

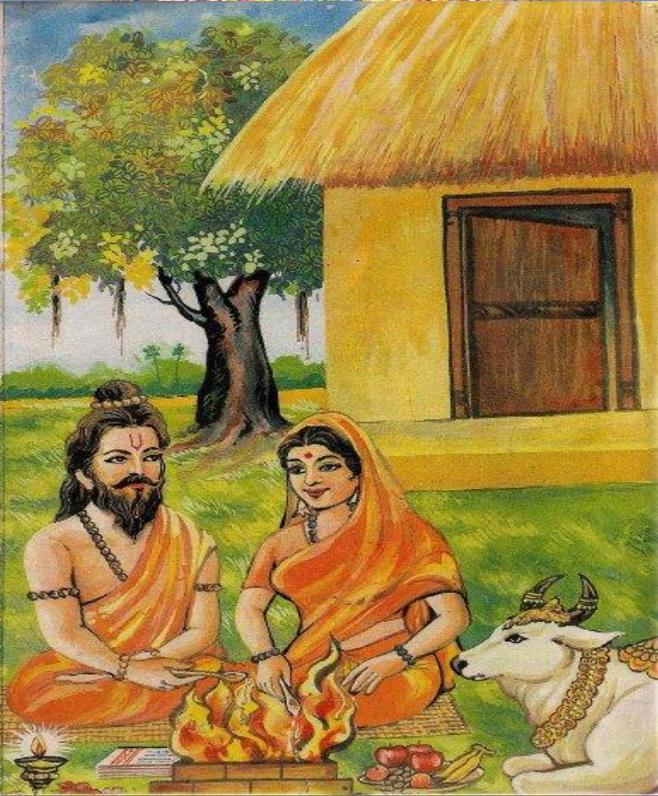


Dr Brahmasri Saamavedam Shanmukha Sarma gaaru .

2018 USA DISCOURSES

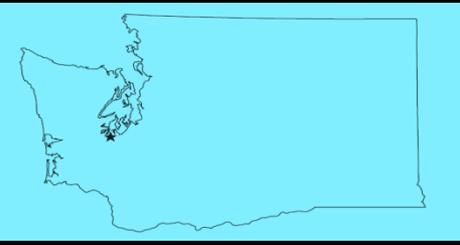


ॐ





- Vande Guruparamparaam!
- Jnaanam/ consciousnesses/ awareness/ self realization, is always taught in a hierarchical model!
- Our first and foremost Guru is Sriman Aadi NarayaNa / SadaSiva!
- HE transfereed the knowledge to “Chaturmukha” Brahma, who then passed it on to his “ **manasa putra**”Vasishtha Maharshi.
- Vasishtha Maharshi passed it on to his son and disciple(shishya/శిష్యుడు), Sakti Maharshi, who in turn ,taught his son and disciple , Parasara Maharshi, who passed it over to his son and disciple, Veda Vyaasa Maharshi, who conferred it to his son and disciple, Suka Maharshi!
- Here ends the son and disciple “**tree**” .
- Suka Brahma , being a born Brahma Jnaani, did not partake in worldly activities. Therefore HE passed “ IT” along to his disciple, Gowda Bhagawad paadulu, who taught, Govinda Bhagawad paadula vaaru, who happens to be the Guru of Sri AdiSankaracharya(Jagat Guru) !
- This is our rich parampara and we are proud to be a part of it!

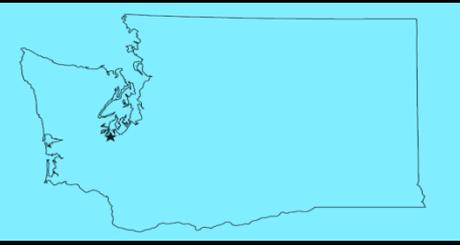


Washington, Seattle May 23rd-27th Govindam Paramaanandam

గోపాలం ప్రభులీలావిగ్రహగోపాలం కులగోపాలం
గోపీఖేలనగోవర్ధనధృతలీలాలితగోపాలం |

గోభిర్నిగదిత-గోవిందస్ఫుటనామానం బహునామానం
గోధీగోచరదూరం ప్రణమత గోవిందం పరమానందం||4||





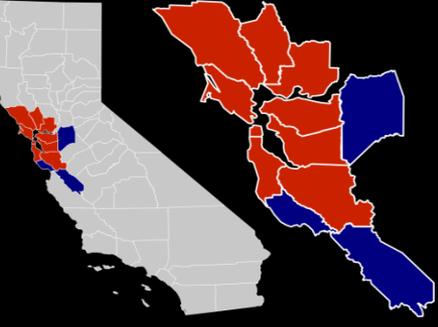
Washington, Seattle May 23rd-27th Govindam Paramaanandam



- As the title states, “Govindam paramaanandam”!
- Just saying the name” **Govindam**” leads to Paramaa aanadam/ Paraanandam!
- In other words, this is the “**aanadam**” / “**bliss**”, that is associated with and IS by itself “**Paramaatma/ Paratatwam**”!
- In this pravachanam, Gurugaaru stressed on the significance of this fourth verse/ slokam .
- Guruvugaaru said that this verse is the core of the Govinda Ashtakam .
- We can chant just this, off of the entire ashtakam, for daily “**paarayaNa**”!
- Though I do love the first one too..Which goes as follows...

సత్యం జ్ఞానమనంతం నిత్యమనాకాశం పరమాకాశం గోష్ఠప్రాబ్ధణరిబ్ధణలోలమనాయాసం పరమాయాసమ్ ।
మాయాకల్పితనానాకారమనాకారం భువనాకారంక్షాయా నాథమనాథం ప్రణమత గోవిందం పరమానందమ్ ॥

Sarvam Govindarpa Namastu!



Sacramento, CA May 28th

శ్రీమదాంజనేయ భుజంగ ప్రయాత స్తోత్రమ్

ప్రపన్నా నురాగం ప్రభాకాంచనాంగం
జగద్భీతిశౌర్యం తుషారాద్రిధైర్యమ్ ।
తృణీభూతహేతిం రణోద్యద్విభూతిం
భజే వాయుపుత్రం పవిత్రాప్తమిత్రమ్ !





Sacramento, CA May 28th

శ్రీమదాంజనేయ భుజంగ ప్రయాత స్తోత్రమ్



Our Hanuman is an ocean of knowledge.

Spotless character and an ideal idol to emulate for “**Personality development**”.

HIS valour and strength are like the steadfast mountain.

HE needs no weapons on the battlefield!

HE picks up trees along with their trunks and branches and flings boulders at the enemy! Such is HIS might!

HE is most kind and humble when needed.

He is the purest of the purest , a pillar of strength to the weak and demolisher of all evil!

