

The Light of Vedanta

The monthly newsletter of the Vedanta Society of Western Washington (established 1938).

2716 Broadway East, Seattle, WA 98102 USA

Phone: (206) 323-1228 Fax: (206) 329-1791

E-mail: society@vedanta-seattle.org

Web site: <http://www.vedanta-seattle.org/>

Founder: The late Swami Vividishananda

President: Swami Bhaskarananda

VOL. XLII, NO. V

"As many Faiths...so many Paths." – Sri Ramakrishna

MAY 2017

ABOUT VEDANTA

Vedanta, or the Perennial Religion, popularly called Hinduism, is perhaps the most ancient religion in the world. It believes in one God who has both "personal" and "impersonal" aspects. God-vision can be obtained through various paths called "Yogas." It believes in reincarnation, the law of cause and effect and the divinity of all souls. This religion is distinguished in not having any founder. Its holy scripture, the Vedas, consists of divine truths that were revealed to ancient saints of India who preferred to remain anonymous. The idea of harmony of all faiths is inherent in the teachings of Vedanta. The Vedas teach: "God is One, different sages call the same God by different names."

LECTURES AND CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 11:00 AM, a lecture is given by a swami at the Society's chapel on different aspects of the Vedanta philosophy and religion and related subjects. In addition to the Sunday lecture, a study class is conducted by Swami Bhaskarananda on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM. The subjects currently studied, on alternate Tuesdays, are *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna* and *The Bhagavad Gita*.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Mother's Children is a program for our members' children of ages 3 to 16. It is held every Sunday morning at 11:00 AM. Its aim is to inspire the children through play and moral education to become good and noble individuals while also giving parents the opportunity to attend the lecture.

DEVOTIONAL SINGING

Every Sunday evening at 7:00 PM, we have singing of "Ram-Nam" in Sanskrit and other devotional songs in English, Hindi, and Bengali.

LIBRARY

The Society has a lending library for members. It contains books on Vedanta, religion, philosophy, mysticism, biographies, culture and more.

RETREAT

The Society owns a beautiful 21-acre property called the Tapovan in Snohomish County, 45 miles from Seattle. Every month a day long retreat program consisting of holy readings, devotional songs, and a potluck luncheon is held at the Tapovan. (This program is for members only, please.)

BOOKSHOP

The Society's bookshop has a fine selection of books covering all aspects of Hinduism and Vedanta. There are books on other religious traditions as well. Many religiously oriented gifts and items are also available. The bookshop is open before and after lectures; for other times please call.

GLOBAL VEDANTA

The Society has been publishing the quarterly journal *Global Vedanta* since 1996. The journal aims to present Vedanta in a lively and thought-provoking way, with engaging articles, humorous pieces, Vedanta news from around the world, poems, cartoons and more. Subscription rates are \$12/year in the USA; \$14 US/year in Canada and Mexico, and \$18 US/year in all other countries. Please visit our website or call our offices to subscribe or learn more.

MEMBERSHIP

Anyone wishing to express their appreciation and sustained support for the Vedantic ideals may become a member of the Society, subject to the approval of Swami Bhaskarananda. Annual dues are \$60 and life membership is \$1000. For further information, please inquire of Swami Bhaskarananda or the Secretary.

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

Swami Bhaskarananda is glad to help sincere spiritual seekers with practical instructions in regard to personal prayer and meditation, etc. However, those who receive spiritual instruction from the Swami are expected to be members. Appointments may be made after lectures and classes or by calling the Society.

Address Service Requested
Time Sensitive Material

Vedanta Society of Western Washington
2716 Broadway Avenue East
Seattle WA 98102

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Seattle, WA
Permit #2419

MAY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		Class at 7:30 PM on <i>The Bhagavad Gita</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda					
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
<i>How to Recognize a Saint</i> Swami Bhaskarananda 11:00 AM <i>Children's Program 11AM</i> <i>Ram Nam 7 PM</i>	7	Class at 7:30 PM on <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda	10	11	12	13	
	8	9					
<i>An Overview of Vedanta</i> Swami Manishananda 11:00 AM <i>Children's Program 11AM</i> <i>Ram Nam 7 PM</i>	14	Class at 7:30 PM on <i>The Bhagavad Gita</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda	17	18	19	Monthly Retreat at the Tapovan 11:00 AM (members only)	
	15	16				20	
<i>The Dark Night of the Soul</i> Swami Manishananda 11:00 AM <i>Children's Program 11AM</i> <i>Ram Nam 7 PM</i>	21	Class at 7:30 PM on <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda	24	Swami Brahmamananda goes to Vancouver, BC 	25	Swami Brahmamananda returns from Vancouver, BC 	27
	22	23	24	25	26	27	
<i>How to Get Rid of Superstition</i> Swami Bhaskarananda 11:00 AM <i>Children's Program 11AM</i> <i>Ram Nam 7 PM</i>	28	Class at 7:30 PM on <i>The Bhagavad Gita</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda	31				
	29	30					

CLASS ON THE BHAGAVAD GITA

On Tuesday evening, May 2nd, at 7:30 PM, Swami Bhaskarananda will begin the study of *The Bhagavad Gita*. This will alternate with the class on *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna* on Tuesday evenings.

SWAMI MANISHANANDA VISITS VANCOUVER, BC

At the invitation of the Vivekananda Vedanta Society of British Columbia, Swami Manishananda will go to Vancouver, BC, Canada on Sunday, May 7th. He will give a talk there and will return on the same day.

MONTHLY RETREAT

Our monthly retreat program at the Tapovan will be held on Saturday, May 20th at 11:00 AM. Members only, please.

SWAMI BRAHMATMANANDA VISITS VANCOUVER, BC

At the invitation of the Vivekananda Vedanta Society of British Columbia, Swami Brahmamananda will go to Vancouver, BC, Canada on Thursday, May 25th. He will give a talk on Friday, and return on Saturday, May 27th.



IN MEMORIUM

We are sad to announce the passing away of Sheldon Douglass, a close friend of ours. He was sixty years old. May his soul rest in peace.

Words of Wisdom

As a person sheds worn-out garments and wears new ones, likewise, at the time of death, the soul casts off its worn-out body and enters a new one.

The soul is unbreakable and incombustible; it can neither be dampened nor dried. It is everlasting, in all places, unalterable, immutable, and primordial.

Bhagavad Gita verses 22 & 24