



Building a Better World: News of the Prout Research Institute

June, July & August, 2024

The View from the Prout Research Institute:

Spring at the Prout Research Institute, nestled in the glorious hills of western North Carolina, is bursting with vitality. Our building is surrounded by flowering dogwoods, azaleas, rhododendrons, redbuds, deer, groundhogs, raccoons, rabbits, and many kinds of birds.

The wonders of devotion and hardwork fill every corner of the Prout Research Institute building. In the last few months, our hard-working crew has painted the interior, finished the flooring, installed the electricity and plumbing, the kitchen cabinets and stove, and gotten to the point where the completion of this dharmic dream is just over the horizon. They still have to finish installing the interior doors, the baseboards and trim, the staircase railing, the kitchen countertops, and paint the exterior.

Once those tasks are finished we will have our grand opening for this remarkable beacon of hope for our Mission and the community. Prout classes and training, community organizing, retreats, and group chanting and meditation will have the dynamic home that our North American Prout movement has long needed.

Those of us on the board of the PRI have been working under the inspired leadership of Dada Maheshvarananda for two years to set the vision for the PRI and to raise the funds to implement that vision. To date we have raised \$422,213. This is one of the largest and most successful fundraising campaigns our mission has accomplished in decades. Over 98

people have contributed, and each and every contribution has been critical to the progress we have collectively achieved.

To get to the finish line we need an additional \$30,000. As board members most of us have made multiple contributions and we are digging deep to each make one more contribution to reach our goal. We humbly ask that those of you who have already contributed join us in making one more generous contribution. And those who have yet to contribute, now is the time when your support will make the PRI dream a cherished reality.

Most of you reading this know one or more of us personally and certainly almost everyone has been inspired by the shining example of Prout's founder P.R. Sarkar and his representative monk,

Dada Maheshvarananda. If you have any questions about PRI and the building project please reach out to any one of us or to Dadaji and we will be happy to share our excitement about this project and answer your questions.

There are many wonderful projects around the world that are extremely worthy of our financial support. While we all continue to help those projects according to our capability, we sincerely hope you will share our feeling of the importance of Prout and the PRI in the overall creation of a just and spiritually evolved world that our children and grandchildren and their children can enjoy for many years to come.

- The PRI Board

Please make your donation online at: PRI.institute, or mail checks to the address on this newsletter.

OUR FIRST PRI EVENT!

Economic Democracy Training

A 5 Day leadership & new economy immersion



SCAN ME

August 1st - 6th,
2024

30 minutes north
of Asheville, NC



Learn how cooperatives thrive in the US, what resources are available to develop them, and how you can get involved in the co-op movement.



Learn leadership expertise and values to empower yourself and others, team dynamics and cooperation skills, and community engagement.



Join the daily rhythms of a holistic land community, with garden chores, permaculture workshops, hikes to a waterfall, and yoga and meditation classes.

\$350

Join the Movement for Systems Change today!



www.pri.institute/training
wilder@proutalliance.org

scholarships available
on a rolling basis

Economic Democracy Training

We are pleased to announce that, coinciding with the summer 2024 opening of the Prout Research Institute's new center near Asheville, North Carolina, members of PRI and our sister organization, Prout Alliance, have formed a team to organize an inaugural event: the "Economic Democracy Training" program, which will take place from August 1-6. Our host is Dada Maheshvarananda, and our trainers are Shriraksha Mohan, James Steen, Arthur Pacheco, and Alex Jackimovicz. Wilder Nicholson is an organizer and also handles logistics and marketing.

One of the primary goals of the training's organizers is to encourage participants to get involved in the cooperative movement where they live. This training will explore an integrated vision of the history and trajectories of the cooperative model as a key driver of significant societal transformation, and how Progress-

sive Utilization Theory can contribute to this new societal model. Through engaging workshops on cooperative development, leadership, permaculture, and economic democracy attendees will delve into the principles and practices of economic decentralization and the pivotal role of cooperatives in fostering resilient, equitable, and sustainable communities.

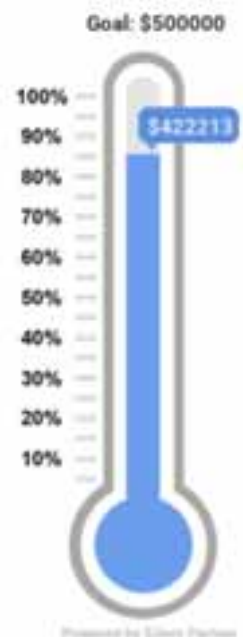
Participants will have the opportunity to connect, learn, and potentially harness the power of networking and unity. The \$350 fee includes accommodations and vegetarian meals, with scholarships available. This event marks the beginning of a series of initiatives aimed at fostering positive change and promoting sustainable practices within our communities.

For more information, please see our event page at <https://pri.institute/training/>.

What still needs to be finished on the new PRI building?

We still have to finish installing the interior doors, the baseboards and trim, the staircase railing, the kitchen countertops and paint the exterior. We are 85% of the way to completing the construction of the PRI Building. We need your support to finish!

Make donations at pri.institute, send checks to the address below. Contact info@pri.institute.



