



AYYAPPAVANI

अय्यप्पाणि web News Magazine

SABARIMALA AYYAPPA SEVA SAMAJAM (SASS)

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Global Ayyappa Song Singing & Music Competition

Kokan State (Maharashtra) unit of Sabarimala Ayyappa Seva Samajam conducted Online Global Ayyappa Song Singing & Music Competition in which devotees from all over the world participated. Competition was in singing Songs on Swamy Ayyappa, with and without musical instruments, in any language and participants were divided into 5 different age groups. Valid entries were judged by eminent Judges. Names of all the winners were declared by Shri. T.B. Shekar (National Chairman) in the presence of Shri. Erode N. Rajan (National General Secretary), Shri.P.Shanmuganandan (National Admn Secretary), Shri. Prakash G Pai (Trustee) and other dignitaries at 7 pm on 15th August 2020 through webinar, attended by many devotees. All the activities related to the Competition were coordinated by a Committee headed by Shri. Karate Murugan (State President), Shri. N. Muthukrishnan (General Secretary) and Adv. Kumar Vaidyanathan (General Convener).

THIRUVABHARANAM

Thiruvabharanam means the sacred ornaments of Lord Ayyappan, the presiding deity of Sabarimala temple. The ornaments are made of gold. It is believed that these ornaments are made at the orders of the Pandalam King. Thiruvabharanam is kept at Srambickal Palace, which is close to the Valiyakoikkal Temple, inside the Pandalam Palace premises. At the end of pilgrim season every year, the ornaments are taken to Sabarimala as a procession and poojas are performed on the idol adorned with ornaments. After the season, the ornaments are taken back to Srambickal Palace for safe custody. Thiruvabharanam and the caskets are made available for darshan at Srambickal palace during the pilgrim season (typically from 2nd week of November till the eve of the procession day) and at Valiyakoikkal Temple on the day of procession.

The sacred “Thiruvabharanam” consists of 3 boxes (ornaments, royal dress and other items of Lord Ayyappa) kept safe at Pandalam Palace are taken to Sabarimala for Makaravilakku festival, in a 3 day procession by a 12 member team on their heads. This reaches Sabarimala temple at sunset time on Makara samkramam day. The first box containing the ornaments are taken to Sreekovil and poojas are performed on the Murthy/idol adorned with the ornaments. Once the poojas are over, Sreekovil will be opened for darsan along with “Deeparadhana” and within minutes “Makara-Jyothi” will be seen from the Ponnambalamedu.

Following the High Court judgment, the Travancore royal family lost its rights, authority and control over the temple and the temple came under the control of the state government. It was also suggested that a museum be set up to display the temple's treasures and turn the temple into an object of exhibition for the public. The royal family approached the Supreme Court

against this.

After the formation of the state of Kerala, successive state governments which took over the administration of the state as part of the democratic system have a long history of abusing temples and allied systems as a source of income. In addition, the Communist Marxist party has been trying for years to implement a policy to destroy temples and spiritual values, so as to create insecurity in the Hindu community and enslave them to their ideology by using covert tactics. Devotees were shocked to hear the Kerala High Court's decision which would eventually speed up the process. The High Court's verdict was a major blow to the desires of devotees and Hindu organizations that temple governance should be politically neutral.

It was with the realization that all the treasures of the Lord, that were kept for worship as part of the ritual plan of the temple that have existed since prehistoric times, were kept in the highly secured vaults. But the decision to turn it into an exhibition object with only its measured and weighed value as a mere archeological or commercial object has left deep scars in the minds of the royal family and the devotees. Moreover, such court orders will only help in accelerating the ill will of the so called pseudo-secular politicians to turn the shrines and spiritual centers into commercial hubs.

Corruption and mismanagement by the Devaswom Boards who are entrusted with the duty of managing temples is a hotly debated subject. Even though there is a misconception that the Devaswom Board is an independent body, it is in fact a fully government controlled and politically motivated body. There are many examples before us about the Devaswom Board President and members acting solely on the orders of the Government and trying to implement policies of political parties. Taking over of privately managed temples for political reasons is a daily occurrence in Kerala. The Malleeswaran Koil in Attappady, the only temple that was under the complete control of the tribals, is a prime example of this. The deplorable condition of the dilapidated temple known as the "Kuzhichappam Kittiya Kshetram" taken over by the Devaswom Board near the Vizhinjam fishing harbour in Thiruvananthapuram is a classic example of the Devaswom Board's mismanagement. It is a fact that after the temple got dysfunctional and dilapidated due to the unpardonable neglect by the Devaswom Board the social and religious balance of the area was disturbed which resulted in conversion of almost all Hindus in the vicinity.

