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ज्योतिर्लिनाम्

शक्तिपीठम्

श्री भ्रमरांब मल्लिकार्जुन स्वामि, श्रीशैलम्

Sri Bhramaramba Mallikarjuna Swamy, Srisailam

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## Editorial Page ----

#### – Sri Rama Jayam –

Solar New Year begins on April 14<sup>th</sup>. It is also marked as the **Tamil New Year** and also as **Vishu festival** in Kerala. Vishu is not just a day to celebrate, but an attitude to acquire joy as a way of life! We are pleased to bring out this summer issue of vEda vaaNee, Vol. 3, Issue 2, July 2025, as part of the continuing effort of Veda Samskruti Samiti (VSS) to document and share essays and viewpoints of many scholars from diverse perspectives on Sanatana Dharma. We capture here a summary of the articles published in this issue.

In the Patron's page, Sri. A.H. Prabhakara Rao recognizes that conflicts arise in our mind at a time of crisis such as the war, a nation is compelled to face on occasion. What is the right course of action (Dharma)? He addresses this question resorting to a shlokaH, which gives the gist of all dharma sUtraaH. "By helping others, one acquires religious merit/puNyam; troubling them is not religious, it is demerit (i.e.) sin or paapam". This shloka is said to be written by Maharshi Veda Vyaasa in Mahaabhaaratam. In another paper mentioned below on Dharma – A Primer, we return to more details on this critical subject.

Section 1 of this issue contains four research papers. The Sanskrit word "Karma" – action - takes on several meanings depending on the context. Bhagavad Geetha points out that no one can remain salient even for a moment without action of some kind. In his paper **Shades of Karma**, Dr. Subramanian points out through a short story that all our required actions in pursuit of our duty would be aligned with four dimensions: fulfill the obligations (past); meet the immediate needs (Present to the "self" and others); facilitate what is good for the future. Any action would be Tranquil, Turbulent and Inertial. Sitting back in silence and appearing to have renounced everything, may indeed not be the true liberation (*Sanyasam*), if the motive behind is a personal need for avoiding actions, being fearful of the outcome or due to blind following rooted in ignorance!

The second paper is titled: **Dharma – A Primer**. The term "Dharma" is subject to extensive descriptions and interpretations. In this essay, an attempt has been made to give a comprehensive overview of Dharma from various sources of Vedic literature and

other traditions. "Dharma is an inherent force in human beings which holds the individual and society together. One cannot live a life in this imperfect world with rigid ideologies. In-depth studies and knowledge of Dharma serve us as the beacon of light as we journey through the voyage of life" concludes the author Dr. Balu Athreya.

Four important medicinal herbs from Valmiki Ramayana are discussed in the article titled, **Vital Medicinal Herbs Allied with the Epic Srimad Ramayana** authored by Smt. Usharani Sridhara. They include: *Mṛta Sanjīvani* (*Selaginella bryopteris*), recommended for: Digestive health, Respiratory support, Immune boosting and Healing of wounds. It is also known for Antioxidant Activity, Stress and Anxiety relief and Anti-microbial Properties. *Viṣālya Karani* (*Tridax procumbens* L.) is a potent medicinal herb associated with restoration and healing of wounds. *Sandhāna Karaṇi* (*Cissus quadrangularis* L.) is known for its ability to heal wounds and setting of bones. All these herbs are important ingredients in Ayurveda.

The paper **shravaNaaH & citta** - Possible connections between Ancient Indian Science & Technology and Quantum Field is authored by Sri A. H. Prabhakara Rao. This study explores the scientific link between shravaNaaH (divine investigators and witnesses in Yamaloka) and citta (thoughts, emotions, and intentions in the human mind /body on this earth). To describe such possible distant links between seemingly far off distances, the author invokes several analogies including tools of modern technology such as: Sensors, Data Loggers, Data Processors, Algorithms, Artificial Intelligence, Database, Cloud Storage, etc.

Section 2 of this issue contains four articles on Sanatana Dharma. The Section begins with a short article describing **Tōraṇa Gaṇapati** installed at the Sri Sarada, Dakṣiṇāmnāya Śrī Śāradā Pīṭham, Śṛṅgēri (Śṛngagiri), Karnataka, India. This unique shrine of Lord Torana Gaṇapati stands as testimony to the Acharyas' prayer to the Lord to avert obstacles. It is customary for devotees and pilgrims visiting Śṛṅgēri, to first have darśana of Sri Torana Gaṇapati and then proceed to have the darśana of Sri Saradamba and the various other deities and the Jagadguru.

