



Gurudev's 75th Jubilee Celebration

The Diamond Jubilee honoring Gurudev's 75th year was momentous (Pic↑). Sadhvi Didima Ritambhara Ji orchestrated the event at Vatasalya Gram so all his children could participate. About 8,000 renowned saints, devotees, Chief Ministers & other dignitaries from all over came to Vrindavan to give their respects. Arriving at the train station there were thousands of devotees chanting and hailing Gurudev to a grand chariot which led an enormous procession through town passing through 20 large thresholds erected in his honor. He was greeted at the last gate by hundreds of his adopted children lining the sides of the road strewing flowers on his path while more formed a marching band leading Gurudev to his new 'kutia' (hut) that Didima presented him with.

Then for 3 days people came & expressed their gratitude for Gurudev's guidance in assisting them in their awakening & also for Gurudev's continued service to humanity through his many social projects.



It would take many pages to name every VIP that duly deserves recognition who came and shared wonderful stories. This eNews only gives a brief glimpse of the jubilee but you can see the full glory of it all on video.

A book entitled 'Yug Purush Yug Yatra' about the journey of Gurudev's life, including stories from many devotees, was inaugurated. The children also acted out the story playing various roles. One played his elder brother Sw. Swath Prakash, who narrated the story as others acted out Gurudev as a baby, then 'Dillo' (Gurudev's nickname as a child meaning heartfelt one) and all the stages of life up to now. They depicted Gurudev's Guru Akhandanand Ji Maharaj, the oxen cart he used to travel in and many stories. (Pics pg2 →)

1-1-11 Time to Midwife Ourselves

Gurudev says it is our job to midwife ourselves into Oneness. He can guide us and show us the way but we must make the effort to come into the light. On New Years morning it was beautiful to see Gurudev in the role of midwife in the birth of a new baby calf in his Sijay Goshala. The babe came out opened her eyes and after a little coaching she stood up and came outside for sunrise. If only it was this easy with us humans to get a bit of coaching and bring ourselves out of the dark illusion into the light. Self Realization is referred to as the dawn of awareness. Gurudev named the new baby calf Savitri, which means first sunrise. Savitri was adopted by Anetti Jolink, a devotee from Amsterdam who will be making a documentary about Gurudev. If you would like to adopt a calf email us for details.

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Published by:
Akhand Param Dham,
India

APD Office:
Opp. Pocket R
Dilshad Garden
Delhi, India 110095
Ph. 011-22135108

Editor:
Valerlie Naiman

Sponsor: Spiritual
Growth Foundation
NPO- USA 501- C3

75th Jubilee



The children performed a 2nd play about the environment. Dressed up as peacocks, rabbits, trees, flowers, frogs & fairy devas they gave a potent message to the audience

They portrayed unity in diversity and showed how we are all related. They encouraged all to take care of the environment. These children truly reflect the beauty of the Vatsalya Gram project.

They also gave a sanskriti cultural show highlighting various traditional customs, dresses and songs from many areas on India promoting national unity.

Devotees donated 75 Lacks, 1 for each year of Gurudev's life, for his social projects. He announced many programs that have been implemented in rural villages to improve the health, education and welfare of the children. Gurudev also declared the adoption of 75 remote villages where water collection & preservation systems will be implemented along with education. As more funds come they also will be utilized for this much needed work.

Maha pooja (grand ritual prayers) were performed. Chanting of vedic mantras and offerings were given in a 'Yug' (fire ceremony) for Gurudev's continued health & well being.

Gurudev spoke on the power of 'shunya' or zero which contains nothing and everything. In the nothingness of shunya samadhi one is totally absorbed in the divine. Centered in nothingness one loses the sense of 'I'ness & the ego is automatically controlled, then everything and nothing both are present. Until this mystery is understood one struggles. When one becomes shunya one is capable of doing everything. " Don't put any value on yourself that you are a big shot, highly honored or respected. If you value your status then along with that you will have some fear of becoming smaller. Your desire for bigness will start causing harm to others. One can really only help others if one is shunya/egoless. Shunya has got great power. Power that is not shunya is unharnessed & typically misused. Uncontrolled senses are indeed our enemy and controlled senses are our friend. When one becomes shunya then control will not be needed as one operates according to the divine flow of existence. Gurudev challenged everyone to know the truth. " I invite all casts, Hindus, Christians, Muslims...all religions to be free from religious hypocrisy. Everyone is entitled to know the Truth, Many hold the esoteric knowledge but keep it hidden. I offer you the experiential naked truth."

The culmination of the celebration was a beautiful arti ritual with 5 Thousand jyotis (divine flames) lit in gratitude to Gurudev who is a living legend of our times. The flames outshone the brilliant moon as a multitude of voices singing praises to Gurudev echoed through VatsalyaGram.



