

‘Maargazhi Mahothsav’ at Yoga Shanthi Ashram, West Mambalam, Chennai

Krishna states in the Bhagavad Gita that “Of all the months, I am Maargazhi”. Under the guidance of Sri Swami Brahmayogananda ji, Yoga Shanthi Ashram, West Mambalam, Chennai, it was ‘Maargazhi Mahothsav’ with the culmination of a variety of memorable events to commemorate this holy month.



- The month started with the Prathishtai of ‘ **Sri Utharkasi Vishwanathar**’ at Sri Veda Vyasa Sathsang hall. Swamiji bought this Lingam from Utharkasi very recently
- Through-out this month, early morning, between 4.30 & 6.30 AM, Regular **Puja & Abhishekham** was being performed to Sri Medha Dakshinamurthy, followed by ‘ **Thiruppavai- Daily one Sloka** ’ discourse by Swamiji
- On all the days, Swamiji conducted a Daily 1 hour class room session on ‘ **Dhyanam**’ between 6.30 & 7.30 AM
- **Hanuman Jayanthi** was celebrated at the Sathsang hall on December 27th 2008
- The month also marked the Celebration of the Concluding class of ‘ **Essence of Gita**’ . A total of 60 classes were taken by Swamiji in the past 2 years
- As part of New Year Celebrations, Swamiji conducted a 3-day ‘ **Gnana Pokkisha Shibhir**’ starting 1st of January 2009. In these three days, 80 students of Swamiji learnt the complete text of **Kena Upanishads**. Swamiji had organised for a unique Group discussion session after each class, which was useful for students’ understanding. Swamiji also paid a visit to a village temple on his way back to Chennai from the camp, along with his students
- To commemorate **Swami Vivekananda Jayanthi** on the 12th of January 2009, a special morning session on ‘ **Karma Yoga**’ was conducted by Swamiji, attended by close to 70 students
- On Pongal Bhogi day- the 13th of January 2009, the Thiruppavai session concluded with a unique & Grand ‘ **Andal Thiru Kalyanam**’ where the message of ‘Jivathma Paramathma Aikhyam’ was conveyed in Swamiji’s talk on ‘ **Andal Divya Sarithram**’
- **Makara Sankranthi** was celebrated by way of Viswa Roopa Darshan at Sri Parthasarathy temple, Triplicane at 6 AM on the 14th of January 2009. Swamiji released CDs on three subjects- Essence of Gita- 6 CDs, Dhyaan- 2 CDs and Isa Vaasya Upanishads- 3 DVDs and distributed to the 50 students assembled in the temple

What was amazing was that the daily morning three-hour sessions between 4.30 AM & 7.30 AM were attended by 30 students on all the 30 days without absenteeism. The students participated in all these programs with a lot of enthusiasm and were grateful to Swamiji for making this ‘Maargazhi Mahothsavam’ very memorable.

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Abhishekha to Medha Dakshinamurthy & Utharkasi Vishwanathar



Poorna Kumbham



Andal Thiru Kalyanam on Bhogi day



A Group Discussion in progress during the camp



Andal Divya Sarithram



Swamiji on his village temple visit



CD Release on Makara Sankranthi