

# **GOD Canada newsletter – May 2021**

## **Cherished Memories - True Friend, Philosopher And Guide**

This series chronicles interesting experiences recounted by the devotees of HH Maharanyam Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji. These articles are from the series, “Cherished Memoirs” that is published Namadwaar.org

Enjoying a personal space with our Sri Swamiji is what most of us in our hearts wish and long for. I would like to narrate an incident which happened to me during early 1995. I was working for a leading finance company in Chennai. One day, my reporting officer called and told me about an impending transfer order to Coimbatore. I was totally against it and was reluctant to go to Coimbatore. As it seemed to be imminent, I decided to seek the advice and blessings of our Sri Swamiji. The following day I went to have the darshan of our Sri Swamiji. I explained to him about the happenings and asked him how I should react to it. Sri Swamiji after hearing what I have to say asked me “to proceed”. I tried methods to convince Sri Swamiji, but HE told me to bear for at least 2-3 months.

Train tickets were organised by my elder brother to Coimbatore. Couple of our satsang friends- Sundar, Babu, Rajkumar and Amudhan apart from my elder brother came to the railway station for the send-off. For the initial few days, I decided to stay at one Mrs. Bala’s residence (Rajkumar’s sister) at Coimbatore. I reached Coimbatore on a Saturday morning. I spent the day with the kids in the house. As the clock welcomed the night, I became restless, a sudden sharp feeling of emotional distress filled me and I prayed silently to our Sri Swamiji and decided to come back to Chennai.

Early the next day, with the help of Mr.Srinivasan (Rajkumar's brother-in-law) I could procure a train ticket to Chennai and I was back on Sunday night itself. I wanted to update the things to Sri Swamiji and went to have his darshan the next day. When I reached Premika Bhavanam, Sri Swamiji was seated on a dharbasan and was performing his anushtana. He asked me why I was not in Coimbatore. I told him everything and my state of mind. He turned aside and ordered a devotee standing near-by to arrange for 2 train tickets to Coimbatore on the same day. He asked me to come prepared with the baggage, as He told me that He would accompany me to Coimbatore!

I was literally thrilled to know that the Sri Swamiji himself would accompany me as a friend to Coimbatore. We took the train to Coimbatore. Though few eatables were provided for, He refused to have anything during the journey and He was silent most of the journey time and what I could understand is that He was chanting silently. In the midst of the journey, He inquired what I had brought to eat and asked me to have it.

He did not have anything on the entire journey. I felt bad as it is because of me that He had to undergo this journey. Deep down my heart, I prayed to Sri Swamiji to forgive me. We landed Coimbatore. The Sri Swamiji accompanied me to my place of stay. He asked me to get some milk for Him, which I did.

He showed me a few places in Coimbatore and told me where I could have breakfast, lunch & dinner. During the course of the day, he called one of our Satsang friends at Coimbatore, who at that time was an Engineering student.

As I was worried about my stay at Coimbatore and was slightly focused on my return transfer to Chennai, He pacified and convinced me. He asked me to bear only for 2-3 months and reassured me.

He took me for a walk and showed me a few department malls just like a friend would do, and told me that I could visit them at my leisure and spend some time. He ensured that I was free from anxiety. He asked me if He could leave!. I prayed for his blessings. We went to the railway station and purchased His return ticket, I was so moved by His kind gesture and love for me.

‘True indeed’, I thought,

mAtA pitA tvamEvAsi gurur bhandustvamEvacha |

aham yantrO hrushIkEsa tvam yantrI kila kEsava ||

With the blessings and guidance of the Sri Swamiji, I stayed in Coimbatore.

It was just not surprising to see myself getting re-transferred to Chennai in 2 months as stated by Sri Swamiji!

