

GURU'S GRACE

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Vya:sa Pu:rnima of this year also marked the occasion of Smt. Dr. Renu Tamirisa's birthday. Her husband, Sri Dr. Chary Tamirisa, is the Vice-President of the Houston chapter of JETUSA. She also attended the celebrations in Bloomington-Normal. On this day, HH Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji revealed a significant event in the life of Sri Pedda Jeeyar Swamiji that came about through Renuji's grandfather, U. Ve. Sri Ramanujacharyulu Swamy of Mandasa.

When he was in early 20s, Our Pedda Jeeyar Swamiji and his close friend, Sriman T.K. Gopalacharyulu Swamy, from whom Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji learnt philosophy, went to learn **Sri: Bha:shyam** from the renowned scholar, Sri Ramanujacharyulu. **Sri: Bha:shyam** is considered to be the pinnacle work of our foremost *A:cha:rya, Bhagavad Ra:ma:nuj a:cha:rya*, as it is a lucid interpretation of the *Bramha Su:thras*, a complex *Veda:ntic* text that covers the essence of all Vedic knowledge about God, Souls, Matter, and their connection.

At the time Sri Ramanujacharyulu Swamiji was living in a small town called Mandasa, which is located in Srikakulam District in Andhra Pradesh. The village is home to a beautiful temple of the Lord,

Va:sude:va. As Sri Ramanujacharyulu was a *Ra:ja Guru*, he was in the assembly of the local *zaminda:r* and was also teaching him the wisdom of our Vedic culture.

On the night that they arrived in the village, the two young students shared the same amazing dream. In the dream, the two were attempting to cross the wide river *Goda:vari* on a small footbridge. After crossing about two-thirds of the way, the portion of the bridge in front of them was suddenly found to be broken. There was no way to go to the other end of the river. They were very scared and suddenly both woke up startled. Afraid about the significance of this shared dream, they immediately went to Sri Ramanujacharyulu's chambers and told him about their dream. They felt that the dream implied that the study of **Sri: Bha:shyam** was too vast a subject for them, and they were going to leave their studies without fully completing it.

The wise Guruji observed the two frightened students, thought for a while and said, "Now first wash your feet, chant **Sri: Vishnu Sahasrana:mam** and sleep peacefully. Tomorrow morning, we will do something about this." Next day, the Guruji took both the young men to Lord *Va:sude:va*'s Temple. He instructed them to prostrate in front of God and he too prostrated along



with them. He stood up and prayed to Lord, "Oh My Lord! These two young students of mine are the ones who will be standing guard to Your scriptures. They are the ones who are going to re-establish our *Siddha:ntha*. So, it is Your responsibility. I am not going to teach these boys. It will be You who should teach them through me. Please take care of them." He ordered both the disciples to prostrate again and they did so. When they got up, he patted them on the back and told them not to worry any more, as they were now under the care of *Va:sude:va*. And in front of the Lord, the Guru began his lessons to the two young students on the wisdom of the *Sri: Bha:shyam*.

In answer to Sri Ramanujacharyulu's prayers and blessings, the boys completed their lessons with fine colors. Not only did they complete their studies well, but they did so in just six months, well ahead of the two to three years that was normally allotted for the study of this complex text. Sri Ramanujacharyulu's compassionate prayer was all that was necessary for the two boys to become the kind of scholars that we know them to be today.

Today many scholars from South India who are sought out for their knowledge of *Sri: Bha:shyam* are those that have studied under either Sri T.K Gopalacharya Swami or Sri Pedda Jeeyar Swamiji. That both of them had attributed their wisdom to the compassion of Sri Ramanujacharyulu Swamiji, not only

reveals his greatness, but also teaches us how important it is to place ourselves under the care of a proper Guru. For, success in any endeavour can come to us only through God's Grace, and His Grace can only be gained through the mercy of the Guru.

Jai Srimannarayana !

Parents ! Here is an ambrosia !

Let every child recite this sloka, every day in the morning, thinking peacefully, of the beautiful form of Lord Narayana. Lord will be pleased to bless them.

Learn this Sloka Correctly !

*thwam e:va ma:tha: cha
pitha: thwam e:va
thwam e:va bandhus cha
gurus thwam e:va
thwam e:va vidya: dravinam
thwame:va
thwam e:va sarvam
mama de:va de:va.*

- O' Lord Sriman
*Narayana ! You are my mother,
you are my father, you are all my
relationships, you are my Guru,
You are all the knowledge and
you are all the wealth, you are
my everything, O' my Supreme
Lord.*

