

Pujya Swamiji's visit to Param Praman Darshanalaya, Pardi, Dist. Valsad , Gujrat.

Param Praman Darshanalaya, an institution for the learning of Vedanta, picturesquely situated on the banks of the River Paar in Pardi, Dist. Valsad turned into a vibrant paradise of spring blossom with the stay of Param Pujya Gurudev Swami Dayananda in the Darshanalaya from the 3rd of March 2009 to the 6th of March 2009.

Pujya Gurudev was given a traditional welcome by the acharyas of the Darshanalaya, Sri Swamini Tanmayananda, Sri Swami Nijananda and Sri Swamini Shraddhananda. There were also present on the occasion over 350 sadhaks including the sixty students of the first Prasthanaya trayi course held at the Darshanalaya. The present visit of Pujya Gurudev became special for everyone in the Darshanalaya because it marked the completion of the Prasthanaya trayi course which is the first of its kind for the state of Gujarat.

A beautiful and spacious kitchen and dining complex with all modern amenities was also put into use on this occasion. A newly constructed 20-roomed sprawling block was sanctified by Pujya Gurudev's stay there. Adding to the spirit of the festive mood was the presence of some of the disciple Swamis, Swaminis and brahmacharis of the various institutions of Vedanta from different parts of Gujarat. Sri Swami Sakshatkrutananda, Sri Swami Paramatmananda, Sri Swamini Swaprakashananda, Sri Swamini Karunananda, Sri Swamini Sadvidyananda, Sri Swami Nityasuddhananda, Sri Swamini Vibhavananda, Sri Swamini Tatparananda, Br. Muktatma Chaitanya and Br. Pradeep Chaitanya were amongst those who graced the occasion.

During the three-day visit Pujya Gurudev conducted sessions of guided meditation and

several classes on the topic of 'Omkaara'. Pujya Gurudev, in his own inimitable style, simple, lucid, full of apt analogies and flavoured with the humour unfolded some of the subtlest teachings of the Upanishadic mantras and made the listeners see the profound truth contained in them. The 'prasthanaya trayi' students also benefitted by the precious guidance given to them regarding life after the completion of such a study in an ashram. In the evenings Pujya Gurudev gave sessions of 'song drill' in which His Holiness taught the resident sadhaks how to sing some of the slokas and bhajans.

On the 5th of March, a talk was arranged for the people coming from places outside the Darshanalaya such as Vapi, Valsad, Pardi town, Surat, Sylvassa, Daman and Mumbai. In the talk Pujya Gurudev highlighted the word 'anugraha', and thereby bestowed blessings upon everyone connected to the Darshanalaya in one way or the other. The three-day program passed away as if it were a three-hour movie, every minute of which was thoroughly enjoyable, refreshing and enlightening.

Pujya Gurudev commended the efforts of everyone, including the acharyas, the brahmacharis, the trustees, the donors and the devotees in making what he graciously called as 'an ideal place for the learning of the scriptures'.

The program concluded with the expression of a prayerful gratitude and reverence to Pujya Gurudev by Sri Swamini Tanmayanandji. Swamini expressed that everyone at the Darshanalaya was looking forward to many more interactions with Pujya Gurudev in future.

- Brahmachari Atmakam Chaitanya