

## NRI Newsletter



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

॥ श्रीः ॥

**Message from Acharya Swamigal to NRI's devotees**

**Shruti Smriti Puraṇānām Ālayam Karunālayam**

**Namaami Bhagavadpāda Shankaram Loka Shankaram**

**Sadāshiva Samārambhām Shankarāchārya Madhyamām**

**Asmad Ācharya Paryantam Vande Guruparamparām**

### **DHARMA**

It is Dharma, which guides and protects every individual, every family, every region, every nation and the whole world. In order to understand that Dharma properly, we need merit acquired from previous lives. We should perform good deeds and earn merit in our present birth also; we should do it in multiple ways. This is the message of our Dharma. What we achieve should be measured on the scale of Dharma. It may be satisfactory and even honourable from mundane point of view to measure attainments on the basis of wealth, position and degrees; yet it is Dharma alone to which we ascribe truth and honour. In every Indian's mind there is that resolve to sacrifice various pleasures and comforts, and do good things in life in order to protect Dharma and to act in accord with Dharma.

The thought of Dharma, the study of Dharma and the experience of Dharma is not just to see Dharma in books or in images; we look at them in relation to life; that is Dharma. Beyond books and recitations, we relate Dharma to any circumstance at any time, be it among friends or in the environs we live; thus our unwavering strong effort and faith grow further. Though we may say we protect Dharma, it is indeed Dharma which protects us. Though we may talk of Dharma as an attainment for the sake of our satisfaction and joy, Dharma is indeed the true guide in life at every stage. Starting from necessary peace of mind, followed by clarity in mind, and resulting in attainment of all good things, it is Dharma which acts as protective shield and guide. In order to propagate Dharma in various ways, through Japa, through observance of rituals, through practice of Dharmic ideals in our lives, we are undertaking several ventures and implementing several programmes so that Dharmic thought can always be remembered, never to be lost sight of.

Dharma is very important in our lives. We should put in more and more efforts in order to derive the satisfaction of participating in understanding and appreciating Dharma, in recognising the glory of Dharma and in putting Dharma to practice.

Venue: Sri Rama Samaj, West Mambalam, Chennai.

Date: 28-Sep-2019



**Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara**



**Editorial:** **Kamakoti.tv** – a web TV - was launched on the auspicious Guru Poornima - Vyasa Puja –day – 24 July 2021 with the benign blessings of HH Jagadguru Pujyashri Shankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal with the objective of reaching programmes and events from Shrimatam to devotees across the world. It is well known that His Holiness advocates the use of Technology, especially Information Technology, for furthering the cause of Dharma, and this is one such initiative.

The web channel aims to provide an advertisement-free viewing experience to devotees. Content will be broadcast in both live and deferred mode and will include



# KAMAKOTI TV

- Important visesha pujas and events from Shrimatam like Vyasa Puja
- Jayanti mahotsavams of Jagadgurus
- Aradhanas of HH Pujyashri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Mahaswamigal and HH Pujyashri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal
- Nitya Veda Parayanam from Shrimatam
- Brahmotsavams
- Visits of Acharyal Swamigal
- Archival videos from Shrimatam
- Discourses of Acharyal Swamigal
- Other spiritual and cultural programmes



The web tv can be accessed at [www.kamakoti.tv](http://www.kamakoti.tv) or by scanning the code above

A huge thank you to the team behind Kamakoti.tv on behalf of the NRI community as this is enabled several devotees to watch and participate during the Chaturmasya period.

**Navaratri Mahotsav at Kanchi Kamakoti Cultural Centre, New Delhi (07-Oct-2021)**

<https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/news/2020/navaratri-mahotsav-38636-20210924.html>

Navaratri Mahotsav - Carnatic Music Festival at Kanchi Kamakoti Cultural Centre, New Delhi 07-Oct-2021

<https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/news/2020/navaratri-mahotsav-44165-20210924.html>

Sharada Navaratri at Dehradun 07-Oct-2021

<https://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/news/2020/sharada-navaratri-81379-20210924.html>



This issue covers the Holy Camp from 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 by HIS HOLINESS PUJYASRI SANKARA VIJAYENDRA SARASWATI SANKARAACHARYA SWAMIGAL:

Period	Camp Location
28-July-2021 till date	Manimandapam, Orikai, Kanchipuram

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

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

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



## MAHABHARATA - YAKSHA PRASHNA SERIES

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 difficult questions to Yudhishtira who gives the most fitting answers to those questions.

**Background:** One day during their incognito *vanavasa* (living in the forests), Yudhishtira felt very thirsty and there was no water in sight to quench his thirst. Sahadeva, the youngest of the Pandavas climbed up a tree and spotted a lake at a distance.

When he reached the lake to bring water for Yudhishtira, he heard a voice that said “Beware! Don’t touch the water before you answer my questions.” Without paying to the cautionary, Sahadeva started collecting water from the lake. As soon as he touched the water, he fell dead on the bank of the lake. Seeing Sahadeva not returning, Nakula was sent to search for him. He too met the same fate as did his elder brothers Arjuna and Bhima who followed him. Finally, Yudhishtira went to the lake and he was shocked to see all his brothers dead. Yaksha revealed to him his terrible form and warned him that he should answer his questions before helping himself to the water in the lake.

Yudhishtira gave him appropriate replies and Yaksha was pleased. Then, Yaksha said that he would bring back to life one of his brothers. Yudhishtira wanted Nakula to be brought back to life. Yaksha asked him why he was asking Nakula, the son of Madri, to be brought to life instead of Bhima or Arjuna who were his own brothers being Kunti’s children. Yudhishtira replied that his father had two wives Kunti and Madri both of whom he treated equally as his mothers. As he, Kunti Devi’s son, was alive, it was only just and equitable that Nakula, the eldest son of Madri, should also be alive. Yaksha who was none other than Yama, the god of death, was very pleased with Yudhishtira’s attitude and brought back to life all the brothers of Yudhishtira.

We encourage the next generation (10 or above till 25 or so) to write about their 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>
Who makes the Sun rise? Who travel with him? Who leads him to set? Where is he firmly anchored?	It is Brahman which makes the Sun rise. <i>Devas</i> (Gods) travel with him. <i>Dharma</i> leads him to set and he is firmly anchored in Truth
How does one become a srotriya (one well-versed in vedic lore)? How does one attain greatness? By what means one gets help? O King! By what means one becomes intelligent?	One becomes a <i>srotriya</i> by the study of the Vedas. He achieves greatness by practice of austerities( <i>tapas</i> ). He earns strength by patience and he becomes intelligent by serving elderly men (of wisdom).
What is the divinity in brahmanas? What is the dharma of good people which they follow? What is the humanly trait in them? What is the trait in <b>them which</b> is like that of the bad people?	Swadhyaya (study of the Vedas) is the divinity in the Brahmins. Austerity ( <i>tapasya</i> ) is the good trait in them. Their human trait is that they are subject to die. Their trait like that of the bad people is speaking ill of others



विश्वं दर्पणदृश्यमाननगरीतुल्यं निजान्तर्गतं  
पश्यन्नात्मनि मायया बहिरिवोद्भूतं यथा निद्रया ।  
यः साक्षात्कुरुते प्रबोधसमये स्वात्मानमेवाद्वयं  
तस्मै श्रीगुरुमूर्तये नम इदं श्रीदक्षिणामूर्तये ॥ १ ॥



விஸ்வம்' த<sup>3</sup>ர்பணத்<sup>3</sup>ரு'ய்யமானநக  
ரீதுல்யம்' நிஜாந்தர்க<sup>3</sup>தம்'  
பய்யன்னாத்மனி மாயயா ப<sup>3</sup>  
ஹிரிவோத்<sup>3</sup>பூ<sup>4</sup>தம்' யதா<sup>2</sup> நித்<sup>3</sup>ரயா .

