Jaya Jaya Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara







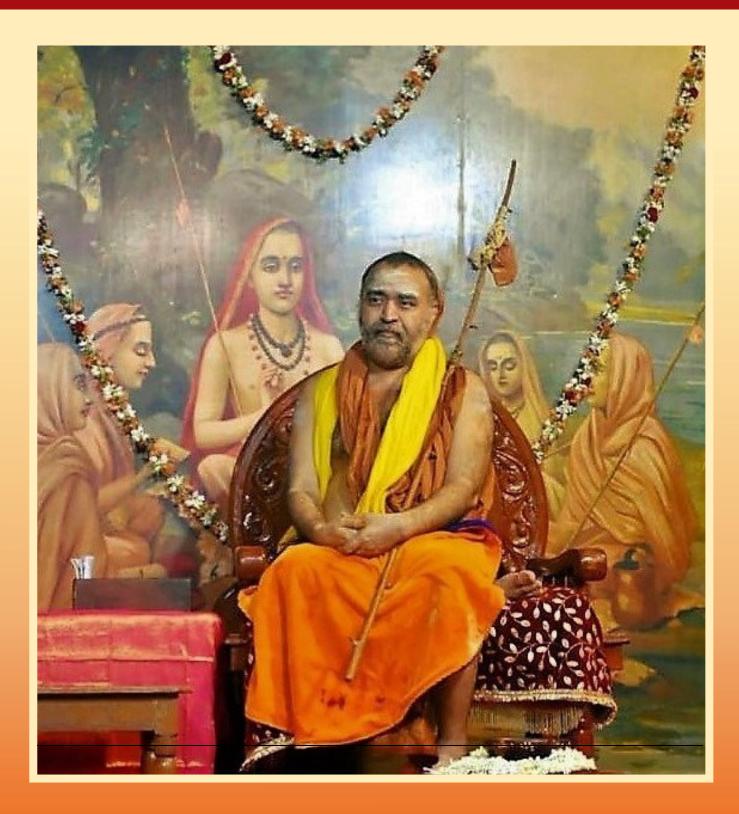
NRI NEWSLETTER An Initiative of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam



Hara Hara Sankara Hara Hara Sankara

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(For private circulation only)



Message from Acharya Swamigal to NRI Devotees

Shruti Smriti PuranānāmĀlayamKarunālayam NamaamiBhagavadpādaShankaramLokaShankaram SadāshivaSamārambhāmShankarāchāryaMadhyamām AsmadĀcharyaParyantamVandeGuruparamparām

Message of Blessings

Ayodhya should become an international spiritual centre.

Jagadguru, Sankaracharya Sri Sri Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swamy Varu, Sri Kamakoti peetham

The influence of Lord Rama on the Indianness i.e Bharatheeyatha.

Everybody names their children as Rama whether it is north or south, without any exception. Even the areas which we consider backward and the sections that we consider that are not really economically sound, are all also devotees of Lord Rama. Everybody puts His name because that name has got a great value. It represents the human values, Indian ethos and also ideals. Not only that, it also reflects and grants a particular energy that is spiritual energy which has to be properly put to use. The Bharatheeya dharma i.e Indian ethos, teach us a lot of self-reliance and also self-control. That also grants the power of discretion, what to do, how much to do, when to do... these are the values that one has to cherish. This is real Dharma. Indianness is nothing but ideal human life. This Dharma or sanathana Dharma or Hindava Dharma or Bharatheeya dharma is an ideal that bestowus absolute bliss. It is sanathana and very ancient, impregnated with (samskruthi), culture and (samskara) refinement. To such a Dharma, Rama is replica. 'RamovigrahavanDharmah' If Dharma has to have any form it is Lord Rama.

During these times some people are denouncing the idol worship, which is not correct. In our Dharma idol worship is very paramount. Not only that the inert which is consciousness or the universal consciousness or the cosmic energy is embedded in this. For that the people who have got this consciousness have always responded to Dharma which has been practised over years. We should not be inert always. We should be very active and conscious, for removal of poverty. Then medicare. Taking care of the elders and also young - children. In fact, it is social responsibility. If the wife and husband are away from children, they lose their mental balance. They become mentally weak. We have to understand these problems and try to address them whenever it is required. Not only that they should also get into the society and awaken the society, inspire the society, illuminate the society, illustrate to the society and make it awaken to the fact that the whole concept of consciousness or Dharma starts from home. It is from the child vis a vis parents. This is called civilization. Civilization has got nothing to do with citizenship. Citizenship is only identity. Civilization is a continuity of Dharma. If we understand the Bharatheeyatha, that is Indianness, it can be understood in the current perspective. We are not really concerned about the personality or persons. It is the personalities to be respected and not the persons alone. From that particular angle of Rama, the history of Rama, the sojourn of Lord Rama on this planet earth, give lot of self-confidence. His valour laced with humility, he is very humble. He is candid and it is laced with wisdom also. Viveka, wuisdum, discretion and inquiry Vichakshana, Vichara.. these three constitute vikrama. Vikrama means valour. If we utilise this particular valour based on Dharma, humility etc will enhance the personality of an Individual.

What Rama did? He worshipped maharshis. He offered prayers. In fact, he honoured them. That is why for the entire human race, his history is inspirational. Karma, Bhakthi and Gnanam.. these three are the confluence. Karma is proper action. Bhakthi is concentration, contemplation and devotion. Gnana is viveka and vichakshana. Lord Rama represents all the three. In fact, he is the confluence. In Sanskrit, we call it Triveni. When he met the maharshis during the journey through the forest he followed the Gnanamarga, the absolute wisdom. When he met personalities like Sabari he demonstrated the Bhakthiyoga. When he met and addressed his council of ministeries (amathyaas). He has beautifully demonstrated karmayoga with cohesion, pride and growth. He has proved to the world that this is the only way to actualize the three yogas and that is why his life is history and inspirational.

The Ayodhya movement for hundreds of years.

We have to learn so many things. The strength of the society is paramount. We have so many Governments. We have so many classes. Societies... these are to be redefined again. Sasthra nirmanam. We have to evolve a beautiful science / sasthra... social science. We call it as social engineering. This is very important. In this, Government is doing a bit out of it. A Government, a law, a leader, an officer... this is the ladder. It has been happening as concentrated and institutionalisation this is called 'vyavasthikrutha'.. institutionalised. In this also a lot of good is to be done quickly. Rajyam means sarkar, Government. But it has limitations. Swamy means leader. Amathyas are good ministers, good friends, good treasury. these are all the effective institutions. They have to have an improvement over years. The ambience, the climate around and the whole thing has to be strengthened further and further. This is very important. The relations between the Central Government and the several states should be cordial, amicable, polite, candid, productive and must be proactive. In borders of the nation, several layers of security which is called as protective mechanism for the nation. For this nation, we have 'saptanga'.. 7 states where one has to work very efficiently. If this is implemented in respect of the health, it is called as astanga... 8 ways. Then for worship for panchanga sasthra, we must always check where we are whether we are, really in it and what we are searching for? all these are to be thoroughly understood in a democratic set up. As always each individual is a part of the whole body. It is like a human body consisting of various organs. This is called Government. Then what is social engineering and social evolvement? If we say their education, their houses, their income etc.. But there will be some differences among the individuals, and also among the sects. But in our opinion the family is very important and pivotal. It is the central point and you have to take care of the family and the environment in which the family is functioning, it is very important. Such people are to be redefined under this structure. Today we have several CC TVs etc. They are not that important. The character, the attitude, the aptitude.. these are all important and we need to have a contact, interpersonal relations culture, confidence, tolerance, talent, values.. these are real CCTVs. Not the which catches the images. In the past in the sasthras were released or broadcast through temples. There are some charitable institutions and the gurukul vidya vidhan. That is how the knowledge is imparted through vedas. For this purpose, they established Gurukula system. 'Adhyathma vidya vidyanaam' Of all the education of all the learning, Adhyathma, the spiritual knowledge, spiritual approach, spiritual outlook.. these are very paramount. It is already told in Bhagavathgitha. So we have to have the traditional art and the cultural part of the music, the literature, natyasasthra are to be sustained and nourished from time to time. In this background there is sabdhaartha, the meaning through the words or the meaning of the word. Then also Bhavaartha the very essence of it and then Paramartha.. the purpose of this knowledge. These are all to be comprehended into the correct perspective. Then in the Ayodhya war, as you said, it is not a real war. It has been continuously aspired for. This long battle has occurred for only one reason because people who were involved in it and people who are against, it were not well informed. They have no exposure to sasthraas. That is why it took such a long time. There is no candid approach in them also. Even the Government has not responded to the problem. It has not attempted at any point of time to find any solution, hence, the long battle.

So let us talk about Dharma.. the righteousness – that's what we call. Absolutely there is no knowledge about it. The elementary knowledge is missing that is why the people could not understand the very nature or the national character of the country. That is how foreigners have taken it as a political or a commercial issue. They have used it for their own convenience. That was the reason. If we understand or maintain a balance between the aspiration and the achievement is imminent. The sankalapa that is the resolve and the final result. There is no place for such long battle. But it happened.

The 'atmanirbhar' is now much talked about in this country. How this atmanirbhar will come? By cherishing and celebrating the family values, honesty of purpose, patriotism and devotion to God. Everybody should celebrate. Now we have about 140 crores. The country may be looking big. But if we assiduously follow the Indianness, it is very easy to run this country. We lack information, commitment and that is why there is some problem. At the same time ours is a divergent country and heterogenous society in which several languages, several traditions, several cultures tend to live together. This is the essence of this Bharatheeya culture, Indian culture.

Ayodhya movement has happened at several stages. One has to deeply understand what for it happened and why it happened and why it took so much of time.. this is to be thoroughly examined and investigated. Every individual has to think about the welfare of this country. There must be a mutual cooperation. Cooperation, coordination and conciliation and confidence.. these constitute the inner strength. Now we have several divergent thoughts. Now time has come. This is called bahumathi (many minds), sahamathi.. (togetherness) from sahamathi we should move to ekamathi. (One unified mind) One nation, one thought, one approach one result. This should be the order.

The role played by Jagadguru Jayendra Saraswathi Swamy.

Jayendra Saraswathy swamy played a critical role, a real key role. He always felt that the Janmabhumi should be free from the shackles. Janmabhumi means it is not our birth place, it is Rama Janmabhumi, the birth place of Lord Rama is in the shackles. It should come out of the shackles ands HE was very confident that will happen. That is why in Ayodhya, the Kanchi peetam has purchased the piece of land also long back. HE opened the door, opened the window and inspired many people to get into this movement. He played HIS part extremely well and in the old structure he got permission from the Central Government. Swamy played very important role in that. Directly or indirectly, he has conducted several programs. Not only that. He made many people to indulge in Dharmika Anushtana.. that is called the method of actualization of Dharma. What all has to be done to achieve the result, he did all that. He undertook several visits all over. In order to inculcate the awareness, he followed preaching and then imparting knowledge through several seminars. Some inspirational aspects where the subjects were deliberated and debated and he has also conducted many conferences to achieve peace. In fact he has conducted many conciliatory meetings with others meaning who follow other faiths, including Muslims. This is what Jayendra Saraswathy swamy did. In 1986 February, the second week-long programme was conducted that was when Jayendra Swamy first entered. There was nobody around, Then Kalyana Krishna, a south Indian, who was the chief secretary of Uttara Pradesh. In those days Mahaswamy Chandrasekharendra Saraswathy Jayendra Saraswathy Swamyvaaru and I was also there. Mahaswamy sent the umbrella for Rama. Jayendra Saraswathy Swamy used to stay in Prayagraj in those days. From Prayagraj Aliyambalam Neelakanta Deekshithar and Mandakuluru Ramamurthy Sastry conducted parayana.. continuous reading- of Valmiki Ramayana and also Tulasi Ramayana. Mahaswamy blessed Jayendra saraswathy swamy to do the first puja first worship to Rama in 1986. Because it is a shakthipeeta. For those 9 days of Navarathri I was also there in Ayodhya. On Ekadasi day, we all had the darshan of Lord Rama. Ayodhya, infact, is a Sakthi peeta, the Pruthvi kshethra meaning earth. 'Ayodhyadishu peeteshu Prudhivaa dhimaanukrama' so says Soubhagya Chintamani, which is a great work. This particular work has prescribed certain procedures and in Kanchi also several worships are conducted as prescribed. With relevance, reference and reverence. The kuladevatha, the family diety, is nothing but Devi Mangala. It means people belonging to Surya lineage and Ayodhya kingdom, there is a kula devatha. Deva Kali. All of them worshipped that kula devatha. Jayendra saraswathy swamy's (sankalpam) resolve, the (prakalpam) the plan of action has resulted in the formation, construction, reconstruction of Rama mandiram and it gives us all happiness.

