



## NRI Newsletter



An Initiative of SRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETAM  
Volume III, Issue VIII – December 2021 – Kanchipuram  
(For private circulation only)

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**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**

**Work & Respect**

Our Dharma has shown us diverse ways to evolve mankind towards divinity. While prayers inculcate Bhakti, cleanse the mind and improve Ekagrtā, Work done for works' sake, without expectation – *Nishkamya Karma* expands mind & broadens the heart. This enables mankind to progress and individuals to attain Chitta Shuddhi. The Bhagavadgita teaches us practice of Karma Yoga as a commendable method to realize Paramatman. The Karma Yoga essentially emphasizes on Unconditional Action with Samarpana Bhava.

In an organization this is even more necessary. Achieving a common goal involves unstinted practice of Karma Yoga right from delivering minor responsibilities to major ones with equal vigor and passion. All persons involved in the activity have to always keep in mind, greater good and common objective. Shunning individual ego is a fundamental step to achieve this.

Bharata Desha is a classic example of this. The common goal to achieve happiness, wellbeing, & goodness of all, and ensuring not even a single person is unhappy, was set as a primary characteristic & aim for each and every individual, and each & every community. This *Sankalpa* or steadfast commitment has been the bedrock of our ancient civilization. Also, its fundamental reason for progress and sustenance despite obstacles since several millennia.

Every individual and community stood for welfare of common good and restrained itself from playing into limitations of just fulfilling individual aspirations. The result was development of soft heart, strong mind, sound intellect, compassionate approach, helping nature and other Atma Gunas. It produced great men & women who stood by these lofty ideals and set right any wrong practices which crept in now & then and protected the society and its ancient inheritance, i.e. Dharma. The galaxy of Seers and Spiritual Gurus of this nation sacrificed their entire lives for everyone's good, continuously dispensed knowledge and inculcated values time and again to uplift humanity. These Seers, who have laid the foundation of our nation, based their *Upadesham*s firmly in this direction and their noble way of life and noble thought helped the entire world, lest said, guided humanity to realize wholesome development. Based on this firm belief, the society worked in total cohesion, developed "*Abhivruddhi*" all round & inclusive growth which resulted in economic wellbeing, development of beautiful villages, cities, temples, fine arts, protection of nature, scientific progress and many other achievements.

Today we have to once again remind ourselves of these values and identities. As a responsible individual & community we have to always strive to work together with single minded approach. No work can be deemed as low or high. The responsibilities one is entrusted with has to be delivered with the same dedication and commitment. Respect for work is necessary. Every minute aspect of any work needs to be given due focus. For, its collective manifestation will pave the way for attaining intended benefit.

Even in recent times we come across several examples where a satellite or space vehicle reaches its destination perfectly and sometimes misses it in the penultimate moment due to some reason. We in turn learn that attention to detail and greater objective, both together is required to accomplish higher goals. Equal respect for every worker/ volunteer is therefore a vital element. This allows greater productivity and instills much needed feeling of humility in every individual.

On this sacred 28<sup>th</sup> Aradhana Day of Kanchi Mahaswami, with the divine blessings of our Acharyas, we must reaffirm our pledge to Work in Unity with Seva Bhava for common good of one & all and play a role in protecting Sanatana Vaidika Dharma wholeheartedly.

**Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara**



**Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara**



**Editorial:** Best wishes for the Holidays, and for health and happiness throughout the coming year. As we are stepping into the New Year, let there be Peace, Love and Prosperity.

Acharya Swamigal has advised to include a section called “Know Your Village”. Acharya Swamigal’s vision is to connect people living overseas to their village

**Goal** - “The village should come together and pull the temple chariot”.

**Our role** - “Be the bridge for people to come together”

We have included some pointers below. Can you please provide a write up about your village along the lines of:

1. Main deity of the village (photos and details of the same)
2. How many temples are there in the temple (photos if any)
3. Any rivers flowing in the village (photos of the same)
4. Yearly Thiruvizha
5. Upcoming Kumbhabhishekam(s)
6. Temple archaghar details
7. Details of the village head if applicable.
8. Include if the village still produces any crops.
9. What is the main source of income for the people in the village?
10. Include photos of any agraharam’s in your village
11. Does the village have veda patashala
12. Is the village popular for any specific food?

**Today’s Situation** - Globally dispersed and disjointed communities, disconnected from their roots resulting in Loss of identity. Socio-economic pressures caused people to move away from their roots to new frontiers

**What can we do today** - Technology enabled dharmic social network for cultural connectivity, collaboration and delivering innovative curriculum at applicable locations to impart traditional knowledge and cultural best practices.

Submissions can be sent to [Anandhi.Barathram@gmail.com](mailto:Anandhi.Barathram@gmail.com)



## **Brahmana Sabha Pancha Dravida (BSPD)**

Brahmins who live in south of Vindhya mountains are called Pancha-Dravida Brahmins and they speak Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Marathi, Gujarati and Malayalam. BSPD is an organization for and of Panchadravida Brahmins across the globe formed to promote, preserve and pass onto posterity, the traditional values and cultural identity of the community.

### **Jataka Parivartana**

Parents of Brahmin boys and girls for whom alliance is being sought are welcome to register with BSPD by clicking on the below link or contacting us.

<https://forms.gle/NFFeP8r6Cs1xnJpDA>

Contact details: +91 7358 399425, +91 9940 236425 or email at [brahmanasabha.org@gmail.com](mailto:brahmanasabha.org@gmail.com)

[www.brahmanasabha.org](http://www.brahmanasabha.org)



This issue covers the Holy Camp from 05<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021 by HIS HOLINESS PUJYASRI SANKARA VIJAYENDRA SARASWATI SANKARAACHARYA SWAMIGAL:

<b>Period</b>	<b>Camp Location</b>
05-Nov-2021 till 08-Dec-2021	Manimandapam, Orikkai, Kanchipuram
08-Dec-2021 till 30-Dec-2021*	Shri Kanchi Shankara Matam Maha Paduka Mandapam, Alipiri, Tirupati

\*Acharya Swamigal will visit Kanchipuram on 30-Dec-2021 - Aradhana day, and return to Tirupati camp

Devotees are encouraged to share spiritual/religious events in their respective cities 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.

Kanikkai samarpanam can be performed through e-seva portal [www.kanchimuttseva.org](http://www.kanchimuttseva.org).





### **MAHABHARATA - YAKSHA PRASHNA SERIES (Part III)**

The episode known as *Yaksha Prashna* in Mahabharata relates to the exchange of questions and answers between Yama in the guise of a Yaksha who poses 126 questions to Yudhishtira who gives the most fitting answers to those questions.

We encourage the younger generation (10 or above till 25 or so) to write about your favourite Yaksha's questions with Yudhishtira's answers from the great epic of Mahabharata in simple English (with a rationale on why it is their favourite question) which can be published in this section. You can submit your entries to [nrikanchinews@gmail.com](mailto:nrikanchinews@gmail.com)



<b>Yaksha's questions</b>	<b>Yudhishtira's response</b>
What is that person who enjoys all sense objects, is intelligent, is honoured by people, is accepted by all and breaths like a normal human being but lives like a person that is dead	One who does not offer nourishment (bali, food) to these five – the gods, the guests, the servants, the ancestors and the self – is a dead person although alive (breathing).
What is weightier than the Earth?	Mother is weightier than Earth.
Which is taller than the sky?	Father is taller than the sky.
What is speedier than air?	Mind is speedier than air
What is more abundant than grass?	Worries are more abundant than grass
Which (creature) does not close the eyes while sleeping?	Fish does not close the eyes while sleeping.
What does not move after being born?	Egg does not move after being laid.
Which has no heart?	The stone has no heart.
What grows (swells) by its speed?	The river swells with speed
Who is the friend of one away from home (travelling)?	Companion (co-traveler) is the friend of a traveller.
Who is the friend at home?	Wife is the friend of a person at home.
Who is the friend when one is sick?	Physician is the friend when one is sick.
Who is the friend when one is dying?	Charity (Dana) is the friend of the dying.

### **Ayyappa Bhakta Sabha (06-Nov-2021)**

Acharya Swamigal's Anugraha Bhashanam to Ayyappa Bhaktas given at the meeting of Ayyappa Bhaktas held at Kanchipuram on 6-Nov-2021



### **Talk on Martanda Mahatmya (06-Nov-2021)**

Martanda Mahatmya- Talk by Sri Hari Krishan Sidha, Principal, Sastri Memorial Hr. Sec. School, Jammu under the Kashmir Cultural Heritage Awareness Series with blessings of Acharya Swamigal



Sri Gurubhyo Namaha  
Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam  
Srimatam Samasthanam

**Kashmir Cultural Heritage 13<sup>th</sup> Awareness Series**  
In association with  
**Maadyama Dharma Samajam**  
&  
**Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation, Inc, USA**

**Martanda Mahatmya**  
Birth Place of 13<sup>th</sup> Sun God Martanda, Kashmir  
7PM IST, Saturday, Nov 6, 2021  
by  
Sri Hari Krishan Sidha, Principal  
Sastri Memorial Hr. Sec. School, Jammu



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6029mwaK1u4&list=PL20dD5b9>

## Skanda Sashti- Anugraha Bhashanam (09-Nov-2021)

Skanda Sashti - Veda Parayanam was held at Shrimatam, Kanchipuram in the brindavan hall for six days from Prathama to Sashti. The concluding session was held at Shrimatam camp Orikkai in the presence of Acharya Swamigal, who blessed the gathering of Vedic pandits and devotees with Anugraha Bhashanam (starts at 1:35 minutes)



## Sant Sammelan at Kanchi- Anugraha Bhashan (Hindi) 10-Nov-2021

Sant Sammelan at Kanchipuram -Anugraha Bhashan (in Hindi) by Acharya Swamigal









### Brindavana Dwadashi- Tulasi Vivaham performed (15-Nov-2021)

Brindavana Dwadashi - Tulasi Vivaham was performed in presence of Acharya Swamigal at Shrimatam Camp in Orikkai, Kanchipuram.



