Jaya Jaya Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara







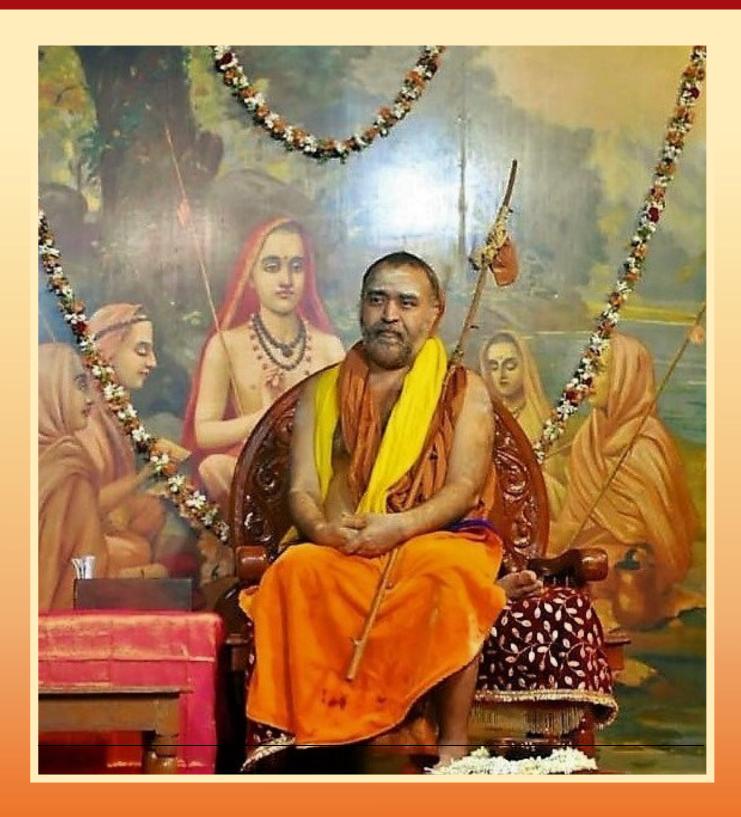
**NRI NEWSLETTER** An Initiative of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam



Hara Hara Sankara Hara Hara Sankara

Volume VI, Issue III – August 2024 – Kanchipuram

(For private circulation only)



# Message from Acharya Swamigal to NRI Devotees

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Shruti Smriti PuranānāmĀlayamKarunālayam NamaamiBhagavadpādaShankaramLokaShankaram SadāshivaSamārambhāmShankarāchāryaMadhyamām AsmadĀcharyaParyantamVandeGuruparamparām

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#### Message of Blessings

Message of Blessings (translated to English) of Acharya Swamigal, given at Sri Ramanathaswamy Devasthanam, Rameswaram on 17-July-2024 after performing 'Gangabhishekam' and 'Pujas'.

Text of Acharya Swamigal's Message of Blessings:

"In our Bharatha Desam, fostering 'Dharma (Righteousness), 'Bakthi (Devotion)', and 'amity' are emphasized for the good life and welfare of the people at large. For instilling good thoughts and interpersonal harmony, the ancient Tamil tradition has given us golden maxims such as, "Have a charitable disposition", "Worshiping at Temples is the best among ideals" and "Mother and Father are our foremost Gods".

These virtues have also been emphasized in the work, 'Aachara Kovai'.

To inculcate such right thinking from a young age, our forefathers have given prescriptions like, "Don't live in a place where there is no Temple" and the like, and on that principle they had built Temples in all small towns and villages down the ages. Given that the very sight of a 'Gopuram' (Temple tower) confers infinite merit on people, our Forefathers, Kings and Sages have bequeathed to us a rich legacy of Temples and Shrines so that their universal benefit reached one and all and to enable people earn that merit by doing the right things.

In line with that philosophy, devotional Tamil hymns inform us how "Lord Shiva is invoked as the Supreme God in the South (of Bharath) and how he is celebrated as the Cosmic Being of all Humanity." It is in this Southern part of our Country, Rameswaram, which houses the famous Temple of Sri Ramanathaswamy, shines as a pilgrim centre that eminently redresses all sufferings of the people. Elsewhere we have heard of 'sacred waters' as found in Tanks and Rivers, but here in Rameswaram Island it is the sea itself that holds the 'sacred waters' called 'Agni Theertham', besides being home to several other 'sacred wells (Tirthams)'.

People from all over India, from Himachal Pradesh, neighbouring countries like Nepal and other countries visit Rameswaram with great reverence and devotion and offer worship to Lord Shiva. Adi Shankara, the propounder of the 'Advaita' Philosophy, had been here centuries ago with even greater veneration for the Lord.

Acharya Swamigal rendered the 'Sauraashtraya Somanatham cha Jyothir Linga Sthothrangal', an amazing composition with verses like:

"Nibathya Sethum Sathatham Murinthiraihi,

Sri Ramachandrena Samarchitham tam

(Rameswaraakyam Nishi Bilva Pathraihi)

Rameswaraakyam Sathatham Namame"

This verse in Sanskrit informs us about the uniqueness of this Temple for Sri Ramanathaswamy and His consort Parvathavarthini as the shrine where Lord Rama had offered prayers on 'Maha Shivaratri' Day. It is also a great shrine whose praise was sung by Adi Shankara and is one of the 12 'Jyothir Linga' abodes in the country. The beautiful structure that this Temple embodies was built in days when there were far less construction facilities. Look at its beautiful 'Prakaras' (circumambulatory corridors) and you can feel the aesthetics of space that has gone into building this shrine. It is to this very special temple that our Paramacharya of the Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt (Sri Chandrasekherandra Saraswathi) visited here at a young age in the 1920s'.

Even in those days, praying for the welfare of our Country, HH, adhering to the path of Non-Violence preached by Mahatma Gandhi, gave up wearing Silk clothes and had switched to wearing 'Khadi'.

Some 200 pairs of 'Khadi dhotis' were asked by Maha Periyava to be fetched from Madurai, which HH started wearing after taking a dip in the sea at Dhanushkoti, southernmost tip of Rameswaram.

That remains an enduring testimony to Kanchi Paramacharya's simplicity, devotion and patriotic spirit at such a young age. It was from Dhanushkoti at Rameswaram that HH began sporting 'Khadi' cloth. HH had visited Rameswarm several times and had performed the 'Abhishekam (ritual bath)' for Ramanatha Swamy.

Following the Paramacharya's footsteps, Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, who succeeded HH as the Pontiff of the Kanchi Mutt and known for taking the message of 'Dharma (righteousness)' to the people in a simple, easily comprehensible manner, had also visited Rameswaram several times, undertook several constructive works, besides performing 'Abhishekam (ritual bath)' to the Lord.

It was this day last year, after we had embarked on a pilgrimage to Kashi (Banaras), Prayagraj (Allahabad) and other places of pilgrimage in the North to worship the principal Deities there, which was special.

It was in the Tamil month of 'Aadi', 'Ekadashi' (11th lunar day of the waxing phase of the Moon), this very same day last year, we were in Prayagraj where we collected water from the sacred river Ganga in a 'Kalasam' (a large brass pot).

On that occasion, a 'Shiva Lingam' shaped from the sands of Dhanushkoti in the previous year and taken from here to Prayagraj, was immersed in the Ganga River.

Following this, sacred water from the Ganga was collected and stored in several 'Kalasams'. These 'Kalasams', for which 'Poojas' were performed through the year, were brought from there to the South and yesterday we performed special 'Pooja' for them at Thiruvanaikaval (near Srirangam, Tiruchirappalli). From there we brought the 'Kalasams' containing the sacred Ganga water to Rameswaram today, where on 'Ekadasi' day, 'Rudrabhishekam' and 'Homams' were performed.

Just as there are hymns in praise of Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lalithambika, known as 'Vishnu Sahasranamam' and 'Lalitha Sahsranamam' respectively, we have the 'Ganga Sahasranamam', hymns in praise of Mother Ganga.

So, by God's grace, I had the opportunity today to perform the 'Abhishekam' to Lord Ramanatha swamy here with the water stored in the 'Kalasams' and for which regular 'Poojas' had been done. The Kanchi Paramacharya and HH successor Sri Jayendra Saraswathi have blessed us to continue with what they had been doing in the service of God.

Through such service, we promote national unity, which would also keep the people of Rameswaram peaceful and happy. This day- Ashada Ekadasi- is very significant, falling on a Wednesday under the star 'Anusham', which is also the birth star of the Kanchi Paramacharya, Sri Chandrasekhendra Saraswathi. It is an auspicious occasion too, combining within its fold both 'Goodness' and 'Secure living'.

The Deity corresponding to 'Anusham' or 'Anuradha' Nakshatra (star) is 'Mithran', meaning 'friendliness' or 'friendship'. That is the quality of the birth star of the Kanchi Paramacharya!

I sincerely wish and pray to Goddess Parvathavarthini and Lord Ramanathaswamy that 'good thoughts' should inform the minds of people and that everyone should lead their lives with prosperity, safety, peace and with cordiality. The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department have made special arrangements to make this occasion memorable.

I also wish to announce that the Kanchi Math will expand its educational activities in Rameswaram island, creating additional facilities for imparting quality education. People like Abdul Kalam (former President of India) hail from this place and the Mutt is planning to take up other initiatives as well to better the life of the people of Rameswaram. May everyone be healthy and happy."

# Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara

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<u>Editorial:</u> Admissions open for academic year 2024 – 2025 at Sri Chandradekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya. Details below:



Devotees are encouraged to send their queries on religious/spiritual matters to nrikanchinews@gmail.com and the team will consult with experts in the field at Sri Matam and facilitate response as appropriate in the subsequent editions.





