Voluntary League Appeal

WINTER 2019/2020

Dear Friend,

Disseminating the Self-Realization Fellowship Lessons to the world is a responsibility which Paramahansa Yogananda entrusted to SRF, the organization he founded at the behest of his line of gurus; and your help makes our fulfilling of this sacred trust possible. Thanks in large part to your generosity, this year we have been able to make the comprehensive new edition of the Lessons available to thousands of spiritual seekers at a very low subscription fee. The response from those who have received the Lessons so far has been deeply touching and inspiring, as Self-Realization Fellowship President Brother Chidananda observed during his talk at the SRF World Convocation this past August:

From the letters that come to me, I know you are feeling nothing short of a rejuvenation of your spiritual efforts and, most important, that personal lifeline between yourselves and God and Guru.... [And] I know you’re getting the most important point, and that is: it’s not about the information. Yes, it’s about learning to meditate—learning the principles and how to do the techniques in the most correct way, which will most quickly bring you results. But beyond the information,...it’s about the connection not with the words, but with him who is behind those words....

As [Paramahansa] said, “After I am gone, the teachings will be the guru. Through the teachings”—that is, through your study, through your receptivity, through your assimilation of the teachings—“you will be in tune with me and the great Gurus who sent me.”...That is the value of taking a few minutes each day and attuning the consciousness, with concentration and with gratitude, to that vibratory power of the Guru’s teachings.

Applications for the new SRF Lessons continue to come in from around the world as well as ongoing requests for the availability of the Lessons in other languages. Your contribution will allow us to continue to offer the Lessons at a low subscription fee throughout 2020, and to complete translations of the Lessons in multiple languages—with the goal of releasing them as soon as possible. In this way, together we can render tremendous service to our global family through making the light of Paramahansa Yogananda’s teachings available to as many seekers as possible.

India Hall at SRF Hollywood Temple: Providing Access to All

Another endeavor that needs your help is improving access to one of the landmarks associated with Paramahansa Yogananda’s life: India Hall, located on the grounds of the SRF Hollywood Temple. Nearly 70 years ago, he personally dedicated this building, which in the ensuing years has served as a venue for a wide range of special events for SRF members.
and friends from far and near. However, making the auditorium accessible to all is a vital need. Thanks in part to your response to our appeal last year—plus generous help from the Hollywood Temple congregation—more than 80% of the funds needed to install an elevator and make other improvements have been raised. We again invite your assistance in raising the remaining $240,000 necessary to complete this project. Please visit the Hollywood Temple’s website for more information at hollywoodtemple.org.

Preparing for SRF’s Centennial Celebration in 2020

As 2020 approaches, Self-Realization Fellowship is busy preparing for its momentous 100th anniversary, which will be celebrated in numerous ways throughout the year. To inaugurate the celebrations, on January 5 (Paramahansa Yogananda’s birthday) Brother Chidananda will preside at a special event at the SRF International Headquarters that will be livestreamed to SRF members and friends around the world. And the culmination of the year’s observances will be a September weekend celebration (also with livestreamed events) in Boston, where our Guru first arrived in the West on September 19, 1920.

Your contribution to the SRF Voluntary League Appeal will help cover a number of costs related to honoring this profoundly significant landmark—expenses such as advertising (to help promote a wider recognition and appreciation of Paramahansa Yogananda’s worldwide work and his role as “father of yoga in the West”); and the rental of venues and procurement of audio-video services, catering, travel, and other needs in connection with the historic September celebration in Boston.

Thank you for helping us to commemorate SRF’s centennial and to honor our Guru and Founder, who is seen more and more as one of the great world spiritual figures of our era as his wisdom-legacy increasingly exerts an uplifting influence on the world.

Up-to-date details of SRF’s various centennial activities are available at yogananda.org/srfcentennial.

Sharing God’s Joy

By contributing to the Voluntary League Appeal, you will help us complete the critical projects mentioned above and also meet the many daily expenses that are a part of serving our Guru’s worldwide spiritual family. We invite you to make a gift to Paramahansaji’s work by returning the enclosed reply card or visiting donatesrf.org.

To all of you who support this work with your love, prayers, and continuing material assistance, we send our deepest thanks—for it is your support that enables us to serve so many individuals all over the world who are transforming their lives through study and application of Paramahansa Yogananda’s teachings. May each of us take as our inspiration these words that flowed from his heart:

“I want only to tell you of the great spiritual joy that I feel in Him. I have no personal ambition, but I have the greatest ambition to share my spiritual joy with all peoples of the earth.”

In divine friendship,

SELF-REALIZATION FELLOWSHIP
Mother Center