



॥ श्रीः ॥

NRI Newsletter

An Initiative of SRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETAM

॥ Dharmam Chara ॥ ॥ Lead a righteous life

Volume 1, Issue II – Maha Periyava Aradhanai– 23rd December 2019 - 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

Extract from Anugraha Bashanam

When it comes to Tamil proverbs, the first and foremost is 'Aram Seyya Virumbu' (Have a desire to do charity). This aspect of 'Charity' is something we need to keep in mind every day, through our body, our heart and our words, we need to do good for the well-being of the society. We need to take an effort to help people out of their sorrows, their problems, and their difficulties, any way we can.

The unification of this nation, mainly the cultural unification of this nation, was made possible by Adi Shankaracharya. We need to focus on three fields according to Adi Shankaracharya. Education, medicine and charity are the fields that he wishes us to involve ourselves in.

'Kutra Vidheyo Yatnaha'? What areas should we engage our efforts in.

VidhyAbhyase, Sadaushadhe, DAnē. In the fields of education, in medicine and in charity.

Effort in education includes promoting education, in doing research, in understanding "Tattvas" philosophies, in preserving these philosophies and taking these philosophies to normal, common people, for betterment of everyone.

Effort in good medicine means, in the study of medicine, in ensuring medicines are available at affordable prices, in promoting the aspect of wellness through the practice of yoga and food, by providing quality treatment. These are ways we can work in the field of medicine.

Finally, in the field of charity. For the well-being of the nation, society and the individual, we need to act together in the best manner possible. With mutual trust and mutual help, we need to work towards the betterment of the society.

Similarly, 'Dheyam dheenajanaya cha vittham'.

Eliminating poverty and famine are aspects that needs to be a part of our actions and thoughts at all times. To eradicate poverty, hunger and thirst, we need to work tirelessly. Right from the ancient times, elders, learned souls, devotees and emperors have all done a lot of charity work. By cultivating Gnanam - knowledge and Vignanam - technology, they have enabled growth. Even in today's times, individuals are doing a lot of work in these fields. As a society or as an organisation, a lot of good continues to get done.

There has been a great amount of awareness that has been generated in the minds of the people about the joys of doing charity. To ensure the betterment of the society and the nation, every bit counts, just like the saying 'Small drops make an ocean'. Every donation and participation counts. People who provide their time, provide materials or suggestions, whichever way you help, the intention should be to ensure the growth of the society, the nation and every individual. To ensure that this happens, all of us should come together, join hands and continue to work harder and support noble causes.

(Excerpts from Acharya Swamigal's speech in the Chaturmasya Vratam at Asthiga Samajam, Alwarpet)



Editor's note:

This is based on a discussion Acharyal had with some devotees on 16th Nov at Asthika Samajam, Venus Colony, Alwarpet, Chennai:

Temples are the gateway to our culture and heritage. For centuries they have preserved the ethos of this land, acting as the lifeline for thousands of villages. Several temples require to be revived and restored to its former glory. In some cases even daily pujas and offering do not happen causing impeditive for the priests as the meagre income does not encourage priests to enter temple service.

Whilst there are many who visit temples like Swamimalai, Vaitheeswaran kovil and other temples due to their faith and practices, sustained efforts is required to further strengthen this faith and relationship. We have many temples in rural areas, which can be adopted by city temples, at least each city temple can adopt one rural village temple. We should use resources efficiently to unite people with efficient uses of knowledge and investment. Periyavaa has suggested Economic Service Zone using goshalas. The produce (நெய், வரட்டி, விபூதி) coming from these goshalas should be given to temples and to other places like patasalas

The people in the rural areas, people surrounding the temples and devotees should get involved in tree plantations. It should be people-driven project, some trees which need to be planted are-வில்வ மரம், இலுப்பை மரம் போன்றவைகள். It is important to involve people in these efforts to strengthen the bondage between the people and temples.

