

# SAMAJ SAMACHAR

## SAMAJ NEWSLETTER



### NATIONAL EVENTS

#### June 16 Commemoration

**Date:** 17 June

**Venue:** Kamalinee Primary School Grounds, Isipingo

**Time:** 9am to 2pm

Come in your numbers!  
Watch social media for more details!!

### AFFILIATES

#### CONGRATULATIONS

Arya Samaj Gauteng held its AGM on 28 May 2023. Mr Rahul Sharma was elected Chairperson, Dr Shanil Batohi Vice Chairperson, Pt Reena Coenen Secretary, Ms Usha Bahadur, Assistant Secretary Yashkar Bundhoo Treasurer, Anisha Maharaj Assistant Treasurer and Mr Sam Rugbeer general member.

### INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

The 33rd Arya Mahasammelan will be held on July 27-30, 2023, hosted by Arya Samaj Greater Houston in Texas, USA.

An International Arya Mahasammelan will take place in New York, USA from 28 to 30 July 2023.



### # DAYANAND 200

“I do not entertain the idea of founding a new religion or sect. My sole aim is to believe in truth and help others to believe in it, to reject falsehood and help others to do the same.”

Maharishi Swami Dayanand Saraswati

## Events and Activities

Pietermaritzburg Hindu Stree Samaj 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was held on 21 May 2023 at the VDS Mandir in Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg. The different faith groups in the surrounding area were in attendance. The Guest Speaker was Dr Rekha Mohan.

Arya Samaj Gauteng held a successful Bahu Kund Yajna on 28 May 2023 at the Mayfair Cultural Centre. Close on to 70 people attended.



### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Heal Foundation procured and packed 250 hampers.

These were distributed to communities in Phoenix, Malagazi, Pietermaritzburg, Isipingo, Avoca, and Verulam.

Thank you to all the volunteers and donors for making it possible to assist in alleviating the suffering of those in need.



### Webinar series

**Date:** 25 June 2023 at 11am

**Topic:** Caring for the elderly - physical and emotional perspective



To view the first webinar held on 15 April 2023 click here

[www.aryasamajsa.org](http://www.aryasamajsa.org)

### BACK TO THE VEDAS LECTURES

Missed the last one click here to view the lecture:

[www.aryasamajsa.org](http://www.aryasamajsa.org)

#### June Lecture

**Topic:** The Arya Samaj and its Role in Current Struggles in the World

**Speaker:** Swami Vedanand Saraswati

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 7pm to 8pm (GMT+2)**



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

[www.aryasamajsa.org](http://www.aryasamajsa.org)

## Veda Niketan is sixty years old this year!

**It is the paramount duty of every Arya to learn and teach the Veda, to hear it, read it and to recite it to others.**

**We are proud to have had leaders with foresight and pay tribute to them: Pt Nardev Vedalankar, S Chotai, S Rambharos, M Soomera, Bal Ganesh, D Bundhoo, Pt Bhagwandeem, and many others.**



मित्रस्याहम् चक्षुषा समीक्षामहे  
“mitrasyaaham  
chakshushaa  
sameekshaamahe”

May we look at all with an  
Equal and Friendly Eye

Veda Niketan has an annual donations drive, Deep Daan, linked to Deepavali. Support us to dispel ignorance and light up people's lives with spiritual knowledge.

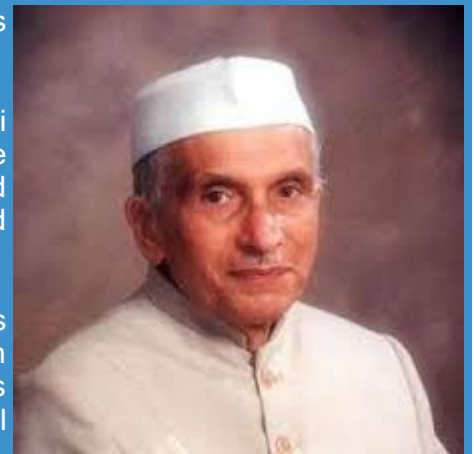
All Affiliates are called on to reach out to members, friends and family to contribute to Deep Daan this year.

Veda Niketan was established in 1963. Under this committee a journal entitled Veda Jyoti was established. Pandit Nardevji wrote most of the articles. The APS leaders and members translated his writings into English. Businesspeople supported the publication generously. The sponsors secured continue to support Veda Niketan to this day.

Publications include tracts, books, pamphlets, and journals - the Veda Jyoti and the Veda Jyoti extracts. Among the books are graded books on the teachings of Hinduism. These books are used for the moderation of Graded Examinations in Hinduism: Elementary, Basic, Essential, Diploma and higher Diploma.

A new aspect of Veda Niketan's focus is Back to the Vedas online lectures initiated in 2022. The books and tracts published over the years have been digitized and will be accessible on the Arya Samaj SA website. New eBooks and eTracts are in publication. An e-Veda Jyoti is distributed through digital means since June 2021.

100 000 copies of extracts are printed and distributed with the Rising Sun to households in Phoenix and Chatsworth through the generous sponsorship of three sponsors -for the paper, printing, and distribution.





**“One should spend one’s energy following the path of Dharma” Maharishi Swami Dayanand Saraswati**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

ॐ On May 28, 2023, the Arya Samaj Gauteng held its Annual General Meeting, during which newly elected officials took an oath to uphold the name of the Samaj in Gauteng.

Congratulations to all the elected officials! May your leadership usher in positive changes, foster unity, and drive progress in fulfilling the mission of the Arya Samaj Gauteng.

Wishing you a successful tenure filled with abundant opportunities to make a lasting impact on the lives of those you serve.



## 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF APS

In 1905 Bhai Paramanand came to Natal with the message of the Arya Samaj from India. He was a dynamic orator in English and Hindi. In Johannesburg Mahatma Gandhi, chairman of the Reception Committee, welcomed him. He went on to Cape Town, where the first Indians had arrived during the Dutch colonial era, as slaves, from 1684 onwards. He established several societies in South Africa, one of which was the Arya Samaj in Pietermaritzburg.

## SOCIAL ACTION

The June 16 commemoration will be a celebration of Youth. Sports and motivational talks to empower the younger generation will be part of the programme. Further details will be communicated on our social networks.

We look forward to youth celebrating the day and planning the future.

We thank the past generations of youth in South Africa for delivering the end of apartheid.



## OBITUARIES

It is with deep sadness that we report on the deaths of Mrs Ramesar, a founding member of the Pietermaritzburg Hindu Stree Samaj, and Pt Tara Sirikisson, past PRO of the APS.

Their dedication and selfless service to the Arya Samaj will not be forgotten.