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The Bhavan simply put it in the form of an e-book.

It was a fine day and it was 12 noon. One of Bhagavan's devotees from a village had brought curd rice that he was offering to the beggars and sadhus there. At that moment, Swamiji was sitting away, at a distance. The people sitting there directed the devotee from the village towards Bhagavan, saying that a sadhu was sitting nearby, asking him to give curd rice to the sadhu too. As directed, the devotee approached Him, taking his vessel along. "Please accept this curd rice," the devotee requested Swamiji. Swamiji gracefully accepted the offering in His coconut shell. The devotee offered some more, which was also accepted by Swamiji. This was in the times when curd rice would affect Swamiji's health badly!

After a while, a policeman approached the place they were sitting, and spoke thus, "We have just received a telegram from Neyveli. The Head of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation is coming over to Tiruvannamalai to have darshan of Swamiji tomorrow, and has asked to immediately enquire from Swamiji about where they could meet and revert back to him."

Swamiji replied to the policeman that the Officer from Neyveli could very well meet Him at His residence itself, and asked the policeman to convey the same.

The Officer came the next day to meet Swamiji as planned and sought blessings from Bhagavan to attend a prestigious

international conference, for which he had been one of the five who had been selected to attend. Swamiji blessed him, and sent him on his way.

Two days later, Swamiji asked a devotee sitting there about the day's date and mentioned, "The Officer would have departed from Delhi by flight for attending the conference." Swamiji prayed for his endeavour to be successful and blessed him.

Swamiji was perceived by the devotee as a beggar and a sadhu while receiving food. However, He was the same Swamiji that a high ranking officer perceived as a Saint to seek blessings from, as he left for an important international conference.

YOU ARE LORD ARUNACHALESHVARA

It was the second day of the Arunagirinathar festival. Swamiji came out of the temple with three devotees. Instead of going to His residence on Sannadhi Street, He started walking through the Mada streets around the temple. He permitted those around him to accompany Him. People stood outside their houses to witness Him walking in the streets. On seeing Him they fell at His lotus feet and sought His blessings. He stopped for a while outside some houses, even though no one was standing outside. The inhabitants of the houses rushed outside when they realized that Swamiji was standing outside their house and fell at His feet. He blessed everyone who sought His blessings. Those who had sought His blessings stood by, watching His graceful walk, right until He slipped out of their sight. One of the devotees lovingly called Swamiji to His house, and Swamiji immediately obliged. The inhabitants of the house offered beverages to Swamiji and His companions to quench their thirst. Swamiji left after blessing them wholeheartedly.

On the way back, Swamiji stopped at the tea stall He usually frequented. He drank tea along with His companions, after which they proceeded to return to Swamiji's residence.

Every day, many would come to His residence to touch the steps leading up to the house and pray, whether or not He was there; some would garland the doors, go around the house once in obeisance before leaving. People would do all this with devotion without knowing anything about Swamiji; they would have probably just heard that a sadhu lived there and that even just touching the steps of the house would bring them grace. But whether or not their prayers were done in the heights of devotion or in the depths of ignorance, the fact that they would receive abundant grace by their actions was certain.

He was the presiding deity when inside the house; when He walked the streets, He was "utsavar" the deity that would go amongst the masses to solve their problems; Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar, who was love personified, gave darshan to his devotees that way.

It was around 9:30 in the night when the senior priest of the Arunachalesvarar temple carne to visit Swamiji with his daughter. Swamiji told her, "Your father is always engaged in serving Lord Shiva. It is a great fortune, a meritorious deed."

The daughter seemed like she was 50 years of age. Replying to what Swamiji had told him, the priest said, "Swamiji, you are also always at the Ganesha temple! Yet, you say this of me.

Repeating what He had said earlier, Swamiji said, "It is not like that. The great opportunity that your being in the presence of Lord Shiva is a huge one."

The daughter, who had been silent till now, spoke out, "But You are Arunachalesvarar. Back when my son had very poor health, I was mentally suffering. Neither prayers nor medicines worked for him. One day, Lord Arunachalesvarar appeared in my dreams and directed me to seek out "Ramji" Swami. I awoke from the dream and sought You as soon as I could. You were not at your residence, which was locked. A passer-by told me that You would be at the teashop. I came to You at the tea

shop and told You about the ill health of my son. You blessed me and assured me that he would be alright. Soon after, my son's health improved, and he became completely alright. To me, You are Lord Arunachalesvarar."

Swamiji was intently listening to the daughter. A deep silence descended over the place. He did not reply to the statements made by her. Swamiji's piercing gaze and meaningful silence indicated that He had accepted the statements wholeheartedly. He blessed them and sent them on their way.

Just like them, there are thousands of others who have come to Swamiji with their ailments, and other sufferings and have been cured miraculously by the immense power of His Grace.

ARJUNA IN TIRUVANNAMALAI

One day, Swamiji was visited by a70 year old, famous preacher of the Mahabharata. He fell at Swamiji's feet to seek His blessings, and then proceeded to sit at the spot that Swamiji indicated. He had come to seek Swamiji's advice and opinion regarding his personal problems. After hearing about his problems, Swamiji gave him the clarity he needed.

The narrator found great peace and elation in the fact that the problem he had, was solved by Swamiji. Swamiji then asked the preacher whether the Puranas' mentioned anything about Arjuna (of the Pandava clan) visiting Tiruvannamalai.

The preacher replied that the stories did indeed tell of Arjuna visiting Tiruvannamalai.. In fact, the Mahabharata even had a song about that. Swamiji asked the preacher if he knew the song. The preacher sang the song about Arjuna visiting Tiruvannamalai, upon which Swamiji enquired about the meaning of each and every line of the song.

He asked for the song to be written on a piece of paper, and the preacher obliged. Then Swamiji asked a devotee sitting nearby to read it for Him. Deducing that there was an error in the written copy, Swamiji asked the preacher to sing the song again for Him, and made him correct the error in the written copy. He asked the devotee to keep the copy with him. To this

date, the devotee has lovingly preserved the copy, which serves as a pleasant reminder of Bhagavan's grace.

The preacher stood in awe of Swamiji's knowledge of Tamil language, as He knew about the fact that there was a song about Arjuna visiting Tiruvannamalai, and also spotted the error in the song, which was written in archaic Tamil. The preacher paid his respects and sought blessings at the lotus feet of Swamiji before leaving.

THE ENCHANTING ENCHANTER

It was 10 o'clock in the morning. Swamiji was at His residence, with a few devotees. A telegram arrived and He requested one of the devotees to read it out loud. Two professors from Pondicherry University were planning to come to Tiruvannamalai on the following Sunday, and were asking for Swamiji's permission for the same. It was quite a long paper, and Swamiji exclaimed about its length. However, it turned out that there was a 'prepaid reply telegram form' attached to the original telegram.

Swamiji asked those sitting around to suggest a suitable reply. One of them suggested that He should reply, "You may come". Yet another suggested, "Program Confirmed". Another person said, "Permission granted".

Listening intently to all the suggestions, Swamiji asked a devotee if the senders had included an address. The address had been included, and the devotee conveyed the same.

Swamiji simply said, "Write a single word: We1come". Then He said "Write this Beggar's name at the bottom before sending it."

The fact that all of the suggestions had been condensed into a single word awed those present. The single word, "Welcome" had within its meaning: I welcome you,' and 'You have my

permission to come'. This showed Swamiji's command of the English language, the likes of which were better than even an ICS officer.

THE SOLITARY CLOUD THAT SHOWERS BLESSINGS

It was the fourth day of the Karthigai Deepam festival. Swamiji was seated under the 'Magizh' tree in the Annamalaiyar temple. At that moment, a middle aged woman, who looked like she was from a village, proceeded to tie a cradle made of cotton, to the tree. Beckoning her closer, Swamiji enquired about the reason for her actions, and asked her name. He also asked about the two people who had accompanied her. Stating that her name was Lakshmi, she told Swamiji that she was undertaking the ritual as she was childless. She also told Him that she was from Ayodhyapattinam, and that the people standing beside her were her husband and mother-in-law.

Immediately, Swamiji raised His hands in benediction, and blessed Lakshmi saying that she would have a child. The enormous grace bestowed upon her by Swamiji elicited no response or emotions from Lakshmi. Perhaps she assumed that a random Sadhu was spouting blessings with the intention of making some money; such was her response.

A nearby policeman on duty came over and touched Swamiji's feet with great reverence, before sitting respectfully at a distance. Swamiji blessed him. One could see that the scene evoked some kind of emotion in Lakshmi's heart.

She immediately prostrated. in front of Swamiji's lotus feet. Pointing to a devotee, Swamiji asked for a banana. Peeling it, He offered it to Lakshmi, blessing her and enunciating again that she would not be childless. Lakshmi's mother-in-law, indicated to her son that he should offer some money to Swamiji. The son offered Swamiji some money, and Swamiji gestured to him to place the money in a nearby Hundial.

Lakshmi, her husband and mother-in-law had unwittingly solicited the blessings of a great Mahatma. There are many who have sought out Swamiji, however have been unable to convey their grievances to Him in person.

Saying that He had been called to the temple by Father, Swamiji would suddenly rush to the Annamalaiyar temple, without any concern about the time or place He was in. This way, He would hold court at the temple, bestowing His Father's boundless grace upon the hundreds of devotees, native to Tiruvannamalai or otherwise, without them ever knowing about it.

