



SIDDHA PRABHA

Quarterly E-Journal from ShangriLa & SreeDevi Peetham
January 2024, Edition

Inaugural
Edition

NĀRĀYANA SAMĀRAMBHĀM VYĀSAŚANKAR MADHYAMĀM
ŚRĪ SIDDHĒSWARA PARYANTHĀM VANDĒ GURU PARAMPARĀM



The Master of Masters, The Divine Master
His Holiness Paramahansa Parivraajakaacharya Courtallam Shankaracharya Jagadguru
SRI SRI SRI SIDDHESWARANANDABHARATI MAHA SWAMI

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SREE SIDDHESWARI PEETA MAHASAMSTHAN**SRI SIDDHESWARI PEETAM**

(Mouna Swamy Mutt)
COURTALLAM, TENKASI DISTRICT - 627802
TAMIL NADU



Peetadhipati: Paramahansa, Parivraajakaachaarya, Jagadguru
His Holiness Sri Sri Sri Siddheswarananda Bharathi Maha Swami

Swamijivaari Blessings

The proposal of launching "Siddha Prabha" made me immensely happy. The term Siddha symbolises the grace of Siddha gurus and siddhayogi parampara. In the most pious Sankara tradition as well as powerful siddhaguru tradition Mouna Swamy – SIVA CHIDANANDA SARASWATHI MAHA SWAMI, the founder of our Sri Siddheswari Peetam stands as an outstanding siddhashrama yogi who attained Asta maha siddhis. With his divine body he is guiding, protecting the saadhakas to achieve their goals.

Siddhasram is the Adobe of siddha gurus. Its main centre is located in Himalayas with its branches spread globally including Kapilaasram in Colorado, Mt. Saastha etc. They graced our Siddhasram of North America (Shangri-La) in Atlanta as one of their centres, and blessing all the devotees coming their "Siddha Prabha" is going stand as an excellent platform for inculcating, propagating the siddha sampradayam, Hindu Dharmam.

I bless Lalithananda natha (Sashibhushan Mocherla) for his relentless service towards Hindu Dharmam. I appraise his efforts for bringing this magazine. I also extend my blessings to all the contributors of this magazine to quickly accomplish the mission of Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitaha

With Divine Blessings

Siddheswarananda Bharathi Swamy

Main Office, Courtallam - 94431 84738 ♦ Camp Office - 9440208103, 9160916006



FOUNDER
His Holiness Jagadguru, Parama Poojya
Sri Sri Sri Siddheswarananda Bharati Swamiji



SRI SAKTHI PEETAM
-Naaree eva Naaraayane-
(CHARITABLE TRUST-REGD. 57/2017)



PEETADHEESWARI
Her Holiness Mataji Poojya Sri
Ramyaananda Bharati Swamini

nārāyaṇa samārambhāṃ śaṅkarācārya madhyamām |
śrī siddheśvara paryantām vaṃde guruparamparām ||

It's a great pleasure to hear about the launching of spiritual magazine called "SIDDHA PRABHA". The name itself resonates with the energy of the divine illumination which awakens inner being by enlightening the soul. In USA we have two sacred power centres, the first shrine being "SIDDHASRAM OF NORTH AMERICA "(SHANGRI-LA) and the second one is "SREE DEVI PEETAM". This magazine serves as the face of our shrines. Also, it acts as an excellent meeting platform for wisdom seekers, scholars, Dharmic followers to exchange their ideology that transcend cultural boundaries and unite everyone in the path of spirituality and Hindu Dharma. In the pages ahead you will encounter a rich treasure of articles, features, photographs, testimonials etc that explore the multi-faceted dimensions of the divine wisdom. I appreciate Sashibhushan Mocherla (Sri Lalithananda Natha) for taking this good initiative. I bless the creators, editorial board, contributors of this magazine to make it as a divine sanctuary where every reader can find not only answers for all their questions but also can discover the transformative of self-realisation through the path of spirituality under the guidance of siddha gurus.

With divine blessings
Sri Ramyaananda Bharati Swamini

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Phone: 9160455255, 7737928773 | sreesakthipeetam@gmail.com
Sri Sakthi Peetam, near Rayala Cheruvu, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh - 517561

The Master Of Masters

*Jagadguru Sri Siddheswarananda
Bharati Maha Swamiji*

- Sri Lalithananda Natha

नारायण समारम्भां व्यास शङ्कर मध्यमां
श्री सिद्धेश्वर पर्यन्तां वन्दे गुरु परम्परां

Salutation to the guru-parampara lineage starting with Lord Narayana, then Vyasa and Adi Sankaracharya, upto Sri Siddheswarananda

I prostrate at the lotus feet of my Mother, Father, Guru and God - His Holiness, Courtallam Sankaracharya, Paramahansa Parivrajaka Acharya Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Siddheswarananda Bharathi Maha Swamiji.

ध्यानमूलं गुरुमूर्तिः पूजामूलं गुरुर्पदम् ।
मन्त्रमूलं गुरुर्वाक्यं मोक्षमूलं गुरुर्कृपा ॥

The Root of Meditation is the form of the Guru, The Root of Worship is the Feet of the Guru, The Root of Mantra is the Word of the Guru, The Root of Liberation is the Grace of the Guru.

Since eternal times, a disciple needs to serve his/her Guru with utmost respect and unwavering trust. Guru moulds the lives of the disciple and guides them in the right path. The disciple should trust Guru's word with unwavering faith, to reach not only any goal but also the ultimate goal of moksha/liberation. In our scriptures, we can see many such incidents of disciples who are blessed with their guru's grace. In present times, it is extremely difficult to reach such a guru's feet.

Due to poorva janma sukruatham, we are all truly blessed to reach the lotus feet of the jagadguru HH Sri Siddheswarananda Bharati Maha Swamiji, the living god and mystic seer. Personally, in my present life, I am blessed to be his disciple and have a close association with his holiness only due to punyam done in many of previous births.

