

## NRI Newsletter



An Initiative of SRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETAM  
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**Message from Acharya Swamigal to NRI's devotees**

**Shruti Smriti Puranānām Ālayam Karunālayam  
Namaami Bhagavadpāda Shankaram Loka Shankaram  
Sadāshiva Samārambhām Shankarāchārya Madhyamām  
Asmad Ācharya Paryantam Vande Guruparamparām**

Acharya Swamigal on SURUTTAPPALLI

A Unique Temple with a Unique Message

The village of Suruttappalli is situated on the Chennai-Tirupati highway in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. The temple of Sri Pallikondeeswarar is located in this village. Situated on the border of Tamil Nadu with Andhra Pradesh, this temple bridges the two States. It is a km away from the border village of Uthukottai of Tamil Nadu, on the bank of river Aarani. This is an example of the growth of our culture on river banks.

This temple is unique in many ways. Lord Siva is seen here in lying down posture. Generally we see Siva in Linga form. A popular form of Siva is Nataraja. But here Siva is seen lying down; why? We all know from Purana that Siva drank poison for the good of the world, when the Ocean of Milk was churned. Siva is said to have come here and laid down in Anantha Sayana posture. When we look at this Pallikondeeswara, we are wonder struck; he does not appear to be an idol, but a living form. The way Siva is seen lying on the lap of Ambal leads us to wonder if the place is Sivaloka.

Yet another difference can be seen in this temple. Generally, Dakshinamurthy is seen in the posture of giving Upadesa (sermon). In some places he is seen surrounded by sages like Sanaka and others. But here Dakshinamurthy is seen blessing us together with Gowri as couple.

There is history too of this village. This temple is also related to sage Valmiki, the composer of Srimad Ramayanam. Vamiki prayed to Siva here before he wrote the epic. A Svayambhu Lingam appeared then. As Valmiki worshipped that Lingam, he came to be known as Valmikeswara and the kshetra became sacred. Valmikeswara appears along with Maragathambika as a couple. Kubera is seen here with Devi Gowri; Rama is with Sita, Bharata and Satrughna. Pradosha Nandi is famous here.

After Sri Maha Periyaval set his lotus feet here, this place has become a great Siva Sthala. The number of visiting devotees has been on the increase. That itself is a proof of this sacredness. In March 1979, Kumbhabhishekam was performed in a grand manner here at the sacred hands of Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal.

We have to devote our actions as Samarpanam at the lotus feet of the Lord. This will reduce unwanted tendencies and enable to spiritually develop ourselves.

Kumbhabhishekam by Acharya Swamigal

On Wednesday, 23rd January 2019 (Thai 9th), Kumbhabhishekam was performed from 9.30 to 10.30 a.m. in the holy presence of Acharya Swamigal. Thousands of devotees witnessed the Kumbhabhishekam of Maragathambika sametha Valmikeswara. Huge crowds of devotees descended on this village. Kalasa Abhishekam for all Gopurams was performed simultaneously to the accompaniment of Vedic chants by Veda Vidvans and Sivacharyas. A unique aspect was that Kumbhabhishekam was performed to more than sixty Murthis. More than seventy Veda Vidvans and Sivacharyas participated. Sri Periyaval delivered Anugraha Bhashanam after the Kumbhabhishekam. Acharya Swamigal honoured the Veda Vidvans and Sivacharyas

and conversed with and blessed all those who had toiled for the success of the Kumbhabhishekam. Acharya Swamigal asked them to continue with religious service with devotion.



## Jaya Jaya Sankara Hara Hara Sankara



**Editorial:** There is a growing interest among the youngsters to know more about the Indian traditions. Current educational policies and practices encourage them to “question” everything. This is in sharp contrast to the Ancient Indian paradigm of having a very healthy “spirit of inquiry”. There is a subtle difference between the two approaches, even though the basic motivation seems to be one of getting clarified about an unknown concept. A spirit of inquiry stems out of humility whereas an attitude of questioning arises out of ego. A natural extension of this attitude has resulted in them wanting to know more about some of the ancestral knowledge and cultural practices that we follow even today.

These are organized systematically in several layers. Śruti, which is otherwise known as Vedas and Upanishad’s has defined governing principles for life. On the other hand, Smṛtis have detailed them and provided useful guidelines by way of rules for day-to-day living. The Dharma śāstras provide these details and specify Sāmānya and Viśeṣa dharmas. They point to Nitya and Naimittika karmas that everyone must follow.

Devotees are encouraged to send their queries on religious/spiritual matters to [nrikanchinews@gmail.com](mailto: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.

We are especially delighted to welcome a new large group of NRI Devotees based in Kenya and the Devotee Parivar” now on this auspicious festival. With this noble addition of the readers, the global readership of the NRI Newsletter almost doubles. Such a wide network of devotees, we trust, will enable you all to more actively connect and interact across the globe.

### Special Editorial on Chaturmasya 2022

This Chaturmasya of Acharya Swamigal at Kakinada was a very eventful one. Several programmes were held and more than the number, the type of programmes were very significant. It is indeed the devotees’ fortune to witness a galaxy of Vedic, Puranic, Cultural, Social, community oriented and academic programmes. All the programmes were held in the holy precincts of Goshala and in the Sannidhi of Lord Chandramouleeshwara. Also the various festivals during this Chaturmasya events were observed with pomp and grandeur. The Ganapathi Natyam on the last day of Ganapati Navaratri was a fitting finale. A grand Pushpabhishekam to Acharya Swamigal on the Vishwaroopa Yatra day was like a shining diamond on the crown. Dharma Prachara in all its aspects were covered.

Acharya Swamigal had a very hectic schedule. Nitya Trikala Chandramouleeshwara Puja, occasionally feeding the cows at Goshala, darshan to stream of crowds which included people from all sections of society, attending all programmes and delivering Anugraha Bhashanams, felicitating scholars and encouraging Vidyarthi, the day stretched from 6 AM in the morning and ended only at 12.30/1 Am in midnight. This year several Vidyarthi from Tamilnadu performed Parayanam, visited holy places around Kakinada and participated in Pujas. While Acharya Swamigal was keenly enquiring to the comfort and well being of devotees, Acharya Swamigal was keenly enquiring to schedule and care given to Vidyarthi at Srimatam camp. Devotees especially from South and several other places came to offer Bhiskavandanam and Pada Puja.

The inherent essence in all the events as noted in Acharya Swamigal's Anugraha Bhashanam was the stress to protect our Dharma & culture, appeal to youth to understand our religion completely and properly, supporting traditional families following Vedic life, cultivating service attitude, performing actions shedding ego and as a Samarpanam to Lord, being responsible citizens and dedicating oneself to development of nation and helping the cause of Dharma. The Anugraha Bhashanam touched a wide range of topics and quotations, from our ancient literature were aplenty and easily understood by devotees even by some who did not know the regional language. The devotees were rapt in their attention whenever Acharya Swamigal spoke. Interviews on activities of Math, spirituality and Dharma was also a regular feature. The Hindu religious & Endowments Department also held officer's refresher & orientation programme and this was attended by the Minister and senior officials. Prasadam from temples from AP was a regular feature.

With all the Pujas and Anushthanams, Acharya Swamigal went through this schedule with a smile and enthusiasm much to the awe of devotees. The Chaturmasya begun with worship to Vyasa Maharshi & all Gurus who gave us this hoary Vedic tradition and Acharya Swamigal went through the entire two months dedicating each moment to that cause.

May all of us always dedicate our minds to the lotus feet of the Guru Parampara and seek their blessings for a life filled with blessings, dedication and gratitude to our Acharyas.

Hara Hara Shankara Jaya Jaya Shankara





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

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

#### **Jataka Parivartana**

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

<https://forms.gle/CnnUZXNfMtudwgZW9>

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

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



This issue covers the Holy Camp from 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022 by HIS HOLINESS PUJYASRI SANKARA VIJAYENDRA SARASWATI SANKARAACHARYA SWAMIGAL:

<b>Period</b>	<b>Camp Location</b>
10-Jul-2022 till 10-Sep-2022	Lakshmi Goshala Thimmapuram, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh
11-Sep-2022 till 15-Sep-2022	Vinayaka Temple, Jayendra Nagar, Kakinada
16-Sep-2022 onwards	Peddapuram (near Samalkot) and Sharan Navaratri Pujas will be held there.

