#### What is Arya Samaj?

Arya Samaj founded by Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati is an institution based on the teachings of Vedas for the welfare of universe. It propagates the universal doctrines of humanity.

It is neither a religion nor a sect.

## ARYAN VOICE

**YEAR 40** 

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#### 10 Principles of Arya Samaj

- 1. God is the primary source of all true knowledge and all that is known by its means. (At the beginning of creation, nearly 2 Billion years ago, God gave the knowledge of 4 Vedas to four learned Rishis named Agni, Vayu, Aditya and Angira. Four Vedas called Rig Ved, Yajur Ved, Sam Ved and Atharva Ved contain all true knowledge, spiritual and scientific, known to the world.)
- 2. God is existent, intelligent and blissful. He is formless, omnipotent, just, merciful, unborn, infinite, invariable (unchangeable), having no beginning, matchless (unparalleled), the support of all, the master of all, omnipresent, omniscient, ever young (imperishable), immortal, fearless, eternal, holy and creator of universe. To him alone worship is due.
- 3. Vedas are the scripture of all true knowledge. It is paramount duty of all Aryan to read them, teach and recite them to others.
- 4. All human beings should always be ready to accept the truth and give up untruth.
- 5. All our actions should be according to the principles of Dharma i.e. after differentiating right from wrong.
- 6. The primary aim of Arya Samaj is to do good to the human beings of whole world i.e. to its physical, spiritual and social welfare.
- 7. All human beings ought to be treated with love, justice and according to their merits as dictated by Dharma.
- 8. We should all promote knowledge (Vidya) and dispel ignorance (Avidya).
- 9. One should not be content with one's own welfare alone but should look for one's welfare in the welfare of all others.
- 10. In matters which affect the well being of all people an individual should subordinate any personal rights that are in conflict with the wishes of the majority. In matters that affect him/her alone he/she is free to exercise his/her human rights.

## I Take dip into the Water of Vedas (Nectar of Knowledge)

ऋतेन गुप्त ऋतुभिश्च सर्वैर्भूतेन गुप्तो भव्येन चाहम् । मा मा प्रापत्पाप्मा मोत मृत्युरन्तर्दधेऽहं सलिलेन वाच: ॥अथर्ववेद १७.१.२९

Rtena gupta rtubhisca sarvair bhutena gupto bhavena cahahm I ma ma prapat papma mota mrtyur antardadhe aham salilena vacah II

Atharva 17.1.29

#### **Meaning in Text Order**

Rten = through natural laws

Guptah = protected

Rtubhih = through seasons

ca = and

Sarvaih = all

Bhutena = from past

Guptah = guarded

Bhvyena = for future

ca = and

Aham = I

Ma = to me

Ma = don't

Prapat = approach

Papma = sins

Ma = not

Uta = also

Mrtyuh = death

Antah = conceal

Dadhe = bear

Aham = I

Salilena = through nectar of knowledge

Vacah = through the speech of the Veda.

#### **Meaning**

May I be protected by natural laws, all seasons, by past, present and future May not sin and untimely death come near me. I am over whelmed with the nectar of Vedas.

#### **Contemplation**

I feel myself unprotected in this unsafe world and wish to be protected absolutely. How can I feel myself protected? I cannot make myself safe being protected by thousands bodyguards as I can commit myself to moral codes and by awakening inner strength. First opf all I should safeguard myself through truth. Human beings often take the shelter of untruth for their protection He thinks by taking the refuge of untruth, I will save myself from punishment but untruth is never hidden. The culprit gets punishment for committed crimeand beside that heis punished for telling lie. On the contrary, if he speaks truth, takes the responsibility of crime, he becomes worthy of forgiveness. May I be protected by the seasons all the six seasons play their role in a magnificent way through nature. I should heed the example of these seasons to do my duties accordingly on time then I can live safe. If I learn the lesson from the radiant past of my country and vow to make the present bright then my past can protect me. Through imagining the splendid future and by giving it practical shape with my efforts I can secure my future.

If my resolves are strong then in no circumstances I will allow sins to influence me and they will remain away from me. Consequently, I will remain safe in morality. As it is eternal law that who is born shall die but the fear of untimely death always stay us mind. Therefore it is paramount to save ourselves from untimely death. Finally, I defend myself with nectar of speech of Veda. Therefore, I take the plunge into the pristine pond of knowledge of Vedas and keep myself away from all impurities and find myself safe from all calamities.