ய: ஸாக்ஷாத்துருதே ப்ரபோ<sup>3</sup>த<sup>4</sup>ஸமயே ஸ்வாத்மானமேவாத்<sup>3</sup>வயம்'  
தஸ்மை ஸ்ரீகு<sup>3</sup>ருமூர்தயே நம இத<sup>3</sup>ம்' ஸ்ரீத<sup>3</sup>க்ஷிணாமூர்தயே .. 1..

The universe is the reflection of a mirror . The Truth is the supreme Brahman, the one without a second . The mind, senses and intellect are all able to only discern the reflection of the Atman . The identity of the brahman and the Atman is apparent after self-illumination. I offer my profound salutations to the auspicious Guru, who is an embodiment of DakShinamurti, and whose grace is responsible for the illumination

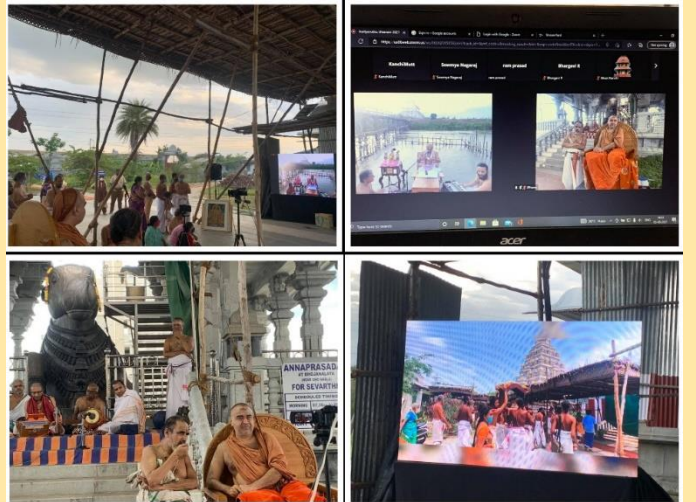
**Acharya Swamigal performed Vyasa Puja & Chaturmasya Vrata Sankalpam on Guru Poornima**  
24-July-2021 and Punah Puja on 25-July-2021 at Sri Mahaswami Manimandapama, Orikkai, Kanchipuram.

<https://youtu.be/JaDICrJIudE> & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4dXSeq-LTU>

**Aadi Perukku**, was celebrated on 03-Aug-2021 with the blessings of Acharya Swamigal under the auspices of [thanjavurparampara.com](http://thanjavurparampara.com) on the banks of River Cauvery right from the origin at Thala cauvery to different places including Allur near Trichy and Govindapuram.

Veda parayanam and pujas were performed to the punya nadhi Cauvery. Bhajans including odam- a specific form, and the traditional dance of Tamilnadu - Gummi attam were performed by youngsters in celebration as an offering of prayer to the holy river.

Visesha pujas were performed at Palar river in Kanchipuram adjacent to Shrimatam camp at Manimandapam. According to the South Indian tradition, even if one is not residing on the banks of the river Cauvery, one can go to a nearby water body (pond, temple tank,lake etc), invoke the divine river in it and



perform Puja. Cauvery Ashtottaram or Lakshmi Ashtottaram Archana is performed followed by Shodashopacharam, Naivedyam & Deeparadhana



Acharya Swamigal blessed the programme with Anugraha Bhashanam over video conference. **Click to watch**

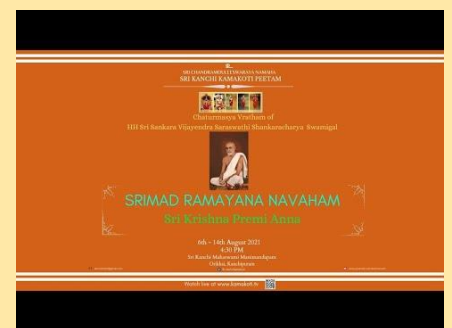
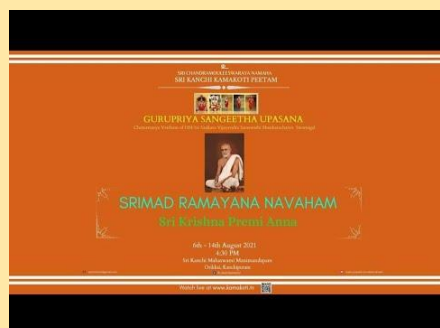
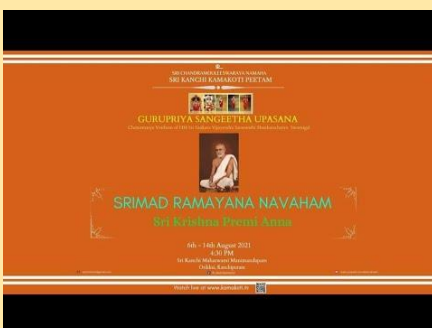
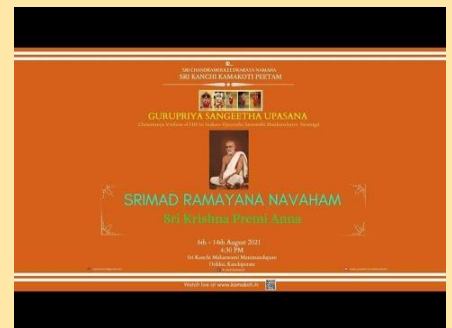
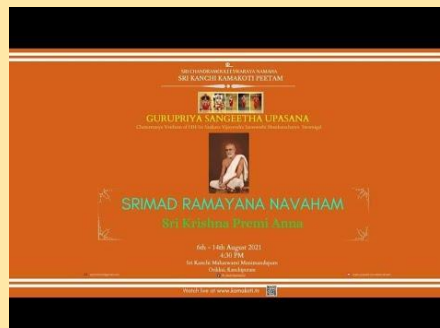


**Chaturmasyam Gurupriya Sangeetha Upasana from 24-Jul-2021 to 20-Sep-2021**

Watch the sessions on [www.kamakoti.tv](http://www.kamakoti.tv)



**Srimad Ramayana Navaham rendered by Sri Krishna Premi Anna from (6-Aug-21 till 14-Aug-2021 at Shrimatam camp (Click to watch)**



**Vaidheega Bikshavandhanam (05-Aug-2021) - Click to watch**



**Acharya Swamigal's Anugraha Bhashanam - Independence Day Event by Sankara College, Kanchipuram – 15-Aug-2021 (Click to watch)**



**Maha Swamiji's Independence Day Message**

MESSAGE GIVEN BY HIS HOLINESS PUJYASHRI CHANDRASEKHARENDRA SARASWATHI  
MAHASWAMIJI on 15 AUGUST 1947 - Independence Day

<https://www.kamakoti.org/kamakoti/articles/Mahaswami%20Independence%20Day%20Message.html?fbclid=IwAR20VTTxMUP3sQf9k0FeVcZX6lCiE5xho1PMI7uU7SGPy4iNT70PeGJhp2s>

On this happy occasion when our country Bharat has attained Independence, the people of this ancient country must pray whole heartedly and with one mind to Sri Bhagavan. Let us all pray to God to vouch safe to us strength of mind and energy to engage ourselves more and more in attaining spiritual knowledge. It is only by the grace of Almighty that we can safeguard the freedom that we have achieved and also help all the living beings on earth to lead a happy life.





