

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

Telugu Original

Mydhili Venkateswara Rao

English Translation

K. Sreedharan M.A.(English), M.A.(Journalism), M.A.(Economics)

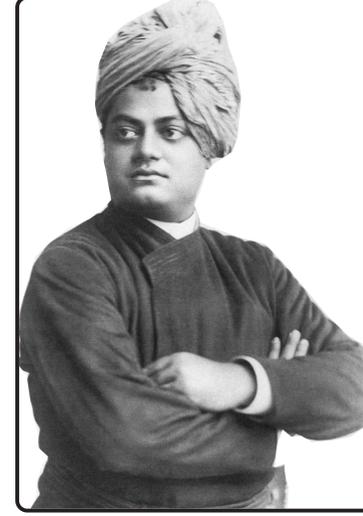
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3. The difference between a demon and god is, as same as the difference between the selfish and selfless.
4. If you give your life to others, you will get life.
5. Patience, Honesty and Openness are indispensable for success.

The Life Story of Swami Vivekananda



Swami Vivekananda

Vivekananda's Fore Fathers

The original name of vivekananda was Narendra. Naren had a great Pedigree. His fore fathers were lived in 'Simla' in Calcutta for centuries. They were known for their generosity, efficiency and education. They belonged to a Kayastha i.e a Kshatriya lineage.

Vivekanda's Father and Grand Father

Durga Charan Dutt was the grandfather of Naren. He was well versed in Sanskrit, Parsian languages. He renounced his family life before he was turned 25. Viswanath Dutt was the father of Naren. He was a great Lawyer. He was

generous. He helped the poor. He was very popular in his profession.

The Birth of Vivekananda

Viswanath got married to Bhuvaneshwari Devi. She was a devotee of Lord Shiva. She was a good house-wife. One night she had a dream. In that dream Lord Shiva himself had appeared her as her son. By the grace of Lord Shiva, she was conceived. On January 12, 1863, she delivered a male child. The child was Narendra, the future Hinduism Preacher.

The Childhood of Vivekananda

Naren was a god-gifted child for that couple. They named, their son Narendranath Dutt. His pet names were Naren and bill. They pampered him very much. As Naren was raised so affectionately, he became a stubborn boy. But Naren's mother controlled him by telling the stories of the Mahabharat and the Ramayan. From the child hood Naren was so devotional and liked god.

His Mother Pampered Him

No mother really feels sorry for her little child's pranks. Though Naren's mother showed, a bit of angry on him, she was very fond of him. Once, Naren become a prankster. This disgusted mother caught hold of Naren and cried out, that Lord Shiva sent a devil as a son for me. But Naren paid no heed to it.

Naren Liked Bairags (Monks)

When Naren was a three year old boy, he used to show interest on Bairags (Sanyasis) who came to his house for alms. One day Naren gave a valuable thing to a Bairagi. When his mother enquired about it he said, that he gave it to a Monk. To prevent this generosity of Naren, they locked him up in a room, while any 'Bairag' came to their home.

The Influence of Mother on Her Children

Mother is the first teacher for her child. Naren's mother, Bhuvaneshwari, inculcate devotional feelings in the mind of Naren. By his mother's influence Naren was attracted by Lord Ram and sita.

One day our little Naren, put the idols of Lord Ram and Sita, in a remote room of his building. He started his meditation. All the members of his family searched for Naren. Later, they found him and wondered, how great was his concentration upon God.

Naren's Animals Caring

Naren was a animal lover. He played with his pet animals and birds, such as Pigeons, Peococks, Monkeys and Rabbits. He passed away time by speaking and playing to those animals. Some times he aped the cries of those animals. He was very interested in horse riding.

A saint, who directed nation in the right path, was a horse rider in his child-hood.

Naren Grew Attached to Lord Shiva

Once, Naren's close relatives i.e a couple had a dispute between them. As the difference went wide, they resorted to suicide. This horrible incident made, Naren, to lost fascination on married life. Wiht this incident Naren estranged himself from Lord Ram couple, he grew attached to Lord Shiva. He understood, that worldly life was a myth and temporary. He hated worldly pleasures.

Meditation and Lock of Hair

Naren was a blessed child. He was born with the boon of Lord Shiva. In his childhood Naren, disguised himself as Lord Shiva. He wore a wig with locks.

He smeared the secred ash all over his body. In the guise of Lord Shiva, Naren went to his parents - they hugged him and kissed him very affectionately. Then said to him, on account of meditation on Lord Shiva he would get hair-locks(Jhata) like Lord shiva.

On hearing this, Naren started to meditate to Lord Shiva and checking for the locks. His mother cajoled the dissatisfied, Naren, if he was good boy, Lord Shiva, himself give whatever the boy want.

Lord Hanuman in the Banana Orchard

Naren was much interested in god. He was fond of the Ramayana and Mahabharata. If there was any mythological discussion, in his neighbouring houses Naren, used to sit in the first row of audience. Once, Naren, learned by a puranic pandit, that Lord Hanuma was an immortal, and he often wanders in Banana orchards. On hearing this, Naren waited for all the night, for Hanuma, in a Banana orchard. The trembled quest for him, in all places and later found him in the orchard. Such was his concentration and dedication.

Naren's Education

Naren, entered the primary school. Naren was a quick-learner. He learned sanskrit so early. He himself recited, the 'slokas' from the Ramayana, Mahabharata to his friends.

It's one's company, which decides, one's character though Naren was a good boy, on account of his bad company, he used to speak some expletives. Naren's father became impatient. Then he took out Naren from school and had agranged a tuition teacher at home for Naren.

Naren Made his Master Wondered

Naren was a quick grasper. His teacher often observed, that Naren was meditating, while

the teacher, giving lessons to him. One day the teacher, found, that Naren was into the meditation. The teacher grew impatience. He came to near Naren and asked Naren "What are you doing now, while I am giving an important lesson". But Naren coolly replied his teacher, that he had understood the lesson very well. It was the teacher who grew curious and asked, Naren, to recite the lesson which was taken by him. But unimaginably, Naren recited the lesson to his teacher. It was the teacher, who was shocked. Naren achieved proficiency in Sanskrit. An old man from Naren's home, thought that Sanskrit was crucial in the Renaissance of the Hindi culture and knowledge.

Mental Maturity At a Young Age

It was in 1869, Naren's paternal grandfather was on his deathbed. He understood that he was past approaching his end. So he asked his family members, to sit by him. Then he asked his grandsons, to read god's stories to him. But the terrified children did not agree to it. Though, he was in a sorrow mood, Naren recited god's stories to his dying grandfather. Naren here showed his mental maturity by reciting about 'Garuda' the king of birds who flew into the sky with two wings named devotion and wisdom. Naren studied about Hindu Philosophy at a tender age. His grandfather, blessed Naren with a brilliant future.