THE MOON THAT RECEIVED BLESSINGS

It was around 10:30 p.m. on a pleasant night. It was the night of the full Moon, and a complete lunar eclipse. Swamiji was seated at the bottom of the Annamalaiyar temple's big chariot. The Moon was shining in all its glory. People around were discussing the fact that the eclipse had not set in yet. The eclipse began, causing the Moon to disappear from sight, bit by bit. Raising his hands, Swamiji kept gazing at the Moon.

The Moon disappeared entirely. Swamiji's grace-filled gaze remained fixed on the Moon, right from the moment the eclipse began. He did not speak to anyone. Silence fell over the area. Soon, the eclipse passed, and the Moon began to appear, growing brighter and brighter until it regained its former glory, bestowing its comforting light upon the world.

Swamiji broke His silence. He told a nearby devotee that on that day, a full moon occurred, followed by the occurrence of a new moon, followed by a full moon again. In a voice brimming with love, He stated that they had witnessed the 15 day waxing period as well as the 15 day waning period of the Moon within a span of 3 hours. The devotee could not help noticing that Swamiji kept His hands raised towards the Moon throughout, and that He and the Moon clearly had a deep spiritual connection at that moment.

THE ONE WHO BEARS THE BURDEN

It was around 5:00 p.m. on a pleasant evening. Swamiji was seated in front of the Kalyanasundarar temple. A few devotees were seated alongside Him. An old lady ambled along, carrying on her head stacks of dried twigs and small cloth bundles. She stopped in front of Swamiji, staring at Him as if struck by lightning. She balanced the load on her head with one hand.

Swamiji asked the old lady to place her burdens upon His head. Hearing that, the old lady laughed; a laughter that seemed to be loaded with hidden meaning. Swamiji laughed along in return, asking her once again to take the burden off of her head and to place them upon His own. The lady did not say anything, choosing instead to simply stare at Him. The devotee began to feel a bit afraid; what if she actually placed the load upon Swamiji's head?

Swamiji asked the woman about the load she was carrying on her head, enquired about her, name and asked her where she was going. The lady replied that she had some rice and that she was going to cook and eat the same. Swamiji asked the lady to go on her way and blessed her.

Swamiji turned to the devotee, and told him that the old lady had borne the same burden for the last 25 years, going along the same path every single day. He told the devotee that He had never once seen her asking for alms anywhere. Wth His voice brimming with mercy and love, He wondered aloud about how she managed to make ends meet.

It looked as though Swamiji had only talked to the old lady before sending her away. But, the devotee knew that He had blessed her with abundant grace.

Every act of Swamiji had a sense of deep meaning and grace attached to it; such truths are further established by events such as these.

SWEET SERVICE

The house in which Swamiji was staying was undergoing repair. One fine day, the men and women working on the house finished their morning's work, and proceeded to have some food. Two women alone stayed back, asking the devotee whether they could sit in the outer veranda of the house and have their food. Noticing the happenings from the inside, Swamiji asked about the conversation with the women. The devotee told Swamiji that the women wanted to have their packed lunch there itself. Swamiji immediately agreed, and asked the devotee to escort them to the inside of the house, and to make all the necessary arrangements for their comfort. He also asked the devotee to give them water. Accordingly, they got ready to have their food.

Swamiji came over and asked them what they were having. They replied that they were having some gruel, even as they were preparing it. He asked the other woman about what she had brought.

She replied that only one of them had brought food, which they were going to share together. As Swamiji looked upon the gruel being prepared, the women asked him whether He wanted to have some gruel. Swamiji extended His coconut shell in affirmation. They poured the gruel onto His coconut shell, and Swamiji drank it.

Swamiji asked the devotee whether he wanted to have some too, and when he accepted, Swamiji made him fetch a tumbler from inside, and asked the women to give him some gruel too. After serving them twice, the women divided the remaining gruel between them. Exclaiming that He and Gajaraj had eaten a significant amount of a small amount of gruel meant for one person, Swamiji asked the devotee to fetch 20 rupees from inside and give it to them. Looking at the woman, He asked them to go to a hotel and have full meals. Despite their protests, He did not budge. He firmly told them to come back only after eating till their stomachs were full. As told, they had their food, and gave Rs.3 back to Swamiji as balance.

Enquiring about their families, He blessed them. Witnessing the heart-warming turn of events filled the heart of the devotee with happiness. Swamiji Yogi Ramsuratkumar is a sea of grace and love. Those who express love towards Swamiji always get it back multifold, and this incident is proof of that.

BHAGAVAN'S MERCY

One fine day, Swami was present at His residence. A gentleman known to Swamiji, who was in the milk business, came along. Swamiji knew that the young man had experienced a fracture above the elbow on his right hand a few years back, and despite treatment, he was experiencing pain again on account of his work.

Swamiji asked the young man about the state of his hand, and enquired about what the doctor had told him during check-up. The young man replied that consulting doctors from within the city did not seem to yield any results, and therefore he was planning on going to Pondicherry to get diagnosed at the JIPMER hospital based on the advice of a few well-wishers.

Swamiji made the man extend his hand, and stroked it slowly, saying that it could be healed. Swamiji asked the man about when he was going to Pondicherry, and he replied that he was leaving the next day. Stating that he knew a doctor at the JIPMER hospital in Pondicherry, Swamiji asked the man to approach the doctor, saying that though the fractures were not the doctor's specialty, he would do the needful. Swamiji asked the man to deliver a letter on Swamiji's behalf to the doctor, and asked the devotee sitting nearby to take a paper, write a letter as was dictated by Him and signed the letter Himself.

Handing the letter over to the young man along with a bit of money, Swamiji blessed him and sent him on his way, after instructing him to visit as soon as he returned.

As instructed, the young man carne to visit Swamiji as soon as he came back, and elaborated about the medicines he received, and the physiotherapy exercises prescribed to him in great detail. Swamiji told him that whenever he came to visit, he should perform the exercises in front of Swamiji, and blessed him, saying that his hand would get completely cured with time. Swamiji cured him by His grace, so that he could return to his business with renewed vigour.

This way, Swamiji blessed the rich and poor alike, and showered His love upon them, proving that He is none other than the Almighty Himself.

BE ATTACHED TO GOD

One fine day, Swamiji was sitting on the steps of the Brahma Teertha pond of the temple, along with a few devotees. Pointing towards a big tree outside the compound of the pond, He asked whether anyone knew what tree it was. "That is a big 'llava' tree (cotton tree). Swamiji began to sing one of Kabir's songs in Hindi in His majestic voice.

"The flowers this tree bears are beautiful. The fruit it bears are big and luscious. The parrot eagerly waits for the fruit to get ripe as it knows that the ripe fruit is very tasty. However, the fruit bursts and scatters the cotton fibres everywhere. The parrot gets disappointed and flies off in search of real fruit." Stating the meaning of the couplet, Swamiji explained that similarly, the people of the world desire and want many things, and get sorely disappointed when they don't get them. Only then do they turn towards God.

Hearing this powerful explanation by Swamiji, the truth of it got firmly ingrained in the hearts of those gathered around, and they realised that one should not have desire or attachments towards material things, and must seek God right from the beginning.

SWAMIJI'S NATURAL FORESIGHT

One fine day, Swamiji was sitting near the thousand pillar Mandap. Hundreds of people thronged the place to touch His lotus feet and seek His blessings. Swamiji distributed sugar candies brought by a devotee, and blessed everyone.

A group of people belonging to the Korava tribe came that way. They fell at Swamiji's feet and sought His blessings, and Swamiji gave every one of them some amount of sugar candy and blessed them. Everyone from their small group, be it young, middle aged, or old, left with their hearts full of happiness.

An old Vedic Brahmin couple who had come to seek Swamiji's blessings waited on the side until He was free, before falling at His feet and seeking His blessings. Swamiji gave the reminder of the candy to the couple, and blessed them with His grace. They too received the candy and left with smile on their faces and contentment in their hearts.

This just showed that caste, creed, religion, etc., were societal divisions that did not exist for Swamiji, who blessed everyone equally with His grace. People also received His Grace in the same spirit.

THE ELBOW THAT HEALED

One fine day, Swamiji was sitting outside the Kalyanasundarar temple, under the shade of the neem tree. A few devotees were sitting alongside Him silently. A sadhu of 26-27 years of age walked by, wearing a saffron dhoti and a saffron towel.. He held a bag in his left hand, and his right hand was folded; his demeanour was such that one could not even call him a sadhu.

Swamiji beckoned the young Sadhu to His side, and the Sadhu obliged, muttering something under his breath. Gazing upon his folded right hand, Swamiji enquired about the same. Upon receiving a completely unrelated answer, he bade the young Sadhu to sit beside Him. He wondered aloud to a devotee nearby about whether there could be some sort of a fracture in the sadhu's hand. Upon hearing that, the Sadhu told him that he had been working as a cleaner on a lorry, and that an accident had made him hospitalized for 7 to 8 months, during which time, he had lain on one side. As a result he could no longer unfold his right hand, which had permanently set into a folded position. The tone in which the man narrated his story seemed very callous to the casual observer. Swamiji held His right hand, and stroked it over and over, blessing him. Completely unaware that he was being blessed by the touch of a great Mahatma, the man sat there without a reaction, muttering something under his breath.

One of the people sitting there exclaimed aloud, "What a great chance for this fool's hand to be cured! One must have been blessed to be touched by Swamiji's hand! Yet he sits here completely ignorant!" Upon hearing this, Swamiji asked the devotee to ask the person to leave, while still stroking the man's hand. As soon as the person heard that Swamiji wanted him to leave, he prostrated before Swamiji before leaving.

