



*Arise ! Awake ! Stop not, till the goal is reached.*

July-August, 2026

Om Namō Narayanaya

*Sandesh*

Na Me Bhakta Pranashyati

My Devotee Never Perishes



### **Bhagawan Veda Vyasa**

Bhagawan Veda Vyasa is a revered ancient sage and partial incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Born to the wandering sage Parashara and the fisherwoman Satyawati on an island in the Yamuna River, he was originally named Krishna Dvaipayana. He lived during the transition period at the end of the Dvapara Yuga, a timeline overlapping with the events of the Mahabharata. Before his time, spiritual wisdom was preserved purely through auditory transmission across generations. Recognizing the decline of human memory, he systematically gathered, edited, and categorized the single body of sacred hymns.

He earned the title of "Veda Vyasa" – meaning "the arranger of the Vedas" – by dividing the wisdom into four distinct collections: the Rig Veda, Sama Veda, Yajur Veda, and Atharva Veda. He authored the Brahma Sutras to systematize Upanishadic philosophy. He also composed the eighteen Maha Puranas to convey complex spiritual truths through historical narratives and accessible stories.

His magnum opus is the epic Mahabharata, recognized as the longest poem in the world. To accomplish this monumental task, he enlisted Lord Ganesha as his scribe under the condition that the deity would write continuously only after understanding the deeper meaning of each verse. Embedded within this epic is the Bhagavad Gita, a profound dialogue on duty and spirituality. Furthermore, he plays a crucial narrative role in the epic as an ancestor and wise guide to the Kuru dynasty. His life's work fundamentally shaped the ethical, literary, and spiritual identity of India. Humanity honors his everlasting legacy of wisdom and education every year on the festival of Guru Purnima, which is also known as Vyasa Purnima.

### BADARIKASHRAMA DIARY

The month of May ushered in a continuation of Badarikashramsa's much appreciated and enjoyed events and celebrations! On Sunday the 3rd of May, Buddha Jayanthi was celebrated. Dr. Arun Bannerjee gave a talk on the life and teachings of Lord Gautam Buddha. Dr. Bannerjee is an eminent scientist living in the Bay Area, renowned world-wide as a scholar and writer in topics like space-mathematics. He has been a frequent speaker at prior events in Badarikashrama, and his talks are well applauded. This day was no different, as after a wonderful speech, Dr. Banerjee fielded several questions from the audience.

Sunday the 10th of May marked Mother's Day. The day began with a Sri Gayatri Homa conducted by Swami Ji and Vishnu Ji. Many devotees and their families took part in the Homa, offering "samagri" into the havan. This was followed by bhajans rendered by devotees. After the programs, all partook of the Mahaprasad served as a vegetarian lunch.



108 Samuhika Sri Satyanarayana Puja - 42nd Anniversary



**Swami Jñānasudhānanda Ji - 42nd Anniversary**

The weekend of Saturday May 16th and Sunday, May 17th marked Badarikashrama's 42nd Anniversary. True to the tradition of the Ashrama, the Anniversary celebrations are one of the most significant programs for this part of the year. Saturday the 16th featured a talk by Swami Jñānasudhānanda Ji Maharaj, from the Vedanta Society of Hollywood, CA. He gave a scintillating speech on the values of life and the glory of worship. Next were programs in Indian classical music and dance. First was a Bharatanatyam recital by students from the Kalaawishkar Dance School. This was followed by a Carnatic vocal recital by students of Smt. Lata Shriram. They performed several pieces composed by the three masters. After the music recital, the lunch was served. The post-lunch session continued with Indian classical dance recital in the Odissi style, by pupils of Seema Chakraborty. The dance performance were well applauded!



**Smt. Dr. Susmita Bannerjee and Shri Shreyas Vartak**

Next was a Hindustani music concert by Smt. Madhuvanti Bhide and students. The group performed a mix of classical compositions and bhajans, concluding to great ovation!

Sunday, May 17th, the second day of the 42nd Anniversary celebrations was held. Honoring the tradition of many years, the program began with a Bhajan recital by Smt. Rita Sahai and students. After this, Swamiji took the audience for a trip down memory



**108 Samuhika Sri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha** lane, reminiscing about the early days of founding of the Ashrama, and recounting key milestones along the journey! This was followed by the semi-annual "108 Samuhika Sri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha" ceremony. 108 devotees and their families took part in the puja and katha, either in-person or over live-stream. As Swamiji chanted slokas, devotees present at the Mandir repeated the chants upon cue, while offering flowers and "akshada" (rice grains) to the coconut placed on the "kalasha" (sacred pot of water), leading to a mesmerizing and immersive experience. The day concluded with the prasada of a hearty lunch, marking the successful completion of 42 glorious years of service to humanity in the United States and in India!

On Sunday the 24th of May, Badarikashrama, performed the Maha Mrityunjaya Homa for peace, harmony and the well-being of society. SwamiJI left for a short visit to India on 05/27/2026.

