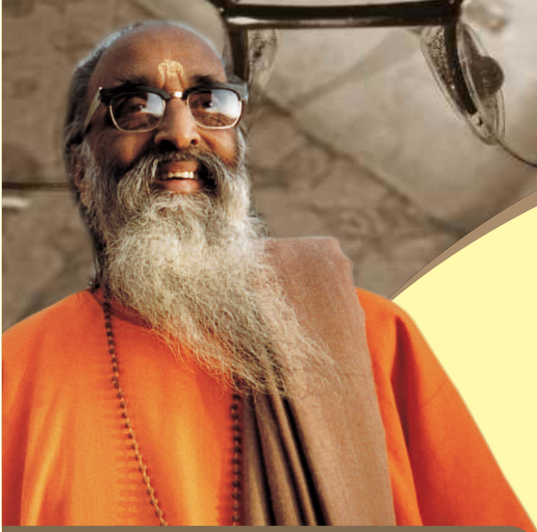


# Newsletter

Adi Sankara Nilayam, Adi Sankara Marg, Veliyanad, Ernakulam District - 682319, Kerala, India.



Chinmaya International Foundation  
is a bridge between  
East and West, past and present,  
science and spirituality, and pundit and public.  
— Pūjya Gurudev Swami Chinmayananda

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## editorial

When a year passes by and the new one seems to have come too soon, it just means that CIF has not had a moment to breathe; and this is good news, because Gurudev's vision of a center of academic excellence is now frothing with projects and publications and researches and workshops and courses. All in all, it has been a rich busy year.

The beauty is in the way Gurudev's vision statement unfolds in every task.

On another note, this is also the season of education: new courses, new collaborations, admissions, results, performance all coming to a rolling boil. A lot of interesting work about, for and with students has been seen.

Top on the list is a much awaited and sought after recognition of CIF by IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University) as **Research Center for Sanskrit and Indology**. And this after an expert committee examined and probed our track record, our scholar-guides, our facilities and infrastructure.

The IGNOU recognition has verily resulted in a paradigm shift. In short, CIF is now truly a global organization, for what this recognition will now mean is

*contd on pg 2*

### Chinmaya International Foundation Shodha Sansthan (CIFSS)

Chinmaya International Foundation is affiliated to the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan as Shodha Sansthan (Centre for Excellence in Sanskrit Research). A department has thus been set up under the auspices of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan which focuses exclusively on Sanskrit publications and research.

that anyone from anywhere in the world can do their PhD with CIF, sitting in any country. The student needs to only register with CIF's PhD programme, whereafter CIF will help him find a guide and he goes ahead with his research. Until now CIF was able to offer doctoral studies only to students within the Kerala State.

This is a great move for CIF which will now have access to a vaster pool of scholars and guides that will only make our Research in Indology even richer.

Another big event at CIF is the signing of a MoU with School of Vedic Maths. With this, CIF will soon be offering Vedic Maths as an online and postal course for the general public in a year or so. Additionally plans are afoot to incorporate Vedic Maths in the Chinmaya Vidyalayas with the sole purpose of enabling students learn a new yet old Maths approach, while also keeping alive our knowledge tradition.

CIF's Anusaaraka has forged ahead with presenting to a working committee of the DIT (Department of Information Technology), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India, its high caliber work in the area of natural language processing with particular accent on Indian Languages. This will enable Anusaaraka avail of government funding in the current financial year. This is a very rewarding moment for all its collaborating partners too, as the funds will pave the way for more intensive research.

Another rewarding moment of true recognition for Anusaaraka was, being featured on BBC's Digital Planet' in March this year. This brought into centerstage not just Anusaaraka's great work with ancient languages using the via media of technology, but brought Sanskrit into close-up, especially its awe-inspiring logic to improve the

capabilities of modern Opensource software! Just in a span of two months, Anusaaraka has enabled the realisation of two aspects of Gurudev's pet vision statement – science and spirituality and the coming together of scholars and spiritualists. In an unprecedented initiative, Anusaaraka after a small workshop for the ChinTech students, has decided to invite them to the Anusaaraka Lab in Hyderabad, where the students of technology will help with the development of an intelligent assistant for English-Hindi Anusaaraka. In a heartwarming reciprocal act, ChinTech will help upgrade Anusaaraka's website.

Seen differently, the educational institutes under the Chinmaya umbrella are continuously being nurtured in spirit as well. Students of ChinTech, Kannur, the engineering and technology institute of the Mission camped at Adi Sankara Nilayam for a management empowerment program, but their curriculum included a focused discussion on 'What constitutes spiritual living'. That smaller towns and cities are fast wizing up to the ills of a purely profit drive business vision, is heartening. If ChinTech has shown the way then it is clear that commercial success is going to be clocked in the smaller towns of India, increasingly which should then soon be the greater contributor of GDP! And not just talk, ChinTech also had on its curriculum at CIF, lessons in meditation, a means to quieten the mind and bring it to work in harmony with the intellect.

Education takes one to study and upgrading and refreshing knowledge. It is truly amazing how our own śāstras have all the rules and methods, yet we harken westward for management lessons. The Chinmaya Mission has the concept of Śāstra Sadas, where the Ācāryas of a region meet for a predetermined

period of time and study a text. In the process contemporary views are exchanged and new experiences are exchanged and new experiences are shared on the text. Studying is different from teaching and drives home the need for teachers to revisit their texts. CIF was recently host to the Kerala Ācāryas' Śāstra Sadas. Being a research institute, for CIF this was a bonus as the study was around a pure Vedanta text, *Laghutattovasudhā*!

Then Fr. Massimo d' Orlando: Some things repeat like the seasons... steadily, regularly, quietly... unobtrusively. They come play out and quietly exit. Fr. Massimo and his Satchidananda Mission team have been unerringly coming year after year to CIF to study in the close proximity of Śrī Śaṅkara. But it is apparent that similar tradition surrounds the study patterns of the Vedānta students of Fr. Massimo; they choose the serenity and quiet assurance of Adi Sankara Nilayam and revisit *Vivekacūḍāmanī*. This year they spent time in Self-inquiry!

It is not a wonder that CIF's Adi Sankara Nilayam inspires deep study and research. It is a property well chosen for CIF's research work, having been home to Śrī Śaṅkara's contemplative study and writing. Whether this is reflection on the depth of Śrī Śaṅkara's work or the determination of our scholars and guides, but the content of CIF workshops do boggle the mind.

The recent workshop – 'Indian Philosophy – A Brief Analytical Study' showcased how elaborate and extensive research is and how deep goes the effort of teachers to bring to light the understanding, which could be just one aspect of the whole knowledge group. The above workshop examined the six schools of Indian philosophy and their differences, and most importantly, went into the details about 'superimposition' (adhyāsa) as a cause of

ignorance. The text studied was *just* the preamble to the commentary on *Brahmasūtra*! Imagine what it takes to arrive at *Brahmasūtra* itself!

May patience be ours as we ponder, research, study and assimilate the wealth brought down the holy Himalayas by our very own Gurudev!

**STOP PRESS:** And even as we say this, Gurudev's great emphasis on Kṛṣṇa's Counsel or the *Bhagavad-gītā*, has found new expression in the form of a home study course. For CIF this is yet another high, as it awaits the formal launch of the course at the hands of Pūjya Swami Tejomayananda in Piercy, USA on Vyāsa-pūrṇima day.

The course has been personally authored by Pūjya Guruji Swami Tejomayananda and carries with it the personal care, attention, love and training of a guru. More in our next issue, but suffice it to say, the language and simplicity used in structuring and writing the course makes it one of the best courses ever.

We urge you to visit:

[www.chinfo.org/courses/bhagavadgita](http://www.chinfo.org/courses/bhagavadgita)

Such is the richness that CIF spends its days and nights on, for such is the vision that Pūjya Gurudev carved on the blessed ground of Melpazhur Mana, Śaṅkara's birth home, and now CIF's birth home. This property is no more able to effectively (and efficiently) host the intensive study of the rich community of scholars, researchers, teachers, students and

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spiritual teachers hosting their workshops, camps, seminars and study at Adi Sankara Nilayam. It was Gurudev's plan that CIF must, standing on Śaṅkara's birth home, take forward the vision of Gurudev to the world.

The Centenary Celebrations are just 3 years away. The construction work has achieved fair progress in Phase I of the plan. (For more details please read the report of Project CIF elsewhere in this Newsletter.) All this has been possible thanks to the continued support of our members and students. We remain extremely grateful for this. With a large part of the core construction yet to be accomplished, we remain hopeful of your continued support. Truly, Gurudev's Vision is taking shape both at the physical level and the subtler level of our mission.



Prof. Revathy Sukumar, Prof. R. Balasubramanian, K. Jayakumar, Swami Advayananda, Prof. P. C. Muraleemadhavan and the delegates



## Indian Philosophy: A Brief Analytical Study

June  
5-14  
2010

There are six schools of Indian Philosophy – called Ṣaḍ-darśanas – which accept the authority of the Vedas. These are Nyāya, Vaiśeṣika, Sāṅkhya, Yoga, Pūrva-mīmāṃsā and Uttara-mīmāṃsā or Vedānta. All these darśanas essentially deal with the intra relationships of the triad: Jīva, Jagat and Brahman and Liberation as a result of resolving this relationship.

CIFSS organised a workshop to briefly analyse and study these six schools of philosophy in collaboration with Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi. The idea was to provide an overview of the six systems to students since a comprehensive understanding of all the six is greatly beneficial to any student of Indian Philosophy.

The Chief faculty of this workshop was Prof. R. Balasubramanian, Former Chairman, ICPR who presented the overview of these Ṣaḍ-darśanas.

An important complement to the Ṣaḍ darśanas is epistemology or the study of the means of knowledge – Perception, Inference, Similarity, Postulation, Non-apprehension and lastly, Verbal testimony. There is a fitting Indian text that studies these six, called *Mānamālā*. Māna is short for Pramāṇa or 'means of Knowledge' and mālā is garland, so that *Mānamālā* means the garland of the six means of knowledge.

This fascinating text written by Achyuta Kṛṣṇānanda Tīrtha, (with the commentary of Rāmānanda) was presented to the workshop participants by Prof. Revathy Sukumar, Head of the Department of Vedānta, University of Madras.



The third very important and complementary text that was studied at this workshop was *Adhyāsa-bhāṣya* (with the commentary Pūrṇānandīya) which is the preamble to the commentary on *Brahmasūtra* by Ādi Śaṅkara. This was expounded by Dr. Goda Venkateswara Sastri, a traditional scholar. What makes this text complementary to *Mānamālā* and the *Ṣaḍ-darśanas* is its study of superimposition (adhyāsa). Mutual Superimposition of the self and the body itself is ignorance. And for a student of Vedānta, the understanding of the causes of bondage and transmigration is attained through the study of this mutual superimposition of the self and non-self.