# Jagadguru Vacanam

Acharya Swamigal is blessing us with many important messages in HIS Anugraha Bhashanam on various occasions. Sri Shaankari team has compiled many of them as short capsules (arulurai). Excerpts from Anugraha Bashanam of Acharya Swamigal are shared as quotes and audios on regular basis.

Instagram@Jagadguruvacanam

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Twitter.com/JagadguruVacan

ຮາລັນຮີ້ເປີ ລາະລື -Kamakoti Vani - Newsletter in Telugu – March 2024 edition is available now at <u>https://kamakoti.org/telugu/newsletter/kama</u> koti-vani-telugu-newsletter.html

Kamakoti Vani Marathi Newsletter – March 2024 edition https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/Marathi/News letter/kamakoti-vani-Marathi-Mar-2024.html

Sri Kamakoti Pradeepam - Monthly spiritual magazine in Tamil - April 2024 edition is now available. <u>https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/books/Kamak</u> <u>oti-Pradeepam-Magazine.html</u>

Sri Kamakoti Vani – Newly launched Newsletter in Kannada. June 2024 edition is now available. <u>https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/Kannada/Ne</u> <u>wsletter/</u>

## 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 prosterity, 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/CnnUZXNfMtudwgZW9

Contact details: +91 7358 399425, +91 9940 236425 or email at brahmanasabha.org@gmail.com

#### www.brahmanasabha.org



This issue covers the Holy Camp from 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 by HIS HOLINESS PUJYASRI SANKARA VIJAYENDRA SARASWATI SANKARAACHARYA SWAMIGAL:

| Period                        | Camp Location                            |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 20-Mar-2024 till 23-June-2024 | Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, Kanchipuram. |
| 24-June-2024 till 18-Sep-2024 | Mahaswamigal Manimandapak, Orikkai       |

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. or by scanning the QR code.

# Prashnottara Ratna Malika

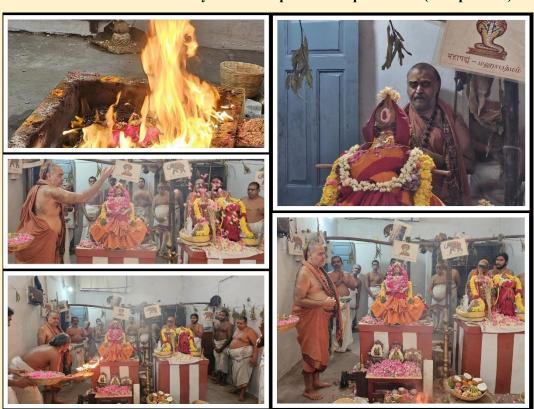
This is the eternal and perennial wisdom of the great savant called Adi Shankara Bhagawat Pada in the form of searching questions and pithy answers. This literally means Garland of Gems of questions and answers.

We encourage the younger generation (10 or above till 25 or so) to reach out if you have any questions and the answers to the same can be published in this section. You can submit your entries to <u>nrikanchinews@gmail.com</u>



| Questions  | Answers  |
|--|--|
| Who is brave                                     | One who protects those in fright               |
| Who is the protector                             | Siva   |
| What is the source of knowledge                  | Siva   |
| How can one be released                          | By devotion to Mukunda (Vishnu)                |
| Who is Mukunda                                   | One who takes us across ignorance              |
| What is ignorance                                | The non-manifestation of the Self              |
| For whom there is no sorrow                      | For one who has no anger                       |
| What is happiness                                | Contentment                                    |
| Who is king                                      | One who makes others happy                     |
| Who is a dog                                     | One who serves the lowly                       |
| Who wields Maya                                  | The Supreme lord                               |
| What is the divine magic                         | This world                                     |
| What resembles a dream                           | The activities of our waking life              |
| What is real                                     | Brahman  |
| What is illusory                                 | That which is destroyed by knowledge           |
| What is indeterminable as either real or un-real | Мауа   |
| What is that which is superimposed (imagined)    | Duality  |
| Since when is unknowingness present              | It is beginningless                            |
| What is the sustainer of the body                | The actions that have started yielding results |
| What bestows food                                | That is lifespan                               |

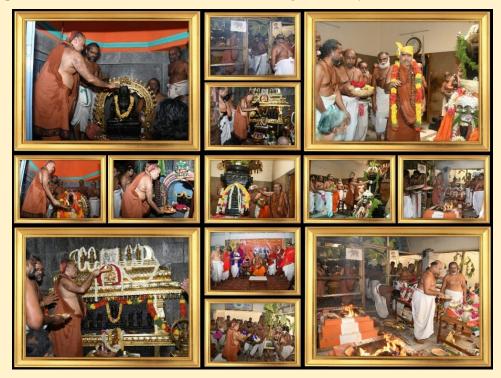




#### Vasanta Navaratri - Srividya homam - poornahuti performed (17-Apr-2024)

# Jeeranodharana Mahotsavam of Sri Sureshwaracharyal Sannidhi performed (03-May-2024)

With benign blessings of Acharya Swamigal, Jeeranodharana Mahotsavam of Sri Sureshwaracharyal Sannidhi was performed. Sri Krodhi Chaitra Krushna Dashami - Shankara Samvat 2532. The Yagashala pujas commenced on 1st May 2024 and poornahuti was performed this morning (3rd May). Acharya Swamigal performed abhishekam to Sri Anugnya Ganapati, Sri Adi Shankara and Sri Sureshwaracharya Sannidhis. A large number of devotees participated in the mahotsvam and received the blessings of Acharyas.



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#### Veda Patashala students from Sikkim visit Kanchipuram (05-May-2024)

Students of Veda Patashala- Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Samiti, Ranipool, Sikkim, visited various temples in Kanchipuram and the palm-leaf manuscript library at Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya (Kanchi University)



அவர்களது ஆசிரியர்களு ன் காஞ்சிபுரம் அருகே ஏனாத்தூரில் அமைந் துள்ள சந்திர சேகரேந்திரா நிகர்நிலை பல்கலைக்கழகத் திற்கு வருகை புரிந்தனர். அப்போது பல்கலைக்கழக

எவ்வாறு பாதுகாத்து வரு கிறோம் என பல்கலையின் பேராசிரியர் நாகேசுவர ராவ் மாணவர்களுக்கு விளக்கி கூறினார்.

மாணவர்களும் ஒலைச் சுவடிகளை பார்வையிட்

குறித்த ஆராய்ச்சிகள் செய் வது, வேதபாடங்களை கற்றுக்கொள்வதால் ஏற்ப டும் வேலைவாய்ப்புகள், பயன்கள், விண்ணப்பிக்கும் முறைகள் ஆகியன குறித்து விரிவாக விளக்கி கூறினார்.

# 2533rd Shankara Jayanti Mahotsavam - Rig Veda Homam at Kalady-Kerala (08-May-2024)

2533<sup>rd</sup> Jayanti Mahotsavam of Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya- Rigveda (Samhita) homam is being performed for eight days at Sri Adi Shankaracharya Keerti Sthambam, in Kalady, Kerala - the birthplace of Sri Adi Shankara with the blessings of Acharya Swamigal.



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# Shankara Jayanti celebrations in Kanchipuram (08-May-2024)

Shankara Jayanti Mahotsavam commenced at Kanchipuram on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Shankara Bhagawadpathal was taken in procession from Shrimatam to Sri Kashi Vihswanatha Swami temple on the banks of the Sarvateertham tank with Veda Parayanam. Rudrabhishekam was performed. On the way back to Shrimatam, deeparadhana was performed and Totakashtakam was recited.



# Shri Shankara Bhagavatpada Prashasti Sangraha

(A compilation of stutis on the Acharya)

Shri Shankara Bhagavatpada incarnated 2532 years ago on Vaishakha Shukla Panchami of the 2594<sup>th</sup> Kali year (509 BCE).

It is because of the avatara of Bhagavatpada that our Sanatana Dharma was protected at that time. The shruti smriti purana-s and the dharma-s shown by them continue to be preserved even today. Otherwise the avaidika practices prevalent at His time would have overpowered the Sanatana traditions.

Jagadguru Shri Shankara Acharya, praised with devotion as Bhagavatpada, showed to the jagat by His achara by taking diksha as per procedure in the parampara starting from Adi Guru Dakshinamurti / jnana svarupi Shriman Narayana.

Many of our forebears have extolled and celebrated Shri Bhagavatpada in many ways. To read such stutis during occasions such as His Jayanti will purify and uplift our mind, remove sins and bestow all that is auspicious.

2500 years have now elapsed since Shri Bhagavatpada merging with the Parambika at Kanchi after having ascended the Sarvajna Peetam and established the Acharya Peetam for us. This is a momentous occasion!

In view of this, as per the ajna of our Acharya Swamigal, such a stuti compilation is being published for the joy of devotees.

PDFs in multiple scripts - https://bit.ly/shankara-prashasti

With the blessings of Acharya Swamigal, Sri Shankara Jayanti celebrated at various places with havans, veda parayan, visesha parayan and pujas.(12-May-2024)

Guwahati, Amritsar, Kanchipuram, Thenambakkam, Ayodhya, New Delhi, Kathmandu, Dhanghadi Nepal, Bhadrachalam, Telangana, Mukkamla, AndhraPradesh, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Tiruvanaikovil,

https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/news/2024/sri-shankara-38135-20240514.html

#### Sri Shankara Jayanti celebrated, Book on Gou Mahima and Gou Samvardhan released in Ahmedabad

Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Educational & Cultural Centre Gota, Ahmedabad campus has a temple of Adi Sankara that enshrines lord Ganesha, goddess Saraswati along with Jagadguru Adi Shankara. Sri Kanchi Sankara Public School and Mahalakshmi Goushala exist in the campus along with the temple. School offers education in both Gujarati and English medium up to 10th standard. The Goushala shelters and nurtures cows.

