

Vedic Astrology Camp

January 4-11, 2020,AVG, Anaikatti, Coimbatore

A one-week residential camp on Introduction to Vedic astrology was conducted at AVG, Anaikatti from January 4 -11, 2020 by Swami Jagadatmananda Saraswati. There were 28 participants attended the camp. This was the 3rd of such camps organized by AVG. Inaugurating the camp Swami Sadatmananda Saraswati explained the meaning of Arsha Vidya Gurukulam as the place of learning of the knowledge which has come from the rishis. He then explained the role of the Vedangas and highlighted that jyotisham or Vedic astrology is one of the Vedangas, the study of which is important to understand the teaching of the Vedas. He also explained the role of astrology in our lives emphasizing that we should avoid the two extremes of dismissing astrology as superstition or getting obsessed. He professed that one should adopt a balanced approach and use our free will for deciding the course of events in our lives. He said that Jyotisha does not believe in determinism or fatalism.

In this camp Swami Jagadatmananda inculcated the fundamental rules of Vedic Astrology based on *Parashara Hora Sashtra* which were helpful to understand one's own strength and weaknesses. The principles of Panchanga and the practical methods of adoption on daily basis for a prosperous and harmonious life was the highlight of the camp. Swamiji also emphasised that astrology is not a faith but there are more things to understand. In all his teachings he emphasised the need of following dharma in our life. The course material provided was excellent and useful take home of the widely covered subject.

There was Satsanga at the end of each day with full of laughter and sharing of experiences kept the participants with undiminishing enthusiasm. There were some interesting insights into how predictive astrology can be accurate to a very high degree.

Overall, there was a very positive feedback for this course. The course ended with a brief valedictory function held on 11th January, 2020 where the participants received the blessings of both the acharyas Swami Sadatmanandaji and Swami Jagadatmanandaji.

Feedback from the participants of the camp:

Mr.Ganapati

..... I was able to understand the symbiotic relationship between astrology and advaita Vedanta of which I am a student, practitioner and a teacher.

More specifically, in my view, the study and understanding of astrology helps a mumukshu and a jigyasu in the following manner:

Firstly, it helps in bringing more and more ishwara in our lives

Secondly, when we start our day with the panchangam and conduct our daily lives with a good understanding of what is in store for us on a given day, we can use our free will to manage the daily affairs with least problems and maximum positive and happy outcomes

The third aspect is with a good understanding of the subject, we can guide people around us for them also to lead a dharmic and stress-free life.....

Mr.Vikram

The first thing that touched me was the simplicity and humility with which Swamiji conducts himself, in spite of the profound wisdom that he carries He taught astrology always from the viewpoint of Vedanta. He kept repeating that we suffer due our own deeds and we enjoy also due to our own deeds..

Every time I think of swerving from the path of Dharma after this course, I will be reminded of the karmic effects and the planetary combinations that I am producing for myself!

I am going back a changed person, Swamiji, an inspired person to lead a more Dharmic life. I remember a meaningful & famous quote, "One person can inspire many and those many can inspire many more..."

Mr.Ramkumar

..... My initial idea to understand and interpret in astrology was different but after being taught (initiated) by you Swamiji everything has changed. Astrology is an ocean and I would kindly request you to please accept me and guide me to the next level of astrology.