

SHININGWORLD

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019

HELLO, EVERYONE!

from Sundari

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!

IT'S HARD TO believe that a new year has begun, how time seems to fly! Last year, which brought us more than our fair share of the miraculous and the ludicrous, was a little overwhelming at times. Thanks to Vedanta we were able to view the ups and the downs through the Self's non-dual eye.

You haven't heard from us since September because the last months have been dedicated to taking care of the *karma* required for our move to Spain. While I have a European Union passport and have no trouble living there, this was not the case for James. Much to our relief, after a Kafkaesque foray into Spanish bureaucracy, James' residency visa was



James and Sundari.



The new ShiningWorld base near Malaga, Andalucía, Spain.

granted two weeks ago. Thank you, *Isvara*! We will arrive at our new ShiningWorld base later this month.

After five years of searching, I found the perfect place near Malaga, Andalucía, right down the road from where we lived a few years back. *Isvara* provided the perfect instrument to help us secure the property, Micah Clemence, a dedicated Vedantin inquirer. Micah tirelessly helped with the negotiations and generously loaned us half the purchase price. Thank you, Micah! As befits a free being, Micah has moved on and no longer needs

the support of ShiningWorld. He has dedicated his life to studying the scriptures and to passing on this great tradition as opportunities arise. We wish him all the best!

Our intention is to run regular seminars in Spain. The house is quite large and will be suitable for non-residential seminars with a few modifications. There is plenty of rental space available at very reasonable prices nearby, some in walking distance. We hope to offer a seminar in late June or early July before the heat becomes unbearable. If not, we will offer classes in the fall. ☸



SEMINARS

IF YOU WANT to attend seminars this spring in Europe, however, it is best to come to Suryalila in Spain (January 26 to February 9) or one or more seminars in Northern Europe: Bad Meinberg, London, Berlin or Amsterdam.

[Here is the link to the teaching schedule.](#)

SURYALILA, SPAIN: JANUARY 26 TO FEBRUARY 9

We are offering a two-week seminar at the lovely Suryalila Yoga Retreat Centre in the Spanish countryside near Prado del Rey, in the Cadiz district. The first week, James will teach *Atma Bodh*, a wonderful text on Self-knowledge by Shankaracharya, and selected teachings from Vidyananya's *Panchadasi* the second week. Sundari will also offer *satsang* on Vedanta and relationships during the evening sessions of the second week. The accommodation and food at Suryalila are second to none!



Suryalila, Spain.



Arlindo in India.

TIRUVANNAMALAI, INDIA: JANUARY 26 TO FEBRUARY 15

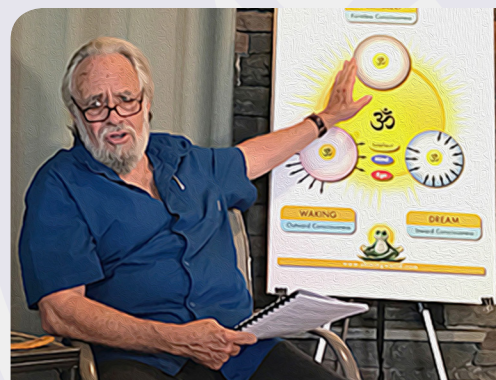
For those of you who are going to India, don't forget Arlindo Moraes' *Panchadasi* seminar, January 26 to February 15! It's a truly great text, and Arlindo is an excellent teacher!

[For details, click this link.](#)

BAD MEINBERG, GERMANY: MARCH 17 TO 21

In this four-day seminar James offers the *Mandukya Upanishad* and Gaudapada's *Karika*, the most sophisticated Vedantic text, at Yoga Vidya, Bad Meinberg, Germany, March 17 to 21. Don't miss it!

[For information and registration, click this link.](#)

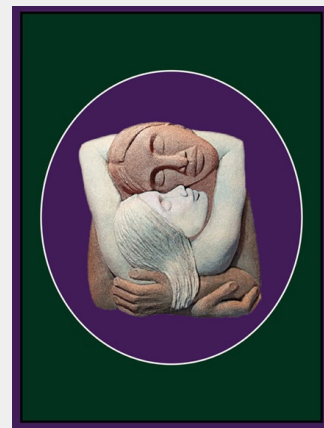


James teaching the *Mandukya Upanishad*.

