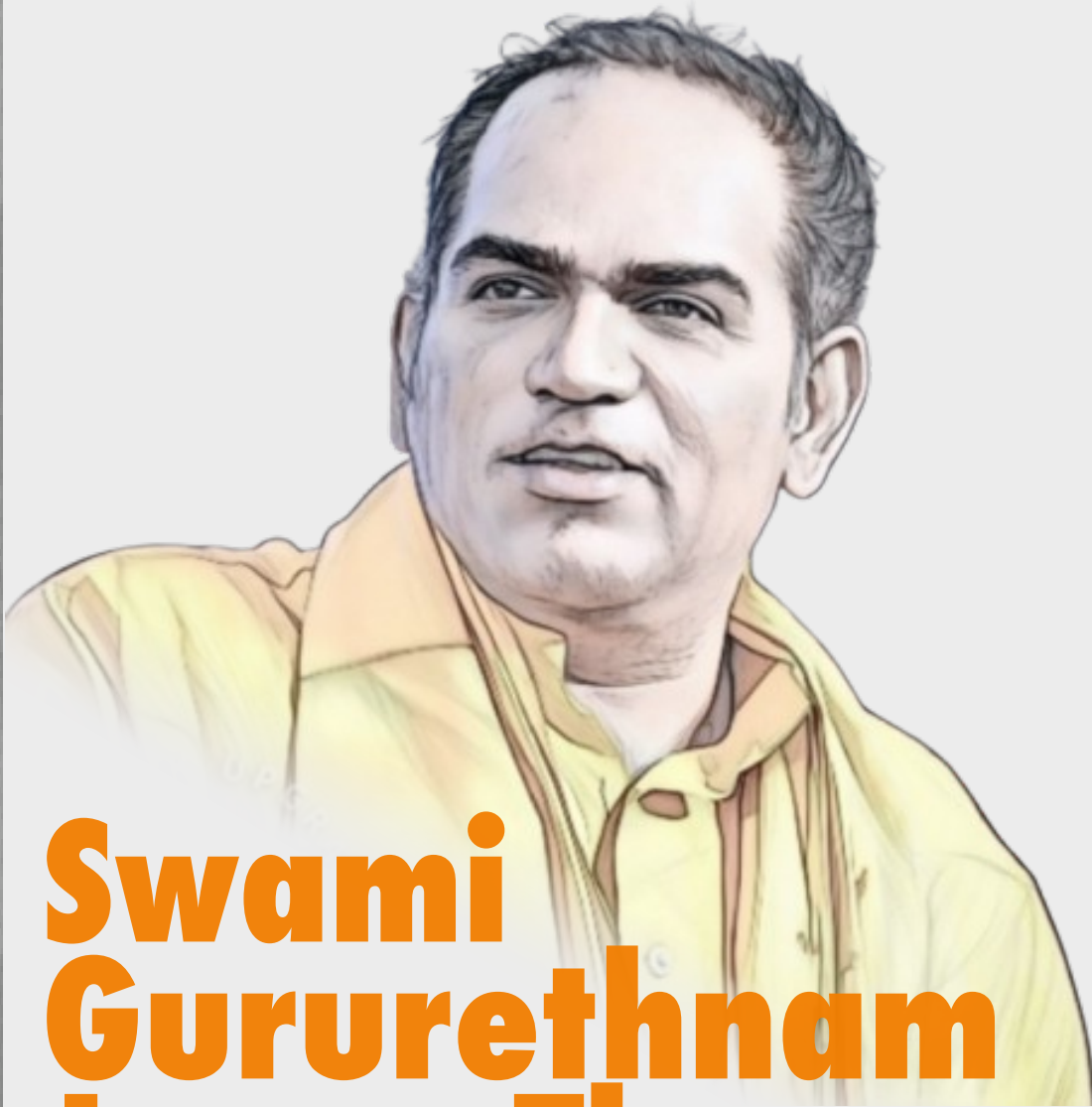


Gurucharanam Saranam



Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapaswi

The grace that glows with love and kindness..

Personal archive – 2025

LOTUS PARNASALA THE HOLIEST SPIRITUAL SYMBOL



Dedication of the Lotus Parnasala, Marked as the Spiritual Dedication Ceremony

Date : 13 August 2010

Inaugurated by: Ms. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, Then President of India

THE ABODE OF ABSOLUTE PEACE

Lotus Parnasala is the Sanctum Sanctorum of Santhigiri Ashram, where **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru**, the revered founder, built a humble thatched hermitage and lit a sacred lamp signifying the beginning of His spiritual mission and divine teachings to the world.

Following Guru's physical departure on May 6th, 1999, His sacred remains were enshrined within the Lotus Parnasala, in accordance with divine revelations. Today, the Lotus Parnasala stands as a spiritual beacon and iconic landmark in Kerala, drawing visitors from across India and around the globe.

Surrounded by a tranquil and serene atmosphere, the Lotus Parnasala offers a profound spiritual experience, allowing seekers to feel the divine presence and inner peace that radiates from this sacred space.



Dedication of Lotus Parnasala by Her Excellency President of India Ms. Prathibha Devisingh Patil, on 13 August 2010.



THE ENLIGHTENED GUIDANCE

Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapaswi was born on 5th May 1974 in Cherthala, Alappuzha district, Kerala, to Sri M.K. Maniyan Nair, an employee of FACT in Aluva, and Smt. J. Santhamma. He was the third child in the family and received his early education at FACT School, Udyogamandal, and later in Ernakulam.

Influenced by a background of leftist political values, he was actively involved in student politics during his youth. In 1995, he began his professional career as the representative for Trio Pharma in Kerala, a pharmaceutical company based in Ahmedabad.

A turning point in his life came in the same year when he had a transformative meeting with **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru**. Guru later visited his home, and this spiritual encounter deeply impacted him. Gradually, he became involved in Ashram activities and took on the responsibility of distributing Ashram-produced medicines across Kerala. He also became a leading presence in the Ashram's youth forum.

In 1999, he was initiated into Brahmacharya, the preparatory stage for monastic life. On 24th February 2001, he formally entered the Order of Sannyasa (Monks). Since then, Swami Gururethnam has played an active and inspiring role in the Ashram's healthcare and charitable initiatives. During this period, two major institutions were established: Santhigiri Siddha Medical College in Pothencode and Santhigiri Ayurveda Medical College in Palakkad.

On 13th September 2003, he was inducted as a member of the Ashram's Director Board, continuously guiding its mission with devotion and dedication. He was appointed as the Organizing Secretary of Santhigiri Ashram on 20th May 2009 and General Secretary on 9th September, 2019 in recognition of his visionary leadership.

Continuing.....



Swami Gururethnam has traveled extensively, visiting over 40 countries- including US, UK, Russia, Brazil, Germany, Italy, Singapore, and the UAE to propagate the mission and vision of Santhigiri Ashram on a global platform.

A prominent presence in the socio-cultural landscape of Kerala, Swami has also made notable contributions to the literary field. He has written thought-provoking articles for various dailies and periodicals on a wide range of topics. His acclaimed books include **“See Through the Eyes of God”** (published in both Malayalam and English), **“Nerinte Balyam”** (Malayalam), and **“Ashramam enna Akhandatha”** (Malayalam), all of which have been well received by readers across Kerala.

As the General Secretary of Santhigiri Ashram, Swami has been a dynamic and inspirational force behind its spiritual, intellectual, and social initiatives. He continues to lead and guide the Ashram community and followers in earnestly spreading the spiritual teachings and universal ideals of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru.**

WITHOUT ANY RELIGIOUS BARRIER



In 2012, Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapaswi at Vatican city with Pope Benedict XVI



In 2021, Reception ceremony held in honour of Catholicos Baselios Marthoma Mathews III



In 2021, World peace summit at Thiruvananthapuram

Widely recognized as a visionary proponent of trans-religious spirituality and secular values, Swami Gururethnam plays a pivotal role in steering the global initiatives of Santhigiri Ashram. Under his dynamic leadership, the Ashram has been transformed into an international center for spiritual pilgrimage and inter-cultural harmony.

Swami excels across diverse domains-as a spiritual guide, eloquent orator, insightful writer, and exceptional organizer. As the Organizing Secretary of the Ashram, he has been at the forefront of numerous philanthropic and humanitarian missions across the nation, bringing the teachings of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru** into active public life.

His pathbreaking efforts in presenting Santhigiri Ashram as a spiritually elevated institution- transcending the boundaries of religion, caste, color, and creed have been profoundly impactful. Swami's benign presence as a distinguished guest at the ceremonial elevation of Cardinal Mar Cleemis Bava as Bishop at the Vatican received wide international media attention, reflecting his commitment to inter-faith dialogue.