It is worthy to note that luckily the Chakra of Bhagavan, who is the embodiment of Dharma, has its place in the centre of our National Flag. This Chakra reminds us of the moral values enjoined by Emperor Ashoka, who is historically famous as Devanampriyaha. Further, the Chakra makes us contemplate on the spiritual discipline imparted by Bhagavan Krishna in the Bhagavad Gita. That Dharma which shines in the form of a Chakra is clear from Lord Krishna's reference to the Chakra as "Evam pravartitam chakram" in Verse 16 of the III chapter of the Bhagavad Gita. Also in Verses 14 and 15 of the same chapter Bhagavan avers that "The human body originates from food, food grains grow because of rains, rain showers because of performance of Yajnas (Vedic Sacrifices), these Yajnas are prescribed in the Veda and that the Veda has emanated from Brahman who is in the form of Akshara (Sound recorded as letter of the alphabet)". Thus, the Dharma Chakra explains to us that the supreme Brahman is manifest in Vedic sacrifices. May this Independence, dawning with the rightful remembrance of Emperor Ashoka, grant us such fruits as Aram (Dharma or Righteousness) Porul (Wealth), Inbam (Happiness) and Veedu (Moksha - deliverance), by the grace of God.

There are three stripes in our National Flag. They are of dark green, white and orange colours. These colours seem to indicate to us, that military strength for protection from enemies and evil, wealth for welfare and prosperity, and knowledge for the sake of proper administration are essential for the nation. It may be remembered that dark green is the colour of Durga - the Parasakti who is the mother protector, Mahalakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity is of orange colour (golden hue) and Saraswathi the source divine of all knowledge is white in colour. It is a happy coincidence that the colour of the three Shakthis (Goddesses of Power) are seen in the three stripes of the National Flag.

For long, the Indian Nation has strived hard for winning freedom. By the grace of God, by the blessings of great men, and by the unique sacrifice of the people, independence has been won. Let us all pray to the Omnipresent God to shower his grace so that with the hard-won freedom, our country becomes prosperous, is rid of famine, and there are no social skirmishes and the entire nation lives in an atmosphere of amity and kindness.

Now that freedom has been attained by the nation, all of us must also try to develop Independence. If we understand ourselves fully, we may consider ourselves as independent. We are not capable of controlling the senses. We are unable to suppress desire and control anger, which always troubles us. Whichever thing in whatever measure we obtain does not lead us to contentment. Worldly sufferings cause worry to us. The mind gets confused on noticing these sufferings. What is the way out of all these? we must try to control, albeit gradually the mind which has been functioning vigorously for such a long time. Once the mind is set at rest, we will not need anything. That state of mind which ensures complete freedom is what we must attempt to achieve.

Every day at least sometime should be set apart for practicing the control of mind and bereft of other thoughts, we must meditate upon God. Then gradually, the mind will become calm, whereupon we will have the mental power to subjugate desire and anger. Spiritual knowledge will accrue fast for him who practices such meditation. Only these who attain such true spiritual knowledge can truly be independent citizens.

Any woman other than one's wife must be respected as one's own mother. We must regard other living beings as we would regard ourselves. Even at the risk of death, truth alone must be spoken. Petty social feuds must be averted totally, everyone must strive for improving his knowledge and his spiritual attainments and move with others in an atmosphere of kindness. We must sincerely wish that all people should live happily and peacefully.

Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitaha



**Mooka Panchashati Parayanam** held on Sunday, the 22-Aug-2021 & 23-Aug-2021 in commemoration of Aradhana of Sri Sri Sri Muka Sankarendra Saraswati Swamigal, the 20th Jagadguru of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam and in celebration of the divine month of Aadi. **(Click to watch)**



Lecture series on Cultural heritage of Kashmir - Inauguration with Anugraha Bhashanam of Acharya Swamigal  
Schedule

With the Anugraham of Jagadguru Pujyasri Shankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal			
No.	Date/Time 7PM IST	By	Topic
1	Sunday, August 15, 2021	Padma Bhushan Dr. R.Nagaswamy, Archaeologist and Dr. C.K.Gariyali, IAS	Inauguration and Introduction to Kashmir with Anugrahabhashanam by His Holiness.
2	Saturday, August 21	Jagadguru Seva Ratnam Sri P.R.Kannan	Amaranatha Mahatmyam
3	August 28	Sri P.R.Kannan	Rajatarangini
4	Sept 4	Sri P.R.Kannan	Rajatarangini
5	Sept 11	Sri P.R.Kannan	Bhringisa Samhita
6	Sept 18	Sri P.R.Kannan	Nilamata Puranam
7	Sept 25	Sri P.R.Kannan	Temples of Kashmir
8	Oct 2	Brahmashri Dr. Ramana Sharma	Literary Heritage of Kashmir
9	Oct 9	Sri Ramana Sharma	Vaidika Traditions of Kashmir

Part 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Id86Wp6YtkE>

Part 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jejYHqEtWPU>

Part 3 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nd32gtKfaQs>

Part 4 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7kBuumX3UA>

Part 5 - <https://youtu.be/cC-oIF4SWjk>

**Rig Veda & Yajur Veda Upakarma(Avani Avittam)** was performed at Shrimatam camp at Orikkai on 21 & 22 Aug. 2021 with blessings of Acharya Swamigal. Every year, the Upakarma is performed on the day of Sravana (Tiruvonam) star in the lunar month of Sraavana.

After Upanayanam, study of Vedas commences on the first Aavani Avittam day. Utsarjana karma is done in the following Pushya (Thai) month, study of Vedas is halted and in the next six months, as much as possible of the six Vedangas, viz. Siksha, Vyakarana, Chandas, Niruktam, Jyotisham and Kalpasutram is studied. Then in the Sraavana month of the following year, on the day of Upakarma, Upakarma is performed and study of Veda mantras is commenced again. This karma of starting study of Vedas is known as Upakarma. Only if Upakarma is performed in this manner, will the meagre store of Veda mantra with us have power. If not, it will become 'yatayama' like the food described in Bhagavadgita.



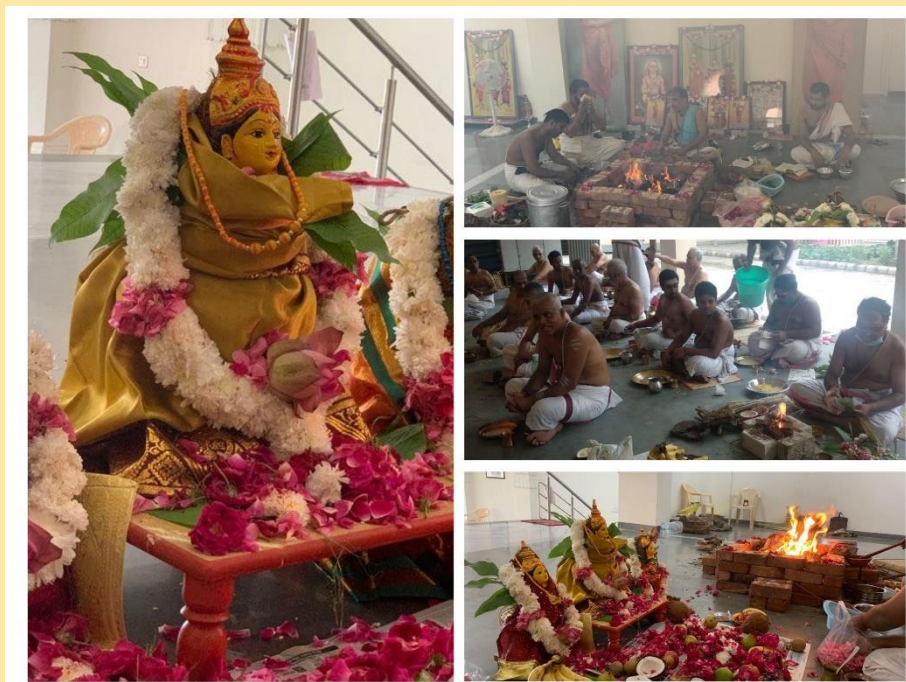
### Divine Art Exhibition inaugurated at Orikkai (26-Aug-2021)

Divine art exhibition was inaugurated with blessings of Pujyashri Acharyal at Orikkai, Kanchipuram featuring the paintings on deities of various temples in Tamilnadu by senior artist Sri Manivelu of Sikkal. The exhibition will be open for the period of Chaturmasya being observed by Sri Acharyal (till 20<sup>th</sup> Sep).





