

Guru Purnima at AVG



INTRODUCTION : Sri Veda Vyasa collected and compiled the four Vedas. He has written Mahabharata containing Bhagavad Gita, 18 Puranas and Brahma Sutra. His contribution is there in all three prasthanas of Sruti, Smrithi and Nyaya. He has also written bhasyam on Yoga

Sutra. His birthday is celebrated as **Guru Purnima**. From this day for two months, traditional Sannyasis observe chaturmasyavratam. This is rainy season and lot of small insect would be on the foot path. When one walks, the small insects may accidentally get destroyed. To uphold their vow of non-violence, the Sannyasis stay in one place for two months and teach Vedanta texts.

GURU PURNIMA PUJA: Guru Purnima was celebrated with immense fervor and enthusiasm at AVG, Anaikatti on **July 31, 2015**. Early in the morning, gratitude through special abhishkam and puja were offered to Adi Guru, Dakshinamurti Swami in the temple.



Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswathi's paduka adorned the altar in the lecture hall. Gurupaduka puja was performed with devotion with all upacaras followed by ashtotara and various stotras and bhajans were chanted and sung glorifying the greatness and importance of the Guru, invoking Guru's blessings.

ACHARYA'S ANUGRAHA BHASHANAM:

Swami Sadatmananda delivered the anugraha bhashanam. He explained the greatness of Guru purnima and Sri Veda Vyasa in the tradition: This day the tradition gives us an opportunity to express our gratitude to the Guru parampara. When we express our gratitude our study will be more effective. We can all take a chaturmasya resolve for a period of



four months, where we can give up an object or do spiritual sadana or practice one value intensely. As Pujya Swamiji says, we can feel blessed for receiving this teaching, dhanyoham and anugrahitoham. We express our gratitude to the Guru parampara.

BOOK RELEASE:

Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati's book titled VISION OF THE GITA- in 10 essential verses was released by Swami Sadatmananda. Brni Nandana representing ArshaVidya Research and Publications Trust spoke. She explained that the talks given by Pujya Swamiji in the 80's have been transcribed and edited to form the book. It does not just give the meaning of the 10 verses but the vision of the entire Gita. The context and content of various topics like karma, karma-yoga, sannyasa and moksha are unfolded.

PUJYA SWAMIJI'S MESSAGE:

Students and devotees were in for a pleasant surprise when the recorded video

message of Pujya Swamiji was played after the puja. Pujya Swamiji said that Mahavakya reveals that you are Isvara. The seeming contradiction is resolved by the teaching. The subject matter is not available for any other means of knowledge. It can be taught that "*purnam brahma toamasi*", and handed over

without verbal entropy. The Guru parampara started with Sri Sadasiva or Lord Dakshinamurti and has Sri Adi Sankara in the middle and flows into the current Acharya. We seek the blessings of the Guru parampara.

PUJA TO OTHER ACHARYAS:

In the afternoon, students undergoing long term course offered their gratitude to all the Acharyas teaching in the Gurukulam through a special Guru Vandanam function. Garlands made of flowers with students' thoughts about each teacher were offered. The Acharyas blessed the students and spoke about the importance of the Guru and the great guru-parampara. A few students representing the group, spoke expressing what a blessing it was to have the opportunity to study in the Gurukulam, taught by such committed and caring Acharyas.

Report by N. Avinashilingam