

Anugraha bhashanam by Swami Sadatmanandaji

on guru preyarchi day 2018 at AVG Anaikatti

Our culture is called vedic culture which means it is a culture based on Vedas. Vedas are the body of knowledge not authored by any human being, but given to us by the lord himself. Vedas are given by the lord to the entire humanity through various rishis, therefore vedas are called ArshAh. Therefore the teaching given in the vedas is called Arshavidya. The teaching of vedas has got two parts - The first part is called karma khanda or karma Vidya. The second part is called Brahma vidya or otherwise called upanishad or vedanta.

To understand the teaching of vedas thoroughly, there are various disciplines of knowledge called vedangah. Vedangas are six in number. The first limb is called Shiksha , a discipline of knowledge dealing with phonetics. The second one is called kalpa dealing with the procedure of doing rituals given in the vedas. The third is called vyakaranam , grammar dealing with the linguistic aspect. The fourth one is called niruktam or etymology dealing with the derivation of various words used in the vedas. The fifth one is called Chandas or prosody dealing with the metres or structure of the mantras. The last one is called jyotisam which is translated as astrology and astronomy. Actually the word jyotisam is from jyotih or luminaries . Jyotisam is dealing with the study of luminaries , the celestial bodies. Jyotisam is dealing with the study of the movement of various planets with regard to various stars or nakshatras. The movement of the planets are indicative of certain karma's of the individual. Because the principle is that the individual and total are connected- yat pinde tat brahmande. Yat brahmande tat pinde. Based on this principle we have predictive astrology or phala jyotisam where certain predictions are made based on the position of planets and constellations. But we should not misunderstand that the movement of the star is causing some problem or creating some situation in our life. Like you can not say that just because the clock is showing 12'oclock, therefore the sun is in the middle of the sky.It is just indicative of the condition of the sun at that time. Just because the clock is showing 6.20 am does not mean therefore the sun will rise. The sun is always rising and that is indicated by the time in the clock. The idea is that you should not think that a particular movement of the planets is causing some problems in my life. It is just a model to understand the law of karma. It us just a way of understanding the manifestation of various karma and karma phala in my life.

Astrology helps to show us manifestation of certain karma's in an individual's life and also suggests certain parihas (ways of neutralization)and guided by that we can offer prayers to the lord and earn some grace, then those Karma's which are supposed to be unfavorable will be neutralized or will be diluted. These suggestions are based on certain celestial events

One of the celestial events today is guru preyarchi. Guru preyarchi means the transit of Jupiter. Today Jupiter is transiting from Tula rasi to Vrischika rasi ie, from libra to scorpio. Jupiter takes one year to transit from one rasi to another rasi. It takes 12 years to complete its orbit around the sun. That is why puja Swamiji used to say that we require 12 years to master any Vidya because guru takes 12 years to complete one orbit. Every year Jupiter will be transiting from one rasi to another rasi and that transit is called guru preyarchi. Based on that astrologer will tell you that this is good for some people and not good for some others. But our approach should be that we earn the grace of the lord , by prayerful actions like doing japa by chanting mantras and doing puja. Thus in various ways we earn the grace of the lord and we invoke the grace of the lord by looking upon the lord in a particular form. Today we look upon the lord as guru. Guru can be interpreted as brhaspati, the presiding deity of Jupiter planet and also guru can be seen as adiguru Dakshinamurti and therefore in Dakshinamurti also we invoke brhaspati planet and we seek the blessings of brhaspati devata. So that whatever be our rasi, we will be blessed and we need not be worried about any such predictions. Our life , our pursuit of moksha will not be affected, when we have commitment to the lord, to moksha.

There is a beautiful sloka which says- sarvada sarvathaa caiva nasti tesham amangalam, yesham hrdishtito bhagavan mangalayatanohari- Bhagavan who is embodiment of auspiciousness is in our heart and therefore there cannot be anything inauspicious for us.

With this prayerful mind, we offer our puja, our namaskara, our chanting to the lord invoking the grace of lord Dakshinamurti, invoking the grace of Brhaspati and ofcourse invoking the grace of Pujya Swamiji who is one of the greast gurus.....om namah Parvati pataye. Hara hara Mahadeva!