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



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

Kanikkai samarpanam can be performed through e-seva portal [www.kanchimuttseva.org](http://www.kanchimuttseva.org).  
or by scanning the QR code.



## MAHABHARATA - YAKSHA PRASHNA SERIES

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

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



<b>Yaksha's questions</b>	<b>Yudhishtira's response</b>
What has been called steadiness by the sages?	Steadiness is reflected in the adherence to one's own religion.
What has been called patience?	Patience consists in control of the senses.
What is a real ablution?	Ablution means cleaning the mind of all impurities.
What is charity?	Charity consists in safeguarding all creatures
Who is a learned man?	A man who is well-aware of his duties is called a learned man.
Who is called an atheist?	A stupid person ( a man of no knowledge of Truth) is an atheist.
Who is a stupid person?	Attachment to material objects is desire.
What is called desire?	Envy is the product of a burning heart.
What is envy?	
What is conceit?	Lack of knowledge in enormity gives birth to pride.
What is hypocrisy?	Setting up a religious standard is hypocrisy.
What is the grace of God?	Grace of God is the fruit of our offerings to him.
What is wickedness?	Wickedness consists in denigration of other persons
Righteousness, wealth and desire are opposed to one another. Then, how can these ever - incongruous elements exist together?	As a virtuous man lives being associated with his wife affably, righteousness, wealth and desire exist together in full agreement.
O Bharataràbha! Who is condemned to everlasting hell? Tell me promptly	A person who invites a Brahmin to offer gifts but thereafter tells him that he has nothing to offer is condemned to everlasting hell.  A person who vilifies the Vedas, the religious scriptures, the Brahmins, the gods and the ancestral rites is destined to be in perpetual hell  A person despite being rich neither does not offer any gifts nor does he enjoy himself owing to acquisitive habit (saying that he has no riches) goes to endless hell



## **Bhagavata Saptaham held at Kakinada (17-July-2022)**

Bhagavata Saptaham by Sri Krishna Premi Anna and Dr. Ranganji at Kakinada in benign presence of Acharya Swamigal at Shrimatam Camp at Kakinada during the Chaturmasyam 2022 from 17<sup>th</sup> July 2022



Follow the link for the remaining series in this Saptaha series. Chaturmasya Sangeeta Upasana 2022 - Musical recitals being held at Kanchipuram and at Shrimatam camp at Kakinada during the Chaturmasyam with the benign blessings of Acharya Swamigal.

Please visit <https://www.youtube.com/user/kanchimath/videos>

## **Agnihotra Sabha held at Shrimatam camp in Kakinada (22<sup>nd</sup> July till 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022)**

With the divine blessings of Acharya Swamigal the annual Agnihotra Sabha was held at Srimatam Camp, Goshala, Kakinada. More than 120 Agnihotris from Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerela, Karnataka, Maharashtra & Rajasthan took part in the Sabha. Apart from discussions, special Ishtis were performed by Agnihotris from Buldana, Maharashtra.

Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh Sri Prashant Kumar Mishra who had come for darshan of Acharya Swamigal saw the proceedings of the Sabha. Sri Dharma Reddy, Executive Officer of TTD, Sri Krishna Rao, Member of Parliament, Yanam too attended the Ishtis while having darshan of Acharya Swamigal.

Brahmashri Sundararama Vajapeyayaji led the discussions in the Sabha. Sri Balakrishnan Trustee of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Akhila Bharata Agnihotra Trust, coordinated the Sabha proceedings.

Another volume of Apastamba Shrouta Sutra with commentary covering 7&8 prashnas compiled by Brahmashri Sundararama Vajapeyayaji & Brahmasri Narayana Vajapeyayaji was released on the occasion.

All the Ahitagnis were honoured with special shawls, silver bowl, gold coin, Vastrams and Sambhavana in the divine presence Acharya Swamigal.

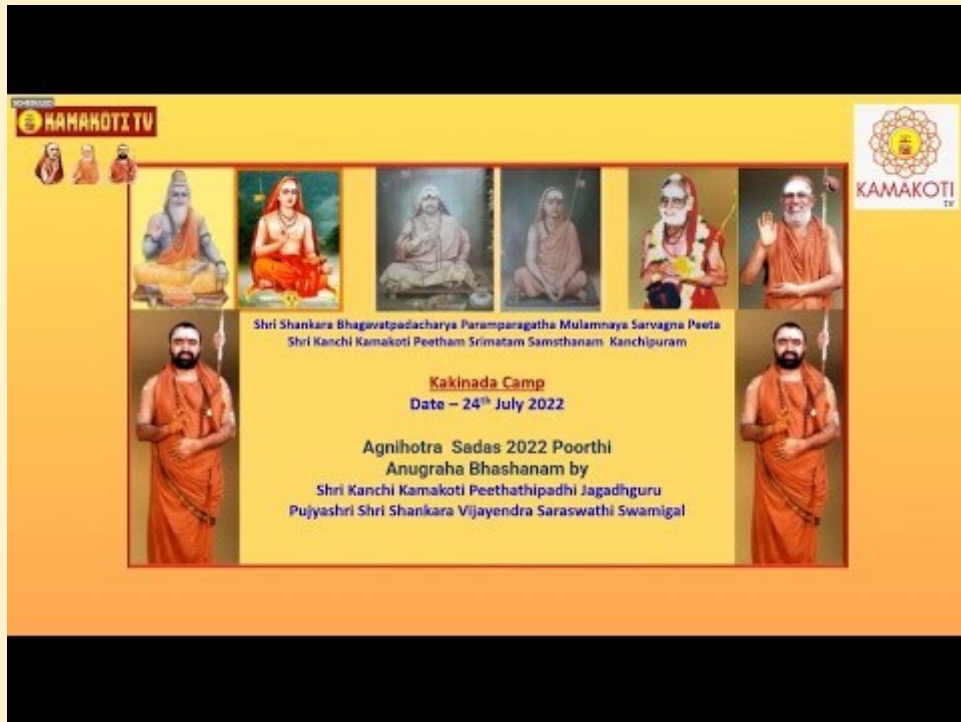
Devotees who contributed to the successful conduct of Agnihotra Sabha were blessed and given Prasadam.





## Agnihotra Sadas Poorti at Kakinada- Anugraha Bhashanam of Acharya Swamigal (24-July-2022)

Annual Agnihotra Sadas was held during the Chaturmasyam at Kakinada this year with the blessings and presence of Acharya Swamigal - Anugraha Bhashanam of Pujyashri Shankaracharya Swamigal during the Sadas poorthi:





### Panchanga Sabha held at Shrimatam camp Kakinada

With the divine blessings of Acharya Swamigal, the Annual Panchanga Sabha was held from 25-Jul-2022 to 27-Jul-2022. About 46 Panchanga Karthas from Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra & Delhi and 9 Shastra & Dharma Shastra Vidwans from Andhra & Tamilnadu took part in the event. Sri Jagadishwara Sarma from Colombo, Srilanka too participated taking the participation beyond shores of India.

The Sabha commenced with Acharya Swamigal blessing “Dharma Shastra Ratna” Birudu & Abhinandana Patrika to Brahma Sri Sundarrama Vajapeyayaji commending his services in offering finding out right Shastric solutions for Panchanga Nirnayam.

The Sabha then debated the Panchangam for upcoming year extensively.

On the final session with the blessings of Acharya Swamigal,

Sri Neelakantha Sastry was honoured with title “Dharma Shastra Nadishna”, Sri Bharanidhara Sastry with “Ishopasti Sameekshaka”, Sri Sriramana Sharma with “Nakshatra Darsha” and Sri Rajappa Shivacharya with “Shaiva Parva Nirnaya Dhurya”. All the Panchanga Kartas were felicitated with shawls and Sambhavana

in the divine presence of Acharya Swamigal.

