

INTRODUCING OUR ACTIVITY CENTERS

Over the last five years several devotees wished HH Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji visit Australia. In the years 1999-2000 a few disciples of His Holiness, while leaving for Melbourne, Australia for higher studies and work, approached His Holiness Sri Jeeyar Swamiji and inquired about His Holiness's plans to visit Southern hemisphere. HH casually exclaimed "Whenever Lord Ramachandra and His parivar decides to meet all the devotees, He will take us there!" His Holiness suggested to establish Vikasatarangini like get-togethers in Australia.

HH also referred to a few scriptures including Sri Ramayana and explained how the map of the world looked millions of years ago and where the current Australia land was at that time. I wish I had a better memory. I felt I was actually trans-migrated into Lord Ramachandra's time. Meanwhile Venugopal Swamy entered the room and while reading the Sudarsana Satakam said "I am getting old. My legs started lagging behind my body. Australia, Astralaya, Sastralaya; all this trips only God and Swamiji knows when this trip might happen". All of us burst into laughs at the witty way things are handled by Sri Venugopal Swamiji who is considered the Viswaksena of the organization. HH Jeeyar Swamiji also started smiling and giggling and remarked – "Why do you worry from now Venugopal ! Let us see". The soft

laughs of HH were like eternal sounds of Veda to all of us.

Time started flying and things started materializing too. HH Sri Jeeyar Swamiji's Jeeyar Educational Trust was registered as JET Australia Inc., on 11th January 2002. The first program the Abhisekham of Lord Sri Andal Ranganatha was performed in the month of September 2000. Initially the programs were organized in various houses and mainly, University going students along with few families participated in the programs. However, with the divine guidance of HH, the movement picked up and eventually many big programs like Sri Andal Ranganatha Kalyanam, Sri Rama Navami etc., were organized in the function Halls to accommodate many devotees. This not only happened in Melbourne but a few other cities like Sydney too. Most devotees were school going kids.

HH Sri Jeeyar Swamiji finally decided to grace Australia. The beauty and amazing thing is, though it started off as Australia, the momentum spilled into several countries. Devotees from New Zealand, Singapore, Fiji and Tasmania requested HH to bless their land. With very little support or no support but with the divine grace of HH JET Australia started planning for HH's Australia trip. Devotees participated even via phone from long distances even from USA and took part in the events.



With the support of local devotees, HH Swamiji's visit was well organised. Sriman Srinivasanji – an active member of Liberal Party of Australia who has been a vital supporter providing invaluable services to the programme in making this visit of HH Sri Swamiji a success.

HH blessed us all to carry out Vedic activities in Australia, JET Australia could start three Vikasatarangini's and the fourth one is due to start very soon with the blessings of His Holiness. HH instructed JET members in Australia to perform Gurupurnima, Vijaya Dasami and Deepavali in the year 2003.

The recent Vya:sa Pu:rnima (Gurupu:rnima) and Vijaya Dasami- Gurupurnima and Vijaya Dasami were celebrated in Melbourne with pomp and success. There were programmes in the local Temples. JET Australia celebrated these functions in the house of Sriman Amaranth Anumarlapudi who has been privileged to host HH Sri Jeeyar Swamiji during the Australia trip. Gurupurnima was also celebrated with great fervour at Town Hall, Oakleigh a suburb in Melbourne.

After listening to a VCD with Swamiji's discourse, A:ra:dhana to Lord Sri Goda Ranganatha was performed. The devotees performed Ashto:ththara pu:ja with the recitation of Sri Lakshmi, Sri Ramanuja and Sri Pedda jeeyar Swamiji Ashtottaras. Later on, Tiruppavai was recited.

Members of JET Australia also felt the



need to remember Sriman Sri Bhasyam Appalacharyulu Swami on this occasion.

(Shehnoy)Sannai me:la (traditional Vedic music) was arranged that added great attraction to the events. After the puja a procession was taken within the hall with the photos of Acharya's in the front followed by Sri Andal Ranganatha perumal amidst the chantings of devotees and Sannai Mela. Several devotees took part in the programme though there were other programmes in and around Melbourne.

In Melbourne, Sriman Srinivas Prabhu along with Sriman Satya and the group and in Sydney Sriman Vinod and the group of many dedicated volunteers, were conducting the programmes well. With the Mangalasanams of HH Sri Jeeyar Swamiji, every one is volunteering with dedicated heart to spread the fragrance of Vedic tradition to the seekers of Truth,

With the Mangalasanams of HH Sri Swamiji, JET Australia performed Sri Rama Pattabhishekam and **Sami:** Tree puja on Vijaya Dasami on 5th October. HH has arranged for specially designed Vijaya Dasami posters from India for this special occasion.

Jai Srimannarayana !

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