Swamiji kept stroking the man's hand for a whole 15 minutes, after which He told the man that his hand would be healed, and that he could go. Swamiji kept His hands raised in benediction till the man disappeared from sight. Swamiji did not like any interruptions when He was engaged in His divine work. Even the slightest interruptions and perturbations by the surrounding people would disturb His divine work.

WATERING THE ROOTS

One day, Swamiji was sitting on the platform surrounding the Sthala Viruksham (holy tree of the holy place) of the temple. A 15 member team belonging to the Railway Department came as a group and prostrated before Him, seeking His blessings. Swamiji bade them to sit under the shade of the tree, opposite to the platform. Swamiji asked after the health and wellbeing of the senior most official who sat at the front of the group. Swamiji blessed him that his health issues would get resolved. He blessed all those who were sitting there. Getting a chapathi from the devotee sitting nearby, He gave that as a Prasad to the senior official, who then proceeded to distribute it among his companions. Swamiji did not like this one bit. Stating that the chapathi was given as Prasad just for him, Swamiji reprimanded his actions. Swamiji gave him yet another chapathi.

"Look at the tree standing right here. No one waters the branches and the leaves of the tree for them to be lush, green and prosperous. They just water the roots, it is enough to water the roots. That by itself would cause the branches and leaves to grow properly." Saying thus, He continued, "Only you must eat that chapathi. You must not give it to anyone else."

The senior official realised the truth behind this, and his heart was filled with love and devotion towards Swamiji. Blessing the official and his team, Swamiji sent them on their way.

WON'T THE ELEPHANT FEEL PAIN TOO?

One day, as Swamiji was going to the Annamalaiyar temple, a temple worker, who was passing along, paid his respects to Swamiji before going on his way. Swamiji then proceeded to sit down near the thousand pillar mandap. Calling upon the devotee standing close by, Swamiji gave him 2 rupees and instructed him to buy a bunch of green bananas such that it had more number of bananas. Swamiji told him that none of the bananas should be separate from the bunch, and proceeded to ask him the number of bananas in a bunch. The devotee told Him that a bunch would typically contain 10 to 12 bananas.

Swamiji told the devotee to get more number of bananas even if the price exceeded the given 2 rupees, but specified that he was not to spend more than 2 rupees of his own money in case of an excess cost.

The devotee went ahead and brought a bunch that contained 14 large green bananas. Getting the bananas from him, Swamiji said, "One of the mahouts struck the temple elephant yesterday in a brutal manner, causing the elephant to shake its head in agony. That is the reason I asked you to buy these bananas; they are for the elephants. Let's go."

Going near the elephant enclosure, Swamiji handed over the bunch of bananas to the mahout and asked him to feed them to the elephant. Even after the elephant had eaten all the bananas in the bunch, Swamiji stayed there for some time, told those present, "The mahout is in service to the temple, but so is the elephant! The elephant is also a worker of the temple. All through the day, the elephant stands in place, tirelessly offering blessings to all the temple goers who seek it." (What a heart Swamiji had!) Blessing the elephant with His boundless grace, Swamiji proceeded from the place.

BLESSINGS FOR THE BEES

One fine day, Swamiji was standing near the Big Gopuram (tower) of the Arunachaleswara temple, looking upward. His hands rose in benediction, showering blessings upon some thing. He kept looking upward as He walked to and fro at that spot. To the casual observer, it seemed as if Swamiji was walking around purposelessly, simply distracted by something on the temple tower.

Swamji called a devotee standing nearby, and asked, "Did you see that?" There seemed to be a dark mass hanging between two intricately crafted statues on the gopuram. At close scrutiny, it looked to be a hive of honey bees, with thousands of them bustling with work.

Taking the devotee along with Him, Swamiji went inside the temple, and stood below the mandap where the Panchamurtis (5 divine statues) were usually brought to be kept (during celebrations). Pointing upwards, Swamiji said, "The bees had built a hive at this spot earlier. However, it went missing after a few days. Do you know what could have happened?" Upon receiving nothing but silence from the devotee, Swamiji answered with great sadness, "Someone took it upon themselves to destroy it in a second and steal the honey that thousands of bees collected painstakingly over a large period of time! How hard the bees had worked and how much they would have felt hurt at this?"

"Now, the bees have built their hive at a spot so high on the big gopuram (tower) that it cannot be reached by anybody and are collecting honey once again! We saw that only just now. My Father will shower His blessings upon the bees so that their hive will stay safe." Saying thus, Swamiji blessed the bees.

Every action of Swamiji has a great meaning and a deep spiritual content to it; this incident showcases how much love Swamiji had even for the insects.

THE TREES NEED TO BE PROTECTED TOO

One day Swamiji, taking a nearby devotee along with Him, went inside the Arunachaleswara temple. Seating the devotee at a particular spot, Swamiji went and stood near the magizha tree (Spanish cherry), staring at it intently. Seeing this, a passer-by muttered in a low voice to the devotee, "He has been staring at this tree for over 3 days now. I wonder what it is that He sees in this tree!"

Staring at the tree for over 30 minutes, Swamiji called upon the devotee, and took him to the platform surrounding the tee, drawing his attention to the bottom part of the tree. Someone had chiselled off the tree's bark of one square metre size, leaving it bare! Asking the devotee whether he could see what He was pointing to, Swamiji asked him what effect it would have on the tree. He continued to say, "This reduces the lifespan of the tree. This is the holy tree of this temple. It has stood at this very spot for centuries, exemplifying the divinity of the temple."

"Did they have to choose this tree to chisel away the bark? They use the bark to make medicines. Couldn't they use a tree outside the temple premises for this purpose?" Questioning thus, Swamiji bade the devotee to sit. Touching the tree tenderly all over, Swamiji stood there and blessed the tree for over an hour, ensuring that it did not come to harm. He left the place, taking the devotee along.

As they were leaving, a person came in the opposite direction and paid his respects to Swamiji. "Who are you?", enquired Swamiji. He replied that he was a supervisor of temple premises. Swamiji asked the person his name, and he obliged. Asking him to "Please come along," Swamiji took him to the foot of the tree, wherein the bark had been chiselled and shaved off. Pointing to the shaved bark, Swamiji told, "As you can see, the bark has been shaved off. This causes the centuries old trees to lose its vitality and slowly wither away." The officer listened to Swamiji with great attention, and regretted the fact that they had failed to take notice of this earlier. He then assured Swamiji with great feeling that this would not happen again.

Thanking him with folded hands, Swamiji left the place. This incident is but an example to Swamiji's boundless love for plants of all shapes and sizes.

HE SPEAKS WITHOUT LIPS

One fine day, Swamiji was seated near the Vinayagar temple inside the Arunachaleswara temple. The senior officer of the temple Devasthanam (Governing council of temple) festival be celebrated with great pomp and splendour and sought blessings for its success. Hearing this, Swamiji told him, "Go and ask Lord Arunachleshvarar." The officer replied, "Lord Arunachaleshwarar does not talk, Swami; but You do. That is the reason I am asking you."

Swamiji immediately responded, "Politicians speak, but do not back up their speech with action. God does not speak, but performs everything. God does not have mouth, yet He speaks; He does not have ears, but hears; He does not have tongue, but tastes; He does not have hands, but works miracles in the world. You can go to Him."

Hearing such a profound and fundamental truth from Swamiji in the simplest of languages, the officer went his way after seeking blessings from Swamiji.

ONE OF US

One fine day, upon going to the Annamalaiyar temple, Swamiji saw rows and rows of Sadhus and beggars seated near the 'Periya goupram' (big tower of the temple). Many paid their respects. Seeing His gaze fixed upon them, Swamiji walked back and forth among the crowds, showering His blessings upon them. He then proceeded to sit in front of all of them. The Mahatma who always referred to Himself as a beggar, perhaps looked like one to the casual and ignorant observer. Those who offered spare change to the Sadhus sitting there, offered alms to Him too. Those who knew Him, sought His blessings by falling at His feet offering alms to other sitting there. Many people fell at Swamiji's feet, received His blessings and went on their way. People frequenting the temple stood at a distance, observing the scene.

Seeing that Swamiji was sitting there, a person who was not from Tiruvannamalai went outside the temple and bought a rose garland and some apples. Garlanding Swamiji, He offered the apples along with a ten rupee note as he fell at Swamiji's feet. Swamiji gave the man some apples as Prasad, blessed him, and sent him on his way. Asking for the 10 rupee note to be converted into loose change, He collected the coins lying in front of him, and asked for the entire amount to be distributed among the beggars sitting there. After one hour, He left the place, having blessed all those beggars who were sitting there.

The fact that the above incident happened at the time when the Tamil Nadu Government was considering banning the act of begging inside temple premises is to be noted.

THE DIVINE GUIDANCE

One fine day, a man from Chennai came to see Swamiji for the first time. From where He was seated, Swamiji bade the man to enter, made him sit, and asked him whether he had anything to say to the 'beggar.' The man replied that there was a great confusion in his heart. When Swamiji asked him what it was, he told him that he had dilemma about whether he should worship Lord Shiva or Shakthi.

