

THE PATHWAY OPENED

Om Tat Sat, Swamiji,

Recently I read that the new Catholic Pope is coincidentally my age, and from the same area I'm from. It's significant because I went to a boys' school across the street from a Seminary, where men learned to become priests.

My Father took me to that Seminary a few times, when I was very young. He went there to visit his cousin, who was studying there. The place was magnificent, with its natural beauty. It's like the Ashram, only much bigger.

At that time my family lived far away, and the High School hadn't been built. I never thought I would go to the Seminary or school. I wasn't really interested in religion, only curious. Later my family moved closer to there.

Then when I was going to the school but not understanding Catholicism, I started studying Hinduism and Buddhism, independently, which were easier for me. However, the topics were vast, and I never thought I would convert or progress much.

Not long after, It was miraculous for me to find you and the Ashram, which was also next to a Catholic school and church, coincidentally.

In retrospect, I believe it was the Hindu mantras that opened an aspect in my mind which then became like a pathway. Then it was like going down a dark tunnel where I saw a light at the end. And you and your inspirational teaching and example are that light. Thank you immensely,

Yogesh



ARLAND OF

on the celebration of Gurudev's 95th birthday

OUR GURU, OUR GUIDING LIGHT

Our revered Guru is an immense source of energy and inspiration for devotees across the world. Pujya Swamiji is beyond the limitations of worldly life. He constantly cares for the struggles and challenges of his devotees, offering compassionate and ever-ready support through his precise guidance and insightful teachings.

I remain deeply grateful to him for the help and strength he has bestowed upon me during the struggles of my life. Swamiji is a living presence of divine energy. It is through his grace and guidance that I have been able to serve as an instrument in his hands in managing the activities of Swami Jyotirmayanand Ashram, Loni (Ghaziabad). By his divine presence, all activities of the Ashram continue to function smoothly and harmoniously—something I experience as nothing short of a miracle.

Swamiji's teaching that "Service of humanity is the true worship of God" has been a constant source of inspiration. He has endowed us with the capacity, clarity, and inner strength required to engage in this noble service with sincerity and devotion.

On the auspicious occasion of his glorious 95th Birthday, we offer our gratitude and *pranam* at his holy feet, and pray for his long and healthy life, so that humanity may continue to benefit from his divine presence for many years to come. Though he lives among us in practical life, his being remains ever established in divinity.

On behalf of all the devotees of our Ashram, I humbly pray that we may remain forever devoted to his holy feet and continue to walk the path he has illuminated for us.

With humble *pranam* and gratitude,

Swami Pratibhananda Saraswati

Swami Jyotirmayanand Ashram

Loni, Ghaziabad, India

APPRECIATIONS

O BELOVED SWAMIJI, GLORY TO YOU!

O Divine, Gracious Swamiji,

There is nothing as beautiful, as adorable as Your Lotus Face on this planet. This entire universe has become Your Lotus Eyes, as if You are watching us all the time. We are mesmerized by, and stuck on Your Beautiful Face. May we never see anything other than You!

You are the Moon, and we are chakora birds, ever-delighting at Your beauteous sight. There is no peace in us without beholding Your Divine Darshan. Any moment that passes in which we miss thinking of You is a moment wasted from this embodiment. May we never think of anything other than You!

You are a great banyan tree, and we are lost and tired travelers, getting nourished under Your Divine Refuge. You are the only destination. We have no where to go other than Your Lotus Feet!

You are the Maan Sarovar lake, and we are fish soaking in Your Divine Love in that lake. May we feel nothing else in our hearts except Bhakti for You!

You are the Himalayan mountains, and we are flowing like a stream, forever singing of Your Divine Glory! May we speak of nothing other than Your Divine Name!

Swamiji, You are a precious pearl. May we be the thread weaving the pearls of Your Wisdom to become a beautiful *mala* of Divine Virtues.

You are the Lord, and we are Your servants. May we never hear anything other than Your Divine Voice!

Your Divine Grace abounds in every atom of our life. We are nothing without You.

Swamiji, every form of happiness is at Your Lotus Feet. There is no reason for fear, because You are Our Protector. Nothing can terrify us as long as Your Divine Name is on our lips. Even the angst of challenges and the fire of the three *tapas* feel like cool sandalwood paste, because of Your Divine Love, Swamiji.

