

Visit to Sri Lanka of Br Vishwanathan and Sr Lakshmi

Br Vishwanathan and Sr Lakshmi from Hyderabad, India, visited Sri Lanka for a service tour of several cities from 5 to 16 Sept 2013. Aged mid-late 60s and very energetic, the couple who became BKs 17 years ago. Br Vishwanathan is the Managing Director of Shabari Packaging Industries in Hyderabad. Sr Lakshmi worked as a high school teacher for 25 years and is now the administrative director of her own company and likes to sing spiritual songs. They are both fluent in English, Hindi, Telugu and Tamil languages.

They first went to Sri Lanka nine years ago. In June 2012 while in Madhuban, Dadi Janki requested that they visit again. This unique couple have become very well adjusted in their senior years to following Brahmin principles, taking inspirations from the Dadis and sharing their experiences of a balance of lokik (worldly) and alokik (spiritual) responsibilities with BKs worldwide. Their key aim in visiting Sri Lanka was to lead by being an example for all and especially to inspire elderly couples.



Colombo

On the afternoon of 5 Sept Br Vishwanathan and Sr Lakshmi arrived in Sri Lanka and were received by Br Ganesh, Dr Mohan and Dr Viji at the airport. In the evening they shared their experiences with 30 family members of Wattala BK centre. On the morning of 6 Sept they went to Kotahena centre. Sr Lakshmi took class for 35 mothers on "Balancing Spiritual Life and Family Life" in which she shared many practical aspects of how to apply spirituality in household events. In the evening Br Vishwanathan shared on "Sustaining Happy Relationships" with 70 Kotahena BKs. He told his story of being a successful businessman by balancing lokik and alokik life. At the end of the evening everyone had a powerful, silent meditation experience.

Kandy

On 7 Sept they went to Kandy centre and met the BK family. There they also shared many personal experiences of balancing family life, professional life and spiritual life. That evening there was a program at Inner Space for 60 guests. Br Vishwanathan spoke on "Maintaining Inner Calm in Turbulent Times". At the same time Sr Lakshmi had program at Jothy Bhavan for 100 participants. The next day at Jothy Bhavan they conducted a program together for 120 people on "How to Excel in Business".

Batticaloa

On 9 Sept, in Batticaloa centre, there was a program on "Maintaining Inner Calm in Turbulent Times" for 250 school students from Manmunai West Education Division. Sr Lakshmi shared her spiritual experiences followed by Br Vishwanathan.

Sr Lakshmi conducted a program on the same topic for 45 staff of a nursing school and teaching hospital of Batticaloa. That evening Br Vishwanathan also conducted the same program in the College of Education, Thalankudah, for 230 students while Sr Lakshmi gave class for 45 BK mothers in Batticaloa BK centre.

On the morning of 10 Sept Br Vishwanathan went to Eravur centre for class with 45 BKs and Sr Lakshmi went to Kakkadichchola centre and gave class for 35 BKs.



Trincomalee (Trinco)

On the evening of 10 Sept, in Trinco, Br Vishwanathan had a program for 40 people at an urban council on "Professional Excellence with Spiritual Wisdom" while Sr Lakshmi conducted a program for 150 Vivekananda School prefects and teachers on "How To Progress To Achieve Success In Life".

The next morning they shared experiences with 30 BKs after morning class and Sr Lakshmi went to the Aryur Veda Medical University to give a talk for 200 people. She then had a program at provincial council for 80 people while Br Vishwanathan had program at a Divisional Secretary's office for 70 participants.

Vavuniya

On 11 Sept they went to Vavuniya and in the evening met the BK family and shared experiences. Br Vishwanathan conducted programs at the General Hospital for 70 staff on "Maintaining Inner Calm in Turbulent Times" and at the BK centre for 60 members of the public on the same topic. He also held a program at an educational college on "How to Progress to Achieve Success in Life" attended by 350 people. Sr Lakshmi conducted programs at three schools and altogether around 2,200 students participated.

Jaffna

On 13 Sept in the morning Br Vishwanathan and Sr Lakshmi arrived in Jaffna, in the north of Sri Lanka. On the way from Vavuniya to the main BK centre in Jaffna they gave a class together for BK elders at Kaithady Govt. elders' home. Later they went sightseeing in the town of Jaffna. In the evening a BK class and Q&A session was held.



Colombo

On 14 Sept in the evening there was a public program at Negombo centre in Colombo. Br Vishwanathan spoke to 40 participants on "Tension Free Life". After morning class on 15 Sept Br Vishwanathan and Sr Lakshmi shared their Sri Lankan tour experiences with the BK family at the main centre in Dehiwela. Later Sr Lakshmi shared on "Spirituality and Happy Living" with the Dehiwela BK family and at the same time Br Vishwanathan had a program with the BK business community on "Facing Challenges In Businesses Life" at Kotahena Centre for approx. 25 people. In the evening they had a program for BK couples at Wattala centre on "Spiritual Wisdom in Family Life" enjoyed by 30 couples. All the couples had a wonderful time getting along and receiving tips and Dadi Janki's message for couples.



During their tour Br Vishwanathan and Sr Lakshmi shared many personal experiences of balancing family life, professional life and spiritual life. Sr Lakshmi's sessions were very simple and useful for the application of spirituality in to day to day life. On the morning of 16 Sept the visitors were given a fond farewell by the Wattala BK family and flew back to Hyderabad.

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