

Srirasthu
Srimathe satakopaya nama:
Srimathe ramanujaya nama:
Srimathe Varavara munaye nama:
Sri Sri Chinna Ramanuja Jeeyar Thiruvadikale Saranam



Svami Nammazvar, Svami Ramanuja, Svami Muthaliyandan and Svami Thiruvaimozhi Pillai Thirunakshatra Utsavam

The months of Chitrai and Vaikasi together has a lot of importance. Usually in all temples Brahmotsavams take place during this time. Dhivya Desams like Thiruallikeni, Thirukachchi have the Brahmotsavams in these two months. Adding to the flavor is Azvars and acharyas who have taken birth in these two months. Svami Satakopa (Nammazvar), Madhura Kavi Azhwar, Jagadacharya Svami Ramanuja, Svami Mudhaliyandaan, Svami Bhattar, Svami Thiruvaimozhi pillai are our poorvacharyas who appeared in these two months. It is a privilege to celebrate their birth and contributions.

Sri Venkateswara Lotus Temple in Virginia celebrated the Thirunakshatrams of the Mahacharyas from May 2nd till May 11th. During this 10 day celebration 1000 Paasurams of Thiruvaimozhi was chanted 100 paasurams each day. It has become a custom in this temple that there are at least two utsavams in a year, in which Perumal, Azhvar and Acharyas listen to 1000 paasurams of Thiruvaimozhi by clubbing together various acharyas Thirunakshatram celebrations.

May 10th 2008 (Jagadacharya Svami Ramanuja , Svami Muthaliyandan Thirunakshatrams)

Thirumanjanam:

The day started with Thiruppa:vai goshti and Sattrumurai to Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Peruma:l followed by Theertha goshti and Prasa:da Viniyogam. After that Thirumanjanam to Perumal and Svami Ramanuja started along with the chanting of Thaitteriya Upanishad. It followed with Sahasra Dharai Thirumanjanam of Peruma:l during which goshti chanted Purusha, Sri Sukthams. After that Iiravadai (Wet cloth of Peruma:l) theertham is done during which goshti chanted Vennai Alaintha Kunungum.. and the Thirumanjana kaala paasurams.

Stotra Pada gosti:
While Peruma:l Alanka:ram (dressing of the Lord, and Ramanuja) is going on inside the curtain, goshti chanted Saranagathi gadyam, Sriranga gadyam, dhathi panchakam and yatiraja vimsathi. After few minutes, the curtain is opened and Peruma:l, along with Azhwars and Acharyas gave a wonderful darsan to all the Bha:gavathas.

Iyal Gosti:

Then the gosti started chanting Thiruppallandu and Iramanusa Nootranthathi. The

Iramanusa Nootranthathi gosti was chanted slowly for about 1 hour. After that, Peruma:l, along with Azhwars and Acharyas received a grand Sa:ttrumurai. Arulappa:du was done to Svami Ramanuja (perumal calling “Arulappadu nam iramanusan”) and Naal pattu (Tamil Avatara taniyan) followed by the vazhi thirunamam of Svami Mudhaliandan and Iyal Sattru (a group of tamil slokas made together by Svami Manavalamanikal to be chanted after any iyal prabhandam) took place. Today Svami Ramanuja took the center seat and Svami Nammazvar and Svami Manavalamanikal took their places on his right and left side. True that svami vedhantacharya calls Svami Ramanuja as “Nayaka Sri”. With perumal’s white parivattam svami Ramanuja was looking beautiful and mandha hasam on the faces of svami Nammazvar and svami Manavalamanikal was easy to note. Later, theertha viniyogam and delicious prasa:da viniyogam took place.



The evening started with Thiruvaimozhi 9th 100 paasurams. It ended with a sattrumurai, theertha viniyogam and prasada viniyogam took place consequently.

May 11, 2008(Svami Nammazvar, Svami Thiruvaimozhipillai Thirunakshatram celebrations)

Thirumanjanam:

The day started with Thiruppa:vai goshti and Sattrumurai to Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Peruma:l followed by Theertha goshti and Prasa:da Viniyogam. As is the custom in this temple, during Nammazvar Thirunakshatram nardhana kannan takes his place along with svami Nammazvar (Krishna and Krishna trishna tatva). To accompany them is Sri naachiyar. Thirumanjanam to Nardhana Kannan and Svami Nammazvar started along with the chanting of Thaitteriya Upanishad. It followed with Sahasra Dharai Thirumanjanam of Peruma:l during which goshti chanted Purusha, Sri Sukthams. During Thirumanjanam on both days, various fruits were offered to perumal after each thirumanjanam like milk, cured etc and in the end it was made into panchamrutham and

distributed to the devotees. After that Iiravadai (Wet cloth of Peruma:l) theertham is done during which goshti chanted Vennai Alaintha Kunungum... and the Thirumanjana kaala paasurams.



Thiruvaimozhi Gosti:

During the Alankaram(saththupadi) was going on inside the curtain gosti chanted Thiruvaimozhi last 100 paasurams in a slow fashion. It was happy to note that there were so many bhaagavatas who were able to attend this celebration.

Then grand sattrumurai of the Thiruvaimozhi(Muniye naanmukane 10 paasurams...), arulappadu to Swami Nammazvar (perumal calling “Arulappadu nam satakopan”)took place. Then goshti chanted naal pattu of Swami Nammazvar and Parankusashtakam on Svami Nammazvar.



After that grand thadiyaradhanam (serving prasa:dam to bha:gavatha:s) and a:sirvadham to the hosts Sri Ravi Aharam and Smt Vasanthi Aharam took place.

Priests Sri Thathachargaru, Sri Krishnasvamigaru had done beautiful Thirumanjanam Alankaram(saththupadi) to perumal. It was fantastic to hear Sri Tatachar garu chant the aasirvadham. Duly he honored all the bagavatas with sesha pushpa maalai of perumal during the gosti. Thirumadaipalli kainkaryam (cooking) was taken care by Sri Thathachargaru, Sri Krishnasvamigaru, Sri Seshavathara Swami, Sri Venu Eyunni Swami. All the out of station Srivaishnavas were accommodated by local hosting swamis Sri T.Balaji and Sri A.Narayanan Swami in their houses. Many bhaagavatas attended dhivya prabhanda gosti either in physical presence or via telebridge. Some of them who attended are Sri Balaji svami, Sri Padmanabhan Svami, Sri A.Narayanan svami, Sri Venu Svami, Sri Kazhiyur Raj Mannar svami, Sri T.N.C. Narasimhan svami, Sri Madurai Manivannan svami, Sri Kannan Srinivasan (from west coast), Smt Sheela Belur, Sri Paravastu svami. Dhivyaprabhanda gosti maryadai(honors) from the temple was received by Sri Narasimhan representing the Gosti. Sri Raviji and Smt Vasanthiji managed the overall function with the dhivyagya from Peruma:l Azvar Acharya and sva:charya.



Svami Nammazvar in the center flanked by yatindra and yatindra pravana under the lotus feet of Krishnan (kannan kazalinai)

With causeless grace from Peruma:l and Azhwar Acharyas, the Celebration concluded in a grand manner.

Jai Srimannarayana ! Jai Srimannarayana ! Jai Srimannarayana !

Azhvar Emperumanaar Jeeyar Thiruvadikale Saranam.

Chinnajeeyar thiruvadikale saranam

SV Lotus Temple, Fairfax, Virginia.

PS: some pictures of the function can be viewed at

<http://picasaweb.google.com/sreevy/RamanujaJayanthi2008>

<http://picasaweb.google.com/satagopadasan/SVLotusTemple2008RamanujarNamAzhwar>