Thus this workshop achieved for the 55 scholar-participants a very detailed understanding of the different systems of knowledge and their differences as brought out by the postulates of 'means of knowledge' and 'superimposition'.

## Workshop on Research Trends in Sanskrit and Indology

Aug  
19,20  
2010



Dr. Radha Vallabha Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, inaugurating AYUSH Project, lighting the traditional lamp.

The presence of Dr. Radha Vallabha Tripathi, Honourable Vice Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi at the CIFSS workshop on Research Trends in Sanskrit and Indology, gave the event the right tone of significance and value. Other dignitaries on

the occasion too, expressed their delight over the value of the workshop to create awareness on what constitutes quality research, among the student community.

His talk was very much informative and thought provoking. Dr. Tripathi also inaugurated CIFSS's collaborative Project with 'AYUSH' (Department of Āyurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) for the digitalisation of all medical manuscripts (palm leaf), especially Āyurveda, in Kerala. The workshop threw a spotlight on the obstacles to quality research faced by researchers dedicated to delivering quality. It was attended by 30 researchers from different universities and colleges, most of whom presented papers highlighting their specific difficulties in the field of research which were then addressed by senior research dignitaries such as Prof. V.N. Jha, Former Director, Centre of Advanced Study in Sanskrit, Pune and Prof. N.P. Unni, Former Vice-Chancellor, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady. The first issue of CIFSS' annual journal *Dhīmahī* was also released on the occasion.

## Workshop on Text encoding and Computational Concept of Aṣṭādhyāyī

1 Nov -  
10 Dec  
2010

Computational Linguistics (CL) is a derivative of linguistics and computer sciences concerning itself with the computational aspects of human languages. CL cannot evolve to the level of human ability but with keen modeling of human languages, CL can actually be effectively used to process natural languages.

One of the uses to which CL can be applied very effectively is a search and collation of common terms across different topics. For example collection under one heading all

instances where the word 'dharma' is used in the *Gītā*. Currently many Sanskrit Institutions have prepared or developed Sanskrit texts on the computer. A simple search may elicit numbers of instances but it will not come with the address of each instance's location in the *Gītā*.

CIFSS held a workshop to guide incumbents on how such linguistic approach can be applied, since the development of Sanskrit texts is an ongoing affair and researchers and litterateurs are always in need to ready methods for accessing data. Therefore having searched a word it needs to be dealt with so that the search result is collected and saved under a common name. Research itself is tedious but preparing the environment of research is much more complex.

CIFSS held a three day workshop on preparing Sanskrit texts suitable for Computational Research. Which means also preparing a given Sanskrit text and rendering it suitable for computational research by giving them supports like meta tags and reference information. Additionally, developing guidelines which specify encoding methods for performing online research and teaching.



Shri. Santhosh taking a session in the Workshop on Text Encoding and Computational Concept of Aṣṭādhyāyī



This was specifically examined in the context of a renowned Sanskrit text called the *Aṣṭādhyāyī*, an ancient classical text of Sanskrit grammar, authored by Pāṇini. For students of CL, the construction of *Aṣṭādhyāyī* is very valuable in studying Computational concepts. Led by some of the best names in CL such as Prof. Amba Kulkarni, Dr. Tirumala Kulkarni, and Shri Santosh, the workshop took up the research on *Bṛhadāraṇyakopaniṣad*, *Māṇḍūkyaopaniṣad*, *Chāndogyaopaniṣad*, *Bhagavad-gītā* – Chapters II, III, IV with Śāṅkara-bhāṣya – which were tagged by the 35 workshop participants.

## Workshop on Manuscriptology and Paleography

March  
18-20  
2011

With financial support from the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM), Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi, this 40 day workshop took off to a great start. The idea behind the workshop was a revival of this old knowledge tradition which today lies among a handful of committed elders who dedicated their lives to sustaining this rich tradition.

The workshop endeavoured to and included teaching of four scripts – Śāradā, Old Nāgarī, Grantha and Mewari script. Across 73 lectures and 76 hands on classes, the learned elders took the 22 participants through the history of writing traditions, collation, editing, transcription and preparation of critical edition of texts and the application of methods for conservation and preservation of manuscripts. As part of the workshop, five small unpublished texts were edited (*Sāmagrīvāda* by Raghudeva, *Śatakoṭi-khaṇḍanam* by KṛṣṇaTātācārya, *Bhāṣakusuma mañjarī*, *Smṛtitattvamaṇi* by Yogirāja Praharāja and *Ekaślokyākhya* by Svayamprakaśa) and three texts transcribed.

A total of 17 eminent professors and scholars led the workshop including professors R.V. Tripathi, T.N. Ganjoo, B. K. Swain, Surendra Mohan Mishra, K. K. Thapliyal, Ratna Basu, V.N. Jha, Gangadhar Panda, P.C. Muraleemadhavan, N. P. Unni, Anirban Dash, V. S. Shukla, D. K. Rana, Mallika, Mitra, P. Vishalakshy and Jitubhai Shah.

The participants were from Sree Sankaracharya Sanskrit University, Kalady, M.G. University, Kottayam, Tirupati Sanskrit Vidyapith, Rastriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Puri, Kurukshetra University and Wayanad Ayurvedic College, Kerala.

The texts that were edited and transcribed during the workshop will be published in collaboration with National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi.



Delegates of the Workshop on Manuscriptology and Paleography.

## Three Ācārya Śāstra-Sadas

The Ācārya Śāstra-sadas is the coming together of all the Ācāryas in the Kerala region to study a text together, like a refresher course. This is an event that happens in four sessions every year.

Last year the Kerala Ācāryas studied the Śāṅkara-bhāṣya of the *Brahmasūtras* through the four sessions. This year they chose Svayaṁ prakāśayati's commentary on *Dakṣiṇāmūrti-stotram* called *Laghutattvasudhā*. It was a vibrant occasion under the guidance of Pūjya Swami Viviktananda, Regional Head of Kerala Chinmaya Mission.

Fifteen Ācāryas over three days pored over the *Laghutattvasudhā*, taking it line by line, pondering upon the interpretation and studying its meanings methodically.

Studying in this manner, in the holy precincts of the Adi Sankara Nilayam is verily like studying under the gaze of Śrī Śaṅkara himself!

## Four Sanskrit Yajñas

CIF has been very committed and enthusiastic about Sanskrit yajñas and in the Chinmaya Mission sevaks meet on April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010, it was discussed that Sanskrit awareness efforts must be stepped up. With Swami Ramakrishnanandaji having developed an amazing kit for Sanskrit study, which CIF was deploying through its postal and online courses, as well as through camps and workshops, it was being seen that Swamiji's classes were delivering great results wherever he went. So at this Sevaks meet, Swami Ramakrishnananda, the Ācārya of the Easy Sanskrit Course, was introduced to all Kerala Chinmaya Mission sevaks.

Encouraged by this the sevaks committed to holding a series of Sanskrit Yajñas at the centers under their purview.

The first to pick up the baton was Chinmaya Centre Thrissur, where Swamiji conducted a Sanskrit camp for learning the basics of Sanskrit language in the style of a Yajña (morning and evening classes). Close on its heels came Kasargode, Trivandrum and Calicut, each with 60-70 participants.



Swami Ramakrishnananda conducting a Sanskrit Yajna in Trichur



Swamiji has been instrumental in making Sanskrit enjoyable for students with his Easy Sanskrit Kit which he has designed. This was the syllabus for the Yajña. Swamiji was successful in creating love for Sanskrit in the hearts of the delegates with his innovative, interesting and wonderful way of teaching through lively examples, stories, drawings and actions soaked in patience and humour. He also addressed the Chinmaya Vidyalaya teachers, Chinmaya College staff and the Chinmaya Yuva Kendra members on the joys and importance of learning Sanskrit.

These camps take CIF's Sanskrit initiative forward zealously and 2011-12 expects to see a great burst of Sanskrit studying.

Every such camp has been seen to shift the votes in favour of Sanskrit!

## Sanskrit Day Celebration

Sanskrit is core to the vision of CIF and its Shodha Sansthan (CIFSS). Sanskrit Day is used as an opportunity to spread the message of Sanskrit even deeper. A two day event-filled annual celebration was organised in 2010.

The function was inaugurated by Dr. K. G. Paulose, Vice-Chancellor of Kerala Kalamandalam, Cheruthuruthy and former Registrar of Sri Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady.

October  
6,7  
2010



Swami Atmaswroopananda, Acharya, Sree Ramakrishna Mission, Vytilla hands over the prize to a winner

Various competitions were held for students from schools and colleges and it is a matter of great pride for CIF that the Kerala region schools and colleges faced the challenge and took part in every event with tremendous contribution and effort. Especially if one considers the nature of the events: memorization of Aṣṭādhyāyīsūtrapāṭha, chanting of *Amarakośa* (Sanskrit Lexicon), Gītāpārāyaṇam, Kathākathanam, Recitation, elocution, essay writing, versification and quiz programmes – all in Sanskrit!

Around 200 students from different schools and colleges of Kerala participated in the programme.

On day two of the celebrations, the chief guest H. H. Swami Atmaswroopananda, Ācārya, Sree Ramakrishna Matham, Vytilla, gave the event the right tone and importance when he said that *the source of all the śāstras is Sanskrit and it is our prime duty to protect our tradition and learn the Sanskrit language.*

## THE ANUSAARAKA DIARY

*Anusaaraka is a Natural Language Processing project that is core to CIF's vision. Every year a few building blocks are added to the edifice that is being constructed with tremendous dedication, love and commitment.*

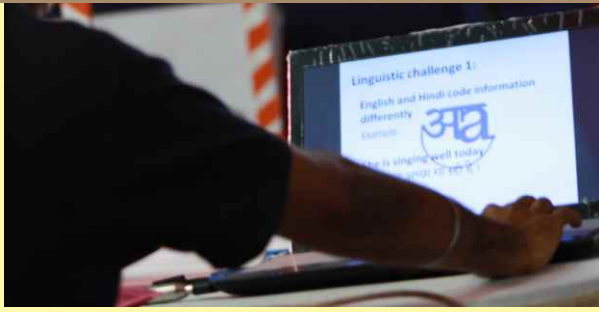
### Course on Computational

March  
2010

### Linguistics for Indic Languages

Processes were put in place at Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for initiating a Course on Computational Linguistics for Indic Languages with Anusaaraka as workbench. The Course content is being designed and developed and discussions are on led by Dr. Dipti Misra Sharma, Research Associate Professor, IIIT-Hyderabad (one of the collaborating institutes





for the Anusaaraka project) and by Prof. Satchidanandan, Director, School of Translation Studies and Training, IGNOU. Plans are afoot to hold a series of workshops at IGNOU after July 2011 before formally offering the course to the student community.