The Panchanga Sabha was commenced by 65th Acharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, Jagadguru Pujya Sri Sudarshana Mahadevendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal in the year 1877 and since then held annually at Sri Kanchi Math. The Panchanga Sabha is extremely significant as it analyses and sets the almanac for the upcoming year which in turn helps in observing various Anushtthanams, Festivals and Vratams.

Acharya Swamigal h ears the complex issue faced by the Panchanga Sadas



## Special Discourse on Godavari Mahatmyam by Sri Ranganji held at Shrimatam camp Kakinada (25-July-2022)

BrahmaSri Rangan ji performed three day Upanyasam on Godavari Mahatmyam. The Mahatmyam in 105 Adhyayas, spans about 200 pages as the final part of Brahma Maha Puranam. About 80 Teerthams starting from Brahmagiri Teertham in Trayambak, the origin of Godavari till Samudra Sangamam known as Rishi Satram Teertham are described in detail with geographical details, interesting & soul cleansing Upakhyansams, stotras & various Satkaryas that can be done to earn merit for attaining Moksha Sampathi.



### Kamakoti Vani - Telugu Newsletter (01-Aug-2022)

Kamakoti Vani - A monthly newsletter in Telugu covering activities of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam with details on the Chaturmasya Vratam at Kakinada - August edition.

<https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/news/2022/kamakoti-vani-33054-20220815.html>

### Pratishakhya Sadas held from 06-Aug-2022 till 08-Aug-2022

With the divine blessings of Acharya Swamigal, Pratishakhya Sadas was held at Srimatam Camp, Goshala, Kakinada. Vidwans from Rig Veda & Yajur Veda under the leadership of Mahamahopadhyaya Brahma Sri Mullaivasal Krishnamurthy Sastrigal and Mahamahopadhyaya Brahma Sri Vishnu Bhatla Salakshana Ghanapathi performed Parayanam of Rig Pratishakhya & Vyali Shiksha (Rigveda related) and Taittiriya Pratishakhya, Vyasa Shiksha, Koundinya Shiksha, Shiksha Pratishakhya Samanvaya Mimamsa, Varna Krama

ऋग्वेदप्रातिशाख्यम्, व्याळीशिक्षा, तैत्तिरीयप्रातिशाख्यम्, व्यासशिक्षा, कौण्डिन्यशिक्षा

शिक्षाप्रातिशाख्यसमन्वयमीमांसा, वर्णक्रमपारायणम् .

Brief discussions were also held on certain aspects. Special talks by Mahamahopadhyaya Brahma Sri Mullaivasal Krishnamurthy Sastrigal and Mahamahopadhyaya Brahma Sri Vishnu Bhatla Salakshana Ghanapathi on Shiksha were held. Acharya Swamigal in his speech talked about the importance of Shadangam study, nuances of Shiksha and blessed the participants. All the Vidwans were honoured in the divine presence of Acharya Swamigal



\* Shiksha is the first Anga in the Shadangam. It deals with Phonetics. Pratishakhyam is book on phonetics. Each Veda has its own Pratishkhyam/ Shiksha.



### Rigveda and Yajurveda Upakarma held (11-Aug-2022)

With the blessings of Acharya Swamigal the Shravana Upakarma ritual was held at Srimatam camp, Goshala, Kakinada. Sri Gurumurthy Sastrigal, Kanchipuram & Sri Sriramana Sarma, Nerur led the Upakarma for Rigveda & Yajurveda respectively. Earlier, His Holiness in his Anugraha Bhashanam about Upakarma had mentioned that Upakarma is a very important annual ritual meant to revitalise the study of Vedas & Sastras. All the Vidyarthis were blessed with Teertha Prasadam.





**Jayanti Mahotsavam of Pujyashri Jayendra Saraswati  
Shankaracharya Swamigal at Shrimatam- visesha pujas and nada  
samarpanam performed (12-Aug-2022)**

Rudrabhishekam and visesha pujas were performed at the Adhistanam of Jagadguru Pujyashri Jayendra Saraswati Shankaracharya Swamigal. On the Jayanti day, Mangala isai was rendered by several nadaswaram groups. Nada Samarpanam was rendered by Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Astana Vidwan Neyveli Santanagopalan accompanied by Thanjavur vidwan Ramadas on Mrudangama and Vidushi Gayatri Sivani on the Violin

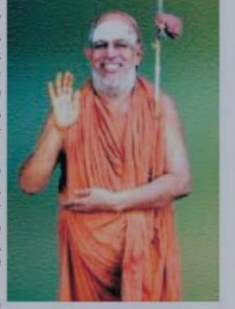


வியாழக்கிழமை, 11 ஆகஸ்ட் 2022

காஞ்சிபுரத்தில் நாளைய...

**ஜெயேந்திர சரஸ்வதி சுவாமிகள்  
ஜெயந்தி உற்சவம்**

காஞ்சிபுரம், ஆக. 10: காஞ்சிபுரம் சங்கர மடத்தின் 69-ஆவது பீடாதிபதியாக இருந்து மறைந்த ஜெயேந்திர சரஸ்வதி சுவாமிகளின் 88-ஆவது ஜெயந்தி உற்சவம் வெள்ளிக்கிழமை (ஆக. 12) நடைபெற இருப்பதாக அந்த மடத்தின் மேலாளர் நகத்தரச ஜயபுதன் கிழமை தெரிவித்தார். இதுகுறித்து அவர் மேலும் கூறியது: திருவாரூர் மாவட்டம், இரஞ்சிக்கி கிராமத்தில் மகாதேவ ஜயருக்கும், சரஸ்வதி அம்மாளுக்கு குமாரராசுப் பிறந்தவர் ஜெயேந்திர சரஸ்வதி சுவாமிகள்.



இவரை கடந்த 1954 -ஆம் ஆண்டு மகா பெரியவா என பக்தர்களால் அழைக்கப்படும் சந்திரசேகரேந்திர சரஸ்வதி சுவாமிகள் சங்கர மடத்தின் 69-ஆவது பீடாதிபதியாக நியமித்தார்.

இவர், காஞ்சி மடத்தின் பீடாதிபதியாக இருந்து வந்த காலத்தில் நாடு முழுவதும் யாத்திரை சென்று பல்வேறு ஆன்மிகப் பணி, கல்விப் பணி மற்றும் மருத்துவப் பணிகளை மேற்கொண்டு வந்தார். ஏழை, எளிய மக்களுக்கு பல வகைகளிலும் சேவை செய்த பெருமைக்குரியவர். இவரது ஜெயந்தி தினம் வெள்ளிக்கிழமை (ஆக. 12) சங்கர மடத்தில் சிறப்பாகக் கொண்டாட இருப்பதை முன்னிட்டு, முதல் நாள் நிகழ்ச்சியாக சங்கர மடத்தில் புதன் கிழமை சதுர்வேதபாராயண நிகழ்ச்சிகள் தொடங்கின.

வெள்ளிக்கிழமை காலை காயத்ரி ஹோமம், ஏகாதச ருத்ர ஜெபம் மற்றும் ஹோமம் ஆகியவை நடைபெறுகின்றன. தொடர்ந்து, மகா பெரியவர் மற்றும் ஜெயேந்திர சரஸ்வதி சுவாமிகள் அதிஷ்டானத்தில் சிறப்பு அபிஷேகம், அலங்காரம் மற்றும் தீபாராதனைகள் நடைபெறுகின்றன.

இரவு தங்கத் தேரில் ஜெயேந்திர சரஸ்வதி சுவாமிகள் காஞ்சிபுரம் நகரின் ராஜவீதிகளில் பவனி வரவுள்ளார். காஞ்சிபுரம் காமாட்சி அம்மன் கோயிலில் ஜெயேந்திர சரஸ்வதி சுவாமிகளின் ஜெயந்தி உற்சவத்தை முன்னிட்டு, லட்சுமி, சரஸ்வதி தேவியருடன் உற்சவர் காமாட்சி அம்மன் கோயில் பூஜைகள் விதிகளில் விதிபடி வருகிறார். இதைப் பற்றி கோயிலுக்குள் தங்கத் தேரில் பவனி வருகிற நடைபெறுவதன் நகத்தரச ஜயபுதன் தெரிவித்தார்.