### Mahakumbabhishekam of Sri Abimuktheswara swami Devasthanam (20-Nov-2021)

Visit of Acharya Swamigal for the Ashtabandana Mahakumbabhishekam of Sri Abimuktheswara Swami Devasthanam. (video below)



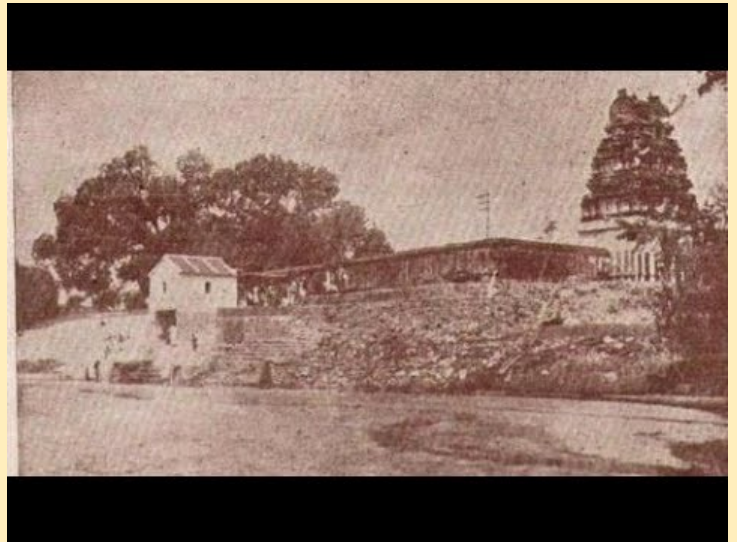
### **Pujya Shankaracharya Swamiji blesses Sri YAGAM at Atlanta (27-Nov-2021)**

Acharya Swamigal blessed the Sri Lakshmi Narayana Yagam at Hindu Temple of Atlanta, Georgia, USA through Video Conferencing from Shrimatam Camp at Orikkai. Devotees received Acharya Swamigal with Poornakumbham and Swasti Vachanam, followed by message of blessings by Acharya Swamigal in Tamil & Telugu followed by abhisheka aradhans to Sri Venkateswara Swami.



### **Krithika Somavaram- Sahasra Kalasabhishekam performed at Bugga (29-Nov-2021)**

Kritika Somavaram- Sahasra Kalasabhishekam and parayanam was performed at the ancient Sri Kasi Viswanatha Swami Devasthanam in Bugga village near Nagari in Andhra with blessings of Acharya Swamigal. The temple is situated on the banks of the River Kushasthali. His Holiness Pujyashri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Mahaswamiji - the 68th Pontiff of Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam observed Chaturmasya in Bugga Village which commenced on 17-July-1932. During His stay there, the temple was renovated and Kumbhabhishekam performed on a grand scale. The perennial river Kushasthali flows by the temple; and five streams feed the river. Adjoining the temple, a Shankara Matam was built and the holy padukas of Bhagavatpadacharya were consecrated. Regular worship is offered there.



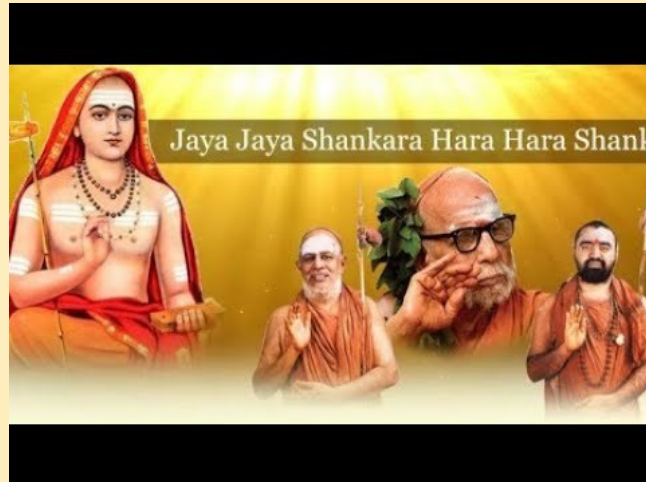


**Acharya Swamigal addresses Hindu organisations in Singapore (29-Nov-2021)**



**Chandi Homam - Poornahuti performed at Orikkai (29-Nov-2021)**

Chandi Homam - Poornahuti performed in presence of Acharya Swamigal at Shrimatam camp, at Puja Mahaswamigal Manimandapama, Orikkai



**Chandi Parayanam performed at Shrimatam camp at Puja Mahaswamigal Manimandapam, Orikkai (02-Dec-2021)**



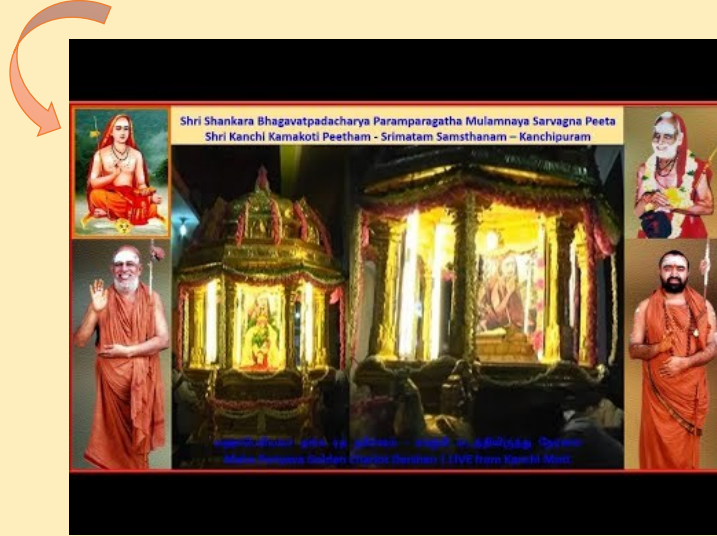
## Rig Veda Parayana Poorthi held at Orikkai (02-Dec-2021)

Rig Veda Paaraayanam Poorti and awards to Rig Veda scholars from Orikkai - Acharya Swamigal blessed the programme with His presence and Anugraha Bhashanam

YouTube Link → [Rig Veda Paaraayanam Poorthi and Award function](#)

## Rathotsvam at Shrimatam (05-Dec-2021)

Webcast of Rathotsva seva performed at Shrimatam



## Subrahmanya Shashti - Kumara Bhojanam (07-Nov-2021)

With the divine grace of Sri Sri Sri Kanchi Periava and under the auspices of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetathipathi Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, on the occasion of Skandha Sashti an event was organised to do a parayanam of the SUBRAMANYA BHUJHANGAM, rendered by Sri Sankar Bhagavathpadhal, followed by a Sahasra Kumara Bhojanam. The 2021 Subrahmanya Bhujanga Parayanam event was organized like the 2019 Subrahmanya Bhujangam event. The overall event planning was performed under the able guidance of Sri. Ramachandran I.A.S (R) and a committee was formed (specifically for this event) using the Sri Periava Kainkarya Sabha, Nanganallur. Students participated from Rameswaram till Kashi.

### Sahasra Kumara Bhojanam 2021



### Sahasra Kumara Bhojanam 2021



The brahmachari boys were provided with a bag containing the prasadam and gift items



Gift hamper details. A huge thank you to volunteers from Sri Mutt and from “Periava Charanam” group and the youth volunteers from Nanganallur who packed the gifts in two days.



**Food and Catering Arrangements** - The food to be served for the Brahmacharis were cooked at each of the event centre. The list of items to be prepared was placed for Acharya Swamigal’s approval and Acharya Swamigal granted HIS consent based on which it was shared with centres. Its noteworthy that a standardized menu was used by all the 33 centres which further synchronised the event across the locations.

**Event day** - Despite the rains the children along with their parents turned up in good numbers (exceeding 1000 participants) to participate in the event. The sheer determination and dedication of the parents, teachers, and children in attending the event to make it a grand success was indeed remarkable.

Upon completion of the Anugraha Bhashanam by HH Periava the Sankalpam for the Pooja was started at Orikkai and subsequently it was followed by other centres across the country. The pooja was in progress when the brahmachari participants and volunteers were made to change their Yagyopaveetham (poonal). The Brahmacharis were made to wear the new dhoti and towel which was provided in their gift hamper.

The Sankalpam was followed by Shanmugarchanai and Shathrusamhara Trishathi archanai was performed. During the archanai at the end of each of the 50th Nama a naivedhyam was performed to Lord Subramanyaswamy and at the completion of the entire sequence of Namas in the archanai a Maha Naivedhyam was performed along with naivedhyam of Thina maavu (Millet) mixed with honey. When the pooja was being performed the Subramanya Bhujangam and Kandha Sashti

Kavacham was chanted in each location with a lead chanter guiding the participants to chant in an orderly manner which put the centres in a divine trance. At the completion of the pooja a Maha Deeparadhanai was performed.

At around 10:30 AM the Kumara Bhojanam was served to the Brahmachari participants. The volunteers served the food wearing the traditional attire (panchakacham / madisar) and sumangali women in madisar served the aabojana theertham during the Kumara Bhojanam. While the Kumara Bhojanam was being served, parayanam of Annapoorna Sthuthi, Trisuparanam and Thirupugazh was done which filled the event centres with an aura of divinity and grace.



### Subrahmanya Shashti (09-Dec-2021) - Anugraha Bhashanam of Acharya Swamigal



### Yuvati Sammelan (21-Nov-2021)

**ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோடி பீடம் - ஸ்ரீ காமாநி ஸ்ரீ வித்யா சமித்தி மற்றும் பிராமண சபா பஞ்ச திராவிடா இணைந்து நடாத்திய யுவதி சம்மேளனம்**

ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமாநி அம்பாளின் திருவருளுடன் ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோடி பீடத்தின் ஆச்சார்யர்களின் குருவருளும் கூடி 21ம் திகதி நவம்பர் மாதம் 2021 (தமிழ் திகதி: பிலவ வருடம் கார்த்திகை மாதம் 5ம் திகதி), ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை அன்று பிற்பகல் 3 மணியளவில் யுவதி சம்மேளன நிகழ்வானது னுமூழுஆ தளத்தினூடாக இடம்பெற்றது. நமது சம்பிரதாயம் மற்றும் சமஸ்கிருதியை வளர்ப்பதற்காக இளம் பெண்களுக்காக நிகழ்த்தப்பட்ட சிறப்புமிகு இந்த சம்மேளனமானது குமாரி அம்ருதா மற்றும் குமாரி அக்'யாவின் இனிமையான குரலில் “கைத்தல நிறை கனி” என்ற அருணகிரிநாதரால் அருளப்பட்ட திருப்புகழ் ஒலிக்க மங்களகரமாக ஆரம்பமானது. ஒரு விழா அல்லது நிகழ்ச்சி எதுவாக இருந்தாலும் அதில் முதலாவதாக இடம்பெறுவது ஸ்வாகத பா'ணம். இந்த அறிமுகவுரையினை

அனைவரையும் வரவேற்கும் முகமாகவும் நிகழ்வு பற்றிய ஒரு பதிவினைத் தரும் முகமாகவும் ஸ்ரீமதி லதா ராமன் தனது உரையினை வடிவமைத்திருந்தார்.

