pada and then the eight Vikruti Pathas are based on the Padas chanted in different patterns. A lot of scholarship is required to master this art.

A Rig Veda Sammelan in the year 2015 was organised at Srimatam Camp in Lakshmi Kamakshi Temple, RA Puram, Chennai with the blessings of Acharya Swamigal. Rig Vedic scholars numbering about 200 had participated in the Sammelan. The Video presents the Ashta Vikruti Patha of the Rig Veda

"मन्तव्राह्मणयोर्वेदः" 'Mantras and Brahmanas are Vedas'. For every Veda, there is a Brahmana Bhaga-portion. Namely,

- 4 Rig Veda Aitareya Brahmana,
- 4 Shukla Yajur Veda Shatapatha Brahmana,
- **4** Krishna Yajur Veda Taittiriya Brahmana,
- **4** Sama Veda Tandya Brahmana.

While the Brahmanas consist of the ritualistic part of the Vedas, the Upanishads form the Vedantic part.

Acharya Swamigal while camping in Chennai in the year 2015, camped at various Vidya Samsthas-Educational Institutions including in Vaikhanasa Pathashala, Ayurveda Kalashala, Nemilicherry Veda Pathashala etc.



During camp in Nemilicherry Veda Pathashala, Sri Srinivasa Sastrigal, a scholar in Shukla Yajur Veda Kanvya Shakha, along with his Sishyas chanted the Shatapatha Brahmana in the presence of His Holiness and other Vedic Scholars. (Sri Srinivasa Sastrgal's sons are also among his students - This is called as Niyamadhyaya stream of learning where the father is the Guru and son is the Sishya)

The Video contains a twenty minute recording of Shatapatha Brahmana of Shukla Yajur Veda. It is chanted in Eka-Swara. In south India, very few scholars had the opportunity to learn the Shatapatha Brahmana. This number has increased these days.



Anugraha Bhashanam by Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Sankaracharya Swamigal - Sankara Nethralaya (April 2015) when Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Sankaracharya Swamigal and Acharya Swamigal camped in Chennai.

Acharya Swamigal spoke about the importance of good vision. Illustrating the story of Sampati who helped Anjaneya Swami in finding Sita Devi, His Holiness stressed the need for good vision. By good His Holiness meant the good vision of the eyes (Indriyam) and also the goodness & broadness of thought. His Holiness also said that the Netralaya is a good example of Adi Sankara's saying in Prashnottara Ratna Malika where Acharya Swamigal says that effort should be ordained by humanity in Education, Health & Charity



His Holiness Pujyashri Jayendra Saraswathi Sankaracharya Swamigal & Acharya Swamigal visited Yanam for



Godavari-Samudra Sangama Snanam on Karthika Amavasya dated 29-Nov-2016. Kanchi Acharyas performed Puja to the Shiva Linga and His Holiness Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Sankaracharya Swamigal named it as Chandramouleeshwara. Yanam is part of Union Territory of Pondicherry near State of Andhra Pradesh Vedas are the foundation of knowledge. Acharya Swamigal says that the Vedas are the greatest well-wishers of mankind. While parents are the most revered for any individual in his/ her life, the Acharya says that the Vedas are more valuable than a thousand mothers & fathers "मात्पित्सहस्रेभ्योऽपि हितैषिणा वेदेन". Hence preservation and protection of Vedas is duty of all Astikas.

Also known as Shrutis - The Vedas have been passed on from generation to generation in the Guru-Sishya Parampara since time immemorial. Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam runs several Veda Pathashalas to sustain this great tradition of our country.

In this Video, a small child recites the Brahmana Bhaga of the Krishna Yajur Veda in the presence of His Holiness. The other two Scholars are his Father and Grandfather.

Acharya Swamigal has encouraged such families



known as "Tri Purusha" where three generations in a family have continuously dedicated to the cause of Veda Adhyayana. Such families are rare and inspirational.

Acharya Swamigal during camp at Hyderabad in <u>November 2016</u> graced a Veda Sammelan event at Warrangal.



After completing Pujas early in the day, His Holiness, after a three hour drive had reached Warrangal Town and visited a Subrahmanya Swami Temple before attending the Sammelan.