Poojya Swamiji as Dr. Kulapathi gaaru (in his poorva ashram), was a Telugu lecturer rose in ranks to Professor, Head of the Department and finally retired as the Principal of prestigious Guntur Hindu College. During those 40 years, he has moulded thousands of students. I feel very blessed to witness numerous students come and rekindle their memories with Sri Kulapathi gaaru at Guntur Hindu College. These students come from different sectors including scholars, poets and teachers of Telugu and Sanskrit language, Doctors, Engineers, IAS, IPS, and IRS officers, Politicians, Governors and various others, holding many high positions both in private and public sectors in India and all over the world. Being an entrepreneur and engineer by profession, I met many accomplished engineers working for global companies such as Microsoft, Amazon, Google, Apple, Wipro, Scientists working for NASA, SpaceX, Tesla and other premium institutions and agencies, entrepreneurs, business people from many countries, who are all his students. Whenever we meet, everyone remembers that Sri Kulapathi gaaru was very soft spoken, exercised intelligent forethought and was of decisive action which was sufficiently far in advance of any likely crisis.

At times, I feel that I had missed out being a student of Sri Kulapathi gaaru but at the same time I feel blissful, realizing that as his disciple in the present ashram, his holiness has showered his grace and divine blessings on me.

His holiness is the utmost authority in Mantra Shastra, Vedas, Vedangas, Advaita philosophy, Bhagavatham, Bharatam, Ramayanam, Puranas, Upanishads and various other puranic scriptures. His holiness has been initiating millions of people in mantra sadhana and teaching them to solve their own problems by themselves. People who were initiated with the mantra, after solving their problems, went on to progress in their spiritual paths.

I feel very blessed to have witnessed numerous miracles during my travels with his holiness. Lakhs of people throng to hear his pravachanams on various topics as his holiness has the unique ability to correlate specific aspects from all puranic scriptures, condense it in simple language for everyone to understand. His holiness has authored more than 50 books for our benefit. These are the only books containing specific mantra sadhana techniques prescribed in ancient mantra sadhana scriptures. His holiness is a divine master from Siddha Ashram, and embodiment of the divine institution.

We are all truly blessed to live in his times. I pray that his divine blessings and grace are upon all of us on this occasion of Teacher's Day.

I conclude by prostrating at the lotus feet of my Mother, Father, Guru and God - His Holiness, Courtallam Sankaracharya, Paramahansa Parivrajaka Acharya Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Siddheswarananda Bharathi Maha Swamiji.



Siddhashram of North America (Shangri-La)

धर्मस्थमनुगच्छति धर्मः तं अनुगच्छति

In a scenic landscape sprawling over 500 acres, the vision is to establish a center of excellence for Sanatana Dharma with a world-class Spiritual Retreat Center (monastery) to guide individuals on the path of righteousness and foster societal harmony through mantra sadhana, meditation, ayurveda, yoga, ancient sciences, wellness, and spiritual retreats with the blessings of his Holiness Paramahansa Parivrajakacharya Courtallam Sankaracharya Sri Sri Siddheswarananda Bharati MahaSwamiji and Her Holiness Sri Sakthi Peethadeeswari Mantra Maheshwari Mataji Sri Sri Sri Ramyananda Bharati Swamini.

Preserve, Propagate and Promote Sanatana Dharma

We aim to offer a profound understanding of Sanatana Dharma through:

- "Statue of Oneness" - Adi Shankaracharya, a 108-foot symbol of human equality.
- Establishing a Cultural Heritage Education Center, showcasing a map of Akhand Bharat with miniature models of renowned temples (51 Shakthi Peets, 12 Jyotir Linga, Padmanabha Temple, Tirumala Balaji Temple etc).
- Comprehensive facilities including Veda Paatashaala (education building) and Sports Center with living quarters for faculty & students.
- Establish a museum promoting ancient wisdom, focusing on Sanatana Dharma's schools of thought like Advaita, Dvaita, Vishishtadvaita, Shuddhadvaita, and other philosophies. Highlighting founders, lineages, key teachings, and honoring Rishis as original scientists.

Spiritual Center:

- The vision is to assist devotees in overcoming challenges through **Mantra Shastra**.
- We also have **108 Havan Kunds** facilitating Nitya Homas and Yagas.
- A **Prayer Hall/Temple** is envisioned representing Shaiva, Vaishnava, Saktheya, other traditions.
- **Dhyan Mandir/Meditation Hall** is intended as a spiritual space for ancient practices like meditation and yoga, offering a tranquil retreat for the community.

Living and Retreat:

- **Gaushala**, Honoring cattle with respect and dignity in line with ancient philosophy.
- **Urgent Care** Center with a Helipad for any emergency medical evacuations.
- Implementing **Vedic Organic Farming** for cultivating diverse produce.
- **Living area** with diverse housing options, Kitchen, Dining and Event Hall.
- Creating a self-sufficient **Energy Farm** utilizing Geo-Thermal, Wind, and Solar sources.
- Commercial Retail Shops, Tools, Workshop, and Storage.
- Have lots of **Nature Trails**. Engage boy scouts to build resting gazebos as eagle projects.

Socio-Economic Development Goals:

The project aims to:

- **Generate full-time employment** for a minimum of 150 individuals.
- Supply natural energy to Washington EMC or any other distributing entity.
- **Contribute significantly** to achieving broad social and economic goals for the City of Warrenton, Warren County, and the State of Georgia.
- Building an eco-friendly, carbon-neutral, and environmentally safe ashram (monastery).



Appeal: Encouraging collective commitment to protect Sanatana Dharma and pass it on to future generations. Urging unity in constructing a strong, sustainable, values-driven society, and seeking devotees support in any possible way for this noble cause. This initiative serves as an opportunity for individuals to contribute to the broader mission of Dharma Samrakshana.