தொடர்ந்து, ஸ்ரீ ஆதிசங்கர பகவத் பாதாளால் இயற்றப்பட்ட, இருபத்தேழு அடிகளைக் கொண்ட, “நமசிவாய” என்ற பஞ்சாநீர மந்திரத்துடன் முடிவடிகளைக் கொண்டிருக்கும் சிறப்பு பொருந்திய சிவ பஞ்சாநீர நநீத்திர மாலா, ஸ்ரீமதி ரஞ்சனி ஆனந்த் அவர்களின் தலைமையில், அனைவரும் தத்தம் இல்லங்களில் இருந்த வண்ணம் ஆத்யாயனம் செய்யும் வகையில் அமைந்திருந்தது. கார்த்திகை தீபத் திருநாளை கடந்து இந்த நிகழ்வு இடம்பெற்றதன் பொருட்டு ஸ்ரீமதி தனம் சிவராம் அவர்கள் கார்த்திகை தீப ஸ் கலாகத்தையும், அதன் கருப்பொருள் விளக்கத்தினையும் எமக்கு தெளிவுப்படுத்தி பின்னர் அதனை எவ்வாறு பாராயணம் செய்யவேண்டும் என்ற விளக்கத்தினையும் கொடுத்திருந்தார்.

அடுத்து ஸ்ரீமதி. விசாலாநியும் ஸ்ரீமதி. சரண்யாவும் இணைந்து, ஸ்ரீ மடம் ஆற்றிவரும் சேவைகளையும் கைங்கரியங்களையும் பற்றி விளக்கக்காட்சிப்படுத்தியிருந்தனர். அதில் ஸ்ரீ மடமானது ஆற்றிவரும் பாரம்பரிய, ஆன்மீக சேவைகள் மற்றும் கைங்கரியங்களைப் பற்றியும் வைத்தியசாலைகள், பாடசாலைகள், பல்கலைக்கழகங்கள் மற்றும் முதியோர் இல்லங்களுக்காக ஆற்றிவரும் பல்வேறு அளப்பரிய சமூக சேவைகளை பற்றியும் குறிப்பிட்டிருந்தனர். அனைவரினதும் உள்ளங்களை கொள்ளை கொள்ளும் விதமாக நாரிபக்தசிகரான் மணி குமாரி. ஜனனி “பாரதத்தின் பெண் பக்தர்கள்” என்ற தலைப்பில் உபன்யாசம் செய்திருந்தார். அதனைத் தொடர்ந்து ஸ்ரீமதி \*தலா பாலாறு பற்றிய தனது அனுபவத்தையும் ஆச்சாரியாரின் அனுக்ஞையினைப் பற்றி தொகுத்துக் கூறியிருந்தார். மேலும் ஸ்ரீமதி. டாக்டர். ஸ்ரீ வித்யா பாரம்பரிய ஞானம் என்ற தலைப்பில் பாரம்பரிய ஞானத்தின் முக்கியத்துவத்தையும் அதனை எவ்வாறு பெறலாம் என்ற முக்கிய கருத்துக்களையும் அறியத்தரும் வகையில் உரையினை வழங்கியிருந்தார்.

“கலாசாரம் மற்றும் நவீனத்துவம்” என்ற தலைப்பிற்கேற்ப பங்கேற்பாளர்களை இணைத்து பரம்பரை சரித்திரம், ரீ சரித்திரம் மற்றும் ஆச்சாரியானை சந்தித்த முதற்கண அனுபவங்களையும் கலந்துரையாடல் மூலமாக வெளிக்கொணர்ந்தார். ஸ்ரீ. சுந்தர் அவர்கள் “பாரம்பரிய பெண்களும் நவீன உலகும்” என்ற தலைப்பில் நவீனமயமாகிவரும் உலகில் பாரம்பரியத்தையும் ஸ் தீர் தர்மத்தையும் பெண்கள் எவ்வாறு கடைப்பிடிக்க வேண்டும் போன்ற கருத்துக்களையும் சுருங்க சொல்லி விளங்கவைத்தார். “வேலை மற்றும் வாழ்வின் சமநிலை பேணல்” குறித்து ஓர் கலந்துரையாடல் ஸ்ரீமதி. ராதிகா சந்திரமௌலி தலைமையில் இடம்பெற்றிருந்தது. இந்நிகழ்வில் ஸ்ரீமதி பிரேமா கிருண்மூர்த்தி, ஸ்ரீமதி. டாக்டர் லலிதா கணே மற்றும் ஸ்ரீமதி. டாக்டர் ரமா முதலியோர் பயனூட்டும் பல்வேறு கருத்துக்களையும் கூறியிருந்தனர்.

சம்மேளனத்தின் இறுதிப்பகுதியில் ஸ்ரீமதி தீபா தலைமையில் யுவதிகளை ஒன்றிணைத்து கரப் நிருத்தியம் நடனப் பயிற்சிப்பட்டறை நிகழ்த்தப்பட்டது. இதன் வழியாக கரப் நிறுத்தியத்தின் முக்கியத்துவம், பயன்கள் மற்றும் இறைவனை அடையும் வழி போன்ற கருத்துக்களையும் அறியத்தந்திருந்தனர். இறுதியாக இலங்கையிலிருந்து சேதுபந்தனம் குழுவின் சர்ரபில் குமாரி. ஸ்வேதா மற்றும் குமாரி. அக்'யாவின் குரலில் “கணநாதம் போற்றுவும்” என்ற மங்களம் பாடப்பட்டு பின்னர் குமாரி. அக்'யாவின் நன்றி உரையுடன் இந்நிகழ்வு இனிதே நிறைவு பெற்றது.

குருவருளுடன் திருவருளும் கூடி இந்த நிகழ்வு நிகழ்த்தப்பட்டிருந்தாலும் இந்த நிகழ்வினை செவ்வனே நடாத்த ஒழுங்கமைப்புக் குழுவினர், பங்கேற்பாளர்கள், தொகுப்பாளர்கள் (ஸ்ரீமதி ராஜலக்ஷ்மி தீபக் மற்றும் ஸ்ரீமதி புவனேஸ்வரி) மற்றும் தொழில்நுட்ப குழுவினர்களின் (ஸ்ரீமதி காமேஸ்வரி, குமாரி கீர்த்தனா மற்றும் ஸ்ரீமதி செளமியா மகே) முயற்சி முக்கியமானதாக அமைந்தது. மாயை வாழ்வில் உழன்று திரியும் நம் அனைவரும் மெய்ஞ்ஞானத்தின் வாயிலாக இறைவனை அடைவதற்கு ஏதுவாக மேலும் இவ்வாறான பல நிகழ்வுகள் பல பங்கேற்பாளர்களுடன் நடைபெறும் என்பது திண்ணம்.

“லோகா சமஸ்தா சுகினோ பவந்து”

#### **YUVATI SAMMELANAM JOINTLY CONDUCTED BY SRI KAMAKSHI SRI VIDYA SAMITHI AND BRAHMANA SABHA PANCH DRAVIDA**

With the Divine grace of Sri Kamakshi Ambal, Kanchi and with the Blessings of Acharya Swamigal of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, Yuvati Sammelanam was conducted on Sunday 21 November, 2021 at 3 PM (Plava Varsha, 5<sup>th</sup> day of Karthika Masam) via Zoom. This Yuvati Sammelanam was held for preserving and growth of



our traditions, values and culture especially for the benefit of the young women of our society. The Program commenced with the auspicious rendition of the prayer song from Thirupugazh, “Kaithala Neerai Kani” of Sri Arunagirinathar, which was sung sweetly by Kumari. Amrutha and Kumari. Akalya. As welcome address is the formal first event of any function, Smt. Lalitha Raman had welcomed everyone and gave a preamble about the function.

Then Smt. Ranjani Anand rendered Sri. Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar’s Sri Nakshthra Stotra Mala containing 27 stanzas of four lines each, with the Panchakshra Mantra of “Nama Shivaya” at the end of each line, which was chanted by participants from their respective homes. As the Sammelanam was conducted immediately after few days of Karthigai Deepotsavam, Smt. Dhanam Sivaraman explained about the Deepa Slokam, its meaning and the method of chanting the same.

Next, Smt. Visalakshi and Smt. Saranya made a joint presentation explaining about the various Sevas and Kainkariyams performed by Sri Matam. In the presentation, they have also highlighted about Sri Matam’s traditional spiritual services, religious activities and also about the various innumerable social services; Running hospitals, Patasalas, Universities, Old age homes and several other programs. Kumari. Janani gave a lecture on “Women devotees of India” which very much liked by one and all. Smt. Seethala explained about the blessings of Acharya Swamigal with regard to the river Palar. Smt. Dr Srividya gave a speech in a manner that could be understood easily on the topic of “Traditional Knowledge” signifying its importance and the significance to obtain it.

Sri Sundar explained regarding the treasure of his first-hand blessings with Acharya Swamigal and also brought out nicely about the underlying historical matters while speaking on the topic of “Culture and Modernity”. Also, Sri Sundar explained how the Sree Dharmam has to be preserved and adhered to by the traditional women in this changing modern society.

A participative seminar was held on the topic of “Work Life Balance” under the leadership of Smt. Radhika Chandramouli. In this seminar, Smt. Prema Krishnamoorthy, Smt. Dr Lalitha Ganesh and Smt. Dr Rama also spoke and gave many useful information to the participants.

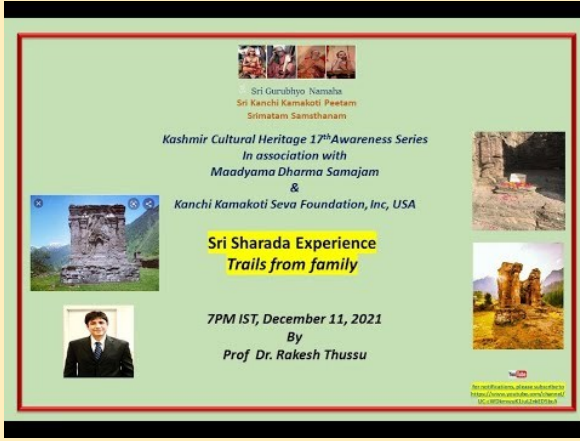
Towards the end of the Sammelanam, Smt. Deepa conducted a dance training program and she explained the benefits, significance and the bava to reach God. Finally, Kumari. Shwetha and Kumari. Akalya of the Sri Lanka Sethu Bandhan Team sang “Gananathan Potrutham” as Mangalam. The Sammelanam ended well with the vote of thanks proposed by Kumari Akalya.

This program was primarily conducted with Acharya Swamigal and Divine grace. The efforts of the organisers, participants, event coordinators Smt. Rajalakshmi Deepak and Smt. Bhuvaneswari, the technical team Smt. Kameswari, Kumari. Keerthana and Smt. Sowmya are highly commendable. For all of us living in this illusory world to realise the truth and go nearer to God, organising more such programs with larger participation would benefit that objective.

