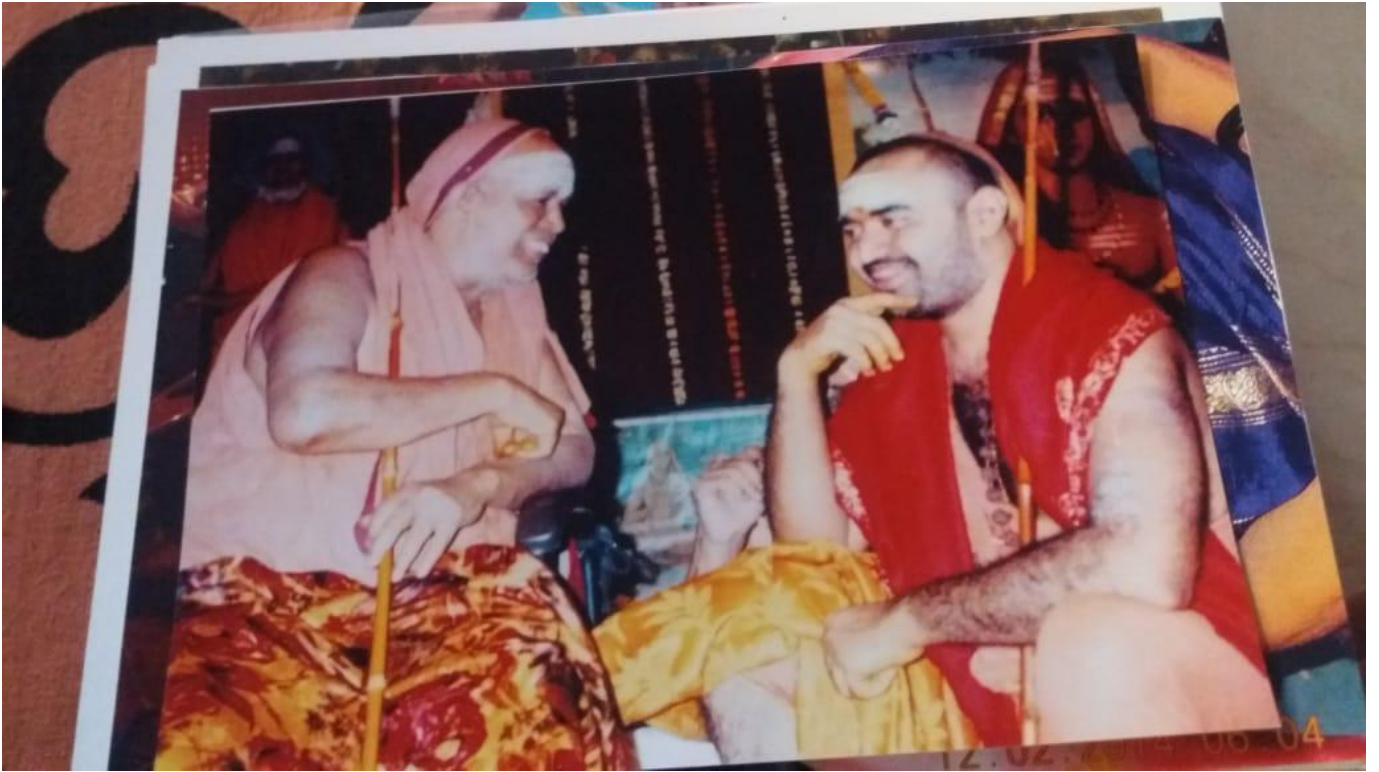


**SRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETHAM**  
**FIFTY RECENT OUTSTANDING INITIATIVES**



**Released on the occasion of**  
**51<sup>st</sup> Jayanthi of Jagadguru Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal**  
**30 March 2019**

ॐ श्रीगुरुभ्यो नमः

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30 March 2019**

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## **Preface**

The religious, educational, cultural and social activities of the venerated Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham are so innumerable and multipronged that they defy coverage in a single slim volume. Is it possible for a lame person to climb the Himalayas? All the activities of the Peetham are hinged on the Acharyas' deep concern for the deteriorating application and practice of values of Sanatana Dharma in today's world. That is the reason why the Acharyas evince such keen interest in delving into the day to day workings of the present day men, women, children, institutions and society, studying the problems, and evolving platforms to find solutions. Their vision covers not just any particular section of humanity, but extends beyond all boundaries of religion, region, persuasion, walks of life and country.

In order to provide an insight to the reader, an attempt is made here to choose and present, on the occasion of the fiftyfirst Jayanthi of Jagadguru Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Sankaracharya Swamigal, fifty outstanding initiatives of the Peetham of recent years to serve purely as a guide and an illustration.

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# **SRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETHAM**

## **FIFTY RECENT OUTSTANDING INITIATIVES**

### **ACHARYAS**

#### **1. Parama Puja Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Sankaracharya Swamigal attains Siddhi – 28th Feb. 2018**

The 69th Sankaracharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham Jagadguru Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal attained Siddhi on - Shukla Trayodashi – 28 February 2018 at Sri Sankara Matham, Kanchipuram. A large number of people from different walks of life from leaders to common-man offered their prayers to Swamigal. Devotees stood in long queues outside Srimatham and awaited their turn for Darshan all through the day and night till early the next morning. Volunteers offered anna prasadam and water to the devotees round-the-clock. Sadhus and saints from across the country offered their tributes.

On 1 March 2018, the Brindavana Pravesa Karyakramam commenced and Jagadguru Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, the 70<sup>th</sup> Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham performed Dravyabhishekam even as a large congregation of Vedic Scholars chanted Veda Mantras. Prasadam from various temples in Kanchipuram and other parts of Tamilnadu, and from Sri Venkateswaraswamy Temple, Tirumala-Tirupati was offered. Thereafter, Brindavana Pravesam of Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal was performed. The Hon'ble Governor of Tamilnadu, Sri Banwarilal Purohit, who had received the blessings of Swamigal only two days ago (27 Feb. 2018), was present during the ceremony.

Thereafter Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal proceeded to Sri Ekamranatha Swamy Temple Tank accompanied by devotees and performed Avabhruta Snanam. Nitya Chandramouleeswara Puja was performed later. Tributes poured in from saints and devotees, political leaders and social organizations, from India and abroad. On 3 March 2018, Sadhus from various countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka visited Srimatham, Kanchipuram and performed Pushpanjali at the Brindavanam of

Jagadguru Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal . Aradhana of Sri Swamigal was conducted on 13 March 2018, which included Tirthanarayana Puja and bhajans. In the solemn Sraddhanjali programme in the evening, Sri Murali Manohar Joshi and Smt Vasundhara Raje Scindia participated.



Monthly Aradhanas are being performed since then with great devotion and large public participation.

Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal offered holy sand (Mruttika) into the Samadhi of Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, collected from various Kshetras & Tirthas from all over India, Nepal, Kailash Manasarovar etc, on June 17 afternoon & 18 evening, 2018 amidst chanting of Vedic Mantras & various slokas from Adi Sankaracharya's Stotras. It may be recalled that Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal had travelled vastly in the country including places like Char Dham, Sapta Mokshapuris, Sapta Nadis, Dwdasha Jyotirlingas & many other Kshetras in his life time more than once by undertaking Pada Yatras, and Yatras otherwise.

Tulasi Sthapana Puja was performed at the Brindavanam of Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal on Sunday the 1 July 2018 by Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi

Swamigal. On 29 & 30 June and 1 July 2018, Ekadasa Rudra Japa Homam and Chandi Parayanam & Homam were performed followed by Abhishekam after Poornahuthi. Mrithikai (Soil) brought from all Kshetras/ places visited by Swamigal from Manasarovar to Kanyakumari was added to the Brindavan amidst Vedic chantings. Similarly Tirthams brought from all sacred rivers were poured in the Brindavan during Abhishekam.



### **Bhagavatha Saptahams in Various Languages**

Srimad Bhagavatha Saptaham has been specially encouraged by the Acharyas over the years as an effective tool to inspire bhakti as well as awareness of Advaita Vedanta among the general public. In the current year of Siddhi of Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, Srimatham has organised a number of Srimad Bhagavatha Saptahams by outstanding scholars in different languages including Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi and Hindi.



## **2. Sri Kanchi Mahaswamigal's Janmasthan at Villupuram**

The Sankara Matham at Villupuram is the Janmasthan of Kanchi Mahaswamigal, Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi, the 68<sup>th</sup> Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham. It was a house acquired by Srimatham; the Avatara sthalam has been commemorated with Paduka Pratishtha. Daily pujas are performed to the shrine. A mandapa with the Vighraha of Kanchi Mahaswamigal, photos & a palanquin are the main features. A Veda Pathashala is run in the premises since many years. Veda Adhyapaka quarters is located in the Sankara Math premises. The Shatabdi Stupi in the entrance was built during the Peetharohana Swarna Jayanthi Mahotsavam of Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and inaugurated by Kanchi Acharyas in the year 2004.



## **3. Adhishthanams of Previous Acharyas**

Constant efforts are being made for locating long-lost Adhishthanams of earlier Acharyas of the exalted Guru Parampara of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham. Once they are located and identified, steps are taken to construct a suitable Brindavanam at the location and arrange regular Poojas and Aradhanas so that people can offer

worship. Such efforts have borne fruit in recent years in many States across the country including Gujarat, Bihar etc.

As per the directions of the Acharyas, Yati Mahalayam, in which 108 Dandi Sanyasis are honoured in memory of the past Sankaracharyas of the Kanchi Peetham, is being held in one of the Mokshapuris every year on Dvadashi day in Mahalaya Paksham. (Ayodhya, Mathura, Haridwar, Kashi, Kanchi, Ujjain and Dwaraka are the seven Mokshapuris).

## **VEDAS**

Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham has been keen on continuing and expanding the work of preservation of Vedas including discovery of rare Sakhas (branches) started by Pujyasri Mahaswamigal. Veda Parayana is conducted in the Matham premises every day in the evening. There are several trusts that operate under the direction of the Kamakoti Peetham, which focus on spreading Vedic education, supporting and rewarding scholars and encouraging scholastic research work in relation to Hindu religion and philosophy.

### **4. Veda Rakshana Nidhi Trust**

Veda Rakshana Nidhi trust ([www.vrnt.org](http://www.vrnt.org)), the foremost of institutions of propagation of Vedic studies, has been rendering yeoman service in this field. Great importance is given to pronunciation, punctuation and enunciation during chanting of Vedas.

Programmes run by the Trust include:

Running/ aiding Veda Pathasalas.

Aid to students and teachers under Niyamadhyayana scheme (here the father teaches his son, both living together).

Encouraging Vedic Pundits to start Veda Pathasalas for rare Veda Sakhas (branches).

Conducting Veda Parayanas and Seminars on Vedic studies.

Conducting Varshika (annual) and Poorthi (completion) examinations and giving incentives to teachers including special awards, and graded awards to students. Twice a year, on Sankara Jayanthi day and Vijayadasami day, certificates of merit and awards are personally handed to Vidyarthi and Adhyapakas by Sri Acharya Swamigal.

Encouraging students by giving stipend for higher studies in Vedas and Vedangas.

The Trust actively seeks and collects donations from the public towards running the programmes.

Students and teachers are drawn not only from Tamil Nadu but also from other States including Kerala, A.P., Karnataka, Maharashtra etc.

## **5. Rigveda Ratha Parayana Poorthi**

Rigveda Ratha Parayana Poorthi was held at Srimatham during the Swarna Ratha Utsavam on 19 April 2017 in the presence of Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and Pujya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal.

A batch of 20 Rig Veda Vidwans led by Sri Trikoti Ghanapathigal & Sri Venu Ghanapathigal commenced the Rig Veda Ratha Parayana with the divine blessings of Swamigal at Chidambaram Nataraja Temple and completed the Ratha Parayana during the Ratha Utsava at Srimatham. While Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal led the Ratham, the Vidwans followed with chanting of Ratham accompanied by Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal. At each corner around the Adhithanam, the Vidwans chanted Chatuscakra Ratha Vikruti Patha. "||Jata Mala Shikha Rekha Dhvajo Dando Ratho GhanaH:||" In Rigveda there are eight Vikruti Pathas. Each one is a unique way of chanting the Rigvedic Mantra.



## 6. Chanting of Rig Mantras and Sama Veda Riks

A unique event of Chanting of Rig Mantras that are equivalent to the Sama Veda Riks was held at Srimatham from 26 to 30 October 2017 with the participation of Senior Vedic scholars. After the chanting of the mantra, the same was also rendered as Sama Ganam. Participation of Carnatic musicians also in the event added to the mesmerism, depth and influence of the Vedas.



ஸ்ரீ கங்கா தரிசு சாத்திரி சமீக ஸ்ரீசுந்தர்மொஹிவராய பட்டயர்

**ஸ்ரீ சங்கர பகவத்பாதாசார்ய பரம்பராகத  
மூலாமர்ணய ஸர்வகுபீடம்**  
ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோஷ பீடம், காஞ்சிராமம்

**ரிக்வேதத்தை ஆடிப்படையாகக் கொண்டு  
ஸாமகானமும் ஸம்பந்தாய ஸங்கீத ஸம்பந்தமும்**

ஸ்வஸ்திஸ்ரீ வேறுமலம்ப வகுடம் ஐப்பசி மாதம் 9-ஆம் தேதி விபாஷக்கிழமை (26-10-2017) ஸ்கந்த சங்கு சப்தம் திதி அன்று முதல், 30-10-2017 திபக்சிழமை தசமி திதி முடிய ஐந்து நாட்களுக்கு (பஞ்சாறமம்) ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோஷ பீடாதிபதிகள் அவர்களின் அனுமோதனத்தோடும், ஆக்கலையின் படியும்

ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோஷ பீடம், காஞ்சிராமம், ஸ்ரீமத்தின்  
**“ரிங்மாதா ஸாமயிதா”** என்கின்ற ஆன்றோர் வாக்கின்படியும்  
 ஸ்வயதூர் சாம, தமாத் ஸ்வயதூர் சாம ரீயந் (ஸ.உ.ப.2.1.6.1) என்கின்ற  
 சாந்தோக்யோபநிஷத்தின்படியும்,  
**“ஸாமவேதத்தின்”** ரிக்ஸீர்த ஓப்பான ரிக்வேத யந்த்ரத்தை  
 உச்சரித்து பிறகு அதற்கான ஸாமகானம் செய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது.