Renowned for his deep and meaningful connections with leaders of various faiths, Swami stands out for his rare ability to cultivate genuine emotional bonds with people from all walks of life, an enduring hallmark of his spiritual personality.



In 2018, Releasing Amrutavani Book on the eve of Birthday celebration of Mata Amritanandamayi



In 2023, with Catholicos Baselios Marthoma Mathews III



In 2023, With Sayyid Munavvar Ali Shihab Thangal



In 2012, Ananthapuri Honouring Cardinal Mar Baselios Cleemis Catholica Bava at Thiruvananthapuram

PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITIES

In parallel with his spiritual mission, Swami Gururethnam leads a wide range of philanthropic and social initiatives that embody the core values of Santhigiri Ashram. Under his visionary leadership, the Ashram has launched and sustained impactful programs in healthcare, education, rural development, and social welfare, benefiting thousands—especially those from marginalized communities.

Key initiatives include free medical camps, Ayurveda and Siddha health centers, vocational training programs, and widespread food distribution efforts. These programs are designed not just to meet immediate needs but to foster long-term empowerment and well-being.

Griha Shree' Housing Scheme

A major milestone in the Ashram's social welfare efforts was the launch of the 'Griha Shree' housing project. The statewide inauguration of the scheme took place at Santhigiri Ashram, officiated by the then Finance Minister Shri K.M. Mani. In his inaugural address, the Minister announced the waiver of the 4% service charge (INR 16,000.00) previously imposed by the Kerala State Housing Board (KSHB) on the project.

The scheme is designed to benefit individuals who own at least two cents of land but do not have a home of their own. Under this initiative, INR 4 lakh is allocated per beneficiary for house construction:

- INR 2 lakh from the Government,
- INR 1 lakh from partnering NGOs, and
- INR 1 lakh as the beneficiary's contribution.

Bharatheeyam Trust - 'Santwana Sahayam' Program

Swami Gururethnam also inaugurated the 'Santwana Sahayam' initiative under the Bharatheeyam Trust, aimed at supporting persons with disabilities. As part of the launch, Swami presented a mobility scooter to Mr. Satheesh Kumar, a physically challenged individual, as a symbol of empowerment and care.



In 2013, inauguration of 'Griha Shree'



In 2013, inauguration of 'Griha Shree'



In 2018 Inaugurating Santwana Sahayam Program



Swami spent a day with ailing persons

Empathy in Action- Reaching Out to the Differently-Abled

In a heartfelt gesture, Swami spent a full day with individuals living with physical disabilities- both congenital and acquired due to accidents- offering them emotional support and encouragement. This conclave at Kottarakkara MGM School brought together over 200 participants, many of whom were leading lives in hardship and isolation. Swami listened to their stories with genuine concern, assuring them of his prayers and a commitment to creating better, more inclusive opportunities for their lives.



Swami has offered Help for Mrs. Vasanthi

Swami also had a personal conversation with Mr. P.U. Thomas, a selfless individual devoted to saving lives and serving humanity without seeking recognition. Swami visited the Navajeevan Trust in Kottayam, further reinforcing his support for community-based care initiatives.

Supporting a Mother's Dream - Mrs. Vasanthi's Story

Swami was deeply moved by the inspiring story of Mrs. Vasanthi, a mother who sold plantains at Chala Market to fulfill her dream of making her son a doctor. Her story, featured in Metro News, captured his heart. On Mother's Day, Swami personally gifted her a token support of INR 10,000, and reassured her that Santhigiri Ashram would stand by her in her journey ahead.



In 2022, with Bishop a peace mission in Vizhinjam

Voicing Social and Global Concerns

Swami also plays an active role in socio-religious platforms addressing issues of justice, peace, and solidarity. He inaugurated a meeting organized by the KCBC Pro-Life State Committee at Kollam Bus Bay, by lighting a candle in support of the safe release of Father Tom Uzhunnalil, who had been kidnapped in Yemen.



Stop War Stop Human Difference

He also participated in significant public awareness campaigns such as:

- 'Baithurahma Samarpanam', created by Riyadh Malappuram Mandalam KMCC and Kodur Panchayath Swatanthra Karshaka Sangham
- 'Stop War, Stop Human Difference' Signature Campaign
- Empowering Women Seminar



Empowering Women Seminar

Swami Gururethnam embodies active compassion by uniting spiritual vision with practical service, uplifting humanity beyond all barriers and establishing Santhigiri Ashram as a beacon of service-oriented spirituality in modern India.

ASHRAM BRANCHES

BEACONS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION

Ashram Branches are established with the vision of extending the message of Santhigiri Ashram to the global stage. Their purpose is to share the spiritual teachings and timeless wisdom of the Ashram with a broader audience, contributing to the promotion of peace, harmony, and universal well-being.

The first branch was founded on 23rd April 1971 at Kallar, nestled in the serene hills of Idukki district, Kerala. Since then, Santhigiri Ashram has grown steadily, now encompassing 30 branches across India, along with a rising international presence through associates in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, the United States, and Europe.

A significant milestone in this journey was the inauguration of the Viswa Jnana Mandiram in Kozhikode in 2023. This sacred space stands as a symbol of Santhigiri's deepening universal message of unity, spirituality, and service.

With the founding of each new branch, a profound transformation begins to take root—not just in the physical landscape, but in the hearts and lives of the surrounding communities. These Ashrams serve as centers of healing, spiritual guidance, and inner awakening, fostering a more conscious, compassionate, and spiritually vibrant society.



Viswa Jnana Mandiram in Kozhikode, Kerala, India



Santhigiri Ashram, Central Office
Santhigiri P.O., Pothencode
Thiruvananthapuram
Kerala PIN 695 589



Santhigiri Ashram
Polayathode Branch
Vadakkevila P.O.
Kollam, Kerala PIN 691 010



Santhigiri Ashram
Kottarakkara Branch
Pallikkal P.O., Kottarakkara
Kollam, Kerala PIN 691 556



Santhigiri Ashram, Konni Branch
Near Forest Office, Konni
Pathanamthitta,
Kerala PIN 689 691



Santhigiri Ashram
Pampadi Branch
Aruvaikkara, Aruvikkuzhi P.O.
Kottayam, Kerala PIN 686 503



Santhigiri Ashram
Vaikom Branch
Udayanapuram P.O., Vaikom
Kottayam, Kerala PIN 686 141



Santhigiri Ashram, Kumily Branch
Amaravathy P.O., 2nd Mile, Kumily
Idukki, Kerala PIN 685 509



Santhigiri Ashram, Kallar Branch
Kallar P.O. Thookkupalam
Idukki, Kerala PIN 685 552



Santhigiri Ashram
Ramakkalmedu Branch
Chottupara P.O., West Para,
Pattom Colony, Idukki
Kerala PIN 685552



Santhigiri Ashram
Harippad Branch
Akamkudi P.O.
Harippad, Kerala PIN 690 513



Santhigiri Ashram
Thambakachuvad Branch
North Aryad P.O.
Alappuzha, Kerala PIN 688 538



Janmagriham (Santhigiri Ashram
Chandiroor Branch)
Chandiroor P.O.,
Alappuzha PIN 688 537



Santhigiri Ashram
Palarivattom Branch
Pipeline Road, Thammanam P.O.,
Ernakulam, Kerala PIN 682 032



Santhigiri Ashram
Thangaloor Branch
Edakkulam, Thangaloor P.O
Thrissur, Kerala PIN 680 596



Santhigiri Ashram
Olasser Branch
Olasser P.O., Kodumbu Via
Palakkad, Kerala PIN 678 551



Santhigiri Ashram
Theyyala Branch
Theyyala P.O, Thanoor Via
Malappuram, Kerala PIN 676 320



Santhigiri Ashram
Kakkodi Branch
Kizhakkummuri P.O., Kakkodi
Kozhikode, Kerala PIN 673 611



Santhigiri Ashram
Vadakara Branch
Valiyamala, Mayyannur P.O.
Vilyappalli, Vadakara
Kozhikode, Kerala PIN 673 542



Santhigiri Ashram
Sulthan Bathery Branch
Nambiarkunnu P.O.,
Sulthan Bathery
Wayanad, Kerala PIN 673 595



Santhigiri Ashram
Vallyayi Branch
Muthiyanga P.O., Vallyayi
Kannur, Kerala PIN 670 691



Santhigiri Ashram
Kanyakumari Branch
Vijayanarayanapuram,
Leepuram P.O.Kanyakumari,
Tamil Nadu PIN 629 702