**Loka Samastha Sukino Bavanthu**



## Sri Sharada Experience - Trails from Family - Kashmir Lecture Series (11-Dec-2021)



Sri Sharada Experience - Trails from Family - Prof. Dr. Rakesh Thussu - 17th Lecture in the Kashmir Cultural Heritage Awareness Series hosted by Maadyama Dharma Samajam & KKSF, USA with benign blessings of Acharya Swamigal

## Sahasradala Padmaaradhanam at Tiruchanoor (12-Dec-2021)

Sahasradala Padmaaradhanam at Sri Padmavati Ammavaru Devasthanam, Tiruchanoor - Sloka recitation by students of Sampradaya Patashala, Tirupati - Anugraha Bhashanam by Acharya Swamigal.



## Kashi Viswanathdham Corridor - Message of Acharya Swamigal in Hindi (13-Dec-2021)

दिव्यता मे भव्यता-काशीविश्वनाथधाम पुनर्निर्माण लोकर्पणकार्यक्रम काञ्ची शङ्कराचार्यस्वामी का सन्देश



## **Pujyashri Shankaracharya Swamiji at Tirumala - Darshan and Temple Honours accorded - Ekadashi and Boumashvini day (14-Dec-2021)**

Temple Honours were accorded Acharya Swamigal at Tirumala Sri Venkateswara Swamy Devasthanam on the auspicious Ekadasi & Bhoomashvini day- Acharya Swamigal was received at the Mettu Mandapam. Moving in a procession, Acharya Swamigal had darshan of Bedi Anjaneyaswami. Sri Satari was brought in a procession from SriVari temple and offered to Acharya Swamigal accompanied by Vedic Chanting and Mangalavadyam. Swamivaru had Sri Vari Darshan during which time Mapi Harati was performed. Acharya Swamigal rendered the Vinchamara Seva to Sri Venkateswara Swami. Prasadam was offered. Acharya Swamigal then went around the main Sannadhi and then around the Mada Veedhi in a procession with the temple umbrella and other honors to Sri Shankara Matam. A large number of devotees participated and had darshan of Acharya Swamigal and Sri Venkateswara Swami. TTD AEO Sri Dharma Reddy and other officials received Acharya Swamigal along with the priests.



### **HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT MEETING OF THE TWO GREAT SANKARACHARYAS**

<https://www.thanjavurparampara.com/post/kanchidhwarakamutt>

The reading of the news item appeared in Dinamani Tamil Newspaper on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 that two great Sankaracharyas of the Peetams established by Sri Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar in our scared nation of Bharatham had a historical significance and it had kindled my thoughts with all glory. Sri Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar, the reincarnation of Lord Siva, took avatar at Kalady, learnt thoroughly at the very young age about all Sastras, Vedas, philosophies and everything, took Sanyas, undertook padayatra three times of the entire Bharatham, won debates of over 70 ill doctrine religions, giving new life to Sanathana Dharma and Hindu religion, formed six types of God worship and established the doctrine and principle of Advaita as all are one and everyone is equal.

Sri Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar was the Mahan who established the Hindu Religion in such a way that everyone could get faith in following the Advaita principles. Finally, Bagavad Padar came to Kanchipuram, did prathista of Sri Chakram in front of Sri Kamakshi Ambal, established Kamakoti Peetam for Himself and also adorned

Himself as its first Peetathipathi. By doing Puja to the Yoga Lingam that was brought from Kailash, merged One with Jaganmatha Sri Kamakshi Ambal, the history which is mentioned in books like Sri Sankara Vijayam.

The two important Peetams thus established by Sri Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar are the Dwaraka Peetam in the state of Gujarat and Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, Kanchipuram in the state of Tamil Nadu both having sustained long lasting great association. Particularly, His Holiness Pujiyasri Swaroopananda Saraswathi Swamigal is very closely associated with Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. Swamigal directly participated in the Kanakabhishekam function of His Holiness Jagathuguru Sri Sri Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Swamigal, the 68<sup>th</sup> Peetathipathi of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, who is also known as Kanchi Maha Swamigal, Paramacharya and Walking God and worshipped then, now and always by all.

The 69<sup>th</sup> Peetathipathi of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam His Holiness Jagathguru Sri Sri Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and His Holiness Pujiyasri Swaroopananda Saraswathi Swamigal have met several times and discussed about our Hindu Dharma. Both jointly worked in unison to involve the devotees in the path of dharma. On accepting the invitation of His Holiness Pujiyasri Swaroopananda Saraswathi Swamigal in the year 2002, on February 22, His Holiness Jagathguru Sri Pujari Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal took part as the main dignitary in the Kumbabhisheka function of the newly constructed Guru Rathaneswara Mahadev temple, in the birth place of His Holiness Pujiyasri Swaroopananda Swamigal in Tikori Village, Seoni District, Chattisgarh State and also did Prana Prathishta with His Holy Hands to the big Spatika Lingam of the temple. From this we can comprehend the association of the two great heritage rich Mahan Peetathipathis.

The courtesy bonding visit and meeting of His Holiness Jagathguru Sri Sri Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, the 70<sup>th</sup> Peetathipathi of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam with His Holiness Pujiyasri Swaroopananda Saraswathi Swamigal, who is recouping after his treatment in a private hospital at Bengaluru is a very fine gesture and they discussed at length about the dharmic values. It is no surprise that this meeting of the two great Sankaracharyas is considered as of a great historical significance by all the devotees. The two great Peetathipathis having similar thought processes reiterated and signified the importance of following the teachings of Sri Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar. It is an absolute truth that this meeting has energised the human values, the values and importance of our heritage and culture followed for generations and the Hindu Religion. Devotees will undertake pilgrimage from Kasi in north to Kanchi and Rameswaram in south. Similarly south Indians will undertake pilgrimage trip to Kasi and Kailash. This apart being considered as a pilgrimage trip, it also signifies the unity among the people of the country, bridging the sentiments and it is being considered as vital and significant even today to reflect the unity in diversity and the importance of national integration. Dwaraka and Kanchi are the two among the seven Mokshapuris in India and Kanchi being the only Mokshapuri in South India, thus Kanchipuram has special added significance.

The manner in which the Peetathipathis of the two greatest significant Peetams established by Sri Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar in these two Mokshapuris following the path and footsteps of Sri Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar with the feeling of unity and oneness are greatly admired by each and every devotee.

This historical meeting has emphasised the belief that the national unity will get uplifted, our cultural relationship will get strengthened, our feelings will get integrated and steadied with all love and humanity. Kindness is the main message conveyed from the hearts of the two great Peetathipathis of our motherland. That love and kindness were shared by the two great Peetathipathis of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam and Sri Dwaraka Peetam in their meeting held on 1 December 2021 at Bangalore, which is quite remarkable.

Realising the importance of all the above, we all will strive to undertake to preserve our tradition and follow the dharmic path as laid out by our Adi Guru Sri Adi Sankara Bagavad Padar.

By Sri Chidambaresan

**Jaya Jaya Sankara Hara Hara Sankara**





கடந்த டிசம்பர் முதல் தேதியன்று  
ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோடி பீடாதிபதி  
ஜகத்குரு பூஜ்யஸ்ரீ சங்கர  
விஜயேந்திர சரஸ்வதி ஸ்வாமிகள்  
பெங்களூரில் தனியார்  
மருத்துவமனையில்  
சிகிச்சைக்குப்பின் உடல்நலம்  
தேறி வரும் ஸ்ரீ துவாரகா  
பீடாதிபதி பூஜ்யஸ்ரீ  
ஸ்வரூபானந்த சரஸ்வதி  
ஸ்வாமிகள், அவர்களை சந்தித்து  
நலம் விசாரித்து  
கலந்துரையாடிய செய்தினை  
கடந்த டிசம்பர் 3ந்தேதியிட்ட

தினமணி நாளிதழில் நன்றாக வெளியிட்டிருந்தது. இதனை படித்து மகிழ்ந்த,  
ரயில்வேயில் அலுவலராக பணியாற்றி ஓய்வு பெற்று இன்றும் கட்டுரைகள்  
நாள்தோறும் எழுதி வருபவரும் ஸ்ரீ மடத்தின் நீண்ட கால பக்தரும் ஸ்ரீ ஆச்சார்யாள்  
சேவைக்கென தன்னை முழுமையாக அர்ப்பணித்துக் கொண்டவருமான  
ஸ்ரீசிதம்பரேசன் (91) எனும் முதியவர் எழுதியுள்ள கட்டுரையினை தஞ்சாவூர்  
பரம்பரா.com ல் [www.thanjavurparampara.com](http://www.thanjavurparampara.com) வெளியிடுவதில் பெருமை கொள்கிறோம்.  
அன்பர்கள் அனைவரும் இதனை படித்து மேன்மை மிக்க நம் குரு பரம்பரையின்  
பெருமைகளை புதிய தலைமுறையினர் அறிந்து கொள்ள வேண்டுகிறோம். நன்றி.

#### Arudra Darshan Mahima- Anugraha Bhashanam (19-Dec-2021)

Arudhara Darshanam is observed on the full moon day in the Tamil month of Margazhi (Margali Masam).  
Anugraha bhashanam of Acharya Swamigal in Tamil and Telugu respectively)





## Sayana Makarayana Puja performed at Tirupati (22-Dec-2021)



## Dharmam Chara (17-Oct-2021)

### Acharya Swamigal's anugraha bashanam on “Veda”, “Vidya”, “Vaidya”

*Gurur Brahma, Guru Vishnu, Guru Devo Masheswara I*

*Guru Sakshat Parbrahm, Tasmai Sri Gurve Namah II*

This Dharmam Chara programme has been organised before, and again we are conducting this programme. Former Chairman of State Bank of India Sri Rajnish Kumar, who had visited Kanchipuram once, and Parthasarathy have both expressed their views as keynote speakers in this webinar. We are seeing several others — Sankaranarayanan, Mahalingam, Jayaramakrishnan, Jayaram Reddy, Vaidheeshwaran, Sekar — in this grand programme.



In the situation prevailing over the past two years, through technology it has become easy and also necessary to be conducting such programmes, because it is the right thing to do, and the programme's purpose is achieved with ease.

The speakers have focused on 3 topics in this programme: Vidya, Vaidya, and Veda. We will talk about Vidya first. Speakers have mentioned about Macaulay's education system. Whether it was right or wrong, is not the

point of discussion at the moment. We need to see the reality. In our country, there is sound knowledge of the English language. This has enabled economic development.

People of our large neighbouring country do not have as much knowledge about the English language as the people of India possess. Knowing English is thus favourable. This shouldn't however have an influence on our belief. Knowledge of English or Western thought process should not influence the Indian faith.

Vidwansarvatrapujyate — a scholar is respected and adored all over the world. Among the Indian populace, we have several educated people; this is a good thing. But English or Western thinking and influence should in no way diminish or be detrimental to our faith in Indian tradition — Bharatiya Vishwas.