5,000 flames lit for Gurudev's arti

TEACHINGS SPREAD AROUND THE WORLD

Gurudev's teachings have been spread throughout the world bringing together people from all faiths and cultures working cooperatively to achieve global harmony. As a world renowned Vedantist he promotes true peace through enlightenment. As most wars are fought due to cultural and religious differences Gurudev sheds light on the shared values and commonalities found between them in order to form a bridge of understanding. He recognizes all religions as paths to the ultimate goal of Truth but says they should not be obstacles on the spiritual path. Maharaj Ji says religions are like boats in that they are very useful for travel but not needed once you reach the shoreline.

At the request of numerous spiritual leaders and devotees he has been traveling the world for over a decade now. Crossing beyond cultural, language and gender barriers he has assisted millions of people from all walks of life in finding individual peace in order to recognize the One that we are. Sri Gurudev has over a million devotees abroad who have come to know Advait through his teaching methods. He is a keynote speaker at many multifaith & peace conferences and gives satsangs to corporate heads, universities, yoga centers, and spiritual centers of all faiths. He also reaches out to those in prisons, juvenile programs, hospitals and homes for recovering addicts.

Sowing seeds of illumination Gurudev teaches in North and South America, Canada, Europe, Asia, UK and New Zealand. He also is an advisor for many interfaith and peace organizations. His brilliance permeates all cultural boundaries and he remains the same whether he is in the home of a Prime Minister, in a mud hut sitting on the floor, or speaking in the United Nations.



World Peace Summit of Religious & Spiritual Leaders at United Nations



International Multi Faith Conference, Auckland, New Zealand



Advait Congress in Moscow
Participants welcome Gurudev

Gurudev Around the World



Int. Light Center ↑
Jubilee Multi Faith
Church → NC, USA



Interfaith Church, CA, USA



United Kingdom Satsangs in
London, Derby & Birmingham



Yogaville Lotus
Temple, VA, USA



Brazil, S.A.



Native American Indian
Council, Washington



Ghent, Belgium



Russia Programs



Satsangs at Sikh Gurdwara's
around the world



Conference of World Spiritual Leaders on
Universal Harmony, Delhi



Satsangs broadcast in
every country.

A few stories from around the world

Having opportunities to assist Gurudev as he travels is an immense blessing and front row seat to witness how miraculous things happen around him and how he touches the lives of people wherever he goes.

When meeting Maharaj in 2004 my soul was deeply touched. There was incredible magnetism present and I found myself sitting at his feet thinking how wonderful it would be to wash his socks. Having no knowledge then about Indian customs, this felt very strange. The magnetism and synchronicity that developed became so strong that I ended up leaving everything and following him. Many people thought it was foolish to live in a foreign country not knowing the language and without having the accustomed comforts of the USA. But following his footsteps has been the greatest blessing of my life. In America I was very successful in mastering the physical world but it is Gurudev's divine grace and mastery that guided me beyond myself in the ultimate awakening process beyond the 3D experience.

Gurudev's presence shines as a gift of hope for humanity by setting an example of our potential as a species. The wisdom he radiates with such unconditional love and humbleness is remarkable. None have ever seen him make a show of this brilliance and power. He would never produce 'miracles' as a spectacle but many of us have witnessed what seemed like divine supernatural intervention around him. Perhaps this phenomenon is more accurately described as uninterrupted unlimited awareness.

One day we arrived at the London airport during a red alert due to bomb threats. There was high security and long lines coming through customs. He had just gotten new tread on his wooden crowns before leaving India & I was concerned. They had put nails in them to hold on the rubber soles & it seemed like this would set off alarms and deter his entry. When traveling abroad making plane connections that is the only time I walk in front of him to lead the way. But this time Maharaj Ji walked ahead and I followed as he walked right by the guards and security. No one looked our way or asked us to stop. Amazingly so, we had become invisible. It seems we were the only ones who went through that day without a security check. Later the news channel reported how every person had been searched. Once we were out of the airport, many roads were closed and the traffic was jammed up but somehow we just went on our way with no interference.

On another journey in the USA while driving Gurudev, a big storm came up and he said "big accident left side". I drove very slowly and within 10 minutes there was a large 14-wheeler truck crashed on the left lane. Had I not been forewarned we could have been in the accident itself. In another incident I was driving Gurudev in a new car in a downpour and the visibility was very low. The windows all fogged up and the defroster in the car didn't seem to be working. Soon all of the windows were totally fogged up obscuring the road making travel dangerous. Gurudev touched the front window and said "all gone" and instantly the entire car had full visibility. This kind of phenomenon is astonishing but Gurudev would never do this to show off.

