

PARMARTH

H.H. Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji

Inside



*Green Vision for
Uttarakhand*



*Promoting Interfaith
Harmony Worldwide*



*Hon'ble Supreme
Court Justice, Others
Discuss Role of
Spirituality*



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www.parmarth.com (Parmarth Niketan Rishikesh), www.gangaaction.org (Ganga Action Parivar), www.i-wash.org (Global Interfaith WASH Alliance), www.projecthope-india.org (Project Hope), www.divineshaktifoundation.org (Divine Shakti Foundation), www.ihrf.com (India Heritage Research Foundation)

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COMING TOGETHER.



Wherever Pujya Swamiji goes, His divine presence and wisdom not only inspire those present, but brings light and upliftment to all. Through His extensive travels throughout the world as well as when He is home in Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh, thousands of people come together in fellowship and harmony so that they may hear His timeless wisdom, sit in His loving presence and share their own noble ideas for the betterment of the world.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES, *Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, Visit Parmarth Niketan*



Their Royal Highnesses, Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, honored Parmarth Niketan Ashram, Rishikesh with an official visit just days before HRH Prince Charles' 65th birthday in 2013. It was the first destination of their nine-day visit to India. During their visit, they participated in a beautiful Ganga Aarti ceremony as well as a ceremony in which waters from around the world were poured onto a globe with prayers for water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for all.

His Royal Highness, Prince Charles, shared beautiful words of inspiration and spoke about how glad he was to be present for this ceremony and also how pleased he was to have heard about the wonderful work for the environment and humanity being done by Pujya Swamiji. He said: ***"It has***

been a particular pleasure to meet Swamiji, about whom I have heard so much. I know that he and his ashram, and all the work that he and his colleagues do, is of remarkable significance."

Near the conclusion of their visit to Parmarth Niketan, **Pujya Swamiji** presented the royal couple with a sacred rudraksha tree, which serves as a symbol for the crucial importance for all people to come together from all places to ensure a greener, cleaner, more sustainable world.





“It has been a particular pleasure to meet Swamiji, about whom I have heard so much. I know that he and his ashram, and all the work that he and his colleagues do, is of remarkable significance.”

*- HRH Charles,
Prince of Wales*

“His Royal Highness, Prince Charles, is a ‘Green’ Prince who has been emphasizing the importance of environmental protection for many wonderful years. Through his vision, leadership and green programs, not only Great Britain, but the entire world, continues to be uplifted and inspired.”

- HH Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji



GREEN VISION FOR UTTARAKHAND

A High-Level Conference for the Sustainable Redevelopment of Uttarakhand

Eminent environmentalists, scientists, revered spiritual-religious leaders, dedicated members of civil society, disaster-impacted populations and esteemed governmental representatives came together for a conference organized by Ganga Action Parivar, Parmarth Niketan, the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and Navdanya, to pave the path towards a Green Uttarakhand. Prior to the conference, **Pujya Swamiji** had met with luminaries including Union Water Resources Minister, **Shri Harish Rawat**, to set an agenda designed to inspire change and save lives.

The fascinating discussions covered innovative ideas towards transforming the aftermath of the recent tragic Himalayan flood disaster into an opportunity for more sustainable development. In such a way, ecologically-friendly, healthy and safe ways of developing areas in concert with the environment can help turn a horrible



Pujya Swamiji, Vivek Oberoi, Dr. Vandana Shiva, former Uttarakhand CM Dr. Ramesh Pokriyal "Nishank" and others present Ganga Action Parivar's Green Vision for Uttarakhand Declaration to H.E. the Governor of Uttarakhand Dr. Aziz Qureshi



Presentation of Green Vision for Uttarakhand Delegation by the participants in Ganga Action Pavivar/Global Interfaith WASH Aliance/Project Hope's Green Vision conference to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand. (left to right): Pujya Swami Avdheshanand Giriji, Bollywood actor Vivek Oberoi, Hon'ble Chief Minister Vijay Bahuguna, Pujya Swamiji, Dr. Vandana Shiva and Former Uttarakhand CM Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishankji"



Pujya Swamiji discusses the agenda for the Green Vision for Uttarakhand Conference with Union Minister for Water Resources, Shri Harish Rawat, prior to the event



VIEW AND SIGN THE GREEN VISION DECLARATION ONLINE AT WWW.GANGAACTION.ORG

bane into a boon for the sacred and beautiful land of the Himalayas.

The event included detailed discussions on topics including the conservation of our natural resources such as rivers, climate change and disaster risk reduction, green pilgrimages and tourism, protecting forests, agriculture and food supplies and more.

Many ideas were presented and shared with Uttarakhand's **Honourable Chief Minister, Hon'ble Vijay Bahuguna**, including Carbon Credit Corporations, in which carbon credits are provided as financial incentives and rewards to those operating in a green, eco-friendly, sustainable way.

The delegates unanimously pledged and signed a Green Vision Declaration and committed themselves to a Green New Year's Resolution to live in harmony with Mother Earth, Mother Nature and Mother Ganga. The Declaration was presented to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand as well as to His Excellency the **Governor of Uttarakhand, Dr. Aziz Qureshi**, who graciously accepted it. The declaration included points about green development and green construction, enforcing existing environmental legislation, implementing sustainable energy and green eco-tourism programs, sustainable land and water management, efforts towards improved WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) as well improving safety and security of schools and buildings.

Following the conference, the participants took part in a very special Ganga Aarti ceremony in the presence of His Excellency Governor Dr. Aziz Qureshi.



- HH Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji

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हिमालय विकास प्राधिकरण जरूरी

परमार्थ निकेतन में 'ग्रीन विजन ऑफ उत्तराखंड' पर कार्यशाला

- **पर्यावरण संरक्षण को धरातल पर काम करने की जरूरत : सज्जपात**

अमल संवर्धन, अविरोध: मुलगांवे विरल वटुपुन ने प्रजासत्ता की आजादी में हिमालय विद्यालय अविरोध गठित करने की पैरवी करते हुए कहा कि सभी हिमालयी राज्यों में विकास के साथ पर्यावरण की रक्षा भी जरूरी है।

पञ्चार्थ निकेतन वर्धमान में संग्रहालय को "दोन दिवस" जैसी उपलब्धता विषय पर आर्थिक कार्यवाही को संश्लेषित करने हुए उपलब्धता में आता कि उपलब्धता का विकास हमारी पहली प्राथमिकता है। डिमांड के विकास और पञ्चार्थ को अपने में रखते हुए पञ्चार्थ का एक नए बनने हैं। उन्होंने इस विषय पर पञ्चार्थ में अपने घर की बात दिया। तीसरे में एक श्रेय में एक पञ्चार्थ को बुद्धि को रूप में निकल बनने हुए एक पञ्चार्थ को और अधिक सुन्दर बनने को बात बताई।

राज्यपाल डॉ. अजीत पुरी ने कहा कि जब हिमालय क्षेत्र पर्यावरण की दृष्टि से सुशिक्षित लोग नहीं, तबूने देश में बेहतर पर्यावरण की उपस्थिति की जा सकती है। उन्होंने इसके लिए जन



पञ्चायत निकेतन में 'डीन किशन और जगतसूद' विषय पर आयोजित कार्यक्रमा का शुभारंभ करते मुख्यमंत्री विजय घुसुणा, पञ्चायत के पञ्चायतवासी स्वामी पिपराय रासन्धी मुनि महाशय आचार्य महाशयनेश्वर स्वामी अक्षयशानन्द निरि, अभिनेता विक्रम ओबरोय और पञ्चायतपतिद खंडा निरि।

सांस्कृतिक और परम्परा पर इस्तेमाल के साथ एवं सेवा एकात्म परिवार के संस्थागत रूपों कायम करने की बात कही। पारमार्थ के पारम्परिक विचारों को समाज में प्रतिष्ठित करने के लिए

