

Jawaharlal Nehru University

Press Note

04 July 2021

Jawaharlal Nehru University celebrated for the first time today, 4th July 2021, the 119th anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's bodily departure from this world by first paying a floral tribute at his statue in the JNU campus, then by initiating plantation drive in the campus, with the support of Harela Foundation which provided a large number of saplings. Further, to commemorate Swami Vivekananda, a memorial lecture on "Remembering Swami Vivekananda" was organized in the afternoon. The Special Lecture was delivered by Swami Shantatmanada, one of the most senior monks of the Ramakrishna Mission, and currently the Head of the Delhi Branch of the Mission.

Welcoming Swami Shantatmananda the Vice-Chancellor Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar said that Swami Vivekananda inspired Indians to realise their true potential at the time when it was needed most, when the country was facing most difficult time during the colonial rule: "What Swami Ji achieved in such a short number of years he lived is astounding."

Swami Shantatmananda in his lecture enunciated the teachings of Swami Vivekananda, especially for the youth and the students of the country. He said that each student "must realise their inner power, *Atm Shraddha*, to regenerate our motherland, to regenerate love for our country... Indians should be proud of their heritage, and that education of the youth is the panacea to every ill of the society." He said, "Swami ji had extraordinary faith in the youth of India".

The University has constituted a committee to commemorate Swami Vivekananda throughout the year.



[Prof. Rana P. Singh]
Rector