



The Sambodh Society, Inc.

A Non-Profit Organization for the teaching of Advaita Vedanta and Meditation
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October 29, 2012

AN APPEAL TO ALL SAMBODH DEVOTEES AND PATRONS

Blessed Self,

It has been a long time since I shared my thoughts with you. Though I was slack in communication, you continued your financial and physical support to the Sambodh Society and the Sambodh Center for Human Excellence with great devotion. I am grateful for your unwavering support and prayers. May Sambodharanya Shiva bless you and your family for the good work that you do.

As you know, the Sambodh Society is dedicated to the teaching and propagation of Advaita Vedanta, Yoga and Ayurveda, the three important branches of Hindu wisdom tradition that caters to the spirit, mind and body. At the Sambodh Center for Human Excellence in Kalamazoo, we conduct regular classes, seminars and workshops on these topics. The Center also organizes Interfaith Dialogues and lectures on Gandhian philosophy, Non-violence/Ahimsa, Ecology and Sustainable Development and Women Empowerment. The goal is to elevate Sambodh Center in Kalamazoo as the Wisdom Center and the Spiritual Heart of United States and Canada.

The Sambodh Center is interested in propagating ideas of organic farming and sustainable living, caring for the planet and people and a team of highly motivated seekers are involved in developing a parcel of Sambodh land for organic farming.

The 10th annual Rudrabhisheka and Chadi Homa to honor Shiva and Shakti, the patron deities of Sambodh Aranya, organized on August 4-5 this year under the guidance of Sree Aswath and Pradip Sagdeo, was a grand success and devotees who attended from far and wide experienced Shiva-Shakti presence in their inner being.

Now Shiva devotees are pressing for a full-fledged Shiva Temple at Sambodh Aranya and the Board of Trustees in their annual meeting on August 11-12 has tentatively approved the project. It is proposed to be a Sahasralinga Shiva Temple with 3333 Shivalingams.

The Board of Trustees have also decided to restructure the functioning of the trust and the center by reallocating responsibilities and inducting two more trustees raising the number of trustees to seven. The present trustees are : Swami Bodhananda (President), Dr. Ruth Haring (Vice President, Secretary and Director programs, Sambodh Center), Dr. Uma DePeralta (Vice President and Treasurer), Dr. Pradip Sagdeo (Vice President and Director of Operations, Sambodh Center), Dr. Gopal Singh, Shri Vivek Subramanian, and Dr. Azhwarsamy Jeganathan.

The Sambodh Society organized programs in four new cities this year: Keene, New Hampshire (host, Chitra Akkoor); Roanoke, Indiana (Abel Harman); Austin, TX (Dr. Venkata Raju); and Raleigh NC (Gopi Sundaram).

One of the important steps that the trustees suggested was to renegotiate the bank loan with Michigan Commercial Bank. Shri Vivek Subramanian has made significant progress in his discussions with the bank president and we may get a positive reply soon.

Our mortgage now stands at \$580,000. Our annual mortgage payment is \$52,000. Our annual operational expenses are \$40,000. Pradip Sagdeo, the new Director of Operations, has taken up the challenge of bringing down the operational expenses by up to \$ 15,000. We are also making serious efforts to bring down the mortgage principal by \$200,000. We have accumulated \$50,000 for this purpose so far.

You have been kind to the Sambodh Society all these years, This year, too, I request you to donate liberally to our Mortgage Reduction Fund. Your donation of 1000, 500, or even 100 dollars will add up to a substantial amount. The Sambodh Society is a tax-exempt ecclesiastical organization. Your support and tax-deductible donation will go a long way in reducing our financial burden on the Society, and motivate our volunteers in carrying out their services to the cause of Hindu Dharma and world spirituality.

Expecting an early favourable response,

Love and Hari Om.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bodhananda".

Swami Bodhananda Saraswati
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