Swamiji, by holding Your Divine Feet, we enter into the New Year! May 2026 only abound with Your Divine Grace, Love, and Wisdom for us!

the dust at Your Lotus Feet,
Maleeni, Atul, Shreya & Siddhartha

DIVINE LEGACY

Adorations Gurudev on this special celebration and everyday. What a magnificent legacy You have created; there are countless souls advancing towards liberation due to your mission. We are all beyond blessed to bow down to Your lotus feet, see You, hear Your wisdom and receive Your mantra initiation and personal guidance.

In times of mental agitation, remembering your words “blessed Self am I” allows the mind to detach from the world and attach to the Truth. It has spared our souls of suffering. “Never degrade yourself”, the power of those words echo in the canyons of the mind. Sharing those words with others has spared many from useless dulling thoughts and agony.

Your ceaseless inspirations propel us all progressively forward to higher levels. The soothing guidance to have patience, perseverance and this too shall pass allows us to experience shining brighter at the passing of the dark clouds. This renews our spiritual strength to walk the razor’s edge.

We will all pay our debt to You by advancing spiritually and sharing Your wisdom. Please accept our profound gratitude and wishes for an auspicious new year of life and glorious accomplishments.

Om Tat Sat
Bhavani

DIVINE GUIDANCE

Om Tat Sat!

O Divine Guru, Glorious Sri Swami Jyotirmayananda! Graciously accept our heartfelt congratulations on Your truly momentous Birthday! Incarnated in this long-suffering world, You, as a true Bodhisattva, have set a living example of great spiritual sacrifice in the service of humanity! Your multifaceted and brilliantly presented Teaching of the highest Truth is a divine gift to those souls who are striving for the Light and seeking to comprehend the true meaning of life.

We express our deep gratitude to You for Your invaluable contribution to our lives: to the Parashakti Yoga School, which You have kindly blessed, and to all of us, its students, who are fortunate enough to read and listen to Your Teachings and bathe in the rays of Your Wisdom and divine Guidance.

We wish You, beloved Sri Swamiji, good health and many more years of life!

We wish Your wonderful disciples and devotees health, enlightenment and happiness for many years to come!

May Your Divine Teachings reach more and more people in the world with each passing year... oh no! – with each passing day!

Tathastu!

With deep Pranams of Gratitude and Love,

Yours

Vladimir and students of the Parashakti Yoga School, Krasnodar, Russia



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ADORATIONS UNTO YOUR HOLY FEET

Shri Param Pujya Gurudev

Om Tat Sat!

On this auspicious occasion of your 95th birthday, we offer our *sashtang pranams* and sincere adorations unto your Holy Feet. We pray to Shri Rama for your continued good health guiding all of us on the spiritual path for years to come.

Since last few years, before Covid, we regularly attended the Mother Worship and Vijaya Dashami celebrations at the ashram. Though, we routinely chant Durga Shaptashati at home, we never understood the meaning, until we listened to your lectures explaining the worship of God as Mother, Her Devine Glory, mystical stories and the spiritual meaning in a very simplified way.

Shri Gurudev, your daily six oclock's message on X and also on Devine Light Updates, followed by a small inspirational video, fills the day with spiritual treasure. Whenever we are in the ashram, we really enjoy watching the religious videos, lately the Ramayana series, in your presence. Your mystical explanation on Ramayana, your laughter and radiant joy always stay in our memory.

Your online videos on Gita, Yoga Vasistha, Ramayana and Guided Meditation are very inspiring and make us feel connected with our beloved Guru when we are not there physically.

Shri Gurudev, your spiritual teachings and divine blessings have helped us in various high and low phases of our lives. We thank you deeply for your enormous love and immense grace.

With deepest gratitude and *koti koti pranams*

Chandrakant and Bharti Patel

Monmouth Junction, New Jersey



APPRECIATIONS



A GIFT

IMPORTANCE OF MIND CONTROL IN SPIRITUAL SĀDHANA

I have been listening to Swamiji for many years, and I have realized that as long as our subtle *vāsanās* are not destroyed, the spiritual journey has many ups and downs. At times, I feel peaceful and think that my mind is calm and ready for *nididhyāsana*, but sometimes just one thought arising from the *chitta* disturbs that peace. (*mana eva manuṣyāṇām kāraṇam bandha-mokṣayoḥ*)—the mind alone is the cause of bondage and liberation.

Although, at a theoretical level, we know that we are *Sat-Chit-Ānanda*, it becomes very difficult to experience that *Ānanda* during moments of agitation. Our mental state is shaped by our *saṅkalpas*.

In his Yoga Vāsiṣṭha lectures, Swamiji explains *saṅkalpa* in greater depth. He says that *saṅkalpa* is not merely mental will; it is a combination of thought, willpower, and imagination.

