

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**"National Seminar on Sri Ramanujacharya, to commemorate 1000th birth anniversary of the seer"**

National Seminar on Sri Ramanujacharya, which is being organized by Sahitya Akademi as part of the commemoration of 1000th birth anniversary of the seer, continued for the second day at Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi on 15 December, 2018. The first and second session which were devoted to Social Reengineering of Sri Ramanujacharya and Philosophical Literature of Sri Ramanujacharya and chaired by Sri S.R. Bhatt. Five eminent scholars, Raj Lakshmi Verma, Satyajit Layek, Godavarisha Mishra, D. Ramakrishna and Ramji Tiwari presented their papers.

In her speech, Ms. Raj Lakshmi Verma said that Sri Ramanujacharya was a reformer and he reconstituted the society based on ancient insights. She highlighted that the Vaishnavic consciousness as propagated by Sri Ramanujacharya made a remarkable contribution for the development of various forms of fine arts during that time. Prof. Satyajit Layek said that Ramanujacharya happened to be the prolific product of Mother India. His theological insight elevated him to the exalted position he became a renowned saint of the then contemporary India. The same unfading glory is continuing till date. He removed all the misconceptions and rejuvenated the tradition in the name of qualified monism where devotion happened to be the key of obtaining liberation (moksha). Prof. Godabarisha Mishra in his speech said that in the millennia journey of the Upanishads, Acharya Ramanuja stands out as a milestone who gave a different direction to the Philosophy of Vedanta with a radical format and challenged the existing hegemony of the other Indian schools of philosophizing with fresh exegesis and logical reasoning. Sri Ramji Tiwari said Sri Ramanujacharya was a saint who moulded the communities, shaped them and built them with humanitarian values. He applied the spirit of social justice, equality and fundamental doctrines of Indian thought process for the overall development of the society. Sri D. Ramakrishna said that Sri Ramanujacharya established the famous school of Indian Philosophy, i.e. Vishistadvaita. He presented the greatness of the textual tradition laid by Sri Ramanujacharya and interconnectedness with different schools of Indian philosophy. He also presented the peculiarities of rituals and worship system of the Vaishnava tradition. Speaking on the occasion, Sri S. R. Bhatt also said that there is no doubt that Vedantic thought is the culmination of Indian wisdom and for its formulation, systematization and propagation, the contribution of Sri Ramanuja is very deep and significant. Cutting across all barriers of caste, creed, region and language he put forth the essence of Vedanta in a harmonious way which may provide an efficacious paradigm of modes of thinking and ways of living to meet the menaces of fundamentalism, conflicts, violence and terrorism in the contemporary strife-torn world.

The third session which was devoted to Reach and Impact of Sri Ramanujacharya and chaired by Sri Gautam Bhai Patel. Two eminent scholars, Sri Pradip Jyoti Mahanta and Mohd. Azam presented their papers. Sri Pradip Jyoti Mahanta said that Ramanujacharya was a visionary philosopher achieving sainthood in his lifetime itself. Along the journey of his life, his teachings and Sadhana, lay a deeper stream of humanistic strain. Through the integration of Vedanta and Bhakti he brought about a togetherness of the Lord and the lover-d devotee, principles of philosophy and practical application of principles all subjected to the Kalyanam or well being of man through service to the Lord and Man. Dr. Mohammed Azam presented his ideas related to origin and evolution of Vaishnava tradition and contribution of Sri Ramanujacharya for the development of Vaishnavism. He also highlighted the similarities and dissimilarities between the different faiths of Vaishnavism. In his paper, he highlighted the glory of Sri Ramanujacharya by giving examples of Gurushishya parampara (teacher-taught tradition). Eminent scholars, academicians and literary lovers from all over India participated in the seminar. Sri Anupam Tiwari, editor, Sahitya Akademi co-ordinated the programme.

K. Sreenivasarao













Satyajit Layek

D. Ramakrishna



Ramakrishna

Ramji Tiwari

