

Birth Centenary Celebrations of Bhāṣya Bhāvajña, Sāhitya Viśārada, Sāhitya Vedānta Śironmaṇi Brahmaśrī Varahūr Kalyāṇasundara Śāstrigal

As a part of the Birth Centenary Celebrations of Brahmaśrī Varahūr Kalyāṇasundara Śāstrigal, a public meeting was held on the 12th of March, 2011 at 'Sankaralayam', Chetpet, Chennai, in the presence of Pujya Śrī Swami



Dayananda Saraswathi who had closely known Śrī Śāstrigal for more than thirty years.

Pujya Swamiji addressed the gathering on his long association and admiration for the precision of teaching and depth of knowledge of Śrī Śāstrigal. He recollected Śāstrigal being rightly awarded the title of "Bhāṣya Bhāvajña" by the Paramacharya of Kanchi Mutt in recognition of the great expositions of Śrī Śāstrigal on the prasthāanatraya bhāṣyās of ādhi Śaṅkar Bhagavatpāda.

Swami Paramarthananda, in his address, reminisced about the fluent teaching practices of Śrī Śāstrigal and his

commitment to imparting of doubt free knowledge to the student.

Dr R. Balasubramanian, former Chairman, ICPR, New Delhi, spoke in detail about the great efforts taken by Varahūr Śāstrigal in developing the

students' knowledge and unbiased interaction with students of all background. Recently Dr R. Balasubramanian was given Life time Achievement



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Award by Primer Minister Dr Manmohan Singh.

Brahmaśri Krishnamurty Śāstrigal, former principal, Sanskrit College, Chennai spoke about his experiences with Varahūr Śāstrigal and Brahmaśri Vazhuthur Rajagopala Sarma whose Centenary was also being jointly celebrated.

Shri Hari Venkatraman spoke in honour of Śrī Vazhuthur Rajagopala Sarma under whom he had studied for decades.

Shri R. Ramamurthy welcomed the gathering. Dr Abhiramasundaram proposed a Vote of Thanks. Dr K. Śrīnivasan, Head of the Dept of Sanskrit, Vivekananda College compeered the Meeting.

Earlier a public meeting was held at Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda College, Mylapore on the 7th of March. The meeting was presided over by Śrī Svāmi Ġautamānanda Maharāj. Many students of Śrī Śāstrigal, now holding various high academic positions, addressed the gathering. Śrī Śāstrigal was associated with the College in various roles for long a long period of time including teaching of post- graduates, research scholars, Brahmācāris and Svamiġis of Ramakrishna Mutt.

Later, Veda Pārāyaṇams by Ghanapāṭhigals and evening upanyāsams were held



forenoon and afternoon from 17th to 20th March at Sankara Gurukulam, Abhiramapuram where Śrī Śāstrigal had taught for long years for BrahmaŚrī Thethiyur Subramanaia Śāstrigal Trust. Speakers included Brahmaśrī Mani Dravid, of Sanskrit College, Brahmaśrī Goda Venkateswara Śāstrigal and Brahmaśrī Krishnamurthy Śāstrigal .

Pictures of both the scholars were unveiled at Asthika Samajam, Pozhichalur on the 20th of March at a public meeting in the presence of Dr. Shri Ramaratnam, Vice Chancellor, Jagadguru Kripalu University, Cuttack.

All the credit for the fine arrangements for the celebrations goes to the students of the scholars, spear headed by Dr Śrīnivasan and Dr Abhiramasundaram of Vivekananda College and Shri Sundararaman of Gurukulam, under the meticulous guidance of Swami Paramarthanandaji.

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