### **Anusaaraka Language Resource Development (LRD) review workshop and sessions**

July  
2010

Anusaaraka is one project that must have several reviews, workshops and discussions. It is natural to the essential nature of the project itself. LRD thus has a permanent team of volunteers, who meet, discuss and frame word sense disambiguation (WSD) rules and enter the same into the Anusaaraka WSD form available online. From time to time, teams of volunteers are allocated words or pages from the dictionary to frame 'Word Sense Disambiguation' rules. In July 2010 a one day session was held where LRD volunteers shared the work they have been doing, discussed doubts and finalised more rules that can help improve the Anusaaraka output. This session was held at Chinmaya Centre of World Understanding, New Delhi.

Ably assisted by Anand Kishore, a part-time sevak of Anusaaraka in Delhi, the volunteers (listed below) have done commendable work of completing the framing of WSD rules for 4 pages of the Oxford Dictionary that were allocated to them: C. B. Prasad, Dr. V. Saraswati, Indra Kilam, J. U. Mansukhani and K. Vyas Murty.

Others who are striving towards completion of the WSD rules allocated to them include: Asha Bhartiya, Asha Shahi, Brig. R. N. Srivastava (Retd.), Indu Sachdeva, R. Ramamoorthy, Rano Jindal and Shiromani Vijay.

### **Anusaaraka pitches for financial assistance from the Government**

Sept  
2010

Anusaaraka was presented to a working committee of the Department of Information Technology (DIT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India, that was evaluating projects for technology development in Indian Languages. The presentation was made by Dr. Amba Kulkarni, Reader and Head, Department of Sanskrit Studies, University of Hyderabad (UoH). Also representing Anusaaraka were Shri K. K. Rajan, Chief Sevak, CIF and Ms. Shibani, Project Manager.

DIT is now considering funding the project in the current financial year. This is truly rewarding for CIF, IIIT-Hyderabad and UoH, the collaborating partners.

### **Anusaaraka participates in an International Conference on 'Role of Translation in Nation Building, Nationalism and Supra-nationalism'**

Dec  
2010

This was organised by the Indian Translators Association (ITAINdia) and LINGUAINdia. This Conference had the participation of translators, academicians and experts involved in translation and cross-cultural studies. More than 150 Speakers from India and 40 delegates representing 25 different countries shared views on various subjects closely linked to translation. The participants were from 60 Universities of national and international repute.

Diverse topics relating to the crucial role played by translation in the economic, social, and cultural growth of a country and its immense importance for Nation Building, National Integration, and Supra-Nationalism were discussed during the Conference. Perhaps, it was for the first time in the history of the Indian Translation Industry that such a large gathering of professional translators, academicians and theoreticians of national and international repute had come together.

The Conference provided an opportunity to enhance and upgrade understanding and knowledge of translation with specific themes such as Translation, Interpretation, Diplomacy, Nation Branding, Cultural Diversity, Teaching and Training in Translation and Interpretation, Quality Standards in Translation, Terminology Management and Project Management in Translation, Technology and Innovation in Translation and so on.

Anusaaraka's Project Manager, Ms. Shibani Khorana, presented a paper 'Anusaaraka, Nation Building and Supra-nationalism' in a special section of the Conference that was dedicated to discussions on Machine Translation initiatives in India.

Since the focus of the presentation was on the English-Hindi Anusaaraka Language Accessor a query on how differences of 'verb-inflection' in English vis-a-vis Hindi/Indian languages was raised. A participant also suggested that Anusaaraka later on be used as a language learning device.

## **Anusaaraka @ Chinmaya**

### **Institute of Technology (Chintech)**

As a part of the endeavour to explore involvement of Chintech, Kannur's post graduate students and the faculty of Computer Applications in the Anusaaraka project, a presentation was made at the Chintech Campus by Ms. Shibani Khorana. Plans are underway to arrange a visit of the students to the Anusaaraka Lab at International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad, in June 2011.

This move is expected to help the project in a significant manner. Chintech, it is expected will upgrade Anusaaraka's website as well as help with the development of an intelligent assistant for English-Hindi Anusaaraka. The intelligent assistant's role would be to detect potential syntactic and WSD (Word Sense Disambiguation) problems in the sentence under consideration and offer relevant hints to the user so that he can confidently decide the sentence meaning. Needless to say, this collaboration is eagerly looked forward to as it would prove to be mutually beneficial for two Chinmaya sister Institutions – Chintech and CIF! Gurudev would be truly delighted!

### **Anusaaraka in a National Conference on Scientific and Technical Awareness in Hindi, Gandhinagar.**

Jan  
2010

Anusaaraka participated in a National Conference on scientific and technical awareness in Hindi, at the Institute for Plasma Research (IPR), Gandhinagar on January 27, 2011. Such a National Conference was organized for the first time by IPR with the primary objective of providing a forum for Technical and Scientific Experts to share their work in the National Language – Hindi.



Ms. Shibani Khorana giving a presentation on Anusaaraka

Presentation and preparation of Scientific and Technical works in Hindi has been recognized as a challenge in India, especially because a lot of the literature and information is available in English. The Conference had participants from leading scientific research institutions such as Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC); Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR); Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO); Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India; Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute (CEERI); Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology (RRCAT); Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU); Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD); Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications & Geoinformatics (BISAG); Physical Research Laboratory (PRL); Space Applications Centre (SAC) and IPR itself.

Anusaaraka, being an 'English-Hindi Language Accessing and Machine translation software', was invited to participate as it is a potential tool for getting reliable Hindi translation of technical and scientific documents. Project Manager – Shibani Khorana, made the presentation and also sought assistance from technical institutions – who received Anusaaraka and its work with great optimism – to help build Anusaaraka's technical and scientific corpora. A English–Hindi Dictionary of Atomic terms was promptly shared by the organisers.

## **Anusaaraka on BBC Radio**

March  
2010

In what was yet another celebration for the Anusaaraka Project, BBC radio featured Anusaaraka (4 minutes), on its BBC World Service Technology programme 'Digital Planet' on March 22, 2011. The coverage included audio clips of Swami Advayananda, Resident Ācārya, CIF and Ms. Shibani

Khorana, Project Manager, Anusaaraka. Also interspersed was a pre-recorded interview between the programme presenter and Vishva Samani, a young London based Global IT Team Member of Chinmaya Mission. The programme threw the spotlight on Anusaaraka's efforts at making an ancient classical language (Sanskrit) relevant in the modern digital age and focused on how an online translation tool is harnessing the logic of an ancient language to improve the capabilities of modern Opensource software. Hearteningly, it also explored this unusual coming together of academics and ascetics in ways that many people would find interesting – demonstrating a link between science and spirituality – a much emphasized aspect of Pūjya Gurudev's vision for CIF.

The radio interview is available at: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/science/2009/03/000000\\_digital\\_planet.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/science/2009/03/000000_digital_planet.shtml)

## CIF MILESTONES

### **Courses**

*Some courses went into revision this year, some were launched in a new format as well and an all new course is also waiting to be launched.*

June  
30  
2010

### **Sanskrit Courses:**

The Easy Sanskrit Course, which was developed by Swami Ramakrishnananda, was first launched in the Online format in 2009. Bearing in mind that there are different segments in the target audience some of whom live in places where access to the internet is varied, CIF decided to develop a slightly adapted version for postal education. This postal course was launched on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 by Pūjya Guruji Swami Tejomayananda at Chinmaya Vibhooti, Kolwan.



## Foundation Vedanta Course revised edition:

June  
30  
2010

Of all the academic courses CIF has to offer, the Foundation Vedanta Course is very popular. Student feedback had pointed to a need for simplifying the language and in some places the concepts as well. With this in view, the Foundation level study material went through two levels of examination and the course was revised to meet the needs of the students.

The Foundation Vedanta Course renewed edition was also launched by Pūjya Gurujī Swami Tejomayanandaji on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Chinmaya Vibhooti, Kolwan.

## Bhagavad Gītā Home Study Course:

July  
15  
2011

After three long years in research and preparation, CIF's third magnum opus, the Bhagavad-gītā Home Study Course is being launched on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 on the occasion of Gurupūrṇima.

This is a pre-launch announcement, so look out for printed brochures and material at your local Mission Centres and the last page of the Newsletter for how to register and more details about the course.

## IGNOU Recognition

January  
2011

**CIF now a declared Research Center of IGNOU**

The vision to be committed to research in Indology and Sanskrit is one that demands a depth and strength to traverse such depth. And such a vision is a long haul, not something that is had with a couple of years' effort.

CIF has had the hand of Gurudev's grace over its efforts the last 20 years and it has been no mean task to mine the depths of this vision in a multi pronged manner, panning education, mining manuscripts, publications, workshops, lectures, presenting to authorities, bodies and institutions and above all staying rooted to the original purpose.

CIF's research facilities for students desirous of pursuing their doctoral studies in Indology and Sanskrit, has found favour with IGNOU after CIF made a request that in order to benefit the student body, CIF's credentials be vetted for recognition as Research Center for Sanskrit and Indology of IGNOU. Consequent to this IGNOU set up an experts committee constituted of the following esteemed professionals:

- \* Prof. K. R. Srivathsan, Pro Vice Chancellor, IGNOU–Chairperson
- \* Prof. K. V. Ramakrishnamacharyulu, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati, Former Vice Chancellor, JRR Sanskrit University, Jaipur
- \* Prof. Ujjwala Jha, Director, Centre of Advanced Study in Sanskrit, University of Pune, Pune
- \* Prof. Rajendra I. Nanavati, Former Director, Oriental Institute of M S University, Vadodara

Supporting the effort from CIF's side, special invitees were

- \* Prof. Muraleemadhavan, Chairman of CIF Shodha Sansthan, Head of Department, Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady
- \* Sri. K. K. Rajan, Chief Executive Trustee, Chinmaya International Foundation
- \* Dr. P. Geervani, Former Vice Chancellor, Sri Padmavati University, Tirupati

In making a case for CIF, the above expert committee took into consideration the available infrastructure at CIF, the richness of the library, the surround intelligence being captured and projected through its camps, workshops and academic activities in the area of Indology and Sanskrit Language. Significant emphasis was placed on the evaluation of the PhD students of Mahatma Gandhi University (to which CIF is already affiliated) who are currently using CIF library and guides for their doctoral studies.