War waged against Sanatana Dharma is very alarming.

It is very unfortunate. This is the sad state of the nation. We have to come out of it. We have to take others also out of this thought process. For that what we need is self-confidence, trust in Eswara, trust in God. we also need mutual coordination, cooperation and understanding among the people. These three will constitute a real spiritual strength. That is Eswara vachanam.. means as per Upanishads Mathrudevo Bhava, Pithru Devo Bhava, Acharya Devo Bhava, We must inculcate lot of faith in them. From grassroot level, the Dharma is to be propagated. For that what we suggest is that the donar and the leader (dhata and the netha) have to come out with charity at micro level called Sukshma sthayi. If the dhatha and netha are together all the temples will receive proper attention and reverence. Small yagnas are to be conducted, 'Yagno danam thapaschava pavanani manishinaam'. Yagna means havans, dathruthva means charity. Kramasikshana is discipline. Among all these are very important. That itself is Hindu Dharma. Ours is athmadarsana not pradarsana. It is not exhibition. It is an experience. All faiths should have common minimum programme. No! No! not minimum. Common maximum programme is very essential. In this country even state, family, service - these are all highly respected. If somebody indulges in a good service activity, the society is respecting them and they are venerated also. There may be a difference in the form and name but in bhavana it is the same.

Even today the sanathana culture is being respected, regarded, followed and actualised in many a way. This is how this much of peace is prevailing in this country. It is all because of this. It is there in the very soil of India, in a natural way. It is good nature which we all have to protect it, preserve it, perceive it, interpret it and then execute it. This is very important. In history something happens and something happened too let the bygones be bygones. They have gone. It has no relevance today. Then what is that we have to do today? In the present context we have to have the nijarupa, that is we have to understand the reality with correct perspective. Then in between over a period of time so many changes take place good or bad. Some hatred is also seen. So we have to come out of all that. Unshackle ourselves and become free from it. We all have to pray for the wholistic blooming of the society. That is not personality development that is personality unfoldment. Social Unfoldment is paramount than social development. That is secondary. We have two things.. one is prayer. It is not enough. Alongwith prayer we have to put lot of effort. It must be continuous effort. This is the message of Lord Rama.

Balam vishno pravarthitam

That is already said. This reflects 'Saha anubhuthi'.. the experience of all put together.. that is what Rama says.

This January 22^{nd} a programme is on the anvil. It is going to happen. We need to have soujanyam that is good thought, good perspective. These are very important. Let there be no conflict between sahanubhuthi and soujanyam. Sahanubhuthi means all thoughts put together into one and soujanya that is with a kind heart and positive mind. Still in the society or in the Government so much to be done. So much work is left behind. That is why we must have a positive frame of mind and positive thinking. Through that we have to participate and take part in the progress of the country. We have to maintain a key role that is (keelaka pathra) in Telugu or Sanskrit – a pivotal role but not but not (keechaka pathra) that is villainess and negative attitude. We should not have that. We should have confidence within us. For that our intentions must be pious. Let there be no hatred. God has given us air, water etc. We have to use them properly. We should not misuse them and we should never abuse them.. Use, misuse or abuse. We have so much power in our hands. But we have no responsibility in equal breath. So we have to have the responsibility and the right to live must be balanced. It can happen through equanimity, equipoise and equilibrium. That is the path to achieve Vasudhaika kutumbakam. This is the only way.

This is all pertaining to the country. Coming to Hindutva first it should happen within us. It means we have to clean and set our house first. Then we have to clear our eye sight. Eye sight means, it is not the power of the eye, our approach, our viewing the things. That is why it is '*mithrasya chakshusa*' that means the person who has no element of hatred is very essential. We all should have that. '*Eesavaasya midam sarvam*' We should not aspire for others' properties or others' wealth.

Ayodhya consecration is going to happen in January 22nd.

'Devaanaam pura Ayodhya'.. This is a line from Krishna Yajurveda describing the term Ayodhya as a pious place. That is why Lord Vishnu chose Ayodhya for his *avataara*. That is why temple is being built in Ayodhya. Along with the temple, many centers for charity, spirituality and dharma have to come up. *'Uttara Shakti.*. *Dakshina Buddhi'*. South and North India need to come together and synergize their strengths. We need to respect each other's capabilities. We need to act in cohesion and unity. The (*kriti*) work focus and devotion of the North and the (*samskriti*)rich cultural traits of the South need to go hand in hand.

When Vice President Krishnakant and the former governor of combined state of Andhra came to seek the darshan of Paramacharya- He had mentioned the phrase 'mera bhaarat mahaan'. That mahattvam, such grandiose, such purity should come to us today. Unification in thought, unification in action, unity in approach to build this country will ensure that our country reaches such great heights. Mahattva could be said to mean a strategic spiritual divine energy, Patuttva is related to alertness and swiftness of body, Kavitva means expression through language should combine together.

Following the footprints of Sri Rama each and every village of this country, every temple of the nation should come together in a cohesive manner and make this country a great nation.

Ayodhya should become an international spiritual centre.

In post independent India, we got lot of expertise in the worldly education. Still, we are not fully self-reliant. Still people feel a need to go abroad to learn and for education. Keeping education aspect aside, few people visit other countries to know things that are already available in plenty in India. They end up learning things that are not contextual in our country.

Our country used to have several Dharmic spiritual centers. These need to be revived. In Ayodhya too, these have to be revived or established. Through these centers Indian spiritual practices need to be propagated far and wide. Making Ayodhya as a center, Dharmic programs should be conducted in other ancillary places like Avadh, Purvanchal etc. Just like Dharma Prachara Parishad of TTD, Ayodhya has the potential to build a strong Dharmic organization. Panda, Pujari, Purohit, Kalyan Yojana (Welfare and support of all temple archakas) is a very important need as they form the conduit between the common man and the divine. Supporting the *archakas* with reasonable, respectable emoluments will ensure that they perform their duties well and programs like *Nada Neerajanam* (Music and Cultural programs) are conducted by TTD on a daily basis are to be conducted in Ayodhya, too. These programs ensure that sufficient encouragement is provided to cultural art forms. 'Har

panchayat me pundit hona, har mandir Tirupati hona' (Every village panchayat needs to have a well read, dharmic *pundit* and every temple should become a dynamic Dharmic center like Tirupati).

The impact on Mathura and Kasi after Ayodhya.

What we need, are pious thoughts, devotion, law and order and such things. The rest we will leave to God. When the right time comes, context also will emerge on its own. All development will happen in its own time.

Hindu Dharma and other faiths.

Sanatana Dharma is universal. It is beyond attachment and hatred. Sanatana Dharma has been in force for millions of years. It is all pervasive in the *Jada* (inert) and *Chaitanya* (absolute consciousness) alike. It is beyond time and space. The same divine persona is in all the beings. *'Sarvaatma bhaava', 'Ekaatma bhaava', 'Sarvam khalvidam brahma'*. This is the fundamental universal truth of Dharma. Our dharma has been the universal leader (viswaguru) from many centuries and generations.

We all have *deham* (Human body), there is *daivam* (Divine). In between these two, the youth of this country need to know that there is also *Desam* (Country).

The interview in Telugu by Jagadguru, Sankaracharya Sri Sri Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swamy Varu, Sri Kamakoti peetham translated into English, by Sri V.S.R. Moorty Spiritual Scientist.

Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara





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Editorial: Join the Kamakoti Whatsapp Channel by subscribing at https://connect.kamakoti.org/whatsapp. Additionally, we've enhanced the user experience on www.kamakoti.tv, providing improved access to videos through enhanced search functionalities and galleries. Your feedback on this update would be greatly appreciated.



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.

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కామకోటి వాణి -Kamakoti Vani - Newsletter in Telugu – November 2023 edition is available now at

https://kamakoti.org/telugu/newsletter/kama koti-vani-telugu-newsletter.html

Kamakoti Vani Marathi Newsletter – January 2024 edition

https://www.kamakoti.org/kamakoti/Marathi/ Newsletter/kamakoti-vani-Marathi-Jan-2024.html

Sri Kamakoti Pradeepam - Monthly spiritual magazine in Tamil - October 2023 edition is now available. <u>https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/books/Kamakoti.org/kamakoti/books/Kamakoti/books/Kamakoti-Pradeepam-Magazine.html</u>

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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

Cor Xor

This issue covers the Holy Camp from **09th May 2023** by HIS HOLINESS PUJYASRI SANKARA VIJAYENDRA SARASWATI SANKARAACHARYA SWAMIGAL:

Period	Camp Location
03-Nov-2023 till 05-Nov-2023	Gurukul Vidyalaya Address: 232, Roti Godam, Behind Eye hospital,
	Sitapur, Uttarpradesh
06-Nov-2023 till 08-Nov-2023	Shri Nath Ji Bhawan, Near Daliganj Railway Crossing, Sitapur Road.
	Lucknow
09-Nov-2023	Marwadi Dharamshala Opp to Tridev Mandir, Sultanpur Sitapur Road,
	Sultanpur
10-Nov-2023 till 16-Nov-2023	Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Sankara Matam, Hanuman Ghat,
	Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
17-Nov-2023 till 23-Nov-2023	Residence of Sri Ashok Bajpai, House no2 Minto Park House Kydganj,
	Prayagraj
24-Nov-2023 till 25-Nov-2023	Silico Byte Degree College, Adharkap Katni, Madhya Pradesh
26-Nov-2023 till 28-Nov-2023	Geeta Dham Mandir, Gwari Ghat Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh
29-Nov-2023 till 09-Dec-2023	Bhagavadpada Sabha, Ram Nagar Nagpur, Maharashtra
10-Dec-2023 till 12-Dec-2023	Ramalayam, Tirupalli Adilabad, Telangana
13-Dec-2023 till 14-Dec-2023	Uttara Tirupati Kshetram, Sri Ganapati Sachidananda Swami Ashram,
	Guganpally, Nizamabad
15-Dec-2023 to date	Sri Shankar Math, Sri Subrahmanya Swami Devalayam, Skandagiri,
	Padmaraonagar, Secunderabad

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
What, too, is fear	It is wealth for almost everyone
What is rate to obtain	Devotion to Hari
What, too, is heinous	Cruelty
Who, verily, is dear to Lord	One who causes no pain to others and is not lost in worries.
What is the source of Divine power	From penance
Where is intelligence found	In the Brahmana
What is the source of intelligence	By serving intimately the elders
Who are the elderly	Those who know the duty and the truth
What is more painful than death to a respected person	Infamy
Who will be happy in the world	The rich person
And what, indeed, is richness	By which there is fulfillment of wants
What is the source of all pleasures	Merit
What is the source of pain	Sin
Whose is the lordship	One, verily, who worships Sankara with devotion
Who grows	The humble
Who degenerates	The conceited (arrogant) person
Who is not to be trusted	One who as a rule utters lies
On what occasion, is even a lie sinless	That which is uttered for the sake of protection righteousness
What is righteousness	That which has been practiced by the virtuous elders of the family



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Acharya Swamigal performs snaanam in the Sarayu River in Ayodhya (14-Oct-2023)



Sharada Navaratri - Yagashala pujas begin at Shrimatam camp at Ayodhya (15-Oct-2023)



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Sharada Navaratri Mahotsavam at Sri Kamakshi Ambal Devasthanam (15-Oct-23 to 24-Oct-23)



Acharya Swamigal performs Puja to Ramlalla at Ramjanmabhoomi Kshetram Ayodhya Dham (25-Oct)

On this auspicious Ekadashi, Acharya Swamigal performed Puja at the makeshift temple of Ramlalla at Sri Ramajanmabhoomi Kshetram, Ayodhya Dham at 4:30 PM.



