

The Light of Vedanta

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

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Founder: The late Swami Vividishananda

President: Swami Bhaskarananda

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

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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 A.M., a lecture is given 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 P.M. The subjects currently studied, on alternate Tuesdays, are *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna* and *The Upanishads*.

DEVOTIONAL SINGING

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

RETREAT

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

LIBRARY

The Society has a lending library for members. It contains a selection of books on various philosophies and religions, including Vedanta. The library is open before and after all lectures; for other times, please call the Society.

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. A catalog is available upon request, or it can be downloaded from our website.

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 confer with those who are sincerely interested in knowing about Vedanta. He is equally glad to help sincere spiritual seekers with necessary practical instructions in regard to personal prayer and meditation. 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.

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2716 Broadway Avenue East
Seattle WA 98102

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May 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Class 7:30 PM <i>The Upanishads</i>				
		1	2	3	4	5
Was Buddha an Atheist? 11:00 AM Swami Bhaskarananda <hr/> Swami Brahmaatmananda goes to Vancouver, BC Ram Nam at 7 PM		Class 7:30 PM <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i>				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Glory of Motherhood 11:00 AM Swami Bhaskarananda <hr/> Children's Program 11AM Ram Nam at 7 PM		Class 7:30 PM <i>The Upanishads</i>		Swami Bhaskarananda goes to Vancouver, BC 		 11:00 AM  Swami Bhaskarananda returns from Vancouver
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worldly Duties & Spiritual Life 11:00 AM Swami Bhaskarananda <hr/> Ram Nam at 7 PM		Class 7:30 PM <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i>				Philosophical Dialogue Program Green Lake Library 1:15 PM – 4:30 PM
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
After-death Existence—Fact or Fiction? 11:00 AM Swami Bhaskarananda <hr/> Children's Program 11AM Ram Nam at 7 PM		Class 7:30 PM <i>The Upanishads</i>				
27	28	29	30	31		

SWAMI BRAHMATMANANDA'S VISIT TO VANCOUVER, BC.

At the invitation of the Vivekananda Vedanta Society of British Columbia, Swami Brahmaatmananda will visit Vancouver on Sunday, May 6th. He will return the same day after giving a talk on *Compassion* in the morning.

MONTHLY RETREAT

The retreat for this month will be held on Saturday, May 19th. (For members only.)

SWAMI BHASKARANANDA'S VISIT TO VANCOUVER, BC.

At the invitation of the Vivekananda Vedanta Society of British Columbia, Swami Bhaskarananda will go to Vancouver on Thursday, May 17th. While there, he will give a talk on Friday evening. He will return to Seattle on Saturday, May 19th.

THE PHILOSOPHICAL DIALOGUE PROGRAM

The Philosophical Dialogue Program for May will be held on Saturday, May 26th at the Green Lake Branch Library, 7364 E. Green Lake Drive N., Seattle, from 1:15 PM to 4:30 PM. Swami Avikarananda will present the topic *The Path of Love*. The session will open with a one hour introductory presentation of the day's topic, followed by a short coffee and tea break, and then about two hours of guided dialogue where attendees can actively explore the topic in greater depth.

MOTHER'S CHILDREN

Mother's Children, a Sunday morning program for our members' children ages 3 to 12, will be held on May 13th and 27th from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

In Memoriam

With great sadness of heart we must announce that one of our closest devotees, Mr. Dinesh Patel, passed away peacefully on March 14th in a hospital in Bellevue due to heart failure.

May his soul find eternal peace in the blissful abode of Sri Ramakrishna.

Swami Bhaskarananda

