

ARSHA VIJNANA GURUKULAM

Ensnoced in the heart of a lush green forest surrounded by hills on all sides and cooled by two whispering brooks (named Shruti and Smriti) and embellished by a lake (Mokshasarovar) close by Arsha Vijnana Gurukulam is a center for the study of Veda and Vedanta. It is a unique center where full time teachers impart elaborate instructions in both Purvamimamsa (Vedas and Vedic rituals) and Uttarmimamsa (Vedanta).

Founded by Pujya Swami Dayanand Saraswati, who is today one of the greatest upholders of Dharma, a great Sanskrit Scholar, world renowned exponent of Vedanta and the greatest teacher of the Shastras, the Gurukulam is situated on hundred acres of land with 400 acres of its own forest and thousands of acres of Government forest all around. This is his fourth Gurukulam after one in the Himalayas at Rishikesh, one near Coimbatore in South India and one at Pennsylvania in USA. His students have set up more than 400 centers and institutions of Vedanta all over the world.

The land is seen as rendered holy by the 'Padasparsha' of Lord Krishna who is believed to have camped on this land during his sojourn to woo Rukmini', the most charming of the Vidarbha princesses.

The Gurukulam is headed by Pujya Swamini Brahmaprakasananda who is a remarkable person not only in that she is a practicing gynaecologist-turned-Sanyasin or in that she combines in her skills amazing computer wizardry and a rare authority on the Brahmasutras and the Sanskrit grammar of Panini. Full of radiant energy and infectious freshness, Swamini is also remarkable because of her instantly agreeable approach towards 'this' world and 'this' life and 'other worldliness'. She is a full time teacher, teaching the Upanishads, the Bhagwadgeeta, the Brahmasutras, the Shastras and the Grammar of Panini. The Gurukulam has full time students called Brahmacharis, joined by large number of Grihasthas, the householders and the young crowd.

The Vedic portion has the special guidance of Ahitagni Shri Nana Kale who is one of the rare authorities on the Sruta (Vedic) Rituals. Out of the more than a thousand 'Shakhas' (branches) of the four Vedas in our country, only 11 shakhas survive today in the oral tradition. These shakhas are being preserved here. Young initiates from the age of 5 to 12 form a batch studying a particular Shakha of Veda which takes twelve years for full mastery. The Gurukulam has all arrangements for the performance of the rarest of rare Vedic Rituals like the Soma Yajnas, the Agnihotra, the Nitya and Naimittika 'Ishtis', and all other Yajnas. Any Yajamana can perform any Yajna here with Gurukulam providing all facilities including the highly trained 'ritviks' or performer priests.

Arrangements for the performance of the 'shraddhas' or other obsequies on the banks of the Moksha-Sarovar have also been made.

The gurukulam carries on the following activities: Study, Teaching & Research in Sanskrit, Dharmashastra, History, Indology, Customs & Traditions, Philosophy, Ethics, Science, Humanities, Yoga, Mantra Shastra and other divine work and knowledge.

The Gurukulam runs a full time course of three years, which produces a 'Swami'. Swami Dayanand Saraswati has the rare distinction of producing the largest number of highly trained 'Swamis*' who now teach Vedanta all over the world.

You can be a part of the Gurukulam by just paying us a visit or by the following schemes:

Own Your Cottage Scheme

A cottage having an area of 520 sq.ft can be yours for Rs. 3.5 Lakhs (\$7000). Whenever you want to stay in the Gurukulam, you can stay in your cottage. Whenever you are not staying, the Gurukulam will use it for others.

Own Your Room Scheme

A room for the Brahmacharis can be sponsored or you can own your room for Rs. 2 Lakhs (\$4000). You can yourself stay in the room and whenever you are not staying, the rooms will be used by the Brahmacharis.

Name Your Space In The Library

Any amount of space can be named after you or upon your instruction whenever you contribute space at the rate of Rs. 600/sq.ft. (\$12/sq.ft.) in the library. The minimum contribution should be for 100 sq.ft. of space.

Sponsoring The Vighraha (murti)

Several temples will soon come up in the Gurukulam. You can contribute Rs. 50,000 (\$1000) for a 'murti' (idol) including the murtis of the Dashavataras.