Arriving at the shrine after performing Nitya Chandramouleeshwara Swamy Puja at Kanchi Shankar Math, Pramodvan, Ayodhya, Acharya Swamigal performed Rama Ashtottaram Archana, Deeparadhanam, and Chamara Seva.

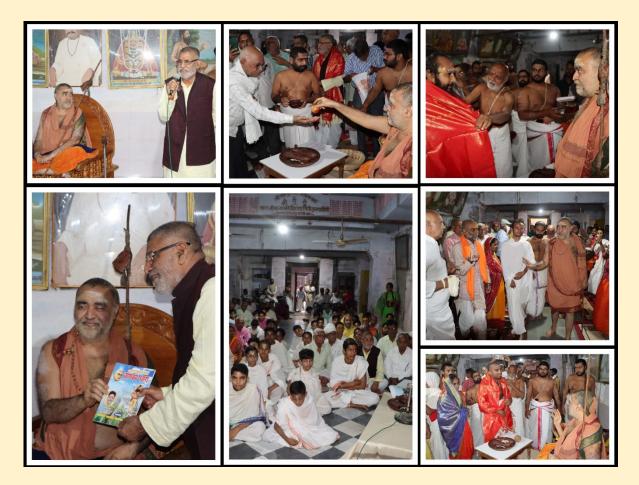
Acharya Swamigal proceeded to the construction site and viewed the developments blessed and the construction engineers & workers, before returning to Shankar Math for the evening Puja.

Acharya Swamigal was received by Trustees & Members of Ramajanmabhoomi Teerthakshetra Trust.

Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Sita Vallab Kunj in Ayodhya on (27-Oct-2023)



Acharya Swamigal blessed the Brahmana Sabha meeting held at Ayodhya on (29-Oct-2023)



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Acharya Swamigal visits Avama Ram Mandir at Ayodhya (30-Oct-2023)

Acharya Swamigal visited the Amava Ram Mandir, a temple located right opposite the newly constructed Ram Mandir at the Ram Janmabhoomi site.

Acharya Swamigal went up the roof of the temple that opens up to a beautiful view of the Ram Janmabhoomi site. In an address to a media team, Acharya Swamigal narrated the connection between Kanchi and Ayodhya as mentioned in the Lalithopakhyanam.

Acharya Swamigal addressed a few questions around the proceedings of the upcoming Kumbhabhishekam and conveyed that Bhagavan Sree Ram being the Yagnyasamrakshana Murthy Himself, the Pranaprathishta and Kumbhabhishekam would be performed involving Vedic rituals of the highest order.



Acharya Swamigal visits Dadhichi Kund in Naimisharanya (04-Nov-2023)

The town of Naimisharanya is replete with several temples, and holy water bodies. During the Vijaya Yatra to Naimisharanya, Acharya Swamigal visited the temples, and teerthas, including the Dadhichi Kund



Acharya Swamigal visited the Rudravrat Mahadev Mandir and offered anushtan at the Gomati River in Naimisharanya on the (04-Nov-2023)



Naimisharanya - Acharya Swamigal visits Kali Devi Mandir (04-Nov-2023)

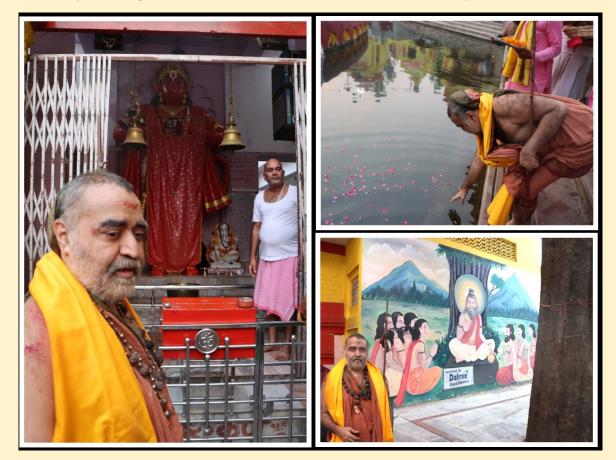
Acharya Swamigal visited the Sri Mata Kali Devi Mandir in Naimisharanya Kshetra. It may be noted that the Bhoomi Pooja for this Mandir was performed by Jagadguru Pujyashri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamiji in the year 1997.



Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Lalita Devi Mandir at Naimisharanya on (04-Nov-2023)



Acharya Swamigal visited the Chakra Tirth Mandir at Naimisharanya on (04-Nov-2023)



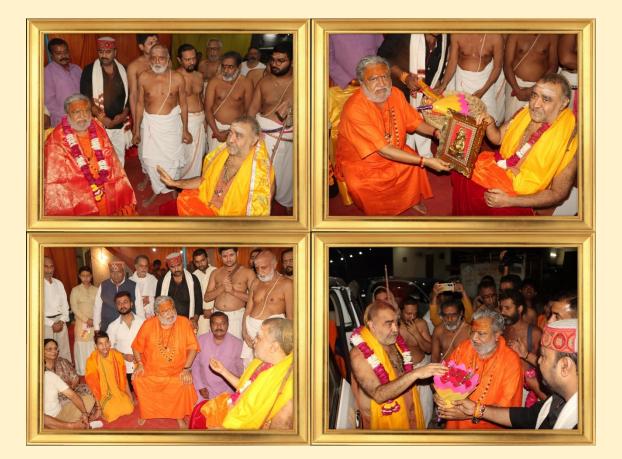
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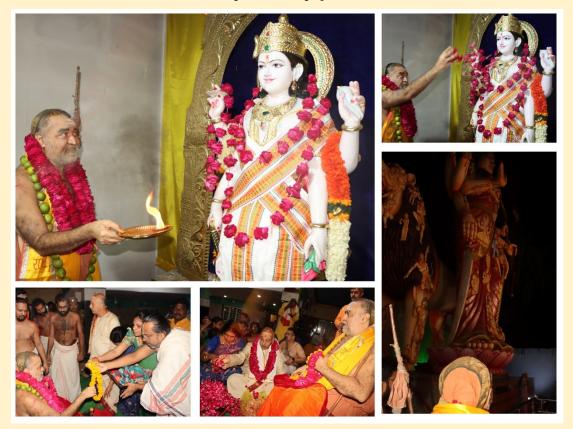
Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Vyas Gaddi in Naimisharanya on 04-Nov-2023. Visesha pujas were performed at the various sannadhis.



Acharya Swamigal visited the Naradananda Ashram on 04-Nov-2023



Acharya Swamigal visited Shri Trishakti Dham on (04-Nov-2023) and blessed the Bhagavata Saptaham being performed by Sishyas of Sri Krishna Premiji. Pujya Swamiji visited the various sannadhis and performed pujas.



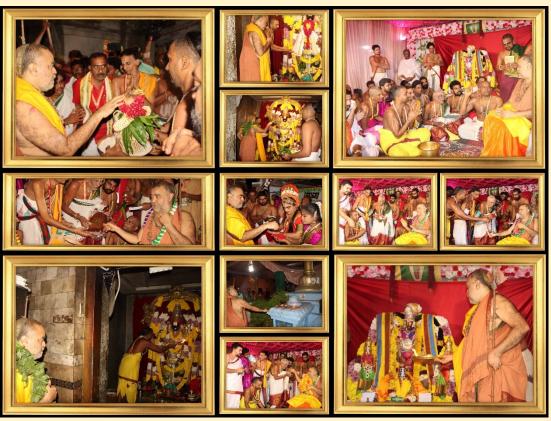
Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Satyanarayana Swami Mandir at Naimisharanya



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Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Balaji Mandir at Naimisharanya on (04-Nov-2023). After pujas, seva and harati, Acharya Swamigal blessed the devotees with Anugraha Bhashanam



Deepavali Utsav - Acharya Swamigal arrives at Varanasi (10-Nov-2023)

Acharya Swamigal commenced the Deepavali Utsav at Varanasi, blessing Annapurna Japam & Havan starting from 10th Nov and inaugurating the Annapurna Utsav Mantapam in Shankar Math, Hanumanghat, Varanasi.

The Annapurna Japam & Havan was performed in the presicnts of Annapurna temple. During the Deepavali Annapurna Utsav in Shankar Math, Kamakshi, Meenakshi & Vishalakshi Aavahanam was performed and special Harathi conducted. The Varanasi city glittered in lights and was brimming with festive fervour.



Deepavali at Varanasi Kshetram- Acharya Swamigal visits Annapurna & Kashi Vishwanath Mandir and graces Ganga Harathi (12-Nov-2023)

After completion of Puja in the afternoon, Acharya Swamigal left for Sri Kashi Vishwanath Mandir. Being received by trustees and scholars Acharya Swamigal went to the Garbha Gruha and performed Abhisheka & Shodashopachara Puja, followed by Archanadi Puja at Sri Annapurna Mandir. The Mahant Shankar Puriji who had received Acharya Swamigal at the Annapurna Mandir, took Acharya Swamigal to the Swarna Annapurna Sannidhi at the top floor of the Mandir. New Pattu Vastrams were placed in every Sannidhi which Acharya Swamigal visited.

After special Harathi, Acharya Swamigal went to the Purnahuthi of Annapurna Havan held in the precincts of the temple with the direction of Acharya Swamigal. The Japam commenced on Friday and Purnahuthi was performed in the divine presence of Acharya Swamigal. Annasamruddhi with the blessings of Annapurna Mata was prayed for during the Havans. The Kalasha Teertha was then sprinkled at the Annapurna Mata shrine. The Veda Pandits then submitted the Prasadam to Acharya Swamigal who received it in front of Annapurna Mata shrine and blessed devotees with the Prasadam. Speaking on the occasion, Acharya Swamigal said that Kashi was Annapurna Kshetram and that such Havans need to be organised annually during Deepavali Utsav which is very special. Acharya Swamigal added that such religious activities are intended to get the grace of Annapurna Mata for Aarogyam, Anandam & Subhiksham for one & all.