Santhigiri Ashram
Cumbam Branch
Madurai Kumily Road
Cumbam, Tamil Nadu PIN 625 516



Santhigiri Ashram
Andarkottaram Branch
Viraganur North Bank, Karuppap-
illaiyendhal, Andarkottaram P.O.,
MaduraiTamil Nadu PIN 625 020



Santhigiri Ashram, Cheyyur Branch
Salt Road, Cheyyur P.O.
Near St. Exupery School
Chengalpattu,
Tamil Nadu PIN 603 302



Santhigiri Ashram, Hosur Branch
Sy.No.471, Uddnappalli,
Karadikuttai, Haleesebam P.O.
Rayakottai Road, Sulagiri Taluk
Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu PIN 635 119



Santhigiri Ashram
Sarjapur Road Branch
Sarjapur Road, Ambedkar Nagar
Carmelaram P.O., Kodathi Village
Bengaluru, Karnataka PIN 560 035



Santhigiri Ashram, Mysuru Branch
Tumbla P.O., Gargeswari,
T. Narsipura, Mysuru,
Karnataka PIN 571 110



Santhigiri Ashram, Saket Branch
Plot No. 23/24, Sector 6
Pushp Vihar, Saket
New Delhi PIN 110 017



Santhigiri Ashram
Deogarh Branch
Jamakheda Road, Anjana P.O.
Deogarh Tahsil, Rajsamand,
Rajasthan PIN 313331



In 2023,
Swami with His Excellency
Lieutenant Governor of New Delhi,
Mr. Vinay Kumar Saxena
and Union Minister,
Mr. V. Muraleedharan
during the Silver Jubilee
Celebrations of Santhigiri Ashram
in Saket, New Delhi.



Swami with
His Excellency
Vice President of India,
Mr. Jagdeep Dhankar at
Santhigiri Ashram, Saket Branch,
New Delhi



In 2023,
Swami with Tamil Nadu Minister
for Milk and Dairy Development
Mr. Mano Thangaraj at
Santhigiri Ashram,
Cheyyur Branch



In 2023,
Swami with His Excellency
Governor of Kerala,
Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan
during the Inauguration of
Santhigiri Viswa Jnana Mandiram
at Kozhikode

SOCIAL SERVICES

Swami, in addition to his spiritual leadership, plays a pivotal role in guiding Santhigiri Ashram's impactful social service initiatives. His vision seamlessly blends spiritual wisdom with compassionate action, transforming the teachings of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru** into a living force for personal and societal transformation.

Under his dynamic leadership, Santhigiri Ashram has expanded its outreach through:

- Free healthcare services, including Ayurveda and Siddha treatments,
- Daily Annadaan (free food to all),
- Disaster relief efforts,
- Support for the differently-abled,
- Aid for marginalized communities.

Swami places strong emphasis on education, vocational training, and women's empowerment, fostering long-term, sustainable development. His unique approach of service-driven spirituality inspires both national and international audiences, demonstrating that true spiritual evolution is rooted in selfless service and the upliftment of humanity.

Notable Public Engagements & Social Participation

• **Support for Infrastructure Development:**

Swami inaugurated the signature petition campaign led by the Manacaud-Attukal Road Expansion Action Committee on Saturday, 31st January, near Manacaud Market Junction. The campaign aimed to address severe traffic congestion near the Attukal Devi Temple, which welcomes over one million pilgrims annually. The petitions urged the Kerala government to prioritize road expansion in the upcoming state budget.

• **Sadacharam Police Samaram (FRAT):**

On 29 October 2014, Swami took part in the Sadacharam Police Samaram organized by FRAT, advocating for ethics and integrity within the law enforcement system.

• **Solidarity for Father Tom Uzhunnalil:**

At Kollam Bus Bay, Swami lit a candle as a symbolic gesture of solidarity, calling for the safe and swift release of Father Tom Uzhunnalil, who had been kidnapped by terrorists in Yemen. His participation drew attention to the importance of interfaith unity and human rights.

• **Awareness Campaign Against Alcohol:**

Swami also took part in a seminar advocating for an alcohol-free Kerala, aligning with public health and moral well-being initiatives.

Swami's presence and participation in these diverse initiatives highlight his inclusive spiritual vision that seeks not only inner transformation but also active engagement with the challenges of society. His leadership continues to inspire a generation to walk the path of dharma, compassion, and collective upliftment.



Swami participated and inaugurated the sign petition collection led by the Manacaud-Attukal Road



Sadacharam Police Samaram



Lighting the candle at Kollam



A Protest against Alcohol Free Kerala.



In 2015, Participating in the Sneha Thalam Cancer Awareness Camp



In 2015, at Navajeevan Trust, Kottayam, a Charitable Trust working for the Destitute



In 2022, Participating in the Vakkom Khader Memorial Forum



In 2015, Distributing Onam Kit to the needy



In 2022, Visiting Ms. Dayabhai, the well acclaimed social activist.



In 2013, Inaugurating the Cancer Awareness Program of Swasthi Foundation



In 2015, Flagging off Blindfolded Bike Ride

VIZHINJAM PORT KERALA

Swami graced the Vizhinjam Port inauguration as a distinguished guest, adding spiritual depth to the historic event. His message emphasized aligning progress with wisdom, ethics, and community upliftment. His presence symbolized Kerala's fusion of tradition and development, highlighting that true growth must serve both humanity and nature.



VANDE BHARAT

Swami graced the Vande Bharat Express Train inauguration in Kerala as an honored guest, adding a spiritual dimension to the landmark event. In his address, Swami emphasized that true progress must transcend speed and connectivity. His inspiring words reminded all present that advancement is most meaningful when rooted in human dignity and societal well-being.



ARTS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

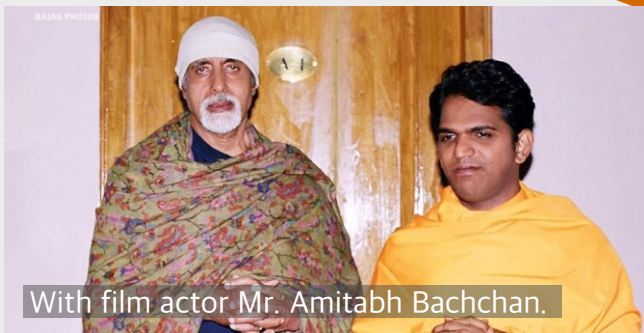
Santhigiri Viswasamskrithy Kalarangam, one of the eight key divisions under the Arts & Culture Department of Santhigiri Ashram, holds the distinction of being a recognized member of the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi—the State Academy for Performing Arts. Under the able leadership of Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapaswi, this cultural wing plays a vital role in revitalizing and promoting Kerala's rich performing arts tradition. Guided by the Ashram's spiritual vision, it strives to bring a holistic and transformative approach to the arts, aligning creative expression with values of harmony, consciousness, and cultural evolution.



With Malayalam film actor Mr. Mohanlal



With Malayalam film actor Mr. Mammootty



With film actor Mr. Amitabh Bachchan.



With Malayalam film actor Mr. Jayaram



With film actor Mr. Vijay



Attending a cultural program

HEALTHCARE ACTIVITIES

In 2005, Swami established the Santhigiri Healthcare & Research Organization (SHRO) to streamline and coordinate the flagship healthcare initiatives of Santhigiri Ashram.

Under his visionary leadership, the Ashram launched the trailblazing healthcare project 'Santhigiri Karunyam', aimed at providing free medicines and sustained follow-up care to thousands across India. The first phase of this ambitious project was inaugurated by former Indian cricket team captain Mr. Mohammad Azharuddin, while the second phase was launched by internationally acclaimed filmmaker Mr. Adoor Gopalakrishnan.

Through Santhigiri Karunyam, medicines worth approximately INR 3 crores were distributed free of cost to economically disadvantaged patients throughout the country.

This far-reaching initiative, taken forward with Swami's dynamic leadership, garnered the support and endorsement of numerous eminent personalities, including :

- Dr. K.M. Cherian, renowned cardiologist
- Mr. Amitabh Bachchan, legendary actor of Indian Cinema
- Various State and Cabinet Ministers
- Senior Police officials, and others

The Santhigiri Karunyam project stands as a testament to the Ashram's commitment to compassionate healthcare, seamlessly blending spiritual values with practical service to humanity.



In 2021, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi visiting Santhigiri Wellness Center at Kevadia, Gujarath



In 2016, Free medical camp by Santhigiri

Under the Santhigiri Karunyam Project, Chandiroor Village in Alappuzha district, Kerala, was adopted and developed into a model Siddha village- Karunyam Siddha Gram- benefitting over 2,500 families. In addition to this initiative, Santhigiri Ashram continues to extend a wide range of philanthropic services, providing consistent support and relief to poor and destitute patients across various regions.