PROUT: Action and Activities



Organizing for Community
Virtual Online Program
Thursday, June 13, 2024 8-9 PM EDT
A report about the Westchester Social Forum for mobilizing community engagement and solidarity. With Nada Kader, Wilder Nicholson and Alex Jackimovicz.

Proutist Universal: Spirituality - The Radical Missing Link in Modern Activism

**Financing Economic
Development under Prout**
Virtual Online Program
Thursday, July 11, 2024 8-9 PM EDT
Can new economic production be financed without resorting to the speculative financial markets? How would public infrastructure projects be paid for? These are the kinds of questions Proutists will have to consider when proposing systems for capital development in economies adhering to neo-humanistic values.

Proutist Universal's Annual Convention will be on July 19-24th in Vig, Denmark, near Copenhagen.

**Economic Democracy
Conference**
Friday, October 11, 2024 Asheville, NC

The world, especially the youth, confronts a crisis of meaning. The prevailing materialistic outlook fosters selfishness, consumerism, and shallow viewpoints, resulting in exploitation, resource depletion, inner void, anxiety, and depression. Solutions to these crises lie within Prout and other alternative frameworks. However, what is missing is the awareness of cosmic kinship—the understanding that we belong to one global family, and that the ultimate aim of life in this universe is the spiritual quest towards Divine Consciousness.

**Prout Alliance
Annual Meeting**
Prout Alliance Annual Meeting
October 12-14th, 2024 Marshall NC

We will explore how to bring this key aspect of Prout into the public discourse, and create a movement based on the elevated values of Neohumanism. Guest speakers include: Dr. Sohail Inayatullah, Roar Bjonnes, Dada Shambhushivananda, Didi Ananda Devapriya and many others.

Register at ProutAlliance.org

**Register for the PU Conference at:
anandagaorii.dk/upcoming-events/**



+ radical +
recharge

Sisters Retreat
Yoga - Meditation
Singing - Dancing - Sharing
Subtle Vegetarian Food - Nature
Art - Spirituality - Inspiration

July 16th-19th, 2024
Ananda Gaouri Farm, Ashram & Learning Center
Holbækvej 56, 4560 Vig, Denmark




Register + learn more:
www.proutsisters.com

June 22, 2024
12:00 UTC
online

**Empowering
Displaced Women**
through Community,
Knowledge
& Economic
Independence

1.5 hour seminar:

- discussion of PROUT perspective on women's empowerment
- conversation and inspiration with Didi
- brief art share



Didi Ananda Uttama
Regional Coordinator of
AMURTEL Greece; working to
support and empower migrant
and refugee women ...
"EMPOWER MOTHERS,
CHANGE THE WORLD."

... Join us!



Register + learn more @
www.proutsisters.com

*This event is open to people who identify as women.



Prout Research Institute

Asheville

North Carolina USA

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**Prout Research Institute
of Asheville**

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A Personal Vision

Dada Maheshvarananda

I would like to share with you my personal vision for my life and what I plan to do to achieve it.

My vision has two parts: I want to become self-realized or enlightened, and I want to serve humanity.

First, let me try to explain what I mean by self-realization. In the Indian yoga tradition, it means one who has come to understand eternal truths that give meaning to life. Eternal truths are those truths that never change, about love, kindness, compassion, and wisdom. It doesn't require leaving the world like a hermit or wearing orange clothes like I do.

Everyone can become enlightened.

Self-realization means awakening our consciousness. It means lifting our perspective from the confusion and pain we feel when we are preoccupied with the daily problems and obstacles we encounter. It means seeing our struggles as a blessing for our spiritual growth. Self-realization means feeling love for one and all, especially those people and situations that are most distasteful for us.

What is my plan to become self-realized? I need self-discipline to practice my daily meditation lessons. Having spent a lifetime studying different meditation techniques around the world, I am convinced that the yoga meditation taught by Ananda Marga is a very effective way to train the mind and realize the highest truths.



Each day I also read spiritual texts and strive to understand the wisdom they express. I also do devotional chanting and dancing every day to raise the consciousness into an ecstatic state of bliss. Devotion means love for the Supreme, and I am trying to cultivate this all the time.

Finally it has been said that the best way to learn something is to teach it. I endeavor to translate enlightened vision into a language that common people can understand. I try to offer hope and meaning to people who would like to experience deep and lasting happiness. Whenever I teach and write about self-realization, I remember what is most important to me, my personal vision.

The second part of my vision is to serve humanity. I have always loved helping people. Physically I do this by cooking delicious and nutritious vegan meals for friends. Yesterday, for example, I cooked a four-course meal for 12 friends. Let me know if you'd ever like to come visit me in Asheville and try my cooking. I often drive people to the airport. I visit friends in the hospital. I fill potholes in the dirt roads around our community in Marshall.

Unfortunately, I see the global capitalist economic system that puts profit above human suffering and the destruction of our common planet's life support system. This means that helping individuals won't solve things, we need to change the system.

This is why I'm building the Prout Research Institute in Marshall. This building will allow us to host research projects, training sessions, conferences, and workshops to empower people to change the world. We hope to pass our last inspection in June so that we can move in.

This is my vision and goals for my life: to achieve self-realization through my spiritual practices and teaching, and to serve humanity by helping others and building the Prout Research Institute to contribute to the welfare and happiness of all.



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What's your vision?

