

Seven Week Fall Vedanta Course

By Swami Tattvavidanandaji at Saylorsburg,USA 2017



The Seven Week Fall Vedanta Course 2017 for adults was conducted by Swami Tattvavidanandaji at the Arsha Vidya Gurukulam in Saylorsburg PA from October 4 to November 21. Approximately a hundred students attended the course. Suddhatmaji held the orientation on October 4 and gave all the required information regarding the facilities at the Gurukulam and the course program.

Swami Tattvavidananda Saraswati taught Chapter 1, first 3 Vallis from Kathopanisad with Sankarabhashyam. Additionally Swamiji held guided meditations in the mornings and satsangs in the evenings. Suddhatmaji conducted the chanting classes.



Lance Daniels and Vijaya Darve taught the Yoga classes. Kalpesh Jasapara and Terry Coe taught Sanskrit classes. Radhaji and Girijaji chanted Vedic Verses. Chitraji sang Kabira's Bhajans during the course. Savithri Maniji and the students presented a play based on a story from the Upanisad.

With the blessings of Swamiji and help from Swamini Srividyananda Saraswati, Savithriji organized a play, an outstanding presentation performed by the students. Kalpesh Jasapara as Yamaraja and Anthony DeRoberts as Naciketas played excellent roles. The play helped to understand the message of the Upanisad more clearly. It was greatly appreciated by all.



Saraswati Puja was performed in October. Four Pradosha Pujas were performed during the course. We Celebrated Deepawali on October 19 at the Gurukulam. On this occasion, Swami Tattavidanandaji read and explained mantras from Devi Stuthi and we chanted Lakshmyottarashatnamavali also.

The Upanisad is recognized as a profound discourse on the truth about, 'what happens to the soul after the death'. It is a dialogue between Yamaraja (God of Death) and Naciketas a nine year old boy.

Priests Sri Ravichandran and Sri Ganesan performed regular as well as Pujas for special occasions during the course. Lance Daniels and Kaushik Ghosh provided rides to the airports and other destinations for incoming and outgoing students during camp. The Kitchen staff worked relentlessly to provide excellent food during the camp. The staff and the volunteers worked hard to perform their assigned responsibilities. Our sincere thanks to Swami Tattavidanandaji, the members of the board and the staff for their continued support for the Vedanta Courses at this Gurukulam.

Swamiji's determination and persistence to teach the important truth as well as his deep knowledge of Vedanta opens up and guides the students on the path of self-realization. We are blessed to have Swamiji as our teacher and we are looking forward for Swamiji's continued teaching of this Upanisad next year.

Hari OM

Submitted by Arvind Bagal