அதே சமயம் ஸம்பந்தாய கன்னடக ஸங்கீத வித்வான்களும் இதில் கலந்து கொள்வார்கள். இந்த வைபவத்தில் கலந்து கொள்ளும் 60-வயதிற்கு மேற்பட்ட வேதவித்வான்கள் கௌரவிக்கப்படுவார்கள். அனைவரும் பரவணம் செய்து இறைஅருளையும், ஸ்ரீ ஆச்சார்யர் அனுமோதனத்தையும் பெற பார்த்திக்கின்றோம்.

இப்படிக்கு  
ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோஷ பீடம், காஞ்சிராமம்.

**பாராயண நேரம்:**  
 காலை 7.30 மணி முதல் 11.00 மணி வரை  
 மாலை 3.30 மணி முதல் 5.30 மணி வரை  
**கலந்துரையாடல்:**  
 காலை 6.30 மணி முதல் இரவு 8.00 மணி வரை

விபரங்களுக்கு தொடர்பு கொள்ள:  
**மாமர்ணய திருக்கோட்டை வெங்கடாசல கணபதிகள், 90423 82237**  
**மாமர்ணய திருப்பதி கனேச சர்வனர்கள், 94414 95552**

## 7. Samaveda Sabha

Samaveda Sabhas have been held by Srimatham in different centres across the country including Bengaluru and Mumbai. The Sabha was held from 23 to 28 September 2015 at Kanchipuram as a part of Satabhisheka Mahotsava celebrations of Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal. The six day long event was attended by more than 80 Samavedic scholars and many Samavedic students. All available Shakhas of Samaveda - Kauthuma, Jaimineeya & Ranayaneeya were chanted by scholars from various states including Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra & Bengal. Every morning special Samaveda Gruhya Homas were held and in the evening, senior Samavedic scholars gave special lectures to the attendees. During the event, the scholars had the opportunity of listening to Swamigal's Anugraha Bhashanam. Just before proceeding on Viswaroopa Yatra the Sambhavana was blessed to the scholars by Swamigal.

## **8. Atharva Veda Sammelan**

Two-day Atharva Veda Sammelan was held in Gujarat on 10 & 11 June 2015. Pujyasri Sankaracharya Swamigals of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham, furthering the initiatives of the 68th Acharya Pujyasri Mahaswamigal to protect the Atharva Veda from extinction, organised an Atharva Veda Sammelan along with the Somnath Sanskrit University in Gujarat at the Brahmarshi Sanskar Dham in Nadiad. Sri Dayabhai Shastri, patron, founder and scholar of the Brahmarshi Sanskar Dham and Pippalad Shakha Atharva Vedi, who turned 90 recently, were honoured. Day 1 began with the chanting of the Atharva Veda. Five Pippalad Shakha pundits from Puri sat on the left and facing them were five Shounakha Shakha pundits from Dakshin Bharat and 3 from Dwaraka. It was a tremendous historic and personally emotional occasion for the people there as the sound of both Shakhas of the Atharva Veda had not been heard in Gujarat in recent memory. With 108 Shri's offered respectfully to the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham's Sankaracharyas, the respect and reverence shown to Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham and the thrill with which locals recalled the Pada yatra of Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal were heartwarming. Naveen Pancholi Shastri was one of the original children from Mathpur village brought to study Atharva Veda by Sri Annadurai Iyengar. The Dakshina Bharata and Gujarati Shounaka Shakha pundits sat together. In the afternoon, an Upanyasam by

Mullaivasal Sri R. Krishnamurthy Sastrigal covered a presentation on the Mahima of Atharva Veda and the unique mantras it has for wellness, unity and harmony. He also talked in general about the unquestionable antiquity of the Veda. On the second day, he illuminated the participants with the origins of the Pippalad shakha with details of Pippala Rishi. Dr. Mani Dravid Sastri then delivered Upanyasam on the Upanishads in the Atharva Veda. Talking about several rare Upanishads associated with this Veda, he revealed that one text mentioned 50 shakhas and another, 9 shakhas of the Atharva Veda. Today only 2 are extant, one with swara and one whose swara is lost but is sung in a paramparic tune. Sri Kutumbha Shastri, Kulapati of the Somnath Sanskrit University, stressed the importance of Vedas, especially the Atharva Veda in Gujarat and the tremendous efforts of Sri Dayabhai Shastri to keep Vedic studies alive in Gujarat. He proposed the starting of a free hostel for youth where the Atharva Veda would be taught before and after school hours.



## **9. Sri Maha Rudra Parayan and Havan held at Amarkantak**

Sri Maharudhra Parayana and Hawan were performed from 3 to 6 December 2014 at Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh, a very sacred place, where River Narmada originates (Narmada Udgam Sthan). Amarkantak is located in the Mekala Parvath region in Madhya Pradesh.

Around 35 members of Chennai Rathnagirishwar Veda Goshti participated in this programme of 4 days. It was held at Sri Narmada Har Sewa Nyas in a village called Bharathi around 3 kms from Main Narmada temple (towards West).



Parayanam in first three days, followed by Havan on fourth day was performed. On the second day at Udgam sathan, Sri Lalitha Sahasranama Parayan, Abhisheka for Amarkanteshwar Mahadev, Narmadashtakam and Narmada Arthi were performed.



On fourth day after Poornahuthi, Kalasabhishekam for Sri Amarkanteshwar Mahadev was performed. On return from Amarkantak on 6th evening, at Bhilaspur Sumuk Vinayaka Temple, Rudra Parayan and Sukthas Parayan were performed.

## **10. Kal Vaitta Vaaram**

Kal Vaitta Vaaram is a unique system wherein the scholar is examined by a group of judges. The system is such wherein the judges are also not aware of the question they are going to ask as it is based on a random selection method. For example there are three major divisions in the Yajur Veda- the Kanda, the Prashna and the Anuvaka divisions. Small children are asked to choose any number between 7 for the Kanda aspect as there are seven Kandas, after the selection they are asked to choose numbers ranging between 1-10 for the prashnas (as in each Kanda) and similarly for Anuvakas also. So the question would be 3-6-5 etc. The aspirant has to then recall the selected portion of the Veda and chant 250 Padas (words) from the portion. If he stops at 249 or over shoots beyond 250, he is deemed to have failed. Also his rendering has to be clear and perfect in Swara intonation. His speed and duration of chant should not exceed the specified time. One who satisfies all these criteria is declared the winner. During the test, the examiners would never show any hint - of completion, non- completion or doubt etc. The aspirant has to manage all by himself. Once he declares his chant to be completed the result is announced. There is

no age restriction for participation. In fact the senior scholars also try their hand in the competition. Kal Vaitta Varam has been held under the auspices of Srimatham at several centres over the years.

As a part of the Yajur Veda Sammelan held at Srimatham Camp in Mylapore Sanskrit College, 'Kal Vaitta Vaaram' was conducted on 24 May 2015. Twenty aspirants, mostly young Kramapathis and Ghanapathis took part. Of the 20, 7 won and the rest gave their best try.

The winners were felicitated as part of the Sanskrit College Alumni meet. They were given Sanmanam and other participants were given consolation Sanman appreciating their attempt. Pujya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal in his address appreciated the way the Kal Vaitta Vaaram was conducted. Specially referring to the judges, Swamigal referred to the Pancha Naleeyam incident from Nala Charitram much to the joy of the assembly. Damayanti was able to differentiate the original Nala from the other Nalas (Gods took the form of Nala) by finding the human traits of winking of eyes and feet touching the ground. But here in the Kal Vaitta Varam test, Swamigal said that all the judges were so composed that they did not reveal even a single emotion. Such events help in improving skills and encouraging young Vidwans. Also they get a chance to watch senior scholars' conduct and take their guidance.

## **SASTRAS**

### **Veda Dharma Sastra Paripalana Sabha**

Vedas were revealed as the roots of Dharma through the ancient sages for the welfare of mankind. The Vedic tradition encompassing all the aspects of human life has eternal validity. The Vedas have prescribed how an individual can regulate life in an orderly manner to make it purposeful, peaceful and blissful. The Vedas urge every individual to perform actions (Karma) for one's spiritual well-being and also for the welfare of the society at large. Thus Dharma according to Vedas is that which fosters both individual and social welfare. To promote Vedic culture, Sri Maha Swamigal had established Veda Dharma Sasthra Paripalana Sabha in the year 1942



to conduct Veda sammelanams at every place. Upanyasam was performed by B/Sri Sengalipuram Anantharama Deekshitar at Kumbakonam at the first Veda Sammelanam. Veda Dharma Sastra Paripalana Sabha is very active in conducting discourses and also examinations.

Objectives of this Sabha:

1. Primarily encouraging and developing Niyama Adhyayana (Study as per rules) of Vedas while staying in Gurukulam.
2. Developing knowledge of Vedas and Dharma Sastras.
3. Teaching in traditional manner and spreading of Vedas and Dharma Sastras.
4. Collecting funds from brahmanas for looking after brahmana upadhyayas (traditional teachers) and brahmana students of Vedas, Veda Bhashyas (commentaries on Vedas), Grihyasutras and Dharma Sastras; giving honoraria to students who pass the examinations and Guru dakshina to upadhyayas.

## **11. Veda Sammelanams**

A typical Veda Sammelanam consists of: Sri Vedavyasa puja, Chaturveda Parayanam, Avahanti Homam and Upanyasams. The programmes run over a three or four day period. The latest Veda Sammelanam was held at Chromepet, Chennai from 10 to 12 January 2019. Many such Sammelanams have been held at different places all over India.

## **12. Vishesha Upanyasams**

Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and Pujya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal instructed in 2014 to conduct VISESHA (special) UPANYASAMS at every place other than the places where Veda Sammelanams are being conducted – in apartments in cities, rural belts etc. - in order to attract people to swadharma, with emphasis on performance of Nithya, Naimithika Karmas. The topics of these Upanyasams include Samskaras, festivals, daily observances, cultural matters etc. Many such Vishesha Upanyasams have been held at different places. The 200<sup>th</sup> Vishesha Upanyasam was delivered at Perambur, Chennai on 6 January 2019 by

Brahmasri Dr. KV. Seshadrinatha Sastrigal, Former Principal, Chennai Sanskrit College on "Veda Adhyayanathin Muraikalum, Avasiyamum". The Upanyasams, which are nowadays held every week, are streamed live on Facebook and are available on Youtube.

### **13. Dharma Sastra Sadas**

In addition to Vissha Upanyasams, Srimatham has recently initiated the conduct of Dharma Sastra Sadas once every month. Some sessions have already been held. In the Sadas, masters of Dharma Sastras take up doubts of common people for discussion and provide authentic answers citing various authorities on Dharma Sastra. The Sadas includes a question-answer session. Proceedings are telecast live in Facebook.

(Telegram Channel Link - <https://t.me/joinchat/AAAAAFB47IDEsWC3u8iwgQ>)

YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvItbtgg154FxSLyo7-XjxQ>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/vedadharmasastraparipalana>)

### **14. Smriti Sandesas**

Veda Dharma Sastra Paripalana Sabha has introduced at the instance of the Acharyas a daily telecast of Smriti Sandesas (messages) about a year ago. The Sandesas essentially cover, like the Vissha Upanyasams, festivals and religious observances appropriate to that date. Timely and easy-to-follow tips on observance of Dharma Sastra stipulations are the main feature of these Sandesas. They also serve to clear doubts which often arise in the minds of Astikas. The Sandesas are of a very short duration, generally about five minutes. They have benefited a large number of Astikas.

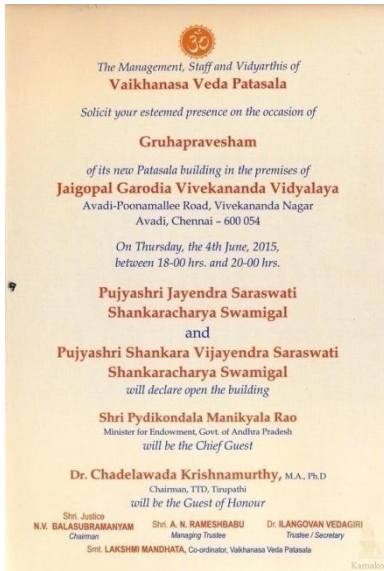
### **15. Smritimuktaphalam**

Under the personal instructions of the Acharyas, Veda Dharma Sastra Paripalana Sabha completed from 2011 onwards the stupendous task of publishing 'Smritimuktaphalam' (known generally as Vaidyanatha Dikshtiyam), a Nibandhana text, detailing the Dharma Sastra provisions in original Samskrit verses with Tamil translation and running into six Kandas and seven volumes. The Sraadha Kandam of this celebrated text in Tamil translation, together with a short summary in English was released during Pujoyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal's visit to Mumbai in November 2015. These texts have earned the appreciation and gratitude of a large number of Astikas across the world.

## **16. Vaikhanasa Patashala**

With the blessings of Kanchi Acharyas a Vaikhanasa Pathashala is being run by the Adi Sankara Institute of Culture since seven years. Students belonging to traditional Vaikhanasa families are undergoing studies at the Pathashala along with CBSE-based contemporary education. The Vidyarthi are trained from the basics like performing Archana, to conducting Kumbhabhishekam as per Vaikhanasa tradition during their stay in the Pathashala along with the required portions in Vedas and Samskrit language. Pujoya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and Pujoya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal opened the new Vaikhanasa Pathashala building at Avadi, Chennai on 4 June 2015. The new building was built to cater to the increased intake of students and to provide facilities to Adhyapak (teachers) and support staff. In the morning, Griha Pravesham was performed with rituals as per Vaikhanasa tradition. In the evening the after Sri Swamigal declared the building open, the inaugural function was held in the Temple of Learning Auditorium in the school premises. The Minister of Endowments of Andhra Sri Manikyala Rao recollected his visit to Kanchi a year back where he talked about the dual education model but came to know that Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham has already blessed such initiatives. He said that such schemes will help in protection and preservation of culture and also will benefit the Archaka community for a decent livelihood along with performing temple duties. The Chairman of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams said that with the blessings of Lord Venkateswara and Kanchi Peethadhipathis he will definitely find avenues to help in encouraging the Pathashala by way of providing recognition

through Vedic University etc. Pujiyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal in his Anugraha Bhashanam talked about the greatness and importance of Vaikhanasa Agama. Swamigal said that in Tirumala Venkateswara Swamy Temple pujas are performed according to Vaikhanasa tradition and the connection with the temple and Kanchi Peetham is very ancient starting from Adi Sankara; Adi Sankara had established Janakarshana and Dhanakarshana Yantras at Tirumala. Swamigal expressed happiness about the progress of the Pathashala and urged everyone to take efforts in cultural preservation by supporting such initiatives.



