



# A MANUAL FOR FOREIGN DELEGATES

## Gayatri Teerth Shantikunj

Welcome and Greetings from Shantikunj. Your presence at Shantikunj is really appreciated.

- Shantikunj, Gayatri Teerth is the embodiment of the vision of a Rishi couple, spiritual scientist, the ground breaking scholar of 21st century: Acharya Shriram Sharma (1911–1990) and his foremost disciple and life partner, Mata Bhagwati Devi Sharma (1926–1994). It was founded in 1971
- Shantikunj is the unique fountain-head of moral, ethical and spiritual awakening of masses worldwide and the head quarters of All World Gayatri Pariwar (AWGP).
- Shantikunj, the sacred land was the Tap-Sthali of Maharshi Vishwamitra in the Vedic Age, today, a spiritually vibrant center for Gayatri Sadhana and Spiritual elevation.
- It's the Spiritual light house, which aims to disseminate the message of Acharya ji and its mint for casting enlightened individuals through its different training programs.
- Shantikunj has been revived the Vedic culture and carry forwarding the message of the ancient traditions of the seven prominent Rishis of the ancient ages.
- It has been practicing Scientific Spirituality and it is a unique institution working towards the principles of harmony between nature and culture.
- 16 sacred rituals are being conducted throughout the year at Shantikunj.
- More than 2,40,000 recitations (Jap) of the Gayatri Mantra takes place in Shantikunj every day. The supersonic vibrations of these mantra, in conjunction with the Yagya ritual and the Akhand Deep profoundly affect the vibration field of Shantikunj, making it an ideal place to connect with the energy of Gayatri.
- There is no membership concept in AWGP. The traditional way of treating guests as a family member is being nurtured here.



# Patron-Founder of AWGP

**Seer Saint, Yug Rishi Acharya Shriram Sharma (1911 - 1990)** A pioneer of spiritual renaissance, a sage, a visionary and a reformer, the Acharya initiated a movement for transformation of era, lived a disciplined life of devout austerity, visited the Himalayas several times and attained spiritual eminence. His approach of scientific spirituality and his prolific writings has been heralded the arrival of Satyug. He had written more than 3200 books, touching all aspects of human life. The Gayatri Pariwar fraternity with its more 3000 social reform centers are his greatest contributions to the modern world.



**Vandaniya Mata Bhagwati Devi Sharma (1926 - 1994)**

Under the able leadership of Mataji, Mahila Jagran Abhiyan (movement for emancipation of women) was initiated. Soon, about 4000 branches of Mahila Jagran Abhiyan were established with more than one million active participants. When Gurudev left his physical sheath in 1990, Mataji took over all the responsibilities of the mission and carried them over with great courage. Mataji travelled to UK, Canada and USA to preside over Ashwamedh yagnas and to spread of Dev Sanskriti in the globe.

## Present head of AWGP

- Close disciple of Acharya Shriram Sharma
- Present head - All World Gayatri Pariwar
- Chancellor - Dev Sanskriti University, Haridwar
- Author-Several books on Scientific Spirituality & Personality Refinement
- Chief Editor-Akhand Jyoti (published in 9 languages, over 3 million readers world-wide)
- Dr. Pranav Pandya presented scientific aspects of Indian culture to the World Parliament of Religions held in Chicago (USA) in 1993 and in Cape Town (Republic of South Africa) in 1999.

**Dr. Pranav Pandya**  
M.D. (Cardiology)



- Addressed a joint session of the House of Lords and the House of Commons in London in February 1992.
- As a global messenger, Dr. Pandya undertook extensive tours in India and abroad and has been inspiring Youths to take up the three-fold path of Sadhana (self-discipline), Upasana (adoration & adoption of divine values) and Aradhana, (self-less service).
- Under his dynamic leadership, the Gayatri Pariwar fraternity has blossomed into a world-wide organization. He established branches of the Gayatri Pariwar world-wide.

**Shail Bala Pandya**  
Managing Trustee

Vedmata Gayatri Trust, Shantikunj



- Daughter of Pandit Shriram Sharma Acharya and Mata Bhagwati Devi Sharma and Managing Trustee, Shri Vedmata Gayatri Trust.
- Embodiment of love and affection for each and everyone, Shraddehaya Shail Bala Pandya is revered as "Jiji" by all devotees of Gayatri Pariwar. Hundreds of devotees come to Shantikunj, Haridwar everyday to seek blessings from her. Her mere darshan and compassionate words alleviate sufferings of people.

