

NEW DHARMA

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



New Dharma's Mission is to cultivate a way of living that is in constant, immediate contact with the Divine principle that governs all life, and by doing so, help to create a new truly sustainable future for humanity.



New Dharma

A Paradigm for Spiritual Living

A Letter from the Chairman of the New Dharma Board of Directors

The true meaning of New Dharma is inscribed in the heart of each of us, as individuals, in the invisible depths of our Soul. Part of New Dharma's mission, as an organization, is to be an outer catalyst to that inner meaning. And one of its underlying motives is to magnify and share the blessings we receive from that rarest of opportunities: a life linked to a living Guru.

In this report I explore how our inner work and the outer organization have grown together this past year. And particularly, how the dramatic changes we experienced this past year were stepping-stones to where we stand now, at the start of 2025.

The Third Pillar and Pilgrimage Programs... They Were Leading Somewhere!

In 2023, Sat Shree charged the Core Team with designing and leading the Third Pillar Programs, which in 2024 morphed into the Pilgrimage Programs. All of these were six-week programs rooted in the opportunity to be in proximity to Sat Shree at the Satya Dharma Center. On the surface, the two programs very much resembled each other. But there was also a fundamental difference.

As for similarity, both programs reflected the principle that Sat Shree unveiled to us with new frankness: that prolonged physical proximity to the field of the Guru allows for a quality and intensity of cellular transmission, a fertilization by the Sat Force, that can take place in no other way. Some 19 of us attended these programs, which infused a new depth of Being into us not just as individuals, but into the sangha as well. The many remote participants in these programs took advantage of this same golden opportunity as well, and profited each in their own way.

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Another similarity between the two programs was the fact that Sat Shree played an increasingly smaller role, both behind the scenes and up front. This thrust many of us into the role of manifesting this work in ways we might never have done otherwise. The results of this continue to radiate outward, touching us all. This also required us to wean ourselves from our dependence on the visible form of Sat Shree, and deepen our metaphysical relationship to him, something which our well-meaning human side can tend to obscure.

A Subtle, Unexpected Challenge

All this challenged us to step out from our hesitance, doubts, and uncertainty as to our engagement with Sat Shree, and with what we have become, what we represent, and the goodness and efficacy of our presence for one another. These changes led us into the fertile uncertainty of improvising without the support of long-static structures - with the understanding that by sincerely offering ourselves, whatever we did would serve. Authenticity and immediacy, whatever form they may take, is always our best possible expression of Truth..!

Beside these similarities, though, stands a more mystical, less easily grasped difference that the Pilgrimage represented. Sat Shree characterized the Pilgrimage as “a journey undertaken for a spiritual motive.”

To me, this deceptively simple and agreeable phrase concealed a world of deep meaning. With Sat Shree stepping back, we must forge a new relationship without the largest external emblem of our inner work. The emblem that would seem to assure us we are doing the right thing, that we are “covered.” But the concept of Pilgrimage reminds us that everything needs to spring from the place of self-creation from within. We cannot lean upon reassurances outside ourselves.

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Just as no compensatory psychological structure can be authentic, no secondary motivation for doing spiritual work can produce a spiritual result. The pilgrimage – the inward journey to our soul – is ours to make, within ourselves, always and everywhere.

This simple, subtle idea of pilgrimage, then, has given a new boost and seriousness to the responsibility we bear for our inward journey.

New Dharma Has Become a Church – What Does That Mean?

In October of 2024, New Dharma, which from its inception had been a non-profit organization, was redesignated under U.S. law as a church. While there are administrative and financial advantages to being a church, Sat Shree has cast this change more fundamentally as a shift in our self-concept, in how we work and live together as a group. This was made clearest, perhaps, in our ongoing management of money.

Through much of 2023 we regarded our declining finances with trepidation. To address this, the Core Team proposed to Sat Shree a new initiative that would boost our finances in the ways that organizations normally do: seek out donors, increase our fees, sell products on the internet, etc. With this proposal we considered ourselves to be acting in ways that were both worldly-smart and responsible.

Much to our surprise, Sat Shree enjoined us to not raise fees, to not seek out new donors, to not undertake external fund-raising in ways that did not sweeten the sangha through personal interaction among ourselves. He also enjoined us to not make explicit efforts to attract more members (= more money), but rather, to weave more strength and authenticity into who we are, trusting that that will increase our numbers organically, from within, if that is the Mother's will.

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And - while asking us to not “make money” in these conventional ways, he also asked us to gather money for a scholarship fund. The aim is for selected members of the sangha to be able to participate regularly in programs while they are stabilizing their financial life. How do these different money themes tie in with our becoming a church?

The Shared Humanity of a Church

It's easy to see, once we embrace the warm, personal, human, and noble ideals that have animated churches (and synagogues and mosques and indigenous religions) since time immemorial. For what a church is, most essentially, is a group whose members share a common bond of allegiance to a spiritual ideal. They share a common understanding of their interdependence – social interdependence, financial interdependence, energetic and spiritual interdependence. Our New Dharma church, then, is becoming quite different from the guru-centric New Dharma to which many of us came as individual practitioners hoping to “get something spiritual.” It has become a place for spiritual people to share their spirituality and humanity together.