## 17. Advaita Sabha

The Advaita Sabha, which was established during the year 1895 by Sri Maha Swamigal, with the aim of learning, teaching and propagating Advaita philosophy, conducts Vakyartha Sadas (on Brahma Sutras) and lectures on the philosophy of Advaita (Non dualism) twice a year. The Vakyartha (Vidvat) Sadas proceedings are conducted in Samskrit in a traditional manner by scholars. Discourses, meant for the common man, typically cover Prakarana Granthas of Adi Sankara, and other Vedantic texts of various Acharyas. The Sabha has also set up an examination syllabus based on Sankara Bhashyas and other authoritative texts. This would qualify the examinee as Advaitic scholar. Examinations are also conducted and

awards and scholarships given. Scholars are honoured. Rare books in Samskrit are also published.

Many Vidvat Sadas proceedings are held in different parts of the country on a regular basis. It has also been a regular practice to conduct Veda Sastra Vidvat Sadas, Agnihotra Sadas, Panchanga Sadas etc. during Chaturmasyam period every year and honour Vidvans. All these activities have received great impetus over the years.

## **SAMSKRIT**

**Many are the initiatives taken by Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham for propagation of Samskrit language.**

### **18. Sanskrit College Alumni Function at Srimatham Camp at Mylapore, Chennai**

The Management, Staff & students of The Madras Sanskrit College conducted the 10th year celebrations of the AATMAS, Alumni Association of The Madras Sanskrit College on 24.5.2015 in the presence of Pujya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal. The senior most Alumni Brahmasri. Ramakrishna Dikshitar, Siva Sri Sambandha Shivacharyar, Brahmasri R. Krishnamurthy Sastrigal, Dr. U.Ve. Vasudevachariyar and others were honoured. Sri Swamigal started his speech on the subject of Samskrit and cultural development in Nepal. He said that in spite of adverse climatic conditions the mountain country faces, it has maintained its libraries well, which contain rare type of manuscripts in Samskrit language; it shows their dedication & devotion towards knowledge. Swamigal recalled his visit to the Nepal libraries. Special mention was made regarding the cultural ethos of the people of Nepal.

Continuing, Swamigal quoted Kalidasa's famous coinage "Saraswathi Shrutimahati Mahiyataam" meaning "let wisdom, whose greatness is because of Vedas, blossom" and said that Samskrit language has the rare distinction of being the language of the Vedas. Learning of Samskrit language will help in development of Satvik thinking

and action. He also said that by learning of the language a huge and varied avenue of wisdom is opened since many sciences like Ayurveda, Astronomy, Astrology, Sastras like Mimamsa, Tarka, Yoga, epics, literary works, Puranic treatises, stotras etc are available in the language.

Swamigal spoke at length about the contribution of the Madras Sanskrit college in gifting Samskrit Pandits to the country. Noting the presence of many senior scholars, some President awardees, Swamigal said that the Alumni meet may well be called as senior scholars' awards function. He also recalled the association of the college with the Kanchi Math since many years. Swamigal urged that more students and people should take up study of Samskrit language.

The function continued with a Samskrit drama based on the theme Maitreem Bhajata and a Carnatic music recital by the alumni association.



## **19. Refresher Course on Values & Ethics in Pancha Kavya- the five gems of Samskrit Literature**

A continuous Refresher Course on Values & Ethics in Pancha Kavya, the five gems of Samskrit Literature was arranged in 2014. Youth & devotees participated and availed of the opportunity. The venue was Sankara Matam, West Mambalam, Chennai.

**About the Pancha Maha Kavyas:** In Samskrit Literature, Srimad Ramayana is considered to be the Adikavya. Of the Pancha Maha Kavyas, "Raghuvamsam" by Kalidasa is the Kavya which deals exhaustively with Sri Rama and his forerunners. "Kumarasambhava" also by Kalidasa describes the high order of penance of Sri Parvati Devi and the Karuna of Parameswara. "Kiratarjuneeyam" by Bharavi is the epic which beautifully describes the Pandavas in forest, penance of Arjuna, and the effort of Duryodhana for good governance to win peoples' hearts to cover up his misdeeds. The story of Sisupala who took birth as a Rakshasa and got his Sapavimochana from Sri Krishna is dealt in "Sisupalavadham". The story of Nala Chakravarty, the king of Nishada is very nicely described in the Kavya "Naishadam".

## **VISWA SANTI MAHA YAGNAS**

Viswa Santi Maha Yagnas are a novel initiative of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham as an attempt to revive Vedic traditions in the distant corners of the country and establish the spirit of faith in Sanatana Dharma and unity among its adherents. The first Viswa Santi Maha Yajna was performed at Mata Sri Vaishno Devi Shrine and in Jammu from October 28 to November 2, 2010 by the efforts of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham as well as Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams. The second Maha Yajna was performed at Jyeshtha Mata Mandir, Srinagar, Kashmir. The Third Yagna was done at Mata Khir Bhavani Mandir in Srinagar, J&K from 1 to 9 October 2011. The fourth Yagna was performed at Ganga Sagar and Siliguri from 5-8 June 2012. Details of some of the more recent Viswa Santi Maha Yagnas are given below.

### **20. Viswa Santi Maha Yagna in Gangtok, Sikkim**

Viswa Santi Maha Yagna was performed at Sri Kanchaneshwar Mahadev Shiva Panchayatan Mandir, Ranipool, Gangtok, Sikkim from 10 August to 13 August 2017. Sata Chandi and Ekadasha Rudra Japa Homam was performed by the Vaidikas for Loka Kshema.





## **21. Viswa Santi Maha Yagna in Arunachal Pradesh**

Viswa Santi Maha Yagnya, Veda Sammelan & Rudra Japam were performed at Arunachal Pradesh during 5-9 March 2014. About 100 Vaidikas from Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Orissa participated. The Vedic scholars camped at the Purva Tirupati Balaji Mandir, Guwahati (Mandir erected at the initiative of Kanchi Srimatham), and visited the Kamakhya Mandir in Guwahati. The team left for Itanagar by bus by about 8.30 pm and reached the place of camp - the Art of Living Ashram at Itanagar, next morning. On 5 March 2014, the programme commenced with Sankalpam, followed by Go Puja. Ganapati Homam and Avahanti Japa-Homam were performed in the morning. Veda Parayanam, Rudra Japam and Namasankeertanam were performed at the AoL Ashram. Scholars chanted Rigveda, Shukla Yajurveda, Krishna Yajurveda, three branches of Samaveda (Kauthuma , Jaimineeya & Ranayaneeya) & Atharvana Veda. Totakashtakam, Swastivachanam, Vishnusahasranama & Sri Rudram were recited. The evening programme was held in Hanuman Mandir, in the Ganga Area in Itanagar. The Vaidikas performed Veda Parayanam and Rudra Japam. Sri V.G. Subramanya Ghanapatigal gave a spiritual discourse. The Bhagvatars led by Sri Papanasam Ramani Bhagvatar performed Seeta Kalyanam and Namasankeertanam. A formal inauguration of the Veda Sammelan Programme was done by Prof. Roop Kishore Shastri, Secretary of the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain. On 6 March 2014, Sudarshana



Japa Homam and Navagraha Japa Homam were done in the morning, along with Veda Parayanam and Sri Rudra Japam. The evening session was held at Kalakshetra in Itanagar. After the evening session of Veda Parayanam, a cultural programme was held in which students from the Kalakshetra gave a Bharatnatyam performance. The evening programme concluded with Namasankeertanam and Radha Kalyanam. On 7 March, the evening programme was held at Shiv Mandir at Naharlagun. Veda parayanam and Namasankeertanam were performed, followed by Arti at the Shiva Sannadhi, and other Sannadhis of Ganesha, Durga, Hanuman and Lakshmi Narayan. On 8 March 2014, the team left for Ziro at about 4 a.m. and reached the the Siddeswar Nath mandir in the Kardo Forests (in Lower Subansiri District in Arunachal Pradesh) after a long and arduous 6 hour journey through the ghats. The Shiva Lingam at Ziro was discovered in the first fortnight of July 2004 by a wood cutter. Puja was performed to the Shiva Lingam, to the chanting of Veda Parayanam, Rudra Japam and Namasankeertanam. A large number of local residents participated, and received prasad. On Sunday 9 March 2014, Suryanamaskaaram was performed according to the different Veda Shakhas, and the Veda Sammelan and Viswa Santi Yagna at Arunachal Pradesh concluded. On 10 March 2014, the group of participating Vedic pandits witnessed the Abhishekam performed to Balaji at the Purva Tirupati Balaji Mandir in Guwahati early in the morning, and chanted Veda Mantras. Namasankeertanam was also performed. After Arti, the team visited the Sankardev Netrayala in Guwahati- a Centre of Excellence in Eye Care in the North-East (set up by Kanchi Srimatham out of deep concern for eye care for people of North east), and a few other important landmarks in Guwahati. In the afternoon, the group visited the Umananda temple, located on an island in the Brahmaputra river. After reaching mainland, the "Brahmaputra Arti" was performed for the first time in Guwahati (see <http://kamakoti.org/kamakoti/news/2014/Brahmaputra%20Arti.html> for full report).

## **22. Viswa Santi Maha Yagna at Manipur**

Veda Parayanam in the nine different Veda Sakhas as well as Chandi Parayanam were held on 16 and 17 February 2013. As part of the Shanmata Devata Yagna, Sudarshana and Dhanvantri Homam were performed on Saturday, 16 Feb. 2013. On

Sunday the 17th - Ratha Saptami Day, Surya Namaskaram was performed in the morning according to the different Veda Sakhas. This was followed by Navagraha Homam. On both days, Go Puja was performed. A large number of devotees participated and performed Sankalpa. Stotra Parayanam was performed on both days. The Bhagavata team led by Papanasam Sri Ramani Bhagavathar rendered Sri Gita Govindam - Jayadeva Ashtapathy on Saturday, 16th. On Sunday, Sri Radha Kalyanam was performed in a grand manner and with devotional fervour.

### **23. Viswa Santi Maha Yagna at Kathmandu, Nepal**

Viswa Santi Maha Yagna was performed at Bankali Dharmashala, Hans Mandap, Near Pashupatinath Mandir, Kathmandu, Nepal in 2012 from 25 November to 2 December. This was the sixth in a series of Viswa Santi Maha Yagnas performed in several places. Thirty ritwiks and parayandars from various places in India as well as local scholars from Nepal performed havans and parayan. The Pashupatinath Area Development Trust had made extensive arrangements for carrying out the Yagna and a beautiful and grand Yagna Shala was prepared on the grounds adjoining the Hansmandap near Sri Pashupatinath temple.

Chaturveda Parayanam (Rig, Yajur, Sama and AtharvanaVeda), Laghu Nyasam and Ekadasha Rudra Parayanam along with Durga Sapta Shati, Ramayana, Bhagavata, Devi Bhagavatha and Ramacharitmanas Parayan were performed every day from 8 to 11.30 am and again from 3 to 6 pm. A team of ritwiks from Gokarna and Chennai performed Rig Veda Samhita Havan every day from 8 am to 12.30 pm on all days. Another group of ritwiks from Tamilnadu performed Kamyartha Homams starting with Ganapati Homam from 8 am to 9 am everyday with different dravyas and Avahanti Homam. In addition to this, based on the significance of each day, different pujas and parayans were done as follows:

On 25 November, being Sunday, Tri Veda Surya Namaskar was performed in the morning. Tulasi Vivaha was performed as it was Brindavana Dwadashi. In the evening, Pradosha Puja was performed at the holy Pashupatinath Mandir with Mahanyasa Purvaka Rudra Abhisheka. On 26 November, Monday, Maharudram and Parthiva Shiva Linga Puja was performed from 8 am onwards. In the evening, Dipa

Puja was performed on the auspicious occasion of Bharani Dipa. In the South, the Tiruvannamalai Deepam in Tamilnadu is lit on this day, and devotees from far and wide travel to the holy temple town of Tiruvannamalai to have darshan of this Deepam. Last year, a team of pilgrims from Nepal had visited Kanchipuram in November and it happened to be the Bharani Dipa day. Sri Swamigal had immediately directed them to be taken to Tiruvannamalai, enabling them to have darshan of the Deepam. This year, a bigger group of devotees in Nepal was lucky to witness the performance of Dipa puja right in Kathmandu.

On 27 November, Tuesday, Subrahmanya Japa & Homam was performed in the morning and Varahi Japa & Homam was performed in the evening. On 28 November, Wednesday, Chandi Havan & Srividya Homam were performed to invoke the blessings of Devi. The Guhyeshwari temple in Kathmandu, located close to the Pashupatinath Mandir, is one of the Shakti Peethas.

Discourses: Brahmasri Mullaivasal Krishnamurthy Sastrigal delivered special lectures on various topics including the significance of Samskrit and Sanatana Dharma in the evenings from 25 to 28 November 2012.

On 29 November, Thursday, Dhanvantri Homam, Sudarshana Homam and Dakshinamurthy Japam and Homam were performed. On 30 November, Friday, Srisukta Japam and Homam were performed. A significant event that was held on that day was the 108 Suvasini and 108 Kanya Pujas. 108 Suvasinis and 108 Kanyas from Nepal participated. New clothes, sweets and gifts were given to all Suvasinis and Kanyas. The children eagerly chanted 'Jaya Jaya Sankara Hara Hara Sankara' and 'Kanchi Sankara Nepala Sankara'. It was indeed a glorious sight to see these pujas being performed on a grand scale in Kathmandu.

This was followed by Go Puja. Quite close to the Havan Venue is located a Goshala which has close to 230 cows and calves. In fact, the area itself is called Goushala. The entire team of Pandits and devotees went to the Goshala and performed Go Puja. Each of the cows and calves were garlanded and adorned with vastras. The workers of the Goshala were also honoured. On 1 December, Saturday, Bhairava Japa & Homa and Brahmachari Puja were performed. Inside the Pashupathinath Temple are located more than 550 Shiva Lingas. As ordained by Swamigal, Pujas were

performed to the Shiva Lingas and vastrams were offered to each of the Lingas. Puja was also performed at the Adi Sankara Shrine inside Pashupatinath temple.