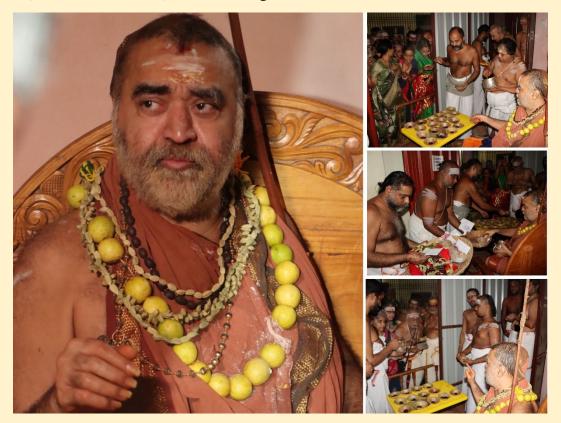
Acharya Swamigal later returned back to Shankar Math Hanuman Ghat at 5 PM and left for Dashashwamedh Ghat by boat to grace the Ganga Harathi. Acharya Swamigal was received by the Mahantji and a special podium was erected for Acharya Swamigal to grace the event. Acharya Swamigal spoke about the greatness of Ganga river, the need for such celebrations and observance of Hindu traditions for welfare of one & all. After the Ganga Harathi event, Acharya Swamigal returned to Shivala Ghat by boat. On the way back to Shankar Math, Acharya Swamigal went to the Hanuman temple after which the Ghat has received its name and reached the Math at 9:30 PM. Acharya Swamigal performed the third Kala Puja thereafter.



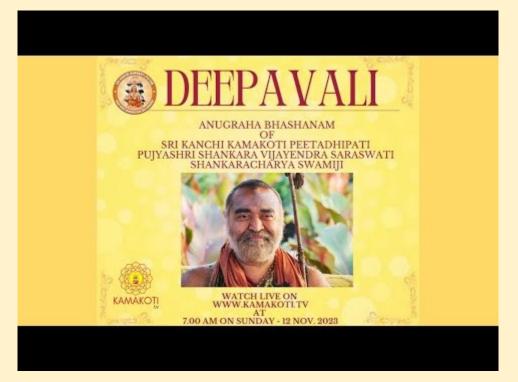
Deepavali at Sri Vishwanatha Dham, Kashi (12-Nov-2023)

Acharya Swamigal performed Deepa Harathi at Sri Chandramouleeshwara Swamy Puja sannadhi early on Deepavali. New Vastrams, Tailam, Seeyakai and Deepavali Marundu were offered. Prasadam from Sri Kamakshi Ambal Devasthanam, Kumarakottam and Brindavanam, Kanchipuram was given to Acharya Swamigal.

Later, Acharya Swamigal gave darshan and blessed devotees with the traditional medicinal Lehyam - Deepavali Marundu - தீபாவளி லேகியம் | தீபாவளி மருந்து



Deepavali - Acharya Swamigal's Anugraha Bhashanam (video below)

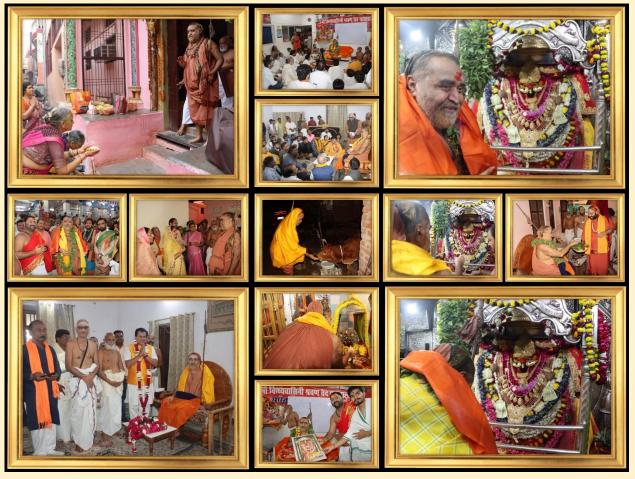


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Vijaya Yatra updates - Darshan at Vindhyavasini & arrival at Prayagraj (16-Nov-2023)

Acharya Swamigal arrived at Prayag late in the night after darshan and Pujas at Vindhyavasini Mandir on 16th Nov. Vindhyavasini Mandir is located in Mirzapur Dist and about 75 kms from Varanasi. It is an ancient Shakti Peetham and finds mention in Lalitha Sahasranama Stotram. Acharya Swamigal performed Pujas and visited a Veda Pathashala run by an Alumni of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Kashi Veda Pathashala and blessed the Vidyarthis. Acharya Swamigal was received by Shri Ashok Vajpayee Ex Minister, his son Shri Harshvardhan Vajpayee & devotees. Camp was scheduled at the residence of the Vajpayees at Minto Park on the Yamuna side of the Sangam area. Though Prayagraj is the famous Sangam area, the local Pandits mentioned that during Karthika Masam it was auspicious to stay on the banks of Yamuna.



Acharya Swamigal blesses Sri Ashok Singhal memorial Lecture - Bharatiya Asmita Ka Anubhuti Hindutva



Acharya Swamigal addressed on 'Bharatiya Asmita Ka Anubhuti Hindutva' on the occasion of Sri Ashok Singhal Memorial Lecture conducted at Arundhati Vasishthashram Anusandhan Peeth, Mahavir Bhavan, Tagore Town, Prayagraj. Justice Vijay Lakshmi of Allahabad High court was chief guest of the function. After the anugraha bhashan, Acharya Swamigal returned to Srimatam Camp for the Friday Pujas. The speech was widely reported in the local media.

Visit to Sringaverapuram (20-Nov-2023)

Acharya Swamigal performed Trikala Puja and visited Sringaverapuram. Acharya Swamigal performed special Harathi at the banks of Ganga and in Anugraha Bhashan spoke about Ganga Mahatmya, Greatness of Ramayana and our Bharatiya Samskruti.



Shoba Yatra at Prayagraj (20-Nov-2023)

Acharya Swamigal performed Karthika Somavara Puja commencing at 8:30 AM and concluding at 4 PM. This was followed by a grand procession "Shobha Yatra" from Minto Park House of Vajpayees to Rajarshi Tandon Mandap. People all along the route participated with enthusiasm to receive Acharya Swamigal, who blessed one and all with Prasadams. On arrival at the venue Acharya Swamigal was received by Prayagraj's three MLAs,



Mayor and other elected representatives. Each Samaj of Prayagraj offered their respects to Acharya Swamigal. Shri Harshvardhan Vajpayee, the convenor of the event and MLA of Prayagraj introduced the communities and they submitted their respects. The Mayor extended welcome with a beautiful poem in Hindi inscribed in a shield. Acharya Swamigal gave Anugraha Bhashanam for about an hour, followed by prasadams to all devotees, and returned to camp at 10:30PM.

Ramayan Satsang held at Prayagraj (21-Nov-2023)

After morning Darshan in the morning and Trikala Puja which concluded at 3 PM, Acharya Swamigal addressed Brahmana Sabha meeting and then went to Sri Ramayan Satsang organised by Sri Ganesh Kesarwani, Mayor of Prayagraj. Acharya Swamigal addressed the gathering with Anugraha Bhashanam and then visited the residence of Sri Girish Chandra Tripathi, Rtd Vice Chancellor of Benaras Hindu University, and specially blessed his father aged about 96 years who chanted shlokas during Pada Puja.



Visit to Adi Shankara Vimana Mantapam (22-Nov-2023)

Acharya Swamigal visited the Venkateshwara Pratishtha place and blessed the Adhivasam procedures, followed by visit to Sri Adi Shankara Vimana Mandapam and Sangam. Kashi Raja and Rani had darshan of Acharya Swamigal. Then Acharya Swamigal visited the residence of Justice Giridhar Malaviya, grandson of Bharat Ratna Sri Madan Mohan Malaviya, and blessed the old couple.



Yatra at Prayagraj concludes with Pran Prathishta of Sri Venkateswara Swami (23-Nov-2023)

Acharya Swamigal performed the Pran Pratishtha of Sri Venkateshwara Bhagavan at 8:30 AM. Mahabhishekam and Harathi was performed. After trikala pujas at Shrimatam camp, Acharya Swamigal blessed a large gathering with Anugraha Bhashan at the lawns of Minto Park residence of Vajyapees. A large Prasadam Bhandara was extended to devotees by Vajpayee family. Acharya Swamigal concluded the Prayagraj visit with this memorable evening and commenced Yatra towards Rewa, Madhya Pradesh at about 7 PM, reaching the residence of Vice Chancellor of Rewa University Shri Rajkumar Acharya at about 9 PM. Acharya Swamigal was received by Vice Chancellor's family and University staff. After a brief Anugraha Bhashanam, Acharya Swamigal blessed the gathering with Prasadams.



The Yatra for Kashi Chaturmasya commenced in Prayagraj on Ashadha Shukla Ekadasha known as Shayana Ekadasha when Acharya Swamigal immersed the sand from Dhanushkodi at the Shudha Ganga River on the Dashashwamedha Ghat. The Vyasa Puja at exactly the Triveni Sangam, Chaturmasyam with Adhika Shravan and till Dashami in the holy city of Kashi, Navaratri and Ashvayuja Pournami with Chandra Grahanam at Ramjanmabhoomi Ayodhya, then Sitapur and Naimisharanyam visit followed with a brief stay in UP capital Lucknow, followed by return to Kashi Vishwanatha Dham for Deepavali Deepotsavam and Annapurna Utsav, again coming back to Sri Venkateshwara Swamy Pratishtha on the auspicious Devotthana Ekadashi at Prayagraj for a weeks' camp, the Ganga Teertha Yatra of Acharya Swamigal was a very eventful, divine, blissful and a very memorable one. It was a great opportunity for devotees who had Darshan of Acharya Swamigal at various Kshetras and partake in all the events.

Karthika Somavaram at Adilabad (11-Dec-2023)

On every Karthika Somavaram Vishesha Abhisheka Pujas along with Arghya Pradanam before Sunset is performed by Acharya Swamigal. Puja began at 10 a.m. and concluded at 6 p.m.. The third Somavaram was performed with Ekadasha Rudrabhishekam.

Karthika Somavaram in four states. This year coinciding with the Vijaya Yatra, the four Somavarams have been performed by Acharya Swamigal in four states:

- 1) Prayagraj, UttarPradesh,
- 2) Jabalpur, MadhyaPradesh,
- 3) Nagpur, Maharashtra
- 4) Adilabad, Telangana.

Addressing a Swagatha Sabha at Ram Temple, Adilabad the place of camp, Acharya Swamigal appreciated the Sankalpam of Brahmana Samaj, Adilabad to start a Veda Pathashala and expressed that the proposal has been proposed on this auspicious Karthika Somavaram with Anuradha Nakshatra which augurs well for Vedic education.



Bhagavadpada Paduka Prathishta Vajra Mahotsavam at Tiruvidaimarudur - Ashtotra Pada Puja performed on (02-Dec-2023)

Bhagavatpada Paduka Vajra Mahotsavam commenced at Tiruvidaimarudur commemorating sixty years completion after the pratishthapana of the Divine Feet of Shrī Shankara Bhagavatpada on 01-Dec-2023 with blessings of Acharya Swamigal. Ashtotra pada puja with shawls was performed with presence of Acharya Swamigal through video conferencing (video below).