On the day of Sankara Jayanti on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Homam, and Abhishekam were performed in the morning hours in the temple prayer hall.

In the evening, celebrations commenced with the launch of 'Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati - Samskruti, Hasta Vidya evem Kala Pathasala'. A book on Gou Mahima and Gou Samvardhan written by Mr. Arun Shah [retired from Govt. Services] was released. The author also spoke about Sri Sankara as part of the book release event.

Mr. Jayant Trivedi, Trustee of this centre spoke about the Guru Sishya Parampara of Sri Kamakoti Peetham and explained about the trust and the educational and Cultural activities of this centre to the audience. The book release and the talks took place in the prayer hall of the Adi Sankara temple of this centre.

Mr. Arun Shah studied and collected information from Mahalakshmi Goushala of this centre, and from many other Goushalas to write about the spiritual, religious, information about cows to include in his book authored in Gujarati language.

"Satkarya" is a social group from Shela of Ahmedabad joined hands on that evening to celebrate and to announce their commitment to bring the awareness about the cows in the society at the national level. The programme lasted about 5 hours and saw the participation of a large number of people.



Adi Shankara Jayanti Mahotsavam celebrated at Amritsar

Sri Shankara Jayanti - rudrabhishekam and visesha pujas were performed at Shankar Dham, Amritsar, Punjab with blessings of Acharya Swamigal. A large number of devotees participated in the programme.



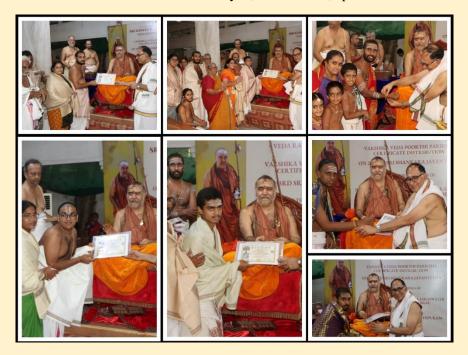
# Sri Shankara Jayanti celebrated at Tiruvanaikovil

Sri Adi Shankara Bagavadpadal 2533rd Jayanthi Mahotsavam at Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Jagadguru Vidyasthanam (Kanchi Shankara Matham), Jambukeswaram, Tiruvanaikovil, Tiruchirapalli celebrated with blessings of Acharya Swamigal



## Shankara Jayanti- Veda Poorti Pariksha Certificates held at Shrimatam - Kanchipuram (12-May-2024)

Acharya Swamigal conferred HIS Blessings to the Vidyarthis and their Gurus. Vidyarthis from various patasalas pursuing studies in the different branches of the Vedas had participated in the examinations conducted at Srimatam by the Veda Rakshana Nidhi Trust. Every year, the certificate distribution takes place twice - on the Shankara Jayanthi day and on Vijayadashami day. Acharya Swamigal blessed the devotees with an Anugraha Bhashanam, after which the Veda Vidyarthis were blessed to receive their certificates from Acharya Swamigal and along with their families received Prasadams. Justice C.V Karthikeyan, Chief Guest, spoke on the occasion.



Shankara Jayanti - Utsavam performed around Raja Veedhis in Kanchipuram

The utsava vigraham of Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya was taken around the Raja Veedhis in Kanchipuram in the Swarna Ratham. Acharya Swamigal performed visesha pujas and deeparadhana.



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# 2533rd Shankara Jayanti in Srinagar, Kashmir - 13th year since 2012 observed with piety & devotion

' वेदो नित्यमधीयताम्' 'तदुदितं कर्म स्वनुष्ठीयताम्' 'Study the Vedas daily and perform deeds as enjoined therein is the prime Upadesha of Jagadguru Adi Shankara. With the benign blessings of Acharya Swamigal of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, the Annual Shankara Jayanthi Utsavam was held at Srinagar for the 13<sup>th</sup> Year with piety and grandeur in the divine precincts of Jyeshtha Mata Mandir, Srinagar, J&K. The first major Jayanthi Utsav -Samskriti Saptaha was celebrated in the Kashmir Valley in the year 2012 in the divine presence of Jagadguru Pujya Shri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal. This year, scholars from Southern India participated in the event and performed Veda Parayanams, Havans, Agnihotram, Ishtis, Ramayana Sundarakanda Parayanam, Laugakshi Gruhya Sutra Parayanam, Sampradaya Bhajans including Seetha Kalyanam as part of the Jayanthi celebrations.

This year it was Samaveda Parayanam with Ashtabrahmanam by senior scholars led by Brahma Shri Kanjivay Ganesha Shrowtigal and teamed up by couple scholars each for Rigveda, Yajur Veda, Atharva Veda. Agnihotra and Ishtis were performed by Brahmashri Srinivasa Shrowtigal and team. The Bhajans were performed by Shri Chattanatha Bhagavathar & Party. Acharya Swamigal has directed that each year one Veda would be primary and other three Vedas seconding the primary Veda. After two rounds of Rig, Yajur Sama & Atharva Vedas, this year in the third cycle it was Samaveda again in the lead. This is aimed at enabling continuity of chanting of all Vedas in the Valley. Our Acharyas have ordained that the divine vibrations of Vedic chants cleanse the atmosphere, create positive energy and heal the eco system. The benefit of Vedic chants helps in creating peace, positivity, progress and harmony in the region. The scholars and devotees were also taken to the various Mandirs in Srinagar Valley where they prayed for the welfare of one & all.

The Bhajans consisting of the divine name of Bhagavan were chanted with devotion seeking his indefinite compassion and grace for one & all. This effort has been going on each year with the blessings of Acharya Swamigal of Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. The morning sessions would be full of chanting and evening would be filled with visits to nearby places. Late evenings, the portrait of Jagadguru Shankaracharya was adorned with various decorations and taken in Shobha Yatra on a palanquin inside the Jyeshtha Matha Mandir complex amidst chanting of Vedas and Bhajans which is a sight to see. Later after Vishnu Sahasranama & Totakashtakam, the Avadharaya (chanting Ghana Swasti & special Gaanams) from four Vedas, important verses from four Shastras, Sangitam, Bhajans filled the devotee's heart with spiritual delight and made one proud of the Vedic heritage. On special days like Akshaya Tritiya and Friday the Suhasini & Kanya Pujas would be performed to locals and to those accompanying the team from the South.

On the penultimate day, bearing the extreme cold and incessant rains, the entire team trekked up to the Shankaracharya Hill situated in the heart of Srinagar to commemorate the Jayanthi day - Vaishakha Shukla Panchami. Special Abhishekams to Jyeshtheswara Lingam, Ishtis, chanting of Avatara Ghattam of Adi Shankara in the cave where Jagadguru Adi Shankara meditated and performance of Bhajans and Sampradaya Natyam were dedicated. The Kalasham with holy water kept from day one in the Yagnya Shala was poured on Jyeshtheshwara in the holy Shankaracharya Hill. The devotees visiting the shrine were distributed with Prasadams and photos of Adi Shankara. Various books on philosophy and culture were given to devotees during the weeklong celebration.

(video below)



# Acharya Swamigal performs pushpabhishekam at the brindavanams (13-May-2024)

30<sup>th</sup> day of Chitirai Month — Pushpanjali was performed to the brindavanams by Acharya Swamigal at Shrimatam, Kanchipuram



Vaikasi month commences - Swarna Rathotsavam performed at Sri Kamakshi Ambal Devasthanam (14-May-2024)



# Shankara Jananotsava Poorti- Acharya Swamigal performs visesha pujas to Sri Kamakshi Ambal and Sri Acharya (21-May-2024)

Sri Kamakshi ambal along with Sri Adi Shankara utsavar came in procession from Sri Kamakshi Ambal devasthanam to Shrimatam on account of Sri Shankara Jayanthi - Jananothsava poorthi. Acharya Swamigal performed visesha pujas and archana to Ambal and Acharyal



# Pournami - Acharya Swamigal visits Sri Kamakshi Ambal Devasthanam - (23-May-2024)

Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Kamakshi Ambal Devasthanam, Kanchipuram and performed visesha pujas to Sri Kamakshi Amman coinciding with the Vasantotsavam being performed at the temple. Acharya Swamigal blessed the gathered devotees with Anugraha Bhashanam extolling the greatness of Sri Ambal and Kanchipuram.

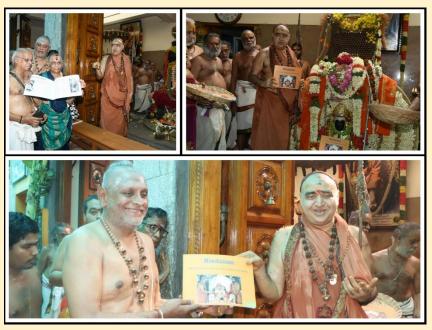


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#### Mahaswami Jayanti Mahotsavam – Acharya Swamigal releases book on Hinduism (24-May-2024)

An Introduction to The Oldest Religion was released on the occasion of 131<sup>st</sup> Jayanthi of Jagadguru Kanchi Mahaswami by Acharya Swamigal at the Brundavan at Shrimatam, Kanchipuram. The author of the book Sri Arvind Sitaraman, ardent devotee of Acharya Swamigal, submitted the book and received blessings. The first copy was blessed to Smt Mahalakshi Subrahmaniam and Sri VC Subramaniam.