Contributions In Kind

You can contribute in kind by donating the following : Rice, Wheat, Pulses, Oil, Cowfeed, Kitchen equipment, Cement, Bricks, Sand, Paint, Lights, Furniture, Books, Steel, Asbestos sheets, Tin sheets and such other material.

Pay For A Day Scheme

You can choose any day of special relevance to you such as birthdays, wedding anniversaries, death anniversaries of loved ones etc. and donate an amount of Rs. 5000 (\$100) sponsoring a day's food and Puja expenses. On that day Puja will be conducted in your name and 'Prasad' will be distributed. If you pay Rs. 30,000 (\$600) towards the 'Annapurna Corpus', this will be done every year in your name on any day you choose.

Sponsoring A Meal

One time meals, in the morning or evening can be sponsored by you by contributing Rs. 2000 (\$40)

Go-daan Scheme & Goshala

By paying Rs. 15,000 (\$300), you can donate a cow. A milch cow will be purchased in your name and donated to a poor family. One milch cow helps to lift one family above

the poverty line. A proper 'Go-daan' ritual will be performed for your 'Punnyam'. The Gurukulam maintains a traditional Goshala.

Sponsoring A Temple

You can sponsor a temple by contributing Rs. 30 Lakh (\$60,000) or part there of, a minimum being Rs. 5 Lakh (\$10,000).

Sponsoring The Main Auditorium

You can sponsor the main auditorium by contributing Rs. 50 Lakhs (\$100,000) or part there of, a minimum being Rs. 5 Lakhs (\$10,000).

Sponsoring The Clothes And Books Of Brahmacharis

You can sponsor the clothes and books of the Brahmacharis by contributing Rs. 1000 (\$20).

Sponsoring a Brahmachari For A Month Or A Year

You can sponsor the expenses on a Brahmachari for one month by paying Rs. 5000 (\$100) or for one year by paying Rs. 60,000 (\$1200).

Miscellaneous Donations

Any amount or any thing in kind can be contributed, the proceeds of which will go towards the day-to-day running of the Gurukulam.

Organic Farming & Natural Produce

Organic farming and natural agriculture is done with rejuvenating the natural ecosystem. No insecticides, pesticides, fertilizers or any other chemicals are used.

Health Camps & Training People For Health-education & Meditation (atmoddhar Vidyacharya)

Courses and camps are held to teach Yoga, Meditation, proper exercises, proper diet and nutrition including the "Breaking the Carbo-insulin Connection" and the art of living healthy for hundred years.

AIM For Seva

The All India Movement for Seva is providing basic facilities to those who live in the remote areas. It seeks to bridge the gap between the mainstream society and the remote areas. Your contributions in cash or kind will go a long way in providing relief to this neglected section of the society. Started and coordinated by Swami Dayanand Saraswati and headed by former President Shri. R. Venkatraman, this thousand crore movement is now working at 400 places in the country in remote areas where government or other workers have not reached.

Draw your Indian Cheques or D/D in the name of '**Arsha Vijnana Gurukulam**', **202, Parinay Apartments, 144, Ambazari Hill Top, Nagpur-440010**, India. Tel.-91 -712-2247404, Fax-91 -712-2539594, Cell-98225-77777 E-mail - brahmapr@eth.net and shrikantjichkar@hotmail.com.

Foreign Cheques should be drawn in the name of 'Central India Foundation' or 'AIM For Seva' and sent to the same address. Connected websites are www.aimforseva.org and www.arshavidya.org

The donations are exempt under section 80 G of the Income Tax Act.

Location

The Gurukulam is located in Vedpuri, Yenvihira, on the Bazargaon to Dorli Road at 9 kms from Bazargaon on the right. It is 5 kms from Dorli on the left. Bazargaon is 35 kms from Nagpur on the Nagpur-Amravati Road. Dorli is 35 kms from Nagpur on the Nagpur-Katol Road. Nagpur is in the center of India in the Maharashtra State.

Board Of Trustees

Paramount Trustee and Paramacharya : Swami Dayanand Saraswati,
Chief Acharya : Swamini Brahmaprakasananda,
President : Mrs. Rajashri S. Jichkar

And several eminent persons are trustees.