

SWAMI SAKSHATKRITANANDAJI'S BRAHMA SUTRA CAMP AT RISHIKESH

Swami Sakshatkritananda conducted a camp at Kovilur Math, adjacent to Dayananda Ashram, Rishikesh from Oct 23, 2018 to Oct 29, 2018. 130 students attended the camp.



Every day schedule -guided meditation (morning). Two classes on Brahma Sutra and one with Sankara bhasyam, followed by evening satsangh.

Swamiji covered 16 adhikaranas, topics, out of the total 192 adhikarnas, selecting one from each pada, section. He had selected them based on their importance, uniqueness, representative nature, etc. The selection from each section gave an occasion to cover the subject matter of each section very briefly. He also explained the verses from adhikarana-nyaya-mala written by Sri Swami Vidyananda for the selected adhikaranas, which gave the essence of the discussions. A brief description of the topics covered is presented below:

FIRST CHAPTER: SAMANVAYA ADHYAYA: Samanvaya Adhyaya establishes that Brahman is consistently the central theme of Upanisads. The topics explained were: Akasadikaranam (BS 1.1.22), Guhapravishtadhikaranam (BS 1.2.11 & 1.2.12), Devatadhikaranam (BS 1.3.26 to 1.3.33) and Prakrtyadhikaranam (BS 1.4.23 to 1.4.27).

SECOND CHAPTER: AVIRODHA ADHYAYA: Avirodha Adhyaya establishes that there is no inner contradiction among the srutis as well as between srutis and smritis and between srutis and tarka. Vyasa also points out the fallacies in the darsanas of other philosophers. The topics explained were: Arambhana adhikaranam (BS 2.1.14 to 2.1.20), Racananupapattyadhikaranam (BS 2.2.1 to 2.2.10), Kartradhikaranam (BS 2.3.33 to 2.3.39) and Jyothiradhyadhikaranam (BS 2.4.14 to 2.4.160).

THIRD CHAPTER: SADHANA ADHYAYA: Sadhana adhyaya deals with the means for the gain of brahmavidya which has been established in 1st and 2nd chapters. First Pada deals with jiva-gati vicarah - travel of the jiva from sarira to sarira and loka to loka because of which alone life is called samsarah. The purpose of this vicara is to develop vairagya. Second pada is doing tat tvam padartha vicarah, to know the meaning of these two words for knowing mahavakya. Third pada deals with varieties of upasanas which are required for single-pointedness of the mind. Fourth pada deals with other sadhanas like role of sanyasa in gaining brahmavidya, role of samadi shatka sampattih, and so on. The topics explained were: Tadantarapratipattyadhikaranam (BS 3.1.1 to 3.1.7), Phaladhikaranam (BS 3.2.38 to 3.2.41), Yavadadhikaradhikaram (BS 3.3.32) and Sarvapekshadhikaranam (BS 3.4.26 & 3.4.27).

FOURTH CHAPTER: PHALA ADHYAYA: Phalam for saguna upasana and nirguna vidya is enquired here. Phalam is mukti which is of three types -jivanmukti, videhamukti and kramamukti. First two are for jnanam and the last is for upasana. Kramamukti involves utkranti, departure and gati, travel. Even though they are in all the four padas, predominantly the first pada deals with jivanmukti, the second pada focuses on the departure of the prana at the time of death (for any jiva other than jnani with focus on upasaka), the third pada talks about travel through suklagati and the fourth pada deals with brahmaprapti for jnanai and brahmaloka prapti for upasaka who gains mukti in brahmaloka. The topics explained were: Avrttyadhikaranam (BS 4.1.1 & 4.1.2), Samsaravyapadesadhikaranam (BS 4.2.8 to 4.2.11), Karyadhikaranam (BS 4.3.7 to 4.3.14) and Jagatvyaparadhikaranam (BS 4.4.18 to 4.4.22).

BHASYAM CLASS: Sutra 2.1.14 in Arambhana adhikaranam was taught. This adhikaranam establishes that there is non-difference between the cause, Brahman and the effect, universe.

GURU PUJA: On the opening day of the camp and the concluding day of the camp, led by Swami Sakshiji, the students did puja to Pujya Swamiji's adhithanam at Dayananda Ashram, Rishikesh.

BANDARA: Sadhu bandara was offered on the opening day of the camp and concluding day of the camp at Dayananda Ashram, Rishikesh.



Report by N. Avinashilingam