



Vyasa Puja & Chaturmasya Vrata

Jagadguru Shankaracharya  
Sri Sri Bharati Tirtha Mahaswamiji



Sri Sri Jagadguru Shankaracharya Mahasamsthanam,  
Dakshinamnaya Sri Sharada Peetham, Sringeri



Dear followers of Sanatana Dharma,

The 36th Peethadhipati of Dakshinamnaya Sri Sharada Peetham, **Jagadguru Shankaracharya Sri Sri Bharati Tirtha Mahaswamiji** will be observing His 39th Chaturmasya Vrata in this Vijaya Samvatsara in Sringeri.

The Jagadguru will commence the Chaturmasya Vrata with Vyasa Puja and Sankalpa on Monday, the 22nd of July 2013 and end it on Thursday, the 19th of September 2013 with the Uma Maheshwara Vrata.

Devotees have always deemed it a privilege and duty to offer Bhiksha Vandanam to the Jagadguru during the Chaturmasya Vrata. It is also an important occasion to have Darshan of the Jagadguru, receive His Blessings.

I am sure that all devotees would offer their Sevas at the Lotus Feet of the Jagadguru during this period and get blessed. Prior information of your program and sevas to be offered will help us in proper coordination.

I am pleased to convey the Benign Blessings of the Jagadguru for the welfare of you and your family members.

Sringeri  
16.06.2013

Yours Sincerely  
Guruseva dhurina  
Padmashri awardee  
**Dr. V.R.Gowrishankar**  
Administrator & CEO  
Sri Sharada Peetham, Sringeri



## About Chaturmasya Vrata

Chaturmasya Vrata is observed in accordance to the Shastras by Sannyasis for a period of two months.

During the Chaturmasya, Sannyasis refrain from moving from place to place, enabling them to devote greater time meditating on the Supreme Brahman, teaching the Shastras to eligible disciples and clearing the doubts of all sincere spiritual seekers.



Bhagavan Veda Vyasa

## Guru Poornima or Vyasa Poornima

The Chaturmasya begins on the Poornima (full moon day) in the month of Aashaada Maasa. This day is called 'Guru Poornima'. On this sacred day, worship is offered to Brahma Vidyaacharyas - the great luminaries of hoary antiquity, who through their Supreme grace, have bestowed the knowledge of Brahman - Brahma Vidya - through a long, continuous and uninterrupted line of Acharyas.

The day is also called "Vyasa Poornima" and the Puja performed is titled "Vyasa Puja". In our Guru Parampara that originates from Ishwara Himself, Bhagavan Veda Vyasa is held with the highest esteem by all followers of Sanatana Dharma. Bhagavan Veda Vyasa has brought about everyone's welfare by classifying the Vedas into four, by summing the messages of the Upanishads in His Brahma Sutras, and by penning the great epic Mahabharata as well as the eighteen Puranas. Sri Shuka, Sri Gaudapada and Sri Govinda Bhagavatpada kept the light of the Parampara burning. Then came the Great Master Sri Adi Shankaracharya, who revived Sanatana Dharma and carried it far and wide throughout Bharata Varsha.

## The Vyasa Puja

As part of the Vyasa Puja, special pujas are performed to the hierarchy of Gurus, the Brahma Vidyaacharyas, seeking their grace to realise the Supreme Truth.

The Guru is the object of our highest reverence as the Upanishads teach us that the Guru and God are but one and the same. The Shvetaashvatara Upanishad says

यस्य देवे परा भक्तिर्यथा देवे तथा गुरौ ।

तस्यैते कथिता ह्यर्थाः प्रकाशन्ते महात्मनः ॥

- All welfare is showered on the pious one, who has intense devotion towards the Guru just as he has intense devotion towards God

In the course of this Vyasa Puja in honour of our Gurus, worship is offered to three groups of Acharyas, each group consisting of five Acharyas.

The first Puja is for Krishna Panchakam - Bhagavan Sri Krishna and the four Rishis, namely Sanaka, Sanandana, Sanatkumara and Sanatsujata. Bhagavan Sri Krishna is placed in the centre and the others to the east, south, west and north of Bhagavan. The Lord is worshipped with Sri Krishna Astottara Shatanama Archana.