131st Jayanti Mahotsavam celebrated at Kanchipuram with divine fervor (24-May-2024)

The 131st Jayanti Mahotsavam of Jagaduru Kanchi Mahaswami Sri Sri Sri Chandrashekarendra Saraswathi Mahaswamigal was celebrated with divine fervour at Shrimatam, Kanchipuram. Commencing with Vishwaroopa darshan in the morning on Jayanti day, abhishekam, visesha pujas, veda parayanam, vidwat sadas were performed in the benign presence of Acharya Swamigal, who performed abhishekam at the Brindavanams. Acharya Swamigal blessed a large gathering of scholars, and the steady stream of devotees who visited the Shrimatam on this holy occasion. Annadaana prasadam was offered to devotees.

In the evening, Swarna Rathotsavam was performed to Pujya Mahaswamigal along the four Raja Veethis in Kanchipuram. Sri Mandolin U Rajesh and group performed Sangeeta Seva at the Brindavana hall.



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Jayanti celebration of Maha Swami at Thiruvanaikovil /Jambukeswaram, Tiruchirapalli with blessings of Acharya Swamigal was carried out on 24-May-2024 with visesha pujas, veda parayanam, chanting of shlokas, go-puja, discourses, acharyal's procession on an elephant, and various other spiritual and cultural programmes.



#### Kumbabhishekam of Sri Tiruveerattaneswarar Swami Temple performed at Kanchipuram (02-June-24)

Kumbabhishekam of Sri Tiruveerattaneswarar Swami Temple was performed at Kanchipuram with the blessings and presence of Acharya Swamigal. Acharya Swamigal blessed the devotees with Anugraha Bhashanam.



## Aharya Swamigal blesses commencement of Kumbabhishekam rituals of Sri Vinayaka temple (16-Jun-24)

Acharya Swamigal visited the Adhistanam of Pujyashri Mahadevendra Saraswati (IV) Shankaracharya Swamigalthe 61<sup>st</sup> Acharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam at Shankaracharya Colony in Tiruvottiyur. Acharya Swamigal blessed the commencement of Kumbabhishekam rituals of Sri Vinayaka Temple in the Shankaracharya Colony.

Sri Mahadevendra Saraswati IV, the 61<sup>st</sup> acharya attained mukti at Tiruvottiyur (now a part of Chennai) on Shukla Navami in the month of Jyesta of the cyclic year Krothana (1746 CE). Nitya Pujas are performed at the Adhistanam, located in Sankara Colony at a distance of about half a kilometre from the famous Sri. Vadivudayamman Sametha Sri Thyagaraja Swami Temple, which contains a Sannadhi of Sri Adi Shankaracharya



Acharya Swamigal blesses new buildings in Sankara School and Ayurveda College at Nazarathpet (16-June-2024)

Acharya Swamigal visited and blessed the new school building at Jaya Jaya Shankara International School and the new general ward of Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Ayurveda College and Hospital at Nazarethpet, Poonamallee. Acharya Swamigal blessed the students, teachers, and other staff of both institutions.



# Acharya Swamigal blesses Yagashala pujas of Sri Agastheeswara Swami Temple (11th July 2024)

Acharya Swamigal blessed the yagashala pujas being performed as part of the Mahakumbabhishekam of Sri Anandavalli Ambal sameta Sri Agastheeswara Swami Temple yesterday in Nemilicheri, Chennai,



#### Acharya Swamigal blesses Mahakumbhabhishekam of Sri Kothandarama Swami Sannidhi (12-Jul-2024)

Acharya Swamigal blessed the Mahakumbabhishekam of Sri Seeta Lakshmana Sameta Sri Kothandarama swamy Sannidhi in Sri Varasiddhi Vinayakar- Sri Mahalakshmi temple at Saidapet Srinagar Colony in Chennai.



# Acharya Swamigal performs Gangabhishekam to Sri Ramanatha Swami at Rameshwaram marking conclusion of Kashi Yatra (17-Jul-2024)

Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Ramanathaswami Devasthanam at Rameshwaram and performed Gangabhishekam Shodashopachara Pujas to Sri Parvatavardhini Ambal Sametha Sri Ramanathaswami with the holy waters of Ganga brought during the Yatra to Prayagraj and Varanasi in June 2023 signalling completion of age old custom of Kashi- Rameswaram Yatra. His Holiness Pujya Sri Chandrashekharendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal, the 68th Acharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam and Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal, 69th Acharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam had performed the Kashi- Rameswaram Yatra by foot from 1921-1943 & 1963-1977. Acharya Swamigal was received at Kanchi Math in Agniteertham by Peishkar and taken to temple. At the entrance the Executive Office Sri Sivaramkumar & Thakkar Sri Palani Kumar of Ramanathaswamy Temple received Acharya Swamigal.

Commencement of Kashi Rameswaram Yatra of 2021 & Saikata Linga Puja at Prayagraj in 2023

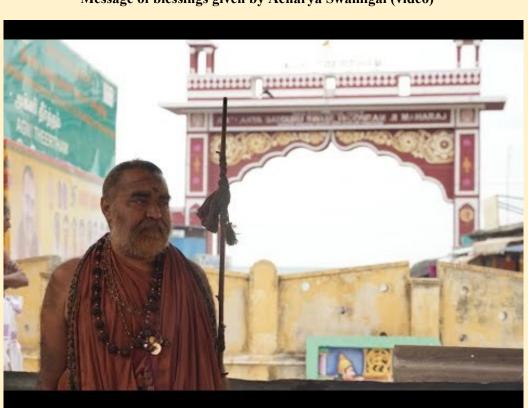
Acharya Swamigalfulfilled the age-old tradition of Pratishtha of Saikata Parameshwara Linga carried from Dhanushkodi, Rameshwaram into Ganga at Dashashvamedha Ghat on 29-June-2023. After nearly 28 months since visit to Dhanushkodi, the holy Sikata was immersed in Ganga river as per the above mentioned practice and Ganga Jalam was again taken. The holy Sikata was taken at Dhanushkodi on the auspicious Ratha Saptami followed by Bhishmashtami -19-Feb-2021 during Rameswaram Yatra of Acharya Swamigal.

Incidentally, on Ashadha Ekadashi, the same day on which the Saikata Linga Pratishtha was performed and Gangajal taken from Shudda Ganga in Prayagraj for Abhishekam to Ramanatha Swamy

Speaking to the waiting press, Acharya Swamigal commended our country's ancient heritage, recollected the Yatras of Purvacharyas, appealed to one and all to follow tenets of Dharma, to serve society and to lead a peaceful,



prosperous and harmonious life. Acharya Swamigal also said that the activities of Kanchi Math in Rameswaram in the field of education will be expanded. Earlier in the day, Sri Acharyal performed Sri Chandramouleeshwara Puja at Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Shankara Matam at Agniteertham in Rameshwaram. Ekadasha Rudram & Havan was performed with Gangajal at Saraswathi Sannidhi in Kanchi Math.



# Message of blessings given by Acharya Swamigal (video)

# Krodhi Samvatsaram Vyasa Puja commences at Tiruvanaikovil (21-July-2024)

Acharya Swamigal performs the vyasa puja at Tiruvanaikovil Jagaduru Vidyasthanam. Prasadam from various temples were brought in a procession from the Gopuram near Sri Akhilandeshwari Sannidhi and offered to Acharya Swamigal before the commencement of the Vyasa Puja.



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Vyasa Pooja (video)



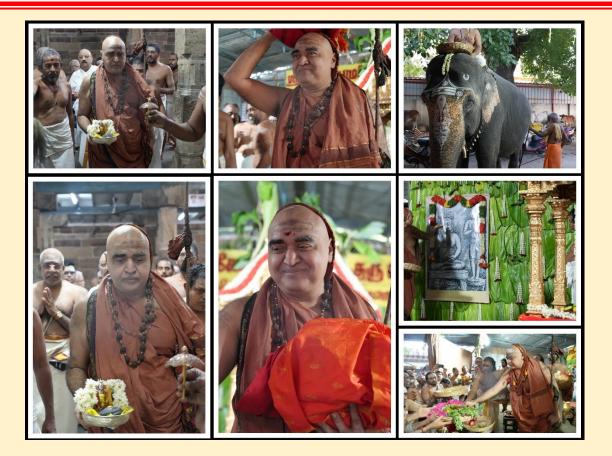
# Vyasa Puja by Pujya Shankaracharya Swamiji at Tiruvanaikovil - a report (21-Jul-2024)

Acharya Swamigal performed Vyasa Puja today at Tiruvanaikovil Sri Shankara matam Jagadguru Vidyasthanam (Gurupoornima).

Prasadam from Sri Bangaru Kamakshi Ambal, Sri Kamakshi Ambal Devasthanam, Sri Akhilandeshwari-Jambukeshwara Swami Devasthanam, Avudayar Kovil, Sri Ekambareshwara Swami Devasthanam-Kanchipuram, Kailasanatha Swami temple - Sevilimedu, Sri Kashi Viswanatha Swami temple, Sri Ramanatha Swami Devasthanam, Srirangam Sri Ranganathaswamy temple, Samayapuram Mariamman Temple, Samayapuram Ujjaini Mahakali, Jambukeshwaram Ekaveerambal, Tiruverumbur Erumbeeswarar Temple, Chidambaram Nataraja Swami Devasthanam, Uttara Chidambaram Nataraja Swami - Satara, Tinniyam Murugan Temple, Govindapuram Brindavanam, Kedarnath temple, Shivasthanam Brahmapureeswara Swami temple, Sri Mrityunjeyeshwarar Temple - Kanchipuram, Apunarbhaweshwara temple (Kanchipuram), Tiruvengadu -Adhistanam of Sri Paramashivendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal (57<sup>th</sup> Acharya) , Skandagiri Subrahmanya Swami Devalayam, Salem Kamakshi Temple (Shankara Matam), Vayalur Murugan temple, Malaikottai Sri Tayumanavaswami, Gunaseelam Sri Prasanna Venkateswara Perumal Devasthanam, Lalgudi Saptarisheeshwara Swami, Nagpur Sri Sarveshwara Swami Devalayam, Kovai Sri Kamakshi Ambal Temple (RS Puram), Kalavai Brindavanams (of the 66<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> Shankaracharyas), and various other temples were brought in a procession and offered to Pujya Shankaracharya Swamigal. Thereafter, the Shrimatam staff and devotees made offerings and Deepa harati on auspicious Guru Poornima Day.

