



SHRI RAM CHANDRA MISSION®

## *A Birthday to Remember*



Revered Master's 85th birthday celebrations were held at the Diamond Jubilee Park in Tiruppur, India from 23rd to 25th July 2011. It was a joyous occasion to be with our beloved Master and participate in the function. Master arrived in Tiruppur on 20th July and as his car entered the venue, abhyasis silently waited to get a glimpse of their beloved. A group of young abhyasis sang a song welcoming him. Master's car stopped and he listened to the song and then entered his cottage. 'He arrived' and one could immediately feel the change in the atmosphere.

By the time Master arrived, most of the facilities at the venue were ready and available and only the final touches were pending. Upon his arrival, the volunteer participation swelled almost instantly, everyone took their posts and the various functional areas started operating smoothly. Master inaugurated the canteen being operated by Ruchi Café and then went for a round to inspect the arrangements around the campus.



### Gigantic Preparations

A huge meditation hall structure of 200,000 sq.ft. had been put up and about 1,500 kgs. of flowers were used for decorating the hall with the help of around 100 volunteers. There were a total of around 400 volunteers involved in various areas of the meditation hall like stage preparation, water supply, cleaning, decorating, audio-video, security, membership register, etc. Such a large-scale operation could happen with utmost harmony and co-operation only under the divine guidance of our Master. Master inaugurated the meditation hall with the morning satsangh on 22nd July and he conducted the morning satsangh on all days of the utsav as well.







The photo gallery was a big attraction, and so was the Youth Awareness booth (YAB), which displayed and explained all the various activities that the Sahaj Marg youth are involved in. Another big attraction was the children's center. A special large-sized tent was the place for children of all ages to be kept actively engaged with various arts and crafts. A song specially written and recorded in Mumbai was rehearsed by almost 2000 children during the utsav and then live telecast to Master for him to watch. It was amazing to listen to this chorus of children from different parts of the world, singing in one voice.

### **A new high in numbers and facilities**

The abhyasi participation in the celebration was overwhelming. Around 48,000 abhyasis (including children) were present at the venue. This turns out to be the largest gathering of abhyasis till date. About 200 tents were put up just to support abhyasis' accommodation. In addition, special accommodations, 'Aaram dorms', were also available in limited numbers.

One can imagine the volunteer effort needed in the various departments to run such a large gathering of abhyasis. The co-ordination between the transportation, accommodation and registration teams was crucial as buses arrived from various locations to the venue and volunteer teams ensured the smooth movement of abhyasis by following a simple process in an effective manner. All the volunteer teams were assisted by a mobile food/water supply team which worked day and night to provide food and water to volunteers in a timely manner, wherever they were working.







The bookstore was a large facility and books in all languages including the publications that had just been released were available for purchase.

A great sight to see in the kitchen was a row of 100 volunteers standing and making chapathis! The kitchen catered to the abhyasis with morning brunch and evening high tea.

A well organized medical center with ambulance and other emergency services was readily available. A large RO plant produced 10,000 liters of RO water per hour for the drinking requirements. A very effective team of volunteers was put in place to keep the toilets clean and usable. These and the hygienic precautions adopted in the main kitchen and the canteen ensured that there were fewer patients to be handled by the medical centre

### **The Beginning of a new Discipline**

On 23rd July, Br. Harshvardhan Gupta, the chairman of the celebrations committee, gave the welcome address after the morning satsangh. He offered his thanks and gratitude to Master for having decided on Tiruppur as the venue for the celebrations. He expressed his thanks to the numerous volunteers who came from all over the country and participated in the preparatory work. Br. Gupta emphasized the fact that as Master pours everything he has into the sitting in the form of transmission, we abhyasis should refrain from disturbing Master when he was in the cottage.