#### By Mr Krishan Chopra

#### महर्षि दयानन्द उवाच

संकलन- आचार्य डॉ. उमेश यादव

सच्चे आभूषण- संतानों को उत्तम विद्या, शिक्षा, गुण, कर्म और
स्वभावरुप आभूषणों का धारण कराना माता, पिता और आचार्य और
सम्बन्धियों का मुख्य कर्म है। सोने चान्दी, माणिक, मोती, मुंगा आदि
रत्नों से युक्त आभूषणों के धारण करने से मनुष्य का आत्मा सुभूषित
कभी नहीं हो सकता क्योंकि आभूषणों के धारण करने से केवल
देहाभिमान, विषयासक्ति और चोर आदि का भय तथा मृत्यु का भी सम्भव
है। संसार में देखने में आता है कि आभूषनों के योग से बालकादिकों का
मृत्यु दुष्टों के हाथ से होता है।

नोट- एक उम और अवस्था विशेष के लिये यह निर्देश है। आभूषणों का महत्त्व सौन्दर्यजनक समाज में ग्राह्य है पर शिक्षा-काल में शिक्षा का महत्त्व है न कि आभूषणों का। सुरक्षित अवस्था में समसामयिक आभूषण उत्सव आदि में मान्य है।

यज्ञोपवित दोनों का- द्विज अपने घर में लड़कों का यज्ञोपवित और कन्याओं का भी यथायोग्य संस्कार करके यथोक्त आचार्य-कुल अर्थात् अपनी पाथशाला में भेज दें।

नोट- लड़का और लड़की के संस्कारों की सम्पन्नता में कोई माता-पिता भेद-भाव न करें । दोनों आपकी संतानें है । दोनों की प्रतिष्ठा समान है । यह जानकारी आज भी उतना ही महत्त्वपूर्ण है जितना सैंकड़ों वर्ष पहले थी । बहुत माँ-बाप को पता ही नहीं है कि यज्ञोपवित अर्थात् जनेऊ संस्कार जो वैदिक भाषा में उपनयन संस्कार कहा जाता है, सबके लिये अर्थात् लड़का हो या लड़की दोनों के लिये आवश्यक है। हाँ इसमें एक ही योग्यता आवाश्यक है कि बालक या बालिका में पढ़ने-लिखने, जानने वा सीखने की क्षमता वा जिज्ञासा है। वौधिक परीक्षा से पता कर लेना उचित है। चाहे वह वच्चा या वच्ची किसी भी परिवार या घराना में जन्मा हो।

स्वाहा- स्वाहा आदि शब्दों का अर्थ बता कर वच्चों को संस्कारित करते रहना उचित है।

" स्वाहा शब्द का अर्थ यह है कि जैसा ज्ञान आत्मा में हो वैसा ही जीभ से बोले, विपरीत नहीं । जैसे परमेश्वर ने सब प्राणियों के सुख के अर्थ इस जगत् के पदार्थ रचे हैं, वैसे मनुष्यों को भी परोपकार करना चाहिये ।" --सत्यार्थ प्रकाश ।

यहां प्रसंगवश स्वाहा शब्द का वर्ण-विवेचन भी कर देता हूँ- स्व=अपना, आहा= वचन अर्थात् अपने हृदय में उठा भाव जो वाणी पर आये वह । स्वाहा यज्ञ-प्रकरण में बोला जाता है जो विल्कुल शुद्ध भावयुक्त प्रकरण है । हृदय में जो शुद्ध भाव आत्म-कल्याण व जग-कल्याण के योग्य हो, वही वाणी पर आ रही है । इससे सेवा, परोपकार, आत्मबोध आदि श्रेष्ठ भावों का आकलन होता है ।

ऐसा पाठ निश्चित ही वच्चों के श्रेष्ठ जीवन हेतु उपकारी होगा । इसके साथ ही "नमस्ते" आदि शब्दों से एक-दूसरों का आदर करना भी सीखाना उचित होगा । इससे जीवन में विनम्रता, शालीनता व श्रेष्ठता जैसे गुणों का विकास होता है ।

#### ओश्म्

#### <u>"भाता श्री चन्द्रा जी की याद में अभिव्यक्त श्रद्धाँजलि"</u>

---सत्य प्रकाश गुप्ता

मैं अपने हृदय के उद्गार अपने भ्राता श्री गोपाल चन्द्रा जी के प्रति जो अब इस संसार में नहीं हैं, आपके समक्ष रखने का प्रयत्न कर रहा हूँ । जब आत्मा रुपी पंछी शरीर से अलग होकर कहीं और चली जाती है, तब शरीर रुपी पिंजर ही पृथिवी पर पड़ा रह जाता है जिसका कोई अस्तित्व नहीं रहता: निस्तेज वेजान होता है जिसे हम पार्थिव, जड़ या मृतक शरीर कहते हैं । यही स्थूल रुप है, ऐसा वैदिक शास्त्रों में मान्य है । उनके प्रति इन पंक्तियों में मेरी हार्दिक श्रद्धाँजलि प्रस्तृत है—

जीवन के दिन चार, यह पंछी उड़ जाना। कर ले यतन हजार, यह पंछी उड़ जाना॥

इस पंछी का को न ठिकाना, न हो तू वेहाल, पंछी उड़ जाना। जब पिंजर से उड़ना इसने, लम्बी भरे उडान, पंछी उड जाना॥

सब लोगन ने जोर लगाया, नहीं किसी ने पार है पाया। पत्थर दिल यह पंछी है जो, किसी की न सुने पुकार, पंछी उड़ जाना॥ हम रो-रो होते वेहाल, देख यह मंजर सारा । निष्ठुर उड़े वितान, पंछी उड़ जाना ॥

जीवन के दिन चार, पंछी उड़ जाना ॥

आप सबने शांतिपूर्वक मेरे इस संदेश को सुना, इसके लिये मैं हृदय की गहराई से बहुत-बहुत आभारी हूँ ।

"रिस्ते टूटते नहीं, यादें बन जाती हैं।"

ओ३म् शांति:! शांति:!! शांति:!!!