How Can I Support?

Your support is vital for the success of this initiative, kindly consider contributing at any scale.

Sponsorship Categories	Amount per annum
Dollar a Day - Per person per family	\$365
Sukrita	\$1,001
Shreshta	\$2,501
Prashasta	\$5,001
Adbhuta	\$10,001
Utkrishta	\$15,001
Vishishta	\$25,001
Udhatta	Above \$25,001

For
Donations



Donations are Tax Deductible
<http://tinyurl.com/SiddheswariSeva>

Additional Information:

- Enroll "**Sri Siddheswari Seva.Inc**" in the Matching Grants Program at your company.
- Some of the currently Enrolled companies: **Microsoft, Adobe, Apple, Amazon, Cisco, Bank of America, Google, Charles Schwab and eBay.**

Bank: Bank of America
Charity Name: Sri Siddheswari Seva Inc
Account Type: Business Checking
Account No: 383009686605
Routing No: 031202084 (Paper & Electronic), 026009593 (Wires)

ZELLE Email id: sssevainc@gmail.com
Business Name: Siddheswari Seva Inc
Transfer Limit - \$1500, may have to do multiple transfers.

Checks In Favor of - Sri Siddheswari Seva
Address: Sri Siddheswari Seva,
Attn: Ramakrishna Koduri, 8725 Colonial Place, Duluth GA 30097

SRISIDDHESWARISEVA

Please Contact

Bhushan Mocherla +1 678-643-8133
Ramakrishna Koduri +1 904-866-9243

Poojya Swamiji's 2023 USA Trip

- *Sri Lalithananda Natha*

Poojya Swamiji Parama Hamsa Parivrajakaacharya Courtallam Shankaracharya Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Siddheswarananda Bharathi Maha Swamiji visited the United States of America from April 12th to April 25, 2023. During this short trip he inaugurated Sree Devi Peetham and presided over AtiRudram which was conducted from April 19th-23rd, 2023.

April 13th - April 16th, 2023 - Sree Devi Peetham - Cumming GA

Sree Devi Peetham was started with a goal to focus on women empowerment. Sree Devi Peetham and the following Dieties were blessed by Swamiji during his visit for Vighraha prathista which took place in June.

1. Lalitha Devi, 2. Raja Shyamala - Raja Matangi, 3. Vaarahi, 4. Pratyangira,
5. Kaali, 6. Kaala Bhairava, 7. Shani, 8. Kshipra Ganapati, 9. Sai Baba,
10. Shiva Lingam, 11. Maha Meru, 12. Adi Shankara, 13. Dhoomavati Devi.

All the days, the program started with paada pooja followed by anugraha bhashanam by poojya swamiji. Every day devotees from all over the USA came and performed paada poojas and eagerly awaited poojya swamiji's anugraha bhashanam. Poojya Swamiji, spoke about various aspects of mantra sadhana, about the deities that were being installed in the peetham. Many local dignitaries and community leaders visited and got his holiness's blessings. On April 16th, many children and adults got initiated into aksharabhyasam by poojya swamiji.

April 19th - April 23rd, 2023 - Siddha Ashram of North America (Shangri-La) - Warrenton GA

As the name indicates it is an abode protected by Siddhas and Bestows Kaamyasiddhi. His Holiness Paramahansa Parivrajakaacharya Courtallam Peetam Shankaracharya Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Siddheswarananda Bharathi Maha Swamiji invoked the ultimate Siddha Sakthi, guarded by Ashta Bhairavas - Whose power was instilled in the eight lakes by His Holiness.

Any Pooja/Homam/Ritual done here fulfills all desires, wishes, reduces/removes bad karma and also removes any evil spirits. Thousands of people experienced this and they all are celebrating the siddha guru's grace and divine blessings. As part of this, Siddhashram of North America hosted Shree Rudra Ghana Parayana Sahita Ati Rudram in April from 19th to 23rd rendered by GRD Iyers GURUCOOL members.

More than 150+ ritwiks who came from North America, Europe and India participated in this event. Some of the highlights include Rudra Ghana and Krama parayana by the ritwiks.

All the days, the program started with paada pooja during the mornings and anugraha bhashanam by poojya swamiji in the evenings. Every day devotees from all over the USA came and performed paada poojas and eagerly awaited poojya swamiji's anugraha bhashanam. Poojya Swamiji, spoke about various aspects of mantra sadhana, ancient scriptures and their teachings, and the significance and importance of Siddha Ashram of North America (Shangri-La). His Holiness declared that Siddha Ashram of North America (Shangri-La) is Naimisha Aranyam outside India where siddha yogis, siddha purushas, many divine beings and deities are frequent visitors. This event was well telecasted by US and international media. It was also covered by TV9 and Bhakthi TV channels in India too. All devotees expressed their deep gratitude to his holiness for his first visit to the USA after the pandemic and felt really blessed to get his divine blessings.

Suvasini pooja was also performed to more than 100 suvasinis and dampathi pooja was also performed.

Many local dignitaries, politicians and community leaders visited and got his holiness's blessings. Smt. Devi Mohan, wife of Sri Mohanji, who is a renowned spiritual leader based in Europe came to seek his holiness blessings.

Great grand daughter of HH Sri Sri Sri Siva Chidananda Saraswathi Swamiji (Mouna Swamy) - founder of Sri Siddheswari Peetham Courtallam also participated in the event and got his holiness blessings.