It goes without saying that it was unfortunate that the Hon. High Court did not recognize the tragedy that would follow if the devotees, the real protectors of the temples, were shunted out and the administration of temples were handed over to the government which is controlled by pseudo-secular political leadership.

Subhashitham - 4

हंसः श्वेतो बकः श्वेतः को भेदो बकहंसयोः ।
नीरक्षीरविवेके तु हंसो हंसो बको बकः ।

Hamsam swetho baka swetah/ ko bhedo baka hamsayo//
Neera ksheera viveke tu/ hamso hamse bako baka//

Meaning: Swan is white, duck also white, then what is the difference between swan and duck. When the matter of wisdom in separating milk from milk-water arises, Swan and duck are different. Hamsam / the mystic swan or goose; representing divine wisdom is beyond the reach of men. Exoterically, a fabulous bird which, when given milk mixed with water, drank only the milk and left the water, milk standing for spirit and water for matter.

Story :

Story of Satyabhama & Rukmini – True love

Satyabhama & Rukmini were the wives of Lord Krishna.

Both were of contrasting character. As Satyabhama was short tempered, Rukmini was cool. Since Lord Vishnu was on earth as Krishna, there was trouble in heaven and he was needed there. So the Gods abducted him and took him to heaven. Satyabhama alleged that Rukmini was hiding Krishna so that she did not have to share him with the other queens.

Narada told Satyabhama about Krishna's whereabouts and said that he could strike a deal with the Gods on her behalf. This would entitle her to special favours from Lord Krishna. After discussing with the Gods, he returned with the following proposal. If Satyabhama would give the Gods an offering that weighed more than Krishna, they would release him. This was a very easy proposal and she replied "I have enough jewels to weigh Krishna," and asked Narada to bring Krishna from heaven for the weighing.

The weighing was arranged. Krishna was seated in one pan and Satyabhama began to load the other with gold and jewels. The vaults got emptied out but Krishna's pan did not move at all. The Gods were now ready to take Krishna with them back to heaven.

The citizens of Dwarka then fell at Rukmini's feet, pleading that she do something to save their Lord.

Rukmini first politely requested the gold and the ornaments to be removed from the pan. While this was being done she went out and plucked a Tulsi leaf, took a round (pradakshina) of Krishna with folded hands with tulsi leaf in and kept it on the empty pan with devotion. The light leaf floated on to the pan and the pan went down and Krishna's side was swinging in the air.

Krishna then stood up and said that devotion to a life-partner is the only

thing that will determine the amount of love one has for somebody. In this pride, ego, jealousy have no place.

This story shows the significance of love and how a humble offering to God is greater than wealth. Tulsi is considered very beloved to Krishna.

NEWS

- SASS Delhi unit conducted a webinar talk by Sri. Ka. Ba. Surendran (RSS Kerala state saha samparka pramukh), on 2nd August 2020 remembering the 73rd anniversary of Martyrdom of Angadippuram Ramasimhan – victim of Muslim fundamentalism in Kerala in 1947.
- On 28th July, 2020 UthramPooja was celebrated all over India at many places with Neeranjnam, Archana, Bhajan and Saranaghosham and arrangements made for celebrating Uthram Pooja today, 21st August 2020.
- During the historic day of SreeRama Janmabhoomi Bhoomipoojan and foundation stone laying ceremony by Hon. Prime Minsiter Sri. Narendra Modiji on 5th August 2020, as per the directions of our Central and State units and various other Hindu organizations, crores of devotees witnessed the live telecast and also conducted Deepakkazcha at their houses on the same day evening.
- Paschim Maharashtra state unit, along with VHP, celebrated this festival of victory at Morya Gosavi Ganapathi Temple at Chinchwad with pooja and bhajans and distributed sweets in all the Ayyappa temples and Attukal Devi temple in Pune.
- Karkitakam being the “Ramayana month”, Ramayana parayanam (reading) and discourses were conducted by SASS at almost all the houses of Ayyappa devotees and temples also.
- Karnataka State Executive Committee meeting held on 9th August.
- Tamil Nadu State unit condemned the Periyarist group Karuppar Koottam for making a derogatory video on Lord Murugan and the Tamil prayer sung in his praise, Skanda Sashti Kavasam. Devotees throughout the state observed 9th August- Skanda Shashti day with Vetrivel Veeravel (Victorious Vel, Courageous Vel - Vel means a spearlike weapon something similar in function to such a missile-weapon of Lord Muruga) slogan and chanting Skanda Shashti Kavasam.
- North Gujarat Unit organised an online Lecture in Tamil by Shri. H Raja, Reclaim Temples Movement, Tamil Nadu on "Free Hindu Temples from Government Control" on 2nd August.