

श्रीरामचारित्रमञ्जरी

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श्रीमत्सुधीन्द्रकरकमलसंज्ञात - श्रीमद्राघवेन्द्रयतिकृता

Shri Raghavendra Swami (1595–1671) was a great scholar and devotee. His original name was Venkanna or Venkatanatha. As a young boy he was a brilliant student. He learnt dvaita philosophy, grammer and shastras under his spiritual guru Shri Sudhendra theerta. His guru noted his great devotion and intelligence and chose him to be his successor. He later took sanyasa in 1621 at Tanjore. He travelled extensively He popularised Vaishnavism and the Dvaita philosophy of Saint Madhavacharya. He wrote many texts on philosophy. He is considered to be the avatar (reincarnation) of Prahlada, the son of Hiranyakasipu who was killed by Sri Narasimha. Many miracles are attributed to him. On Dwitiya Day of Sravana Krishna PakSha in 1671, Raghavendra Swami gave a soul-stirring speech to hundreds of devotees who had gathered to watch his entering samadhi. Some of his advice to his devotees are as follows

1. One cannot get right thinking without without right living.
2. Social work done for the good of the people also constitutes worship of the Lord.
3. One should keep away from people who merely perform miracles.
4. Right knowledge is greater than any miracle.
5. Have devotion to the Lord. But devotion should never be blind faith.

Sri Raghavendra Swami attained Jeeva samadhi in 1671. This date is

celebrated each year as Sri Raghavendra Swami Aradhana at Brindavans all over the world. The Raghavendra Math in Mantralaya housing his Brindavan is visited by thousands of devotees every year. His samadhi at Mantralayam in Andhrapradesh is a place of tourism that attracts large number of devotees who believe that his prescence is still available at his samadhi. The following poem composed by the saint narrates Shrimad Ramayana in eleven verses and is in the form of a hymn (stotra). By reciting this short poem one gets the benefit of reciting Shrimad Ramayana and also praying to Lord Rama.

श्रीमान् विष्णुः प्रजातो दशरथनृपते रामनाथोऽथ नीतो
विश्वामित्रेण मन्त्राह्वनुजसहितस्ताटकघातुकोऽस्त्रम् ॥
ब्राह्मणं प्राप्य हत्वा निशियरनिकरं यज्ञपालो विमोच्या-
हत्यां शापाय्य भङ्क्त्वा शिवधनुरुपयन् जनकीं नः प्रसीद्वेत् ॥ १ ॥

आयन् रामः सत्पार्योध्वनि निजसहजैर्भागवेष्यासरोषा-
हत्वा सुरारिं पुरग उत नुतस्तापसैर्भूपपृष्ठैः ॥
कल्याणानन्तधर्मोऽगुणालवरहितः प्राणिनामन्तरात्मे-
त्याद्युक्तश्चाभिषेके पुरजनमहितो मद्यतां मे वयोभिः ॥ २ ॥

कैकेयीप्रीतिहेतोः स सहजनुपजोवल्कली यानरयं
गङ्गातारी गुहार्थः कृतरुचिरवटो गीष्पतेः पुत्रमान्यः ॥
तीर्त्वा कृष्णां प्रयातोऽवतु निजममलं चित्रकूटं प्रपन्नं
स्वाम्भाभिर्भ्रातरं तं श्रुतजनकगतिः सान्त्वयन् न्युप्ततीर्थः ॥ ३ ॥

हत्वाऽस्मै पादुके स्वे क्षितिभरणकृतौ प्रेष्य तं डाकनेत्रं

व्यस्याराज्योऽत्रिनाम्नो वनमथ समितो दृष्टुं तापसेष्टम् ॥
कुर्वन् हत्वा विराधं भलकुलदमनं याचितस्तपसाञ्चै-
स्तेषां हत्वाऽभयं स्वानसिधनुश्शिषुधीन् यानगस्त्यात् स पायात् ॥ ४ ॥

आसीनः पञ्चवट्यामकुरुत विकृतां राक्षसीं यो द्विसप्त-
कव्यादानप्यनेकानथ भरमवधीद् दूषणं य त्रिशीर्षम् ॥
मारीचं मार्गङ्गं दशवदनहतामाकृतिं भूमिजं यं
अन्विष्यन्नार्तगृध्रं स्वगतिमथ नयन् मामवेत् घ्नन् कबन्धम् ॥ ५ ॥

पम्पातीरं स गच्छन्निह कृतवसतिर्भक्तितुष्टः शबर्यै
हत्वा मुक्तिं प्रकुर्वन् हनुमत उदितं प्राप्तसुग्रीवसभ्यः ॥
सप्त स्थित्वा सालान् विधिवरबलिनो वालिभित्सूर्यसूनुं
कुर्वाणो राज्यापालं समवतु निवसन् माल्यवत्कन्दरेसौ ॥ ६ ॥

नीत्वा मासान् कपीशानिह दश हरितः प्रेष्य सीतां विचित्या-
यातश्रीमद्धनूमद्विरमथ समनुश्रुत्य गच्छन् कपीन्द्रैः ॥
सुग्रीवाद्यैरसंभ्यैर्दशमुभसहस्रं मानयन्नब्धिवाया
द्वैत्यघ्नः सेतुकारी रिपुपुरुद्वेदनैर्वैरिघाती ॥ ७ ॥

भग्नं कृत्वा दशास्यं गुरुतरवपुषं कुम्भकर्णं निहत्य
प्रध्वस्ताशेषनागं पदकमलनतं तार्क्ष्यमानन्ध रामः ॥
सर्वानुक्लीवयन्तं गिरिधरमनघश्चाञ्जनेयं कपीन् स्वान्
विज्ञानास्त्रेण रक्षन् समवतु दमयन्लक्ष्मणाच्छकशत्रुम् ॥ ८ ॥

कव्यादान् घ्नन्संभ्यानपि दशवदनं ब्रह्मपूर्वैः सुरेशैः

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% File name : rAmachAritramanjarI.itx

% Location : doc_raama

% Author : Shri Raghavendra Swami

% Language : Sanskrit

% Subject : philosophy/hinduism/religion

% Transliterated by : N.Balasubramanian bbalu at satyam.net.in

% Proofread by : N.Balasubramanian bbalu at satyam.net.in

% Latest update : May 16, 2011

% Send corrections to : Sanskrit@cheerful.com

% Site access : <http://sanskritdocuments.org>

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