**Chandi havan and yajur upakarma was performed on (22-Aug-2021) at Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Cultural centre, RK Puram , NewDelhi with blessings of Acharya Swamigal**



**Rig Veda Ghana Parayanam (22-Aug-2021)**



**Adhyapika Training Program – Anugraha Bashanam of Acharya Swamigal (22-Aug-2021) – Click to watch**





**Anugraha Bhashanam of Acharya Swamigal on "Go Mahima" (29-Aug-2021) (Click to watch)**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbT\\_cgWfTAw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbT_cgWfTAw)

**Anugraha Bhashanam - Brahmaavidya Study Group (29-Aug-2021) (Click to watch)**

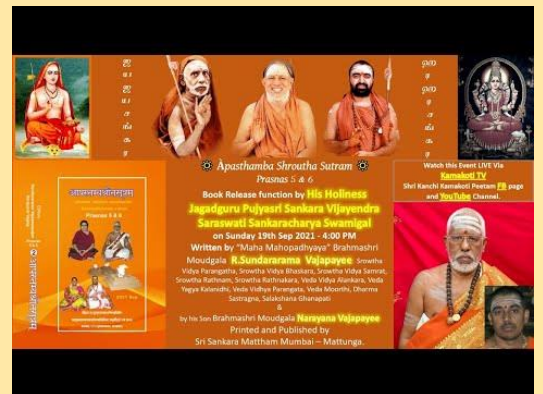


**Anugraha Bhashanam - Samashti Bikshavandanam (29-Aug-2021) (Click to watch)**



**Gokulashtami Anugraha Bhashanam - Krishna Vesham by Pathashala children at Srimatam Camp Orikkai (30-Aug-2021) – Click to watch**





Devaki Paramanandam Krishnam Vande jagadgurum II



and Sri Krishna Pooja is performed. After this, the XI Chapter of Srimad Bhagavad Gita was chanted, as per customs. Important verses are repeated by the assembled gathering. The puja concludes with deepa Aradhana for Lord Krishna.

Coverage of the event (click to watch)

With the benign blessings of Acharya Swamigal, a reprint of “Bhajanaratnakaram” – compiled by Sri Ananthanandendra Saraswati Swamigal, the disciple of Kanchi Upanishad Brahmendra Matadhipati Sri Ishta Siddheeswara Saraswati Swamigal in 1967 is being brought out on the auspicious Vijaya Yatra day – 20 Sep. 2021. Acharya Swamigal blessed and release the book.



The book runs to about 1200 pages and has a rich collection of Namasankeertanams including Guru Keertanas, Gita Govindam, Krishna Leela Tarangini, Sri Purandaradasa Kritis and Sri Thyagaraja Kritis. The book is priced at Rs. 500. Devotees desirous of obtaining the book copies can place their requests online at [www.kanchimuttseva.org/book](http://www.kanchimuttseva.org/book) by furnishing their full postal address (India only). Contributions made will be used towards book publications.

**87th Jayanti of Shri Jayendra Sarasvati Shankaracharya Swamigal the 69th Acharya of our Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam was on 26th July 2021.**



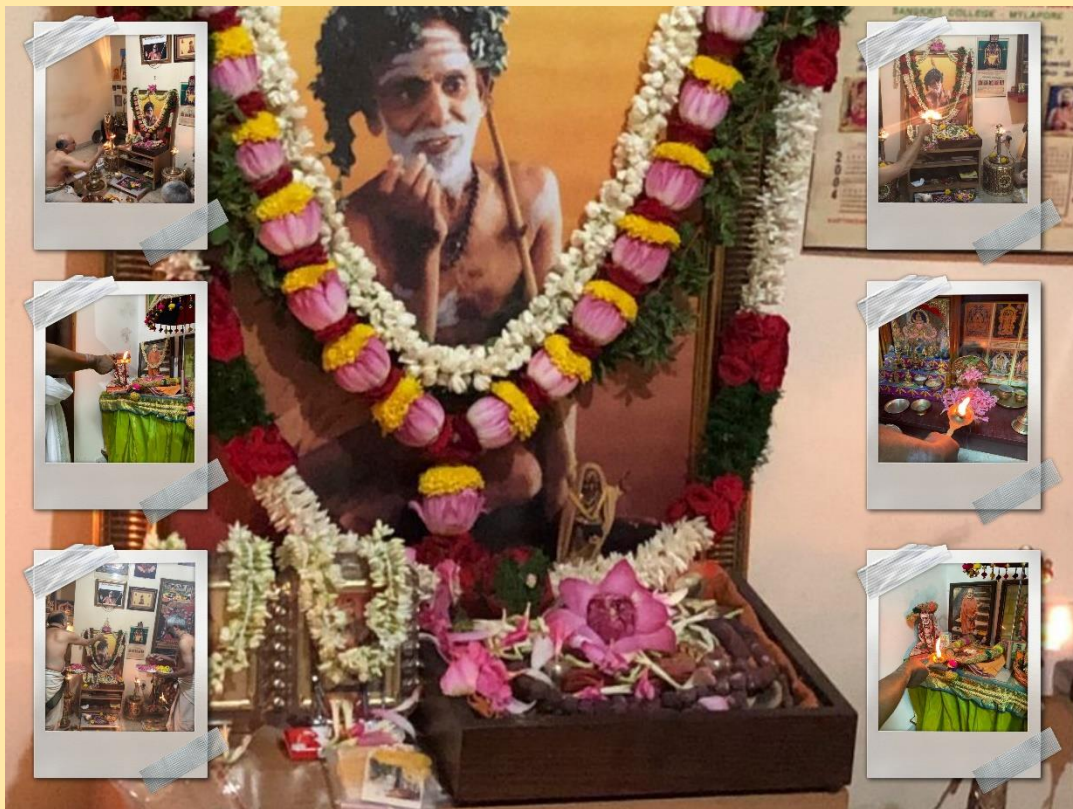
This was celebrated at our Shankara Matham, Nerur, Karur Dt with parayanam of Sama Veda Kauthuma Shakha Prakriti Aranyakam and Chandogya Upanishad. At Nerur is the Adhishtanam of Shri Sadashiva Brahmendra, shishya of Shri Paramashivendra Sarasvati, 57th Acharya of our Peetam.





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

**Abu Dhabi:** Anusham celebrated in August and September 2021



**Dubai:** Anusham celebrated in August and September 2021





**Boston (U.S.A.):** Sankara Healthcare Foundation achieved a milestone of giving over 50,000 meals to the food shelters in the USA. We also started a new curriculum year for Medha, the special needs project, with more children enrolled across the USA. Please visit [www.giftofhealth.us](http://www.giftofhealth.us) for more details.

Sankara also donated touchless thermometers to all our hospitals in India to help with COVID care.

Periyava satsangams are being conducted regularly every month in Boston with anusham pujais, and avittam pujais where both special needs children and regular children participate in chanting shlokams and singing devotional songs.