Originally Published in [namadwaar.org](http://namadwaar.org) in July 2018

## Fond Memories Of Bliss – Part 5

This series chronicles interesting experiences recounted by the devotees of HH Maharanyam Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji. These articles are from the series, “Fond memories of Bliss” that is published Namadwaar.org

It must have been a decade ago. It was a typically sultry Chennai evening. Sri Swamiji and a couple of devotees visited the famous Vadapalani Muruga temple. The beauty of Sri Swamiji lies in His simplicity. He would totally be Himself while talking, walking, interacting etc with absolutely no air of formality. In fact, He would try His level best to stay unnoticed in a crowd. But how could anyone miss that lustrous countenance and those penetrating eyes?

It was one such day and Sri Swamiji was casually visiting the temple for darshan. He was following the queue with the two devotees.

Sri Swamiji’s mind was gradually flying higher in that spiritually vibrant environment. His gait was staggering and His gaze was fixed. Slowly He was nudging ahead towards the sanctum. A priest was standing there giving vibhuthi prasad to all. When it was Sri Swamiji’s turn in front, He totally went into a trance and was still as a statue.

The priest was trying to give the prasad but Sri Swamiji was in no position to move. He just stood there frozen in time lost in a blissful state.

The priest said in a threatening and a rather disrespectful tone ‘ Hey you! What are you staring at? Won’t you put your hand out to receive the vibhuthi?’

Slowly Sri Swamiji came out of the trance and received the prasad unassumingly. The devotees who were with Sri Swamiji were agitated by the disrespectful tone of the priest who was totally insensitive to Sri Swamiji's state. Sri Swamiji ordered them to remain calm and walked away slowly.

Weeks later, Sri Swamiji happened to visit a nearby town for a lecture. Thousands had gathered to have Sri Swamiji's darshan. Do you know who was one of the thousands gathered there? The same priest from Vadapalani temple who had spoken disrespectfully the other day. The same devotees who had accompanied Sri Swamiji that day were with Sri Swamiji here too and they recognized our priest friend immediately. The priest though had no clue that this was the same Swamiji who had visited the Vadapalani temple some time back. He was holding a huge garland and a bag of fruits. As Sri Swamiji neared him, he prostrated and offered the garland/fruits in all reverence. The devotees eagerly looked Sri Swamiji's face to see his reaction.

To their amazement there was none! He wore the usual pleasant smile even when the priest prostrated.

It is said in the scriptures that the Jnani is never touched by the duality. The cool breeze and the fierce summer, luxurious palace and fearsome jungle, praise and insult – these all mean one and the same to the one who has surpassed duality. That was exactly what was witnessed by those devotees through these two contrasting anecdotes.

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## Madhurageetham - Bharata Pradakshina - 15

As we continue to explore Sri Swamiji's compositions on various deities and kshetras, let us travel to Mathura.

Mathura is a sacred City in North India, 50 kms north of Agra. It is the birthplace of Lord Krishna. The

Kesava deo temple was built in ancient times on the site of Krishna's birthplace (an underground Prison).

Mathura was the Capital of the kingdom of Surasena, ruled by Kamsa, the Maternal uncle of Krishna.

ராகம்: வஸந்தா                      தாளம்: ஆதி

அவதரித்தான் கண்ணன் - வட மதுரையில்

அவதரித்தான் கண்ணன்

01. ஆவணி மாதத்தில் அஷ்டமி திதியில்

ரோஹிணி நள்ளிரவில் உலகம் உய்ய || அ ||

02. மாமறை போற்றிடும் தாமரைக் கண்ணன்

சங்குடன் சக்கரமும் பாங்குடன் தரித்து || அ ||

03. க்ரீட குண்டலங்கள் மிளிர்ந்து ஒளி வீச

சீரும் சிறப்புடனே சிறை தன்னிலே || அ ||

04. வசுதேவர் பார்த்திட தேவகீ துதி செய்ய

ஸ்ரீவத்ஸ மருவுடன் கௌஸ்துபமும் அணிந்து || அ ||

05. மாதவன் வந்திட மங்களம் எங்கும் பொங்க  
முரளிதரன் துதிக்க மூன்றுலகமும் மகிழ || அ ||

rAgam: vasanthA                      thALam: Adi

avadaritthAn kaNNan - vaDa madhuraiyil  
avadaritthAn kaNNan

01. AvaNi mAdatthil aShTami thithiyil  
rOhiNi naLLiravil ulagam uyya || a ||

02. mAmaRai pOTriDum thAmaraik kaNNan  
shankhuDan chakkaramum pAnguDan tharitthu || a ||