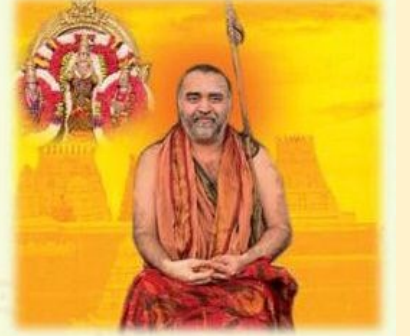
**Message of Acharya Swamigal on the 75th Anniversary of Indian Independence (15-Aug-2022)**



शान्ति समृद्धं अमृतम्

**Message of HH Pujyashri  
Shankara Vijayendra Saraswathi  
Shankaracharya Swamigal  
on the  
75th Anniversary of  
INDIA's Independence**

15th August 2022



‘Bharata Varsha’ is a sacred land, a Punya Bhoomi. It is not merely a geography or a physical entity, but a repository of great culture- a great civilization. It is a land of great spirituality - a place of Dharma. Blessed by the Gods and nurtured by holy sages, the Punya Bhoomi is venerable as our Mother land - "जननी जन्मभूमिश्च स्वर्गादपि गरीयसी - Janani Janma Bhumishcha Svargadapi Gariyasi- as remarked by Sri Rama addressing Lakshmana.

This holy land witnessed several trials and tribulations at different points in time in the past. Several sacrifices were made by men and women, families and the entire society. Finally, Bharat attained independence 75 years ago on the 15th August 1947, bestowing on us “freedom”. The country was born again, unshackling itself from the bonds. People of our country kept immense faith and patience, throughout these difficult times, through their devotion to almighty and the Country.



Our Paramacharya Pujya Mahaswamigal had given a special message of blessings on the day of Independence in 1947 emphasising the spiritual greatness of our Nation and how the tricolored Indian Flag symbolises three Shaktis - Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswathi with the Chakra - the embodiment of Dharma in the middle. He also pointed out the importance of every individual to develop independence- one can consider himself independent if he can understand oneself fully. One must endeavour to develop that state of mind which ensures complete freedom.

75 years have passed since the birth of our Nation. Several developments have occurred, and several things have changed. That one constant which guides us all is our Sanatana Dharma - the bedrock of our civilization. Vedas and Shastras help sustain our Dharma. Upansihad says - Satyam Vada- Dharmam Chara - Dharma is the path on which we must lead our lives. It is the moral compass, it is the differentiator between the Good and Evil. If our country has withstood aggressions of various types for aeons, it is because, our people had the strength given to them by Dharma. Dharma can be translated as virtuous acts, as being good to others, being charitable, not harming anyone or anything, being truthful to our inner conscience. When the mortals digressed from the path of Dharma, God himself incarnated in different forms to uphold Dharma. Ramo Vighrahan Dharma - Sri Rama was the epitome of Dharma and by his very conduct, he showed to the world the greatness of Dharma. Our puranas and Itihasas abound with episodes that show how the adharmic paths appear to be easy and successful, but the path of dharma even though riddled with difficulties is the one that leads us to victory ultimately - Truth alone Triumphs. Sage Tiruvalluvar in Tirukkural has written several profound couplets on Truth and Dharma. If one does not accept Dharma and is opposed to it, he or she is not only causing great harm to oneself, but also to the Society and the Nation.

Adi Shankaracharya through his teachings and works has not only guided us about the Advaita philosophy but has also shown the path of National Integration - so very vital for our Bharata. His yatras throughout the country from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and Kashi to Rameshwaram in his brief earthly sojourn instil in us a feeling of oneness. The Shankaracharya Hills in Kashmir are testimony to this. When forces inimical to our Dharma were increasing, He won over them through discussions and debate and reestablished the Dharmic way of life and established Shanmata - the six schools of worships, namely Ganapatyam, Saivam, Saktam, Sauram, Vaishnavam and Kaumaram. The seeds of unity sown by him provide the vital undercurrents for the Unity of our Nation to this day - despite diversities in different aspects like region, religion, language etc.

Ours is a very ancient civilization. It is the Bhumi of Rishi- Krishi - the land of Rishis and the land of agriculture. Our Dharma is unique and provides us with a broad mindset - we have always believed in the concept of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam” and “ Swadeso bhuvanatrayam” - the whole world is one for us. While we may not be most advanced or prosperous in materialistic terms, our Culture and civilization is the richest. Villages are the soul of our Nation - they show us the virtues of simplicity, of being content with limited wants, of being in harmony with Nature, of being altruistic.

If our Dharma could be propagated, it would lead to peace and happiness in the whole world. If there is any country in the world which can be a Guru in the realm of Dharma & religion, it can only be our country. Adi Shankara’s teachings will provide us with a sound basis for peace and friendship not only among the people of India but also peoples of the whole world.

We pray to Lord Chandramouleeswara to shower His blessings on the entire Nation on this auspicious 75th Independence Day.

Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitaha

## नमस्कारप्रियो भानुः

### Surya Namaskaram by Veda Vidyarthi Goshala, Kakinada (18-Aug-2022)

Students from Kanchipuram, Tiruvanaikaval, Manimangalam & Puri performed Surya Namaskaram as Surya Namaskara Mantras were chanted from Rig Veda & Krishna Yajur Veda in the presence of Acharya Swamigal.

The Adhyapaks of the Vidyarthi performed Sankalpam, Kalashathapanam & Kalasha Puja. A total of about 200 Namaskarams were performed. Later the Kalasha Teertha was given as Prasadam. Local devotees who had gathered in large numbers too participated.



### Shaiva Agama Sadas at Srimatam Camp, Goshala, Kakinada (23-Aug-2022)

With the divine blessings of His Holiness Shaiva Agama Sadas was held yesterday. About 400 Shaiva Agama Shivacharyas from Andhra Pradesh participated in the event. Prasadam from various temples were offered to Acharya Swamigal. Books were released and certificates given. Senior Agama Shivacharyas spoke followed with the Anugraha Bhashanam of His Holiness. Later, all the Shivacharyas were felicitated with books, Vastrams and Sambhavana with the blessings of Acharya Swamigal.





### **Prime Minister visits Adi Shankara Keerthi Sthamba Mandapam at Kalady (01-Sep-2022)**

Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi visited Sri Adi Shankara Keerthi Sthamba Mandapam at Kalady and offered pada puja at Sri Adi Shankaracharya sannadhi. Honble Prime Minister was received with traditional poornakumba Swagatam.



### **ABOUT THE KEERTI STHAMBA AT KALADY**

With the benign blessings of Their Holinesses Pujyasri Shankaracharya Swamiji, a Keerthi Sthamba Mandapam has been consecrated at Kalady, the birth place of Sri Adi Sankara. The Keerthi Sthambam is an imposing 8-storey structure. A pair of elephant statues stand at the entrance. Inside the Sthambam is the Paduka Mandapam, where the Padukas of Sri Adi Sankara have been consecrated and regular worship is offered. One can climb the spiral staircase inside the mandapam and see the paintings and statues on the walls, depicting important episodes from the life of Sri Adi Sankara. Sankara Jayanthi is celebrated every year on the Vaisaka Shukla Panchami day.

In May 2003, special celebrations were held here to mark the 2510th birth anniversary of Adi Sankara, the golden jubilee of Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamiji's Peetarohanam and the silver jubilee celebrations of Adi Sankara Keerthi Sthambam. As part of the celebrations, a procession led by Their Holinesses Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamiji and Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamiji was taken out from Angamally to Kalady.

### **"Devuni Swaram" Book Released (07-Sep-2022)**

Devuni Swaram - a collection of divine talks of Jagadguru Pujyashri Mahaswamigal was released with the blessings and presence of Acharya Swamigal at Shrimatam camp at Kakinada on 7 Sep 2022. Earlier, the compendium of books were taken in a procession around the Goshala. Acharya Swamigal blessed the gathering with Anugraha Bhashanam. An introduction to the book and upanyasam was given by Sri Chaganti Koteswara Rao. The book was launched by Justice DVSS Somayajulu of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. Sri V Sankar, Chairman, Sri Kanchi Mahaswami Peetarohana Shatabdi Trust gave the welcome address.