HE loves to be addressed as the consul and messenger of Lord Rama.

The most obedient, most courteous, towards his seekers and most frightening and deadly to the wicked!

Therefore, let us teach our youngsters to adore less of Batmans and Spider mans, and start marvelling more of

“**HANUMAN**” !!!

Guruvugaaru also stated that the “**Jaya ghosha**” is capsule form of Sundarakaanda.

“జయత్యతిబలో రామో లక్ష్మణశ్చ మహాబలః రాజా జయతి సుగ్రీవో రాఘవేణాభిపాలితః |
దాసోహం కోసలేంద్రస్య రామస్యాక్లిష్టకర్మణః హనుమాన్ శత్రుసైన్యానాం నిహంతా మారుతాత్మజః ||



San Jose (May 30th -June 3rd)

శ్రీశివానందలహరీ/శివానంద లహరి

కలాభ్యాం చూడాలజ్ఞతశశికలాభ్యాం
నిజతపః- ఫలాభ్యాం భక్తేషు
ప్రకటితఫలాభ్యాం భవతు మే ।

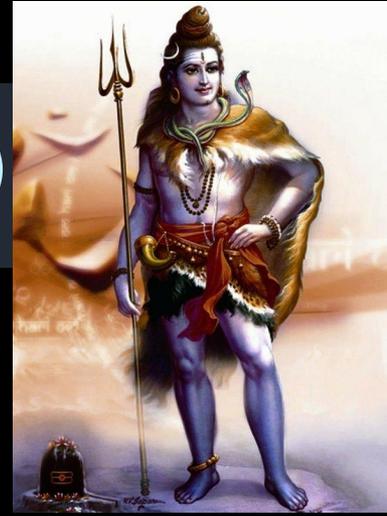
శివాభ్యామస్తోకత్రిభువనశివాభ్యాం హృది
పున- ర్భవాభ్యామానందస్ఫురదనుభవాభ్యాం
నతిరియమ్





San Jose (May 30th -June 3rd)

శ్రీశివానందలహరీ/శివానంద లహరి

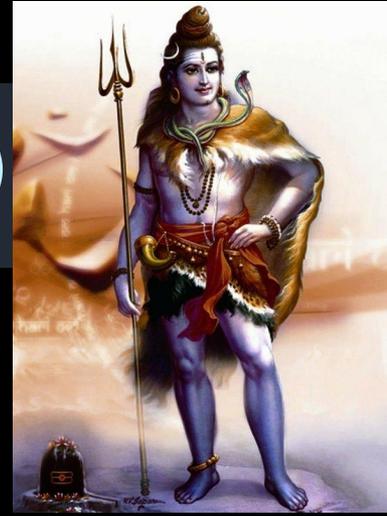


- Sivaananda Lahari is “**Bhakti Sastram**” .
It talks about “**Siva**” and paves a path for those seeking “**Sivam**”(which is Aatma/ aanandam) ,to achieve that state.
- AdiSankaracharya wrote this stotram , while residing in SriSailam(we should be proud of this fact as Telugu speaking people).
The other treatise that he wrote in Sri Sailam is yogataaravali!
- Adi Sankaraacharya actually mentions about SriSailam and Mallikaarjuna swamy ,in this composition!
- We should drown ourselves in the ecstatic waves of Sivaananda lahari!
- Meter/ Chandassu, used are “**shikharini**”!
- (శిఖరిని)(Because HIS abode is the mountains and his better half (Ammavaaru) is daughter of mountain king(HimavantuDu).
- Other meters have been used too!
- The wording and the meter (chandassu)) it is set to , add beauty to this stotram!



San Jose (May 30th -June 3rd)

శ్రీశివానందలహరీ/శివానంద లహరి

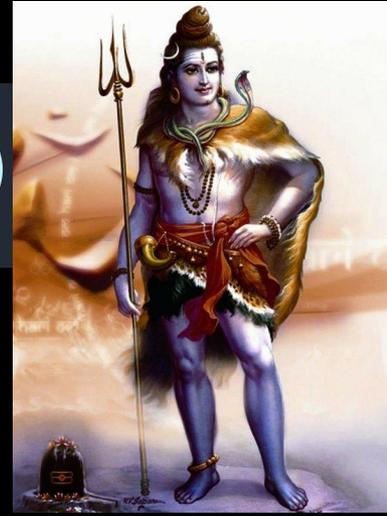


- All kinds of living things have shown devotion to Lord Siva and attained salvation.
- The Devatas themselves sing HIS glory, as shown in “ **Brahma Muraari Sura Aarchita lingam**”
- Then there are children who were Siva devotees, example; Markaandeya, Upamanyu. Many women Ghushma, Akka mahadevi, Amrutavalli . Animals that attained salvation because of devotion to Lord Siva “**Sri Kaala hasti**”!(spider, snake, elephant), to name a few!
- Two ways of addressing the Lord, often noted in this stotram are:
 - Pashupati
 - Tripurahara
- Lalita Sahasranaamam names depicted through some verses are :
 - Turyavastha vyavastitha
 - Nirantaraa
 - Swatmananda lavibhuta brahmadhyananda Santatih
 - Bhavaani bhaavanaagamyaa.



San Jose (May 30th -June 3rd)

