But since this is the New Year accepted by the whole world, today we will make a prayer to Īśvara for the whole World.

So today we will pray for the entire world, starting with oneself. We pray to Iśvara first for oneself. Always the world starts with oneself as the center, then in concentric circles people and things stand related to us.

There can be only one prayer for the seeker of ātmā-j.ānam, so we pray asking for dṛḍa-j.āna-vairāgya-siddhyartham. Then we pray for everything that is necessary for that, which we should gain by His grace.

The body has to be healthy. The mind has to be sharp and ready all the time. The buddhi has to be sharp to grasp everything and retain everything. All my transactions all through the day should be conducive for this purpose- for this puruṣārtha . And my prayer is, I should neither rub against anybody, nor should I get rubbed by anybody.

All this is the prayer for myself.

Then we extend our prayer for health, happiness and success in whatever anybody wants to do, for each and everyone related to us in the first concentric circle - the family, then to the extended family, then to the community in which we live, to the country, to the whole World, to the whole Universe.

Then the final prayer can only be as follows. Let me and everybody else have the courage and strength to change what can be changed; to accept with grace what cannot be changed and, to know the wisdom to differentiate between the two and remain happy, peaceful and contented... and gain that final purpose of life, mokṣa. And in this pursuit let me never transgress dharma in anything that I do. And let me appreciate Īśvara all the time in and through everything.

Oh Lord! This is my prayer for today. I surrender unto you.

Om īśāya namaḥ. Om īśāya namaḥ. Om īśāya namaḥ Namaḥ. Namaḥ.

"Tamil retreat" by Swamini Brahmaleenananda. Dates 6th April night to 13th April Noon, 2019, at Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Anaikatti. Topic "Introduction to Vedanta based on the Text Sadhana Bodhini (of Swami Sadatmananda)"