

## Tirumurai Festival, 2009



Saivites are grateful to Pujya Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswati for the keen interest he displays towards the propagation of the Tamil Tirumurais. Every year the Tirumurai Festival is conducted by him under the auspices of Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Anaikatti, Coimbatore. In this connection the help rendered by Arutselvar Dr. N. Mahalingam is noteworthy. On this occasion, every year eminent Oduvars are invited to render the Tevaram hymns in the traditional manner. Substantial cash awards are presented to senior Oduvars in appreciation of their sustained service over the years.



The Tirumurai Festival for the year 2009 took place in the holy shrine of Sri Koneswaraswamy, the presiding deity of Kodavasal in Tiruvarur District on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of June 2009. The entire atmosphere was surcharged with



religious cum spiritual vibrations. Well known and well respected pontiffs of Adheenams and Matathipadhis delivered soul-uplifting and benedictory lectures. Acknowledged authorities of Saivism addressed the gathering of devotees. Inspiring hymns of the Tirumurais were rendered by a good many Oduvars, individually and in groups during the two-day festival.

Everyone in the audience was thrilled to hear in profound silence the Tirumurai anjali in which more than a hundred Oduvars participated and rendered the Tevara patikams relating to the shrine of Kudabvayil and also ther pancha puranam in the hallowed sannidhi of the Magna Mater who bears the salvific name Brahan Nayaki. The rendering was characterized by flawless harmony. This took place in conformity with the wish of Pujya Swamiji. This is proof positive of the fact that the Magna Mater actualizes the wish of a selfless Sadhu. During the time of the Emperor Rajaraja I, devotees were blessed to hear the concordant singing of Tevaram hymns by a group of 48 Oduvars. Devotees



presentr in the sannidhi of Periyanaayaki recollected the performance of the Oduvars a millennium ago.

On the first day, the invocatory hymn was melodiously recited by Vaiyachery Sivasri Balasubramaniya Iyer. After this, the festival was inaugurated by Pujya Sri Swamiji. During the festival inspiring lectures were delivered by His Holiness Sivaprakasa Desika Paramacharya Swamigal of Tiruvavaduturai Adheenam, Sri La Sri Yajaman Swamigal of Tiruppanandal Kasi Matam, Sri La Sri Elavarasu Swamigal Sundarmurthy Tampiran of Kasi Matam, Thavathiru Nachiyappa Jnanadesika Swamigal of Koviloor Adheenam, Sri La Sri Kumaragurupara Swamigal of Kaumara Matam, Srimad Sivalingeswara Swamigal of Kamatchipuri Adheenam, Srimad Sivajnana Desika Swamigal, Appar Matam, Ulundurpet and Sri Ooran Adigal.

Arutselvar Dr. N. Mahalingam was all appreciation of the festival. In his inspiring speech, he was pleased to announce that in the ensuing year, he would conduct the Tirumurai festival at Pollachi, invite as many Oduvars as possible and present each one of them with a good cash award. He also added that arrangements would be made by him for a group singing of the



hymns in the Natarajar sannidhi of the Perur shrine.

Sekkhizhaar Adi-p-podi Dr. T.N. Ramachandran spoke on 'Ezhutu Marai' (Indited Vedas) highlighting the Vedic import of the Tirumurais in general and the Tevaram in particular. Chhandakkavi V.S. Ramasamy spoke on Chhandas as in the Vedas and the Tirumurai. Sivasri V. Ramanan delivered a soul-stirring speech on the woman characters of the Periya Puranam.

Archaeologist Sri K. Sridharan spoke on the history of the temple at Kudavayil. Kudavayil Dr. M. Balasubramanian discoursed on the architectural and cultural opulence of the Tevaram. This was a demonstrative lecture in which the power-point medium was used.

Cash awards were presented to the Oduvars by Pujya Sri Swamiji.

Pujya Sri Swamiji, it is acknowledged by all, is doing his best to revive the traditional singing of the Tirumurais in all possible shrines. Devotees fervently pray to Ammaipappar for Pujya Sri Swamiji's health and long life.

*Report by  
Dr. Kudavayil Balasubramanian*





திருமுறைத் திருவிழா

திரு. திருமதிரு கோவைஸ்வரூப சுவாமி திருவடிகள்  
குடவாசிகள்

நாள் 18.12.2009



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“Venue of the Festival: Sri Koneswaraśwamy Temple, Kodavasal”