On a trip to New Zealand where Gurudev had come to bless the opening of a Sikh Gurdwara, another unexplainable thing happened. There was a grand procession welcoming Gurudev to Auckland following which he gave numerous satsangs. I was busy with numerous duties and ran out of supplies. There was no time to go out so someone else went. There was one item I wanted but didn't dare ask anyone to get because it was an eye lotion for me personally. The next morning when people came for Gurudev's darshan the architect of the Gurdwara came and left little wrapped gifts for Gurudev. When they left I collected the offerings and opened the gifts for Gurudev. Can you guess what was in one of the little boxes? Eye cream, that's right!

More stories on next page. →

If you have a story you'd like to share please send it to akhandparadham@gmail.com for possible publication in an upcoming book.

Stories continued....

On another journey Gurudev was asked to come to Brazil in fulfillment of a prophecy of some tribal shamans living on the banks of the Amazon River. They had been waiting for years for his arrival and their prophecy stated that he, 'the enlightened one in orange robes', would bring the teachings needed even though the language might not be understood. Although there were 5 translations; Hindi to English to Spanish to Portuguese to Tupi, the teachings were received.



The elders said that to be in his presence that Oneness permeated everything and borders disappeared. The prophecy said he would open their eyes so they could see clearly with beauty and continue to do healing work. He would be like Jesus who came in olden times. When we arrived, they all wanted to touch him and squeeze him, and Gurudev allowed this since they did not know the Hindi culture. They also don't have facial hair so the children wanted to touch his beard and see what was under it. Gurudev spent days teaching them and also learning their customs. One of their rituals is for the shamans to use a medicinal herb to induce visions & heighten awareness. They asked him to partake in this ceremony. It was an event that lasted most of the night and people were having all kinds of extraordinary visions and experiences. Gurudev was calm and when asked about it the next day, he replied that he had no unusual experience. This is because he is clear and open all the time. He himself is uninterrupted awareness so there is no heightened awareness necessary. The shamans declared the prophecy fulfilled and gave thanks that they could use their powers again for healing.

We are immensely blessed with the opportunity to be in the presence of a living Master of Truth. His benevolence allows us to learn from his example whether we are near or far from his physical form. It is nothing short of a miracle for us who were trapped in our limited knowledge that this divine agent could remove our blinders. When I was young I had an out of body experience and had an amazing glimpse of what I referred to as the Light of One consciousness. I understood then that everyone needed to know this truth. But I never knew what to do with this information. All my life, through all my endeavors around the world, I had looked for anyone who might know the truth. Where was someone like this who was truly virtuous, knowledgeable and selfless? Where was someone who set such a high exemplary standard? When meeting Swami Paramanand Ji there was a radiating scent of the Divine that made me stop and remember all of this. I felt like a lion picking up a scent of the divine and I needed to stay on the path of this fragrance. It has been 6 years now since receiving diksha from Gurudev and I'm continually amazed at his shining example of altruism, alertness, calmness and total unselfishness. His entire life is dedicated to removing the veil of illusion exposing the Truth. His joy is in our true joy as he tirelessly works for the benefit of others with such deep compassion and tolerance. Gurudev continues to uplift us through the process of gently nudging us into Self-discovery. Without any sense of superiority he orchestrates millions of scenarios urging us into the Light of Truth. With his grace I have been able to face numerous challenges that have led to dissolving deep-rooted old patterns that blocked my progress on the spiritual path. The process has been sometimes an overwhelming challenge, especially doing this in a foreign land away from the culture I was raised in. But despite the physical barriers of learning a new language and trying to adapt to a totally different lifestyle, his grace has carried me through many obstructions with a sense of ease.

Awakening to the divinity within is Gurudev's sole mission for those seeking Truth. We must remember who we are and why we are here. It is then we can be part of the solution and do our true work. He has taught us in so many ways that we are not the fragmented individuals we thought we were and that we have the capacity of Self Realization. He seems to know what is the best mode of learning for each person and guides according to what one is ready for. We are blessed if we can seek his advice, follow his lead and integrate the teachings. Let us support his mission by fulfilling our ultimate Param potential in this lifetime.



**Seven Days with Maharaj ji
in the Mini-Switzerland of the Himalayan Mts.
April 3-9, 2011**

Spiritual Retreat for serious seekers in Khajir, Chamba, Himchal. Contact Akhand Param Dham for details & to register or call / email 09871434548/ swamisatyanand7@gmail.com

