



Om Namo Bhagavate Sri Ramanaya

Saranagathi

eNewsletter from sriramanamaharshi.org

saranagathi@sriramanamaharshi.org

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SARANAGATHI

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MAIN ARTICLE

The main feature article for this issue is an extract from Letters and Recollections of Sri Ramanasramam.

This recollection talks about the love and affection that Sri Bhagavan had for children.

October 10th 1948 Playing with children Sri Bhagavan shared a very unique relationship with children. In this article Sri Bhagavan talks about how HE carried Mahadeva Sastri – son of Kavyakantha Ganapathi Muni on HIS back while swimming in a tank opposite Pachiamman shrine.
Details on Page 2 & 3

BHAGAVAN SRI RAMANA CENTERS & SATSANGH GROUPS

This month's issue covers a report on some of Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi Centers, Satsangh Groups, their events and contacts. In this issue we are also making a request from various groups across the world to send us some details, so that we may be able to publish the details in the future issues of this eNewsletter. **For details please go to page 5.**

SARANAGATHI

An eNewsletter from www.sriramanamaharshi.org

Dear Devotees of Sri Bhagavan:

With Sri Bhagavan's Grace we are pleased to publish an eNewsletter from Sri Ramanasramam's website. The purpose is to bring together devotees of Sri Bhagavan from across HIS world.

SARANGATHI, eNewsletter, is being developed to help devotees share their experiences, about Satsangh, meetings and other events that are held within various centers of Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi.

Initially we would like to begin with, by publishing this eNewsletter on a monthly basis. Based on the response and feedback provided by devotees, we may change this frequency. It is also proposed to have one feature article for each issue. The feature article would focus on popular events that happened during the years between 1879 and 1950.

Our earnest request, to all devotees, satsangh groups and centers is to share with us their events, stories and experiences. Please email them to saranagathi@sriramanamaharshi.org

Ever Truly In Sri Bhagavan
Editorial Team

Vinayaka Chathurthi at Sri Ramanasramam A Photo Gallery

Vinayaka Chathurthi was celebrated at Sri Ramanasramam on 15th September 2007. Some photos taken during that occasion have been displayed in this edition. **Details on Page 4**

Sri Ramana e-Library - Updates

In response to volunteers request from last month's edition of SARANAGATHI, we would like to thank all those who volunteered. **Details on Page 6**

ADVENT DAY Celebrations – a Report

A report covering ADVENT Day celebrations from Sri Ramanasramam and various centers **Details on Page 6**



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MAIN ARTICLE

10th October, 1948

(207) PLAYING WITH CHILDREN

Extract from Letters from and Recollections of Sri Ramanasramam

By Suri Nagamma

A few days ago, Mahadeva Sastri, son of Kavyakanta Ganapati Sastri, came here. Bhagavan introduced him to us all. As he is now living in this place our talk turned on his father Sri Kavyakanta yesterday afternoon. Bhagavan began telling us: "When I was living in Virupaksha Cave, sometime in 1903, Nayana came there with his family. At that time this Mahadeva was about four or five years of age. Nayana prostrated before me and then asked the little boy to do likewise. He appeared not to have heard it and, with an air of indifference, kept quiet. Nayana too did not mind it.

Then, all of a sudden, that boy prostrated before me in full length (Sashtanga namaskaram). Like a young boy who has had his Thread Ceremony he placed his hands on his ears and then touched my feet. I wondered how that little boy could have known the correct procedure of prostration and felt that it must have come from family traditions. I said, "Yes. Every habit comes out from family traditions."

Bhagavan: "That is so. This Mahadeva has since changed a lot. I used to talk with him frequently. During the days when I was living in the Mango Cave, Nayana invited all those near and dear to him, to listen to his reading of the "Uma Sahasram" in Pachiamman Shrine. His family also came. Mahadeva was then eight years of age. I asked him if he remembered me. He did not say anything in reply and quietly went away to play. After a while, somebody came to see me. They prostrated before me and telling me that they had come once before, asked me if I remembered them. As I did not remember, I was silent. I do not know how he noticed that incident, but after they left, Mahadeva came to me running and said, "Swami, what did those people ask you first?" I replied saying that they had enquired of me if I remembered them as they had come once before and that I had been silent as I did not remember them. He promptly stated that he likewise did not remember me. I felt amused.

"You know what I did one day? Seating Mahadeva on my back I began swimming in the tank opposite The Pachiamman shrine, from one end to the other. When we were halfway through he began pressing me down, greatly elated, shouting 'Aha, Hai!' as cart drivers do to their bullocks. I was tired and it seemed as though both of us would be drowned. I was of course very anxious that he should be saved from such a catastrophe. So I managed somehow to reach the other side."

I said, "For one who helps people to swim across the mighty ocean of Samsara (the material world) is that difficult?"



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MAIN ARTICLE

10th October, 1948

(207) PLAYING WITH CHILDREN

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Sri Ramanasramam

By Suri Nagamma

Another devotee enquired if it were a fact that Bhagavan and Nayana used to swim in the Pandava Tank. Bhagavan replied, "Yes. That also was only in those days. We used to try to excel each other in swimming. That was great fun."

Another devotee said, "It seems you played marbles with children?"

