

Pujya Swami Dayananda Sarawati

In response to the appeal in October 2015 issue, there are few responses from devotees of Pujya Swamiji which are being reproduced partly

Even before our beloved Pujya Swamiji's mahasamadhi He brought tears to my eyes. It was the Love He embodied. He was an extraordinary teacher of Vedanta, a great visionary and mobilizer for Dharma. He was Love embodied into a saffron laced, declining, faltering body that I had the immense grace of first beholding at Arsha Vidya Gurukulum, Saylorsburg in August 2012.

Later when I had the opportunity to touch His feet, I noticed His attentive care to meet my eyes as He blessed me. Not a wasted moment for our Pujya Swamiji - He was present every moment.

When I attended courses in the AVG lecture hall, I noticed how His very entry brought a palpable love and reverence for Him among the audience.

Pujya Swamiji personified joy and freedom with such ease and spontaneous expression. Pujya Swamiji, my loving pranam to you always. We are so boundlessly grateful for you; you showed us Fullness in your every movement, Clarity in every word, Compassion in every gesture, Service in every deed. We love you. We miss your beloved form. Your Love continues to move and inspire us. **Shilpa Rao**

We call someone our 'Guru' when they impart knowledge to us. About 6 years back, I took an interest in vedAntA and that is when I heard the word 'Guru' many more times. That is also when I felt that I did not have a 'Guru'. I got my first

opportunity to attend a 5-day two hour session by Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati , which was an eye-opener for me. VedAntA I understood then is in the way I need to live my life. Spirituality and religion which until then meant the same to me, suddenly looked different. I got an opportunity to attend a session for the corporates titled 'Transformational Leadership', by Pujya Swamiji. Another eye opener for me. I made a few trips after that to Coimbatore to meet Pujya Swamiji and every trip, it was a learning for me to see the way he would talk to people with compassion, listen to a child reciting a mantra with keenness and a smile; and appreciate the child for the way the mantra was chanted, carefully listen to what was being spoken and so on. His knowledge, his way of explaining vedAntA leaving no room for ambiguity in the student's understanding, is truly a blessing to experience his teaching.

Today as I write this blog, Pujya Swamiji has attained his mahAsamAdhi about 24 hours ago. I bow my head in gratitude for being 'at the right place at the right time'. When the sishyA is ready, the guru appears..... **Malathy Krishnan**

In accordance with my regular routine for the last 15 years of listening to Pujya swamiji's lectures on various spiritual texts, I was listening to his Swetashwatara Upanishad in the early morning of sept 24th 2015, while doing my pranayama. Suddenly the phone rang. Our Paravidyananda mataji's (of Arsha Vidya Kendra, Bangalore) voice was grim when she broke the news of MahaSamadhi , our beloved Swamiji

attained the previous night. Even though expected for some time, it was a shock when it really happened. But in my mind lingered his laughter and I immediately thought indeed 'Bramhananda has another name Dayananda**Rama Chandrasekhar**

I have a treasure. It is Swamiji's handwritten note of blessing for my first literary foray into spirituality. Though a translation, it is of Shankara Bhâshya on the first chapter of Bhagavad Gita with an explanation. It was Swami Chidananda Puri, the original author in Malayalam, who founded the Advaitâshramam in Kolathur, Kozhikkode, Kerala, who took me to meet the Swamiji in Anaikkatti. Swami means owner. It is the owner who provides. That one and only meeting made me know that Swamiji is my owner. He has provided me with such a blessing that I could release that volume with his note in Kochi in Nov2013. And his writings are another provision that emboldens me, a pre-primary student of Vedanta, for taking classes on one Upanishad each year at Theosophy Society, Cardiff, U.K. My Swami is ever present in my dhana ...**V.Vijay Chandran IAS (Rtd.)**

Twameva Maata cha Pitaa Twameva- this sloka aptly describes our Poojya Swamiji. I, Mrs. Rama Shankar, D/o. Dr. S.S.V.Krishnan of Valparai, wish to share with other devotees, Poojya Gurudev's

blessings showered on me. I came under Poojya Swamiji's threshold in 1966. I was a small child then. Swamiji, during his Geetha Gnana Yagnas in Thanjavur, used to enquire about my schooling, music classes and Sanskrit classes every night. Later, in November 1976, when I was studying in Fatima College, Madurai, Swamiji visited Madurai for a couple of days. I wanted to have Swamiji's darshan but the college hostel authorities refused to permit me to go out of the hostel during working days. I wrote a letter to Swamiji informing this. It was about 7 PM on a week day. There was a prayer meeting going on in the college reception area. Suddenly I saw a big car approaching the front of the college and to my surprise I saw Our Poojya Swamiji getting down from it. He just dashed into the Principal's chamber which was in the front portion of the college. I just stood outside to watch the happenings. I heard my name being uttered by Poojya Swamiji to the college principal. I immediately entered the room and prostrated at the feet of Poojya Gurudev. Swamiji then told me that on receiving my letter stating my inability to visit Swamiji, the great Guru decided to meet me in the college itself. The college principal had no words to describe the *vatsalya* with which Swamiji had come to see me in the college.

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