देवदूतों के जन्म, जंगल एवं जमीन को सुख करने हुए मन्वाजीय शक्ति से निवेदन की आवश्यकता है। अतः इसके के बाद यहाँ केवल एक ही शक्ति प्रकट होती है। शक्ति अधिनियम किंवदंती अन्तर्गत ने ईश्वरी शक्ति और ईश्वरी प्रेरणा शक्ति के जोड़ देते हुए पापशत्रु को मर्दाना करने हुए इत बलवान के विचार को बल देता है। पन्थापरायण डॉ. कृष्ण ने इकोनोमी एवं इकोनोमी के कारणों को बतानी करते हुए कहा कि पुरानी के मध्य ईश्वरी शक्ति को विकसित किया जाय।

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परभाव में आयोजित इंटरनेशनल चीन विजन कॉन्फ्रेंस में चीने सरकारों की सरकार

बनाना ही होगा प्राधिकरण

 भारत सरकार द्वारा प्रमाणित

 प्रमाणित और प्रमाणित

 प्रमाणित प्रमाणित के लिए

 प्रमाणित प्रमाणित

अधिकतम: सुप्रीम कोर्ट में
सुप्रीम ने फैसला और सुनवाई

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03

Qureshi expresses concern over loss of biodiversity

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DEHRADUN, DECEMBER 25

While showing concern over loss of biodiversity, Governor Aziz Qureshi said the future of the country was dependent on the conservation of the Himalayas. He was speaking at a workshop organised by the Parmarth Niketan on the Green Vision of Uttarakhand at Rishikesh last evening.

The Governor called upon people to make the Ganga Action Parivar Campaign a success. He said everyone should think of the condition of the Ganga and other rivers. He said a balanced approach should be adopted to carry on the development.

Expressing alarm at the growing pollution, he said



A green vision document for Uttarakhand being presented to Governor Aziz Qureshi at a workshop at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh, on Tuesday evening. A TRIBUNE PHOTOGRAPH

frequent disasters were the result of unnecessary tampering with the nature. He said toilets and other facilities were needed on yatra routes. He added that intensive campaign

for afforestation was the need of the hour.

Several environmentalists, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Vijay bahuguna, former Chief Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nis-

hank and many saints addressed the workshop. A manifesto for the green Uttarakhand was presented to the Governor by Chidanand Muni of the Parmarth Niketan.



अपना शहर { अमर उजाला } अभिकेश

कार्यशाला: 'ग्रीन विजन' में आज जुटेंगी हस्तियां

आधिकार (ख्युरो)। गंगा एक्शन बहुराज्य, फिल्म अभिनेता विवेक पारीवार और परमार्थ के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में मंगलवार को ग्रीन विजन ऑफ डनरखंड विषयक कार्यशाला अहमोदित की जाएगी। जिसमें विशेषज्ञ प्रमुख हस्तियों के शामिल होने की उम्मीद है। आश्रम के प्रवक्ता डा. राम महेश मिश्र ने बताया कि कार्यक्रम में हरित और विकसित कि चर्काहा में राज्यपाल डा. उत्तराखंड के लिए विभिन्न उपायों अजीज कुरेशी, सीएम विजय



पर विशेषज्ञ चिंतन करेंगे।

EARLIER THIS AUTUMN

From Rio to Rishikesh: The Media Social Responsibility Declaration



Approximately a 1000 journalists from across India and nations abroad pledged their commitment to work towards ensuring a clean and free-flowing Ganga River in history's first Media Social Responsibility Declaration.

The Declaration urges specific and immediate actions from the Central and State Governments to preserve the sanctity and cleanliness of the River Ganga and its tributaries. The journalists acknowledged the crucial responsibility that the media bears in the national and international pursuit of keeping vital water sources, especially life-giving rivers, free-flowing and unpolluted.

The historic Declaration was presented by **Pujya Swamiji** to **Shri B.L. Joshi, the Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh** and to **Shri Harish Rawat, the Respected Minister for Water Resources, Government of India**. The gathered journalists, alongside Respected Union Minister for Water Resources, Shri Harish Rawat, Uttar Pradesh Governor, HE Shri B.L. Joshi, HH Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji and other respected saints and dignitaries, spontaneously took to their feet and raised their hands in a dramatic pledge of support for the historic Declaration.

Later in the evening, the media fraternity signed the written declaration to be presented to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

*Join Us! Sign the Rio to Rishikesh Green Vision Declaration
Online at www.gangaaction.org*



SPIRITUALITY IN ACTION

Respected Supreme and High Court Justices, Tax Practitioners and More Come Together at Parmarth Niketan for a Life-Changing Experience



Luminaries such as **Supreme Court Justice, AK Sikri**, the Hon'ble Chairman of the Authority of Advance Ruling, Ret. Supreme Court **Justice Dr. Arijit Pasayat**, the Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court **Justice Alok Singh**, Hon'ble Delhi High Court **Justice Reva Khetrapal**, Hon'ble Delhi High Court **Justice RV Easwar**, Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court **Justice Rajesh Bindal** and many others came to Parmarth Niketan recently for the Rishikesh National Tax Conference of the All India Federation of Tax Practitioners (North Zone).

In addressing the distinguished visitors, **Pujya Swamiji said**, "Spirituality is not a weekend business, but it encompasses every minute and every moment of our lives. It is not merely worshipping the creator, but also serving the creation. In addition, spirituality is not how we can have more, but how we can be more. Spirituality is focused on



Pujya Swamiji discusses the environment with Respected Supreme Court Justice, AK Sikri



Honourable judges and justices light the auspicious lamp to inaugurate the event, symbolizing the honouring of the light of spirituality in all of our actions.



A green pledge was taken to bring spirituality into action by serving not only the Creator but the creation, including working together to actively to protect and preserve the environment



Respected Supreme Court Justice, AK Sikri, addresses the conference



bhatna (sharing and giving), not bhatorna (hoarding), as it's not merely about filling our shelves but more about filling our Self."

Hon'ble Supreme Court Justice AK Sikri said, "Spirituality is key in our lives, because it teaches us how to handle conflict and to do our actions without attachment to the fruits. When we are guided by spirituality, our actions will always lead us to peace. Spirituality enables us to see beyond the adversarial system of you versus I."

Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court Judge, Justice Alok Singh shared, "The aim of justice and spirituality is the same, peace. Through spirituality we want peace and through justice we also want peace. It truly feels like being home here on the banks of Mother Ganga. The wisdom that we take from here and in the presence of Pujya Swamiji will last us a lifetime."

Sadhvi Bhagawatiji shared a sutra that Pujya Swamiji gave her when she first came to Rishikesh from America, "Engage in karma, under the shade of dharma with the awareness of Brahma. Justice is the embodiment of dharma in our society. However it can even be taken a step further by maintaining an awareness of the divine in all, then we see ourselves not only as the judge but as the judged."



परमार्थ निकेतन में आयोजित ऑल इंडिया फेडरेशन ऑफ टैक्स प्रैक्टिशनर्स (नॉर्थ जोन) की तीन दिवसीय नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस को संबोधित करते मुख्य अतिथि उद्योग मंत्रालय के न्यायमूर्ति एसके सिकरी।

इनकम, सर्विस और वेट टैक्स पर चर्चा परमार्थ में नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस शुरू

अमर उजाला व्यूरे

अधिकांश। परमार्थ निकेतन आश्रम में आल इंडिया फेडरेशन ऑफ टैक्स प्रैक्टिशनर्स (नॉर्थ जोन) के तत्वावधान में नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस शुरू हुई। पहले दिन इनकम टैक्स, सर्विस टैक्स और वेट टैक्स पर चर्चा की गई। वक्ताओं ने सिप्रुल लॉ का जीवन में अनुसरण करने पर जोर दिया। कार्यक्रम में विभिन्न प्रदेशों के करीब छह सौ अधिवक्ता प्रतिभाग कर रहे हैं।

