



Srí Chakra

Blossom 4, Petal 5

July, 1992

At the Peetam

Sri Rajarajeswari Peetam RUSH New York.



The most significant events of the last bi-monthly period were the celebration of *Guru Poornima* and the rendering of *Bhajans* at the *Peetam* by Sri Pithukuli Murugadas and his party.

Guru Poornima was celebrated in the usual festive manner at

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Gurukul and Programs of Sri Vidya Trust

As readers will know, Guruji has set up an organization called "Sri Vidya Trust" (SVT) based at Devipuram, India. The objective of this organization is the wholistic (i.e. spiritual economic and social) upliftment of the rural poor in India. An organization called Gurukul has been set up in the United States, based at Buffalo, NY, to support the cause of SVT. Gurukul is being run mostly by students.

The first two parts of an article explaining the activities of Gurukul as well as the programs of SVT appeared in the last two issue of *Sri Chakra*. Here is the concluding part.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP US.

PROVIDE YOUR TALENT SUPPORT

If you are coming to India, come to SVT. Encourage your American friends also to visit. We will receive you with love, and take good care of you, and provide a productive base. We will take you to one or two villages. You can see their problems first hand. Then sit with us and give us your ideas. Bring your tools, you can work on any project you like for say 1 to 3 months. We will provide you free accommodation and food during your stay here. If your are a builder, tell us about cost effective technologies. Can we a build a home that lasts 20 yrs. for the price of a thatched hut?

If you are a doctor, can you think of ways to spread health and hygiene programs accessible to remote places? Would mobile vans carrying basic equipment for accidents, emergencies, and regular checkups be a possible answer?

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the *Peetam* on Tuesday, July 14. *Sri* Chaitanyananda Natha and *Sri* Gnanamba were ceremonially brought into the *Peetam*, after being offered *Poorna Kumbham* by several devotees. Inside the shrine, *Sri* Chaitanyananda Natha offered *Poojas* to *Guruji* and *Anakapalle Gurugaru*. Then all the devotees present performed *Shodasa Upachara Pooja* to *Sri* Chaitanyananda Natha and *Sri* Gnanamba accompanied by a recitation of the *Sri Sooktham* and the *Lalita Sahasranamam*. There were devotees from Boston, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and Toronto for the occasion.

Sri Pithukuli Murugadas, a well-known devotee and singer from India is currently on a tour of North America (his first ever) along with his troupe, which includes his wife. He spent a day at the *Peetam*. Devotees at the *Peetam* were indeed fortunate to get to know him so closely. The highlight of his visit was his rendering of *Bhajans* for over three hours in front of *Devi*. In his own inimitable style, he sang songs in various Indian languages, appropriately translating them and annotating them to the delight of the audience. He sang a wide range of songs on various deities. He was ably accompanied on various percussion instruments by his versatile wife. The well-attended function included devotees from Washington D.C., New York, Pittsburgh, Syracuse, Buffalo and Toronto. Among the other visitors to *Peetam* was *Smt.* Jaya Nagaraja from Bangalore, India. (As readers might know, she and her husband *Sri* Nagaraja were among the core devotees at the *Peetam* before they moved to India). Also visiting the *Peetam* was *Sri* Akkapeddi Sarma from Bombay, whose wife *Smt.* Lalita Sarma visited the *Peetam* last year).

On June 20th, *Sri* Chaitanyananda Natha performed *poojas* at Syracuse, at the residences of the Natarajans and *Mrs.* Indu Singh. On July 11th and 12th, along with devotees from Rochester and Syracuse, he visited Pittsburgh. He performed a *Homam* at the *Sri Devi Peetam* in the residence of *Dr.* Swaroop Koehler. He also performed a *Pooja* at the *Padmavathi Peetam*. He visited the *Sri Venkateshwara* Temple and offered a garland of *Bhajans* to the deities. He also performed *poojas* at Washington D.C. (on August 1), Toronto (August 8) and Boise, Idaho (the weekend of August 15).

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Can you contribute subscriptions to various magazines such as ENTREPRENEUR (M&F), POPULAR SCIENCE, POPULAR MECHANICS, ETC.? Even used ones will do. We have a microfiche reader. Can you offer a conversion service to save costs of postage?

Are you a computer expert? Can you set up a centralized network facility for creating databases, accessing files and references, accounts, communications and designs, animation etc. which are the basic tools for a high degree of productivity in producing video and audio software for dissemination of knowledge?

Are you a Media expert? Can you help in setting up a centralized audio and video studio with edit facilities? A desktop publishing system? Can you help to make AD videos and operate 1-800-LUVINYA, or a 1-900-RURAL and run them in US for fund raising? Can you seek help from other voluntary agencies/social service organizations for helping the poor in INDIA?

WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE OR, NOR CAN WE SAY THAT THE LIST ABOVE IS EXHAUSTIVE. We request you therefore to think for yourself and make a commitment for action if you wish.

GURUKUL is our local organization committed to alleviation of poverty among the rural poor. You can form local chapters and form a network of such. Encourage formation of such chapters by talking to your friends in other cities, other countries. You can probably publish a newsletter, a forum for exchange of information on a regular basis among members.

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM
SRI RAJARAJESWARI PEETAM
N/A

TEMPLE TIMING

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
MORNINGS - 9:30 am -1:00 pm
EVENINGS - 6:00 pm - 8:00 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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If you are an engineer, can you tell us about the latest in cost effective techniques? And suggest ways to implement them? What needs to be done and how can it be done?

If you are an agriculturist can you tell us about ways to improve yields, efficient water management, soil erosion prevention measures etc?

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