Swamiji asked the person about how long he had been having this doubt, and the person replied, "For the past 10-12 years." Immediately, Swamiji told him that he should worship Lord Siva, and that he should keep chanting Om Nama Shivaya, Om Nama Shivaya, Om Nama Shivaya. Satisfied that he had gained wisdom from a great soul, the man prostrated before Swamiji, sought His blessings, and sat nearby.

"When a fish swims restlessly in the water, it comes above the surface of the water from time to time to catch a breath of air. Similarly, when we are involved in our work, we should keep chanting Lord Shiva's name whenever we get the time," said Swamiji. Accepting Swamiji's words wholeheartedly, the man sat there with folded hands and closed eyes.

After sometime, Swamiji gave the person a picture of Himself, some sugar candy, and blessed him before seeing him on his way. The man left, satisfied that the doubts in his heart had

been cleared. This incident just serves to prove that countless have had their spiritual path carved out, though not in the form of traditional Guru Upadesas, but by Swamiji's enlightening guidance.

WHO IS A SADHU?

One day, Swamiji was seated on the steps of the Brahma Teertha pond inside the Arunachleswara temple. At that time, a sadhu Swami came near with a bowl in his hand. Asking whether Swamiji wanted to eat, he opened the box and extended it towards Swamiji. Swamiji took a small amount of the sambar-rice from inside the box, and ate it. The sadhu asked Swamiji to take some more.

Swamiji obliged, and partook some more of the sambar-rice. Telling the sadhu that he had enough, Swamiji asked the sadhu where he was from, and. when he had come there. The Sadhu said that he was from Polur, and had come to Tiruvannamalai that morning. He went to the Ashram and collected some food before coming there. Swamiji blessed him and sent him on his way.

The sadhu proceeded to walk some distance away before sitting at a spot and began to eat. He spared a fistful of rice to the crows that ventured close; he offered some rice to the dogs that were around him. He too partook a portion from time to time.

As the bowl got empty, he washed in in the pond. Observing the scene from afar, Swamiji remarked to the devotee, 'Did you see that! He offered some amount of food to me, some amount to the crows, some amount to the dog, and ate the food that remained. He has washed the vessel now. Neither does he have anything for his next square meal, nor is he concerned about it. Can you see the nature of the sadhu now?" Thus, Swamiji explained the nature of a true sadhu to the devotee,

THE ALLKNOWING ONE

One fine morning, the District development officer of the North Arcot District, Cheyyar, came to see Swamiji at 10 o'clock. Swamiji, who was at His residence at the time, enquired about the wellbeing of the officer. A fair number of devotees were also there, with their families. Swamiji interacted and talked with all those who were present. As the time became 3:00 p.m., the officer decided to leave, and rose from his seat to ask permission from Swamiji for the same. Swamiji replied, "I know, please sit." As everyone kept talking, when the time reached 5:00 p.m. ,Swamiji asked the officer, "What is the work at Cheyyar that is so urgent?"

The officer replied that the District Collector was coming next week to Cheyyar to review the drought situation and in order to prepare a report for that, he had convened meeting at 04:30 p.m. with the concerned officers. Even after hearing about it, Swamiji did not grant permission for him to leave. Time passed, and now it was about 6:00 p.m. Swamiji then granted permission for him to leave, and blessed him.

It was around 08:00 p.m. that the officer reached Cheyyar. The officers who had come for the meeting had waited, completed their works, and left. The District Collector arrived the night before he was scheduled to come, in order to inspect the drought situation. A plan was concocted about which villages to inspect. On the day that they were supposed to inspect, the

sky was full of dark clouds in the morning. Right when the Collector was leaving for a function in the area, the heavens burst forth and began to pour.

As the function progressed, the rain got heavier, and the sky began pouring cats and dogs. The roads flooded and water began overflowing. The District Collector returned to the guest house. Turning to those assembled there, a crowd that included the MLAs of the area, he told everyone that the region was experiencing a very high downpour as they could all see.

He reasoned that inspection of drought ridden areas during such a heavy rain would not be useful, and therefore returned to the District Headquarters. What a surprise! The face that it would rain so much, and that the plan of the District Collector would not be done was already known to Swamiji. This was the reason He had deemed the meeting of the District Development Officer to not be important, and had made him stay longer. Only the devotee knew that the entire incident was but a divine play by Swamiji.

LET US ALL EAT

It was 10:00 o' clock on a fine morning when Swamiji was seated at His residence with a couple of devotees. Talking for some time, Swamiji then slipped into a deep silence, and a state of meditation. The time became 2:00 p.m., and yet, silence still reigned over the place.

The vessel with chapathis that the devotee had brought for Swamiji was nearby. It looked as if one of the people sitting there couldn't control the pangs of hunger. The person gestured to the devotee, asking whether he could have some chapathi for himself. The devotee gestured to him to be patient, and to wait for some time. Some more time passed, and the person could not control his hunger anymore. Without asking for anyone's permission, he stealthly opened up the vessel, ate 2-3 chapathis and closed the lid again.

Suddenly, Swamiji broke his silent reverie, and asked those present about the time. The time was 03:00 p.m. Hearing that, Swamiji remarked that it was late and asked what was there to eat, and declared that they could all eat. When he asked for a banana leaf to be put before the person who had already eaten, the person said that he had already eaten. Swamiji asked him who had served him, and when, and he replied that it was Swamiji who had served him, and that he had eaten just now. Swamiji said that it was alright and that the others except him could eat. Everyone did. The statement that the person had

told, combined with the fact that Swamiji had not made a big deal out of it and had instead asked casually all the others to eat is the food for our contemplation.

THE ENLIGHTENED ONE WHO CORRECTS MISTAKES AND GRANTS PEACE

One fine day, a person visited Swamiji along with his family and asked Swamiji for the way to inner peace for himself. He requested Swamiji for an advice. Looking at him intensely and penetratingly, Swamiji replied that he should show love to his parents, and that he should take care of their wellbeing and look after them.

Undeterred, the person asked, "Towards whom would those without a mother and father show love?" Swamiji replied with grace, "YOU have a mother and father. Take care of them. Why are you concerned with those who do not have parents?" Strangely after Swamiji said that the visitor was overwhelmed by the immense calm and silence that prevailed over the place. Accepting Swamiji's statements wholeheartedly, he fell at Swamiji's feet, declaring his intent to follow Swamiji's will, and went on his way after seeking blessings.

Swamiji knew about the demeanour of the man, and had acted accordingly so as to provide him with wisdom and clarity. Even upon further questioning by the man, Swamiji had acted with grace and poise, and had answered him accordingly

This way, Swamiji knew about the fallacies of others through His Divine nature and gave solutions to counter them, and save them from their own shortcomings.

WHAT IS SIN? WHAT IS VIRTUE?

Swamiji was seated at His residence along with devotees. One of those present, had the opportunity to have Darshan of Swamiji for the first time that day only.

As they were talking, the person asked Swamiji, "What is sin, What is virtue?

Swamiji immediately replied, "Forgetting God is sin, Always Remem bering God is Punya (virtue)"

Hearing Swamiji expound such a deep and fundamental truth in such a simple way, the man sat in silence with his hands folded, overwhelmed. This way, Swamiji immediately dispels the doubts in the hearts of those who came to see Him, and blesses not only them who raise the questions, but also all those who are present.

HAIL THE LORD CHIDAMBARANATHAR, THE COSMIC DANCER

After working in Tiruvannamalai for over 3 years, I got transferred to Chidambaram. While working in Chidambaram, I would visit Tiruvannamalai while availing leave and also during every holiday, using every chance I got to see the Shiv Gnani Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji and to seek His blessings.

Buying two garlands of jasmine from the mandap in front of the Chidambaranathar temple in Chidambaram, I used to combine them into one large garland and bring the garland whenever I came to see Swamiji. I achieved immense happiness by offering the garland to Him. Similarly, one fine day, I purchased the garland as usual and was standing on the lower platform of Natarajar Sannadhi, with my hands folded in prayer to Lord Thillai Natarajar in my eyes, Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar in my heart. At that moment, the head priest who was engaged in Lord Natarajar's puja came over, undid the bundle and asked me for the garland. Flustered, I blurted out, "For Bhagavan," and he replied, "Yes, I am offering it to Bhagavan only." He extended his arm towards me, reaching for the garland. It seemed as if he would snatch the garland from my hand!

Usually, even if the devotees themselves offer garlands and ask for the deity to be garlanded with them, the priests would rarely oblige. Therefore, the fact that the head priest came over asking for the garland was a great thing! I handed over the garland to the priest. Asking me to look closely, he garlanded Lord Natarajar in front of my eyes! I could not understand the head or tail of what was happening. But one thing was crystal clear to me. The Lord Nataraja who resided in Chidambaram was none other than Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar. What Swamiji said about the temples of Tiruvannamalai, Chidambaram, Madurai and Rameshwaram also being the home of "this beggar" for ages and ages came to my memory.

That night, I came to Tiruvannamalai and offered fruits at the lotus feet of Swamiji before falling at His feet and asking for His blessings. I had not brought a new garland, which was not usual.

I conveyed to Swamiji the events that had transpired at the Thillai Natarajar Temple. Swamiji laughed loudly, and did not say anything. The fact that the priest had said he was garlanding Bhagavan (Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar), and that had been nothing but the truth, was confirmed by Swamiji's laughter and subsequent silence.

This episode of grace is vividly present in my mind even today. Also, my firm faith that Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar is none other than the Lord Thillai Natarajar became even more strong and established in my mind.

