



# Dayānand Jayanti

**Phalguna Krishna  
Dashami**

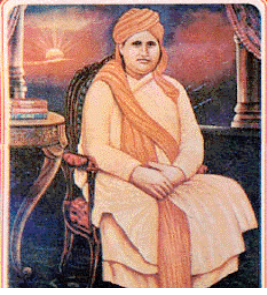
*(12 February 1825)*

2019-03-03

By Dr. Suryanarayana Nanda  
for Arya Samaj Greater Houston

**02.28.2019**

Śivarātri



# Śivarātri



ओं नमः शम्भवाय च मयोभवाय च,  
नमः शङ्कराय च मयस्कराय च,  
नमः शिवाय च शिवतराय च ॥

*Salutation to the Lord,*  
who is the source of peace, and bliss.

*Salutation to the Lord,*  
who is the granter of peace and bliss.

*Salutation to the Lord,*  
the benevolent, and also who is exceedingly  
benevolent.



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**Phalguna Krishna Dashami**

*(12 February 1825)*

**Tankara, Gujarat**

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# Swāmī Dayānanda



Maharishi Dayananda Sarasvati spent nearly 25 years, from 1845 to 1869, as a wandering ascetic, who gave up material life in his spiritual pursuits to find spiritual truth.

During these years, he practiced various forms of yoga and became a disciple of **Virajanand Dandee**.



# Swāmī Dayānand



Swami Dayanand's main message –  
**"Back to the Vedas"** - formed the bedrock of  
all his thoughts and actions.  
In fact, he spent a lifetime preaching against  
many social customs and traditions that were  
meaningless and oppressive.

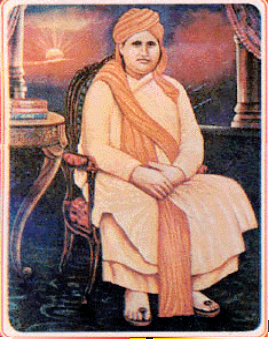




# Swāmī Dayānand



These included practices such as **idol worship** and **polytheism**, and such social stigma as **casteism** and **untouchability**, **child marriage**, **polygamy**, and **forced widowhood**, **sati**, **dowry**, **ignorance towards Vedic scriptures**, **superstitions** etc. were many evils which were prevalent in his times.



# Swāmī Dayānanda



Swami Dayanand showed the Hindus how going back to the roots of their faith - the Vedas - they can improve their lot as well as the social, political, and economic conditions of the then India.



He advocated the  
equal rights and  
respects to women  
and advocated the  
education of a girl  
child like the males.





He was responsible for the revival of the Indian educational system by bringing together pupil from different strata of the society under one umbrella, that is classroom.



He inspired the nation to  
aspire to **Swarājya** (*self  
governance*), nationalism,  
and spiritualism.

*He was the first to give the call  
for **Swarājya** in 1876, later taken  
up by Lokamānya Tilak.*

He declared that good  
Government was no  
substitute for self-  
government.



# Swāmī Dayānand



*The freedom fighters of mother India, who were influenced by and followed him, included - Mahatma Hansraj and Lala Lajpat Rai, Shyamji Krishna Varma, Madam Cama, Pandit Guru Dutt Vidyarthi, Sukh Yadav, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Lala Hardayal, Madan Lal Dhingra, Ram Prasad Bismil, Bhagat Singh, Mahadev Govind Ranade, Swami Śraddhānand etc....*



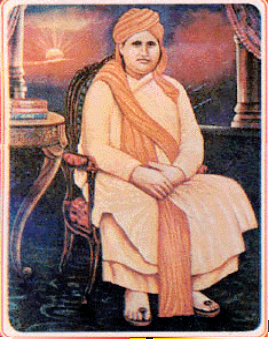


# Swāmī Dayānanda Arya Samaj



He founded a Social and religious reform movement, **Arya Samaj** (*society of the nobles*) on April 7, 1875, in Mumbai, and also created its 10 principles based on the Vedas.

**'Krinvanto Vishvam Aryam'** *was the motto of the samaj, which means, "Make this world noble".*

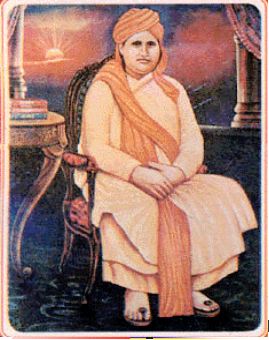


# Arya Samaj



The objectives of Arya Samaj was to recover and revive the forgotten values of Vedic culture, to inspire the Indians with the great Vedic ideal of the past and to re-establish the greatness of India by responding to internal as well as external challenges.