03. krIDa kuNDalangaL miLirndu oLi vlsa  
slrum siRappuDanE siRai thannilE || a ||

04. vasudEvar pArtthiDa dEvakl thuthi seyya  
shrlvatsa maruvuDan kausthubhamum aNindu || a ||

05. mAdhavan vandiDa mangaLam engum ponga  
muraLIdharan thudikka mUnDrulagamum magizha || a ||

# Sri Rama Navami - Sundara Kandam & Akanda Hauman Chalisa by Yuva & Bala Bhagavadas of North America

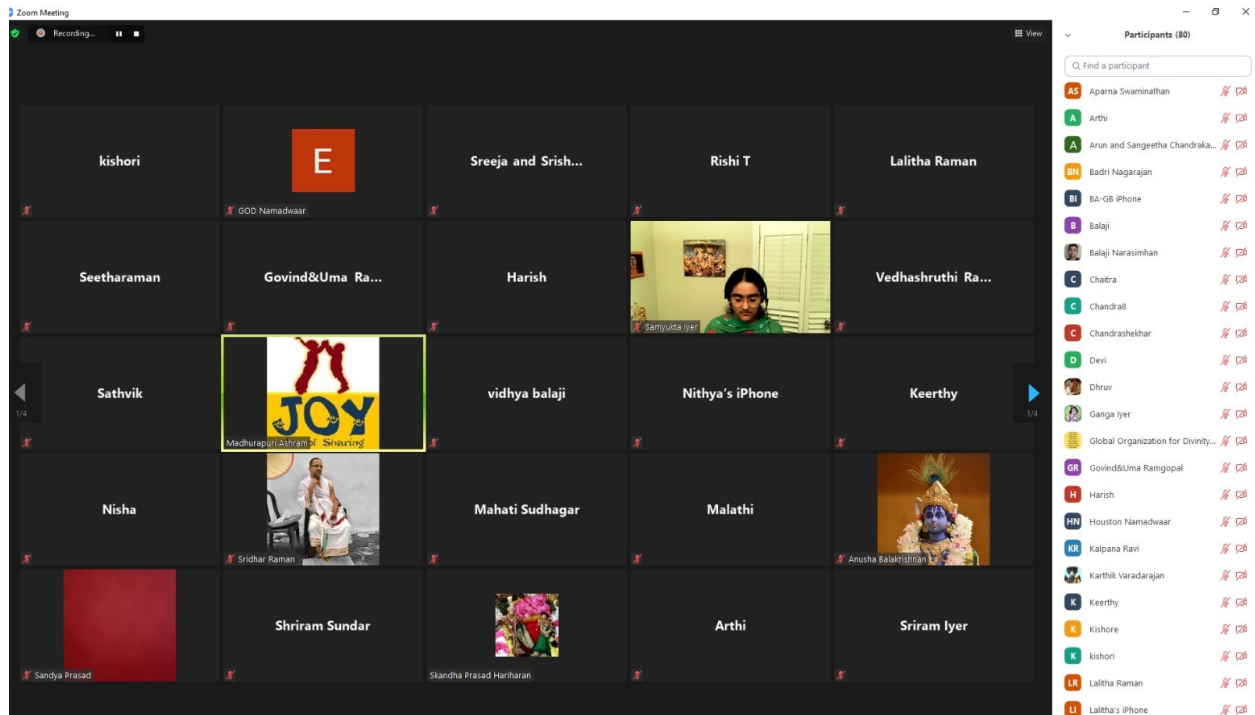
With immense grace of Guru Maharaj & infinite mercy of Madhuri Sakhi Samedha Premika Varadan, 163 Little Gopi's & Gopa's hailing across 41 North American cities were blessed to take part in Sundara Kanda Parayanam & Akanda Hanuman Chalisa Recital between 16 – 18 Apr 2021 – where in entire Sundara Kandam chapters from Valmiki Ramayanam was exclusively read by children/youth of Age 3 – 24.

