



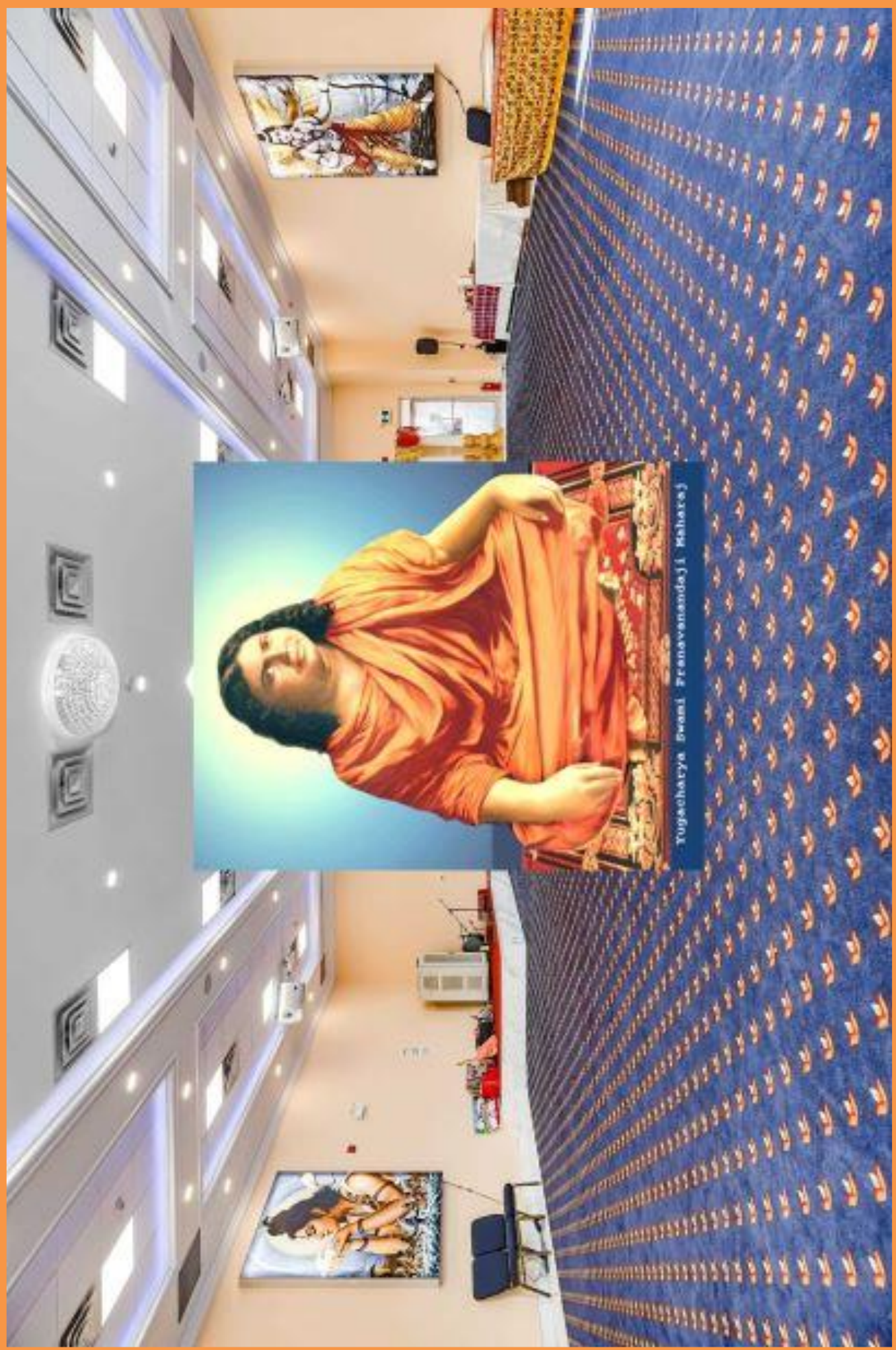
**BHARAT
SEVASHRAM
SANGHA**



Durga Puja 2022

Friday September 30 - Tuesday October 4 2022





Tugacharya Swami Pranavanandaji Maharaj

DURGA PUJA GREETINGS

FROM:



*His Holiness Srimat Swami Purnatmanandaji Maharaj
President, Bharat Sevashram Sangha*



*His Holiness Srimat Swami Biswatmanandaji Maharaj
General Secretary*

Dear Blessed Devotees:

Re: Maa Durga's Bountiful Blessings



I am pleased to extend Durga Puja greetings and blessings to everyone. Yes, our Ashram is going through trying times right now, but we shall certainly prevail in the end. Where there is Mother Durga and steadfastness, there shall be opulence and victory. There is no force on earth to deviate us from our noble and righteous path.

I call upon all devotees to come forward and support this God-ordained Mission. Guru Maharaj has imbibed into his very being the prowess and exuberance of the Divine Mother. And so too can we. All we have to do is simply emulate him. By worshipping Durga Ma, we too can become heroic and successful in all our endeavors in life. I pray for you. May God bless.

Yours truly,

Swami Pushkaranandaji Maharaj

Virtual Durga Puja Participation

Dear Blessed Devotees:

For those of you who cannot attend the Ashram in person to participate in our Durga Puja Celebrations, you can still receive the full benefit and blessings from home. All you have to do is provide us with your **name and gotra** (*if known*) and we will pray for you.

Please also forward your minimum suggested *dakshina*/ (monetary gift) of \$21 by sending it to bsscanada@yahoo.com using the password **Durga Puja**.

You may also view the ceremony on zoom: **ID 687 673 8935** / Password: **ashram**

Durga Puja greetings and blessings to you

Ten Divine Messages for Success & Inner Peace

1 | What is the Goal of Life?

Self-realization
Universal emancipation

2 | What is Religion?

Self-sacrifice
Self-discipline
Adherence to truth
and continence

3 | What is Real Death?

Forgetfulness of
the "self"

4 | What is Real Life?

Self-possession
Self-remembrance
Self-consciousness

5 | What are Real Virtues?

Heroism, Virility
Humanliness and Aspiration
for Emancipation



Founder
World Teacher

6 | What are Real Sins?

Weakness, Fear
Cowardice,
Meanness and
Selfishness

**7 | What are Real Sources
of Strength?**

Patience, Fortitude
and Endurance

8 | What are Real Assets?

Self-confidence
Self-reliance
Self-respect

9 | What are Real Enemies?

Indolence, Slumber,
Inertia, Procrastination
Lustful senses and
passions

10 | What are Real Friends?

Energy, Enthusiasm
and perseverance

Shrimat Swami Pranavanandaji Maharaj

BHARAT SEVASHRAM SANGHA

Head Office: Rash Behari Avenue, Kolkata, India Email: bharatsevashram@gmail.com
sw_parameshananda@hotmail.com Website: www.bharatsevashramsangha.net/org

MANTRA FOR LIBERATION



Shrimat Swami
Pranavanandaji
Maharaj
World Teacher
and Founder
of BSS

Swami Parameshananda
Bharat Sevashram Sangha
United Nations
& International
Representative
917-929-8028



Assume a comfortable meditative posture

Chant OM three times, then recite slowly.

**I am not the body, I am not the mind. I am not the intellect,
I am not the ego.**

I am truth, consciousness and bliss.

I am all powerful, all pervading, I know the past, present and future.

**I existed before creation, as consciousness, from me creation manifested
I entered into creation to give it life.**

**I am the driver in the body. This vehicle body, is made up of,
the five elements. Earth, water, fire, air, space, it is constantly changing
One day I will loose the body.**

**I am not the mind, as the mind is a bundle of thoughts,
coming from the environment, through the five senses,
seeing, hearing, touching, smelling and tasting.
I react to the environment, through my organs of action,
mouth, hands, legs. Organs of reproduction
and organs of elimination.**

**The sense organs, and organs of action, are instruments,
totally under my control, as I navigate, to rediscover,
that I am consciousness.**

**I am not the intellect, the power of dispassion and discrimination,
as the intellect is influenced and hijacked by the ego.**

**My ego falsely identifies me, as I am what I have,
I am what I do, I am my reputation, I am different from you,
things are missing in my life, and I am separated from consciousness.**

**I am free from the body, mind, intellect, and ego identification.
I am consciousness I am perfection, **I am Liberated.****

Treasurer's Report



I am extremely pleased to make this brief comment on our financial position. As you are aware, our Ashram is undergoing very difficult financial times. For over two years now our doors were literally closed due to covid. Also, we just spent large sums of money to complete our magnificent building. And since we had no money to start with, we had to borrow most of the funds. Today, our mortgage payment alone stands at \$20,000.00 per month.

We did all of this for you. Indeed, we need to leave a legacy for our children and all future generations to come. Also, it's the only way to preserve our rich cultural heritage and Shree Satya Sanathan Dharma.

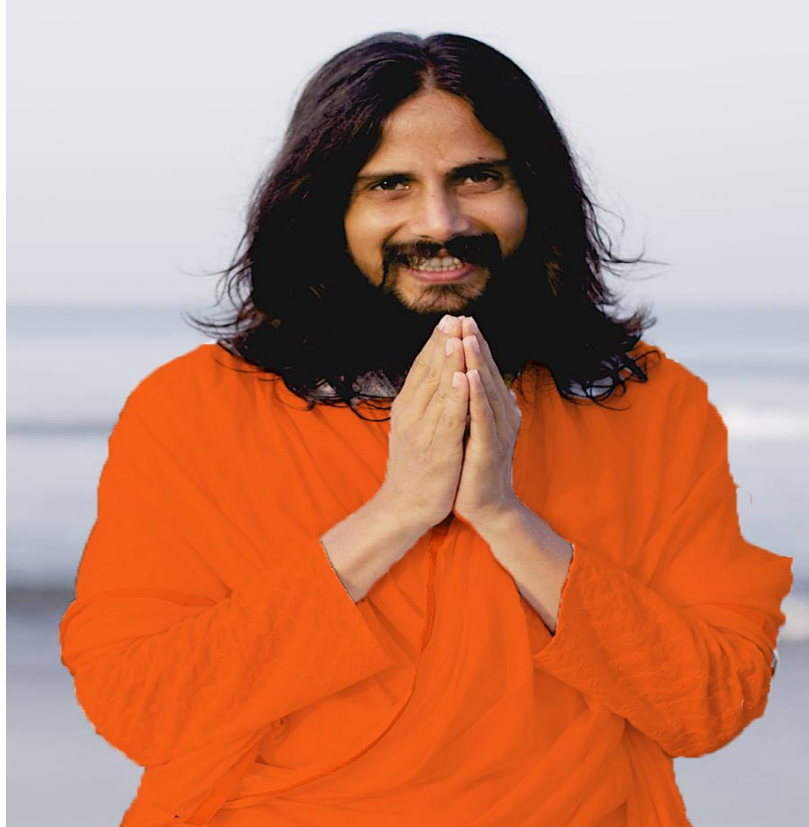
We know we can count on your generous financial help which of course will be tax-deductible. Your contribution will also support our humanitarian activities in India. Our motto there reads: "To nurse the sick, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, and educate underprivileged children."