Sri Chaganti Koteswar Rao was conferred with Sri Kamakoti Seva Ratnam on the occasion. Abhaya Hastham in Gold studded with precious stones for Kanchi Mahaswami's Adhishthanam at Kanchi was submitted during the event. Copies of the book can be booked at [www.kanchimuttseva.org/devuniswaram](http://www.kanchimuttseva.org/devuniswaram)



### Udayambakkam Kumbhabhishekam (8-Sep-2022)

Yagashala Pujas commenced with Sankalpam & Kalasha Sthapanam at Sri Kamakshi Sametha Sri Chandramouleeshwara Swamy Temple, Udayambakkam, (near Chengalpattu) the Janmasthanam of Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal, 66th Acharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam.

With the blessings of Acharya Swamigal, the temple which was in a dilapidated condition has now been renovated in stone by devotees. In April 2014, the renovation was commenced with the blessings of Pujya Sri Jayendra

Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal and Pujya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal who were camping at Kalavai (Enroute to Bangalore), at the Brundavan of 66th Acharya.

The bricks were kept in front of 66th Acharya's Brundavanam and then blessed by Acharya Swamigal. The Math runs a Veda Pathashala in the village.

The Mahakumbabhishekam of Sri Chandramouleeswara Swami temple at Udayambakkam was performed on the 8th Sep. 2022.



Also read the historic connection of the village with Kanchi Math and the visit of Acharya Swamigal which paved way for the Jeernodhara Maha Kumbhabhishekam. It was a historic moment when Acharya Swamigal visited the Udayambakkam Village near Chengelpet on the 23rd April 2011. It was on this day that the great Emperor of Vijayanagara, King Krishna Deva Raya gifted the village of Udayambakkam to the Acharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Sri Sadasiva Sarasvati in the year 1529. Details at <https://www.kamakoti.org/kamakoti/news/Udayambakkam/>



### Vishwaroopo Yatra (10-Sep-2022)

Pushpabhishekam performed to Acharya Swamigal on 10th Sep 2022 evening at Shrimatam camp at Kakinada prior to Vishwaroopo yatra.



Marking the conclusion of the Chaturmasya Vratam, Pujyashri Acharyal performed Vishwaroopo Yatra this evening (10 Sep. 2022) from Goshala at Thimmapuram to Sri Paripoornananda Swami ashram at Shreepeetam. The eleventh adhyaya of Bhagavadgita was chanted and puja performed.









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

**Abu Dhabi:** Anusham, Avittam & Uthiradam Pooja at Ruwais Abudhabi



**Dubai:** Monthly Anusham & Puthu Periyava Jayanthi was celebrated with great fervour.





**Nairobi, Kenya: Monthly Anusham celebrations**



**Singapore:** Panchaloga Vighram arrived on 25<sup>th</sup> August to temple and all Abhishekams were done

National Day Special 09/08/22, Mahanyasa Purasthara Ekadasa Rudra Japa Homa Abhishekam at Holy Tree Sri Balasubramaniam Temple. Along with Kalasa Purappadu, Maha Periyavaa in Paduka in Sila RoopAm purappadu n Kalasabhishekam was done along with Sri Viswanatha Swamy.

Sri Periyava Padhuka and Pancha loga Sila Rupam are residing in the Gruham of Sri Suresh at Yishun Singapore





**Australia (multiple cities):** Excerpts from our program on the eve of Guru Pournima on 16th July 2022.

The following children from Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney have participated this evening to celebrate and pay our humble respects to our Guru Puja Shri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi garu.

Chir Arna, Chi Veekshana, cu Devika, Chi Vinay, chi Prasheetha, chi Veda Samhitha, chi Manawini, chi Yuktha, Chi Ahana , chi Eesha and Chi Saanvi.

The program started with Lord Ganesh and Goddess Saraswathi Prayers followed by several kritis, swarajatis sung by children

The children have participated with enthusiasm, dedication, and learnt to inculcate Bhakti and further enhance of values of Santana Dharam.

Music teachers Smt Madhuri Vasa, Smt Dr Padma Mallela, Chi Vishnu Priya , Smt Malathi Siva Subramanian, Srinivas Varanasi have sung various Kritis on Guru and Goddess.

Thanks to all music teachers, Shri Vish Vishwanathan, Bharat for your wonderful message especially Sabari Bhakti, Hanuman Nishkama prabhu bhakti. very well narrated

Program is concluded with Managala Harati on Lord Rama and Swasti vakyams by Srinivas Varanasi



Certificates of participation were distributed to encourage the children to further participate and enhance their bhakti.

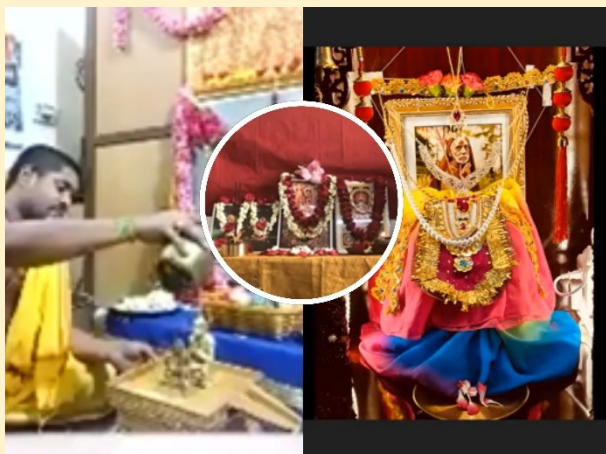
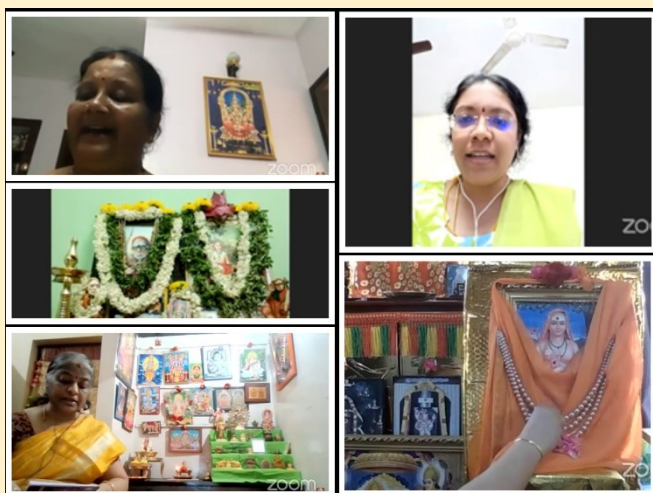


**Netherlands:** Guru Poornima rudram recitation at Saibaba temple Amsterdam, Netherlands. Vishnusahasarnamam chanting on the occasion of guru Poornima. Rudram, sri suktam, Durga suktam, Narayan suktam, recitation in Netherlands for pradhosham. Avani Avittam was celebrated as well.



**China:** Sri Jayendra Vijayam by Janakalyan Shri Krishnamurthy - Episode 1 started on 31-08-2022  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/ArultharumMahaperiyavaGroup/>

Adi Sankara Jayanthi (Monthly pooja): ATM celebrated Adi Sankara Jayanthi (Monthly Pooja) on 04-07-2022 (at ATM Srinivasan home, Shangai), 02-08-2022 (Smt Sowmiyashri's home, TN) and on 31-08-2022 at Smt Visalakshi's home, TN). Followed by Pooja, songs, slokams and Veda parayanam by Shri Kailasanadha Ganapadigal – Vedabharati Vidyarthees were all done on all three days of monthly pooja



Anusha Pooja (Monthly Pooja) – ATM Monthly Anusha Pooja was conducted on 10-07-2022 at Hindu Ganesan Mama's home and on 06-08-2022 at Smt. Vishali mami's home.