Naren The Courageous

Naren had wisdom, religious bent of mind along with mental grit. Once some children were playing on the bank of a river. There was an idol of Lord Shiva on the bank of the river. While all the boys were playing jovially, Naren immersed in meditation before the idol. Then suddenly came a snake there, on seeing the snake, all the boys, ran away.

But Naren was unmindful of the snake. The snake rolled Naren. All the boys went to Naren's mother and reported the matter to her. Then she came hurriedly to Naren. Then she said the name of Lord Shiva thrice, in his ears, only then Naren got consciousness. Such was his devotion on god.

Naren's Attitude Towards Peace

Little Naren played many games with his friends. The king and administration was one of those games. In that game, Naren played the role of a king.

His friends addressed him, to 'the king of kings and the saviour of justice'.

King Naren wanted, that all his subjects should be in prosperity and peace. They even played, games like wrestling and running race. If there was any dispute in the games, Naren was asked to be the umpire. Naren would pacify both parties.

Naren Did Not Like Castism

When Naren was in his childhood, people of different religions and castes used to come to his lawyer father, for legal services. There was an arrangement of 'Hukkas' for its smokers. There was a hierarchy for Hukka usage. One day, Naren, approached a Muslim man and took his 'Hukka' pipe and smoked it. Naren's father objected it. But Naren, declared, that he was against the divisions of caste and creed. Naren emphasised that all men are equal to him.

A wound On His Head

As a child Naren did every thing with a Magic touch, once Naren was playing with other boys, he slipped over the steps of a temple. He hurt his head in that accident. There was a scar, caused by stone, on the right side of his head.

Later, Ramakrishna Paramhansa, the philosophical master of Naren, told, that Naren, had lost some of his intellectual power, on account of the wound, inflicted on his head.

Narendra Questioned his Father about Property Management

Naren, was liberal with the poor but he didnot like beggars and lazy men. Naren, angrily, questioned his father, that why was he helping, some lazy men financially and he also

criticised his father, for he was encouraging lazyness by helping them. His father replied, that by helping the needy, there would be no loss to a rich person and the persons who got benefit would feel happy. Naren's father told Naren, that he gave, Naren a birth and that was the property given to him. Naren found the truth in his father's words. He felt sorry for his demand for property. From that day, Naren never wanted anything to be his own.

Naren's Attitude Towards English

Eswar Chandra Vidya Sagar established a school in 1870. Naren joined that school. There his life took many turns and twists. Naren was in forefront, not only in studies but also in extra curricular activities. Though Naren was talented in all sections he was reluctant to learn English. But destiny thought otherwise, on the coercion of his parents and teachers, Naren agreed to learn English.

Exercises For Body Fitness

Naren wanted to had a strong body along with SOUND mind. So, he started a 'Zym'. Every day he had body exercises. He explained his friends and acquaintances to do exercises. He told about the uses out of exercises. Naren was expert in wrestling, sword fight and other fights. He got prizes and best prizes in wrestling.

Tell The Truth and be Fearless

There was teacher who harboured grudge upon Naren. One day, that wicked teacher imposed a taint on Naren and he tortured him physically and insisted on, aggreing his mistake. But Naren didnt care this punishment and refused his non-existed mistake. All the boys, stupified with the incident. Naren, fearlessly, defied his fake master. Luckily, the founder of the school reached there and settled the matter judiciously.

Naren Was Against Superstitions

Naren was against superstitions. He had no belief in spirits and ghosts. One day while he was playing in a tree, the flowers and fruits of that tree fall on the land as the players swinging the branches of the tree. Then an oldman, told Naren unless he step down the tree the ghost on the tree would eat him. Though his feared play-mate got down, Naren stay behind on the tree. He didn't believe in ghosts.

Naren Pleased His Grandfather

When Naren was swinging the branches of the fruit tree, the grand father of his friend asked him "Do you play all the while or don't you have to study?". Naren replied the old man like this. 'I do both. I like both studying and playing'. Then the oldman asked Naren, "if you play for a long time, how can you understand your

lessons?" on hearing Naren's reply, he, brought, Naren's text books and asked many questions from the text books. Naren answered all questions instantly. The grand father praised Naren for his mental calibre.

Naren's Logical Thinking

Naren's father move to Raipur from Calcutta and stayed there. At that time some scholars frequented to his house. Naren would argued with senior and most senior scholars on great treatises.

One day he lectured to a famous Bengali aged scholar, with a deep knowledge. The spell bounded aged scholar, blessed Naren with world fame.

Naren's Musical Knowledge

Naren was master of many trades. He showed his merit even in Fine arts such as music. He became an expert in music by taking music lessons from a music teacher, at home. He had a melodius tone. He was expert in playing Violin and Harmonium. He made his audience, spellbound with his singing skills.

English Proficiency of Naren

By he turned 15, Naren passed metriculation in first class. He completed it in Calcutta. In one function, Naren, delivered a speech in English. His teacher 'Surendranath Vandyopadhy' pat him.

Though Naren had many talents, he manged himself so humble. Histories of western countries, Literature were his cup of tea. He was proficient in Logic and Philosophy. He gave youth a great inspiration and outlook.

Naren's Tactice

Once, Naren's friends wanted to glimpse, the ship of Englishmen. To watch the ship, the permission from the higher authorities was needed. So, they asked Naren to get such permission. Naren agreed. He went to the office. But the gate keeper of that office, obstructed Naren, to enter the office.

Naren wondered for a minute, and left that place. After sometime, he reached the signing authority, from the backside of the building. He got the permission paper signed and returned from the front door. On seeing, Naren, the gate keeper asked Naren, that how did he entered the office, wihtout going from the main gate. smiling Naren, replied, the gate keeper, "I know magic."

Naren's Agruementative Skills

Any human being can speak. But some people can speak strategically to win their point. Naren had such a skill. Once, a christian father, talked badly of idol-worship of Indian Hindus. Some illiterates and children were his audience, at that moment, his speech had crossed

the decency limits. That christian father had asked his audience, that if he would beat, a Hindu idol, with his stick, what would happen. At the same time Naren was returning from his college along wiht his friends. Naren listened to it, then Naren, reached the dias and enquired that, if he would abuse Lord Christ, what would happen.

The preacher instantly replied Naren, you would reach the hell after your death. Then, Naren retorted, that the same punishment would be inflicted on who blames Hindu idols. That christian father shocked and realised his mistake. From then he knew that all religions must be respected.