शनिवार को आश्रम में आयोजित कार्यक्रम का सुप्रीम कोर्ट के

न्यायमूर्ति एसके सिकरी और आश्रम के परमार्थविद्द चिदानंद सरस्वती ने शुभारंभ किया। न्यायमूर्ति सिकरी ने विभिन्न कानूनों के साथ रेचुरल लॉ, इनवापरमेंटल लॉ, सिप्रुल लॉ पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने मानव और समाज द्वारा बनाए गए कानूनों को महत्वपूर्ण बताया। कहा कि आपत्तम, भारतीय संस्कृति और जीवन जीने की कला के प्रति प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के अंदर विज्ञान होना आवश्यक है। चिदानंद मुनि ने आपत्तम के विभिन्न पहलुओं की जानकारी दी। कहा कि कानूनों और नियमों को पालन करने वाला व्यक्ति सही मान्यता में आपत्तमिक है।

राजस्थान हाईकोर्ट के जस्टिस जेके रंका ने परमार्थ के अनुशासन को जीवन में अनुसरण करने का सुझाव दिया। देशभर तक चले कार्यक्रम में दिल्ली के गंधर्व संगीत महाविद्यालय के प्रो. सुरजीत ओझा ने मनमोहक भजन की प्रस्तुति दी। मौके पर दिल्ली हाईकोर्ट की न्यायमूर्ति रेखा खेंजवाल, पंजाब और हरियाणा हाईकोर्ट के न्यायमूर्ति राजेश बिंदल, नैनीताल हाईकोर्ट के न्यायमूर्ति आलोक सिंह, विवेक भारती, पीएस सरिन, जेडो नन्काणी, प्रेमलता बंसल आदि मौजूद थे।

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अजित / नवी दिल्ली

परमार्थ निकेतन में विदेशी निवेशकों और टैक्स प्रैक्टिशनर्स को संबोधित अधिवक्ता एसके सिकरी ने कहा कि कर प्रणाली को विकसित करने के साथ ही अधिवक्ताओं ने इन की जांच के अलावा टैक्स प्रैक्टिशनर्स को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए टैक्स कानून को भी विकसित करना चाहिए।



परमार्थ निकेतन में आयोजित ऑल इंडिया फेडरेशन ऑफ टैक्स प्रैक्टिशनर्स (नॉर्थ जोन) की तीन दिवसीय नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस को संबोधित करते मुख्य अतिथि उद्योग मंत्रालय के न्यायमूर्ति एसके सिकरी।

कार्यक्रम

- दो दिवसीय अधिवक्ता सम्मेलन
- इन के अलावा नौ अन्य कार्यक्रम
- 17 से 20 अक्टूबर तक आयोजित

वकीलों ने दिए वैट टैक्स के सुझाव परमार्थ निकेतन में नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस सम्पन्न

अधिकांश। परमार्थ निकेतन आश्रम में आल इंडिया फेडरेशन ऑफ टैक्स प्रैक्टिशनर्स (नॉर्थ जोन) के तत्वावधान में नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस के दूसरे दिन राज्य सरकारों को अधिक से अधिक वैट टैक्स दिलाने के लिए अधिवक्ताओं ने सुझाव दिए।

राज्य सरकार को कार्यक्रम के अंतिम सत्र में पंजाब और हरियाणा हाईकोर्ट के न्यायमूर्ति राजेश बिंदल ने देश और प्रदेशों में राजस्व को बढ़ाने में कर व्यवस्थापन में जुड़े अधिवक्ताओं और चार्टर्ड एकाउंटेंट्स की भूमिका को महत्वपूर्ण बताया।



कांफ्रेंस के समापन पर मुख्य अतिथि को सम्मानित करते अधिवक्ता।

वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता पीसी जोशी ने व्यवस्थापन में बैठकर प्रबंधन विषय पर चर्चा की। मौके पर आश्रम के परमार्थविद्द चिदानंद सरस्वती मुनि, दिल्ली हाईकोर्ट की न्यायाधीश जेआर

मिहड़ा, उद्योगसचिव हाईकोर्ट के न्यायमूर्ति अलोक सिंह, जेडो नन्काणी, एचसी भारतीया, विमल गर्ग, प्रेमलता बंसल, विवेक भारती, पीएस सरिन आदि मौजूद रहे। व्यूरे

राष्ट्रीय सहायता

सहायता के लिए सहायता



अधिकांश। परमार्थ निकेतन में आयोजित ऑल इंडिया फेडरेशन ऑफ टैक्स प्रैक्टिशनर्स (नॉर्थ जोन) की तीन दिवसीय नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस को संबोधित करते मुख्य अतिथि उद्योग मंत्रालय के न्यायमूर्ति एसके सिकरी।

दैनिक जागरण

सहायता के लिए सहायता

राज्य और केंद्र की लाइफ लाइन है टैक्स : जस्टिस सिकरी

- परमार्थ निकेतन में दो दिवसीय नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस का समापन
- सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जस्टिस सिकरी ने परमार्थ निकेतन में आयोजित नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस का समापन



परमार्थ निकेतन में आयोजित ऑल इंडिया फेडरेशन ऑफ टैक्स प्रैक्टिशनर्स (नॉर्थ जोन) की तीन दिवसीय नेशनल टैक्स कांफ्रेंस को संबोधित करते मुख्य अतिथि उद्योग मंत्रालय के न्यायमूर्ति एसके सिकरी।

राज्य और केंद्र की लाइफ लाइन है टैक्स : जस्टिस सिकरी

VIVEK OBEROI CELEBRATES FAMILY

A very special visit to Parmarth Niketan



Famous Bollywood actor, **Vivek Oberoi**, paid a special visit to Parmarth Niketan with his wife Priyanka and son, **Vivaan**, to play an important role in the International Green Vision Conference as Ambassadors for Ganga Action Parivar. They were accompanied by **Shri Umesh Kumar**, the CEO of Samachar Plus News Channel, and his loving family.

During their visit, a special ceremony was held for the adorable Vivaan, followed by a group snan in Mother Ganga with **Pujya Swamiji**. Afterwards, Vivek Oberoi lovingly served lunch to Parmarth Niketan's Rishikumars, delighting the young students with lasting memories.



For the Well-Being of All

MEETINGS WITH POLICY-MAKERS

Pujya Swamiji met recently with **Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde**, in Delhi to discuss sustainable development, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), the National Ganga Rights Act and other key issues.

He later met with **Hon'ble Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Shri KH Muniyappa**, to discuss ways in which the various service projects and initiatives being undertaken by GAP, Project Hope and GIWA could support MSME to provide sustainable jobs and social enterprises for the welfare of the community and the environment.

Pujya Swamiji also recently met with **Shri Digvijay Singh, General Secretary of the Indian National Congress** party's All India Congress Committee, and expressed the urgent need to work toward



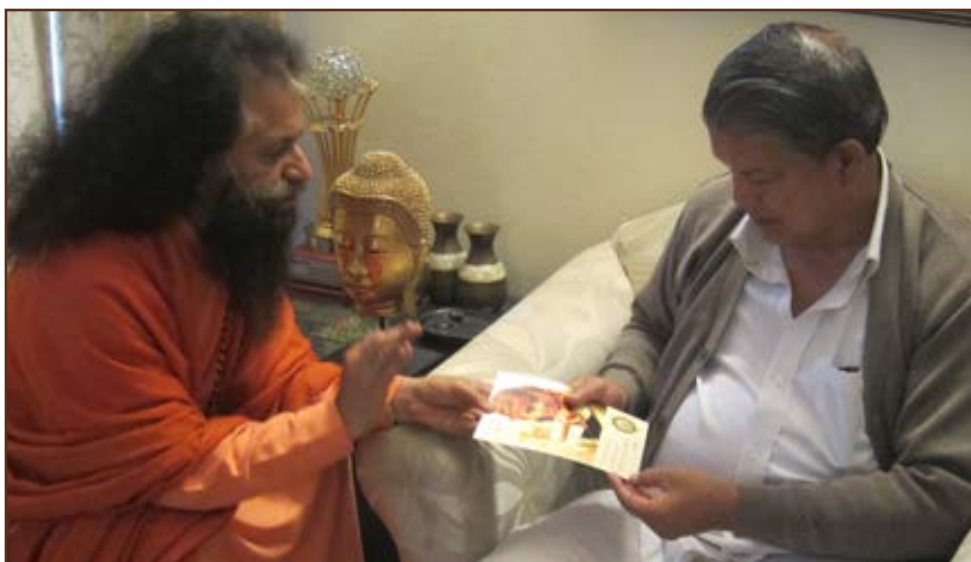
Pujya Swamiji inspires Shri Digvijay Singh to take plant a Rudraksha tree from Rishikesh as a green start to green action.