Aksharabhyasam to Devotees by Pujya Swamiji in Sree Devi Peetham



Pujya Swamiji's visit to
Sree Devi Peetham
- April 2023

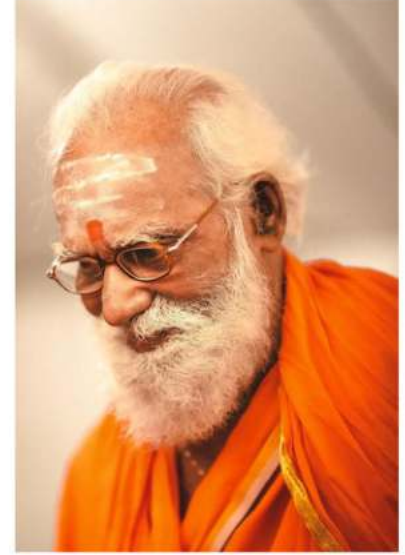


Pujya Swamiji's Darshan & Blessings to Devotees in Sree Devi Peetham

Pujya Swamiji's visit to AtiRudram in Shangri-La - April 2023



Purna kumbha swagatham
to Pujya Swamiji in Shangri-La
& Yathi Vandanam by
108+ Ritwiks



Shiva Shakti Kalashas &
Sri Chakra Navavarana Puja





Sankalpam of AtiRudram by
Sri Sashi Bhushan Mocherla Gaaru,
Smt. Om Shanti Mocherla Gaaru, Rudraabhishekam &
Discourses by Pujya Swamiji during AtiRudram

SIDDHESWARISEVA



Sri Ramesh Natarajan Iyer Gaaru & Smt Gayatri Gaaru- Founders of GRD Iyers
Gurucool who conducted AtiRudra Maha Yaagam in Shangri-La



GRD Iyers GuruCool Ritwiks



Smt. Jayashree garu (Great Grand daughter of Sri Mouna Swamy, Founder of Courtallam Sri Siddeshwari Peetham) seeking blessings from Pujya Swamiji & Devotees sharing experiences



Paada Puja, Aksharabhyasam & Darshan of Pujya Swamiji in Shangri-La



Purnahuti of AtiRudra Maha Yagam





Swamiji's Blessings to Ramesh Gaaru & Gayatri Gaaru



Pujya Swamiji's Discourses in Shangri-La

Felicitating all the Ritwiks



Suvasini Puja & Dampati Puja



Swamiji's Blessings to the AtiRudram Sponsors



Devotees seeking Swamiji's blessings



Sree Devi Peetham

Center of Excellence for Women Empowerment

- Manasa

Sree Devi Peetham has been established and traditionally headed by Sri Lalithananda Natha (Sri Sashibhushan Mocherla) under the discipleship of Sri Sri Sri Siddheshwarananda Bharathi Maha Swamiji and Sri Mathaji Ramyananda Bharathi Swamini. This peetham was inaugurated by Sri Sri Sri Siddheshwarananda Bharathi Maha Swamiji during his visit to USA in April 2023.

Sree Devi Peetham is envisioned to be a center of excellence for women empowerment and the focus here is to preserve and propagate Sanatana Dharma. Sanatana Dharma is the only one where women are worshipped as goddesses and hence women are placed on a high pedestal. They are worshipped as girls (Bala puja), as kanyas (Kanya puja), as gruhalaxmis (Suvasini Puja) and so on. Our Vedic scriptures and hymns glorify the dignity of women “yatra naryastu pujanya ramante tatra devata” which means “Where women are honoured, there the deities are pleased.” The focus at Sree Devi peetham is therefore to involve women in dharmic activities by showcasing their importance.

In the sacred abode of Sree Devi Peetham, Pradhana (presiding) Devatha is Sri Sri Sri Lalitha Parameswari. Sri Lalitha Devi stands gracefully enthroned along with Raja Matangi (manthrini\minister) also known as Rajya Shyamala, to her right and to her left is Vaarahi (dhandini) who is the commander in chief of Sri Lalitha Devi. There are also other prominent deities in the peetham, namely Pratyangira, Dhoomavati, Kaali, Kaala Bhairava, Shani, Kshipra Ganapathi, Sai Baba, Shiva Lingam, Maha Meru, Adi Shankara. The Maha Meru (Sri Siddheshwari Devi) is one-of-a-kind meru sculpted as per sastras, made of panchaloha and it weighs about 560 lbs. Most of these idols are rare to find outside of India in the western hemisphere and the transcendental energy that permeates in this peetham is an amalgamation of sacred practices and celestial blessings. If studied well, the benefits from worshipping each of these devatas will reveal their wonderful significance as they are specifically chosen for various aspects by Poojya Swamiji.

Many upasakas who are initiated into mantra deeksha by Poojya Swamiji and Sri Lalithananda Natha were able to resolve their own problems including black magic effects, ill-health, marital, financial, educational, property, and other issues. Several devotees experienced many miracles at Sree Devi Peetham and visit regularly to participate in the Abhishekam and other special pujas that are conducted throughout the year. A deep spiritual journey can be experienced at Sree Devi Peetham where one can find solace, guidance, and boundless blessings.

Sree Devi Peetham Vighraha Prathishta in Atlanta



Sankalpam by Sri Sashi Bhushan Mocherla Gaaru & Om Shanti Mocherla Gaaru



Deity Installation procedures - Jaladhivasam, Ksheeradhivasam, Dhanyadhivasam, Pushpadhivasam, Annadhivasam, Phaladhivasam, Seyyadhivasam



Homam & Deity's Installation (Praana Pratishtha) with Pujya Swamiji's Blessings by Guru Sri Lalithananda Natha



Sri Lalitha Parameswari Devi along with Maatangi, Vaarahi Devi, Kshipra Ganapathi, Siddheswara, Siddheswari Devi (Sri Chakra Meru)



Sri Kaali Devi, Sri Pratyangira Devi, Sri Dhoomavati Devi



*Sri Kaala Bhairava Swamy, Sri Shaneeswara Swamy,
Sri Sai Baba, Sri Adi Shankaraacharya*



*Devotees during Vigraha Pratistha &
Lalitha Sahasranama after Deity Installation*



Varahi Navaratri

– *Swapna Vaddadi*

Navratri is a festival of nine nights. There are 4 Navaratri's in a year. Celebrated for nine days each. Navratri is celebrated in alignment with the changing seasons, symbolizing renewal and rejuvenation. Navratri's derive their names based on the Hindu month. Two of them are known as Gupta Navratri and are celebrated by saints, and tantric (Sreedevi upasaka).

