GOD Canada Newsletter – October 2022

Cherished Memories - A Rare Sight!

This series chronicles interesting experiences recounted by the devotees of HH Maharanyam Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji.

Our Sri Swamiji took us – Hariji, Ramakrishnahariji and myself to the Bhagavan Sri Yogiramsuratkumar Ashram in Tiruvannamalai. It was a pleasant trip with Sri Swamiji drenching us with his nectarine words of love and wisdom dwelling on great saints and Mahans with a lot of instances from the life of Sri Yogiramsuratkumar.

We reached the Ashram in the forenoon. The ashram devotees were overjoyed and we all went to the Pradhan Mandir.

Sri Swamiji was in a deep meditative mood. He sat down and immediately went into meditation. He remained still and absolutely motionless and an ambience of deep, divine tranquility prevailed.

I was sitting a little behind Sri Swamiji to his left. I was looking at the serene face of our Master every now and then while he was in deep meditation. Just being there close to him quieted even our minds! About 45 minutes passed unnoticed!

It was then that I saw it!

Our beloved Master slowly opened his eyes. I could clearly see a bright light around the eyeballs of Sri Swamiji; like a corona, a brilliant shining rim around a black ball. It was truly fantastic!

It sent a thrill of joy through my body. Since I was sitting very close by, it was very clear and remained till He was seated and I could see.

I have heard Sri Swamiji talking about "eyes glowing in meditation". I used to wonder if it was just a poetic description of the beauty of a Mahan's eyes. Our compassionate Master showed the actual purport of those words!

I shared this with other guru-bhais who were delighted as much, and with our hearts were filled with gratitude thinking about the great fortune bestowed on us. We returned back to Chennai the same afternoon.

Originally Published in Maduramurali Magazine.

Fond Memories Of Bliss

This series chronicles interesting experiences recounted by the devotees of HH Maharanyam Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji. These articles are from the series, "Fond memories of Bliss" that is published Namadwaar.org

Many devotees who come to have Sri Swamiji's darshan seek atonements and prayers regarding health or other worldly matters.

I have also seen many devotees come with a blissful smile and shed tears of joy as they narrate their stories of how, with Sri Sri Swamiji's blessings, their prayers for job, progeny or marriage have come true.

Some of them have interesting stories to share, one common experience being — "Whenever there arises a doubt in my mind or a predicament in my family, it gets automatically clarified via Sri Sri Swamiji's lecture in the subsequent days or in His article appearing in the following magazine issue..."

A few ask our Guru Maharaj with surprise, 'How come, Swamiji, you are telling me exactly what I discussed with my family this morning!' and so on.

Sri Sri Swamiji usually has only one response to all of them. He says, "It is Lord Krishna who does everything using this body as an instrument."

Originally published in Namadwaar.org

<u>Madhurageetham - Krishna Leelai - 15</u>

The Holy Land of Brindavan

After seeing all the dangers in Gokula, Nanda Baba, along with his minister Upananda held council and decided to move away from Gokula to the beautiful land of Brindavan on the banks of Yamuna river.

When Lord Krishna and Balarama entered Brindavan, the very sight gave them bliss! Maybe because they had reached their eternal abode, or maybe because this was going to be the center of all their pastimes. Or was it because, Brindavan was that holy place that had the imprints of Radha Devi's feet, whom Krishna held very dear?

Srimad Bhagavatam says,

vrindAvanam govardhanam yamunA-pulinAni cha

vlkshyAsId uttamA prltl rAma-mAdhavayor nrupa

The lush green forest of Vrindavan, the Govardhana mountain and the banks of Yamuna immensely pleased Balarama and Lord Krishna.

Srimad Bhagavatam further says, Brindavan was sarvakAlasukhAvaham (pleasing all through the year).



It is not just the physical beauty of the place but the ambiance itself is blissful because Radha Devi and Lord Krishna are ever-present there. The sand and the air of Brindavan nourish Bhakti in the hearts of the devotees. It is the refuge for devotees yearning for devotion at the Lotus Feet of the Divine Couple. Countless Mahans have lost themselves in the bliss of Brindavan, just by thinking of the place.

This month, we will enjoy one such Madhurageetham by Sri Swamiji – brindAvanam thanil en maname, that is sung in the bhAva of a Gopi. In this song, the Gopi says to her friend that her heart is captivated by the beauty of Brindavan. Sri Radha Devi's holy footprints on the soil of Brindavan (...radhA charana rajobhishiktam) is the primary reason that it is so mesmerizing to those who are full of love for Lord Krishna.

The Gopi, thus enthralled by the beauty of this Vraja Bhoomi enjoys the melodious songs of the birds, the rustling flow of Yamuna river and the luscious greenery.

Let us also ask our hearts to travel to this holy land and immerse ourselves in its bliss.

Brindavanam thanil en maname

Ragam: Abheri

Tala: Adi

brindAvanam thanil en manamE – thOzhl

brindAvanam thanil en manamE

konji konji pADiDum kuyil kUTTamum

nenjil kuDi koLLum mayil kUTTamum || brindAvanam ||

chala chala enDrODum yamunai paDugaiyum

malaya mArudatthil asaiyum koDigaLum || brindAvanam || rAdhA padam alainda puNNiya bhUmiyum kATril midandu varum muraLl gAnamum || brindAvanam || Meaning O Friend! My heart is in Brindavan My heart is in Brindavan The cuckoo birds sings melodiously The sight of the peacocks captivates the heart The burbling flow of Yamuna river The gentle malaya breeze swaying the vines The blessed land where the feet of Radha Devi have wandered all over The melodious notes of the Flute in the air Sowmya Balasubramanian, Bay Area CA Originally published in godivinity.org

Sep 2022 Toronto Monthly Satsang Report:

By the immense grace of Sri Swamiji and Sri Madhuri Sakhi Sametha Premika Varadha Takurji, Toronto GOD Sathsang families had weekly sathsangs in Sep 2022.

