

UNIQUE VISHWA VIDYALAYA



rahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is, in many ways, a unique Vishwa Vidyalaya; it is a well known spiritual value-based educational institution which has gained global acceptance and unique imitational recognition.

Global acceptance of its teachings: The world-wide acceptance of its teachings can, perhaps, be gauged by the fact that its affiliate centers have spread in over Eighty Two countries in all continents, and they number over 5000. Its recognition by various world bodies can be appreciated by the fact that:

- It is affiliated to the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations as a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO)
- In the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations, it holds Consultative Status.
- It has Consultative Status also with the UNICEF (UN Children's Fund).
- It has its office at 866 UN Plaza, Room 4054, New York, and NY-10017.
- The United Nations 'University for Peace' in Costa Rica receives its co-operation in the field of peace education by means of an official agreement.
- The Government of Mauritius has recognized it as a University by an Act of Parliament.
- The Government of Guyana has adopted the principle of starting the proceedings of their Parliament with three minutes Raja yoga Meditation as suggested by this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.
- This Vishwa Vidyalaya has been awarded UN Peace Medals for 1981 & 1986 and Chief of Brahma Kumaris, Dadi Prakashmani, was awarded International Peace Messenger Award from Secretary General of United Nations in 1987. Five more National Peace Messenger Awards have also been received by centers in Australia, Kenya, etc.
- Mohanlal Sukhadia University of Udaipur (Rajasthan) has conferred the Degree of Doctor of Literature (Dolt.) to Dadi Prakashmani, Chief of the Institution.

- The Commonwealth of Russia has granted official recognition to this Spiritual Vishwa Vidyalaya in their country.

As a Vishwa Vidyalaya, it has a distinctive character because of the following reasons:

1. Education for all: It is a Vishwa Vidyalaya where in the main emphasis of teachings on promoting, in every sphere, the qualities of humanism, tolerance and a never-ending enthusiasm for spreading the knowledge of truth. This Vishwa Vidyalaya believes that education should be for practical life and not merely for a vocation or a profession or job.

2. Education for all:

Another distinguishing feature of this Vishwa Vidyalaya is that it gives utmost importance to character-formation and to maintaining peace. There is a well-known saying that " If character is lost, everything is lost".

Additionally, this Vishwa Vidyalaya believes that "if peace is lost everything is meaningless and purposeless". Corruption, the root cause of man's social and economic evils, can be eradicated only by building character. Moral education is, therefore, not an option nor is it a matter of choice. It is neither a luxury nor a burden. By introducing values in education, we will not be putting extra burden on the students or on the teachers or on the national exchequer. Let us understand it clearly that in this matter, there is neither any alternative nor any chance of avoiding it. If we avoid values in education, we are inviting a colossal disaster.

If no steps are taken now, the time is not far off when the whole civilized society will live under the law of jungle. If politics is criminalised, bureaucracy goes corrupt, environment gets more polluted by poisonous wastes, more and more students become drug-violent (not ultra- violet) tendencies, then who will save whom? If all become moral 'outlaws', what will be the meaning of 'brother-in-law', 'sister-in-law', because there would then no longer be any law?

If teachers lose the strength of character, then who will build character of the succeeding generations? If students do not have discipline, how can we have a self-regulated and self-regulated and self-controlled nation or society?

So, let our academic institutions rise to the occasion, pick up the gauntlet and accept their own staff

and atmosphere in order. Let value-education start with moral orientation of the staff and let this be introduced as a subject in Teachers' Training course and let us give moral touch to such subjects as history, etc., in order that students learn to inculcate values. There are many ways in which this subject can be taught to students at different levels and these can be discussed in detail and various courses can be devised and assessment procedures and methodologies also be spelt. But let us, first, have a collective will that we will introduce this subject and upgrade it without any further delay.

So a Vishwa Vidyalaya, according to these principles, should impart such knowledge and experience that enable a person to face the problems of life in a calm, composed and confident manner, and to stand like a rock in the midst of strong storms of circumstances. Only such a person can lead a life of inner satisfaction and kindle in others stable faith in goodness, and only such a man brings honor to his nation.

3. Education for promoting public welfare:

Brahma Kumaris Vishwa Vidyalaya feels that the main cause of tension and sufferings is lack of the spirit of co-operation, sympathy, brotherhood and selfless nature. This Vishwa Vidyalaya promotes these good qualities; its courses include training of stress-free management in business and industry and even in day-to-day family and social life.

4. Education that corrects imbalance in human personality:

Above all, this Vishwa Vidyalaya feels that in the present system of education, there is over-stress on natural and biological science, commerce and economics, computer sciences, applied mathematics, statistics, etc., but education in other social sciences and humanities and more particularly in spiritual subjects has not only been relegated to the background but has deliberately been omitted from the curriculum. This resulted in a great imbalance in the development of human personality and society as a whole. So, this Vishwa Vidyalaya imparts education that satisfies man's curiosity to find the answers to quotations like " who am I? Where have I come from and where shall I return?"

5. Holistic education relative to the present crisis:

Thus, this is a unique Vishwa Vidyalaya, which wants to fill the gap that is left unfilled by most other universities. It does not want to impart education in all those subjects, which are already being taught at other universities, for that would just be the duplication or the overlapping of efforts. On the other hand, it is giving

education in those subjects, which are very relevant to the present critical world situation. The education it imparts, though visibly spiritual in its content, is a happy blend of ethics, practical psychology, metaphysics or philosophy the gist of world history and culture, sociology, political science and, in fact, many other subjects.