JANUARY	PLACE	CONTACT
1/1-3	Banda (U.P.)	M.M. Swami Jagat Prakash Tyagi ji., 9871503134
1/5 -7	Amritsar (Punjab)	Nirmal Kanta Suri ji Mob. 09815391227
8 - 9	Nanaksar Kutiya Tripadi	Sant Harcharan ji (Ladi Baba ji) Mob., 09815133113
10-11	Patiala (Punjab)	Smt Ritu Mob- 09417922999
12 -15	Rajnandgoun, Chhattishgarh	Swami Viswatmanand ji 09756691153,/09981181055
16 -19	Bhandara (Maharashtra)	Sh Vinod Kumar Sharma Mob- 09326910247
20 -26	Nagpur (Maharashtra)	Swami Viswatmanand ji 09756691153,09981181055
27	Yawatmal, (Maharashtra)	Sh. Prakash Namdev Pattewar Mob. - 09421955656
28 -30	Nanded Sahab (Maharashtra)	Pujya Gyani Hardeep Singh ji Maharaj Purwa Head Granthi (Gurudwara Nanded Sahab) 09423136680
FEBRUARY		
1 - 2	Veera. Distt. Hamirpur (U.P.)	APD office
2 - 3	Puraini Hamirpur (U.P.)	Brahmlin Satyanand ji ki Smriti me
4 - 6	Raath, Hamirpur (U.P.)	Swami Karudanand ji Mob- 09452304219
7 - 10	Sh Sadhu Baba Ashram Ramnam	Swami Satya Prakash ji Mob- 09415144792
11-13	Murtipran Pratishtha	Purushottam Das Mob- 09415054211
14	Bahraich(U.P.)	Shital Prashad Aggrawal Mob.- 09415121772
15 - 17	Sijai, Chhatarpur Goshala (M.P.)	Swami Shidhswaroop ji
20 -26	Haridwar Russian Shibir (U.K.)	Suryakant ji Mob.- 09811203947 /09810088795
27	Kapoorthala (Punjab)	APD office
MARCH		
2/28- 3/3	Ujjain (M.P.)	M.M. Swami Shantiswaroopanand ji 09425092108
4-5	not confirmed	
6-7	Ambala	
8-10	No Nath, Jammu Kashmir	
11	Vrindavan	
12-14	Balinda, Pb.	
15-17	Budhiadda, Pb.	
19-21	Yamuna nagar, Jagadhare, Haryana	
22-25	not confirmed	
26-28	Loni, Gaziabad UP	
29-April 1	Fatehabad, Haryana	

Call of email APD Office (info on Pg. 1) for contact details of programs in March. The next issue of 'Footsteps' will carry the schedule of the USA spring tour since it has not been finalized at this time. We are looking for someone who would like to do some seva with the website who knows dreamweaver. Let us know if that is you!

USA Tour tentative schedule April 16 - June 15

Meditation, Satsang & Yoga with Maharaj Ji in the Blue Ridge Mountains
in Asheville, North Carolina, USA, June 8-14 including secluded retreat at Highland Lakes. Contact The Spiritual Growth Foundation for details spiritfound@gmail.com 828-215-3194. Stay tuned to the website www.akhandparamdham.com for new postings next month.

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New Years Calf 'Savitri'
adopted by Anetti Jolin

"I will follow the
wellbeing of Savitri
and feel more
connected to the
work of Guru Dev."

GIVE GIFTS OF CARE & KNOWLEDGE

★ **Adopt a cow** for life at Swami Paramanand Goushala in Sijai village where his original ashram is. Your gift provides milk & natural medicine to the rural community for sustenance, agriculture, fuel & ayurvedic treatment. \$500.

Bovine Divine Update....News from your adopted cows.

On New Years our newest calf Savitri (meaning first sunrise) was welcomed to the world by Gurudev. She was blessed with a mark on her third eye, wrapped with a prayer shawl and given a mala made in the village from recycled materials.

Saraswati & Santoshi, 2 cows adopted by Viki Van Wey & Ginger Oringer are now pregnant. They provided the best milk New Years morning and Gurudev fed them dahia and molasses.

★ **Support a child's education**

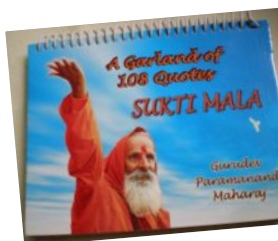
and living expenses for 1 mo. in Gurudev's school. \$ 30.

★ **Gift college to a promising student** who has demonstrated excellent abilities in Gurudev's high school. Includes food, shelter & clothing. \$525 The student pays 25% and you gift the rest. 1 semester at \$175 or 1 year at \$525.

★ **Support Maharaj Ji's Vision** by making a donation of any amount.

How To Order

Gifts of Care & Knowledge can be ordered and donated for by emailing akhandparamdham@gmail.com with your intention. Maharaj Ji decides which student will receive your gift and informs you & the corresponding invoice will be sent to you. The gift will be given in your name or the person of your choice. The donor receives a card describing the gift and the care they have provided along with a photo of recipient.



'Following the Footsteps of Maharaj'

Past issues can be found online at: <http://akhandparamdham.com> as well as a selection of books, cards, Cd's/Dvds, & more .

Visit the blog to view ' A living Legend', a 20 min. video on the life of Swami Paramanand Ji Giri Maharaj.