Sep 03 - Radha Ashtami Satsang -

Sep 17 - Nama Chanting at Brampton Guruvayur temple

Sep 23 to oct 01 - all the bhagavathas from Toronto Satsang did Ramayana navaha Parayanam via Zoom

and we did the Poorthi on oct 01.

Upcoming Events:

Sri Swamiji Jayanthi Celebrations via Zoom:

- Oct 16 Oct22 Madhurageetham Saptaham
- Oct 23 Oct 29 Nama Sapthaham
- Oct 30 Nov 05 Srimad Bhagavatha Saptaham
- Nov 08 Raasa Poornima

Madhura Utsav (in-Person)

Dec 23 - Dec 31

Dates to remember:

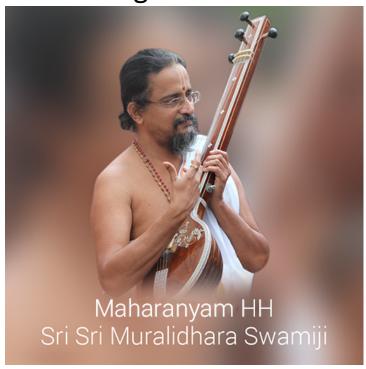
Oct 05 - Ekadasi

Oct 20 - Ekadasi

Oct 25 - Swathi

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QUIZ TIME : Guru Kirtans from Sri Madhurageetham



In this quiz, we shall experience the glory of Lord Rama and the greatness of Rama Nama from the nectarine verses in the divine Sri Madhurageethams of HH Maharanyam Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji.



1. Sri Swamiji in this kirtan, beautifully conveys that chanting the divine name 'Rama' will remove all the desires.
a. Tharaka namamE sirandhadhu-pAril
b. rAma rAma endru sonnAl kAmam pOgumE
c. rAma nAmam solli pazhagu
2. Name the Namavali where Sri Swamiji says chanting the divine name 'Rama' will obliterate the ill-effects of Kali Yuga.
a. bhAva vardhana rAma
b. aNDajavAhana kOdaNDarAma
c. lalitha lAvaNya raghukularAma
3. Sri Swamiji composed this Sri Madhurageetham on Lord Rama located on the banks of the river Godavari.

a. champakAraNya kShetra bAla
b. bhakta vatsala parama dayaLa
c. bhaja rE bhadrAchalam-mAnasa
4. In this Sri Madhurageetham,, Sri Swamiji beautifully describes how Lord Rama along with Lakshmana and Sage Vishwamithra came to Mithila to break the divine bow and got married to Sita Mata.
a. gambhlra naDaiyODu vandAn-rAman
b. poRumaiyum karuNaiyum thavamum sErndu
c. jaya jaya rAma kathE lOke
5. Sri Swamiji in this Sri Madhurageetham praises Lord Rama, the one who never differentiates anyone by their qualities or their limitations, removes all the fears of rebirth, bestow liberation, provides protection and finally says that Lord Rama is indeed the possessor of this divine name that is so easy to chant!
a. Ehi Ehi Raghuveera
b. Kazhugukkum kaDan seyda
c. dasharatha bAlakam dharmasvarUpam
6. In which Sri Madhurageetham does Sri Swamiji sing praises on a Divyadesam where Lord Rama is known as 'valvil rAmar'?
a. deyvam kANIrE parikkallil
b. kaLLamillA uLLam puguvAn

- c. urugAda uLamum or uLamO
- 7. Sri Swamiji in this Sri Madhurageetham, 'Jaya Jaya Sri Rama Padhuke' extols how the rays from Lord Rama's Padukas led the way of life for each individual in Ayodhya. The Padukas laid the code of conduct as to how dharma should be followed and protected. Which verse in this Sri Madhurageetham refers to the above meaning?
- a. Jaya jaya tratnasimhAsanarAjithe
- b. Jaya jaya dharmashAsanachaturE
- c. Jaya jaya kAmithavarapradE
- 8. Name the Sri Madhurageetham composed by Sri Swamiji which has the following line as one of its verses-'pitrivAkya pAlana utthama putra'
- a. vIra rAghavO vijayathE
- b. bhaja rE bhadrAchalam
- c. dasharatha bAlakam dharmasvarUpam
- 9. In which Sri Madhurageetham does Sri Swamiji refer Lord Rama as the previous incarnation of Muralidhara?
- a. Jaya jaya rAma kathE lOkE
- b. IAli IAli IAli IAli mama svAmi
- c. svAgatham svAgatham sithE iha
- 10. In this kirtan, Sri Swamiji calls out to Lord Rama to come quickly without any delay to protect him. In the previous verse, he says the moment one

calls out the divine name 'Rama', his eyes swell with tears and he develops goose bumps.

- a. urugAda uLamum or uLamO
- b. Ehi Ehi raghuvIrA-mAm
- c. thyAgarAja rAma sakhyapriya rAma

Compiled by Ramya Srinivasan, San Jose, CA

Illustration by Radha Rani, Atlanta, GA

Answers: 1-b, 2-b, 3-c, 4-a, 5-b, 6-b, 7-b, 8-a, 9-b, 10-a.

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