Naren's Individuality

Naren disliked cowardlyness. He was fearless. He appreciated the courage, and dashing nature of the Emperor Nepolean of France. The more the leader was courages, the more comfortable his subjects.

The then elders believed, that Narens message, should be practised to get India's freedom. Naren's chaste feelings and conduct fascinated all.

Naren liked to help other. Though anyone got furious, Naren maintained a cool mind. Gradually Naren developed interest in God. He was an enthusiastic devotee.

Naren's College Life

Naren, spent his childhood jovially. In 1880, he joined the presidency college in calcutta. Naren, an extra-ordinary genius, would prepare for the exam only before three months. He used the remaining time for the development of knowledge. Naren used to understand the whole paragraph by reading the first and last lines of that paragraph. Though study in this method he would understand the intention of the writer.

Naren used to meet great scholars and experts in different subjects and had discussions with them. Naren would answered any type of question with great ease. Difficult question for boys of his age, were easy to Naren. Such was his brilliance who would not be attracted to this wisdom personified person.

His thinking style, memory power were responsible for his success in education line. At a young age Naren studied the vedas and the upanishads and the doctrines of Socrates and Aristotle.

Hesty's Impression on Naren

On observing his brilliance, his teachers developed a deep affection upon him. In one context Naren's college principal 'Hesty' was pleased by the merit of Naren. He observed, I had never seen such a wonderful and talented

genious in my whole career. He had a great grasping and memory power. One day his worth would be recognised by the whole world.

It was Mr. Hesty who made known Naren, about Sri Rama Krishna. By serving that master, Naren become 'Vivekananda' in the future.

Naren's Relations with his Friends

Naren, frequently had suffered a mental agony. While he was in that typical condition, he used to argue with his friends. Naren, found that eating and sleeping were not the end of the human life.

On account this different attitude towards life, Naren became a saint. He used to lecturer to his friends on different issues. His friends were passionated by his speeches.

Naren's Preparation For Examinations

Naren used to prepare for the examinations only for three months before the commencement of examinations. When he was studying for the examination, he used to study day and night.

He had some dietary principles. He would follow many methods to relieve from the sleep. Naren believed that one wants to get education one should not bother about comforts and sleeping.

Naren's Quest For The Existence of God

Naren met many religious masters, saints to know the way to find god. However he questioned them and searched for god, he didnot find a satisfactory answer. In his quest for god he went to Maharshi Devendranath Tagore and asked him, wheather he had seen God. He received no reply to this question but he told Narendra, that he had a yogis eyes. His search for god was progressing.

Bhagavan Sri Rama Krishna

Naren, learned about Sri Rama Krishna. It was in 1836, on February 18, Sri Rama Krishna was born in 'Kamarpur' village, in 'Hoogly' district and Bengal state.

He was not an educated person. He lived far from worldly pleasures. He got married to Sharada Devi. But he considered his wife to be the incarnation of the goddess Kali. He lived in temple garden, which was built by queen Rajmani, in Dakshineswar.

As a Member of the Brahma Samaj

Even before, he met Sri Rama Krishna, Naren was a member of the 'Brahma Samaj', which was established by Keshav Chandra Sen and Devendranath Tagore. According to

this organisation, God was an formless power. Naren felt, that life without god's 'darshan' was fertile. Therefore, Naren didnot get solace, in Brhama Samaj. His quest for the existence of God was resumed.

Naren's Deliberations about Sainthood

With Naren entered the youth phase, his attracting physic, attained further maturity. But he was confused with different ambitions in life. While he was sleeping he had a dreams of two extreme lives, one was life with a charming wife and pretty children and luxurious things, and the other was a life of a saint who lead on ascetic life. In his conflict with both of these paths, Naren's intuition weighed heavily towards Ascetic life.

Naren's First Meeting with Sri Rama Krishna

From his childhood Naren was affectionate with god. He tried to found god for manytimes. But he attempts were futile. Prof. Hesty told about Sri Rama Krishna. Naren, first met Sri Rama Krishna, in calcutta. Naren pleased Sri Rama Krishna, with his singing. Sri Rama Krishna was already told about Naren, by Prof. Hesty. Sri Rama Krishna he himself, gave some fruits to Naren and blessed him and told him, that Naren came to him late.

Naren's Decision of Meeting Sri Rama krishna

Though he met, Devendra Nath Tagore, Naren did not find an answer for his burning question. Then Naren decided to meet Sri Ramakrishna to find God. All the treatises and book he studied were mere waste, if had not see God. With this agony Naren went to Sri Ramakrishna.

Naren first met Sri Ramakrishna, in the house of his friend Surendranath. There Sri Ramakrishna was pleased by the singing of Naren, and invited him to Dakshineswaram.

Do Sri Ramakrishna Have the Power to Make Naren to Realise his Ambition

India, which had a great culture for the centuries, started to assimilate western culture. It was in 19th century Indians became materialists and rationalists. There was a surge of Atheistic movements. Ancient traditions were turned down.

Sri Ramakrishna was born on February 18, 1836. His original name was Gadadhar. As his father passed away, Gadadhar, had to follow, his elder brothers instructions. Gadadhar, stoped his studies, as those studies were intended to afford livelihood. When he was 21 years old, he joined as a priest in the 'kalimaa' temple. He developed an intense affection upon

Goddess. Kali appeared before him. Mother Kali herself, became a teacher to Gadadhar and preached him the secrets of soul and creation. Though he married to Sharada Devi, he estranged her. He observed celibacy. Though he belonged to a Brahmin community, he mingled with lower community people. Both Sri Rama Krishna and Vivekananda were incarnation of god. They came to this world to re-establish ancient dharma. So, they met each other.

The Meeting of the Master and Student

Sri Ramakrishna was ancient Indian culture personified. He was the flowing of the Ganga. However, Naren was natural, scientific and philosophical personified. He was the flowing of the yamuna. Naren's relations encouraged him, to visit Sri Ramakrishna. Naren approached Sri Ramakrishna he asked Sri Ramakrishna "Have you seen God?". Then Naren got the historic answer "Yes, I have seen it, only in an infinitely intenser sense". This was a tremendous leap forward in Naren's thinking proces. It served as a soothing balm to his strained nerves. This question and this answer have become classical because they spoke volumes to devotee and hit upon a spiritual relationship that transcended description.

Naren's Miraculous Meditation

While Naren was going to sleep a miracle used happen. When Naren closed his eyes, there was a wonderful light appeared on the middle of his forehead. After drenching in light, Naren used to loss conscious. Then he sliped into deep sleep.