Uttarashadha bhikshavandanam is being conducted regularly with a lot of devotees offering bhikshavandanam to periyava every month by registering at [www.bhikshavandanam.org](http://www.bhikshavandanam.org)

The Brahmana Sabha of North America is officially registered and starting to offer services for Brahmanas in North America with Periyava's blessings and guidance.

**New Jersey (U.S.A.):** KKSF NJ was happy to coordinate the Zoom meeting on September 13 (it was September 12 night in the USA) where HH Periyava magnanimously took His time to bless USA devotees from Southern California and Florida who performed Paduka Poojas recently. After blessing devotees, HH gave an Anugraha Bhashanam covering many topics.

HH spoke about Dharma Jijnasa and Brahma Jijnasa, and how our Sastras teach us the proper means to both engage with life in the world and also to disengage and stay aloof from life in the world. HH emphasized the importance of Deiva Bhakthi and Guru Bhakthi, and explained how the latter is cultivated by Guru Paduka Smaranam. HH highlighted the need to maintain our Bhasha, Bhavana and Bhojana, regardless of where we live.

**DC, Maryland, Virginia (U.S.A.):** The June 2021 Padhuka Pooja was held on June 12, 2021 with Smt. Uma and Sri Nandakumar as kartas. A special feature of this pooja was the Samarpanam of Namasankirtanam to our Acharayas. A special talk on Sri MahaPeriyava was given by Sri Natesa Janakiraman Mahoday . . The celebration of Guru Poornima and the 87<sup>th</sup> Jayanthi celebrations of of His Holiness Sri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal were conducted together in a grand manner at the home of Smt. Shalini and Sri Bhaskar. Several learned devotees chanted Sri Rudram, Chamakam, Pancha Sooktham, Taittreya Upanishad and



various other Veda Mantras during the elaborate abhishekam. Several children recited shlokas and sang songs during the pooja.





The August 2021 Padhuka Pooja was held on Sunday August 29, 2021. The karthas were Smt. Akila and Sri Shiva Natarajan. In addition to the Sri Rudrabhishekam to the Holy Padhukas, Ashtottara Pooja to Siva , Kumkuma archana to Sri Kamakshi and Vilva patra archana to the Padhukas of Sri MahaPeriyava and Sri Jayendra Periyava were performed.



The September 2021 Padhuka Pooja to our revered Sankaracharyas of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam was held on Saturday, September 4 2021. The karthas were Smt. Jayashree and Sri Ramani Balasubramaniam. The pooja commenced with Swasthi Vachanam and Guru Vandanams. This was followed by Sri Vigneswara Puja, Abhishekham to Holy Padukas of Maha



Swamigal and HH Sri Jayendra Saraswati with Sri Rudram and Sri Chamakam Parayanams. Sloka recitations, Ashtotra Archanas to Lord Siva, Sri Kamakshi, Sri MahaPeriyava and to Sri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal

and then Deeparadhana, Mantra Pushpam, Thotakashtakam. Several children participated in reciting shlokas and singing songs during the alankaram. Smt. Sowmya Radhakrishnan recited Sri Kamakshi Churnika at the conclusion.





**Missouri (U.S.A.):** Aavani Anusham Satsangam was celebrated along with Gokulashtami. We had a short 20 Dashakam Sriman Narayaneeyam Parayanam followed by Sivan/ Perumal and Periyava Ashtotram and Neivedyam. Kids chanted Govinda Namavali and Achyuthashtakam followed by Neivedyam and Deeparadhanai.



**Portland (U.S.A.):** With HH Periyavas blessings, after a long gap of 16 months, KKSF Portland Oregon devotees hosted an in-house Aadi maasa Anusham, Pudu Periyava Jayanthi with Uttarashadham on the Auspicious Aadi Friday, Guru Poornima evening.

The hosts family received Periyava's Padukas with Poornakumbham and were blessed to do Paduka Pooja today with HH Mahaperiyava's Ashtothram, HH Jayendra Periyava Ashtothram for His Jayanti. Kids also did Ashtothra pooja. This was followed by Thotakaashtakam, Sadhguru Dashakam, Shloka maala stotram composed on HH Mahaperiyava and HH Jayendra Periyava by HH Sankara Vijayendra Periyava. We also recited Mahaperiyava Panchakam, Durga Pancharatnam shlokas. Kids offered their samarpanam with their singing. On account of Guru Poornima, we also read Deivathin Kural chapter on " நம் தர்மத்தின் மூல புருஷர்" and concluded with Naivedyam and Harati. We also prayed for the universal welfare. We pray to have more in person events with Sri Periyava's blessings







**Aavani Anusham pooja 1-** With HH Periyavas blessings, we had in person Aavani Anusham pooja in Smt. Madhu Madhavan's home. We recited Swasti, Guru shlokas, HH Mahaperiyava's Ashtothram, HH Jayendra Periyava's Ashtothram, with Archanai done by kids and the hosts. Then we also recited Sadhguru Dashakam, Stotramalika composed by PujyaShri Periyava, Mahaperiyava Panchakam, MahaPeriyava Thotakaashtakam, Thotakaashtakam. There was also a special Kamakshi Aarati to Periyavas by our dear hosts. The hosts were blessed to receive Sri Matam prasadam on this auspicious Avittam, Rakshabandhan day

**Aavani Anusham pooja 2** - With HH Periyavas blessings, we had in person Aavani Anusham pooja in a devotees home. We recited Swasti, Guru shlokas, HH Mahaperiyava's Ashtothram, HH Jayendra Periyava's Ashtothram, with Archanai done by kids. Then we also recited Sadhguru Dashakam, Stotramalika composed by PujyaShri Periyava, Mahaperiyava Panchakam, MahaPeriyava Thotakaashtakam, Ganesha Pancharatnam, Thotakaashtakam. We also read about "தத்துவமயமான விநாயகர் -- Vinayakar and The Symbolism He represents" from Deivathin Kural. We concluded after chanting Rama nama, naivedyam and Harathi. We also distributed Acharya's prasadams to devotees



**Tampa, Florida (U.S.A.):** With the Blessings and Anugrahams of Guru Parampara KKSF Tampa Chapter celebrated Purattasi Anusham Pooja on September 11th @ Smt. Kala and Sri. Gangadharan Residence. Pooja Started at 4 PM with ritweeks and families. Guru Pooja started with Vishnu Sahasranama parayanam, Swasti, Ganapathy Dhyanam, Punyakavachanam, Rudrabhishekam for Shivan and Periyava, Pancha suktam Chanting, Ashtothram for Shivan, Adi Shankara, Periyava, Pudhu periyava and concluded with Naivedham and Maha arathi.





With the Blessings and Anugrahams of HH Periyava, KKSF Tampa chapter hosted Aavani maasa Anusham, Gayathri Homam on August 22nd @ Smt Gayathri and Hariharan's home. The Host family received Periyava's Padukas with poornakumbham and were blessed to do Paduka Pooja by Shri GuruduttJi, Chief Priest in Hindu Temple of Florida.

Devotees from KKSF-Orlando also participated in the Pooja. The pooja started with Dhooli Puja, Swasti, Navagraha Devata Avahana, Gayathri Kalasa Sthapana & Avahana, Rudrabhishekam for Periyava Padukas, Shivan and Periyava, With Namakam-Chamakam followed by Pancha suktam chanting.



Ashtothram for Shivan, Kamakshi, Adi Shankara, Periyava, Pudhu periyava was performed. Sahasra Gayatri Homam was performed with around 20 retweeks that included 4 Brahmacharis. Homam concluded with Poornahuti and mangala harathi. About 10+ families participated in this celebration. KKSF Tampa organised Paduka yatra to our core volunteers group and will be visiting the Miami region for the KKSF outreach program in Florida. Coincidentally, this is our 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of Gayathri homam By KKSF Tampa and it is the immense grace of the Guru parampara that our asteekas had

an opportunity to perform gayatri homam with the holy padukas.

