Pujya Swamiji Aradhana Celebrations at AVG Anaikatti

Today we are commemorating the 8th Samaradhana day of Pujya Swamiji. On this occasion I would like share some points of difference between the tithi (death anniversary) of ordinary people commemorated and the samaradhanam of Pujya Swamiji and Pujya Swamiji like wise people is commemorated.

In case of a person who has not attained wisdom when he leaves the body, then certain rituals are performed. Every year shraddham is done as per the prescription of sastra with the idea that the soul, the jiva who might be in pitr loka may get nourishment from the shraddha done.

But in the case of a wise person this is not applicable. So what we do today does not have any ritualistic significance. It has got spiritual significance. It is a day of getting inspiration and expressing our gratitude. Sastra says that - *tasya pranah na utkramnti, atra eva samaviliyante.* Of that (wise) person pranas will not rise up to other lokas. Here only all the pranas are resolved.

The gross body is merged into Virat, the sukhshma sarira is merged in Hiranyagarbha and the remaining karana sarira is merged into Ishvara and consciousness continues to be brahman. So really speaking any ritualistic activities are not required.

But we are worshipping Pujya Swamiji as an altar of worship as the one who has become one with Ishvara. Pujya Swamiji has become Lord Dayanandeshwara for us. We are commemorating this day every year for getting inspiration from his life by remembering his qualities. Also by remembering the incidents which we ourself have witnessed while interacting with him and many lessons learnt from them . To remember those incidents and to remember his glory, we are celebrating this Samaradhana Day. Samaradhana means worshipping very well. The day of worshipping pujya Swamiji very well is called Samaradhana Day of pujya swamiji.This day is otherwise called nirvana day as on this day Pujya Swamiji attained Videha mukti.

My co-speakers have already talked about Pujya Swamiji and we are running out of time and therefore I will not add anything to that. All of us are very blessed to have Pujya Swamiji in our life directly or indirectly.

We pray to Pujya Swamiji to shower his grace on us.

Swami Jagadatmanandaji gave welcome address. He mentioned great contributions of Pujya Swamij in spreading Arsha Paramapara. He also mentioned that Swami Prashantadmanandaji's Samadhi day also coincides on the same day.

Pujya Swamiji's disciples offered shraddhanjali on this occasion.

Swami Nityamuktanandaji said it is fortunate that we were associated with Pujya Swamiji as his disciple students. Being part of first batch of students at AVG Anaikatti, we watched in close quarter the total involvement of Swamiji in all activities of Ashram. What we are today is all because of his blessings and teaching.

Swamini Suddha Vidyanandaji recalled various experiences during class session and outside meetings with Swamiji. "How to live", Swamiji demonstrated by his own life-style. "Having come to me, you are re-deemed" is Swamiji's own words to her. Magnanimity of Swamiji was evident from his dealing with all sections of people with equal kindness and motherly love. Simplicity is another hall-mark of Swamij. "

tvameva mātā ca pitā tvameva ………………. tvameva sarvaṁ mama devadeva" verse heard by **Swami GaneshaSvarupaanandaji**, as per him, made complete sense to him after hearing from Pujya Swamiji. Search for truth culminated in his case with the teachings from Swamiji. In Pujya Swamiji's view 'core-personality' of any individual is just 'sat-svarupam'. It is likened to the vision of a sculpter, who transcends the mass of rock and enjoy at the beautiful Krishna vigraham, chiseling away unwanted portions of the rock. 'All I did in my course days was just to keep my eyes and ears exposed with open mind to Swamiji's unfoldment of vision of Vedanta' he said. It worked. All doubts vanished in no time.

Swami Jagadatmanandaji also presented a poem in Tamil in adoration of Pujya Swamiji.

Om tat Sat