Entire satsang was conducted online through Zoom between 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM EST daily. For those little kids in the age group of 3 – 8, their Parents helped them to read it sloka by sloka.

On Poorthi Utsav, kids did recite Ashtotra Namavali and Ramayana Arathi. It is to be noted that more than half of the participants were first timers to SundaraKanda Parayanam during this Utsav.

Sri Ramanujamji – senior disciple of Sri Swamiji joined the Poorthi Utsav and conducted a Poorthi Satsang with Prayers for more such Bala Bhagavatha Utsav's in years to come.





## A Historical Event – Guru Maharaj’s Daily Discourses on Facebook

A Guru is never fair. Thankfully. If he was, then what hope do we undeserving children have? Do any of us truly deserve a fair share of the love, affection, grace that our Guru is pouring on us? Only when we get what we deserve is it called fairness. If we get something that we don't deserve, is it fair? Thankfully, our Guru does not act in a fair manner. And showers his immense compassion on all of us, no matter our state or eligibility.

In the last few weeks, we have all experienced this immense compassion of our Guru Maharaj. In a truly historical event, Sri Swamiji himself is pouring out his heart to all of us daily in the form of his nectarine words.

Vak (speech) is the connection between Guru and sishya. And during this current time, with the Covid war raging all over the world, and dismal news striking us from all quarters on a daily basis, this divine connection with the Guru has become even more vital. For – as Mahans say, as shastras show, and as we clearly know – shanti or peace can be had only at a Guru's feet.

It is in such times that a Guru's physical presence in our lives becomes our literal lifeline. And our dear Guru, out of his immense love for us all, is giving us this connection with him every day, both by his physical presence as well as his nectarine, soothing, inspiring words. He is pouring his compassion out through his words – not just for those who are fortunate to be physically present with him and not even only for those who are his devotees – but now for every single person in every nook and corner of the world, through his daily discourses via Facebook.

Through the earlier Bhagavatam series (Apr 10-16) and the currently ongoing Ramayana Katha, he is speaking directly to us. All we need to do is click that Facebook link at the right time, and keep our bottomless vessels (aka our ears) the right side up (with attention) to receive that outpouring of grace.

Please Note:

1. The daily discourses are broadcast via Facebook at 6:30pm IST / 9am ET / 8am CT / 6am PT on the Global Organisation for Divinity Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/watch/globalorganisationfordivinity/>
2. Devotees who do not have a Facebook account can also listen to the lectures. Just click the video link and ignore any prompts to create a Facebook account.
3. Subtitles are now available for the discourses, to enable viewers who do not understand Tamil to also imbibe Guru Maharaj's words.

4. Click here for the playlist of all the discourses so far on Facebook:

o Srimad Bhagavatam Nuggets (Apr 10-16):

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/463032817141923/486890915698161>

o Srimad Ramayana Series (Apr 17 onwards):

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/463032817141923/500495668032455>

5. If you do not already receive the Facebook link on WhatsApp, please join this Stay@Home GOD Satsang group for daily updates:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KfWjSAOHNGO8ErrfEtTjZu>

## Inner transformation series - 2:

At times, we feel, in spite of all the best efforts we have put in, still have an overwhelming number of tasks that need to be done. To ensure we don't lose positivity, this little help would keep up our positive feelings. Once a father took his daughter to a sea shore. He wanted to write an article about how many star fishes wash ashore and are marooned in the beach. If they remain on the shore for more than a couple of days they may die. So, he wanted to create an awareness among the people and wanted them to take action. So, he sat down in a calm corner, picked out his pen and paper and started writing furiously about the sad state of these star fishes.

