

GURU PURNIMA CELEBRATIONS

ON 5th JULY 2020, AT ARSHA VIDYA GURUKULAM,
ANAİKATTI

Gurupurnima celebrations used to be the one of the famous and grandly celebrated occasions at Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Anaikatti. This year due to the pandemic Covid-19 situation the function was organized with all safety measures like social distancing. Only students of the present 2 years course were allowed to participate. But it was a great pleasure to the regular visitors and associated people of Gurukulam who could not be there to participate and view the entire program online. The program started with the special abhisheka of adiguru Sri dakshinamurti in the temple. Then anujna puja at Gurutheertha was done and the puja articles were taken in a small procession towards the lecture hall where the altar of Sri Adishankaracharya and the Guru paduka of Pujya Swamiji was kept ready. The temple priests conducted a detailed puja along with Chief Acharya Swami Sadatmanandaji, Swami Prashantanandaji, Swamini Saradanandaji, Swamini Vedarthanandaji, Swami Vishwatmanandaji, Swami Jagadatmanandaji, Br.Sharanji, Br.Kumarji and students.

Swami Sadatmanandaji presented his anugraha bhashanam. Acharyaji's talk was very informative and the students were enthralled to listen about the significance of Gurupurnima.

Later Swami Jagadatmanandaji delivered a short talk in Tamil. Swamiji thanked the Acharyaji for giving importance for a Tamil talk and offered his respects to Pujya Swamiji and his Gurus at the opening of the talk. He highlighted about the *Gurumahima* referring a verse from *Tirumandiram*, "*Thelivu Guruvin Tirumeni kandal*" (Verse 27 / Tantra 1) which means,

"Clarity is seeing the sacred appearance of guru;
Clarity is saying the sacred name of guru;
Clarity is listening to the sacred words of guru;
Clarity is contemplating on the sacred form of guru."

Swamiji explained that the words of the verse have the implied meaning of *Shravanam*, *Mananam* and *NididhyAsanam* and one should contemplate the

MahAvAkya Upadesha and the teachings given by the Guru for clarity. He also referred a quote from Pujya Swamiji, once when a follower said to Pujya Swamiji that his talk was simple, to which Pujya Swamiji replied – *“I am not simple but clear.”* Swami Jagatatmanandaji recalled a story of a pot told by Pujya Swamiji which is famous among his followers, which emphasized non-self- acceptance to be the fundamental problem.

The celebrations were concluded with the students offering their respects to Pujya Swamiji, Acharyaji and all teachers. Acharyaji blessed all the students with prasAdam.



Note: We could not publish the serial articles in this month newsletter due non availability of printing space.

- Editor