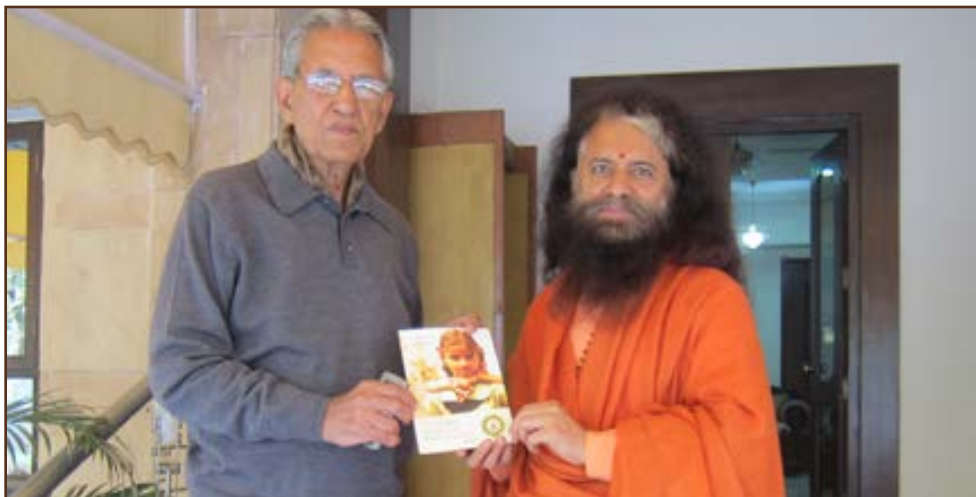
Pujya Swamiji meets with the Hon'ble Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Shri KH Muniyappa, to discuss the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and the urgency of getting all of India motivated and involved in water, sanitation and hygiene solutions



Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde and Pujya Swamiji discuss environmental preservation, sustainable development and WASH



Hon'ble Shri Harish Rawat, Union Minister of Water Resources, and Pujya Swamiji discuss the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA)



His Excellency the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Shri BL Joshi, and Pujya Swamiji during a meeting regarding GIWA and the National Ganga Rights Act

implementing a National Ganga Rights Act.

Later in December, **Shri BVR Subrahmanyam, Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister of India**, and his family came to Parmarth Niketan, where they were deeply inspired by Pujya Swamiji's green initiatives and service projects, including the recent Green Vision Workshop. **Shri Rajiv Bhartari, Chief Conservator of Forests**, who has been a pioneer in planning and developing the concept of Eco-tourism in Uttarakhand, also came to Parmarth Niketan with his wife, Smt Sharmila Bhartariji, a renowned dancer and cultural artist. They were blessed and encouraged by Pujya Swamiji to help enable our entire nation to celebrate a green New Year in protection of our India's beautiful and delicate ecology.

Pujya Swamiji moreover had a lovely recent meeting with **Hon'ble Shri Harish Rawat, Minister of Water Resources and His Excellency the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Shri BL Joshi** to discuss access to improved Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for all and also to urge them to support the National Ganga Rights Act to protect our National River, the plants, animals and some 500 million people who depend on it for life itself.

Pujya Swamiji also met with **Dr. Karan Singh, member of India's Upper House of Parliament**, the Rajya Sabha and an internationally-renowned leader, philosopher, speaker and writer, to share with him the recently-launched international edition of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism. Dr. Karan Singh played a significant role in bringing the encyclopedia to fruition, and was so glad to receive a copy of the eleven-volume set.



Pujya Swamiji discusses the environment with Cabinet Minister of the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Salman Khurshid



Pujya Swamiji presents the beautiful Encyclopedia of Hinduism to Dr. Karan Singh, member of India's Upper House of Parliament, and a renowned leader, speaker, writer and philosopher



Shri BVR Subrahmanyam, Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister of India and his family (L), and Shri Rajiv Bhartari and Smt Sharmila Bhartari (R), are honoured for their great service to the nation with the gift of sacred Rudraksha Trees from Pujya Swamiji



Pujya Swamiji shares with Shri BVR Subrahmanyamji and Shri Rajiv Bhartariji about the recent green vision workshop

DPS Visits Parmarth Niketan

DISCUSSING DELHI'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Shri Narendra Kumar, esteemed Member of the Delhi Public School Society (DPS) and member of the Consultative Group on Elementary and Secondary Education and Literacy Planning Commission of the Government of India, as well as **Shri KC Pandey**, Principal of DPS-Ranipur Haridwar, visited Parmarth Niketan Ashram recently.

DPS is one of the largest educational institutions in India with nearly 200 schools. **Pujya Swamiji** provided loving inspiration on environmental stewardship and WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) so that they may expand their programmes even further in order to cultivate a new generation of Ambassadors of change. In so doing, He discussed the crucial need for toilets and hand-washing in schools and suggested extensive student-led clean-ups of not only the schools but their surrounding communities, sponsoring trash bins and posting with green messages and massive tree plantation drives amongst many other concepts.



Pujya Swamiji talking with Shri Narendra Kumar



SHRI UDDHAV THACKERAY

*Pays loving homage to his dear departed father
on the banks of Mother Ganga*



Pujya Swamiji with Uddav Thackeray, Ramkrishna Dhoot, family, and well-wishers



Shri Uddhav Thackeray, leader and chairperson of the Shiv Sena Party, his loving family, and **Shri Ramkrishna Doot**, Chairman of Videocon, journeyed to Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh to pay homage to his father, the late **Shri Bal Thackeray**. The founder of Shiv Sena, Shri Bal Thackeray was a politician renowned throughout India for his remarkable and devoted service for the nation. On the holy banks of Mother Ganga, in the lap of the Himalayas, Shri Uddhav Thackeray, pledged to continue to serve Bharat Mata in his father's footsteps.

He was deeply impressed and touched by Pujya Swamiji's various green initiatives and service activities and agreed that the need of the hour is to preserve and protect Mother Ganga, as She is the very identity and heritage of India.



AFTER THE TRAGEDIES

Peace Ceremony, More, in the Wake of the Himalayan Floods and Disaster in the Philippines



On the holy banks of Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh, a very special yagna and prayer ceremony paid homage to the victims of the tragic typhoon that caused havoc in the Philippines and the terrible Himalayan Tsunami that devastated the state of Uttarakhand earlier in June.

On this auspicious occasion, **Pujya Mahamandaleshwar Swami Asanganand Saraswatiji, Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji, Pujya Sri Madhavpriyadas Swamiji, Pujya Sri Balkrishan Swamiji and Pujya Sri Bhaktivatsal Swamiji** blessed the ceremony in the presence of several other gathered saints, devotees and pilgrims.

An estimated 1600-2000 people came together from all over the world, including America, Canada, England, Australia, New Zealand, Africa and India, in a spirit of oneness to offer their prayers of healing and peace to their brothers and sisters recovering from the devastation. The prayer ceremony was held at the time of a beautiful holy katha being presented on the banks of Mother Ganga at Parmarth Niketan by or in the presence of the saints mentioned above, alongside other divine souls.

Said Pujya Swamiji, “we have corporate social responsibility (CSR). Today’s gathering represents Ashram Social Responsibility (ASR). We must all join hands and do our utmost to ensure that the world comes together as a global family for the sake of the peace and well-being of all. In worshipping creation like this, we worship the Creator.”

The large gathering illustrates that the resilient state of Uttarakhand has picked up the broken pieces and rebuilt itself from the recent tragedy, indicating to world that it is ready not only for hope and healing but also for restoring lives and livelihoods. To watch Pujya Swamiji and Sadhvi Bhagawati’s special message and the ceremonies [click here](#).



