



# Sri Krishnashtami Jnana Yagnam 2014

## *An Inaugural Report*

Sri Krishnashtami Jnana Yagnam organized by Arsha Vidya Vahini commenced on the evening of 16<sup>th</sup> of August 2014 at Sujata High School, Hyderabad as Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddarth ji delivered the first of the series of discourses on “*Bhramara Gitam*” that occurs in the 10<sup>th</sup> Canto of Srimadbhagavatam.

Pujya Acharya’s love for the Scripture and His Grace was evident from His consent to bless us with the nectar of Srimadbhagavatam almost immediately after His arrival from a four-month long international visit.

The evening began with Jyoti-Prajwalanam by Sri P.Jaipal ji, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Abids accompanied by Sri C.T.Krishnamurthy ji of our Vedanta Adhyayana Mandali.



This was followed by the Bhajans of Sri Sankeerthan Srinivas that enhanced the already vibrant ambience in the auditorium. The devotees happily sang the Bhajans in unison, expectant of the wonderful discourse that would commence shortly.

## Pujya Acharya's Discourse

Pujya Acharya's discourse was a thorough introduction to prepare our minds for the teachings of Bhramara Gitam. The discourse highlighted the following points -

- Sadhana is not to attain God, but to prepare our mind for such cognition.
- The Goal in Life determines the meaning of Life. The true meaning of Life is revealed as we follow the teachings of Srimadbhagavatam – ***Jivasya Tatva Jigyasa*** - desire for Brahma Jnana is the purpose of Life as all other pursuit of sensual pleasure will never provide absolute satisfaction
- Sri Suta Pouranika says that any Sadhana or Karma that does not intensify our devotion towards the Lotus Feet of the Lord is mere exertion that will only lead to stress – “***Shrama eva hi Kevalam***”
- Any solution to a problem follows our decision towards the problem.
- The first three verses of Srimadbhagavatam answer the three most important questions of Life
  - ***What is to be Acquired?***
  - ***What is to be Known?***
  - ***What is to be Meditated upon?***
- ***To be acquired*** - The third sloka instructs that One's pursuit should be to revel in the “Rasa” of Srimadbhagavatam – the essence of the Scripture that is Bhagawan – “***Pibata Bhagavatam Rasamalayam***”. This desire to experience the Rasa is Bhakti.
- Our Speech is a two-edged sword - It is both an expression of our mind and an influence on our mind. All that we speak should be in connection with Ishwara. All other worldly conversations are mercilessly dismissed as bad-company by Narada Bhakti Sutras.
- ***To be Known*** – Man is blessed with Jnana Shakti that gains meaningful expression in knowing the Vastavam Vastu which is but Atman.
- ***To be meditated upon*** – The “Absolute Truth” alone should be meditated upon – “***Satyam Param Dhimahi***”



## Dhyanam

Pujya Acharya proceeded to explain the “Dhyanam” aspect of the *Parama Tatvam* and unequivocally indicated that given our situation, we are not able to meditate upon the formless Nirguna Nirakara Brahman or the Saguna Nirakara Ishwara. In fact, we are completely inefficient in focusing our mind to meditate upon the splendid and benign forms of Ishwara as revealed in His various incarnations.

- Dhyanam requires Ekagratha - focus or concentration. This Ekagratha is facilitated by Akarshana or Attraction. Our minds find no attraction as yet even in the Saguna Sakara, then what to speak of Saguna Nirakara and Nirguna Nirakara of Ishwara? Such an attraction can only be developed by constantly listening to the story of the Lord in Satsanga.
- Our hearts are compared to iron that is rusted by the worldly thoughts and sensory gratification and not attracted to the magnet - Ishwara.
- Ishwara enters our hearts through our ears as we listen to Bhagavata-Katha and cleanses us of the impurities. Now our minds are naturally attracted to Ishwara as iron is to magnet!



Every word of the discourse this evening revealed the beautiful similarities between Vedanta and Bhakti and their confluence in Srimadbhagavatam – a scripture unequalled in striking such a consonance. After the discourse, Harati was offered to the Lord bringing the events of the evening to a completion.

**For more pictures of the program- please click here - [AVV](#)**

**Pujya Acharya will deliver discourses on “*Bhramara Gitam*” of Srimadbhagavatam from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> of August at 6:45 pm in Sujata High School, Chapel Road, Nampally. Please be sure to inform interested friends and family.**