education. It is having a strength of more than 2500 students.

3. Omkarananda Saraswati Nilayam Preparatory School

is centrally located in Rishikesh and gives education to children of Classes Nursery and KG. It also prepares pre-Nursery children for the higher classes.

4. Omkarananda Saraswati Natya Kala Academy

an Institute for Indian Classical Dance and Music, is affiliated to Prayag Sangit Samiti, Allahabad. It is specialized in the devotional art of Temple-dance and music.

5. Omkarananda Hill Schools:

Omkarananda Educational Society maintains in the remote villages of the Garhwal Himalayas 47 Omkarananda Schools, out of which there are 34 Basic Schools and 13 Junior High Schools. Situated in different places of the Garhwal Himalayas and other Himalayan Hill Districts, these Schools provide education to students of the most backward areas, where education is needed most.

6. Omkarananda Saraswati Government Degree College Deoprayag

Affiliated to H.N. Bahuguna Garhwal University, Shrinagar, it was established and highly developed by Swami Omkarananda from 1984 onwards. In the year 2001 this private full-fledged College was gifted to the new Government of Uttarakhand.

7. Omkarananda Niwas

situated in Muni-ki-Reti at the Rishikesh-Badrinath Road, provides residential quarters for Omkarananda Ashram and School employees.

- 8. **Omkarananda Ganga Sthal Apartments** provide residential quarters for Professors of Omkarananda Institute of Management and Technology.
- 9. Omkarananda Shivalaya, Muni-ki-Reti, provides boarding and lodging to the girl-students of the Omkarananda Institute of Management and Technology.

Social Activities

1. Omkarananda Gayatri Sadan

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The Omkarananda Gayatri Sadan is situated at the holy spring of Sheshdhara, directly on the bank of the holy river Ganga, between Lakshmanjhula and Muni-ki-Reti. This building is completely isolated; the only sounds, which can be heard, are the waves of the Ganga. Therefore this place is ideally suited for spiritual aspirants and their Sadhana.

2. Omkarananda Ganga Sadan

is the Trust's beautiful guest house, in Muni-ki-Reti, directly by the Ganga. Satsang and Yoga-classes are conducted here at the Patanjala Yoga Kendra. The view from the lobby and the rooms is breathtakingly beautiful and soothing the mind.

3. Omkarananda Gita Sadan

is a beautiful guest house at Muni-ki-Reti, right on the holy river Ganges, known for its architectural beauty, its spacious surroundings and a picturesque view on the Ganges and the Himalayan hills. The rooms are in a class of its own.

4. Omkarananda Ganga Mata Mandir

provides places for pilgrims and visitors and is situated at the most important area of Rishikesh, Triveni Ghat, at the holy Ganga. It is also an ideal place for spiritual, cultural and educational functions.

5. Omkarananda Public Library

is the first public library in the area of Muni-ki-Reti.

6. Omkarananda Govt. Homoeopathic Hospital

In the heart of Muni-ki-Reti the Trust has sponsored a building for the charitable Govt. Homoeopathic Hospital, which was named accordingly.

7. Omkarananda Public Ghat

adjacent to Omkarananda Ganga Sadan, provides easy approach to the holy Ganga.

8. Omkarananda Social Palace

is situated right in the centre of Rishikesh behind the Roadways Busstand.

Information on the Aims and Activities of

OMKARANANDA ASHRAM HIMALAYAS and its Institutions

AIM: Dissemination of Educational, Scientific, Cultural, Social, Spiritual Values



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<u>PARAMAHAMSA</u> OMKARANANDA SARASWATI

H.D. Paramahamsa Omkarananda Saraswati is a God-realised Saint, Mystic, Sage, Philosopher and Writer.

Already at the age of thirteen and fourteen his life was flooded with numerous spiritual experiences of the omnipresent and omniscient God. Under the dictates of these experiences, he left his home city in South India for the Himalayas, where the world-renowned Sage Sri Swami Sivananda recognised in him an embodiment of the high spirit of renunciation, profound divine wisdom, touching purity of heart, made him known as Bala Yogi, Bala Jnani, titled him as Adhyatma Kavita-Bhaskara and crowned him with Sannyasa-Diksha at the age of seventeen.