Understanding this, he emphasizes, is the key to mastering the mind. Thought, will, and imagination do not operate merely at the conscious level, but are rooted in the subconscious—our subtle desires or *vāsanās*. Hence, forming the right *saṅkalpa* becomes difficult.

Through Jñāna Yoga, we purify our thoughts; through Dhyāna Yoga, we purify our willpower; and through Bhakti Yoga, we purify our imagination. Karma Yoga

is implied and must be practiced simultaneously—it removes impurities and allows Bhakti to flow naturally. Bhakti leads to Dhyāna, which finally culminates in Jñāna.

Our *saṅkalpas* should be uplifted toward inner fulfillment and peace, rather than being driven by *putreṣaṇā*, *vitteṣaṇā*, and *lokeṣaṇā*. Swamiji teaches that when we begin doing good actions selflessly, happiness slowly starts arising from within.

When we transform our actions into Karma Yoga, our feelings into Bhakti Yoga, and our meditative focus into Dhyāna Yoga, the desire to know the Self develops naturally. This is then understood through Jñāna Yoga, and our *saṅkalpas* gradually become more positive. The highest *saṅkalpa* should be the aspiration for enlightenment. When the mind is brought under control, the senses lose their power to create new subtle *vāsanās*.

Thus, continuing *satsaṅga* and practicing Integral Yoga day by day help cultivate positive *saṅkalpas*. *Jīvanmukti* is possible through constant *satsaṅga*. Continuous *śravaṇa*, *manana*, and *nididhyāsana* help us slowly progress toward *jīvanmukti*.

I am ever grateful to Swamiji for guiding us and helping us continually confront the negative forces within us and move toward positive *saṅkalpas*.

Thank you, Swamiji, for helping us on this journey.

Jyotsna

Beloved Self, dearest Swamiji, Last year on your birthday you shared your Blessed Experience, that vision – I Am All. You said, “I am celebrating your birthday because I am in each one of you – I don’t see any difference.”

Thus, my gift for you is a wish for all – to be led from darkness to Jyotirmaya, to discover the Source of Joy within. My gift for you is my wish for me – as *jīva* to grow in your image, as your ray to illumine your vision, and as your very Self to merge with you eternally.

Adorations to your lotus feet, Gurudev, forever and for eternity,

your Sharanananda

THE LIGHT THAT BRINGS JOY

He is Jyoti, the light that brings Joy, Light-heartedness, enlightened presence, calmness, and *Ananda*: delight and bliss. He helps us to see beyond the *Maya*, the real meaning of what we experience, and the ways of transcending challenges and enjoying the *leela* of life ever seeking the Godward movement. That such a One is present in our midst is a wonder, a blessing. Gurudev,

Thank you for blessing us with your tireless presence. We are blessed by your words, actions and light.

Meenakshi Suri

**TRIBUTE OF GRATITUDE
AND BEST WISHES TO
OUR REVERED GURU SRI
SWAMI JYOTIRMAYANANDA
ON HIS 95TH BIRTHDAY!**

H.H. Sri Swami Jyotirmayananda, *Hari Om Tat Sat*,

On this auspicious day, it is with a heart full of emotions that I take the opportunity to honor your Presence among us and with profound gratitude to thank you for holding our hands through our earthly passage.

On this occasion, I will quote the Roman philosopher Sénèque who says: "Life is not about waiting for the thunders to pass; it is about learning how to dance under the rain."

Indeed, Swamiji through your numerous lectures and many publications, especially *The Four Gatekeepers at the Palace of Liberation* and *Integral Yoga*, you have equipped us with all the necessary tools to learn how to dance under the rain and more importantly how to navigate with faith and divine surrendering through adversity and prosperity.

Swamiji, having previously shared with you my reflections, your encouragement and your teachings have been the guiding light illuminating my path while writing *A Journey of Reflections*, which is a compilation of reflections that I hope to share with all, once the book is ready to take its first step into the world. (Surrendering to delays...for now.)

Today it is with a joyful heart that I bow at your feet to wish you many healthy years.

Your humbled devotee,
Maheshwari Devi



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GIFT TO THE WORLD

Dear Swamiji,

Thank you for the unconditional love. Your presence helps me to remember who I am. You are a gift to this world.

OM tat sat,

Rebekah Bhavani

YOUR SACRED EXISTENCE

Aum Jai Gurudev.

Thank you, Gurudev, for your sacred existence. Thank you for your presence and teachings, which have been a constant pillar and anchor on my journey of Self-realization, a steadfast light that grounds, guides, and illumines my path. Thank you for your timeless wisdom and your grace-filled, humorous delivery. From darkness to light, from ignorance to knowledge, and from mortality to eternity, thank you for illuminating and leading the way for us all. Happy-Divine Birthday!

