

srirasthu



**Srimathe satakopaya nama:
Srimathe Ramanujaya nama:
Srimathe Vara vara munaye nama:**

Azvar Acharya Thirunakshatra Mahotsavam Celebration Report

(Muthal Azvars, Svami Pillailokacharya and Svami ManavalaMamunikal)
Thula Sarvadhari (1, 2 Nov- 2008)



**Held at
Sri Venkatesvara Lotus Temple**

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<http://www.vedics.net>

<http://www.svlotustemple.org>

The month of Aippasi boasts many holy events like Deepavali and the Avatars of many Azhwars and Acharyas whose contributions are the concrete foundations for Sri Vaishnavism. It is a privilege to celebrate their birth and contributions. At Sri Venkatesvara Lotus Temple in Virginia bagavatas celebrated the Thirunakshatrams of **Sri Pogai Azhwar**, **Sri Bhuthath Azhwar** and **Sri Pey Azhwar**, the first three of ten Azhwars and **Svami Pillai Loka:charyar**, **Svami Manava:la Ma:munikal** on November 1st and 2nd, 2008.

November 2, 2008 Sunday

The day started with kalasandhi thirupallandu, thirupalliezuchi and Thiruppa:vai goshti and Sattrumurai followed by Theertha goshti. The morning prasadam was distributed as bala bogam to bagavatas.

Morning gosti:

After a short break Sri U.Ve.Velukkudi Krishnan Svami arrived for the gosti chanting of dhivya prabhandams. Along with sri U.Ve.Krishnan svami Bagavatas started to chant the Dhivya prabhandams, Thiruppallandu, Kanninunchiruthambu, Kovil thiruvaimozhi last two pathigams, iramanusa Nootranthathi and Upadesaratnamalai and Yathiraja Vimsathi. It was wonderful to listen to the corus of that many srivaishnavas chanting in unison. There were more than 60 srivaishnavas in proper attire to chant the prabhadams. Sri.U.Ve.Krishnan svami graced the gosti by taking part in it. Suddenly Fairfax, Virginia was transformed into a dhivyadesam.



Svami Manvala mamunikal was given a simhasanam by perumal and he was seated on the side looking on perumal and azvar and svami ramanuja. special malli(jasmine) and

mullai pushpams(flower garlands) were procured for perumal, azvar acharyas by Smt Shanti Srinivasan of New Jersey. The dhivyaprabhandam chanting took about 1 and half hours to complete.

Morning Upanyasam:

Then sri U.Ve. Krishnan svami started the upanyasam on svami Manavalamamunikal. The title read **“masarra sempon manavala mamunivan vanthilanel aril karaintha puli anro thamiz araname”** hadn't the flawless sri MANavala mamaunikal took avataram, the tamil Vedas (thiruvaimozhi and the 3000 prabhandams) would have been like dissolved tamarind in the river. He started with guruparampara , how the commentary of thiruvaimozhi (dravida veda sagaram:: tamil Veda ocean) came into life?, why sri Ramanuja chose his gyana putra sri Thirukurugai piran pillan to write the commentary?, and how it grew under svami Parasara bhattar, svami Nanjeer, svami nampillai svami vadakkuthiruveedhi pillai?, how the mangnum opus 36000 padi commentary came into existence?, who were the pravarthakacharyas (Eyunni madhavar,, eyunni padhmanabhar..)?, how svami manavalamamunikal and his acharya sri Thiruvaimozhi pillai took vow to distribute the commentary under the guidance of sri Deva perumal of Kanchi?.... It was fantastic to hear guruparampara prabhavam. It was great to hear the prabhavam of the idu vyakyanam. It took over 1 and half hour for the upanyasam but when the time went none of the assembled bagavatas knew.



After that the thirai(screen) was put and rajabhogam was offered for perumal. As a special item Pudalangai pal koottu a favourite of svami Manavalamamunikal was offered to perumal and to svami manavalamamunikal. The devotees gathered for the sattrumurai. Then grand sattrumurai of kovil thiruvaimozhi, iramanusa nootranthathi and pallandu was chanted and stopped. Sri perumal then offered his garland, his vastram,



theertham and sri sadakopa maryathai to svami manavala mamunikal. Sambavanai was done to svami Manavala mamunikal. The arulappadu was rendered to Svami Manavalamamunikal and the thirunakshatra thaniyan was chanted by the gathered devotees. It was followed by chanting of last three paasurams of upadesa ratna malai. Then goshti started chanting the vazhi(long live) thirunamams starting from periya perumal, periya pirattiyar, nammazvar, ramanuja, pillailokacharyar and srimalad manavala mamunikal. Devotees chanted all the 8 vazhi thirunamams dedicated by the 8 main sishyas of svami manavalamamunikal called ashta dig gajas. They are namely **Svami Appillar, Svami Koil Annan, Svami Prativadhi Bayankaram Annan, Svami Erumbiappa, Svami Ponnadikkal Jeeyar(Vanamamalai), Svami thiruvengkata Ramanuja Jeeyar(Pedda Jeeyar Thirumala), svami Paravasthu pattarpiran Jeeyar and Svami Appullar.**



