



VIJAY MILAN MATH

Srî Srî Szwâmi Abhedânanda Saraswatî

President



— *PRESS BOOK* —

— *“Divine Qualities scatter Resplendence in the courtyard of the Sadguru”*

Vijay Milan Center France is a spiritual and cultural organization, founded in 2008 on the instructions of Sadguru Paramahansa Srî Srî Swâmî Advaitânanda Saraswatî. The purpose of the association is to contribute to the diffusion and teaching of the principles of Vedânta, whose goal is the Realization of the Self and Divine Love.

Our lineage goes back to Sadguru Bhagawân Srî Srî Vijay Krishna Goswâmîjî (1841-1899), a Saint from Bengal hailing from a family of Brahmin preceptors, who received initiation from Brahmânanda Paramahansa of Kailâsh Mânasarovar. At that time, His Guru told Him, “You are the designated Sadguru”. Vijay Krishna Goswâmîjî is the Râdhâ and Krishna Principle (Râdhâ Tattva and Krishna Tattva), as well as the Guru Principle (Guru Tattva). On the orders of His guru, He had taken Sannyâsa and was conferred the name Swâmî Achyutânanda Saraswatî (Achyuta means the inseparable, imperishable, always there; and Ânanda means Bliss), though He was known to all as “Goswâmîjî”. Vijay Krishna Goswâmîjî is the Sadguru who conferred initiation, the precious Sâdhanâ of the saints and seers, to all who asked for it, out of sheer compassion. Indeed, many of His disciples are fortunate householders.

One of His close disciples Kuladânanda Brahmachârî recounted in His diary the 13 years spent with His Master, under the title Shree Shree Sadguru Sanga (In the Company of Sadguru). He continued to propagate the teachings of His Master and initiated Swâmî Amritânanda Saraswatî, who later became the Guru of Sadguru Paramahansa Swâmî Advaitânanda Saraswatî (1948-2015).

Swâmî Advaitânanda Saraswatî was born into a Brahmin family of preceptors from Bengal. He received initiation at an early age, and stayed at the monastery of His Master for some time. He came back home and started teaching Sanskrit at His father’s school and at the local girls’ school, as well as attending to His various priestly duties and the responsibilities of a preceptor. After His Master passed away, He left home and travelled to Allahabad Kumbha Mela; from there to Vrindâban, Haridwar and Rishikesh, where He took Sannyâsa at Kailâsh Ashram on Shivaratri. From there, He walked to Uttarkashi, where He practiced penance and austerity for 9 years. He often used to stay in deep meditation in a room in the Bimaleswar temple that He got locked from outside, for days on end; even staying in Samadhi for 65 days. Subsequently, He left Uttarkashi. When He arrived in Dev Darshani, He recognized the mountain as the place He had seen in His vision in Samadhi, the place mentioned by Vijay Krishna Goswâmî in a prophecy – “We shall all meet again on the top of a mountain.” Thus was established Vijay Milan Math in 1988 on Rishikanda Pahar.

In a short while, many were drawn by the magnetic personality of Srî Gurudev. Some of them took the vow of celibacy, among whom was Brahmachârî Vaïkuntha Chaitanya, who served His Master for 25 years. Over the next 3 decades, from the modest kutir of Srî Gurudev, the monastery organically grew into a large ashram, including living quarters, Goshâlâs (cow-sheds), and the edification of a Shiva temple, called Âshutosh Mandir. (Vijay Krishna Goswâmîjî was addressed as Âshutosh by Swâmî Bholânanda Giri, the head of all the monks and saints of that time.) The construction was carried out in large part by devotees, who had no formal training in masonry, stone-work, or other building skills. Subsequently, other ashrams of Vijay Milan Math have been established, at Vrindâban in Uttar Pradesh, Jângipâra in West Bengal and Premnagar at Dehradun in Uttarakhand.

As time passed, a number of French disciples started coming regularly to Vijay Milan Math, inspired by Srî Bipul Saklâni (Swâmî Vishuddhânanda Saraswatî after Sannyâsa), presently addressed as Mahantajî, a close disciple of Srî Gurudev, who was living in Paris. In 2007, he requested permission from His Master to come to stay permanently in the ashram. Srî Gurudev accepted, telling him, “Yes, you can come, but first, you establish a Center there”. Thus, the association Vijay Milan Center France was founded in January 2008, in Fontenay-sous-Bois, with Srî Gurudev as Lifetime Honorary President.