#### PARENTS AND TODDLER GROUP

Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands

We provide a safe and secure facility and support parents in the up bringing and learning of their children.

Time spent in this activity is beneficial to the whole family and this involves the following.

- Singing
- Water play
- Games
- Music
- Books
- Educational Play and much more.......

WHERE: Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands 321 Rookery Road, Handsworth, Birmingham B21 9PR

WHEN: - EVERY WEDNESDAY 10.30AM - 12PM

After a successful launch on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018 this play group will take place every week.

Centrally located and housed in a spacious hall very well equipped and well-staffed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 0121 359 7727 or 0121 246 7399 or email enquiries@arya-samaj.org.uk

Children's health, safety and wellbeing are of paramount importance to Arya Samaj Community

ALL CHILDREN SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT Any suggestions welcome!

#### ओश्म् खोज

--सत्य प्रकाश ग्प्ता

मेरी आँखों के तारे कहाँ चल दिये, छुप के मुझसे यहाँ से कहाँ चल दिये । मेरी आँखों के.....

सूखे पतों की तरह यह मौसम लगे, बरसे पानी जो देखूँ तो सूखा लगे, मन यहाँ से कहाँ तक भटकता फिरे, छुप के मुझसे यहाँ से कहाँ चल दिये । मेरी आँखों के....

जागता हूँ तो सोया हुआ पाता हूँ,
गिरता परता कहाँ से कहाँ जाता हूँ,
बहते झरने में जब डूब जाता हूँ मैं,
सब जगह जब आता जाता हूँ मैं,
तुझे खोजता हूँ, पर अब तू न मिले,
छुप के मुझसे यहाँ से कहाँ चल दिये । मेरी आँखों के ...

खोया-खोया सा जब खुद को पाता हूँ मैं,
देखता हूँ तो, देख पाता नहीं,
खोजता हूँ तो, खोज पाता नहीं,
हँसता-रोता हूँ तो रो भी पाता नहीं,
हँसते-हँसते हुये तुम कहाँ चल दिये । मेरी आँखों के ...

कुछ नहीं..., कुछ भी नहीं... कुछ तो है ही नहीं,

पर कुछ तो है..., कुछ मैं खुद को भी देख पाता नहीं,

जो कुछ भी है, वह भला क्यों है ?

और यह कुछ भी दिल की कहानी बनी,

जो कुछ भी मैं देखूँ, विराना लगे,

खुद को देखूँ तो खुद भी दीवाना लगे,

वस मुझसे ही छुप कर कहाँ चल दिये । मेरी आँखों के ....

आस्मां और जमीं में न अन्तर रहा,
खुद में खुद का न खुद ही में अन्तर रहा,
वस यही एक थोड़ा सा अन्तर रहा,
देखना चाहता हूँ....तो मैं ... देख पाता नहीं,
वह नजारे जो कभी देख पाता भी था,
वह नजारे यहाँ से कहाँ चल दिये, मेरी आँखों के...।

जब कभी भी रात्री में आँख खुल जाती है, तो तेरी तस्वीर...... या यूँ समझ लो, कि तुम स्वयं ही नजर आती हो, और जब जल्दी से उठकर मैं तेरा पीछा भी करता हूँ, तो तू दूर, बहुत दूर मुझसे चली जाती हो।

भला ऐसा मुझे क्यों लगता है, कि तू मेरे पास है और पास भी नहीं, यह छुप्पा-छुप्पी का सा खेल दिखाकर, न जाने तुम कहाँ चल दिये ! मेरी आँखों के ... ।

#### **DEVA - YAJNA (AGNIHOTRA/HAVAN)**

#### MEANING AND IMPORTANCE OF PERFORMING DEVA- YAJNA Continued......

- e) Agnyaadhaan- The process of lighting fire in Havan Kund with help of a Diya (earthen lamp) or a match stick is known as Agnyaadhaan. It is duty of a bachelor, married couples and Vaanprashthi to do Havan. This is why we use three pieces of wood of length of about eight fingers, three steps in Havan Kund and three final ablations while performing Havan.
- f) Ghrit Panchaahuti- A person recites same Mantra five times and offers oblation of Ghee with it. Yajman pours oblation of Ghee in four corners and one in the middle of Havan Kund in order to light the fire in the Havan Kund properly. The Samidha (small wooden pieces) and Ghee are the soul of fire. In this Mantra Yajman prays to Almighty God for achievement of five things. Let us pay attention to five words written in this Mantra. 1- Children, 2 Animals, 3 Blessing of Almighty God 4 Food, 5 Whatever else is essential for a successful human life should be followed by him/her.
- g) Pouring Water around Havan Kund- In this ceremony Yajman takes a small amount of water in his/her middle of the palm and pours it around four sides of Havan Kund. This act stops any insects crawling towards Havan Kund. Let us understand the meaning of Mantras recited while doing this act. In East there is Sun, in West is Anumati, in North Saraswati (knowledge) and yajman prays to Almighty God to accept and bless the Havan performed by him/her.

