



REACH

Monthly Bulletin of
The Vedanta Centre of Sydney and its various branches

Motto:
Atmano mokshartham
jagad hitaya cha
(For one's own
liberation
and for the welfare of
the world)

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Sydney Centre

Daily Activities:

Daily worship including chanting and meditation is held every morning from 7 a.m. to 8:30

a.m. at the Centre. The vesper service is held in the evening from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. including devotional singing, reading from *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna* and meditation.

Counselling, interviews and discussions with devotees are also conducted on a daily basis. The library is available to devotees for reference and research. The Centre maintains a **bookstall** which has a range of books on the Ramakrishna-Vivekananda, Vedanta, Yoga, and other spiritual literature. Devotional songs, discourses on the *Bhagavad Gitā*, the *Yoga Sutras of Patanjali*, *Mundaka Upanisad*, and other topics are also available in various media.

Weekly/ Monthly Activities:

The Centre conducted the following activities in Sydney:

a) Swami Sridharananda conducted **classes** on the *Bhagavad-Gitā* every Sunday morning from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Centre.

b) **Classes** on *Bhagavad Gitā* were also conducted by Swami Sridharananda at 1/11 Boyle Street, Balgowlah, NSW 2093 **Manly Beach** on Tuesdays from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

c) Some devotees availed **spiritual counselling** and guidance. The Swamis also visited the homes of devotees when required.

d) **Meditation** sessions were held at the Centre on Sundays from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

e) **Sanskrit language** classes were held on Saturdays and Sundays for various levels of adult students.

f) **Bala Sangha** Classes on **moral and spiritual lessons and drama and movement** were conducted for children every Saturday from 4:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. at the Centre during the academic term.

g) **Rāmanām Sankirtana** was sung on 8th and 22nd January the *Ekadashi* days after the vesper service.

h) A **class** for ladies on *Meditation and Spiritual Life* was conducted on selected Mondays twice a month from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Celebrations:

a) The **Maha Shivaratri** worship was conducted on Sunday, the 10th of March 2013 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.. A large number of devotees assembled to worshipped Lord Shiva. Devotional songs were sung by the monks and devotees during and after the worship.

b) The **birth anniversary** of Sri Ramakrishna was celebrated on Wednesday, the 13th of March 2013. In the morning, elaborate worship, havan, chanting of hymns from various scriptures, devotional songs, and aratrikam were conducted. In the evening, Mr. Sandipan Ganguly presented a Sarod recital and Swami Sridharananda gave a talk on the life and teachings of the Sri Ramakrishna. Devotees partook of *prasadam* both after morning worship and evening programme.

c) The birth anniversary of **Sri Krishna Chaitanya** was observed on 27th of March 2013.

Overseas Visit:

Swami Sridharananda visited New Zealand from the 27th to the 31st of March 2013. He conducted classes on *Srimad-bhagavad Gitā* from 28th to 31st of March 2013 and interacted with the devotees.

The construction of the **Vivekananda Memorial Multi purpose facility** is progressing well, **for photos please visit our website-** www.vedantasydney.org.

FORTHCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Function	Centre	Date
B. Ann. Sri Ramakrishna	Adelaide	Saturday, 6 April 2013
Children's Camp	Sydney	16 to 18th April 2013
Ramanavami	Sydney	Saturday, 20 April 2013
Sri Shankaracharya	Sydney	Thursday 26 April 2013
Fund Raiser	Sydney	Saturday, 18 May 2013
Buddha Purnima	Sydney	Saturday, 25 May 2013
Annual Programme	Brisbane	Saturday, 1 June 2013



Adelaide Centre



Brisbane Centre

Adelaide Centre

Monthly activities:

a) The 'reading from *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna*' including discussion on relevant points was conducted on Saturday, the 3rd of March at 4 p.m. at 33 Woodhouse Crescent, Wattle Park, SA 5066. Contact persons: Dr. R. Sharma 08-8431 9775 & Mrs. P. Iswaran 08-83795336.

Brisbane Centre

Daily activities:

Morning worship, evening *ārati*, *bhajans*, and readings from *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna* are the regular activities of the Centre at 181 Burbong Street, Chapel Hill, QLD 4073, A resident volunteer looks after the day-to-day activities at the Centre. Contact person: Dr. V. Reddy 07-3720 0228.

Monthly Activities:

The following were the monthly activities held:

- a) **Scripture** classes at the Centre on 2nd and 3rd of March 2013.
- b) **Group Discussion** on 4th of March 2013 at a devotees house in Sunnybank Hills, QLD. It was co-ordinated by Swami Sunishthananda.
- c) Talk on the 5th of March at a devotees's house in Springfield, QLD by Swami Sunishthananda..

Celebration:

The birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda and Sri Ramakrishna were observed on Saturday, 9th of March 2013. The programme consisted of formal worship, Vocal and instrumental music and a Multifaith Conference at the auditorium of the Ironside State School, St.Lucia, Brisbane. The programme began at 10.30 a.m. with a formal worship performed by Swami Sunishthananda. After singing a few songs an inspiring speech was delivered by Dr.Maha Sinnathamby. Representatives from Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism and Sufi Tradition were invited to take part in a multi-faith conference. Dr.Ashim Majumdar, Vice President, Brisbane chapter of the Vedanta Centre, welcomed all the speakers and the audience. The representatives spoke on the salient points of their respective religions. Some of them spoke on the significance of Swami Vivekananda's universal approach. Swami Sridharanandaji, who presided over the meeting, gave an inspiring speech wherein he dwelt upon the various aspects of the concept of a universal religion as propounded by Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda. Dr.Prasad Yarlagadda delivered the vote of thanks. The event concluded with aratrikam and a sumptuous lunch. Nearly 200 persons participated in the event.