This initiative is of special significance to NRI's who now have the opportunity to get back to their roots. Readers are encouraged to look at Thanjavurparampara.com (link to the past). Acharya Swamigal emphasised the crucial role of village temples which can be a catalyst to bring about cultural turn around. They have preserved several unique traditions or music, dance and discourse, thereby providing livelihood for artistes. It is imperative to protect the temples which has been pivotal in protecting humanity. People can extend assistance in whatever way they can, be it, financial support, physical service, contribution of ideas and so on.

Devotees interested in helping in such roles are invited to get in touch with any one of the devotees comprising the start – up team of this issue of the Newsletter.

This issue covers the Holy Camps from 29th September to 16th November by HIS HOLINESS PUJYASRI SANKARA VIJAYENDRA SARASWATI SHANKARAACHARYA SWAMIGAL:

| Period | Event and Location |
|------------------|---|
| 29-Sep to 12-Oct | Navaratri, Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, East Tambaram |
| 13 Oct to 23 Oct | Bala Veda Patashala, Acharapakkam, Chennai |
| 24 Oct to 29 Oct | Deepavali, Tiruvanaikovil |
| 30 Oct to 31 Oct | Thenkarai |
| 1 Nov to 6 Nov | Tamraparni Pushkaram, Thiruppudaimarudhur |
| 7 Nov | Thenur, Madurai |
| 8 Nov to 10 Nov | Sri Rangam Temple Honours, Tulasi Vivaham, Pradosham Tiruvanaikovil |
| 11 Nov to 13 Nov | Annabhishekam, Gangaikonda Sozhapuram |
| 14 Nov to 16 Nov | Mahaswamy Janmasthanam, Villipuram |

To make the future NRI Newsletters more informative and useful, we welcome your feedback, reports on events for inclusion in future issues.



Navaratri Prasadam from Sri Kanchi Kamakshi Ambal Devasthanam were offered to Acharya Swamigal (9-Oct.) at Shrimatam camp in East Tambaram, Chennai.



Vijayadashami - Annual VRNT Poorti Pariksha & Paritoshikam awards were distributed by Pujyashri Shankaracharya Swamigal (8-Oct). Acharya Swamigal blessed the gathering with Anugraha Bhashanam. The awards instituted for various levels in the different vedic branches were given to meritorious students and outstanding Adhyapakas and scholars.



Acharya Swamigal at Sivasubrahmanya Swami Temple at Perumpaer Kandigai village in Acharapakkam (22-Oct)

Sri Ganapathi Sachidananda Ashram near Shrimatam camp in Acharapakkam (21-Oct)



A brief glimpse - Acharya Swamigal's visit to Alagramam village - Kumbhabhishekam and other events (25-Oct) <https://youtu.be/JMCuySFQ15U>

Deepavali at Shrimatam, Tiruvanaikovil (27-Oct)

Anugraha Bhashanam <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLzbWo-Erb0>



நரச்சதுர்தி மஹிமா (Naraga-chaturthi Mahimai)

<https://www.kamakoti.org/kamakoti/newTamil/articles/Deepavaliyin%20Mahathmyam.pdf>

Sri Prasanna Venkatachalapaty Perumal temple in Gunaseelam, Musiri, Trichy. The temple renovation is taking place with the blessings of Acharya Swamigal.



Mahendramangalam, 28th October, 2019

The local people gathered in large numbers to have a glimpse of Acharya Swamigal. Addressing the people in the village, Swamigal stressed the significance of Kanchi Paramacharya's stay in the village said that families can conduct Aksharabhyasam of their children in Mahendramangalam especially in the place where Kanchi Paramacharya studied. Several children were blessed with notebooks and writing pens



Camp shifts to Thenur, Madurai & Arulmigu Sree Sowdamman temple at Virakkal near Dindigul 30-Oct





Acharya Swamigal received at Tirupudaimarudur (01-Nov)