A SPECIAL GATHERING OF WOMEN

Peace Ceremonies and the Presentation of the Encyclopedia of Hinduism

During the Holy Swaminarayan Sanstha Katha at Parmarth Niketan, hundreds of women from around the world gathered for special prayers for the peace and well-being of all. The heart-felt proceedings included a water ceremony to a globe, representing the important need for all people to have access to improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

Later, the beautiful 11-volume **Encyclopedia of Hinduism** was presented by **Sadhvi Bhagawatiji** to the Sadhvis of the Yogi Mahila Kendra.

The Encyclopedia represents an epic work of scholarship, which took over 1,000 scholars, guided by Pujya Swamiji, some 25 years of diligent efforts to complete. The Sadhvis symbolically handed the encyclopedia to all women present at the event, so that ancient knowledge and history can be taught and remembered by families.



OUR CHILDREN. OUR FUTURE.

Save the Children Visits Parmarth Niketan



Save the Children's National Manager of Emergencies, **Ray Kancharla** (above) and Program Officer, **Pradeep Kumar**, visited Parmarth Niketan along with their team and families. They discussed with Pujya Swamiji how Project Hope, GIWA, GAP and Save the Children could work together to support and serve marginalized children, women and the environment, and focus on malnutrition, access to healthcare, water and sanitation facilities as well as on improving hygiene education. Together, they would hope to create and improve child-friendly spaces, so that children in crisis situations can be better protected, nourished and sustained.

Pujya Swamiji said GIWA, GAP and Project Hope can do much in joining forces with Save the Children to help ensure that suffering is alleviated so that populations in disaster-torn areas in particular may be enabled to live safer, greener, more self-sufficient lives in dignity.

A VERY SPECIAL NEW YEAR Celebrating a New Year. A New You.



Beautiful celebrations were held at Parmarth Niketan to herald in the year 2014. A highlight of our Green New Year was a beautiful dance performance by Parmarth Niketan's young Rishikumars, which included graceful gymnastics, to honour Lord Ganesha, considered as the Brother of all to be the loving remover of the obstacles that prevent us from moving forward in life.

At darshan, in reflection of the dance, **Pujya Swamiji** gave a heart-felt talk about moving forward from past memories, which hold us back. Instead, we should begin this New Year as a New You.

Later in the evening, Pujya Swamiji and devotees quietly left the ashram in order to secretly deliver blankets to sleeping homeless people and sadhus so that they need not suffer in the Himalayan chill.

Vivek Oberoi and his loving family returned to celebrate this auspicious occasion with us.



SACRED CEREMONIES

Bringing Ancient Traditions to Life



December saw two beautiful traditional ceremonies (sanskaras). The first was the Mundan (sacred hair) ceremony of **Kalpesh Solanki** and his son **Aditya**, from London (bottom two photos). Owners of the Asian Trader Group and publishers of Garavi Gujarat, Eastern Eye and several other publications, the Solanki family comes regularly to Parmarth. Although both Kalpesh and Aditya had their official Mundans performed many many years ago, whenever they come, they have it performed again as a symbol of new inspiration and renewed spiritual commitment. Kalpesh's wife, **Rashmita**, and his daughter, **Shefali** also joined, and all pledged to fulfil their media social responsibility and help spread the messages of WASH, so that all people may have life-giving access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.



Kalpana Singh Rhodes of California, USA brought her sons **Ashwin and Rohan**, and the entire family, to Parmarth for their sacred Upanayana Sanskar (sacred thread ceremony). Kalpana has grown up with Pujya Swamiji's blessings since her early childhood and she had long held the wish for her sons to receive this sacred rite of passage from Pujya Swamiji's hands on the holy banks of Mother Ganga. So, rather than spending winter holidays skiing or on a beach, they traveled to Rishikesh to have the beautiful ceremony.

[Click Here](#) to learn more about the wonderful meanings behind these and other traditional ceremonies held at the beautiful banks of Mother Ganga at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh.



INTERFAITH HARMONY.



Puja Swamiji with His Eminence Oswald Cardinal Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, and member of the advisory council appointed by H.H. Pope Francis

Puja Swamiji is known worldwide for His loving and extensive mission to bring together the people of all the world's religions and backgrounds so that our world may be improved through the power of togetherness. Through His tireless work, friendships are built between faiths, hands join forces in mutual assistance and a beautiful foundation for lasting peace is forged for and by all.

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY

at the KAICIID Forum, organized by the Royal Family of Saudi Arabia and the Governments of Austria and Spain



Pujya Swamiji with HRH Prince Faisal Bin Abdullah bin Mohammed Al-Saud, Minister of Education, Saudi Arabia

In November, **Pujya Swamiji** played an important role in the Global Forum of KAICIID (King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue) in Vienna.

A project of **King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia**, joined by the Governments of Spain and Austria, and of which the Holy See (the Vatican) is the Founding Observer, the KAICIID centre is bringing religious heads together for dialogue leading to positive, constructive action and implementation.

The forum featured 600 people from over 90 countries, including religious leaders, policy makers, and social leaders from all the world's major religions.

Pujya Swamiji invited all leaders to join together in the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance, of which He is Co-Founder, to ensure lives are protected through improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). He also shared the concepts from a Hindu perspective of "Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam," the world is one family, and the principle of the Divine pervading all aspects of the universe. "We worship the Creator," He said, "But then we harm and kill the Creation. The Creator whom we worship is present in the Creation -- in humans, animals and all beings -- and therefore if we truly revere the Creator, we will live peacefully with all aspects of Creation."

Said Sadhvi Bhagawatiji, "our education initiatives are wonderful, and it is so beautiful to see the initiatives being carried out by policy makers in so many countries, to bring greater religious understanding and acceptance in our education.



Pujya Swamiji with His Excellency Cardinal Jean-Louis Pierre Tauran, President of the Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue in the Vatican

However, these initiatives are only useful and effective if children actually attend school and stay in school. One of the greatest obstacles to attending school, for girls in developing nations in particular, is the lack of proper toilet facilities. We need to allocate energy and resources to ensure that children actually attend and stay in school rather than being deterred due to the absence of sanitary facilities.”



Pujiya Swamiji discusses the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance with Dr. Shaun Casey, Head of the US State Department's Office of Faith Based Initiatives



With Nigerian Interfaith Peace Leaders, Imam Dr. Muhammad Nurayn Ashafa and Pastor Dr. James Movel Wuye



Pujya Swamiji with Bill Vendley, Executive Director, Religions for Peace and Rabbi David Rosen, Director of the American Jewish Committee's Department of Interreligious Affairs, and his wife, Sharon Rosen



Pujya Swamiji with Mustafa Ceric, President of the World Bosniak Congress, former Grand Mufti of Bosnia and Herzegovina



Pujya Swamiji with former Minister of Education and Science of Spain and former UNESCO Director General Federico Mayor Zaragoza

“If we want to be torchbearers of peace, we must first become rivers of love, dousing all flames of discord in the waters of our own compassion and serenity”
- HH Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji

INTERFAITH MEETING FOR ASIA

People's SAARC: A New Chapter towards Peace-Building between Asian Nations



Holy Embrace: Pujya Swamiji and His Eminence Oswald Cardinal Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, and member of the advisory council appointed by H.H. Pope Francis



The “PEOPLE’S SAARC: Inter-Faith Meet for Peace, Harmony and Solidarity in South Asia”, was held in Mumbai in January. It was jointly organized by the Observer Research Foundation Mumbai and Minhaj-ul-Quran International (India). **Shri Sudheendra Kulkarni** was the organizer and visionary of the historic initiative.

Leaders of different religions were called to guide the foundation of the People’s SAARC. Joining via live video link from Toronto, **Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri** gave a beautiful speech in which he called upon both Pakistanis and Indians to inaugurate a new chapter of mutual goodwill, friendship and cooperation in their relationship. All the outstanding problems between the two countries can -- and should -- be resolved through negotiations in an atmosphere of mutual trust and accommodation, he remarked.