Just like the honeybee — which moves from one fragrant flower to another, be it Champak, Kamal (Lotus) or any other, collecting nectar, amassing sweetness — we should seek to acquire knowledge from everywhere, wherever it is. Obtaining good from any topic is Indian tradition (Bharatiya parampara) whether it is language, science, or nirvahan- Administration (to obey, or to do what you said you would do) — There is an old saying ‘India’s custom and British system’.

In our country, our Parmacharyaji followed both. He believed in Sandhyavandanam; along with it, documentation, receiving to others, whatever it is; in the administration style, he didn’t refuse the foreigners. This is because since 1907, when he was 13 years old, he witnessed a lot. In 1917, USSR was formed, and then China. He witnessed the history of the world from close quarters. He saw British India.

During the floods in Thanjavur district, Maharaj who was residing there did a lot of work to alleviate the misery of the flood victims. The British Collector, who was called ‘Durai’ in those days, heard about the community work (samajseva) and wanted to know who did it. The people of Thanjavur said that our Shankaracharyaji, our Guru, has done it. The Collector then expressed his desire to meet him.

Similarly, anything good from wherever it is, abroad or a remote land, we need to imbibe. In doing so, however, we should not let go of our traditional ornate values, such as politeness, graciousness, and family values like respect for our elders; these values are unique to us and provide us with a distinctive identity. We should not lose our Indianness — our individuality and identity under any circumstances.

There is a lot of debate on the topic of education. A new policy has also come out. In the context of education, one more point that comes to my mind which will be shared. A well-known person from Tamil Nadu met his counterpart from Odisha and told the latter that we have sent some people outside from Tamil Nadu. The person from Odisha said, “Fine, you did a good thing.” On hearing this, the person from Tamil Nadu thought to himself that he is appreciating me for this act. Then, the Odia said one more thing: “Because you sent these people, our state received some good officers.”

Thus, exploitation of the educated people, what we call ‘brain drain’ and about which Abdul Kalamji had also spoken earlier, sometimes happens in India also. Even then, people recognise and respect the educated, the scholarly — Vidwansarvatra pujiyate.

Indians work in NASA; they work in several places; they obtain patents. They lived with patience, so they obtain patents, which is good. Yet, we have to look into the weakness in our system. Our people are working worldwide and are doing well. They do post-doctorate and other things, which is a good sign.

To make India strong, we, however, need to work in 3 areas in the field of education, the Vishwavidya programme that these people have started; the Shankara College and schools in Kanchipuram and the Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya in which students from the rural hinterland come to acquire knowledge — whether it is Management, Ayurved, Engineering, Arts & Science, or whatever degree. The first-generation students from Rayalaseema, where there is less water, less agriculture, fewer job opportunities; or from Jharkhand and many different regions come to acquire education.

We therefore need to provide need-based support. Giving someone who already has the necessities is different offering a shawl to a person who already has clothes is a different matter. But giving clothes to someone who really needs is important. Shankaracharyaji asked, “Patram kim annadane?” Who is eligible to receive donation? “Kshudhitam” — meaning we should donate to one who is really hungry and in dire need. While doing ‘annadana’, giving to someone who already has is fine; we do it as a way of giving respect to people, like in olden times, doctors — who acquired degrees from London, the US — were honoured, which is fine. Our priority, however, should be to give to the most deserving.

Therefore, Gandhiji’s message of ‘Niradambar Jeevan’ (modest living), despite being influential and well-to-do, you shun or avoid luxuries is our Indian tradition (Bhartiya parampara). You may be wealthy, you may be a zamindar, but you live a moderate life. Simplicity, Sympathy, and Support is ingrained in our belief system. Being benevolent towards the less fortunate is the ‘Bhartiya Updesh’ or message. Sympathy and Simplicity: We do not overspend so that we can help those who are really in need.

“Sikkanam Semippu Sevai”: through service, through our earnings, or through the wealth we have accumulated, we shall work for the welfare of the underprivileged. That is “Paropkarartham I Idam Shariram.”

Today, many big powers are looking towards India. Given our self-interest, we have extended a hand of friendship towards a nation that had, thus far, not extended to India the kind of support that they could have. Even

now, in the last two years, that country's local law became the reason of delay for the supply of medicines to India. After fulfilling the needs of their own populace, the country can supply medicines to other nations. This is the law of their land, which they implement strictly for their security.

Looking at India cordially has, however, become the need of the hour. India, on its part, should use this friendship to its advantage in order to rapidly bring about changes in the education sector. In June 1991, the economic crisis paved the way for the liberalisation of the Indian economy. Similarly, we need to take quick decisions now. We need to move away from MNC based liberalisation and introduce Swadeshi liberalisation policy for the country's progress.

Then, for skills development, we need to merge skills development with ground reality at 3 levels: Firstly, in the unorganised sector comprising weavers, plumbers, vishwakarma, etc.; next, at the regular level, and finally, at the advanced level — MS, PHD — impart quality education. Several people are working towards it, and we would also like to join them in this endeavor. This is the subject of education.

Second is Vaidya. The need for Vaidya (medical facilities and healthcare) couldn't have been felt more than in the last two years. We are opening new Medical Colleges. We have read in the newspapers that the Centre has decided to open 100 Medical Colleges at the zilla parishad level. This is a step in the right direction, but we need to act fast. In medical education, no compromises should be made in mental aptitude or intellectual capability. We should not compromise in service; in short, we should provide quality medical education without compromising on merit and service. Starting with nurses and lab technicians, just the way we are focusing on paramilitary, we should emphasize on paramedical.

Some of our prominent speakers like Parthasarathy have mentioned that we need 4 lakh nurses and 20 lakh doctors, 2 million and 4 million. In Kanchipuram, groundwork has been done to start a Nursing College for women. A General Hospital is also being run, and the Nursing College will be promoted under its aegis. This is just the beginning. Later, further courses could be amended for higher education in medicine.

Everybody should work together to implement these initiatives. Government also is doing its part; it has insured 50 lakh people and decided to open 100 medical colleges. Nonetheless, in a large country like India, which has seen significant developmental work in the last 10-15 years, requires work to be done together with the government. To carry out development work quickly, we should take help from the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, other economic institutions, BRICS, etc.

In the education and healthcare sectors, we should go for international funding at lower interest rates, or start more institutions in sectors where we can receive funding without interest. We can avail of such facilities from international funding agencies. So far, India has taken funding to build roads, dams, and to promote agriculture. We should look at relaxing laws (removing restrictions) for economic liberalisation. The earlier 'Permit Raj' should be 'Permission Raj', but never 'Permit Raj'. Towards this, we need to do some work; only then can we pay attention to the third subject: Ved. Liberalisation in Vidya and Vaidya, along with support from the Centre and State governments, can promote 'dharma' or faith that connects us from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. We should focus on our Sanskriti (culture) whether it is Shastriya Sangeet (classical music), Ayurved, Hastkala (crafts), or Kalamkari (free hand drawing done using a pen), [referring to the elephant's sketch on the wall behind.]

At the Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya, we have started a 5-year course on Shilpashastra (ancient Indian science or 'shastra' of creative arts or 'shilpa'). Similarly, we have started a certificate course for Archakas. We need to give a fillip to these cultural aspects in order to preserve our culture and national integrity.

The Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham intends to build a National Integration Hall at Port Blair in the Andamans. In Sikkim, a Veda Patashala is being run; we intend to start another one in Assam. We also plan to build a temple near the Parshuram Kund in Arunachal Pradesh.

Similarly, in Siliguri, frequently referred to by Indian Defence Analysts. Some speakers spoke about sustainable development and strategy. In Siliguri (West Bengal), the Chicken's Neck — narrow strip of Indian territory, connecting the northeastern states to the rest of India — a strategically important locale from the security point of view, the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham is supporting the Triveni Veda Patashala.

In a nutshell, desh — country; dharma — faith or belief; and samaj — society or community: we need to connect the three. By uniting them, we can bring about unity among the Indian populace of 130 crores. At present, we have many units, there is a need to bring about unity among these units. To promote unity, work is to be done in both Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur. In the Northeast, we need to focus on the 'Look East' policy from



Jagannath Puri in Odisha to Tripura.

In Odisha, we have an Eye hospital. Eye hospitals are being planned in Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir for which we are to receive some economic support. In Panvel, near Mumbai, an eye hospital has been started. All these efforts and initiatives are aimed at uniting the country.

This meeting has not been organised for the purpose of only raising funds. No doubt, fund raising is an important factor. Recently, through the Viswavidya scheme, Rs 50 lakh donation was given to meritorious students from the rural areas. This initiative has been successful through the efforts of Dharmam Chara. This has been the benefit of Vishwavidya.

Funds are required to do the work of Dharmam Chara. Alongside, we need to promote patriotism (Desh bhakti) and faith — a moral obligation — for community and nation building. In the way we build buildings, we should build reverence or deep respect (shraddha) towards the nation. We need to foster Bhakti (devotion) towards God, Sneha (love) towards the nation & Nishtha (dedication) towards the community. With this intent in mind, this programme has been organised.

By joining this programme, both Rajnish Kumar and Parthasarathy have expressed their views. The organisers of Dharmam Chara, Sankaranarayanan, Sekarji, Jayaramakrishnan — all of them — should keep organising such programmes from time to time. By organising them once in two-three months, we can promote non-political leadership in India. Political leadership, through political alignment, aims at promoting a good administration for the majority.

To promote our culture, preserve national unity, and to encourage a service-oriented attitude towards the community, we should look at bringing together people from different sectors of society who are already participating in social activities or those who could do so. In this way, we can build a non-political leadership system from the panchayat level upwards. Some speakers have spoken about alternative arrangement — in the similar way we should have an alternative leadership platform to solve social problems & promote peace in the society.

For the country's progress, peace should prevail. In a non-peaceful environment, the possibility of progress and development is less, or it doesn't happen that quickly. Complete peace, complete education and complete development at the micro-level is a prerequisite for development and progress. For complete peace, at this level, people who have held prominent positions in banks, in administration, and in leading developmental work, should come together to form a samiti (organisation) to protect and preserve Dharma, national unity and for community welfare.

As regards the Attitude for Service, Sri Adi Shankaracharya ji has said “Kutra Vidheyo Yatnaha?” What are the areas that we need to attempt to do service? To which, Shankaracharya ji has said: Vidyabhyase Sadaushadhe Daane. In the education sector, we need to strive hard. This Dharmam Chara is not a new programme. It started at the time of Shankaracharya ji. Sadaushadhe means medicines with efficacy should be available to all at an affordable cost and on time. The purpose for which it is required should be met, Shankaracharya ji had said.

Daane (charity), the third aspect of Dharmam Chara, is being practised from the time of Mahabharata. In the times of the Mahabharata, there was a ‘kiri’ (tamil) or mongoose, with half its body normal and the other half made of gold. This mongoose visited a poor person's hamlet. A guest had visited that house then. To welcome and give respect to a guest is a part of the Indian tradition whether one has enough or not. ‘Athithi Devo Bhava’.