The founding members of Vijay Milan Center France (VMC) were all disciples of Srî Gurudev who had travelled to India and received the sacred initiation from Srî Gurudev there. It was Srî Gurudev who laid down the guidelines for the Center, and instructed us to “Be simple, be natural, be a monk”.

A year after Srî Gurudev left His body (on 6th April 2015), Brahmachârî Vaïkuntha Chaitanya formally took the vow of Sannyâsa at Kailâsh Ashram in Rishikesh, on Shivaratri, the same way Srî Gurudev had done many years before, and had instructed Him to do as well. He was conferred the name Swâmî Abhedânanda Saraswatî, and proclaimed a “Paramahansa Parivrâjakâchârya”. Abhedânanda means the impregnable, unsurpassable, inseparable, indivisible, non-distinguishing Bliss. Paramahansa is the highest category of monkhood.

Since then, Maharaj jî has given initiation to devotees in India and, more recently, in France. Parivrâjakâchârya means a renunciate Master who travels. Before His first visit to France in March 2017, at the invitation of Vijay Milan Center France, His Holiness had never travelled outside of India! But over the past two years, Maharaj jî has visited 18 countries, to make Himself available to be utilized, as He says.

We in France are most fortunate to be the first to receive this sacred treasure, hitherto restricted to a privileged few who were able to make their way to the Himalayas to sit at the feet of the Sadguru. Now, following the wish of His Master, His Holiness Srî Srî Swâmî Abhedânanda Saraswatî is coming to us, to show us the path to emancipation and to bestow Divine Love.