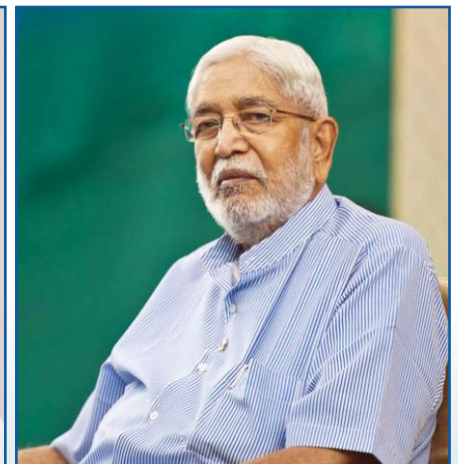
Taking the cue from Master's prescription of 'Discipline in Love' for this bhandara, an appeal had been sent to all abhyasis to respect Master's need for rest and freedom from pressures on his mind. The response from abhyasis was wonderful and Master had the required space to do his work and rest in between satsanghs. At 11:30 a.m., there was a program on the theme of the celebration, 'Discipline in Love' and Br. Chakrapani gave a very motivating talk, first in English and then in Tamil. He made a comparison on how when a ship is in the sea for some time, it collects what are called as barnacles, which slow down the ship's speed and the ship has to be docked periodically to be cleaned. In the same way, we abhyasis accumulate grossness over the year and this utsav is the time when Master cleans the abhyasis and sends them back to their respective places. There were a variety of song and dance programs presented by abhyasis of various centers on the 23rd evening.

### The Birthday

On the 24th July morning, before he came to the meditation hall, Master went to the sarovar (lake), which is the main water source for the venue. He observed that the sarovar was full and jokingly asked, "Is this water enough or do we need rain?" Then, Master entered the meditation hall with the strains of the birthday song on violin followed by singing of it by all abhyasis. He saw that the hall was full of abhyasis and overflowing. He said, "The hall is full, just like the sarovar!" Master performed twenty-eight marriages across the three days of the celebration. On 24th July, Sis. Ranjana Mehta and Br. Gurpreet rendered soulful bhajans, which touched everyone's hearts and moved many to tears. Master then gave a talk.

Br. P.R. Krishna conducted the 24th July evening satsangh and the clouds gathered together and rumbled as the satsangh was in progress. As soon as the satsangh was over there was a quick downpour. After satsangh, Sis. Jayanthi Kumaresan played the veena and it was watched by Master from his cottage via CCTV facility. It was a wonderful program, and kept the audience in rapt attention for two hours.

As one can understand, it was difficult for Revered Master to meet personally with abhyasis. Even then, Master took the time and effort to have several







meetings with various abhyasi groups. He met with abhyasis from Africa, Nepal, Sri Lanka, USA, Europe, etc. In one of the meetings, he commented that it is important for abhyasis to first work, both upon themselves and also upon others, and then only have meetings. Only then the meetings make sense, he said and he encouraged the group to do the work and then meet again the next time.

### **A Fitting Finale**

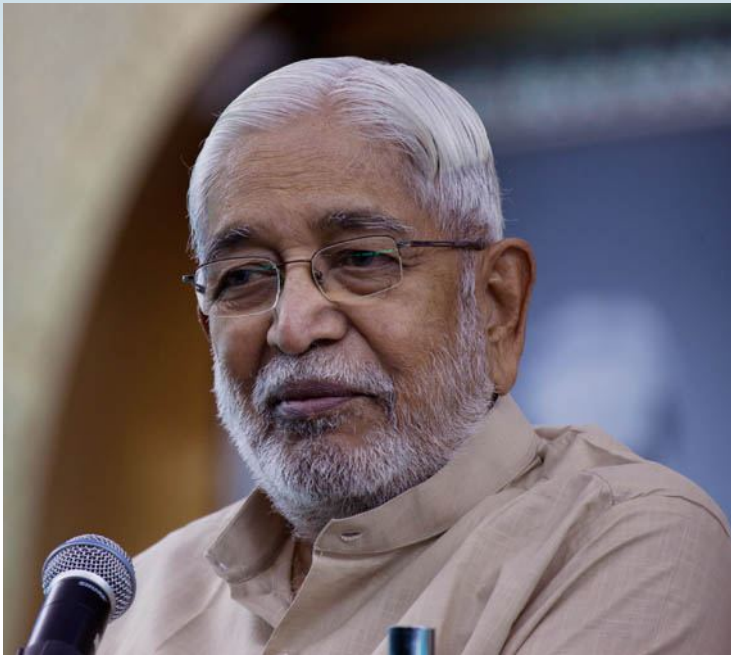
The concluding satsangh was conducted by Revered Master on 25th July and it was followed by the rendition of devotional poems in Hindi in praise of Master by Sis. Niharika. They were from the heart and each and every abhyasi in the hall could feel the love emanating from the recitation. The closing remarks were by Br. P.R. Krishna who touched on the theme of the celebration, "Discipline in Love". He remarked that we abhyasis have practiced this theme throughout the celebration, and we can be happy that our behaviour has made our Master happy. He categorized the three cardinal problems in our lives as Prejudice, Expectation and Judgement and the reason for all these three things is the Ego. He quoted Master as saying the single thing that enabled Master to reach his current state was obedience. With this speech, the celebration came to an end but the overwhelming feeling it left in our hearts will forever stay.