On 2 December, Sunday, Triveda Surya Namaskara and Navagraha Japa was performed from 8 am onwards. A large number of Nepalis, young and old, participated in the Surya Namaskar prayers. The Pashupatinath Area Development Trust in a brief function honoured the scholars with Shawl, Rudraksha mala and the prasad of Pashupatinath Mandir. Members and volunteers of the Pashupatinath Area Development Trust who worked with enthusiasm to enable the successful performance of the Yagna programme were honoured on behalf of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham.

Evening Programme: From 25 November to 2 December everyday in the evening, Vishnu Sahasranama, Rudra Kramarchana, Sahasranamarchana and Chaturveda-Purana-Sangeeta- Avadharaya were performed followed by Deeparadhana. Cultural programmes were performed by local artists.



A large number of devotees from Nepal and India participated in the above programmes and received blessings. Specially printed booklets carrying important stotras to be recited every day and other messages were distributed to the devotees, along with blessed Mantrakshata, Kumkum and raksha threads. The entire programme was performed with spiritual fervour and the participating ritwiks, unmindful of the extreme cold (with temperatures dropping close to 2 degrees in the night) and the long and arduous road journey to Kathmandu and back, observed all

the anushtanams and completed the various parayanams and homams, with the benign grace of the Acharyas.

## 24. Viswa Santi Maha Yagna at Leh, Ladakh

We all chant

गङ्गे च यमुने चैव गोदावरी सरस्वती ।

नर्मदे सिन्धु कावेरी जलेऽस्मिन् सन्निधिं कुरु ॥

Gange cha Yamune Chaiva Godavari Sarasvati

Narmade **Sindhu** Kaveri Jalesmin Sannidhim Kuru

Leh is in the Northern-most part of India. The Holy river Sindhu flows in this region. It is from the River Sindhu that India got its name. It is the cradle of Indian civilization. This ancient river is integral to our identity as a nation. There are seven Mokshapuris, fifty-one Shakti Peeths and twelve Jyotir Linga Kshetras in our sacred land. Similarly, there are seven holy rivers as indicated in the Prarthana above, namely- Ganga, Yamuna, Godavari, Sarswati, Narmada, Sindhu and Cauvery. There are several references to these holy rivers in the Vedas.

A Viswa Santi Yagna and Veda Sammelan were organized on the banks of the holy Sindhu river in Leh, Ladakh, in the State of Jammu & Kashmir. The programme commenced on 16 July 2012 – an auspicious day on which the Dakshinayana Punya Kaal began. Vedic scholars performed the Sindhu Snaan and for the first time, SINDHU HARATI was performed on the lines of the Ganga Harati which is performed on the banks of the river Ganga. Rig and Yajur Veda Parayan was performed in two sessions everyday - in the morning and in the evening. Havans were performed following the Parayan. In the evening, spiritual discourses were delivered by scholars. On the 20th, the programme concluded with Poornahuti and Vidwat Sambhavana (honouring the participating scholars). The Maharshi Sandipini Rashtriya Veda Vidya Prathishthan, Ujjain, co-sponsored the Veda Sammelan.

*" SINDHU: SYANDANSHEELODKATMA DEVATA "*

Viswa Santhi Maha Yagnas have since been performed at Jabalpur in M.P. and several other places.

## **KUMBHABHISHEKAMS**

Temples and temple worship form the bedrock of our religion and culture. In villages and towns, temples, apart from being the place of worship and attainment of divine grace and peace of mind, are also the nucleus of assembly and interaction of people. Our country abounds in temples built by kings in earlier times. Research in temple archaeology has thrown light on the history and culture of the region. It is a pity that some very beautiful temples, tucked in remote villages, have decayed over long periods of disuse and neglect. Pujyasri Acharya Swamijis have driven home the fact that renovation of such temples is more urgent and important than construction of new temples. Srimatham has taken steps to start and run schools imparting training in the intricacies of repairing and renovating the old magnificent temples. Many are the Kumbhabhishekams performed in this way under his stewardship in temples. In many temples flower gardens and nurseries for Bilva, Tulasi etc. have been raised as instructed by Swamigal.

Yantra plates and Ashtabandhanam (the special preparation for installation of idols over the base), required during Kumbhabhishekam, are prepared and kept in Puja and distributed free of cost by Srimatham to temple authorities. Assistance is routed through 'Kshetra Paripalana Sangam', instituted for fulfilling these aims. This Sangam also provides financial assistance to temples lacking means for lighting lamps twice in a day and preparing 'Naivedyam' once a day.

Measures are also taken for worship to be conducted regularly by competent priests through various trusts established for the purpose. Training temple priests, the Oduvars who sing praise of the Lord, and pipers, drummers and others, who are in daily attendance during the periods of worship, also forms part of these measures. The efforts for the upkeep and renovation of temples that adorn our country from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and from Dwaraka to Kamrup help keep Srimatham in contact with all sections of society spread over our vast land.

New temples, Mandapas, Memorials etc. are also undertaken as necessary, taking into consideration the wishes and needs of the local people.

Pujyasri Acharya Swamijis have been visiting places where important religious festivals are celebrated and people congregate in large numbers. They have participated in many Kumbha Melas, Ardha Kumbha Melas and Mahamagham festivals.

## **25. Kumbhabhishekam of Nandi Mantapam and Raja Gopuram at Orikkai**

Mahakumbhabhishekam of nutana (newly constructed ) Nandi Mantapam and Raja Gopuram at Pujyasri Mahaswamigal Manimandapam at Orikkai near Kanchipuram was performed on 22 June 2018 in the presence of Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal.



## **26. Kumbhabhishekam of Adi Sankara Vimana Mandapam at Prayagraj**

Jeernodharana Kumbhabhishekam of Sri Adi Sankara Vimana Mandapam at Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh was performed on Sunday, 2 December 2018. Programme commenced on 29 November; various havans and parayan took place. Balalayam was consecrated earlier as part of renovation efforts. Some interesting details of the Project:

During his historic padayatra, which spanned 23 years and touched remote corners of Bharat, Sri Mahaswamigal sowed the seeds of many social welfare projects and implemented plans for the promotion of Sanatana Dharma. He established Sankara Maths at several places, arranged the renovation of existing ones, conducted vidwat sadas to propagate Advaita and put in place schemes for the welfare of priests and Vedic scholars. Proceeding to Kashi from Tiruchi, Mahaswamigal traversed all the States. Having collected the sand from the shores of Rameswaram 12 years earlier, he reached Prayagraj (Allahabad, July 1934), and proceeded to Triveni Sangamam, where he consigned the sand, to the accompaniment of Veda ghosham. It was monsoon time. The sage performed his noon ablution in the river, which was in spate. From an elevated position, he observed the landscape, which was like a sheet of water. In his vision, he saw Sri Adi Sankara, all those centuries ago, standing there. He felt that a monument would be appropriate to mark the event. He wished that the tower of a temple should be visible to all those who raised their heads after snana (dip) in Triveni Sangamam, where the three rivers — Ganga, Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati — merged. With the presence of Veni Madhava temple, the location in Prayag was ideal for Sankara Vimana, he thought. Sri Sankara Vimana Mantapam took shape eventually.

The Mantapam, which symbolises the integration of Sakta-Siva-Vishnu concept, is an engineering marvel. A unique three-tier structure rising to 130 ft, it stands on 17 pillars, each 30 ft in height, to build which 16 wells, 50 ft in depth were sunk in the river. On the first floor is Sri Kamakshi, presiding Devi of the Kamakoti Peetham. The Devi is a replica of Kanchi Kamakshi. The floor also has 51 Sakti peethams represented. The second is for Sri Venkatachalapati, exactly as he stands in the shrine on top of the Seven Hills. This floor has representations of 108 Divya Desams. The third floor houses the massive eight-tonne Sahasra Lingam. Made of a single stone, it has a thousand Lingams on its surface. It is 100 ft in height with a diameter of three ft. as found in the Uchipillaiyar Temple, Rockfort, Tiruchi. The Lingam was brought to Thenambakkam, where Mahaswamigal camped for many years. He wanted the 1,000 lingams to be sculpted only when Veda chanting was in progress. It took eight months to complete the task, as sculptors devotedly worked on the Lingam. It was then sanctified by Mahaswamigal, who performed abishekam to the Lingam, when he was in Satara.



The temple has also shrines for Sri Adi Sankara, Vinayaka, Nataraja, Kartikeya and Rama. A sculpture of Meenakshi Kalyanam adorns the front. Episodes from Purana are depicted as paintings on the walls and ceiling. After 20 years of relentless work by everyone involved, the majestic temple was consecrated on March 13, 1986, by Sri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal. The cost of Rs. 60 lakhs was met through generous contributions by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam, the U.P. Government, other State Governments, philanthropists and devotees.

Thirty two years had passed and it was time for renovation and expansion. The initiative was blessed by Sri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal, who wanted to get the temple ready ahead of the Kumbh Mela in January 2019. A huge mantapam was created for pujas and satsang events.



### THE ADORATION OF PRAYAGRAJ IN RAGHUVAMSA

After killing Ravana, the Rakshasa monarch, Sri Rama comes to Ayodhya in the aerial car with Sita, Lakshman, Sugriva, Vibhishana and others. He describes to Sita the surpassing beauty of the confluence of Ganga and Yamuna from the aircraft. Kalidasa presents the description by Sri Rama in the Raghuvamsa. The following are the verses.

Srirastu श्रीरस्तु

Behold, O Fair Ones, how the Ganges with its perennial stream harmoniously blended with the waters of the Yamuna is resplendent.

The union between the two sacred rivers is comparable to the union of

1. A necklace set with silvery white pearls and effulgent blue jewels.
2. A garland of white lilies strung together with blue lotuses.
3. A row of white swans flying towards Manasa lake along with dark-winged swans.
4. The sandal paintings on the earth with ornamental leaves painted by the dark juices of aloes wood.
5. The rays of the moon inter-mingled with slight darkness underneath the shades of the trees.
6. The blue sky coming partly into view from the interstices of the whited autumnal clouds and
7. The sacred white ashes applied all over the body of Siva which is encircled by the black serpents as ornaments.

Even without the need of the self-realization, those who take ceremonial bath in the confluence of these rivers, the consorts of the sea, attain cleansing of heart and are liberated when their physical bodies fall off. They would be no more subject to birth and rebirth.

### Raghuvamsa Sarga 13 verses 54-58

the poet describes the confluence of Ganga and Yamuna.

कचिद्रमालेपिभिरिन्द्रनीलेः

मुकामयी यदिरिवानुविद्धा।

अन्यत्र माला सितपङ्कजानाम्

इन्दीवरुत्त्वचितान्तरव ॥ १३-५४

कचित्स्वगानाम्प्रियमानसानाम्

कादम्बरसंस्मरितीव पङ्क्तिः।

अन्यत्र कालागुरुदत्तापत्रा

भक्तिर्मुवध्चन्दनकल्पितेव ॥ १३-५५

कचिद्रामा चान्द्रमसी

तमोभिरुखायाविलीनैः शबलीकृतेव।

अन्यत्र शुभ्रा शरदभ्रलेखा

रन्ध्रेधिवालयनमःप्रदेशा ॥ १३-५६

कचिच्च कुण्डोराम्बुषोव

भस्माङ्गरागा तनुपीश्वरस्य।

पदपानवधाङ्गि विभाति गङ्गा

भित्तप्रवाहा यमुनातरङ्गैः ॥ १३-५७

समुद्रपत्न्योर्जलसंनिपाते

पूतात्मनामत्र किलाभिकेता।

तत्त्वावबोधेन विनापि भूयः

तनुप्यजाश्रांसि शरीरखन्धः ॥ १३-५८

## 27. Kumbhabhishekam of Tiruvanaikkaval Temple

Kumbhabhishekam of Sri Akhilandeswari Ambal sameta Sri Jambunathaswamy Temple at Tiruvanaikkaval was performed by Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swamigal in the early hours of 12 Dec. 2018. This has been the only occasion when Pujyasri Swamigal went on a two-week yatra out of Kanchipuram along with the daily Trikala Chandramouliswara Puja during the first year of Siddhi of Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal. This yatra was undertaken keeping in mind the Sankalpam of Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal to perform the Kumbhabhishekam at Tiruvanikkaval at his own hands in line with the tradition of the Kanchi Sankaracharya personally performing this Kumbhabhishekam.

Early in the morning, Go-Puja was performed at Sri Chandramouleeswara Swamy Sanandhi at Srimatham (Jagadguru Vidyasthanam). Pujyasri Acharyal went to the temple from Srimatham in a procession led by the Cow and Calf, followed by the Gouri-kalam- a musical instrument that belongs to the aerophone (wind instrument) category- heralding the commencement of the auspicious event. After circambulating around the temple, Pujyasri Acharyal performed Kumbhabhishekam at Sri Jambunathaswamy Sanandhi followed by Sri Akhilandeswari Ambal Sannadhi, later performing the Abhishekam to Ambal accompanied by Vedic Chanting. The Hon'ble Governor of Tamilnadu participated in the Kumbhabhishekam. A large number of devotees participated in the divine event. On this occasion, a special postal cover commemorating the Kumbhabhishekam was released by the Hon'ble Governor of Tamilnadu at Srimatham- Jagadguru Vidyasthanam at Tiruvanaikaval in the morning. Upanyasams on Tiruvanaikkaval (Gajaranyam) Mahatmyam were delivered for a week. Summaries of the Mahatmyam in English and Tamil were published in the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham website.



## **28. Kumbhabhishekam of Sri Kamakshi Temple at Kanchipuram**



Jeeranodhanara Ashtabandhana Mahakumbhabhishekam of Sri Kanchi Kamakshi Devi Temple was performed on Thursday, 9 February 2017 at the hands of Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal. The Kumbabhishekam events started on 3 February 2017 with Anugnyai, Sri Vigneshwara Puja, Sankalpam, Sri Ganapati Homam and Sri Navagraha Homam. Various spiritual and cultural programmes were held on all days during the Kumbabhishekam.

Kumbhabhishekam of Bangaru Kamakshi Amman Temple was performed on 23 March 2017 at Thanjavur by Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal.



## **29. Kumbhabhishekam of Sri Pallikondeeswarar (Siva) Temple at Suruttappalli**

Suruttappalli, a village on the Tamil Nadu – Andhra border near Chittur boasts of a rare Siva temple. Here Siva is not in the form of Lingam, but is a Murtham in reclining (Ananta sayanam) position with his head on the lap of Devi Parvathi, holding conch and deer in his hands. After consuming Halahala poison during

Samudra Manthan, Siva felt tired and rested here. He woke up the following day and saw that all Devas, Rishis and others stood surrounding him; they were all very happy. Pradosham came to be celebrated from that time onwards everywhere. Sage Valmiki was blessed by Siva at this kshetra to write Srimad Ramayanam. Pujuyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal performed Kumbhabhishekam of this temple on 23 January 2019. Earlier the Kumbhabhishekam had been performed by Pujuyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal in 1979.