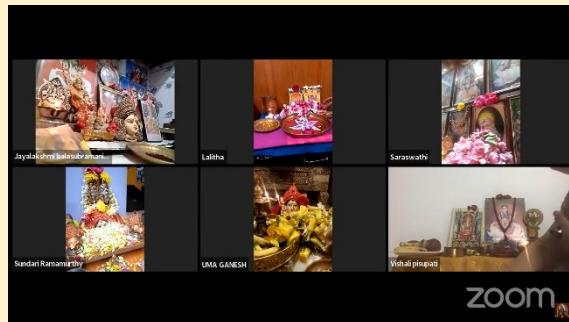


Sri Jayendra Periyava Jeyanthi Celebrations – Sri Sri Jayendra Periyava Jayanti Celebrations was celebrated on 12-08-2022 and 14-08-2022 with Pudhu Periyava Ashtothram, Rudram Parayanam by Shukla Yajur Veda Vidyaarthees of Sri Raghavashrama Vedalaaya, Kolathur Village, Chennai, Pravachanam by Sri R.Kannan and Janakalayan Sri Krishnamoorthy (Pudhu Periyava Experience) and a PPT Presentation by Smt,Atchaya Suresh on “Life History of Sri Sri Jayendra Periyava”.



Soundaryalahari Class: ATM Soundaryalahari Classes started from 11-07-2022 (Weekly two classes). Smt Mohana mami from Coimbatore is taking classes for Soundaryalahari through ATM Zoom meet and ATM Youtube live.

Lalitha Sahasra Namavalai Archanai – ATM’s Lalitha Sahasra Namavali Archanai was performed on 15-07-2022 at Shangai and ATM members joined the Archanai through zoom.



Mooka Saaram – Mooka Saaram chanting was done by ATM Members on the 11-08-2022, Aradhana day of our 20th Kanchi Acharyal Sri Sankarendra Saraswathi Swamigal.



Aadi Velli Special Programs – ATM celebrated its Aadi velli special programs on 22-07-2022, 29-07-2022, 05-08-2022 and 12-08-2022 with songs on Ambal by ATM Members, Ambal Mahimai speech every week and with Lalitha Trisathi Namavali every week by ATM Members.



ATM Sath Sangam usually begins with Deivathin Kural by Smt. Vijayalakshmi Srinivasan followed by Enipadigalil Mandargal by a group member.

Saturday Sath Sangam: Members of ATM participated in all Saturday Satsangam by singing a song, bhajan, devotional experience etc. and eminent personalities in the fields of music, speech were arranged to participate in ATM Saturday Sathsangam. Every Satsang ended with Mahaperiyava Ashtothra Archanai and Thotakashtakam by ATM Members.

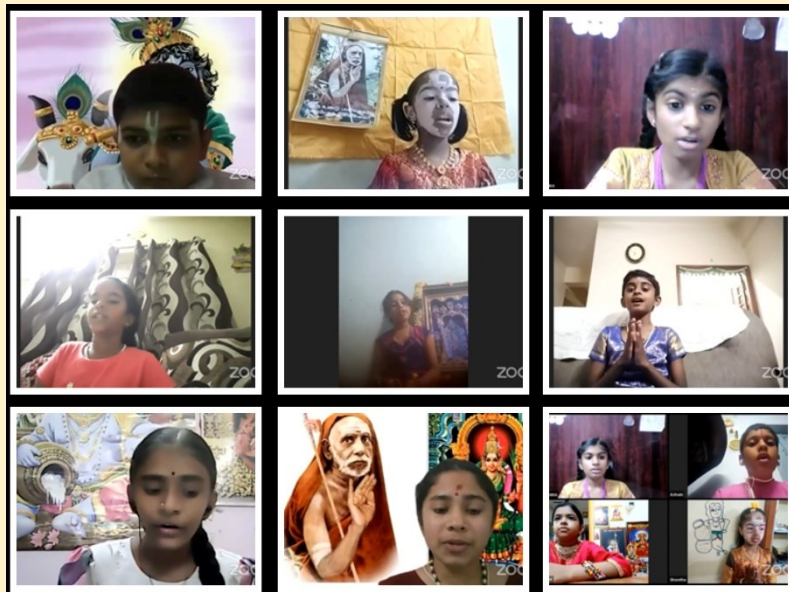


ATM Annadhanam: With the blessings of Mahaperiyava, ATM Global group arranged for Annadhana kaingaryam on 14-08-2022, Fourth Aadi Sunday at Sri Abirami Amman Udanurai Amirdhagadeswarar Temple, Selaiyur, Chennai. 386 packs were distributed, pack contents being, puli saadham, thayir saadham, kesari, chips, pickle and water bottle.

ATM Arul Isai Medai: ATM introduced a program “ATM Arul Isai Medai” for budding vocalists who wish to perform. As a first program, Selvi Krishnapriya performed on 21-08-2022 and the program started with the chanting of Mahishasura Mardhini.



Children Participation: To inculcate bhakthi and devotion in children, ATM Children were made to participate in Satsang, Krishna Jayanthi and Vinayaka Chathurthi Celebrations. Kids participated through singing, speech, chanting slokas.



**Austin, Texas:** With HIS blessings, to “HIS PADUKA” we were all blessed to celebrate this month Maha Periyavaa’s monthly Anusha Pooja at Shyam & Vindhya’s Home on Sun, Jul 10, 2022 between 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM as below. Large gathering of devotees attended to receive HIS blessings

- Swasthivachakam
- Mahanyasam
- Ganapathi Atharvashirsham
- Sri Rudram
- Chamakam
- Purusha Suktham
- Narayana Suktham
- Vishnu Suktham
- Sri Suktham
- Durga Suktham
- Medha Suktham
- Lalitha Sahasranama Stotram
- Shiva Puranam (from Thiruvassagam)
- Bhgavathpadal Ashtotram
- Maha Periyavaa Ashtotram
- Deeparadhanai
- Manthra Pushpam
- Swasthivachakam
- Chathurveda Swasti
- Dravida Vedam (Sundara Thirumurai)
- Shyamala Navaratna Mala Parayanam
- Sangeetha Samarpanam
- Thirupugazh
- Upacharam
- Thotakashtakam
- Periyavaa Guru Stuthi Panchakam



**Seattle:** Itihaasa Seattle’s annual natakam camp concluded on July 16th with children enacting the sthala puranam of Sri Akilandeswari Sameta Sri Jambukeshwarar kovil in Thiruvanaikaval.

Children ages 7-14 practiced the natakam for a week along with surya namaskaram, discussion on ashtanga yoga and art projects. As part of the natakam they learned shiva panchakshari stotram, kaveri ashtakam, nadi stuti, maitreem bhajata and hara hara sankara jaya jaya sankara.

Itihaasa has been a non-profit summer camp since 2014 focusing on an immersive experience for families to learn Bharatam’s itihaasam. Proceeds from Itihaasa support veda pathshalas, Sankara Healthcare Foundation and temple renovation projects with the guidance and blessings of Jagadguru Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham.





Washington Periyava Satsangam (WAPS), Seattle - Periva padhuka was welcomed with purnakumbham at the



home of Smt. Madhumati and Sri. Ramesh. Veda parayanama along with abhishekam was performed, and archana was offered with chanting of Sri Jayendra Periva Ashtotram.

Students of Seattle Bala Bhajana Mandali, Kum. Sanjana and Kum. Vibha, chanted Sri Jayendra Panchakam and Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Stotra Malika. Sri. Sarat Subramniam offered nama sankeertana along with sangita samarpanam by Kum. Swara.

Mooka saram was chanted in observation of Sri Mooka Sankarendra Periva's aradhana.

**Washington DC, MD, VA (KKSF) - The 129<sup>th</sup> Jayanthi Mahotsavam of HH MahaPeriyava Sri Sri**

Chandrashekarendra Saraswati Sankaracharya Swamigal was celebrated in a grand fashion on June 12<sup>th</sup> at the home of Smt. Lakshmi and Sri Venkat Gopalan. The program included Guru Vandanam, Swasti Vachanam, Sri Maha Ganapati Puja, Punyavachanam, Sri Rudrabhishekam to Lord Siva and the Holy Padukas of Sri Sri Maha Perivavaa, Veda Parayanam, Ashtottara archana to Lord Shiva, Goddess Kamakshi. A very special highlight was the Maha Periyavaa Trisathi Archana, followed by Thotakashtagam, Mangala Arati, and offering of Holy Prasadam.