Adi Sankara in the Subrahmanya Bhujanga has extolled the greatness of Lord Subrahmanya as destroyer of evils & diseases and bestower of grace & victory. In another verse The Acharya describes, Just as the waves of the sea recede on reaching the shores, similarly the devotees' difficulties vanish when they surrender at the lotus feet of the Lord. The video gives a glimpse of the Pujas performed in the Subrahmanya Swamy's Shrine.

Acharya Swamigal in this speech (in March 2015) talked about Dharma and also on Sattam (Law), Shastram & Samudayam ( Society) for comprehensive development of society.





Acharya Swamigal visited Warrangal in 2016 and graced the Telangana Veda Sabha. Acharya Swamigal was received by Veda Pandits and Minister of Endowments, Telangana Government, Sri Indra Kiran Reddy. Acharya Swamigal spoke in length about Veda Dharma and encouraged the Sabha members to hold such Sabhas frequently in Telangana Region

Acharya Awamigal's speech on Indian identity, Heritage & Parichaya Scheme



# Darshan & Pujas at Kumararamam, Pancharama Kshetras in Samalkot, Andhra Pradesh 28-Nov-2016

Sri Rudra Prashna in the Krishna Yajur Vedas has described Parameshwara as the first divine healer "प्रथमो दैव्यो भिषक्". Acharya Swamigal has said in one of his speeches that while the Viswaroopa of Krishna Bhagavan is known through the Bhagavad Gita, the Sri Rudra in the Vedas describes the Viswaroopa of Parameshwara.

Acharya Swamigal had visited Kumararamam-Bhimeshwara Swamy Temple, in Samalkot, one among the famous Pancha- Aarama Kshetrams during Yatra in Andhra Pradesh coinciding with the Pushkarams. Acharya

Swamigal performed special pujas in the Bhimeshwara Swamy & Bala Tripura Sundari Ammavari shrines.

The Karthika Masa is observed with lot of religious fervour and piety by the people of Andhra Pradesh & Telangana. Just as the Pancha Bhuta Kshetras are famous in Tamilnadu & Kalahasti, the Pancha Aarama Kshetras in the Godavari region are very sacred and famous.

\* आरामं स्यादुपवनम् In Sanskrit Aarama means small forests



Coinciding with the Sahasra Chandra Darshana Mahotsavam of His Holiness Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi



Sankaracharya Swamigal, several Vedic & Dharmic programmes were organised by Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. Rig Veda Sammelanam, Krishna Yajurveda Saptaham, Sama Veda Saptaham, Atharva Veda Parayanam, Shukla Yajur Veda Saptaham were conducted in 2015 & 2016.

The video contains the final 50 minutes of the Krishna Yajur Veda Parayana held at Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Hall, Sanskrit College, Mylapore, Chennai in the divine presence of Acharya Swamigal.

Senior Vidwans had taken part in the week long Parayana held then. Veda Pathashala senior students

were allowed to participate in this Parayana to imbibe the traditional Parayana method.

Both Acharyas had camped in the Sanskrit college during May/June 2015 at Sanskrit College, Mylapore when this programme was held.

#### Anugraha Bhashanam at Veda Pathashala in Chidambaram

Kanchi Acharyas camped in Chidambaram from 30th April 2015 to 5th May 2015 coinciding with the Kumbhabhishekam of Chidambaram Nataraja Temple.

Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Anandanatana Sabhesha Veda Pathashala on 5-May-2015. Acharya Swamigal



encouraged the students in the Pathashala who chanted Rigveda, Yajur Veda -Samhita, Pada, Ghanapatham etc. The Vedic School is run and managed by Dikshitas where Rig Veda & Yajur Veda are being taught. Acharya Swamigal blessed the gathering with Anugraha Bhashanam.

The speech commences on the 19th minute, (18:55 to be precise) in this video where Acharya Swamigal talks about significance, spread of Veda Dharma in Bharat and need to protect it. Acharya Swamigal also stressed importance of

performing one's duty with complete involvement and dedication and not in an artificial manner

# Shatabhisheka Mahotsava Veda Parayana Purti & Pushpabhishekam (7-June-2015), Sanskrit College, Chennai

Acharya Swamigal blessed the gathering with Anugraha Bhashanam to Vedic Scholars on completion of Krishna Yajur Veda Parayana.