I feel that the lines of Sri.Shivaramakrishna Ayer who sings, "ஆடு" சித"பரத்தாண்டவா போற்றி" (Hail thee, the dancing Lord of Chidambaram!) in the song, "Jaya Guru Jaya Guru Jaya Guru Jaya Guru Potri" is perfectly apt for this incident. So are the lines of Sri. Thei. Po. Meenakshi Sundaranar who sings, "சித"பரத்தில் ஆடு" நடராஜப் பெருமான் ஆனாய்" (You became

the Lord Nataraja who dances at Chidambaram) in the song, "Pallandu Pallandu Palakodi Noorandu Vaazhiya Vaazhiyave."

Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar appears to each devotee as their own God, and blesses them with His grace.

HE ONE WHO IS ALMIGHTY

One fine day, a person who was very close and important to Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar and had understood Swamiji's Divinity well came to visit. Swamiji had a great respect for the man. He had come to speak at a function at the Tiruvannamalai Temple. His wife also had come with him. Once the function was over, they came to visit Swamiji.

Swamiji made them sit opposite but near to Him, and began talking to them. As time passed, Swamiji glanced at the lady and felt that she had something to say to Him. When asked about the same by Swamiji, the lady uttered that it was inconsequential, but their money-purse had gone missing. Swamiji asked her about where they had kept it, and she replied that she had kept it inside their bag. When Swamiji asked her how much money was in the purse, she replied that she did not know.

At that moment, Swamiji looked at an ardent devotee from Tuticorin, sitting opposite to them. Immediately, without any hesitation, the devotee reached into his pocket, and drew whatever small amount he could, and handed it over to Swamiji. Pointing to the lady, Swamiji said, "Give it there." The fact that the husband did not approve of the happenings was quite evident on his face. He intervened, saying, "No need for all this, Swami, we will take care." Swamiji replied that it was alright. The lady accepted the money from the devotee,

and when the time came for the couple to leave, Swamiji sent them with His blessings.

When they returned to Chennai, they found the purse inside the bag. Their rediscovery of a missing purse surprised them \times no end. They hailed Swamiji with praises, that this was nothing but a divine act by Him.

As soon as they got back their money, they sent the money they had received in Tiruvannamalai back to Swamiji through a money order. Do you know what Swamiji did when He received the money order from the postman? He sent it back saying, "The money that you have sent is not mine, and not given by me either. Therefore, I am sending it back to you."

These incidents of Divinity mixed with a healthy dose of love, teach us quite a lot. We learn from this incident that there is nothing that Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar cannot do.

I LOST MYSELF

One day in the early days of my visits to Sivagnani Yogi Ramsuratkumar, I prayed to Him that He should come to my house. He stared at me in silence for quite some time, without saying anything. I did not bring up that topic again. Would He approve of it? What would He say? With these thoughts rampant in mind, I was truly scared. A few months went by. Those were the days when I was still working in Tiruvannamalai. One day, as I was going to a village called Kalasapakkam from my office, I had the chance to go via the residence of Swamiji.

The doors of the house were open, and I thought of having darshan of Swamiji before proceeding further. So, I parked my vehicle at the turning of the street, and went inside to have darshan of Swamiji. He bade me to come inside and sit. He did not talk for quite some time. Then, He told me, "I shall come to your house now." Indeed, my happiness knew no bounds!

It was 11:30 in the morning. "Yes, Swami, I will fetch my vehicle Swami." Saying thus, I went to the nearest Khadar depot, and bought a long, bordered Khadar cloth, and drove back to Swamiji's residence.

Swamiji stood ready at the door. I asked Swamiji to sit in the front seat, and I sat in the back seat. We proceeded to my house

on the first floor of a building in Gandhi Nagar, Tiruvannamalai.

Seeing Bhagavan come with me, my wife was so stunned that it took time for her to grasp what was happening! She was beside herself with uncontrollable joy! She immediately fell at Bhagavan's Feet, and welcomed Him inside. Honouring Swamiji by putting the Khadar cloth around his shoulders with veneration, I once again fell at Swamiji's feet, and offered my salutations to Him. Having blessed us, Swamiji sat down on the chair opposite to the table. My brother's son Babu, and daughter Bommi, who were on a visit from Dronachalam, Andhra Pradesh to spend their summer holidays with us, also fell at Swamiji's feet and sought His blessings. I called my wife aside and told her that food had to be prepared quickly. Immediately, she started to cook. Swamiji told me to sit on the nearby chair. The children sat on the floor opposite to the table.

Swamiji then asked the children whether they knew to sing. Telling Him that she could sing, Bommi proceeded to sing the Telugu songs, "Shri Ganesha Shivani Kumara," and "Rama Nama Namanu Sathakodi," that she knew. Swamiji loved the songs, and asked her to sing them again, and again.

As soon as the food got ready, we called Swamiji to eat, and He sat down in the pooja room for the same. The entire incident felt as though we were doing pooja and offering Prasad for Swamiji! He made me sit by His side, and both of us partook of the food. After some time, Swamiji got ready to leave. All of us fell at Swamiji's feet and received His blessings.

Taking Swamiji back to His residence, I sat with him for a while, and left for my work, once He gave His blessings.

That day was one of the most auspicious days of my life! It was the day when, in the holy city of Tiruvannamalai which offers salvation to those who even think of it, God Himself had deemed it worthy to visit our house and to dine in our pooja room! This was a great blessing for us. Whenever we think of that Golden Day, we feel a great spiritual strength, and a divine freshness in our soul!

HE WHO SHOWS LOVE EVEN TOWARDS DOGS

A street dog used to frequent the doorsteps of Shivagnani Yogi Ramsuratkumar's residence. Noticing this over a few days, Swamiji would instruct that the doors be open whenever the dog stopped by. It would come inside and sit, and Swamiji would tell devotees who brought chapathis and milk to offer it to the dog also. As soon as the dog finished, Swamiji would ask for the door to be opened again, and the dog would leave. This went on for many days.

One day, when a devotee brought chapathis, Swamiji asked him, "Do you know what happened to the dog that used to come here?" He replied, "I do not know, Swamiji." "The dog was captured along with the other dogs, ten days before, by the Municipality in their vehicle. It would be dead by now," said Swamiji. The devotee said, "The people from the Municipality would not have known that the dog used to visit Swami." Swamiji said, "No! Those standing nearby did say this to the people from the Municipality."

To which, the devotee replied, "The next birth of the dog will be a higher birth." Hearing this, Swamiji got emotional, raised His hands in benediction and declared with great intensity, "NO BIRTH," and blessed. Silence descended upon the place for the next few minutes.

Great Ones say that even to think of Tiruvannamalai gives salvation. However, the dog had not only lived in front of the Tiruvannamalai temple, but also had the blessed contact with Swamiji and become a vessel for His grace! The fact that Swamiji had blessed the dog with no rebirth held a deep, meaningful truth behind it for the devotee.

To say that every such incident orchestrated by Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar is nothing but His divine play of great blessing would not be an exaggeration.

ANGER IS ALSO A BLESSING

One fine day, Shiva Gnani Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji was seated in a corner of the thousand pillar mandap, opposite to the big Nandi statue. The passing devotees fell at Swamiji's feet and sought His blessings before moving on. A couple came over, fell at Swamiji's feet and sought His blessings before going on their way. The couple who came next, brought a bunch of bananas, kept at Swamiji's Feet, took His blessings and left. Swamiji instructed a devotee sitting nearby, to take the bananas and keep them aside.

The couple who came before them, watched the incident at a distance before going away. Swamiji noticed this. They then brought a bunch of bananas and offered them and fell at Swamiji's Feet. Their actions angered Swamiji. He took the bunch in hand, plucked banana after banana and threw them away one by one in all directions. Frightened by His actions, the couple retreated to a distance. People passing by also stood awestruck at this scene. People were afraid to pick up the bananas thrown by Swamiji. The roused anger of Swami due to the incident knew no bounds indeed!

However, the declaration of Swamiji that His anger also is nothing but a blessing only to His devotees is worth mentioning and to be noted here.

Swamiji did not like at all, people loitering in the same place, after receiving His blessings, nor their standing at a distance observing Him also, devotees imitating others' actions was not agreeable to Him. These incidents showcase the unique characteristics of Sri Swamiji.

LONG LIVE THE SIDDHA YOGI

In the year 1981, when I was working in Kumarapalayam, Salem, I had in my pooja room at home, a glass framed picture of Bhagwan Yogi Ramsuratkumar that was blessed and given to me by Bhagavan Himself in1976 at Tiruvannamalai. Upon seeing that picture, an elderly person who visited our house remarked that he had seen the same Sadhu several times on a raised platform built around the 'Sthala Vruksham' (Holy Tree of a temple) of the Bhavani Sangameshwarar Temple at Bhavani (in Erode).

I told him, "That is not possible. When I had gone for Bhagavan's darshan from here, I mentioned this temple to Him. He did not tell me that He had visited the same. Had He visited the temple, He would have certainly told me." That friend, however, did not agree with me. He maintained that not only had he seen Swamiji there but had also prostrated before Him. The next time I went to Tiruvannamalai, I narrated to Swamiji what the friend had said. Swamiji made it clear once again that He had never gone to Bhavani and that such incidents were orchestrated by His FATHER for Swamiji's sake.

I have read that the greatest Yogis are known to give darshan at more than one place at the same time. I came to realize this was indeed true! The greatest Truth that the 'ALMIGHTY' has descended in the form of Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar and is uplifting the entire mankind is clearly revealed!