That's when the daughter came near her father and asked him what he was doing. The father explained how he was trying to save the start fishes by writing an article to create awareness among the people about the problem. The daughter immediately jumped and immediately went near a starfish that had been washed ashore, took it in her hand, ran towards the ocean and threw it in the water. She started repeating this again and again.

Now, the father thought that there were thousands of star fishes that have been marooned on the beach and asked her daughter, how would it make a difference if she picks up a couple of dozens of star fish and throws them into the water. The daughter was holding a starfish in her hand and was about to throw it into the water, she looked at her father, smiled sweetly and replied, "Father, to this star fish it makes all the difference." That is the spirit of positivity.

- "Be happy and spread the happiness around."

# April 2021 Edmonton Monthly Sathsang Report:

By the immense grace of Sri Swamiji and Sri Madhuri Sakhi Sametha Premika Varadha Takurji, GOD Sathsang families did Naama sathsangs in April 2021.

On April 03<sup>rd</sup>, we had weekly sathsang started with naama followed by Premika Varadha Dashakam, Vishnu sahasranamam, Dhruva Sthuthi, few madhuragitams, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ashtapadi and concluded with Kaliyayum bali kollum.

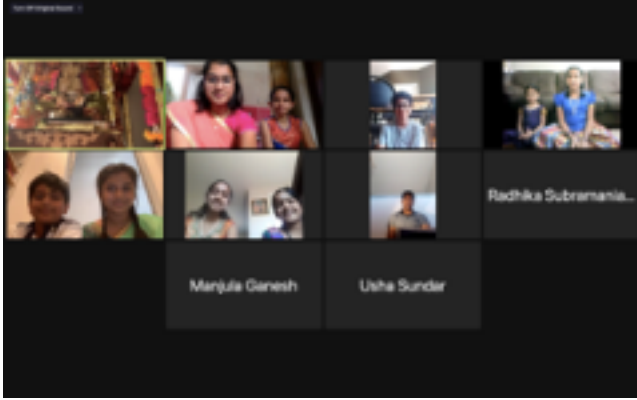
On April 07<sup>th</sup>, we had Ekadashi sathsang started with naama followed by Pancha gitam, few madhuragitams and concluded with Kaliyayum bali kollum.

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, we had weekly sathsang started with naama followed by Vasudeva Parathathva Dashakam, Vishnu sahasranamam, Pranaya Gitam, few madhuragitams, 4<sup>th</sup> Ashtapadi and concluded with Kaliyayum bali kollum.

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, we had weekly sathsang started with naama followed by Radhika Panchakam, Vishnu sahasranamam, Venu Gitam, few madhuragitams, 5<sup>th</sup> Ashtapadi and concluded with Kaliyayum bali kollum.

On April 21<sup>st</sup>, Sri Rama Navami was celebrated with Sundarakandam parayanam. Many bhagavathas and bala bhagavathas participated in the parayanam and in the evening we had Sita kalyanam and Anjaneyar utsavam.





On April 24<sup>th</sup>, we had weekly sathsang started with naama followed by Premika varadha dashakam, Vishnu sahasranamam, Yugala Gitam, few madhuragitams, 6<sup>th</sup> Ashtapadi and concluded with Kaliyayum bali kollum.

We are continuing Akhanda Naama sathsang by chanting Mahamantra for 7hrs daily (Morning 3.5hrs & Eve 3.5hrs). The GOD family members have taken slots and participated in this sathsang by offering our prayers to Gurunathar & Radha Krishna.

April 2021 Toronto Monthly Sathsang Report:

By the immense grace of Sri Swamiji and Sri Madhuri Sakhi Sametha Premika Varadha Takurji, Toronto GOD Sathsang families had weekly sathsangs in April 2021.

Apart from the weely satsangs, Toronto GOD satsang Family had the following special events.

Apr 07: Ekadasi Akanda nama from 5:30 am to 12 noon

Apr 16 - Apr 24: Ramayana Navaham followed by Seetha Kalyanam to celebrate Sri Rama Navami.