### Extracts from Master's talk - 24th July



... "He [Gurpreet] just sang now, you know, with the Guru's grace, every moment is a new morning. Are our mornings at least new mornings? Or are we mourning every morning? Why am I waking up? What am I going to do today? I haven't solved the problems of so many years, perhaps of so many lives, how is this morning going to be different? Again I have to sit and mourn and cry out to God, 'Why have you put me here like this?'

...Which one of us here does anything for anybody else, except for ourselves? Do we not still sweep our homes and throw the dust out into the streets? Do we not still put our babies, to clear their bowels, out on the sidewalk? Do we not still throw cigarettes on the streets, waste paper on the streets, spit on the streets, and so much talk of green environment? Are we not cutting down trees? Are we not polluting our rivers? You know the ancient Vedas; there are parts of the Vedas where they say a good man must look after the environment, he must not cut trees, he must worship trees. Because without trees there would be no oxygen, there would be no cleaning of the atmosphere. Trees are not meant for firewood, trees are meant to clean the atmosphere which we pollute by breathing out carbon dioxide, every time we take the breath and let it out. We are the pollutants, yet we talk big you know, that the human being is at the 'shikhar' of evolution. He may be the 'shikaar' of evolution you know but not 'shikhar'.

...What I wish to point out or pin point, you know, draw your attention to is that, each one of us is responsible for this state of affairs, in what is supposed to be a noble land, a land where Ganga flows, *jis desh mein Ganga behthi hai*, the land from where the Vedas came, blah, blah, blah, you know. We claim so much. Are we at least keeping

that tradition alive by doing something from our side to conform to those edicts, to those requirements of human life? Compassion, mercy, love, sharing, not to exploit others, not to work only for yourself but to work for the sake of others. In fact, spirituality says, forget yourself. What you do for others will eventually come back to you and the eventuality does not mean next yuga. Because all ancient sciences, occultism, you name it, they say, what you do, what you think, goes around the universe and comes back to you. You hate and the hatred comes back to you, you love and the love comes back to you, you give and the given comes back to you. But what are we doing? Take, take, take.

...There is a saying you know, that a stone is a stone. You can kick it, you can throw it, you can do what you like. But you put it in the temple, now you are its servant. Beware of where you put your stones, where you put your money, where you put your bhakthi. Beware, because today's world is bad enough, tomorrow's world, what is it going to be, five years hence? Your children are five years older, your grandchildren are five years older, babies have become youths and you are now facing old age and you cannot have the you know, courage or the truth to say I created the world as it is today. My son at least you don't do it. We don't. So you see spirituality is a wasted thing on most of us here. We come for a holiday, we enjoy music, we enjoy good food. How many of us are serious aspirants?

....Truth is such a medicine, it is bitter and we cannot sugar coat it because it has no meaning. So please be prepared for the most bitter truth which will come only from inside yourself. When you do the cleaning in the evening, are you looking at yourself? When you go to bed and do the night time prayer, are you thinking what Babuji said, 'Be determined not to repeat the same mistakes'. Are we doing it? Or are we just, 'O Master! Though art the real goal..' This is not a laughing matter, though it looks like one, it is deadly serious.

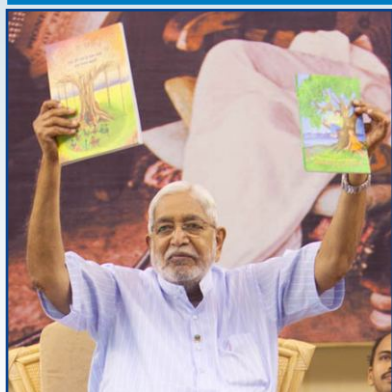
...When the powers of Nature are awakened, you know, birds and beasts and ants they know, but we don't know. We rely on seismographs, we rely on hot news on the television, most of them lies. Here [heart] what is it here that you are not looking to? Does this give you any disaster warning? Always look here, whenever you are afraid, whenever you are going off track. Babuji Maharaj said, 'Don't trust this [mind], it is only a thinking thing it will give you information it cannot tell you what is right or wrong. When you are in doubt refer to the heart.' I pray for His blessings on all of you today!"







