



VEDANTA SOCIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

2323 Vallejo Street (at Fillmore) San Francisco, CA 94123

Swami Tattwamayananda, Minister and Spiritual Teacher
Swami Asutoshananda, Assistant Minister

Ramakrishna Order of India

JULY – AUGUST 2017

• **SUMMER RECESS** •
June 26 – September 16

Lectures resume on Sunday, September 17.

WEDNESDAY VESPERS: 7:30 P.M.
New Temple Auditorium

• **Worship, Devotional Singing, and Meditation** •
July 5, 12, 19, & 26 and August 2, 9, 26, 23 & 30.

**GURU PURNIMA
CELEBRATION**

Saturday, July 8, 10 a.m.

- Worship & meditation
- Devotional singing
- “Guru: A Definition” – a talk by Swami Tattwamayananda
- Flower offerings by devotees
- Buffet luncheon



**PATANJALI'S YOGA SUTRAS
FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M.**
VIVEKANANDA HALL

**A Vedantic Scripture Class
by Swami Tattwamayananda**

*No Classes during the summer recess.
Classes resume on Friday, September 22.*



New Temple

Wednesday evenings: Vespers & Meditation
7:30 – 8:15 p.m.

❖ Worship, Devotional Singing, and Meditation ❖

Vespers will be held every Wednesday
during the summer recess:

July 5, 12, 19 & 26 and
August 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

A CLASS on Vedantic scriptures is conducted on Fridays by Swami Tattwamayananda at 7:30 p.m. in Vivekananda Hall. The topic for study is: "Patanjali's Yoga Sutras." **Class will resume on September 22.**

TEMPLE HOURS. The temple is open daily for meditation from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. On Tuesdays the temple is closed.

INTERVIEWS with Swami Tattwamayananda may be scheduled by those who wish to know more about Vedanta. Specific instruction and guidance are given by the swami to anyone who earnestly desires to undertake spiritual practice. Those wishing to make appointments with the swami may do so by speaking with him after the services, by phoning 415-922-2323, or by e-mailing: tattwa@sfvedanta.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Classes are held on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 12 noon for children in first grade through high school to give them a general knowledge of Vedanta. **Classes will resume on September 17.**

THE SRI SARADA LIBRARY will close on Sunday, June 25, at 2:30 p.m. for the summer. *All who have borrowed books are requested to return them by the above closing date.* **The library will reopen on September 17.**

BOOKSHOP HOURS

Mondays: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuesdays: CLOSED

Wednesdays – Saturdays: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sundays: 1 – 4 p.m.

The bookshop carries translations of principal Vedantic scriptures, books on Vedanta and other world religions, and children's books. A large selection of books, incense, photos, etc., may be ordered online at sfvedanta.org. At present, more than 1400 titles are available. Orders may also be placed by phone or fax. E-mail: books@sfvedanta.org.

Upcoming Retreat:

— LABOR DAY RETREAT —
Saturday, Sept. 2 – Monday, Sept. 4
Vivekananda Hall, New Temple

Further information will be in the
September bulletin and on the website.

ONLINE OUTREACH

WEBSITE: sfvedanta.org

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/sfvedanta

TWITTER: twitter.com/sfvedanta

YOUTUBE: youtube.com/user/SFVedanta

LIVESTREAM: livestream.com/sfvedanta



Vedanta Retreat

Olema, Marin County

The Society's retreat provides an opportunity to spiritual seekers of all faiths to meditate and study in a secluded area of meadows and forests away from the disturbances of urban life. The retreat is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, please visit our website: www.sfvedanta.org.



Above is the emblem of the Ramakrishna Order depicting the union of the four paths by which the Supreme Being may be realized. The waves are symbolic of unselfish action; the lotus, love of God; the rising sun, knowledge; the serpent, awakening of spiritual power; and the swan, the Supreme Self.

A TRUE TEACHER

First you must find a teacher, a true teacher, and you must remember that he is not just a man. You may get a teacher in the body, but the real teacher is not in the body; he is not the physical man—he is not as he appears to your eyes. It may be the teacher will come to you as a human being, and you will receive the power from him. Sometimes he will come in a dream and transmit things to the world. The power of the teacher may come to us in many ways. But for us ordinary mortals the teacher must come, and our preparation must go on till he comes.

We attend lectures and read books, argue and reason about God and soul, religion and salvation. These are not spirituality, because spirituality does not exist in books or in theories or in philosophies. It is not in learning or reasoning, but in actual inner growth. . . . So when real light will come there will be no more of this learning from books. No book learning. The man who cannot write even his own name can be perfectly religious, and the man with all the libraries of the world in his head may fail to be. Learning is not a condition of spiritual growth; scholarship is not a condition. The touch of the guru, the transmittal of spiritual energy, will quicken your heart. Then will begin the growth. That is the real baptism by fire. No more stopping. You go on and go on.

The guru must teach me and lead me into light, make me a link in that chain of which he himself is a link. The man in the street cannot claim to be a guru. The guru must be a man who has known, has actually realized the divine truth, has perceived himself as the spirit. A mere talker cannot be a guru. . . . A true guru will tell the disciple, “Go and sin no more,” and no more can he sin—no more has the person the power to sin. . . . The power that can transform life in a moment can be found only in the living illumined souls, those shining lights who appear among us from time to time. They alone are fit to be gurus.

– **Swami Vivekananda**
“Discipleship,” *Complete Works*, Vol. VIII