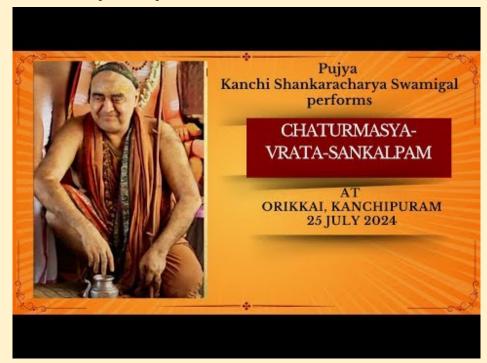
At a specially erected puja mandapam, Acharya Swamigal performed Puja to Sri Vyasa, who compassionately blessed with explanations of Atmatatva in Sutras and to the Rishis and Acharyas who appeared in the lineage of the Guru parampara. Devotees from far and wide participated and received the blessings of Acharya Swamigal.

After the Vyasa Puja, Acharya Swamigal performed the Nitya Chandramouleeswara Puja in the main Puja Mandapam, and blessed the devotees with teertha Prasadam. In the evening, a grand procession of Sri Veda Vyasa on a decorated elephant was performed around the Mada veethis in Tiruvanaikovil.



# Acharya Swamigal performs Chaturmasya Vrata Sankalpam at Orikkai (25-July-2024)

Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetadhipati Acharya Swamigal performed the Chaturmasya vrata Sankalpam at Sri Chandramouliswara Swami Puja Mandapam, in Orikkai, Near Kanchipuram Acharya Swamigal will observe the Chaturmasya vratam at Orikkai upto 18-Sep-2024



See for the second seco

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# <u>Samarpanam – A special write up on Sri Sankari</u>

An initiative to inculcate the knowledge of Slokas and significance of Sanatana Dharma in children from an early age. On Acharya Swamigal's Agnya Sri Sankari was started on Sri Vikhari year, Vysa Pooja day (17-Jul-2019).

Sri Sankari Samarpanam - With Acharya Swamigal's Anugraham, Sri Sankari Samarpanam is organized every month. Five to six batches of students participate each month.

Second Samarpanam was held online on 04-Feb-2024. The event commenced with opening prayer sloka Swasthi Vachanam by an Online 10 Student. Followed by Sri Sankari Introduction by Smt. Banu Rekha Ravi.

Online 8: The students of this batch are guided well by their adhyapika Smt. Uma Ramamoorthy. The batch's sloka recital of Nāmarāmāyaṇam parayanam followed the display of their drawing collage. A brief about Thevaaram, the devotional hymn on Bhagwan Shiva.

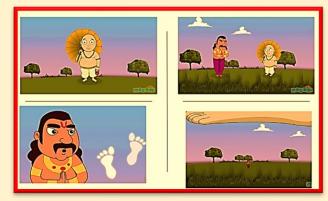




The following presentations were done by each student from Online 8 batch



Navavidha Bhakti



Vāmana Avatār



Worship Our Parents in Sanskrit

Online 9: The students, mentored effectively by their adhyapika Smt. Anuradha, chanted **Bālamukundāṣṭakam** and **Thiruvempaavai Paadal 1 - 10**. Their drawing collage was also displayed to viewers. A student of the batch gave a brief about **Thiruvempaavai** – The illustrious verses composed by Thiru Manikkavasagar praising the glories of Lord Shiva at Thiruvannamalai



Online 10: The group passionately led by their guru Shri. Surya Prakash displayed their ability to draw. The students introduced the **Vāhanam** of **Various Deities** in our Sanātana Dharma.



Online 12: The batch is guided well by their adhyapika Smt. Bhuvana. Their "learn to draw activity collage" was displayed to viewers following which Śrī Gaņēśa Bhujaṅgam and Śrī Durgā Pañcaratnaṁ sloka prayanam took place.









The following presentations on Santana Dharma related topics were done by each student of this batch.



Śrī Gāyatrī Mantrāh Māhātmya



Tulasī Māhātmya



Mahabali Chakravarthy

Online 12B: This batch is effectively led by their guru Shri. Surya Prakash. Students recited **Deví Stōtrams** and the batch also gave a brief about **Naayanmargal** as part of their presentation.





Online 35: This batch is handled well by their guru Shri. Surya Prakash. Their learn to draw activity collage was shared after which the students chanted. Śrī Kanakadhārā Stōtram. The students also represented the famous Yaksha Prashnam katha from our Itihāsa Mahābhārata.



Quiz: Making the event more engaging, quiz for students and parents were also held covering topics from Rāmayana Araņya-Kāņda and Kishkindha Kāņda and Sanātana Dharma respectively.

During every Samarpanam one of **Śrī ŚĀNKARĪ** Alumni perform katha parayanam on any one Sthala Purana. This week Chi. Sarvesh enlightened the viewers about the sthala purana of **Tiruvannamalai**.



Every Samarpanam sees enthusiastic participation from parents of Śrī ŚĀNKARĪ students in answering quiz questions and sharing prasadam recipes for Bhagwan.

This month prasadam offering to Bhagwan was the recipe of **Instant Healthy Poli** by the parent of Online 8 student Chi. Eashwar.



Śrī ŚĀNKARĪ Adhyapikaas as viewers appreciated and encouraged the students and parents for their participation and dedication, through their generous feedback.

The second Śrī ŚĀNKARĪ Samarpanam concluded graciously with the blessings of Acharya Swamigal.



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

**Abu Dhabi:** Anusham Avittam and Uthiradam were celebrated with great fervour across multiple locations with participation from several families. Sri. Periyava Jayanthi celebrated with Paduka rudra abhishekam and Ashtotram arachana performed.



**Dubai:** Sri Sri Sri Kanchi Mahaperiyava 131<sup>st</sup> and Sri Sri Sri Jayendra Periyava's 90<sup>th</sup> Jayanthi Mahotsavam was celebrated where multiple families participated. Several Sahasranamam and Veda matras were chanted with active participation from next generation as well. Thiruppugazh song led by Srimathi Vidya Ram, dance by Master Varun and Srimathi Kanyakumari Amma attended who took the blessings of Sri Mahaperiyava

Aradhana (little girl) is an example that younger generations can be groomed in the right path. She chanted lalitha sahasranamam and kanda shasti with great devotion.



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**Houston (KKSF):** With Pujashri Aacharya's anugraham, KKSF Houston devotees celebrated Sri Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal Jayanthi Utsavam at Meenakshi Temple. The event started with the recitation of Swasthi Vachanam, followed by Ganapathy Pooja and abhisekam to Adi Shankara, and Maha Periyava with the recitation of Sri Rudram, Chamakam, Shuktams and Periyava Asthothram. Sri Balaji, Meenakshi temple priest with utmost devotion conducted the pooja.

Devotees offered Sangeetha Samarpanan to Acharya followed by Totakashtakam. KKSF Houston volunteers provided details of upcoming KKSF events and the SDSG Podili project to devotees.

**Singapore:** With Guru Krupai monthly Anusham programmes are held in Singapore at the residences of devotees regularly where Periyava in Padhuka Roopam and Shila Roopam bless the devotees. Hari Bhaktha Samajam holds Nama Sankeerthanam every monthly Anusham at devotees' residence.

# Round up of celebrations on May 25th for Vaikasi Maha Anusham at Singapore

Grand celebrations were held at Holy Tree Sri Balasubramaniar temple, Singapore under the auspices of Sri Swarna Kamakshi Seva Sath Sangham, Singapore. Aavahanthi homam, Navagraha homam, Abhishekam to Maha periyavaa Archa moorthy 108 Avarthi Lalitha Sahasranama Sloka parayanam, Vishnu Sahasranama parayanam, Maha Periavaa Ashtothram, Thotakashtakam .Maha Periyava blessed the devotees in Padhukai Roopam and Shila Roopam. Upanyasam was rendered by Bramhasri NeelaBala Sharma, Nanganallur.







Sri Maha Periyava Jayanthy was celebrated at Changi Sri Ramar Temple with bhajans lead by Premika Satsangh Singapore. Bhajan session was held at Periyava Kuteeram of Sri Ramkumar, Singapore. The event was graced by the presence of retired professor of Sanskrit college - Sri Neelabala Sharma Ji. Rudram chanting and Sampradaya Bhajans were

lead by Sri Hari Narayana Bhaktha Samaj for commemorating the occasion. They conduct monthly Anusham bhajans at the Gruham of devotees' for many years. The event was graced by the presence of retired professor of Sanskrit college - Sri Neelabala Sharma Ji



Sri Sri Sri Maha Periyava's Anusha celebrations at the residence of Srinivasan. Abhishegam to Maha Periyavaa's Archa Moorthy and Paduka and Rudra japam were performed.





Mahanyasa Poorvaka Ekadasa Rudra Paarayanam, Homam & Abhishekam To Sri Viswwanatha Swamy & Sri Sri Maha Periyavaa Archa Moorthy at Holy Tree Sri Balasubramaniar Temple, Singapore, April 28, 2024 Sri Sri Maha Periyavaa maha anusham jayanthi at holy tree sri balasubramaniar temple, under the auspices of sri swarna kamakshi seva sath sangham, singapore, aavahanthi homam, navagraha homam, abhishekam to maha periyavaa archa moorthy 108 times lalitha shasranama sloka parayanam, vishnu shasranama parayanam, maha periavaa ashtothram (sri matam version), thotakashtakam & upanyasam by bramhasri neela bala sharma, nanganallur.