When Naren, met Sri Ramakrishna, he was asked whether he find a light when he was in sleep. Naren replied that it was routine fenomenon then Sri Ramakrishna, pat Naren, and blessed him, to become a saint.

The Celebacy of Naren

Naren father thought to got married to Naren to a daughter of a rich person. But Naren rejected the offer and wanted to be a bachelor all his life.

His crystal cleared intentions developed faculties in him. Naren's father tried to convince Naren into agreeing for marriage through Sri Rama Krishna. Infact Sri Ramakrishna knew that Naren was destined for other purpose other than marriage.

Naren In The Presence of Sri Ramakrishna

Naren turned to be an ascetic on hearing Sri Ramakrihsna's teachings. Naren got hooked to Sri Ramakrishna for his affection and kindness. Sri Ramakrishna, used to say, that Naren

was a born-saint. Sri Ramakrishna could not bare the estrangement with Naren. Naren was stupendous, when he find, that Sri Ramakrishna was worshiped by his disciples.

Naren Gave his Heart to his Master

Once Naren was eulogiging God, at that time Sri Ramakrishna neared Naren and kept his foot on the body of Naren, then Naren felt that all his sourroundings started to spin, all the world was sinking into the vaccume of the universe.

He has a feeling of dieing, a mystic like trance over powered him. Choked by that unexplicable feel and chaos, Naren shouted, 'what's wrong with me?'. Then Sri Ramakrishna, touched, Naren and comforted him. In this way Naren many times lost and gained his conscious.

Naren became blessed with touch of feet of Sri Ramakrishna. Naren presented his heart and soul to his holy master.

The Onerous Obligation of Naren

Naren's father Viswanath Dutta passed away befor Naren had completed his B.A. degree. Naren family had no any financial support from any quarters. Naren happily accepted to support his family. He did not get any job. He had spent many nights without food. But he never let known to his mother and sisters. God

tests everyman, definitely. On the advice of Sri Ramakrishna, Naren invoked goddess kali only for solac but not for wealth.

The Miracle of Sri Ramakrishna

On returning from the temple, Naren used to wondered, why he has not asked mother kali for solution of his financial problems. He felt, that it was miracle of his guru, that's why he was not asking for material benefits.

Sri Ramakrishna said, with smiling, "Naren you born on a mission but not for indulging to worldly pleasures. You don't worry, hereafter your family will not suffer for basic needs. There was some reason for the problems of Naren. Once he ridiculed idlol worshippers on account of that sin Naren had to invoke Mother Kali.

Maturity Caused by Sri Ramakrishna in Naren

How the moon makes the earth shining with his continuous lighting and how flowers emanate scent, in the same way, Sri Ramakrishna, develops his disciples talents. Under the supervision of Sri Ramakrishna, his disciples meditation programmes would run without obstacles.

One day, while Naren was unable to concentrate his mind in meditation, on account of the distrubances of sounds. He reported it to Sri Ramakrishna, then he was advised, to con-

centrate his mind on the sound. Then Naren's distraction of mind was set right. Self - realisation is the end of a human being. When one is self-complacent, there is no question of arguments and counter arguments.

By practising meditation, one gets wisdom, then the darkness of suspicion gets away itself. This was preaching of great master Sri Ramakrihsna.

Sri Ramakrishna Attached to Naren

Gandhiji declared, that Sri Ramakrishna, who stood before us was the personification of ancient dharma.

Ravindranath Tagore exalted Sri Rama krishna in these words. "The universal happyness had built a friendly temple in life of Sri Ramakrishna. Such a great master of philosophy and wisdom, had prostrated before Godess Kali, for ask her to stop the ensuing marriage of Naren. By praying so, Sri Ramakrishna wanted to protect Naren, from the fetters of family sentiments. When Naren was in financial crisis, Sri Ramakrishna said to Naren, 'Naren, for your sake, I am ready even to beg any body'.

Naren as the Heir of Sri Ramakrishna

Naren felt, that Sri Ramakrishna was the confluence of Adisankara Charya, Lord Bud-

dha and Chaitanya Prabhu. He was incarnated on the earth in human form to regenerate ancient dharma.

Naren spent six years as the disciple of Sri Ramakrishna. Sri Ramakrishna, made Naren, to the heir of his treasure of philosophy. The responsibility of wiping out distress caused by the western culture left with Naren. He had to dispense, the wealth, he got from his master.

Deteriorating Health of Sri Ramakrishna

At this time Sri Ramakrishna got inflicted with an ulcer problem. For the medical treatment he had to move to Calcutta. In the leadership of Naren, all disciples served Sri Ramakrishna all the time.

A noted physician Dr. Mahendralal was treating Sri Ramakrishna. Though the doctor suggested him not to talk, Sri Ramakrishna went on his lecturing.

Dr. Mahendralal hugged Naren and praised him for his dedication to his master. Later Sri Ramakrishna's 'staying' was changed to Kasipur garden.

Naren Revealed his Ambition to his Master

Though Sri Ramakrishna was suffering with cancer, he prepared his disciples for the future

mission. His disciples were in bewilderment to see him in work. Narendra approached his guru and asked to give him the power of staying concentrated. But Sri Ramakrishna knew, that Naren was born to achieve great accomplishments. So, he got ready Naren towards that goal.

Naren Experienced the Advaita Feel

While Sri Ramakrishna suffering from cancer tumor Naren felt sad and asked his master. "O' great soul. you can cure your health problem, mere by your will power, why then you patiently suffering this unbearable pain. Then Sri Ramakrishna replied, Naren, 'How can I waste my hard earned meditation power on this immortal and mean body?'.

On the coercion of his disciples Sri Ramakrishna prayed to goddess Kali. After few minutes Sri Ramakrishna opened his eyes and said, that he was capable of taking diet through the mouths of his disciples.

Naren got Mystical Powers from his Master

How iron gets ready for the desired shape, after burning in the fire, in the same way Naren got readied for his destined purpose. By the grace and blessings of his master, Naren got some miracle powers. Naren became capable of giving a divine feel when he touch others.

One day when Naren was in transcendental meditation, he found a 'aura' around his head. That light kept growing. Naren submerged in that light. He, at once shouted, that my body was disappeared.

At that time a swamy came near Naren, and found Naren's body in a stiffed condition. Then he reported the matter to Sri Ramakrishna. But Sri Ramakrishna cooly said "Let him be in that position for a while".

On that day Naren got inhuman miracle powers from Sri Ramakrishna.