శ్రీశివానందలహరీ/శివానంద లహరి



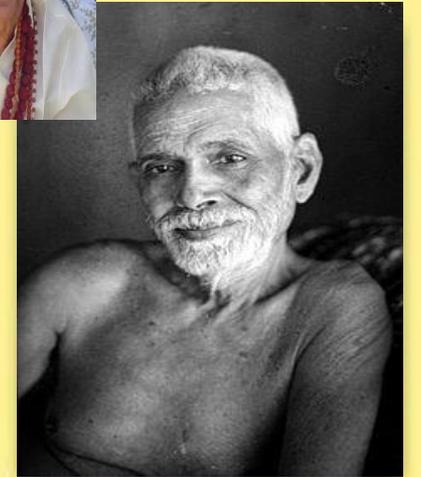
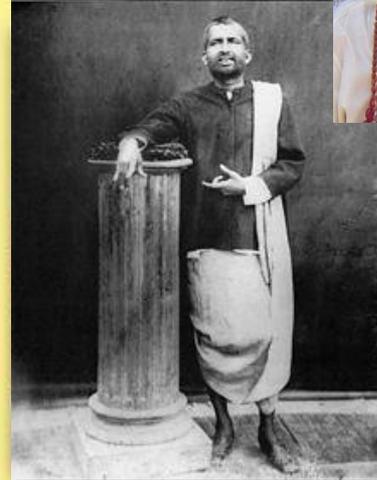
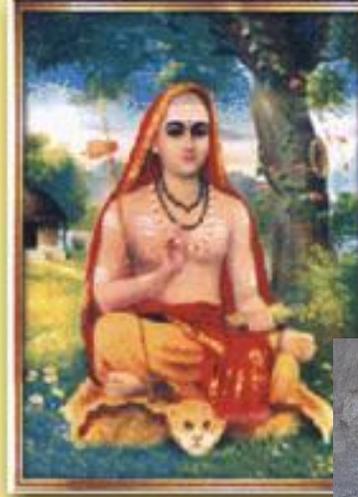
- Irrespective of our physical forms, place and state, one should always be in sync with Paramaatma, namely , Aatma, Satchitaanandam.
- Some unique entities narrated in verses, touch on the great composer of Siva Mahimna Stuti, Pushpadantudu,(a gandharva)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shiva_mahimna_stotram
- The other is about a special tree, named “**Ankolam vriksham**”. The characteristic of this tree is that the seeds fly back and stick to the tree itself, without touching the ground!!
- Adisankarcharya also brings to our attention , the simple but dedicated ,devoted “**Thinnadu**” who went on to be well known as “**Kannapa**” .
- His story came to life through our Guruvugaari pravachanam!
- Pure Bhakti is something that most of us cannot fathom.....
Sometimes our so called “**worldly knowledge**” becomes an obstacle in getting closer to God!
That is why, an “**intelligent mind**”will seek being simple with pure devotion, that will place him or her closer to God, than proficiency in all scriptures ,that leaves room for pride and creating distance from our soul/ recognizing the Aatma within us!



Irvine, CA (June 6th -10th)

Guru Chaithra

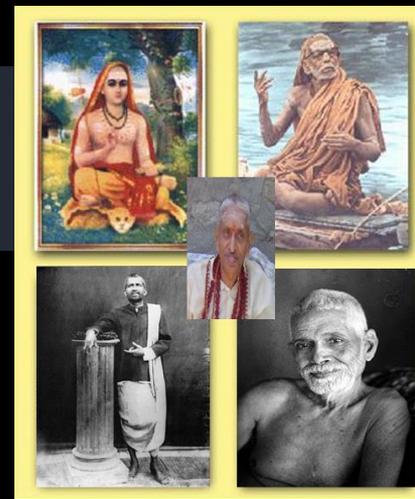
విదితాఖిల శాస్త్ర సుధా జలధే
మహితోపనిషత్-కథితార్థ నిధే |
హృదయే కలయే విమలం చరణం
భవ శంకర దేశిక మే శరణమ్ ||





Irvine, CA (June 6th -10th)

Guru Chaithra



- Guruvugaaru laid down the foundation of **Advaitam** and **Sanatana Dharmam** .
- He narrated the life history of Sri Adisankaracharya from his birth to nirvaanam, in a chronological thought provoking style!
- Guruvugaaru brought out many key events in Adi Sankarachaarya's short lifespan of 32 years!
- The Aamnaaya peethams have been established, some 2500 years ago!
- These are still functioning with the same ideals and spirit ,that they were meant to stand for!
- We are indeed lucky to be a part and parcel of the land walked by such a divine soul!
- His preaching's stood the test of time!
- His philosophy has touched many a thinking mind, honoring him as “ **Sankara, The Brain**”!
- The story of “ **Giri**”,one among his four disciples, who was more of a simple minded personality, emphasizes the power of “ Guru's” grace!
- The mere glance of the “ Guru” led to the spontaneous recitation of the “**Totakaashtakam**” in Totaka chandassu!
- Such is the divinity of a Real Guru, keeping “**ego**” in check ,while at the same time, conferring deep rooted knowledge, just by casting HIS looks!
- HE can make a “**nobody**”, “ **some body**” and erase even an iota of egoistic behavior!
- Two birds in one shot!!

Jaya Jaya Sankara Hara Hara Sankara!



Cleveland, Ohio . June 13th .

Sarada Bhujanga Stotram

సువక్షోజకుంభాం సుధాపూర్ణకుంభాం –
ప్రసాదావలంబాం ప్రపుణ్యావలంబామ్ |
సదాస్యందుబింబాం సదానోష్ఠబింబాం –
భజే శారదాంబామజస్రం మదంబామ్ || ౧ ||



Dakshinamnaya
Sri Sharada Peetham, Sringeri.
www.sringeri.net



Cleveland, Ohio June 13th. Sarada Bhujanga Stotram

- Saraswati means “**flow**” !
- They energy behind the mind that runs in the Dharmic direction or Adharmic path!
- Surrendering to THAT/ “**Tat**” will make our intellect/ “**buddhi**” blossom like a lotus and adapt to the dharmic ways!
- This is crucial to gain any kind of knowledge, “**Apara**”(meaning worldly) or “**Para**” (which is self realization “ that leads to liberation!).
- Since most of us need a “**form**” ,to focus our minds on ,the great Rishis have gone to great lengths to describe HER !
- Meditating on the “ **ardha aasana**” with a pot full of nectar , better defined as Amrutam, the “**aksha maala**”(depicting the letters from “ aa” to “ **ksha**”), book and the parrot ,fulfill all wants in this life and beyond!
- “**Amrutam**” means that which has no death!
- In other words ,an intellect that has gained the right knowledge ,fears no death.
- Lalita Sahasranaamam naamalu that are echoed in this stotram are :



పుణ్యకీర్తిః, పుణ్యలభ్యా, పుణ్యశ్రవణ కీర్తనా | గురుమండల రూపిణీ |

The stotram is based on Shringeri Sardaamba!



Cleveland, Ohio . June 13th .

Sarada Bhujanga Stotram

- Aadi Sankaraacharya has installed and instilled all cosmic energy in a sandal wood “**idol**” of Saradaamba!
- The 12th shringeri peethadipati, Vidyaranya vaaru reinstalled HER , now made of five metals (pancha lohaalu).
- The Mother is an embodiment of grace, empathy , love, purity with clarity.
- SHE is the source of nourishment , which is reflected in her bosom, representing the Sun and the Moon.
- Both being the sources for the sustenance of life on earth!
- The Divine “**bosom**” is also a representation of music and the associated literature, sangeetam and sahyam.
- In a reflective mode, the above two are the “**sound**” and “**verbal**” notations of the universe!
- Many a great souls like Potana gaaru, Shringeri Nrusimha Bharati swamy, Shringeri Bharathi teertha swamy vaaru, have expressed HER omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience!
- Such is HER prowess that Brahma, Vishnu and Siva look unto HER to facilitate their duties towards the universe, as follows:
“Ya Kundendu Tushaara Haara Dhavalaa Ya Shubhra Vastraavrita Ya Veena Vara Danda Manditakara
Ya Shveta Padmaasana Ya Brahma Achyutaha Shankara Prabrithibhah Devai Sadaa Poojitha
Saa Maam Paatu Sarasvathi Bhagavati Nishyasha Jyaadyaapaha”!
- Two important things to remember when it comes to Saraswati:
- Vaasara (colloquial Baasara) , close to Hyderabad , SHE is known as Jnaana Saraswati! Vyaasudu installed HER here. (vyaasapuri).
- The veena that she carries and plays has 24 steps which represent the 24 vertebrae of the human spine. SHE plays this Veena, the cause of “**naadam**”/ praanam in living beings!





