

SAMAJ SAMACHAR

SAMAJ NEWSLETTER



NATIONAL EVENTS

18 July is Mandela Day

9 August is National Women's Day

12 August - Maha Yajna to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Veda Niketan

13 August - Opening of the AYS Mandir at the ABH

AFFILIATES

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Plessislaer Arya Samaj on entering the 99th year. Since the formation on 30 June 1924, the Samaj has been instrumental in uplifting youth, distributing food to the needy and running an active bhajan group.

Under the leadership of the Late Pt Dookran, the Plessislaer Arya Samaj provided the venue for the 1961 meeting of the All-In African Conference in Plessislaer where Nelson Mandela emerged from a recently expired ban to make one of his last important speeches as a free man.



DAYANAND 200

"The world is fettered by the chain forged by superstition and ignorance. I have come to snap asunder that chain and to set slaves at liberty. It is contrary to my mission to have people deprived of their freedom."

The Light of Truth

Events and Activities

The Youth Day celebration left a lasting impact on over 200 children. The atmosphere was buzzing with enthusiasm and happiness. Overall, the day was nothing short of amazing, leaving a positive and empowering imprint on the young attendees. The HEAL Foundation succeeded in creating an unforgettable experience, fostering a sense of unity, motivation, and joy among all those who participated.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Umkomaas revival of the Arya Samaj is underway. Hampers were handed out to the local community.



Port Shepstone Arya Samaj and Sanyassa Council handed out hampers to those in need.



BACK TO THE VEDAS LECTURES

Missed the last one click here to view the lecture:

www.aryasamajsa.org

July Lecture

Topic: Raj Dharma - The Science of Government

Speaker: Pt Kirun Satgoor

Wednesday 19th July 2023 7pm to 8pm (GMT+2)



VEDA JYOTI is produced monthly and is accessible on our website.

www.aryasamajsa.org

Veda Niketan is sixty years old this year!

मित्रस्याहम् चक्षुषा समीक्षामहे "mitrasyaaham chakshushaa
sameekshaamahe May we look at all with an Equal and
Friendly Eye

Inter-Faith Work

Pt Rita Singh and Pt Ressa Rambaros represented the Arya Samaj at a gathering of all faiths in Africa held in Durban. An action plan to end gender-based violence was drafted under the leadership of Side by Side, the African wing of the international body - Faith Action.



The Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religion and Linguistic Communities held a dialogue on the role of religion, law and culture on reconciliation in a post apartheid South Africa on 27 June 2023. A call for unity, reconciliation and transformation was made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ॐ All Purohiths interested in joining the inter-faith actions to end gender-based violence contact Pt Ressa Rambaros PRO of the Arya Samaj on info@aryasamajsa.org
- ॐ The commemoration of the 60th year of Veda Niketan will take place at the APS headquarters on 12 August 2023 at 2pm. Swami Aryavesh from India will grace the function.



100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF APS

In 1942, under the leadership of the late Pt Dookran the Plessislaer Arya Samaj purchased two and a half acres of land. On 14 May 1950, the Late Mr. F. Satyapal laid the foundation stone. With the Group Areas Act coming into effect, the Samaj members relocated and rebuilt the Mandir in Northdale in the decade of the 1970 where a vibrant Plessislaer Arya Veer Dal operated, and Swami Deekshanand ran classes for children and adults. In the decade of 1980 under the leadership of the Late Mr Dasarath Bundhoo the Samaj hosted meetings of the Pietermaritzburg Combined Ratepayers Association.

SOCIAL ACTION

On the 11 June Plessislaer Arya Samaj hosted a very successful youth day function. Members of SAPS, the Hawks and CPF educated youth and adults on drugs and human trafficking. A display of the different drugs was used to explain the effect of drugs on children. A slide show revealed to youth the dangers and harmful effects drugs have on the body and organs.



SALUTATIONS

The Maikoo family are stalwarts of the Veda Dharma Sabha in Pietermaritzburg.

We salute Mr Haripal Maikoo who turned one hundred years on 24 June and his elder brother Pt Chandrapal Maikoo who is 103 years old.



Three of the fourteen siblings at a family gathering in 2009: Pt Chandrapal Maikoo, Haripal Maikoo and ex principal Ishawarlal Maikoo.

Celebrating one hundred Years of an Exemplary Life: A Tribute to Haripal Maikoo by Pt Kirun Satgoor

We honour an exceptional individual who has graced our lives with unwavering commitment, selflessness, and compassion. He embarked on tireless efforts in various spheres and reached the remarkable milestone of a century on this earth.

We celebrate the indelible contributions to education, religious activities, political

engagement, social work and sportsmanship in bowls and cricket.



Mr Haripal Maikoo at his 100th birthday

Promoting Hindi, establishing the Hindi Shiksha Sangh and managing the Veda Dharma Sabha (VDS) Hindi Schools has been a cornerstone of his journey.

He empowered countless young minds. He inspired generations and shaped the future through the knowledge imparted and the values instilled. His passion for learning and the unwavering belief in the potential of every individual left an indelible mark on the lives he touched.

He is a pillar in keeping Sunday Satsangs going in the VDS. Mr Haripal Maikoo's spiritual guidance has been a beacon of hope, providing solace and strength to those seeking guidance and support. His endeavours in the VDS on seva projects and bursaries transformed lives and gives hope to those in need.

His involvement in politics in the NIC, UDF and National Leather Workers union demonstrated his deep-rooted commitment to social change. Whether it was advocating for equal rights, working towards sustainable development, or striving for justice, he was at the forefront of positive transformation. His unwavering belief in democracy and dedication to improving the lives of others has made a lasting impact on our society.

We honour the accomplishments, and the person who displays kindness, humility, and unwavering dedication to making the world a better place. Reaching a centenary is not only a testament to longevity but a celebration of a life well-lived and an inspiration to us all.

On behalf of VDS and APS we express our deepest gratitude for the unwavering commitment to education, religious activities, political engagement, and social work.

May we all be inspired to continue to light the way for future generations.

Hindi Shiksha Sangh Celebrates 75 years

Arya Pratinidhi Sabha South Africa (APS) partnered with the Hindi Shiksha Sangh to celebrate 75 years.

Mr Vinod Ramklass gave a generous donation for the Anup Jalota show in the name of the APS.

This gave the APS a prominent place in the two concerts held in Durban and Johannesburg and renewed the opportunity for APS to play a role in promoting culture and the Hindi language.



The APS - Hindi Shiksha Sangh partnership began on 25 April 1948 when Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of South Africa and the Sanathan Dharma Sabha came together on the invitation of Pandit Nardevji to discuss possible solutions to promote the Hindi language in South Africa.

The Hindi Shiksha Sangh was housed at the APS headquarters in Carlisle Street in Durban for about 30 years.

The annual Hindi Eistedfodds were held at the Aryan Hall.

Members of APS served on the Sangh, and many were awarded recognition for their service in promoting, funding, and retaining the Hindi language.

Following the establishment of the Sangh, Pt Nardev ji served as its first president up to 1975.

The Sangh has a plaque at its offices thanking Pt Nardev.



At a dinner held on 23 June 2023, the Vedalankar family received an award presented by the Sangh president, Mr Raj Dhanlall and Bhajan Samraat Sri Anup Jalota.



Ravij and Kriti Vedalankar (children of Prabodh Vedalankar, grandchildren of Pt Nardev Vedalankar)

Pt Reena Bhoora, past President of the Sangh, also received an award presented by the guest of Sangh and the APS.