Later in the evening amidst chanting of Vedic Mantras by Senior Scholars, Pushpabhishekam was performed to His Holiness Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Sankaracharya Swamigal by Acharya Swamigal and the scholars were felicitated. The first half an hour (34 Mins) of this Video contains Anugraha Bhashanam and the second part Pushpabhishekam & Vidwat Sanmanam.



Kanchi Paramacharya's Jayanthi was celebrated in the year 2015 at Srimatam Camp, Sanskrit College, Chennai.



There were several programmes associated with the event. One such was procession of palanquin with portrait of Kanchi Paramacharya in the adjoining lanes of the college.

The video contains clips of procession and primarily the Anugraha Bhashanam of His Holiness (From 8:55 Min). Acharya Swamigal talks about need to protect Dharma & Culture in India, importance of Motherland, life of Kanchi Paramacharya and integrated education system.

Kanchi Acharyas camped at Chidambaram in May 2015 and witnessed the Kumbhabhishekam. The Pancha Bhuta Kshetras are prominent Shiva Kshetras in South India. The Akasha Kshetram at Chidambaram attracts the devout from all over the world. Great Maharshis, Saints, Nayanmars are associated with this great Kshetra. The

Sankara Charitam says that Adi Sankara placed the Moksha Lingam at this Kshetram. Kanchi Acharyas have time and again visited the Kshetram and adorned the Lord with Abhaya Hasta & Kunchita Padam Abharanams studded with precious gems.

The Pandya Nayaka temple of Subrahmanya Swamy inside the Nataraja Temple was renovated and consecrated with the divine blessings of His Holiness Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswati Sankaracharya Swamigal in 2018. The Shambhu Natanam a eight shloka treatise on Nataraja is sung daily at Srimatam Puja during Deepa Namaskaram. Also the Sri Uttara Chidambaram Nataraja Temple at Satara, Maharashtra under the auspices of



The Video contains clippings of Veda Parayanams, Kanchi Acharyas visit to Yagashala and Kumbhabhishekam events.

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#### Anugraha Bashanam Odiyambattu, Pondicherry (May 2015)

Acharya Swamigal camped in Sankara Vidyashramam School at Odiyampattu village, Villianur, Puducherry

before proceeding to Chidambaram. Several events including Shatabhisheka Mahotsava for His Holiness Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Sankaracharya Swamigal were held.

The video contains Acharya Swamigal's speech delivered in the camp on request by general press for message to people in Puducherry. Hailing Puducherry as Siddhar Bhoomi His Holiness spoke on Dharma, Spiritual Education, Moral classes for children, Satvik thoughts, need to protect the values cherished by ancestors, Ishta Dharma & Purta Dharma, temple visits and advised devotees not to get disheartened or lose focus from devotion & service.



# Paropakaaram Idam Shareeram – Devotees serving the community in various parts of India in challenging times

# SRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI SWAMIMALAI VEDA PARAYANAM TRUST Financial assistance to Senior Veda Vidwans living in Thanjavur Jilla – A report

"Preserve Vedic Treasure Patronize Vedic Scholars" - HH Sri Sri Sri Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal.

This iconic Thaaraka manthram of HH is translated into viable vibrant reality by "Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Swamimalai Veda Parayanam Trust", a wing of Sri Kanchi Math.

As directed by His Holiness, coupled with the benign blessings of Sri Sri Sri Jayendra Saraswathy Swamigal to organize Chathur Veda Nithya parayanam at Swamimalai Sri Swaminathaswami temple, the Poorvasrama family deity of HH Sankaracharya Sri Sudharshana Mahadevendra Saraswathi Swamigal (65th peetadhipathy) and HH Sankaracharya Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathy Swamigal (Sri Maha Periava, 68th peetadhipathy), Parayanam on Rig, Yajur & Sama Vedam rendered by 6 vidwangal was inaugurated at Sri Swaminathaswamy temple in the year Manmatha on Anusham 13-9-2010, followed by

i) Nithya Rig Veda Parayanam

ii) Monthly parayanams on every Anusham, Sukla Shashti, Krithikai & Sankata Harachathurthy.

iii) Annual parayanams on Jayanthi & Aradhanai of HH Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathy Swamigal (Sri Maha Periava) & HH Sri Jayendra Saraswathy Swamigal (Sri Pudu Periava), Vinayaka Chaurthi Uthsava parayanam & Sounaka Atharva Veda parayanam, all conducted under the auspices of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Swamimalai Veda Parayanam Trust.