Acharya Swamigal's arrival at Nizamabad (12-Dec-2023)

Acharya Swamigal arrived at Sri Uttara Tirupati Venkateshwara Swamy Mandir, Datta Peetam, Nizamabad, Telangana at 9 PM. Leaving Adilabad at 5 PM after Trikala Puja, flagging off Rama Ratha, Anugraha Bhashanam and couple of visits enroute, the reached Nizamabad entourage where Acharya Swamigal was welcomed by devotees & Ashram management in the city. Later, Acharya Swamigal arrived at the Srimatam camp and had darshan of Sri Venkateshwara Swami and other shrines in the Mandir. The temple was beautifully decorated with lights enhancing its architectural beauty.



Vijaya Yatra update - Camp Nizamabad (13-Dec-2023)

Acharya Swamigal was accorded reception by devotees at Nizamabad on 12th December on arrival from Adilabad. On 13th Dec., after giving darshan to devotees, followed by Trikala Puja, Acharya Swamigal left for Basara, a town located on the Telangana side of Telangana - Maharashtra border. The town has a beautiful temple of Gnana Saraswathi Devi.



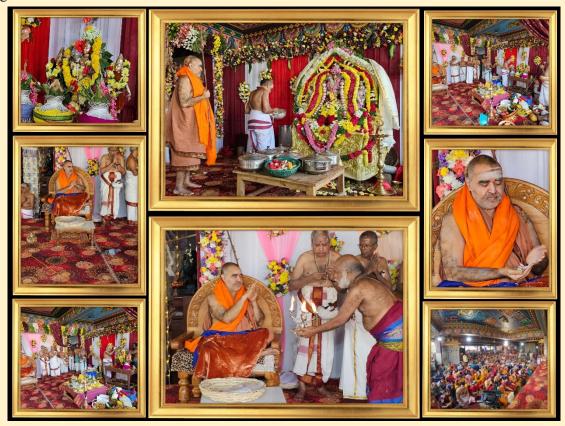
In 2002/03, Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal and Acharya Swamigal had visited and performed Kumbhabhishekam at the temple.

After performing Archanadi Pujas and Harathi at the shrine, Acharya Swamigal spoke in the temple Mandapam about the importance of knowledge and good speech, and about the various temples of Saraswathi in Southern India.

Acharya Swamigal recalled Saraswathi temple in Sampoornananda Sanskrit University built and consecrated by Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal in late 1980s and blessed Brahmana Chatram in the outer road and left for Nizamabad. On return, Acharya Swamigal addressed a special Swagatha Sabha in the Uttara Tirupati Temple which concluded at 10:30 PM.

Subbaraya Shashti at Skandagiri Subrahmanya Swamy Devalayam Secunderabad (18-Dec-2024)

As observed in South India the Karthika Masa Shashti is observed as Subbaraya Shashti in Telangana & Andhra Pradesh. Ekadasha Rudrabhishekam and Sahasranama Archana was performed in presence of Acharya Swamigal.



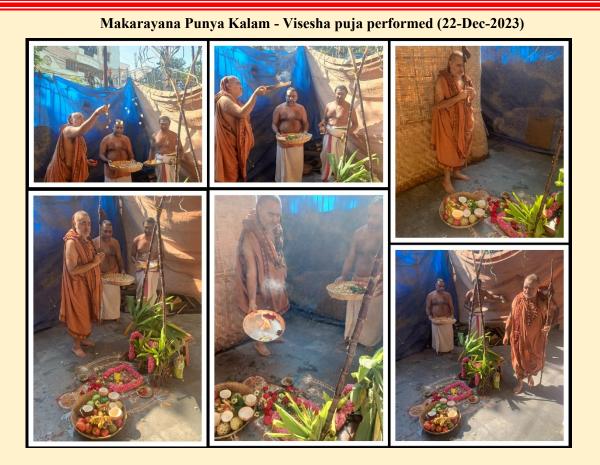
Visit to Rashtrapati Nilayam (22-Dec-2023)

Acharya Swamigal blessed Hon'ble President of India Smt Draupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Nilayam, Secunderabad. Acharya Swamigal expressed good wishes for peace, progress and prosperity of the Nation. Earlier Acharya Swamigal visited Bhavani Temple at the Nilayam.



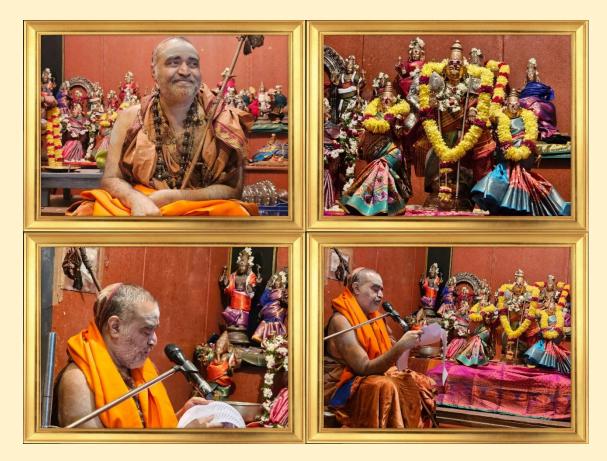
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Ashtotram and pujas offered to Sri Subrahmanya Swami Devalayam at Skandagiri (22-Dec-2023)

Acharya Swamigal visited Sri Subrahmany Swami Devasthanam, Skandagiri, Secunderabad, chanted Sri Subrahmanya Ashtotram, and blessed the devotees.



Arudra - Visesha Pujas performed (27-Dec-2023)

Arudra - Visesha pujas were performed to Sri Sivagama sundari ambal sameta Sri Nataraja Swami at Sri Subrahmanya Swami devalayam at Skandagiri early this morning in presence of Acharya Swamigal. Earlier in the day, Acharya Swamigal performed visesha Arudra Puja with Ekadasha Rudram



Aradhana Mahotsavam of HH Pujyasri Mahaswamigal performed at Kanchipuram (08-Jan-2024)

The 30th Aradhana of His Holiness Pujyashri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Mahaswamiji, the 68th Shankaracharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam was celebrated at Shrimatam, Kanchipuram. The Aradhana celebrations began on 6th January 2024 with Veda Parayanam and Vidwat Sadas. On the 8th January - Aradhana day, Ekadasa Rudra Japam and homams were performed. Abhishekam was performed at the Adhistanam of Pujyasri Mahaswamiji, followed by Alanakaram.

At 9 am, Sangeetanjali took place in which musicians rendered Sri Thayagaraja Pancharatna Goshti Gaanam.

The poornahuti of the homams being performed took place after which the sanctified water was taken and abhishekam was offered at the Adhistanam. Vasordhara, Poornahuti and Mahabhishekam at the Brindavanam was performed. Samparadaya Bhajans were rendered on the occasion.

Prasadam from various temples including Sri Kamakshi Ambal Devasthanam and Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams were offered at the Brindavanam.

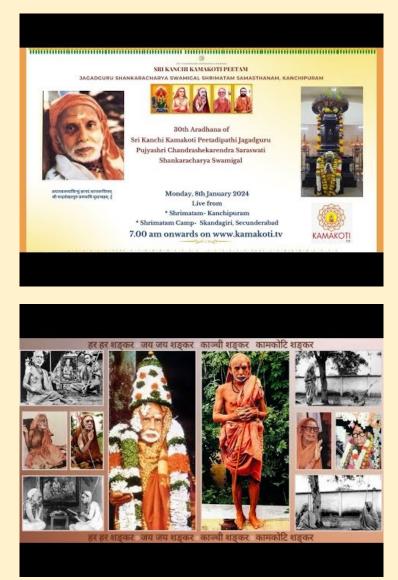
Acharya Swamigal, presently camping at Secunderabad, blessed the proceedings at Kanchipuram over video conference. In the evening, the Mahaswami Swarna Ratham (Golden Chariot) decked with lights and flowers was taken around the Adhistanam of Pujyasri Mahaswamiji and around the Raja Veedhis of Kanchipuram in procession, with Vedic chanting and Mangalavadyam. Sri. U. Rajesh performed Sangeeta Samarpanam on the Mandolin along with accompanying artists.

A steady stream of devotees visited the Shrimatam and paid their obeisance to the Jagadgurus at the Adhistanam. Annadaanam - prasadam was offered to devotees. Shankara Bhashyam Vyakhyanam-Bhamathi- Parayanam was performed at Shrimatam from 02-Jan-2024 till 08-Jan-2024 as part of Aradhana celebration.

The Aradhana was performed at Shrimatam camp at Skandagiri in the presence of Acharya Swamigal. Proceedings of the Aradhana programme at Skandagiri were beamed live at the Shrimatam, and vice-versa.



Aradhana Mahotsavam at Skandagiri and Kanchipuram below (videos)



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Makara Sankaranti - Surya Puja performed on (16-Jan-2024)

On the auspicious occasion of Makara Sankranti - Pongal, visesha pujas were performed to Sri Suryanarayana Swami at Shrimatam camp in Secunderabad by Acharya Swamigal



Acharya Swamigal's visit to Ayodhya (21-Jan-2024)

Acharya Swamigal visited Ayodhya and blessed the Yagashala Pujas and Prana Pratishtha rituals in Ram Mandir, Rama Janma Bhoomi Kshetra. Arriving at Ayodhya 10:45 AM, Acharya Swamigal was received at the airport and went straight to Deva Kali Mandir. The Deva Kali Mandir is the Kula Devatha of Bhagawan Sri Rama. After performing Pujas there Acharya Swamigal arrived at Shankar Math, Pramodvan. Sri Krishna Gopalji received Acharya Swamigal at Airport and accompanied till Shankar Math where he was joined with Sri Bhaiyya ji Joshi. Acharya Swamigal performed Kalashabhishekam at Sri Rama Sannidhi in the Math where Rama Shadakshari Havans were held. His Holiness Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal has consecrated Rama Sannidhi in the Shankara Math. A new website for Ayodhya Shankar Math <u>http://www.kanchimuttayodhya.in</u> was launched.

At Rama Janma Bhumi

Acharya Swamigal arrived at Rama Janma Bhumi and was received at the Yagnyashala with Purna Kumbha Swagatham by Sri Govinddevji Maharaj, Treasurer, Ramajanma Bhoomi Teertha Kshetra Trust, Sri Ganeshwar Dravid and Sri Lakshmikanth Dikshit along with other Veda Vidwans. Acharya Swamigal went around the Yagnyashala and offered flowers in all the Kalashas. Later Acharya Swamigal came to the central Kalasha and amidst chanting of Mantras performed Harathi. Acharya Swamigal chanted special Mantras on Ram Bhagawan and then proceeded to the Mandir.

Just before entering, coconut was broken in the first step of the Mandir followed with two more coconuts in front of first two Sthambs which were inscribed with Ganesh ji. Later Acharya Swamigal went inside the Mahamantap, Ardha Mandap and then entered the Garbha Gruha.

Sri Govinddevji Maharaj Treasurer and Sri Champat Rai, Secretary of Trust received Acharya Swamigal. The Netronmeelan commenced followed by Nyas of the Vigraha. Acharya Swamigal performed the Nyas and presented Special Abharanams to Bhagawan. Then, Acharya Swamigal was given Shawl and other honours in the

Ardha Mandapam where Vaidikas were felicitated. Acharya Swamigal then came back to Yagnyashala and then returned back to Airport.

In his message captured on his way to Mandir, Acharya Swamigal talked about the ongoing rituals led by Sri Ganeshwar Sastri Dravid and Sri Lakshmi Kanth Dikshit and about the upcoming momentous occasion of Pran Pratishtha. In this very auspicious occasion, Acharya Swamigal prayed for Suraksha, Subhiksha and Suvidhya for all people with blessings of Bhagawan Ram.



