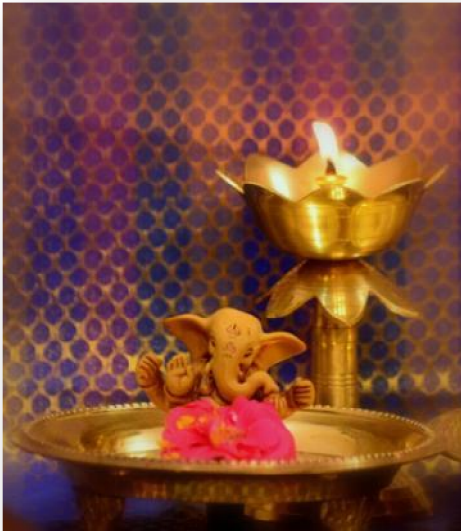


# Navaratri Utsavam

1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Oct  
2016



Arsha Vidya Vahini brings to you glimpses of the auspicious Navaratri celebrations in the holy presence of **Pratahsmaraneeya Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddharth ji maharaj** at our Vedanta Study centre- **Vyakhya**.



The celebration marked its beginning with the blessed words of wisdom from Sri Pujya Acharya on Saturday, the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to all devotees. Highlighting the importance of the holy Navaratri festival, Sri Acharya explained that worship of Sri Devi who is Sakala Devata and Veda Swarupini, will not only bring great prosperity into one's life but will also aid immensely in the pursuit of attaining Vedanta Vijnana.



**"Bhakti is incomplete  
without Jnana and Jnana is  
impossible without Bhakti."**

**-Sri Acharya ji**



The worship of every evening comprised of **Veda Parayanam, Sri Ganapati puja, Sri Devi**



**panchopachara puja, Sangeeta seva with sampradaya keerthanams, Srichakra kumkum archana, Ashtottara puja, Adhyayanam, Arati & Prasadam.** Our Pujya Acharya always emphasizes that devotion will attain its completeness and becomes meaningful only when it is supported by wisdom. This completeness was brought in by the teachings of **Devi Suktam** of **Rg Vedam**.



As a tradition, we at AVV are following the study of one Veda Sukta every year during Navaratri. As a part of this tradition, Pujya Swamiji blessed us with the most beneficial study of **Sri Durga Suktam** and **Sree Suktam** during 2014 and 2015 Navaratri celebrations respectively. I am sure you got the blessed opportunity to listen to the Sree Suktam audio CD that was released recently.

### Devi Suktam – Adhyayanam

Devi Suktam is the 125<sup>th</sup> Sukta with eight mantras from 10<sup>th</sup> Mandala of Rg veda. This sukta is an expression of the **aham/ atma tatva** or **adavita darshana** of **Brahma Vidushi – Sri Vagaambhruni Devi**, the daughter of Ambhrina Maharshi. Therefore, this sukta is well known as **Vaagambhruni Suktam**. A few of the Vaishnava commentators opine that by the word Vaagambhruni, **Goddess Mahalakshmi** is



indicated and thus this sukta describes the glory of the Mother Goddess Lakshmi Devi. Hence, this sukta is known as **Devi Suktam**.

With the help of Sri Sayanacharya's Vedabhashya and other bhashyas including the Upanishads, Puja Acharyasri has elaborated each of the mantras to a great detail and depth. Along with the Atmatattva upadesha, He also introduced us to the **33 Vedic Devatas – 8 Vasus, 11 Rudras, 12 Adityas, Indra and Prajapathi**. Bringing in the Yagnyavalkya – Shakalya Samvada from Brihadaranyaka Updanishad into this context, the Adhyatmika Swaroopa of these 33 Deities was unfolded.

***"The Hindu Pantheon is but an expression of these 33 devatas"***- said Sri Acharya. He proclaimed that the true meaning of Upasana is ***'to feel the presence of the Lord within oneself.'***

In His teachings, while explaining the Yagna context of this sukta, Sri Swamiji has re-emphasized about the three primary religious duties – **Yagna, Dana and Tapas**.

**For a brief understanding you may click on [Yagna, Dana & Tapas](#), & refer to Puja Acharya's discourses on our Youtube Channel - [Prem Siddharth Speaks](#)**

The teaching will be continued further, elaborating on Devi Suktam in few more classes followed by a new session of Upanishad classes for this year 2016-2017 with the enrolled new students.

## Audio CDs Released

During these auspicious Navaratri celebrations, the following four audio CDs of Sri Swamiji's discourses were released. You may visit <http://www.shastra4u.com/Stores/> for more details and picking them up for your listening.