As part of the second Puja for the Vyasa Panchakam, Bhagavan Veda Vyasa is placed in the centre. His four disciples namely Sumanthu, Jaimini, Vaishampayana and Paila are placed in the four quarters to the east, south, west and north of Vyasa respectively.

The third Puja is for Acharya Panchakam - Sri Adi Shankara Bhagavatpada is placed in the middle and His four shishyas, namely, Padmapadacharya, Sureshwaracharya, Totakacharya and Hastamalakacharya are placed in the four directions.



Pujas and Arati are offered to each Panchakam exclusively by the Jagadguru.

After the Pujas, the Sringeri Jagadguru Parampara Stotra is recited and worship is offered to the Guru Parampara beginning from Lord Sadashiva to Bhagavan Veda Vyasa to Sri Adi Shankaracharya to all the illustrious Acharyas who gracefully adorned the Sringeri Sri Sharada Peetham up to Jagadguru Sri Sri Abhinava Vidyatirtha Mahaswamiji.

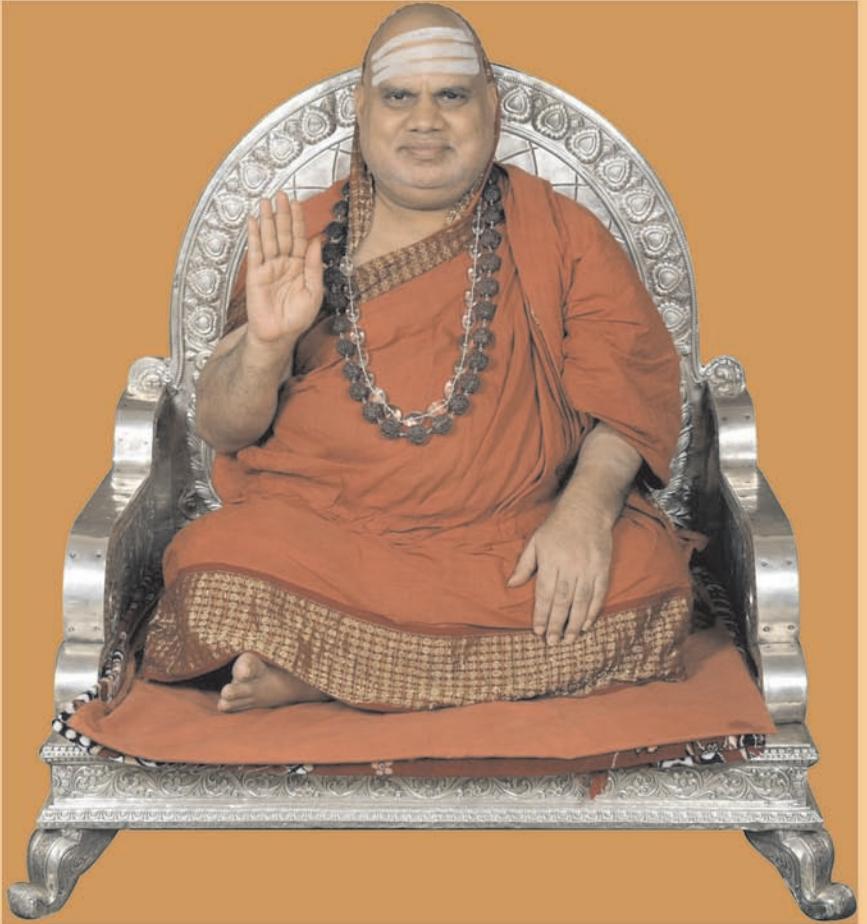
On this Vyasa puja day, the Jagadguru takes the Chaturmasya Sankalpa for staying at one place in accordance to the Shastras.

The disciples then pray in chorus,

निवसन्तु सुखेनात्र गमिष्यामः कृतार्थताम् ।  
यथाविहितशुश्रूषां करिष्यामो वयं मुदा ॥

— promising the Guru that they will serve Him to the best of their ability and requesting Him to stay comfortably at the location of Chaturmasya.





**Jagadguru Shankaracharya  
Sri Sri Bharati Tirtha Mahaswamiji**