

Sadhu Vaswani Center Atlanta

NEWSLETTER, JANUARY 2018

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Dada's New Year message

J.P. VASWANI

SADHU VASWANI MISSION

10, Sadhu Vaswani Path,

Pune - 411 001, (India).

January 1, 2018

Dearly-remembered Ones,

The New Year is come bringing with itself the message of the years:

FACE EVERY SITUATION WITH LOVE!

The only thing we never get enough is LOVE.

The only thing we never give enough is LOVE.

Give love—and you will always be at peace!

Dādā

A message from the committee

Dada Shyam.

New Year Greetings to all from SVC Atlanta.

Reflecting on the year 2017, gratitude fills our hearts for blessings and graces we have received. A special committee was formed to plan and execute programs as part of the Centenary Year (Aug 2, 2017 - August 2, 2018), which is Gurudev Dada J.P. Vaswani's (Dadaji's) 100th year on this earth plane. It all started with a simple luncheon for Seniors on July 19, which is Dadaji's birthday according to the Hindu calendar.

On July 23, Aao Jyot Jagein, a special program to inaugurate the Centenary Year, was well-attended by local community leaders. Our special guests include Mr. Nagesh Singh, *Consul General of India*, Mr. D.V. Singh, *Consul of India*, Ms. Luisa F. Cardona, *Deputy Director of Mayor Kasim Reed's Office of Immigrant Affairs*, and Dr. Jagdish Sheth, *Professor at Emory University*. On August 2, an evening satsang was held at SVC Center to celebrate Dadaji's 99th birthday.



From left to right: Ashok Lalwani, Suraj Amarnani, Mahindar Tolani, Kumar Mukhi, Anjali Nagrani, Neha Partain, Sonica Sahetiya, Preeti Howlett, Alisha Advani, Roma Punwani, Reva Handa, Neera Bahl, Gita Ramdaney, Punam Keswani, Jashmi Kalra, Asha Advani, Priya Advani, Sangeeta Lalwani, Kavita Tolani, and Mahesh Mehrotra.

With immense gratitude, we embarked on many new beginnings. We launched our website www.svcatlanta.org, organized a blood drive in partnership with the American Red Cross, formed a task force to help Hurricane victims, partly funded a portable oximeter for the St. Maarten Medical Center in St. Maarten. In addition, children of our Gurukul classes donated hygiene kits. Thanks to our donors, we donated \$1,400 to the Fabiani Heart Institute (Pune, India) towards pediatric heart surgeries. Our annual Eye Drive, Education Drive and Blanket Drive continue to grow.

A record number of 22 people from Atlanta attended the 24th Sadhana Camp in Newark, New Jersey. See photo below.



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For the first time in Atlanta , Kaajal Chandiramani, world-renowned Sindhi singer and first place winner of the famous musical show Sa-Re-Ga-Ma on Zee TV India, and her entourage filled our hearts with her melodious singing. Jashan-E-Mehfil will be remembered by many. Special thanks to Mr. Gobind and Mrs. Beena Bhojwani from Charlotte for joining us and supporting us.

The year 2017 ended with prayers and celebrations for Guru Nanak's Birthday, Sadhu T. L. Vaswani's Birth Anniversary, and Holiday Celebrations by Gurukul Children. On December 26, Brother Bhagu N. Ahuja, board member and humble worker, was called upon for higher work with the Lord and we bid farewell to him on December 30. May he continue to send us his blessings to keep us strong in the Service of One. He will be missed by the Dada Family.

We seek your prayers, blessings from the upcoming year. The year 2018 is very auspicious and sacred for Sadhu Vaswani Centers around the world, as we join hands with Sadhu Vaswani Mission (Pune, India) to celebrate Dadaji's 100th Birthday on August 2nd. We are grateful to one and all who have joined hands with us to make the Centenary Year a memorable and pivotal year.

We are looking forward to celebrating and rejoicing this joyous year through Simply Love. We sincerely appreciate all satsangi brothers and sisters, volunteers, donors, supporters, and media for their loving support.

Our Prayers to God and Guru to fill us with Love so we can Be Love and Live Love.

