

Swami Veditatmanadaji's Śatābhiṣeka celebration

January 26 through February 2, 2020



According to Bodhāyana smṛti, when an individual completes 80 years, 8 months and 8 days of life, he happens to see 1000 full moons and is therefore eligible for śatābhiṣeka ceremony. Swami Veditatmanandaji, the most enlightened, illustrious, venerated and senior disciple of Pujya Swami Dayānandaji completed 80 years, 8 months and 8 days on January 29, 2020. Very naturally, Adhyatma Vidya Mandir, Ahmedabad (The institute for teaching the knowledge of Vedanta founded by Swami Veditatmanandaji) decided to celebrate śatābhiṣeka of their 'Guru' on a grand scale. It was an opportunity to express their devotion, respect and gratitude towards their teacher who has been ceaselessly disseminating knowledge to them for the past 41 years. Swami Veditatmanandaji is a wise man, a mahātmā who has fulfilled the purpose of this rare human birth. Not only has Swamiji fulfilled the purpose of human life for himself but has led many people on that path. Obviously it becomes a cause for celebration. Adhyatma Vidya Mandir in fact, declared the whole year beginning from January 2019 to February 2020 as śatābhiṣeka year. A host of enlightening programs were organised throughout the year, such as talks on śrīmadbhāgavatam, Vālmīki Rāmāyaṇa, Prasthānatrayī Pārāyaṇa etc. The culmination came in the form of a week long program beginning from January 26 to February 2, 2020.

To enumerate :

January 26, 2020 : 7 to 8:30 p.m. -

A program of bhajans and patriotic songs.

January 27, 2020 : 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. -

Learned priests from Karṇātaka began the ceremony with KalaśSthāpanam and SahasraModakaAtharvaśīrṣaHoma.

January 27, 2020 : 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.-

A hindi play, 'Navadhā Bhakti'.

It was a wonderful play dramatizing 9 different ways of invoking devotion for Lord. The play was written by Swamini Parprajnananda and directed by Dr. Vikram Panchal.

January 28, 2020 : 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. -

RudraEkādashiHoma with Mahānyāsa, RudratrīśatiArcanā and Abhiṣeka on lord śiva.

January 28, 2020 : 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. -

Bhajan Sandhyā: 'Vande Gurum Sadaram'

It was a program of bhajans with central theme of Guru, the teacher. All the bhajanas were penned by Swamini Vidyaprakashanandaji.

Souvenir: on the same day a souvenir sketching the life and contribution of Swami Veditatmanandaji was released.

Publication of C.D. and Pendrive:

On the same day a C.D. and Pendrive containing the bhajans and stotrās on Guru were published.

January 29, 2020 : 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. -

śatābhiṣeka ceremony was carried out on Swamiji by Acāryā Mahāmaṇḍaleśvara śhri Bhārati Bāpu and other senior sannyāsīs. It was the most pious and remarkable moment. Everybody present prayed for Swamiji's long and healthy life and sought his blessings.

January 29, 2020 : 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. -

A hindi play: 'Jagadguru ādi śankarācārya'.

This play was written by Swamini Vidyaprakashanandaji and directed by Dr. Vikram Panchal marvellously sketches the wondrous life and works of Bhagavatpād ādi śankarācāryaji.

January 30,31 and February 1, 2020

Talks on Īśāvāsyopaniṣad by Acāryā Mahāmaṇḍaleśvara Swami śhri Puṇyanandagiriji.

Talks on Pañcadaśī, chapter 5 by Acāryā Mahāmaṇḍaleśvara Swami śhri Viśvatmanandagiriji.

February 2, 2020 : 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. -

Talks by mahātmās and a bhaṇḍārā for sādhus.

The entire event was a thorough success and left an indelible mark on all who witnessed it. The week long program was attended by a number of ārṣa vidya Sannyāsis and other Mahātmās. The students of Swami Veditatmanandaji from India as well as U.S.A. and U.K. attended the program. It was undoubtedly a memorable and inspiring event and a befitting offering replete with gratitude to a great Mahātmā.

Thank you!

A Report on śatābhiṣeka celebration prepared by Swamini Paraprajnana.

Retreats offered by AVG Anaikatti

The following are the retreats planned in 2020. More camps may be announced in as and when they are planned. Every retreat will include temple puja, meditation, classes on Vedanta, satsang (Question and answer sessions). Sessions on Chanting, yoga and sanskrit may also be included in some retreats. Participation in Gurukula seva during the camp as needed will be appreciated.

You may register for these retreats at <http://arshavidya.in/camps-retreats>

Retreat Id	Retreat Dates	Retreat Description
V20-01	8:00PM Saturday, 4 th Apr to 12:30PM Saturday, 11 th Apr	<p>7 day retreat on <i>Meditation for self-growth and self-discovery</i> with Swami Shankarananda.</p> <p>The retreat will cover the vision of Vedanta in brief, understanding of dhyata, dhyeyam and dhyanam (the meditator, object of meditation and meditation), and the role of meditation in self-growth and self-discovery. The process of meditation along with some techniques and salient types of meditation will also be covered. There will be of course be guided meditation sessions.</p>