

## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Day Celebration of Yoga Shanti Gurukulam of Sri Swami Brahmayogananda

The Yoga Shanthi Gurukulam, founded and guided by Sri Swami Brahmayogananda celebrated its 14<sup>th</sup> annual day on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2009 at Chandrasekar Kalyana Mandapam, West Mambalam, Chennai. Pujya Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswadi presided over the function and blessed the large gathering.

Pujya Swamiji was received with a *poorna kumbham* at Kasi Viswanathar temple amidst Nadaswaram music and Vedic Chanting by 108 Vaidikas.

At the nearby Sankar Mutt Pujya Swamiji performed an Arthi and also a puja at the temple goshala. There was a procession led by motor cycles, the general public and Nadaswaram by Sheikh Maulana troupe from Trichy. A big temple umbrella accompanied Pujya Swamiji's Silver Paadhuka and this was followed by the 108 Vaidikas and a grand horse chariot with Sri Dakshinamurthy decorated on it. Pujya Swamiji's car followed the chariot .

On reaching the venue, Pujya Swamiji was given a traditional welcome with an arathi song. The Gurukulam children gave a deepa and pushpa swagatham with the song "Bho Shambho" reverberating in the back ground. Kum. Revathy Kumar gave a vocal recital. Swami Brahmayogananda performed a traditional pada puja to Pujya Swamiji. T

The function commenced with the lighting of traditional lamp by Padmasri Kum. Shobana Chandrakumar and an invocation song. After the welcome address by Shri Ln S J Sharma, special address was given by Shri K. Suryanarayana Rao, RSS Senior Pracharak.

Swami Brahmayogananda delivered his *arulurai* before Pujya Swamiji's talk. On behalf of the Gurukulam, Swami Brahmayogananda offered Guru Dakshina to Pujya Swamiji towards AIM for SEVA cause.

Pujyasri Swami Dayananda Saraswati's **Anugraha Bhashanam** was relished by one and all where he emphasized that even if we have the blessings of all the Ashta Lakshmis, complete happiness is not possible without the presence and blessings Goddess Saraswati. 'Only Knowledge can lead to happiness', he said

Pujya Swamiji also released MP3 CDs of Swami Brahmayogananda's Vedanta classes which covered complete text of Mundaka Upanishad and text portions of Bhagavad Gita Sankara Bhashyam. Dr (Mrs) Y G Parthasarathy received the first CD copy.

Many eminent personalities from diverse backgrounds participated in this auspicious event as special invitees. The three-hour event was interspersed with many songs by the Gurukulam students.

Under the able guidance of Swami Brahmayogananda, his students put in nearly 1000 hours of disciplined hard work day and night for more than a month to make this three-hours function a success. Pujya Swamiji commended that the whole event was well planned, organized and executed to perfection.

This memorable event concluded with a prayer song and prasadam. The 2,000 strong audience who attended this function carried back joyful memories of this unforgettable evening.