The Sun rises in East and provides day light to the world. So it is correct to pour water in east.

The Sun travels towards west and sets in west. This is the beginning of night. Then Moon takes over to provide light to the world. This is called Anumati. Anumati is related to the West, night period, Moon and Moon light. So it is correct to pour water in west. In north Saraswati, who gives us knowledge, speech and enlightenment, is

based. The speech helps us in reciting Ved Mantras while doing Havan. The true knowledge helps us to succeed and progress in our lives. So it is correct to pour water in north. Then Yajman pours water in all four directions. A Yajman pours water in above directions while sitting with his/her face facing towards east.

h) Aaghaaraavaajyaahuti (Aaghaar-Aajyahuti)- Aaghar means butter and Aajyaa means Ghee.

Butter is made from a Cow's milk. Ghee is prepared after heating the butter for a certain period. This Ghee is called Aaghaaraajya and offering (Oblation) this Ghee in Havan is Aahuti.

Aaghar (Ghee) is called as Head of Yajna (Havan). Agani (Fire) and Som (Liquid) together help the development of knowledge in human Brain. Agani and Som encourage us to develop Satya (True) habits for our day to day life for example to be truthful in our thinking and speech and Ritz (Natural Laws) like respect for our environment and nature. The oblation of Ghee in North of Havan Kund represents truthfulness in our behaviour, the oblation of Ghee in south of Havan Kund represents respecting our environment and nature. Two oblations of Ghee are given in the Centre (Middle) of Havan Kund by reciting Prajapate and Indra. Prajaapati means Almighty God and Indra means a soul who resides in a human body with senses. By offering two oblations of Ghee in the centre of Havan Kund a Yajmaan is praying to Almighty God for the welfare of Souls of all human beings. Almighty God and Souls residing in human bodies are two essential reasons for the creation of this universe. Almighty God has created this universe for the welfare of Souls residing in physical bodies.

- I) Praatah Kaalin (Morning) Oblations- From here onwards Saamagri is also offered as oblations along with Ghee. At this stage in Havan Samida in havan Kund is well lit and is burning well. This helps in burning Samagri which is offered as oblation in Havan Kund. In these Mantras Yajman is praying to Almighty God for receiving the full benefit of rays of Sun in his/her life.
- j) Saayam Kaalin (Evening) Oblations- These Mantras are

contemplation (reflection) of various states of Agni (Fire). Agni gives physical light, Vitality and is like Almighty God and is essential for the Soul of a physical body.

- **k)** Purnaahuti (Final Oblation) There is only one Mantra in this part. OM SARVAM VAI PURNAM SWAAHAA. This Mantra is recited three times with oblation offered each time. By reciting this mantra three times Yajmaan is trying to express following three sentiments.
  - 1. On completion of Havan successfully he/she expresses his/her total devotion and dedication to Almighty God.
  - 2. Thankful to Almighty God that Havan took place.
  - 3. For spiritual satisfaction achieved by performing this Havan.

At the end of Havan we can see people happy and satisfied. Mind, Intelligence, Senses and Human soul are all spiritually filled and satisfied. The surrounding environment is also clean. By doing a Havan a human being is helped physically, mentally and spiritually.

Till now we have described about a daily Havan done by in day to day life.

Now we will write about **BRIHAD YAJNAAHUTIYAAN.**There are eighteen Oblations given in Brihad Yajnaahutiyaan.

- a) Vyaahritiyaan- Please pays attention to three words BHU- Agni (Fire) BHUVAH- Vaayu (Air) and SWAH- Aaditya (Sun, Electricity).
  - The fire of earth, Air of Space and sky, Sun in Celestial space are helping humans and animals to live on planet earth.By performing Havan we are trying to purify these as well.
- b) Swishtkrithomaahuti- In this part of Havan one offers a sweet preparation like Halwa, Kheer made of rice, milk and sugar or Ghee to the fire in Havan Kund.

  The Yajman and Priest together are trying their best to make Havan as good as possible. In this Mantra Yajman is praying to Almighty God for his forgiveness for any mistake committed by him/her in performing this Havan. He/she will try his/her best in future to make good for this mistake.
- c) **Praajaapatyaahuti-** This is one Mantra where Yajmaan offers one oblation silently.
- d) Paavamaanyaahuti In these four Mantras there is repetition of PAAVAMAANAAYA SWAAHAA. In these four Mantra there is description of philosophy of Life. There is prayer of a holy and a sacred life.
  - 1. Om Bhurbhuvah Swah. Agna Aayushi Pavas......
    Only high quality deeds can give a pure or holy life. A Yajmaan prays for a energetic and active life, good intelligence, to stay away from habit of doing bad deeds.

  - 3. Om Bhurbhuvah Swah. Agne Pavaswa Swapaa.......

