



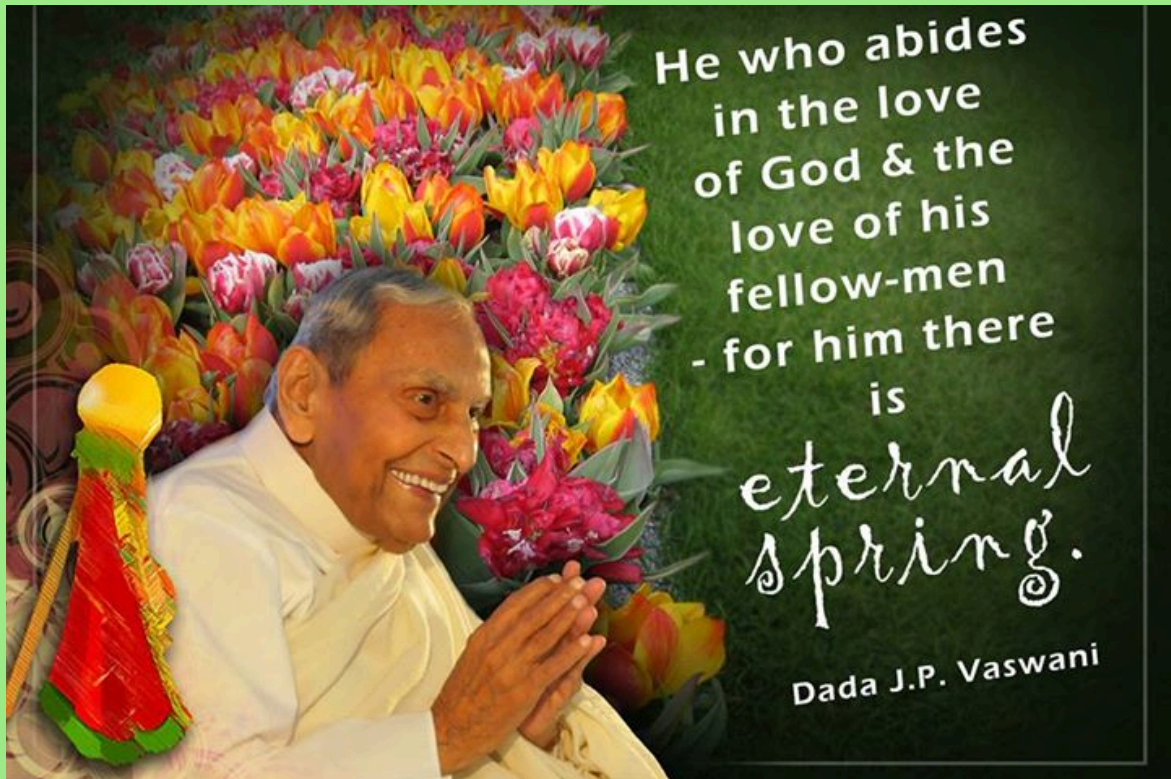
Sadhu Vaswani Center of Atlanta

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May 2015



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Spirit of Gurukul

"Kula" means family, and so when the word "Guru" is added, "Gurukul" means family of the Guru. It is a place where people who share the same vision, the same lifestyle, who follow the same discipline, live a life as per the teachings of their Guru.

For Who: Children of all ages are welcome.

When: **Classes are held bi-monthly.**

Time: 12.30pm (1 hour duration).

Where: Sadhu Vaswani Center, Global Mall.

What: Yoga, Hindi, Gods & Festivals, Bhajans, Shlokas, Arts, Crafts and Community Service.



RSVP's are always appreciated as it helps us to plan for the classes and make sure we have enough materials for the kids. As always, Thank You for your cooperation! Please note that this is a group effort and will ***not*** be successful without the participation of parents who are willing to commit to bringing their children to class, volunteers who are willing to help run the classes and of course, the children themselves! **At present, we only have one Gurukul teacher but there has been interest expressed in hosting classes for younger children as well as on a weekly basis instead of bi-monthly.** If anyone in our community is open to helping teach these classes, please let us know.



For additional information,
please contact Anjali Nagrani at
anjalinagrani@hotmail.com or
404-513-5115 or Geeta Mehrotra at
geetaanjali2010@gmail.com
or 770-381-8698.



The Value of Satsang

Satsangs include *kirtans*, *bhajans*, and recitations from holy scriptures, Sadhu Vaswani's recorded *upadeshes* and Dada's *upadeshes*, which inspire and thrill hundreds of brothers and sisters. Days sacred to the great ones of East and West are also celebrated with prayers and service. The *satsang* forms the basis of the Sadhu Vaswani Mission. "The noblest work", according to Sadhu Vaswani, "is to cultivate the soul!". As one devotee puts it, "satsang is... [an] appointment with God." Satsang helps a spiritual seeker through practice of silence and meditation reach their destination.

