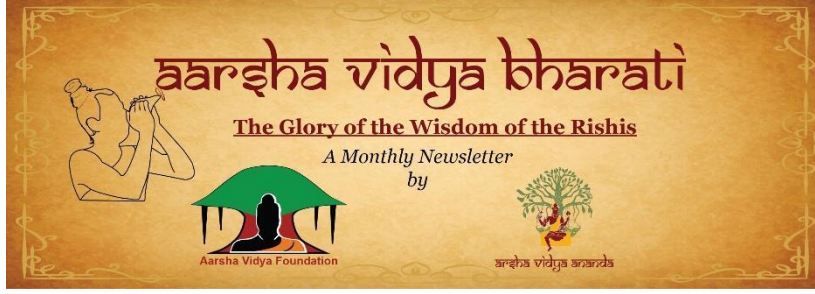

Aarsha Vidya Bharati – Sep 2023

Bhadrapada - Ashvina 2080

A monthly newsletter that will bring you more happiness, more wisdom and more freedom



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Vedanta Camp in London by Swami Brahmavidananda Śrī Dakṣiṇāmūrti Stotram

By Nirmala Iyer, London

About 20 of us were fortunate to attend a 2-day Vedanta camp in London on 29-30th July, at Sunita & Karthik's home. They welcomed us all with open hearts and arranged meals for the entire day. We thank Nisha and Ajit Pillai for organizing this short camp.

Swami Brahmavidananda Ji unfolded Śrī Dakṣiṇāmūrti Stotram by Śrī Śankarācārya. The camp was streamed on Youtube for the benefit of Swamiji's global students.

Some Take-Aways

- The Lord presented in the form of Dakṣiṇāmūrti is the one who has eight aspects (*aṣṭa-mūrti-bhrt*) - the world is presented in the form of the *Pañcamahābhūtaḥ*, sun, moon and the *jīva* (one who is looking at the world). When you understand *Īśvara* as the totality, you will see everything in harmony.
- The *chin mudra* (a circular hand gesture) in Lord Dakṣiṇāmūrti's right hand depicts the entire essence of the teaching: '*tat tvam asi*'. The circle having no beginning or end denotes you are the whole, everything. This shows the significance and uniqueness of *mauna vyākhyā* of Dakṣiṇāmūrti.
- Swamiji had unfolded 'प्रत्यभिज्ञानम्' *pratyabhijñānan* in the *Advaita Makaranda* February Vedanta Camp in Rishikesh. After hearing recently in



this camp, I got more clarity that 'प्रत्यभिज्ञायते', *pratyabhijñāyate* the 'simple conscious being' continuing in all the 3 states of experiences is the same.

- In order to invoke Lord *Dakṣiṇāmūrti*'s grace for our continued Vedanta learning, Swamiji suggested a mantra.



Some more takeaways from other participants

We all had a wonderful time listening and also interacting with Swamiji to clear our doubts on the subject. Apart from enlightening us on the stotram, Swamiji took efforts to answer us on various other aspects. Our pranams to Swamiji & all participants who made this program memorable. - V Narayan Iyer, visiting from India

Silence is not emptiness; it is *pūrṇam* as Consciousness is omnipresent. It fills every gap & every space so there is no emptiness. - Latha Dorai, London

Thanks to everyone for coming & making it a wonderful experience. It's been an absolute pleasure and blessing to be able to host and hear Swamiji in-person. Personally for my husband and me, it was my first experience attending a 2-days immersive talk with such a divine experience & a lot of positive vibes. God willing we are able to do it every year!. - Sunita Krishnan, London

Thank you for organizing such a wonderful camp. I had a great time meeting everyone and feel blessed that I was welcomed as a stranger into Sunita's home, provided such good food and left feeling I had made some new friends. A yearly camp would be great! -Rishi, London

This was my first experience in an immersive camp-like setting. I could appreciate why Swamiji advises us to attend camps - there's something about the setting and atmosphere that makes the teaching seem very vibrant and alive. - Karthik Narayanan, London

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