

## 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Aniakatti



Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Aniakatti celebrated its 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2011. More than a thousand persons participated in this vibrant function.

Aniakatti was an obscure village on the western ghats mountain range of southern India, just 21 years ago. Today it is an international centre for learning Vedanta and Sanskrit, attracting sincere seekers from all over India and all over the globe. This



transformation happened due to Pujya Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswati blessing Aniakatti with Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, where he has been showering his compassion in the form of teaching Vedanta for the past 21 years. Words are inadequate to thank the benevolent Trustees and the dedicated Teachers of the Gurukulam who have contributed their wealth, time and resources whole-heartedly for making the vision of Pujya Swamiji a reality.

The celebrations started with a music concert by Maharajapuram Sri Ramachandran. The highlight of the concert was the rendering of the latest composition of Pujya Swamiji on Mahalinga Swami at Tiruvidaimarudur. Sri Kuppuswami congratulated Maharajapuram Sri Ramachandran for his inspiring concert.





The main function began with a prayer song by Kumari Darshana and Kumari Sowmya and Vedic chanting by Sri Jambunatha Ganapadigal and his students. Dravida Veda was chanted by Anantha Subramaniam.

Sri Ravi Sam, Trustee of Sruti Seva Trust welcomed the gathering. He said that Pujya Swamiji had touched the lives of tribal people living in remote villages on the mountains of India by his reaching-out activities. The thirst for knowledge is great among their first generation students and they value education very much. Pujya Swamiji had empowered them by education through the large reach of AIM for Seva.



Sri V. Sivaprasad, Secretary presented the Gurukulam Report. He said that the most important event during the year was the Satabhishekam celebrations of Pujya Swamiji. Swami Dayananda Satabhishekam Celebration Committee organised the celebrations from 20.7.2011 to 22.7.2011 at CODISSIA grounds, Coimbatore in a befitting manner. Over 3000 students of Pujya Swamiji participated in this great event. During the Satabhishekam celebrations, a book titled "Swami Dayananda Saraswathi- Contributions and Writings" authored by Smt Sheela Balaji was released.



Sri Sivaprasad said that the long term course on Vedanta and Sanskrit, which commenced on 23.7.2011 was progressing well. As many as 80 students were attending the same. The teaching of Kathopanisad, Mundakopanisad, Kaivalyopanisad and Drk-drishya-viveka

had been completed. Presently Pujya Swamiji was teaching Bhagawad Gita bhasyam and Kenopanisad bhasyam. The students were also studying Sanskrit with great enthusiasm.

Sankara Jayanthi, Sani Peyerchi, Guru Peyerchi and Guru Purnima were celebrated in the Gurukulam. A Sandhya Gurukulam Teachers Training camp held at the Gurukulam from 10.8.2011 to 15.8.2011 and as many as 76 trainees participated in the camp.

Pujya Swamiji inaugurated the yagna of Sri Swami Paramarthananda of Chennai who taught Sarva Vedanta Siddhanta Sara Sangraha and Bhagawad Gita at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Coimbatore from 28.4.2011 to 4.5.2011.



In addition to the activities at the Gurukulam, Pujya Swamiji took part in many public functions held at Coimbatore city and blessed the public.

Padmasri Dr. P.R.Krishnakumar, Managing Director, Arya Vaidya Pharmacy was the Chief Guest. He said that the political leaders in India had failed and ethics and values were compromised. Leaders like Pujya Swamiji alone could take back India to its glorious place. The universities did not teach concentration and detachment. "We should work to make India, the leader of the world. I pray to Lord Dhanvantri to bless Pujya Swamiji with a long and healthy life", he said.



Dr. N. Mahalingam, the leading industrialist and respected philanthropist addressed the gathering. He congratulated Sri Satchidanandan for translating Devaram, a collection of devotional songs on Lord Siva in Tamil into all Indian languages. He prayed that Pujya Swamiji should live like Sri Ramanuja for 120 years and bless us.

Sri Satchidanandan said that he was an instrument in getting Devaram translated in other languages.



Krishnakumar and Dr. M. Krishnan) had made Coimbatore a city one would love to live in. Retirement homes like Vanaprastha, Dhyana-prastha, Brindavan and Nana Nani had come up in this place. Like Florida in USA, Coimbatore was emerging as the retirement destination. He congratulated Dr. M. Krishnan for the doctorate degree conferred on him by the Karpagam University.



Pujya Swamiji said: "Sugar crystal is sweat without a cause. One can be happy, just by being oneself without any external cause. One need not do anything to be happy. This knowledge is not available anywhere else except in India. Organised religions make one feel guilty, just because they are born of a father and mother. Hinduism considers mother and father as associates of Iswara. One can be proud that their parents are associates of Iswara. Creation pre-supposes knowledge. Iswara the Creator had the knowledge of this creation. Creation is not different from the Creator, as Iswara did not use any external material. The Maker and the Material are Iswara. Iswara is the intelligent cause and also the material cause. Everything here is Iswara. Iswara starts from my body and extends to everything around and beyond. Deha is devalaya. Body is a temple. The indweller is Iswara. If one understands this, there is no self image problem. This profound knowledge is still available in India. The form and the spirit of the teaching are all alive. Teaching tradition is there. One can be happy, just by being born in India. One can be happy for no other reason".

Dr. M. Krishnan, Trustee said that if any one ask us, if we have seen God, we can answer in the affirmative as we have seen Pujya Swamiji.

Sri S. Sairam proposed a vote of thanks.

In his anugraha bhashanam Pujya Swamiji said that two 'Krishnans' (Dr. P.R.