

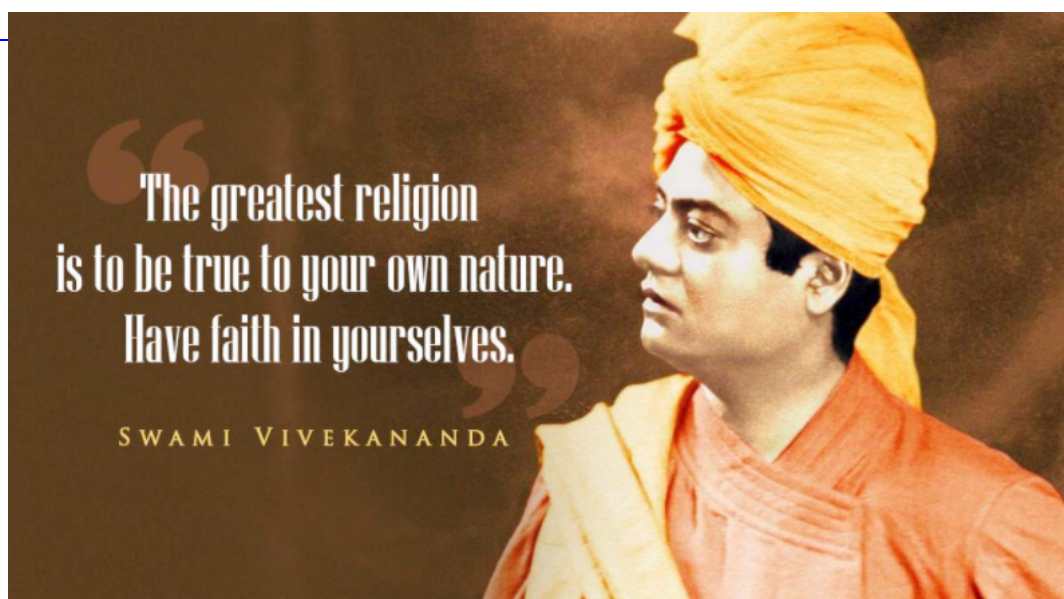


National Youth Day

Why in News

National Youth Day is held every year on 12th January to observe the **birth anniversary** of [Swami Vivekananda](#).

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Key Points

- The day is also referred to as **Swami Vivekanand Jayanti** and was designated as the **National Youth Day in 1984**.
- **24th National Youth Festival:**
 - Celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Swami Vivekananda**, the [National Youth Festival](#) is an annual gathering of youth with various activities including competitive ones.
 - Theme of **2021 Festival: 'YUVAAH - Utsah Naye Bharat Ka'**.
 - It will be celebrated from **12th to 16th January**
 - It is organized by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India in collaboration with one of the State Governments**.
 - As part of the **National Youth Festival**, the **National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF)** has also been organized **since 2019**.
- **National Youth Parliament Festival:**
 - **Objective:**
 - To hear the voice of youth in this age bracket of **18-25** who are **allowed to vote but cannot contest in elections**.

- To encourage the youth to engage with public issues, understand the common man's point of view, form their opinion and express these in an articulate manner.
- **Organized by:**
 - **National Service Scheme (NSS)** and **Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS)** under the aegis of **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**.
- The **first festival** of the NYPF was organised from **12th January to 27th February, 2019**, with the theme "**Be the Voice of New India and Find solutions and Contribute to Policy**".
- This is the **second NYPF festival** started in **December 2020**.

Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902)

- He was born as **Narendranath Datta on 12th January, 1863**.
- Introduced the world to the Indian philosophies of [Vedanta and Yoga](#).
- He was the chief disciple of the 19th-century mystic **Ramakrishna Paramhansa**.
- Laid the greatest emphasis on **education** for the **regeneration of our motherland**. He advocated a **man-making character-building education**.
- Established the **Ramakrishna Mission in 1897**. It is an organization which works in the area of **value-based education, culture, health, women's empowerment, youth and tribal welfare and relief and rehabilitation**.
- He died at **Belur Math in 1902**. Belur Math, located in West Bengal, is the **headquarters of Ramakrishna Math & Ramakrishna Mission**.

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