Skanda Shahsti 2023

Our Jagadguru PujyaSri Periyava in all His Dharma Pracharam used to insist that every one of us, not only to ensure ourself living upto the tenets of Swadharmam but also it is our duty to take it forward to the next generations and make them to adapt and follow our tradition and Culture. With this in mind our Acharyal used to say, " **Gromominasin Langs on Lang**; **Gromomisons (Gongulis on Lang)**" In the efforts of reviving/ renewing certain traditional culture that are on the threat of extinct, Sri Periyava wished to revive the Thanjavur District Culture of offering Kumara bojanam to Brahmacharis on the day of Skandar Shashti and gave suitable ajnai to us., few years back. Since then every year we have been organising events-full Skandar Shashti day. The special feature of Kumarabhojanam is the registered brahmacharis will do nithyanushtam like Sandyavandanam etc and join the Karyakram of Pujai, Parayanam etc. followed by bojanam.

In the first year we organised kumara bojanam with 1000 participants in one single place in Chennai. Thanks to Covid subsequent years we started decentralising the celebrations in various stations from Kasi to Trivandrum. This year with the krupai of PujyaSri Periyava and with the cooperation of all we made the celebrations a world over one. Subramania Bhujangam Kadha Sashti Kavacham parayanam along with Kumarabhojanam was organised across the world from Australia to California. Asusual our Kanchi Moolamnaya mutt takes the lead in protecting, preserving and propagating and our culture. The chanting was happening for more than 20hours following the sun in each country. At the Indian time of 1.00 am on Shadhti day, we started the celebrations from Newzeland and completed the same in California at 23:45. Close to 2000 bramacharis participated across the

world in 45 centres of which 23 were in India. HH Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswthi swamigal gave anugraha bashanam in 3 languages Hindi, Telugu and Tamil. More than 200 devotee- volunteers, as Members of SPKS joined the domain for service in the net work of celebrations world over.



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Devotee's experience – The New Jagadguru contributed by Sri. Chandra Sekhar, Pittsburgh

On a hot summer afternoon, I accompanied my grandfather and his close friend to Kanchipuram, to witness the anointment of a new Sankaracharya of the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, the next morning (May 29, 1983).

The three of us reached Kanchipuram by road from Madras (present days Chennai). The rest of my family was to join us next morning at the Kamakshi Amman temple, Kanchipuram. We went straight to the Kanchi Matam and had darshan of Pudu Periavaa Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, who had just returned from Villipuram and was looking very tired, stretched out on a charpai (rope cot), self-massaging his ankles and shin. After talking to my grandfather for a few minutes, Pudu Periavaa asked us to meet Sri Sankaran, the 13-year-old Vedic expert, who was to become a Sankaracharya the next morning.

The three of us drove to a nearby chatiram where the future acharya and his retinue were staying. We were ushered into a brightly lit room where a lean 13-year-old boy with vibuthi on his forehead and a brahmachari's staff on his hand was standing. As introduction were made, I realized that this person, 2 years younger to me, is becoming Sankaracharya with Pudu Periavaa as guru and Maha Periavaa as his parama-guru. I also noticed the Brahmachari in front of me has an unbelievable Tejas and glow, his hand tight wrapped around his staff and was somewhat uncomfortable with the attention showered on him.

We retired for the night at a friend's place on the West Mada street of Kamakshi Amman temple. I was too excited to sleep and woke up multiple times to check time.

At about 4:30 am we headed to the temple tank of the Kamakshi Amman temple, the site of the Sanyasa Dikshita. Pudu Periavaa took to Sanyasa Ashrama at the Sarva-Theerth tank, Kanchipuram and Maha Periavaa took Sanyasa at a tank near the Brindavams of the 66th and 67th acharyas at Kalavai. At around 5:00 am the rest of my family joined us. Devotees start pouring in and the atmosphere was filled with excitement and Bhakti.

It was dark but dawn was approaching, and we saw a small commotion. Sri Sankaran arrived in a small processing led by Mangala Vadyam and the assembled devotees started chanting 'Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara'.

Pudu Periavaa administered the Sanyasa Diksha to Sri Sankaran, at the crack of dawn. Couple of Mutt pundits assisted the new acharya through the rituals. Sri Sankaran pulled out the last few strands of his shika, enter the water and stood chest deep, pulled out his yagnopavita and white dhoti, tore it and threw it northward. He proceeded to take 3 dips in the water and the whole crowd of a few hundred people shouted 'Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara'. Pudu Periavaa gave the new sanyasi an ogre vastram and Sanyasa dandam. A new acharya, Sri Sankaranandendra Saraswathi Swamigal, was ordained a Sankaracharya.

Devotees started referring to the new acharya as Nava-Nava-Swamigal (Sanskrit for Pudu-Pudu-Periavaa) and Bala Periavaa. The later name became more popular. The first thing the new Archarya did was perform abishekam

to Kamakshi Amman, after which he walked into Sankara Matam for the first time as a Sankaracharya. Mutt officials received His Holiness with full honors.

That afternoon, we were lucky to get Bala Periavaa's darshan at the main Mandapam at the Sankara Mutt. Bala Periavaa was seated on old wooden stool in his ogre vastram, wearing a spatica mala and holding the staff with his left hand making sure it does not touch the ground. He was very quiet, in fact did not speak a word with anyone. Many devotees of all ages offered their namakarams and vandanams to the acharya, something that he was trying to get used to.

We were very fortunate to witness Bala Periavaa ordained into Sanyasa Ashrama in the morning and offer our namakarams in the afternoon. I have since then had darshan and spoken with Bala Periavaa on numerous occasions but the events of May 29, 1983, are etched in my memory. It was no ordinary day; it was a day when a 13-year-old scholar of Rig Veda became a Jagadguru. On that day, I did not speak with our acharyas nor was I given any upadesam but the just being there was an experience of a lifetime.



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.



Dubai: Anusham was celebrated where multiple families participated. Several Sahasranamam and Veda matras were chanted with active participation from next generation as well.



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Nairobi: Anusham celebrations at Kenya. Large number of devotees participated on the day



Shangai, China: Arul Tharum Mahaperiyava Group

ATM DIWALI CELEBRATIONS - SWEETS AND VASTRAMS TO VEDA PATASALAI



ATM was blessed to distribute sweets to 28 Vedaparasalais and Vastrams to 12 Vedapatasalais during Diwali.



ATM PAADHUKA ABHISHEKAM AND SPECIAL SATSANG ON DIWALI



On Diwali, ATM had arranged LIVE on zoom -

1. performed Mahaperiyava Paadhuka Abhishekam and had arranged for dharshan of Sri Sri Balaperiyava Paadhuka at 4:30 AM,

2. Vaadham vivaadham by kids "Ramarin sathiyama Krishnarin saamaarthiyama" and 3. Experience sharing with Sri Sri Jayendra Periyava by Sri Babu



ATM NAVARATHRI CELEBRATIONS

ATM celebrated Navarathri with Devi Bhagavatham – Navaham by Sivaselvar Shri Aditya Kalyanaraman and sloka chanting and devi ashtothra pooja from 15-10-2023 to 24-10-2023.





zoom

ATM arranged for special satsang on Shashti (17-11-2023). Smt Chandrika Thiagarajan rendered divine Thirupugazh songs.

ATM arranged 12 hours of Aganda Rama Nama Japam on Bhagawan Nama Bhodendral Aradhanai (11-10-2023) from 6 AM to 6 PM. ATM members participated enthusiastically in large numbers.



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

If you wish to enroll your child in ATM Children Programs, Devotees around the Globe may join in our Chidren Whatsapp Group.

https://chat.whatsapp.com/I4JSBjivXD8LJoKVcq3ESh





ATM has started classes for Mooka Panchasathi on 16-06-2023. Smt Mohana Krishnan teaches for more than 100 ATM members.

ATM Kalayana Vaibogam is the initiative by ATM Group to publish ATM Group members varan profile in Charts and help to seek alliance. We have 4700 plus Registered varans in our Chart and till today 182 Marriages got fixed. Further ATM Kalyana Vaibogam has created a platform for alliance introduction through Zoom on every Sunday, named "ATM Kalyana Vaibogam Varan Introduction Program (VIP)", inauguration was done on 17-09-2023 with the presence of Shri.Hindu Ganesan mama, Smt.Rajam maami and Shri. Chandramouli mama.



Weekly Episode of Mahaperiyava Mahimai by ATM Srinivasan is being telecasted in ATM Youtube, with Mahaperiyava blessings, so far 29 episodes are being telecasted on Sundays for our Group Devotees and to the common public. Mahaperiyava Mahimai Episode link provided

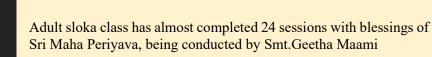
https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2xMdg6uFomr-I165c8eVc4sibb-Vw8qV



ATM Monthly Adhi sankara poojai was held at Shri Sathyanarayanan's home on 17/11/2023 and at Smt Devasena's home on 17/12/2023 with Sankara Bagawathpadal Ashtothram, Rudram by Shri Krishnamoorthi, songs by ATM Devotees and Veda Parayanam by Sri Bhoopala Vishnuvardhan Ganapadigal and vidyarthees of Sri Vedanarayana Vedapatasalai

ATM Monthly Anusha Poojai was held on 14/11/2023 at Smt M.Bhuvaneswari's home and on 11/12/2023 at Smt Vijayalakshmi Kannan's home. Rudram by Shri Krishmoorthi and songs by ATM members were performed on pooja days.





With blessings of Sri Maha Periyava almost 182 Sath Sangams completed virtually with the participation of ATM Devotees across 10 countries. ATM Sath Sangam usually on Saturday evening at 5 pm, begins with Deivathin Kural by Smt. Vijayalakshmi Srinivasan followed by Enipadigalil Mandargal by a group members on rotation.

zoon





Members of ATM participated in all Saturday Satsangam by singing song, bhajan, devotional experience etc. and eminent personalities in the fields of music, speech were arranged to participate in ATM Saturday Sathsangam. Every Satsang have Mahaperiyava Ashtothra Archanai, Mahaperiyava Panchakam and Thotakashtakam by ATM Members. If you wish to participate in ATM Sath Sangam may use the below link to join our ATM Whatsapp Group

https://chat.whatsapp.com/K8ea2GVMuvWFuPRBSJAW6M

Perth, Australia: With the Anugraham of Ambal Kamakshi and Sri PeriyavA, on the auspicious time of Navaratri and on the auspicious day of Anusham yesterday (18/10/2023), Suvaasini Pooja and Kanya Pooja was celebrated in a grand manner in Perth. All the devotees here showed amazing support and participated in full strength.



Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation (KKSF) launches its Australia/ New Zealand branch

Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation (KKSF) is an American organization with a core mission to promote philanthropy, cultural preservation & diversity, provide educational & literacy support and community service, through active community engagement through Vedam, Vidhya (education) and Vaidyam (wellness).

KKSF works with supporters and partners across the United States and India to promote their mission and to support various projects in India & USA such as Free Senior Care Centre, Supporting Education, Free Medical Care for the needy, Cultural preservation and Literacy projects.

KKSF has launched its Australia/ New Zealand (ANZ) operations by partnering with SAHASRA DALA PADMA ARADHANA (SDPA), an informal community group based in Australia/ New Zealand founded with blessings of H.H. Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi of Kanchi Mutt to promote cultural preservation and education mainly in the younger generation.