ANNAMALAIYAR BEHOLDS ANNAMALAIYAR (HIMSELF) ATOP THE TEMPLE CHARIOT!

Once during the Karthigai Deepam Festival period at Tiruvannamalai, on the seventh day of the Chariot Festival, Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji was seated below the Sthala Vruksham (Holy Tree) in the temple. A couple of devotees were with Him. Suddenly, Swamiji got up and, expressing a desire to see the chariot, set off with the two of them.

The big chariot of Lord Annamalaiyar was ambling down the West Mada Street. Having walked through the entrance of the Pe Gopuram (tower by the name Pe), Swamiji stood in one corner to get a glimpse of the chariot. Many devotees, instead of looking at the chariot, came to Swamiji and prostrated at His Holy Feet. Quite unhappy with this, Swamiji said angrily, "Father is coming over there; go and worship Him!" He then quickly rushed from there to the front yard of a house on the opposite side and seated Himself at a spot where nobody could see Him. Later, sometime after the big chariot had crossed the area, Swamiji, along with the devotees, walked through the path along side the North compound wall and reached His place of residence.

From this incident, it is evident that Swamiji did not like the fact that when Lord Annamalaiyar was majestically coming

through the streets on His big chariot, people chose to pay their respects to Swamiji instead of the Lord.

Besides, that day's incident felt as if Lord Annamalaiyar had Himself came in person (as Swamiji) to behold Annamalaiyar (Himself) parading the streets on a chariot!

WHAT ARE THE SMALL RAW MANGOES FOR?

One day, a man was selling a basketful of small, raw mangoes by loudly calling out to passers-by on the street near Swamiji's house. His loud hawking calls caught the attention of Bhagwan Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji, who was sitting on the outer veranda of His house. Swamiji advised a devotee sitting nearby to call the vendor.

As soon as he arrived, Bhagavan had the door opened and asked the hawker to sit inside the house with his basket. Swamiji wanted to know the price of all the mangoes in the basket. The devotee was puzzled and could not understand why Swamiji was asking this. The vendor replied that the entire lot was worth Rs.15. Swamiji asked the devotee to fetch the money from inside the house and paid for all the mangoes. He then asked the devotee to take the basket inside and leave the raw mangoes there.

The devotee kept the mangoes near the place where Swamiji would usually sit. After some time, Swamiji went inside and sat down. He told the devotee, "For some reason, I find great joy in giving these raw mangoes as Prasad to devotees". For the next 2-3 days, until they got over, Bhagavan gave away those small, raw mangoes as Prasad to His devotees.

It was then that the devotee understood why Swamiji had purchased the entire basket of raw mangoes. He realized that those devotees who had received the mangoes had been specially blessed by Bhagavan. Incidents such as these reveal the Truth that every action of Swamiji is 'remarkably Divine' in nature and carries a deep meaning and sense of purpose. Casual observers or those present in the company of Bhagavan may not be able to fathom this truth. Perhaps later, he or she would either understand the Divine nature of Swamiji's action or may never understand it at all. During such times, Swamiji Himself may make one realize the depth of His actions.

THE LORD WHO UNDERSTAND HIS DEVOTEES' HEARTS

One day, as I was leaving from Arni to Tiruvannamalai for Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji's darshan, Shri. T. Sabapathy, a physician and Shri. K. Maniyan, owner of a fertilizer shop joined me. Both of them had previously obtained Swamiji's darshan numerous times at the Ashram, as well as at His residence. The physician was well known to Swamiji and Shri.K. Maniyan used to render melodious songs on Bhagavan.

We reached the Ashram at 9.30 in the morning. From 10 a.m., we sat in the main hall and took part in the bhajans along with everyone. Around 11.15 a.m., one of the Ashram members told me that Swamiji had called for me. Swamiji was then seated on a chair outside the hall, on the right side of the entrance. There were three chairs in a row facing Him.

We fell down and prostrated at His Holy Feet and paid our respects. He blessed us with His Grace and told us to sit on those chairs. He then enquired about our well-being and spoke to us for some time. Later, He gave each of us an apple as Prasad.

Then, once again, Bhagavan gave me an apple. I did not understand why, but even before I could contemplate the reason behind His action, He asked me if I knew who the second apple was meant for. I stood silent without saying

anything. Bhagavan looked at me and commanded, "You need to go in person and give this to the physician's wife, saying that I have sent this for her!" This was something that I could not have even thought of in my dreams! Once again, we prostrated before Bhagavan, took His blessings and left.

On our way back from the Ashram, we went straight to the physician's house (which was enroute to Arni) at 2 p.m.

The physician's wife welcomed us in and asked if we had seen Swamiji and if He was in good health. Then, I handed over the apple to her and said that Swamiji had blessed her and given the apple as Prasad for her, specifically insisting that I should give it to her in person.

The joy she felt upon receiving the fruit knew no bounds. Saying that she felt as if Swamiji Himself had come and given her the fruit, she paid her obeisance to me.

That lady must have been about 84 years old and had never met Bhagavan even once. Yet, she had limitless love and devotion for Him. Whenever I visited her, she would ask me when I had last visited Swamiji and would enquire about His well-being and health. She would not even make enquiries about my family before first asking about Swamiji. Bhagavan was very much aware of the love-filled heart of this lady. Then, I realised that only in cognizance of her sincere devotion did Bhagwan perform His Divine Leela that day.

Thus, every act of Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji always carries a 'Divine Motive' and is entirely filled with 'His Grace!'

THE BLESSINGS OF THE LIVING GOD

I had gone to receive darshan of Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar in the year 1993. At that time, Swamiji was seated on a mat in the yard of His residence. I fell at His feet and sought His blessings. Swamiji asked me to sit on the right side of the mat near Him. The editor of the Bala Jothidam, a monthly magazine, Sri. Vidwan V. Lakshmanan was seated across from Swamiji.

Swamiji told me that in the July 1993 edition of the Bala Jothidam magazine, Vidwan V. Laskhmanan had published an excellent editorial titled, 'Yogi Ramsuratkumar Ashram'. He then looked at me and asked me whether I had read the magazine. Before I could reply, Swamiji went inside, brought the Bala Jothidam magazine and asked me to read the article.

Once I was done reading, Swamiji asked me, "Have you seen it?" I had finished reading it and told Him that the article clearly espoused its subject matter.

As a small crowd of devotees had gathered outside to have darshan of Swamiji, He asked everyone to come inside. He blessed everyone, gave them prasad, and sent them on their way.

He then caught a glimpse of the papers I was holding in my hand and asked me what they were. I replied that they were songs that I had written. He asked me to sing the same. I began with, 'Gurusthuthi', a lengthy song. Swamiji was pleased upon hearing it and blessed me.

Vidwan V. Lakshmanan's wife, who had come along with him, heard my song, and told him that the song could be published in the magazine. I said that we could see about it.

I wish to quote the contents of the article published by Vidwan V. Lakshmanan in August 1993 edition of Bala Jothidam as it was (translated):

In the July 1993 edition of the magazine, I had written a special editorial on the topic, 'Yogi Ramsuratkumar Ashram'. When I went to visit Him on 06.07.1993, Yogiji told me that I had written it well. Moreover, He turned to one of the important devotees sitting close by, and asked him, "Have you read the Bala Jothidam magazine? The special article authored by Vidwan V. Lakshmanan has been published in that". Turning to me, He said, "Your writings have a uniqueness to them". Thereafter, He got up, went inside, and brought out a copy of the Bala Jothidam magazine, gave it to the devotee, and asked him to read.

Sitting on one side, the devotee finished reading it. As Yogiji asked him whether he had finished reading it, the devotee replied, "I have. The article espouses its subject matter very clearly".

The devotee had written songs on Yogiji very beautifully. He asked for permission to read them. As Yogiji gave His assent, the devotee sang the song he had written so wonderfully. The verses were structured so beautifully. I wish to tell that upon hearing them, I felt a sense of ecstasy.

With Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar's grace and blessings, above part of the article, titled, Nadamadum Deivathin Nallasi Pettrom, (published in the August 1993 edition of the Bala Jothidam rnagazine), further inspired me to write and sing many more songs on Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar.

I would like to place on record that 'Gurusthuthi' was the first song in the book, 'Arutpugazh Vasagarn', that I printed and presented to the Ashram in 1995, with Bhagavan's permission.

Thanks to Bhagavan's permission and blessings, 'Gurusthuthi' has been the first song in Swamiji's Jayanthi celebrations, held every year at Arani since 1992. Devotees sing the same with the help of musical instruments once or twice during the festival. This song, which was loved by Swamiji, evokes a feeling of devotion and serves as a vessel for Swamiji's grace for all those who listen to it and sing it.

Everything is but the divine act of Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar.

SWAMIJI'S JAYANTHI FESTIVAL AT ARANI

From lst December 1979 to 1st December1990, for a period of ten years, it was my habit to arrive in Tiruvannamalai, either one day before or in the early morning of Bhagavan's Jayanthi. That is, on 1st December, I would have darshan of Bhagavan and spend the entire day with Him. I would return home at night or the next day, after getting His blessings.

In 1991, early morning at 6 a.m., on the lst first of December, I reached Swamiji's residence from Arani. The door of His house was locked and His devotees were waiting outside. I too, stood with them and waited till 9 a.rn., but, there was no sign of Swamiji. I went to the temple, hoping that He would perhaps be there, but He wasn't there. I went back and forth between His residence and the temple, hoping to catch a glimpse of Him, but all in vain. I had taken chapathis for Swamiji, and it was my routine that I would eat my food only after He had eaten.