## **PUSHKARAMS AND RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS**

Pushkara in Samskrit refers to the energy that nourishes. Scriptures say that Pushkara is the son of Varuna, the presiding deity of all rivers. Once he prayed to Brahma and asked for a boon to reside in the sacred waters (emanated from the foot of Vishnu) of his Kamandalu with the intention of bestowing purity on all the Tirthas (Rivers). Brahma granted the boon happily. Pushkara also performed penance and acquired the Jala Tattva Siddhi from Lord Siva as a boon. By virtue of these boons, Pushkara became Tirthapalaka, the Protector of all Tirthas.

Pushkaram is an Indian festival dedicated to the worship of rivers. When Jupiter (Guru Bhagavan) transits to a zodiac sign, which is associated with a particular sacred river, Adi Parasakti, Brahma, Vishnu, Siva, Indra and all the Devatas reside in that holy river for the initial and the final periods of twelve days of that year of residence of Jupiter.

### **30. Godavari Pushkaram**

On 14 July 2015, Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal left Srimatham camp and reached the Pushkara Ghat in Rajahmundry. Gopuja, Ganapati Puja & Sankalpa were performed, after which Swamigal took holy bath. This was followed by all devotees having Snana. After Arghya Pradana & Danas Swamigal left Rajahmundry and returned to Srimatham Camp.

### **Pushkaram at Kovvur:**

Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal performed Pushkara Snanam on 14th early morning. Swamigal was taken to the Goshpada Kshetra Ghat. Vinayaka Puja, Kalasha Puja, Godavari Puja, Archana, Naivedya & Deeparadhana were performed in the Ghat. Snana Sankalpa was chanted. As per the direction of Swamigal everyone took part in repeating a few names of Godavari Mata in the Archana namavali and Sankalpa. After pouring of Kalasha Teertha in the river and amidst chanting of “Godavari Mata Ki ...Jai”, right at around 6.26 a.m., Swamigal performed the snana, which was followed by people in all the ghats. Swamigal then gave Arghya Pradanam. Various danas were performed. Swamigal later visited the Shiva temple, Gayatri Temple and Yagna Shala on the Ghat. The event was covered extensively by media. Swamigal blessed sayingh “Pushkara Snanam Pushkala Punyam”. Swamigal later returned to Srimatham camp in Kovvur Samskrit College.





### 31. Krishna Pushkaram

Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal graced Krishna Pushkaram on 12 August 2016 in the early hours at Vijayawada. Swamigal went to the banks of the river to the accompaniment of Mangala Vadya and collected Krishna Nadi Teertha in Kalasha and performed Kalasha Puja. After Vinayaka Puja, Dhyana, Avahanadi Shodashoparacha Puja was performed to the Kalasha. Being a Shravana Masa Shukravara, the Kalasha was decked with alankaras of flower garlands, mango leaves & Varalakshmi Ammavari Mukha. Brihaspati, Pushkara & Krishna Veni Namavali archana were recited. Special Sankalpa praying for welfare of one & all was read & repeated by the assembled devotees. Harathi to the Kalasha was performed.



Swamigal then went to the banks of the river with the Kalasha Teertha and poured the Teertha into the Krishna river signifying the beginning of Pushkaram and followed it with Snana at 5.50 am. Dhyana, Snana & Arghya shlokas related with

Krishna Nadi were chanted. Along with Mangala Vadyam, Gauri Kalam from Srimatam- was blown during Harathi & Snana indicating the auspiciousness of the event. Swamigal observed Anushthana on the banks of the river. Dasha Dana & Pancha Danas were performed under Ashwattha Tree on the banks of the river. Go danam was given to Agnihotri Scholar after due performance of Go Puja. A Kapila Cow (Greyish Black in colour) was given as it is considered auspicious. Veda Swasti of Rig, Yajus, Sama & Atharva Vedas & Pancha Santi mantras were chanted.

### **32. Kaveri Pushkaram**

Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal & Pujya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal inaugurated the Kaveri Pushkaram at Tula Ghattam, Mayavaram at 8:30 am on 12 September 2017. Pujya Acharyas left Srimatham Camp situated at Vadakku Ramalinga Agraharam on the southern bank of the river and reached Tula Ghattam in a traditional procession. After Purnahuti at the Yaga Shala and arrival of Abhayamba Sameta Mayuranatha Swamy on the Northern Bank & Vedaranyeshwara Swamy on the southern Bank of Tula Ghattam, Kaveri water was poured from Swarna Kalasham. Snanam was performed amidst chanting of Veda Mantras and Nadaswaram. Various danams were given on the occasion. Many other Adheenam heads and Mathadhipatis participated in the holy event. It was a rare sight to see a white necked eagle, Garuda, hovering around the sky adding sacredness to the Maha Pushkaram. As Jupiter resides in a Raashi for a year, the Pushkaram festival in a particular river occurs once every twelve years, much like Kumbha Mela in the north. This year, owing to special alignments of all planets, the festival is known as **Maha Pushkaram**, which occurs once in 144 years. Earlier on September 11, 2017, while addressing the gathering on the eve of Kaveri Pushkaram, Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal spoke on the greatness of river Kaveri, which is one of the seven sacred rivers. The well known Tula Puranam elaborately describes the greatness of the river and stories of kings and commoners obtaining the blessings of Devi Kaveri and getting rid of heinous karmas and acquiring matchless merit. Swamigal in this connection called for protection of our rivers and taking steps to keep them clean and safeguard their sacredness.





On all the twelve days of Pushkaram, many Homams, Pujas, Parayanas, and cultural programmes including discourses, music and dance events etc. were performed; there was great festive atmosphere. Devotees in large numbers took holy bath including performance of Sankalpa, Tirtha Sraadha, Tarpanam, Danas etc. not only in Tula Ghattam in Mayavaram, but in many kshetras on the banks of Kaveri, including Srirangam.

### 33. Tamraparni Pushkaram

On 12 October 2018, Jupiter entered the zodiac sign Scorpio (Vrischika) associated with the sacred river Tamraparni. Hence the **Tamraparni Pushkaram** festival was organized from **October 12 to 23, 2018**. Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham chose **Tiruppudaimarudur (Putarjuna Kshetra)** near Tirunelveli as the main centre for convenient use by pilgrims for holy dip and other rituals including Tirtha Sraadha, Puja of River, ceremonial gifts (Danam) etc. Spiritual discourses, devotional music and dance performances, mesmerising Aarti (like the Ganga Aarti) in the evenings and cultural programmes were organized at this place and also in other shrines on the banks of the river during this period. Special Homams and Pujas in various temples were performed. Many religious heads participated in the festival. Devotees in large numbers participated with great joy in the celebrations at all kshetras on the banks of the sacred river. They bathed, performed Pujas and enjoyed the festive atmosphere. The river Tamraparni originates from the Podigai hills above Papanasam and flows into Tirunelveli and Tuticorin districts. The old Tamil name of

the river is Porunai. **Tamraparni Mahatmyam**, a Purana of 6400 verses written by Veda Vyasa, recounts many interesting stories of the blessings of Devi Tamraparni bestowed on Devas, humans, animals and even birds. The divine origin of Tamraparni is unique and very interesting. A garland handed lovingly by Adi Parasakti to Parvati at the time of her marriage with Siva in Himavan's capital of Oshadhiprastham, was in turn given by Parvati to Siva. When Siva wore the garland and then handed it to sage Agastya, it turned instantly into a beautiful, well decorated maiden. Tamraparni, meaning maiden shining like copper, is a name given by Devas to that maiden deity. Thus Tamraparni is the form in river of Adi Parasakti Herself.

Abhishekam was performed to the Adisthanams of Pujuyasri Mahaswamigal and Pujuyasri Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal with water from the Tamraparni river, followed by abhishekam to Pujuyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swamigal at



Srimatham on 21 Oct. 2018.

### **34. Parasuram Kund Yatra**

Parasuram Kund is a pilgrimage centre situated on the Brahmaputra plateau in the lower reaches of the Lohit River and 21 km north of Tezu in Lohit district of Arunachal Pradesh. Dedicated to sage Parasuram, the popular site, full of scenic beauty, attracts pilgrims from Nepal, from across India, and from nearby states of Manipur and Assam. Many devotees and sadhus take a holy dip in its water each year on the occasion of Makar Sankranti, in the month of January. With the blessings

of the Acharyas, Parasuram Kund Yatra was organized by the Peetham for the first time in January 2018, was attended by a number of devotees from various parts of India and was a big success. The second Parasuram Kund Yatra took place during Makarasankranti Uttarayana Punyakalam from 12 to 16 January 2019.

65 yattris from Chennai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Mumbai, Guwahati and Sydney, Australia participated and had punya snanam in the Lohit River during the Uttarayana Punyakaalam.



Go-Puja, Homam, Veda Parayanam, Suryanamaskara Parayanam, Sloka Parayanam, Nama Sankeertanam and Anna Daanam were performed at Parasuram Kund. Abhishekam and Pooja was done to the Adi Sankara Bhagavadpada vigraham at the Parasuram Mandir Complex. Makara Sankranti was celebrated in a traditional manner with Suryanarayana Puja. The Suvasinis made Pongal on firewood and performed Kummi. Anna Prasadam was distributed to over 3000 people. An Ayurveda camp with free consultation and medication was also conducted at the

premises by the doctors from Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Ayurveda College, Nazarathpet near Chennai. The yatra concluded with kanu celebrations and darshan at Purva Tirupati Balaji Mandir and Kamakhya Mandir in Guwahati, Assam. Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham has acquired a piece of land at the Parasuram Kund site for developing a School and Ayurvedic hospital.

### **35. Parvatamalai -Girivalam**

Parvathamalai is located near Thenmadimangalam Village, 20 kms from Polur which is 35kms (approx) from Tiruvannamalai. Parvathamalai presents eight different views from eight directions around the hill. At the summit of the Hill is a very powerful Siva Temple of Sri Mallikarjuna Swamy. Devi is Bhramarambika or Parvathammal. Near the temple is the Mouna Guruswamy Ashram. During Pournami, this hill attracts a lot of devotees. It is believed that when Lord Hanuman carried Sanjeevini hill to revive Lakshmana, a piece of Sanjeevini hill fell here. Hence this place is also known for various herbs and shrubs that can cure the deadliest diseases. There is also another story associated with this temple. When Lord Shiva went from Himalayas to the south, he kept his first step in this very Parvathamalai. There is a popular belief that the breeze from the hill heals all incurable diseases. Many Siddhas have made this hill as their home and also practise yoga. A lot of people from different worlds like Devas, Nagas and Siddhas are said to come here every night to worship Lord Shiva. A lot of people have reported seeing many paranormal activities, including Jyoti darshan. One can smell fragrance of flowers all around the temple.

Following ancient traditions, on the 1st day of the sacred Margazhi month every year, people of the region go around the Parvathamalai. Sri Mahaswamigal had performed the Giri Pradakshinam on 16.12.1944 when camping at Kadaladi village. He saw the hill in the shape of Siva Lingam. He did not like to set foot on the hill and just went around the hill worshipping it. Pujya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal visited Parvathamalai and performed Giripradakshinam on 16 December 2015. Since the last few years Swamigal has been encouraging devotees to perform this Giri Pradakshinam. Swamigal after performing Puja in Kanchi left



for Parvathamalai at 11.45 AM. Thenmadimangalam, a village on the foothills of Parvathamalai, is about 130 kms from Kanchi and has to be reached via Arcot, Arni & Polur. The entourage reached the Karaikandeeshwar Temple at 2.30pm. Special harathis were performed at all the Shrines in the temple. As directed by Swamigal Rudra Trishati Archana was performed to the Utsava Murthy, after which they were taken to their respective Vahanas in front of the temple.

Swamigal then took the Girivalam route and reached Kadaladi and visited the Lakshminarayana Swamy Temple. It was in this temple that Kanchi Mahaswamigal had camped in 1944. The village had an Agrahara with a few Kannada Brahmin families residing before. Swamigal had darshan in the shrine and blessed the resumption of renovation work. Amidst chanting of Vedic Mantras, Swamigal then walked along the Girivalam Path blessing devotees performing Girivalam and villagers enroute. Swamigal also visited two ancient Shiva shrines enroute the Girivalam. Giri Pradakshinam of Parvata Malai has been an important activity in the calendar of Astikas in the last few years.



### **36. BOOKS AND MAGAZINES**

‘Kamakoti Pradipam’, a Tamil monthly magazine, was revived in the year 2011 by the Acharyas. It is since then being published regularly. It carries Anugraha Bhashanams of the Acharyas and many scholarly articles on various facets of Sanatana Dharma.

'Dilip', an English quarterly magazine, which was started by late Sri R.V. Raghavan in Mumbai at the behest of Mahaswamigal in 1975, continues to be published by Sudakshina Trust and is dedicated to spread of our ancient knowledge.

The Acharyas have been keen on discovery of ancient treasures of knowledge from various corners of the country, which remain hidden. **Lougakshi Gruhyasutram** was published in Kashmir during the Maharajas' time with the first volume being brought out in the year 1928 and the second volume in the year 1932. Swamigal directed that the book be re-printed. The book was accordingly brought out as a single volume by Sri Venkateswara Vedic University, Tirupati. The book was released by Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal at the Rashtriya Samskrut Samsthan, Jammu, on 10 October 2011. On the occasion, Sri.Kashinath Handoo, a 105 year old Kashmiri Pandit was honoured. Sri Handoo is a veteran and doyen of Kashmiri traditions and is greatly respected by the Pandit Community of Kashmir. He is a Karmakand Shiromani and has written many books on Kashmiri Shaivism, Hindu Philosophy and Jyotish Shastra besides being an expert in Tantra Shastra. He knows Sharada Lipi, the traditional script of the Kashmiris. He is said to be one of the very few in Kashmir to know Shiva Karma in detail. He makes the Panchang every Kashmiri year (said to be year 5086 now). He lives in Jammu. Swamigal blessed the gathering with Anugraha bhashanam.

In 2016 during Krishna Pushkaram, a manuscript of **Sri Krishnaveni Mahatmyam** was found to be available with a Telugu Vidvan. Swamigal got the Samskrit text (which was a little incomplete) transliterated from Telugu to Devanagari script immediately and got the book printed with translation in English.

