

## **Manifestation of the Creator before Mankind is Universal**

In the context, one is happily reminded of the sacred Lourdes Springs of Southern France. At the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, an apparition of Immaculate Virgin Mary suddenly appeared from a cleavage of dry rocks in a hill, before an innocent peasant girl tending sheep nearby. From that day onwards, the little girl used to notice the apparition every day in the early mornings, as she was tending the sheep in her village. After a few days, water also began to ooze from the dry cleavage of the rocks. On her reporting the strange happenings to the elders in the village, the villagers gathered to notice the miracle. Over a period of years, a few other miraculous events also happened. The water began to acquire medical properties besides sanctity, of curing incurable diseases. Many seriously sick patients got cured of their maladies by drinking the holy spring water. Over the last two centuries, Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage for the believers of all the countries. The Holy Vatican Church of Rome has certified many a cure of diseases of the common people, as miracles. The young peasant girl was canonised for her piety and devotion by the Holy Church. Today the area, surrounding the holy springs, has been developed into a busy pilgrim centre with all modern conveniences attracting devotee tourists from all over the world. The miracles observed by the devotees of Lord Swaminatha Swami at Uttara Smamimalai are, thus, not unusual in the world, when the Almighty God wants to manifest Himself before His devotees, in any form and/or any time.