— *Our Lineage*

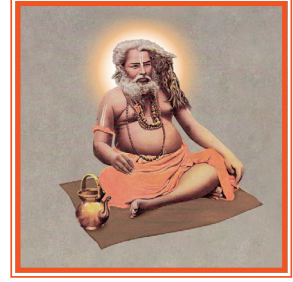
1841-1899

Sadguru Bhagawân

Srî Srî Vijay Krishna Goswâmîjî

initiated by

*Brahmânanda Paramahansa
of Kailâsh Mânasarovar*



Srîmat Kuladânanda Brahmachârî



Swâmî Amritânanda Saraswatî



1948-2015

Sadguru Paramahansa

Srî Srî Swâmî

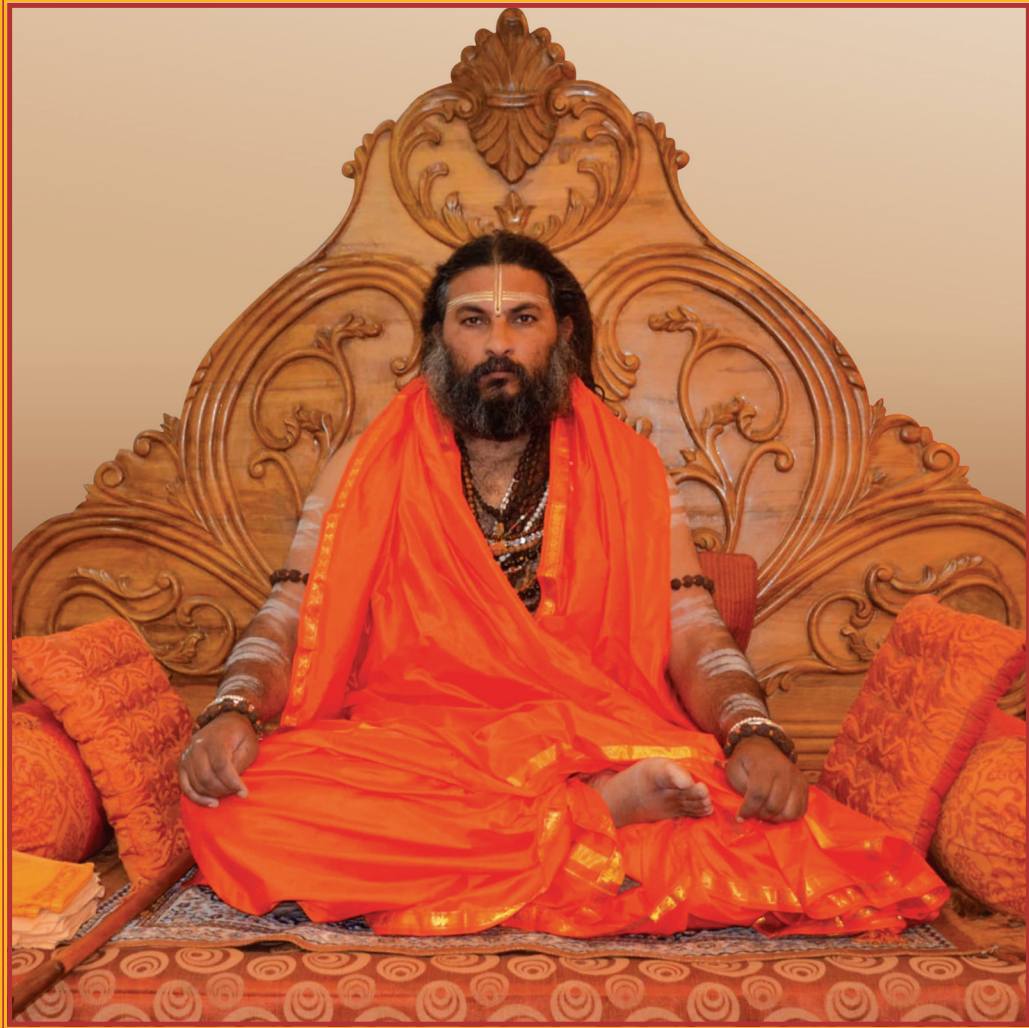
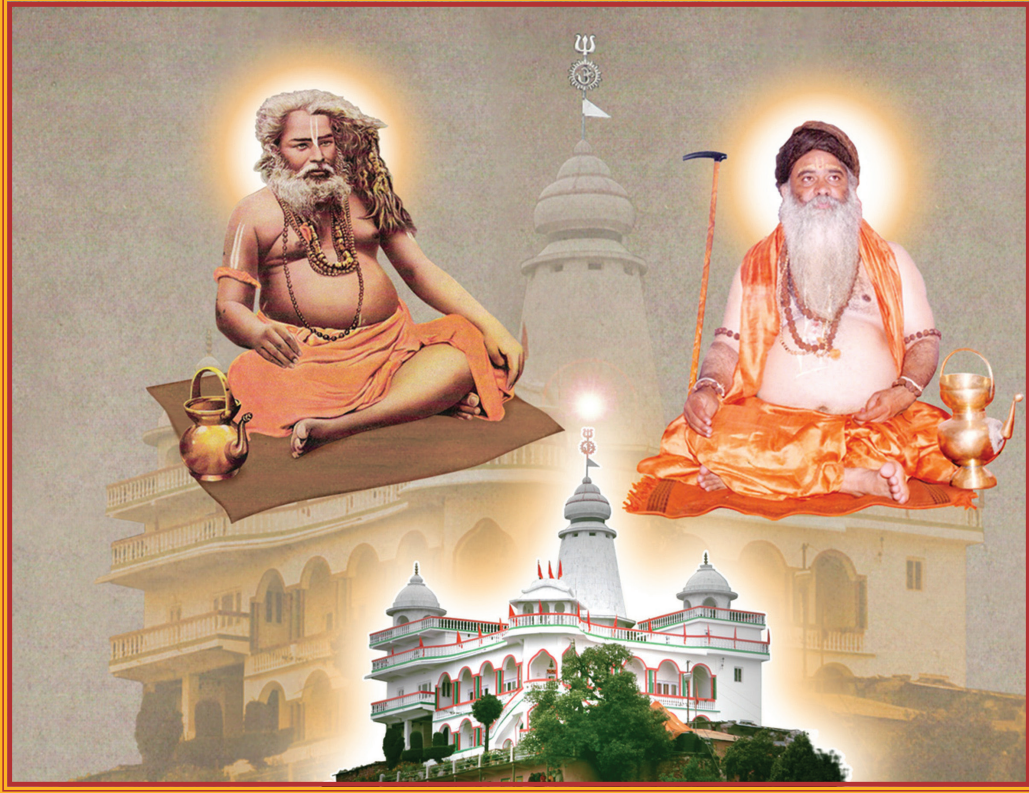
Advaitânanda Saraswatî



Paramahansa Parivrâjakâchârya

Srî Srî Swâmî

Abhedânanda Saraswatî



Paramahansa Parivrâjakâchârya Srî Srî Swâmî Abhedânanda Saraswatî

— *Brief hagiography of
Paramahansa Parivrâjakâchârya
Srî Srî swâmî Abhedânanda Saraswatî*