    That Almighty God is life of all animals and is most powerful.

    He is the purest of the pure. This is why a Yajmaan prays to the Almighty God for doing good deeds, physical strength,

splendour and brilliance, wealth and purity in his/her deeds.

- e) Maanglik/Astaajyahutiyaan- In these eight Mantras a Yajmaan is dedicating him/her self to Almighty God and also is paying his/her due respect and gratitude to Brahmaa of Yaina (Priest) who is helping him/her in performing this Havan. In these Mantraas Agni word is meant for Priest and Varun word is for Almighty God. In order to get rid of Sin of one's life and for successful completion of Havan the guidance provided by a qualified and learned Priest and blessing of Almighty God is very important. To get control over anger, Control over Mind and to get rid of fault and defects in one's life are important elements in a human life. A learned Priest guides a Yajmaan to stay away from committing sins in his/her life. To perform Yajna is the best deed of a human life. This also helps in achieving a healthy and prolonged life for Yajmaan. By committing sins we make grave mistakes. By doing regular Havan we stay away from bad deeds. By doing Yaina we protect ourselves from committing sins, talking bad things about other people and going in to depression.

This completes the practical aspects of Deva Yajna (Havan). We advise people who are going to perform various Sacraments to select relevant sections of Deva Yajna. A learned Priest will obviously know what to do.

Written by
Acharya ji Dr Umesh Yadav in Hindi
And
Translated by
Dr Narendra Kumar in English

### Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands Newly Refurbished Venue Hire

Our new home at 321 Rookery Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 9PR has been newly refurbished and is the perfect venue for you to hire for all your events.

#### **Venue Information:**

- Main Banqueting Hall Seating up to 300+ guests
  - Function/Dining Hall With Stage
    - Yajna Shala (Havan Room)
      - Kitchen Facilities
        - On site cleaner
      - Parking for events
      - Hindu Priest Service

Our venue is perfect for Weddings, Engagements, Anniversaries, Birthdays for all ages, Religious Ceremonies, Community Events, Family Parties, Meetings, Wakes and all other functions.

For more informatiom or viewings please call us on 0121 359 7727

Monday to Friday between: - 2pm to 6pm, Except Wednesday: - 10.30am to 1.00pm Bank Holidays - Closed

- Excellent rates - Vegetarian ONLY - No Alcohol

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2017/2018 PRESENTED BY MRS. BRIJ BALA DUGGAL SECRETARY

The year seems to have passed very quickly and it is difficult to describe everything that we have accomplished during this period. At the last AGM we had made the decision to go ahead with purchase of 321 Rookery Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, as it met most of our needs. Steps were taken to acquire this building and the exchange of contracts on both sale of 188 Inkermann Street, Nechells and purchase of 321 Rookery Road, Handsworth, took place simultaneously on 23rd August 2107. The property was purchased for £650,000 and monies given by HS2 for refurbishment amounted to approx. £308,000. The budget for refurbishment work was divided into three parts and paid at different stages.

There was a great deal of work to be carried out at the premises before we could actually move in so appropriate steps were taken to organise this. A Chartered Surveyor, a Project Manager and a Client Liaison Officer were all contracted for this purpose. Plans were drawn, work specification documents prepared, planning permission for the dwelling for the Priest was obtained and approval obtained from HS2 for the essential work that they were going to cover under the agreement. Messrs. Graybuild (Building Contractors) were instructed through a tendering process to carry out all the specified work. Due to necessary formal procedures and processes the work started at the end of December 2017 a little later than acticipated. All involved in the refurbishment project worked hard and often under pressure and tight deadlines to get the building ready for us to move in. However, some delays were still unavoidable due to the amount of work, winter period with heavy snowfalls and two major holidays falling during the period. We moved to our new location on 30th March 2018. The Building Contractors were still in the building completing remaining work and official handover took place on 23rd April 2018.

The inauguration of the new building had been set for 29th April 2018. This left about a week to prepare and placed everyone under tremendous pressure to get the place ready for the launch. We had very little time to prepare for the Inauguration event but it proved to be successful and well attended.

Although we are going through a period of preparation for relocation, we managed to hold our weekly havan/satsang without any gaps and celebrated all the listed events throughout the year. We are now ready to consider new projects with a view to increasing our self-supporting revenues.

Sanskars performed by Acharya Ji: - During the period April 2017 to March 2018 there were a total of 42 Sanskaras performed by Acharya Yadav Ji. These included: Weddings – 5, Havan before Wedding -3, Grih Pravesh Havan – 3, Wedding Anniversary Havan – 3, Mundan Sanskar -1, Namkaran Sanskar – 1, General Havan – 5, Birthday Havan – 4, Death Anniversary Shanti Hawan – 10, Cremation and Shanti Havan – 7. Donations received from these Sanskaras amount to £4985 which is much higher than last year's figure of £3903.

**Sponsored Yajmans**: - Total number of sponsored Yajmans in the period of 12 months from January 2017 to December 2017 were 30. These figures are relevant with the previous year when there were 28 sponsored Yajmans. A slight increase but it does shows that commitment and devotion by our members is stable and there is room for growth.