Time passed, and soon it was 6 p.m. I decided to wait outside the house thinking that He would definitely come there somehow. After sometime, I received news that Swamiji was at the Sengazhuneer Pillayar Temple Mandap. I went there along with the devotees who were standing outside His residence.

Swamiji was on the top of the platform in the Mandap, and a crowd of devotees was sitting around Him. Across from Him,

on the platform, were the various garlands, flowers and fruits that devotees had offered to Him. Those who were sitting, got up and prostrated at Swamiji's feet, one by one, and received His blessings and prasad before leaving.

Soon, it was 9.30 p.m. The temple priests began to close the gates of the temple, and Swamiji blessed all those devotees who were still sitting, gave them prasad, and sent them on their way. Then Swamiji also got up and prepared to leave, along with four devotees, including myself.

Once outside, we proceeded to the Thousand Pillar Mandap, where He sat in a corner, and asked us to sit as well. It was around 10 p.m. then. Looking at me, Swamiji asked, "Where will you stay?". I replied that I would stay at the Kannadiga Lingayat Chathram. He said, "All right. I'll leave you. We will meet in the morning". Blessing me thus, Swamiji sent me away.

It was 6.45 in the morning when I went to Swamiji's residence the next day. Swamiji asked me to come inside and made me sit across from Him. He asked me about the time I had arrived on the previous day and where I had been the entire day. I told Him that I had come at around 6 o clock in the morning and that I stayed at the temple during the day. He told me, "You would not have eaten anything". I stayed silent, not answering. Swamiji looked at me without saying anything.

I told Swamiji, "Yesterday, 1st December 1991, being Swamiji's Jayanthi, it was celebrated as a festival across nine cities". Swamiji asked me in which cities Jayanthi festival was celebrated. I recollected the Jayanthi invitations that I had received, and answered His question.

It seemed like Swamiji wanted to ask me something. I had completed the consecration of the Vel', at a Lord Muruga Temple on the top of a hill in the Balamathi village, near Vellore. Following that, with the blessings of Bhagwan Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji, I successfully conducted the Kumbabhishekam of the Ganesha Temple in the year 1987. I had constantly mentioned about this to Swamiji. These thoughts were running in my head. I told Swamiji that I was thinking of celebrating Swamiji's Jayanthi festival on the 1st of December every year, on the top of the Balamathi hill.

Swamiji told me that I should not do that as it would be too expensive, and that I would not be able to bear the expenses. He said that I could celebrate the Jayanthi festival at my house in Arani from next year, inviting my 'friends and kin'. After sometime, He sent me on my way after giving me prasad and His blessings.

In tune with His blessings, from 1st December 1992, Bhagavan's Jayanthi celebrations have been happening every year, from 6 in the morning to 8.30 in the evening for the past seventeen years at my house in Arani.

In the year 1992, thoughts of the Jayanthi festival had been running through my mind, right from the beginning of the year. Thoughts of writing songs on Bhagavan also arose in my mind, someone like me, who had no idea of Bhagavan Yogi Ramsuratkumar.

Seeking darshan of Swamiji on 18th November t992, before the Jayanthi function, I sang the song to Him with His permission. I also talked to Him about the agenda of the festival. Swamiji blessed me. Every year, I would visit Swamiji before the Jayanthi festival and present to Him, the songs that I had written. After that, I would receive His blessings for the successful completion of the festival and also for the welfare of the devotees.

On the stage in my house, a picture that Swamiji had given to me in 1977, was framed and kept at its place of honour. Along with it, a few other pictures of great significance and power were placed. A few garlands and electric lights were also kept on the stage for devotees to offer their worship as well as for the 6 kala poojas that would take place. Along with, worship by devotees, various events like chanting of Nama, presentations of devotional songs on Swamiji, and discourses on personal experiences by devotees, would takç place continuously from 6 a.m. to 8.30 p.m.

The offerings that devotees brought throughout the course of the day, across the 6 kala poojas, were offered to Swamiji and distributed there and then, as devotees kept thronging the place. As and when people left after the conclusion of the festival, à picture of Swamiji along with prasad was presented to them.

On the very first day, on 1st December 1992, we received news that a boy had been born to one of our relatives who had participated in the festival throughout the day. We received the news late at night and it caused us great joy. They christened the boy with the name, 'Ramsuratkumar'. The boy is now seventeen years of age and is studying ITI.

The countless prayers of people wanting to get married, wanting children, etc are fulfilled by the blessings of Swamiji when they participate in the Jayanthi celebrations. All those who participate in the celebrations get the feeling of receiving

the darshan of Swamiji in person. They also get the feeling of having related their troubles to Him in person.

Every year, the number of devotees attending the function keeps increasing. Singing devotional songs on Swamiji and chanting His Nama are activities that devotees take par in, with devotion, love and interest.

Most of the songs that I have sung on Swamiji in the years 1995, 1997 and 1999 were sung in front of Him. Thanks to the permission and blessings of Swamiji, they have taken the form of a printed book. The book is presented to devotees throughout the ashram and on birthday celebrations.

The fact that Jayanthi celebrations everywhere, give devotees a deep spiritual and divine experience, is a firm belief in the heart of every devotee. Listening to the divine experiences of devotees, we sing the praises of Bhagwan Yogi Ramsuratkumar with great devotion. Everyone has realised the truth that Jayanthi celebrations are more rewarding compared to the usual religious trips.

THE GURU IN THE EYES OF HIS DEVOTEES IS LORD HARIHARAN, (AYYAPPAN) LORD AIYNGARAN (GANAPATHY), LORD ARUMUGAN (MURUGAN)

I wished to be with Swamiji on the day of my 60th birthday. A few days prior to that, when I visited Swamiji, I had informed Him that my 60th birthday was on 19.06.1987, and sought His permission to be with Him on that day. Swamiji graciously consented.

So I proceeded to leave for Tiruvannamalai a few days before. I expressed to Swamiji my desire to perform an abhishekam to Lord Annamalaiyar at the Annamalaiyar temple on 18.06.1987, and my prayer to perform pada pooja on Swamiji's Lotus Feet in the morning of 19.06.1987. Swamiji graciously permitted and instructed me to stay at a cottage of the Temple Trust near the Annamalaiyar temple. On 17.06.1987, I went ahead and made preparations for the same. When I told Swamiji about the abhishekam at the Annamalaiyar temple on 18.06.1987, He told me that He too would participate in it! That morning, even when the abhishekam started around 8 in the morning, Swamiji came promptly to be with us!

The abhishekam was being performed in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple, in the presence of around 25 members of my family. Swamiji walked ahead and took His seat in the front line. While the abhishekam is going on, with Swamiji's

permission we were singing Shiva Puranam. Swamiji turned towards us, and blessed all with full gaze. Thus the abhishekam for Lord Annamalaiyar was going on in full swing, but we were being blessed by Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji! The divine glow on His face made us realise that that abhishekam was being performed on Him. At that moment, He Himself gave me darshan as verily the Lord Annamalaiyar! Through this, one could say that He confirmed what He had made us realise many times over that He is Lord Annamalaiyar Himself. The next day, on 19.06.1987, Swamiji Himself came to visit us in the cottage of the Temple Trust. We performed pada pooja on Bhagwan's Lotus Feet in the morning. On that day, Swamiji stayed with us throughout the Nama Sankirtan till the evening. This day was an unforgettable golden day in my life.It was a very rare, great fortune for me.

"Blessing us all everyday with alround welfare, thou art truly the Karthika flame of the mountain."

"Always expressing the glories of God in His talk, the God that is visible in the flame is only the Yogi."

Once, I had the rare great fortune of being in the presence of Swamiji during the festival days of the Karthigai month. In those days, I had a great many experiences. On the very last Deepam day, I was with Swamiji right from the morning. The devotees who thronged the temple in crowds came to Swamiji also and returned with His blessings. Swamiji asked a few of them to sit at His residence for a few minutes before blessing them and sending them on their way. It might be around 5:00 in the evening. Only a few people stayed on in His residence. He also sent them away by 5:45 pm, and the door was latched soon after. I was alone with Swamiji. At 5:50pm, Swamiji said that we should go to the terrace. I went along with Swamiji to

the terrace. The time for Deepam was nearing. Swamiji's gaze was fixed upon the top of the mountain. I too was looking at the top of the Mountain and the tower of the temple. The deepam was lit exactly at 6:00 the evening. When I turned to face Swamiji, I saw the tears streaming down from His eyes. Swamiji asked me, "Gajraj ji, Lord Shiva is giving Darshan. can you see?" I could not answer that. After a few minutes, we came down, and Swamiji sat down in His usual place. He remained silent for a long time.

The great fact that Swamiji had seen Lord Shiva Himself in the deepam flame became clear to me. For my part, I felt that Swamiji Himself had given me Darshan in the Deepam. When He asked me whether I saw Lord Shiva, it was only Swamiji's Darshan that had filled my eyes! This created in me the experience and realisation that Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji Himself was none other than Lord Shiva.