Satsang is held every Sunday from 5:00pm to 6:15pm at the Sadhu Vaswani Center and a special Senior Citizens Satsang is held every Tuesday from 11:00am to 11:45am, during which Seniors recite Hanuman Chalisa and hear stories from the Atmic Jalpaan and share their wisdom.

Come one, come all to the Global Mall! For Aarti timings during the week, please contact Geeta Mehrotra at 770-381-8698. If you would like to volunteer at the Center, please contact sadhuvaswanicentre@gmail.com.



To: Sadhu Vaswani Mission Center
From: Doulat Boolchand, Curacao
Subj: Thanksgiving Week
Date: February 26, 2015

Dear Brothers,

Please be informed in the year 1998, Puj J.P. Vaswani and myself left Bombay to London en route to Washington to go to Washington Heart Hospital. We both checked up and it was found that I had only one vein damaged but Dada had four veins damaged. We all were worried. After four days, with the guidance of Sadhu Vaswani, it was decided to go for the operations. Thanks God, all the four veins were operated successfully and after that worldwide it was decided to celebrate Thanksgiving Week.

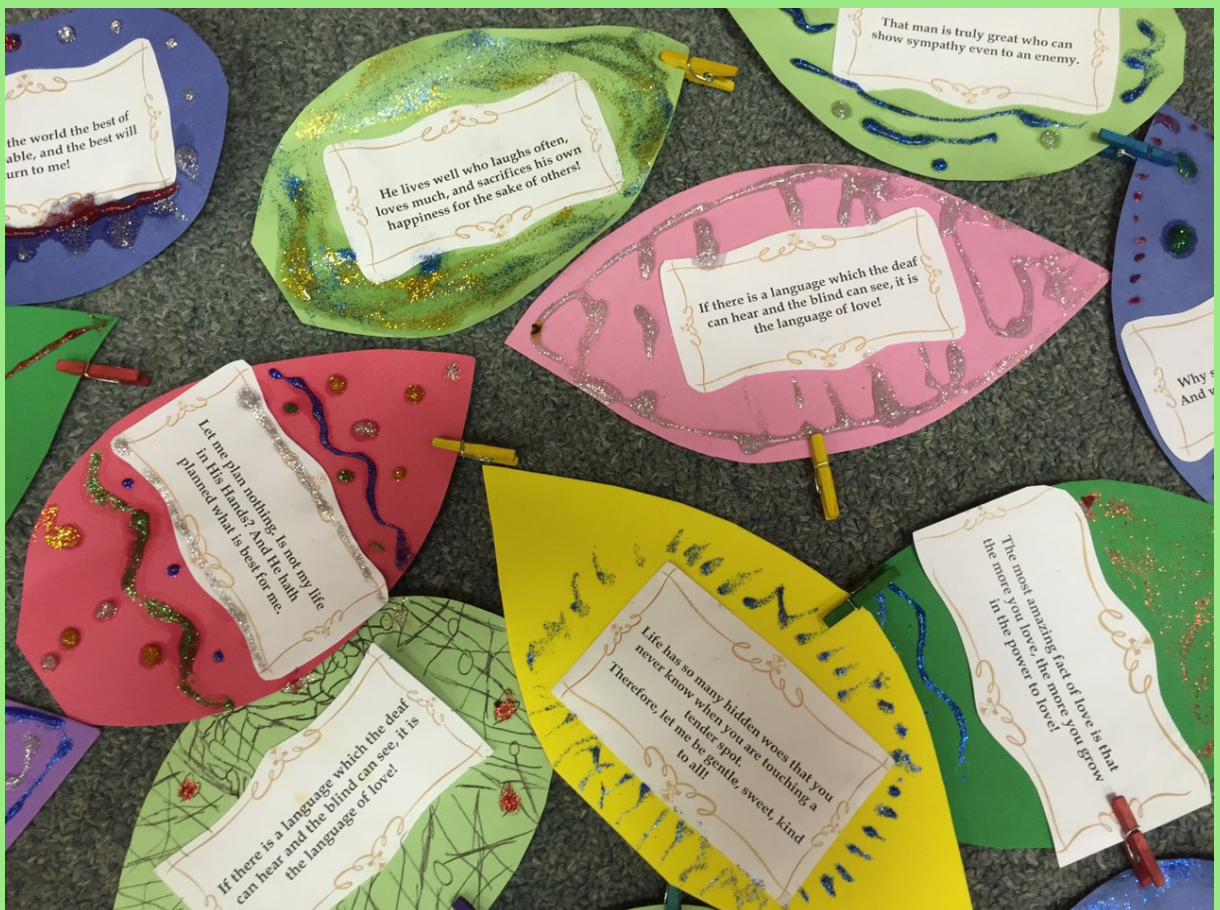
With the grace of Dadaji, this week is observed as Thanksgiving Week and free heart operations and treatments are given in Pune Hospital. Let us all, as per ideals of Puj Dada, help heart patients as much as we can.