They examined the qualifications of the scholars in house at CIF and also the scholars associated with CIF. CIF has world acclaimed scholars in their list of associated supervisors and guides. The team also noted the recognitions and tie ups and collaborations that CIF has with other esteemed universities and institutions including IGNOU.

The committee, after studying all the above, enthusiastically recommended that IGNOU should recognize CIF as a Research Centre for Sanskrit and Indology. The activities of this Research Centre may be supervised by a duly constituted Doctoral Committee for PhD and the Joint Coordination Committee of IGNOU and CIF for other research areas of joint interest.

Considering the available strengths for academic and PhD level research, the committee recommended the approval by IGNOU in the following areas:

- \* Darśanas – Advaita-vedānta, Sāṅkya, Yoga, Mīmāṃsa, Nyāya, Comparative Philosophy
- \* Sanskrit Computational Linguistics
- \* Multimedia Information Systems and Digital Preservation of Sanskrit Heritage and Traditional Knowledge
- \* Vyākaraṇa
- \* Epics and Aesthetics and Comparative Aesthetics

In the first week of January, 2011 CIF was declared a recognised Research Center by IGNOU. Following this, CIF announced the PhD Courses in collaboration with IGNOU and enrolment will begin July, 2011.

## Project CIF

Pūjya Gurudev's Centenary Year celebrations are just three good years away and CIF is committed to making this as perfect and successful as Gurudev would have ensured had he worked on this himself.

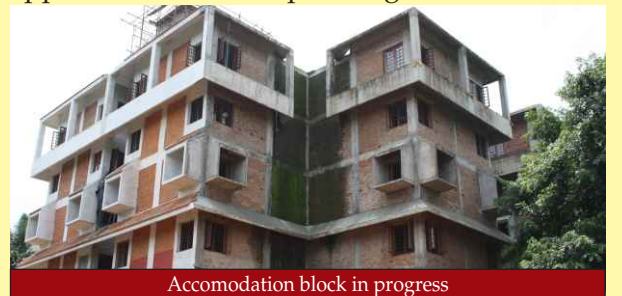
The project which involves construction of residential quarters and kitchen and dining halls apart from an efficient Convention Center with communication aids crucial for research and publication, awaits the largesse and love of our devotees, members and students. For without the loving support to Gurudev's vision and dream, the celebrations in 2015 will be unachievable.

Just a few months ago, CIF was recognized as a research center of IGNOU, based on the recommendation of an expert committee comprised of senior philosophers and educators attached to IGNOU. Come July, student enrolments will begin and over time the capacity of the infrastructure to service a growing community of students will gain urgency. It is now even more necessary that CIF steps up its facilities and this can be had only with the recognition of its vision by one and all.

In Phase I of Project CIF, the following portions have been completed: construction of the Kutiya for the Head of the Chinmaya Mission, Staff Quarters Upstairs, Scholars Block Upstairs.

**Pending to be completed:** The Accommodation Block which contains 136 rooms in a three storeyed building, with all related plumbing, electrification, tiling and furniture fixtures.

Besides these, also pending are installation of lifts, Solar Water Heating System, construction of compound wall, sump and septic tank, new approach road, water proofing and installation



of fire fighting system – among the big ticket categories. It is expected that the above will need another 4 months and ₹250 lakhs.

In Phase II is envisaged the Conference Hall with capacity to seat 1000 people, the Library with state-of-the-art communication facilities to enhance research initiatives, the Administrative wing is envisaged, as well as the extension and modernization of the existing kitchen. Budgeted cost is estimated at ₹20 crores and is expected to be completed in a period of 20 months.

CIF has recently stepped up its focus and drive on Indology and its workshops and seminars are now expected to spread to other cities soon. With the affiliation with IGNOU as a research center, the intensity of research and seminar led study will go up significantly. We expect to report the details in the next Newsletter.

## Pūjya Gurudev Sevaks Training Camp, Mumbai

16 Feb-  
3 Mar  
2011

As the Mission grows, expands and evolves, the leadership of any good organization will keep an eagle's eye on the frontline management and the spine of the organization and make sure there are able soldiers always who carry key tasks on their shoulders.

This year Pūjya Guruji called out to everyone who wished to dedicate themselves full time serving Gurudev's Mission. In answer to his call, 200 sevaks from the world over, presented themselves to be trained by Guruji himself.

Swami Advayananda made a very powerful presentation on CIF, enumerating its achievements, successes, struggles and victories and covering the vision of Gurudev. Giving full prostrations to Gurudev's saṅkalpa, Guruji's guidance and Ādi Śaṅkara's energy in the CIF location at Adi Sankara Nilayam, Swamiji made a very powerful observation, "Those who are considering serving at CIF should understand that they are coming to the birth home of Ādi Śaṅkara, very very close to Pūjya Gurudev's heart. And to see that vision of Pūjya Gurudev fulfilled is our 'bhāgya'. So jump at the opportunity."

Team CIF then presented the profiles of the sevaks required at CIF. Ms. Shibani spoke on Project Anusaaraka and requirements, Geervani Amma spoke on IGNOU collaboration of CIF, K. K. Rajan highlighted the full time workers required and Ms. Manisha Makhecha spoke about the needs of the CIF website which is most active.



Ms. Manisha Makhecha explaining about CIF websites (top)  
Delegates at Pūjya Gurudev Sevak Training Programme (bottom)





The CIF team including the CIF Yuva Veers were called on stage and introduced to the other sevaks for further interaction.

Followed by the presentations, CIF had a long line of Sevaks ready to offer their services. On the last day, the following CIF sevaks offered their services fulltime to CIF:

- Renjith as full time designer for CIF – will be based in CIF and will also undertake work for Central Chinmaya Mission Trust (CCMT).
- Ramachandran as full time sevak, to be based in CIF, for all the audio and video productions of CIF and will also undertake projects for Central Chinmaya Mission Trust (CCMT).
- Sujith, Yuva Veer 1st batch from Trissur has offered to serve full time at CIF as the Asst. Manager, PR and Publications
- Sri E. K. Vijaykumar from Kannur has offered to join CIF full time as Manager, Finance and Admin at CIF.
- 6 sevaks offered to assist in project Anusaaraka on a part time basis. Shibani is coordinating with them.
- Smt Vanaja, Smt Manju Tyagi and Sri Desikan have offered translation of the Vedānta Course into Malyalam, Hindi and Tamil respectively.

Pūjya Guruji lauded CIF's efforts at enrolling the maximum number of sevaks.

*CIF is dedicated to the research and furtherance of Indology and Sanskrit. Towards this, CIF works closely with scholars, researchers and academicians in the form of lectures, workshops, researches and seminars, which includes exploring manuscripts to publishing researched texts to conducting courses on Vedānta and subjects allied to Indian heritage.*

28 Nov-  
2 Dec  
2010

## Vedic Mathtrix

A five day camp on Vedic Mathematics (VM) was held in November 2010. It was a collaborative venture of the Chinmaya International Foundation (CIF) and School of Vedic Maths (SOVM). Named 'Vedic Mathtrix', the camp attracted a wide profile of people from the ages of 17 to 70, and across different backgrounds such as college students, C.A aspirants and even teachers and professors! The composition of the camp audience reinforced the fundamental 'jijñāsā' of the Indian to know his roots and its richness. The camp was a discovery trek into the language and mood of numbers, their logic and how they work and interplay. Vinay Nair who heads SOVM unraveled new calculation techniques, variety of approaches to problem solving and methods to improve numeric abilities.

Vinay Nair added more excitement to an already fascinating subject with outdoor and indoor games, puzzles, documentaries, and movie screening, among other things.

Funnily, every camper felt his whole approach and friendship with Maths would have been vastly healthier had he encountered Vedic Maths as a child!

Read an interview with Vinay Nair elsewhere in this newsletter.



Vinay Nair conducting a session

## CIF signs an MoU for Vedic Maths

Another homestudy course is on the anvil. Vedic Maths which is core to Indian arithmetic heritage and an ancestry that we have always taken pride in, and which resonates harmoniously with CIF's dedication to Indian Knowledge tradition is soon going to be offered as an online and postal study course.

CIF signed a MoU with School of Vedic Maths to collaborate and conduct camps, workshops, seminars and classes in Chinmaya Vidyalayas and Chinmaya Mission Centres in India and overseas.

The format and content of the classes to be held at the Chinmaya Vidyalayas has been defined and accorded.

The course is presently being offered at the schools as an extracurricular activity, with a view to make the study of Maths, fun, logical while also paving the way for its intelligent application.



## An Interview with Vinay Nair

*Vinay Nair founded School of Vedic Maths to facilitate productive and creative thinking in the field of Mathematics. He conducts foundation level and advanced courses, workshops and seminars in schools and colleges for all age groups. An educator, trainer and student of Indian philosophy, Vinay comes from a family that has traditionally been devoted to Gurudev and the Chinmaya Mission.*

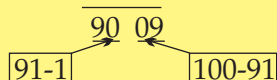
We have always been known for our arithmetical skills. It runs deep in our veins and our culture too – this whole attitude to mathematics, computation, numeric skills and memory and the role of numbers in our approach to work. Is this cultural genes, is this heritage, is this the food we eat... or is it all three?

Some of the renowned mathematicians are Indian: Āryabhaṭṭa, Brahmagupta, Mahāvīra, Bhāskara, Mādhava and Śrī Bhārati Kṛṣṇa Tīrtha. Indians are credited with the Zero and decimal systems as along with many other discoveries.

Likewise, there was Śrī Bhārati Kṛṣṇa Tīrtha (1884-1960. He was the pontiff of the Śāṅkarācārya of Puri for many years) who propounded through research, that all of Mathematics is based on sixteen Sūtras or word-formulae (aphorisms). In other words, any mathematical problem can be solved if the sixteen Sūtras are well understood. So what Vedic Maths does is, enable computation simply by carving a path or approach to a problem. This is done through a menu of methods and leaves it to the individual to make a choice. Thus examine the following three methods to multiply 91 by 99 and arrive at their product: 9009

### Method 1

91 Any two-digit number times  
 x 99 can be done like this.  
 99 Hence answer is 9009.



### Method 2

$$\begin{array}{r} 91 \quad 9(100-9) \\ \times \\ 99 \quad 1(100-1) \\ \hline 90 \quad 09 \end{array}$$

[Multiplication of any two numbers that are below the same base, (base means powers of 10) can be performed in the following way. First part of the answer: Subtract 1 from 91 OR 9 from 99 (cross-wise). Second part of answer: Multiply 9 by 1.