Sadhvi Bhagawatiji said, “If we are standing here as representatives of the people of the South Asian nations, called here for the formation of a People’s SAARC, then we must look at the truth of the lives of these people. For a large percentage of people living in the nations of India, Pakistan,



Puja Swamiji and Sadhvi Bhagawatiji shared the stage with Archbishop Oswald Gracias, Dr. Bhadant Anand Mahathero Sudheendra Kulkarni, Dr. Ved Pratap Vaidik, Shaykh-ul-Islam, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, Dasturji Khurshed Dastur Kekobad Dastoor Sudheendra Kulkarni and other distinguished dignitaries.

of the South Asian nations, called here for the formation of a People's SAARC, then we must look at the truth of the lives of these people. For a large percentage of people living in India, Pakistan, Banglaesh, Sri Lanka and other nations the truth of their existence is hunger, thirst, illiteracy and illness. Approximately 200 million people in South/West and Central Asia have no access to clean water. 200 million Indians will sleep hungry tonight and 3000 children die every day in India from hunger. This is the truth of the people whom we are representing. If we are truly to serve them, to truly represent them, it is imperative that we work not only for more permeable borders, not only for an end to military responses, but also for the very basic betterment of their lives."



Puja Swamiji with Dr. Satyapal Singh, Commissioner of Police, Sanskrit Scholar, and a spirited advocate for inter-religious harmony



With Dasturji Khurshed Dastur Kekobad Dastoor, Head Priest at Shree Pak Iranshah Zoroastrian Temple, Udvada



Sadhvi Bhagawatiji uplifts all with her beautiful speech

Listen to Puja Swamiji's Address by Clicking:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YICtFLKkwME>

Watch Sadhvi Bhagawatiji's Address By Clicking:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVHGpWhrs6g>

UNICEF INDIA AND THE GLOBAL INTERFAITH WASH ALLIANCE

Meeting Together for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for All



The Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA), of which **Pujya Swamiji** is Co-Founder, has been graced with several meetings with the good people of UNICEF India. Among these is UNICEF India's WASH Director, **Sue Coates**, who visited Parmarth Niketan in order to discuss how all of India's faith leaders can join forces in order to ensure the precious lives of India's children in particular are protected through improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).



GIWA also participated in UNICEF's International WASH in Schools Learning Exchange. Delegates from eight countries, as well as political luminaries from India, were in attendance in order to work together on WASH issues. During the meetings, we travelled to see wonderful field programmes in Darjeeling, providing great inspiration for all.

To learn more about GIWA's life-saving work, visit www.i-wash.org.



CULTIVATING PEACE

at the One World Global Citizen Forum



Pujya Swamiji with Businessman and Humanitarian, Dr. BK Modi and Cabinet Minister of the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Salman Khurshid



Pujya Swamiji and HH the Gyalwang Drukpa, the spiritual head of the 800-year-old Drukpa Order, share a heart-felt moment



The mission of the Global Citizen's Forum is to promote inclusive development and international collaboration. Pujya Swamiji had blessed the initiative from its inception in January 2013 when it was launched by Humanitarian, **Dr. BK Modi**, Chairman of Spice Global.

The vision for the conference this year was to explore opportunities and challenges that will increase collaboration between India, China and the USA.

Sadhvi Bhagwatiji said so beautifully that, "Indian culture has told us since time immemorial "Vasudhaiv kutumbakam", the world is one family. Our rishis, sages and saints have told us this forever. Now, we are finally understanding and catching up! That identification as a global citizen carries within it great potential and possibilities: suddenly I am not bound – in any way -- by the false boundaries of my country or my culture. The world is, literally, at my fingertips. All walls and ceilings are being shattered. It also comes though, with responsibility. Suddenly the world's hunger, thirst and pain are my own, and my responsibility is to satiate that hunger as if it were in my own belly, quench that thirst as if it were my own parched throat, to heal that misery and pain as if it were happening in my own home. Because it is."



Above: Valedictory Session of the Forum with: Dr. BK Modi- Founder Chairman, GCF, Dr. R Seetharaman (CEO, Doha Bank), Shri Sushil Ansal, Chairman Ansal Group, Shri Ramesh Sippy (Movie Maker), Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs and Sadhvi Bhagwatiji

DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

Parmarth's Green Festival of Interfaith Harmony



A very special Diwali celebration took place this year at the Parmarth Niketan bringing together people from all over India and the world. An interfaith and green message of love and renewal went out from Rishikesh as the day started with a big clean-up of the ashram followed by discussions with **Dr. Anil Joshiji**, Founder of HESCO, about implementing an ecological index (GEP), alongside the economic index (GDP), for the state as we move into long-term rehabilitation.

The evening Ganga Aarti brought together **Acharya Lokesh Muniji**, a famous Jain monk, as well as families, couples and individuals from places like Gujarat, Spain, America and so many others in a divine Lakshmi Pooja and the taking of Prasad. Lighting and firecrackers were avoided while traditional homemade sweets and earthen lamps were distributed to all so that a green Diwali could be celebrated in a way that better protects our precious natural resources.

To read Pujya Swamiji's divine Diwali blessings [please click on this link](#).



Building Bridges of Togetherness

AUSTRALIA'S UPLIFT FESTIVAL

In December, Sadhvi Bhagawati traveled to Australia to present at the UPLIFT Festival in Byron Bay. UPLIFT stands for Universal Peace and Love In a Festival of Transformation.

Other presenters included **Bruce Lipton, Anita Moorjani, Eben Alexander, Satish Kumar, Vandana Shiva, Patch Adams, Deva Premal & Miten, Guru Singh** and many more leaders in fields of transformation of the inner and outer worlds.

The Festival was organized and hosted by Organic India, led by **Bharat Mitra** and **Bhavani Lev**. While there, Sadhviji gave a discourse on "Grace and Healing" and was part of a panel on "Engaged Spirituality - Removing the Illusion of Separation Between Spirit and Matter". She was deeply touched by the beauty, wisdom and depth of all the presenters.



Sadhvi Bhagawati takes part in a pane at the Uplift Festival in Australia on Engaged Spirituality with (left to right) Guru Singh, Bharat Mitra, Ihab Bahla, Bruce Lipton, Anita Moorjani, Eben Alexander and Lama Thupten Phuntsok

ASIAN INTERFAITH NETWORK ON AIDS

International Interfaith Conference in Bangkok



Mr. Steve Krauss, Director of the UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Asia and the Pacific, and Ms. Dawn Foderingham UNAIDS Regional Program Advisor, with Parmarth Niketan's Nandini Tripathi

Asian Interfaith Network on AIDS (AINA) organized an International Interfaith Pre- ICAAP Conference at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre (Bangkok, Thailand) discussing the Mobilization of Faith Leaders and Communities in Achieving the Triple Zero in which representatives of Parmarth Niketan also participated on behalf of Pujya Swamiji. Members from UNAIDS, INERELA, Interfaith Networks from Thailand, Indonesian, India, Singapore, Myanmar, America and Korea as well as new members from the countries of Vietnam, China, Nepal, New Zealand and Cambodia also participated.

The international triple zero mission is zero new infections, zero HIV related deaths, zero Stigma and Discrimination. Issues such as prevention, access to treatment, education, capacity building and more were discussed. Three steps were identified for Indian representatives: 1. Continuing to come together, learn from each other and to have open and safe dialogue on these issues, especially raising awareness amongst Hindu faith leaders 2. Continuing to reach out to key populations to provide innovative spirituality as means to combat stigma and discrimination as well as creating safe spaces of support and aid for infected and/or affected populations. 3. Bridging the gap between the people, governments and elected leaders as well as other stakeholders to make the change. 4. Encouraging people to get tested and improving availability of medicines, especially as India is the pharmaceutical hub for these vital treatments.

The international triple zero mission is zero new infections, zero HIV related deaths and zero stigma and discrimination.

