



FRANCIS VINEETH VADAKETHALA CMI

Footprints of a Philosopher-Theologian Mystic

well received. After many years, when it was the time of video CDs, I met him in his Vidyavanam Ashram and put the suggestion to produce those meditations in the video form. I thought that it was worthwhile to preserve his reflections and meditative thoughts for the future generations. He liked the idea and within a few months' time he came to Navchetana, Bhopal, for the recording session; he was accompanied by Father Anto Vattakuzhy.

This time too he discussed the themes with me and asked me to write Bhajans based on the proposed themes. After writing, I showed him those Bhajans.

He changed some Bhajans to Sanskrit, saying that for those who are not familiar with Hindi, Sanskrit may be better understandable. Again, it was Father Amarnad, who composed the music of those Bhajans. He used to appreciate Father Amarnad's music saying that his music to Bhajans is of a superior quality, since his music flows from the heart. This time too we produced eight volumes of meditations. It was my *Gurudaskhina* to Fr. Vineeth and I am very happy that I could do it. After the recording, before leaving Bhopal, he gave me a diary and told me that it was his personal diary, and I was supposed to open it only after he has gone from this world. I kept his word.



Paul Thekanath CMI

A Mystic-Genius

A mystic-genius in Indian spirituality, founder of Vidyavanam, a professor of philosophy, and, above all, a simple human being. He was a great inspiration for generations of CMIs. This is a great loss for us. He hails from my own village. His sense of detachment from worldly success continues to inspire us.