



(1943 - 2023)

Founder– Shri. P.N. Ramachandra Iyer Trust, Bangalore.

Founder - Geeta Govinda Samskrita Sangha

Former Visiting Faculty: -  
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Mumbai  
Sura Saraswathi Sabha, Sringeri.

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## SMT. ANANTHALAKSHMI NATARAJAN

**Gurupaadadhooli Smt Ananthalakshmi Natarajan**, known in short as Anantham, and addressed affectionately as 'maataa' (mother), has been working untiringly for spreading the knowledge of Sanskrit, our shastras and Indian culture since several decades. Smt.Ananthalakshmi Natarajan has done her post graduation in mathematics and is a retired teacher of Stella Maris High School, Vyalikaval, Bangalore. She represents a rare combination of sanskrit, shastras, vedic knowledge, music, mathematics, literature and general knowledge.

She hails from a very cultured and intellectual family. Born in the year 1943, to a father, an astute mathematician, and a mother, a great Sanskrit pandit, who have laid foundation for her present day status. She learnt carnatic music from Sri.Balaganesha Iyer for 15 years from the age of seven.

Her mother's teacher, Sri.Vaidyanatha Sastrigal, was later the teacher of Sringeri acharya Srimad Abhinava Vidyatheertha Mahaswamigal. This teacher, under the guidance of Sri Sri Sri Chandrashekara Bharathi Swamigal of the Sringeri matham, became a sanyasi by the name Bhashya-swamigal. Being an ardent devotee of the Sringeri acharyas and encouraged by the revered acharyas and teachers, Smt.Ananthalakshmi has been giving upanyasams from a tender age of ten!

She gives religious discourses, directs dance dramas, sanskrit dramas and conducts free sloka and sanskrit classes for one and all. All these activities are aimed at spreading the messages of Bhagavadgeetha, educating one and all on the values and purpose of life as enunciated in the Hindu scriptures, and creating awareness about the richness of the sanskrit language and Indian culture. Till date, she has directed more than 300 dance dramas, 150 sanskrit dance dramas and has given hundreds of upanyasams in various cities through the length and breadth of the country. She has also given discourses on various topics in Singapore, Bahrain, Dubai and USA. Her discourses on all the 'pashurams' of Tiruppavai was telecast by TTD-SVBC2 Kannada channel in the year 2017- <https://youtu.be/XKHnEH6xlbk>

She is very eager to teach children wherever she goes. In most places wherever she gives upanyasams, she has trained local children and made them perform dance-dramas and Sanskrit dramas. Her nritya-roopakas on Geethagovindam has attracted a lot of attention and she

has been hailed for the effort. She has also composed and presented short, educative sanskrit dramas on subjects like Ramayana, Bhagavatam, Shankara-Digvijaya, and topics related to Sanatana Dharma.

The main themes for her discourses (Upanyasams) are on -

- ❖ Geetha-Govindam of Sri Jayadeva Mahakavi,
- ❖ Krishna-Leela-Tarangini of Sri Narayana Teertha
- ❖ The Bhagavadgeetha,
- ❖ Tiruppavai
- ❖ Srimad Valmiki Ramayanam,
- ❖ Srimad Bhaagavatham,
- ❖ Sri Naarayaneeyam,
- ❖ Srivaishnava Saints and Nayamnar Saints
- ❖ Mukunda Maala
- ❖ Bhaktavijaya,
- ❖ Vivekachoodamani
- ❖ Stothras and Works of Sri Shankara Bhagavatpadaacharya

For the past 40 years, she has been the secretary of [Hindu Samaya Maadar Manram](#), a satsang for ladies established under the guidance and blessings of Kanchi Shankaracharya Swamigal. This organization is spreading the message of bhakti through group prayers, service to the needy, Geetha jnana yagna, Rukmini Kalyanam, Radha Kalyanam etc.

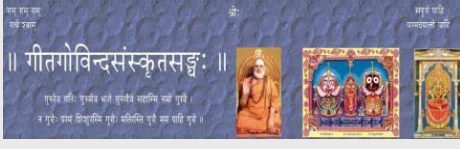
Being an ardent devotee of Sri Jagannatha of Puri, she, with the co-operation of the devotees conducts Rathayaatraa of Lord Jagannatha at Vyalikaval, coinciding with the date of Rathayaatraa at Puri.

