

Sri Chakra

Blossom 3, Petal 4

JUNE 1991

Devipuram New

Most of us -- in different parts of the world -- are not fully aware of the people and the activities at Devipuram. Here is the first part of a write-up by Guruji on the people involved and the activities going on at Devipuram:

Hi everyone!

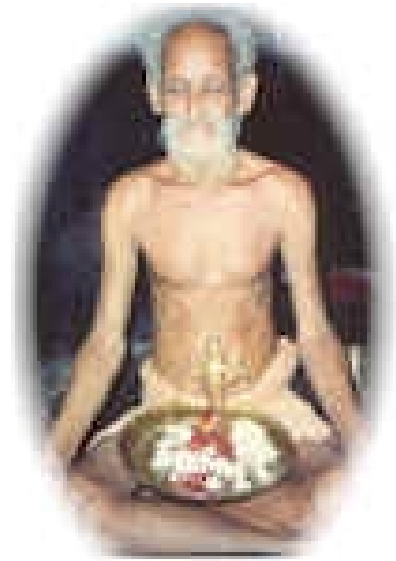
I would like to introduce to you the people working at Devipuram now, in this first new letter about the news about Devipuram.

Guruji's elder sister, G. Surya Lakshmi, 61 years, prepares food for all of us at Devipuram. She has been associated with Devipuram right from the beginning. In the earlier days, she used to stay here all alone in the wilderness in a thatched hut which had no door; sometimes, she saw a cobra curled around an earthenware water pot; and during the cashew season, we used to find the pug marks of a hyena. With Devi for company she was not afraid. She is paid Rs 400 pm. She lives at Devipuram.

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Sri Swaprakashananda
(Gurugaru)

Ravikumar, Ravi for short has done a lot. He is now in charge of SVT's educational programs. He stays mostly at Sabbavaram, 5 km from Devipuram where SVT's educational office is located. He has regular contacts with BCT; he coordinates the running of the thirty schools, the three supervisors and the thirty teachers. He visits Devipuram frequently, more than once a week. He has done most of the supervision of our Meru temple construction, and he worked as a laborer with the laborers. He is paid RS 750 pm. The three supervisors are each paid Rs 360 each; and the thirty teachers teaching for two hours and day get Rs 108 pm. Ravi has studied up to the 10th grade; he underwent a motorcycle repair course. He is the one who will organize your visits to BCT, the schools, etc. Next, we have the redoubtable PRATAP SIMHA RAMA RAJENDRA BHUPATI, Pratap for short, who vowed that he would not marry until a Sri Chakra Meru temple is constructed. He himself had plans to build one near his home town Kuppam which is very near the border of the three states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Karnataka. When he heard about Devipuram, he left his job where he was getting Rs 700 pm to come and work at Devipuram for a mere subsistence. He gets Rs 400 pm. He works as a priest. He has a mellifluous voice, and he is doing Rajashyamala along with Nava Avarana puja of Lalita. He is capable of Kaulacara puja at the Kamakhya pitham.

Drishna, Venkatalakshmi, Parvati, Nookaratnam, and Satyavati are the five girls and Gangaraju is the boy who are building the temple and serving the Devi. The girls are the living embodiments of Devi; they are all initiated and do their mantra japam, and do the puja when none of us happens to be around. They receive the puja during Navaratri and other festive days. They are all within the ages of sixteen and twenty. They each get Rs 300 pm. There was a batch of girls prior to them; they all got married and left us. Some of them who served Devi for more than two years are Easwari, Lakshmi, Palamma, and Padma. All these people served Devi with great devotion. Such is their devotion that we often feel Devi Herself is working to build Her temple through their hands. They come from a nearby village Balijipalem about two miles away walking home in the starlight after work in the dark. Sometimes, they stay away in the nights if there is work. We try not to load them, but they are ever willing to work with a smile that is infectious. We are trying to improve their lot.

Rama Prabhakar are the daughter and son-in-law of Guruji. They are not living at Devipuram, but about 25 km away at Lankelapalem. They come to Devipuram quite regularly, and are taking a keen interest in various activities on a voluntary basis. Rama is a civil engineer; Prabhakar is an entrepreneur doing steel fabrication jobs and some contracts of various types. He holds a degree in agriculture. They will provide you transport to Devipuram from airport, Bisakhapatnam railway station of from Anakapalli station. They will be in charge of the appropriate technology projects and housing projects.

(To be continued)

Upcoming Events from Sri rajarajeswari peetam

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM SRI RAJARAJESWARI PEETAM

N/A

TEMPLE TIMING

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

MORNINGS - 9:30 am -1:00 pm

EVENINGS - 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

AND USA HOLIDAYS

ALL DAY (9:30 am – 9:00 pm)

Your opinion

Sri Chakra welcomes your articles, views and comments on this endeavour, We would very much like to know what you would like to see in this journal.

Please send us any material that you would like to be published

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