Sri Sri Maha Periyavaa Maha Anusham Jayanthi – Part Ii - In Sri Narayanan – Devotee's Home Abhishekam To Maha Periyavaa Archa Moorthy And Paduka & Rudra Japam

Weekly Thursday Guru Pooja & Monthly Anusha Pooja at Sri Suresh Srinivasan's Home



**Hong Kong:** Shankara Jayanthi was celebrated in Hong Kong on 25<sup>th</sup> June at the Hindu temple in Happy valley. Many ardent devotes participated in the various function organised as part of the celebration.

Special pooja was conducted with ashtothram of Adi Shankaracharya, Maha Periyava and Sri Jayaendra Saraswati swamigal. Also Paraayanam of Sri Rudhram, Chamakkam, Purusha Suktham, Narayana Suktham, Sri Suktham, Durga Suktham and Medha Suktham. One of the devotees offered Vad a maalai offered to Anjananeya Swami.





This was followed by a lecture on life of Sri Adi Shankara by Swamini Supriyananda of Chinmaya Mission of Hong Kong. The highlight of the lecture was on Guru Parampara established by Adi Shankara which continues to this day.

For children, a drawing and colouring competition was held and winners selected and awards distributed. After the lecture, there were bhajans and songs associated with Adi Shankaracharya with prominence gives to singing by Children. The function culminated with Aarti followed by distribution of prasad to the devotees. Devotees had a very inspirational evening with the experience of learning about our great acharya.

Also posters depicting the like of Adi Shankaracharya and posters on the philosophy of Advaita which was well received by the devotees. The function was organised by Vedha Group of Hong Kong.



**ANZ (KKSF):** With the Blessings of Pujya Acharya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati, we are extremely delighted to inform that Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation Australia and New Zealand (KKSF ANZ) has conducted its third event "Sri Ramanavami Celebrations" on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024. The program duration was 4 hours non-stop singing from children, adults, SDPA Teachers across Wellington, Auckland, Brisbane, Melbourne, and Sydney.

Brahma Sri Samaveda Sarma Garu has kindly come to bless the children and commended the efforts of KKSF ANZ region online.

Full recording can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tgm\_zPWCeB4

Brahmasri Samadveda Shanmukha Sarma garu started addressing the event with 'pranamams' to Pujya Acharya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Garu. He is extremely delighted to see the Strotra parayana and Sangeeta Kirtanam of Parmeswara organised across ANZ Region.

He reckoned Stotra parayana is the one of the best modes of Bhakti sadhana and will foster better future with promising 'Uttam Samskaras' for the children. The 'strotras' have tremendous impact and will sharpen various forms of 'Buddhi';' Medha Shakti;' 'Dharana Shakti;' 'Pratibha Shakti.' These forms of Buddhi in children will get initiated (Jagruti).



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Further they contribute to do better and improve their performance in the modern contemporary education. The most important aspect is Stotra Parayana will secure the Santana Dharma sampradaya in the children.

As Pujya Acharya blessings are given to this KKSF ANZ region, Samanvaya Saraswathi Sarmagaru conveyed his wishes that Goddess Kamakshi also provide Her 'anugraham.'

He commended KKSF ANZ group efforts, applauded and blessed the group to continue so that children can prosper. He aspires Goddess blessings are bestowed on teachers, children, and parents.

Core members from Vidya Pillar by Dr Usha Sridhara garu, Vedam Pillar Sri Veera Raju Garu, and Vaidyam Pillar Dr Sundaram Rachakonda garu along with regional coordinators Sri Satyaveer Krovidi from Brisbane and & Sri Srinivasan from Adelaide co-hosted along with Sri Santanam Natarajan.

- Sri Sariapalli garu has led the team reciting the first 40 slokas of Balakanda, followed by Ganesh Pancharatnam, Rama Kodandarama, Teliyaledu Rama Bhakti margamu. Kriti's. The team included, Smt Sreedevi Nagarajan; Sri Sathyanarayanan Raghavendran; Chi. Aparna; Smt. Chandrika Engla; Sri Suryanarayana Sariapalli; Sri Srinivas Varanasi
- This was followed by devotional Keerthi's and SDPA 3 Practice by Smt Sundari Sariapalli garu and chi. Sree Pragna Malaya.

#### Wellington - New Zealand

The students of Smt Aishwarya chi.Sai Prathanya Ganesh Anjali; chi. Thenu SahaManishvar; chi. Ranjithkumar Prithvi, chi Sundar Kaavin; chi. Chinmayee Venkatraman; and Pragathi Venkatraman from city of Wellington marvellous chanted strotrams.

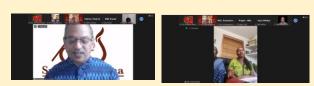
The students have contributed by signing Ganesha

pancharathnam, Nannu palimpa Ra. Ragam: Mohanam Thalam: Aadhi Composed by Thyagaraja swami. Smt Aishwarya garu has elaborated the need for teaching strotrams of SDPA as living in abroad means, children come from different backgrounds of culture, languages, find difficult to understand our values of Santana Dharama. The Strotra parayana enables them to enrich their lives.











# Sydney/USA

Smt Chitra students: Chi Haran Kumar; Chi Aravindh Kumar; Chi. Shyam Ganendran; Chi Keshavan Ganendran; Chi. Sow. Saranya Arikuvela; Chi. Sow. Sowmya

Smt Sowmya from Pittsburgh has melodiously sung O Rama Nee naamemi Ruchira, Smt Saranya with full of devotion sung Ganesh Pancharatna, while children Haran and team have meticulously learnt Subramanya Karvalambam and chanted with confidence. The final touch of 'Idigo Bhadradri Gowtami' has taken the audience to Bhadrardri Rama in India with her melodious touch in her voice.



Smt Sangeeta Ayyar reckons chanting and

learning 'Stotram's' in the contemporary western world provides the right bent of mind, helps the students to articulate their expressions, improves concentration and build the right focus in their lives. She extends her gratitude for the opportunity to perform on this occasion. The Sri Rama Rameti sloka provide boost and mental development to the roots. She recommends the language, cultural unity to cultivate the habits every day.

The children sang and captivated the audience attention with Adi Sankara's Ganesha Pancharatnam; and Guru Guha compositions Lord Sri Ramesha, Rama Janardhana, and Atma Rama, Ramashtakam tuned by Mohan Ayyar.Dhayate Vanamali sung by Smt Sangeeta Ayyar and students mesmerised and captivated the audience. She reckons herself and students are blessed by this opportunity and extends her thanks to KKSF to perform and looking forward for many more these events. The strotrams give the children the stability to sit and chant and provide mental development and help them to articulate their skills, concentration and build focus.

The team included Ishaan Aarav Narayanan; Mayukhi Indrakanti, Kria Sankar Magesh, Mithra Subramanian, Chasvitha Gokulkumar, Shreya Vudayagiri, Sharanya Vudayagiri, Jayesh Mohta, Adhvik Dinesh, Thanika Ramakrishnan,

**Brisbane:** Chi. Sanvi Krovidi and Chi Avyaya Kameswari Krovidi children of Sri Satya Krovidgaru have sung confidently Ganesha Pancharatnam and Gopala Murali lola. Kudos to their dedication and Bhakti as mostly they are self-learning with parents' guidance. They have been participating since 2021 in SDPA programs.

Children chi. Sanvi Krovidi, and chi Avyaya Kameswari Krovidi have sung meticulously 'Ganesh Pancharatnam' and 'Gopala Murali lola'. Despite not having music teachers the parents have given lot of attention to children by inculcating Bhakti in these two young girls. Kudos to Satya and family

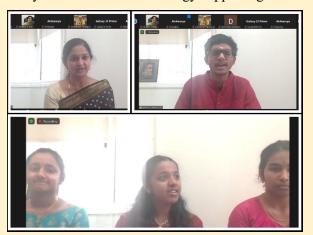
Dr Smt Usha Sridhara garu sung the 'Nanda Gopala Mukunda.' Her spontaneous response is amazing to the call for singing



Auckland & Sydney: This was followed by Chi Sravani and chi Samskruta from Auckland have sung with great Bhakti ' Subramanya Karavalambam and Sri Rama Bhadra Raghuveera. Chi Kartik and chi Lakshmi from Sydney have sung Ganesha Pancharatnam and Sri Rama Emi Ruchira. It is great to see the budding artists singing with utmost devotion. Dr Padma Mallela is the foremost teacher of our Group who has started with us since 2021. A great support scholar and is a doctorate in Music



Sydney: Smt Lavanya Balasubramanian garu has been in SDPA since 2021 and has been pioneering the events every time with renewed energy supporting the cause of enriching our Santana Dharma values to the children in



this region through Strotra parayana. The student's chi Annika, chi Shreya, and Chi Nalini dedicatedly sang "Sri Rama Sri Rama Tyagaraja Kriti and chi. Akshanth sang ' Brovarama' – Bavudari Ragam. Smt Lavanya garu sang the famous and timely kriti "Rama nee Samanemevaru'?

Smt Lavanya garu reckons Strotraparayana teaching is the one of the best changes for not only for children but also for adults soothing effect. The memory power, cognitive skills could improve. The young kids who cannot speak their native language now start focus. Music and chanting are equal to meditation.

**Melbourne:** Smt Madhuri Vasa garu has contributed with Bhavayami Raghuramam. Smt Madhuri garu has been with SDPA Group since 2021 and has contributed to teaching in Brisbane and Melbourne. In this event she has sung Bavayami Swati Tirunal composition while chi Devika sung 'Nagumomu kanaleni'...



