

Tribute to
H.H. Sri Swami Chaitanyananda Maharaj
from the Executive Board of the International Sivananda Yoga Vedanta Centre



Swami Mahadevananda—
He was humble. He was simple. He was a true sannyasin imbibing all the virtues of a Master and shining example for all of us. We shall remember him in the depths of our hearts.



Swami Durgananda—
H.H. Sri Swami Chaitanyananda manifested the glory of a life of secluded sadhana. Those who met him in the small Ashram in Uttarkashi/Himalayas could absorb the purity and eternal wisdom of the Himalayas by the mere presence of this wonderful sage. During his memorable visit to the Sivananda Yoga Vedanta Centers in the West, Swami Chaitanyanandaji Maharaj appeared completely at home and with great ease, clearing many students' doubts regarding yoga and vedanta in daily modern life. His love and understanding will be remembered for a long time.



Swami Swaroopananda—
Swami Chaitanyananda was a Himalayan saint, a jnani and a sadhu. In his life he demonstrated the sublime truths of yoga and Vedanta. I was fortunate to meet him and study with him some of the principle Upanishads. I will always remember him as a pure example of jnana.



Swami Sivadasananda—
H.H. Sri Swami Chaitanyanandaji's recollections about Gurudev Swami Sivananda were astounding. The precision with which he remembered even minute details about specific situations of the life of the Master, which took place half a century ago, is living proof of how decades of meditation in solitude can sharpen the memory power. Swami Chaitanyanandaji Maharaj could be seen spending at least one hour daily chanting kirtan and prayers, alone. At that time all the great achievements of Sanskrit learning and mastery of jnana yoga appeared in an even more majestic light—pure devotion and surrender to the Guru.



Swami Kailasananda—
Swami Chaitanyananda was truly an incarnation of the spirit of genuine renunciation: complete simplicity, non attachment, fearlessness, freedom of spirit, acceptance of God's will and surrender to His teacher. Visiting him in his small Ashram on the bank of the Ganga was a source of great inspiration and joy. It was a delight to hear him talk on lofty topics such as Vedanta philosophy with a crystal clear mind, a good dose of humour, and a childlike spontaneity. It was particularly moving to listen to stories about his days at Master's Ashram with Swami

Vishnu-devananda. One could feel the deep love which bound them, in the spirit of service to their teacher. May his cheerful dedication and tranquil perseverance continue to inspire many souls to live the Vedantic life!



Swami Srinivasananda—
Swami Chaitanyananda was a beloved grand uncle for our Sivananda Yoga Vedanta Centers. As a dear gurubhai he was a faithful supporter of our beloved Swami Vishnu-devanandaji. After Swami Vishnuji left his body in 1993, Swami Chaitanyananda provided Swami Vishnuji's serious students a living direct link to Master Sivananda, having been a close disciple himself, and guided our senior swamis in Vedanta philosophy as well as the Sannyasa Dharma. To have the darshan of Swami Chaitanyananda was part of any pilgrimage to North India along with a visit to Swami Vishnuji's Mahasamadhi shrine in Netala, Swami Sivananda's Divine Life Society ashram in Rishikesh, and Swamiji's sadhana cave in Gangotri. Swami Chaitanyananda was a traditional vedantin and provided us with a living example of the ideal sadhu following the nivritti monastic tradition that Swami Vishnuji's disciples are attempting to carry into the 21st Century. Though he will be dearly missed, Swami Chaitanyananda, lives in our hearts as an embodiment of Swami Sivananda's limitless love and wisdom.