The Canada Ashram caters to all your religious, cultural and spiritual needs. We encourage you to also book the facilities to do events such as weddings, shraddhas and anniversaries. Once again, thanks for your kind donation and may the Divine Mother bless you abundantly. Jai Guru!

Add here Virtual Tour Video

Meet our New Dynamic Monk

by Dr. Lake Singh



His Holiness Swami Vilakshanandaji Maharaj

Devotes and friends, please join with me in welcoming this godsend soul who is wholeheartedly admitted to the fold of Bharat Sevashram Sangha. I am pleased to advise you that our Working Presidentji His Holiness Param Pujya Srimat Swami Purnatmanandaji Maharaj made a special visit to Canada to conduct his Ordination Ceremony. Special guest of honor was billionaire philanthropist Shree Anil Mongaji.

PROFILE

Swami Vilakshanandaji previously went by the alias Swami Advaitananda. He was formerly part of the Kabir Tradition which is in Pushkar, India; he then subsequently joined the Shree Panchdasnaam Joona Akhara's Naga Tradition; and now he is an anointed Sannyasin of the Order Bharat Sevashram Sangha.

Like so many other mahatmas (great souls), he, in his childhood and formative, was mystified and troubled by the perplexity and illusory nature of the world. All those irksome and unsettling questions of life hitherto pierced his infantile mind: "Who am I? Where do I came from? Where do I go from here? What is the solution to all of life's miseries and sufferings?" These thoughts added poignancy to his conviction of the unreality of all things finite.

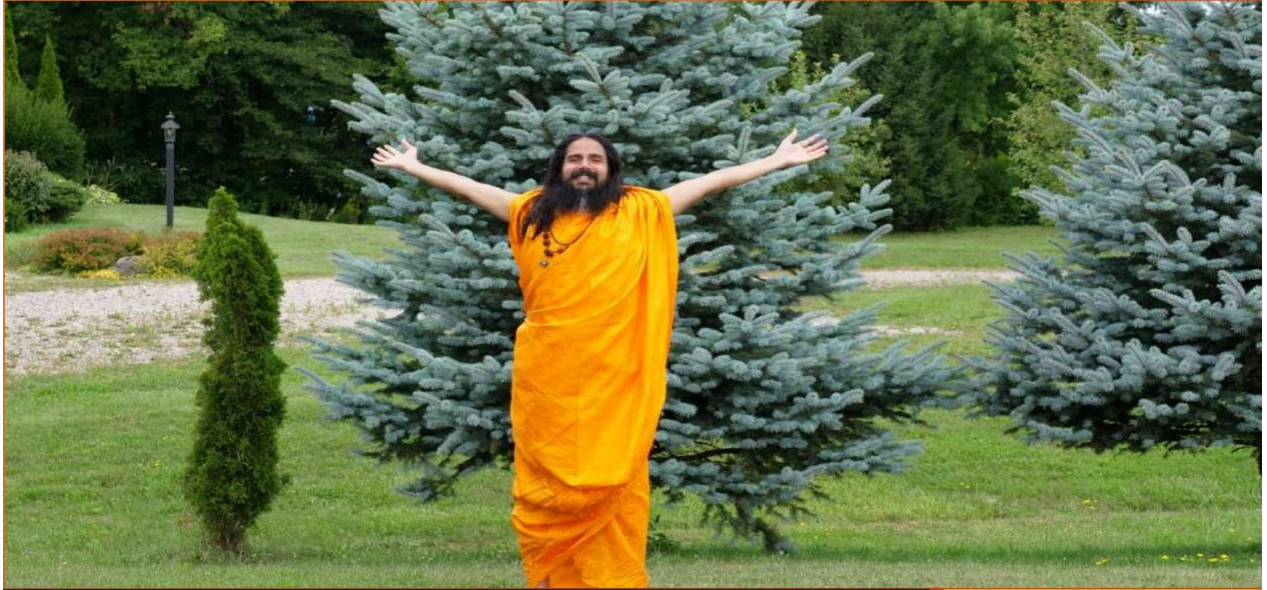
At the tender and impressionable age of nine, he renounced the world of glitter and glamour and took to the morose path of sanyas (renunciation). In his relentless search for the ultimate truth, this postulant, burgeon mind spent the better part of his life in meditation and introspection at holy places such as: *Kaagbhusandi*, *Satopanth (near Badrinath)*, *Mani Mahesh*, and *Kailash Mansarovar*.

Today, he is a world renown Meditation Guru, conducting class in nearly 25 countries worldwide. You will find that his approach incorporates revolutionary methods designed for modern lifestyles. This Himalayan-trained yogi has already caused a spiritual wave and stir that is taking the world by storm.

Among his manifold fields of endeavors, here is a list of the more important ones that the Western World could relate to:

- **Meditation:** Mantra, Yantric, Breath-Work, Chakra, Kundalini, Dance, Laughter & Gibberish.
- **Transcendental Healing & Wellness**
- **Meditation Retreat**
- **Kriya Yoga**
- **Advanced Yoga Nidra**
- **Meditation / Yoga Teacher's Training Program**
- **Stress Management Workshop**
- **Home Purification Havan**
- **Personal Cleansing & Detoxification**
- **Nau-graha Ceremony (Graha Pravesh) Havan**
- **Astrological Readings (Open Book)**
- **Marriage:** Matching of Couples Kundalinis
- **Childbearing Conception Mantra**
- **Weight Loss**
- **Trauma Healing**
- **Emotional Release**
- **Deep Sleep Therapy**
- **Alcohol Detoxing**
- **Anger Management**
- **Hatha Yoga (Asthanga)**

Please click [here](#) to learn more about this amazing Himalayan Yogi.



Project Happiness

Connect with Divinity, Serve Humanity.

- His Holiness Swami Advaitananda Giri

Thanks!



International
MEDITATION
FOUNDATION

www.meditation-foundation.org
<https://m.facebook.com/MeditationFoundation>

Mobile: +1 6477626252

DURGA PUJA TIMETABLES



Sasthi: Sep 30, Friday
Puja & Arati: 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm



Saptami: Oct 1st, Saturday
Puja & Arati: 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
Pushpanjali: 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm
Evening Arati: 7:30 pm
Cultural Program: 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Astami: Oct 2nd, Sunday
Puja & Arati: 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
Pushpanjali: 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm
Sandhi Puja: 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Evening Arati: 7:30 pm
Cultural Program: 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm



Navami: Oct 3rd, Monday
Puja & Arati: 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
Pushpanjali: 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm
Havan: 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Evening Arati: 7:30 pm
Cultural Program: 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm



Dashami: Oct 4th, Tuesday
Puja & Bisorjon: 11:00 am to 12:00 noon
Devi Durga Boron: 12:30 noon to 3:00 pm



Letter to the Editor

(Anonymous)



Seeta Ram devotes and welcome to Ashram's brand-new magnificent building which became a reality only through the blessings of our beloved Guruji Maharaj and the Great Lord. May both of their blessings be with you. As you are all aware we are in very difficult economic times. And it's only through the grace of Bhagwan and Guru Maharaj that we safely navigated the storm caused by covid.

Devotes, as you can all see, this illustrious building did cost a large sum of money to construct. That meant then having a large mortgage. You may be wondering why we embarked on such an elaborate project when we didn't have the funds. Well, we did it for two reasons: The first was to have an ashram in Toronto that we could call own and be proud of it too. And secondly, to leave a legacy for our children – to ensure that Sanatan Dharma continue to prosper and flourish in the West.

With all of that being said, we need your help in whatever way possible. It's not a demand but a humble request from our hearts. The choice is yours; it's totally up to you. Whatever decision you make, know that we would still continue to honour and respect everyone coming through the doors of the Ashram. But by choosing to support the ashram, know that you would be supporting a noble cause as well as the future of our ancient, universal, piece loving Dharma.

In the Bhagawat Gita Shree Krishna said to Arjuna: "Protect dharma, and dharma will protect you." So, please devotes we are making this humble appeal to you. No matter how small your contribution is, please know that every dollar counts. Your donation will help with the upkeep of the Ashram which is available to all devotes for their religious and spiritual needs. We will cherish and utilize ever dollar collected with the utmost care and respect. We know how hard you toil to earn your money.

We will like you to have a unique experience at the Ashram. It is not like your typical Mandir. We trust that the experience here will be a memorable one. And please don't forget to obtain your donation receipt. We strive very hard to maintain our books and records in an utmost professional and trustworthy manner.



Durga Puja Sponsorship

Bharat Sevashram Sangha Canada is eternally thankful for the kind gestures shown by these wonderful devotees who have come together to bear all costs associated with these auspicious celebratory days. May Maa Durga Devi's richest blessings be with them all. Jai Guru!

SASHTI SPONSORS

Deepa Roy
Sumita Paul
Sumita Roy
Kabita Goswami
Supriya Roy
Purabi Sarkar
Basanti Roy
Medicine Professional Corp
Srinanda Mitra
Geetasri Das
Priyanka Sen
P. Bagchi
Narayan & Manju Dutta
Ratha/Jayanta Mitra
Indrani Bera
Ira Saha
Rekha Mukherjee

SAPTAMI SPONSOR

Mr. Monish Sarkerji

ASTAMI SPONSORS:

Indrani Santikary
Sabarika
Indranil Ghosh
Sukanya
Rupa
Sumana Roy
Reena
Subhendu Basu
Priyanka Chatterjee
And Friends and Family.