The inaugural launch event of KKSF ANZ branch was held on Sunday 7 January in the social media with enthusiastic participation by many community members based in USA, Australia and New Zealand. The launch event coinciding with Mahaperiyava Aradhana celebrations began with a welcome by Sri Srinivas Varanasigaru, prayer by Smt. Anuradha Chivkulaji and a devotional song dedicated to Mahaperiyava recited by Smt. Nithya Ramji. Sri Arun Sitaramanji, President KKSF presented an overview of the organisation, its mission, principles behind Vedam, Vidhya and Vaidyam and aligned activities for participation by the communities in USA.

Sri Arun Sitaramanji presented the various strategies of KKSF including NEXT GEN programs for the benefit of the younger generation. Mr. Balu Sivanji elaborated on the NEXT GEN activities.

Dr. Murali Sagiji, winner of many public sector awards in Australia, a technocrat and a well known community member in Sydney formally launched KKSF operations in ANZ and congratulated both KKSF and SDPA for this collaboration.

Following the launch, many teachers including Smt. Aishwarya Venkatramangaru, Smt. Nagajyothi Lollagaru, Smt. Sundargaru, Smt. Madhuri Vasagaru, Dr. Usha Sridhargaru and students including Lakshmi, Karthik of Sangita Bharati, Karthikeyan presented devotional songs. Sri Srinivasa Sharmagaru recited Veda Mantras.

A core working group to support KKSF in ANZ was formed on this occasion for the three KKSF pillars and SDPA Activity members as well.

Vidya- Traditional and Modern Education - Dr Smt Usha Sridhara - Sydney ; Sri Tatavarty Chakravarthyji -Melbourne

Vaidyam - Wellness - Dr Sundaram Rachakonda - Sydney Dr. Prasad Challa - Brisbane

Vedam - Culture - Sri Umashankar Chemudupati; Sri Ravi Kota; Sri Veera Raju - All in Sydney

The delightful launch event of KKSF ANZ operations extending over two hours concluded with a Vote of Thanks presented by Sri Vish Viswanathanji from Sydney and a prayer to Acharyas " Jaya Jaya Sankara, Hara Hara Sankara".

EVENTS THAT LEAD TO THIS DATE Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundatior **ANZ Inaguration Call** Dec 2023 KKSFANZ Blessing 7th January 2024 July 2023 July 2023 Oct 2023 Nov 2023 Planning Meeting KKSF ANZ Confirmed from Maha Periava Aradhana Proposal to Launch Initiated KKSF Sanatanadharma Seva KKSF ANZ Launch KKSFANZ to Sri Puiva Acharya ANZ Discussions Gramam - Podili Launch







The inaugural launch event of KKSF ANZ branch was held on Sunday 7 January in the social media with enthusiastic participation by many community members based in USA, Australia and New Zealand. The launch event can be viewed in https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-ZVscZbhG0

Maha Periava Aradhana / Prayers

The launch event coinciding with Mahaperiyava Aradhana celebrations began with a welcome by Sri Srinivas Varanasigaru, prayer by Smt. Anuradha Chivukula and a devotional song dedicated to Mahaperiyava recited by Smt. Nithya Ramji.,and Sri Uma Shankar garu. Smt. Radha Varanasi garu has organised lighting lamp while Sri Ramesh Natarajan offered prayers to Pujya Acharyas Padukas.





Ganapathi Adharvasheersham– Sri Uma Shankar





Sadgurunatha Rendition – Smt Nitya Ram



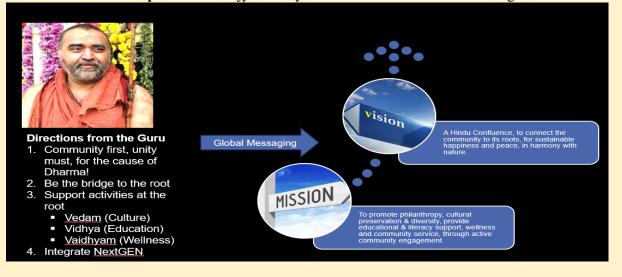
Maha Periava Prayer – Smt Anuradha Chivukula

Address by KKSF USA

Sri Arun Sitaraman ji, President KKSF presented an overview of the organisation, its mission, principles behind Vedam, Vidhya and Vaidyam and aligned activities for participation by the communities in USA. Sri Arun Sitaramanji presented the various strategies of KKSF including NEXT GEN programs for the benefit of the younger generation. Mr. Balu Sivanji elaborated on the NEXT GEN activities.

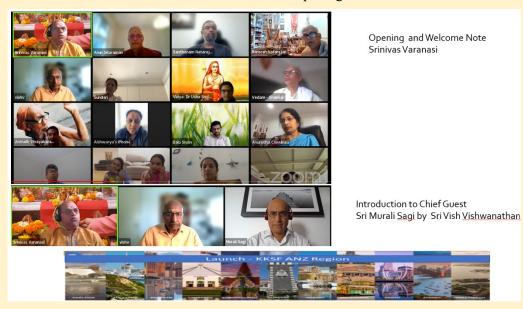


KKSF USA and ANZ Purpose Pursue Pujya Acharya's Vision and Mission in ANZ Region:



Opening Address KKSF ANZ Launch

Sri Srinivas Varanasi has initiated warm welcome and opening address to the audience.



Srinivas Varanasi garu acknowledges the contribution of Smt Lakshmi Mandata garu, Sri Veda Gayatri Parishad Australia and Sri Veda Bharathi India and thank them for their continuous support. Further he acknowledges the initial conversations with Smt Himabindu garu from Kamakot Bhakti Kendra leading the discussion with Sri Arun Sitaramaji.

Chief Guest Speech and Support

Sri Murali Sagi, is a Senior Executive and worked as Deputy CEO and Acting CEO of Judicial Commission of NSW and winner of prestigious Public Service Medal in the 2007 Queen's Birthday Honour and was named as the "Chief Information Officer -Government" of the year at the National IT&T awards, 2003 and made a Fellow of the Australian Computer Society. He is wellknown community member in Sydney formally launched KKSF operations in ANZ and offered his continuous support for the sustenance of this initiative.



Chanting – KKSF ANZ

Following the launch, many teachers including Smt. Aishwarya Venkatramangaru, Smt. Nagajyothi Lolla garu, Smt. Madhuri Vasagaru, Dr. Usha Sridhargaru and students including Lakshmi, Karthik of Sangita Bharati, Karthikeyan, Saanvi, Ananya, Omika, Aditi, Arush, Srivalli Devika presented devotional songs. Sri Srinivas Kolluru Sarma Garu and his son Gautam Sarma recited Veda Mantras.



Core Working Group

A <u>core working group</u> to support KKSF in ANZ was introduced for the three KKSF pillars. The KKSF website has been updated with the particulars <u>https://kksfusa.org/anz/</u>.



Vote of Thanks

The delightful launch event of KKSF ANZ operations extending over two hours concluded with a Vote of Thanks presented by Sri Vish Viswanathanji from Sydney and a prayer to Acharyas.

We also sincerely thank the introduction from Smt. Hima Bindu Pyda to KKSF USA. Further sincerely thank and acknowledge the effective collaborative efforts of by Ramesh Natarajan ji, Santhanam Natarajan ji and Anuradha Chivukla garu that has resulted in the successful launch today.

A certification of participation to all participating children is provided as a token of appreciation.

Wellington, New Zealand: Anusham was celebrated in a grand manner with Vigneshwara pooja, Kalasa pooja

Abhishekam to Mahaperiva with Rudram. Children sing Guru parampara slokas, thotakashtakam namaskaram, guru paduka stotram and Devi songs which was followed by Astothram archanai, Doopa deepa neivedhyam, Manthra pushpam, Shodasa upacharam, Mena Oorvalam, Arathi. Devotees were offered Maha prasadham.



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Houston (KKSF): With Pujashri Aacharya's anugraham, KKSF Houston devotees celebrated Kanchi Acharya Asthotharam Pooja at Hindu Temple Woodlands. This is the first event that is being organized in the North part of Houston and achieving Acharya vision of Community First Unity Must.

The event started with the recitation of Swasthi Vachanam, followed by Ganapathy Pooja and Asthotharam of all three acharyas followed by Stotra seva and Totakashtakam. Sri Anand Ganapathy, KKSF volunteer with utmost devotion conducted the pooja.

Woods Carnatic Group led by Srimathi Raji and Sri Karthik along with 8 singers offered Sangeetha Samarpanan to Acharya followed by Maitreem Bhajata. The group performed for close to 45 minutes. KKSF Houston volunteers provided details of the SDSG Podili project to devotees and felicitated temple president and board members. In the end, Srimatam prasadam was distributed to all devotees.



Portland (KKSF): With HH Periyavas grace, Aippasi Anusham Pooja in Portland was celebrated at Smt. Viji Shiva's home. Devotees recited Swasti Vachanam, Lingashtakam, Sadhguru dashakam, Jayendra Periyava stotramaalika, Stuti Panchakam on Maha Periyava, Lalitha Panchakam, this was followed by shodhashopachara pooja. Kids and adults enthusiastically offered their sangeetha and shloka samarpanam to Periyavas. Hosts and kids also did Archana to HH Mahaperiyava, HH Jayendra Periyava, Nidhana Pataye for HH Periyava. Devotees also recited Thotakaashtakam, Maitreem bhajata after the Shodasha Upachara pooja. Srimatam prasadams were distributed to all.



With HH Periyavas anugraham, Skanda Shasti Kumara Bhojanam event in Portland was held at Smt. Srividhya



Krishna's home with enthusiastic participation from devotees and kids. The event began early in the morning with the arrival of Brahmachari kids and offering them with new vastrams for the day. The kids did new yajnopavita dharanam followed by samithadhanam. This was followed by Shodasa upachara poojai to valli deva sena sametha subrahmanya swami with archanai, aarthi and maha neivedhyam. The kids also recited Subrahmanya Bhujangam and kanda shasti kavacham and were explained about the significance of the day by Smt. Srividhya Krishna. After madhyanikam, Kumara Bhojam was completed to all Brahmachari kids. Everyone present felt the benign blessings of HH Perivaya guiding the event throughout the day.

With HH Periyavas grace, Aippasi Anusham Pooja in Portland was celebrated at Smt. Romita Sriram's home. Devotees recited Swasti Vachanam, Lalitha Panchakam, Subramanya Karavalambana Stotram, Nirvaana Shatkam, and Hanuman Chaaleesa. This was followed by shodhashopachara pooja. Kids and adults enthusiastically offered their sangeetha and shloka samarpanam to Periyavas. Hosts and kids also did Archana to HH Mahaperiyava, HH Jayendra Periyava, Nidhana Pataye for HH Periyava. Devotees also recited Thotakaashtakam, Maitreem bhajata after the Shodasha Upachara pooja. Srimatam prasadams were distributed to all.





With HH Periyavas grace, Karthigai Anusham Pooja in Portland was celebrated at Smt. Srividhva Krishna's home. The event started with Swasti Vachanam followed by Shodhashopachara pooja to HH Periyava Padhukas. Devotees, especially kids recited shlokas and strotrams they have been practicing for SDPA3 including Ganesha Pancharatnam, Subrahmanya Karavalamba Stotram, Aditya Kavacham, Dwadasa Jyotirlinga stotram, Kamakshi Stotram, and Mukundamala. Kids and adults enthusiastically offered their sangeetha and shloka samarpanam to Periyavas. Hosts and kids also did Archana to HH Mahaperiyava, HH Jayendra Periyava, Nidhana Pataye for HH Periyava. Devotees also recited Thotakaashtakam, Maitreem bhajata after the Shodasha Upachara pooja. Srimatam prasadams were distributed to all. Kids and adults expressed their enthusiasm in learning shlokas through SDPA.