—
*Na karmanâ na prajayâ dhanena
tyâgenaike amrta tvamânashuhu
parena nâkam nihitam guhâyâm
vibhrâjate yadyatayo vishanti
Sannyâsa Sukta from Nârâyanopanishad*

—

Meaning : *Neither by actions, nor by (acquiring) progeny and wealth, but by renunciation alone is immortality attained. That Supreme State is far beyond the highest heaven, and the sages perceive it, hidden in the cave of the heart, shining brilliantly therein.*

PARAMAHANSA PARIVRÂJAKÂCHÂRYA SRÎ SRÎ SWÂMÎ ABHEDÂNANDA SARASWATÎ (“Maharaj jî”), belongs to the most exalted Sadguru-lineage that traces back to Sadguru Bhagawân Srî Srî Vijay Krishna Goswâmîjî, an incarnation of Lord Jagannâtha Himself and imbued with the Lord’s Guru Tattva (Guru Principle). Goswâmîjî poured His infinite grace on this world when He began to initiate householders in the highly esoteric practices once restricted to only the most exalted yogis, by establishing the divine Name on the breath of His disciples. Maharaj jî’s Guru, Sadguru Paramahansa Swâmî Advaitânanda Saraswatî (“Srî Gurudev”), is Himself an incarnation of Goswâmîjî.

– FAMILY BACKGROUND

Maharaj jî was born into a Telugu Brahmin family bearing the family name of Mantha and was named Bhardwaj Sastry. His forefathers were men of learning, with deep devotion to God.

His father was a trained engineer working as an officer in the Army, so Bhardwaj spent his childhood moving from place to place, which gave him a wide exposure to the diverse cultures and environments of India, and easy access to places such as border posts, etc. which are very difficult to know under normal circumstances. He received an excellent academic and cultural education, which is not easily accessible to everyone.

– FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH WITH SRÎ GURUDEV

Bhardwaj's first encounter with Srî Gurudev took place in 1988. He had gone to visit Uttarkashi with his uncle, Dr. Rao (Swâmî Îshwarananda Saraswatî after Sannyâsa). On the way back, they passed by the fruit storage place where Srî Gurudev was staying during construction of Vijay Milan Math. There they saw Srî Gurudev standing on the road, eagerly awaiting them. Although He had not been informed of their arrival, He said, "I was waiting for you to come!" After this auspicious first meeting, several other encounters took place, both in Delhi and at Vijay Milan Math. Each time, Bhardwaj asked many questions, all of which Srî Gurudev answered with alacrity and precision.

– INITIATION FROM SRÎ GURUDEV

In early 1990, Srî Gurudev came to Delhi, and stayed with Bhardwaj's family. On that occasion, everyone took initiation from Srî Gurudev. It was Râm Navami on that day (the birthday of Lord Râma).

Right after initiation, he began to have all sorts of vivid spiritual experiences and visions. One month later, he came to Srî Gurudev in Dev Darshani and expressed his desire to renounce the world. Srî Gurudev told him "Okay, you can come, but finish your studies first".

– COLLEGE AND BRAHMACHARYA

Following Gurudev’s orders, Bhardwaj enrolled in college in 1990 for a bachelor’s degree in computer science. However, his mind was set at the feet of his Guru. During his four years of college between 1990 and 1994, he would do everything possible to go to be with Srî Gurudev.

In November 1994, Bhardwaj went to stay at the ashram, just when construction of the charitable dispensary was beginning. In July 1996, he was given the vow of celibacy, under the name of Brahmachârî Vaïkuntha Chaitanya.

Brahmacharya is a period of 12 years of celibacy, spent in the service of the Master and under His guidance. Every year, vows are renewed and new instructions are given. Sometimes, the Master will say to a disciple, “Keep on as you have been doing for another year”, but in Maharaj jî’s case, Srî Gurudev gave him new instructions each time, so he renewed his vows every year and progressed with no pause or break.