- She has been actively involved in women empowerment movement with Param Vandniya Mataji since 1980 to 1994, delivering lectures to millions of people all over the country and abroad.
- After the Mahaprayan of Param Vandniya Mataji in 1994, she has been looking after the whole organization with parental care and under the subtler guidance of Gurusatta.

# Dev Sanskriti University

Yug Rishi Pandit Shriram Sharma Acharya dreamt of a University that would infuse new life in the Education system and to bring idealism in the dreams of youngsters. To make youth healthy, self-reliant, educated, courteous and sensitive towards social and national issues. As per the Rishi Tradition "Education is the manifestation of perfection that is already in man".

- DSVV stands in the lines of Nalanda and Takshyashila. Our Education program focuses on both the Shiksha and Vidya, an ideal blending of moral refinement and intellectual development.
- DSVV aims at building multi-dimensional personality of a student. DSVV has been transformed the so-called modern

mechanism of money making educational practices into a social service oriented courses and value based education through its Internship Program.

- DSVV aims at catering the pressing need of emerging initiatives for Value Based Education from all over the world.
- A unique university of Indian Culture, Dev Sanskriti University has been established in 2002 and solely managed and funded by Shri Vedmata Gayatri Trust, Shantikunj Haridwar.
- DSVV conducts International Yog Festival every year. It has many salient features.

## Dr. Chinmay Pandya

M.B.B.S., P.G.Dipl, M.R.C.Psych (London)

**Pro Vice Chancellor - DSVV**



- Born and brought up in the Shantikunj's spiritual academy, he was highly inspired and guided by Pujya Gurudev and Mataji since his childhood. Dr. Chinmay Pandya completed his medical graduation in India and went to the University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom to pursue higher studies. He holds the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians from London in Psychiatry.
- Served as Director, School of Health for Dev Sanskriti University.
- Served as Consultant in West London Hospital Trust, London, and as Associate Specialist for Alzheimer Disease Treatment Service.
- After gaining rich experience and expertise, answering to the inner call of serving the nation, he came back and joined the Dev Sanskriti University
- His spiritual and managerial capabilities are helping the University grow leaps and bounds, and in becoming a model institution in its very domain.



# Abroad Centers of Gayatri Consciousness

All World Gayatri Pariwar (AWGP) has unique centers across the globe. The network of AWGP is extended to over 85 countries and more than 35,000 active youth groups, 20,000 Bal Sanskar Shala, and Self Study Circles (Swadhaya Mandal) are working world-wide under the aegis of Shantikunj. Since its establishment these modern centers in abroad has been emerged as major hub of activities in Yoga, Holistic Health, Scientific Spirituality, Bal Sanskar Shala & Vedic Sacramental Rites. Abroad centers for Gayatri Consciousness has

proved outdo in keeping the relation with the abroad members. To give a sense of direction to the Indian Diaspora all over the world and to disseminate the message of Indian Culture, these centers are working actively to establish the relation with them apart from its ongoing spiritual-cultural activities. It gives a self invigorating experience to all participants and to our parijans staying apart from their home and far from their Gurudwara by keeping the momentum, enthusiasm and motivating them to remain in touch at their own place.

GCC of Piscataway, NJ, USA

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

Gayatri Gyan Mandir of Chicago, IL, USA

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

GCC of Anaheim, CA, USA

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

GCC, Houston, TX, USA

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

AWGP of Long Island, NY, USA

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

Gayatri Pariwar of Boston, MA, USA

[www.gayatri.info](http://www.gayatri.info)

AWGP Bay Area California-USA

<http://awgp.u>, [www.gayatrimata.org](http://www.gayatrimata.org)

AWGP Western Ontario, Canada

<http://gpwo.org>

AWGP Toronto, Canada

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

AWGP Australia Inc

[www.awgpaustralia.org.au](http://www.awgpaustralia.org.au)