Sri Ramakrishna Passed Away

In his last minutes, Sri Ramakrishna, said to his disciples, that Naren can get voluntary death. Naren can end his life after his mission is completed.

He told Naren, "Naren, I have given you all my powers, now I am powerless. You can achieve great things through the power given to you by me."

Sri Ramakrishna's last days were full of agony. On August 16, in 1886, he departed to God's abode. All the disciples of Sri Ramakrishna, became ascetics.

Naren's Saint Life

After the death of Sri Ramakrishna, his 'Matha' was shifted to 'Bara' town. The Ramakrishna temple was build on the mortal

remains of Sri Ramakrishna. Naren decided to tour all India and wanted to know about the views of the people. He felt, only by travelling and seeing different places one can get knowledge.

Naren first visited 'Kasi'. Next he toured all India. He met both a poor and a rich in his touring.

Don't Run Away - attack

Naren visited some piligrimage centers such as Gaya and Benerus. One day on the premises of the temple, Naren was chased by some monkeys. Suddenly, from no where, he heard a voice, saying "don't run away and attack". Then Naren fight back with monkeys. They ran away in fear. Naren, thought, it was told by his Guru.

Naren Went ot Alwar Region

While touring India, Naren met many bramin scholars and discussed with them. He too met poor people and learned about thier difficulties. Then Naren realised, though India was being ruled by mighty kings, poverty was in abondence in India.

On his way to some other places, Naren met Mangal sing the king of Alwar region. The king was passionate with worldly pleasures. He had no belief in God. So, Naren met that king. The king welcomed Naren, whole heartedly.

Naren Changed King Mangalsing into a Devotte

When the king was in his court, Naren asked one of minister's to bring the portrait of the king, they brought it to Naren. Then Naren asked the minister, "whose is this portrait?". The minister promptly replied, that the portrait was the king's. Then Naren said, the portrait is not living one and spit on it. The trembled minister said 'though the portrait was not a living one, it is of the king. How can insult my king by doing so.'

Naren said with smiling, "All you respect the portrait of the king, even though it is not a living one, in the same way - worshipping an idol is equal to worshipping god".

Mangalsing recognised his mistake. He told sorry to Naren, for his ignorance. From that day, the king became a devotte.

Naren Toured India

Naren reached 'Ayodhya' and watched the majesty of Sri Ramayana. He went to Agra and watched Taj Mahal. Then Brindavan for Radha krishna.

He took a holy dip in Radhakunda. He waited in the railway station, to board a train to Haridwar. The Station master, Sarschandra, arranged food for Naren. Naren accepted him to be his disciple.

The God's Miracle

When Naren was in 'Vaidyanath pur', he felt very hungry. Though he was so hungry, he did not ask anybody for food. To forget hungry he sat in meditation. Suddenly, somebody came to Naren and asked him to come to lunch. Surprised Naren felt that was the miracle of the God.

Naren with the Raja of Mysore

When Naren reached Mysore, the then Diwan of Mysore, took him to the King of



Mysore. Naren observed, that the king was most obedient to Britishers. Naren objected to this. For that the king warned Naren, If you go like this way, you will be punished by the Britishers.

But fearless Naren did not care the warning issued by the king and he declared that 'a real saint should not fear even to death'.

Naren had Food from Harijans

While Naren was in Bangalore, he suffered a lot. He didnot get food. At that time he was in a Harijan colony. A Harijan approacehd, Naren and offered food with trembling. Naren accept that food. He preached him that "food can be cooked by wated and fire. Food, fire and water are equal to all, then how the food cooked by

you is prohibited?". Then the happy Harijan he himself cooked for Naren.

Naren's tour from the mighty Himalayas to Kanyakumari, the confluence place of the seas. Naren find that India is full of papures and many people have no houses to live.

Naren thought, that Indians were capable of doing anything.

Naren gave call to his fellow Indians in this manner. "Brothers, come, let us work in unity. We have a great deal of work to do, we have no time even to sleep. The future of India depends on our mission. Anybody is not a servant. Work for others. Live to do something great to your nation.

The Rock Memorial at Kanya Kumari

Kanya Kumari (The Cape Comarin) is well known not only to be Indian's southern frontier but also to be a religious place. In 1892, when Nren went there, he squatted on a big rock and did his meditation. Naren preached, Hinduism there. Two pylons were constructed there at 200 mtr. above mean sea level. This pylons are called 'the rock memorials'.

Naren in Madras

While Naren was touring Madras (Chennai) he learned about the parliament of religions, which was going to held in Chicago. India was

the motherland for philosophy, dignity, affection and ethics. So, Naren decided to attend the world religions conference at Chicago.

Naren was Addressed as Vivekananda

On May 31, in 1893, Naren left for Chicago with the blessings of 'Sharada Matha'. The minister of Madras invited Naren, to Madras. Naren met the king of Madras and blessed the Prince of Madras.

It was 'Khetri' the king of Madras who first addressed Naren, as 'Vivekananda'. The king sponsored Naren travelling expenses to America.

Naren Left for Chicago

On May 31, in 1893, Naren left Bombay in the ship, named 'Peninsular' to reach Chicago.



On his way to Chicago, Naren visited the Buddhist monasteries in Hongkong and deciphered the difference between the temples of Hinduism and Buddhism. Later he too visited Japan, Tokyo and Yokahama. Naren wondered at Japaneses industrial development. He immediately wrote a letter to India, denoting about Japans modern attitude and self reliance. He asked the youth of India, to visit Japan and be alerted.

Naren arrived at Chicago

On July 28, in 1893, Naren reached Chicago. Parliament of religions would take place on September 11. Naren, learned, that who registered their names with some organisations, would be allowed to participate in the conference. By the time Naren arrived at Chicago, the time to register his name was expired. Naren was disappointed. But fortunately Miss. Hayll - an elderly - woman, understood the wisdom of Naren, and she used all her influence to get Naren admitted to the conference.

Naren at the Parliament of Religion - Chicago

On September 11, Monday in 1893, the parliament of religions commenced. That conference was attended by 5000 people. Representatives, from different countries, lectured one after another.

Philosophers, Scholars and multifaceted personalities, from all over the world, attended the parliament of religions. The Roman Catholic Pope 'Cardinal Gibbons', graced the dias. On his both sides were the western representatives. Amidst all of them, Naren was positioned. He wore the saffron clothes and a gold coloured turban. Naren attracted all, with his holy appearance. Naren's lecture was given after all were completed their speeches.

It was the turn of Vivekananda. He was on his feet at last and impulsively he addressed his first words "Sisters and Brothers of America."