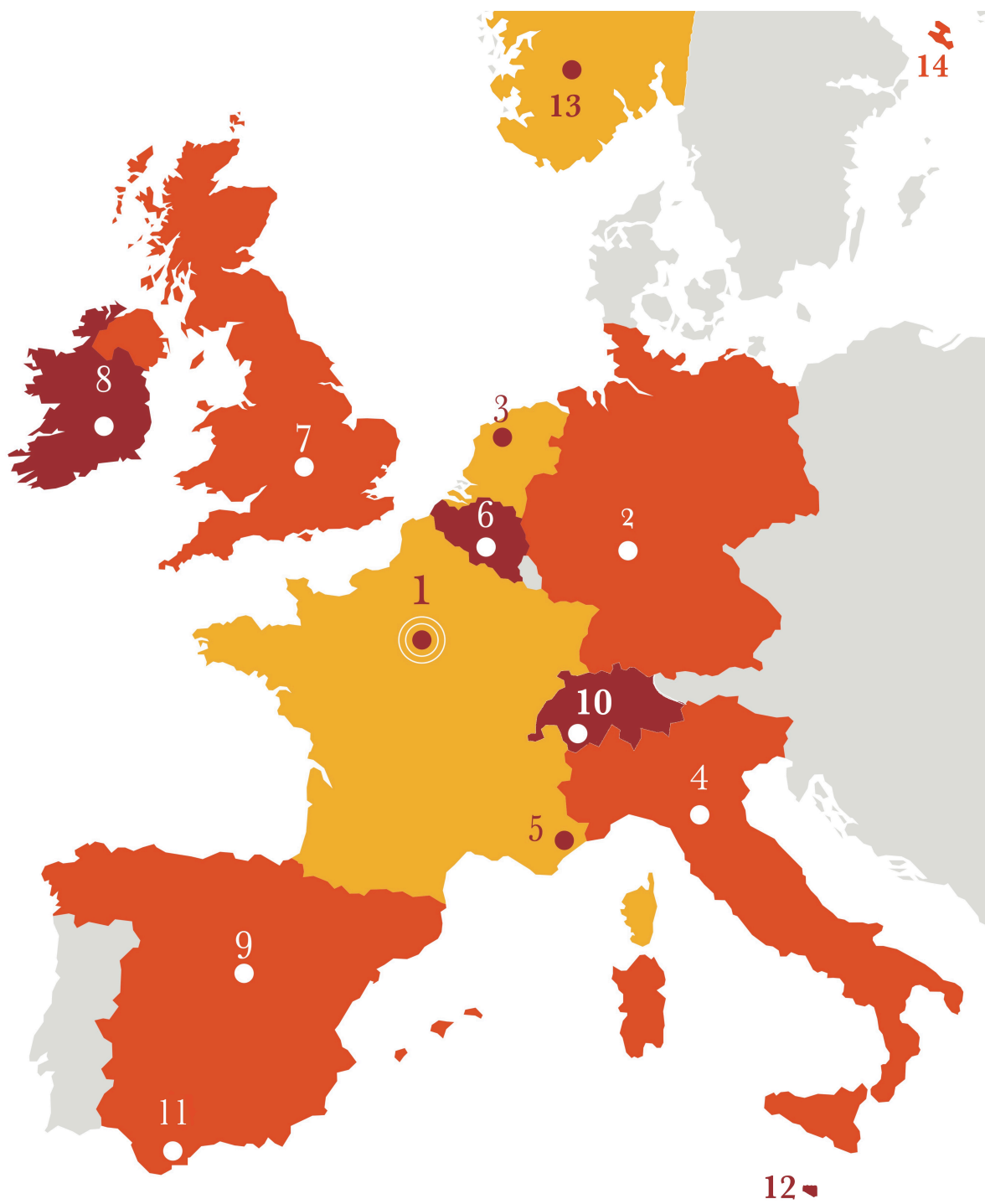
– SANNYÂSA

The next step after Brahmacharya is Sannyâsa, or monkhood. At the beginning of his 12 years of Brahmacharya, Srî Gurudev had told Brahmachârî Vaïkuntha, “It is only a matter of three years for you”, meaning that he attained the state of Sannyâsa within three years of taking the vow of celibacy. Srî Gurudev later gave the mantras for Sannyâsa to Maharaj jî, so in fact he did receive Sannyâsa from his beloved Gurudeva. Srî Gurudev told him once, “What I have, you have; but for the record, you will need to take Sannyâsa formally”.

Srî Gurudev left His body on April 6th 2015. On the auspicious Shivaratri, March 6th 2016, Brahmachârî Vaïkuntha Chaitanya formally took the vow of Sannyâsa, as had been instructed by Srî Gurudev, at Kailâsh Ashram in Rishikesh. It was the same ashram where Srî Gurudev had taken His vows many years earlier. He was conferred the name of Swâmî Abhedânanda Saraswatî, and the title Paramahansa Parivrâjakâchârya. Paramahansa is the highest category of monkhood.