### 1. Sri Krishnajanmaleela Prasangam



In these discourses delivered during the Sri Krishnashtami Jnana Yagnam 2016, Puja Acharya reveals the hidden teachings of Sri Krishna Janmaleela from Srimadbhagavatam.

It would not be an exaggeration to mention that every minute detail of the Sri Krishnajanma Leela is vividly described, intertwined with the Vedantic teaching. These discourses are unparalleled in revealing both the Rasa and the Rahasya of this divine advent.

## 2. Sri Rama Nivasam (Sri Valmiki Rama Samvadam)



These discourses were delivered by Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddharth ji at Knoxville, Tennessee, USA in the December 2015. These teachings highlight the beautiful episode in the Ayodhya Kanda of Sri Tulasi Ramayana when Bhagawan Sri Ramachandra arrives at Sage Valmiki's ashram along with Sri Sitadevi and Sri Lakshmana. Upon Sri Rama's asking, about where they should reside, Sage Valmiki responds in ecstasy that the hearts of the devotees alone are the true abode of the Lord. In His celebrated work, Sri Ramacharitamanas, Sri Tulasidas ji Maharaj describes this

episode to illustrate the Sadhanas required to prepare our hearts.

In these discourses, Pujya Acharya Swamiji avers *"Our lives gain a meaning only when the omnipresent Lord manifests in our hearts. Such a manifestation is the result of the culmination of all the sadhanas collectively known as Bhakti."*

## 3. Brahma Sutra Parichayam



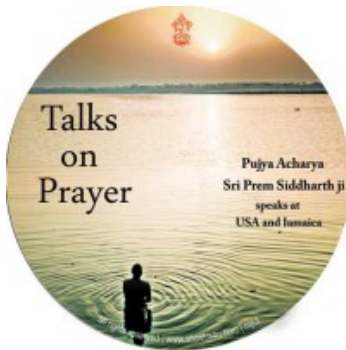
Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddharth ji gave these discourses in commemoration of Guru Pourima 2016 at Vyakhya - the center for Vedanta Studies at Hyderabad. Sutra literature is the backbone for any traditional learning as it encapsulates the voluminous teachings into simple aphorisms for ease of remembering and propagation. The Brahma Sutras that form the Nyaya Prasthanana of the Prasthanatraya, succinctly delivers the teachings of the Upanishads in 555 sutras.

In these discourses, Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddharth ji explains the systematic progression of the spiritual seeker beginning with the discovery of the Means & Goals, understanding the mechanics of Desire & Action, realizing the Basic Human Problem & the Nature of Bondage, therefore seeking the answer in Atmajnana- thus establishing the significance of Brahmasutra for such a seeker in retaining the entire Vedantic teaching.

Pujya Acharya Swamiji gives us a glimpse of the glory of the most celebrated commentary of Sri Adisankara Bhagavadpada by presenting the structure of the Shariraka Bhashya in unraveling each sutra, comprehensively establishing Advaita and refuting the misinterpretations by other darshananas. These discourses also provide a brief introduction of the 4 chapters of Brahmasutras, 11 darshananas (Astika & Nastika) and various commentaries.



#### 4. Talks on Prayer



These discourses in English were delivered by Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddharth ji during His visit to United States and Jamaica in 2009.

In these series of talks Sri Swamiji deliberated on the aspects of Prayer and Blessings. These talks are aimed at giving an understanding on prayer, how it works, what a successful prayer is and blessing of the Almighty that results out of a successful prayer. These talks will give a good understanding if followed after listening to Sri Swamiji's discourses titled, "**Talks on God**" that is already available to be listened.

#### Purnahuti

On the evening of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016 marking the conclusion of Navaratri celebration-2016 devotees offered a grand Purnahuti. The students did **Chaturveda sukta parayanam**, **Shiva mantra ghanapatham**, chanted **stotrams** etc. as a part of rajopachara puja. This made the whole event a memorable one. The entire celebrations were graciously blessed by the Goddess Sri Mata Annapurneshwari. All the ten days mahaprasadam was served to all devotees present. It was not an exaggeration to mention that the Sri Annapurna prasadam aided all devotees to receive the Jnana Yagna prasadam blessed by Sri Pujya Swamiji.



Thus, the ten day Sharannavaratri Celebrations 2016 were concluded in a reverberating environment laying path to the further study of Vedanta under the able tutelage of our most revered Acharya Swamiji.





We, at AVV thank the contributors and well wishers whose unfailing support helps in Vedanta Vidya Prasara and the relevant events.



***|| Harih Om ||***

Report by

**Sri KV Sreeram,**  
Vedanta Adhyayana Mandali  
**Arsha Vidya Vahini, Hyderabad, India**