On Behalf of SVC Atlanta and Dada's 100th Birthday Committee,
Geeta Mehrotra
CEO- SVC Atlanta

**Selected Nuri Granth reading (in English)
Sadhu Vaswani Satsang, Saturday, January 6, 2018**

Without silence, there cannot be meditation. And, without meditation, one cannot acquire the secret divine knowledge. Without such knowledge, one does not obtain a vision of the Lord. It is only in the depth of silence that one perceives the presence of the Master. It is only in silence that one can cleanse her path to the Lord. This silence, which discloses the true form of soul, is silence one accumulates the treasure of the Spirit. And, it is in silence, that one receives the teaching of the Lord. The Lord is not there in noise, confusion, and in storms. The Lord is the grace which pours during silence.

There is no work or action by which you can reach the Lord. Go sit in silence if you want to reach the Lord. When silence comes, conceit and ego disappear. If you receive the Lord, then give up logic and arguments, and let the vows of your heart be firm and immutable. If you reach the Lord, then open up your hearts. Open up and cleanse your heart. Perceive the lotus flower therein. Only in true silence does that true lotus blossom. And then you will reach the Lord who is within, says Nuri Nimani.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE
[HTTPS://WWW.SVCATLANTA.ORG](https://www.svcatlanta.org)



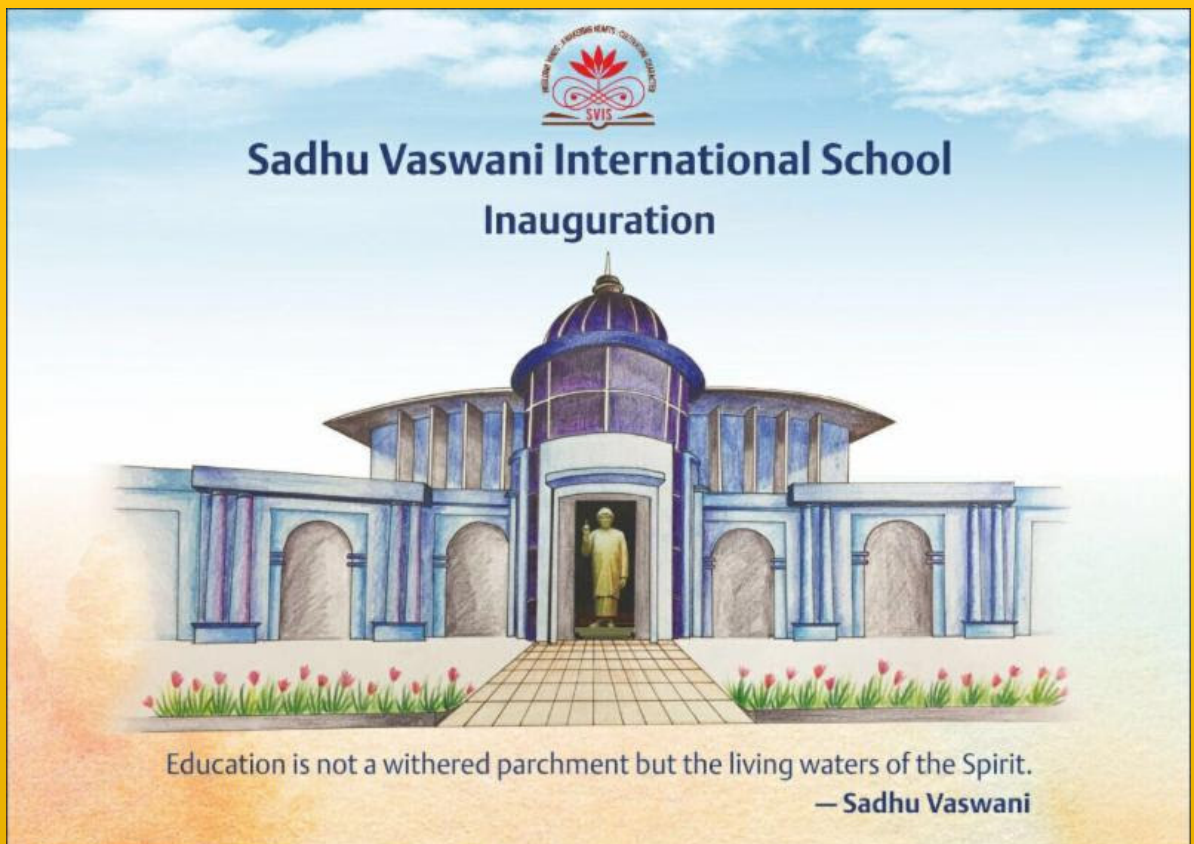
@svcatlanta

Inauguration of Sadhu Vaswani International School


The New Year dawns with a great milestone.