Since the answer has to be a four digit number, we add a Zero before 9. Hence the answer is 9009]

### Method 3

$$\begin{array}{r} 91 \quad 9(1 \text{ is the unit's place number}) \\ \times \\ 99 \quad 1(9 \text{ is the unit's place number}) \\ \hline 90 \quad 09 \end{array}$$

[If the ten's place digit is same for both the numbers and the unit's place digits add up to 10, then - Multiply the ten's place digit by the number greater than it by 1 (i.e.  $9 \times (9+1) = 90$  in this case) which becomes the first part of the answer. Multiply unit's place digits (9 & 1), which becomes the second part of the answer. Hence answer is 9009]

There is a deeply gratifying sense of a-ha! that emanates from this approach, which we see is far different from grappling with conventional techniques and finger counting. The way the numbers deal with each other, the way they behave and reproduce is a fascinatingly

more happily, for it reveals in this all-new approach.

CIF as a research and academic body is committed to bringing forth the glorious heritage of the past to the people, revealing the hidden knowledge and bridging the seeker and the sought. And therefore, unraveling the glory of Vedic Maths is a core part of all that CIF does.

So what is Vedic Maths and is it in fact Vedic in origin and content? Story goes that when Swami Bhārati Kṛṣṇa Tīrtha was studying the Atharva-veda, he came across a few Sūtras in which he could see Mathematical meanings. Tapas in Sringeri forest finally unraveled 16 Sūtras and 13 Upasūtras. He wrote 16 volumes on these sūtras which unfortunately got lost before it was printed. When he realized this, he re-wrote one volume in one and half month's time, which is available today popularly known as 'Vedic Mathematics'. He attained Samādhi even before the book was brought out.

Giving us an overview of the history of Vedic Maths, Vinay says, "Swamiji has mentioned in his book that these ultra-easy Vedic Sūtras contained in the Pariśiṣṭa (appendix) of Atharva-veda, helps in doing long cumbersome calculations in a few steps.

Understanding and application of the Sūtras are not difficult. But understanding how he must have derived the Sūtras, that no other Mathematician in the last few centuries could discover, is the most difficult task which leaves everybody baffled!"

A lot of people regard Vedic Maths as trick and not technique, and people are known to worry that using it in formal setting like a classroom can lead to trouble with a teacher who has not heard of or subscribes to VM. So will the study of VM lead to a discarding or displeasure with



conventional arithmetic? How does one then encourage a student to study VM without him seeing this as mere trick and the anxiety that it will overwrite conventional mathematical knowledge and so make it difficult for him to study in a conventional classroom?

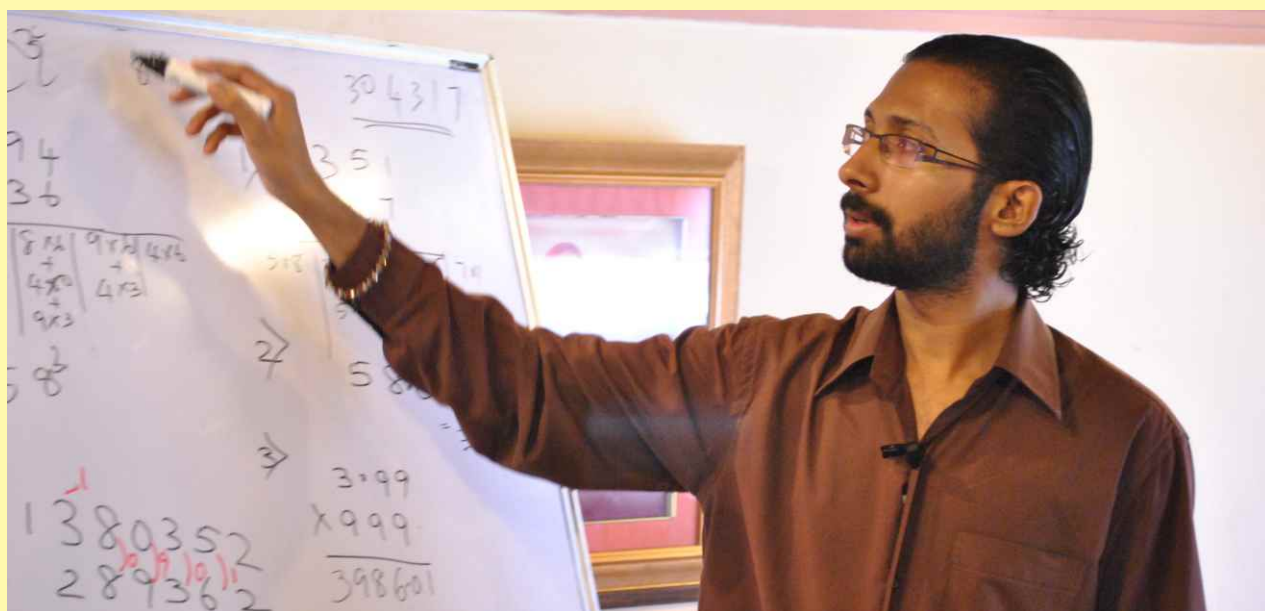
Vinay does not think this is even a problem. He says, "Till the 4th standard, students are supposed to show the working in a calculation like  $34 \times 75$  in order to get full marks. But in class 5, calculation becomes just a part of their answer. The teacher doesn't expect the student to show the working. Learning VM will not create displeasure towards conventional Maths. In fact, VM creates an interest towards Maths. The interest can be developed using fun questions and demo sessions or demo videos." Will there be confusion after learning VM? No, says Vinay, since we all think differently, different methods are helpful he avers. "The sixteen sūtras are like 16 patterns. One problem may have more than 1 pattern to its solution, so that two different people can apply different methods!

Knowledge of VM will not overwrite the knowledge of conventional Maths. In fact, if a student has learned through VM, his regular

Maths becomes very easy for him. In fact, in UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia and Singapore, there are schools that teach VM as part of their school curriculum," says Vinay.

Then will it help to promote VM as an additional 'hobby' subject at school level so that alongside learning conventional Maths, there is also an attitude to seeing how numbers process on their own, using their own built in 'invisible' logic? Vinay is of the view that if VM replaces conventional math in schools, then soon, nobody in India would need calculators! But that's a long haul. In the interim, he likes the idea of making Vedic Maths a hobby class in school.

But it does appear that older students have adopted Vedic Maths for speed working, especially for their competitive examinations like CAT / GRE / GMAT / CET, engineering entrance exams, and so on. "So, the awareness is growing," he says. "And if parents develop the faith, they are more likely to let students enter VM, because we are still a country where parents are deeply involved in the career choices and studies of their children; if they teach their children VM at a young age, that'll be a great investment!"



## Father Massimo'd Orlando's Camp

August  
26-29  
2010

Father Massimo's camps are a regular feature at CIF. His Satchidananda Mission of Assisi, Italy is closely associated with CIF and every year Father Massimo comes to India with a team for whom he teaches a new text or topic, in Italian, embraced by the glory of the holy Adi Sankara Nilayam.

This year the core subject of Father's satsang was Oneness of Divinity and Self-enquiry. For that he quoted mainly from Ramana Maharshi's teachings as well as *Bhagavad-gītā* and *Vivekacūdāmaṇi*.

Every year, the classes are preceded or followed by a set of meaningful pilgrimages. This year the pilgrims visited Ramanashram at Thiruvann- amalai, where they stayed there for two days. While at CIF, Swamini Niranjanananda held a Satsang for the campers in English which Father Massimo translated it into Italian. Then they visited Kalady, whereafter they left for Puttaparthi to Sai Baba's ashram.

## Manasa Yogis on the Path to Higher Wisdom

Dec  
3-10  
2010

Adi Sankara Nilayam is an attraction for different people for different reasons. But what is certain is that it is attractive a proposition to visit Adi Sankara Nilayam even without an agenda!

The yoga school of 'Manasa Yoga' is founded by a husband-wife pair, Sandhya and Manoj Kaimal from Singapore. Yoga is a discipline where yoga practice and precepts flow together keeping the body agile and dynamic while poising the mind to remain in active awareness of the present moment. Consequently the intellect is finely tuned to concentrate and contemplate.

Manoj brought his students to Adi Sankara Nilayam to experience the serenity and stillness that Śankara's birth home proffered which would be a rare backdrop to their intense practice of yoga.

This was yet another event where the chosen venue was Adi Sankara Nilayam and it is very satisfying to share this as it is verily an expression of how energising these premises are!

Manasa Yoga Campers giving a Demonstration at the Valedictory Function.





## Sw. Swaroopananda's Global CHYK Camp

CIF plays a keen role in the curriculum of the CHYKs. In Jan 2011, Swami Swaroopananda and Br. Rishi Chaitanya brought 45 overseas resident Indian Chyks for a week long induction at CIF.

It was a delightful seven days of testing and tasting the culture that was only a definition in their mind. A fair mix of temple visits, local cuisine, Vedānta, illom way of life, and not to forget, even donning the local attire and lighting the traditional Chuṭṭuvilakku were few of the experiences the Chyks got to carry back home with them

If all this seems very touristy and 'typically NRI' in nature, then here is another think coming your way: when these 45 girls and boys clad in casuals, sat in Fort Kochi's Taj Gateway Hotel restaurant for lunch, before partaking of the sumptuous buffet, they chanted in perfect unison and diction, the Śānti Mantra from *Taittiriya-upaniṣad*: Om Śanno Mitrah Śam Varunah...! Surely Gurudev had thought about the migrant Indian's hunger for spirituality and his roots, when he took the Mission global and in English!



Global CHYKs with Swami Swaroopananda, Swami Advayananda and Br. Rishi Chaitanya after a Kathakali programme. (top)  
Br. Rishi Chaitanya conducting a session on meditation at "Thekkini" in the Illom. (bottom)



*Adi Sankara Nilayam is automatically attractive for any Ācārya wanting to teach, contemplate with, bring together or simply enjoy with students. The energy of Śrī Śaṅkara is unmistakeable here and thus numerous camps are hosted at Adi Sankara Nilayam every year. Here below is a round up:*

January  
24-28  
2011

## ***Bhakti-sudhā and Vivekacūḍāmaṇi Camp***

Chinmaya Mission Adoni, Andhra Pradesh conducted a Sadhana camp at CIF in January 2010. Sādhana Camps are those where a text or a part of a text are studied in great detail with an Ācārya.

There were two Ācāryas on this camp, and each one taught a different text. Pūjya Swamini Nirmalananda (Nellore), taught *Bhakti-sudhā* and *Śambhu-naṭanam*. Both these are texts on devotion. *Bhakti-sudhā* is a collection of thoughts of Pūjya Guruji Swami Tejomayananda, based on the essence of Bhakti as seen in various scriptural texts. *Śambhu-naṭanam* is a song in praise of Lord Śiva composed



by Sage Patañjali who it is said is present at sandhyā-kāla when Śiva performs his dance. Patañjali who is present as Ādiśeṣa, (snake form) is teased by the other three dancers saying that he had neither feet nor horns, so how would he worship Śiva? Patañjali then composed the *Śambhu-naṭanam* without the use of e, E or ey maatraas (horns) or the aa matra (the leg). The philosophical interpretations are fascinating.