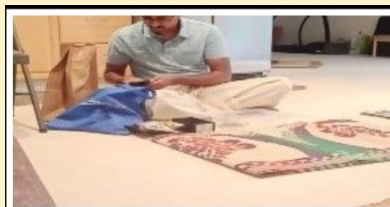
The July Padhuka Pooja and Guru Poornima celebration was conducted at the home of Smt. Akhila and Sri Prasad on July 10. Starting with Guru Vandanam, Swasti Vachanam, Sri Maha Ganapati Puja, the pooja included Punyavachanam, Sri Rudrabhishekam to Lord Siva and the Holy Padukas of Sri Sri Maha Perivavaa, Sri Jayendra Saraswati with Veda Parayana. Ashtottara archana was performed to Lord Shiva, Goddess Kamakshi and the holy Padhukas. The program concluded with Upachara poojas and with several children reciting shlokas and rendering songs.



The 88<sup>th</sup> Jayanthi of Sri Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, 69<sup>th</sup> Sankaracharya of Sri Kamakoti Peetam was celebrated in a grand manner on August 21 at the home of Smt. Mahalakshmi and Sri Karthik. The program consisted of Guru Vandanam, Swasti Vachanam, Sri Vigneswara Pooja, Abhishekam to Holy Padhukas with Sri Rudram, Chamakam and sookta Parayanam. Ashottara Archana to Sri Siva, Sri Kamakshi, Sri MahaPeriyava, Special Archana to Padhukas of HH Sri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal, Upachara poojas, Thotakashtagam, Mangala Arati, Offering of Holy Prasadam. Sri Hyderabad Srinivasan of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam graced the occasion and blessed the assembled devotees with Sri Matam Prasadam.



The September Padhuka Pooja was held at the home of Smt. Jayshree and Sri Ramani on Anusham, September 3 and followed the monthly pooja format. Usually devotees bring flowers and fruits, but one-person brought a small box. This contained thread, needle and cardamom seeds (elakkai). By the time the abhishekam was done, the elakkai garlands were ready. This goes to show that the Padhukas are revered by the devotee as if the Periyavas are here, guiding us in our path forward. We see our Acharyas in the Padhukas.



**New Jersey (KKSF):** With the blessings and grace of the Holy Kanchi Kamakoti Guruparampara, KKSF NJ celebrated the 88<sup>th</sup> Jayanti Mahotsavam of HH Sri Perivaa Sri Jayendra Saraswati Sankaracharya Swamigal in a grand manner on August 13, 2022 at Sri Radha Gopinath Temple, Edison, New Jersey. The program included Guru Vandanam, Swasthi Vachanam, Sri Maha Ganapathi Pooja, Paduka Pooja to the Holy Padukas of HH Sri Maha Perivaa Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Maha Swamigal & HH Sri Perivaa Sri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal, Ashtottara Archana to Lord Shiva, Sri Kamakshi Amman, Sri Adi Sankara, HH Sri Maha Perivaa Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Maha Swamigal and to HH Sri Perivaa Sri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal. The Paduka abhishekams included milk, sandal paste, curd, panchamritham, vibhooti, fruit pastes. This was followed by reading of “Voice of GOD” by children and young adults. Mangali Aarati was performed and there was an offering of Prasadam from Sri Matam. Lunch Maha Prasadam was served to all the attendees. There were more than 60 participants.

Here are some pictures from the event (next page).





**Canada (KKSF):** Drawings and paintings by the children of Sri Sankari Children's wing of KKSF Canada for Vinayaka Chaturthi day. Anusham celebrations at the residence of Smt. Bhuvana





**New Jersey - Jayanthi of Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal - Srimatam Prasadams at Sri Kamakoti Guru Parampara Mandapam (Mani Mandapam), NJ**

Dr. Raviraju & Dr. Radha Raviraju Fmr Vice Chancellor of NTR Medical University, Chancellor of Apollo Medical University and ardent devotees of His Holiness visited NJ Sri Kamakoti Guru Parampara Mandapam - Mani Mandapam, Kamakshi Vilasam on 88th Jayanthi day of 12 August 2022 along with Sri K Guruvayurappan & Family, Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation (USA). Dr. Ravi Raju's Seva to Kanchi Acharyas is very significant especially during the 2016 Chaturmasyam at Vijayawada. Dr. Raviraju & K. Guruvayurappan of Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation (KKSF USA, NJ) honored Suri Subramanian & volunteers of NJ Mani Mandapam with Sri Matam Prasadams. Dr. Raviraju & Dr. Radha Raviraju and Sri Guruvayurappan were honoured with Shawl & Prasadams. They were taken around the Mandapam & updated with the work that was going on. It is to be noted that His Holiness has blessed Kumbhabhishekam to be held on 5 July 2023.





Ananyaa Rajesh, Dubai on 'Sriman Narāyaneeyam'

A boon given to mankind by Shri Melpathur Narāyana Bhattathiri. It is considered to have the power to eradicate any disease or sufferings. Narāyaneeyam has 100 dashakams or chapters with approximately 10 slokas in each dashakam. Totalling to about 1036 slokas, mostly each dashakam ends with 'paahi maam sarva rogaat' or 'nirundhi rogaan marutaalayasha' or 'deva vaataalayanaatha paahi maam' which translate to 'kindly remove all my ailments' or 'please protect me, Oh! Lord of Guruvayoor!'.

Narāyaneeyam is the compact version of Srimad Bhāgavatam and has the essence of the same. The last sloka of the 8th chapter of Sriman Narāyaneeyam says :

asmin paraatman nanu paadmakalpe |  
tvamittham utthaapita padmayonihi ||  
anantabhoomaa mama rogaraashim |  
nirundhi vaataalayavaasa vishno ||

Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Maha Svamigal, the 68<sup>th</sup> Acharya of the Kanchi Peetam, himself said that this particular sloka can cure illnesses or diseases including cancer. If one sloka can cure cancer, no ailment can even approach a devotee who chants the Narāyaneeyam.

Shri Narayana Bhattathiri was suffering from a rare disease which he took from his Guru, as his Guru Dakshina. His Guru was free from the ailment, however his shishya was suffering. Along with his parents, he visited an astrologer after consulting many doctors. The astrologer said, “Start with the fish.” His parents were simply clueless and had no idea what to do, for they were strict vegetarians. Those days, even common people followed traditions and considered the Lord as the supreme. However, the Sanskrit Scholar, Shri Battathiri went to see The Lord of Guruvayoor, The Blue-Hued one.

The Idol, carved out of a sacred material called Pathalanjana Sila was once worshipped by Maha Vishnu. After many generations it was worshipped by Sri Krishna’s parents Vasudeva and Devaki and later installed in Dwaraka and worshipped by Krishna himself. The vigraha element, was found to not be existing on the earth! Devotees consider that it has come from Vaikuntha!

Bhattathiri started composing the Narāyaneeyam, starting with the Fish, Matsya Avataaram, sitting right in front of the Lord. Till date, when one enters the temple, they can see the spot where he sat writing the scripture. After each sloka, he would glance at the Lord, who would slightly tilt his head as a ‘Yes’, however if any mistake or error had to be corrected, he would himself guide Bhattathiri. Legend has it, that, because of tilting his head too many times, the idol’s head still is slightly tilt, even today! At times when he couldn’t write anymore, had doubts, confusions, Bhagavaan himself would show the scene to him, and he would continue writing.

Bhattathiri, as mentioned before was a Sanskrit Scholar. His work is a treat for Sanskrit learners! For instance, The 35<sup>th</sup> dashakam, Ramaayana Charitham, second sloka has a line :

Maarge maarge mamaarge kapibhirapi tadaa tvatpriyaa saprayaasaihi || which translates to :

The monkeys engaged themselves in each and every maarga or route to find Raama’s Priya or Raama’s Wife, Sita.

Maarge maarge mamaarge! Every route’s inside route’s route! The poetry is so beautiful! Nectar indeed! One should definitely take the chance to learn such a wonderful Scripture given to us, which takes away all rogas and blesses us with ‘Aayur Aarogya Saukhyam’ ~ says the last sloka.