With deep love and adoration,
Sri Lakshmi Devi
Lauren

A NEW WAY OF BEING

To my beloved Guru,

You lead us from the unreal to the Real, from darkness into Light, from a world of closed fragmentation into an unbounded wholeness of divine love, vast as the infinite blue sky. You taught me to trust the divine unfolding of my life as a way of knowing God.

Your words, like branches, lift me into a new way of being, where each challenge becomes a movement toward greater freedom. As trust in the divine unfolding deepens, a knowing arises: it is love that springs from the heartbeat of every moment.

Pawan Ananda

PURE GRACE

Being in the presence of Swami ji has been pure grace each and every day. I arrived at the ashram at a pivotal moment in my life, and through each *satsanga*, his guidance has brought me closer to God. This place will always be close to my heart.

Happy Birthday, Swami Ji
Kelly Love

APPRECIATIONS

MOTHER OF ALL

Dear Swami Jyotirmayananda, my, our Beloved Guru.

Prostrations and Salutations unto Thee.

What a Divine blessing you are. Your Divine Presence so close to me. When I found out that you, “The last living disciple of Swami Sivananda,” was literally living here in Miami so close to me, I couldn’t believe it. I felt so blessed, as I was so blessed to have started my yoga journey in the Sivananda Ashram in Munich, Germany, in 1989 and initiated in the Sivananda lineage in 2006.

Every time when I came to be close to you here on the Divine grounds of your Ashram and feel your Divine Self and listen to your so beautiful, calm, compassionate voice, you gave me words of encouragement, protection, insight, which were so spot on and I needed to hear in that moment. You gave me Peace. Thank you so much for being in my life and for your encouragement for me on my yoga journey into my Divine Self.

On one of the first visits to you around 10 years ago you asked me what I am, do, and I shyly replied (feeling so humbled to be in front of you, such a Master of Yoga) “I am a yoga teacher” and you looked at me and said “That is wonderful. Keep going. You do great work.” I will always remember this encouragement.

At your feet in your living room on an early Saturday morning, you gave me your book, *Mys-*

tic Pathways through the Bible and wrote “May God bless You.” This is a message and divine moment I will always treasure in my Soul, Heart.

Lastly, as we have in common the passion of spiritual poetry, I would like to dedicate this poem from my poetry book to you.

As I feel you as “Mother of All”

May God grant us many more birthdays from You.

AUM (OM)

Is what we are

When we listen patiently

We will hear her music

It is the sound of Creation

She gives birth to every child

Mother of All

Chant AUMMM, AUMMM,
AUMMM

Let her bring us back Home
Rise above the play of polarities
Living the Harmonic Balance
Loving Harmonic Relationship
From Illusion into Liberation
United in Oneness

Peacefully In Bliss

Love

Jennieke Janaki

SHOWING THE WAY

The steadiness of your light illuminates the path. Step by step you show the way.

Hari Om.

With gratitude,

Hari Kalsa

THE ESSENCE OF ISHWARA

Om Namah Shivaya, Hari OM

I celebrate this auspicious 95th Birthday Bliss with immense and absolute gratitude and surrender to the Divine Lotus Feet of Param Poojya Gurudev.

Your presence is the essence of *Ishwara* for me, reflecting the light, might and sight of the truth of Self sublimating all the “fights” of the *jiva* as the journey continues.

You are simply magical, mystical and enchanting Swamiji! The daily Twitch sessions, the weekly discourses and the monthly International Yoga Guide are priceless gifts that so nurture and nourish this being.

The Ashram with all your “Hanumans” is truly an abode of sublime and divine melody—a Palace of Liberation.

I feel all the “S” gates (*shama, satsang, santosh and sadvichar*) are wide, open beckoning and guiding us all.

My takeaway for year 2025—your Divine inspiration—is the letter “S”—yes, yes, yes to life !!

Struggles—let go! Dive deep in *Sadhana*, a life filled with **Simplicity, Sincerity, Serenity, Steadfastness, Surrender, Silence, Seva** (selfless service) & *Shravanam* (study of scriptures under Swamiji’s guidance).

Prayers for your continued Divine showers of grace and blessings for us all, Swamiji, as we all join hands to pray to *Ishwara* to bless our Beloved Gurudev with radiant health for many, many years !!

Happy Birthday, Swamiji.

Forever and always, Infinite Love and Eternal Gratitude

Vidya