GOPIO CONFERENCE

The Confluence of People of Indian Origin Worldwide



Dr. Rachna Bimal, Professor of Mass Communication in Delhi University, Nandini Tripathi and 13 year-old Aarsh Bimal made a dynamic presentation about GIWA, GAP and Project Hope



Swamini Adityananda and Dr. Rachna Bimal discuss the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and Ganga Action Parivar with Shri TKA Nair, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister



Dedicated GAP Volunteers (L-R): Aarsh, Prachi, Khushboo, Shreya and Dr. Rachna Bimal

The Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) is a non-partisan, non-sectarian global organization with chapters in several countries, actively promoting the interests of people of Indian origin worldwide. GAP and GIWA were invited to give a presentation and display details about their crucial programs at the GOPIO International Annual Convention, bringing together new friendships and increased awareness for the sake of a cleaner, greener Ganga and the cause of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for all.

NEW BEGINNINGS.



Puja Swamiji with Kiran Bali, the Global Chair of the world's largest interfaith organization, the United Religions Initiative and Victor Kazanjian, United Religion Initiative's Executive Director at the launch of the Cow Action Network, an initiative of Ganga Action Parivar and Project Hope

Puja Swamiji is the inspiration behind programmes designed to make a difference in lives and in society. Through His leadership, initiatives are developed to bring about new beginnings for our beautiful world, so that all people and all of nature's creation may live together in greater peace and well-being.

COW ACTION NETWORK

Promoting Livelihoods, Helping Disaster Survivors and Protecting Sacred Cows



Pujya Swamiji launches CAN with Kiran Bali, the Global Chair of the Religions Initiative (URI) and Victor Kazanjian, URI's Executive Director

In the villages of the Himalayas, cows are sacred, and cows are life. For it is through them that families are fed and incomes are earned.

Sadly, tragic flooding in India's Himalayas this past June killed and injured countless cows, leaving families devastated by the emotional and financial burdens this presented.

Since the disaster struck, veterinarians have been providing loving care to ensure cows are nursed back to health as part of a programme of Ganga Action Parivar and Project Hope.

In November, Ganga Action Parivar, Project Hope and the United Religions Initiative (URI), the world's largest interfaith organization, launched the Cow Action Network (CAN) to restore cows to families in need, and to attend to the continued veterinary concerns of animals in crisis.

The Cow Action Network is also providing relocation services for ailing street cows, so that they can be enabled to recover from lives of eating trash on hard concrete roads and instead live happily ever after on rich, green pastures.

The launch was graced by the loving and dignified presence of **HH Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati**, founder of Ganga Action Parivar and Project Hope, as well as by URI's Global Council Chair, **Kiran Bali**, and URI's Executive Director, **Victor Kazanjian**.

Through the Cow Action Network, hand in hand, we can help ensure even animals, the voiceless victims of disaster, will have the opportunities to enjoy happier lives. Learn more online at www.gangaaction.org

अधिकांश

हिन्दुस्तान

तस्वकी को चाहिए नया नजरिया

रविवार, 23 नवंबर 2013, देहरादून, चार प्रतें, 18 तस्वका, कस्व लंदन

www.livehindustan.com

गाय की पूजा कर पुण्य कमाया

अधिकांश। हमारे संवाददाता

देश-विदेश के गोपकोंने शुक्रवार को पशुलोक बैराज और धीरपुर खुर्द गोस्वामी पर गाय का पूजन कर पुण्य अर्जित किया।

परमार्थ निकेतन अखण्ड की ओर से गुरुवार को बैराज हिमाल गोधाम स्थल पर पांच निर्वाचित गायों का पूजन किया गया। स्वामी धिदानन्द सरस्वती, मूवाटिड रितीजिपस इन्विशियेक्टिव, अमेरिका के अधिरासी निदेशक विक्रम एच. काजीजिपान और लंदन से आई संयुक्त

राष्ट्र संघ की किरण बाली ने गाय की अरती उतारकर उन्हें आहार खिलाया। इन दौरान नगर पालिका अध्यक्ष दीप शर्मा, सभासद अशोक पासवान, परमार्थ प्रतिनिधि साध्वी भगवती सरस्वती, स्वायंती आदित्यानन्द, राम महेश मिश्र, रवीन्द्र प्रकाश, विनीत कुमार, मोहन सिंह और हरिहर त्वागी के अलावा परमार्थ गुरुकुल के अधि कुमारी ने भी गायों की सेवा की।

धीरपुर खुर्द स्थित परमार्थ गुरुकुल गुरुकुल ने भी परमार्थ निकेतन की ओर से गोपूजन किया गया।



गोधाम में पूजा के बाद गाय को आहार खिलाते स्वामी धिदानन्द मुनि।



EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN

GAP, Project Hope and CAN Workshops to Pave the Way for Sustainable Livelihoods



A wealth of expertise and experience was shared in a series of workshops held for women living in rural Himalayan villages. The workshops, orchestrated by Project Hope, Ganga Action Parivar and the Cow Action Network, are designed to enable women from poor communities to earn sustainable, eco-friendly livelihoods. The workshops covered topics including cow-based and organic farming, mixed forest preservation as well as hands-on training in vocational skills.

Among the presenters were **Shri Jagat Singh 'Jungali,'** a renowned tree and herbal cultivar expert, **Dr Ramesh Palji,** Kamdhenu Research Centre-Mathura, **Dr. Rameshwar Prasad Singh,** Yamkeshwar, **Dr. RK Gahelot,** Agricultural and Soil Preservation Officer-Pauri, **Dr. Ranu Pandey,** Herbologist and District Officer, **Dr. SN Mishra,** Perd Panchayat, **Shri Sunil Bharthwal,** Organic Farming Officer, **Shri Ram Mahesh Mishra,** Ganga Action Parivar, and many others.



GOMTI ACTION PARIVAR

A New Initiative Launches for the River Gomti



Bharat Mitra and Bhavani Lev, founders and heads of Organic India and members of Gomti Action Parivar and Ganga Action Parivar, invited Pujya Swamiji to their farm to meet, inspire and bless their team.

In the capital city of Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, Pujya Swamiji officially launched Gomti Action Parivar to protect and preserve the River Gomti, an aquifer considered to be the lifeline of the city.

Gomti Action Parivar will bring together scientists, environmentalists, professionals and dedicated volunteers to serve in restoring, protecting and preserving the historic river in its pristine and free-flowing state. **Pujya Swamiji said, "In order to preserve and protect the River Ganga, we must actively work to protect the small adjoining tributaries of the River Ganga, such as the River Yamuna and the River Gomti. Each of these tributaries sustains, nourishes and provides for not only the population living along its banks but for the flora, fauna and an entire eco-system. Therefore, no matter where you are, you can join the family and actively work to protect your local water body and environment."** He urged all to work as one family, bringing their time, talent, technology and tenacity to serve this vital cause.

Pujya Swamiji blessed and appointed former IAS officer, **Shri Jai Shanker Mishra**, who has many years of experience serving Lucknow and the River Gomti, to coordinate and facilitate these activities.



Pujya Swamiji meets with Pujya Swami Kailashanand Brahmachariji and Pujya Swami Narendra Giriji to shape a new green vision for Gomti.



Tree and agriculture experts and delegates discuss ways in which organic farming can be promoted and sustained in Uttarakhand

SERVING HUMANITY.



A Rishikumar (Parmarth Niketan Gurukul Student) tends to a young boy's cut foot during a Project Give-Back medical camp

In serving humanity, we are serving the Creator Himself. Pujya Swamiji's many projects in direct service to our fellow brothers and sisters enable people from all walks of life from around the globe to join forces in order to help ensure the poor and marginalized receive access to the loving care and support they need to live happier, healthier lives in dignity.

PUJYA SWAMIJI AWARDED AND LAUDED *For Relief & Green Rehabilitation in Uttarakhand*

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, **Shri Vijay Bahuguna** and other dignitaries presented a special award to Pujya Swamiji for His leadership in the wake of the tragic June Uttarakhand diaster and His vision and implementation of plans toward a green reconstruction. Also lauded was His leadership in bringing together members of civil society, administration and volunteers to serve together in the disaster-affected areas.



