

AN APPEAL

Dear Friends,

There has been many an occasion when we have been at loss in our personal lives. Unhappy and sad that our dear ones are sick. Anxious that we have to succeed in our professional lives in these competitive times. Worried that we have enough money to pay up for our medical expenses tomorrow. And successfully educate our children. In all of these and many more, we have been given that word of encouragement, that gracious smile of hope and that blessings for courage and calm action. The personal touch! We have been receiving these from the Sages of Kanchi Kamakoti Srimatam – for some of us, it has been over the generations of our families. In various forms! Sometimes directly. And sometimes even without our knowledge!

Yes, without our knowledge, we have had the blessings to become better human beings. To serve one and all around – through Adhyatmic sadhana and tapas. In expressing sincere devotion! In line with the true traditions spanning thousands of years. In tune with the teachings of Sri Adi Shankara. Even while being current with modern trends.

The Sages of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam have been having a tremendous impact on the devotees of Sanatana Dharma not only in Tamil Nadu but over much of India and the world over. Through their austere and vigorous living of the traditional tenets of Advaita Vedanta they have inspired many eminent citizens of our country and elsewhere in matters of the inner spiritual journey as well as in serving the humanity around.

How much we have benefitted, and how much it was due to their inspiration and tireless work. Several schools and a deemed University; Caring Hospitals serving lakhs of people; Vedic Patashalas to keep alive our traditional yores; Welfare centres with an all inclusive reach across all communities. All run transparently, complying with relevant laws of our Country. All run independently by eminent professionals – inspired and guided by these Sages over the times. And currently, traditional Sages in tune with modern times.

And with Diwali'04 came the bolt from the blue for us! Bad dreams and dark clouds over the horizon! A variety of obnoxious charges were made. Most of us, devotees could not understand! Why is this happening? What do we do? Do we trust 'the clinching evidence'? And believe in the 'most painful decision taken' in prosecuting the Acharyas and the Srimatam? Or do we believe in the call of our Acharya: **"I want every one to hold their peace and be patient. Have faith that truth and dharma will prevail, no matter how trying the situation might seem"?**

We were confused! Distraught and saddened to the core!

Until we started asking alot of questions! Questions about the contradictions that surfaced with the investigations; the blatant violation of universal human rights; the contradictions in the leaks to many of the TV channels, magazines and newspapers; in timings and sequence of gory charges and arrests made – the 'law taking its own course'; in the substance of the judgements delivered in the Andhra Pradesh High Court as well as the Supreme Court of India.

Contradictions galore! Even as we prayed for the judicial process to

Thus Spake Sri Paramacharya

Devotee: Mahaswami, why do you interact with such people – who have been shrewdly following adharm even as they proclaim to be a Srimatam devotee? You have asked us to keep a distance with these wicked lot!

Mahaswami:

Yes, while I have asked you all to keep your distance, I am doing my Dharma! A dhobi gets dirty clothes and he cleans them white. And after sometime when they are dirtied again, they are returned back to the Dhobi. So also is my Dharma with these kinds people. Over a period of time, they will become purer and purer! And true devotees of Srimatam.

Inspired by the Acharyas of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam several eminent groups of citizens are independently running several large educational institutions – 11 general and 15 vedic, 43 hospitals and healthcare centers as well as 209 welfare centers for the socially disadvantaged.

Inspiration at Work!

After reading, do not throw away this message. Kindly pass it onto your friends who might be interested!

"Prima facie a strong case for grant of bail..."

Supreme Court granting bail to HH Senior Acharya on 10 Jan 2005 after denial of bail by the High court and lower courts.

unfold unhindered! And fast! So that justice will catch with the ghastly and shrewd killers of Shankaraman!

Why did this happen? Several answers were given to us – none fully convincing! Competitive and dirty vote bank politics at the state and national level! Hurt ego! Power games! Lost business opportunities of political bigwigs in matters of charity work inspired by the Sages. Just plain detoxification campaign! The foreign hand! Etc etc!

At the end of the day – it was just plain character assassination! Of the Sages! Of the Srimatam! And of traditions of thousands of years! Of the core constituents of Sanatana Dharma – of Hinduism at large.

And of the undoing of years of work by the inspired devotees. 'Nishkaama Karma' for the welfare of the world of people around us – irrespective of caste and religion! Fully inclusive with Dalits! Muslims! All!

The worst started happening – you started losing faith! Faith in the Sages of Kanchi! Faith in Sanatana Dharma! Faith in the solidarity that so many sages and saints of Sanatana Dharma that you have come across! And faith in us, your neighbours and friends! Us, the folks who have immensely benefitted from the gracious blessings of these Sages. Us, the folks who in turn have served you. In a variety of ways. Social and Charitable!

Yes, our faith in ourselves and in our inspiring Sages of Kanchi was shaken. A bit! But it also rebounded. When we saw through this insidious game! Much like the

cancer! Cancer perhaps like a certain 'Usha' is suffering from! But our faith more than redoubled when we heard that she derived solace in her devotional conversations with our Acharya! What reality! What obnoxious charges! How they crumble! And how it reinforced our faith in the Sages of Kanchi.

Yes, we can definitely and solidly do something about it!

We could pray to the Lord! To cut this farce out – farce with the attendant anguish, pain and sufferings for all those concerned! And to restore our faith and your faith in such Institutions and Sages representing our Sanatana Dharma in a variety of forms and flavours! Of the legacy of Sri Adi Shankara!

We could also act! Concretely act! In reaching out to those simple sincere citizens – innocent victims of the initial villification campaign let loose over the TV and magazines; so that they get to make their own independent assessments. We can act in continuing to participate in our local social and charitable activities. And in our temple programmes. Inspired by the Sages of Kanchi. In tune with our local community needs! And work towards removing this apathy amongst our people!

And in our 'Campaign for Dharma' to fund the legal expenses.

You can definitely help us in this!

Thank you for listening to us and reading this appeal.

Yours sincerely

Concerned Devotees in your neighbourhood colony and locality.

Andhra Pradesh High Court Justice Madhava Reddy's ruling dismissing a PIL on the Kanchi Seer

It is rather sad and sorrowful that an institution of such glory, that withstood foreign invasions, and social revolutions from time to time spread over past 25 centuries, is virtually targeted and persecuted in an organized manner, in an independent country. Not only individuals but also a section of institutions, such as, the State and Press, appear to be determined to belittle and besmirch the Peetham. The perfidy caused to it has shocked almost everybody in the society, cutting across the religions and borders of the country. The role of the Courts, though indirect, is by no means insignificant. Proponents of human rights, fair play and dignity to the individuals and institutions have maintained stoic silence.

A powerful section is either celebrating it or is watching it, with indifference.

*Read more on the judgement on the internet at
www.kanchi-sathya.org
or
www.kanchiforum.org*