- **Magh Gupta Navaratri**
- **Chaitra Navaratri**
- **Ashadha Gupta Navaratri**
- **Sharan Navaratri**

Ashadha Gupta Navaratri is also known as Varahi Navaratri. Sree Devi Peetham In Atlanta USA is one of the unique temples in North America having SriLalithaDevi, Vaarahi, Shyamala, Kali, Prathyangira & Dhoomavathi devi. (Prathista in June 2023)

Varahi devi is the boar-faced incarnation of the Goddess and is regarded as the consort of Varaha (Vishnu's boar-faced incarnation). Varahi devi is born from the arrogance of Sri Lalitha devi to kill Bandasura. She is the commander in chief - Dandanatha. **SRISIDDHESWARISEVA**

We are currently in Swetha varahakalpa. Long ago Bhudevi hid herself, unable to bear the atrocities of Hiranyaksa (Rakshasa). Lord Vishnu, fought with Hiranyaksha and brought back Bhu devi on his Tusk. Varahi devi is the shakthi behind Varaha swamy.

Varahi devi is known as ratri devatha. With proper initiation by a guru, Varahi Devi is worshiped at night during navratri in her various forms. She helps her worshipers overcome fear, Evil eye, black magic. Mother's divine energy is very strong during Ashada Navaratri. People pray to Varahi devi to resolve many land or court related issues. She is a powerful and compassionate Goddess who would fulfill the prayers of her devotees and grant material riches and abundance.



Varahi devi is worshiped in her 9 forms during navratri, which are Unmatta Varahi, Brihad Varahi, Swapna Varahi, Kirata Varahi, Swetha Varahi, Dhoomra Varahi, Varthali Varahi, Dandini Varahi and Maha Varahi. Detailed puja vidhi on how to worship Varahi devi in a specific form is only shared from guru to Shishya. Guru, when satisfied with the ability of sishya is initiated in a specific mantra of the various Varahi devi forms.

Since not all are initiated into devi upasana, yet wanted to get Vaarahi devi blessings. Daily homam's were performed at Sreedevi Peetham during Vaarahi Navratri. Acharya's at this temple can help identify the problems and help them in overcoming for prosperous future. Like any mother Varahi devi loves the entire creation as her own child. Rishi's gave a simpler path of chanting 12 names. Chanting or worshiping Varahi devi with these 12 names bestows good health, prosperity, protection from evil and overcoming fear.

*Panchami dandanatha cha sanketa samayesvari |
tatha samaya-sanketa varahi potrini siva
vartali ca mahasena agnyachakresvari tatha |
arighni cheti samproktam nama dvadasakam mune*

*Panchami dandanatha cha sanketa samayesvari |
tatha samaya-sanketa varahi potrini siva
vartali ca mahasena agnyachakresvari tatha |
arighni cheti samproktam nama dvadasakam mune*

Vaarahi Navaratri in Sree Devi Peetham, Atlanta - June 2023



Sri Vaarahi Devi & 64 Upachara Puja by Guru Sri Lalithananda Natha



Discourses by Guru Sri Lalithananda Natha, Everyday Homa during Vaaraahi Navratri



Everyday Musical Offering during Vaaraahi Navratri

Devotee Experiences

– *Vivek Varma Siruvuri*

**Om Gam Ganapathaye Namah !
Om Sri Gurubhyoh Namah !**

With humble pranaams to Sri Sashibushan Mocherla Garu, Sri Siddheswarananda Bharathi Swamy Garu, Sri Ramyananda Bharathi Swamini Garu, Sri Mouna Swamy Varu, Sri Bhoganathar Varu and Sri Agasthya Mahamuni, I will describe my personal experience at Shangri-La.

My Name is Vivek Varma Siruvuri, I am a Telugu speaking individual from Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh working as a software professional in the state of Delaware in the United States of America. I came to America as a student in 2002 December, and later after graduation started working as a software professional.

I have been on a H1B visa through most of my stay in America and have been surviving through the turmoils of the financial meltdown of 2008 and hence my Green Card process got even further delayed. Having a priority date of 2011 February, It has been a long wait and, I have almost lost hope of if and when I would get my GC. To be precise it is an 18 years of journey and it has been very painful to tell friends or relatives about my status that I am still waiting for my green card.

Post pandemic, I was very happy that the priority dates moved and my chance to file and get a green card has finally come in October 2020. From the onset, getting easy work done turned out to be full of obstacles - I am supposed to get a Medical Clearance certificate from a doctor and there were several obstacles to obtain one. I was frustrated, this is a form which anyone gets it so easily. Then finally when I got it, the doctor gave it a day late and I had to submit my application without one.

After a few months I got my receipt (November 2020) and then there was no news or update from the authorities. I had a H1B renewal due September 30th 2021. I was hearing most of my friends got their EAD and parole cards (which is a huge relief and helps you get out of this H1 renewal).

I was sincerely praying to Ganesh ji and asking for his help in alleviating my troubles. I was doing regular homa to him at home and praying for his intervention. By June I was extremely frustrated - I put in a lot of service requests for EAD approvals and there would not be any response. Emma (the AI bot for USCIS) wouldn't help me either. I just saw a path full of roadblocks.

In that moment of frustration, I was talking to my friend Vamsi Akkaraju and was telling him about my situation. He mentioned Shangri-La and told me that his guru Sashibushan Mocherla garu performs Prayojana Homam and that I should try to do it to solve my problem. I gave a thought and said there is nothing to lose, let me give it a try. I talked to Sashibushan garu and told him my problem and he told me to come over and would help me.