NAVAMI SPONSORS

Aloke Majumdar
Amal & Dolly Paul
Ananda & Ruma Chowdhury
Anima Bhattacharya
Antara Biswas Hofmann
Arup & Juna Banerjee
Asha Bannerjee (and late Prashad Bannerjee)
Balaram Bannerjee
Banamali Chowdhury
Brinda Banerjee
Chitra & Shanti Ghosh

Chitta & Bubly Bera
Debashri Mukherjee
Dr. Mukulik Mazumdar
Gauri & Debabrata Ghosh Mazumdar
Gayatri Butani
Gyanendra & Sangita Acharya
Harihar and Lily Behera
Kushal and Saswati Chakrabarty
Mallika Sengupta (and late Robin Sengupta)
Mamata Barman
Manjusri & Prabal Nandy
Mitali Dey
Mousumi Kundu
Nandita Dasgupta
Nirmalendu & Bani Pal
Pradip Banerjee
Pratap & Manimala Som
Rajasree & Chandan Dutta
Rena & Shumona Roy
Ruby Mukherjee
Ruma Bhattearcharya
Rumpa Barman
Sabita Sabat
Samrat Sen
Sangha Mitra & Ranjit Ghosh
Shampa & Aparesh Chakraborty
Shila Ghosh
Shimki Chowdhury
Shreya Chakrabarty
Shyamali Mitra
Saswata & Saswati Deb
Siuli Guha
Sramika and Lallmohan Gosh
Sumitra Biswas
Sunanda Chatterjee (and late Tapan Das)
Sunanda Mukherjee
Supriya & Robin Basu
Swapna Mukherjee

DASHAMI SPONSORS

Sibsankar Baidya
Nibedita Das
Sujay Das

Mr. Monish Sarkerji -a Source of Inspiration to Others

Shree Monish Sarkerji is a godsend soul. Ever since he was introduced to the Canada branch of Bharat Sevashram Sangha, he has made an indelible impression upon the minds of us all. Today he sits atop the chart as our all-time highest donor surpassing the Hundred Thousand Dollars mark. This is a testimony of the faith, belief, and reverence he has for this great philanthropic Mission. We are pleased to feature his fascinating deposition which is presented here verbatim in his own words:

His Story

“My childhood memories go back to Calcutta way back to the 1950's. I fondly recalled how the monks of Bharat Sevashram Sangha used to visit our home. Our parents were devotees of Acharya Srimat Swami Pranavanandaji Maharaj who was the illustrious founder of this great, reputable Monastic Order famed for its spiritual and humanitarian endeavors.

The sacred instructions given to us by our parents bore this cryptic overtone that we took seriously: “If you can do anything for these monks, try to do it.” After all these years, these words still reverberate in my ears. However, providence dictated otherwise as I had to leave the shores of my beloved India at a very young and impressionable age. But that did not alter the reality of the situation as I was luckily reintroduced to the Ashram in this faraway removed land from my paternal home.

It was my brother who had made the discovery – the fact that a branch of this organization was established here in Canada. I reconnected and the rest is history. My long-awaited opportunity to do something tangible to help this blessed organization came in 2017. I was reliably informed that the Canadian Chapter of Bharat Sevashram Sangha here in Toronto was planning on constructing a brand-new building.

It right away occurred to me that this is my opportune moment. I did not hesitate to contact His Holiness Swami Pushkaranandaji Maharaj. I poured my heart out to him. First, I made him to understand and appreciate the long-standing relationship my parents and I have had with the Sangha. I confided in him my cherished intention – the fact that I want to make a donation in the esteemed honour of my blessed parents. I felt exceedingly blessed when he accepted my initial and modest gift of \$36,481.40. As it turned out, this was just the beginning of a very pleasant and fulfilling association I am fortunate to have initiated. I pledge to continue my help wherever and whenever I can.

God willing, this magnificent new edifice became a reality. And all was set for the inauguration of this proposed Cultural Centre on that eventful day Saturday, June 15, 2019. The new building was officially declared opened by His Holiness Swami Purnatmanandaji Maharaj who is no other than the president of Bharat Sevashram Sangha. I recalled him visiting our home in Calcutta to see our parents in 1950's as a Brahmachari back then. Look how destiny and fate play such crucial roles in the tapestry of things overall. This has led me to believe that God is in overall control of our lives if we allow him to do so. It has been one miracle after another in my life as far as my association with this blessed organization is concerned.

I grateful for many things in my life. For one thing, I am very thankful to my blessed parent for giving me the best gift in life: LIFE. Then I have Canada to be thankful to. I couldn't have done any of it if I did not come to Canada. I did it by working hard here in Canada and earning the money. I remain eternally grateful and humbled by all of my accomplishments in life. God bless.

Shree Monish Sarkerji

Mahalaya

Mahalaya marks the beginning of DEVI PAKSHA and the end of the PITRI PAKSHA. The latter is a period of mourning which is considered inauspicious since *shradhh* or death rites are performed during this period. Pitri Paksha is a 16-day lunar period during which people remember and pay homage to their ancestors by making offerings of food and water.

Mahalaya on the other hand is a 9-nine, happy occasion. There are many stories and folklore associated with Mahalaya. The first one serves to remind us of Maa Devi's victory over the evil demon *Mahishasura*. It is widely believed that on this day Goddess Durga officially begins her journey from Mount Kailash (where she resides with her husband Lord Shiva) to her natal home here on earth.

She is accompanied on this week-long journey by her children: Ganesha, Kartik, Lakshmi and Saraswati. Durga Maa uses a vehicle-of-choice which could either be a palanquin (a boat), an elephant or a horse.

Mahalaya is roughly celebrated for seven days prior to Durga Puja. Every Bengali household wakes up early in the morning before the sun and customarily listen to a collection of songs and mantras called *Mahishasura Mardini*. Below is a full rendition featuring the sonorous voice of Birendra Krishna Bhadra. These mantras invoke the Goddess, the most famous one being *Jago Tumi Jago* which means '*awaken, oh Goddess!*'

<https://youtu.be/8IPKUkGPh4E>

Here is also glimpses of a live performance which was held a short while ago at Bharat Sevashram Sangha.

Add Here Mayalaya Videos

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DURGA PUJA

By Dr Lake Singh



Durga Puja is the biggest festival for Bengalis. It celebrates Goddess Durga's triumph over the demonic asura Mahishasura. Though it's a 10-day festivity, the last six days are considered most significant.

Mahalaya: Durga Puja is preceded by Mahalaya which marks the beginning of Mother Durga's journey to her natal home here on earth. She is accompanied by her four divine children: Saraswati, Laxmi, Ganesha and Kartikeya.

Maha Shashti: The actual puja begins with Maha Sashti which falls on the sixth day. Here devotees welcome the Goddess with pomp and gusto. The images of Durga and her children are unveiled before the public. Several rituals are performed which are accompanied by the rhythmic sounds of the dhak (a drum) that serves to lift the mood and spirit of the participants.

Maha Saptami: On the eve of Saptami, the main puja is performed. Just before the sun rises, a banana tree is submerged in holy water and then covered with a new red-bordered sari. This ritual is known as *kola bou* or *nabapatrika*. The banana tree is then placed besides the idol of Goddess Durga. Nine plants (representing the nine forms of Goddess Durga) are also made ready.

Maha Ashtami: Maha Ashtami is believed to be the day when Goddess Durga killed the evil Mahishasura. In the olden days, a buffalo was sacrificed to mark the occasion. Hymns are chanted in Sanskrit and devotees offer their prayers known as *pushpanjali*. Little girls (less than nine years of age) are depicted as Goddess Durga and duly worshipped. After this, the Sandhi Puja is performed. A feast comprising of khichdi

and other delicacies are prepared and served for the occasion.

Maha Navami: The ninth day is known as Maha Navami which is preceded by the Sandhi. The main attraction on the day is a large-scale artie which no one wants to miss. This is usually followed by cultural and recreational activities. Of course, maha prasadam or bhog is the norm.

Maha Dashmi: The tenth day or Maha Dashami marks the final day of Durga Puja. Married women take part in *sindoor khela* (playing with vermillion) where they smear the powder on one another's faces. Finally, Durga and the other deities are carried (a process also known as *visarjan*) to the river Ganga to be immersed. The processions are carried out by the worshippers on trucks, beating drums, singing and dancing. After the immersion, it is the custom for people to visit their relatives' homes to wish them *bijoya Dashami* (happy Dashami). Special delectable dishes are also prepared to mark the occasion.



Here are glimpses of 2021 Durga Puja which was celebrated at Bharat Sevashram Sangha.

Add Here Durga Puja 2021 Videos

POPULAR RITUALS – TO UNDERSTAND DURGA PUJA BETTER

By Pandit Kuntal Chakraborty

Bengalis prefer to believe that this is the time when Goddess Durga arrives at her parental home on earth from her bridal home in Mount Kailash. And she arrives with her children in tow – Ganesh, Kartikeya, Lakshmi and Saraswathi. Even though Durga is worshipped in her demon-slaying pose, she is therefore seen flanked by her children. The goddess and her children are depicted along with their animal mounts. Myriads of rites and rituals take place during the five days of the actual Puja, extending from Sosthi (the sixth day of Navaratri) to Dashami (the tenth day, Vijayadashami or Dussehra). Here are a few of the most popular rituals.

Bodhon (An Incarnation)

The actual Durga Puja begins on Sosthi. It is believed that this autumnal worship was initiated by Rama to seek the help of the goddess in defeating Ravana. Hence the goddess must be specially invoked through the ceremony of Bodhon, which is performed in the evening. Several other rituals are performed prior to this during the day, including assuring the goddess that all ceremonies would be performed according to the norms, readying the place of worship, etc.

Nabapatrika Snan (Nine Plants pre dawn bath)

It is a curious ritual that probably indicates the agrarian roots of the society. Nine plants, of which the banana plant is the most visible, are tied together to form the Nabapatrika (nine leaves). They represent the nine forms of the female power Shakti – Brahmani (banana), Kalika (colacassia), Durga (turmeric), Kartiki (jayanti), Shiva (wood apple), Raktadantika (pomegranate), Sokrahita (ashoka), Chamunda (arum) and Lakshmi (paddy). Nabapatrika is taken for a bath (Snan) in the river after which she is wrapped in a sari and placed next to Ganesh. As the leaves of the banana plant is most prominent, the Nabapatrika is popularly called Kola Bou (Banana Bride). The Nabapatrika Snan takes place on Saptami (the seventh day).

Anjali (Divine Offering)

While the priests perform the rites and rituals associated with worship of the goddess, everyone else gets to pay their respect through Pushpanjali (floral offering made with cupped palms) or Anjali for short. Anjali takes place on all three days – Saptami, Ashtami and Navami. The auspicious hour for Anjali, always in the morning, is announced beforehand. It is customary to fast until you have offered the day's Anjali. At the scheduled hour, everyone bathed and dressed in new clothes, gather in front of the goddess, clutching a fistful of flowers along with bel leaves. They repeat the mantra after the priest and throw the flowers at the goddess in the end. Three rounds of floral offerings take place.