Apr 23: Ekadasi Akanda nama from 5:30 am to 12 noon

Apr 27: Swathi Akanda nama from 5:30 am to 12 noon

Upcoming Events:

May 1 - May 8: Akanda Nama from 5 am to 10 am for the general well being of one and all.

May 8 - May 15: Bhagavatha Sapthaham followed by Radha Kalyanam to celebrate Akshaya Tritiya.

May 07: Ekadasi Akanda Nama

May 22: Ekadasi Akanda Nama

May 24: Swathi Akanda Nama



# Bala Bhagavatha's Contribution - Yashoda Ma

Monica Chakravarti before she took her vows of renunciation, and became Sri Yashoda Ma.

- Who was she?

Yashoda ma was born to a Bengali family in Ghazipur, a town in northern India on the banks of the river Ganges. She was the wife of Gyanendra Nath Chakravarti, the first vice-chancellor of Lucknow University.

- What was she well known for?

In Uttarakhand state in India, most known for an ashram by the name Mirtola, set up by Sri Yashoda Ma, a housewife turned ascetic in 1930, along with her disciple Sri Krishna Prem

- What was the purpose of her becoming a sanyasin?

Behind this persona, however, the wish to dedicate her life to the inner quest and renounce the world grew stronger; she asked her husband for initiation, and later took formal initiation at Brindaban.

- Why did she open Mirtola Ashram

Mirtola is an ashram where the goal is for the inner aim to be reflected in outer life, a way of work that urges one to build, and integrate, a meaningful outer life around the central spiritual inquiry, at the still point of the turning world.

Article by Laya Chellappan - Toronto

# Bala Bhagavatha's Contribution - Sita Matha

## Sri Hari:

Ramayana was composed by Sage Valmiki. It contains 7 kandas , 24,000 slokas and about 500 sargas. There is a special woman in Ramayana. She is Sita Mata. Sita Mata is the daughter of Janaka Maharaja. She is the wife of Sri Ramachandra Prabu. She is an incarnation of Bhoomi Devi. She has four names, they are Seetha, Vaidehi, Janaki, and Mythili. Sita Mata has Pure devotion towards Sri Rama. She is filled with faith for Rama. Sita mata has an unconditional love towards Sri Ramachandra prabhu. After getting married to Sri Rama she thought about him all through her life.

There are nine types of Bhakti explained by Prahlada in Srimad Bhagavatam.

They are: Shravanam , Kirtanam , Smaranam , Pada sevanam , Archanam , Vandanam , Daasyam , Sakyam and Atma nivedanam. Now let us see how Sita Mata showed the nine types of Bhakti towards Sri Rama.

**Shravanam:** Sita mata listened to Rama Gunas from Hanuman while she was in Ashoka Vanam.

**Kirtanam:** Sita Mata told all the demons about Sri Rama when she was in Ashoka Vana and she explained to them about Rama's Greatness and she also mentioned that Rama would come and save her.

**Smaranam:** Rama was in Sita Mata's thoughts always. She kept on thinking about Rama. She kept her heart and mind on Sri Rama and his Gunas each and every minute of her life.

**Pada Sevanam:** Sita Mata did Pada Sevanam to Sri Rama when they were in Chitra Kootam.

Dasyam: When Rama asked her to do AgniPravesham , Sita Mata didn't deny but she just obeyed as a servant would obey to his/her master.

Sakyam: Sita Mata was also a Friend to Sri Rama.She shared every moment ( happiness or sadness) with Ramachandra Prabu. For Example when they were in Ayodhya Sita Mata shared all her Happiness with him. When they were in exile , Sita Mata offered her support to Sri Rama.

Atma Nivedanam: Sita Mata spent her whole life serving Sri Rama and surrendered herself totally to him. This is how Sita Mata showed her Nava Vidha Bhakti towards Shri Rama.

Article & Drawing by Sri Dharshini Ganesh - Toronto

