

OUR INSTITUTIONS

PART-3

(Govardhanji's answer to the question mentioned in the last issue)

I: The other day when we had come, they were chanting the Vedas in a different rhythm and today they seem to chant them in a different rhythm. Could you please explain why?

Govardhanji: The great sage Ve:da Vya:sa classified the Vedas into four branches based on the purpose of their application. His disciples and their disciples divided the Vedas into 1131 different branches to simplify the process of their learning, based on the subject matter they deal with. One should not read Ve:das like any other literature. Different meters & intonation, are prescribed for different branches of Ve:das. One has to chant them only in their prescribed manner.

I: How did you learn Ve:das and who inspired you to learn them?

Goverdhanji: At present only 12 branches of the 1131 different branches of Ve:das are extant. We have lost the rest of them due to the ravages of time. Even the existing branches of the Ve:das are on the verge of being forgotten due to the lack of students to learn them and the patrons to nourish them. Some fifty years ago H.H. TRIDANDI SRIMANNARAYANA RAMANUJA JEEYAR SWAMIJI, realized this fact, started a school to teach Ve:das and

inspired many young men to study Ve:das. Treading in His footsteps H.H. TRIDANDI CHINNA JEEYAR SWAMIJI established a school for studying Ve:das under the aegis of JEEYAR EDUCATIONAL TRUST(JET), at different places. Being influenced by the teachings of H.H. my parents admitted me to the Ve:dic-school in Sithanagaram in the year 1983, to learn Ve:das. As a result of that today I am a Ve:dic scholar and a happy man.

I: Are your family members happy with what you are?

G: (with a deep breath and a proud smile on his face) my parents, my wife and brothers are happy with what I am. They respect me for being a part in Sri Swamiji's mission of preserving the Ve:das. Apart from my family members all the members of the society venerate us for being what we are today. We are grateful to H.H. for making us what we are today.

I: How many brothers do you have and what are they doing?

G: I have got 3 brothers. All of them are well educated and are pursuing different professions. My eldest brother is a.....

I: Just now your esteemed self said that H.H. Tridandi Chinna Srimannarayana Ramanuja Jeeyar Swamiji established a Vedic-university and started Vedic schools at different places, to impart Vedic education. Could you please tell me the details of these schools?

G: Oh sure! At present there are eleven

Vedic Schools at different parts of the country. Different branches of Vedas are being taught in these schools. Different teachers are teaching different branches of Vedas to their respective students. *Krishna Yajurvedam* and *Rigvedam* are being taught in this *A:sramam* i.e. in Sithanagaram. I am teaching *Krishna Yajur ve:dam* and Sriman Krishna Mohana:charyulu is helping me. He is also a part of the Vedic research project. Sriman Srikantha:charyulu is teaching *Rigvedam*. Sriman Surendra:charyulu is teaching *Krishna Yajur ve:dam* in our *A:sramam* at Sri-Rangam (Tamil Nadu). Sriman Ranganatha:charyulu is teaching *Mythra:yani Sa:kha* at Rajamahendry in East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh.

Mythra:yani Sa:kha was on the verge of being forgotten. Earlier, only two Scholars viz., Brahmasri Na:na:ji of Pune and his disciple Brahmasri Parame:swara Di:kshitar of Chidambaram could chant this *Sa:kha* in the world. HH Sri Swamiji came to know about this fact and sent four students from our institution to learn this *Sa:kha* from Brahmashri Parame:swara Di:kshitar of Chidambaram with the intention of preserving this *Sa:kha* to the posterity. All the four students sent by H.H. have successfully completed their courses. At present only six scholars have learned this rare branch of Ve:das and four of them are from our institution. Sriman Krishna Mohana:charyulu is one of them. He is involved in the Vedic research project. The other three scholars are teaching this rare branch to many other students of our

institution, at different places.

Sriman Varaprasad a:charyulu is teaching *Mythra:yani Sa:kha* in our *A:sramam* at Narasimulukonda (Nellore, Dt.). Sriman Varadan is teaching *Sukla Yajur ve:dam* at Somasila (Nellore Dt.). Sriman Rajagopala:charyulu is teaching *Maithra:yani Sa:kha* at Nadigaddapalem *A:sramam*. Sriman Gopala:charyulu is teaching *Krishna Yajur ve:dam* at Rishikesh *Asramam* in Dehradun District of Uttaranchal. Sriman Narasimhacharyulu is teaching *Krishna Yajur ve:dam* at Mellacheruvu *Asramam* in Nalgonda dist. Sriman G.Surendaracharya is a Thaithhari:ya Ve:dic scholar, taking care of the ve:da Patthasala in our Srirangam *A:sramam*.

Sriman K. Madhu sudhana:charyulu, Sriman S. Srinivacharyulu are teaching *Sri Pa:nchara:thra A:gamam* in our *A:sramam* at Jaggaiahpet (Krishna Dt.). Sriman Vedantha:charyulu is teaching ve:dic portions to all the agamic students there in Jaggaiahpet. Sriman Thiruvengada:charyulu is teaching *Divya Prabandhams* and Sriman Pramodacharyulu is teaching *Sri Pa:nchara:thra A:gamam* at Kallur (Khammam Dt.). And Sriman Yugandhara:charyulu is teaching *Sri Pa:nchara:thra A:gamam* in our *A:sramam* at Kalavapamula (Krishna Dt.). Nearly two hundred Vedic students are studying in all these schools, put together. All these teachers are once students and now enjoying the privilege of teaching in our own school.