**North Carolina, (U.S.A.):** Sri Varahi Navratri & Aashada Anuradha Nakshatram - Smt. Anuradha Chivukula's students started performing Saundarya Lahari Yantra puja, while the priest Shri Swami Rajendran started doing the abhishekam of Jaganmatha and the abhishekam to main Shri Chakra (Meru) in the garbha guDi (Sanctum Sanctorum of the temple), and two other priests were chanting Devi Suktas. Students recited Lalitha Sahasranama Stotram while performing archana to Sri Chakram (to Meru) near the Utsava Murtis of Shiva and Parvati. A Bharata Natyam student, performed Bharata Natyam to the tuneful music of Aigiri Nandini.

Yantra Pooja - With the Blessings & Adesam of Shri Bala Periyava, we performed Soundarya Lahari YANTRA Pooja along with Abhishekam to Sri Lalitha Parameswari & Meru followed by Kunkumarchana on the 18th of July 2021 at Clemons, NC USA.

Program was concluded with a rendition of Shivanandalahari and prasadam distribution on the occasion of Sri Vaarahi Navaratri & Aashada Anuradha. It went very well without any issues. Sri Swamiji had asked me in May to perform this Yanthra Pooja. We performed gurupourNami chanted gurusthotram





His holiness ordained Smt. Anuradha Chivukula for the purpose of Loka Kalyana had provided Marga Darshana to perform Yantra Puja to the 100 yantras while reciting the 100 slokas of Saundarya Lahari.

Sravana Pournami - On the auspicious occasion of Sravana pournami, Hayagriva Jayanthi and Sri Mooka sankarendra Saraswati aradhana utsavam. Devotees recited all the five satakam of Sri mookapanchasathi. This three- and half-hour program was on zoom and attended by about fifty devotees.

August 2021 - We celebrated Krishnajanmashtami on Aug 29<sup>th</sup> chanted Srimannarayaneeyam with 80 people.



**Pittsburgh, (U.S.A.):** With the divine will and blessings of HH Shri Periyavas, the Pittsburgh Anusham group satsangam, was started in 2014. Prior to that year, Shri Ravi Venkatraman had been conducting the puja in his residence from 2010 on publishing the Puja Vidhanam book.

This book has been blessed by Shri Periyavas by a Shrimukham and is widely used among devotees. Local devotees take turns welcoming Pujya Shri Periyava to their homes where the puja will be performed in this sequence.

Activities during the puja:

1. Swasthi Vachanam
2. Guru Dhyanam
3. Shri Mahaganapathi puja
4. Pujya Sri MahaPeriyava saguna dhyanam
5. Shodasopachara puja
  - 5.1 Abhishekam
  - 5.2 Chanting of Veda mantras (Shri Rudram, Chamakam, other Suktas)
  - 5.3 Vishnu Sahasranamam, Lakshmi Ashtotharam
  - 5.4 Pujya Shri MahaPeriyava ashtotharam
  - 5.5 Pujya Shri Jayendra Periyava ashtotharam
  - 5.6 Thotakashtakam
  - 5.7 Sangeeta seva

Children partake in the puja and recite prayers and sing krithis, followed by prasadam. Due to Covid – 19, the puja is still continuing in Sri Ravi Venkatraman's residence and devotees' participation virtually on zoom.



**Seattle, (U.S.A.):** KKSF Seattle performs perivava pujai monthly for Anusham and Avittam. Due to Covid devotees currently join via Zoom with children as well as adults offering stotra, sangita and veda parayanam samarpanam. KKSF Seattle is collecting funds for restoration of two ancient devakayams in Tiruchirapalli as per Shri Periva's agnya. For renovation details and donation info please visit [bit.ly/kksftempleproject](http://bit.ly/kksftempleproject)





The Seattle chapter of Sankara Healthcare Foundation continues to do annadaanam seva at local shelters with children, adult and teen volunteers every week. The volunteers are also involved with seva for environmental protection and animal welfare.



**Netherlands:** Avani avittam celebrated in a grand manner. Furthermore, Rudram recitation is being carried out for pradhosham





**Canada:** Sri Kamakshi Kamakoti Sankara Foundation of Canada (KKSF Canada) - With the abundant grace of Sri Kamakshi and the blessings of our revered Periyava, HH Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, a small group of ardent followers of Sri Matam came together as a Satsang in 2014 to conduct the annual Jayanti and Aradhana celebrations of Paramacharya. The 2015 Annual Jayanti was celebrated in grand style with a Laksharchana to Sri Kamakshi. More than 150 people participated. Deepa Poojas and Bhajans by adults and children were conducted. HH Sri Periyava gave darshan through video conference and gave His Anugraha Bashanam. These developments gave a huge motivation for forming a formal association.



With the blessings of Periyava, the holy padukas of Paramacharya were received and were brought to Canada after worship in Sri Kamakshi Sannidhi and at Paramacharya's Brindavanam at Sri Matam. The arrival of Padukas brought a new vigor and the Annual Jayanti that year was attended by more than 350 people with Laksharchanas, Homams and Bhajans. HH Bala Periyava blessed the devotees with Anugraha Bashanam through video conference.



KKSF Canada- Now in its Eighth Year -

KKSF Canada today has more than 200 participants. Even though most of the members are located in Toronto, our members come from other cities such as Fredericton, Calgary, Vancouver and Montreal which are scattered across Canada.

While local regulations require that our activities be conducted primarily in Canada, our members regularly follow and support various activities at Sri Matam. We also support the activities of Sampradaya Patasala through sponsorships of children and the activities of Sri Pratyaksha



Charitable Trust through annual and adhoc financial contributions.



We have a range of activities designed to provide a balance between our commitment to uphold the religious and cultural values cherished by Sri Matam and the conditions imposed by the Government to continue our recognition as a registered charity. These activities can generally be classified as Religious, Cultural, Educational, Social and cater to children and adults of all age groups.



## Religious activities

- Monthly Anusham poojas with abishekams to the padukas with Vedic chanting; singing of bhajans; reading and discussion on excerpts of Vedas and Upanishads.
- Somavara Rudrabhishekam and Veda Parayanam on all Mondays
- Monthly poojas to Sri Kamakshi with Sri Lalitha Sahasranamam, Trisathi and Mooka Panchasati parayanam
- Annual Vyasa Pooja celebrations
- Aradhanas to Paramacharya and HH Sri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal
- Jayanti celebrations of Paramacharya
- HH Sri Jayendra Saraswati and HH Sri Vijayendra Saraswati Swamigal



## Educational Activities

We conduct weekly classes on the following

- Vedic Chanting practice courses on all Saturday mornings with about 15 participants
- Mooka Panchasati, Shyamala Dandakam, Indrakshi Stotram, Lalitha Sahasranamam, Trisathi and Kamkshi Vilasam classes on Tuesdays and Fridays and Sundays with more than 100 men and women participating
- Narayaneeyam classes on Thursdays with about ten participants

Since all these classes are offered through ZOOM, there are participants from various parts of Canada and USA. People from other places who may be interested in joining these classes are welcome to join. Please inquire at [kamkoticanada@gmail.com](mailto:kamkoticanada@gmail.com).

## Periodic Seminars

With the blessings and guidance of Sri Periyava, MahaMahopadyaya Sri Mullaivasal Krishnamoorthy Sastrigal was gracious to conduct a seminar on “Sandhyavandanam and its significance” over five weekends. Even though this was originally intended for the benefit of KKSF Canada members, more than 100 participants from various countries such as USA, UK and the Middle East also were able to join and benefit from this seminar. We intend to facilitate similar seminars on other subjects from time to time.