LONDON AND REIGATE, ENGLAND: APRIL 6 AND 7

As time passes more and more English people are showing interest in Vedanta, and since we now have a European base, it will be easy to serve them going forward. On Saturday, April 6 we are offering a one-day seminar on non-dual relationships in **London**, which is an application of Vedanta doctrine and practice to the topic of relationships. The time and venue will be announced on the website presently.

[For information and registration, click this link.](#)



At **Reigate, Surrey**, on Sunday, April 7 James will do a one-day seminar that unfolds the complete logic of the spiritual path as revealed by Vedanta, the world's oldest and foremost means of enlightenment, and explained in clear, modern English in his best-selling book *The Essence of Enlightenment*. It starts with an examination of our fundamental drive for freedom, debunks the enlightenment myths contaminating the modern spiritual world, presents a compelling case for a disciplined approach to Self-inquiry and discusses the basic techniques for transforming heart and mind into a luminous reflector of truth.

[For information and registration, click this link.](#)

Yogaland Publications: Save Time and Money

We are pleased to announce that Yoga Ananda Holistic Centre in Reigate now carries paperback editions of the following ShiningWorld publications: *The Essence of Enlightenment*; *The Fire of Self-Knowledge* (Shankara's *Atma Bodh*); *The Yoga of Love* (*Narada Bhakti Sutras*); *The Yoga of the Three Energies*; and *The Book of Charts*. This should be of particular interest to Europeans insofar as the cost of shipping paperbacks from the United States to Europe and elsewhere is prohibitive. The shipping sometimes exceeds the cost of the book itself! So we encourage those of you who live in Europe and enjoy print editions to purchase your books from Yogaland.

Click this link to go to [Yogaland's website books listing page](#), under Categories on the left, tick the "Vedanta" box and order. The delivery times are considerably shorter than ordering books from the USA.

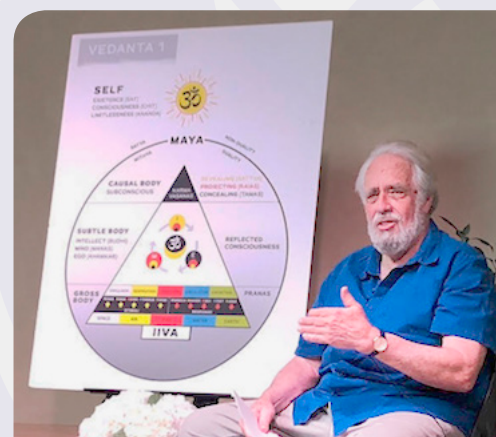


BERLIN, GERMANY: APRIL 12 TO 16

The Self Is Bliss

This wonderful non-residential seminar in one of Europe's most interesting cities, offered for the first time at Cape Town, South Africa, last October, was a great hit, so James will teach it again in Berlin.

The ever-present Self is experienced as being (*sat*), awareness (*chit*)



and bliss (*ananda*). The seminar unfolds Vedanta's teachings on bliss based on chapters 11 to 15 of Vidyan-
ya's *Panchadasi* and the *Narada Bhakti Sutras*. Please read both texts, available in the ShiningWorld shop,
before you attend.

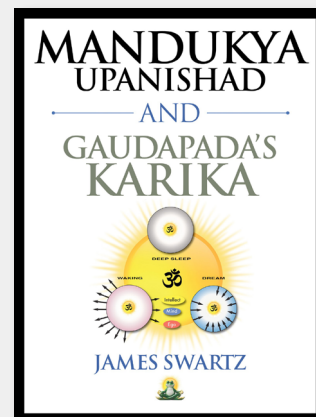
[For information and registration, click this link.](#)

AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS: APRIL 19 TO 21

Mandukya Upanishad and Gaudapada's Karika

This popular and often misunderstood text is considered the "king" of the *Upanishads* because its simple, elegant logic in the hands of an accomplished teacher removes the belief that the Self is a finite entity, revealing its limitless fullness. The famous commentaries of Gaudapada, a great sage of the Vedantic *sampradaya*, presents a radical Creation teaching, non-origination. Creation teachings are important because the *Upanishads* unequivocally state that reality is non-dual consciousness/existence. If it is, then how can we explain the presence of duality, which we continually experience?

[For information and registration, click this link.](#) 🌐



*Mandukya Upanishad and
Gaudapada's Karika,*
commentary by James.