Columbus ,Ohio .June 14th-16th

Ganapati Bhujangam

రణక్షత్రఘ్ణానినాదాభిరామం
చలత్తాణ్డవోద్ధణ్డవత్పద్మతాలమ్ ।
లసత్తున్దిలాఙ్గోపరివ్యాలహారం
గణాధీశమీశానసూనుం తమీడే ॥



Columbus ,Ohio June 14th -16th



Ganapati/ Subrahmanya Bhujanga stotram

సదా బాల రూపాపి విఘ్నోద్రి హంత్రీ
మహాదంతి వక్త్రాపి పంచాస్యమాన్య |
విధీంద్రాది మృగ్యా గణేశాభిధామే
విధత్తాం శ్రీయం కాపి కళ్యాణమూర్తి:





Cincinnati, June 17th

అర్ధ నారీశ్వర స్తోత్రమ్

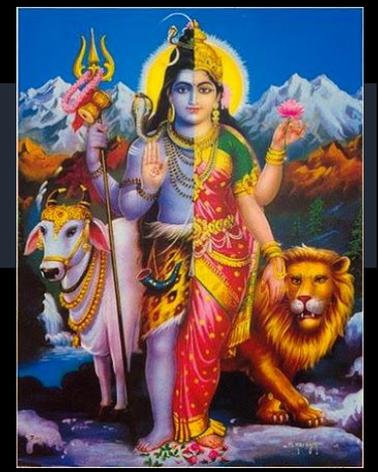
చాంపేయ గౌరార్ధ శరీరకాయై
కర్పూర గౌరార్ధ శరీరకాయ
ధమిల్ల కాయైచ జటాధరాయ
నమశ్శివాయై చ నమశ్శివాయ॥





Cincinnati, June 17th

అర్ధ నారీశ్వర స్తోత్రమ్



- AdiSankarcharya is said to have written this ashtakam in GokarNa kshetram, contemplating on MahabaleswaruDu.
- He envisioned the unison of UmaMaheswarulu, who are the cause of five “work characteristics”(pancha kritya
- creation,sustenance, dissolution , bondage and liberation , of all living beings!
- (Srushti, stithi, laya/ samhaaram, tirodhaanam, anugraham)
- This stotram shows the harmonious relationship that exists between Parvati and Parameshwara. This translates into Prakruti and Purusha tatwam ,which is the fabric of this universe!
- This ashtakam is inbuilt with two panchaakshari’s !
Namaha Sivaaya (నమః శివాయ) Namah Sivaayai! (నమః శివాయై)
- Also known as Sivasakti panchaakshari. Gouri panchaakshaari, Dasasaakshari!
- That is the beauty of Jagat Guru’s foresight!
- He blends both the He and SHE forms of the same energy splitting into two manifestations !
- Example: a seed that splits into two to sprout, grow into a tree with branches, leaves, glowers and fruits!
- The two Lalita Sahasranaamam names that represent this ashtakam are:
సామరస్య పరాయణ (saamrasya praayana) , సమయాచారతత్పరా (samayaacharaa tatparaa)
- The five qualities defining the “Divine Duo” :
నామ సామ్యం (naam saamyam), గుణ సామ్యం (guna saamyam), రూప సామ్యం (roopa saamyam), కృత్య సామ్యం (krutya saamyam), అధిష్ఠాన సామ్యం (adishthaana saamyam)
- Guruvugaaru gave a gentle reminder on the work of the great poet Kalidaasa ,with this slokam:
“Vagarthaviva sampriktau vagarthah pratipattaye |
Jagatah pitarau vande parvathiparameshwarau || – Raghuvamsha 1.1”



Detroit Michigan June 20th -24th

Kaasi Darshanam

దేవి! సురేశ్వరి! భగవతి! గంగే
త్రిభువనతారిణి తరళతరంగే |
శంకరమౌళివిహారిణి విమలే మమ
మతిరాస్తాం తవ పదకమలే ||





Detroit Michigan June 20th -24th

Kaasi Darshanam



- Kaasi, the most mysterious, magical and intriguing place on earth!
- Is it on earth? Or is it positioned higher above the earth?
- It is THE permanent residence of Siva and his beloved consort , Annapurna Visalaakshi!
- It will never be forsaken, even at the time of “ **mahapraLayam**”...
- Therefore called as “ **avimukta**”.. .The “**never forsaken**”!
- It is the seat of learning and religious authority!
- Saddled between the two rivers “**Varana**” and “**Asi**”,it is also known as “**Varanasi**”!
- The most holy and sacred place in the universe!, located in India!, our motherland! We have a lot to be proud of!
- Many westerners have been amazed and astonished with the streets, people, prayers, offerings , burning pyres, devotion and the immense faith!
- The place where death is not “**feared**” but “**faced**” with the understanding that, “**death**” is to the physical form... The soul/ Brahman, never dies! (Amruta tatwam)! This is moksham .. attained while active and alive.. .Not when one “**dies**”..
- It is not something to be attained “**beyond life** “but that which “belongs” to life!
- Kaasi means “light”/ “luminous “!
- That “**light**” which removes all darkness caused by ignorance (ajnaanam)!
-



Detroit Michigan June 20th -24th

Kaasi Darshanam



- It has been described as a “**conglomerate of radiance**” (కాంతి పుంజం)
 - as experienced by great souls like , Tadepalli Raghava Narayana Sastry gaaru, from Chendolu, our Andhra!
 - Many great poets like Tulsidas, Kabir have spent a chaste life here !
 - The one that needs special mention is “ Kavi saarvabhauama”, Srinathudu. A telugu poet of great cadre from the 15th century! His many works include: kaasi khandam, Srungaara Naishadham, Sivaraatri mahatyam, Haravilasa.
 - Guruvugaaru cleared the often misrepresented fact that Potana and Srinathudu are brothers in law! This is not so!
 - Srinathudu amd Potana gaaru do not know of each other!
 - Srinaathudu 1365 / 1370 to 1441.
 - Potana gaaru: 1450 to 1510!
 - Many foreigners, have travelled and are traveling to Kaasi, in search of answers, unlike most of us, who ask sceptical questions!!!
 - Many books have been written on Kaasi, by Europeans!
 - Professor John Melville from Colorado university, came to Varanasi, looking for the twelve (dwadasa) Suryas and their zodiac relationship and also 56 Ganapatis...Scientific approach that left him wondering about the brain power of the ancient Rishis who mapped it all out.
His question being... How did they achieve this..Mathematics?! Meditation!! Intuition?!
- What ever it is, all we can do is prostrate and pay our humble respects!