An interesting coincidence is that the prayojana homam was getting performed on the weekend when it was Guru Pournima. Sashibushan garu performed homam and asked me if I was okay to do a mantra. I told him yes and asked me to do Purascharana of the mantra and solve my problem myself. (How beautiful? Not only is the solution given but also he was empowering me to solve it myself by giving me the tools to do it.) I was pleasantly surprised he gave me a mantra of my beloved ganesha. He also mentioned that the Mooshikam (the vehicle ganesha) was looking at me while I was performing the homam and that it was a good sign. I prayed to him to help me with the sadhana of doing the purascharana and not have obstacles. He told me that was on me and my resolve.

After performing the guru homa the next day on Guru Pournima, I resolved very firmly to complete the sadhana in 21 days (beauty of it is, at the homam he was mentioning 15 - 21-30 - 40 days and words came out of my mouth as 21 days and he said yes). Next 21 days I did the mantra sincerely praying to the gurus of the Siddheswari peetham, starting with Sashibushan garu. By the 16 th day, I saw my status and I got a notification of greencard interview being scheduled. By the 21st day when i finished my japa - the interview letter was in my mailbox.

I got ready with medicals and following pournami August 22, I did my homa and tarpanam and marjanam and anna danam. That night after completing the rituals, When I looked at the moon and sky, it was beautiful. Incidentally, the moon with clouds and positioning was exactly the same in a photo of Sri Siddhewarananda Swamy Varu at India ashramam (In some way it was a way to tell me Shangri-La is the same siddha bhoomi as in India)

On September 14th, I attended the interview and the interview process was tough, several pointed questions were asked and I felt that, I may not get my greencard. (Questions related to my employer and company). I was panicking and distraught, broke down and my friend Vamsi was consoling me that I should not worry as it is still not over till it's over. The september 30th deadline to renew H1B was fast approaching and I don't have an EAD nor is my Greencard guaranteed based on the way the interview went.

At this point, I was tired and didn't know what other sadhana or things I could do (I do pitru tarpana every amavasya(1 year non stop), I do anna danam to homeless every week(1 year non stop), I do ganapathi sadhana and homam (very regularly), tarpanam to planets and always keep divine mother Lalitha in my thoughts.) The next day with tears clouding my vision I was chanting Ganapathi Atharvana Sheersham and saying "If you are the creator of obstacles and clearer of obstacles who else can I go to" I called my father told him to keep a room ready for me in india as, I am tired of this battle in America. I have done everything in my physical, emotional capabilities of sadhana and this body can't do it anymore. I messaged Shashi Bhushanam garu and left it to Gurus.

By September 16th, I got notification that my EAD was approved and a new card was being mailed. At first, I felt relieved, next there was apprehension after talking to an immigration attorney that there might be a possibility that there might be further litigation in my application and hence they approved my EAD and, usually when you have attended an interview, you are supposed to get GC in the next few days. This made me understand, there is not much I can do if that happens. I need to just go home and call an end to this American journey.

On September 25-26th weekend, I attended the Sahasra Modaka homam to ganapathi at Shangri-La and expressed my apprehensions to Sashibushan garu and he told me wait till 9/30 and then if something works out else we can provide them, whatever documents they request. I did the homam sincerely with the modakams and yagnya dravyams..

On September 28th I performed Pitru Paksha tarpanam for my ancestors (ashtami - is when my mother departed) and the next morning September 29th I got an update that my Greencard is being ordered on 9/28 - I messaged Sashibushan garu expressing gratitude and felt a sense of relief and with moist eyes, i was looking at the trials and tribulations and battles to get to this point.

But for Sashibushan garu's help and guidance, Only providence knows how long this battle would have prolonged. From the bottom of my heart I express my gratitude and thankfulness to Sashibushan garu, Sri Siddheswarananda Bharathi Swamy garu. Sri Ramyananda Bharathi Swamini garu, Sri Mouna Swamy Varu, Sri Bhoganathar Garu, Sri Agasthya Mahamunigaru.



(The Moon and Clouds as seen in this picture were exactly same at Shangri la on August 22)

Sri Gurubhyo Namah !

Devotee Experiences

– P.R.K.

Though we are from Guntur, which is the hometown of POOJYA GURUJI SIDDHEWSARANADA BHARATHI MAHAASWAMI VARU, we have not heard anything about the Peetham until about 2 years ago, which I consider as bad luck. We normally watch Bhakti related videos on YouTube and we were lucky to stumble on a video by Sree Siddheswaranda Bharathi Mahaaswamiji and ever since, were longing deep in our hearts to have a darshan and blessings from SWAMIJI. We were depressed because of some family issues and were lucky enough to find that there is an ashram close to Atlanta, GA. we immediately contacted Sasi bhushan Guruji and were assured that we will be given a MANTHRAM by MAHASWAMIJI to get rid of the bad spirits that are causing the troubles. After a few days, we were told to a specific mantra Japam and after duly doing it, were told to come to SHANGRI-LA to perform the Homam. As soon as we started the mantra japam, things started to get better in our lives and we could sleep peacefully after so many years. After completing the japam, we went to SHANGRI-LA and we were helped to a great extent by Ramakrishna Gaaru and Rohit Gaaru. Sri Sasibhushan Guruji Initiated The Homam and was with us through out the Homam and we were totally satisfied with the blessings. I can confidently say that the bad spirits haunting us have been silenced and we are leading a normal life now. I recommend any one who is in need of spiritual services to contact the ashram and I am sure that they will be immensely benefited.

Sree Gurubhyo Namaha.

Devotee Experiences

- *Anonymous*

I am happy to inform that my wife has conceived and is into her 3rd month successful by the grace of sri sri sri sidheswarananda swamiji.