The month of June had its own set of events. Sunday, June 7th was the “Sri Ramanama Sankirtana and Meditation”, starting off with a talk and kirtan by Sargam Shah. Many devotees were present to participate in the meditation. On Sunday, June 14th, the Ashrama hosted the “Sri Sundarakand Ramayana” event. This is a recitation of slokas (verses) from Ramayana, by the gathered group of Ashram devotees. It is important to note that programs like the two aforementioned held in June, have been con-



#### **Badarikashrama Vidyashala, Madihalli - Awards Ceremony**

ducted with meticulous regularity, and have therefore, played a vital role in maintaining a “heartbeat” for our community and keeping it together over past 42 years!

Sunday, June 21st, was a special day at the Ashrama. The day started off with a Sitar performance, in the Hindustani style of classical music. Smt. Dr. Susmita Bannerjee, a renowned Sitar player visiting from India, performed for over an hour. She was ably accompanied on the Tabla by Sri. Shreyas Vartak, for the concert. The duo rendered several pieces, to a truly world-class performance, to great applause!



#### **Badarikashrama Vidyashala, Madihalli, Alumni Program**

The next event for the day was a talk on the Bhagavat Gita, by Dr. Rajiv Verma, retired Physician living in Fresno, CA. A frequent guest speaker at the Ashrama, Dr. Verma’s talk touched up on the topic of the human spiritual journey, and how the Gita serves a roadmap for those journeying.

The final event for the month was the Sri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha on Sunday, June 28th, attended by several devotees and their families.

SwamiJI returned from India on Tuesday, June 23rd. The key highlight of his visit to India was being feted by the Badarikashrama Vidyashala, Madihalli, Alumni Association on June 7, with much respect and warmth! Badarikashrama thus continues in its journey of providing selfless service to humanity. Please enquire with the office on how you can participate in Badarikashrama’s expansion project!!



#### **Warm Send-off to SwamiJI by the Students**

## Calendar of Events for July & August, 2026

<u>July</u>	Timings	Upcoming Programs
Sat 4th, Sun 5th	Sat 9 AM to Sun 1 PM	<b>Akhanda Sri Ramayana of Goswami Tulasidas:</b> Ram Charita Manasa (Group Recitation)
Sun 12th	10:30 AM	Sri Durga Homa and music
Sat 19th	11:00 AM to 5 PM	<b>Sant Mirabai Music Festival</b> by Bay Area Music Schools Bhansi Patel; Annesha Ganguly & Group; Anupama Chandratreya & Students; Rita Sahai & Students
Sun 26th	11:00 AM	Sri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha
Wed 29th	5:30 PM to 8:30 PM	<b>Sri Guru Purnima Puja Celebration</b> 5:30 PM: Sri Ramakrishna Homa and Puja 7:00 PM: Sri Satyanarayana Puja (Full moon)
<u>Aug</u>		
Sun 2nd	11:00 AM	Talk on the Role of the Guru in Life by Venkatraya Shenoy
Sun 9th	10:30 AM	Sri Sundarakand Ramayana by Ashram Devotees
Sun 16th	10:30 AM	<b>Maha Mrityunjaya Homa</b>
Fri 21st	6:30 PM	Sri Vara MahaLakshmi Vrata Puja and Kirtan
Sun 23rd	11:00 AM	Sri Satyanarayana Puja and Katha
Sun 30th	11:00 AM	Sri Bhagavat Gita Talk
<u>Sep</u>		
Fri 5th	From 6 PM to 12 Midnight	<b>Sri Krishna Janmashtami Celebrations</b>

### Teachings of Sri Ramakrishna

*"God can be realized through all paths. All religions are true. The important thing is to reach the roof. You can reach it by stone stairs or by bamboo steps or by a rope."*

*"When the flower blooms, the bees come of their own accord. So let the flower of your devotion bloom, and the Lord will come."*

### Badarikashrama Next Gen. Project

*Expanding into the future for the Next Generation spreading Vedic culture to all.*

**Goal:** Expand our San Leandro Center to a larger facility. Key features include  
 • Prarthana Mandir • Large Parking Lot • Cultural Center • Dinning Facilities • Residential Quarters

#### How to make tax-deductible donation

Zelle, Venmo, Cash, Checks, Paypal and Employer Matching Funds  
 Checks can be made to "Badarikashrama".  
 On the "For" line, please write "Next Gen Project".

### Badarikashrama, USA Center

Badarik@pacbell.net 510-278-2444

#### Daily Schedule at San Leandro

Temple is open between the hours of 8am to 12 noon and 5pm to 7:30pm

#### **Temple is Closed Every Thursday**

Evening aarati daily- 6.30pm  
 Mondays 6:30 pm: Sri Siva Puja & Aarti  
 Tuesdays 6:30 pm: Sri Durga Puja & Aarti  
 Poornima Sri Satyanarayana Puja every fullmoon