

Pujya Swamiji's address to all Rishikesh camp students by Skype

Now I am in Rishikesh at Dayananda Ashram for Camp 4, which covers Chapter 2 of Patanjali's Yoga Sutras.

Before starting the first class, Sri Swami Paramatmanandaji was connected by Skype with Pujya Swamiji who is still staying at a guest house in Coimbatore city.

Projected on a large screen, Pujya Swamiji addressed all participants and introduced Swami Paramatmanandaji and the main topic of the camp. He had also done so for each of the previous three camps even when he was in the intensive care unit in the hospital. Such is the commitment Pujya Swamiji has to teaching. The complete transcript of Pujya Swamiji's introduction via Skype follows:

Sri Swami Paramatmanandaji: This last camp is on Patanjali Yoga Sutras, Second Chapter, Sadhana Pada.

Pujya Swamiji Dayanandaji: Oh! That's very good.

Swami Paramatmanandaji: We seek your blessings. All the campers and myself are waiting.

Swami Dayanandaji: All the camps were successfully completed; now this one also will be very successful. The Sadhana pada is a very interesting and important pada of the Yoga Sutras. I had talked about this in Saylorsburg to my yoga students, and Swamiji (Paramatmanandaji) will follow all those talks. You will be highly benefitted by closely listening to these classes.

I am getting better, and I hope I will be able to walk and talk in time. Now I am struggling. So I wish you all well. Enjoy Swamiji's talks and satsangs.

Thereafter, I listened for the first time to a Vedanta class by Sri Swami Paramatmanandaji. Before this I knew him mostly in the context of his work as Pujya Swamiji's main person coordinating the Hindu Dharma Acharya Sabha.

I thought it would not be an easy task for anyone to take four of Pujya Swamiji's Rishikesh camps especially within such a short notice.

Sri Swami Paramatmanandaji took off with a smooth natural approach that soon reached the most subtle realities by his graceful dexterity with words, by humour, by surprising examples, by an effective modulation of voice and volume, which kept the attention of the students in the full hall. His teaching was always fresh and at the same time it was Swami Dayananda's parampara all the way.

I was expecting something good, but was so surprised to find something great that my eyes were full of tears during the talk. I am grateful to Isvara for keeping Pujya Swamiji with us and for providing such an excellent teacher for his Rishikesh camps. I also appreciate that Pujya Swamiji's work to protect the Hindu Dharma and other global initiatives that preserve and strengthen the Vedic culture and spiritual heritage of India are in capable hands.

Swamini Vilasananda