VIDEOS

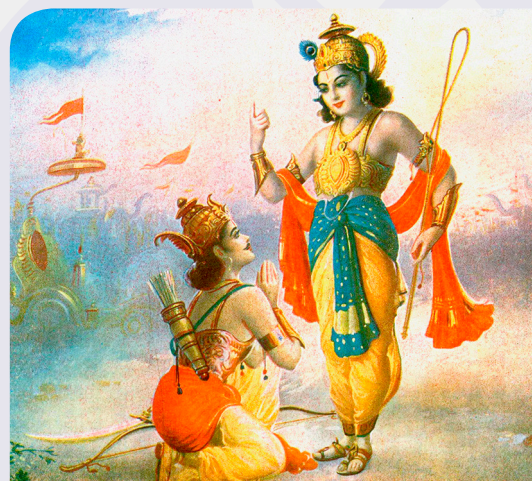


MANDUKYA AND KARIKA – TROUT LAKE, AUGUST 2018

Every teaching of this great text brings out more and more of its subtle nuances. James has been teaching the *Mandukya* and *Karika* for over a year, and this, the latest, is the most excellent so far, presented to a great group of sophisticated, long-term Vedanta inquirers in a peaceful sylvan environment. One of our dearest friends, Jennifer Moyer, kindly donated the money necessary to print a paperback edition. The video plus the paperback is \$45 and is available here: [click this link.](#)

BHAGAVAD GITA – VIDEO IN PRODUCTION

Many people have been asking about this three-month teaching. Fortunately, only recently have we received a generous donation to edit and produce it. It is now in the capable hands of Andy Hart, and we are confident that it will be available for viewing within a month.



Now that our living plans have been settled, James is free to work on his magnum opus, commentaries on the *Bhagavad Gita*, which are coming along. They are intended to complement the videos. The *Gita* is basically all that a committed inquirer needs to know to set himself or herself free.

BHAGAVAD GITA – 2018 TEACHING VIDEOS

We will soon be able to report on the progress on *Bhagavad Gita* teaching videos from Carbondale, Colorado, earlier this year. Eaden has assured us that he is hard at work on them, so those of you who have been anxiously awaiting them, we hope that it will not be too much longer. ☸



Adi Shankara with Disciples, by Raja Ravi Varma (1904).

AUDIO

BHAGAVAD GITA – CARBONDALE, SUMMER 2018

AUDIO (140 HOURS) now available here: [click this link](#). ☸



NEW SATSANGS

WE HAVE MANY new *satsangs* posted on ShiningWorld, and also new YouTube videos out. Ramji is posting great *satsangs* almost daily, and our trusty friends Georg and Stan are helping us by uploading new videos on YouTube. I have a big bunch of new *satsangs* posted. My favourites are: *Mental Health, Depression and Vedanta; Karma, Vasanas, System 1 and 2; Haters Want to Hate; The Jerk in the Next Life*; among many others. These are all topics that come up often and although extensively covered before in countless other *satsangs*, there is always something different about each *satsang* we write. The topic of mental health does not come up that often, nor does the issue of haters. We have had some experience in both areas of late, so these *satsangs* are topical. ☸



NEW: SPECIAL SERVICES AT SHININGWORLD

WE WORK WITH amazing people all over the world, many of whom have their own specialized

contribution to assist others. Recently we have decided to add a service apart from, or rather as a corollary to, assisting inquirers with their Self-inquiry.

ASSISTANCE WITH ADOLESCENTS

Christine Abrahams is the supervisor of school counselling services for a school district in New Jersey. She studies Vedanta with her *guru*, James Swartz, whose teachings she uses to teach adolescents the truth about themselves. In addition, she is a Nurtured Heart Approach trainer. The Nurtured Heart Approach is a relationship-focused methodology for helping children (and adults) build their inner resources and use their intensity in successful ways. It also helps both adults and children to unearth *samskaras* through the interaction with others. Christine has already had great success in helping one of our inquirers improve his relationship with his daughter. She is willing to work by donation.

Contact: christineabrahams291@gmail.com ☸



Christine Abrahams.

NON-DUAL MARITAL BLISS!

WE CELEBRATED OUR seventh year of blissful union recently, and if it is possible, the joy of being “in” each other’s lives deepens every day. We feel so very blessed to have the truth of non-dual love in relationship as a lived experience. ☸



❧ OM AND PREM ❧