

Shri Vishveshatirtha Swamiji — A run up

The child who was to grow to be Shri. Vishveshatirtha Swamiji was born on 27th April 1931, and ordained into Sannyasa Ashrama on 3rd Dec., 1938. Since then his life has been a saga of devotion, study and service.

- * Sri Pejavara Swamiji was trained in the traditional Sanskrit studies under the able guidance of H.H. Sri Vidyamanyatirtha Swamiji of Bhandarakeri Math from 1943 to 1952. He is a master of Nyaya Shastra (Indian Logic), Dvaita Vedanta, Vedic literature and Dharma Shastra.
- * Sri Swamiji was honoured by H.H. Kanchi Paramacharya and Sringeri Jagadguru, Dravida Rajarajeshwara Shastry, Shadanga Ramachandra Shastry, Mahamahopadhyaya Anantakrishna Shastry for his outstanding scholarship of Indian philosophy.
- * Sri Swamiji is the founder-trustee of Poornaprajna Vidyapeetha Sanskrit Maha Pathashala since its founding in 1956. The main purpose of Sri Swamiji is founding this is to provide every facility for those who are interested in Sanskrit literature and to provide facilities for a systematic comparative study of all schools of thought of Indian philosophy. Currently more than 400 students are studying here. Lodging and boarding facilities are provided free. The Vidyapeetha produced many Peethadhipatis like Sri Vidyeshatirtha Swamiji Sri Bhandarakeri Matha, Sri Suvidyendrathirtha Swamiji, Sri Raghubhooshanathirtha Swamiji, Sri Balagaru Matha, Sri Vidyaprasannathirtha Swamiji, Sri Kukke Subrahmanya Matha. The Sanskrit Maha Pathashala produced eminent scholars like Prof. D. Prahlada Char, Prof. K. Hayavadana Puranik, Prof. P. Keshava Bayari, Prof. P.S. Sheshagiri Acharya, Prof. A. Haridasa Bhat, Prof. Sagri Raghavendra Upadhyaya, Dr. Chaturvedi Vedavyasacharya, Dr. A.V. Nagasampige, Vidwan Sriramavithalacharya, Prof. V.N. Pandurangi, Prof. Shrinivasa Varakhedi, Dr. H. Satyanarayancharya etc., who are well known in the field of Indian philosophy and Indian logic at the National level. Hundreds of scholars of Vidyapeetha are serving in various institutions as Lecturers, Readers, Professors, Research fellows and have given their significant contribution to uphold the Indian culture and heritage.
- * Sri Swamiji is founder-trustee of Poornaprajna Samshodhana Mandiram - a Research Centre established for collection of rare and valuable manuscripts and preserving, publishing so far unpublished works. The Research Centre has brought out 112 valuable publications in different branches of philosophy. It is also recognised as Adarsh Shodha Sansthan by Ministry of H.R.D. and affiliated to the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi.
- * Sri Swamiji is author of 'Geeta Saroddhara', 'Vishnutatvanirnaya Sara', 'Nyaya Sudha Sara' 'Tatvavada Sara' 'Bhagavata Sandesha' 'Ramayana Sandesha' etc. All these works are appreciated by scholars and readers of spiritual field.

- * Disciples of Sri Swamiji have brought out more than 150 works in Sanskrit, Kannada and English.
- * The second aspect of his services to the society is in the social sector. Here, he has constantly tried to resist the attacks on the country's ancient culture and has tried to actively help the people and alleviate the day to day ills that they suffer from. He also participated in schemes for the eradication of untouchability and for alleviating the distress of the forgotten poor. Further, he has contributed to the improvement of the health facilities of the people by founding of hospitals and going to the help of the sick.
- * On another plane he has actively contributed in meeting the distress caused by natural disasters. On this plane, he was one of the first to rush to the help of the people when a cyclonic storm struck the Hamsaladeevi area of Andhra Pradesh. He built 150 houses for the people who had lost their all. Again when an earthquake struck the Latur region of Maharashtra in 1993, he was one of the first to rush to their help. The most recent instance is his help to resettle those struck by the Tsunami in the Cuddalore region in Tamil Nadu. And during periods of drought he has opened free meal centres in many areas. To say in one word, where disaster strikes, Swamiji is in the fore front assuring people that they are not forgotten.

Amongst his latest activities are the building of a temple complex with facilities for study and for accommodation for visiting devotees in Vasantakunja area in Delhi and a similar complex in Kashi.