My wife and myself received Naga Bhairava mantra from Sri Sasibhushan Mocherla garu and we received the good news one month after both of us completed the purascharana Homam.

This is significant as my wife had 3 miscarriages and 2 ectopic pregnancy for which we had to go to emergency room twice.

I am very grateful to pujya guruji and Sri Sasibhushan Mocherla garu and all the volunteers for helping us throughout this journey. Pranams!

Sree Gurubhyo Namaha.



SRISIDDHESWARISEVA

Mantra Purascharana Introduction

– *Sri Lalithaananda Naatha*

For attaining the grace of the mantra devata OR removal/overcoming of difficulties/obstacles OR fulfilment of any desires; one has to be initiated into a moola mantra by a **siddha guru** and has to complete “**Mantra Purascharana**”.

•**Purascharana**: **Puras** means in front of; **Charana** means moving. In Purascharana, specific count of mantra japam should be done over an extended period of time (OR as early as possible). According to ancient **Mantra Shaastra texts**, **Mantra Saadhana** makes the divine energy of the mantra devata to move in and around you hence called **Mantra Purascharana**.

• **Purascharana** consists of **5steps** in the following order:

No	Purascharana Step	Description	Japa Maala (108 beads maala)
1	Japam	Chanting the mantra 100,000 times	1000
2	Homam	Perform Homam with 10,000 ahutis	100
3	Tarpanam	Offer Tarpanam 1,000 times	10
4	Maarjanam	Offer Maarjanam 100 times	1
5	Anna-Samaaradhana	Feeding 10 people	10 people

Procedure For Japam

• **Location** : The order of preference to perform any japam is **any holy place** (Kshetram), **any temple**, and if not, in a **pooja room** /any other place in your house.

• **Japam** has to be started by covering the **panchapatra** (filled with water) with your right hand; **recite name, gothram and sankalpam** (purpose of performing this japam). Sankalpam can be said in **simple sentences** and in any language.

- **Japam** can be performed for others too by following the above procedure with their name, gothram and their sankalpam.
- A suitable Japamaala has to be chosen **depending** on the mantra. One can use a counting machine too.
- **Counting - Moola Mantra** is sacred, secret and should not be revealed to anyone. Most preferred way to perform Mantra Japam is to chant the mantra in your mind silently by focusing on the mantra. This form of chanting is called **Maanasika Japam**. If Maanasika Japam is not possible, then **Upaamsu Japam** is preferred. In this Japam, you can chant the mantra by moving your lips and tongue (**shouldn't be audible to others**).
- Mantra has to be **chanted at a moderate speed**, i.e., neither too fast nor too slow.
- **Holding the Japa Maala:** Hold the japa maala on ring finger of right hand and move the beads towards you using your thumb and middle fingers. Care should be taken that the **index finger should not touch the japa maala**, while doing **Mantra Japam**, **left hand should not be used**.
- **Japa Maala:** Japa Maala consists of 108+1 beads. This extra outstanding bead is called Meru. While doing the japam, you **should not cross the Meru bead**, i.e., once you finish counting 108, you will **arrive at the Meru bead**. At this point, **you should reverse the maala**, and start counting by moving the beads towards you (the last bead becomes the first bead). **You should do this every time you arrive at the Meru bead**.
- **Seating:** You should be clean /tidy, sit comfortably **on a mat or a chair and ensure that no part of your body** (including your feet) is touching the ground directly. It is advised to **have a mat OR dharbha mat OR any clean cloth between you and the ground even if you sit on a chair**.
- **Timing for Japam:** Japam can be performed at any time (day or night – no restrictions). It is advised to wait 2 hours if one had heavy meals to start the japam.

Chanting Mantra at Other Times: There are no restrictions to always chant the mantra in your mind. This continuous chanting of the mantra in your mind helps increase the intrinsic power of the mantra. But, if one is chanting the mantra for a specific purpose/sankalpam (grace of the mantra devata OR removal/overcoming of difficulties/obstacles OR fulfilment of any desires), one needs to consider only the portion of the japam, that was done in the above said procedure.

- **Samarpana** (Submission/Offering Mantra Japam to Mantra Devata): After completing the desired count of the mantra japam or at the end of the day, one has to perform **Samarpana**. Take some water from the panchapatra into your right hand, recite the following "I am offering the entire japam/homam benefit for fulfilment of my sankalpam at the feet of (fill with the mantra devata name) devata" and leave the water in a plate. **Then please have this water from the plate as theerdham.**
- **Japam/Homam for Others:** If one performs japam/ homam for others, follow the same above samarpana procedure but give the theerdham/homa bhasmam to them.
- **Beneficiary Out of Town:** If the beneficiary is out of town, then one can perform the end of day samarpana using kumkum OR Akshata (uncooked un-broken pieces of rice which is mixed with turmeric or kumkum) instead of water. Please ensure that the beneficiary gets this kumkum or akshata or bhasmam (holy ash in case of homam). This process ensures that the divine energy of the ritual reaches the beneficiary.
- **Substitutions:** All the 5 steps for Mantra Purascharana –Japam, Homam, Tarpanam, Marjanam and Anna Samaaradhana should be performed in that specific order for maximum benefit. If for any reason one cannot perform any of the Purascharana steps, the following substitutes are advised:

Inability to Perform Any Puratcharapa Step	Recommended/Advised Substitutes
Inability to do Homam – 10,000 count	20,000 Japam
Inability to do Tarpanam –1000 count	3000 Japam
Inability to do Marjanam – 100 count	400 Japam
Inability to do Anna-Samaaradhana - 10	Offer Food in a temple

- Substitution steps need to be followed only when someone cannot perform regular Purascharana steps. Performing regular steps provides best results. After finishing first Pruascharana one can do any count of Purascharana steps - Japam, Homam, Tarpanam, Marjanam individually.