Br. Triveni Chaitanya (Shamshabad) taught a select portion of the *Vivekacūḍāmaṇi*, detailing the relationship between Guru and śiṣya. The camp was attended by 80 delegates.

## ***Manana-sādhana Camp***

*Bhāgavatam* and *Bhagavad-gītā*: the leelas and the lessons of Śrī Kṛṣṇa

CIF organised a one month Manana-sadhana Camp, during the entire month of September. Acharya Vibhooti Shah, Chinmaya Mission Trichy taught 10th and 11th Cantos of *Bhāgavatam*. Br. Kutastha Chaitanya, Ācārya, CIF taught Chapters 1 to 6 of *Bhagavad-gītā*. Having commenced on Janmāshṭami day, there was worship of Guru-pāduka-pūjā as well as a worship for Bhagavān Kṛṣṇa.



Sept  
1-30  
2010

## ***Bhagvad-gītā Chapter 15 Camp***

Along with *Bhriguvalī*, *Taittirīya-upaniṣad*

Seekers come to Adi Sankara Nilayam (ASN) to study at camps because the ambience is overwhelmingly apt for scriptural study and spiritual sādhana. Ācāryas like Swami Tattvananda from Kasargode and Swami Viswananda from Nileshtar have also been teaching and holding camps at CIF, as the joy of teaching sacred texts must be far far greater in the home of Ādi Śaṅkara's birth. Both Ācāryas have been coming to ASN every year to hold spiritual sādhana camps. In 2010, Swami Tattvanandaji held a camp on 15th chapter of *Bhagavad-gītā* and Swami Viswanandaji on the *Bhriguvalī* from *Taittirīya-upaniṣad*.

June  
25-29  
2010



17 July-  
16 Aug  
2011

## Upaniṣad Lahari Camp

Swamini Niranjanananda is a senior monk of Chinmaya Mission and an experienced teacher of Vedānta. She began teaching the Upaniṣads in a series sometime ago in a sequence so that they came to be called Upaniṣad Lahari, or The flow of the Upaniṣads! The participants have also been diligently following amma's serial and are quite advanced in their study and knowledge of Vedānta.



Having completed nine Upaniṣads so far, the current camp will be the last, where amma took for study the *Māṇḍūkya-upaniṣad* and its Kārikās. The *Māṇḍūkya* has been accorded a very high status among the top 108 Upaniṣads and admits for study a student only if he or she has studied at least a few other Upaniṣad before *Māṇḍūkya*.

The camp was attended by 23 participants. Amma made it even more intensive so that while she taught the text herself across three sessions by day, every day, at night they watched Gurudev's video talks on *Māṇḍūkya* and got into intense discussion and analysis.

These were a steady group of students who had been attending each of amma's camps on Upaniṣads in the Lahari series and each camp only makes the study even more valuable for them.

## Taittirīya Upaniṣad Camp with Śaṅkara Bhāṣya

Swami Adhyatmananda, Ācārya, Chinmaya Mission Kozhikode, has been conducting a yearly Upaniṣad camp at CIF. In this fourth camp, Swamiji taught the *Taittirīya-upaniṣad* with Śaṅkara-bhāṣya, something that is rarely done by any Ācārya for the general public. In his inaugural session Swamiji invoked Pūjya Gurudev's vision ('Bridge between pundit and public') as the driving force behind this Upaniṣad camp with Śaṅkara Bhāṣya. And because most Ācāryas do not take up Śaṅkara-bhāṣya in the context of Upaniṣads, a chain reaction is put in place so that local communities in small towns also gain access to Śaṅkara's commentaries on the Upaniṣads. The camp was combined with a *Bhagavad-gītā* yajña, where Swamiji taught Chapter three of the *Gītā* to the local population of Veliyanad.



July  
3-11  
2010

## Muṇḍakopaniṣad Camp

with *Bhagavad-gītā* Ch 15 and *Sādhana-pañcakam*

Nanded is a medium sized city on the north of the Godavari river. A major cultural center and a learning center for Sanskrit, this district of Maharashtra is also an important holy place of the Sikhs. A visit to Adi Sankara Nilayam was thus a great cultural and spiritual experience for the 65 members that Br. Akshara Chaitanya and Br. Chidambar Chaitanya led all the way from Chinmaya Mission, Nanded. The fact of this being Ādi Śaṅkara's birth home was made more glorious when they sat and heard the entire story of how it came to be, the work that CIF does and the grand finale to their anticipation and experience was when Chidambarji taught them *Sādhana-pañcakam* (a Śaṅkara text) in Gurudev's shrine.

Nov  
16-21  
2010

Br. Akshara Chaitanya taught *Muṇḍakopaniṣad* in the mornings and the 15th chapter of the *Bhagavad-gītā* in the evenings. All three texts were taught in Marathi.

For anyone coming to Adi Sankara Nilayam, the divine ambience along with the research orientation is intriguing and for the Nanded campers, it was even more exciting to partake of a Śaṅkara experience at every turn. So they had a meditation class every

morning and also participated in the Gurudev's aṣṭottara-śata-nāmāvali-arcana every afternoon.

These simple people of Maharashtra could not have enough of the Kerala experience and were doubly delighted to find out that they had arrived on the first day of the month of Vṛścika, which was auspicious at CIF. Special Chuṭṭuvilakku (lighting of 1008 oil lamps around the Swayambhu Ayappa temple), special songs in the name of Ayyappa and and chendamelam – a musical using the *chenda*, a percussion instrument, were arranged in the temple for them.

### **Ātma Bodha Camp with Jñāna Sāra**

December was a month of great spiritual confluence. The auspicious day of Gītā-jayanti, Tapovan-jayanti and Vaikuṇṭha-ekādaśi came together in loving oneness and was occasion for great sādhana camp themes.

Swamini Sampannananda (Sagar, Karnataka) conducted two camps in Kannada at Adi Sankara

Nilayam. She was assisted by Br. Rushaba Chaitanya (Mandya, Karnataka). There were 150 odd participants across the two camps they held between them: *Ātma Bodha* and *Jñāna Sāra*. Celebrating the auspicious Jayantis together, the campers started with Sampūrṇa-gītā-pārāyaṇa, followed by Chanting of Gītā-aṣṭottara, Tapovana-aṣṭottara and Gurudeva-aṣṭottara-śata-nāmāvali. The lighting of the Chuṭṭuvilakku is tradition at the Swayambhu Ayyappa Temple and for campers from outside Kerala, a matter of great joy to savour a new form of worship! Truly, CIF is a melting hotspot of diverse Indian traditions and cultures at the feet of Śrī Śaṅkara and Gurudev!

### **Saddarśanam Camp**

*Saddarśanam* is a short and pithy presentation of Ramana Maharshi's teaching of nonduality and practice of inquiry authored by the great sage.

A ten day camp was held in February, 2011 by Swamini Niranjanananda, to explore and study this text's fine nuances. The camp was attended by about 30 spiritual seekers and it was sheer coincidence that they were with Swamini amma on the day she was venturing into her 80's. The campers sang the *Mātṛu-stavanam* composed by Pūjya Swami Tejomayananda to mark the occasion. Amma emphasised that just gaining knowledge through the śāstras is not enough and that everyone should apply the learnings, set a goal and continue the process of self-inquiry.



Dec  
11-18  
21-28  
2010



Feb  
13-22  
2010

# YOUTH AND CHILDREN FOCUS

31 Jan-  
10 Feb  
2010

## *Vivekacūdāmaṇi Camp with Bhakti Sudhā*

Br. Prayag Chaitanya (Khopoli, Raigad District, Maharashtra) and Brni. Prerana Chaitanya (Nasik, Maharashtra) also brought enthusiastic campers from Maharashtra, to Adi Sankara Nilayam.

Prayagji taught *Vivekacūdāmaṇi* and Prernaji taught *Bhakti-sudhā*, an anthology of Bhakti seen under various scriptural texts. Both camps were held in Marathi. The 60 campers performed Gurudev's aṣṭottara-śata-nāmāvali chanting and pūjā everyday at 12 noon in the shrine, lit the 1008 lamps for Lord Ayyappa and visited the key temples in the neighbourhood.

## YOUTH AND CHILDREN FOCUS

Oct  
24-31  
2010

### *Students' Empowerment Programme*

The Students' Empowerment Programme offered by the Chinmaya Institute of Technology, Kannur, is an outbound workshop offered to the MBA students of the institute. The objective of the programme is to gradually introduce MBA students to the reality of the world of business and management, by creating opportunities for them to interact with practising managers in the world of business.



While this is staple, and the students did engage in interactive sessions with senior practising managers from organisations like Muthoot Group and Radio Mango, the emphasis we wish to give here is that aspect which makes Chinmaya Mission's mission stand out clearly: ChinTech, Kannur, a sister institute, goes the extra mile when it seeks to enhance the students' spiritual quotient as well – which ChinTech considers core to intellectual success – by working on their focus, concentration through meditation and spirituality.

ChinTech Kannur camped at CIF for a week and under the able guidance of Swami Niranjananda and Swami Advayananda. They were exposed to basics of meditation and the fundamentals of what constituted spiritual living, which included the following topics: Qualities of a Professional, The Role of Communication in Management, A Leader as a Source of Inspiration, to name a few. Swamiji also dedicated an extended session towards answering the students' questions on topics like 'Mind Management', 'How to build Confidence' and 'Path to Spirituality'.

Needless to add, these are topics that b-schools themselves touch upon rather lightly, and Swamiji addressing these was definitely a source of empowerment for the students.

These events were reinforced by guided visits to places of cultural and historical significance in the neighbourhood of Adi Sankara Nilayam.

Oct  
2010

### *Swami Ramakrishnanandaji's (Young Students) Camp*

The Chinmaya Vidyalaya of Nagapattinam visited CIF in October 2010. Leading the 140 enthusiastic students, was Swami Ramakrishnananda, the Ācārya of Chinmaya Mission, Nagapattinam.

The uniqueness of being in a Chinmaya Mission school is that there is a larger spiritual governance that ensures the students' are appropriately guided towards their spiritual goal alongside their secular education. Swami Ramakrishnananda who, as Acharya of the Mission Center in Nagapattinam is actively involved with the Chinmaya Vidyalaya which is run in the same premises



as the Mission Center. For Swamiji, the education of these students spreads across spiritual learning and secular learning, seamlessly. It was an intensive 2 days programme for the students who soaked in every little detail that Swamiji fed them. After an intensive round of the Adi Sankara Nilayam with a parallel explanation of every aspect in painstaking detail, Swamiji followed this up with a fun quiz to reinforce the learnings. The students were also told the entire story of CIF, how it came to be, what Gurudev had in mind and how the dream is being fulfilled. This was topped up with a session on Hindu Culture.