## Cultural Activities

Classes are also conducted for training children and adults in bhajans. Members of Sri Kamakshi Bhajan Group conduct periodic gatherings and perform bhajans at various pooja celebrations of KKSF and in various temples as and when requested by such organizations.





## Activities for Children and Youth

With the intention of spreading awareness, appreciation and interest in our culture, Vedic scriptures and other religious texts among children and youth, we conduct two sets of classes every week.

### KKSF Youth Forum

This forum is meant for youth attending secondary schools or universities. About 15 members meet every Sunday. The classes are moderated by a senior member of KKSF. The participants read sections of Bhagavad Gita or other religious works, understand the meaning of the text and discuss how those teachings can be applied to their every day lives particularly in the context of the cosmopolitan environment they live in. The objective is to encourage networking among youth, help them enhance their understanding of these scriptures and promote leadership qualities.

### Sri Sankari Classes for Children

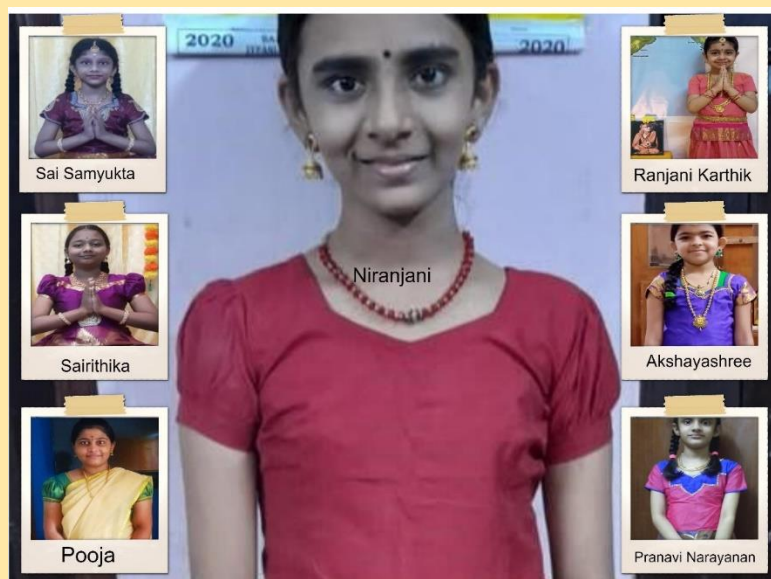
Classes are held every Sunday for children in the age groups of 5 to 12. Children learn slokas, read stories from Ramayana, Mahabharata, Panchatantra tales and learn bhajans. To help in motivated participation, by all children quiz competitions and coloring and painting exercises are conducted. The children are encouraged to sing bhajans on all important religious celebrations such as Ganesh Pooja and Krishna Jayanti. Around 30 children participate in these classes.



Website- <https://kksfcanada.org> || Email- [kamakoticanada@gmail.com](mailto:kamakoticanada@gmail.com) || Phone- 1-416-712-0225

**Shanghai, China:** Arul Tharum Mahaperiyava (ATM) Group. Creative Drawing Completion for Children July 2021

Mahaperiyava's first upanyasam after he became Peetathipathi of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt at his age of 13, on Samanthaka Mani maalai was presented in 8 episodes as Voice of Arultharum Mahaperiyava by Shri.Srinivasan, Shanghai (Founder Smt.Vijayalakshmi Srinivasan) in ATM Youtube channel. Children in our group were encouraged to listen to this story and based on this, we conducted Creative Drawing Competition (4-9 and 10-15 under two category). The format was to select a character or a scene from the story and draw a picture. The competition was held in the month of July 2021 with the participation of 32 Children

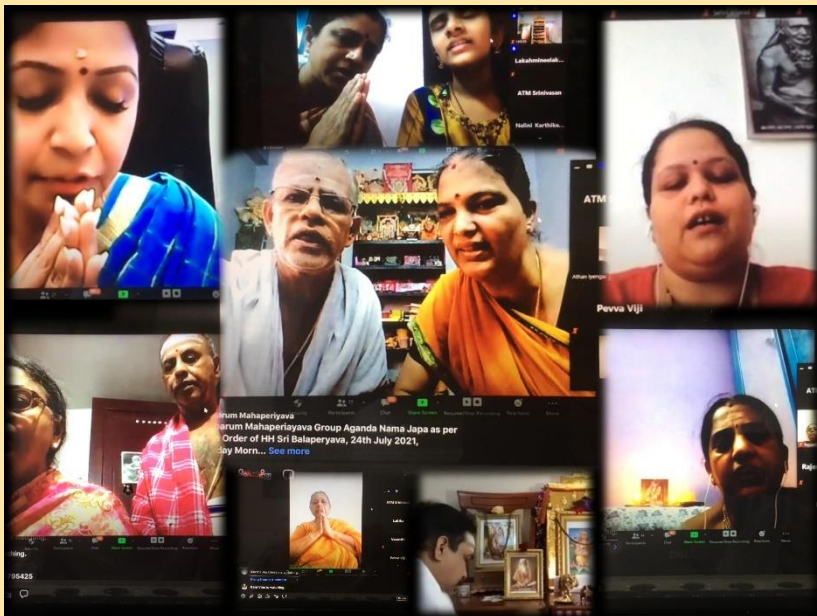


and prominent artist Umesh was the judge to select prize winning drawings. We also provided certificates to all the participants.

**Aganda Nama Japam 24<sup>th</sup> July 2021** - Arul Tharum Mahaperiyava conducted morning 5 am to evening 5 pm continuous 12 hours Chanting of Jaya Jaya Sankara Hara Hara Sankar virtually by zoom on the occasion of Gurupournima on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2021 with the participation of 120 devotees from 5 countries, which was broadcasted Live in Facebook.

**ATM Sahasra Gayathri Japam 12<sup>th</sup> Sep 2021** - Arultharum Mahaperiyava Devotees conducted Sahastra Gayathri japam on 12<sup>th</sup> Sep 2021 with the participation of 54 devotees across 5 countries through zoom call, telecasted by Youtube live in our Channel. Further our devotees pledged to do once in a month Sahasra Gayathri on third Sunday of every month.

**ATM Monthly Poojai** - Arultharum Mahaperiyava Group select a Devotee and arrange Sastrigal Manthram telecast by virtual zoom link and let the devotee family to perform and telecast monthly Adi Sankara Jayanthi, Annusha Jayanthi and Aadi Velli Poojai. We do live telecast of our devotee pooja in our Youtube channel.



**Hong Kong** - Vedha Class in Hong Kong - Vedha class was initiated by Sri Ramachandran mama during 1977 with two students – Sri Viswanathan and Sri Sundar rajan who were working in Hong Kong at that time. Since then Vedha classes have been continuing on Saturday evenings. The Vedha group is actively leading all our religious activities in Hong Kong. In the past few years seniors are learning thru Skype from Sri Ramamoorthy Vadhiyaar of Madurai. And the seniors are currently teaching Sri Rudhram, Chamakam and Sukthams for about 6 boys of age 10 – 15 in Hong kong.

Upakarma 2021: Yajur Upakarma on 22.08.2021 was done at The Hindu Temple, Happy Valley. There were about 50 persons participated in the Upakarma.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKQpNdcHqTo>

Sri Gayathri Homam on 23.08.2021 – Five Brahmachari boys done Sri Gayathri Homam on 23.08.2021 with the Samiths brought from India!