- How Long Should I do Mantra Sadhana? One should continue Mantra Sadhana even after their Purascharana until the sankalpa is fulfilled. Further, it is recommended and advised to continue Mantra Sadhana (Japam OR Homam OR Tarpanam) to attain divine grace, reduce karma and gain divine energy throughout one's life.
- Mantra Sadhana Manjusha (For Quick Mantra Siddhi)
- Mantra siddhi can be attained quickly through mantra sadhana instruments.
- To attain divine grace, reduce karma and gain divine energy throughout one's life many details were addressed in ancient texts.
- Various Mantra Procedures are prescribed for different Mantras and related benefits.
- Collection of such various procedures at one place and progressing in mantra sadhana is a herculean effort. But with the blessings of HH Pujiya Swamiji all the collective procedures essence were extracted at one place and being offered to all as Mantra Manjusha.
- Individual initiated into Mantra, use this Mantra Manjusha guide to fulfill one's desires and to attain divine grace.

Japa Mala:

- Appropriate Japa mala needs to be selected for a particular mantra in which an individual is initiated.
- Inappropriate Japa mala may not produce the desired results.
- Japa mala has its own unique color and characteristics which aids in sadhana advancement.

Japa Mala Sack:

- At the time of Mantra Japam, Sadhaka should not display Japamala and others should not touch sadhaka's Japa mala. To secure Japa mala, one needs to use Japa Mala Sack.
- Japa Mala sack is made in such a way, that our Japa hand will be in gaumukh (cow face) mudra. This mudra helps in separating the index finger as this finger should not touch the mala ever during mantra sadhana. Also, aids in carrying Japa mala securely during travel.

Note: Japa mala is Sacred for this reason it should not be stored in any plastic bag or containers, rather needs to be placed in Cloth made with 100% cotton or

Japa Mala Manjushika:

- Manjushika, is a wooden box with pyramid top, as pyramid structure known to have property to attract cosmic energy. Its advisable to store Japa mala securely in Manjushika for safety and for retaining Japa mala's energy.

HH Swamiji Photo:

- It is fact that Guru's grace helps us to attain divine grace, remove difficulties and attain desires quickly and for this reason it is recommended to place Swamiji's photo in Sadhana alter during Mantra Sadhana.

Mantra Devatha Photo:

- Recommended to place one's mantra devatha photo along with guru's photo to attain anugraha/bessings of devatha rapidly.

Digital Counter:

- If required, an individual can use same digital counter to count the mantra Japa.

Procedures for Quick Relief from Sufferings (For Self or Others)

- Mix fistful of cooked rice with kumkum and ghee and put it in a plate. Touch the rice and silently chant the mantra 11 times, in your mind. Then, rotate it in front of your face OR beneficiary's face for 3 times and leave it in a place where no one would step on it.
- The above procedure could be performed with red salt OR red water (salt/ water mixed with kumkum).
- Light a camphor or an oil lamp, rotate it front of the face by chanting mantra for 3 times.
- These procedures could be done during day OR night without any restriction and rotation could be done either in clockwise or anti-clockwise direction.



SREE DEVI PEETHAM SERVICES

Monday

Nithya Puja	7:00 PM
Rudrabhishekam	7:15 PM
Lalitha Sahasranama Parayanam	8:00 PM
Arathi	8:30 PM
Prasadham	9:00 PM

Tuesday

Raahu Kala Puja	(during raahu kalam)
Nithya Puja	7:00 PM
Lalitha Sahasranama Parayanam	7:30 PM
Arathi	8:00 PM
Prasadham	8:30 PM

Wednesday

Nithya Puja	7:00 PM
Lalitha Sahasranama Parayanam	7:30 PM
Arathi	8:00 PM
Prasadham	8:30 PM

Thursday

Nithya Puja	7:00 PM
Lalitha Sahasranama Parayanam	7:30 PM
Saibaba Arathi	8:00 PM
Prasadham	8:30 PM

❧ Archana will be done every 30 minutes ❧

Friday

Nithya Puja	7:00 PM
Sri Chakra Abhishekam	7:10 PM
Lalitha Sahasranama Parayanam	8:00 PM
Arathi & Kaali Arathi	8:30 PM
Prasadham	9:00 PM

Saturday

Shani Tailabishekam	10:00 AM
Nithya Puja	7:00 PM
Lalitha Sahasranama Parayanam	7:30 PM
Arathi & Prasadham	8:00 PM

Sunday

Nithya Puja	7:00 PM
Lalitha Sahasranama Parayanam	7:30 PM
Arathi	8:00 PM
Prasadham	8:30 PM



◆ Monthly Events ◆

Sankashti Chaturthi - Krishna paksha chaturthi
KalaAshtami - Krishna paksha ashtami
Varahi Devi Puja - Panchami

❧ Archana will be done every 30 minutes ❧



SRISIDDHESWARISEVA



H.H. Sri Sakthi Peethaadeeswari Mataji
Sri Ramyaananda Bharati Swamini ji



H.H. Jagadguru Courtalam Sankaracharya
Sri Siddheswarananda Bharati Mahaswami ji



Sri Lalithananda Natha

Shangri-La

Siddhashram of North America
2786 Mitchell Rd, Warrenton, GA – 30828,

☎ +1(904)- 866-9243 📍 www.shangrilausa.org



SREE DEVI PEETHAM

Centre of Excellence for Women Empowerment
3230 Caliber St Suite C-103, Suwanee, GA 30024

☎ +1(678)-771-5412 📍 www.sreedevi-peetham.org

Sri Siddheswari seva is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization established to carry the vision and principles of Sri Sri Sri Siddheswarananda Bharathi Mahaswamy. Shangri-La and Sreedevi Peetham are branches having separate physical locations to reach out to larger communities with their own mission statements.

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