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

January Month's Anusham Pooja on September 23rd @ Smt. Lakshmi and Sri. Naga Jayant's Residence. Pooja Started at 4 PM with Ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Vishnu Sahasranama parayanam, Swasti, Ganapathy Pooja, Varuna Kalasa Sthapana, Panchamritha vishesha dravyodhaka snanam, Ekavara Rudrabhishekam for Shivan and Periyava, Pancha Suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shivan, Adi Shankara, Periyava, Pudhu Periyava.

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





Kamakshi Periyava- Prana prathistapana

With HH Periyava's grace, Kamakshi Periyava has arrived KKSF Tampa Satsang on a Shukla Panchami, Moola nakshatram, Navaratri day. Brahmashri Guruduttji, the Head priest of Hindu Temple of Florida performed the Prana prathistapana on 26th Oct 2023, Guruvara Pradosha Punya kaala.

Prana prathistapana started with Pancha gavya melana, snapana, nethron melana with Vaastu raakshogana homam, shodashopacha pooja.

With periayva's grace, we were able to perform Anusham pooja on 28th Oct 2023 at Smt. Aradhana and Shri. Sriram's residence. Host invited Periyava with Poornakumbham. Pooja Started at 4 PM with Ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Vishnu Sahasranama parayanam, Swasti, Ganapathy Pooja, Varuna Kalasa Sthapana, Panchamritha vishesha dravyodhaka snanam, Ekavara Rudrabhishekam for Shivan and Periyava, Pancha Suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shivan, Adi Shankara, Periyava, Pudhu Periyava.

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



Meet the KKSF USA Team – A brief introduction to some team members.



Shri. Balasubramanian Sivan (residing in New Jersey) has a PhD in Computer Science and is a Research Scientist in a global hi-tech company. He has been associated with KKSF for the past 2 years. He has been a KKSF Nextgen core volunteer and has helped launch and run several nextgen clubs. He has been an active member of the KKSF Influencer Group. He was born and raised in Chennai, India.

Shri. Anirudh Vinayakaram (residing in Albuquerque, New Mexico) works as analytics associate for a healthcare company in Albuquerque. He has been part of KKSF for a little over two years. He was born and raised in Hyderabad with Kumbakonam as his native. He is a ritwik and is currently learning Samskruta Sambhashanam from Samskruta Bharati USA, Mridangam from Vidwan Shri. Mahesh Subramanian and Ashtapadi from Divya Bhakta Raja Parishad.





Smt. Revathi Iyer (residing in Santa Clara, California) also known as Meenakshi, is a materials engineer working in the technology industry. She was raised in India and America and cherishes the best aspects of both cultures. Revathi lives by the guiding principle "Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitah," which inspires her to live with integrity and purpose. For the past two years, she has been an active member of KKSF NextGEN, a community organization that empowers young people to reach their full potential. As a passionate advocate for the organization's programs, she works tirelessly to promote its mission and positively impact the community. Additionally, Revathi and her family support the Veda Patashala in Vijayawada.

KKSF NextGen Instructors Information

Course: Sri Mahabharata Story Club

Name of the instructor(s): Smt. Aarathi Jaiganesh and Shri. Shyam Panchaapakesan

Location of the instructor(s): Dallas, Texas and Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu

Dr. Shyam Panchapakesan, a native of Thiruvaiyaru, Thanjavur district in Tamil Nadu, is very passionate about following and teaching the values of Sanathana Dharma. He conducts regular shloka classes such as Devi Mahatmyam and Mooka Panchasati.





Smt. Aarathi Jaiganesh, a resident of Dallas, Texas, has been conducting shloka classes for kids. She also takes Sri Vishnu Sahasranaama classes across age groups. A teacher with a successful track record of delivering immersive and engaging content format, she was one of the lead teachers for KKSF's Srimad Bhagavatam Story Club that was well received by all.

Course: Mahishasura Mardini

Name of the instructor(s): Bharadhwaj Muralidharan

Location of the instructor(s): St Louis, Missouri



Pandit Bharadhwaj Mahodaya, a resident of St Louis, Missouri, is well versed in Sri Krishna Yajur Veda and Shaiva Agama and is qualified to perform several rituals and religious ceremonies in both temples and home in accordance with HIndu traditions. He has immense experience in teaching Sri Krishna Yajur Veda mantras, slokas, Bhagavad Gita with its meaning in English for the past 15+ years. He has undergone formal Veda, Agama, Shastra

& Samskritam education from a reputed Veda Agama Sivagama Patashala, Kanchipuram. He is fluent in English and multiple Bharatiya languages namely Tamizh, Hindi, Malayalam, Telugu, Marathi, Samskritam and understands Punjabi and Gujarati.

Course: Shloka Club

Name of the instructor(s): Poornima Shankaran

Location of the instructor(s): Atlanta, GA



Smt. Poornima Shankaran, a resident of Atlanta has conducted many classes on some of the work of Sri Adi Shankaracharya, Kalidasa and some great Tamil saint poets. Lalitha Sahasranamam, Lalitha Trishati, Bhagavad Gita, Thiruvachagam etc. are some of the classes she takes for adults. The Shloka Club for children was a joyful experience as the children learnt to chant some of the shlokas composed by Adi Shankaracharya. Her gurus are Shri. T.S. Balasubramaniam Iyer and Smt. Girija Narasimhan.

Course: Srimad Bhagavata Purana Bhakti Rasaa Series

Name of the instructor(s): Smt Aarathi Jaiganesh and Smt. Srividhya Krishna

Location of the instructor(s): Dallas, TX and Portland, Oregon

Smt Srividhya Krishna has been teaching Slokas, Samskritam, Tamizh to several kids in the local community for several years with Periyavas and Sri Anna's grace. She also has been teaching Narayaneeyam, Sundarakandam, Vaishnava Samhita (Maha Bhakta Vijayam) etc for the past few years. She also leads the KKSF Oregon chapter. Her Bhagavatam story sharing along with virtual tours of several Punya Kshetras associated with the Leelas were very much enjoyed by kids and adults. She works at Intel and lives with her family in Portland, Oregon.





Smt. Aarathi Jaiganesh, resident of Dallas, Texas, has been conducting shloka classes for kids. Additionally she also gives discourses and takes classes on Sri Vishnu Sahasranama across age groups.

Course: Voice of God

Name of the instructor(s): Shri. Ramsubramanian (Ram), Smt. Meena and Veda Ramakrishnan

Location of the instructor(s): San Jose, California and Dallas, Texas

Shri. Ram is a Technical Program Manager by profession. He has been teaching Tamizh for the past few years and recently started basic Samskritam to Bay Area children.





Smt. Meena used to work in the software industry as program manager until 2019. She is currently a home-maker. She has been teaching Balavihar (kids' program in Chinmaya Mission) and basic Tamizh and Samskritam for the past few years

Veda Ramakrishnan has been a KKSF NextGen volunteer since 2021. She has had the privilege of helping launch KKSF's Yoga and Health class and is now co-teaching the Voice of God class. She is currently a pre-med student at SMU.

Course: Hatha Yoga for Enduring Wellness Name of the instructor(s): Shri. Amit Upadhye Location of the instructor(s): Phoenix, Arizona



Amit Upadhye is a certified RYT200 by Vivekananda Yoga of San Diego and Nikam Yoga, Singapore. He has attended Iyengar Yoga, Los Angeles and Vivekananda Kendra, Bengaluru. He is also a Vipassana meditator since 2006.

Massachusetts SRI KAMAKOTI BHAKTI KENDRA, USA

Sharing the article regarding Bhagavadgita lekhana yagna which Acharya Swamiji blessed during varanasi camp and about SKBK students who took the blessed opportunity

Sri Kamakoti Bhakti Kendra (SKBK) was established in October 2019 with the divine blessings of the 70th Shankaracharya, of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Moolamnaya Sarvagna Peetadeeshawara Jagadguru His Holiness Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamy Varu in Massachusetts, USA to promote Sanatana Dharma among all age groups of our community. All our classes/ programs are run via zoom and participants are mainly from USA & other parts of the world, with coordinaotors in various states in USA

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SRI KAMAKOTI BHAKTI KENDRA, USA-

गेयं गीता नाम सहस्रं,ध्येयं श्रीपति रूपमजस्रम्।

नेयं सज्जन सङ्गे चित्तं,देयं दीनजनाय च वित्तम् ॥२७॥

The Bhagavadgita should be sung, and the Sahasranama should be chanted; always the form of the Lord Narayana is to be meditated upon; the mind is to be led towards the company of the good; wealth is to be distributed to the needy.

These are the four upadeshaas given by Adi Shankaracharya in Bhaja Govindam for the purification of our minds, and the correction of our perception of life.

With reference to the same Pujyasri Jayendra saraswati swamiji also always insisted that everyone should read Bhagavadgita and chant Vishnu Sahasranama on a regular basis. During His recent Varanasi camp, Pujya Acharya swamiji also while addressing various Veda patashala students in one of his anugraha bhashanams, called out to engage in Bhagavadgita lekhana yagna, writing the entire Bhagavadgita.

With the blessings of Acharya, Sri Kamakoti Bhakti Kendra, USA (SKBK) has been hosting Bhagavadgita learning sessions over the past one year under the guidance of Smt Prasanna Vempati, a Datta peetam Bhagavadgita teacher from LA, California. Taking the message of Acharya as a divine blessing, students of Sri Kamakoti Bhakti Kendra (SKBK) of USA have been participating in the Bhagavadgita Lekhana Yagna. SKBK students, Smt Sita Ganeshan from California and Smt padma Balasubramanian from Bangalore have successfully completed writing the Bhagavadgita in Devanagari text and their works have been presented at the Lotus feet of Acharya at Nagpur camp.(Source: Bhagavad Gita, Bhaktivedanta Swami Language School, Published by : Rasbiharilal & Sons, Loi Bazar, Vrindavan 281121 U. P. India).

Acharya's message during the Anugraha Bhashanam to vedic students at Varanasi camp was that while they attain respective degrees/ upaadhis in their vedic studies, they should also practice upaasana and upakaaram of propogating dharma to the society without expecting anything in return, which is the essence of the entire Bhagavadgita and Bhaarata desam. They should practice the traits of kshamata(eligibility) and kshama(patience, forgiveness, maintain simplicity). Swamiji also stressed the importance of learning and being proficient in sanskrit language to understand our puranas, Ithihaasas, vastu sastra etc. While also referring to another verse in Bhaja Govindam by Adi Shankara, Acharya mentioned that it is important for everyone to start investing time in their spiritual self, invest in punya, peace and good deeds.

यावद्वित्तोपार्जनसक्तः,

तावन्निजपरिवारो रक्तः

पश्चाज्जीवति जर्जरदेहे,

वार्तां कोऽपि न पृच्छति गेहे

Also, one should strive for the welfare of the people with their vedic knowledge and vedic mantras selflessly which itself is a form of yagna. yajñānām japa-yajñosmi as in Bhagavadgita, Bhagavadgita Lekhana Yagna is one such kind of yagna which inturn results in all the three Yaja, Bhaja, Tyaja.

While writing Bhagavadgita with concentration, one can easily memorize the slokas easily which not only helps in grahana but also dhaarana of the slokas. Acharya swamiji also insisted that as much as one is engaged in earning they should also always yearn to learn.

E Soz