Kumari Puja (Teenage Girl Worship – Symbolises Goddess Durga)

Kumari Puja takes place on Ashtami (eighth day). A pre-pubescent girl is selected to be worshipped as the living incarnation of Durga. Dressed in new clothes and decked up with floral ornaments, she shares the stage with the goddess. One of the most popular destinations to see the Kumari Puja in Belur Math, the headquarters of the Ramakrishna Order founded by Swami Vivekananda.

Sandhi Puja (Juncture timing of Ashtami and Navami)

It is at the juncture when Ashtami ends, and Navami begins that Sandhi Puja happens. It marks the moment when Goddess Durga emerged in her angry Chamunda form to kill the demons Chanda and Munda. One hundred and eight lamps are lit. The priest utters the mantra. And the drummers (dhaki) break into a frenzied beat. Earlier, it was customary to make an animal sacrifice too. But it has been largely discontinued and vegetables are symbolically sacrificed.

Dhunuchi Naach (Ritual dance worship with incense burner)

One of the riotous but fun-filled rituals which takes place on Navami (ninth day) evening. Clay pots are filled with burning charcoal. People take it in their hands and start dancing to the beating of dhaak. Those more

expert, hold the clay pots on their head, sometimes even holding a pot by their teeth. Earlier a forte of men, dhunuchi naach is also performed by women now.

Sindhur Khela (Vermilion play)

Traditionally, Hindu women, whose husbands are alive, wear the vermilion mark on their forehead. On Dashami, the goddess is bid farewell before being taken out for immersion in the river. One of the rituals include Sindur Khela where married women (but not widows) offer vermilion and sweets to the goddess. After that they smear each other with the vermilion. Photographers go click happy during this ritual. Of late, some women have started to question the custom of not allowing widows to participate in the festival.

Bisarjan (Immersion of Maa Durga)

The goddess and her children are taken out in a procession for Bisorjon or immersion in the river, indicating her return to Mount Kailash. Even today, some of the old households (bonedi bari) follow the custom where the idols are placed on a bamboo platform and carried on the shoulders of men. But most carry the idols on a truck up to the riverbank. Then the idols are placed on a boat and taken to the middle of the river for the immersion. West Bengal Tourism and many private tour operators arrange for boat cruises to observe the immersion ceremony.

Subho Bijoya (Auspicious Victory)

This marks the end of the annual festival. Young people touch the feet of elders. Elders bless the young. Men of the same age perform Kolakuli, a kind of hugging gesture. Special sweets, especially Naru or roundels made with coconut and jiggery, are distributed. Earlier, it was the women's job to make different kinds of savouries and sweets at home to be distributed during Bijoya. Nowadays, people mostly buy the eatables from shops.

The Origin of Mother Durga and What She Means To Us

By: Christina Raykha, MD, PhD

Mother Durga is regarded as a symbol of power and is commonly known as 'Shakti Maa'. She was created by the holy powers of Bramha, Vishnu and Mahesh, to destroy the evil demon, Mahishasura. She is portrayed as a warrior riding on a lion with ten celestial weapons bestowed upon her by all of the gods. Mahishasura had been blessed by Lord Bramha with a boon that he could not be killed by any god or man on Earth or in Heaven. Unfortunately, he misused his power and invaded the Heavens, overthrowing the Gods and Goddesses. Mother Durga was created to help restore righteousness and peace.

In this respect, Durga Puja is a celebration of good over evil, which is a concept described in the Bhagavad Gita, specifically Chapter 4, Verses 7-8, which are well known to Hindus all over the world:

***Yada yada hi dharmasya glanirbhavati bharata |
Abhythanamadharmasya tadatmanam srijamyaham ||
Paritranaaya sadhunang vinashay cha dushkritam |
Dharmasangsthapanarthay sambhabami yuge ||***

The meaning of these two verses is: whenever there is a decay in righteousness and an increase of unrighteousness, I manifest Myself. In order to protect the good, destroy the evil and to establish righteousness, I am born again from age to age. Mother Durga is brought forth to reinstate righteousness and destroy Mahishasura, a demon who has been terrorizing those on Earth and in the Heavens and taking advantage of the boon bestowed to him by Lord Bramha.

Mother Durga is a symbol of feminism. She is portrayed as a beautiful warrior who takes on a traditionally male role. She is given all the tools to be successful and is victorious in her mission. She is the only one who is able to destroy this particular demon, as no man or God could do it. Hinduism has developed a strong role for Mother so far back in history – this is something to be proud of in our religion.

Furthermore, as a devotee of the ashram, and more accurately of Guru Maharaj, we have been taught the Sangha Bani for many years. We have all read about self realization as the answer to the goal of life, but how often do we read further? When we think about the other questions, such as what are real virtues, what are real sources of strength, what are real friends – that's when we learn about heroism, fortitude, endurance, enthusiasm and perseverance. Mother Durga displays all of these traits in her depiction of power in order to have good reign over evil. These are important for any warrior if they want to be triumphant in their battle. If we think about the 'battle' as our everyday life, where we are constantly facing decisions which might add more good to the world versus bad or we are trying to achieve a goal we've set for ourselves, which requires '*friends*' of endurance, enthusiasm and perseverance, then we are uplifting ourselves and the world around us...

...And the world could use some uplifting during these times of war, economic difficulty and sickness.

Let's hear from our Youths

Going to the Ashram

by Rhea Bahadur (13yrs old)



Every Sunday, 10am. I would get up to get ready to go to the ashram, a fun excuse to dress up in cultural outfits. That's all I thought of it ; As I got older I realized how I connected with BSS and how it is a calming, spiritual place to come to every Sunday. Bharat Sevashram Sangha is a place of spiritual vibrations to me now. I enjoy coming to Sunday service and poojas frequently for the calmness I get here.

Before covid, my sister Aishi and I joined the summer camp. It was one of the most fun 2 weeks I had that summer, I brought my good friend along and we all had fun.

All of us made new friends and learned many things such as spiritual yoga taught by Swami Ganeshananda, who is now in India. He said yoga would help with meditation and remaining relaxed while becoming more flexible. This yoga helped me a lot. I also learned Havan taught by Uncle Lake. We recited the words as we learnt the meanings and did the havan together . Something I still remember till today are the Gita verses Swamiji taught us, he spoke about how repeating these mantras will benefit us in life and since then they've just stuck with me. I still have the folder containing these mantras to practice if I ever forget.

Seva is important, we should all as a community help out wherever and whenever we can. I enjoy helping the aunties and uncles here whether it is going to get a pen or serving parshad to the people of this ashram. It gives me a sense that I have helped out and done something to benefit. I will continue to help out at Bharat Sevashram Sangha. It is a divine ashram and I am proud to say I'm a part of it. Jai Guru.



Youths and the Ashrams

by the Youths of the Ashram

The most beautiful flower in the garden of creation is a young mind unfolding its sweet influence to the world. Youth is verily the season of hope. They hold in their hands the future prospect of our Ashram. Youths are obviously the leaders of tomorrow. Therefore, wise are they who invest in them. Our Ashram could benefit immensely if only they are tactfully engaged and ushered into the mainstream of things.

When Guru Maharaj first started the Ashram, that was his focus and modus operandi – to recruit brave young men. They, in turn, swarmed around him like honey bees. He wanted an army of heroic young men who were ready to serve at the cost of their lives. But by today's standards, females are also welcomed to join the crusade.

Here are what the youths of our Ashram have to say about how they can fit into the prospect of things. These are the areas in which they feel they could make a significant and meaningful difference to the Ashram.

1. **Teck-savvy:** This is the day and age of technology in which youths are naturally gifted. Today, one could easily surf the entire globe by the click of a mouse. So, we must come to the fore and seize the moment with both hands. We must step in immediately and mobilize all forces to achieve maximum growth for our Ashram. While we grow spiritually, we shall also keep a watchful eye on the developmental aspects of the Ashram.
2. **Greater Social Media Presence:** Our target is not just the handful of devotees who attend our regular Sunday Services. Guru Maharaj declared that “this is the age universal awakening and universal emancipation.” We must reach out to the world at large. We need new audiences and viewers. This can be easily achieved by instituting platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Tiktok. This is the job for the youths and not the elders. We must step in now and take the lead role.
3. **Learn the Ropes:** Youths must fit themselves into the Ashram Administration and learn how to run it. We should do so by attending Administrative Meetings and observing how things are get done. We must prepare ourselves to take up the mantle of leadership. We ought to take a look at the Toronto Blue Jays Baseball Club Farming System. When the need arises, they call up junior players from Syracuse to play in their major league. We are of the opinion that the same system should also apply to the youths.
4. **Conducting Sunday Services:** This an area where we have gained significant grounds. But we need to persevere somewhat and be able to take over completely. The adults have been inspiring us all along. But the time has now come for us to gain added momentum. Never before had we the proper platform to do so. But not now we feel blessed with our magnificent state-of-the-art building; and with that, the sky is now the limit. Trust we could garner the strength, will and impetus to forge ahead. With Guru Maharaj's blessings, a divine intervention cannot be ruled out.
5. **Organizing Annual Festivals, Galas and Plays:** We must quickly fit ourselves into these areas of endeavours. The youths must take on roles not attempted hitherto. In the Sangha Bani, Guru Maharaj spoke about *strength* which he defined as “energy, enthusiasm and perseverance.” Come whatever may (hell or high waters), we must march forward like brave soldiers. We feel that youths do possess the wherewithal to do what it takes. Jai Guru!