Maharaj jî recounts, “One time, when Vijay Krishna Goswâmîjî was giving me some instructions, He told me, ‘It is impossible that you will not become a monk’.” The prophecy has indeed been fulfilled. He is carrying out the sacred mission of the Masters of our tradition: to make Divine Love and the Supreme Name accessible for the rejoicing of even the common folk.

— *Travels in Europe*



— Travels in Europe



1 • FRANCE



2 • GERMANY



3 • NETHERLANDS



4 • ITALY



5 • MONACO



6 • BELGIUM



7 • UNITED KINGDOM



8 • IRELAND



9 • SPAIN



10 * SWITZERLAND



11 * GIBRALTAR



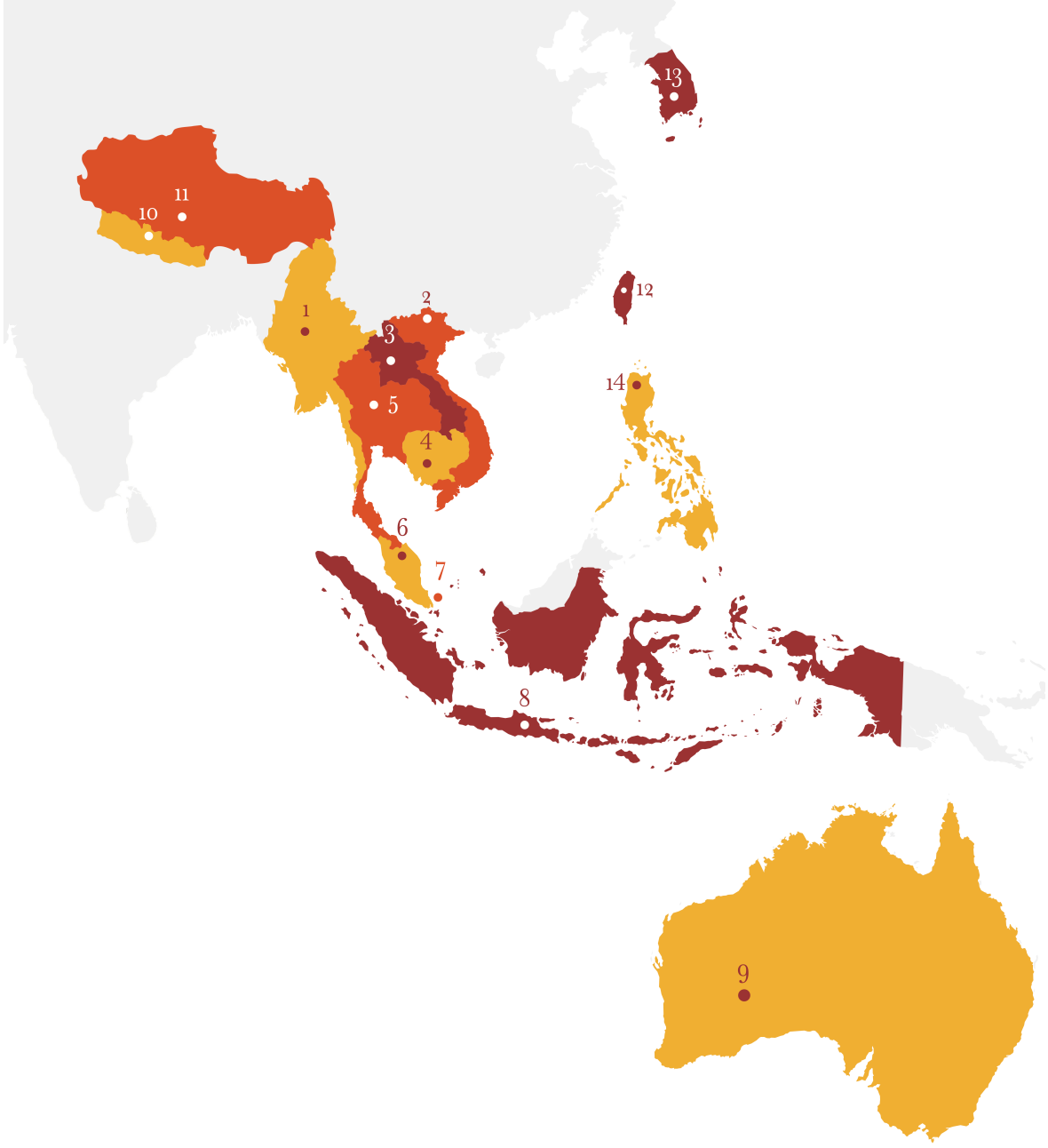
12 * MALTA



13 * NORWAY



14 * FINLAND



— *Travels in Asia*



1 • MYANMAR



2 • VIETNAM



3 • LAOS



4 • CAMBODIA



5 • THAILAND



6 • MALAYSIA



7 • SINGAPORE



8 • INDONESIA



9 • AUSTRALIA



10 • NEPAL



11 • TIBET



12 • TAIWAN



13 • SOUTH KOREA



14 • PHILIPPINES



1 • ISRAEL



2 • JORDAN



3 • TURKEY



----- Travels in South America

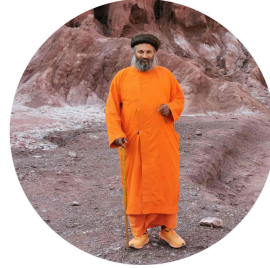




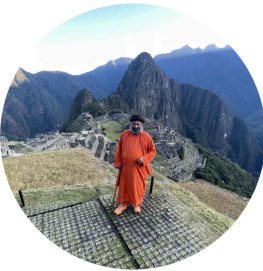
1* COLOMBIA



2 * BOLIVIA



3 * CHILE



4 * PERU



5 * ECUADOR



6* PANAMA



7 * COSTA RICA



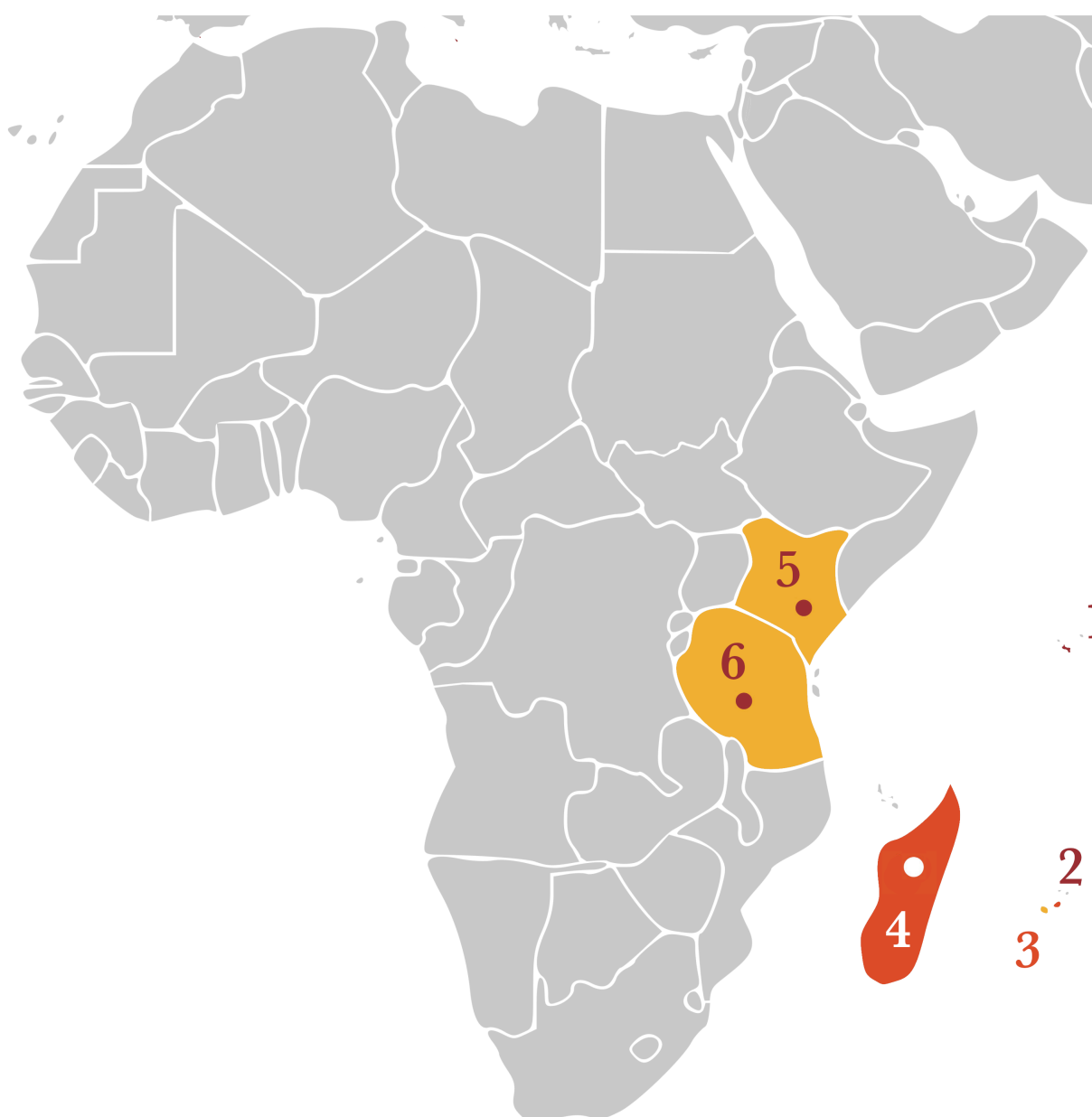
8 * MEXICO



9 * BELIZE



10 *GUATEMALA



----- Travels near Africa



1 * SEYCHELLES