Canberra Centre

Swami Sridharananda conducted a class on the *Bhagavad-Gitā* on Sunday the 17th of March 2013 at the Belconnen Community Meeting Room 2 Chandler Street in Canberra. Contact person: Mr. J. Venkataraman, Secretary - 02-6258 7612.

Melbourne Centre

Daily Activities:

Vesper service is held daily in the Centre at **5-7 Angus Avenue, Ringwood, Vic 3135** from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. It includes set hymns, scriptural readings, meditation and occasional devotional singing. Contact persons: Mr. Suresh Ravinutala, Secretary, on 03-9803 6154 or Mr. Mohana Krishnan on 03-9801 6174.

The **bookstall** makes available literature on Ramakrishna-Vivekananda, Vedanta philosophy, and other spiritual topics in print, audio, and visual media throughout the period.

Weekly/Monthly Activities:

a) Swami Sridharananda delivered monthly **discourses** on the *Bhagavad-Gitā* from Thursday, the 21st of March and Friday, the 22nd of March at Monash University Clayton Campus of Law, Wellington Road (L. Theatre L4). The Thursday and Friday sessions were from 7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. The recordings of these discourses are available in Audio, Video and MP3 formats.

b) The following were the other activities held:

Group studies through viewing of (i) the *Mundaka Upanishad* lecture series video is held on every Sunday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and (ii) the *Yoga Sutras of Patanjali* lecture series video is held on every Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (iii) The *Bhagavad-Gitā* study group meets on alternate Sundays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Celebration:

a) The birth anniversary of Sri Ramakrishna was celebrated on 23rd of March 2013. A special worship was offered on the occasion amidst singing of *bhajans*. Swami Sridharananda gave a talk on the Avatarvad of Sri Ramakrishna. Br. Shiva offered the worship assisted by Br. Sree. The function concluded with Prasad distribution.



Canberra Centre



Melbourne Centre



Perth Centre

Perth Centre

Daily Activities:

The Centre located at **51 Golf View Street, Yokine W.A. 6060** holds vesper service daily at 7 p.m. with *ārati*, readings from *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna* and meditation. The Centre maintains a small bookstall and a library. Contact persons: Mr. H. Mukhopadhyay, Secretary - 0411 478 244, Mr. P. Parekh, Asstt. Secretary - 0430 511 699.

Monthly Activities:

The following were the monthly activities held:

a) Swami Sridharananda visited the Centre from 27th February to 2nd of March and conducted discourses on *Bhagavad Gītā*.

b) A **Revision** session through playing audio recording on *Bhagavat Gita* talks delivered in the previous month. **Celebrations:**

a) The birth anniversary of Sri Ramakrishna was celebrated on 17th of March. Swami Chandrashekharananda conducted the elaborate worship. Swami Sunishthananda and other devotees sang bhajans during the worship. After the worship both the swamis delivered talks on the life and teachings Sri Ramakrishna. Daily satsanga and bhajans were sung during their visit from 15th to 18th of March 2013.



Auckland, NZ Centre

Auckland Centre

Daily activities:

A vesper service is held daily from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Centre at 27 Arawa Street, New Lynn, Auckland. It includes the singing of hymns and readings from the *Sri Ramakrishna The Great Master* followed by meditation. Contact person: Mr. Monney Kumar, Secretary +64 9 21675 134.

Monthly and annual activities:

a) On Sunday the 10th of March a *satsang* was held which included singing of *bhajans*, discourse on the *Ramayana*, reading and discussion on the life of Swami Premananda and meditation from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

b) On the last Sunday the 24th of March the second satsang was conducted from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Programme consisted of *bhajans*, reading and discussion on *Srimad-bhagavad Gītā*, reading from the *Gospel of Sri*

Ramakrishna, Life of Holy Mother, Complete works of Swami Vivekananda followed by meditation, *ārati* and Prasad distribution.

c) Swami Sridharananda conducted classes on *Srimad-bhagavad Gītā* from 28th to 30th March 2013 from 7:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on 31st of March from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Celebrations:

a) The **Birth Anniversary of Sri Ramakrishna** was celebrated on 13th of March 2013. The programme started at 8 p.m. after vesper service and ended at 9 p.m. with Prasad distribution. Programme consisted of bhajans, reading from the Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna, a talk on the Life of Sri Ramakrishna and his Sadhana.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and everything shall be added unto you." This is the one great duty, this is renunciation. Live for an ideal, and leave no place in the mind for anything else. Let us put forth all our energies to acquire that which never fails-our spiritual perfection. If we have true yearning for realization, we must struggle, and through struggle growth will come. We shall make mistakes, but they may be angels unawares."

All power is within you. You can do anything and everything. Believe in that. Do not believe that you are weak; do not believe that you are half-crazy lunatics, as most of us do nowadays. Stand up and express the divinity within you.

All that is real in me is God; all that is real in God is I. The gulf between God and human beings is thus bridged. Thus we find how, by knowing God, we find the kingdom of heaven within us.

All that is real in me is God; all that is real in God is I. The gulf between God and me is thus bridged. Thus by knowing God, we find that the kingdom of heaven is within us.

- - - Swami Vivekananda

Please visit belurmath.org for news and activities related to the 150th birth anniversary celebration

Other websites:

<http://www.rkmdelhi.org/>

<http://rkmath.org/>

<http://vivekanandahouse.org/>

<http://shashwatabharata.in/>

Welcome

We welcome you all to the Ramakrishna - Vedanta Movement and invite you to attend our programmes and actively participate in the propagation of the Universal message of Vedanta as epitomized in the lives of Sri Ramakrishna, Holy Mother Sri Sarada Devi, and Swami Vivekananda.