One of the most impactful efforts includes monthly free eye camps and ophthalmic surgeries, organized in collaboration with the renowned Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu. These camps offer critical eye care services to those who would otherwise be unable to afford them.

Swami's pioneering efforts in promoting indigenous systems of medicine, such as Ayurveda and Siddha, and in delivering cost-effective, accessible healthcare, have been widely appreciated. As the chief organizer and global coordinator of Santhigiri Ashram's healthcare institutions, Swami has rendered yeoman service to society by championing holistic and inclusive health solutions.

A major milestone under his leadership is the establishment of Kerala's first and only Siddha Medical College, at Santhigiri Ashram- a significant achievement that adds yet another feather to his illustrious cap.



Handing over the INR 2 Lakhs Cheque for a Project at Mathrubhumi Mission Medical College



INR 50 Lakhs Handing over to His Excellency President of Sri Lanka, Mr. Maithripala Sirisena for the Victims of Tsunami Members

TOWARDS A DRUG-FREE TOMORROW

Swami and Santhigiri Ashram are deeply committed to the vision of a drug-free society, grounded in the principles of inner purity, self-discipline, and holistic well-being. Through a dynamic combination of spiritual guidance, awareness campaigns, and community outreach, they actively work to uplift individuals—especially the youth—encouraging them to lead purposeful, addiction-free lives.

Santhigiri Ashram regularly organizes and participates in public events, awareness rallies, and rehabilitation programs, spreading the message of a clean, conscious, and value-based lifestyle. Under Swami Gururethnam's leadership, these efforts go beyond spiritual instruction, addressing pressing social challenges with both compassion and practical solutions.

The Ashram collaborates with educational institutions, local communities, social organizations, and government agencies to amplify its mission. This coordinated effort ensures that drug prevention becomes a shared responsibility, not just a one-time campaign. This integrated and inclusive approach reflects Santhigiri's core philosophy: that true transformation begins from within and radiates outward, leading to the upliftment of individuals, families, and society at large.



In 2025, Walk against drugs



In 2025, youngsters took a pledge against drug abuse, reaffirming their commitment to a healthy and responsible lifestyle.



In 2025, youngsters participated in a rally against drug abuse, reaffirming their commitment to a healthy and responsible lifestyle.



In 2021, 'Narcotic Jihad' controversy | Religious leaders meet to 'heal wounds'

NATIONAL - INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR & VISITS

In 2005, Santhigiri Ashram organized an international seminar in Kottayam, Kerala, on the interrelated themes of Health, Peace, and Spirituality. The event provided valuable insights into the Ashram's multifaceted activities and attracted delegates from over 30 countries, including Nobel laureates, further elevating the global profile of Santhigiri's mission. The Ashram continues to spearhead initiatives that promote eco-conscious living and sustainable development. A notable example was the international seminar on global warming, held in September 2010 at the Ashram, which featured participation from delegates across various nations.

As part of the Lotus Parnasala dedication programme, the Ashram convened an international spiritual colloquium, attended by representatives of more than 250 spiritual organizations from around the world, an event that underscored Santhigiri's growing spiritual outreach.

Santhigiri Ashram also played a key role in organizing a Middle East Conference on Health Research, with the objective of promoting Ayurveda and traditional Indian healing systems across the Gulf countries. This was complemented by a media seminar focused on the urgency of sustainable development in the modern world.

Another shining example of Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapaswi's visionary leadership and organizational excellence was the 'Kalanjali Festival'- a grand cultural event that brought together a vibrant cross-section of India's major performing art forms under one roof, celebrating the nation's artistic and spiritual heritage.



At the international inter-religious Conference in Chicago, a part of FOKANA Meet



First Anniversary of Ayyapa Seva Samiti



In 2015, Attending FOKANA Meeting, at USA



In 2008, a meeting was held with the Honourable President of India, Ms. Pratibha Patil.



In 2012, a meeting was held with the Honourable President of India, Mr Pranab Kumar Mukherjee.



In 2006, Attended a meeting with Ms. Sonia Gandhi



In 2014, Russian day celebration



In 2013, attending the 10th Doha International Center for Inter-Faith Dialogue at Qatar.



In 2023, Handan foundation meeting



Swami General Secretary of Santhigiri Ashram, addressed a national seminar at IIAS, Shimla, on “**Guru Parampara and Indian Knowledge Tradition**” on June 25, 2025. He emphasized the modern relevance of the Guru-Shishya tradition and the transformative teachings of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru**. The event, inaugurated by Bihar Governor Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan, gathered scholars and spiritual leaders from across India.

FRIENDSHIP & BROTHERHOOD

From a relatively young age, Swami established meaningful rapport with several stalwarts in the socio-political and cultural spheres of India. As a result of these enduring relationships, luminaries such as the late K.R. Narayanan, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Ms. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Dr. Manmohan Singh, Mr. Sonia Gandhi, and Mr. L.K. Advani have visited Santhigiri Ashram on various occasions, offering their respect and solidarity.

Swami shared close personal ties with prominent leaders, including:

- Late Panakkad Sayyid Mohammed Ali Shihab Thangal
- Former Kerala Chief Minister Mr. P.K. Vasudevan Nair
- Congress stalwart Mr. K. Karunakaran
- Baselios Marthoma Mathews Catholicos Bava

His deep friendship with the late President K.R. Narayanan continued until the latter's passing. Similarly, he shared an intimate bond with the acclaimed writer O.V. Vijayan, whom Swami personally supported and cared for during the final days of his life.

Spiritual leaders, Cabinet Ministers, prominent writers, senior bureaucrats, and religious heads continue to maintain a close and respectful relationship with Swami. A notable moment that garnered international attention was Swami's presence alongside Baselios Mar Cleemis Catholicos Bava at the Vatican, during the latter's elevation as Cardinal.

Advocacy for Human Rights & Environmental Protection

As an active ambassador of trans-religious spirituality, Swami has been a staunch advocate for human rights and ecological conservation. His work in these fields is reflected in the Ashram's major initiatives and public events, where ethical responsibility and environmental consciousness are consistently promoted.

Swami believes that spiritual evolution must go hand-in-hand with social justice and ecological balance. In alignment with this vision, he serves as a patron of the Indian Human Rights Forum, further amplifying his commitment to dignity, equity, and sustainability.



With His Excellency President of India
Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam



With Lulu Group Chairman, Mr. Yusuf Ali



With Former President of India
Mr. Ram Nath Kovind.



His Excellency Governor of Kerala
Mr. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar



With Chief Minister of Gujarat
Mr. Bhupendra Patel.



With His Excellency Governor of Goa
Mr. P Sreedharan Pillai.



With the Honourable Crown Prince of Qatar,
Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.



With His Grace Chrysostomos Thirumeni, a respected
bishop and spiritual leader.



With the Honourable Union Home Minister of India,
Mr. Amit Shah.



With Prominent Religious Leaders



Meeting with BJP leaders at the party office in Gujarat.



With Hon'ble Defence Minister of India, Mr. Rajnath Singh.



With the Honourable Governor of Gujarat,
Mr. Acharya Devvrat.



With the Honourable Chief Minister of Kerala,
Mr. Pinarayi Vijayan.

CULTURAL AREAS

As the General Secretary of Santhigiri Ashram, Swami plays a dynamic role in the cultural sphere and is a prominent force in trans-religious dialogue, philanthropy, and human rights advocacy. In an era where disruptive and divisive forces challenge the cultural landscape, Swami's thoughtful interventions have made significant contributions towards the revival and renewal of India's ancient cultural heritage, deeply rooted in authentic spirituality. His efforts have earned him wide recognition and respect across diverse sections of society.



In 2014, Samskarika Sammelanam at Alappuzha



Pure Water Project Inauguration scheme at Manickal Grama Panchayath on 2013.



With Mr. Kummanam Rajasekharan former Mizoram Governor.



With AICC General Secretary Mr. K C Venugopal.



Horthoos program of Malayala Manorama.



A Cultural Program with Former Chief Minister, Mr. V.S. Achuthanathan



Cultural Event at Santhigiri Ashram, Kottarakkara Branch

LITERATURE

Swami has cultivated a deep and respectful relationship with the literary world, engaging meaningfully with some of Kerala's most iconic literary figures. His spiritual journey and leadership at Santhigiri Ashram have inspired profound interactions with renowned writers such as O.V. Vijayan, M.T. Vasudevan Nair, Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri, N. Kunjiraman Nair, and O.N.V. Kurup.