You will be pleased to know that the Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, has kindly consented to be the Chief Guest to formally inaugurate Sadhu Vaswani Mission's new school – Sadhu Vaswani International School at Pradhikaran, Pune - in the holy presence of Rev. Dada J.P. Vaswani.

We cordially invite you to join us with your family and friends and be a part of this august occasion on Saturday, January 13, 2018, 10:45 am onwards in the holy presence of Dadaji at Sadhu Vaswani International School, Sector 6, Spine Road, Moshi Pradhikaran, Pune. Please be seated by 10:30 am sharp due to security reasons.




Gurudev's centenary birthday celebrations



SADHU VASWANI CENTER ATLANTA
5675 Jimmy Carter Blvd
Norcross, GA 30071

Dada J.P. Vaswani's
Centenary Birthday Celebrations
Aug 2, 2017 - August 2, 2018

Nothing But LOVE
Centenary Birthday Celebration



AAO JYOT JAGAEIN
COME, LET'S SWITCH ON THE LIGHT!

sadhuvaswanicentre@gmail.com (678) 462-7456 or (404) 840-6662

Universally acclaimed as a humanitarian, philosopher, educator, acclaimed writer, powerful orator, messiah of ahimsa, and non-sectarian spiritual leader, Dada J.P. Vaswani has captivated the hearts of millions worldwide. In the eyes of many, Dada J.P. Vaswani is a man who symbolizes the true spirit of the India of the rishis as a harbinger of love, peace and hope. Dada is a Honorary Citizen of Georgia which was conferred on him on May 18, 1995 by State of Georgia. by Late Terrell Slayton Jr. Ass. Sect of State, Recipient of Keys to the city of Roswell, Norcross and Atlanta. In 2007, Dada was the first recipient of Peace Pilgrim Award from Gandhi Foundation and was recognized by Isaac Newton Farris Jr., nephew of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., then CEO King foundation, a proclamation was presented by Dr. Gloria Tinubu author by Honorable Felicia Moore.

The centenary celebrations began with Dadaji's 99th birthday, which was celebrated on July 23, 2017 at Impact Hall in Global Mall.

Aao Jyot Jagaein



Atlanta community leaders lit candles symbolizing forgiveness, truth, service, reverence of life, compassion, peace, love, empowerment, purity, silence, unity, and knowledge. Guests of honor included Mr. Nagesh Singh, Consul General of India, Ms. Luisa F. Cardona, Deputy Director of Mayor Kasim Reed's office of Immigrant Affairs, and Dr. Jagdish Sheth, Professor at Emory University.

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Dadaji's 99th birthday



Jashan-E-Mehfil



Visitors from across the Southeast U.S. immersed themselves in sacred sounds that transcend cultural and Stylistic boundaries with award-winning Kaajal Chandiramani, granddaughter of Prof. Ram Panjwani. Jashan-E-Mehfil, which took place at Tadka Banquet Hall on Saturday, September 17th, 2017.

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Gurbani Kirtan



Special thanks to Bhai Sahib Baljeet Singh from SEWA Gurdwara & Kavish Gandhi for an evening of blissful Gurbani kirtan on October 22nd, 2017. Many thanks to sponsors Mr. Aju and Mrs. Priya Advani and to all those who joined in the prayers for Guru Nanak's birthday and Dada J.P. Vaswani's 100th year.

Sadhu T.L. Vaswani's 138th birthday



From left to right (starting from top): Kavita Tolani, Komal Dodani, Jashmi Kalra, Geeta Mehrotra, Roopa Ahuja, Roma Punwani, Gita Ramdaney, Asha Advani, and Jyoti Makhijani.



**SAK ASSOCIATION
MEATLESS DAY CAMPAIGN**

SAK SIMMRAN

Is there not a Brotherhood
broader than the East, broader
than the West?
Is there not a Brotherhood
broader than that of humanity?
There is the Brotherhood of Life:
to it belongs birds and beasts,
animals and insects.

-Sadhu Vaswani

Kindly Observe November 25 as Meatless Day
Visit us at www.sak.org.in



International Meatless Day, Animal Rights Day, and Sadhu T.L. Vaswani's 138th birthday all occurred on November 25th, 2017. The community joined together in singing and seva, including a blanket drive for the needy in Atlanta and in Pune, India.