I Love my Ashram

by 13-year-old Jaya

I am really proud of our new Ashram. The word “Ashram” itself sounds so nice. It’s a holy place that makes you feel good when you go there. But that’s not the only reason why I am drawn to the Ashram. There are many other reasons as follows:

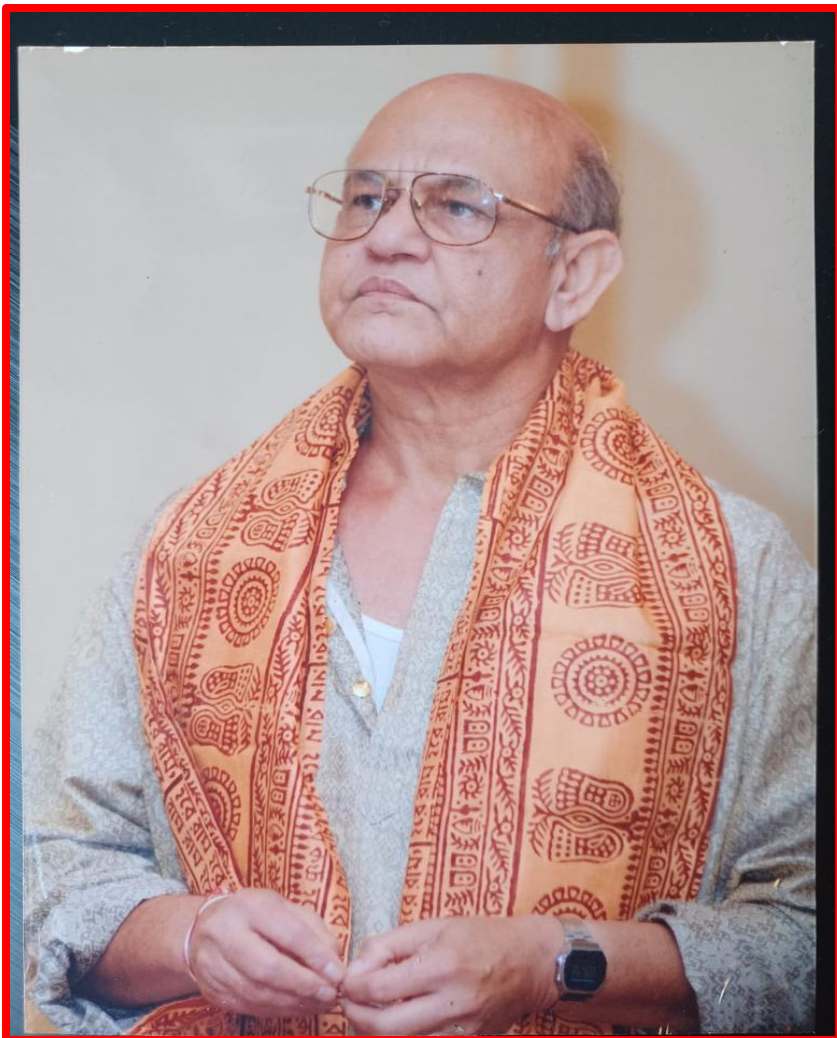
- It is so modern, beautiful and clean. Someone said it looks like a “jewel” and that person is so right. The décor is well put together. The blue and peach colour scheme blends in well with the theme of our Ashram. Even the outside colour is matching and appealing. The moment you enter the compound, it feels like a sanctuary.
- The Murties are another miracle. It looks like the gods and goddesses have descended from heaven. The ceiling design gives you that feeling: the sky, the clouds and sun which shines forth. What I also like is the way the Murties are positioned. They gracefully rise from bottom to top in a way where no one is blocking the other. The background blinking-lights also add to the overall splendor of the Alter.
- I long to attend our Summer Camps because it is so engaging. I believe that learning should be a fun-filled experience and that’s how it’s at the Ashram. I love everything about it and will encourage my friends and peers to attend. There is much to do and learn there.
- The Ashram gives me the opportunity to meet new friends and families. I made quite a few friends with whom I can share my ideas and feelings. Friends do comfort you at your hour of need. Sometimes we need someone with whom we could discuss and run things by them. I find that good company inspires you to do good things, while bad company produces the exact opposite.
- I learn a lot by listening to the kathas and stories of our Hindu religion. That’s how I have come to know all about Diwali, Holi, Ramnaumi, Janmashtami and now Durga Puja. Our religion is so rich and deep. I am really proud to be a Hindu. When I was much smaller, one of my friends at school said to me one day that “My God is Allah.” And I replied to her that “my God is Sita.” Mother Sita is my idol, heroine and inspiration.
- The Ashram is the place where we can learn more about our culture also. I love to dress in my Indian outfit when I go there. The clothes, the jewelry and everything else is so colorful and glamorous. Nothing beats Indian fashion.
- One of my best experiences at the Ashram was when I acted in one of the plays. That was an unforgettable experience. I wish we could do this more often. But something tells me that with this new Ashram, everything will fall into place. I feel that, one day when I grow up, I may end up producing one of these plays myself.
- I close with these words on Durga Puja. Mother Durga is also one of my heroines. She is a real powerful goddess. My nana told me that “the female of the species is deadlier than the male.” A mother will go any distance or length to protect her children. Similarly, Mother Durga will also take care of us if only we pray and ask for her protection and blessings. Victory to Her, and victory to all the mothers of the world.

Humanity

By: Kabita Goswami

I am a human being and I believe in the ideology of humanity, to help others regardless of race, creed or financial status. In becoming a part of the Bharat Sevashram I am able to further extend "seva" and build upon my faith. In a family we support and nurture each other. Society is a larger family where I can serve our community. "Seva" and devotion not only uplift ourselves, but also shows the next generation in our community, in spite of their busy lifestyles, that they too have the moral duty to do "seva" for the betterment of humanity. I live in Canada fifty years and have always been able to serve this society in my capability no matter where I am, "Seva" has no bounds, humanity has no bounds.

Joy Guru Joy Ram Joy Krishna



In Memorium of Sri Prahbat Mukherjee

(Sept 20, 1940 – March 2, 2011)

Prabhat, always

"Now" is that special moment,
Existing on the cusp of Past and Future.
Fleeting, it struggles to catch up to the one,
Never quite reaching, staying only a
Moment ahead of the other.

It would be happier were he here, living amongst us
Our dutiful Husband, loving Father, Grandfather, and
dear friend.
We take comfort in our past memories, and the promise
of a future
When we shall meet again.

But for now, in the celestial skies,
And in the heavenly mornings,
We mourn, we laugh, are joyous
That we know he is within.

Shakti of Bharat Sevashram Sangha (BSS)

by Mr. Ramnarine Sahadeo, B.A., LL.B.



Few in Guyana will remember October 28, 1955. It was the day Swami Purnanandaji Maharaj landed in the first Western country where Indian Indentured servants arrived on May 5, 1838. His initial intention was to visit for a few months but the need to revive Hinduism in a Christian dominated country demanded his prolonged presence. The task was a formidable one as he had to deal with people who have been separated from their ancestral land and had to struggle just to survive, many of whom were converted to Christianity. Also, a few priests perceived his presence as a competition, but even politicians saw him as a threat. However, he persevered and over the years he established a legacy that continues to serve as an academic and spiritual meeting place where cultural events can be celebrated each year.

The once swampy 20-acre landmark on the banks of the Atlantic were converted into an Ashram and the first Hindu College in the country. The cornerstone was set on February 26, 1956 by then Governor General of British Guyana Sir Patrick Renison. Even though it was called Hindu College there was complete freedom of worship and students from different races and religions were not converted. It turned into school which has generated outstanding students in all professions residing all over the globe. If only a few of them can look back with pride on the school that helped to shape their values, they can contribute significantly to the current project and shape a new generation of leaders in the country.



Magnificent State-of-the-Art New Hindu College cum Information Technology

The most recent expansion to keep up with the times is a 23,000 sq ft 2-story building that houses the Hindu College with the newly added Institute of Information Technology department fully equipped with computers and 20 American standard indoor washrooms... see picture above.

It has been established with the help of overseas graduates and devotees who formed a Steering Committee under the coordinated efforts of Dr. Lake Singh ji. Naresh Singh, an American qualified IT expert, will oversee a merging of modern technology with the most ancient value system known to mankind. The more valuable legacy of Swami Purnanandaji is the eternal knowledge in his compilation of HINDU-TWAM, a text that helped all Caribbean Hindus to understand their culture and history. All should be proud to learn about a culture that conquered minds but never invaded foreign lands.

The first ever Gurukul Dormitory for boys needs some repairs after which it can be used to house students from the entire Caribbean as some of the countries have lost both the language and culture of their ancestors. The guiding principles were established by BSS founder Jagat Guru Swami Pranavanandaji Maharaj who blessed this earth when he appeared in 1896. These principles include truth, self-discipline, self-confidence, renunciation. He was equally strong in denouncing cowardice, selfishness, indolence, and procrastination.

KOLKATA, BSS NERVE CENTRE

Upon my recent visit to India, this is what I gleaned from the activities conducted at the Head Office – the nerve centre of a spiritual empire and heart of a worldwide Monastic Humanitarian Organisation that has branches all over the globe. I keenly observed their daily activities: serving the poor with meals, healing the sick, assisting students with housing and educational needs, managing temples, hospitals, dharamsalas and even gow shalas. This was all consistent with the humanitarian philosophy of the founder who once asked: *"If a man sees another person suffering and he does nothing about it, can he call himself a human being?"* Here are two other impressive and consistent practices at all the BSS Ashrams that caught my attention: the first is the prompt issuance of a receipt for every donation no matter how small it is; and the second involves inviting all visitors to partake in arti and a meal.

Speaking about giving, monetary help is needed to renovate all the buildings on the College Campus. It takes only a few generous donors to contribute funds and resources to make a significant improvement as we have just seen in the completion of the new school building. The advent of the internet means that classes can be conducted by teachers anywhere in the world. Everyone throughout the country should also encourage parents to enroll their children in this historic school that can produce future leaders not only for the country but also worldwide. We need bold Hindu practitioners who could disseminate the universal principles and messages of Satya Sanatan Dharma. For further information you may contact Dr. Lake Singh in Canada at dr.lakesingh@hotmail.com, 416 825 - 2700; or principal Miss Rajkumarie Singh in Guyana at rajkumariesingh@yahoo.com, 011-592-616-9089.

Ramnarine Sahadeo (ramjihindu@rogers.com) was born in Leguan, Guyana but now a retired lawyer in Canada, supporting dharmic educational projects. AUTHOR: MOHANDAS K. GANDHI: THOUGHTS, WORDS, DEEDS AND HIS INSPIRATION THE BHAGAVAD-GITA translation, quotes and comments by Gandhi and includes speeches by Swami Vivekananda and Gandhi on nine eleven 1893 and 1906: universal declaration of human rights and more. EDITOR and Distributor of the pocket-sized GITA by Gandhi.

সরকার পরিবার



পিতৃ-মাতৃ স্মরণে

In loving memory of our parents

**Dr Srish Chandra Sarkar and Charu Prova Sarkar
And wife Mary Sheila Sarkar
And brothers Tapan Sarkar & Subhash Sarkar**

SARKAR FAMILY

Wishing all of you a very happy
Durga Puja and 'Shuvo Bijoya'.
Monish sarker

YOU MADE A
DIFFERENCE.



WITH OUR GREATEST APPRECIATION

BHARAT SEVASHRAM SANGHA



We hereby present you with this award
in recognition for your ongoing commitment
and dedicated services that contributed to
Youth Without Shelter

MONIKA FOX

Director of Philanthropy

STEVE DOHERTY

Executive Director



HAPPY DURGA PUJA!