A few highlights of Sri Swamiji are listed below:

- 1) Name of the parents – Narayanacharya and Kamallamma
- 2) Birth Place – Ramakunja
- 3) Date of Birth – 27-4-1931
- 4) Name – Venkatarama
- 5) Upanayanam- 1938
- 6) Sannyasa-deeksha- 3-12-1938 at Chakrateertha, Hampi, Karnataka
- 7) Ashrama Name Sri Vishveshatirtha Swamiji
- 8) Higher studies- Under the able guidance of H.H. Bhandarakeri Swamiji from 1943 to 1950
- 9) First Paryaya 18.1.1952 to 17.1.1954 (Opportunity of Worship of Lord Sri Krishna for two year)
- 10) Foundation of Akhila Bharata Madhwa Maha Manda- 4.1.1953
- 11) Foundation of Poornaprajna Vidyapeetha at Bangaloe – 28.7.1956
- 12) Important debate on Nyaya-shastra organised by Sri Swamiji at Delhi in 1961
- 13) First publication of Swamiji- Tattvanjali (New light on philosophy of Madhvacharya) in 1962

- 14) Honoured by various Mathadhipatis of Hindu religion like H.H. Kanchi Paramacharya, Sringeri Swamiji, Uttaradi Mutt Swamiji, Raghavendra Mutt Swamiji, Siddaganga Swamiji, Adichunchanagiri Swamiji and Suttur Swamiji of Mysore.
- 15) Honoured by National level scholars like Kochi Maharaj, Datto Vaman Potdar, Raj Rajeshwar Shastri Dravid, Ramachandra Shastri Kashi Mahamahopadhyaya Anantakrishna Shastri and Mahamahopadhyaya Uttamuru Veera Raghavacharya
- 16) Second Paryaya - 18.1.1968 to 17.1.1970
- 17) Inauguration of Krishna Hospital at Udupi – 18.8.1968
- 18) Guidance of Vishwa Hindu Parishad programme- 1968
- 19) Eradication of untouchability programme at Malleshwar Swimming Pool Extn. Harijan Colony, Bangalore – 1970
- 20) Sarvamoola texts (Complete literature of Sri Madhvacharya) publication through Akhila Bharata Madhwa Maha Mandal (ABMM)- 1970 to 1980 under the able editorship of Sri Bannanje Govindacharya.
- 21) Silver Jubilee Function of ABMM – 11.2.1978 to 16.2.1978
- 22) Construction of 150 houses in the cyclone affected areas in Hamsaladeevi in Andhra Pradesh – 1978
- 23) Inauguration of Anant Mutt at Badarinath – 4.10.1978
- 24) Sanjeevini Vidya Samsthe – Residential High school, College at Chikkamagalur, Karnataka - 1980
- 25) Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Poornaprajna Vidyapeetha – 9.5.1981
- 26) H.H. Swamiji's 50th Birthday Celebration – 16th & 17th May 1981
- 27) Foundation of Anandatirtha Pratishthana – 1982
- 28) Establishment of Old peoples' Home in Karjagi – 26.1.1982
- 29) Inauguration of Adhokshaja Guest House in Udupi – 23.6.1983
- 30) Inauguration of Udupi Mutt at Tirupati – 26.6.1983
- 31) Construction of Krishna-Madhva-Vadiraja and Raghavendra temple in the premises of Poornaprajna Vidyapeetha – 4.7.1983
- 32) Third Paryaya – 18.1.1984 to 17.1.1986
- 33) Festival of Krishna Pratishtha Sapta Shatamanotsava – 13.1.1985 to 16.1.1985
- 34) Appointment of successor to the Balagaru Mutt – 16.3.1985
- 35) Peace March in Punjab- 1985
- 36) Inauguration of Krishna Dhama Chowltry – 7.12.1985
- 37) Go-shala at Koppa, Bagalkot Dist. – 1986
- 38) Sannyasa Deeksha to successor – Sri Vishvaprasannatirtha Swamiji – 21.2.1988
- 39) Golden Jubilee Celebration of Peetharohana at Bangalore – 18.12.1988
- 40) 750th Madhwa Jayanti festival at Bangalore – 1989
- 41) Installation of Sri Madhva idol at Badari 10.10.1989