## New Publications



Master released several books and CDs some of which have been listed here.

**Tales of Wonder I**  
Tamil, Telugu, Hindi

**Complete Works of Ram Chandra**  
Vol I- Hindi

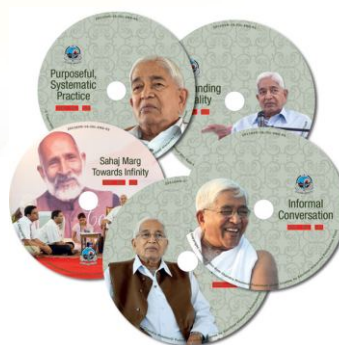
**Why Spirituality**

English, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil,  
Gujarati, Kannaada, Marathi,  
Nepali, German, Italian, Portuguese,  
Spanish

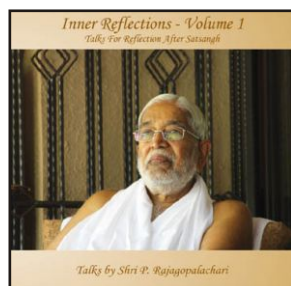
**Down Memory Lane**  
Second Edition



**Understanding Spirituality**  
(Set of 5 DVDs)



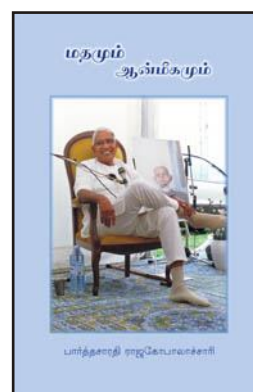
**Prefects DVDs Set Volume 2**  
(Non-Corpus)



**Inner Reflections - Volume 1**  
Talks for Reflections after  
Satsangh



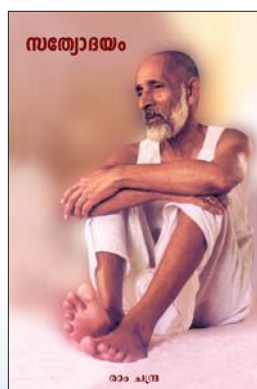
**Guru and the Goal**  
Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam,  
Marathi, Gujarathi



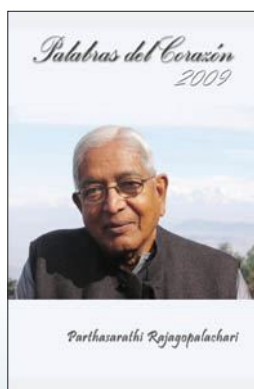
**Religion and Spirituality**  
Tamil



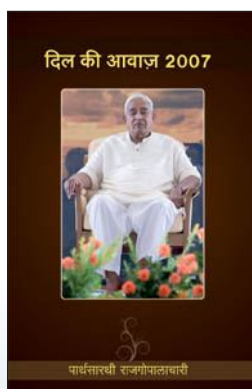
**Youth Vol-1**  
Italian



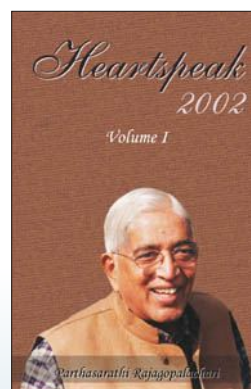
**Reality at Dawn**  
Malayalam



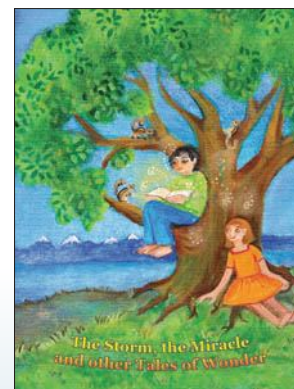
**HeartSpeak 2009**  
Spanish



**HeartSpeak 2007**  
Hindi



**HeartSpeak 2002 Vol I**  
English



**Tales of Wonder II**  
English