Sri U.Ve.Krishnan svami then distributed upanyasam CDs as the prasadam of svami manavala mamunikal thirunakshatram to all the srivaishnavas assembled. Then the

assembled srivaishnavas were treated with grand thadiyaradhanam (serving prasa:dam to bha:gavatha:s). All the five indriyams of bagavatas were blessed. They had divya darsan of perumal along with acharyas and Svami Manavala mamunikal, thus eyes (ruupa) were blessed. They had chanted divya prabhandams and upadesa ratna malai thus tounge (shabda) served its purpose. They heard vagamrutharm of sri Krishnan svami thus the ears were full with guruparampara dyanam. They partook prasadam and theertham thus the (rasa) was blessed. They had sri sadakopan on thier head (sparsam) thus they themselves got blessed. The whole place was smelling with srivaishnavam (gandam) thus that indriyam was also blessed. All in all a fantastic weekend to celebrate azvar(poigaiazvar, bhoodathazvar and peyazvar) and acharya(Svami Pillailokacharyar, Svami Manavalamamunikal) utsavam.

Various kainkaryams to Perumal and bagavatas were done by local bagavatas, again this listing is by no means is exhaustive.



Sannidhi Archaka Sri Seethramacharyulu svami held the function with utmost discipline and grace. The way he does thirumanjanam, alankaram, and the way he take care of perumal without foregoing any sastric rules is outstanding. He takes care of perumal as if he is his own son tells a big tale. Sri Pattangi Mukundan svami helped sri Sannidhi Archaka as paricharakas.

Thirumadaipalli kainkaryam(cooking) was taken care by Sri Seshavathara Swami, Sri Venu Eyunni Swami and Sri Padhmanabhan Svami and sri TNC.Vijayaraghavan svami. Many bagavatas , Sri AMR.Kannan, Sri Ananth served bagavatas prasadam.

All the out of station SriVaishnavas were accomodated by local hosting swamis Sri Venu

Svami, Sri Virginia Padhmanabhan swami and Sri T.Balaji Swami, Sri A.Narayanan svami, Sri Kasturi Rangan svami, and many others at their houses. There were so many srivaishnavas who came in that some had to stay in the hotels nearby. The locals also shuttled bagavatas from airport to home and return. Sri Manivannan svamin who inspite of his leaving to India the same night, hosted bagavatas at his home and made sure he attended the Utsavam and then leave for India.

Sri TCA.Venkatesan svami of Detroit Michigan had made pdf documents of all the prabhandams to be chanted in this function. Sri sampath svami, Sri Balaji svami, Sri Kazhiyur Rajagopalan svami took printouts and sri Atlanta Sampathkumar svami got the folders out in proper format to help devotees chant the prabhandams in order.

Sri Sundar Saranathan svami and Sri Sridhar sowmyan svami managed the program of sri U.Ve.Velukkudi Krishnan svami.

The dhivya prabhanda gosti was managed by Sri Alvar Srinivasan svami (Houston), sri Kannan Srinivasan svami (California) and Sri TNC Narashiman Svami.

Sri Raviji and Smt Vasanthiji along with temple management committee managed the overall function with the dhivyagya from Peruma:l Azvar Acharya and prakrutham a:charaya. With causeless grace from Peruma:l and Azhwar Acharyas, the function was a grand success.

Srimathe ramyajamatru muniindraya mahatmane |
Sriranga vasine bhuyath nithyasrir nithya mangalam ||

Jai Srimannarayana !
Azhwar Emperumanaar Jeeyar Thiruvadikale Saranam.

Some links to look at various pictures taken during the function.

Temple web Album:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/svlotustempleva/MudhalAzhwarsManavalaMamuniPillaiLokacharyaTN2008#>

Sri Sundar Svamins Album:

http://picasaweb.google.com/hema.embar/ManavalaMamunigalUtsavam?authkey=UAhH_Ea0_bQ#

Sri Kazhiyur Mannar Rajagopalan svamins Album

<http://picasaweb.google.com/satagopadasan/AzhwarAcharyaTN2008PhotosByRajMannar#>

Sri TCA Venkatesan Svamins Album:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/mkdasan/AzhvarAcharyaThirunakshathramCelebrations2008#>

Some Videos taken by Sri TCA Venkatesan Svamin:

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-4681097008184132270&hl=en>

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-684241150537393051&hl=en>

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=3824778347554687218&hl=en>

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-8333161555294437605&hl=en>