In truth it gives knowledge as one integrated system which is made up of the wisdom of almost all subjects and is, therefore 'holistic and not fragmentary. This is a Vishwa Vidyalaya with a difference or, let us say, and educational institution with distinction, one distinction being that this Vishwa Vidyalaya is run mostly by women with a spirit of dedication, devotion renunciation and sacrifice for the welfare of society as a whole, without any distinction on the basis of race, religion, nationality, caste or creed and without charging any fees. It is supported by voluntary contributions of its students and well-wishers.

This Vishwa Vidyalaya does not give any certificates, diplomas or degrees as none of these were given in the ancient past, or even till less than 200 years ago, for, these do not reflect the spiritual level of a person, nor does a spiritually elevated person seek a certificate or a commendation, because his or her own life is a certificate unto others. Aristotle, Copernicus, Newton and Einstein were much more than what any degree could signify their attainments. So were Mahatma Gandhi, Abraham, Vivekanand and Buddha.

Such are the ideas of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya for it wants to revive that tradition of people with outstanding character at the helm of affairs at a time when society has almost stopped producing such high characters.



1. **Number of spiritual Education and Raja Yoga Training Centers:** 5000 in India and 82 other countries.
2. **Founder:** Incorporeal Supreme Father Knowledgeful God Shiva (through Corporeal Medium of Adi Dev Prajapita Brahma).
3. **Founded:** 1937 in Hyderabad (Sind), now in Pakistan.
4. **Aim:** To establish Universal Peace through the impartation of Spiritual Knowledge and training of Easy Raja Yoga Meditation.
5. **Objectives:** (1) To create a deep awareness of the important role of spirituality in human development.

- (2) To understand our rights as well as our responsibilities in society and work together to achieve reconciliation of human values and peace. (3) To introduce practical programmes everywhere emphasizing the importance of world brotherhood (being children of one God, the World Father) and thus maintain global harmony. (4) To create sense of global co-operation for an ideal world.
6. **Type of Institution:** Educational institution of Spiritual Knowledge and Raja Yoga Meditation training, working on the system of Divine Family.
 7. **Subjects:** (1) Peace of mind and World Peace (2) Future of mankind (3) Purity (4) Spiritual Truths, Moral Values and Character Building (5) Self Realization (6) God Realization (7) Raja Yoga Meditation: Theory and Practice (8) Powers through Raja Yoga (9) Knowledge about the Soul-World (10) Knowledge about the Subtle Realms (11) The Law of Action and Reaction and inculcation of Divine Virtues (12) Spiritual Social Service (13) Removal of Blind Faith, Social Evils, Superstition and Ritualistic Taboos (14) Survey of World Religions & ethnic unity (15) World History and Geography including Golden and Silver Ages (16) Civilisation of Bharat during the deity period (17) leading Lotus-like loge (18) International Harmony (19) Stress-free management of business, industry and household life (20) Self Management Leadership Course.
 8. **Open to whom:** To all men, Women and children without any distinction of caste and culture, sect and sex, color and age, country and nationality, community and religion, politics and professions, etc.
 9. **Preliminary Courses (for visitors):** (1) 3-day Raja Yoga Camps (2) 7-day Self-Realization and Spiritual Knowledge course.
 10. **Advanced Courses:** (1) 1-month Spiritual Teachers periodical intensive course at all centers, (2) 1 week higher Raja Yoga experience and refresher course at all centers (3) Life-time Course (daily classes at all centers for regular students only).
 11. **Disciplines:** (1) Vicelessness (2) Non-violence (3) Regular Spiritual Studies (4) Pure Vegetarian Food (5) No-smoking, drinking or taking drugs and intoxicants (6) imbibing Divine virtues in practical worldly life (7) Brahacharya (celibacy).
 12. **Method of Education:** Through books, magazines and charts, lectures, museums, exhibitions, fairs,

conferences, seminars, get-togethers, Raja Yoga Camps, correspondence courses, films, slide shows, radio, television and other modern media in all fields of Society.

13. **Benefits & Achievements:** (Tension-free life, (2) More integrated God-conscious, woeful and law abiding, vice free, respectable and responsible society, (3) Population control through Brahmacharya (celibacy), (4) Economy by simple food habits, abstinence from smoking, drinking and drug addiction (5) Removal of communal fanaticism, (6) Peace purity and happiness in family as well as in public life. (7) Mutual respect and love among religions, (8) Character building of children and youth, (9) Women's enlistment, etc.
14. **Fees or charges:** No fees or charges, etc.
15. **Finances:** This is a non-fund raising organization. It accepts only voluntary contributions in the field of physical, spiritual and monetary services from its students or brothers and sisters of this Divine family who have gained the benefit of overcoming vices and habits like smoking, drinking, non-veg. etc., and who enjoy freedom from social taboos, religious bigotry, ritualistic bondages, etc.
16. **Affiliation to United Nations Organisation:** Affiliated to the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations Organisation as a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO). It holds Consultative Status in Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and UNICEF (U.N.Children's Fund).