Pujya Swamiji meets with the Chairman of Uttarakhand's Revenue Control Board, Shri SK Muttooji, to plan what can be done to help disaster-affected schools



Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji is honoured for Project Hope's work by (from left) Uttarakhand 's Minister of Agriculture, Shri Harak Singh Rawat; Uttarakhand 's Minister of Industries and Labour, Shri Harish Chandra Durgapal; Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Shri Vijay Bahuguna; Mr. David Lelliott, Deputy High Commissioner, British High Commission, Chandigarh and his wife; and Smt. Sudha Bahuguna, wife of Honble Shri Vijay Bahuguna



Pujya Swamiji discussing green rehabilitation plans for Uttarakhand with Mr. David Lelliott, Deputy High Commissioner, British High Commission

PROTECTING GIRLS

New Toilet Complex Breaks Ground to Protect the Health and Dignity of Girls in School

The lack of toilets is a key reason why some 24% of girls in India will drop out of school by the time they reach puberty. They simply don't have the privacy and safety they need in order to continue. For this reason, when Pujya Swamiji learned that a college with over 1,600 girls had no properly-functioning toilets, He made the commitment to help.

Within a short while, a Bhoomi Pooja/ground-breaking for a new toilet complex was held with dignitaries including members of the Emami family, the state Minister of Sports, **Shri Dinesh Agarwal**, and many other local officials and leaders.

The Emami Foundation has been closely involved with Project Hope from day one, making sure essential relief materials and resources were available to those in need, sending doctors and volunteers to serve in these areas and ensuring that dignified cremations took place for the individuals whose bodies were uncovered in Kedarnath. At the ground-breaking of the new toilet complex, Pujya Swamiji applauded them for being laudable role models in Corporate Social Responsibility.



Hon'ble Shri Dinesh Agarwal, Sports and Youth Welfare Minister of Uttarakhand and Ms. Damini Bist, General Secretary of Student Union LMS Degree College laying down the first bricks and cement for the project



Shri RS Goenka, Joint Chairman of Emami Foundation, and Pujya Swamiji lay down the first bricks and cement for the complex



Pujya Swamiji gives Shri Dinesh Agarwal a sacred Rudraksha tree to recognize his crucial work towards providing bio-toilets to protect girls



Pujya Swamiji blesses the first bricks for the complex



Lighting the sacred lamp with (left to right): Shri Dinesh Agarwal Planning, Shri Rajpal Karola, Shri RS Agarwal, Ms. Damani Bist, Shri Jayesh Ramola and Shri Guarav Rana



Pujya Swamiji presents a sacred Rudraksha tree to youth leaders

PROJECT GIVE-BACK

Medical Camps and WASH Training for the Poor



Project Give Back and the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance continued serving under-served and needy populations in the slums of Rishikesh and other impoverished areas with our dedicated team of doctors and volunteers. In many of these places, children had not been to a hospital in years and were suffering from malnutrition and other maladies. Nutritional supplements, water purification tablets, health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) education was provided along with basic care. The devoted medical and educational team promised to continue their rotations and to do follow-ups in the locations that they were serving each month.





SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



HOPE IS IN YOUR HANDS

Sign the Petition for the National Ganga River Rights Act Today!



Shri Anna Hazare and Muslim leaders stand with Pujya Swamiji to declare, "Ganga's Rights are Our Rights."

Founded by **Pujya Swamiji**, the National Ganga River Rights Movement is a coalition of concerned citizens and organizations that are taking a stand on behalf of the Ganga River and its tributaries—while there is still time.

For far too long, people have said there is nothing that can be done. But all the while, the water that nourishes us has become so polluted that it has become a hot-spot for cancers and other deadly diseases, such as typhoid and cholera. The beautiful river that has inspired poets and sages has sadly become one of the most endangered rivers in the world.

As a coalition, we bring a new and strong voice. Together, we stand for the National Ganga River Rights Act, which will help protect Mother Ganga and the 500 million people who rely on Her for life itself.

Mother Ganga Needs You. Sign the petition for the National Ganga Rights at www.gangarights.org, and help ensure Her clean and green future.



The National Ganga Rights Act draft bring proudly held by Pujya Swamiji, HE Governor Shri B.L. Joshi of Uttar Pradesh and the Honourable Union Minister of Water Resources, Shri Harish Rawat



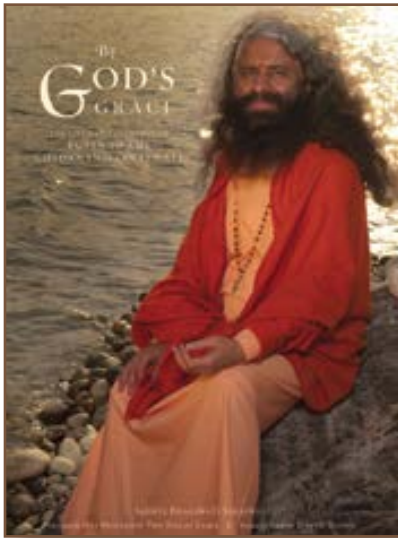
Emraan Hashmi, Huma Qureshi and Ekta Kapoor say "Ganga's Rights are Our Rights!"



The cast of C.I.D. stands for Ganga's Rights

BY GOD'S GRACE

The Life & Teachings of Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati



In this compelling biography, **Pujya Swamiji's** divine life is beautifully detailed chronologically. Upon its release, this book held the **NUMBER ONE** position as the best-seller in Amazon.com's Hindusim section, out of a total of over 17,000 books!

Illustrated with exquisite photos of Ganga, the Himalayas, and all of the saints and world leaders with who Pujya Swamiji has spent the first 60 years of His life, it tells the inspiring, uplifting and transformative stories of Pujya Swamiji's whole life – from meeting His Guru at the tender age of eight, to His youth filled with intense sadhana in the Himalayan forests and jungles, including standing on one leg for 11 hours a day. By God's Grace then goes on to beautifully describe Pujya Swamiji's arrival into Rishikesh and choice of stay there, followed by the history of His life at Parmarth Niketan, first as a young student and then as head of one of India's largest spiritual institutions. You will read about His travels around the world, touching and teaching people of all religions, all cultures and all walks of life.

Pujya Swamiji's very life is His message; the book also includes special "teaching" sections. Each special teaching spread takes one of Pujya Swamiji's most fundamental teachings and shares it, in His own words, through His own voice, on gorgeously illustrated pages.

Published by Mandala Earth Publications of California, USA, this book is perfect for personal reading and for gracing the top of your coffee table, and it is also the perfect gift for any friend or loved one who, whether they know Pujya Swamiji personally or not, is looking for a glimpse into the life of one of history's truest, wisest, deepest, funniest and most down-to-earth spiritual leaders. Laugh, cry, look at yourself and your life in a brand new way.

For more information including ordering information for this beautiful book please visit www.bygodsgracebook.org.



VOLUNTEER WITH US

Join hands in a global interfaith mission of peace



We are always looking for caring, hard-working volunteers to join us here at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh.

As our projects grow, so has our need for professional, inspiring, and productive individuals who wish to dedicate their time, talent, technology and tenacity for our mission to achieve a greener, cleaner, and safer tomorrow for all humanity.

If you would like to get involved and volunteer in any one of our projects, please download our Volunteer Application Packet and send us your application.

[Click here](#) to download the application.



VISIT US ONLINE

Please visit us on the web for videos and music from Parmarth Niketan, as well as information on upcoming programs and volunteer opportunities.



VISIT OUR WEBSITES BY CLICKING:

www.parmarth.com (Parmarth Niketan Rishikesh), www.gangaaction.org (Ganga Action Parivar),
www.i-wash.org (Global Interfaith WASH Alliance), www.projecthope-india.org (Project Hope),
www.divineshaktifoundation.org (Divine Shakti Foundation),
www.ihrf.com (India Heritage Research Foundation)