The present impact of the pandemic Corona-virus prevalent world-wide has not spared our Veda vidwangal. They have been pushed to undergo great unbearable financial stress, their livelihood itself being at stake.

As directed by Acharya Swamigal, "Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Swamimlai Veda Parayanam trust", in Apr 2020, has extended financial assistance to 62 senior Veda Vidwangal of age group 60-109, all hailing from the erstwhile undivided Tanjavoor District.

Age	Sambhavana	No of scholars
100 - 109	₹14,000	1
90 – 99	₹12,000	2
80 - 89	₹10,000	15
70 – 79	₹8,000	12

Hailing from: Chandrasekharapuram (Valngaiman p.o.), Echangudi, Govindapuram, Kodavasal, Kumbakonam, Mannargudi, Senthangudi, Mayiladuthurai, Melatur, Musiri, Anthakudi (nagapattinam p.o.), Nagapattinam, Nannilam, Uppiliappan Kovil, Thirunageswaram, Sirkazhi, Sengalipuram, Paruthiyur (Sengalipuram p.o.), Sorakkudi (thirunallar), Thanjavoor, Thillaisthanam, Thippirajapuram, Thiruvaroor, Thiruthurai Poondi, Thiruvaiyaru, Thiruveezhi Malai, Thiruvenkadu, Udaiyalur, Umaiyalpuram & Vaitheeswaran Koil, these Veda Vidwangal have dedicated their whole life towards practise of Vedas staying in villages & small towns, and so honoured by the Trust.

Report by N Ramakrishnan - Managing Trustee

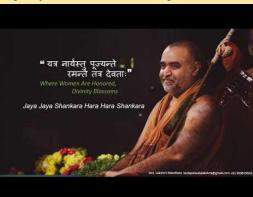
# Sri Jagadguru Veda Parayana Trust extends support - A Report

With the blessings of Acharya Swamigal, the Sri Jagadguru Veda Parayana Trust has extended help in a big way to Vedic Scholars, temple Gurukkals & Purohitas, Vedic Volunteers & Grama Poojaris numbering about 388 in total to the tune of 23 lakhs. While conducting the annual Sankara Jayanti Utsavams in association with Veda Dharma Sastra Paripalana Sabha, the trust has contributed to traditional Maths in South India. The Trust, ably supported by sethubandhanam.com is enthusiastic to extend assistance to even more Archakas and Grama Poojaris.

Report by Trustee, Jagadguru Veda Parayanam Trust

# From around India, as shared by devotees





Sampradaya students teaching NRI's <u>https://youtu.be/wssXz9zUaDk</u>





Mahaperiyava jayanti celebrations (08-May-2020) at Sri kamakoti chandra sekara veda patasala - lakshmi ganapathi homam, chandihomam, navagraha homam



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Sankara jayanti celebrations in Sri kamakoti chandra sekara veda patasala iragavaram

West godavari district, A. P

Sankara charya pooja and upanishadh parayana for lokakalyanardam.



# From around the world, as shared by devotees

# NL - USA

<u>Food donations through HEAL</u> - Sankara's Project HEAL (Healthy Eating and Living) has been sponsoring over 600 meals per week to those in need at local shelters and soup kitchens in Boston, Seattle, San Francisco and St. Louis.

Project HEAL's volunteers and donors have served close to 10,000 plant-based meals across America to date, half of which were served just since the COVID lockdowns went into effect.

Given the COVID-19 situation however many shelters and organizations accept food only from commercial kitchens. Sankara is working with local restaurants to have the plant-based meals professionally cooked and boxed for their beneficiaries. More places are being added as more people see the value of working with and being part of the Sankara community.