AWGP Leicester, UK

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

# Vedmata Gayatri Trust [TMD]

You can order books and other stationary items from Shantikunj through email  
Vedmata Gayatri Trust (TMD) account details (only for purchase of any items)

A/C Name	<b>Vedmata Gayatri Trust (TMD)</b>	HDFC Bank A/c No	<b>0943762000030</b>
Bank Address	Ranipur mode Opp Liberty Show Room. Near - Vishal Mega Mart		
City	Haridwar - 249401	State	Uttarakhand
Country	India	RTGS / NEFT / IFSC	HDFC0000943
PAN Number	AABTV0957E	TAN Number	MRTV01235D
TIN Number	05008583361	Mobile Number	+91.925-836-0512
Email	<b>abroadcell@awgp.org</b>	Email the transition reference after payment	
Cheque or DD can be sent in the name of <b>Vedmata Gayatri Trust (TMD)</b> . (REF: Purchase)			

## Vedmata Gayatri Trust

**Vedmata Gayatri Trust FCRA account details** (only for Donation)  
ONLY FOREIGN CURRENCY IS ACCEPTED (INR IS NOT ACCEPTED)

A/C Name	<b>Vedmata Gayatri Trust</b>	HDFC Bank A/c No	<b>0943117000022</b>
Bank Address	Ranipur mode Opp Liberty Show Room. Near - Vishal Mega Mart		
State	Uttarakhand	Country	India
PAN Number	AAATV1261C	RTGS / NEFT / IFSC	HDFC0000943
Email	<b>abroadcell@awgp.org</b>	Mobile Number	+91.925-836-0512
Online Payment: <a href="http://onlinepayment.awgp.org">http://onlinepayment.awgp.org</a> Cheque or DD can be sent in the name of <b>Vedmata Gayatri Trust (REF: Donation)</b>			

## Abroad Cell



### Dr. A.K. Datta

(M.B.B.S., M.S., D.Orth.S.F.R.S.H. - U.K.)

Trustee-VGT and Member-Board of  
Governors-DSVV

In charge of Abroad Cell,  
Consultations.

Mob: +91.925-836-9427



### Harish Thakkar (C.A.)

Trustee and Chief Financial Officer  
- Vedmata Gayatri Trust

Accounting, Banking related query:

Email: [accounts@awgp.org](mailto:accounts@awgp.org)