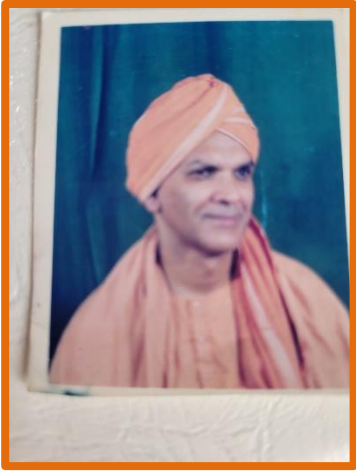
Wishing everyone a life
filled with happiness,
wealth and good fortune.

SANTIKARY FAMILY

The Catalyst for Reforming Hindus in India

Part 1:

by Swami Parameshanandaji Maharaj



Our beloved Bhagwan Shrimat Swami Pranavanandaji Maharaj – who we affectionally refer to as Shri Guru Maharaj – is Himself an embodiment of the Universal Mother. When young Binode (Guru Maharaj) was baby-Shiva, He mysteriously felt ill. After repeated attempts to cure him failed, His mother took Him to Ban Durga – a tree worshiped in the nearby forest as Mother Durga. Low and behold, he was immediately healed. This miraculous act propelled his mother Sharada Devi to mentally surrender Binode to Mother Durga. She recalled too the vision she and her husband Vishnu Charran have had during an avowed intense course of meditation – the fact Lord Shiva promised them that He would incarnate as their son.

The following is yet another life-altering event in Guru Maharaj's life. Once, he entered this Mandir after the Duga Pooja festivities were over and all the devotees were gone. There he was all alone – the young impressionable Binode who put forth this challenge to the Murti of the Mother: He dared Her to appear in person out of the image or else He will break it into pieces. Behold, improbable happened! The Mother emerged in form of a bright light and permanently entered into the being and person of Binode – engulfed as He was by the full-fledged power and might of the exuberant Mother.

Being henceforth the full embodiment of the Mother, Shrimat Swami Pranavanandaji Maharaj (founder and spiritual master of Bharat Sevashram Sangha) wisely utilized this occasion: He employed **DURGA PUJA** as the right catalyst to awaken the latent powers lying dormant in the Hindu masses. Remember, India had just emerged from a thousand years of suppression under foreign domination and tyranny – first by the Moguls followed by the British.

Imagine this imposing and picturesque setting: Picture having Durga Maa in the center; flanked on one side by Her two sons Kartikeya and Ganesh; and on the other side, having Lakshmi Maa and Mother Saraswati. The brahmins (the teachers and priests) would naturally come to worship Mother Saraswati – the Goddess of knowledge; the Kshatriyas (the warriors) would come to worship Lord Kartikeya – the God who offers protection; the vaishyas (businessmen) would want to worship Mother Lakshmi – the Goddess of wealth; while shudras (the labourer or working class) would most obviously seek the blessings of Ganeshji – the Great Lord who removes all difficulties.

Banaras is one of the premier places for Durga Pooja celebrations. Bharat Sevashram Sangha is conveniently located there, providing ample accommodations for pilgrims. The celebrations usually commence with a colorful procession – the carrying of the Mother which accompanied by live music and occasional display of acrobatic stick and weapons fighting. Finally, the Mother along with Her two sons and two daughters, will be ceremoniously installed and ready for worship. Invited professors from Banaras Hindu University and Ashrams far and near are usually invited to address the huge crowd. Food distribution is always in abundance. It is a tradition established by Shri Guru Maharaj in which a large percentage of Sangha monks make it their bounding duty to attend so as to garner strength and make the brotherhood invincibly strong. The festivities normally end with Guru and nine shakti arti devoted to the Deities. Finally, the Mutri is immersed in a pond, as it is prohibited to do so in Mother Ganga on account of pollution laws.

As the mythological story has it, there was a time when even the Gods and Goddesses were embroiled in this power-struggle: It had to do with leadership and having controlling interest over heaven. However, there was much disunity among devas which consequently led to their defeat. Thus, the asuras easily gained control and rulership over the heavenly spheres for hundreds of years. The ensuing oppression drove the devas to seek help. Lord Brahma rightly advised them that there is only one way out – the need to foster unity among themselves. If not, the Universal Mother would not intervene on their behaves. As the cliché goes, human efforts warrant God's grace. Obviously, the devas took heed and did as was told. Soon afterwards, Mother Durga appeared in form of a blazing light and a thunderous roar which drew the attention of Mahisasur – the arch enemy of the devas. An intense fight ensued. In the end, Mother Durga (armed with ten weapons in Her ten hands given to her by the Gods and Goddesses) vanquished Mahsasur. This was how the devas regained lost paradise. Jai Ambe Maa!

The Catalyst for Reforming Hindus in the West Indies

Part 2:

Bharat Sevashram Sangha resorted to Durga Puja as the *catalyst for change and reformation* in India - see article above by Swami Parameshanandaji. It is an established fact that our beloved Founder Acharya Swami Pranavanandaji Maharaj (Guru Maharaj) used Durga Pooja as his chosen instrument to resuscitate, unite and strengthen the wounded India nation. He once admonished Hindus in these unerring words: "Look at Maa Durga, brandishing in her ten hands ten celestial weapons. If that does not inspire valour in you then nothing else would."

The West Indies

However, the situation was somewhat different in the West Indies. Take Guyana for example. The founder of the Western branches (Canada included) was His Holiness Swami Purnanandaji Maharaj. This clairvoyant guru quickly realized that **SHIVARATRI** would be a more appropriate or fitting medium to employ in his bid to awaken the Caribbean Hindus – reason being that Durga Puja is not that popular there.

As a footnote, we must not forget that our beloved Guru Maharaj was the embodiment of Lord Shiva Himself – the manifestation of pure bliss and consciousness. Therefore, the fact that this tactical plan worked should not come to us as a surprise at all. That's how the *leela* or divine plan of the great Lord unfolds itself.

In his book *Portrait of a Saint*, Dr. Lake Singh poignantly captured the mood of the festival in Guyana:

*"As opposed to India where the Ashram had relied upon Durga Puja
for imbibing valour and strength in its people,
Swami Purnanandaji saw Shivaratri to be the medium of choice in the West.
This is why he worked so diligently to popularize the festival.
Building up the right momentum, the mass finally saw what he was trying to do.*

*The sight is simply mesmerizing at the Ashram during Shivaratri.
Adding to the ambience and spiritually charged atmosphere,
there is an array of events happening all at the same time:
Shiva puja, maha mantra chants, lectures, and religious debates.
Physically sitting on the mighty Atlantic embankment,
the participants simply swim in pure blissfulness
– a spiritual bath ever so refreshing to the flood of devotees."*



Whatever means were employed, it was virtually irrelevant. He discovered that the means justified the end and that's what mattered. The game-plan was to administer a vigorous booster into the arms of a people who once suffered the ignominy of being displaced during the well-known White Colonization Fiasco. The British did their fair share of injustice to our people both at home in India and abroad. This is so true for the Caribbean and other parts of the world where our Indian sisters and brothers are domiciled today.



Durga Puja 2022

We want to wish you Maa Durga blessings on this occasion of Navratri. We hope that this joyous time brings you and your loved ones peace and prosperity.

Pooran, Maggie, their three daughters, two sons-in-law and two grandchildren.

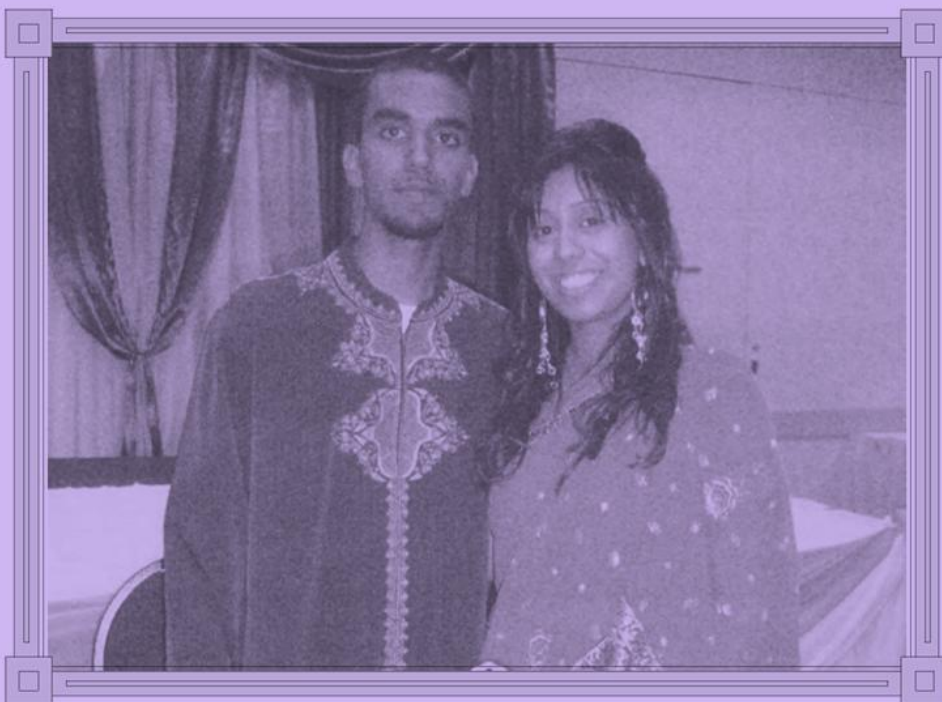


Durga Puja 2022 Greetings

Komal Bhanu & family

**Greetings &
Best Wishes
From
The Raykha
Family**

Urmila Raykha & Parmanand Raykha
Christina Raykha
Michael Raykha
Jennifer Raykha



**Greetings &
Best Wishes
From
Deownarain Ramsukh
& family**

"The Ashram's personal electrician. Bharat Sevashram Sangha Canada would like to extend a grateful and humble "thank you" for all his selfless, professional

Greetings & Best Wishes

*'Hare Krishna, Hare Krishna, Krishna Krishna, Hare Hare,
Hare Ram, Hare Ram, Ram Ram, Hare Hare*



**Guru Maharaj Ki Jai
Bharat Sevashram Swamiji Ki Jai**

From

Dr. Lipi Roy (MD/MPH)

