

150th Jayanthi of Swami Vivekananda Celebrated on the occasion of Yoga Shanthi Gurukulam's 17th Anniversary

Yoga Shanthi Gurukulam was started 17 years back by Shri Swami Brahmayogananda on a *Chitra Pournami*. Every year, the anniversary function is celebrated in a grand manner during the season of *Chitra Pournami*.

Chitra Pournami is also the day when Swami Brahmayogananda took his *sanniyaasa dhiksha*. Coincidentally, Swami

Vivekananda's *sanniyaasa dhiksha* was also on this auspicious day of *Chitra Pournami*.

This year, the function was celebrated on Sunday, the 6th of May 2012 at Krishna Gana Sabha, Chennai.

The celebration began at 08:45 AM with the, veena recital by students of 'Veena Vidhushi' Smt. Rama Raghuraman followed by the lighting of lamp by Prof. Dr. Nirmala Prasad (Principal, MOP Vaishnav College) and Susri Nivedhitha Bhide Ji (All India Vice President,

Vivekananda Kendra). The song written by Namakkal Kavignar was sung as the invocation song by Shri. S P Ramh. Prayer song was choired by Gurukulam's Summer Camp Children. On this occasion, CDs on Swamiji's regular classes on Bhagavad Gita was released.

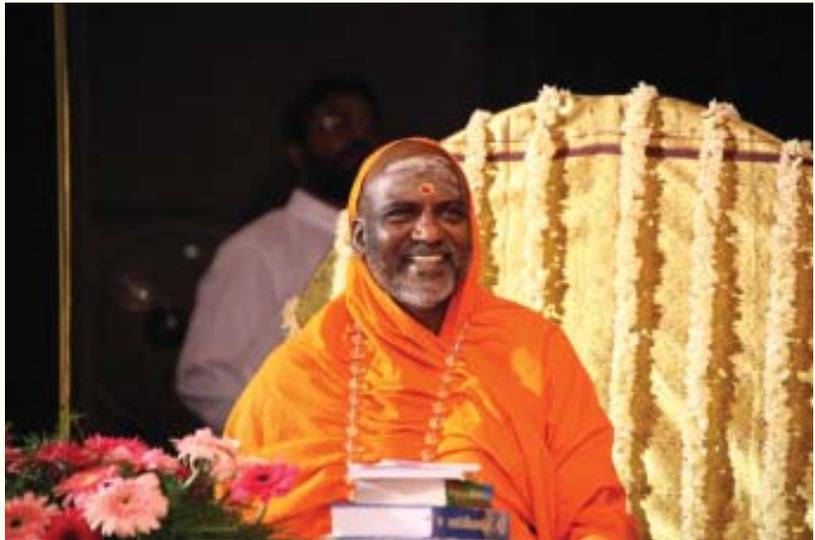
All Chief Guests and Guest of Honour including H.H. Swami Yadhunathananda Maharaj (Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, T Nagar), Susri Nivedhitha Bhide ji,



Shri. Sthanumalayan Ji (Kshetra Pracharak, Dakshina Bharath, RSS), Dr. T S Shridhar I.A.S (Addln. Chief Secretary to Govt.), Dr. Pappu Venugopal Rao (Secretary, The Music Academy), Shri. Pinaki Banerjee (Vice President, Madras Kali Bari) & others spoke on the greatness of Swami Vivekananda.



Susri Nivedhitha Bhide Ji, inspired every individual to sincerely and truthfully contribute their time for our nation and that Swami Vivekananda called for hundreds of such fearless and sacrificing youngsters. Dr. Pappu Venugopal Rao described Swami Vivekananda as a personification of Srimad Bhagavad Gita. Shri. Sthanumalayan Ji blessed the students of the Gurukulam to contribute more for this nation with responsibility as the Gurukulam was turning "a major", entering into the 18th year!



'Swami Vivekananda's letter to the people of Chennai' was read out aloud by Swamiji during the celebration and a copy of the letter was given to



all who attended the function. Swamiji recalled the inspiring stories that highlight the boldness and fearlessness that Swami Vivekananda had from his childhood and his inconceivable focus revealing his power of control over his mind. His strong mind and fearlessness had no match ! Swamiji added that while the common man refers to the body to be the self (*Dehaathma*), Swami Vivekananda always felt and referred this whole nation as the "Self" (*Deshaathma*).



Swamiji impressively declared to the crowd that, in 2012, while they were celebrating the 150th Jayanthi of Swami Vivekananda, our nation is a secular Bharath. In 2037, during his 175th Jayanthi, our nation would become Cultural Bharath! In 2062, during his 200th Jayanthi, our nation would be the all powerful and unified "Aikhya Akhanda Bharatham"!