2* MAURITIUS



3 * REUNION ISLAND



4 * MADAGASCAR



5 * KENYA



6 * TANZANIA

----- Travels near Africa

— Activities of Vijay Milan Center France

IN FRANCE, under the guidance of His Holiness Swamî Abhedânanda Saraswatî :

- Weekly meetings at Vijay Milan Center, for meditation, bhajan, study of the holy scriptures and discussion.*
- Planning and financing of Swâmî Abhedânanda's visits to France and other countries all over the world; in 2019, in addition to France, His Holiness travelled to Southeast Asia, Australia and the United Kingdom.*
- Organization of public discourses at Vijay Milan Center or other venues.*
- Transcription, translation and distribution of the teachings of the Sadguru*

IN INDIA, Vijay Milan Center participates in the activities of Vijay Milan Math for :

- Maintaining existing monasteries, and establishment of new monasteries and centers.*
- Supporting the activities of these centers: spiritual teachings and practices, rituals, ceremonies, festivals...*
- Charitable works: free dispensaries, scholarships, food and clothing for the needy, upkeep of the goshâlâs (service of the sacred cows), spiritual publications and libraries.*
- Promoting activities which respect nature and leave a minimal carbon footprint. These activities, such as organic farming or the use of solar energy, provide an example of harmonious coexistence with nature.*