Neil Roy

Sailesh Roy

Basanti Roy

Best Compliments

To The Bharat Sevashram Sangha-Canada

**In Loving Memory of
Sangeet Praveen, Prof, Shanti Chakravorty**

- Wife & Loving Mother

In Our Heart You will Live Forever

Paresh Chakravorty & Family

Pranab-Son, Neera-Daughter in Law, Sarika-Grand Daughter

Deven- Grand Son





**Compliments & Well Wishes
From The Banerjee Family**

**Sincerely
Late Prasad Banerjee & Wife**

Greetings & Best Wishes

**From
Narendra Roy
Rupali Roy
Ananya Roy
Anika Roy**

"Guru Kripahi Kevalam"



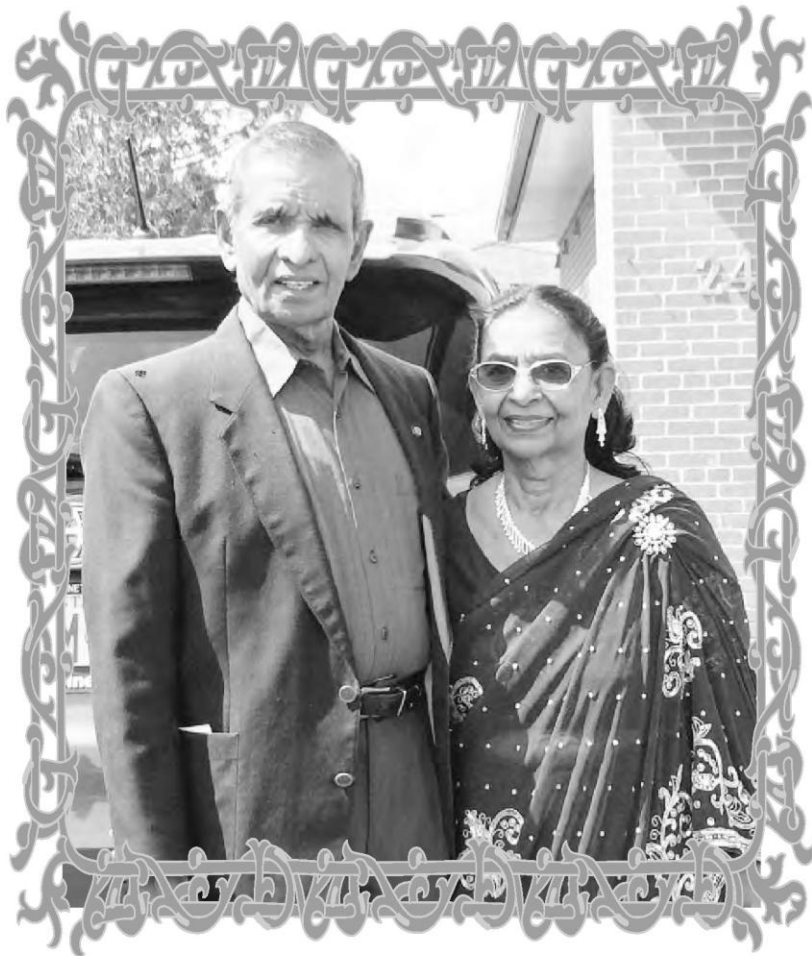
**NAAVRAATRI GREETINGS TO ALL DEVOTEES AND FRIENDS OF BHARAT SEVASHRAM SANGHA CANADA
FROM:**

**DEVI PERSAUD AND CHILDREN
KIRAN AND SEEMA, AMRITA AND KEVINDRA**

**On Memory of
Hookumchanged (Bud) Persaud**

August 26, 1954- January 17, 2012

He was born in Victoria Village, Guyana and resided at Cove and Jonh where he attended Primary and Secondary School at Hindu College. He pursued a career in Education and became a teacher there. An ardent devotee of Bharat Sevashram Sangha, he migrated to Canada in 1991 and continued his devotion to the Ashram. He passed on January 17, 2012 and is dearly missed by his wife Devi, children Kiran and Amrita, Swamiji and devotees of the ashram. May GURU MAHARAJ guide his soul to everlasting peace. JAI GURU.



Warmest Compliments

From
Chandralal & Savitri Mangru
& Family

**We Offer Our Best Wishes To
The Bharat Sevashram- Toronto**

Greetings & Best Wishes

From The Sankar Family

Sincerely

Rose & the late Dennis Sankar



Our 2nd Location is
NOW OPEN!



SINGH'S
JEWELLERY & DIAMONDS

SPECIALIZING IN
3D Designs, Diamond Engagement Rings, Bridal Sets, West Indian Jewellery,
Repairs and Remodeling. We melt your gold and remake.

2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU BETTER

MAIN STORE
2 Davenfield Circle, Unit #2
Brampton, ON Canada

Hours: 11am to 8pm
Open 7 days a week

DR. FLEA'S FLEA MARKET
Booth 102-103, Gate 8A
8 Westmore Drive, Etobicoke,
ON M9V 3Z7

Hours: 10am to 5pm
Saturday and Sunday

Tel: Randy 647.454.1389 or Monica 647.707.2168

 @singhsjewelleryanddiamonds  @randy_singhsjewellery

**FOR THE VERY BEST IN GUYANESE AND WEST INDIAN
SPICES, CHUTNEYS, PICKLES AND SNACK FOODS**

Ask for the brand that assures you quality



Chilli Pickle



Mango Pickle

Maywah

Healthy, Tasty, Nutritious.

Available at your grocery store

Manufactured And Distributed By

Maywah Foods Inc.

Best Wishes & Greetings

- From Auntie GLADYS -

May God bless the Bharat Sevashram
and keep all its devotees in his grace

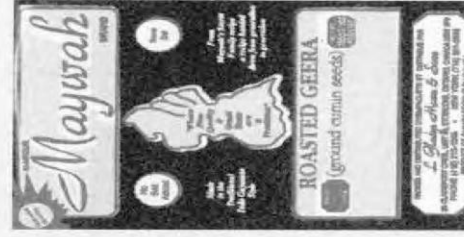
"Jai Ram"



Maywah
Curry Powder



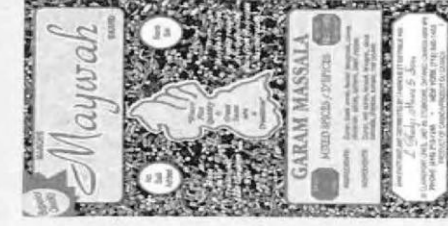
Achar Massala



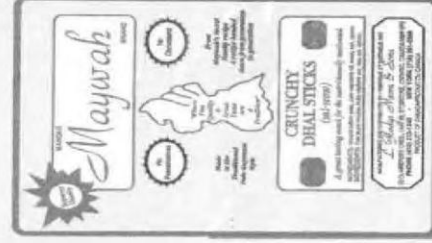
Roasted Geera



Soya Chunks



Garam Massala



Crunchy Dhal Sticks (Sal Seow)

**PLACE YOUR
ORDER
TODAY!**

20 Claireport Crescent
Etobicoke Ont
M9W 6P6

Tel: 416 614 0374
Email: maywah@rogers.com

Invest in **GUYANA**

Buddy's Housing Development & Atlantic Builder's Inc.

Launch the first and only project of its kind in all of Guyana

SHORELINE ESTATES

GUYANA SOUTH AMERICA

Stunning Villas by the Atlantic Ocean in a truly Resort-Like, Paradisaical Setting



Why Guyana?

- Because Guyana has struck OIL in unprecedented quantities
- Poised to become the richest country in the world on a per capita basis
- Will produce a Million Barrel Oil per day - the next Dubai in the making
- Price starts at only US\$199,000 for a 1-Bedroom + Den
- Materials and workmanship up to Canadian & American standards

Contact Dr. Lake Singh, Principal / Developer: 416-825-2700

lakemortgages@hotmail.com

MIKE SOOKHOO TAX SERVICES

CPA {Certified Public Accountant}

Basic Income taxes, Financial Statements & Federal/Provincial Corporate returns
Payroll, Accounting & Bookkeeping

Year-round quality, reliable, tax preparation service!

1687 Major Oaks Road, Pickering Ontario L1X 1X1

Phone: 905-426-5840 Cell: 905-391-5699

Fax: 905-426-5841 email: cobra279@hotmail.com

EMBROIDERY
CANADA LTD.

EMBROIDERY
CANADA LTD.

1188 Martin Grove Road
Etobicoke, ON M9W 5M9

416.243.3328
info@embroiderycanada.ca

www.embroiderycanada.com

Kumar Nankisore

**LIST HOME IN 1%
BUY HOME GET 1%***



★★★★★
RankMyAgent

<https://rankmyagent.com/arun-ganguly>

ARUN GANGULY

REALTOR®

Dir: 416-455-3542

CENTURY 21.
Heritage Group Ltd
Independently Owned and Operated



NOT INTENDED TO SOLICIT PROPERTIES AND BUYERS CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT.



HOME

1% REBATE*

\$1M = \$10,000

YOU RECEIVE

**1%
PURCHASE
PRICE**

* Certain conditions apply, please enquire for more details.

Anand's Tent Rentals



Table, Chair & Covering, Bar, Flooring & Stage
Warmer, Coffee Maker, Light, Generator, Heater, Fans etc.

Anand B.