Australian Bhartiya Brahman Samajam (ABBS) Sydney and Maha Periyava Devotees jointly organised the celebrations of Adi Sankara Jayanthi and Mahaperiyava on Sunday 19th May 2024 at the Ermington Community Hall in Sydney. Over two hundred community members attended the three hour long grand celebrations with devotion. Over twenty-five children participated in the cultural segment of the event.

The grand celebrations commenced with a welcome address by Smt Swetha Sivakumar and a Puja to AdiSankara and Mahaperiyava conducted by Sri Venkatraman Sastrigal (son of esteemed Babu Sastrigal of Jamshedpur) and Sri Varatharajan Ayyar. This was followed by recitation of Rudram by devotees and rendering of Thodakashtakam.

The participants were blessed with the Anugraha Bhashanam by His Holiness Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamiji of Kanchi Mutt. Prayers were offered to Acharyas for lokakshema and community harmony. Sri Vish Viswanathan presented the activities of Australia Bharatha Brahman Samaj Sydney. Sri Vish Viswanathan stated that the principle of Sanatana Dharma taught by Adi Sankara is easy to follow in daily life.

A brief presentation of PIDI Arisi Thittam Australia based on Mahaperiyava's project was held.

The cultural segment coordinated by Ms Swetha Sivakumar

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Tala Vaadyam was presented by students of Sivakumar Sethupathi's R&S school of Mridangam Ishan Aarav, Aakash Karthik, Sriijith Sai, Saarang, Siddharth, Aniket, Pranav and Jayesh Srujan.

Devotional songs, slokas were rendered by young children Akshada Krishnan, Aishwarya Harishankar, Shravan Sai Shankar, Srishti Sai Shankar, JayaKrishna, Yogeshwar, Bhavesh, Siddarth, Sai Ananya, Bahula, Lohitha, Nainika, Arathana, Yazhini, Anishka, Sakthi and Ankita, Ritika, Harini, Saanvi, Netra, and Mitra Subramanian.

Shri Vish Viswanathan presented a vote of thanks acknowledging the great support rendered by all community members including volunteers for the grand success of the event.

The three hours of Acharya Jayanthi celebrations concluded with Maha Aarathi and distribution of Mahaprasadam.



Kenya: Anusham celebrations at Nairobi at a devotee's residence



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**Portland (KKSF):** With HH Periyavas grace, Chithirai Anusham Pooja was celebrated at Smt. Srividhya Krishna's home with enthusiastic participation from devotees in Portland. The event started with Swasti Vachanam and Guru Strotams followed by Shodhashopachara pooja to HH Periyava Padhukas. Hosts and kids did Archana to HH Mahaperiyava, HH Jayendra Periyava, Nidhana Pataye for HH Periyava. Followed by kids

and adults enthusiastically offering their sangeetha and shloka samarpanam to Periyavas. Devotees also recited Thotakaashtakam and Maitreem bhajata after the Shodasha Upachara pooja. Srimatam prasadams were distributed to all.





With HH Periyavas grace, HH Mahaperiyava's 131st Jayanthi Pooja was celebrated at Smt. Srividhya Krishna's home with enthusiastic participation from devotees in Portland. The event started with Swasti Vachanam and Guru Strotams followed by Lalitha Sahasranama parayanam by devotees, Shodhashopachara pooja with Rudra Abhishekam, Chamakam, Pancha Suktam, to HH Periyava Padhukas. This was followed by Archana to HH Mahaperiyava, HH Jayendra Periyava, Nidhana Pataye for HH

Periyava. Kids and adults enthusiastically offered their sangeetha and shloka samarpanam to Periyavas. Devotees also recited Thotakaashtakam and Maitreem bhajata after the Shodasha Upachara pooja. Srimatam prasadams were distributed to all. The different Dharmic Initiatives of Pujyashri Periyava thru KKSF were also announced for devotees to join and participate.

With HH Periyavas grace, Adi Sankara Jayanthi was celebrated at Smt. Abilasha Ganesh's home with enthusiastic



participation from devotees in Portland. The event started with Swasti Vachanam and Guru Strotams. This was followed by Shodhashopachara pooja to HH Periyava Padhukas and archanai with Adi shankara bhagavadpada ashtottara shatanamavali. Devotees recited shlokas composed by Adi Acharya such as Ganesha Pancharatnam, Subrahmanya Bhujangam, Ardhanaarisvara stotram, Maatru panchakam, Guru Ashtakam, etc. The event was also graced by the divine presence of Sri Anantharama Bhagavathar who explained the essence of uncha-vritti dharamam and led a mini namasankeerthanam. The program concluded with Thotakaashtakam and Maitreem bhajata. Srimatam prasadams were distributed to all. With Periyava's krupai, Aani Anusham Pooja was held at Smt Seetha Krishna's home. Devotees chanted Swasti vachanam, Guru stotram, Sadhguru Dashakam, Stotra Malika on HH Jayendra Periyava, Durga Pancharatnam, Kamakshi Stotram, Achyutashtakam, Hanuman Chalisa. Hosts performed Archana to Holy Padukas with HH Mahaperiyava Ashtothram, HH Jayendra Periyava Ashtothram and Namavali for HH Periyava. Kids also did Archanai to Periyavas. Program concluded with Thotakashtakam, Maitreem Bhajata followed by prasadam distribution from Sri Kanchi Matam.



Tampa (KKSF): With the Blessings and Anugrahams of Guru Parampara, KKSF Tampa Chapter celebrated



January Month's Anusham Pooja on March 30<sup>th</sup> @ Smt. Priya and Sri. Sarvesh's' Residence. Pooja Started at 4 PM with Ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Poornakumbha for Kamakshi Periyava. Ritwiks and kids chanted Vishnu Sahasranama, Swasti, Ganapathy Pooja, Varuna Kalasa Sthapana, Panchamritha vishesha dravyodhaka snanam, Ekavara Rudrabhishekam for Periyava, Pancha Suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shiva, Kanchi Guru parampara, Periyava.

Program continued with lots of ragas, Followed by Thotakashtakam and concluded with Naivedhyam, Maha Aarthi and distribution of Mahaprasadam.

With the Blessings and Anugrahams of Guru Parampara, KKSF Tampa Chapter celebrated January Month's

Anusham Pooja on April 27th @ Smt. Priya and Sri. Anand's Residence. Pooja Started at 4 PM with Ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Poornakumbha for Kamakshi Periyava. Ritwiks and kids chanted Vishnu Sahasranama, Swasti, Ganapathy Pooja, Varuna Kalasa Sthapana, Panchamritha vishesha dravyodhaka snanam, Ekavara Rudrabhishekam for Periyava, Pancha Suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shiva, Kanchi Guru parampara, Periyava.

Program continued with lots of ragas, Followed by Thotakashtakam and concluded with Naivedhyam, Maha Aarthi and distribution of Mahaprasadam



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With the Blessings and Anugrahams of Guru Parampara, KKSF Tampa Chapter celebrated April Month's



Anusham Pooja on June 29th @ Smt. Jayanthi and Sri. Raghunathan's Residence. Pooja Started at 4 PM with Ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Poornakumbha for Kamakshi Periyava. Ritwiks and kids chanted Vishnu Sahasranama, Swasti, Ganapathy Pooja, Varuna Kalasa Sthapana, Panchamritha vishesha dravyodhaka snanam, Ekavara Rudrabhishekam for Periyava, Pancha Suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shiva, Kanchi Guru parampara, Periyava.

Program continued with lots of ragas, Followed by Thotakashtakam and concluded with Naivedhyam, Maha Aarthi and distribution of Mahaprasadam.

With the Blessings and Anugrahams of Guru Parampara, KKSF Tampa Chapter celebrated April Month's

Anusham Pooja on July 20th @ Smt. Kanthi and Sri. Chaithanya's Residence. Pooja Started at 4 PM with Ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Poornakumbha for Kamakshi Periyava. Ritwiks and kids chanted Vishnu Sahasranama, Swasti, Ganapathy Pooja, Varuna Kalasa Sthapana, Panchamritha vishesha dravyodhaka snanam, Ekavara Rudrabhishekam for Periyava, Pancha Suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shiva, Vyasa (owing to Guru Poornima), Kanchi Guru parampara, Periyava.

Program continued with Sampradaya Bhajans, Followed by Thotakashtakam and concluded with Naivedhyam, Maha Aarthi and distribution of Mahaprasadam.



MahaPeriyava Jayanthi: With the Blessings and Anugrahams of Guru Parampara, KKSF Tampa Chapter



celebrated Mahaperiyava's 131<sup>st</sup> Jayanthi and Maha Anusham Guru Pooja on May 25<sup>th</sup> @ Smt. Srividya and Sri. Viswasundar's Residence. The event started with poorna kumubham for Kamakshi Periayava. Guru Pooja started by Guru Vandanam, Ganapathy Pooja, Varuna Kalasa Sthapana, Punyahavachanam, Mahanyasa Parayanam, Panchamritha vishesha dravyodhaka snanam, Ekavara Rudrabhishekam for Kamakshi Periyava, Guru Avahanti Homam, Followed by Trishathi Archana, Ashtothram for Maha Periyava.

The even continued with Sangeetha Samaparpanam by KKSF Tampa Next generation kids with lots of ragas, Mridhangam, Vishnu Sahasranama Chanting, and Shlokha Parayanam. Followed by Thotakashtakam and concluded with Naivedhyam , Maha Aarthi and distribution of Mahaprasadam.