Detroit Michigan June 20th -24th

Kaasi Darshanam



- The glorious Ganga, winding HERSELF around Varanasi!
 - A picture of sanctity and purity... Washing away our sins ,endlessly..
- Waiting patiently for us to wake up from the slumber of “**ajnaanam**”/ ignorance , as we get carried away in the waves of emotion brought by the sea of “**samsaaram**”!
- SHE rides on a crocodile!
 - SHE makes herself available to take a holy dip at the various “ ghats”, an alley of steps to walk on and wash away our sins!
 - Such is HER mercy(daya)!
 - “**Manikarnika**” ghat deserves special mention.
 - The mere utterance of the name rids one of his/ her deeds / “karmas”!
 - Dundhi Ganapati is special...
 - HE resides where HIS parents reside... So does Skanda(Subrahmanya)..
 - Essentially all the six “branches” of Hinduism, as mentioned in the Vedas(shanmataas) ,are right here in Kaasi!
 - Even the mere thought of Ganga, Kaasi, Vishveswara and Visaalaakshi purifies us and grants us with all the merits of physically being there... Sometimes the desire and virtual “tour” has more strength than physically being there.
 - Why? Because, even if one is “physically” present in the kshetras ,one may not be there “mindfully”, but, when we concentrate mentally ,we are always there physically too!
 - “భౌమ యాత్ర ! (physically) భావ యాత్ర ! (mindfully)
భౌమ యాత్ర కన్నా భావ యాత్ర ప్రధానం, ఎందుకంటే ,భౌమ యాత్ర లో భావం ఉండకపోవచ్చు , కానీ ,భావ యాత్ర లో భౌమం ఉంటుంది”!



Detroit Michigan June 20th -24th

Kaasi Darshanam



- This is THE place Sankaracharya wrote the bhashyams on “ **Brahma Sutras/ Bhagawad Gita**” and the Upanishads, popularly known as “ **prastana trayam**”!
- This is where the great sage, Veda Vyaasa discussed in depth, the Brahma sutrams that HE himself wrote which were in a concise form!
- This is THE place where Sankaracharya was granted an additional sixteen years of “ **lifespan**” to spread “ **Sanatana dharma**” ,(at the request of Veda Vyasa!)
- He achieved all this and more in Kaasi over a period of four years(from the age of 12, when his Guru Govinda Bhagawadpaadula vaaru, advised him to go to Kaasi, till the age of 16).
- Kaasi, as portrayed in us, is located where the eyebrows meet the nose(bhru madhya sthaanam).
- The sixth chakra(ajna chakra).
- There are four “kinds” of Kaasi: Ksetra kaasi Yoga kaasi , Jnaana kaasi, Veda kaasi
- A book that Guruvugaaru mentioned and is a must read is “ **Banaras: the city of light**” by Diana L Eck!
- (Diana Eck is Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies, Frederic Wertham Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society, Harvard College Professor, and Master of the Lowell House.)
- Kaasi is a Jyotirlingam and a Sakti peetham!
- Kaasi’s glory is never complete without mentioning Maharani Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar.
- She rebuilt and restored the current Vishwanath temple in the year 1780.
- 111 years after Aurangazeb tried to demolish it!!
- One may demolish the “ **physical**” structure of these temples/ places but the “ **spirit**” never dies!
- It is underlying current of Santana Dharma, that believes in forgiving but never forgetting our dharma.. which is
- “ **Live and let live**”!
- May the “ **kshetra palaka**”/guardian protector of Kaasi, KalaBhairava, help us walk towards the “ **light**” in the form of knowledge / consciousness, to attain the state of SatChit aanandam!

Jaya jaya, Mahadeva Sambho Sankara! Annapurna Sameta Kaasi Vishwanaath ki Jai!



Atlanta ,GA. June 27th - July 1st

Prabodha Sudhakaram

నిత్యానందైక రసం
సచ్చిన్మాత్రం స్వయం జ్యోతిః।
పురుషోత్తమమజమీశం వందే
శ్రీ యాదవాధీశం.





Raleigh, NC July 4th -8th.

జ్ఞానానందమయం

జ్ఞానానందమయం
వివం, నిర్మల
స్పటికాకృతిమ్,
ఆధారం
సర్వవిద్యానాం
హయగ్రీవముపాస్మ
హ్





Raleigh, NC July 4th -8th . Lakshmi Nrusimha karaavalamba stotram

శ్రీమత్సయోనిధినికేతన చక్రపాణే
భోగీంద్రభోగమణిరాజిత పుణ్యమూర్తే |
యోగీశ శాశ్వత శరణ్య భవాబ్ధిపోత
లక్ష్మీన్యసింహ మమ దేహి
కరావలంబమ్





Raleigh, NC July 4th -8th . Lakshmi Nrusimha karaavalamba stotram



- Nrusimha incarnation/ “**divine descent**” (avatara), is one of the most unique incarnations of the “**Parabrahman**”!
- It depicts “**nonduality**”(adwaitam)through a “**dual**” (dwaitam)manifestation!
- Perhaps, that is why Veda Vyasa addresses Lord Narasimha as “**na mrugam, na maanusha**”, meaning neither beast/ lion nor human form, instead of saying , both human and lion form!
- In simple terms, since we humans are aware, only of the dual world...(but have to learn to see the underlying “**unity**” as expressed in various forms), The Lord took this form but expressed HIS “**Oneness**”(ekatvam)”!
- That is also the reason for “**Sandhya**”.. the time described as the junction between day and night.. holds the two in a clasp!
- This form came into existence to a great jnaani like Prahlada!
- He saw nothing but HIM..
- The rest of us see everything but HIM!!
- We have to evolve to that state!
- Granted, reading the “**Karavaalambam**” stotram fulfills all worldly desires, but, if we never question ourselves as to who and what is “**behind**” these stotrams? What is the Jagat guru expounding through these stotrams, we will never understand “**non duality**” and therefore will be caught in the vicious circle of birth and rebirths!
- The stotram was named by AdiSankaracharya as “**Sri Lakshmi Nrusimha Karunaarasa**” stotram.
- Since each verse ends in “**karaavalambam**”, people now call it as “**karavalamaba stotram**”!