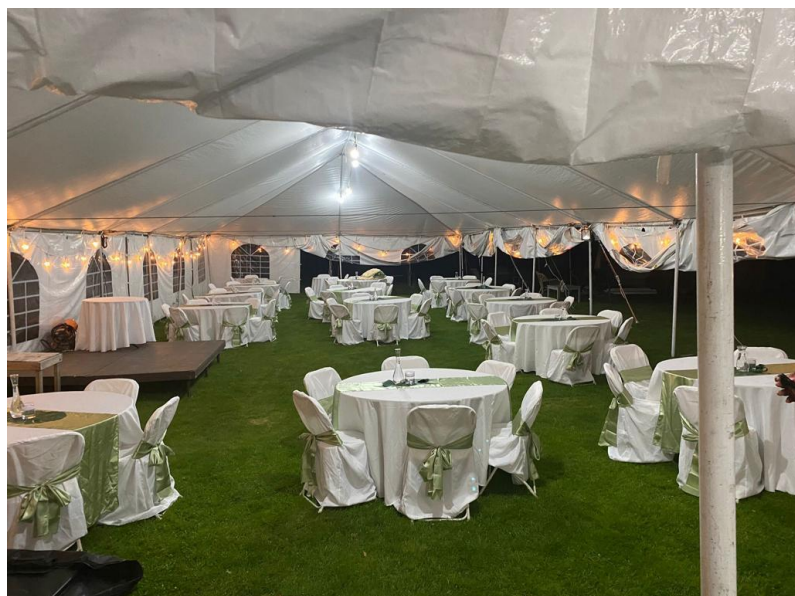


Anand Tent Rentals

416-918-3472 DISC



Anand Tent Rental - 416 918 3472



WWW.OMYGHOSH.COM



INDRANIL
GHOSH
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

***"Ghosh is an ordinary guy,
dependable, honest with an
extraordinary service"***

Collective feedback from customers

647.404.9471
omyghoshrealestate@gmail.com

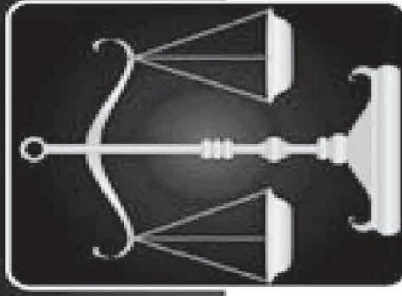
**15 Years+ Experience,
Award Winner, 400+ Homes
Bought & Sold!!**



OMYGHOSH.COM



Credit Valley Real Estate
Brokerage (Independently Owned and Operated)
Office: 905.793.5000 Fax: 905.793.5020



SIKDER PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

PALTU KUMAR SIKDER BARRISTER, SOLICITORS & NOTARIES

306-1620 ALBION
RD, TORONTO, ON.
M9V4B4

416-707-5065
416-740-2957

SIKDER@SIKDERLAW.CA
SIKDERLAW.CA

AREA OF PRACTICE

REAL ESTATE
CRIMINAL
ALL IMMIGRATION
BUSINESS LAW
FAMILY LAW
GENERAL PRACTICE





Mithu Shome
Salesperson
☎ **416-846-6815**
🌐 mitoshome@yahoo.ca



Subarna Dey
Broker
☎ **647-780-9572**
🌐 subarnadey2011@gmail.com



RE/MAX METROPOLIS
REALTY BROKERAGE

☎ 905-824-0788
🏠 905-817-0524

📍 92-93 - 8321 Kennedy Rd.
Markham, ON L3R 5N4



* Each office independently owned and operated.



Home and auto insurance tailored to you

Discover the agent advantage today.



Desjardins
Insurance

Abhijit Ghosh, Agent | 905-453-6633

**WE BRING TO THE COMMUNITY
VARIOUS PRODUCTS RELATED TO
INDIAN DRESS**

Great collection of Indian Ethnic all types of Sarees, Salwars, Lehngas, Kurtis, Tops, Panjabis, Modi coat, other Women accessories like Nighty, Housecoat, leggings, petticoat, designer blouse, bedsheets & some attractive designer Jewelleries and Kashmiri Shawls.



NUPUR's Boutique

@ Markham

CALL NUPUR @ 6478532790

Email : nupban23@gmail.com



**GREAT COLLECTION OF
ETHNIC GARMENTS**



SURYA

LAW

WE ARE EQUIPPED TO
SERVE YOUR LEGAL NEEDS
ANYWHERE IN ONTARIO

WE SPEAK YOUR
LANGUAGE



SURYA CHAKRABARTI

সূর্য চক্রবর্তী

BARRISTER, SOLICITOR & NOTARY PUBLIC

PRACTICE AREAS

REAL ESTATE

-BUYING, SELLING, REFINANCING

IMMIGRATION & FAMILY LAW

BUSINESS & CONTRACT LAWS

WILLS & ESTATE PLANNING

NOTARY & POWER OF ATTORNEY



MOBILE: **647-709-0897**

PHONE: **905-215-0793**

FAX: **905-215-0794**

EMAIL: INFO@SURYALAW.CA

TORONTO OFFICE:

3090 Kingston Rd, Unit 202
Scarborough, ON, M1M 1P2

MISSISSAUGA OFFICE:

30 Eglinton Avenue West, #400, Suite 5
Mississauga, ON, L5R 3E7

WWW.SURYALAW.CA



DAWN
Staffing Solutions

Dawn Staffing Solutions Inc

DRIVEN BY AI, LED BY PEOPLE.



About Us

Dawn Staffing Solutions specializes in **Manufacturing, Engineering, and Information Technology** Recruitment. Our primary objective is to develop careers at every phase.

Dawn Staffing provides direct placement services for clients across the **USA and Canada.**

BUYING OR SELLING

Residential, Commercial & Investment Properties

FREE HOME EVALUATION

values

integrity

availability

responsiveness

meticulousness



**EXPERT IN
MARKET RESEARCH & ANALYTICS**



SUMMIT

Sutton

ABU BAKKAR SIDDIK
SARKAR

REALTOR®

647-767-1143

asarkar@sutton.com

www.RealtorSarkar.com

@RealtorSarkar

Sutton Group - Summit Realty Inc., Brokerage
Independantly owned and operated Office: 905-897-9555

Buying or Selling Residential, Commercial & Investment Properties?
**CALL FOR A FREE HOME EVALUATION
& REAL ESTATE CONSULTATION**

Abu Bakkar Siddik Sarkar is expert in Market
Research & Analytics with a reliable network of
Mortgage & 3rd party Professionals

- VALUES • INTEGRITY • AVAILABILITY
- RESPONSIVENESS • METICULOUSNESS

**HELPING YOU MAKE THE RIGHT MOVE
FROM START TO FINISH & BUILD
WEALTH IN REAL ESTATE**



ABU BAKKAR SIDDIK SARKAR
Realtor

647.767.1143 905.897.9555 asarkar@sutton.com www.RealtorSarkar.ca



GOSWAMI LAW OFFICE



dedicated, effective, affordable, and personalized legal services



S. GOSWAMI

B.Sc. (Hons.), Bus. Admin. (Hons.), LL.B.
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public

**FREE INITIAL
CONSULTATION**



IMMIGRATION MATTERS

- ➔ Family Sponsorships, Adoptions
- ➔ Work Permits
- ➔ Business, Independent, Entrepreneur Applications
- ➔ Humanitarian and Compassionate Applications
- ➔ Appeals to IRB and Federal Court
- ➔ Stay of Deportation
- ➔ Border / Entry Refusals, Detention Reviews



REAL ESTATE

- 📄 Sale and Purchase of Residential / Commercial Property
- 📄 Mortgages, Commercial Leases, Landlord and Tenant



CRIMINAL MATTERS

- ⊗ Bail Hearings, Assaults, Young Offenders
- ⊗ Impaired Driving, Theft / Shop Lifting
- ⊗ Drug Offences, Currency Offences



WILLS & POWERS OF ATTORNEY

- 📄 Probate, Administration, Living Wills
- 📄 Notarizations, Statutory Declarations, Affidavits



BUSINESS / CORPORATE

- 📄 Incorporations, Franchising
- 📄 Shareholder / Partnership / General Agreements



FAMILY LAW

- 👪 Divorce, Separation Agreements
- 👪 Marriage Contracts
- 👪 Variation of Existing Agreements / Orders
- 👪 Support, Custody and Access Matters



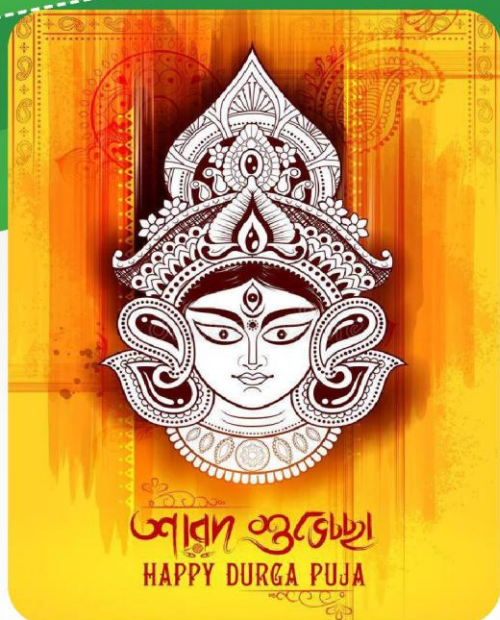
CIVIL LITIGATION

- 🔪 General Claims and Defences

Tel : (416) 441-0153

Fax : (416) 441-9108
Email : goswami@golawto.com

1315 Lawrence Avenue East, Unit 521
Toronto, Ontario M3A 3R3
(One Block East of Don Valley Parkway)



Happy Puja Durga 2022

Don't Get left behind
Buying or Selling
We'll get you
where you
need to go

Buy, sell, Lease, Invest,
Residential/Commercial.
Design Build or
Extensive Renovation.

Ronny Sur

Broker/Consult



647.710.1534



416.298.3200



ronnybroker@gmail.com



www.ronnysur.com

Higher Standards Agents Higher Results!



HomeLife Today Realty Ltd, Brokerage
31 Progress Ave., Suite 210
Toronto, ON., M1P 4S6
Independently Owned and Operated

LAW OFFICE



Chayanika Dutta

Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public

2224 Kingston Road
Scarborough, Ontario M1N 1T9

Phone: (416) 406-4LAW
Cell: (416) 879-5240
Fax: (416) 778-4528
E-mail: chaya@duttalaw.com

Areas of Practice

- ☐ Real Estate: Residential/Commercial - Purchase, Sale and Refinancing
- ☐ Civil Litigation: Claims, Defences, Writs and Garnishment
- ☐ Immigration: Invitation letters, Family Sponsorship, Appeals, Refugee Matters, Skilled Worker & Business Class
- ☐ Family Law: Separation Agreements, Divorce, Child/Spousal support, Custody/Access
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Wills, Affidavits, Declaration & Notarization.

Proficient in English, Bengali, Urdu & Hindi



Advanced Digital Control Room - Installed in Qinshan, China Nuclear Power Plant

A global leader in custom designed safety instrumentation & control systems



Jay Sarkar, P. Eng.
Founder, President & CEO

A high-tech scientific instrumentation company that has been designing, manufacturing and supplying control and safety instrumentation to nuclear reactors, scientific laboratories, military & security related markets globally, for over 40 years.

Our instrumentation covers a wide range of applications - control & safety, radiation monitoring, computerized process control systems, scientific automation projects, security devices and military equipment for the international marketplace.



Ion Chamber



Tritium Monitors



ISO 9001:2015



NQA-1



CSA Z299.1



Newly Designed Startup Instrumentation System for Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power Co. Ltd



222 Snidercroft Road, Concord, Ontario, Canada L4K 2K1
Phone: 905-669-2278 | Fax: 905-669-6127 | Website: Sartrex.ca