Pradhosham on 18.09.2021: We had vedha class on 18th Sep at Sri Raja Gopal's place and being Pradhosham we did a small abhishekam before the Vedha class. The boys chanted Sri Rudhram, Chamakam and Suktham



Surya Namaskaram (Arjuna Prasnam) on 19.09.2021: Vedha group has been doing Surya Namaskaram during Sundays of Aavani month. This year it was extended to Purattasi (today) also!! We did Surya Namaskaram at Chinmaya Ashram in Hong Kong. Swamini Supriyanandha also participated and did all the namaskaram. At the end, Sri Narayan chanted the Navagraha Suktham in Sama Vedham.

Minneapolis, U.S.A – Anusham celebrations





**California, U.S.A** – With the divine blessings of HH Pujya Shri Vijayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal, Maha Periyava Paduka and Puthu Periyava Paduka came to the Greater Los Angeles area on the night of July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The bhaktha Kotis of the Los Angeles area were doubly blessed as the weekend coincided with the 87<sup>th</sup> Jayanthi celebrations of HH Pujya Shri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal. The house where the padukas stayed for the night, the host performed Sankalpam, Ganapathy Pooja, Abhishekam, Rudram/Chamakam, Veda Mantrams followed by Archanai for Shiva, Kamakshi, Adi Sankarar, Maha Periyava and Puthu Periyava during the following morning. The traditional rituals were followed by Carnatic songs and violin recitals by children of Bhaktha kotis. Contributions from the devotees were donated to Integrated Patasala.



**Singapore** - Public Events - Maha Periyavaa's Paduka Dharshan and Pooja Mahanyasa Poorvaka Ekadasa Rudra Paarayanam at Holy Tree Sri Balasubramaniam Temple on 18th July 2021







First Anusha Rudrabhishekam at our home on 20th July 2021



Maha Periyavaa Paaduka in Sri Viswanathar Sannidhi after Abhishekam Alankaram for Maha Deeparadhanai and Archnai



Public event: Mahanya Purvaka Ekadasa Rudram @ Holy Tree Sri Balasubramaniam Temple





Chandi homam in the presence of  
Maha Periyavaa in Paaduka roopam



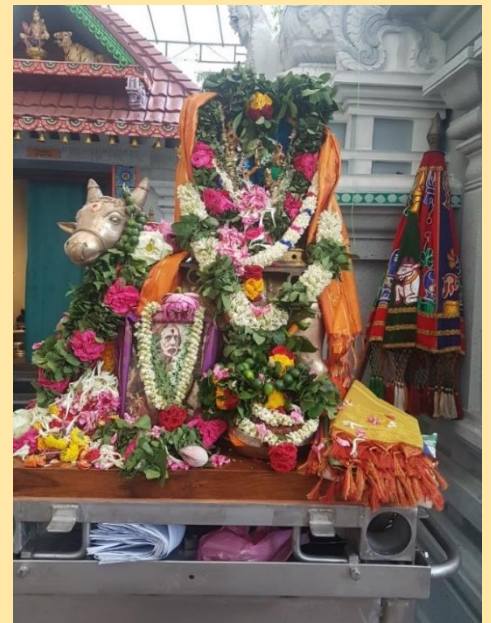
Anusha Pooja on 16th August @ Sri Gururajan's home



18/08/21 Sani Maha Pradhosham Ekadasa Rudra Paarayanam in  
presence of Maha Periyavaa in Paduka roopam @ Holy Tree Sri  
Balasubramaniam Temple



Paduka Pooja at a devotees's  
place - Smt & Sri  
Muthukumaran on 19th Sept  
2021





**Tilak Datta R Iyer, Pittsburgh, U.S.A** - The topic I have chosen to write is on Lord Shri Rama and His



relationship to Sanatana Dharma. If we understand Shri Rama's qualities, then it is easy to understand and follow Sanatana Dharma. When Shri Rama was a kid, His mindset was to listen to His father, even when He was banished from the kingdom. He was still very young to go live in the forest. King Dasharatha was forced to fulfill Kaikeyi's wish that he had promised. Her wish was to banish Shri Rama and make her son Bharata the king. Normally a kid, who had just been sent into the forest by his father would be heart broken, angry and revengeful. However, Shri Rama followed His father's orders happily and perfectly. Even as He aged, the lessons He taught us increased. Shri Rama even advised Bharata to remain as the king, when Bharata came begging to Him to return to the kingdom. After the war against Ravana, Shri Rama returned to the kingdom with His wife Sita. However, Rama gave up His own wife so He would follow His dharma as a king, just because a commoner questioned Sita's purity. Dharma of a king is to keep his people happy. When Shri Rama sent Sita out of the kingdom, He vowed to her to not have another wife. He kept this vow and remained *Eka Patni Vrata*. Shri Rama showed His dharma in that incident by being loyal to his spouse. Shri Rama was a loyal friend when He agreed to help Sugreeva fight against his brother

Vali. He was compassionate to all human beings and even animals. He had no reservation in eating the fruit offered by a frail old woman Shabari. He gently stoked a squirrel while crossing the ocean. This shows Shri Rama's love for all animals and human beings alike.

This is how Lord Shri Rama is a living embodiment of Sanatana Dharma!

**Rishi Keshav, Cary, North Carolina, U.S.A** - Sandhyavandhanam is the root of the wellbeing of all lokas. It is a way of generating happiness within. We learn to perform well generating inner well-being. This is the



complete set of activities that integrate mind and body. It combines physical yoga, verbal chanting, and mental meditation and control to help everyone get more refined. The initiate student is expected to perform it thrice a day, lifelong for his and worldly benefits. This is done during Sandhi kaalam, the times of transition between light intensity and night- dawn, noon, and dusk. Dawn and dusk are a critical time when inhaled vital energy, prana enters through both the left and nostrils simultaneously merge into sushma. This joining of svara, inhaled prana facilitates the individual with the divine. The core exercise is a meditation on mantras. Maananaat Trayatay Iti Mantraha- a mantra that protects the chanter causing subtle changes whether aloud or silently, produces vibrations. The Savithree-Gayathree mantras are set and have 23 syllables. Sandhyavandanam is a prayer to Sun. Through Sandhya practice, we learn several levels of training called Karma Yoga, Upasana Yoga, and Jnana yoga. This yoga gives physical strength and cleansing, Mental focus, Awareness, and Responsibility. Finally, with Samarpanam to higher forces, we relinquish our fears, concerns, anxieties, and worries. Let us practice the great ritual that gives lots of benefits to individuals and the world

**Shruthi Shravana, Cary, North Carolina, U.S.A** - Andal is the wife of Lord Vishnu and the daughter of Periyazhwar. She is also known as Godhadevi, Kodhai, and Nachiyar. Andal is the only female among the 12 azhwars who has written Nathchiyar Thirumozhi, and Thirupaavai, and other praises and pasurams on Lord Vishnu which are widely sung by devotees on the auspicious month of Margazhi. Andal also wears a special type of hairstyle, which is called Andal Kondai in the modern days. Andal also has a parrot which is kept to her left shoulder. When andal was young, her father used to string thulasi garlands for Lord Vishnu. She used to wear the thulasi garland and picture herself before devoting it to God. When Periyazhawar found out, he had felt very guilty that his daughter did that and was highly disappointed. Lord Vishnu appeared in his dream and said he would only wear the garland worn and devoted by Andal. Hence Andal is referred to as குடிகொடுத்த சுடர்க்கொடி by everyone. She grew so deep into affection and devotion that she decided only to marry Vishnu himself. It is believed that Lord Renganathan married her later onwards who merged with her idol too. Kodhai till date is known for her care and devotion towards Lord Vishnu and her tamizh



**Sydney, Australia** - Aditi Sriram and Anish Sriram - Namadwaar Sydney Janmashtami 2021







**Hara Hara Sankara Jaya Jaya Sankara**



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

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