### Rajkumar Vaishnav

Public Relations,  
Overall Management,  
External affairs

Mob: +91.925-836-9410



### Kalpesh Patel

Accommodation, Database,  
Pickup-Drop, Rituals

Mob: +91.925-836-9431



### Somonath Patra

Hospitality, Public Relations,  
Communication,

Visa, Passport,

Mob: +91.925-836-0512



### Rameshwar Sahu

Export-Import, Purchase-Sale,  
Accounting, Records Keeping

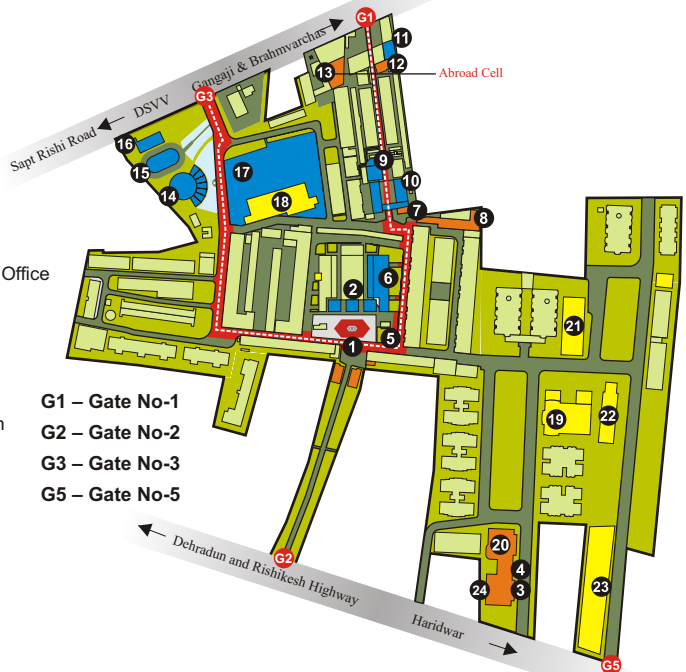
Mob: +91.925-836-9430

# Daily Schedule

Activity	Place	APR-SEP	OCT-MAR
Time to wake up and get ready	Room	03.30 – 04.00 am	04.00 – 04.30 am
Morning Prayer	Gayatri Temple	04.00 – 04.30 am	04.30 – 05.00 am
Meditation	Samadhi Sthal	04.30 – 05.00 am	05.00 – 05.30 am
Yagya/Fire Ceremony	Yagya Shala	05.15 – 07.15 am	05.45 – 07.15 am
Visit to The Sacred Lamp	Waiting Hal / Pratikshyalaya	05.15 – 09.00 am 12.00 – 04.00 pm	05.45 – 09.00 am 12.00 – 04.00 pm
Vedic Rituals/Sanskar (If you have to perform any Sanskar) You can also request as per your convenient time	Near Gayatri Temple	05.30 – 07.00 am 10.00 – 11.30 am 02.00 – 03.30 pm	05.30 – 07.00 am 10.00 – 11.30 am 02.00 – 03.30 pm
Blessings from Shradheya Dr. Saheb & Shradheyaa Jiji	Abroad Cell Web Swadhaya Office	07.30 – 08.30 am	07.30 – 08.30 am
Devotional Song & Discourse	Main Lecture Hall	08.00 – 10.00 am 02.00 – 04.00 pm 06.15 – 09.00 pm	08.00 – 10.00 am 02.00 – 04.00 pm 06.15 – 09.00 pm
Evening Prayer	Gayatri Temple	05.00 – 05.30 pm	05.00 – 05.30 pm
Nada Yoga - Divine Music Meditation	Samadhi Sthal	06.00 – 06.15 pm	06.00 – 06.15 pm
Rest	Room	09.00 pm	09.00 pm
Lunch and Dinner (Bhojan Prasad) At: Mata Bhagwati Bhojanalaya	Bhojanalaya / Dining Arena	08.30 – 12.00 pm	08.30 – 12.00 pm
Lunch and Dinner At: Canteen	New Canteen, Shreeram Puram	11.00 – 03.00 am 07.00 – 09.00 pm	11.00 – 03.00 am 07.00 – 09.00 pm
Breakfast, Snacks, Tea, Pragya Peya At: Canteen	Old & New Canteen	06.30 – 09.00 am 10.00 – 09.00 pm	06.30 – 09.00 am 10.00 – 09.00 pm

## Shantikunj Map

1. Prakhar Pragma and Sajjal Shradha
2. Yagya Shala
3. Reception
4. Guide Room
5. Training Cell
6. Book Stall
7. Vedic Ritual Dept.
8. Shaktipeeth Office and Zonal Office
9. Gayatri Mata Temple
10. Temple of Rishis
11. Akhand Deepak
12. Main Office
13. **Abroad Cell**
14. Devatma Himalaya Meditation Center
15. Exhibition Hall
16. Garden
17. Mata Bhagwati Bhojanalaya
18. Old Canteen
19. New Canteen
20. Hospital
21. Hall For Vedic Ritual
22. Transport Department
23. Parking Area
24. Book Stall-New (coming soon)



- G1 – Gate No-1
- G2 – Gate No-2
- G3 – Gate No-3
- G5 – Gate No-5

## Shantikunj an Overview

**Shantikunj:** The main Ashram campus is spread across more than 400 acres land, with a sequel to its research center, unique university and an ideal school. This residential campus of Shantikunj has capacity to accommodate (& food) 12000 people (with an average 2000 visitors every day). Also around 2000 life time volunteers stay here. Shantikunj has a Global network of more than 4000 Centers/ Social Reformatory Centers (Shaktipeeth, Pragya Peeth and Chetna Kendra).

**Places for Visit:** Dev Sanskriti University and 'Brahmvarchas' Scientific Research Center, the Ganges are located within just 15 minutes walkable distance from Shantikunj on the left & right side respectably from Gate No. 1 or 3.

**Dress Code:** For male, Indian Ethnic wear or dhoti-kurta/trouser and for female, Saree or Salwar Suit is highly recommended. It's mandatory for taking part in the Fire Ceremony.