They created a tremendous reaction. Such words were not used by anybody before. Hun-



dreds of men and women rose spontaneously on their feet and cheered hard for several minutes. In those few minutes, Vivekananda gathered himself with perfect self-assurance he spoke about 500 words. He thanked the assembly in the name of the most

ancient order of monks in the world in the name of the Mother of Religions. "We believe not only in universal toleration but we accept all religions are true." He explained that he belonged to a people, who had given shelter to the persecuted and refugees of many nations. Israelites who came to India when the Romans destroyed their holy temple; sojourners from Persia, and others; bigotry and fanaticism had long filled the earth with violence and often drenched it with human blood.

But for this human society would have been far advanced. He hoped, however, that the death knell of all fanaticism had sounded and all persecutions with the sword or with the pen were about to cease.

Foreign Print Media Extolled Naren

Disciples were multiplying fast, but his influence spread far beyond the circle of devotees. Swamiji was known for his intellectual brilliance. Influence by his teachings, some magazines and news papers, wrote about swamiji on their front pages.

The 'Newyork Herald' wrote, that swamiji was the great preacher in the parliament of Religions. His preachings were appealed to all men of different religions. The people of America felt, that sending christian missioneries to philosophically highly developed India was a foolish job.

Vivekananda gave his speech in columbus building. Swamiji was an un assuming and intellectual saint. Swamiji stole the show by his presence.

Praise - Criticism

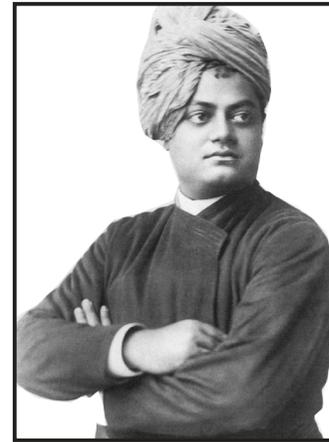
Where there is praise, there should be criticism too. But criticism of some cynics, increased swami's fame. Some christian preachers castigated, Vivekananda, a great intellectual master, to be a beggaer and a low-caste man.

They were envious of his success in foreign countries. They wanted to pull down Vivekananda from the position of a world-class religious master. But swami did not care them.

Naren Worried about his Country

His theme was, that religion is not the crying need of India. The desperate need is for bread. He declared; It is an insult to a starving people to offer them religion.

Vivekananda, However, had not merely gone to teach. He was conscious that India had much to learn from the west. He always saw the possibility of humanising western science



with Indian philosophy and our urgent need for western science and social organisation. Once he said; "we talk foolishly against material civilization. The grapes are sour. Even talking all the foolishness for granted, in all India there are say, a hundred thousand really spiri-

tual men and women. Now, for the spiritualisation of those must three hundred million be sunk in "savagery and starvation?".

Americans honoured swamiji. Chicago city filled with the life-size portraits of Vivekananda. American Billioners competed with each other ot host swamiji.

He criticised, people who criticised the vedas. He felt that studying them, no one had a right ot catigate them. Vivekananda cried for

the poor and orphans of India. He prayed god, to save the destitute people.

Naren the Triumphant

Chicago conference gave an opportunity to Naren to spread the greatness of Hinduism all over the world. So, he attended 'Parliament of Religions.'

Later he gave, lectures on the greatness of the vedas in Boston, Newyork, Washington and Crembridge.

This established, swami as the triumphant who succeeded in convincing foreigners, that India had a great heritage and culture.

Vivekananda in England

Swamiji was invited to England by prominent English people such as E.T. Starti and Miss. Mullar. As swamiji wanted universal advancement and welfare of all humans, accepted this invitation and got to England.

Vivekananda spread Indian Philosophy and Vedantic principles and wisdom across England. He was well received by the English people.

Naren in Paris

On his return from England, swami, stayed in the paris city for some days. There he learned, that some envious Priests and Scholars, back home, castigated swami and took a bad

propaganda against him. But swamiji firmly declared, that, I am always following the tradition of sanyasi. I am belonged to the universe and I don't bother about, narrow minded people's comments at all.

Naren in London

In London swamiji was facilitated. London people kept visiting swamiji. Print media in London carried articles on Vivekananda that daily



reported, swamiji was the incarnation of Lord Buddha. The 'West minister Gazette' exalted swamiji to the skies. To cap all these honours Miss. Margaret Nobel, the President of a college mesmerised by the preachings of swamiji and

became a disciple of him. She renounced her worldly attachments. Well - reads, officials and all people in London, lauded Vivekananda.

The American Disciples who Ran Swamiji's Movement

There was a great part played by disciples in swami's mission. Many house holders too cooperated with Vivekananda. Miss Mullar bore one - third of the expenditure to built Ramakrishna math, in 'Belur' in 1898. One

American woman disciple, borne the expenditure of pooja mandir.

Swami's other disciples Miss Nivedita, Margaret Enobell and allbuy dedicated their lives for the sevice to the poor.

Book Publishing

Though some people felt that if swamiji preachings were available to the people of this land, would be helpful.

But no publisher was came forward to publish swamiji's preachings. It was J.J. Gudwin who propagated, swamiji's preachings through short hand mode.

Returned to India

After completing his touring foreign lands, swami felt for his mother country.

Before, swami reached India, his fame was spread like a sweet smell of a divine flower. The people of India, received vivekananda with a merry filled hearts.

Honours Showered on Swami

On the occassion of Swami's return from foreign lands along with his western disciples the king of Ramanatha Pura built a forty feet high victor pylon. Later, Vivekananda visited Madhurai, Tiruchanapalli, Kumbhakonam and Madras.

Vivekananda, received a thunderous applaud all over south india. He delivered his in-

valuable message to them and left for his mother land "BangaBhumi"(West Bengal).

Swami Arrived at his Native Place

The whole Calcutta city eagerly awaited Narendra. The auspicious period arrived. Swami Vivekananda arrived at Culcutta. The sea of humanity welcomed him. Everyone



struggles even to get a bit of dust under his feet. The chairman of a daily, the Indian Mirror, decked swamiji, with flowers and paraded him in a horse-cart.

Swamiji, fans, who were filled with brimful affection on him, pull his cart instead of its pulling horses. He was taken to Kasipura garden, where swami lectured on the greatness of Hinduism.

The Establishment of Ramakrishna Mission

Swami, explained ancient traditions and customs in new way. Later, the birth day of Sri Ramakrishna Paramhansa was celebrated.

In 1909, Swami, divided his service organisation into two parts. One was Sri Ramakrishna service centre and the other was Sri Ramakrishna Matt. Well trained and tradi-

tional 'Sanyasis' were appointed as the executives of the service centre. Vivekananda decided to spread the Hindu religion not only in India but also in the western countries.