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Gurukul showcase



On December 17th, 2017, SVC Atlanta Gurukul kids presented Hindu prayers, songs, and other material they learned in Gurukul this term. In addition, The Center was in festive spirits in celebration of Christmas. Thank you Santa Claus for bringing smiles to the children's faces!

On May 21st, 2017, Gurukul held its annual graduation picnic, which was another great opportunity for Satsangis to listen to and support the children. Special thanks to Anjali Nagrani, Gurukul lead instructor, and Jyoti Makhijani, co-instructor, for all your efforts this year!

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Special Satsang with Dada Chellaram



On Sunday, October 8th, 2017, the Sadhu Vaswani Center hosted Gurbani Kirtan by Revered Dada Lachmandas Chellaram, a renowned Sindhi scholar of Sri Guru Granth Sahib, who graced SVC Atlanta with his presence for the ninth consecutive year. Dada Chellaram has translated the Sri Guru Granth Sahib to various languages including Sindhi.

Global Mela 2017

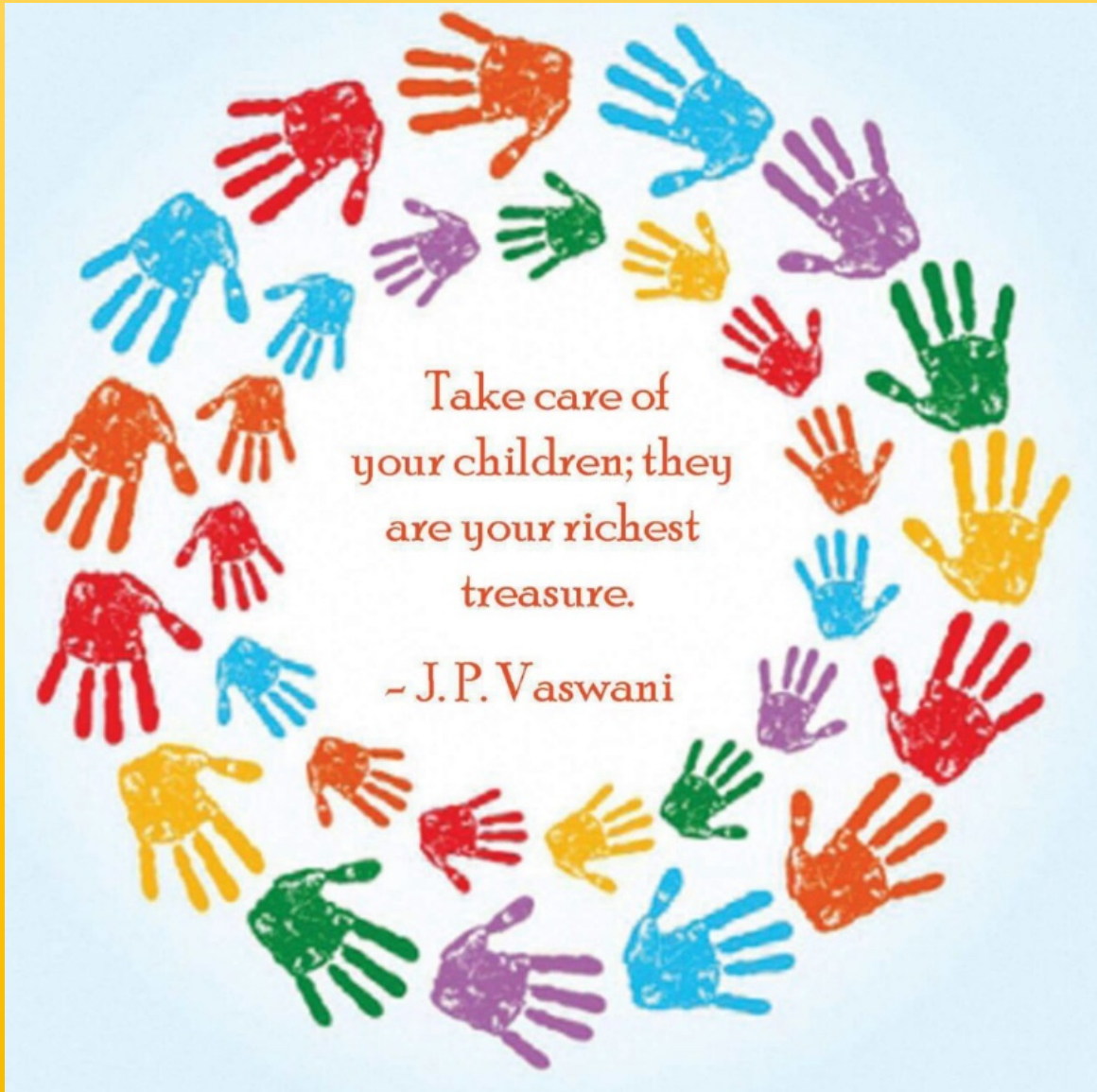


Rivers never go reverse
so try to live like a river,
forget the past and
FOCUS ON THE FUTURE.