Bhagavan replied, "Yes. That was so. That too was while we were in the Virupaksha Cave. The holes dug for the purpose of playing marbles must be there even now. Those children sometimes used to bring packets of sweets. We all shared them. During Dipavali they used to put aside my share of crackers and bring them up to me. We used to fire the crackers together. It was most entertaining." I was reminded of the leelas (playful acts) of Lord Krishna's boyhood days. Even now Bhagavan plays with children if they come here with toys.

**The Knower of Truth goes about the world, (outwardly) like a child,
a madman or a devil.**

- Mahavakyaratnamala



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VINAYAKA CHATHURTI at Sri Ramanasramam – A Photo Gallery

VINAYAKA CHATHURTI WAS CELEBRATED AT
SRI RAMANASRAMAM ON 15th September 2007



**Sri Ganesha at
Matrubutheswara Temple**



**Special Pooja for Sri Ganesha at
Matrubutheswara Temple**



**Sri Ganesha Pooja at Sri Ramanasramam
Veda Pataskala**



**Sri Ganesha Pooja at Sri Ramanasramam
Veda Pataskala**

**Special meal preparation at
Sri Ramanasramam**





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BHAGAVAN SRI RAMANA MAHARSHI CENTERS & SATSANGH

Sri Ramanasramam is devoted to the sole purpose of maintaining and preserving Sri Ramana Maharshi's teachings and spreading it through HIS ashram. Over the years there have been devotees who have started centers around the world to help in spreading His teachings. These centers are run by sincere devotees for conducting satsanghs and celebrating His Jayanti, Aradhana, Advent Day, and other similar events of great significance. Today, satsangh groups spread across various countries worldwide including United States, Canada, Europe, Asia & Australia.

This section will be a regular feature of **SARANAGATHI** eNewsletter. We will post events and reports from Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi Centers and Satsangh Groups from across HIS world. Provided below is a list of available Centers and Satsangh Groups.

Please send an email to saranagathi@sriramanamaharshi.org to have your information included.

INDIA (91)

Sri Ramanasramam Tiruvannamalai, Tamilnadu.	04175-237200
Sri Ramana Kendra – Mylapore Chennai	044-24611397
Sri Sundara Mandiram – Tiruchuzhi	04566–282217
Sri Ramana Kendram – Sri Ramana Mandiram	0452-2346102
Sri Ramana Mandiram – Desur Tamilnadu	
Sri Ramana Kendram – Hyderabad – Andhra Pradesh	040-27424092
Sri Ramana Kendra – New Delhi	To be updated

NORTH AMERICA Sri Ramana Maharshi Satsangh Groups (001)

San Francisco CA	510-656-2752
Los Angeles CA	310-473-9441
East Lyme Connecticut	860-691-1862
Washington DC	301-528-5526
Atlanta GA	678-546-0378
F. Lauderdale FL	954-755-4758
Goshen IN	574-875-6298
Arunachala Ashrama New York	718-560-3196
Arunachala Ashrama Canada	902-665-2090
Ann Arbor MI	734-623-7199
Dublin OH	614-664-1534
Ottawa ON	713-733-8250
Toronto ON	905-849-6005
Nashville TN	To be Updated

We will periodically update this list and also share stories and experiences about HOW each Group or Center meet to get absorbed in Sri Bhagavan Ramana's Grace. In due course we will include in sriramanamaharshi.org transliterated and audio versions of important songs, chants and prayers.



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RECENT HAPPENINGS

Sri Ramana e-Library – An Update

The September 2007 edition of SARANAGATHI eNewsletter requested assistance from volunteers to contribute their time and skills towards building an e-Library for all Sri Bhagavan related publications, audio and video sources. Several devotees from across the world have responded to this request offering their time and skills. The editorial team from SARANAGATHI would like to sincerely thank each and everyone who have responded.

We are presently organizing the approach and methods for developing the e-Library. In the next few months to come, several news additions would be made to e-Library which is to be posted as part of www.sriramanamaharshi.org.

We will constantly keep you updated about the progress.

Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi ADVENT DAY Celebrations – a Report

Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi ADVENT Day on 1st September was celebrated at various centers from across HIS world. A brief report is provided below:

Sri Ramanasramam - Tiruvannamalai

Devotees from Sri Ramana Mandiram – Madurai along with other devotees from other places, traveled to Tiruvannamalai following the same route that Sri Bhagavan took to reach ARUNACHALA on 01 September 1896. Regular prayers and programs were observed at Sri Ramanasramam.

Arunachala Ashrama New York

Devotees from the Tri State Area in the USA, met at Arunachala Ashrama in New York City to celebrate the ADVENT DAY of Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi to ARUNACHALA. This celebration was conducted on 8th September 2007. Smt. Sushila Ramanan and Sri V.S. Ramanan from Sri Ramanasramam presided over the function.

Ramana Kendra – Chennai

Devotees in Chennai celebrated ADVENT of Sri Bhagavan to Arunachala from 2nd September 2007 to 3rd September 2007. The program involved, Vedaparayanam, Talks, chanting by children and other programs.

Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi Group – California

Devotees of Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi Group – California are celebrating ADVENT of Sri Bhagavan to Arunachala on 29th September 2007 at the Jain Centre, Milpitas California.