Anugraha Bhashanam - <https://youtu.be/6wuavLkStKc>

**Thamirabarani Pushkara Snanam at
Tirupudaimarudu (4-Nov)**



**Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Shankara Matam
at Tirunelveli and blessed the devotees (02-Nov)**



**Kumarabhojanam was held with benign blessings of
Acharya Swamigal on the auspicious Skanda Sashti at
Dharma Prakash Hall, Chennai. Acharya Swamigal
blessed the event with Anugraha Bhashanam through
Video Conference from the banks of the Tamraparni
River Padithurai, Tirupudamarudur, Tirunelveli. (3-Nov)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6wuavLkStKc&t=2s>



**Acharaya Swamigal at Tiruvanaikaval
Kshetram (9-Nov)**

Acharaya Swamigal worships at Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, Traditional Temple honours accorded.

Legend says that Sri Ranganatha swami was the Kula Devata (family deity) of the Ikshvaku dynasty. The prasadam of Sri Ranganathaswamy and Sri Ranganayaki Thayar were given to His Holiness as per tradition. The temple Bhattars, officials and paricharakas were given sanmaan on behalf of Shrimatam. (9-Nov-2019)



Brindavana Dwadashi - Tulasi Vivaham was performed at Shrimatam Camp in Tiruvanaikovil (9-Nov)



Annabhishekam performed at Gangaikonda Chozhapuram (11-Nov-2019)



Every year, the Annabhishekam is performed on the Pournami Full-moon day in the Tamil month of Aippasi as ordained by Pujiyashri Mahaswamigal.

The Annabhishekam is being performed for more than 3 decades by Shrimatam devotees as ordained by Pujiyashri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Mahaswamigal.

More than 1000 kgs of rice is prepared and offered as Abhishekam to one of the biggest Shiva Lingams in Tamilnadu - Sri Brihadeeswara Swami who is more than 13.5 feet tall and 62 feet in diameter. The rice thus offered is served as prasadam to devotees. Annabhishekam was performed at Sri Matam giving devotees a rare opportunity to participate in two such events with Acharya Swamigal



Prasadam from Udayarpalayam Shiva temple was offered to Acharya Swamigal (12-Nov)



Acharya Swamigal visited the Vela Special School for the Speech and hearing impaired and for special children in Orattur, Villupuram district and blessed the children and the management along with கால்நடை பாதுகாப்பு திட்ட முகாம் (Camp under the Livestock Protection programme) was started in Villupuram (15-Nov).

Thamirabarani Pushkara Snanam & Tula Snaanam at Mayavaram Tula kattam (right bottom)



Activities from devotees from Dallas and Portland



KKSF Dallas Gurupuja happens in devotees homes every month on the Saturday after Anusha Nakshatram. The devotee family has grown to 500. Each Guru puja is attended by minimum of 150 devotees including children and elderly. Pooja includes Vaidika krama pooja for the vigraham of Shri Mahaperiyava and to the padukas of Shri Puthu Periyava. Devotees in the KKSF Dallas perform nitya karmanusthanam such as Sandhyavanandam, Panchayatana pooja and Sahasra Gayatri on Sundays and Anusham. Shankara Bala Vihar has been established based on blessings of Acharya Swamigal to teach stotrams to children.

Devotees at Portland perform monthly Anusham programs/Jayanthi/Aaradhana celebrations in Portland, Oregon area by chanting Swasti vachanam, Guru Shlokas, followed by recitation and Archana with HH Mahaperiyava Ashtothram, HH Jayendra Periyava Ashtothram, Thotakaashtakam, Sadhguru Dashakam

Kids sing bhajans, slokas and perform Archanas during the Ashtothrams.



Hara Hara Shankara Jaya Jaya Shankara



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

Start-up 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)

Email: Nrikanchinews@gmail.com

Follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/srikamakoti/> or <http://www.nrikanchimatam.in/>