

SWAMI VIDITATMANANDA'S CLASS

Swami Veditatmananda taught **Brhadaranyaka Upanisad bhasyam of mantra 4.4.22 "Sa va esa mahanaja Atma...."** to students of long term course at AVG, Anaikatti between Nov 16, 2016 and Nov 21, 2016.



In this mantra Sage Yajnavalkya glories Paramatma. A Jnani recognises himself as Paramatma. The seekers perform **yajna, dhana** and **tapas** to get the required mental purification to understand atma. They **give up desire for progeny, wealth and svarga**, which are means for this world, pitru loka and svarga loka and live a life of renunciation. They **gain moksha**. They are not tortured by guilt and hurt. They do not have regret for what is done and not done.

During the classes Swamiji explained what should be the attitude, values and life style of the seekers. **He said that we need not be diffident being a Hindu. We need not be apologetic for worshipping murti.** Murti worship is a great contribution of Hinduism. It makes even simple people connect and establish a relationship with Isvara. Thousands of people got wisdom due to this path. Being superstitious is better than not relating to Isvara.

During Satsangh , Swamiji answered the questions of the students.

Q: In Taittiriya Upanisad it is mentioned that Isvara desired to create the universe. Only a

wanting person, who has a sense of inadequacy will desire to do some activity. How can Isvara, who is not a wanting person desire to do?

A: Isvara desired out of freedom and out of happiness. It was a non-binding desire. **As karma phala dhata, to give the result of the punya and papa to the Jivas he created the universe.**

Q: What do you advice the long term course students to do after the course?

A: Students should continue to grow to get more clarity and abundance in the knowledge. They should teach Vedanta, as teaching is an advanced form of learning which brings greater understanding. They should prepare for every class. They should be grateful to their Students, as the Students allow them to think aloud. They should remain unaffected by praise. They should **have attitude and activities conducive to spiritual progress.** They should get the ability to communicate the vision through words. They should **have a spirit of renunciation for committed pursuit of self knowledge.**

Q: Some of the students are young in their twenties. They may like to get married and raise a family. What is your advice to them?

A: Once a person joins the long term course means, he is committed for life to this pursuit. Married life will take away a lot of time and energy. **Time for Study and Teaching may not be available. Spiritual progress will be slower.**



Swamiji received with PurnaKumbham

Q: I am able to relate to wise people. But I am not able to relate to otherwise people. What should I do?

A: Remind that everyone is sat-chit-ananda. Do not have holier than thou attitude. **You received grace of the teaching. Some were not fortunate like you to receive the teaching.**

The students were captivated by Swamiji's sadhu life, profound knowledge and contemporary approach to traditional teaching.

-Report by N. Avinashilingam

Namaste Swaminiji and Swamiji

I have enclosed a brief write-up.

Pujya Swamiji first graced Dubai in 2004, a visit that changed my life, and that of many others here.

Following this, Swamiji began to make weekly visits to Dubai nearly every year until his Mahasamadhi, and spoke on topics ranging from the Bhagavad Geeta, verses from Upanishads, to general talks like 'Intelligent Living' and 'Three States of Reality'. I looked forward to his trips every December, and eventually also began attending the camps in Rishikesh. During one of the camps in Rishikesh, we had the privilege of listening to Pujya Swamiji's talk on Rama Geeta, and were completely enamoured as he made such a terse text seem so accessible & interesting.

In particular, I attended the three-month Geeta camp in 2010 in Anaikatti, which proved to be a turning point in my life.

After the camp, I took to regular study with Pujya Swamiji's talks and texts related to Upanishads. As this self-study gradually progressed, Pujya Swamiji encouraged some of us to take the next step and start a few home study groups in Dubai, where I was blessed to be a facilitator. These study groups proved to be very beneficial in assimilating and internalizing the study of Vedanta.

After completing one round of Geeta home study with a group of about 10 committed seekers which took about 4 years, we approached Pujya Swamiji, who asked us to now commence the study of Mundakopanishad. We have since been conducting and enjoying Mundakopanishad and Geeta home study classes regularly online, with the help of Swamiji's talks. These classes have been helpful in having doubts cleared and in continuing the study with more 'Shraddha' in 'Guru Vaakya' and 'Pramaana'.

Pujya Swamiji was and is a master, who with compassion makes every committed seeker see the truth as he sees it. It was a blessing to have been around when such a Mahaan walked this earth.

Dhanyavaad:

Pranaams & Hari: Om

Meenakshi Chandrasekhar