These interactions reflect Swami's deep appreciation for literature as a medium that transcends boundaries and nurtures timeless human values. Through dialogue and spiritual exchange, he has fostered a broader philosophical and cultural understanding, bridging the realms of literary thought and spiritual insight.

His presence in literary circles has added intellectual and spiritual depth to Santhigiri Ashram's message of unity, consciousness, and cultural awakening. Swami continues to honour and support literature as a vital instrument for societal transformation, embodying the belief that art, literature, and spirituality are interconnected pathways to human evolution.



O V Vijayan Remembrance Series at Kolkatta on 2015



O V Vijayan Remembrance series at Bombay on 2015



O V Vijayan Remembrance series at Ahmedabad on 2015



Mahakavi P. Kunjiraman Remembrance Day with Writer MT Vasudevan Nair on 2016



Santhigiri Ashram



Santhigiri Ashram

THE RELENTLESS SPIRITUAL PURSUIT

Statewide Lecture Series on the Sacrificial Life of Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru

Each year on May 6, Navaoli Jyothirdinam is observed to commemorate the spiritual merger of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru** with the Supreme Divine Light. In the lead-up to the 2013 observance, Swami launched a statewide lecture series that garnered wide public and media attention. Beginning on February 25, 2013, from Chandiroor- the birthplace of the Guru-Swami delivered thought-provoking discourses addressing contemporary societal issues. Through these lectures, he issued a clarion call for moral renewal and collective dedication to building a welfare state. The series concluded on May 5, 2013, the eve of Navaoli Jyothirdinam.

Sat-Sangs and Fraternal Conclaves

Under Swami's visionary leadership, a series of Sat-Sangs and fraternal gatherings were organized across all Taluks of Kerala, as well as in major centers across India and international locations such as Dubai. These gatherings aimed to cultivate moral awareness, strengthen spiritual values, and encourage family-centered initiatives for the upliftment of society. Some of the notable youth-centered gatherings include:

- Yuva Sangamam - Idukki
- Yuva Sangamam - Palakkad

These events reflect Swami's commitment to nurturing spiritually grounded, socially responsible youth, and spreading the Ashram's message of unity, service, and inner transformation.



Twenty-three years in monastic life - a journey of complete self-surrender at the feet of the Guru.



Offering Pushpanjali at Lotus Parnasala

INTERVENTION IN EDUCATIONAL FIELDS

The K.R. Narayanan Endowment, envisioned by Swami, is a free educational support program designed to assist talented students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds in pursuing higher education. This noble initiative has enabled hundreds of underprivileged boys and girls to access opportunities that might otherwise have been out of reach.

Another impactful program initiated by Swami is 'Santhigiri Utharasree', which provides educational materials and learning tools to students from low-income families across Kerala every year. As part of this initiative, tree saplings are also distributed to the children, promoting an eco-conscious mindset among the younger generation and encouraging them to grow with nature.

In addition, Swasthi Foundation- a voluntary collective of socially committed individuals, patronized by Swami- supports educational development through distribution of newspapers to schoolchildren. Collaborating with initiatives like Vayana Kalari of Malayala Manorama and Madhuram Malayalam of Mathrubhumi, the foundation aims to foster reading habits and general awareness among young minds throughout the state



Participating in the Madhuram Malayalam Program of Mathrubhumi conducted by Cotton Hill School, Thiruvananthapuram on 2014



Appreciating Ms. Ayumi Satio, A Japan National of Santhigiri Siddha Medical College and First Rank Holder in BSMS Examination held by Kerala University



Lamp Lighting and Induction Ceremony of CSI College and School of Nursing at Dr. SMCSI Medical College & Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram on 2014



Ente Kaumudi Program conducted at Santhigiri Vidhyabhavan

INTERVENTIONS IN AGRI-FRONT

Under the guidance of Swami, Santhigiri Ashram has undertaken several developmental initiatives in the field of agriculture. A key milestone was the inauguration of the High-Tech Farming Project, a State Government initiative, hosted at the Ashram on June 6, 2012. This project marked a significant step towards promoting modern and sustainable farming practices.

To further encourage vegetable cultivation, the Ashram partnered with the leading Malayalam daily, Malayala Manorama, to launch an innovative reward program. As part of this initiative, a cash award of INR 1,00,000 was announced for a housewife who cultivates the best home vegetable garden in their home courtyard, recognizing and empowering grassroots level agricultural efforts.

In 2005, the Ashram, in collaboration with the Government of Kerala, introduced the pioneering initiative "A Herbal Garden in the School and One at My Homestead Too." This program was implemented across schools in the state with the aim of promoting herbal awareness and cultivation among students, both in educational settings and at their homes. These projects reflect the Ashram's commitment to sustainable living, food security, and environmental education, aligning traditional wisdom with modern agricultural practices.



Inauguration of 'Makara Koithu' the harvest festival at Santhigiri Ashram Kottakara Branch on 2014



Santhigiri Herbal Veg & Fruit Wash product Press meet at Thiruvananthapuram on 2022



Planted a tree named 'ormamaram' (The tree of memory) at Thiruvananthapuram



Swami handing over a tree sapling as part of Nalekoru Maram at Kollam.



Harithasree Project of Mathrubhumi on 2015.



Swami handing over a tree sapling as part of Nalekoru Maram at Idukki.



Santhigiri Botanical Garden & Nursery

MEDIA SECTOR

Swami recognizes the pivotal role of the media- the Fourth Estate- in shaping public discourse and guiding the moral direction of society. His travels, speeches, and discourses consistently attract widespread media attention and public engagement. Swami is also active on social media platforms such as FaceBook and Twitter, utilizing these modern channels to share spiritual insights and connect with a wider audience.

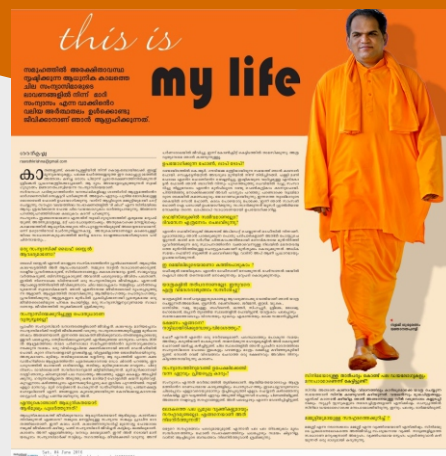
An accomplished writer, Swami regularly contributes articles to leading Malayalam dailies, offering reflections on contemporary issues through the lens of spiritual wisdom and analytical depth. His writings have earned critical acclaim and have sparked intellectual dialogue and public reflection on themes of social relevance.

Understanding the power and reach of digital media, Swami has cultivated a strong online presence. His features appear regularly on platforms such as Manorama Online, Mangalam Online, Madhyamam Online, and Kerala Kaumudi, as well as in several respected periodicals. His widely read "Thought of the Day" columns convey timeless values in a format suited for today's fast-paced readership.

Swami has also been featured in numerous televised interviews, where his composed presence and thoughtful commentary have resonated with diverse audiences. Through print, broadcast, and digital media, Swami continues to serve as a bridge between spiritual insight and public discourse, effectively conveying the teachings of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru** to the contemporary world.



Speaking at Mathrubhumi Office Kozhikode on 2023



C Jino Jose and V S Manjula at their wedding

PHOTOGRAPHS BY KAVIYODOR SANTHOSH

The Barrierless Altar

Santhigiri Ashram in Kerala, which does not believe in caste, creed or religion, promotes inter-caste and inter-religious marriages

By SHEVLIN SEBASTIAN

On a cloudy morning in June, C Jino Jose, along with VS Manjula, enters the 'Sahakarana Mandiram' or the 'Shrine of Togetherness' at the Santhigiri Ashram in Thiruvananthapuram. It is a holy abode situated right next to the Lotus 'Parnasala' where the physical remains of the founder Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru (1927-1989) are kept. The couple steps in front of the abode's altar. Then Jino and Manjula bow their heads. Later, they go to one side and bring back a tray which contains fruits, two garlands, as well as a lighted lamp.

This is placed on a table in front of the altar. At one side, a few sanyasis chant verses from the Skanda Purana. "These verses urge the pair to have a good life, and to

share the good and had together, and to live a life as per the guru's teachings," says Ashram Organising Secretary Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapasswi. After Jino and Manjula exchange garlands, in front of several saffron-clad sanyasis, they go to one side, where family members, relatives and friends stand in a queue to throw flowers and chant the Guru Mantra. After that, they are led back to the altar where more prayers are recited. "The marriage concludes in the presence of the guru," says long-time devotee Rajeev Devraj.