The following are some of the main events (in order of occurrence) that we have organised and carried out in the last year:

<u>Ved Katha 7th to 14th August 2017: -</u> This event is held during the month of August for 8 consecutive evening from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. During this month of August we also celebrate Raksha Bandan (Brother and Sister Day) and Janam Ashtami (Lord Krishna's Birthday). The topic of Ved Katha this year was 'Satyarth Parkash' the most valuable and famous book written by Maharishi Dayanand

Saraswati. The audience present thoroughly enjoyed the Katha which was intiated by Dr. Narendra Kumar (Chair ASWM) and concluded by him on the final evening.

Independence Day of India Celebrations: - The 71st year of Independence was celebrated at the Arya Samaj Bhavan on 20th August 2017. The event was attended by about 125 people from all over U.K. Our Guest of Honour for this important event was Dr. Aman Puri (Consulate General of India based in Birmingham). Mr. Puri led on the hoisting of the Indian National flag accompanied by members of the Board of Trustees and our Acharya Umesh Yadav Ji.

Gaytri Maha Yajna - 10th September 2017:- This year's Gaytri Maha Yajna was performed on 10th September 2017 at our Arya Bhavan in Nechells, Birmingham. There were about 120 people of all ages who participated in this event. Four Havan Kunds were set up and there were three sittings enabling 48 families to perform auspicious havans. Almost everyone present had the opportunity to take part. Donations received on this day including the payment for Food amounted to £1600.

<u>Diwali and Rishi Nirvan Divas – 21st October 2017:</u> We celebrated Diwali at the Arya Bhavan on Saturday evening of 21st October 2017. This year due to other distractions and pressures, we had very little time to prepare but nevertheless the event was well attended and everyone enjoyed themselves. This festival also reminds us of the day when our founder Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati left this world. Members donated gifts for the raffle and tickets sold raised £227. 00 Donations received amounted to £61.00.

Republic Day of India – Celebrations: - We celebrated the 69th Republic Day of India on 28th January 2018 at our Arya Samaj Bhavan in Nechells, Birmingham on Sunday following the actual RDI day is on the 26th January when the Indian Government's constitution, written by Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar, first came into force. This event was attended by approximately 100 people. Our

Guest of Honour this year was Mr. Manohar Lal from the Consulate General of India office in Birmingham.

Rishi Bodh Utsav – 13th February 2018:- This day was celebrated by Arya Samaj as the day of Enlightenment of our Founder Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati along with the festival of Shiv Ratri that occurs on the same day.

The Inauguration Event and Arya Samaj Foundation Day:- The Inauguration event and Arya Samaj Foundation Day were celebrated on 29th April 2018. The day started with Sandhya Havan being performed by Acharya Ji in our Yajna Shala. The Inauguration ceremony took place in the main Foyer of the building. His Excellency Mr. Y.K. Sinha (High Commissioner of India from U.K.) who was welcomed by all members of the Board of Trustees, unveiled the plaque marking the official opening of our new Bhavan. After the day's programme Rishi Langar that was provided by Mr. Kuku Oberoi for our 300 members/guests, was served in our main Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati Hall. Our event coincided with the Vaisakhi Mela was also being celebrated in Handsworth, Birmingham on the same day.

Swami Ram Dev's Visit to Arya Samaj Bhavan – 24/06/18 4:00 to 5:15 p.m.:- On 24th June 2018 Swami Ram Dev Ji (Internationally acclaimed Guru of Yog), visited our Bhavan and was given a warm welcome by our Acharya Ji, Our 'Chair' Dr. Narendra Kumar and his wife and all the Trustees. There were about 100 people who attended and snacks were served at the end of the programme. Swami Ji was impressed with our new building and was very supportive towards the work of Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands.

<u>Satyarth Prakash Appeal/Case update:</u> There have been some delays but the case is listed for hearing on 13th July 2018. Members will be kept updated.

<u>Our Patron – Shri Gopal Chandra MBE:-</u> Our Patron Shri Gopal Chandra Ji is still in Ryland View Nursing Home in Tipton. Visits by Acharya ji and members of the Trustee Board need to continue.

ASWM Appeal to raise funds – January 2018:- Members were sent a letter of appeal asking them to donate monies to our New Building Refurbishment Fund. The appeal also went out in our Aryan Voice regularly and as a result we have been able to raise the sum of £50,238.15. This money will be used for decoration, lighting, furniture, kitchen equipment and sound equipment for the building. Some of this money will be used for printing of Gaytri Mantra calendar with our new address and contact details. Plaques have been made and displayed on boards (in our Shraddanand Saraswati Hall) in recognition of members who have donated over £1,000. Tremendous generosity has been shown by our members and we are grateful for their support.

<u>Sitting Tenant – Women's Help Centre: -</u> The annexe attached to our building and owned by us is rented out to Women's Help Centre that has been in existence for over 28 years. Their original lease document is not available to us and it is likely that it expired many, many years ago and has never been renewed. It appears that rent review has also not taken place. We are trying to establish a Lease Agreement with the tenant as well as reasonable rent that should be payable to us. We have been trying for the last eight months but there are difficulties in making any progress.