**Sri Amaranatha Mahatmyam**, said to be part of Sri Bhringisa Samhita, was discovered a few years ago with the blessings of Swamigal. The book was later printed with Tamil and English translations.

Many are the books published at the directions of Swamigal from time to time. Many articles and books are constantly being published in the Srimatham website, [www.kamakoti.org](http://www.kamakoti.org). Encouragement is given to researchers and scholars to write books, essentially for the general public. The writers and publishers are recognized and blessed by Swamigal.

## **37. COMPUTERISATION**

The Srimatham website, [www.kamakoti.org](http://www.kamakoti.org) hosts a fund of information on Adi Sankara's contributions, Sri Mahaswamigal's preachings, many references on Sanatana Dharma, Srimatham activities, Acharya's tours etc. Srimatham keeps in touch with devotees through emails, online donations etc. There are also other websites under the aegis of Srimatham like [www.thanjavurparampara.com](http://www.thanjavurparampara.com). Sri Acharya Swamigal has been addressing many outstation conferences, seminars etc. including those held abroad, through video conferencing. He even interacts with those present including answering their questions as if in person.

On Vijayadasami day, 19 October 2018 in the morning, Pujoyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal blessed the Srimatham office which has commenced front-end computerisation initiative, with support from TCS. First receipt was generated in presence of Pujoyasri Acharya Swamigal.

## **CULTURAL OUTREACHES**

### **38. Samskruti Saptah in J & K**

A week-long Samskruti Saptah programme was organized by Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham at the ancient Jyeshtha Devi (Zeashta Mata) Mandir in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir from 20 to 26 April 2012. The Saptah was held in the presence of Pujoyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal. Veda Parayan, Purana and Stotra Parayans, Bhashya Parayan, Yagnas, Upanyasams and cultural programmes were held as part of the Sammelan. Swamigal visited the Shrines of Jyestha Matha and Shiva. Go puja and Ganapati Homam were performed. Sudarshana Homam and Dhanvantri Homam were performed on the 21st. Being Sunday, Surya Namaskar and Navagraha Homa were performed on the 22nd. On Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mahanyasa Ekadasa Rudra Japa and Homa was done. As part of the Shanmata Devata Yagna, Subrahmanya Trishati and Homam were performed on Tuesday, 24 April 2012. On the 25th, Srividya Homam, Japam and Lalitha Trishati Ashtotra Puja were performed. On the 26th,

Chandi Havan and Aikamatya Sukta Homam were performed, along with Suvasini Puja.

Veda Parayan: More than 70 Vedic Scholars from different parts of the country like Kanchipuram, Chennai, Andhra Pradesh, Varanasi, Chitrakoot, Pune, Manipur, Himachal, Jammu etc. participated in the Veda Parayan. Parayan was performed in Rig Veda, Shukla Yajur Veda - Kanva and Madhyandhina Shakha , Krishna Yajur Veda, Sama Veda - Jaimini, Kauthuma Shakhas, Atharva Veda - Shounaka and Pipplada Shakhas, and also in some rare branches of the Vedas like Samaveda Ranayaneeya Shakha. In their ages too, there was diversity with the youngest scholars being 16-18 years old and the senior scholars in the 80+ age bracket. Parayan was held everyday from 7:45 am to 12 noon and from 3 to 5 pm.

Prasthan Traya Bhashya Parayanam, Purana and Stotra Parayanam: In addition to the Veda Parayanam, scholars performed Brahma Sutra Bhashya Parayanam, Upanishad Parayanam and Bhagavad Gita Parayanam. Valmiki Ramayana Parayanam, Sundara Kandam, Adityahrudayam, Bhagavatam, Narayaneeyam, Vishnu Sahasranamam, Durga Saptashati, Lalitopakhyanam, Devi Bhagvatam and Lalitha Sahasranama Parayanam were also performed. Women devotees participated in the Lalitha Shasranama Parayanam, Narayaneeyam etc.

Upanyasam & Guru Vandanam: Upanyasam (discourse) was held from 6 to 7 pm every evening from 20 to 24 April 2012. Eminent scholars spoke on Lougakshi Gruhya Sutram, Kashyapa and Gobhila Smriti and Katha Samhita. This was followed by a procession of Sri Adi Sankara's portrait from the Havan Shala to the Sanctum Sanctorum of Zaestha Matha, accompanied by the chanting of Svasti Vachanam, Totakashtakam and Vishnu Sahasranama.

### **39. Sankara Jayanti celebrations at Srinagar, J &K**

Sankara Jayanthi is celebrated all over the world in various centres. Special impetus is given by Srimatham to celebrations in far off corners of our country. Srinagar receives special attention of Srimatham in this regard. It is important to observe that with the benign blessings of Pujyasri Acharyas, Sankara Jayanthi is being celebrated annually at Sankaracharya Hill in Kashmir since 2012, and each year's programme is



# For the welfare of Kashmir

Sankara Jayanti brought civilians, VIPs and jawans together.



(Clockwise from top left) The Jyestswara (Adi Sankara) temple in Srinagar; the Pandrethan Pani Temple; (below) a procession; and some devotees, with priests and jawans. PHOTOS: HUSAR AHMAD, DENOV DEHLI AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

For six years in succession, Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Math has been celebrating Sankara Jayanti at the Jyesta Mata Mandir in Srinagar, Kashmir. This year, a team of 40 people, trained in Vedic rituals, and 110 devotees flew into Srinagar to conduct the celebration, May 3-11.

The Jyesta Devi temple and yatri nivas are situated near the Governor's bungalow on a hillock, surrounded by mountains, the sylvan setting making it an ideal location for performing Vedic rituals. On the agenda this year were Rig Veda samhita homam, Chatur Veda parayanam, several yagas, Sri Rudra japam by an expert team from Nanganallur, Chennai, Srimad Ramayana navaha parayanam, pravachanam and Sri Rama pattabishekam all spread over nine days with the aim of establishing peace in the valley. The welfare of the jawans and the pandits and other inhabitants of the region was underlined as the aim of every puja and ritual.

Sengalipuram Damodara Dikshitar and his team performed Srimad Valmiki Ramayana parayanam for nine days (navaham) and rendered discourses.

Abhishekam and puja to the Siva Linga and Adi Sankara image in Jyestswara temple were done daily during the period. The Sarika Devi temple further up the hill was the venue of yagnas,

performed by scholars led by Sri Lakshminarasimha Somayaji from Vijayawada. After sunset every evening, the picture of Adi Sankara, placed in a palanquin, was taken in a procession around Sri Jyesta Mata Mandir.

An atmosphere of community living prevailed with the participants exuding harmony and good will. Sumptuous food, prepared by a team of cooks who had accompanied the party, was served on hot trays. Just



Mr. Vaidyanathan, retired IPS officer and former IG of Himachal Pradesh cadre, a meeting was arranged with Gen. Chauhan, Chief of Staff, cantonment army camp. It was decided to arrange Veda ghosham and abhishekam to the Siva Linga at 'Pani Mandir,' so called because it is surrounded by water on all sides.

It was a unique experience to witness the scene of pandits sitting in a semi circle at the foot of a huge chinara tree, rendering the Vedas for an hour in the presence of a large gathering of senior army officers, soldiers and families. Pradosham time rudra abhishekam was performed by everyone to the Siva linga in the temple. Prasadam from the Math was distributed to

leaving, he expressed the wish that the celebration should be conducted at Khatra next year.

On May 11, Sankara Jayanti, the camp moved to Sankara Hills to celebrate the occasion with pujas and parayanam. For the first time, the hills reverberated with the echoes of Sri Rama Pattabishekam.

Four Ministers, the Speaker of the Assembly and a retired judge of the J & K High Court attended the pujas.

(FR desk with inputs from the camp)

The welfare of the jawans, pandits and other inhabitants of the region was

**Shankara Jayanthi Mahotsav**  
 Jyeshtha Mata Mandir & Shankaracharya Hills, Srirangapatna,  
 Mysore, India

**Daily Programme at Jyeshtha Mata Mandir**  
 23rd April 2017 to 30th April

Morning : Go Puja, Ganapati Puja, Sankalpa,  
 Krishna Yajur Veda Parayana, Rig Veda Samhita Havan,  
 Rigveda Dashagrantha Parayana, Samaveda Parayana,  
 Chandi Parayana  
 Evening : Svasti Vachanam, Totakastakam, Vishnu Sahasranama &  
 Avadharaya during harathi at Jyeshtha Mata shrine

**27th April to 30th April**  
**Radha Kalyan & Bhajans by OS Sundar & Party**  
**Vishesha Havans**

23rd April	Ganapathi Homam
24th April	Navagraha Homam
25th April	Durga Sukta homam
26th April	Vratapati Yagnya
27th April	Prakruti Yagnya
28th April	Sudarshana Homam
29th April	Vaidhruteya Yagnya
30th April	Avahanti & Mrutyunjaya Havan

The great saint Jagadgurur Adi Shankaracharya, who hailed from Kaladya in Kerala more than two millennia ago and spread the Vedic message of truth, justice & harmony. Rulerknights of Kerala has awarded the honour of a temple in the name of Shankaracharya & its consecration by King Gopabandhu. The Shankara Jayanthi is being celebrated at Shankaracharya Hills in Srirangapatna to commemorate the Great Saint's contribution to India's unity in this holy land.

An event for peace & welfare:

Kulkarni has been a centre for Vedic studies & culture. It is the abode of Gurus like Swamiji & Kavyajnan Mahadevi. Kanchi Acharya Pujya Sri Venkateswara Swamikalaksharya Swamikalaksharya & Pujya Sri Shankara Yajurveda Swamikalaksharya Swamikalaksharya have blessed the Vedic events to be held regularly at Jyeshtha Mata Mandir for the peace & welfare of the region and to represent the Vedic atmosphere. As per their direction, Shankara Jayanthi is celebrated at Shankaracharya Hills with Vedic Parayana, Havans etc. as an annual event since 2012.

This year Krishna Yajur Veda Samhita Parayana, Rigveda Samhita Havan, Rig & Sama Veda Parayana, Rig Veda Dashagrantha Parayana, Chandi Parayana, Vishesha Havans & Radha Kalyanam by reputed scholars from South India & Maharashtra will be held at Jyeshtha Mata Temple near Raj Bhavan, Srirangapatna, Mysore, India.

Devotees may participate in the events under the guidance of the learned scholars. For more details, contact the organizers at 94481 11111.



uniquely designed with different Veda Shakhas and other stotras being chanted. Details of the celebrations in 2017 and the Press reports are given here.

Krishna Yajur Veda Samhita Parayana, Rigveda Samhita Havan, Rig and Sama Veda Parayanam, Rig Veda Dasha Grantha Parayana, Chandi Parayan, Vishesha



Havans and Radha Kalyanam were performed. On Sri Sankara Jayanti Day - Vaishakha Shukla Panchami - 30 April 2017, Abhishekam, Arachana and Parayanam were done at Sankaracharya Hill, Srinagar. Adi Sankara Avatara Ghatta Parayanam was performed.

#### 40. Meet on Cultural Relations with Vietnam-Cambodia



A meet on ancient India's Cultural Relations with Vietnam and Cambodia, then known as "Vijaya- Champa" was held at Camp Bangalore on 10 May 2014 in the presence of Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal. Sri Ravi Neelakantan, IFS, made a presentation on the temples in Vietnam, including the famous Angkor Vat Temple. Ms. Charulata, Research Scholar, gave a glimpse into the past to find out how ancient India spread its wings and left its footprints on the Champa Kingdom. Through the photographs, she presented details of the remnants of the Indian cultural aura in the present South and Central Vietnam. Swamigal in his Anugraha Bhashanam mentioned about inscriptions that highlight the importance of the Aawatha Tree (*called Arasa Maram in Tamil*). Photos and other details were exhibited in the Puja Hall (venue of the meet) for the visiting devotees to see and appreciate the richness of our culture that had extended and thrived beyond our borders. As directed by Swamigal, the following speech of Sri Mahaswamigal was read out for the benefit of the devotees:

Pujyasri Acharya Swamiji delivered a rare speech in January 1947 in Sri Matham during the Annual celebrations of Ayyuvayyar Vedanta Pathasala on the subject

of **'Resurrection of our ancient culture and ways of solving present day problems'**. The speech is summarised below:

"In ancient times the civilisation of Indian art had spread from Egypt in the west to Java in the east and grown to great heights. By realising its greatness properly today, our nation can be made to regain those heights. We can strengthen the unity among us and those nations. Knowledge of Hindu civilisation is seen deeply founded in other nations. We can see its signs even today in those countries.

Experts, who came here from Germany, took away many of our ancient Samskrit texts and deposited them in the national libraries of that country. We should be proud of our government's demand to them to return those books to us by way of compensation towards our losses in the last World War. Nowadays politics alone attracts people's attention. Not many care for religion. Despite this, the fact that our representatives have realised the greatness of Samskrit and made such a demand to Germany shows how deeply the power of our culture is founded in people's minds. Dr.Sukarno (Sukarna:) has accepted the greetings of India and has been showing his friendliness towards Indians. He commends mutual contacts between the two countries and claims special relationship with us based on the civilisation, which has spread from India to his country. We see signs of India in Java even today. The names of people there are related to Hindu names. Hindu temples are to be seen there even today.

Buddhism is but a branch of Vedic religion. We hail Buddha as an avatara (incarnation) of Bhagavan Vishnu. He laid special emphasis on truth and non-violence. Veda also stresses these two. But Buddha did not accept karmas like yaga, mentioned in Veda. Buddhism is only Vedic religion, but not accepting difference of 'adhikari' (qualification). We have allowed that religion to spread in other countries. We see translation of Gaudapada's Karika in Chinese languages in very ancient Chinese religious texts. Rabindranath Tagore attempted to renew contact in art with that country with the help of Chinese intellectuals in Santiniketan. Those experts are researching on the common knowledge of art in our country and theirs.

Researchers have said that there was commonality between ancient Egypt and India. Names resembling Rama's name have been given to many places close to the Sahara desert. Sahara desert itself is said to have been a sea, dried up in course of time. The term 'Sagara' must have degenerated into 'Sahara'. There are some signs like this in that country indicating the contact which existed between the two countries.

In the Bible, called Old Testament (Old Veda) in Christianity, the term 'Adam' and 'Evan' (Eve) refer actually to 'Atma' and 'Jiva'. The term 'Apple' there refers to the fruit 'Pippala'. This indicates desire. Adam is the form of Paramatma, free from blemishes. Evan or Jiva is linked to sin. This is the cause of birth and death. The Upanishadic mantra "Dva suparna----- Pippalam" teaches this only. The Old Bible is accepted by Jews, Muslim Arabs and Christians. It can be said that the stories and teachings in that book are based on Hindu Sastras.