And thus, one more inter-religious marriage has been concluded at the ashram that was established in 1964. While Jino, 28, is a Christian, Manjula, 24, is a Hindu. He had seen her when they were studying at the Mar Ivanios College at Thiruvanan-

thapuram, both doing different degree courses. Jino says, "Manjula is sincere, simple and down to earth. Although we belong to different religions, we are similar in many ways. So I felt that religion

will not be a problem. Manjula also said that she has no problem in accompanying me to church."

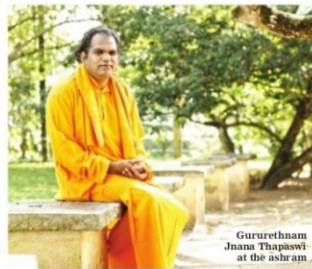
Jino first received the permission of his parents before he approached Manjula's father J Velayudhan Chettiyar. "The guru has taught us never to look at caste, creed or religion," says Velayudhan. "All human beings are the same. I have lived in the ashram for 40 years. Manjula has also spent all her life here."

Velayudhan then ap-

proached the Guru Apparant, Janani Amritha Jnana Thapasswini, who, after meditation and prayer, gave the go-ahead. "Janani Amritha takes guidance from the guru, looks into the soul of the couple, and sees whether they are compatible," says Swami Gururethnam.

There are two more marriages scheduled for this month at the ashram. Anil Kumar weds Asha, but both belong to the Nair caste. On the other hand, NR Dinakaran of the Ezhava caste gets married to Krishna Chithra, a Nair.

On an average, there are 15-20 marriages conducted every month at the ashram. "The majority are inter-caste and inter-religious ties," says Swami Gururethnam. "It is not that all marriages work out well. So, we encourage them to come to the ashram, pray to the guru, and take our help to sort things out." Meanwhile, the ashram's overall aim is to reach a situation where nobody asks about one's caste or religion while fixing a marriage. "That has been the dream of Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru," says Swami Gururethnam. "And we want to achieve it."



Gururethnam Jnana Thapasswi at the ashram

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APR 20, 2013 7:00 PM

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

Santhigiri Ashram Holds Get-together

Express News Service

Kozhikode: Exhorting the message of fraternity and spirituality, hundreds of people from various walks of life took part in the get-together organised by the Santhigiri Ashram in Kozhikode on Saturday.

Electricity Minister Aryadan Mohammed inaugurated the event in which district panchayat president Kanathil Jameela, BJP national executive member P Sreedharan Pillai, Socialist Janata (Democratic) Party president M P Veerendra Kumar, Kozhikode Qasbi Syed Naser Shahab Thangal, Bishop Thomas Panackal, MES president Fasal Gaffoor, KPCC leader P V Gangadharan, A K Saseendran, MLA and KMCT chairman Dr Moideu took part. Santhigiri Ashram organising secretary Swami Gururatnam Jnanathapaswi also spoke on the occasion.



GULF TIMES

WEDNESDAY April 24, 2013

Indian delegation taking part in Digid meet

A three-member delegation from the Indian state of Kerala is participating at the 10th Inter-faith Dialogue, which began at Ritz Carlton Hotel yesterday.

The team includes imam of Palyam mosque in Thiruvananthapuram Moulavi Jamaluddin Mankada, vicar general of Thiruvananthapuram Syro-Malankara Catholic arch-diocese monsignor Gheovarghese Mathew Manakkavil and organising secretary of Santhigiri Ashram of Pothoode Swami Gururatnam.

Mankada and Swami Gururatnam who attended the installation ceremony of cardinal Basileus Clemis of Syro Malankara Catholic Church had participated in the inter-faith meeting held in Vatican on the occasion.

Monsignor Gheovarghese Mathew, who was the principal of Mar Ivanios College, Thiruvananthapuram between 2007 and 2011, is the representative of Basileus Clemis, who is the youngest cardinal of the Catholic church. He is the second youngest person to become a cardinal in the church.

The trio will also attend a concensual harmony meet to be organised by Friends Cultural Centre (FCC) at Abuhecker Siddiq Siddique School, Muscat, on Friday. It is scheduled for 6.30pm.

Swami Gururatnam, Jamaluddin Moulavi and monsignor and vicar general of Syro-Malankara Catholic Archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram Gheovarghese Mathew Manakkavil along with FCC Executive Director Ribees Rehman Keezhassery (left) at the inter-faith dialogue yesterday. PICTURE: Shaji Koyamkulam

Gulf Times Wednesday, April 24, 2013

SPORTS & YOUTH AFFAIRS

A Holistic Path to Individual Transformation

Santhigiri Ashram upholds a truly unique and integrated approach to the wholesome development of the individual- spiritually, mentally, and physically. The Ashram recognizes that physical well-being is an essential aspect of personal growth, not only for its followers and residents but also for the broader public.

Swami has actively promoted this vision by organizing and participating in various community wellness activities, including fitness runs, football tournaments, and bike rides. These events are not merely recreational, they serve as expressions of a lifestyle rooted in discipline, vitality, and harmony with nature.

Avadhuta Pilgrimage : A Journey of Spiritual Remembrance.

As an offering of deep reverence and spiritual remembrance, a sacred pilgrimage has been envisioned to retrace the sacrificial path of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru**. This pilgrimage offers a profound opportunity for devotees to immerse themselves in the living memory of Guru's transformative spiritual journey.

In the spirit of self-surrender and renunciation, members of Guru's spiritual lineage will undertake this Avadhuta Pilgrimage—a symbolic quest reflecting the core ideals of Sanyasa (renunciation) and Brahmacharya (celibacy and spiritual discipline).

The journey begins at Chandiroor, Guru's birthplace, and continues through historically and spiritually significant sites, including: Kollam, the sacred shores of Varkala, Beemapalli, and Shankumugham and then to Thakkala and Suchindram. The pilgrimage culminates at the southern tip of India—Kanyakumari, where the seas merge and spiritual aspirations ascend.

Spanning four days, this sacred journey is not only a geographical traversal but also a transformational inner journey, honoring the sacrificial legacy of the Guru and deepening the seekers' connection with the divine path shown by him.



Kick off 'Santhigiri Sevens' Soccer League



Flag off The State Track Cycling Championship at LNCP Velodrom, Thiruvananthapuram



Flagging off blindfolded bike ride of 8 Km through heavy traffic



'Run Kerala Run' was organized as the proclamation of 35th National Games, held in Kerala.

AVADHUTA YATHRA

Embarking on a journey to rediscover the sacrificial life of our beloved Guru, this pilgrimage traverses the lands that bear witness to the historical spiritual sacrifices of Guru. It is an opportunity to be there and immerse oneself in the deeply reminiscent thoughts of those momentous spiritual moments.

In an act of self-surrender and complete acknowledgement of Guru's myriad sacrifices, Guru's lineage is preparing to traverse an Avadhuta pilgrimage of seeking, embodying the ideals of Sanyasa and Brahmacharya.

Starting from the Guru's birthplace in Chandiroor and travelling through Kollam, the pilgrimage would then pass through the beaches of Varkala, Beemapalli, and Shankumugham. The journey will proceed to Thakkala, Shuchindram, and finally reach Kanyakumari. This spiritual journey will span four days.



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- 'Karunyarasha' Award instituted by Union of German Malayali Association (UGMA).
- 'Best Social Worker' Award from Lions' Club, Thiruvananthapuram.
- 'Spiritual Excellency' Award by Pravasee Returnees Association.
- Elected as the chief Patron of 'Pravasi Malayalee Federation' the apex body of large number of Malayalee Organizations spread across the globe.
- Karma Sreshtha Award from Rotary Club of Trivandrum Royal on 14 Nov 2014.
- Vishwa Karma Keerthi Puraskaram from Kerala Vishwa Karma Cultural Center on 13 Nov 2014.
- Sir Anton Award for Excellence from Medicina Alternativa received from Hon. Salinda Dissanayake, M.P.(Minister for Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka) on 28 Nov 2014.
- Sree Matha Award from Sree Matha Charitable Society received from Hon'ble Home Minister of Kerala Mr. Ramesh Chennithala on 3rd Dec 2014.
- Daiva Dashakam Rachana Sathaptdi Award Sivagiri Action Council presented by Sri Adoor Prakash, Revenue Minister, Govt. of Kerala on 24th Dec 2014.
- Santhidooth Award from Gandhibhavan, Pathanapuram presented by Aswathi Thirunal Gauri Lakshmi Bhai member of the Royal Family on 3rd Dec 2014.
- Sarva Srestha Award from Padinjara Kottaram Bhakthajana Samithi, Kadakkarapally presented by Sri A.N. Radhakrishnan, B.J.P. State General Secretary on 1st Jan 2015.
- AMAI Award received from Hon. Union Minister for Ayush Dept. Shri Shripad Yasso Naik on 11th Jan 2015.
- Excellence Award for Social Service from YMCA Global President Mr. Peter Poster at Mascot Hotel on 23 Feb 2015.
- Felicitated by Mr. Stephen Tims, the Former Minister of Britain at British Parliament on 12th Oct 2015.