April  
28-30  
2010

### ***Blue Boy of Vrindavan - Balvihar Camp***

A camp, for young children, is a mysterious word packed with the anticipation of untold fun and newness. Now when that camp is designed around Kṛṣṇa, the resultant joy is indescribable. Br. Dhruva Chaitanya (Ācārya, Chinmaya Mission Alapuzha and coordinator of All Kerala Balvihar) and Brni. Darshika Chaitanya (Ācārya, Chinmaya Mission Trichur) organized a Balvihar Camp at Adi Sankara Nilayam and brought with them 44 children from different parts of Kerala. Forty four hearts that dived into the 3 day funfair of stories, bhajans, ślokas, activities, treasure hunt, including celebrating Janmāṣṭami at Śaṅkara's birth home, celebrating Kṛṣṇa, and above all, the one thing that kids don't need encouragement with: breaking the traditional curd pot of goodies. The theme, in short, was Kṛṣṇa.

The fitting and sweetest grand finale, was the Gāyatri Havan that the little wonders performed in groups of six each, under the guidance of Br. Bhasa Chaitanya, Ācārya of the Purohit Course at Coimbatore. Five homa kuṇḍas were built and the children performed the Havan with their little hands, experiencing the beauty of worshipping under the loving gaze of the Blue Boy of Vrindavan – a name that Gurudev had used for Kṛṣṇa and which has stuck with the Bālviḥār teams, it would seem!

April  
8-11  
2011

### ***Beauty of Wisdom Camp***

The All Kerala Balvihar Camp “Beauty of Wisdom” which took place at Adi Sankara Nilayam, was a 4-day residential camp. The Camp Ācāryas were Br. Samvid Chaitanya, Br. Dhruva Chaitanya (All Kerala Balvihar Coordinator) and Brni. Sruti Chaitanya (Ācārya, Chinmaya Mission, Puducherry). The camp was attended by more than 50 students from different parts of Kerala.

Befitting of the audience collected there, Brni. Sruti Chaitanya taught *Sankat Mochan Hanuman Stotram* and its importance with meanings; Samvid Chaitanya taught them *Jñāna-pāna* and ślokas and stotrams in Malayalam and Sanskrit and also taught them *Medhā-sūktam*.

Dhruva Chaitanya held classes on *Rāmāyaṇa*. This camp was based on the characters of *Rāmāyaṇa* and the values each character stood for, mainly highlighting wisdom and thus the camp derived its name, Beauty of Wisdom.





May  
4-8  
2011**Ādi Śaṅkara Mahotsava**

Being housed in the erstwhile Melpazhur Mana, birth home of Śrī Śaṅkara, is automatically a blessing and occasion for celebrating Śrī Ādi Śaṅkara's birthday every year.

This year Śrī Ādi Śaṅkara visited CIF along with Pūjya Gurudev on May 8<sup>th</sup> which date therefore gained double glory for the Chinmaya Mission, especially CIF, for it was both Śaṅkara Jayanti and Gurudev Jayanti.

For students and followers of Advaita-vedānta, the auspiciousness of the event cannot be lost, especially when we occupy the portals of Ādi Śaṅkara Nilayam, the birth home of Śrī Śaṅkara, wherein Pūjya Gurudev established his dream CIF!

In celebration and joy, while the Chinmaya Mission is celebrating Ādi Śaṅkara Mahotsava in every Mission Centre, at CIF the five days, May 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> were spent in celebratory revelling in Śrī Śaṅkara's texts, through chanting verses from his works, studying and expounding his works and recalling to mind the life and times of this great saint, to whom we owe the very revival of Advaita.

CIF's celebrations were held in Malayalam in deference to the local community of Veliyanad, who owe allegiance to Śaṅkara's heritage and birth.

The Malayalam Camp covered texts authored by Śrī Ādi Śaṅkara, viz, *Saundaryalaharī*, *Śivamānasa-pūjā*, *Tattva-bodha* and *Daśaślokī*. Elaborate discourses on 'Śaṅkara and His works' were delivered by Swami Viviktananda, Brni. Darshika Chaitanya, Swamini Apoorvananda, Swami Adhyatmananda, and Swamini Niranjananda. Every evening from 7pm to 8pm *Annapūrṇeśvarī-stotram* Yajña was conducted by Br. Samvid Chaitanya from May 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>.

We may call to mind that Ādi Śaṅkara is the composer of this timeless hymn which pleads for jñāna and vairāgya.

*annapūrṇe sadā pūrṇe, śaṅkara prāṇa-vallabhe,  
jñāna-vairāgya-sidhyartham,  
bhikṣaṁ dehi ca pārvati.*

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, the birth room of Bhagvān Ādi Śaṅkaracārya was the venue for the Śoḍaśopacāra-pūjā by Br. Samvid Chaitanya. Later during the day, Yuvaveers, CHYKs, and Balvihar children sang bhajans, performed for the audience and enthralled every one with their enthusiasm.

Being Mahā Jayanti where Gurudev Jayanti was being celebrated with Śrī Śaṅkara Jayanti, young Yuvaveers spoke eloquently on Pūjya Gurudev and his life. After screening the audio-visual titled Many Moods of the Master, the Guru-pāduka-pūjā was performed. This was followed by annadānam, where more than 350 people partook mahā-prasāda. The afternoon session concluded with Swamini Niranjanananda's class on *Daśaślokī*.

Lighting the Chuṭṭuvilakku at Swayambhu Ayyappa Temple is traditional on all major celebrations; this lent the right festive look to Ādi Śaṅkara Nilayam. At the concluding session was the *Annapūrṇeśvarī-stotra-yajña*, everyone present offered Gurudakṣiṇā.

If Śaṅkara is the source, then Gurudev is the flow that brought Śaṅkara's glory and teachings down from the hills to each of us. This day on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2011, participants, guests, devotees, visitors, members, students and Ācāryas offered their countless prostrations to this rare confluence.



## *The Uthram Mahotsavam: A Tradition Honoured*

The Uthram Mahotsavam is an age old worship that was traditionally being conducted in Melpazhur Mana, the erstwhile name of the property which is today, Adi Sankara Nilayam. No one is able to pin point a precise date, but some 40 odd years ago, Sankaran Namboodiri's family, descendants of Śrī Ādi Śaṅkara, already weighed down by continuous financial crises, decided to cut down on events and festivities little by little to save costs. Soon the traditional Uthram festival was also discontinued.

What is this Uthram Festival? Uthram is the janma-natkṣatra of Swami Ayyappa. At the temple on Sabarimala too, on the janma nakṣatra day the Uthram festival is celebrated.

At CIF's Adi Sankara Nilayam, erstwhile called Melpazhur Mana, the birth home of Sri Adi Sankara, the main deity is Lord Ayappa. Traditionally, the Swayambhu Ayappa temple in the Mana is where devotees from the neighbourhood, who were undertaking the Sabarimala journey, stopped to pray as a precursor to the climb. It is then that they tie the irumudi. (a bundle with a central opening, where one side is filled with the items for offering the Lord and tied up. The second side is filled with items for the devotee's needs during the pilgrimage. This bundle is tied in the presence of Lord Ayappa. Gurudev used to say that this was pāpa and puṇya which we tie and offer both to Bhagawan.)

Now this Uthram festival was being held at Melpazhur Mana for several years, in all likelihood as an extension of the same devotion attached to the hill climb. Recently on the suggestion of Br. Samvid Chaitanya, it was agreed that the tradition be revived.

Accordingly on Panguni Uthram, March 19, 2011, the Uthram Mahotsavam restarted at Adi Sankara Nilayam. So momentous was this decision that all the localities in the neighbourhood of Veliyanad and surrounding areas joined in to give the worship, the status of a festival.

The early parts of the morning were devoted to Gaṇapati Homam, special Ayyappa-pūjā and Ayyappa-sahasranāma-pūjā – all in Pūjya Gurudev's shrine in the Temple complex. The thalapoli or flower procession commemorated the celebration in the evening. Around 150 womenfolk from the nearby villages carried poo-thalam (traditional plates with an amazing array of beautiful flowers) and lamps from the Vezhattumyal Temple to the Swayambu Ayappa Temple on the premises of Ādi Śaṅkara Nilyam, as an offering for Lord Ayappa on this auspicious day. The whole temple was lit with lamps and decorated with flower garlands and the light of the moon also helped add to the ambience and glow of festivity, as it was coincidentally the day of the super moon (when the moon is in its nearest approach to the Earth).

The evening aarti saw the lighting of many more lamps, fireworks, and later a series of cultural events which was well attended by the local communities.



## Lakṣmī Nārāyaṇa Yagña and Pūjā

On 14th of January, 2011 the auspicious Makara-saṅkrānti day, Chinmaya International Foundation conducted the Lakṣmī-nārāyaṇa-yagña and Pūjā in the sacred temple premises of Ādi Śaṅkara Nilayam. CIF is committed to performing this Yajña every year as a thanksgiving prayer for the spiritual and material welfare and well being of the donors of Project CIF. Project CIF is the Chinmaya Birth Centenary Project initiated by Pūjya Guruji Swami Tejomayananda for fulfilling the vision of Pūjya Gurudev for CIF.



This year, the Pūjā and Yagña were conducted by Br. Samvid Chaitanya.

After the main Lakṣmī-nārāyaṇa-pūjā, it was followed by the chanting of *Viṣṇu-sahasranāma*, *Puruṣa-sūktam*, *Nārāyaṇa-sūktam* and *Kanakadhārā-stotram* and finally by the Lakṣmī-nārāyaṇa-havana. Annadānam which is a key part of a yagña of this nature was performed as well.

Around 25 Bhu-daana and Maha-daana donors of Project CIF from various parts of the world along with hundreds of people from the villages around CIF took part in this Pūjā and yagña. That this yagña happened during the third day of the Ācārya Śāstra Sadas was very satisfying because all Ācāryas of the Kerala region also graced this occasion.

Any pūjā conducted by Br. Samvidji has the quality of great serenity and purity so that there is an immediate sense of upliftment and accomplishment of purpose. The presence of the Ācāryas was befitting of such occasion adding more divinity to an already auspicious event.