It was the western researchers who divided the society into various groups like Arya, Dravida, Semitic etc. Of them, the western Christian priests, who came and stayed in India first, happened to imagine such differences. It was Christian missionaries only who sowed the seeds of division first. They strengthened their domination over us by using this method. Politicians used this to their advantage.

Using the unity with India in culture from Egypt to Java, unity must be cultivated among all these countries. Realising such truths, attempt should be made to inculcate brotherhood and goodwill among these divided nations. No attempt should be made to divide India on the basis of small differences like language etc. If people conduct agitations with political aim on the basis of false divisions by reading wrong histories, our Asian continent itself will be divided and fragmented. It will give room to another third party.

It is gratifying that the representative of a Muslim nation, Dr.Sukarno has spoken encouragingly of the civilisation binding us and his nation. Similarly we should rediscover our ancient ties in culture with West Asian countries, develop goodwill and brotherhood with them and pave the way for complete unity of Asian continent and world peace. I consider this as the best step in this field. Government and private individuals should help in conducting research in this field.

Manu has referred to all groups like Chinese, Persians, Greeks et al. He says that all these peoples are endowed with kshatriya disposition. We can be friends with them. We can foster unity well by sending delegations in culture from India to foreign countries, instead of political delegations. We may foster mutual goodwill with them. Let us also live with unity as our ancestors did in ancient times and protect our arts and Sastras."

(Translated from 'Sri Jagadguru Divya Charitram' in Tamil by: P R Kannan, Navi Mumbai)

It may be noted that two websites, commenced by Srimatham, are being posted with content pertaining to our traditions and ties with Cambodia and Vietnam - [www.bharatkambuja.com](http://www.bharatkambuja.com) and [www.vijayachampa.org](http://www.vijayachampa.org) respectively.

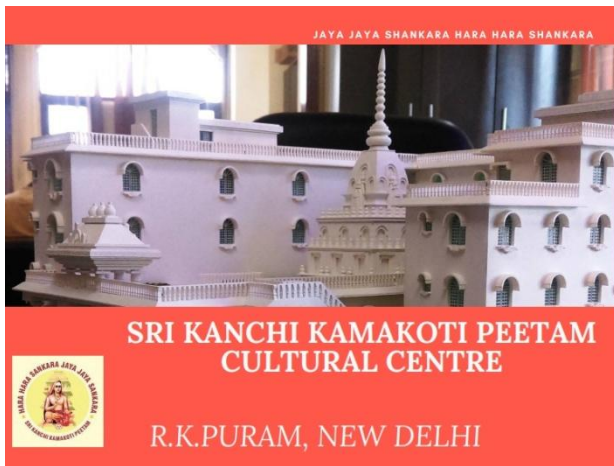


#### **41. Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham Cultural Centre, RK Puram, New Delhi**

Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham Cultural Centre is being established at Sector-1, RK Puram, New Delhi (Near Ayyappan Mandir) at a cost of Rs 16 crores. It is Acharya's direction that like Special Economic Zones, a 'Special Cultural Zone' must be created, especially in the National Capital of Delhi to preserve and propagate our rich and ancient Culture.

The construction of the centre has commenced. The Centre will have a Vedic School, Meditation Centre, Spiritual Library, Centre for Indian Culture and Literature and Health Centre. The project will help in the preservation and propagation of our Sanatana Dharma and benefit the entire society and humanity in keeping with its motto of Loka Kshema.





## **CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES FOR THE YOUTH**

Summer camps are held in cities to train children in our traditional religious activities; specially girl children in Kolam, Pujas, Vratas etc. Sumangali Seva Samiti encourages women to help in organising various activities to spread dharma of women including training of girl children. Camps are organised frequently in Srimatham at Kanchi and in other centres including Chennai and Bengaluru to train people in proper performance of rituals including Sandhyavandanam, Oupasanam etc. and to spread awareness of the significance of Gayatri Japa etc. Go Samrakshanam (protection of cows), the essential ingredient of Sanatana Dharma, is receiving constant impetus from Srimatham. Gosalas are being set up anew and expanded in various centres. Encouragement is given to use of various cow products.

### **42. Sampradaya**

Srimatham has been keenly spreading the message that women, being the first guru in Mata Pita Guru order, have a greater responsibility in preservation of culture, as they are the ones who can inculcate these values and emphasize the importance of seva and bhakti – service with devotion and dedication, in their children and immediate family members. The traditional Indian woman is the best example of seva –she sacrifices herself to serve the extended family she is a member of. Women of this great country have imbibed traditionally the necessary aptitude, attitude,

ability and expertise to impart these to their families, to the society and to the country at large. These qualities have to be inculcated into the next generation, the young girls. This transmission is not happening to the desired levels due to a host of reasons, from nuclear families to compulsive distractions in the modern world.

SAMPRADAYA, a unique initiative of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham, that integrates teaching and training of traditional practices along with regular school/college education, is an institution that gives education with the essence of culture and finally prepares children to serve the country with desa bhakti, devotion, dedication, courage and commitment.

The curriculum has been developed under the aegis of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham. Brahmin girls who have completed 6th standard are eligible to apply. Girls admitted must be willing to stay in the residential school for a minimum of five years. Sampradaya has three branches now - one located at the Temple Town of Tirupati, the second at Hyderabad and the third at Nashik. The first batch of Sampradaya was started in 2015 with 15 students at Tirupati. The school at Nashik was started in 2018. The vidyarthi are given all the necessary facilities free of cost. The inmates have a regular schedule with due care for traditional cultural education and school / college education. Sampradaya offers regular schooling and college education in courses like B.Com (Regular), B.Com (Computer), B.Sc Mathematics, B.A Sanskrit etc.

Along with that students also get opportunity to learn, develop and to train themselves in various life skills including languages, fine arts, handicrafts, child care, preparing Ayurveda kashayams and lehiyams, embroidery, tailoring, cooking and yoga. Classes in classical music – vocal, veena and violin are conducted. Learning Samskrit and various Stotras is an integral part of the curriculum. Students are also trained in preparing Neivedyams for various festivals and poojas. Students are also taken on tours regularly to promote heritage study. Such an education with ethics is tradition bound; it is character building and it equips women with skill, knowledge and self-confidence. Adi Sankara, in his “Prasnoththara Ratna Malika” says that an act of charity sweetened by pleasing words, knowledge without conceit, valour imbued with forgiveness and wealth accompanied by selfless sacrifice – these

four excellences are hard to attain. Sampradaya aims to impart such an education that facilitates these four ideals.

Sampradaya's religious calendar is filled with enumerable Vratams, poojas and festivals. Several summer courses are offered annually. These courses are for women of all ages. They may have to stay in the campus for three months. These courses are offered free. In addition, some short term courses are also offered.

### **43. Coordination among Schools**

Steps have been taken by Kanchipuram Mutt through Vedal, a youth hostel near Chennai, and Grihini a girls' hostel in Tirupati to ensure good coordination among various schools. They are also attached with 10 Integrated Pathasalas of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham for different co-curricular activities like Vedas, Nadaswara, Agama, Sampradaya, etc.

1. Sri Sankara Smartha Samskrutha Patasala - Bangalore
2. Sampradaya Patasala - Tirupati
3. Pancharatra Agama Patasala - Tirupati
4. Sri Vaikhanasa Agama Patasala - Avadi, Chennai
5. Sri Kamakoti Smartha Patasala - Karvetinagaram
6. Sri Kamakoti Nadaswara Patasala Girls - Karvetinagaram
7. Sri Kamakoti Shaiva Agama Patasala - Mayavaram
8. Sri Kamakoti Nadaswara Patasala Boys - Thiruttani
9. Sampradaya Patasala - Hyderabad

Integrated Pathasalas (where Vedic education is offered in integrated manner with school/college curriculum) are also run at Tambaram in Chennai, Bengaluru, Navi Mumbai and Athur near Chengalpattu. Swamigal has suggested that mutual exposure to youth from North India to South Indian culture and South India to North Indian culture, including temple, arts, tradition, etc, be taken up as an endeavour.

### **44. Gurusamarpanam**

Gurusamarpanam 2018 conducted by Sri Kamakshi Srividya Samithi at Srimatham premises in Kanchipuram on 17 and 18 November 2018, turned out to be a cultural extravaganza with participation of over 500 students of Integrated Pathasalas of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham. This event commenced with Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal going through the project display of students, followed by prize distribution for top performers. During this event, students got an opportunity to showcase their varied talents through excellent performances and talks, in addition to attending thought provoking seminars, conducted by eminent speakers and also enjoying live performances by distinguished artists.





# GURU SAMARPANAM

With the blessings of the Jagadguru, we invite you  
to attend an

**Integrated Patashala\* and Cultural Extravaganza**  
on 17th and 18th of November, 2018

organised by the Sri Kamakshi Srividhya Samithi  
at the **Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham**



**Anugraha Bhashanam** by Jagadguru,  
Pujoyashree Shankara Vijayendra Sarasvati  
Shankarācharya Svami, will commence  
**Nov 17th, at 5:00 p.m.**

Over 800 of our Integrated Pātashala children from 20 of  
our Integrated Pātashalas will congregate and showcase  
their talents under one roof for the first time and be  
awarded medals for their efforts.



**Keynote speeches by Cultural Luminaries**  
MahāMahopādhyaya, **Mullaivāsal R.**  
**Krishnamurthy Shastri** on “Kutumbha  
Dharma” (Nov 18, 9-10 a.m. )

“Kānchi Kshetra Mahimai” by **Smt. Vishakha Hari**  
(Nov 18, 4:15p.m. to 6:15 p.m.)



★ Concluding **Anugraha Bhashanam** by Jagadguru will  
commence **Nov 18th, at 6:15 p.m.**

**Come, Enjoy exhibits, cultural programmes, wonderful  
lectures on traditional math, entrepreneurship with cow  
products, kolam, demonstrations on how to make kumkum  
and kājāl. Please come, Join the fun! All are welcome.**

Integrated Patashalas\* are run by the Sri Pratyaksha Charitable Trust  
under the guidance of the Jagadguru.

## 45. Sankaram-Yuva Sankeertan

"Sankaram" - Yuva Sankeertan was held at Srimatam on occasion of Jayanti Mahotsavam of Pujoyasri Jayendra Saraswati Sankaracharya Swamigal on 12 September 2018. Students from various schools presented classical songs, bhajans, dances & other cultural performances in presence of Pujoyasri Sankara Vijayendra

Saraswathi Swamigal, who blessed the students and teachers and gave Anugraha Bhashanam.



#### 46. Cultural Training Camps

A cultural training camp was organised at Ghatikasthanam at Vedal near Kanchipuram on 5 and 6 January 2019 for men of different age groups- 6 to 17, 18 to 30 and 30 to 60. Seminars were held on subjects ranging from Vedas, Science, Spirituality, Ayurveda, Jyotisha, Samskrit and Samskaras.





## ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோடி பீடம்

**பண்பாட்டு பயிற்சி முகாம்**

இடம் : கடிகாஸ்தானம் - வேடல், காஞ்சிபுரம்  
தேதி : 05.01.2019 - 06.01.2019

**அந்தணர்களுக்கு ஓர் அரிய வாய்ப்பு**

**மூன்று பிரிவுகளாக நடக்கும்**  
**பண்பாட்டு பயிற்சி முகாம்**

பிரிவு 1 - 6 வயது முதல் 17 வயது வரை  
பிரிவு 2 - 18 வயது முதல் 30 வயது வரை  
பிரிவு 3 - 30 வயது முதல் 60 வயது வரை

**முகாமில் நீங்கள் தெரிந்து**  
**கொள்ளப்போகும் விஷயங்கள்**

- ✦ வேதமும் விஞ்ஞானமும்
- ✦ அறிவியலும் ஆன்மீகமும்
- ✦ ஆயர்வேத ஆகாரம்
- ✦ யோகமும் ஜோதிடமும்
- ✦ சமஸ்கிருதமும் ஸம்ஸ்காரங்களும் மேஜம்பல

அனுதினம் ஆசாரத்துடனும், ஆரோக்யமாகவும்,  
தெளிவுடனும் வாழ்வதற்கு ஓர் அரிய வாய்ப்பு.  
அறிந்து கொள்ள வாருங்கள் !

**முன் பதிவு செய்து கொள்ள தொடர்பு கொள்ளவும்**

**90473 18114 / 98401 18941**



## ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோடி பீடம்

**பண்பாட்டு பயிற்சி முகாம்**

இடம் : கடிகாஸ்தானம் - வேடல், காஞ்சிபுரம்  
தேதி : 05.01.2019 - 06.01.2019

**பண்பாட்டு பயிற்சி முகாமிற்கு**  
**வருவோர் கவனத்திற்கு**

- ✦ இந்த முகாம் ப்ரத்யேகமாக ஆண்களுக்கு மட்டும்
- ✦ வெள்ளிக்கிழமை இரவே வந்து தங்கிக்கொள்ளலாம்
- ✦ தங்குவதற்கும் உணவிற்கும் வசதி செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது
- ✦ வருவோர் தங்களுக்கான ஆடை மற்றும் அனுஷ்டானத்திற்கு தேவையானவற்றை எடுத்து வரவும்
- ✦ பாரம்பரிய உடையில் வருவது அவசியம்

அனுதினம் ஆசாரத்துடனும், ஆரோக்யமாகவும்,  
தெளிவுடனும் வாழ்வதற்கு ஓர் அரிய வாய்ப்பு.  
அறிந்து கொள்ள வாருங்கள் !

**முன் பதிவு செய்து கொள்ள தொடர்பு கொள்ளவும்**

**90473 18114 / 98401 18941**

A two-day educational seminar for School teachers arranged by Hindu Samaya Mandram was held at Sankara College, Enathur on 24 June 2018. The concluding function was held at Srimatham in the presence of Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swamigal, who gave Anugraha Bhashanam and blessed the participants.