Being a voracious reader of various epics with a language repertoire spanning across Sanskrit, English, Kannada and Tamil, she writes regularly for periodicals like Sudharma (the Sanskrit daily) and Shankara Krupa (the Kannada monthly). She has authored several books like 'Geetha-Amrutha-Mahima', 'Nayamnar Santaru', 'Pavanapurapatimahimaa' and 'Shivaleelarnava' in Kannada and English. Her book in Kannada, giving meanings for all namas of 'Lalitasahasranamam' has been approved and blessed by the Jagadguru of Sringeri. 'Shaanmatam' and 'Prabhavavybhavam' are books of prayers compiled by her.

She is a very dedicated teacher, and one who practices before she preaches. Her impeccable character, strict adherence to the principles of sanatana dharma, and unshakeable devotion to gurus have inspired generations of students. She is as ready to teach varnamala to a kid beginning sanskrit, as she is to describe the profound philosophy of Viveka Choodamani.

Being the founder and managing trustee of [Shri P.N.Ramachandra Iyer Trust](#), she has built a community hall named "Nanda Kishore Bhavan" at Vidyaranyapuram, Bangalore. This bhavan is being utilized by people from all walks of life to promote Bharathiya Samskriti and to undertake activities of Sanathana Dharma. The trust helps needy students in their education upto the post graduate level. The trust also conducts free marriages for deserving couples and disburses free medicines too.





Smt. Ananthalakshmi Natarajan established the [Geetha Govinda Samskrita Sangha](#) (GGSS) a non-profit organization in 1976, with the blessings of the Jagadguru of Sringeri, with an aim to nurture and preserve samskrita and samskriti. For the past 40 years, GGSS has been conducting shloka and sanskrit classes for students of all age groups. There is no monetary fees for classes - however, regularity, punctuality and humility are the fees that students & parents have to pay. The organization is supported by volunteers who have been inspired by the pristine life and lofty ideals of Smt. Ananthalakshmi Natarajan. Thousands of people have discovered a better way of life under her guidance at GGSS. The GGSS has several branches in Bengaluru and 2 branches in Chennai.

GGSS aims to create an awareness of Indian culture and its values in children, and make them true cultural citizens of 'Bhaarata'. It coaches students for the sanskrit exams conducted by many reputed organizations like the Surasaraswathisabha (established by the Jagadguru Of Sringeri), Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, and the Government of Karnataka. The syllabus for shlokas includes many stotras of Adi Shankaracharya, the Bhagavadgita, and portions from the epics (Sankshepa-ramayanam from Srimadramayanam, Gopika gitam from Srimadbhagavatam,) etc.

GGSS also conducts dharmic activities like charity for the needy, pujas during special occasions, rathotsavams, summer camps, annual Inter-school competitions (Pratibha), and the like.

Smt Ananthalakshmi Natarajan has been awarded various titles by various organizations. Few of them are listed below –



**JAYADEVA SRI VANI**

- Sri Kamakshi Mandali, Kumbakonam - '**Geetha-Govinda-amrutha-varshini**'
- Bhaktakavi-Sri Jayadeva Samarohaha- '**Jayadeva Sri Vani**'
- Sri Andavan Swamigal, Andavan Ashramam, Srirangam - '**Vidushi**'
- Sri AanthakrishnaswamyTrust, Nagercoil - '**Vagvishaaradaa**'
- Sri Melakkaveri Panchapakesha Sastigal, Kumbakonam - '**Abhinava-Meeraa**'
- Sri Rama Bhajana Sabha, Bangalore - '**Bhaagavatha-Shiromani**'
- Janaseva Bharathi Trust, Bangalore - '**Shaaradaa Award for Upanyasam**'
- Rotary Club, Bangalore - '**Best Teacher Award**'
- Lions Club, Bangalore - '**Best Teacher Award**'

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 – Maatha attained the lotus feet of Bhagavan Jagannatha.

सद्गुरो पाहि  
परमदयालो पाहि