In the hamlet, 3-4 people were sitting who had not had a meal for the past 2-3 days, they were living only on water. On seeing their guest, the young members of the family decided to give away their share of the meagre food to the guest. Doing charity comes naturally to Indian families.

When this mongoose entered the precincts of the hamlet, the area was so special and pious because of the charity being done by the members that it was blessed and half his body turned into gold. This goes to show the significance of charity in the Indian tradition.

The mongoose resolved that the other half of his body should also turn into gold and started roaming about in places where good work was being done. When Dharmaputra Yudhishtira performed the Som yagna, the mongoose went inside the confines of the yagna boundary, supposed to be very holy and pious due to the sacrificial fire, to turn the other half of his body into gold but nothing happened. What this underscores is that the significance of the charity performed at the hands of those living in the hamlet and, thus, that place, far outweighed even the yagna or sacrificial fire conducted to appease the Gods. Similarly, it is said that gold and silver pale in comparison to the



importance of tulasi, signifying the importance of Bhakti.

The desire to do good work resides in every heart. And, Dharmam Chara is that programme that stringtogether such noble hearts to do good work. It is notonly about collecting donation; it is also aboutproviding and readying a platform, either through Pratyaksha or any other forum, to do work for the welfare of all, and several prominent people have come together to participate in it. In this attempt, people should participate and perform seva (community work) in whatever way through ‘Tan, Man, Dhan’ — voluntarily committingone’s physical, mental and financial resources for the welfare of society People who perform such Dharamaacharan (good work) shall be blessed 1000 times.

sahasraguNamuthsraSHtumAdhaththE hi rasamravihi

Like the Sun that absorbs water and returns it 1000 times more for agriculture, for the welfare of people, and for other good work, we should perform charityfor the welfare of our fellow beings and to make our country self-sufficient and self-reliant. Through charity we need to achieve clarity in the nation. “Saharsrakoti Jana Paalana”, as it is said in one of the keertanas (songs), like “dorakunaitivantiseva” as cited by Parthasarathy, “Saharsrakoti Jana Paalana”, it is essential to protect and promote the 130 crores Indian citizens so that they can go and work anywhere in the world.

"Etat Desh Prasutasya Sakasat Agrajanman, Swam Swam Charitram Shiksheran Prithivyam SarvaManava..." It means that people who are bornin this part of the earth should enlighten the entire world by presenting the example of their own character” To become the Jagatguru, India will first have to become a good guru. For that, all the devotees should come together to perform this service to God. On the occasion of Deepavali, may everyone by theblessings of Godsee good progress in theiremployments, financial situation and good health.Prayers to Lord Krishna for the well-being of all Indians. With this prayer, we conclude this programme of Dharmam Chara for today.

**Har Har Shankar, Jai Jai Shankar**



**From around the world, as shared by devotees**

**Abu Dhabi:** December Anusham & Avittam celebrations



**Dubai:** December Anusham celebrations and Sathyanarayana poojai



**Germany:** South Indian Association, Germany and EU was started with Acharya Swamigal's blessings. Link to the blog. <https://kanchiperiyavageusia.blogspot.com>

The following activities are being conducted:

1. Sloka class for children
2. Sloka class for Mahilas
3. Free Jathaka Parivarthana for South Indian Brahmins

We can be reached on WhatsApp: +91 73382 33661

Navarathri 2021 celebration (sloka chanting) by children from our group.





**Minnesota:** With Sri Periyava's blessings we celebrated Aippasi Anusham with Rudra Abhishekam and Lalitha Shasranama Parayanam. We celebrated Kamaskhi Jayanthi on Aippasi Puram day with Lalitha Shasranama parayanam and Mooka Panchasathi (Arya Sathakam) parayanam. Skanda Shasti was observed on Shasti day by chanting Kanda Shasti Kavacham and Sri Subramanya Bhujangam. During the auspicious Karthigai Masam our vidhyarthis are chanting Sri Rudram and chamakam every day and on Sundays Mahanyasam with Rudra Abhishekam to Sri Adi Shankara & Sri MahaPeriyava.

Jaya Jaya Sankara  
Hara Hara Sankara.



**Portland (KKSF):** With HH Periyava's blessings, Aippasi Anusham was held around Deepavali time. Host kids did Archana to HH MahaPeriyava, HH Jayendra Periyava, followed by recitation of Sadhguru Dashakam, Stotra malika composed by Pujiyashri Periyava, Durga Pancharatnam composed by HH MahPeriyava, Lakshmi Ashtakam, Deivathin Kural on "Bhakti". The program concluded with Thotakaashtakam, distribution of Sri Kanchi matam prasadams along with Vyasa Pujai prasadams. We also prayed for universal welfare. Program held with HH Periyava's krupai





**Tampa (KKSF) - November 2021:** With the Blessings and Anugrahams of Guru Parampara, KKSF Tampa Chapter celebrated Karthigai Anusham Pooja on November 6th @ Smt. Aruna and Sri. Anantha Sai Krishna Residence. Pooja Started at 4 PM with Ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Vishnu Sahasranama parayanam by Kids, Swasti, Ganapathy Dhyanam, Punyakavachanam, Varuna Avahanam, Rudrabhishekam for Shivan and Periyava, Pancha Suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shivan, Adi Shankara, Periyava, Pudhu periyava. Followed by Thotakashtakam and concluded with Naivedhyam and Maha Aarthi.



Attached are some of the pictures from Guru Pooja.

**Tampa (KKSF) - December 2021:** With the Blessings and Anugrahams of Guru Parampara, KKSF Tampa Chapter celebrated Margazhi Anusham Pooja on December 4th @ Smt. Aparna and Sri. Srinivasan's Residence. Pooja Started at 4 PM with Ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Vishnu Sahasranama parayanam by Kids, Swasti, Ganapathy Dhyanam, Punyakavachanam, Varuna Avahanam, Rudrabhishekam for Shivan and Periyava, Pancha Suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shivan, Adi Shankara, Periyava, Pudhu Periyava. The program concluded with Thotakashtakam followed by Naivedhyam and Maha Aarthi.



Attached are some of the pictures from Guru Pooja.



**Pennsylvania, Connecticut & New Jersey – KKSF NJ** celebrated Holy Padukas Pujas of HH Sri Maha Perivaa and HH Sri Perivaa Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal before, during and after Thanksgiving. Holy Prasadam from Sri Matam were distributed.

Landsdale, PA: On 13 November 2021 with Lagunyasa Rudra Parayanam, Paduka Abishekam, Archanas to Siva, Kamakshi, Adisankara, Both Perivaas



Wilton, Stamford and other towns in CT during Thanksgiving weekend in November 2021 with Shatru Samhara Trishati, Paduka Pujas across the state in different devotees' houses



Edison, NJ: On 3 December 2021 – With Ekavara Rudra abhishekam for Holy Padukas followed by Rudra Trisathai. Astothirams, Ashtotra Archanas for Sri Kamakshi Ambal, Sri Adi Sankara and to Both Perivaas. Devotees chanted Lalitha sahasranamam and Thotakashtakam followed by Namasangeerthanam



### **Sri Kamakshi Sri Vidya Samiti, KKSF, USA - Mukapanchashati Parayanam (31-Oct-2021)**

With the divine blessings and as ordained by HH Pujyashri Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Sankaracharya Swamigal SKSVS KKSF, USA, presented the first Parayanam of the Mukapachashati rendition series. The Parayanam of Arya Shatakam was held on Sunday October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 which was the Aipasi Pooram day.

The program started with Swasti Vachanam and Guru Vandanam, followed by a short introduction of SKSVS, KKSF USA by Smt. Lakshmi Gopalan.

Vedamurthi Brahmasri Mullaivasal Krishnamurthy Sastrigal spoke about the significance of Mukapanchashathi with an explanation of Arya shatakam.

Following Sastrigal's enriching talk, PujyaSri Periyava's Anugraha Bhashanam was played. Sri Mayuranathan from Kamakshi Kamakoti Sankara foundation of Canada gave a very apt introduction to his students that were participating in the Parayanam. It was a bliss to hear Ambal's glory being recited

The Parayanam was followed by a talk on Sthreei Dharmam by Vaideega Marga Darshini Smt. Prema Krishnamurthy. Kum Bhavani LakshmiNarayanan and Kum.Shrishti Iyer and Kum Samhita Iyer presented Ambal Krithis.

The program concluded with vote of thanks by Smt. Nandini Vishwam followed by Deeparadhanai. The next recitation of the pAdAravinda shatakam is scheduled for December 25.

**Vedam-Nadam Group, KKSF of North Carolina, USA** - A group of sixty enthusiastic devotees from India and USA under the dynamic guidance and leadership of Smt Anuradha Chivukula undertook Mandala Deeksha of Sri Adi Shankaracharya's Sivansndalahari Parayana during the Karthika Masam.

The Parayanam went on for forty days starting from 25th October concluding on 4th of December. Besides the Parayanam, the group also undertook a virtual pilgrimage of all important abodes of Lord Shiva, the 12 Jyothirlingas, Pancha Bhutha Lingas, Pancha Aramas, Pancha Kendras, Pancha Kailasas and other famous Lord Siva temples spread over the length and breadth of our sacred country. This entire virtual pilgrimage attempted



to give an overall idea of the all-pervasive, omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent God within and all around us.

As a part of this Karthika Parayanam, the group also had Virtual Darshan of Ashta Vinayaka Kshetras in Maharashtra and the Arupadaiveedu of Lord Murugan in Tamilnadu. The group discussed the legends of Sri Subrahmanya Swamy and attempted to have an insight into the spiritual significance of these legends.

The group not only discharged their religious duties, but also attempted to fulfill their social responsibilities. The group collectively contributed for Laksha Bilwarchana, and Annabhishekam of Lord Shiva and Abhishekam of Sri Subrahmanya. Contributed for Gograsam and construction of Gosala and educational kits to needy students. The group also supported financially 5 temples in Krishna district, Andhra Pradesh

The group is fortunate to contribute to the redevelopment of Jyeshta Devi Mandir, Srinagar, which they visited in 2016.

Smt Anuradha and her group of devoted students thus had an exceptionally elevating experience by the end of this Mandala Parayanam. Lord blessed a few of the devotees with his Darshan at Srisailam and gave a chance to recite Soundaryalahari and Sivansndalahari at the place where Jagadguru Sri Sankaracharya was said to have written these Stotrams, Seeking the blessings of Sri Sankaracharya, this group offers the Mandala Deeksha Parayanam at the lotus feet of Lord Shiva in all humility and humbleness.

