

4. PHENOMENAL STARS

"Marriage is the truest goal for ninety-nine percent of the human race, and they will live the happiest life as soon as they have learnt and are ready to abide by the eternal lesson - that we are bound to bear and forbear and that to everyone life must be a compromise" Swami Vivekananda.

Marriage as per Hindu thoughts is sacrosanct. Oath of allegiance in the form of saptapati is the finale of a marriage ceremony. It is said in Hinduism that the Marriage is to foster, avoiding self-interest, love for the entire family and people around. Couples are ArdhaNaris, the two halves of the divine body guiding each other into realms of happiness, companionship and comradeship. Adhering and abiding by this great institution year after year and completing 50 such years by Guruji and Amma are indeed phenomenal milestones.

As we reflect on the various multidimensional facets of Narayanagar, or Guruji, as we fondly address him, we get the clue and secret of the source of inspiration, strength and grace that has come to be the defining quality of Guruji. As we are thinking of the great star that he is, we are reminded of the ever enlightened and trikalagnani, Vashishta. This great star is seen with the star Arundati, in the marriage ceremony by the bride and groom together to invoke the same steadfast commitment, delight and oneness in every relationship and family. As Guruji and his beautiful, divine soul mate, Sujana amma begin their 51st year of togetherness, they remind us of the same commitment, oneness and delight that Vashishta and Arundati shared. We wish him, Sujana amma and his lovely family many, many years ahead with excellent health, prosperity and love.

We pray that the Divine Grace showers these attributes on each one of us, bringing us closer to ourselves and each other, making this world a truly beautiful place. They have led such a life inspiring every one of us. On this great occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, we seek the Grace of the Almighty to shower this wonderful couple with the very best of everything in life including a long, healthy life. We offer our pranams at the lotus feet of this divine couple for their perennial blessings to every one of us, including our families.

Warm Regards.

- Jayanti Ravi, IAS

Commissioner Higher Education

Govt. of Gujarat