Dada Shyam,
Doulat

Visit the Thanksgiving Tree!

Following a successful open-heart surgery during February 1998, Dada graced an endowment fund for the provision of free coronary angioplasties and coronary bypass surgeries on at least 20 needy patients in Pune each year. Contributors and devotees are encouraged to visit the Mission in Pune during the week of February 18-24 each year to pray with Dada and also see with their own eyes the true joy of life, the joy of a heart repaired, the joy of a heart restored, the joy of a body renewed, the joy of a family whose anxiety is relieved, the joy of a life saved, for it is in the eyes of these brothers and sisters that we also see God.

On Sunday, February 22, 2015, during Gurukul class, Atlanta students crafted a memorial Thanksgiving Tree, which is a collection of Sadhu Vaswani Mission 'thought for the day' messages. The tree is a sacred site for all to see. It is a way that the students have expressed their profound gratitude to God for giving Dada an extended opportunity to continue to serve humankind, especially the less privileged. Next time that you are at Global Mall, please stop by Suite 680 and view the Thanksgiving Tree (viewable from the outside). Visitors may take a detachable thought for the day message with a small donation. The proceeds from donations towards the Thanksgiving Tree will be used to support Center and its Gurukul program.



Unveiling of Rev. Dada's J.P. Vaswani's statue

The skill and talent of the various performers, along with the presence of several personalities, let off sparks which were both, entertaining and enlightening. Dada J.P. Vaswani's English talk on 'Make Everyday a Wonderful Day', truly brightened the event for all those present.

Devotional melodies created the appropriate frame of mind in the congregation, preparing them for the treats laid out for them for the rest of the evening.

The day's 'seva' comprised of distribution of free artificial limbs for the limbless by Dada, who was assisted by the Chief Guest, Padmashri Shri Pratap Rao Pawar, the Chairman of Sakal Media Group.

A short audio-visual on Dada preceded the grandiose moment of the unveiling of the wax statue of Dada J.P. Vaswani, which was introduced by a graceful, devotional Kathak dance. The thunderous applause expressed the wonder and joy of the audience at seeing such an authentic replica of their Beloved Master.

Mr. Sunil Kandallor of the Wax Museum at Lonavala, whose talent was responsible for the creation of this life-size, lifelike statue of Dada, was greatly appreciated for his efforts. Dada, then approached the stage in a shower of cheers.

Dada gave a jump-start to his talk with an interesting story. The crux of it was that in all conditions we should praise the Lord; we should always be happy; and we should live in union with God. While sharing the secrets of making every day wonderful, Dada said that the first is acceptance. We have learnt this since birth as we have had to accept the body that has been given to us. This is the first lesson.

But it is the breath within us that gives us life, unlike this wax figure, which though beautiful, is devoid of life. Our breath forms the type of person we become. Hence, we should always be aware of our breath.

We should start the day with a simple prayer of thanks, and thank the Lord in anticipation for making this day a wonderful day.

Begin the day aright, live the day aright and end the day aright. For the 'end', it is most important not to carry work and its worries into the night. Let them rest, even as you do.

(Continued)



Close the day with prayer, filling you with wisdom for the challenges of the next day.

The Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. Devendra Phadnavis, who had been unable to attend the programme due to unavoidable circumstances, sent his apology and regret, thanking the Mission for inviting him for the unveiling ceremony. It would have been a great opportunity for him to meet Dada Vaswani personally, for Dada is a living saint in India presently, who is a personification of simplicity and humility. His activities are steeped in spirituality. He wished Dada with many more years of service. He mentioned that this statue will be a beacon of inspiration for generations to come.

The question and answer session with Dada which followed was swift, pithy, with answers that were eye-openers. Some of the interactions were:

Q - Surrender to the Lord is not easy. How to accomplish it?

A - It is not easy to get an M.A. or Ph.D. degree, yet many do it. If we make up our minds, everything is easy. With surrender, the easiest way is through the Guru. Till then, the first step is to coincide your will with the will of God.

Q - Which books and authors have inspired you?