# Swāmī Dayānanda



The philosophy of Dayananda Saraswati can be known from his three famous contributions namely **“Satyarthha Prakash”, “Rig Vedaadi Bhashya Bhumika”** and **Veda Bhashyas**.

# Śivarātrī

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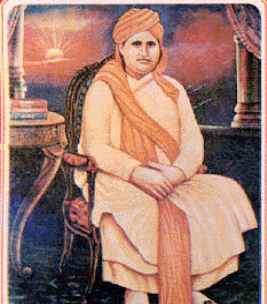


# *Śivarātri*



Mahā Śivarātri is celebrated on the **Krishna Paksha Chaturdashi** of the month of **Fālguna**.

It falls in February or March as per the English Gregorian calendar.



# *Śiva rātri*



## **Shiva means auspicious.**

- It is limitless, transcendent, unchanging and formless.
- He is the Param brahma.
- He is referred to as the (Mahādeva)



# *Śiva-rātri*



He is called (**Rudra**) Destroyer and (**Shiva**) Benefactor or (**Shankara**) one who does well to all. Because he is both the destroyer and the preserver of life.

He destroys the old world and creates a new one.

In every destruction there is new creation, Death is important for rebirth and to replace the old with the new.

It symbolizes this aspect of nature.

He is described as **Bhutanātha**.



# *Śiva rātri*



**Trinetra;** The main iconographical attributes of Shiva are the third eye on his forehead.

**Ardha-nārīśvara ;** An iconographic representation shows him with one half of the body as male and the other half as female.

**Ādiguru;** Shiva is considered as the Adi Guru, the first Guru from whom all the knowledge originated. Who is the patron of all the yogas and arts.





# *Śiva-rātri*



## *Ascetic and Householder*

Śiva-Rātri is very significant for people who are on the spiritual path and also for people who are in family situations.

**He is depicted as both an ascetic yogi and as a householder.**



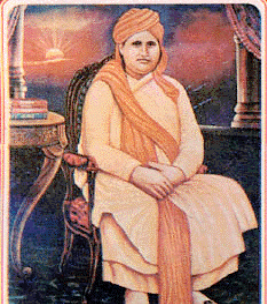
# *Śiva rātri*



**Śivarātri is the celebration of darkness. It is the darkest day of the month.**

The only thing that can be everywhere is darkness. It is all-enveloping, everywhere.

Śivarātri is an opportunity for one to dissolve their limitedness, to experience the unboundedness of the source of creation which is the seed in every human being.



# *Śiva rātri*



In order to remove darkness light is needed, and to suppress the materialistic desire spiritual strength is needed. With this intention to remain awoken is called Śivarātri .



# *Śiva rātri*



या निशा सर्वभूतानां तस्यां जागर्ति संयमी।  
यस्यां जाग्रति भूतानि सा निशा पश्यतो मुनेः॥

What is night for all beings, in it the controlled one is awake; when all beings are awake, that is the night to the sage who sees.

*Gita.2.69*



# *Śiva rātri*



yo jāgāra tam Ṛcaḥ kāmayaṇte  
yo jāgāra tam u sāmāni yanti  
yo jāgāra tam ayam soma āha  
tavāham asmi sakhye nyokāḥ .



# *Śiva rātri*

## *Rishi Bodh Utsav*



This is the night that Swami Dayānanda Sarasvati's enlightenment began in the 1830s.

**It is a landmark event in the history of the Arya Samāj because it heralds the awakening in Rishi Dayanand's mind, when he was a young teenager, that god truly cannot exist or be represented in the form of an idol or statue.**

This led him to begin a personal quest, lasting nearly three decades, for knowledge revealing the true nature of god.





Let this night be a night of  
wakefulness.



**Suṣārathi-raśvāniva yan-manuṣyān-  
nenīyate-bhīśubhir-vājina iva ,  
Hṛt-pratiṣṭhaṃ yadajiraṃ javiṣṭhaṃ  
tan-me manaḥ śiva-saṃkalpa-mastu.**

Which, leads and controls men, like a skillful charioteer  
his speedy horses, as if holding them by the reins; which  
is well placed within the heart; which is free from decay,  
and is the speediest of all, may that mind of mine be  
always guided by the best of intentions.



Let this night be a night of  
wakefulness.



**Yajjāgrato dūra-mudaiti daivam  
tadu suptasya tathaiveti,  
Dūram-gamaṃ jyotiṣāṃ jyotirekaṃ  
tan-me manah śiva-saṃkalpa-mastu.**

A waking person's mind, which endowed with divine virtues, moves far and high, that of a person asleep moves in the same way; racing far and wide, and the sole enlightener of all the senses, may the mind of mine be always guided by the best of intentions.