#### **Current Activities**

- Congregation meets on Sundays at 11 a.m for Havan, Satsang, Parvachan by Acharya Ji and Rishi Langar is served at 1:00 p.m.
- Yoga Classes on Wednesdays from 11a.m. to 1:00 p.m followed by freshly cooked lunch.
- Parents and Toddlers group Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m - Children's fun time. This project was started on 6th June, 2018
- Sanskrit Classes Every Sunday from 2p.m. to 3 p.m. Sanskrit for beginners. Started on 3/06/18.

 Yoga classes for parents and children started on 3rd of July 2018 and will be held every Tuesday between 5 and 6 p.m.

<u>Radio XL</u>: - Sessions on the first Sunday of each month continue. The broadcast of parvachan by Acharya ji is enjoyed by members of ASWM all over U.K.

#### **Concluding Remarks:-**

Relocation had been a consideration for the last 5 years as the compulsory purchase of our existing building by HS2 was being discussed since 2012/13. In the last twelve months we have dealt with sale and purchase of properties, managed to refurbish the new premises and have made the move. The last twelve months have been a very testing time for everyone's patience, strength, knowledge and skills. We are very fortunate to be in a beautiful, spacious building that has been refurbished and decorated to modern standards. We are thankful to the hard working team managing the project, ensuring the building was fit for purpose and renovated to highest standards both inside and out offering guidance and support throughout the acquisition and building renovation process. Namely: Paul Clarke, Andrew Cooke, Neil Wilkinson and Shine Duggal. Our thanks also goes to Messrs. Graybuild Building Contractors for managing the detailed schedule of works. Dr. Narendra Kumar (Chair ASWM) and his office Bearers Mr. Ravinder Renukunta (Treasurer), Mrs. Brij Bala Duggal (Secretary) and Trustees have worked relentlessly during the last twelve months. Our Priest and Office Manager are also commended for their important roles. We are now based in in our community and this should enable people to make better use of the services we offer. We are optimistic that our membership will increase over the next twelve months. On behalf of the Board of Trustees I would like to thank all our members for their continued support and commitment to Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands. It is with your support that we continue to carry on the valuable work started by our Founder Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati.

#### **Matrimonial Service**

Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands is dedicated to its matrimonial members to provide a service that will help members find a partner for marriage within our community. We feel it is time to make a few changes to help with this process and move forward with the times.

#### Changes we have made in 2018:

#### Website:-

- A new data base on the website that will give members an option to add a **photo** if they wish and a space for members to write a **bio** about themselves and what they are looking for in a partner.
- Existing members would have received a letter with information about what we need from you to update your profile. Once you have received this letter please fill it out and send back to us soon as possible, so we can update our **NEW** data base and you can start using the new system.

#### Matrimonial Service:-

- Members will now be given the option to directly contact each other or have the option for parents to contact each other.
- All new members will be contacted by the office staff for phone conversation during the application process.
- We are also looking in to ways of making our Matrimonial events more successful.
- Now on facebook https://www.facebook.com/aryasamajwestmidlands/

#### News

#### **Get Well Soon:**

- Mr Vishwa Nath Bhandari, ex-Vice President of Arya Samaj West Midlands year 2001-2003 is recovering in Gracewell of Edgbaston Care Home, Speedwell Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B5 7PR and telephone number 0121 796 0796. We all wish him a speedy recovery.
- Mr Brij B. Agarwal ex-Vice President of Arya Samaj West Midlands year 2005 - 2006 has been suffering from general poor health for last few months and we wish him a speedy recovery.
- Mrs Deepika Datta is on waiting list for a kidney transplant. We wish her to get better soon.

#### **Condolence:**

 Miss Shradha Sharma (Nottingham) - for loss of her beloved mother Mrs. Rajita Sharma (58) on 8th of September 2018. We pray to Almighty God to rest her soul in peace and give strength to her family members to bear her loss.

#### **Congratulations:**

 Mr. Sunil Malhotra and Mrs. Shashi Bala - for Engagement (Sagai) of their dear daughter Anjali Malhotra with Camron. Wishing them a happy life.

Many congratulations to all the mentioned families who have had auspicious havan at their residences on different occasions or Sunday Vedic Satsangs in Arya Samaj Bhavan.

#### **Donations:**

Mr. Chanakya Arya

£100

Mr. Vinod & Mrs. Vijaya Gulati with Rishi Langar.