I belong to the Veera Shaiva Lingayat community. Members of my family wear the Shiv Ling. Hearing of this, Swamiji asked me one day, if I was wearing one too. I replied No. To that, He said, "Okay. you can wear one when you retire. Only then, can you perform the requisite pujas properly every day without fail." As told by Swamiji, I started wearing a Shiv Ling once I retired, and have been performing the requisite poojas everyday. When one of my family members was to wear a Shiv Ling, we handed over the Shiv Ling to Swamiji and asked for Swamiji's blessings. Upon hearing that, Swamiji kept the Shiv Ling in His left hand for over thirty minutes, looking at it intensely. He kept it close to His eyes, and then near the ears, for a few seconds. Handing it to my relative, He said, "Lord Shiva is talking Amma, you can wear this." Blessing her thus, He gave the Shiv Ling for her to wear. The great joy and sense

of honour that the receiver felt, knew no bounds. The words He uttered still echo in our ears.

Blissful you are at the Darshan of Shiva Joyful you are to listen to the Voice of Shiva Mirthful you are while talking to Shiva Ah! you have merged into ONE with Shiva

(Editor's Note: Here is a beautiful report by Sri Gajarajji on 'The diamond Jubilee celebrations' that took place on 01.12.1978 at Sri Yogiji's residence (in Sannadhi Street) at Tiruvannamalai when Bhagawan Sri Yogi Ramsurat-kumar completed 60 years of age.)

All by His own blessings, the diamond Jubilee celebration of Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swamiji was held in a simple manner on 1st December 1978 at His residence. On that day Vageesa Kalanidhi Sri K.V.Jagannathan presided over the celebrations. The birthday function continued throughout the day by His divine grace. The book titled, 'Tiruvannamalai Yogi Ramsuratkumar Jayanti Souvenir' written by Sri K.V.J was to be released by Thiru.Thae.Po. Meenakshi Sundaram, a renowned educationist and an expert on Vedanta siddhantas. The festivity continued the whole day joyfully.

A small excerpt from the profound meaning espoused by the Jayanthi souvenir is provided below:

Thiru. K.V.J has composed and sung a total of 154 songs on Yogi Ramsurat-kumar. He did all that composing on his many visits to Swamiji. The dates on which some of these songs were written are 37 songs on 24.7.1977, 11 songs between 15-8-1977 and 27.12. 1977, 22 songs on 9.4. 1978, 29 songs on 15/8/1978 and 28 songs on 25.8.1978.

The songs were all written on paper running to 48 pages. In addition to these songs and the 11 songs he sang at the Oya Mutt in Tiruvannamalai on 01.12. 1977, he also delivered a speech on Swamiji. The speech spanned 36 pages and the

foreword alone covered 8 pages! Swami Ji had asked Shri K.V.J to bring it in the form of a book containing all the 92 pages on that very day!

Leading the celebrations, Shri.K.V.J sat in the north east direction of the Central Hall in swamiji's abode facing West. Dr.Shri Thae.Po. Meenakshi Sundaram who was honoured to release the book, sat on the other side. Yogi Ramsuratkumar Swami Ji sat in the middle! Even as I reflect on it today, this magnificent awe-inspiring scene, imprinted deeply on my mind, appears promptly before me filling my eyes! Both the Dignitaries were well acquainted with Swamiji through many experiences. Numerous songs sung by them on Swamiji have been published with His consent. These songs help devotees to understand Swamiji better.

In the hall where they were seated, the devotees filled up the space including the areas designated for walking. The attendees were those who visited Swamiji every year on the 1st of December to receive His Darshan and become vessels for His boundless grace. No one knew that the day would be a day of grand function. They had come without any expectation. Yet, they were granted the great fortune of participation in the function and be in His Divine Presence!

I have paraphrased below the speech that Shri.K.V.J delivered in his key note address at the gathering:

"More than celebrating an event in a large outdoor space, more than hosting a function in a grand hall, we have this rare fortune of celebrating this Diamond Jubilee Jayanti function in this very room to receive the blessings of the renowned Elders here who are icons of God's Grace. All the celebrations are taking place within a single room in Tiruvannamalai! Even if we had been invited through extensive announcements via loudspeakers throughout the city, we would not have sensed the importance of attendance. Only those with good fortune are present here. It is a DIAMOND jubilee celebration where THE DIAMONDS among men and the DIAMONDS among women are participating."

In his book, The 'Jayanti Souvenir', Shri.K.V.J describes the Divine Effulgence that is Yogi Ramsuratkumar through his Songs and articles. He employs the most beautiful words to highlight Swamiji's divine appearance, His profound wisdom and His spiritual power that captivate hearts. Through the songs, devotees can learn about Swamiji's greatness and Glory.

In his speech Shri K.V.J also said that when people read the 'Jayanti Souvenir', even if there hearts remain untouched by the cadence and taste of the songs, the insightful meaning of the words and the glories of our Swamiji will definitely impress and invoke awe in their hearts and win their respect.

Continuing his speech, he added, " I do not know to offer flowers at Swamiji's Feet. I do not know to offer Him clothes. Nor do I know how to tie a turban on His head! I have offered "PAVADAI" to Swamiji who is a MAN. (Pavadai has dual meanings. It is a garment worn by a woman. It is also a garment of songs.) Even though I have not draped garlands of flowers on His shoulders, I have adorned Him with garlands of songs. Those who feel great joy in reading the songs, would not feel so because of the strength of the verse, but rather, by thinking of the person who the songs refer to."

He also said that he had heard of bhajans being sung and people being fed with a grand feast in Sivakasi and that many more cities were conducting similar celebrations. But he did not know how many. He expressed his immense gratitude to Swamiji who had ensured that he had a small part to play in the festivities. He attributed this fortune entirely to Swamiji's boundless grace and the blessings of the Almighty."

"Shri K.V.J elaborated further that many great people have come to attend the function today. They are those, who know of Swamiji's gracious heart. Those present are individuals who have moved with Swamiji and received His DIVINE GAZE because of which, they experienced numerous divine miracles. The narration of the experiences, one by one, would itself constitute a great life history! Each one's experiences could easily fill a book of their own."

"An expert on the Vedanta Siddhanta, renowned educationist and our elder sibling Shri. Thae.po. Meenakshi Sundaram is present here. He will release this little book with his own blessed hands. I I am one who pays tribute to the great man that Sri Meenakshi Sundaram is. By sharing the name of the teacher of my teacher, Sri Meenakshi Sundaram Pillai, he is releasing my small book under his auspices, is in itself, a great honour."

Saying this, Shri K.V.J. requested Thiru. Meenakshi Sundaram to release the book and say a few words to the gathering. Thanks to the blessings of the Almighty and the grace of Swamiji, Shri K.V.J completed his speech in the manner that bestowed upon the hearts of all those present, a sense of fulfilment.

(Swamiji has signed the word OM on the first page of one of the copies of the book and presented that copy to Dr.Thiru. Meenakshi Sundaram beforehand, who then leafed through the book quickly and released it with a rare and excellent speech!) Speech by Thiru. Thae. Po. Meenak-shi Sundaram is as follows:

"I have been blessed with the great fortune of releasing this book. I have not had the time to look through its entire contents. However, Swamiji Himself has given a meaning for the book which is the word OM! Therefore one can say that this book is an exposition of the word OM."

"The great servant of The Almighty whose Diamond Jubilee we are now celebrating, has said that He has no Name! Yet, here signed this book with OM. So His Name is OM! It is said in this country that everything in the Cosmos can be encompassed within the word OM. Who can truly describe its meaning?"

"Just as our friend mentioned, only those who have experienced it, can grasp it's meaning. As one who has experienced it, he (Shri.K.V.J) has also expressed it through articles and songs and has even written a foreword for it himself. The enlightening message that he wrote last year is THE CROWN of all his work."

Thiru. Meenakshi Sundaram also remarked that the service provided by Shri K.V.J is exceptional, and that was the reason, why the function was being conducted under his leadership. He also explained how the event was proceeding in an excellent manner, in line with everyone's wishes.

He continued, "In the preface of the book, a photo of Swamiji was to be printed. See the song (அறுபத்தொருவன், the one who turned 61) and the song in which, how the divine heart of Sri Swamiji uproots all the worldly desires (காமம் அகற்றும் திருவுளமும்)! The very first song itself sounds like a Tribute to the Diamond Jubilee."

Thiru. Meenakshi Sundaram continued to speak about how the Almighty had blessed Shri K.V.J with the remarkable talent for singing appreciatively the elegance and charm of any literature in hand. Now the flood of his flare has found a right divine channel to flow and express itself. He said that it is the very reason that his talent has received special honour."

Then, he released the Jayanti souvenir of Tiruvannamalai Bhagavan and Sri K.V.J received the first copy.

It was around 5:30 p.m. when all these special lectures were over, Swamiji got up and began to dance in the hall, while singing full-throatedly, a Hindi bhajan and then 'Sri Rama Jaya Rama Jaya Jaya Rama' in his vibrantly resonant voice (sounding like the peals of bronze bell) with wide sweep of legs and hands in accordance with the tune. This is Swamiji's dance of bliss!

In order to take a little rest for a little time, Swamiji began to walk around the hall singing first while others following him. Later, he went and sat after directing the devotees to continue singing and that went on for a while.

No one ate anything for the whole day! In fact, no one felt hunger or even the need to eat at all! everyone's heart was full of joy with Swamiji's gracious love.

Around 6:30 p.m. Swamiji declared that we could eat. Then, Swamiji, Shri K.V.J, Thiru. Meenakshi Sundaram and all the others enjoyed the food that had been collected there (as offering).

In the end Swamiji blessed everyone nicely and left all of them in a gesture of bidding farewell for the day.