- 42) Madhwa Jayanti festival in presence of Sri Venkatraman, Former President of India, at Delhi – 3.10.1989
- 43) Inauguration of Vasudeva Gurukula – 12.7.1990
- 44) 60th Birthday Celebrations of H.H. Swamiji at Tirupati – 9.3.1991 to 10.3.1991
- 45) Foundation of Poornaprajna Samshodhana Mandira (Research Centre) at Bangalore – 14.9.1994
- 46) Construction of 50 houses for persons affected by earthquake at Govindapur, Bijapur Dist. – 21.7.1995
- 47) Vidyamanya Puraskar (Rs. 1 lakh) to eminent scholars from 1994 (Every year)
- 48) Construction Madhvashrama Chowltry at Haridwar – 14.10.1996
- 49) Appointment of Successor to the Subrahmanya Mutt – 2.2.1997
- 50) Vishveshatirtha award to the eminent scholars – 4-2-1998 till date
- 51) Peetharohana Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Sri Swamiji at Hampi 28.11.1998 to 29.11.1998
- 52) Assistance to Tsunami Victims in Nagapattinam Area in Tamil Nadu – 2005
- 53) Building of 150 houses in Gulbarga Dist. for persons affected by Flood in Northern Districts of Karnataka – 2009
- 54) Provision of Water, Electricity, Education etc., in Naxal affected areas in 70 villages in Udupi, Mangalore, Shimoga districts in Karnataka. – from 2008 to till date (Swamiji spent Rs. 25 Laksh every year for this project)
- 55) Free hostel for backward class and Dalita students at Udupi, Mysore and Bangalore- 2010
- 56) Sri Ramakujneshwara Degree College and BBM College at Swamiji's birth place Ramakunja - 2010
- 57) Residential College at Hubli, Karnataka – 2013

And this is only a brief list of Swamijee's activities.

Traditional Education Institutions :

1. Poornaprajna Vidyapeetha Pratishthana (Regd.) :
Poornaprajna Vidyapeetha Sanskrit College
2. Anandateertha Vidyapeetha, Chennai, Tamilnadu
3. Vijayadhwa Vidyapeetha, Gangavati, Dist Koppal
4. Vasudeva Gurukula, Pajaka, Dist Udupi, Karnataka
5. Prahlada Gurukula, Udupi, Karnataka
6. Vedavyasa Gurukula, Hyderabad, Andhrapradesh
7. Poornaprajna Samshodhana Mandiram : Estd. 1994
Research Institute, recognised by H.R.D., Govt. of India.

Modern Education Institutions :

1. Vijayabharati Vidyalaya, Girinagar, Bangalore
2. Vijayavittala Vidyashala, Kuvempunagar, Mysore
3. Sri Ramakunjeshwara High School, Ramakunja
4. Sri Ramakunjeshwara Pre-Graduate College, Ramakunja
5. Sanjeevini School, Chikkamagalooru
6. Poornaprajna Vidyaniketana, Jayanagar, Bangalore
7. Vidyodaya School, Udupi
8. Janata Shikshana Samiti, Dharwad
9. Sri Krishna Bala Niketana, Udupi -
10. Aruna Chetana, Bangalore- A place for disabled children
11. A place for disabled children, Udupi
12. Shikshana Prasarak Samiti, Siddapur (U.K.)

Medical Institutions :

1. Ashwini Hospital, Kodagu
2. Sri Krishna Sevashrama Hospital, Bangalore
3. Dhanvantri Ayurveda College, Research Institution & Hospital, Siddapura
4. Sri Krishna Chikitsalaya, Udupi - A free hospital
5. Sri Krishna Medicare Foundation, Bangalore
Financial assistance for the Heart, Kidney etc. patients

Go-Shalas :

1. Neelavara, Udupi
2. Kodavooru, Udupi

Projects & Activities

- 1) Free hostel for backward class and Dalita students at Udupi, Mysore and Bangalore- 2010
- 2) Provision of Water, Electricity, Education etc., in Naxal affected areas in 70 villages in Udupi, Mangalore, Shimoga districts in Karnataka.

Ashramas :

1. Ananta Matha, Badrinath, Uttarakhand
2. Sri Krishna-Madhwashrama, Haridwar, Uttarakhand
3. Sri Krishna Dhama, New Delhi
4. Sri Krishna-Madhwashrama, Varanasi U.P.
5. Udupi Matha, Tirumala, A.P.
6. Sri Krishna Raghavendrashrama, Bhubaneshwar, Orissa
7. Sri Madhwa Bhavan, Santacruz (E) Mumbai
8. Udupi Chhatram, Rameshwaram, T.N.
9. Sri Rama-Madhwashrama, Ayodhya, U.P.
10. Sri Krishna Baladevanandaji Ashrama, Brindavan, U.P.
11. Sri Krishna-Madhwashrama, Nasik, Maharashtra