### **Washington Periyava Satsangam(WAPS) – Seattle**

Smt. Priya, Shri. Vishy and Chi. Anikait conducted periva padhuka pujai in their home by welcoming periva with purnakumbham, followed by abhishekam, veda parayanam, shlokam and Sangita samarpanam by children and Narayaaneeyam chanting by adults. Students of Medha, an initiative of Sankara Healthcare Foundation to teach shlokams and bhajans to children with special needs, also joined remotely and offered shlokam and sangita samarpanam. After prasadam devotees joined remotely and in-person for sampurna gita parayanam to celebrate Gita Jayanthi.

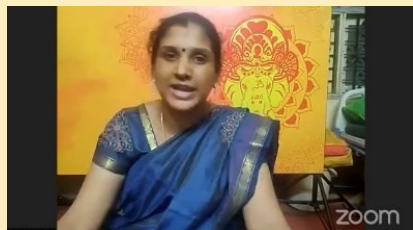


## **Shangai, China: Arul Tharum Mahaperiyava (ATM) Global Group**

Arultharum Mahaperiyava Group is a Virtual Global Platform founded on 29th May 2021 at Shanghai, China, by Mr. Srinivasan and Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Srinivasan, with the blessings of HH Pujyasri Sri Bala Periyava of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. Group Advisor Mr. Chandramouli (Grandson of Sri Mahaperiyava poorvasrama family).

As of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021, over 3000 families spread across 10 Countries, are actively participating in activities initiated by the Group through eleven ATM WhataApp Groups.

**ATM Saraswathi Pooja:** ATM Group Celebrated Sawaswathi Pooja with the objective of enlightening the next generation on Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswathi pooja. Special Pravachanam on Mupperum Deviyarin Mahimai by Harikath Smt.Sinduja



was arranged virtually Live on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and attended by over 200 devotees from various countries. Further as part of the celebration on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 ATM Group arranged Bharathanatyam by Nrithya Kala Rathna Shri. J.Krishna Kumar.

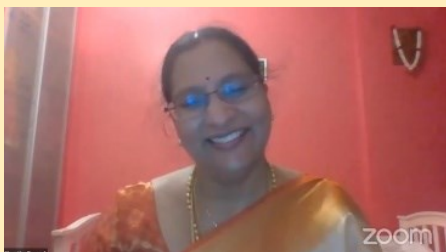


## **ATM Diwali Special Celebration**

Arul Tharum Mahaperiyava Group celebrated three days of devotional Diwali. The objective of the celebration was focused on appreciating talents of ATM devotees and their children, participating in Bhajans, Satsangam. The three days celebration was attended by over 500 devotees virtually from various countries.

### **30<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021:**

Bharathanatyam live by UMR Abani Sri Swarupa (13 years child, devotee of ATM Mahaperivaya Group) and Bhagavath Gita Geethopanisham by Smt.Shantha Prasad from Singapore



### **31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2021:**

Bharathanatyam live by Natyakala Mayuri Smt.Uma Maheswai (Founder Aaradhya School of fine art, one of our group devotees)



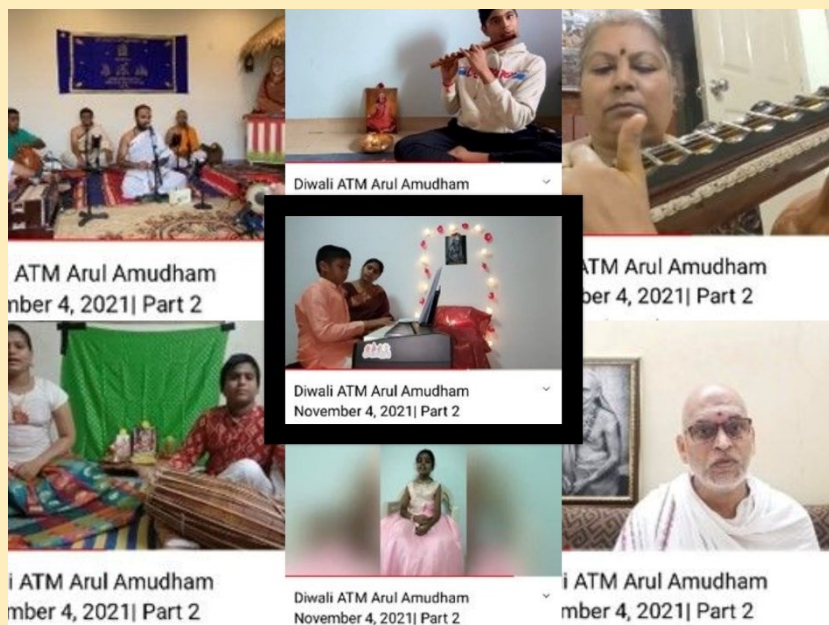


Bhajan by Sri Bala Vital Satsang by Students of Sri Manikandan Bhagavathar (Vocal by Ms.R.Mrudhulabaashini, ATM Devotee)



#### **04<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021:**

ATM Group conducted Diwali day YouTube Live program titled “Diwali Arulamudam” was addressed and graced by Shri.Ganesa Sarma, Shri. Neyveli Santhana Gopalan, Shri. Chandramouli, Shri. Pitchai Swaminatha Iyer, Shri.Ramakrishna Ganapadigal, New Jersey Shri. Swaminathan and various others. ATM Group Children performed Devotional Singing / Music on the day of grand celebration.



#### **ATM Skandasasti Celebration**

On the occasion of Skandashasti, ATM Group organised Thiruppugazh by Thiruppugazh Thenisai Mamani Dr.Girija Hariharan and team





## Karthigai Maasa Veda Parayanam

ATM Group organised Yejur, Sama, Rig veda parayanam by Vidhyartees from Chathurveda Vidhya Ganapathy Vedashram Patasalai, Aathur in weekly Saturday Satsang.



## Ghosamrakshanam by ATM Group Devotees

ATM Group organised Ghosamrakshanam at Nandhi Ghosalai on 04<sup>th</sup> December 2021 with participation of ATM devotees across the globe.



ATM Gho Poojai | 4.12.2021



ATM Gho Poojai | 4.12.2021

## ATM Nama Jabam Live

ATM initiated “OM Nama Shivaya Nama Jabam” Live by ATM Devotees on Arudhra Thiruvadarai Celebration. ATM Group also conducted “Rama Nama Jabam” on Ekadasi day, participated by Group devotees.



### ATM Bagawath Gita Moral Story

As part of ATM initiative in educating our cultural values to our next generation, we have organized Bagawath Gita Moral Story to Children in the age group of 4 to 12 years. The objective of the program is to enlighten children on life Discipline, Bakthi and Sanatana dharma as though by Bagawath Gita.



### ATM Sahasra Gayathri Japam

Arultharum Mahaperiyava Devotees conducted Sahastra Gayathri japam on few Sunday during the month of October and November 2021.



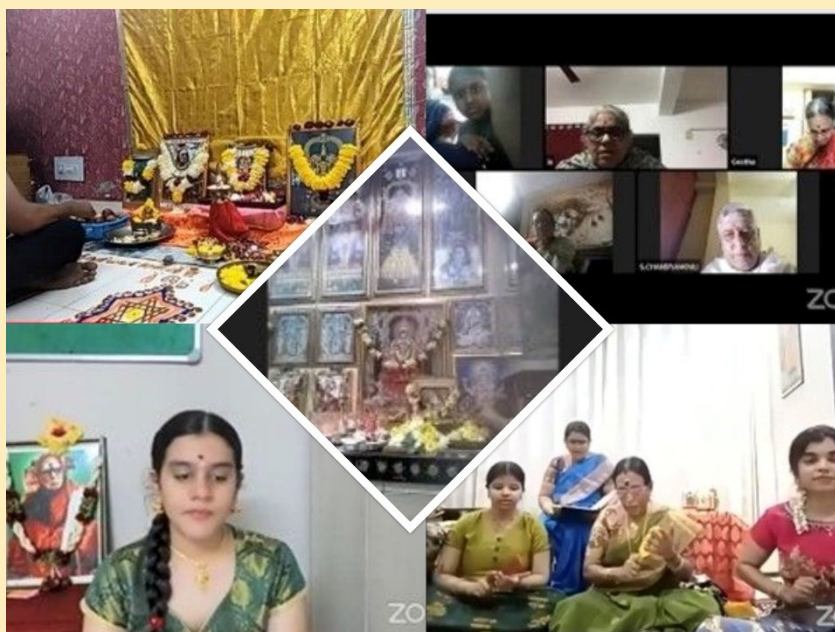
Sahasra Gayathri | 12.12.2021 |  
Arultharum Mahaperiyava Group



Sahasra Gayathri | 12.12.2021 |  
Arultharum Mahaperiyava Group

### ATM Monthly Poojai

Arultharum Mahaperiyava Group selects a Devotee and arrange Sastrigal Manthram telecast by virtual zoom link and let the devotee family and performed monthly Adi Sankara Jayanthi, Annusha Jayanthi and Nithya Sloka Parayanam. We do live telecast of our devotee pooja in our Youtube channel.





Whilst this section was introduced to encourage children living overseas to learn, contemplate & contribute, the overwhelming interest from within India has resulted in contributions from within India too.

**Bhakthi** by Keerthana Guhan, Kamakshi Srividya Samithi

51 verses that made me realize why bhakthi is important. Kandhar Anubhoothi written by Shri Arunagirinathar tells us how he sees lord muruga and how easy it is to attain his Sharanam. Few verses from the anubhoothi can be very useful for us. “*Aadum Pari vel*”, vel being the metaphor for how sharp and deep our knowledge and bhakthi should be and by “*padum paniye paniyaay arulvai*” he says if we sing or even chant his naama he will give us moksha. We should first work on stopping ourselves from running behind the Maya (worldly needs). Once



we start singing Kandhar anubhoothi, lord muruga will be our only focus, we would want to attain his sharanam more than anything else. Naama chanting (rama nama, krishna nama or muruga nama) will bring more clarity and focus and show us the path to attain Bhagwan. “*Kizhaipattu ezhu soor*,” the mountain of ego we all have is very dangerous but lord muruga will save us by a touch of the vel (knowledge), Knowledge is the biggest boon anyone can have. So once we gain the trust and knowledge that Muruga will save us no matter what, that ego will be destroyed. Achaaryal mentions in the bhujangam: Don’t give Upadhesams through Aarumugam but pleads saying you have 12 eyes, give me kataksham by seeing me with one eye at least. If we have ekantha bhakthi, lord muruga will surely bless us. “*Summa iru sollara endralume*” when you practice the art of being quite (without talking worldly talks), you will attain peace.