Receiving "Manava Seva" Award instituted by Anti Narcotic Action Center of India from Mr. Ramesh Chennithala, the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs & Vigilance, Govt. of Kerala



Receiving Santhidoth Award of Gandhi Bhavan, Pathanapuram from Ms. Aswathi Thirunal Gauri Lakshmi Bai, Member of the Royal Family on 3rd December, 2014 for contribution to the Humanitarian activities



Receiving Vishwakarama Keerthi Award - 2014', installed by Kerala Vishwakarama Cultural Center



Receiving 'Karma Shrestha Award' installed by Trivandrum Rotary Club Royal



Honored & Awarded in the field of Secular Spirituality & Promotion of Ayurveda from Mr. Stephen Timms MP & Former Minister, British Parliament. (12 Oct 2015)



Jwala Man of The Year at Mumbai, 11 Nov 2017

BOOKS AUTHORED

The short biography of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru**, published by the Kerala Bhasha Institute, has created history by achieving a record-breaking sale of 3,25,000 copies within just four months. This remarkable success reflects the deep resonance and inspirational impact of the Guru's life on Kerala society.

Authored by Swami the biography presents a concise yet profound account of the Guru's life, values, and vision. The release function was graced by several eminent personalities, including Mr. Palode Ravi, former Deputy Speaker, Mr. Thampan, Director of the Kerala Bhasha Institute, and Swami Chaithanya Jnana Thapaswi, General Secretary of Santhigiri Ashram.



The Mission of a Great Guru

The book, 'Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru', written by Swami Chaithanya Jnana Thapaswi, and published by the Kerala Bhasha Institute, gives the readers an outline of the life and experiences of the great spiritual Master Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru (1927-1998).

The writer George Onakur, who has written an introduction, says Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru, whom he had approached for spiritual guidance, had attained the highest spiritual realization. The mission of Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru was to reestablish the teachings of the ancient Rishis, without the barriers of caste, class and creed. Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru had said that the Divine, in the form of an avatar, guru or prophet, appears at all crucial stages of human civilization, for its spiritual growth. This process has been going on from the time of creation.

According to Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru, the Sramana religions, the culture of great souls who came from time to time, but due to certain shortcomings, human life has degenerated from the Cosmic Law given by the Almighty. For a long time, the humanity lost track of the true path of illumination and fell into spirituality degenerating practices. In order to correct this, God sent 244 mahatmas from the beginning of this kalpa yuga, to guide the human race towards the path of truth. They included Mahatmas like Lord Krishna, Lord Rama, Lord Hanuman, prophets like Jesus Christ and Prophet Muhammad who tried to lead mankind towards the path of dharma. According to the followers of the Guru, Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru is one such great Mahatma.

Once, Guru was living at the Aruvippuzham beach ashram of Santhigiri Math as its in-charge. One day, He decided to observe 41 days meditation on the top of the nearby Kodikkal Hill. For a long time, the Sai Baba appeared before Him in a bright aura. This vision gave hope to Guru. Within the next few days, Guru found his spiritual guide - a Sri I savior by the name of Gurucharya Fakir, who was popular as Pattabi Swami. The saint was living in a forest in Boman Masjid near the city of Thiruvananthapuram. Guru spent seventeen years in Santhigiri Math.

He had to undergo many hardships and self-sacrifices. At last, Guru moved to a small hill at the nearby Thiruvigra Math. The hill, Santhi, where the great saint, began to be called as Santhigiri. After the spiritual understandings with Gurucharya Fakir, Guru came to a forested place at Pottancode in 1966 and set up Santhigiri Ashram. He made a small hut there with teak and coconut palm leaves. It was called the 'Purussala'. In the place of that old Purussala, the magnificent Lotus Parasuka stands now housing the holy relic of Guru.

INDIAN EXPRESS Thu, 07 April 2016

Release of Biography of Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru



The Complexities of Man

The omniscient one is a brilliant story that describes the intricacies of life as well as the victory of the human spirit. Filled with spiritual philosophies, it becomes intelligible to divers even the young of each country. It highlights the importance of hard work, while a third focuses on the difference between knowledge and wisdom. The book has also written about the greatness of women, apart from a story from the life of Prophet Muhammad.

In one article, he cautions the young generation who casually assume the pursuit of college degrees. The author has a wide coverage of contemplation of human life as well as the love of man.

Book name: Putiy Manushyakan (Mehyadham) Author: Swami Gurucharyan Jnana Thapaswi Price: Rs. 175

INDIAN EXPRESS Sat, 01 October 2016



Release of 'Maruna Kalam Maruna Kazhuchakal' by Opposition leader Mr. Ramesh Chennithala



The Crisis in Modern Society

A book by Swami Gurucharyan Jnana Thapaswi that reflects his concerns for the crises faced by contemporary society.

The Swami writes about issues related to politics, culture, human values, and health.

A true tragedy should be followed by a better world order.

INDIAN EXPRESS Tue, 28 April 2016



Release of 'Thiranjedutha Lekhanangal' by Chief Minister Shri Pinarayi Vijayan

Mr. Rahul Gandhi MP receiving a copy of the book authored by Swami

SWASTHI FOUNDATION

Swasthi Foundation, established in late 2013 and formally registered in December 2012 under the leadership of former DGP Jacob Punnoose IPS, is a Kerala-based non-profit organization dedicated to restoring humanity through compassion and service. Guided by the belief that love is the greatest healer, the Foundation works to uplift marginalized communities by addressing vital issues such as illness, poverty, illiteracy, and safety.

Santhigiri Ashram under the guidance of Swami, has been a close and active collaborator in Swasthi Foundation's initiatives. United by a shared vision of social transformation through compassionate action, Swami has consistently supported the Foundation's outreach efforts in healthcare, education, and holistic development.

This partnership exemplifies the harmonious blending of spiritual values with grassroot service, demonstrating how faith-based action can create a tangible, positive impact in the lives of the underprivileged. Together, Santhigiri Ashram and Swasthi Foundation continue to work towards building a more compassionate, inclusive, and conscious society.



Flood Relief kit distribution in various districts of Kerala.



Run Kerala Run



Mikavinte Dinangal project of Swasthi Foundation



Inauguration of Snehatalam at Thiruvananthapuram



SANTHIGIRI FEST

Santhigiri Fest is an annual celebration held at Santhigiri Ashram, Pothencode, Thiruvananthapuram, that beautifully weaves together spirituality, culture, science, and social consciousness into a vibrant, month-long festival. Conceived as an extension of the Ashram's spiritual and humanitarian mission, the fest reflects the vision of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru**, promoting unity, service, and holistic well-being.

Held every year between October and November, Santhigiri Fest draws thousands of visitors from across India and abroad, creating a dynamic space for reflection, celebration, and learning.

Highlights of the Fest include :

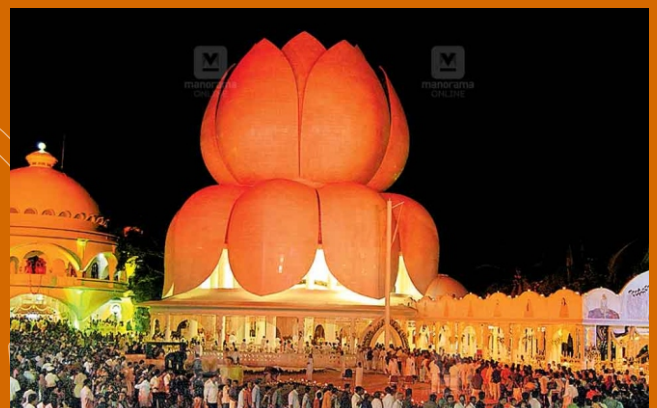
- Flower Shows and the unique Nakshatravanam (Zodiac plant exhibitions)
- Amusement zones featuring aquatic and pet shows, and robotic animal displays
- Educational fairs, government exhibitions, and health awareness programs
- Cultural exhibitions, traditional food courts, and artisan markets

Beyond entertainment, the Fest serves as a vital platform for meaningful dialogue on topics such as ecology, wellness, sustainable living, and interfaith harmony. It also embodies Santhigiri Ashram's unwavering commitment to a drug-free society, women's empowerment, and inclusive development.