They can do this and more mainly with support from donors. Please visit <u>www.giftofhealth.us</u> to find out how you can support

# Dallas - USA

Sankara Jayanthi Morning - Avahanti Homam and Dhanvanthri Homam in the morning at Shri Kannan Vadhyars house for Lokakshemartham.

Sankara Jayanthi Evening - Web-based family satsangam program focused on children and young people of the KKSF Dallas satsangam. Circa 65 to 70 families participated in the zoom conference totaling 280 headcount total at the same time.

- Svasthi Vachanam Children recited Svasthi Vachanam with one volunteer reciting before them
- Sankara Vijayam Visual presentation done by Volunteers of KKSF
- Adi Sankara Ashtotram All Children offered flowers to Adi Sankara at their residence as a family, guided by the ashtotram recited by our youth Sailesh Sriram.
- Guru Ashtakam All children recited Guru Ashtakam, sung by middle schooler Jhanhavi Swaminathan
- Thotakashtakam We all recited Thotakashtakam together and did namaskaram to our Guru Parampara.

• Tell-Me-About-Adi Sankara Challenge: We requested the parents a one minute video clips done by children. They were requested to recite two things they learned about Adi Sankara from this presentation and share it in our community telegram group. We got overwhelming response for this feature where kids gave 1 minute video about Adi Sankara.



#### **Portland – USA**

With Acharya Swamigal's anugraham, we celebrated Sankara Jayanthi celebrations in Portland, Oregon virtually due to the COVID pandemic. Devotees and kids chanted Swasti, Guru stotrams, Adi Sankara Ashtothram, Ganesha Pancharatnam, Guru Ashtakam, Uma maheshwara Stotram, Bhaja Govindam, composed by our Acharya, followed by Roga Nivaaranah Shlokas, Thotakaashtakam and concluded with Maitreem Bhajata and prayers for universal welfare. Kids did Archana to Adi Sankara BhagavatpaadaL when we recited the Ashtotram.





#### St.Louis – USA

Sri Sankara Jayanti Pujas were performed at St.Louis,MO. We per formed Sri Adi Sankaracharya Ashtotram and recited Ganesha Pancharatnam, Kanakadhara Stotram, Bhaja Govindham, Govindashtakam, Annapoorna Stuthi, Soundarya Lahari, Thotakashtakam and Maitreem Bhajatha.

Devotees connected and participated virtually in the Pujas.

# SFO - USA

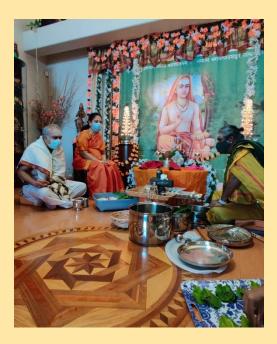
KKSF SF Bayarea Sahasradala group chanted the slokas of Adi Sankara followed by Sri Vishnusahasranamam. By the Grace of Acharyas the group has been chanting daily the Roga Nivarana Slokas, followed by Slokas from Sahasradala and Sri Vishnu Sahasranamam daily. The group completed 1008 chanting of Sri Vishnu Sahasranamam. Hara Hara Sankara, Jaya Jaya Sankara!



Tampa – USA (Adi Sankara Jayanthi celebrations)



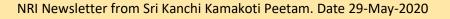
Seattle – USA (Adi Sankara Jayanthi celebrations)



#### **Houston – USA**



Pujas were performed at Sri Meenakshi Temple. Abhishekam, visesha alankaram and Pujas were performed at Sri Adi Sankaracharya Sannadhi





#### Washington DC - USA

Sri Sankara Jayanti Visesha Pujas, alankaram and Paduka Pujas were performed.





# Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara



KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETAM, 1, Salai Street, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu.

# **Editorial team**

(Sri Barath Ramachandran, Sri Gopalakrishnan, Sri Lakshman, Sri Maj. Gen. Murali Gopalakrishnan, Sri Mani TR, Sri Sundar Ram KS and Sri Vasanth Mehta)

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Email: Nrikanchinews@gmail.com

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