

Public Talks of Sri Swami Omkarananda at Coimbatore



Public talks of Sri Swami Omkarananda was organised at Kikani School, Coimbatore from the 20th to 22nd of January 2012 by Sri M. Krishnan of Sree Krishna Sweets. The talks were titled "Daiva Tamil" which means Divine Tamil Language.

On the first day Swamiji gave a talk on the topic 'Gita and Valluvar'. Thiruvalluvar had written Thirukural, a lyrical Tamil work of 1330 couplets explaining how one should pursue dharma artha and kāma. It is well known for its brevity and profundity. There is a systematic teaching like Bhagavad Gita. Although Gita is not quoted in Thirukural, in many places the message of Gita is explained.

Swamiji explained the Kural starting with "Noy Nāḍi". The meaning is 'let the physician enquire into the nature of disease, its cause, its method of cure and treat accordingly'.

Swamiji explained that sorrow is the affliction of human beings. Its cause is ignorance of one's true self or Ātma. This

can be cured by knowledge of Ātma. The method of treatment is making one's likes and dislikes conform to dharma.

On the second day Swamiji talked on the topic Gita and Thayumanavar. Thayumanavar had written more than 1500 Tamil hymns, which showed the yearnings of a sincere seeker. He said: 'they do not contain systematic teaching like Gita. Although Gita is not quoted by Thayumanavar, the teachings found in Gita like disciplining the mind, managing desires and meditating peacefully are explained'.

Swamiji explained that there are seekers who sincerely yearn for knowledge of Ātma. But due to habitual thinking they are not able to come out of worldly desires. For those seekers Thayumanavar's songs show the proper path.

On the third day Swamiji gave a talk on the topic Gita and Bharathiyar. Bharathiyar has composed many songs in Tamil language which are soaked in devotion and patriotism. His iṣṭa devatā was Lord Krishna. His songs are extensively used in music and dance concerts. He has written 13 articles explaining the teachings of Bhagavad Gita in a Tamil daily, 'India'. There is no systematic teaching in the works of Bharathiyar. He had Ātma jñāna and was able to see Īśvara in living beings and non living things.

Swamiji concluded that Tamil Saints conveyed the divine message of Gita in simple and sweet Tamil language.

Report by N. Avinashilingam