Raleigh, NC July 4th -8th . Lakshmi Nrusimha karaavalamba stotram



- Jagat Guru took Prahlad charitra as the basis for writing the stotram and compared the so called punishments meted out by Hiranyakashipa as the “**punishments**” of living in a world filled with desires and our eternal longing to fulfill these!
- There is no end to this and there is no end to our cycle of births and rebirths!
- Jagat Guru has used examples of forest fires to describe our desires since we “**burn**” in the fire of these desires,
- HE mentioned about how a fish being a slave to it’s sense of taste, gets caught in the bait of a fisherman... Similarly we humans are caught in the web of wants through our sense organs and are caught in these worldly affairs, relentlessly!
- HE uses the “**deep**” well, as an example to explain the darkness of ignorance!
- So also a dense forest where in, not a ray of sunshine penetrates.. Akin to our mind/ budhi , which is engulfed in the darkness of ignorance and the light of knowledge about the all pervading “**Brahman**” does not shine!
- Our only recourse is to surrender at the lotus feet of our Guru / God!
- HE alone can vanquish the thirst for worldly desires and draw us towards enlightenment!
- The stotram should be used like a mirror which enables one to improve oneself...The stotram is a “**Sastram**” / our scriptures ,without which one cannot reach the transcendental plane of thinking !
- It is packed with philosophy of life(samsaaram)! It teaches us how to cross this ocean, called life , to reach the banks, safely!
- Irrespective of all accumulated knowledge and understanding, if one does not get the divine grace, there is no liberation!
- It is for this “**grace**”, that one should follow the way of life as described/ prescribed in our Sastras/ scriptures!
- The reason why we get HIS grace is not because we deserve so, but because Of HIS immense unconditional love and kindness !

“నాకు అర్హత ఉంది అని కాదు నీకు అపారమైన కరుణ ఉంది కాబట్టి”!



Raleigh, NC July 4th -8th Shatpadi Stotram

నారాయణ కరుణామయ శరణం
కరవాణి తావకౌ చరణౌ |
ఇతి షట్పదీ మదీయే
వదనసరోజే సదా వసతు





Raleigh, NC July 4th -8th

Shatpadi Stotram



- Vishnu “**shat padi**”! “**Shat**” meaning six Padi meaning verses!
- A slokam with six verses.
- Short, cute, packed with sweetness and dense philosophy!
- Adi Sankaracharya will never part from defining “**adwaitam**”, be it Soundarya Lahiri which has 100 verses or an “**eka sloki**”, one verse...
- He will make sure the message about the Brahman being ONE and the only ONE is conveyed!
- After all, a pot of pudding (payasam) is full of sweetness whether we take a spoonful or mouthfuls !
- He will make sure the message about the Brahman being ONE and the only ONE is conveyed!
After all, a pot of pudding (payasam) is full of sweetness whether we take a spoonful or mouthfuls !
Similarly, AdiSankaracharya stotrams, are embedded with philosophy while appearing melodious to the ears whether they are one verse, six verses or an infinite number of verses!
- The stotram has a special characteristic, where, in one of the verses he exemplifies the word structure called as “**antaadi**” (like antaakshari, instead of a letter HE used the entire word from the last word to start the next)(udhrutanaga nagabhidanuja dhanujakulaamitra mitrasasidrushte).
- This is called as “**muktagrahsti**” in Telugu! The other word (antaadi) is in tamil ,as explained by Kanchi Paramaacharya!

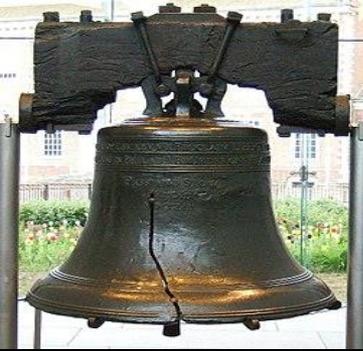


Raleigh, NC July 4th -8th

Shatpadi Stotram



- The other beauty is the flow of words to describe Paramatma.... Daamodara guNa mandira sundara vadanaaravinda Govinda.....
- He never forgets to use Govinda, given an opportunity. Two birds in one shot.. Govinda as Paramaatma/ Govinda as HIS Guru, Govindabhagawadpaadulu!
- Though the stotram appears like a “**sing along**” meter, it is asking of GOD to rid us all of “**bhava bhayam**”/ world full of fear and with fear.. Fear of the unknown, fear of loss, fear due to ignorance!
- Like the bee (which has six legs), if we nestle at HIS lotus feet, we can put our fears to rest and enjoy the bliss of HIS existence, in complete silence!
- Just like a bee buzzing away around a flower till it settles down in the core the flower partaking the honey, losing all it's buzz..
- Similarly once we put our mind/ heart and soul at HIS lotus feet and taste the nectar of “**life**” (which is immortality).. All the hustle and bustle of worldly affairs will be forgotten and we will be left experiencing the infinite joy !
- To achieve that, may we always have, at least the last six words (if not all six verses) ,constantly at the tip of our tongues..
- nārāyaṇa karuṇāmaya śaraṇaṃ karavāṇi tāvakau caraṇau |
- For it is HIS grace alone that will grant us liberation / realization, not because we necessarily deserve it, but because HE is an ocean of kindness!

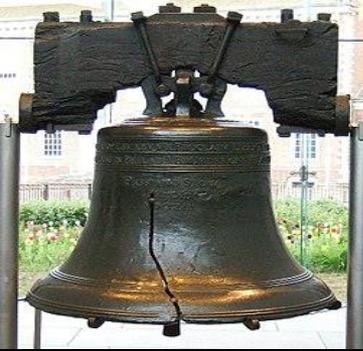


Philadelphia, PA, July 11th

Dakshina Murthy Stotram

చిత్రం వటతరోర్మాలే వృద్ధాః
శిష్యాః గురుర్యువా |
గురోస్తు మౌనవ్యాఖ్యానం
శిష్యాస్తుచ్ఛిన్నసంశయాః



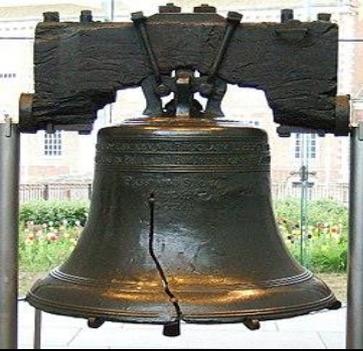


Philadelphia, PA, July 11th

Dakshina Murthy Stotram



- The most common slokam that comes to our mind, when we hear “ **Dakshinamurthy** ”, is :
viśvandarpaṇa dṛśyamāna nagarī tulyaṃ nijāntargataṃ
paśyannātmani māyayā bahirivodbhūtaṃ yathānidrayā |
yassākṣātkurute prabhodhasamaye svātmāname vādvayaṃ
tasmai śrīgurumūrtaye nama idaṃ śrī dakṣiṇāmūrtaye || 1 ||
- And the most common “ **form** ” that comes to mind ,is the one where HE is among “ **grey haired** ” munis, transferring “ **knowledge/ jnaanam** ” just by donning a smile, very pleasant smile, four hands carrying torch of fire, string of beads(aksha maala), chin mudra(finger and thumb brought together , while the rest of the fingers are away and separate), and a book in HIS left hand!
- Our scriptures talk about sixteen different “ **Dakshina Murthys** ”!
- Each one has its own mantram/ hymn.
- As the letters and structure of a mantra change, so does the form... Rather... The form is nothing but the expression of the mantra!!!
- This has been proven scientifically by an equipment called “ **Tonoscopy**”!!
- The beauty of this composition is that, even though it appears “ **simple** ” to chant, sing or even dance, the ten stanzas are packed with philosophy and the realization of the “ **Self** ”!(dvaitam and advaitam)
- A detailed and in-depth exploration and imploring into the “ **Self** ” is a mandatory requirement!



