



SRI SWAMIJI ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

Compiled by Pattabhi & Ramakanth

Question: How many *Yajno:pavi:thams* should one wear?

HH - A student learning *Ve:das* should wear *yajno:pavi:tham* with one knot. *Sanya:si:s* should wear *yajno:pavi:tham* with 3 strings with a knot in addition to one string with a knot. *Gruhasttha:s*, *Va:naprasttha:s* should wear 2 *yajno:pavi:thams* each made of 3 *pe:tas* which in turn are made of 3 strings with a knot.



d) *apara:hnam*

e) *sa:yam ka:lam*

1 *Muhurtham* = 48 Minutes

1 *Ghadiya* = 24 minutes

(Conversation between a young kid and HH Sri Jeeyar Swamiji)

Kid: *Jeeyar Swamiji*, have you ever seen Heaven or Hell?

HH - Have you ever seen Antartica?

Kid - I have not seen Antartica but I know it exists.

HH - How do you know?

Kid - Seeing in the Atlas and Informed by teachers.

HH - We have been informed by our *Rushis*, *A:cha:ryas* and *Ve:das* about the existence of heaven and hell. Heaven is to enjoy the pleasure of pleased God. Hell is to suffer the lack of True knowledge and forgetting our relationship with great God. Certainly they exist. The three highways to Hell are, desire, anger and greed. These highways are always jammed because most of us fall prey to these three traits of human weaknesses. We should therefore choose the alternate highway which is not jammed because less number of people tread that path. One such path is the *Nishka:ma Karma* ("doing not out of desire of fruit, but, just to worship Him out of Love ") being perfectly dutiful, which helps one to overcome all weaknesses and finally experience Him.

Question: How many are the types of *A:chamana:s*?

HH - *A:chamanas* are of 4 types:

a) *Srowtha:chamanam*

b) *Sma:rtha:chamanam*

c) *Pura:na:chamanam*

d) *Tha:nthrika:chamanam*

Question: Why should we do *A:chamanam*?

HH - One should do *a:chamanam*, to make the mind clean, alert and steady.

Question: What is *Pranavam*?

HH - "O:M" is called *Pranavam*.

Question: What is *Muhu:rtha*? What is *Ghadiya*? Are they only three?

HH - There are 5 Major divisions of the time from sun-rise to sun-set. Each division comes to 3 *Muhu:rtha:s* ie., 144 minutes (2 hours 24 min). The associated names are:

a) *Pra:thah ka:lam*

b) *Sangava ka:lam*

c) *madhya:hna ka:lam*



Question: In *Ashta:kshari Manthra*

there seem to be nine letters and not eight?

'O:m' is only one letter, 'O:m ithye:ka:ksharam' is the *prama:nam*. Just count again considering this!

Question: His Holiness mentioned that giving our hair in Tirumala in response to a demand (mokku) is wrong. If we have already done that before, what do we do?

HH - If you did this before without knowing then it's alright! We shouldn't do business with God. So stop doing business with God from now on!

Question: When is it better to do Pancha:nga Sravanam? On Pa:dyami or on ama:vasya?

HH - After taking head bath on the Pa:dyami day, doing *pancha:nga sravanam* is tradition.

Question: What is the best thing to do to get rid of sadness and to purify our thoughts?

HH - Doing 'Bhagava:n Na:mam' along with tens of devotees is the best antidote !

Question: What is the difference between a dead body and a living one?

HH - When we (*a:thma* or *ji:va*) leave the body, it becomes a dead body.

Question: What does Sarana:gathi Gadyam of Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuja:cha:rya describe?

HH - *Sarana:gathi Gadyam* is description of the *Dvaya Manthra* (*Srimannarayana charanau*). This *manthra* was first initiated by Lord Na:ra:ya:na to His divine consort Sri Lakshmi De:vi.

Question: What is Mo:ksham?

HH - *Mo:ksham* means *Maha A:nandam*. *Maha:nandam* is pure *a:nanda*, eternal joy, without any sort of pollution or interruption.

Question: Who gives Mukthi?

HH - *Mukthi* is awarded by Lord *Sri:man Na:ra:ya:na*. There are several other devotees *Bramha*, *Siva*, *Indra*, *Varuna*, *Surya* etc who hold respective positions, with capabilities and position assigned by Him for a specific time-period.

Question: People write some names starting with U.V or U.Ve. What does this mean?

HH - In philosophy, for attaining '*Mo:ksha*', there are two means: *Bhakthi* & *Prapatthi*. *U.Ve* means *Ubhaya Ve:da:ntha*. Practitioners of *Sanskrit* as well as *Dravida Ve:das* are called *Ubhaya Ve:da:nthi:s*. *Sanskrit Ve:da:ntham* focusses primarily on *Bhakthi* while *Dra:vida Ve:da:ntham* focusses on *Prapatthi*.

Question: Who is A:cha:rya?

HH - Parents are the people who give physical birth. It is the *A:cha:rya* who gives us the actual birth by making us realise the purpose of life.

Question: How does an A:cha:rya give us birth?

HH - *A:cha:rya* gives us the birth via *Upade:sam*. A disciple is initiated by an *A:cha:rya*. It is said that *manthra* is the Mother and Guru is the Father. So it is through initiation of *Thirumanthra* and giving us the true meaning of the *manthra* that an *Acharya* gives us birth.

Jai Srimannarayana !