A - More than books, it is the inspiration from living entities that means more. In my case, it is from my Guru, Sadhu Vaswani.

The Chief Guest said, though it was unfortunate that the Chief Minister was unable to come, he was grateful for the opportunity it gave him to be with Dada, and unveil his statue.

He said, Dada IS what he talks. His association with Dada goes a long way back. Dada inspires people to do good to others.

-Krishna Kumari

The wax statue is now housed in the Lonavala wax museum.

Sacred Akshaya Tritiya

He renounced his career on Akshaya Tritiya to serve humanity. His beloved mother passed away on Akshaya Tritiya & on the same day Principal Vaswani handed in his resignation and became a fakir, in his own words, "a humble servant of India & the Rishis".

Sadhu Vaswani enjoyed a close association with Mahatma Gandhi & went on to support Gandhi's Satyagraha & Ahimsa movement. He hosted the Mahatma on his visits to Sind (now part of Pakistan). The very first issue of Mahatma Gandhi's weekly journal, New India, carried on its front page an article by Sadhu Vaswani on the "Philosophy of War."

Later, he turned his attention to education, emphasizing that character building is nation-building. He could have started a college, instead he started a small school on June 4, 1933, in a basement in his native town, Hyderabad-Sind (now part of Pakistan), sowing the seed of the Mira Movement. It was a great task: it would need a lot of money. He looked into his pockets: there was only a two-paisa (takka) copper coin. That was all he had at that moment. "There is a bank," Sadhu Vaswani believed, "which never fails. It is the bank of providence. In it lay all your trust!"

82 years hence, the education movement has grown into a mighty banyan tree where 16000+ students receive education, from KG to PG, in a total of 15 institutions across India. Sadhu Vaswani's legacy lives on at the many institutions nationwide that he inspired with his ideals in education & service. And the beginning was on

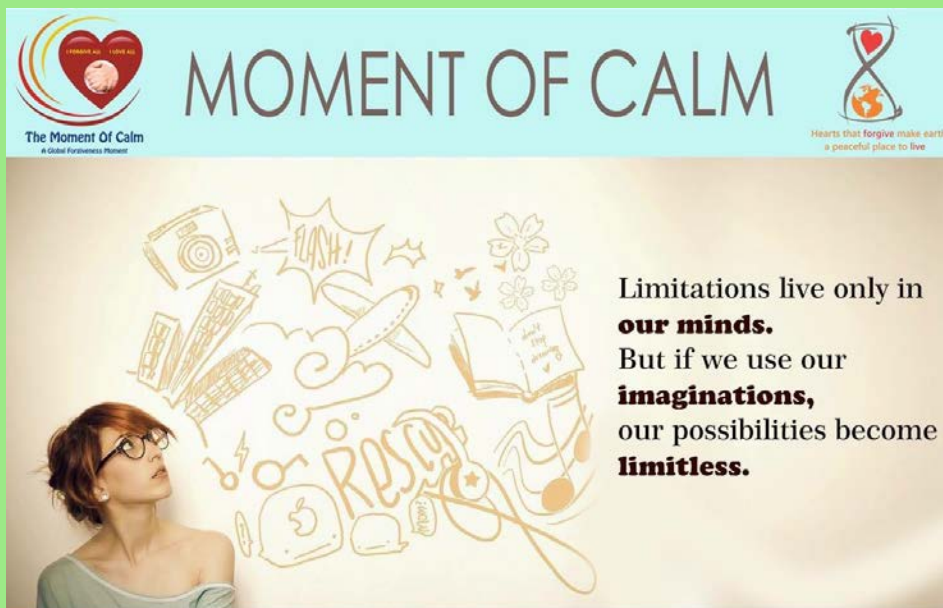


Akshaya Tritiya Day. Indeed an important day, for Sadhu Vaswani Mission, and for humanity.

2015 Memorial Day weekend - Sadhana Camp

Submitted by: Priya Advani

The Sadhana Camp I have attended in the past offered beautiful sessions of meditation, yoga, bhajans, kirtan, havan and prayer. But the icing on the cake is the question-and-answer sessions with Dada. Dada stresses that the one thing we need to focus on is to embark on the journey inward. Man is complete in himself, he just needs to dive deep within. This Camp, he observed, is merely a pointer towards achieving this aim. On this path, unfortunately, our greatest obstacles are our desires. We are not aware of what we want to do, we merely proceed doing that which suits us. Hence the necessity of reminders like this Sadhana Camp and of able gurus to guide us, to awaken the slumbering soul within us. How to describe the days where you have the opportunity to be 'deep inside...', every single moment, whenever you want. You could be 'deep inside' if you want to, and if you are up to. It was necessary courageous, strength... yet it was a unique and amazing opportunity. There are not enough words to describe it. Only if you experience it 100%, you will... Realize it!!