## Houston (KKSF): Sri Sri Chandrashekarendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal Aradhana

With Pujashri Aacharya's anugraham, KKSF Houston devotees celebrated Sri Sri Jayendra Saraswathi

Shankaracharya Swamigal Aradhana at SDSV Katy Hindu Temple. The event started with the recitation of Swasthi Vachanam, followed by Ganapathy Pooja and abhiseka to Lord Shiva with the recitation of Sri Rudram, Chamakam, Shuktams and Pudhu Periyava Asthothram. Priest Sri Bharthwaj with utmost devotion conducted the pooja. The pooja concluded with Totakashtakam.

KKSF Houston volunteers provided details of the Sanatana Dharmam Sevav Gramam (SDSV) Podili project to devotees. Smt Sridevi Joysula Students offered Sangeetha Samarpanan to acharya. Towards the end of the program, Srimatam prasadam was distributed to all devotees.



## Sri Sri Chandrashekarendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal Jayanthi

With Pujashri Aacharya's anugraham, KKSF Houston devotees celebrated Sri Sri Chandrashekarendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal Jayanthi Utsavam at Cypress Satyanarayana Temple. The event started with the



recitation of Swasthi Vachanam, followed by Ganapathy Pooja and abhisekam to Lord Shiva and Maha Periyava with the recitation of Sri Rudram, Chamakam, Shuktams and Periyava Asthothram. Sri Kalyana Krishnan with utmost devotion conducted the pooja.

Sri Sharada School of Music students and Aninditha offered Sangeetha Samarpanan to acharya. Keshav and Vidyesh Karthik sang Thevaram. The program concluded with Totakashtakam and Mantrapushpam. KKSF Houston volunteers provided details of the SDSG Podili project to devotees. Towards the end of the program, Srimatam prasadam was distributed to all devotees.

Rudra Ekadashini event with Rudra Homam at Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Paramacharya Guru Parampara Paduka Mandapam, Houston to commomerate Adi Shankarar Jayanthi and Mahaperiyava Jayanthi. Event held on May 18th, Saturday.

Rudra Ekadashini event with Rudra Homam at Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Paramacharya Guru Parampara Paduka Mandapam, Houston to commomerate Adi Shankarar Jayanthi and Mahaperiyava Jayanthi. The event was held on May 18th, Saturday. The highlights of the event included Svasthi Vachanam, Mahanyasa Japam, Rudra Ekadashini, Rudra Homam, Vasodhara, Chaturveda Parayanam, Kalashabishekam to Shivan, Adi Shankarar, and Mahaperiyava, and Totakashtakam. Brahmashri Kalyanakrishna Vadhyar conducted the event with Shradha and



Bhakti with the support of Houston Veda Vidyarthies and the support of Dr. Visweswaran family. Shri Sundarram of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam NRI association got the Srimatam Prasadam to bless the event. Reported by Prof. Vivekshankar Natarajan, Houston



Guru Poornima utsavam at Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Paramacharya Guru Parampara Paduka Mandapam, Houston,



Texas held on July 20th, 2024. Bramhashri Kalyanakrishna sastrigal performed Rudraabhishekam, GuruPoojai, Avahanthi and Medha Dakshinamurthy Moola Mantra Homam. Brahmashri Ramakrishna Srowthigal performed Navavarana Poojai. The event concluded with Sangeetha Sevai and Totakashtakam.

Jaya Jaya Shankara Hara Hara Shankara. Reported by Professor Vivekshankar Natarajan

## Seattle, WA: WAPS & Kalainirai Foundation USA

Bhaktas celebrated Sri Adi Sankara Jayanthi Mahotsavam at Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Temple on May 12th. Abhishekam to Sri Bhagavadpadal was performed in the morning along with veda parayanam and Soundarya lahari parayanam. There was a special karyakrama in the afternoon with sangitam and nritya samarpanam by children and adults, samasthi parayanam of thevaram and sri bhagavadpadal samksritam shlokams. This was followed by veedhi porappadu with kolattam. It has been an annual tradition here to offer nritya samarpanam of Bhgavadpadal's Avatara Ghattaha, which was also performed.



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**Shangai, China:** ATM kids were taught Vinayagar Agaval by Smt Annapoorani mami and Vinayagar Agaval chanting competition were held on 17-03-2024 and prizes were distributed to all the kids.



ATM arranged for special Sathsang on 24-03-2024 and celebrated Panguni Uthram with Tiruppugazh songs by Mulund Tiruppugazh Bhajan Group lead by Smt.Mahalakshmi, Mumbai and Devotional songs on Lord Murugan by ATM Devotees.

With Anugraha Bhashana blessings from Pujyasri HH Sri Sri Balaperiyava, ATM introduced Sandhyavandhana Anushtana Program on 29-03-2024 for kids aged 5 to 12 years. So far 100 kids joined and from Tamil New year 14<sup>th</sup> Apr 2024, performing Nithya anushtana with daily attendance taken with the help of Parents. Inaugural session was addressed by Shri Ganesa Sharma mama (Mylai Mahaperiyava Temple), Hindu Ganesan mama and Smt Rajam mami and Shri Chandramouli mama. On completion of one month, kids were motivated with prizes and prasadams. Half yearly and annual prizes would be distributed to encourage Children.





On the auspicisous day of tamil new year – Krodhi varusha pirappu 2024, panchanga padanam was done by Brahmasri Barani Sastrigal, Shri Kanchi Mutt.

ATM celebrated 30 days of Mahaanusham Mahothsavam from 26-4-254 to 25-5-2024). Sri Mahaperiyava and Sri Balaperiyava Paadhuka prarthanai for 180 devotees performed, followed by Mahaperiyava Ashtothra archanai and Sri Sri Bala Periyava Ashtothra archanai. Every day after pooja, various programs were arranged like, bhajan, vocal concert, veena concert, bharathanatyam, Srimad Bhagavatha Sapthaham, pattimandrams, Karutharangam, sloka chanting, pravachanams etc. More than 30 chief guest which includes upcoming musicians, young children. ATM devotees and kids in large numbers participated in the daily Sath Sangam with devotion.

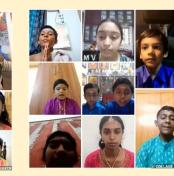


Srimad Bhagavatha Sapthaham was performed by Shri Aditya Kalyanaraman from 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024. ATM devotees attended on all days in large numbers and blessed with the opportunity to participate with family.

ATM kids participated in various activities during Maha Anusha Mahothsavam like speech on Engal Kula deivam, songs, sloka chanting, pattimandram etc. Parents were so cooperative by training and educating their kids and encouraged their kids participation in ATM programs. Kids learnt many traditions/customs/value of Hindu

Dharma.









On Mahaanusham day, ATM started its program with Vishwaroopa dharisanam of Arultharum Mahaperiyava followed by Ganapathi Homam, Navagraha Homam, Ayushya Homam, Avahanthi Homam, Vedha parayanam, Gho Pooja and Sri Paadhuka Periyava Abishekam. By Noon, Ashtothra pooja and 131 neivedhyam, ATM devotees participated in large numbers and offered 771 Neivdhyam during the Pooja. In evening session Abirami Andhadhi and Soundaryalahari parayanam, speech on Bhagavatha characters, Speech on experiences with Mahaperiyava by Shri Chandrasekara mama, Kanchipuram and Shri Bhajanai Ravi mama were conducted with the blessings of Sri Periyava.





Kids participate in regular Satsang and various festival programs in large numbers and their performances were telecasted in zoom meet.



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## Voice of the Youth



Hasini Shyam (Portland): I am 8 years old, and I live in San Diego, California. In school, I am in third grade. I learned about Adhi Shankaracharya from the "Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation" Bhakti club. My teacher is Ms. SriVidhya. I learned a lot about saints from them. One of the saints that I learned about, is Adi Shankaracharya.

> Adi Shankaracharya is a great saint of India and a guru for all of us. Therefore, let's worship and offer our pranaams to the holy feet of Adi Shankaracharya, an avataara of Lord Shiva himself.

> The devas saw that people on earth were doing inauspicious things, so they went to Lord Shiva for help. Shiva told them to not worry because He will descend on Earth. He did His avataara for Shivaguru and Aryamba because they were very

devoted to Him and they always wanted a son. He appeared in both Shivaguru and Aryamba's dream, saying that they would be blessed with a son. Shortly after, they gave birth to a beautiful son. He was named "Shankara" because that's another name of Shiva. He was born in Kaladi, Kerala and His star was Thiruvathirai. In His childhood, He played with His friends, He visited the Krishna temple every day, and He listened to Harikatha from His mother. He also had a deep knowledge in Vedas and Shastras from His father. There were many incidents that happened in His life. For example, there was one that shows how the Acharya helped a poor lady, how He became a Sanyasi, how Lord Narasimha saved His life, how Lord Shiva removed the last traces of ego in Him, and much more! These are just some incidents that happened in His life!

One incident is about how He became a Sanyasi. One day, when He was bathing in the Poorna River a crocodile got His leg. He called loudly to His mother and said, "I feel like My end is near. But if you allow me to become a Sanyasi, it might let go of Me." His mother permitted Him and the crocodile let go. He became a Sanyasi and started on a pilgrimage. He visited a lot of places like Srirangam. He also got a lot of disciples like Sureshwara, Padmapaada, Hastamalaka, and Giri. These disciples were all different in their own way. Sureshwara and Shankara had a debate and Sureshwara lost. When Padmapaada crossed a river, each step he took, a lotus appeared. Hastamalaka, who used to be dumb, started speaking after he met the Acharya. Giri, who also used to be dumb, was transformed by a mere glance of Adi Shankaracharya.

To conclude, let us consider Acharya, our guru, and pay our respects to Him at all times, as he was the first Acharya of the Kamakoti Peetham.

Hara Hara Shankara ! Jaya Jaya Shankara !!



Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara

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