

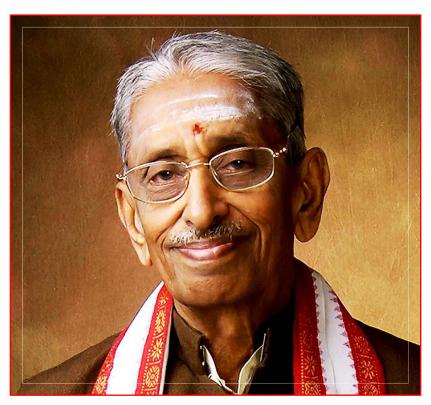
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Sadguru Sri Sivananda Murthy Garu

Born: 20 December 1928 **Samadhi:** 10 June 2015

Sathguru Sivananda Murthy was born on December 20, 1928 at Rajahmundry. His father late Kandukuri Veera Basavaraju was the last Royal Dynasty of Urlam Estate of Srikakulam District, India. It was the richest Brahmin Estate of Andhra Desam in those days.

Their family was well known for their liberal support extended to the scholars in the study of the Vedas, Sastras, and Fine Arts etc. Even the freedom movement got their support.

Sri Sivananda Murty studied at Maharaja's College of Vijayanagaram during the years 1946 – 1949 and obtained his BSc degree from Andhra University. He left his very well-to-do family and opted for a sub-ordinate service to live among the poor people in the backward region of now Telangana in an attempt to understand the ground realities of the problems faced by the poor, ignoring lucrative opportunities offered to him in higher services. He retired as Secretary, Personnel & Planning (Administration) to the D.G.P by taking voluntary retirement five years prior to super-annuation.

As an individual his contribution to the society is unique, outstanding and multifaceted.

With the background of having been exposed to more than 16,000 books before his 33rd year itself in various subjects ranging from Literature (Telugu & Sanskrit), Indology, Astrology & Astronomy, History, Religion, Spirituality, Science, Medicine, etc. He could offer clarifications and guidance to many in the related fields. His love for the books is such that he has housed his personal collection of nearly 16,000 books in a separate Library building attached to his residence in Bheemili.

He had rendered free medical help (Homeopathy) to thousands of patients and continues this service till he took Samadhi.

He is a great patriot. He has extensively toured and studied India throughout its length and breadth to know the people and their problems. He interacted with many intellectuals and leaders in addition to common people. He had undertaken a variety of charitable activities.

His commentary on Kathopanishad is published as 'Katha Yoga' giving in depth yogic interpretations of the text making it very relevant to the sadhaka's. This book is highly appreciated by the learned scholars of Vedanta. The book related to the life histories of our great Sages in the name of 'MahaRishi Charitra' has been published. Another volume on the same topic is due to be published in a few days. Rudra Yagna's all over the country with the Sankalpa of obtaining Divine Grace for the safety of our country and preservation of our ancient culture.

His special concern for the welfare and wellbeing of the tribal population had taken him to remote areas in Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, and Chattissgarh etc. Medical camps and welfare activities for the children were initiated. He also toured abroad and has many friends and admirers worldwide.

He had contributed more than 400 articles to the Telugu Daily, Andhra Bhoomi to educate and inspire the society towards righteous living, patriotism, ancient culture

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and heritage. He has given several radio talks also. Several articles of his were also published through a monthly journal called 'Supatha'.

He is the source of inspiration and guidance to the Sanathana Dharma Charitable Trust which has been conducting a variety of activities meant to preserve and spread our ancient culture and heritage. Eminent Citizens are given 'Sivananda Eminent Citizen Award' annually for their outstanding contribution to the society, for the past eleven years now.

He was the main force behind the creation of Andhra Music Academy to spread the rich culture and heritage in the field of Classical Music and Dance. Eminent personalities in these above fields are honored with appropriate titles. Annual Music Festivals and exhibitions are held in Hyderabad every year. Free music lessons for children and women are provided at several locations in the state.

Those who meet him get peace and solace in addition to guidance to overcome their problems. These are only some of the characteristics of this great personality.

Sathguru Sri Sivananda Murthy Garu is one of the Spiritual Masters of the tallest kind living amongst us to-day.

He was awarded Doctor of Letters (D. Litt) Degree, in recognition of his eminence and attainments in the 2005, by Potti Sree Ramulu Telugu University, Hyderabad.

> Hariḥ OM - OM Tat Sat –

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