

നീലകണ്ഠ തീർത്ഥപാദ ആശ്രമം Est. 1922

SRI NEELAKANTA THEERTHAPADA ASHRAMAM

Punnakulam, K.S. Puram PO, Karunagappally, Kollam, Kerala, India 690544



നീലകണ്ഠ തീർത്ഥപാദ സ്വാമികൾ 1872-1921

ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION ON THE WORKS OF SRI NEELAKANTA THEERTHAPADA SWAMIKAL

Sri Neelakanta Theerthapada Swamikal: Neelakanta Theerthapada Swamikal (1872- 1921) disciple of Chattampi Swamikal was a great scholar, poet, and a lead figure of renaissance in Kerala. After his formal education and a short period of practicing Vishavaidyam he accepted ascetic life and learned Vedanta and practiced advanced yoga under different preceptors as guided by Chattampi Swamikal at different centers of knowledge including Sreerangam, Pune, Ujjain, Haridwar and Kashi. He wrote more than forty valuable works in Sanskrit and in Malayalam, of which most are on Advaita Vedanta and Yoga. After Sankara, there is no other scholar from Kerala who has contributed like him to the spiritual and philosophical literature in Sanskrit. His work Advaithaparijatham gives the cream of all earlier works on Advaita and is of encyclopedic nature. Acharapadhathi and Devarchapadhathi have influenced the reforming of social and religious customs and rituals, which resulted in the modernization of Hindu society. His works gave the theoretical base for renaissance and reformation in Kerala. The Sri Neelakandha Theerthapada Swami Samadhi Peedhom Trust is glad to announce essay-writing competition on the occasion of Sree Neelakanta Theerthapada Swami Sadabdhi.

Essay Competition: Rules

Objectives: The Shree Neelakanta Theerthapada Samadhi Peedhom Trust is glad to announce an Essay Competition to encourage the study of the works of Neelakanta Theerthapada Swamikal. Commemorating Samadhi Shathabdi of Sri Neelakanta Theerthapada Swamy, two separate Awards, one for the study and understanding of Books in Sanskrit and the second is for books in Malayalam. Each award will carry cash prizes of Rs.25,000/=, Rs.20,000/=, and Rs. 15,000/= each for First, Second and third prizes respectively.

Availability of Books: Sri Neelakanta Theerthapada Swamikal wrote more than 40 books in Sanskrit and in Malayalam. All of these books are not physically available now. But all collected books are available on digitised versions in PDF at <u>www.sntspt.org</u>

Participation Eligibility: The Essay Competition is open to all general public, teachers, students and researchers from anywhere. The essay is to be written on the writings of Sree Neelakanta Theerthapada Swamikal. The essay can be on his writings in general, his treatment of any specific subject like, Vedanta, literature, society etc; or his influence in the context of social situations in his days.

Terms & Conditions:

- 1. Essays should be typewritten on one side of the page in double space. The essay should be between 1500 2000 words.
- 2. Essayaas can be written on any books of Neelakanta Theerthapada Swamikal available in PDF at the Ashram Website <u>www.sntspt.org</u>
- 3. Essays can be written in Malayalam, English or Sanskrit.
- 4. The Essays should be sent in a sealed envelope affixing needed postage stamps to above address.
- 5. Essays must also be sent as email attachment to sntspt.org@gmail.com as google document, typed using the unicode font.
- 6. Last date of receipt of the application will be 31 December 2021.
- 7. Essays will be evaluated by an expert Committee of three members and their decision will be final. The result will be announced on 28th February 2022. The Ashram will have the authority to publish the selected essays in the Souvenir which will be released on 24 April 2022. Copy right will rest with the Ashram Trust but authors will retain the right to edit or modify or publish the article in any collections, journals or magazines with acknowledgment to the first published version. The winners will be invited to be present at the function on that day. They will get 3 to 5 minutes time for presentation of their paper at that function.

8 . Cash Awards and Certificates will be presented to the winners of First, Second and Third best Essays in each category.

9. Participation Procedures: <u>Participation</u> Rules/<u>Terms and Conditions</u> can be downloaded from Ashram website:<u>https://sntspt.org/</u>