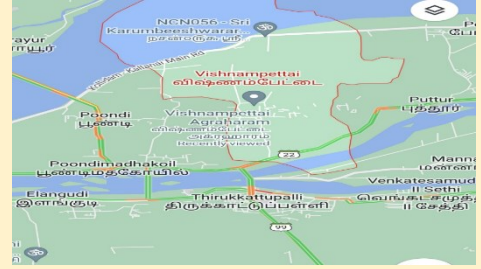




## Know Your Village

### **Vishnampettai (Thanjavur District) submitted by Smt. Uma Viswanathan**

Vishnampettai is a village in Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu. It is located 25Km towards west from Thanjavur and 328Km from state capital Chennai. Lalgudi, Nanjikottai, Thiruchirapalli are nearby cities. Pullambadi Rail Way Station, Aiyannapuram Rail Way Station are the nearby railway stations to Vishnampettai. Thiruchirapalli international airport is the nearest airport. Thirukkattupalli is the nearest town to this village for all major economic activities.



Vishnampettai is a beautiful village located in the banks of Kaveri river, Kollidam river and Kudamurutti river. The place derives its name from the two Gods “Vishnu” (situated at the west) and “Amman” (situated at the east), “VishnuAmmanPettai”, later colloquially became “Vishnampettai”. The village is also named as “Yaga Bhoomi”, as there were so many Yagas, Bhajans & festivals were conducted by our ancestors like Sri Padmanabha Deekshithar, Sri Chandru Bagavathar, etc. These are still being conducted by the village people in the traditional method guided by them.

Main deity of the village: **Vinayagar temple, Pavanamangalam**



**Sri Kailasanathar Temple**

#### **Sri Kailasanathar temple (East)**

This temple is located at the end of Vishnampettai village & surrounded by paddy fields. The temple is said to be built by the people of the Vishnampettai

agraharam. Main deities of this temple are “Sri Kailasanathar” & “Sri Kamakshi Amman”

Soorasamharam is performed in this temple during Sri Kandha Sashti festival followed by Sri Valli Kalyanam on the next day.

Pujyashri Acharyal visited Visnampettai agraharam  
Sri Kamakshi Ambal sametha Sri Kailasanatha swami  
temple on 3rd July 2019



### Sri Venugopalaswamy temple (West)

This temple, situated at the western side of the village, is more than 250 years old. Main deities are Sri Venugopalaswamy and Sri Rukmani & Sathyabama. Lot of festivals, Yagas & Namasankeerthanams were conducted by Gurus and are still being celebrated in the traditional methods.

- Uriyadi Utsavam - Starts on Gayathri Japam day, Uriyadi on the next day of Sri Krishna Jayanthi and ends with Sri Rukmani Kalyanam on the next day
- Sri Ramanavami – Starts 8 days before Sri Ramanavami and ends with Sri Seetha Kalyanam which is conducted on the next day
- Vaikunda Ekadasi – Vaikunda Ekadasi and Radha Kalyanam on the next day
- Navarathri – festival is celebrated at the temple with Namasankeerthanam which is specially performed by “Sankeeth Ladies Bhajan Mandali” and ends with dance program by children on Saraswati Poojai day
- Purattasi – Special poojas conducted by mandagapaditharar/upayatharar on every saturday of Purattasi month and Santhanakappu will be conducted collectively by villagers on the last saturday of Purattasi
- Ekadasi – Every ekadasi, special Poojas are conducted by the Mandagapaditharar/Upayadharar and Namasankeerthanam performed in the late evening by village bhajan group



Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple

### Arulmigu Sri Ponni Amman temple, Pavanamangalam

This temple is located in Pavanamangalam village, 6Km from Vishnampettai Agraharam. It is a small temple with main deity “*Ponni Amman*” and also has sannadhis for Karupannansamy, Madurai Veeran and Ravuthar who are considered to be Kaaval Deivangal. “*Ponni Amma*” is our Kula deivam and we visit the temple at least once a year to offer Maavilaku and perform abhishekam, Sandhana kaapu, Velli kaapu for Amman! Kumbabhishekam was last performed in the year 2007 and yet to be performed after that.



### Sri Karumbeswarar temple (Semmeninathar), Thirukkanur (North)

This is an ancient temple located in the north west of Vishnampettai village and in the south bank of Kollidam river. It is the 56<sup>th</sup> Shiva temple on the northern bank of Cauvery river and praised in several hymns by Thirunagnanasambandar, Thirunavukkarasar, Sundaramoorthy Nayanar: 110<sup>th</sup> Devaram padal, 73<sup>rd</sup> pathigam of 1<sup>st</sup> Thirumurai, 76<sup>th</sup> pathigam of 5<sup>th</sup> Thirumurai, 47<sup>th</sup> pathigam in 7<sup>th</sup> Thirumurai.





The temple is believed to be 2000 years old and built by the Pandiyas & renovated several times by the Cholas. The temple was submerged in 1924 flood in the banks of Kollidam. The top portion of the kalasam was discovered by a shepherd using a sugarcane tree grown above it and was further excavated, hence the Lord is known as “Karumbeswarar”.

Sun rays fall on the Lingam in a specific date of the second, third & fourth of April, every year, hence these days are special when Lord Surya is believed to come here & worship the Lord.

The Shiva lingam here is one of the 64 Suyambhu lingams. The goddess is “*Soundarya Nayaki*” and she is also known as *Sivayoganayaki*. The ambal here has not got a crown but is seen to be having Jadamudi (long braided hair). Ambal at this temple is made out of Salagramam. The theertham here is veda theertham.

Parvathi was once separated from Shiva and had come to the earth to perform penance to unite with Him. She found this village at Thirukkanur suitable for the same. Pleased with Her devotion, the Lord appeared before Her as a column of fire. Due to the heat He was red in colour and hence He came to be known as *Semmeninathar*; sem meaning red and meni meaning body. The nandi at this temple is seen in a very unique posture - with its front left leg planted on the ground and ready to get into a standing position. It is in a posture ready to execute instructions from Lord Shiva.

It is believed that the village was submerged by sand due to the curse of a pregnant woman, the villagers then moved to Vishnampettai & settled there. An ancient name for Thirukkanur is Manalmedu (mound of sand).

There is a belief that visiting this temple as a couple will clear all misunderstandings and result in a happy marital life. Praying at this temple is said to improve career prospects, remove obstacles to marriage & improve health for those afflicted with chronic illness. Childless couple are blessed with progeny by doing abhishegam to Shiva and Ambal and offering garland of erukkam flowers!

Sooriya Poojai (April 2, 3, 4) is the main festival, while Pradosham, Maha Shivarathri, Aavani moolam, Thai Pournami abishekam are other important festivals in this temple!

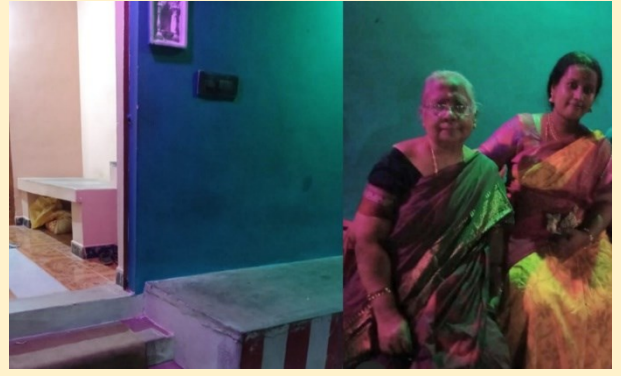
This village is located in the banks of Kaveri river, Kollidam river and Kudamurutti river

#### Yearly Thiruvizha:

- Uriyadi Uthsavam at Sri Venugopalawamy temple. The is the grand festival celebrated for 10 days and with Veda parayanams by celebrated Sanskrit scholars, bhajans from various artists that goes past midnight.
- Soorasamharam & Sri Valli Kalyanam at Sri Kailasanathar temple
- Sooriya Poojai at Semmeninathar temple, Thirukkanur on April 2, 3, 4



### Agraharam photo from the village



There are many good schools & colleges in and around the village with some of the best schools in the nearby town Thirukattupalli. Best time to visit the village would be during Janmashtami & Navarathri when the entire village will be sporting a festive look!

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







**Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara**



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