In his organisation both sanyasis and house holders were preached the ancient dharma. In 1899 in 'Belur' near Dakshineswar, Swami established Sri Ramakrishna mission - a Hindu Service Organisation.

Ramakrishna Missionaries in India

In 1897, Vivekananda Swami, established Ramakrishna Missionary. Later its branches were established in the important cities of India and in some important countries.

Swami opined, that any religion would preach welfare of humanity. All religious treatises preach the good. But the preachers, preach them on their whims and fancies.

Swami in North India

On account of his restless work schedule, Swami lost his health. So he went to 'Almora' in the Himalayan range.

Swamiji was welcomed by the people of 'Almora'. There too swami gave speech for the welfare of the people.

He advised them to have a small family. He wanted the establishment of colleges to increase literacy levels among the people. The

people of India, should forget their differences and should be united. people should learn technical education on the growth of India.

The Role of Swami's Disciples in his Movement

While Naren was spreading his invaluable wisdom in England, his disciples continued, swami's movement in America. His disciples were Krupananda Swamy (Leon Landsburz), Abhayananda (Marilusi), Hari Dass (Miss S. Eveldo). When swami returned America, those disciples completed their mission.



Plague Attacked Calcutta

Vivekananda reached Darjeling from Almora. At that time, cholera disease was rampant in Calcutta. That took toll of many people. Then swami spend money and physical strain for the disease inflicted people. As swami had no enough money, he asked the rich to donate liberally. His disciples worried about shortage of money.

But swamiji, assured them, if no body donated money we would sell our matt and other properties to serve the people. But luckily, all the rich people donated money.

Swami at Ninetal

In 'Ninetal' town, Swami gave his message in a dialogue form. He said to them, that christian fathers had no deep knowledge about their religion, so, they could not teach properly, their followers.

He quoted an example of a church father. A christian preacher went to some mining workers of a coal mine.

He told them patiently about christianism for hours. Later he asked them, whether, they knew god, the confused coal labourers felt, the christ too was a Labour, like them. They did not catch the point.

Swami Preached Patriotism

From 'Almora' Swami reached scenic Kashmir. After enjoying the beautiful and fascinating Kashmir scenes, he indulged in meditation. Swami arrived at Srinagar. There, he gave speech on Patriotism.

He declared that no citizen of any country, was not equal in being the Patriotic. In Japan you cant find a traitor of his country. Here Swami told about the duties of a man towards his country.

Swami at Amarnath

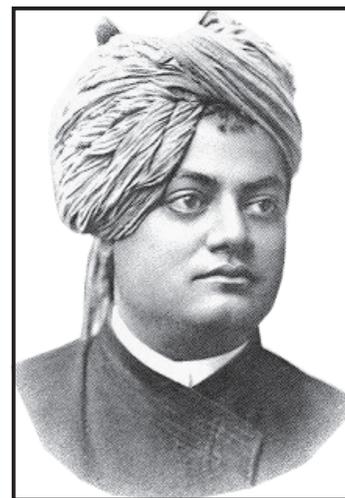
Swami reached a great Hindu Piligrimage Amarnath along with his disciple Nivedita. On his way to Amarnath, he took holy dip in the

waters, he came across. Some orthodox persons, objected to Naren being followed by western women disciple. But later they learned about the devotional Nivedita and holy Swami and fell on the feet of Swami.

Swami kept fast and later visited Amarnath-the snow linga form. He paid his gratitude to Lord Shiva, for granting him the power of involuntary death.

Self - Realisation of Vivekananda

However, humble a saint may be, he must have ego to some extent. Without loosing this little ego he would not be fully matured. The case was with Vivekananda.



Vivekananda, visited Kheera Bhavani's temple without any disciples. There he learned about the blasphemies of the Muslim invaders on that temple.

Swami became furious then he said, 'If i had been here, I would not let this happen'. On that occassion, he heard

the words of Goddess 'My son, If i want to protect my temple, I can do it myself'. That's it, Swami lost his ego feeling.

Swami's Prayer for the Peace of Souls

Swami reached the Belur Matt from Amarnath. His disciples learned about the 'Divine' voice, which was heard by Vivekananda. On listening this one of his disciples, questioned swami, whether he had ever saw a ghost.

Then Swami replied yes. Swami said that he had seen some ghosts and spoke to them. The ghosts were restless souls who wander on earth. Vivekananda sometimes, spoke in a lighter mood.

Swami's Views on Conduct

Swami preached all his disciples equally. He told them, that concentration, confidence and interest were essential to achieve anything. One should not show partiality towards any one. One should fearlessly work for the truth.

Swamy blessed the girl's school, established by his disciple sister Nivedita. She ran that school without facing any criticism and objection from anyone. Swami, groomed her to be respected by all Indians.

Swami, the Saviour of Destitutes

Swami wanted the welfare of all humans. But some crooks, criticised Swami, that he would like sycophancy and flattery. Swamy's reply to this propaganda was only his silence.

One disciple asked Swami, the reason for his silence. Swami cleared the doubt of his disciple in the following words. My boy, I can estimate the people, who come to me only with a glance. But I want to be free from their sins. So, I let them, to extoll me.

Health Problems Inflicted Swami

Swami was very health conscious. He often said that body is a rented house and diseases are the rent, that we have to pay to god. He also said use your body in limit and if you use your body extremely, you fell ill.

Every human being has to pay the rent. So, Swami suffered ill for sometime, soon after he returned from Amarnath. Swami was in meditation while, he was inflicting by the physical pains.

Social Customs

Swami went ot 'Vaidyanath' to get a medical treatment. He was accompanied by his disciple 'Niranjananda.' One day Swami and his disciple were on their morning walk. On the way, they found a poorman fall on the road unattended. He was a patient too. On seeing the bleeding orphan, swami reached him and bathe and nursed the patient for a while.



Swami's disciple wondered at swami's behaviour. Understanding his doubt, swami said, no one has any right to forcibly impose any custom of the society.

Sister Nivedita

Nivedita means offering one-self to god. When Naren went to Chicago, as the representative of India, he gave a memorable and wonderful speech on world unity and universal brotherhood.

Miss Margaret E Noble was a true Christian woman. She was searching for the truth. Her quest for the truth, realised, when she listened to swami's preachings.

She immediately turned to be his disciple and changed her name as 'Nivedita'. Sister Nivedita wrote a book on the life and teachings of Swami. That book was 'Master As I Saw Him'. Her mortal remains were buried in India.