More than just a festival, Santhigiri Fest is a transformative experience, where spiritual values meet social action, tradition embraces innovation, and humanity is celebrated in its fullest expression.



Santhigiri Fest Official inauguration By His Excellency Governor of Kerala Mr Arif Mohammad Khan.



A SPIRITUAL VOICE IN THE DIGITAL AGE

In today's digital age, Swami has emerged as a powerful spiritual and social media influencer, skillfully bridging the timeless wisdom of tradition with the reach of modern technology. Through platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram, Swami shares insightful reflections inspired by the teachings of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru**, offering guidance on spiritual growth, inner peace, social harmony, and ethical living.

What distinguishes Swami is his authentic voice and relatable communication style. He speaks not only to the devout but also to youth, professionals, and seekers navigating today's fast-paced world. His messages are a harmonious blend of ancient spiritual wisdom and contemporary relevance, covering pressing themes such as mental wellness, interfaith dialogue, social responsibility, and the vision of a drug-free society.

With a rapidly growing online presence, Swami's discourses, inspirational messages, and updates on humanitarian efforts reach millions of followers, building a global community of mindful, compassionate and purpose-driven individuals. In a world often overwhelmed by noise and distraction, Swami's digital presence stands out as a beacon of calm, clarity, and constructive thought, inspiring people to live with greater awareness, empathy, and spiritual integrity.



Username: @swami_gururethnam

Swami's leverages Instagram to share spiritual wisdom, cultural dialogue, and social service initiatives, connecting with a broad, engaged audience of over 130K followers.

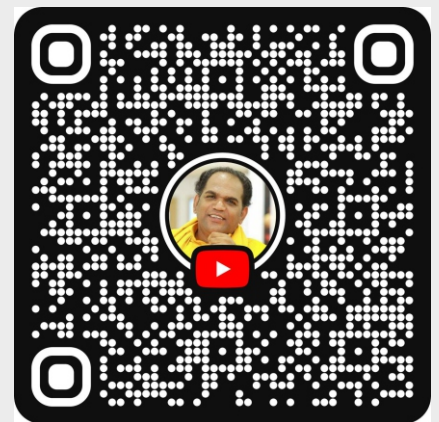
His digital presence effectively echoes Santhigiri Ashram's values of unity, service, and spiritual harmony in the 21st century.



Page Name: Swami Gururethnam

Swami Gururethnam's Facebook presence is both inspirational and community-driven, providing daily spiritual upliftment and real-time updates on religious and social events.

With nearly half a million followers, his page serves as a key hub for sharing the values, activities, and teachings of Santhigiri Ashram and reaching a widespread audience.



**Channel Name:
@SwamiGururethnam**

Swami Gururethnam's YouTube channel serves as an influential digital platform, extending his spiritual outreach.

Through diverse and consistent content—ranging from personal stories to live lectures inspiring global audience and reinforces Santhigiri Ashram's values of unity, reflection, and compassionate service..

ANNADAAN = FREE FOOD

Annadaan- the sacred act of offering food to the needy and to visitors, is revered as Mahaadaan, the highest form of charity, according to the teachings of **Navajyothisree Karunakara Guru**.

At Santhigiri Ashram, Annadaan is more than the distribution of food- it is a sacred dialogue of humanity, a living embodiment of the Ashram's core ideals of compassion, equality, and unity. In this spiritual context, every shared meal becomes an offering of love and service, transforming nourishment into an act of divine grace.

In accordance with Guru's principles, every guest at the Ashram is first offered food before engaging in any spiritual conversation, affirming the belief that bodily sustenance is a prerequisite for inner awakening.

Across the main Ashram and its 30 branches, three wholesome meals are served daily, feeding over 3,000 individuals each day, uninterrupted for decades. This massive, ongoing effort is meticulously carried out by dedicated volunteer devotees, who serve meals in a prayerful, serene atmosphere, seeking universal peace and well-being.

The food offered, known as Prasadam, is regarded as 'God's Essence'. Devotees are encouraged to receive it with reverence, understanding it not just as nourishment for the body but as a vital channel of spiritual energy and divine connection.

In essence, Annadaan at Santhigiri Ashram represents a powerful spiritual and social commitment, a compassionate act that nourishes both body and soul, and serves as a profound expression of Guru's timeless message.



CLEAN CAMPUS. SAFE CAMPUS

Children are the future of our nation, and it is the collective responsibility of parents, teachers, society, and the government to protect, nurture, and empower them with a strong foundation for life. Every child has the right to survival, safety, protection, belonging, voice, care, and to grow up in an environment that fosters security, support, and well-being.

As responsible citizens, we cannot afford to remain silent or passive while the protective framework around our children weakens. It is imperative that we reinforce the firewall of protection, ensuring that every child, regardless of their family background or circumstances, grow up in an atmosphere of confidence, friendship, and happiness.

In response to growing concerns, the Government of Kerala has launched a comprehensive campaign titled 'Clean Campus, Safe Campus'. This initiative, jointly spearheaded by the Home, Education, and Health Departments, aims to curb the rising prevalence of substance abuse and inappropriate social behavior among students.

The first phase of this long-term initiative will focus on students up to Standard 12, emphasizing prevention, awareness, and intervention. The goal is clear: to create educational spaces that are not only intellectually enriching but also physically and emotionally safe. Together, through committed action and shared responsibility, we can ensure that every child thrives in an environment that values, protects, and uplifts them.



Care & Share Program

NAALEYKKU ORU MARAM PROGRAM LAUNCHED

In a collective effort to strengthen the ecosystem and preserve biodiversity, Santhigiri Ashram, Green Globe Volunteers, and the All Kerala Mammootty Fans & Welfare Association have launched the environmental initiative "Naaleykku Oru Maram" (A Tree for Tomorrow).

The state-level inauguration of the program took place at the Neyyattinkara Government Guest House, where Padma Shri Bharat Dr. Mammootty ceremoniously handed over the first tree sapling to Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapaswi, General Secretary of Santhigiri Ashram.

As part of the first phase, the initiative will distribute five lakh tree saplings free of cost across the state. Distribution will be carried out through Santhigiri District Offices, and via schools, colleges, and cooperative institutions in every panchayat. With the support of the Kerala Forest Department, over 50,000 saplings, including mahogany, bamboo, teak, and 20 other varieties, have already been stocked in each district.

The second phase of the project aims to transform unused land into mini-forests, and proposes the creation of Nakshatra Vanams (Zodiac Forests) around religious sites. Plans also include irrigation initiatives in designated areas to support the growth of planted saplings. Additionally, efforts will be made to identify and convert barren land into productive cultivation zones, reinforcing the campaign's commitment to sustainability and ecological revival.



Padmashree Bharat Dr. Mammootty inaugurating 'Naaleykku Oru Maram' (A Tree for Tomorrow) program along with Swami



Swami handing over a tree sapling as part of Nalekorumaram Programme at Idukki



Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapaswi handing over a tree sapling as part of Nalekorumaram Programme



Baithurahma Samarpanam by Riyad Malappuram Mandalam KMCC & Kodur Panchayath Swanthantra Karshaka Sangham

SNEHATHINTE PADHEYAM

The Journey of Love - Snehathinte Padheyam

In today's media landscape, spiritual discourses are broadcasted across numerous TV channels, often reflecting the ideologies of specific religions, sects, or belief systems. However, "The Journey of Love" (Snehathinte Padheyam)-aired on Asianet every weekday at 6:45 am Anchored by Swami, stands out as a unique and refreshing departure from this trend.

This program is not a religious propagation, but a universal message of love, kindness, and human values delivered in a secular, inclusive framework. The show is a collective narrative that draws from the wisdom of all major religions and spiritual traditions, offering a path towards inner peace and societal well-being.

Often described as a "practical life guide", the program blends timeless teachings with real-life anecdotes-many drawn from Swami Gururethnam's own life experiences and the spiritual insights of great Gurus and preceptors. What sets it apart is its ability to connect with people of all ages and backgrounds through its universal themes of compassion, faith, humility, and resilience.

Additionally, The Journey of Love draws inspiration from the lives of scientists, artists, mathematicians, politicians, authors, and Nobel laureates, showcasing their sacrifices, convictions, and triumphs. These stories not only uplift but also offer practical lessons, making the program equally enriching for children and adults alike.

In a world in search of meaning and connection, Snehathinte Padheyam serves as a beacon of light, reminding us that spirituality, when rooted in love and inclusiveness, can truly transform lives.



UPCOMING PROJECTS





Swami Gururethnam Jnana Thapaswi
embodies a rare vision of unity,
leading efforts in interfaith dialogue
and spiritual inclusiveness.

2025 Update



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