£350

## <u>Donations to Arya Samaj West Midland through the Priest-Services:</u>

<ul> <li>Mrs. Akshata Ahuja</li> </ul>	£50			
<ul> <li>Dr. Anjali Malhotra</li> </ul>	£51			
<ul> <li>Miss Shradha Sharma</li> </ul>	£100			
Donations for Gayatri Maha yajna				
Mr. Ved Prakash Rawal	£10			
Mr. K. Gaddu	£20			
<ul> <li>Mrs. Vibha Cale</li> </ul>	£21			
Dr. P.D. Gupta	£51			
Mrs. Meera Auchraj	£27			
<ul> <li>Mrs. Sunita and Mr. Ashok Bakshi</li> </ul>	£31			
Dr. Paul Nischal	£51			
Mr. Vinod Gulati	£10			
Mrs. Rama Joshi	£40			
Mr. A.L. Bharadwaj	£51			
Mrs. Usha Sood	£11			
<ul> <li>Mr. Nishant and Anjali Saini</li> </ul>	£10			
Mrs. Tara Songra	£25			
<ul> <li>Mrs. Nirmal Prinja</li> </ul>	£101			
Dr. Suman Chawla	£11			
Mrs. Savita Bhatnagar	£51			
<ul> <li>Mr. Darshan Lal Sohal</li> </ul>	£10			
<ul> <li>Dr. U C Kathuria, Subhash &amp; Ms S Arora</li> </ul>	£51			
<ul> <li>Mr. Karam Jeet Gaddu</li> </ul>	£51			
Mr. Parkash Joye	£20			
<ul> <li>Mr. Inderjit Marwah</li> </ul>	£11			
Mr. Raj Joye	£25			

		1
•	Mrs. P Vohra	£11
•	Mrs. Gagan Malhotra	£31
•	Mrs. Nina Singari	£10
•	Dr. Krishan Soni	£21
•	Mr. J.P. Sethi	£101
•	Mr. & Mrs. Madan Mohan Sharma	£21
•	Mrs. Bri Bala Duggal	£31
•	Mr. Rajesh Salota	£10
•	Mrs. Santosh Mehra	£50
•	Mr. Vikash Bali	£16
•	Mrs. Ved Datta	£20
•	Mr. Rajive & Puja Bali	£50
•	Mrs. Nina Shukla	£10
•	Mr. Brij Bhushan Agarwal	£51
•	Mr. S.P. Gupta	£101
•	Mrs. Simla Seegum	£11
•	Mrs. Savitri Gupta	£21
•	Mrs. Kanti Bajaj	£101
•	Mr. Varinder Bahal	£31
•	Mr. Rajiv Agarwal	£21
•	Gore Optics Ltd.	£10
•	Dr. Narendra Kumar	£51
•	Mrs. Vimla Dodd	£25
•	Mr. Karan Oberoi	£20
•	Mr. & Mrs. Anand Chandan	£31
•	Ravinder Renukunta	£45

#### **TOTAL £1590**

#### Thank you for all your Donations!

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## Please contact Acharya Dr Umeh Yadav on 0121 359 7727 for more information on

- Member or non member wishing to be a Yajman in the Sunday congregation to celebrate an occasion or to remember a departed dear one.
- Have Havan, sankars, naming, munden, weddings and Ved Path etc performed at home.
- Our premises will be licensed for the civil marriage ceremony.
- Please join in the Social group at Arya Samaj West Midlands every Wednesday from 11am. Emphasis is on keeping healthy and fit with yoga and Pranayam. Hot vegetarian Lunch is provided at 1pm.
- Ved Prachar by our learned Priest Dr Umesh Yadav on Radio XL 7 to 8 am, first Sunday of the month. Next 4th November 2018 & 2nd December 2018.

Every effort has been taken that information given is correct and complete. But if any mistake is spotted please inform the office.

0121 359 7727

E-mail- <u>enquiries@arya-samaj.org</u> Website: <u>www.arya-samaj.org</u>

#### New Building Refurbishment Fund

In month of September 2018 following people have donated...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DONATION</u>
NEW DONATIONS:-	
Mr Vivek Vadhva	£1000
Mr S.P. Gupta	£20

## £54889.15

#### Thank you!

#### Haven't Donated Yet ????

Those of you who would like to donate money to "Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands" New building fund please do so now!!!

Your help is highly appreciated.

By cheque - Payable to 'Arya Samaj West Midlands' and send back to us at 321 Rookery Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 9PR

or

Bank Transfer – The Co-operative Bank
Name of account – Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands
Account number – 65839135 Sort Code – 08.92.99

Work carried out in the month of August and September 2018.

- Boiler removed from basement
  - Flag pole erected



Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) West Midlands YOGA and MEDITATION Lessons for young children.

Where: - Arya Samaj (Vedic Mission) 321 Rookery Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 9PR.

When: - Every Tuesday – Starting on Tueday 3rd July 2018.

Time: - 5pm - 6pm.

Our learned, trained and qualified Yoga teacher Acharya Dr. Umesh Yadav ji will provide these lessons.

Parents and grandparents with young children who would like some more information about these sessions please get in touch with our Arya Samaj by phoning on 0121 3597727 or email on <a href="mailto:enquiries@arya-samaj.org">enquiries@arya-samaj.org</a>.



## INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE

WE ARE VERY SOON GOING TO START INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE LESSONS BY A QUALIFIED INDIAN TEACHER AT OUR ARYA SAMAJ PREMISES.

THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE INTERESTED PLEASE PHONE OR EMAIL TO US TO REGISTER YOURSELF.

Tel - 0121 359 7727

E-mail – enquiries@arya-samaj.org

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