During Sept 30 – Oct 1, 2017, the Center participated in the 16th Annual Global Mela. SVC Atlanta contributed a door prize including a bag with a few books authored by Dadaji. The Center had a lovely display of Sadhu Vaswani books, CDs and other materials. Thanks to all our volunteers for making it happen! SVC Atlanta appreciates its longstanding relationship with the Global Mall and the opportunity to serve the patrons of Global Mall.

SVC Gurukul Classes – Spring 2018 Dates



Dada Shyam!

**SVC Atlanta wishes you a Happy New Year
and welcomes you to join another exciting
semester of Gurukul!**

Classes will be held every other Sunday from 12.30pm to 1.45pm (75mins) on:
Sunday, January 14th
Sunday, January 28th
Sunday, February 11th
Sunday, February 25th
Sunday, March 11th
Sunday, March 25th
Sunday, April 8th
Sunday, April 22nd
Sunday, May 6th
Sunday, May 20th

If you would like to volunteer your time or know of any high school students who would like to earn credit for volunteering, we are looking for more teachers to help us run classes.

(After all, these are our children so if we don't make the time for them, who will?)

We cover a variety of topics from yoga to conversational Hindi, from learning bhajans and prayers to taking an in depth look at all of our Gods and Hindu festivals. Classes are interactive and designed to be entertaining as well as educational.

Kindly click on the link below if you would like to join us and bring a 1" white ring binder to store all the Hindi, puzzles, games, stories & bhajans we are going to learn this year!

<http://goo.gl/forms/yOGR6D3seg0SsVUQ2>

SVC Gurukul seva – hygiene kits



In the month of November, to celebrate Thanksgiving holiday as well as 138th Birthday of Sadhu T. L. Vaswani, Gurukul kids assembled hygiene kits for the Midwest Food Bank. Thanks to our gracious donors and Gurukul family, the hygiene kits were filled with soaps, shampoos, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, deodorants, combs, hand sanitizers, body wipes and feminine hygiene products. This project served as a Hurricane Relief Seva project; these little hands did their part in helping the families affected by the hurricanes.

Thankful Tuesdays - Shukhrana and Muskrana



Every Tuesday, Sadhu Vaswani Center Atlanta hosts a gathering for senior citizens, who meet every Tuesday from 10:30 to 11:30 am. During this session, the participants chant the Hanuman Chalisa, enjoy Kirtan, practice laughing yoga, read Hindi stories from Dadaji's books, and celebrate holidays together. This all brings smiles to seniors and we express our gratitude for having the opportunity to learn from their spiritual wisdom and experience.

SVC Atlanta 2018 volunteer opportunities (1 of 2)



The week of February 18th to February 24th has been a historic week for the Sadhu Vaswani Mission and its numerous devotees worldwide. It was during this week that our beloved and revered DADA J. P. Vaswani underwent a successful open-heart surgery at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington D.C., USA, at the hands of some very eminent, skilled, cardiac surgeons and doctors.

Many devotees worldwide have asked how they can help commemorate this historic event; how they could help express their profound gratitude to GOD for giving DADA this extended opportunity to continue to serve mankind, especially the less privileged amongst us.

The idea of the endowment fund was born as a result of these requests from the devotees. The endowment fund is set up so that the annual interest of the fund will be used to carry out free coronary angioplasties and coronary bypass surgeries on at least 20 deserving and needy patients in Pune each year. These procedures will be carried out during week of February 18th to February 24th each year. This endowment fund will be a perpetual instrument that will keep on giving the gift of life to needy patients each year.



The Moment of Calm

A Global Forgiveness Moment

The Moment of Calm is a simple concept that addresses an urgent need in our world – that of love and peace. We believe that there can be no world peace without peace in the heart. Anyone can participate in this global initiative by simply observing 2 minutes of silence on August 2 at 2pm to forgive and seek forgiveness. This act, when collectively done, can raise world consciousness and engulf humanity in a wave of love and peace.