Philadelphia, PA, July 11th

Dakshina Murthy Stotram



- “ Look within and deep”!!
- Laita sahsranaama verses quoted in reference to this pravachanam are:
Sampradaayeswari saadhvi Gurumandala roopiNi”
Sanakaadi samaaradhya Sivajnaana pradaayini
Swatantra sarva tantresi Dakshinamurthy roopiNi”
“Antar mukha samaaradhya Bahir mukha sudurlabha”
- Adi Sankaraacharya is none other than the same Siva , sitting at the root/ trunk of the banyan tree , with HIS hair knotted in thick strands, vanquishing the “ **asura**” “ **apasmaarakuDu**”(one with loss of memory, which is all humans ,who are living mundane lives, forgetting, ignoring, unbeknownst of the cause behind our existence).
- However, since HE was kind enough to tread on the earth ,to establish advaitam and bring together the scriptures that were falling apart due to differences of opinions, which is due to lack of right knowledge , HE withdrew two of his hands, turned in to being an ascetic and preached philosophy.
- I personally felt that Dakshnimuthy stotram is “**Vivekachudamani**”, in a concentrated form!



New Jersey (July 12th-15th)

భూ తత్వం : గణపతి
జల తత్వం : విష్ణు
అగ్ని : సూర్యుడు
వాయు : రుద్రుడు / శివుడు
ఆకాశం : శక్తి





New Jersey (July 12th-15th)

Suvarna mala Stuti

సాంబా సదాశివ శంభో
శంకర శరణం మే తవ
చరణయుగమ్

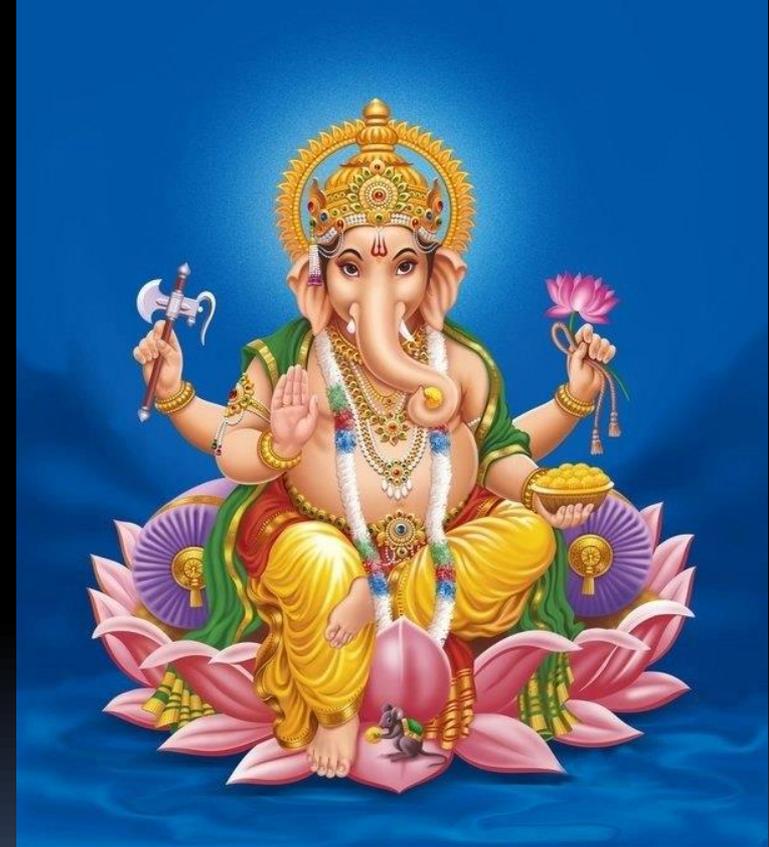




Richmond, VA (July 16th)

Ganesha Pancharatnam

ముదా కరాత్త మోదకం సదా విముక్తి సాధకమ్ |
కళాధరావతంసకం విలాసిలోక రక్షకమ్ |
అనాయకైక నాయకం వినాశితేభ దైత్యకమ్ |
నతాశుభాశు నాశకం నమామి తం వినాయకమ్ |