Swami's Attitude To-Wards Freedom Struggle

Those were the days, when the people of India were fighting for freedom. One day, a labourer, came to swami, and asked him, that why he was not entering the freedom struggle.

Swami replied: I can get the freedom of this country in one day, but who has the capability to retain the freedom. In Chicago, Swami, told that every country should have freedom.

Though he had not participated in the freedom struggle, he gave inspiration to great leaders.

Widow Marriage

Swamiji opined, that social traditions of a country depend on the circumstances of that country. He argued that widow-remarriage was not entertained in forward castes of India for the lack of Males.

But in lower communities widow-remarriages were taking place as there were plenty of males were available for marriage.

In upper castes the number of women is higher than men. So, if an upper caste woman wants to remarry, it would be impossible to get a husband.

Swami's Understanding at Philosophy

After taking rest for a short period, swami resumed his mission in 'Belur Monastery'. He explained his disciples, on how to teach. People in an easy way.

He preached his disciples, to forget to discriminate people. Concentration is the foundation for a sanyasi.

Cooking without cleanliness and concentration, spoils the food. In the same way, his disciple too should have concentration on their mission.

The Truth

Vivekananda wanted, that his disciples always should be fear-less. An Monk should always live for the welfare of the people. He should keep the rich away.

If he wants people's confidence, he should be above all attractions. He if he speaks only the truth for fourteen years, people will follow, his teachings.

If a king is righteous towards his administration, he would not be defied by any of his subjects. Swami, preached his disciples, to live for truth.

The Life of a House - Holder

According to swami, and 'Monk' should estranged himself from women and womenizers. He should not touch other's belongings.

Vivekananda was not against a householder or women. Swami felt, that only renouncing all the worldly attachments was a good solution for fearless life. House holders who behave in a righteous way, feel good. There is a distance between a householder's life and sacrifices.

A Restless Service

Swami said that he would laydown his life for the Dharma. I would die, while i was in my mission. The only path, that lead to god is the renouncement. Only a Monk can serve the

world. If you run after the salvation, you get only hell.

In this way Swami Vivekananda exhorted his disciples about Human service and devotion on God.

Swami's Disciples on the Mission

Swami trained his disciples very well. He sent Sivananda to Ceylon (Sri Lanka), Sharadananda and Turiananda to Gujarat, Ramakrishnananda to Madras and some two other to Dhaka(Bangladesh). In this way swamiji's mission was spread to all over the world.

Swamiji asked his house holder disciple 'Nagesh' to spread his message in the world. All the disciples of Swami, saw Lord Shiva, in him. They worshipped vivekananda to a god.

Advaitashram

Vivekananda established his teaching institutes all over India. One day swami decided to start an 'Advaita Ashram' at the Himalayas. But he thought it was costly affair.

But his western disciples saviour couple, came forward to help to start an Ashram there. In the mighty Himalayas, at Mayavati, at the height of 6,800 ft, Advaitashram was constructed.

This is the best of all the Ramakrishna missioneries ashram. It was here, philosophy

was preached for the welfare of humans. 'Prabodha Bharat' a monthly is being published from here.

Swami Re-Visited America

Vivekananda's first visit to America lasted for about three years and a half. He went on a lecture tour all over the country and saw every important part of America in about a year.

In 1899, on June 20, swami left for America for the second time along with Nivedita and Turiananda.

He sailed to America in a ship named 'Golconda'. He included, his lectures in the book 'Swami who appeared to me'.

Some Preachings from his Lectures

1. I am castigating taking meat which western people like very much. Whatever may be the reason any Human community did not take human flesh for food. Had humans were canniballs, the whole humanity would had vanished by this time.

2. Selfishness is the root cause for danger. When we loose, selfishness, we do behave and speak rightously. Indians are god-fearing. Lord Krishna, Lord Ram and Lord Balaji are our Gods.

The Mystic Nature

While swamiji was sailing to America, he uttered to his woman-disciple, while this mystic nature is making us to feel happy, the god who created this nature and universe, was the great of all.

When we are able to see the Horizon 'where the sky and earth meets, is there any need of preaching?'

Freedom Fighters Followed Swamiji's Preachings

Indian national congress was established in life time of swamiji. His teachings were instrumental in rousing patriotic feelings among



the then patriotic leaders. Tilak, emphasised, that Vivekananda was the father of Indian nation. Gopala Krishna was greatly influenced by Vivekananda. Miss. Anniebesent, Sri Aarbindo too worshipped Swami Vivekananda.

Swamiji's Influence on some well-known Leaders

The messages, given by swamiji, awakened many grand leaders of freedom fight. The then youth were ready to sacrifice, their lives for the country. Subhash Chandra Bose's thoughts were guided by the lecture of Swamiji.

Dedication, unity and confidence were his preachings.

Swamiji's Influence on Gandhiji

Gandhiji was influenced by the preachings and thoughts of Vivekananda. In the opinion of Gandhi both Sri Ramakrishna and Vivekananda were dedicated, their lives for the cause of public service.

The freedom struggle was highly influenced by the teachings of Vivekananda. He enlightened the people.

He guided people towards the freedom struggle. Swamiji's call was "Arise, awake and be bold and fear not". Even to day Vivekananda's words, ringing in the ears of the patriotic Indians.

The Writings of Vivekananda

Swamiji wrote, the yoga, the Rajayoga and the Gnanayoga. By authoring these books he showed the youth a new path towards growth.

It is a wonderful matter, that the writings of Vivekananda, mould even a cowardic into a lion-heart.

Swami, learned that 'Saint Caviour' was died in 'Mayavati', then he immediately went there and soothed the bereaved family members.

The Last Days of Swamiji

Swami's health was rapidly deteriorated. On the compulsion of his disciples, he agreed to get medical treatment.



While taking medical treatment and diet Vivekananda used to teach, his ideologies to his students. It was 1895, Swami, put the rules and regulations of his missionery in writing. He ordered his disciple, to conduct his last rites in a specified place, decided by him.

The Final Departure

It was fourth July, 1902, Swamiji woke up at early morning and attended natural call. Then took bath and meditated for sometime.

After that sang some songs on goddess Kali. Though for days swami was on sick bed, this day he moved around jovially. Until evening, he gave lessons to his disciples. While his disciple, fanning, Swamiji, laid down on the floor. There was a Rosary in Swamiji's hand. He closed his eyes. Swamiji left this mortal world. Vivekananda finally joined Lord Narayan.

Some Teachings of Swamiji

Vivekanda teachings were -

1. 'Satyameva Jayate' (The truth wins)
2. Surpass all mistakes and develop your individuality.