In 2016, over 18.2 million people participated from across the globe, including Morocco, UAE, UK, Spain, USA, India, Singapore, South America, South Africa, China and Taiwan. The Moment of Calm has received tremendous support and enthusiasm from people from all walks of life. COME ... Let us join this growing force of peace.

The Moment of Calm marks the birth time of an Apostle of love and peace - Rev. Dada J.P. Vaswani, Spiritual Head of Sadhu Vaswani Mission. He affirms, "Forgiveness creates peace in the mind, which in turn ensures a well-balanced body."



Bridge Builders came into existence in 1992 under the guidance of spiritual Master and Mentor Dada J. P. Vaswani. It comprises of high spirited youngsters dedicated to the cause of social service irrespective of any caste or creed. The motto given to them by Rev. Dada is "Be a Healer or a Helper or a Bridge Builder or all the three put together."

They strongly believe life is a journey, faith is the nourishment and virtuous deeds are the shelter.

The Bridge Builders activities include:

- Social Service Activities
- Youth Events
- Bhajans & Kirtans Sessions

E - mail address: punebridgebuilders@sadhuvaswani.org

On Twitter: <http://twitter.com/bbpune>

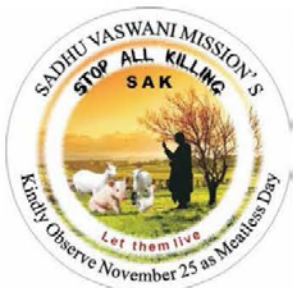
On Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/> (keyword: Bridge Builders Pune)



CHILDREN'S EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP

In honor of Dada J.P. Vaswani on his birthday, SVC Atlanta provides financial aid to needy students at the Sadhu Vaswani School in Rajkot, India.

\$50 pays for one child's education for one year. The commitment we ask is for a one-year basis. You can sponsor one or more children. The annual education drive ends on August 15.



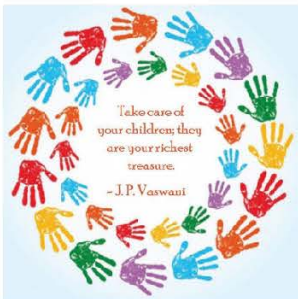
In 1986, it was proposed that November 25, Sadhu Vaswani's Birthday be celebrated as an International Meatless Day. The campaign has met with considerable success in that, millions of individuals send their pledges to the Sadhu Vaswani Mission to go meatless on this day. Four state governments in India - Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh - have issued instructions for the closure of slaughter-houses as well as butchers' shops on 25th November every year, in their respective states.

In order to create an awareness in the minds of citizens about the Meatless Day campaign, Peace Marches are held in Pune and other cities in November, every year. Thousands of students from city schools and colleges march through the streets propagating the idea of Meatless Day and reverence for all life, as the first step to World Peace. Meatless day Newsletters are also issued between August and November every year to propagate vegetarianism and the Meatless Day.

Follow @SVCAtlanta on Facebook and Instagram!



SVC Atlanta 2018 volunteer opportunities (2 of 2)



If you would like to volunteer your time or know of any high school students who would like to earn credit for volunteering, we are looking for more teachers to help us run classes.

(After all, these are our children so if we don't make the time for them, who will?)

We cover a variety of topics from yoga to conversational Hindi, from learning bhajans and prayers to taking an in depth look at all of our Gods and Hindu festivals. Classes are interactive and designed to be entertaining as well as educational.

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<http://goo.gl/forms/yOGR6D3seg0SsVUQ2>



During the American Thanksgiving holiday weekend, volunteers personally hand out blankets to homeless persons in the metro-Atlanta area and socks and refreshments to select Nursing Homes such as Roswell Nursing Home and Lilburn Geriatric Center and contribute towards the Sadhu Vaswani Mission's clothing and blanket drive.



"Sight for the Sightless" (JYOT SHEVA)

Under this program, we collect funds for eye cataract surgeries for those who cannot afford this simple operation. By providing a needy person with JYOT, he/she can see the world & thank GOD for its beauty. It costs \$50 per operation. The drive ends on March 29th: Chetichand - Sindhi New Year day. The money collected will be sent to the K. K. Eye Institute, (operated by The Sadhu Vaswani Mission Pune, India) where surgeries will be performed for the economically backward villagers staying in remote rural areas of Maharashtra. We humbly ask for your support to fund this worthy cause.