— *Vijay Milan Center France*

Founder : Sadguru Paramahansa Srī Srī Swāmī Advaitānanda Saraswatī

Lifetime Honorary President : Paramahansa Parivrājakāchārya

Srī Srī Swāmī Abhedānanda Saraswatī

—Administrative Board —

President : Adriana Dissard (Devi)

Secretary : Valentine Teisseire (Puja)

Treasurer : Michel Jeanjean (Krish)

Contact

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Vijay Milan Center France

— *Vijay Milan Center USA*

Founder : Sadguru Paramahansa Srī Srī Swāmī Advaitānanda Saraswatī

Lifetime Honorary President : Paramahansa Parivrājakāchārya

Srī Srī Swāmī Abhedānanda Saraswatī

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Vijay Milan Center

— *Vijay Milan Math*

Founder : Sadguru Paramahansa Srî Srî Swâmî Advaitânanda Saraswatî
Lifetime President / Chairman : Paramahansa Parivrâjakâchârya Srî Srî
Swâmî Abhedânanda Saraswatî

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There are also branches in other parts of India

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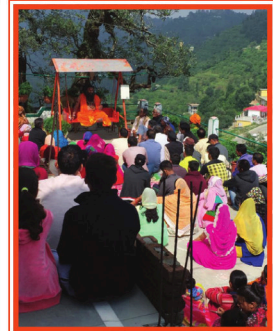
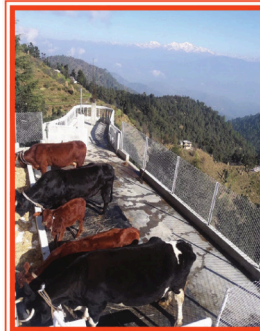
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— *Dev Darshani*



— Premnagar



— Vrindaban



— Jangipara

