

Let's walk together, hand in hand

Dear friend,

My Namaskars and good wishes to you!

We are embarking on the **Walk of Hope** in January 2015—a 6000 kms long **padayatra** for peace and harmony from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

What is **Walk of Hope** all about? To understand it, we must first understand India. Ours is a baffling nation, full of contradictions and disparities. Over the years, this disparity has given rise to trends, good and bad. A trend that disturbs us is the regular outbreaks of communal violence. A stretch of peace and prosperity is suddenly arrested during such an outbreak. Lives are lost in large numbers and the social fabric is torn. The progress of the nation comes to a grinding halt. By the time things return to normal, our nation has lost crucial opportunities in all areas of development.

The Father of our Nation, Gandhiji, walked across the country to address the communal strife during his lifetime. However, nothing seems to have succeeded despite efforts to address the differences from all quarters. Problems still persist. Naturally the question arises—what good will the **Walk of Hope** do to restore this nation's unity.

The Rig Veda says—there is just one truth but we call it by different names. The source of all life is one. So uniting human beings is our priority. We must start with our country first, naturally. We must work for this country's well being to heal its soul, so that our nation can progress for the sake of our future generations. It is for the non-political people to take the initiative. Therefore, we will walk together carrying a message of true faith, to restore the spirit of hope, love, peace, harmony and oneness.

On 12 January 2015—the birth anniversary of a great prophet of interfaith harmony, Swami Vivekananda—we will start the Walk from the southern most point of mainland India, the Gandhi Memorial Mandapam in Kanyakumari. The Walk will conclude in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir in 2016, a journey of 6000 kms across 12 states of India spanning 15-18 months. Together, we will cover 15 to 20 kms walking everyday across the heat and dust of our nation.



Each day, we will halt in the evening at a village or town on the way. We will have meetings with the local community of the place, which will include meaningful dialogues and inter-faith prayers. Then we will eat together and rest overnight in their homes in a spirit of oneness. We will walk together, not as members of groups or parties, but as human beings. We will walk for a society where opportunity is given to all, regardless of caste, religion, language, region or gender.

A like-minded group of responsible citizens, who foresee a united India, will accompany me. Together, we will spread the message, personally, to over 10 million fellow countrymen along the way.

I invite you to join me in the **Walk of Hope** for peace and harmony. You can join at any place or time, depending on your availability. Come, be a part of this soul-seeking journey across India. Let's walk together, hand in hand, for a united and inclusive India.

Yours sincerely,

Sri M

Sri M

Sri M—spiritual guide, social reformer and educationist—was born into a Muslim family on November 6, 1948 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. His transformational journey, from a young boy to a living yogi, is a fascinating story symbolized by single-minded discipline and dedication. He travelled to the Himalayas at the age of 19, met saints and sages, eventually gaining his spiritual fulfillment under the guidance of Maheshwarnath Babaji. He is married and has two children. His autobiography, **Apprenticed to a Himalayan Master—A Yogi's Autobiography**, is a bestseller. Based in Madanapalle, Andhra Pradesh (a three-hour drive from Bangalore), he leads a simple life—teaching and guiding the **Satsang Foundation** and **Manav Ekta Mission**.

To know more about the Walk of Hope with Sri M and participation in this spiritual quest for a united and inclusive India, log on to www.walkofhope.in or write to team@walkofhope.in. You may also WhatsApp us @ 9611135502

Manav Ekta Mission, C/o The Satsang Foundation, 48/49, Wheeler Road, Cox Town, Bangalore 560005, Karnataka, India. www.manavektamission.org