With kind guidance of our Pujya Gurudev Dada J.P. Vaswani, we are happy to announce that SVC New Jersey has organized The Twenty Second Sadhana Camp-2015, Friday, May 22nd thru Monday, May 25th, 2015.

Kindly visit <http://www.sadhuvaswani.org/> for the Camp details.

We invite you all to please join us. See YouTube link below for personal testimonies regarding the camp experience!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mtPMmN1LMAU>

God always acts at the right time; and if He does not act, it only means that the right time is not yet!

You are unique. God made you for a specific purpose which only you can fulfill. Find the purpose – and fulfill it!

Our character is what we do when we know that no one is watching us.

Give, give, give! Give today, give now, for tomorrow may be too late!

Remember, you are the right person in the right place, learning the right lesson at the right time.

Community Service Round-up

During the 2014 Calendar Year, SVC Atlanta:

- Funded the annual tuition fees for 174 children in the Sadhu Vaswani school in Rajkot.
- Sponsored 87 eye surgeries for the needy.
- Donated \$1,600 towards blankets for the homeless.
- Comforted and visited senior citizens residing at the Roswell Nursing Home and Lilburn Geriatric Center.
- Accommodated more than 50 students participating in extracurricular activities such as karate, yoga, and Gurukul.
- Welcomed several distinguished guests and pilgrims of love including Amma Karunamayi, Guruma Geeteshwari and Dada Lachman Chellaram to our Center.
- Hosted more than 50 Satsangs and hundreds of Aartis and special prayers for birthdays, anniversaries and other life milestones.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!
Dada Shyam!

Helping the Sadhu Vaswani Center is easy.

Donation Amount

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ Make this my monthly donation. We will note your gift as a pledge and anticipate payment each month.

☐ Dedicate my donation. Honor someone special or memorialize someone who has passed with your gift. Then send a special notification card electronically or by mail upon request.

Payment Method

PayPal – please follow the link below and make your donation.

Donate



https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=ZV2AQWDEKFTKE

Check – payable to Sadhu Vaswani Center – Atlanta. Fill this form and mail it along with the check(s) to Roma Punwani, Treasurer, 3932 Hooch Landing, Duluth, Georgia 30097. Tax receipts will be provided immediately following the end of the calendar year.

2015 Calendar of Events

Date

January 1, 2015
January 6, 2015

January 14, 2015
January 17, 2015
February 17, 2015
February 17-23, 2015
February 23, 2015
March 22, 2015
April 4, 2015
April 21, 2015
May 15, 2015
June 1, 2015
July 31, 2015
August 2, 2015
August 2, 2015
August 29, 2015
September 5, 2015
September 17, 2015
October 2015
November 11, 2015
November 23, 2015
November 25, 2015
November 25, 2015

Event

Happy New You!
USA Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard visit with Dada Rev. J.P. Vaswani
An Evening with Krishna Das
Rev. Sadhu Vaswani's 49th Mahayagna Day
Maha Shivratri
Thanksgiving Week
Unveiling of Dada J.P. Vaswani's Statue
Cheti Chand (Sindhi New Year)
Hanuman Jayanti
Akshaya Tritiya
Sister Shanti's 45th Mahayagna Day
Launch of Moment of Calm
Guru Purnima
Dada J.P. Vaswani's 97th Birthday
Moment of Calm (at 2 P.M.)
Raksha Bandhan
Janmashtami
Ganesh Chaturthi
Global Mela at Global Mall
Deepavali
Guru Jayanti
Rev. Sadhu Vaswani's 136th Birthday
Meatless Day

NOTE: The above listing is not meant to be all-inclusive. For up-to-date event information, please visit <http://www.sadhuvaswani.org/wordpress/>

REMINDER: The Center is available for Satsang, to celebrate any special event, or you can sponsor Satsang. For more info, contact Asha Advani at 678-462-7456 or Geeta Mehrotra at 770-381-8698.

Newsletter Submissions: We would like to include personal perspectives from our SVC family and friends. Of particular interest are photos and anecdotal stories from satsangs and spiritual gatherings throughout the year. For inclusion of photographs or images in the next newsletter, please send them to sadhuvaswanicentre@gmail.com.

We warmly welcome all contributed articles and comments to the Newsletter as well as our Facebook and Instagram pages, even if it is just a short paragraph about a personal story or a single contributed photo. Please note that submissions are not for advertising, and any submissions deemed as product-placement will not be accepted.

Comments/Suggestions: Feel free to send them our way. We welcome your input and thank you for your participation.