## HEALTH CARE

### 47. Sankara Eye Hospitals in Berhampur, Odisha and in Jaipur

In the presence of Pujoyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal , Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated a 100-bed Tata Steel funded Super Specialty Eye Care Hospital at Samarjhola village under Hinjilicut block of Ganjam district on 11 June 2016. The hospital, operated by Sankara Eye Hospital of Tamil Nadu, offers modern eye-care services to the people of Ganjam and nearby districts. At the inauguration ceremony, while blessing the gathering Jagadguru Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal stressed upon the need for eyes both for physical and spiritual aspect of life. Naveen Patnaik, in his address, said, “I am very happy to see the hospital on ground within a short span of one year. I am sure that this hospital will become a pioneer in eye care treatment in the region. I am thankful to Sankara Eye Hospital and Tata Steel for this noble initiative.”



Pujoyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Sankaracharya Swamiji blessed the inauguration of Sankara Eye Hospital at Jaipur in Rajasthan through Video conference on 7 Dec 2017. Addressing the inauguration function from Sankara Netralaya Chennai, Swamigal blessed the institution to serve the society in Rajasthan.



#### **48. Healthcare Seminars**

**Workshop on Mani Mantra and Oushadha** was held in Jayendra Saraswathi Ayurvedic college, Nazarathpet, Chennai for three days - October 24, 25 and 26 2018. Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal addressed the gathering. The Ayurvedic college is run under the aegis of Kanchi Srimatham. The rare Workshop was organised jointly by the Ayurvedic College and Maharishi Sandipani Veda Vidya Pratishthan of Govt. of India in Ujjain. It was attended by scholars in Vedas, Ayurveda, Jyotisha and Gemmology.



**Valedictory Session Programme**

Date : 26.10.2018

2.15 P.M : Prayer  
 2.20 P.M : Welcome Address  
 Prof.S. SWAMINATHAN  
 Head, Dept. of Samhita, Siddhanta & Sanskrit, SJSACH.  
 2.25 P.M : Honouring the Dignitaries  
 2.30 P.M : Summary of the workshop  
 Dr. M.N. SUNANDAN NAMBOODIRI  
 3.00 P.M : Valedictory Address  
 Prof. ESWARA SARMA  
 Former Principal, V.P.S.V Ayurveda College, Kottakkal.  
 3.30 P.M : Guest of Honour & Special Address  
 Sri. N. GOPALASWAMI, IAS.,(Retd.)  
 Former Chief Election Commissioner, Govt. of India.  
 Chancellor, Rastriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati  
 3.50 P.M : Felicitation  
 Prof. G. SRINIVASU  
 Registrar, SCSVMV Deemed University, Kanchipuram  
 4.10 P.M : Vote of thanks  
 Dr. S. LAKSHMANAN  
 Administrative Officer, SJSACH.

**ABOUT THE AYURVEDA COLLEGE**

The SCSVMV University strongly propagates AYURVEDA for holistic health and universal peace. In order to generate dynamic Vaidyas and energetic scientists of Ayurveda, the University started the department of Ayurveda by name **Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Ayurveda College and Hospital (SJSACH)**, in the year 1995 and started the Professional Course of 5½ years B.A.M.S. degree (Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine & Surgery). The Central Council of Indian Medicine, under Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi, the Govt. authority for Ayurvedic education throughout India, has recognized the institution and accorded approval for the college. Since then the college and hospital are growing with remarkable pace in creating infrastructure facilities and quality of education besides ideal health-care management. So far the college has conducted more than 25 National level workshops and 10 National Seminars to its credit.

For Further Details:

log on to : [sjsach.org.in](http://sjsach.org.in) | [sjsach@gmail.com](mailto:sjsach@gmail.com) | 044-26492649 / 26274583



*With the gracious blessings of Brahminbhuta Sri Jagadguru  
 PUJYASRI JAYENDRA SARASWATHI SANKARACHARYA SWAMIGAL  
 and with the benign blessings of Sri Jagadguru  
 PUJYASRI SANKARA VIJAYENDRA SARASWATHI SANKARACHARYA SWAMIGAL*

श्रीजयेन्द्रसरस्वती आयुर्वेदमहाविद्यालयः, चेन्नै  
 (काङ्क्षीपुरस्थ श्रीचन्द्रसेखरेन्द्रसरस्वतीविश्वमहाविद्यालयस्य अङ्गभूतः)  
 एवं  
 महर्षिसान्दीपनि राष्ट्रियवेदविद्याप्रतिष्ठानम्, उज्जयिनी  
 इत्याभ्यां संस्थाभ्याम् प्रचाल्यमाना  
**मणि-मन्त्र-औषध-**  
**विषयिणी त्रिदिवसीया राष्ट्रियकार्यशाला**

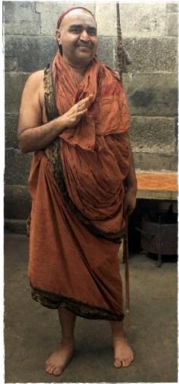
**Three days National Level Workshop on  
 MANI, MANTRA & AUŞADHA**  
 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>, OCTOBER 2018

Venue:  
**SRI MAHA SWAMI MANDAPAM**  
 SJSAC & H Campus, Nazarethpet, Chennai - 600123  
 Jointly organised by  
**SRI JAYENDRA SARASWATHI  
 AYURVEDA COLLEGE & HOSPITAL**  
 Department of Ayurveda  
**SRI CHANDRASEKHARENDRA SARASWATHI  
 VISWA MAHAVIDYALAYA**  
 (University u/s 3 of UGC act-1956) (Accredited with A Grade by NAAC)  
 Enathur, Kanchipuram - 631561. Tamilnadu  
 &  
**MAHARISHI SANDIPANI RASHTRIYA  
 VEDAVIDYA PRATISHTHAN**  
 MINISTRY OF HRD, GOVT. OF INDIA. Ujjain (M.P) 456006

|| समेभ्यो हार्दिकं स्वागतम् ||

Healthcare conclave took place at Kanchipuram at Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya on 25 December 2018. A number of leading doctors addressed the conclave.

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE** **DEC  
25**



## **KANCHI HEALTHCARE CONCLAVE**

### **Paropakārāṛtham Idam Shareeram**

**Sri Chandrasekharendra  
Saraswathi Viswa  
Mahavidyalaya**

**VENUE:** Enathur, (near Kanchipuram)

**With the blessings of the Jagadguru, the Federation of Hindu Mission Health Services cordially invites you to a conclave on broad-based healthcare service activities. Please feel free to inform your colleagues in the medical profession. All are welcome. Program Details will follow.**

**Dr. R.V Ramani  
Sankara Eye Care Institutions, Coimbatore**

**For further details contact: +91 94443 80697/  
visu@kannoli.net**

## **49. FLOOD RELIEF**

A brief note was released by Srimatham on 18 August 2018 urging devotees to participate in relief efforts to help those affected by the recent rains in Kerala and parts of Karnataka. The note said: "As per the directions and wishes of Pujya Sri Sankaracharya Swamigal, devotees along with prayers may also contribute materials like stoves, new bedsheets, vessels, basic medicines, food materials etc to various Sankara Math branches in Chennai, Tiruvanaikkaval, Thanjavur, Madurai, Coimbatore and Tirunelveli". Devotees were encouraged to donate online to the Srimatham relief fund. A Demand Draft of Rs. 25 lakhs was given by Srimatham to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. A consignment of sarees from Sri Kamakshi Ambal Temple, Kanchipuram was handed over to Collectorate, Kanchipuram on 19 August 2018 as relief material for the Kerala flood affected.





|| ஸ்ரீ சந்திரமௌலீஸ்வராய நம: ||

வெள்ளத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட கேரள மாநில மக்களுக்கு  
ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோடி பீடத்தின் நிவாரணப்பணி  
சம்பந்தமான அறிக்கை

நமது பாரத தேசம் எப்பொழுதும் மற்றவர் தயர் கண்டு தானாகவே உதவிக்கரம் நீட்டும் தலைமை பண்புடைய தேசம். இப்பொழுது நமது அன்னை மாநிலமான கேரளம் ஆத்யாநீக ஆதிபெளதிக ஆதிபெளதிக துன்பங்களால் மிகுந்த சிரமத்தை அடைந்துள்ளது. ஆகவே உற்ற நேரத்தில் உதவி புரிய வேண்டிய நிலையில் உள்வ அனைவரையும் ஒருங்கிணைத்து அந்த மக்களின் துயர் துடைக்க ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சி காமகோடி பீடாதிபதி ஜகத்குரு ஸ்ரீ சங்கராச்சார்ய சுவாமிகள் அபிலாஷையுடன் அருளாணை பிறப்பித்துள்ளார்கள். அதன்படி ஸ்ரீ சங்கரமடத்தின் மூலம் ரூபாய் 25 லட்சம் உதவித்தொகை பாரத பிரதமரின் நிவாரண நிதிக்கு அனுப்பி வைக்கப் படுகிறது. மேலும் பத்தர்கள் அனைவரும் பிரார்த்தனைகளுடன் தங்களால் இயன்ற வகையில் பாத்திரங்கள், மளிகைப்பொருட்கள், மருந்துப்பொருட்கள், கம்பளிகள், போர்வைகள், உணவுப் பண்டங்கள் ஆகியவற்றை கீழ்க்கண்ட இடங்களில் சேர்க்குமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்ளப்படுகிறார்கள்.



Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Sankara Matam 1, Salai Street, Kanchipuram – 631502 Tel: 044-27222115	Sri Sankaralayam 66, Mayor Ramanathan Road, Chetpet, Chennai – 31/ 044-28366992
Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Sankar Math 33, Easwaran Koil St, West Mambalam, Chennai 600033	Sri Satsangam 16, Anna Street, Near Market, Pammal, Chennai – 600075 Cell: 94443-80697
Sri Sankara Vidyalaya Mat.Hr.Sec.School New No. 539 Velachery Road, East Tambaram, Chennai – 600 059.	Sri Kamakshi Ambal Temple T.V.Samy road, R.S.Puram, Coimbatore – 641002. 0422-2550612
Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Sankara Mutt 23, Besant road, Chokkikulam, Madurai – 625001/Tel: 0452-2535455	Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Sankara Matam 109, A.P. Mada St, Tirunelveli Town– 627006/ 0462-2330744
Sri Bangaru Kamakshi Devasthanam, Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Sankara Mutt 1826 West Main St, Thanjavur – 613009. Tel: 04362-252539	Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Sankara Mutt 67, North Mada St, Tiruvanaikoil, Trichy-5 Tel: 0431-2231343

## 50. INITIATIVES FOR NRIS

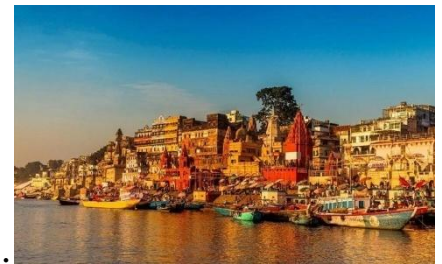
Many are the initiatives taken by the Acharyas to engage NRIs in the ever increasing activities of Srimatham so that they serve to keep the flame of Sanatana Dharma shine brilliantly in all parts of the world.

With Pujyasri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal's blessings and encouragement, Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation, USA (KKSF USA), NRI Parents' Association, India and NRI families from other countries participated in this year's 15<sup>th</sup> Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 held at Varanasi during 21-23 January 2019. The event coincides with the holy Ardha Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj.

Participants took the opportunity to have darshan at Kashi temples and Adi Sankara Vimana Mandapam at Prayagraj.

A first of its kind initiative, an exhibition stall portraying the theme - “Hamaari Sanskriti Hamaari Pehchaan” (To carry forward Rich Legacy of India) displayed Kanchi Matham’s ongoing efforts to preserve the cultural & spiritual identity of our nation in India and abroad to a global audience.

As mentioned in the website of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD), a series of facilities were made available to the attendees of the event. PBD Secretariat made special arrangements to take the attendees to visit Prayagraj for Kumbha Mela on 24 January and to witness Republic Day Parade on 26 January 2019. Kanchi Math branch at Varanasi provided accommodation in Hanuman Ghat Sri Matam Yatra Nivas to devotees participating in the event. The branch at Kashi also caters to devotees in performance of rituals to ancestors. The branch also conducted special



Music Concerts during this three-day event at Kashi.

## SHRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETHAM & NRIs

### Vijaya Champa

Furthering cultural relations with Vietnam

### Bharat-Kambuja Maitri Samiti

- For fostering people-to-people contacts among the citizens of Bharat and Cambodia
- Cambodia is the country outside India that is replete with most number of ancient temples.
- Singapore and Malaysian NRIs can visit Cambodia at least once during their stay in those countries.



### Kanchi Kamakoti Seva Foundation (KKSF-USA)

- Forum of Shrimatam Devotees in USA
- Established in 1989
- Recognized non-profit in the USA
- An organization that supports individuals and the collective to maintain our Svadharma and Traditions
- Supports charitable activities of Shrimatam through fund-raising
- KKSF USA Conducts summer camp "East meets West" every year.
- Children read Voice of God in English and Deivathin Kural in Tamil (Original) to learn about Hindu Dharma.

### Kanchi Kamakoti Kaingarya Sabha, London

Similar activities conducted by KKKS, London



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Similar activities conducted by KKS, London



## SHRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETHAM



"Puja Sri Jayendra  
Saraswati Shankaracharya  
Swamigal"

69th Pontiff of Sri Kanchi  
Kamakoti Peetham

"Puja Sri Vijayendra  
Saraswati Shankaracharya  
Swamigal"

70th Pontiff of Sri Kanchi  
Kamakoti Peetham

## SHRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETHAM & NRIs

### Objectives

#### Re-unite and Reinforce

Using modern technology to bridge the gap between NRIs and India.

Theme of Vidya-Vaidya-Veda

#### Sampradaya & Samskriti

Need to sustain traditional values and practices while adapting to changing times and contexts

**Special emphasis on Youth and Children** to nurture their connect with our Culture and Traditions

Annual NRI conferences in different cities in India and Abroad.

It is planned to organize Sampradaya Samskriti capsules for NRIs during their visits to India

#### NRI Parents & Relatives' Association

To help deal with challenges faced by Indian diaspora, with the guidance and blessings of our Acharyas.

### Activities

- Blessings of His Holiness Sri Shankaracharya Swamigal on important occasions through Anugraha Bhashanam
- NRI meets
  - Meetings of NRI Parents and relatives
- Guru Pujas, Paduka Pujas, and other spiritual activities in various local chapters and communities
- Adopting and contributing towards various charitable projects of Shrimatam
- Youth camps for NRI youth and children
- [www.nrikanchimatam.in](http://www.nrikanchimatam.in) portal for information dissemination
- Establishing connect with native villages through Yatri Nivas and other projects



01/20/2019