“*Perasai enum piniyil pinipattu*” we should first be able to recognise that we have unnecessary needs and wishes(worldly pleasures), so once we recognise we should think about lord muruga and plead for clarity and more bhakthi towards him. That realization is important. In the next few verses Arunagirinathar is pleading for Lord Muruga's kataksham. If we repeat the verse “*Atharamilen arulai perave.....Suraloka sikaamaniye*” lord muruga will give us some sign of his presence. In the next few verses he pleads for a good satsang, surround me with good people and good thoughts. He also mentions that the gnyanam you give me should turn into bhakthi and not the ahankaram that I have more knowledge. “*Sinthakulam anavai theerthenayal, kantha kumara kathirvelavane amaiyal maintha kumara*

*marai nayakane*”, if you want to let go of your worries read this verse again and again. Like this for every problem we have Anubhoothi has a solution. Once we identify the problem and read the verse that is related to it, lord muruga will help us eventually.

Learning Kandhar Anubhoothi was a bhagyam for me, later coming to know about the meaning has added more density and volume, which made me realize that these 51 verses are enough for us to get clarity, knowledge and bhakthi.



**The Song of Krishnaa by Adithi Vimal, (11 years, 7<sup>th</sup> Std)**  
Srividya Sampradaya Adambakkam, Chennai Shaka

Who am I to you?  
You, me - Me, you,  
We are one!

Krishna - Krishnaa  
Premi - Prema  
Being - Becoming  
Image - Shadow  
Who am I to you?

Lotus-eyed, Jasmine-scented  
Beloved Krishna...  
Enraptured, I yearn for your sweet words and sweeter kisses.

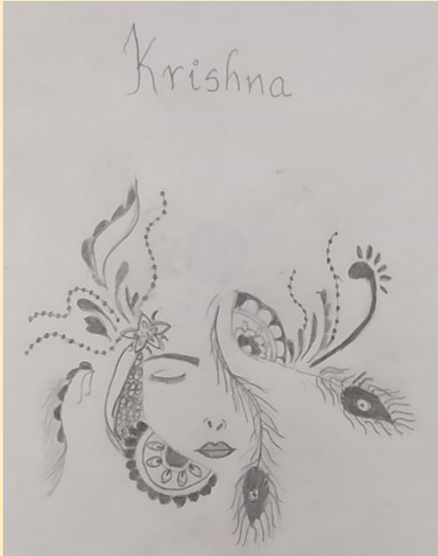
Mayavi, tell me,  
Who am I to you?



**Krishna: How I see him!**

Like everyone, I grew up listening to the stories of Krishna's birth and his adventures in Brindavan. I have watched many videos and cartoons on Krishna, a mischievous boy who loves butter and pranks. "Maadu Meikum Kanne" is one of my favourite songs on the carefree spirit of the boy who wants to play all through the day.

But Krishna is also Radha's beloved, he is the other half of her. Bhakti songs praise the love of Radha and Krishna like in Asthapadi "Priye Charuseele". I see Krishna as the dark sky and Radha as the bright moon that glows in it. The poem is in the voice of Radha who wishes to know who she is to Krishna. She is Krishnaa, the female half of him. The naughty Krishna refuses to answer, but just smiles mysteriously.





Sanatana dharma is the way of life in Hinduism. It sets out an exhaustive set of rules and virtues that needs to be followed by every Hindu such as honesty, refraining from all sorts of violence, forbearance, self-restraint, generosity and many more qualities for e.g., in Bhagavat Gita, Arjuna's dilemma to war against his own brothers, is cleared when Krishna explains that the war is against adharma and not his brothers. This is an exception even though Sanatana dharma preaches non- violence.

Adi Shankaracharya, with His great knowledge revived Sanatana dharma and brought mutual understanding and harmony among all religions in India. Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Swami, the 68th Jagaduru of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, made a strong impact in reinstating the Sanatana dharma

and was very focused on completing what Adi Shankaracharya had started. His preaching's are captured in the book "Voice of God" which specifies how to follow Sanatana dharma.

He refers that simple act of lighting a lamp, Sandhyavandhan and fasting on Ekadashi is part of it.

Sanathana Dharma preaches "Loka Samastha Sukino Bhavantu" which was emphasised during both the Jagadhguru's period and is relevant to mankind forever.

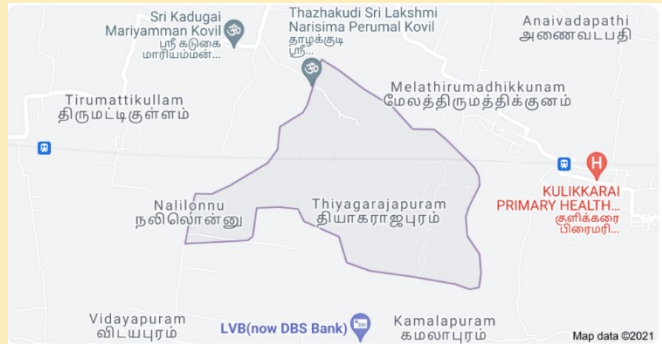


### Know Your Village

#### **Thiyagarajapuram ( தியாகராஜபுரம் )**

Location:

Thiyagarajapuram ( தியாகராஜபுரம் ) is a village that belongs to Thanjavur District. The village stands in between Aduthurai (also known as Maruthuvakudi) and Narasinganpettai. It is located 45 kms towards East from the district headquarters Thanjavur. The distance between the State capital Chennai and this village is 291 kms. Situated on the banks of River Kaveri, which is one kilometer away from the village, Thiyagarajapuram has five long streets namely Agrahara Theru, Vadaku Theru, Merku Theru, Therku Theru and Kizhaku Theru. These streets are significantly aligned to the different temples in the village.



Major Temples:

The village has two major temples: *Lakshminarayana Perumal Temple* and *Viswanatha samedha Visalakshi Temple*. *Lakshminarayana Perumal Temple* has Perumal as the Moolavar (Mūlavar) and Rama, Sita and Lakshmana as the Utsava Murthis. During every Vaikuntha Ekadesi day there is swami purapadu (purappattu) and the pooja is performed by a gurukul who belongs to the Ahobila mutt. Initially, the temple was maintained by a family headed by Shri. Krishnaswamy and then it was handed over to the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department. The temple is at the entrance of the Agrahara theru.

In the Shiva temple there is swami purapadu (purappattu) during Maha Shivaratri in which the whole village participates. The pradosha pooja is performed twice a month and this is performed by a gurukul who

comes from Thiruvavaduthurai. The houses in the village take turns to organise the pradasha pooja. Kumbhabhishekham (Samprokshanam) was performed for both the temples well within the past five years. Both the temples have lands and coconut farms; the Vadaku Theru belongs to the Shivan Koil and the Kizhaku Theru belongs to the Perumal Koil. Mr. Nagarajan, a retired Executive Engineer from BSNL, oversees the temple activities in the village.

#### Guardian Deities Of The Village:

Besides these temples, there are two Kaval deivams (Kāval teyvams) (Guardian deities) of the village. The *Narabali Amman Koil* is the first one. Situated on the main road, the temple belongs to the Kizhaku theru and Narabali Amman is the presiding deity. (Interestingly, there is a Narabali Amman koil in Thyagarajapuram in Mylapore). The second Kaval deivam (Kāval teyvam) is the *Muneeswaran Koil* that belongs to the Merku Theru. The kavadi dance festival is one of the highlights of the temple and the other being terukkoottu (terukkūttu), where plays on traditional themes from myths and epics are performed.

#### Kanchi Mutt And The Village:

The most significant event with regard to the village was the three-day stay of Mahaperiavaa in Late Shri Subramaniya Sastrigal's house. Mahaperiavaa performed pooja in the house during his stay and blessed all the villagers. Shri Subramaniya Sastrigal is the father of Late Pune T.S. Srinivasa Sastri, an ardent devotee of the acharyas of the Kanchi Mutt and who was closely associated with Pujiyashri Jeyandra Saraswathi Swamigal. Subramaniya Sastrigal's father-in-law Late Sivaramapuram Sriramachandra Sastrigal (alias Sriraman) had the privilege of being closely associated with Paramacharya.

#### A Significant Religious Site:

Another outstanding feature of this village is that a jeeyar swamigal belonging to Sri Ahobila Mutt attained siddhi in this village and there is a "Samadhi Koil" dedicated to him. Poojas for the mahan are performed by priests sent by the Ahobila Mutt.

#### The Agraharam's Present Situation:

The Agraharam houses forty families of which, at present, only ten families belong to the Brahmin community.

#### Connected Locales:

If Thiagarajapuram is on one side of River Kaveri, there are two important places: Kanjanur and Manalur on the other side. In Kanjanur there is a famous Shiva Temple, '*The Agniswarar Temple*' that belongs to the Thirugnaana Sambandhar Mutt of the Madurai Adheenam. Another highlight of the Kanjanur temple is that the Nataraja idol is made of stone (Kal Nataraja). On the Thiruvathirai day abhishekam is performed for Lord Nataraja which is devoutly witnessed by many people.

Another close by village is Kumanandurai and the Kumanandurai Vinayagar Temple is quite famous. In the precincts of the same temple a ritual in the form of a dance-drama featuring the reducing to ashes of Kamadeva (Madana) by Lord Shiva is performed. 'Eriyatha Koothu' and 'Eringa Koothu' are the names associated with this dance ritual mapping the progress of the mythical account.

#### The Legends Associated with The Place:

There are two interlinked legends associated with Kanjanur which forms a significant part of the sthalapurana of the whole region. There was a vaishnavite saint named Haradatta Sivachariyar, who constantly told people that Shiva and Vishnu are One and the same and that they are like our two eyes. He exhorted them not to discriminate between them. When he was asked to prove this by a tough test of proclaiming this truth standing on a large-sized heated iron plate, he did so with abiding faith and conviction. Inspired by his conviction and devotion, the people in the village became his followers.

The other story is about a devout woman called Akku Paati who continually performed pooja to Lord Vinayaga by offering Kozhukkattai as Naivedya ('offering to God'). She lived by eating only this prasadam.



When there was an opportunity for the villagers to go to Kailayam (Kailash) owing to the devotion of Haradatta Sivachariyar, all the villagers joined him to ascend to Kailayam in the chariot sent for this purpose. When Akku Paati was asked to join, she said that she will not be able to leave till she finishes her prayer and the naivedya. Not able to wait for her, the villagers left her behind. When Akku Paati finished her prayer and the consequent offering, she realised that she was alone in the village. She prayed to Lord Vinayaga, who instantly transported her to Kailayam using his trunk. The legend has it that Akku Paati reached Shiva's abode much before her fellow villagers and that she actually received them when they reached there. Akku Paati's story, quite significantly, resembles one of the major incidents in Avvaiyar's life. The significance of the story is that Lord Vinayaga after transporting Akku Paati to Kailayam in a hurry sat in the southerly direction in the temple and hence he is called 'Therkumuga Pillayar'. It is believed that it is only in this temple that Lord Vinayaga sits in the southerly direction.

**Please register here if you belong to Thiagarajapuram -- [shorturl.at/kERSU](http://shorturl.at/kERSU)**





**Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara**



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