Fairfax ,VA. July 18th -22nd

Kanakadhaara stotram

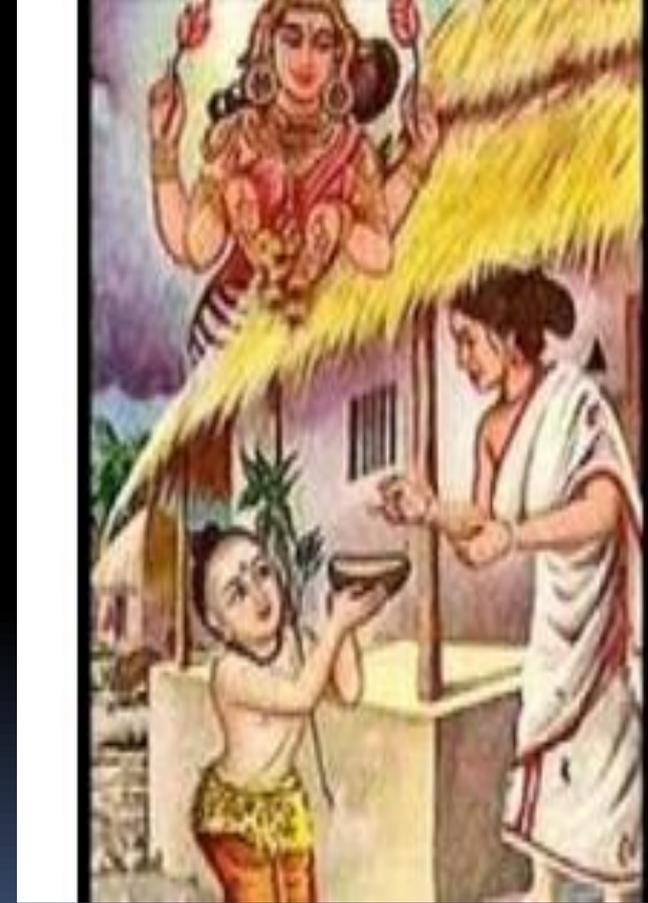
అంగం హారేః

పులకభూషణమాశ్రయంతీ

భృంగాంగనేవ ముకుళాభరణం తమాలమ్

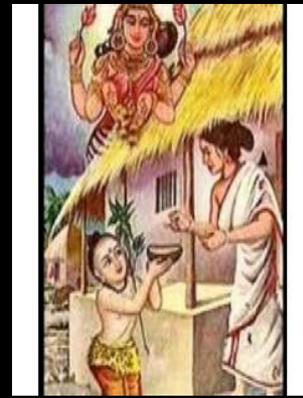
అంగీకృతాఖిల విభూతిరపాంగలీలా

మాంగల్యదాస్తు మమ మంగళదేవతాయాః





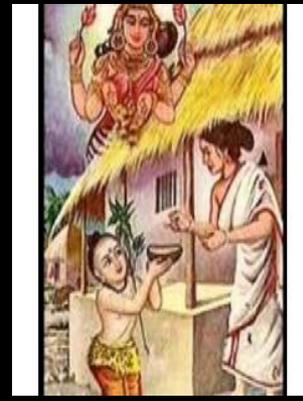
Fairfax ,VA. July 18th -22nd Kanakadhaara stotram



- The beauty of this stotram is not just in the meter and wordings, but the tender age at which Adi Sankaraacharya composed it.
- He was just six!!
- What is even more amazing is that the depth of philosophy remained the same till the age of 32.
- No wonder he is often quoted as “Sankara the brain”!
- The story is simple, yet very touching.
- It shows the longing of a poor housewife, to offer “something” to a very deserving “vatuvu”.
- At the same time it shows the intense compassion and magnanimity in a “child”.
- This became the outcry to plead to the Goddess of wealth (as we often know) , who in turn did not have the heart to turn down such a pure and sincere request.
- The meaning of Kanaka dhaara is just not as superficial as it sounds.
- It does take away financial troubles, if one were to read it religiously, taking all the necessary steps and following the needed rituals.
- But it has a deeper meaning to it.
- The original name is “ Suvarna dhaara:.
- Su varna means, gold.
- The other meaning of varna is “letter”,
- “ flow of golden letters” .
- Meaning, that is the way to lead one’s life. “Golden life”!
- Letters that form words that are “golden”, meaning doing good to others and self upliftment, not just gold as in “gold” , the metal!!



Fairfax ,VA. July 18th -22nd Kanakadhaara stotram

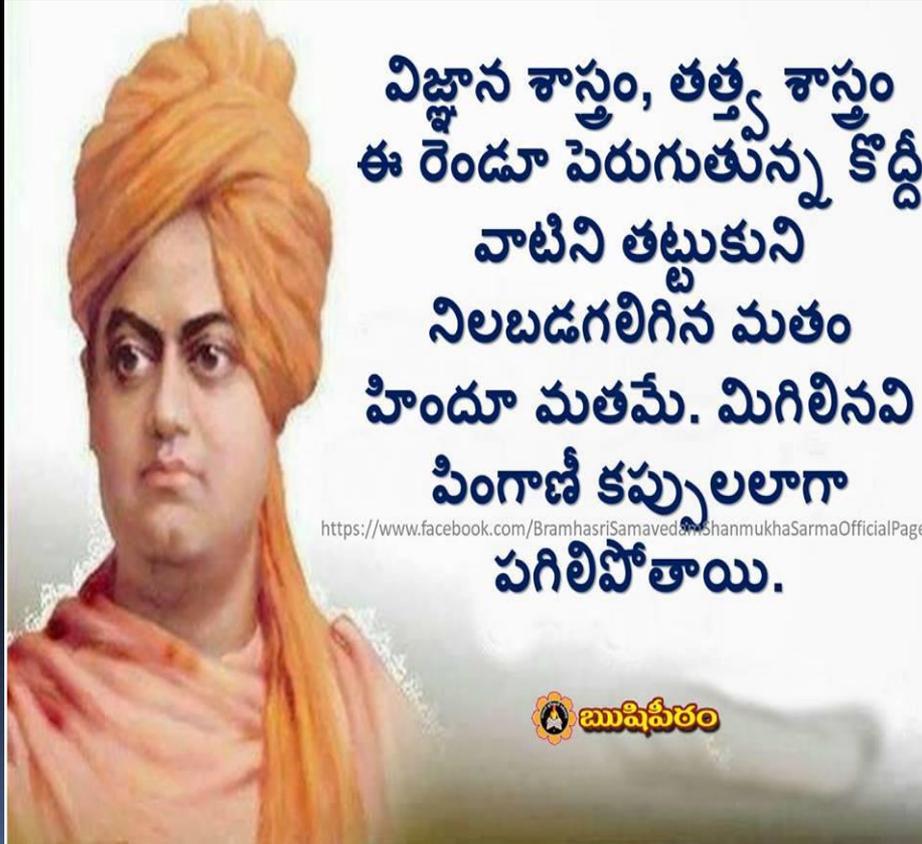


- He packed the stotram with Srividya maha mantram and also Kamalaatmika maha mantram.(from the dasa maha vidyas)
- The advantage being, even if one were unable to learn and recite the “mantras”, one can read the stotram, with focus and understanding, to achieve the same benefits, as one who chants the mantras.
- Such is his sympathy for the layperson. He wants all of us to benefit and be recipients of the Mother’s grace!
- That is why he is the “Jagat Guru”.
- The entire composition is focussed on the “Mother’s” eyes.
- Why?
- Because HER looks have to fall on us, the downtrodden souls, lost in the world of maya/ illusion, which is the cause of all misery, the “looks” that can erase the darkness of our minds , those very “looks” that have made the CREATOR ,desire to create this world.
- Reminds me of the Potana gaari slokam that is etched on the altar of the Kanaka Durga temple (in Vijayawada)
“Ammalaganna amma Mugurammala moola putamma Chala pedda Amma,
Suraluramma kadupuaadaripuchina amma, Tannulonammuna velputammala manambuna undedi amma,
Durga maa amma, Krupabdhi nicchuta Mahatva kavitva patutva sampadal”!!

Hinduism is “universal philosophy”, Not a religion!!!

Came to Chicago in 1893(19th century)

21st century. (been coming every
year since 2010)



Brahma Satyam. Jagat mithya!

If you are pure,
you will reach God