**Photography:** Capture the precious moments in Shantikunj. Photography is allowed.

**Foreigner and NRI:** Contact the Abroad Cell (Foreign Department) for any query, requirements, help, guide, currency exchange, lecture in English & foreign language.

**Internet:** You may contact Abroad Cell for Internet facility

**ATM, Railway Reservation:** Both the counters are available in the Ashram campus.

**Management:** Shantikunj is functioning under the aegis of Rishi Chetana and Pujya Gurudev's sole direction in its each and every movement and activities. During your stay, keep the room neat & clean, before you leave the room, switch off the light, fan, and tap water, you must lock your room also inform the security personnel.

**Accommodation:** "*Atithi Devo Bhavo*" Guest is the God. "*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*" - the entire world as our own family." This theory has been put into practice here. Shantikunj is your own Divine home. Kindly inform us your scheduled plan of visit to Shantikunj over email, phone. Accommodation, food, training and other services are free of cost. You can generously contribute or donate for the noble cause. Ensure to get a receipt of your donation. For training session or Sadhana camp, you need to have prior approval to attend it.



**Russian Delegates:** Kindly contact Dr. Gyaneshwar Mishra-DSVV +91.9258369606 •Email: gayatrigyan@gmail.com for any assistance



**DSVV Guide:** For a guide to visit DSVV, please contact Dr. Saurabh Mishra-DSVV. Mob: +91.9258360584.



**Shantikunj Guide:** For guide and hospitality please contact Shantibhai Patel at Abroad Cell.

## Directions to Shantikunj

From Delhi there are 4 main modes of transportation to get to Shantikunj, Haridwar. Flying from the Delhi Domestic or Delhi IGI International airport is an ideal choice and has connecting flights to Dehradun. It's the most common for people traveling into India from around the globe.



**By Air - Flying from Delhi to Dehradun:** Dehradun - Jolly Grant Airport is the nearest airport to Shantikunj. Flying time from Delhi to Dehradun is just about an hour. The airport is about 45 minutes from the ashram.  
Jet Airways Konnect: [www.jetairwayskonnect.co.in](http://www.jetairwayskonnect.co.in)  
Kingfisher Red: [www.kingfisherredairlines.org.in](http://www.kingfisherredairlines.org.in)



**By Train:** Taking the train from Delhi to Haridwar is about 7 hour ride. There are several trains a day between Delhi and Haridwar. Upon your arrival to Haridwar Railway station, Shantikunj is just 7 KMs on the Rishikesh highway. You may take an auto rickshaw (the charges are only Rs. 15/- per person and the whole auto fare is Rs.150/-) to get to Shantikunj. Just ask for Shantikunj. Book ticket online: [www.indianrail.gov.in](http://www.indianrail.gov.in).



**By Taxi or Car:** Traveling by taxi makes your journey easier. Without any time spends, directly you can travel from the airport, or anywhere else. The journey from Delhi to Haridwar (Shantikunj) is about a 6 hour drive. On the way, you can stop in-between for breakfast/lunch/dinner. If you need a taxi drop your request to us in advance by email. We will arrange a reliable taxi, known to Shantikunj. We often take their services throughout the year. Taking a taxi from outside or from the airport costs more and sometimes even it is not favorable.



**Bus:** Taking a bus from Delhi to Haridwar is also a viable and frequently available option for visitors. By train, by car or by bus it takes about 7 hour ride.

**NOTE:** Before your travel, should you require any travel assistance or request for accommodation facilities, you may contact us at **Email:** [abroadcell@awgp.org](mailto:abroadcell@awgp.org) • **Mobile:** 925-836-0512, 925-836-9431, 925-836-9410. On your request, we can arrange your pickup and drop at the airport or at the railway station.

**Reception** - for any assistance during your stay you can contact Abroad Cell or Reception: (+91) 925-836-9502, 925-836-9778.

### ABROAD CELL

Shantikunj, Haridwar - 249411

Mob: 9258369410, 9258360512, Ph: +91.1334-260-602 (106)

**Email:** [abroadcell@awgp.org](mailto:abroadcell@awgp.org)

**FB:** [abroadcell](https://www.facebook.com/abroadcell) • **WhatsApp:** [abroadcell](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/00291abroadcell), 9258360512