In his shortest autobiography in the world Swami Omkarananda Saraswati writes:

"Purity is the soul of my strength. Truth is the source of my power. God is my life, and I have no existence apart from Him. His Consciousness is my Light. His all-sustaining and all-creative Beauty constitutes my joy. Prayer is my breath and meditation forms the bread of my Life. All humanity is my family. The Forces of Nature are my Friends. The Godhead in all of you is the object of my adoration."

Omkarananda Ashram Himalayas

The activities of Sage and Philosopher Swami Omkarananda embrace spiritual, cultural, educational, scientific and social fields. One of the significant achievements in these fields is the unique work he has done for the upliftment of the backward regions in the hills of the Himalayan Garhwal area. In recognition of his extraordinary services he has received several prestigious honours like Mother India Award, Bharat Nirman Award and Hind Rattan Award.

The Ashram at Rishikesh, set on one of the foot-hills of the Himalayas, is one of the main branches of his international Institution. It aims at the realisation of educational, social, cultural and spiritual projects. Omkarananda Ashram Himalayas carries on its activities through its registered Trusts – Omkarananda Dharma Samsthan, Omkarananda Charitable Trust, Omkarananda Educational Society, Omkarananda Natya Kala Academy and other educational and cultural Institutions.

Branches

- 1. Omkarananda Dharma Samsthan, Mumbai
- 2. Omkarananda Dharma Samsthan, Kanchipuram

Temples

- 1. **Omkarananda Shanta-Durga Mandir** the original Temple-cum-Ashram complex in Omkarananda Nagar, Muni-ki-Reti
- 2. Omkarananda-Kamakshi-Devi Mandir is a unique South-Indian Temple, a land mark in entire Uttarakhand. This extremely attractive Temple-complex is surrounded nearby by several other Temples, like Meru-Yantram (with permanent flow of Ganga-water over it), Omkara-Ganapati, Maha-Kalabhairava, Shivalingam and other Temples.
- 3. **Omkarananda Dipeshwar Mandir** is a beautiful Temple-cum-Ashram complex, in Lakshman-Jhula, by the holy river Ganga, where also Yoga-Classes are being conducted.
- 4. **Omkarananda Ram Mandir** is situated in upper Tapovan, where the Ashram is maintaining its own farm.

- 5. **Omkarananda Satyanarayana Mandir** is another beautiful Temple-cum-Ashram complex right on the other bank of Ganga.
- 6. **Omkarananda Bhuvaneshwari Mandir** in Omkarananda Nagar, Muni-ki-Reti, is situated in the compound of Omkarananda Institute of Management & Technology.
- 7. **Omkarananda Radha-Krishna Mandir** in Dehradun Road, Rishikesh, is a lovely Temple, which is popular in this area for nice Bhajans and Kirtans.

Educational Activities

1. Omkarananda Institute of Management and Technology

has been established to expand Management and Technical Education in this area of Garhwal Himalayas. This Institute benefits the students of this area, which was lacking in the field of vocational and technical education.

The Institute is approved by All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, to run M.B.A. courses.

The Institute is also affiliated to the Bahuguna Garhwal University and to the Uttarakhand Technical University, Dehradun. Courses offered are: B.B.A. (Bachelor of Business Administration), B.C.A. (Bachelor of Computer Application) and M.B.A. (Master of Business Administration).

The Institute, which is situated in a most beautiful, enchanting environment in Omkarananda Nagar, Muniki-Reti, has a big well furnished computer laboratory and huge libraries.

Hostel-facilities are provided to accommodate students from remote towns and stations of all parts of India. Experienced faculty members for teaching and administration look after the smooth running of the Institute which is unique in this area.

2. **Omkarananda Saraswati Nilayam** is a co-educational English Medium Inter College, affiliated to I.C.S.E., New Delhi. Situated in Muni

affiliated to I.C.S.E., New Delhi. Situated in Muniki-Reti, the School is famous for providing excellent