The annual Lakṣmī-nārāyaṇa-pūjā and Yagña commenced in 2010 and will be held every Makara-saṅkrānti; it will go on till 2016, the birth centenary year of Pūjya Gurudev Swami Chinmayananda. Chinmaya International Foundation expresses its heartfelt thanks to all the Bhu-daana and Maha-daana donors of Project CIF for their unstinted support.

### Maha Daana or Unit Donation:

Within this are two options:

- I. The total construction cost has been broken into 1600 'units' of INR 1,00,000 (USD 2000) each. The donating family's name will be embossed on a specified wall as a fond reminder of their support to enable Pujya Gurudev's vision.
- II. Alternatively, donations can be made towards an entire facility as shown below:

Proposed Facilities	INR	USD*
1. Residential Complex:	4,00,00,000	800,000
2. Convention Hall	8,00,00,000	1,600,000
3. Staff-quarters and Residences	1,50,00,000	300,000
4. Kitchen Facility	50,00,000	100,000
5. Dining Facility	50,00,000	100,000
6. Office and Information Centre	1,00,00,000	200,000
7. Chinmaya Vani (Book Shop)	50,00,000	100,000



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- \*1. The project cost is fixed at the rupee value.  
Hence kindly calculate the dollar value afresh.  
2. You can also donate for a single self-sufficient furnished room.

**Bhu Daana or Gift of Land:** The total construction cost of INR 16 Crores or USD 3.2 Million is over an area of 160,000 Sq. Ft. of land. You may donate the construction cost of one or more square feet of land @ INR 1000 (USD 20) per square foot.

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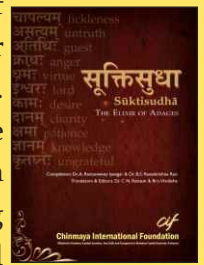
*Six of the Researches attained completion and were published this year.*

## Sūkthi-sudhā: ENGLISH AND SANSKRIT

*Sūkthi-sudhā* is a stunning compilation of 3000 Sanskrit proverbs from a variety of Sanskrit Literature and folklore. It has been compiled by Dr. A. Ramaswamy Iyengar and Dr. B.S. Ramakrishna Rao, with pithy and apt translations into English by Dr. C.N. Ratnam and Brni. Vividisha Chaitanya. There is a deep richness to these proverbs and the translations take us to the context of the proverbs, which sometimes bring a smile, sometimes resonance, sometimes a stunning understanding of things hitherto unknown to us! Students of Sanskrit study and Indology must possess a copy of this, for the mind to expand.

Others, will find this book a good restorative, bracer, and can even be a good 'break' between tasks, to wander into the rich roots which we stand on.

Price: ₹800/US\$40

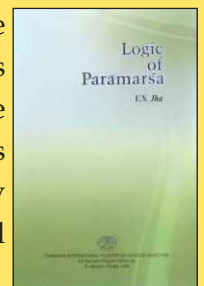


## Logic of Parāmarshā: ENGLISH:

Logic of Parāmarshā by Prof. V.N. Jha is a keen look at the 1500 year old debate between the mīmāṃsakas and naiyāyikas. Simply stated, Mīmāṃsaka logicians speak of three steps to deduction, while Vaiśeṣika -Naiyāyika logicians claim there must be five! But imagine, the debate ran full throated for 1500 years! Dr. Jha wraps up their debate by first taking us through the postulates of their arguments, one by one, and then places on the table the fundamental steps involved in inferential deduction.

CIF is grateful to V.N. Jha for a fine monograph for students of Logic and Philosophy.

Price: ₹60/US\$3



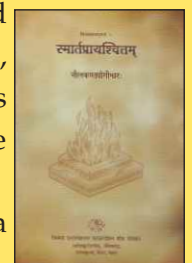
*Smārtha-prāyaścittam: SANSKRIT*

The Vedas have many śākhās or rescensions. These recensions of the *R̥g*, *Yajur* and *Sāma-vedas* came to be named prefixed by their researchers' names: Kauśītaka, Āśvalāyana, Baudhāyana, Vādhūlaka and Jaiminiya. They authored many texts called Smṛtis. These texts contain many expiatory rituals, or prayascitta-s which are the recommended atonements.

*Smārtha Prāyaścittam* is a subset of these and is based on the Kerala Dharmaśāstra tradition and has been composed by Kilakanthayogisvara in the 16th Century,

What is noteworthy is the fact that this text has been researched out of three different manuscripts found with old Kerala Namboodiri families. Decoding the original manuscripts, then comparing them, fixing the deviations and differences in opinions in each manuscript to produce a critical edition, is an extremely valuable task that has been rendered by Dr. K.V. Vasudevan, Reader, Sree Krishna College Guruvayur.

Price: ₹275/US\$8



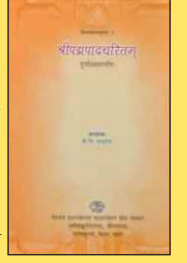


### **Padmapāḍacaritam:**

Price: ₹150/US\$5

Padmapāḍa was the first disciple of Śrī Ādi Śaṅkara and the author of the famous *Pañcapāḍika*. *Padmapāḍacaritam* describes how he met his Guru, incidents connected to life with the Guru, learning, teachings and a life dedicated to Advaita. This 13th Century text is based on a manuscript composed in Kerala and has been edited by Dr. K.V. Vasudevan, Reader in Sanskrit, Sri Krishna College, Guruvayur.

For CIF this is a milestone book as well, since it is an hitherto unpublished work and thus of great historical and literary significance.



### **Laghukarṇāmṛtam: SANSKRIT**

Price: ₹150/US\$5

Kerala is a land dotted with numerous literary works, many yet lying as manuscripts, unknown, unpublished, lying with old Kerala families. One such is *Laghukarṇāmṛtam*, a concise presentation of Kṛṣṇa's childhood lilas.

The author of this manuscript is Śrī Govindakavi. This text is considered extremely rare and Govindkavi's work has a brilliant quality to it that should not be missed.

The manuscript was edited by Dr. K.V. Vasudevan, Reader in Sanskrit, Sri Krishna College in Guruvayur.



### **Primal spirituality, Philosophical Knowledge and Plenary Experience: ENGLISH**

Price: ₹150/US\$5

Advaita is expounded in numerous Upaniṣads and later day commentaries and bhāṣyas too. The triad of Spirituality (referring to the primal spirit), Knowledge and Experience are a fascinating conundrum for the scholar and the seeker. Definitions, interpretations and the final experiential takeaways always leave one in wonder.

Prof. R. Balasubramanian, who is the author of this splendid text, is a renowned philosopher, the former chairman of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) and a great authority on Advaita-vedānta. In this book, where he brings the triad to a rolling boil, Balasubramanian also makes reference to interpretations and concepts explored by Western philosophers.

This book is an asset for all students and seekers of Advaita and metaphysics.



### **The Vision of CIF**

To keep the lamp of knowledge ever lit through research  
To preserve the Indian philosophical knowledge-tradition  
and disseminate it

To unravel India's hidden and lost knowledge-traditions  
by extensive research in Sanskrit and Indology.



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मच्चित्ता मद्गतप्राणाः बोधयन्तः परस्परम् ।

कथयन्तश्च मां नित्यं तुष्यन्ति च रमन्ति च ॥

With their minds wholly resting in Me,  
with their senses absorbed in Me, enlightening each other,  
and ever speaking of Me, they are satisfied and delighted.

— Bhagavad-gītā, 10.9

Dedicated unto

**Pūjya Gururji Swami Tejomayanandaji**  
by

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## Course Introduction

His Holiness Swami Chinmayananda, the founder of Chinmaya Mission, initiated a unique method to study Vedanta through easy Vedanta lessons. The Chinmaya International Foundation (CIF) already offers Foundation and Advanced Courses in both Vedanta and Sanskrit for home study through post as well as e-mail (online).

Gurudev Swami Chinmayananda was indeed the Gita Acharya of modern times. His commentary on the Bhagavad-gita, the 'Holy Gita', is acclaimed as a philosophical masterpiece and a manual on spiritual life. His lectures which he termed as Gita Jnana Yagnas, meaning transformation through the fire of knowledge rather than the age-old Vedic practice of purification through a ritualistic havan presided over by a priest, have transformed an entire generation.

CIF is blessed and privileged to now offer the Bhagavad-gita Course to students of Vedanta, spiritual seekers, and all who wish to live a life of quality and perfection.

You may choose either the postal or e-mail (online) mode to study the Bhagavad-gita Course. The study material for both is the same regardless of the method by which you receive the lesson. There is no need to change your faith, religion, or spiritual master to study this course.

## Course Author

The Bhagavad-gita Course is authored by Pujya Swami Tejomayananda, the Head of Chinmaya Mission Worldwide. Swamiji is a master of Indian spiritual literature, and is a renowned teacher of Vedanta, as well as an author of many commentaries and independent texts on Vedanta and Bhakti literature.

This course indeed offers the crystallised, experiential wisdom and insightfulness of Swamiji, with great depth and clarity, delivered with simplicity and accessibility. It bears the same mark of understated elegance and excellence of which Swamiji is a living embodiment.

## Course Objective

The primary aim of the Bhagavad-gita Course is to make the glorious 'Gita Way of Life' accessible to anyone who yearns for it, or is just curious to know more in a convenient yet effective manner. It provides a holistic, insightful coverage of

the entire text in a lucid and simple style. It is a practical manual to live a transformed life of goodness and greatness, and provides inputs in the modern context for continuous improvement. This Bhagavad-gita Course is indeed the proverbial 'philosopher's stone' transforming our lives from being 'reactive' to become 'effective'.

## Course Eligibility

Mahatma Gandhi says: "The Gita is the universal mother. She turns away nobody. Her door is wide open to anyone who knocks." This encapsulates precisely the universal nature of the eligibility criteria. CIF welcomes all who wish to bring about a qualitative improvement in their way of life to take up this course. Knowledge of Sanskrit is not required since the medium of instruction is English.

## Course Duration

This is a 15-month home study course with a total of 30 lessons. Students are required to study two lessons a month. At the end of each fortnight a Questionnaire pertaining to the lesson is to be answered and submitted.

## Course Rewards

This Course aims to harmoniously blend the subject matter of the Bhagavad-gita, with the subjective disciplines of spirituality. Thus besides a thematic and textual study, it encourages contemplation. The two go hand in hand and will enable you to understand, internalise, and actually live the teachings of the Bhagavad-gita. The course thus effectively enables you, in a most endearing way, to actualise your immense potential, and to tap into your inner innate strength. The true reward for diligent study is the transformation of the student's life from some sort of an obligation to an exuberant celebration.

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Administrator, CIF Home Study Courses  
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Author: **His Holiness Swami Tejomayananda**  
Head, Chinmaya Mission Worldwide

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