

## DETAILS OF THE PARTICIPANT

i) Name → KUNAL BAGGA

ii) Email → kboidex967@gmail.com

iii) MOB NO → 7003577836

iv) Name of the University → Indira Gandhi  
National Open University,

v) Address of participant → 1/a, Hospital Lane,  
Hasting Kolkata - 700022.

vi) Address of the University → IGNOU Regional  
Centre BIKASH BHAVAN NORTH BLOCK, 4<sup>th</sup>  
FLOOR, SALT LAKE, KOLIKATA-700091

## Swami Vivekananda

"Sisters and Brothers of America..." was the first line that Swamiji greeted the members of the 'World's Parliament of Religions, Chicago' at 11<sup>th</sup> of September, 1893. For this phrase only he got a standing ovation from the attendees present there, this goes to show how compassionate Swamiji was.

His purpose in life was to make sure that he could spread as much knowledge as he can, that he spread as much warmth he can through his words and knowledge.

Swami Vivekananda was a great patriotic leader. He was born in on January 12, 1863, in Calcutta as one of the eight siblings of his parents Vishwanath Datta and Bhuvaneshwari Devi.

From starting he was a brilliant boy and was active in music, gymnastics, and science. He graduated from the University of Calcutta and acquired knowledge on various subjects, including history and Western Philosophy. He was influenced by a yogic temperament and practised meditation. His mother was a pious woman who from childhood influenced him in shaping his character. She taught Vivekananda the English lesson and then introduced him to the Bengali alphabet. Vivekananda studied at the metropolitan institution in Calcutta.

Swami Vivekananda joined the institution of the General Assembly founded by the Scottish general

missionary mission in Calcutta, where he passed the B.A. exam and joined law school. After the death of his father, the financial situation of his family did not allow him to continue prosecution.

Naren established in his later life the Ramakrishna mission, which has been engaged in voluntary work for the poor and suffering, regardless of caste, region and religion. Narendranath was later called "Swami Vivekananda" when he became a monk.

Many devotees and followers attracted Swami Vivekananda in the Europe and US, including William James, Josephine Macleod. Swamiji initiated many followers; Marie Louise and Leon Landsberg were amongst them. During his stay in America, Vivekananda received land in the mountains southeast of San Jose, California to organize a retreat for Vedanta students. He called it the "peace retreat" or Shanti Ashram. The Vivekananda mantra also initiated Christina Greenidge from Detroit, and she became Sister Christine and established close father-daughter relations.

From the West, Swami Vivekananda spread his work in India. He corresponded regularly with his followers, offering advice and financial support. His letters of that period reflected his social service campaign and were strongly worded.

He wrote Akhandananda: "Come from door to door among the poor and lower classes of the city of

Khetre and teach their religion.

He was also the mind behind his treatise 'Swami Vivekananda and his Nine Volumes' of work, which he wrote, which inspired him to do what he was meant to do, to write down his thoughts & to live them. In the few volumes of the works of Swamiji, which are to be compose the present edition, we have what is not only a gospel to the world at large, but also to its own children, the Chaster of the Hindu Faith.

But he never disrespected or belittled other religions. "If one religion is true, then all the others also must be true?" For him all the religions were like flowers and if we could bind them together with the cord of love, make them into a wonderful bouquet of worship, it would make this world a much more mesurer place to live in.

He used to say that YOGA is the ultimate form of Salvation, there is no bigger truth than YOGA. He believed in the true nature of YOGA. He was one of the best that humanity had to offer.

The Shastras, the Gurus and the Motherland are the three notes that mingle themselves to form the music of the works of Vivekananda. These are the treasure which it is his to offer. These furnish him with the ingredients whereof he compounds the world's heal-all of the spiritual bounty. These

are the three lights burning within that single lamp which India by his hand lighted and set up, for the guidance of her own children and of the world in the few years of work between September 19, 1893 and July 4, 1902. And some of us there are, who, for the sake of that lighting, and of this record that he has left behind him, bless the land that bore him and the hands of those who sent him forth, and believe that not even yet has it been given to us to understand the vastness and significance of the message that he spoke.

Swami Vivekananda died on 4 July 1902, in Belur. He died due to rupture in the blood vessel of his brain. His thoughts have always inspired people and will always be a source of energy for future generations.