



Sri:mathe: Ra:ma:nuja:ya Namaha

SRI SWAMIJI SPEAKS

Priya Bhagavad Bandhus !

To realise the Divine and use every bit of our knowledge and wealth in His service is a great boon in one's life. In the ecstatic state of Love towards God, a devotee feels the causeless compassion of the Divine and begins to pray Him and sing His glories in every possible way. The knowledge of such a person works involuntarily in the direction of His service. Every deed he does will have the target "His Service". Such a devotee never feels that it is done by him and also never says so. That devotee feels that he is a chosen instrument through which God is acting. Many people say this, though they don't really feel it !. As we know, experience is totally different from sheer imagination. To know that it tastes sweet is entirely different from really enjoying the sweetness. Isn't it ?

Great Rishis, A:Iwa:rs and A:cha:rya:s have experienced the Divine. They poured out their Divine experience in the form of sacred compositions delivered involuntarily, recorded by their followers. Bhishma:cha:rya, like a bee that collects the drops of honey from different flowers, collected the greatest manthras from different sages who experienced those manthras. He did so with great devotion, by winning their hearts with his revered services, following severe austerities. Having carefully collected them, he arranged them in a wonderful order to make a beautiful divine garland of glorious manthras and thus he used to practice them regularly. Such a hard earned treasure of

knowledge was revealed to Pa:ndavas in front of Lord Krishna, while Bhishmacharya was on the bed of arrows during Kurukshethra war. That greatest of the secrets, powerful of the powers, that can make one even to win over... Lord Krishna ... is this "Sri Vishnu Sahasra Na:ma Stho:thram ". On the eve of "Bhishma E:ka:dasi" this month, all of us, members of our family, our friends, our relatives etc., join together in hundreds, thousands and lakhs to recite this wonderful "Stho:thra". Let us sing His glories, for He blesses us with Himself, the all powerful omnipotent Lord of this Universe. The more we join, the more effective it is in realising its results. Happiness cannot be enjoyed alone. The more we share the more we beget it. May the blessings of our compassionate A:cha:rya:s be realised by everyone of us. Pure heart with sincere devotion is enough. No hard and fast rules. To express our Love towards God, we need not refer books or look for rules. It is an opportunity blessed by Lord, blessed by our Acharyas, Realised souls, Divine Prayers !!

A mother naturally knows how to take care of her baby, though she didn't learn it from any sciences or code books. Our Acharyas guide us in this direction. Their Divine grace and blessings will lead us on the right path.

There are a number of opportunities provided by our sa:sthras for us to lead a purposeful life. As we cannot go through all the things and know them to

implement them in our lives, every now and then God comes to us taking the form of great A:cha:rya:s. Bhagavad Ramanuja charya, who accommodated the entire world in a small corner of his magnanimous heart, strove to spread the truth among masses out of immense compassion, so that every one gets benefitted. He spoke out the Manthra to the masses irrespective of any other qualification or eligibility, to make such a wonderful mantra available to all which can liberate the souls from all the sufferings. He is a revolutionary A:cha:rya who introduced the so called Harijans and Panchamas into the temple, during the time when they are highly restricted to enter even the vicinity of the temples.

The great sacrifices of our Rishis who spent their lives in severe austerities to realise the Universal Truths shows us the greatness of this holy land. They did Yagnas and Yagas for the sake of the well being of this world, but not for any personal benefits. They devoted their lives to enlighten the society.

People who experienced them were extremely fortunate enough but, when generations change, those experiences may not repeat. Thus, some of the great truths were lost. In spite of all such hurdles, our A:cha:ryas were able to preserve the Vedic knowledge in its pristine purity, which have come through the ages to us, today. In addition to these factors, there are many other factors like, people started their own interpretations to the scriptures and started to present their own theories in the name of "Sa:sthras". It is our duty to recognise and distinguish which is right and which is wrong. If not, it is we who will be misled

ultimately! Let us stick to the original scripts of our Ithihasas and other scriptures as presented by our great sages and our merciful a:cha:ryas. These days, even Bhagavadgitha is getting modified, as more and more slokas are being added by some pseudo-scholars.

Looking at all these, many learned people are also going away from the truth, ignoring the authenticity and validity of the subjects. In the process one forgot to worship their own god and started to run behind the seemingly appealing gods who are being portrayed as immediate result givers. Strangely even the so called 'educated' are also behind such people.

Luring people by many means such as money, facilities, comforts etc., some people are taking advantage of poor people and also of those who are middle class opportunists, to meet their selfish needs.

"Githa Jyothi" is a global programme to make people understand the share of Divinity that is missing in one's thought and deed. One should worship their own and respect all others. Sooner or later everyone will realise the truth. Let's be wise. Every one of us should try to serve other beings as service to God. Watering plants, feeding cows and other animals etc., will also come under this. One should stop imposing their beliefs on others. One should stop distracting the truths. If this continues, the life of man becomes more and more miserable in spite of any far advanced technologies that come into force.

May the blessings of our Acharyas make every one of us be aware of Truths and lead us on the right path towards the ultimate goal

Jai Srimannarayana !