Essay on Veda Mantra (Vedic Prayer songs) presents in each issue the meaning and significance of one of the commonly recited prayers. It is authored by Dr. Raghava Boddupalli. This issue contains a verse from **Durga Suktam** - Panacea to the Minds that

Fear Afflictions, is a prayer song (Mantra). Following is a summary: I take refuge in Goddess Durga, the one who is of fiery hue, shining by the glow of her heat, who emerged from the self-luminous Paramatman, worshipped by those who desire for the fruits of action. O Goddess, who helps us cross sufferings and leads us to the other shore of liberation (freedom from needs and wants), salutations to you.

Significance of *Ratha Sapthami*, authored by Dr. Somanchi (Tangirala) Visalakshi, provides details and significance of our existence on planet earth, as part of the Solar system! *Ratha Saptami* is a Hindu festival that falls on the seventh day (*Saptami tithi*) in the bright half (*Shukla Paksha*) of the Hindu month Magha (Feb. 4, 2025). It is symbolically represented in the form of the sun god Surya turning his *Ratha* (chariot) drawn by seven horses, with Aruṇa as the charioteer, towards the northern hemisphere, in a north-easterly direction. It also marks the birth of Surya Bhagavan and is hence also celebrated as Surya Jayanti (the sun-god's birthday). *Ratha Saptami* is symbolic of the change of season to spring and the start of the harvesting season. For most Indian farmers, it is an auspicious beginning of the New Year.

Suddha Sadhakamu — A Way to Moksha Siddhi — Path, Pure Consciousness, purported to achieve Moksha (emancipation) or Heavenly Bliss, was rendered by the Saint, revered Shri Kumara Devulu of Vruddha Chalam (Virudhachalam, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu) was discussed by Sri T.S. Haragopal in Telugu language. He presented the Doctrine of Suddha Sadhakamu i.e. attaining Moksha with the body — Sa Deha Adhigamanamu, in a scientific manner and reasoning.

Section 3 on Sanatana Dharma News contains three items. First is a report on the anointment of **Sri Satya Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi as the 71**<sup>st</sup> **Acharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam** by Acharya Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swami. This anointment occurred on the *Akshya Tritiya tithi* (April 30, 2025). The new Acharya has joined the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam family, one of the most important *peetams* in India, to carry forward the '*Guru Parampara*' tradition.

We also include a message on a "heartfelt tribute" - the tribute concert presented in the **memory of Sri Garimella Balakrishna Prasad**, at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan auditorium recently in Hyderabad. This concert and the speeches that followed emphasized the deep respect and admiration in the hearts of all the musicians who

performed and in the hearts of the audiences who turned out in large numbers as a mark of respect to Sri Balakrishna Prasad.

**Chi. Sreevatsa Akella**, disciple of Guru Sri M.V. Viswanadh, performed **Bharatanatya Arangetram** on Friday June 20th 2025 in the Sri Sringeri Mutt Auditorium, in the premises of Sri Siva Ramakrishna Kshetram (Ramakoti), Satyanarayanapuram, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. Fifteen-year-old Sreevatsa is hailing from Phoenix, Arizona, USA, and he is in the 10th Grade. His Bharatnatya Arangetram performance was covered by the Hans India newspaper.

We welcome all comments and suggestions as well as your ideas to improve and enhance the **vEda vaaNee** publication. We also solicit research papers, essays, poems and other written articles that are based on Sanatana Dharma. The goal is to learn, spread and assimilate the vast body of knowledge and promote a culture that seeks the goal of Sanatana Dharma: "Sarve JhanaH Sukhino Bhavanthu: May everyone and indeed everything remain happy, in peace and harmony!"

- DhanyawaadhaaH -

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Veda Samskruti is an inherent intellectual property of Bhaarata dEsham. It is the basic duty and right of every citizen in Bhaarata dEsham to protect this Intellectual property. Indian Constitution and Law provides provision for protection and preservation of its culture, its monuments, architecture etc.

The Chaturvedas said to have 1131 shaakhaas right up to the time of Aadi Shankaraachaarya and thereafter during last more than ten centuries, many shaakhaas are out of practice due to various reasons and presently only seven shaakaas are in the practice of Guru shiShya parampara.

There is a need to continuously preserve these available shaakhaas which may likely to disappear in future due to various external forces acting in the country vigorously with the power of money and global politics. It is time for the intellectuals of Bharata dEsham to wake-up and work collectively to protect and preserve Veda Samskruti of Bharata dEsham, by empowering the Youth of Bharat dEsham, the future care takers of this great Indian Heritage, with suitable education of our correct history and culture.

The above background led to formation of this Veda Samskruti Samiti which is registered under Societies acts of Government of Telangana, with Regd. No. 961/2016 by Sri A.H. Prabhakara Rao, who is the Founder and President of the Samiti.

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