SVC Atlanta partners with homeless shelters in connection with their back-to-school supply drives. In 2015, SVC partnered with Our House, which is a non-profit early childhood education center and emergency shelter located near downtown Atlanta. In 2016, SVC partnered with Nicholas House, which is a nonprofit agency that operates a transitional housing shelter as well as scattered apartment sites for homeless families.

Reminder: Sadhu Vaswani Center of Atlanta, Inc. is a tax-exempt, not-for-profit organization. All donations or contributions are tax deductible. Tax receipts will be provided immediately following the end of the calendar year. Payment methods include check, Paypal, and Venmo (@svcatlanta).

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **SADHU VASWANI CENTER OF ATLANTA, INC.** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile— it's the same as Amazon but better!

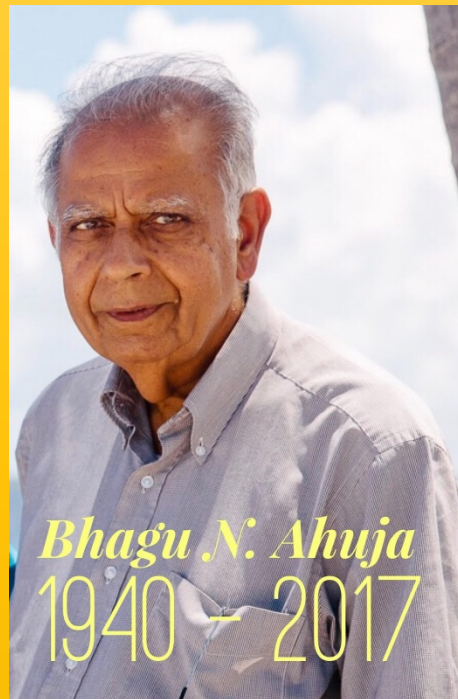
Check out our new website <https://www.svcatlanta.org>

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In memory of Brother Bhagu N. Ahuja

Mr. Bhagu N. Ahuja, long-time Board and committee member for Sadhu Vaswani Center Atlanta, departed for his heavenly abode on Tuesday, December 26, 2017.

Mr. Ahuja was a true gentleman and epitome of selflessness. He always put family and others first. He had a passion for serving the community and will forever be remembered.



Mr. Ahuja is survived by his beautiful wife Roopa, loving daughter Anissa, caring son Aakash, son-in-law Ravi, daughter-in-law Reena, and four precious grandchildren Sona, Shaila, Anika, & Shreyas.

Community members joined hands and celebrated the Life of Mr. Ahuja during the 12th Day of Service on Sunday, January 7, 2017 at 5:00 pm at Sadhu Vaswani Center Atlanta.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made in memory of Bhagu Ahuja to Sadhu Vaswani Center Atlanta.



Sadhu Vaswani Center Atlanta

c/o Roma Punwani, Treasurer
3932 Hooch Landing,
Duluth, GA 30097

To live is to give. Best giving is forgiving.

- J.P. Vaswani

Donation Form

Yes, I want to help with a monthly donation

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

Yes, I want to help with a lump sum donation

Bronze sponsor (\$1,000) Silver sponsor (\$2,500) Gold sponsor (\$5,000) Platinum sponsor (\$10,000)

Other Donations _____

Please make checks payable to: **Sadhu Vaswani Center Atlanta**

Please print

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please send more information on:

Volunteering Upcoming Events & Satsangs SVC Gurukul

Other payment methods: Paypal: <https://www.paypal.me/svcatlanta> Venmo: @svcatlanta

Thank you for your support!

Sadhu Vaswani Center Atlanta is a 501(c)3 organization

Federal Tax ID #20-2520742

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Centenary Year – 2018

Calendar of Special Events

January 14
Mahayagna Satsang

February 18 – 24
Thanksgiving Week

March 18
Akhand Aradhana

April 22
Mata ki Chowki
Reva Handa

May 20
Gurukul Graduation Picnic

June 24
Yoga & Meditation Day

July 22
Dada's Centenary Celebration

August 2
Dada's 100th Birthday Satsang



**KINDLY OBSERVE THE MOMENT OF CALM
ON AUGUST 2 AT 2 PM FOR 2 MINS**

5675 JIMMY CARTER BLVD
SUITE 680, NORCROSS, GEORGIA 30071
For Enquiries: Contact Geeta at 404-840-6662 or
Asha at 678-462-7456