As Sat Shree tells us, a church is a place where we give among ourselves, for the good of all. We give of our time and money and effort and friendship and goodness, understanding that this is the form through which Sat Shree says that his influence can best be shared, transmitted, and magnified outwardly beyond ourselves.. This new way of being together – I now see – was the goal toward which the Third Pillar Programs and Pilgrimage Programs were leading, without our knowing it.

A New Way of Being a Sangha

Our becoming a church is an appeal, an invitation, to engage with ourselves, with our fellow sangha members – and with Sat Shree – in a new way. A way which asks us to find the deepest sources within ourselves, to acknowledge those same depths in each other, and to share in the task of serving, maintaining, and sustaining the organization from that place.

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Gone is the organization that “somehow” was always there for us. Gone the organization that “somehow” managed to keep itself afloat financially. Gone the organization that “somehow” gave us regular access to a Guru we could see and hear. There is no hiding out now so this “somehow,” can “somehow” take place. The church of New Dharma is in our hands now, and it will fare however well we are able to make it.

This makes New Dharma a dearer, starker, and more demanding enterprise than before. And for these very reasons, more rewarding to the parts of us that must grow up, and grow into, this great circumstance our souls have brought us to.

What We Did That Didn't Change

Alongside the dissolution of old structures, much that we did in 2024, and will continue to do in 2025, will not change. After all, why change a winning hand?

World Awakening Meditation - In 2024 the World Awakening Meditation Core Team again hosted a World Awakening marathon of 21 straight days, involving a team of trained, dedicated facilitators who led meditations across multiple time zones. As Sat Shree recently shared at a meeting with those facilitators,

“The WAM goes right to the core, without anything in between the possibility of becoming a channel and instrument for a force that’s here... We’re evoking structures from the subtle collective consciousness that can work in this dimension and have an effect. That’s why it’s such an accelerant for those who participate.”

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Meditation – Sat Shree teaches a path of meditation, which is the source of the silence and presence that we honor and recognize in each other. Meditation is the place where what is hidden is brought to light. It's our pathway to the invisible wellsprings of our Being. To strengthen our practice of meditation, throughout 2024 on-line meditations were facilitated three days a week in two time zones, again by a trained team of dedicated volunteers. And the twice-a-week meditations with Sat Shree continued as well.

I find it oddly moving and inspiring to rise before dark, make my way to the computer, and there, see a mosaic of friends likewise waiting before their screens. Some, like me, are still wiping the sleep from their eyes. Others, in the daylight of distant lands, have likewise made their way to a computer to sit in silence for an hour and a half.

We share no words. Just a tacit understanding. A smile perhaps. A bell from a smartphone. A pranam. A world of aspiration and piety made real by our shared practice.

A Changing Schedule of Programs

As we gradually evolve in our shared proprietorship of our still-new church, our programs have, and will likely continue to change from how we have known them. Our Donor Events and Graduate Events have already merged into sangha-wide "Open House Satsangs." This signals our move toward a new inclusiveness based more on our willing engagement, than on the hard edge of a financial status. Sat Shree's vision is for New Dharma to become a kind of engine of spiritual influence that dynamically distributes his Transmission, and through its diverse circles of activities, attracts those who are aligned with us, and share in the work together.

What Your Support Generates

How Your Financial Support Generates the Structure of New Dharma

The organization of New Dharma is sustained by your participation, your service and your financial contributions. These allow New Dharma to continue to create the structures and supports to ignite and nurture the transformational process of our awakening, in service to humanity in this time of transition. The current structure of New Dharma includes:

- **The Satya Dharma Center for Truth Consciousness**, our retreat center in Washoe Valley, Nevada, and the residence of Sat Shree. A place of spiritual refuge where our aspiration can become clarified and intensified. A place where, in the company of a living Master, we receive opportunities to serve and participate in becoming a demonstration of the Path.
- **Retreats and programs** which offer containers for introspection and sharing with others on the Path, including satsangs with follow-up group gatherings, intensives, 6-day, 9-day, and Sat Weekend silent retreats; and 6-week residential immersion programs at the SDC.
- **Silent sittings** broadcast each weekday morning in the USA and Europe that can be joined remotely around the world.
- **Opportunities to practice and facilitate** World Awakening Meditations, study groups, and yogic mantra techniques.
- **Mentoring** by peers on the path.
- **Free video and audio recordings** on the New Dharma website and YouTube about the path Sat Shree teaches through his words and transmission.
- **Opportunities to serve** New Dharma and humanity.

New Dharma's Income & Expenses

The income that sustains the structure that New Dharma offers comes from the following sources:

- **Donations:** monthly-giving program donations, one-time donations, and event-related donations.
- **Programs and Events:** income from retreats and programs offered at the Satya Dharma Center and online.
- **Residential Program:** residential fees from guests and residents at the Satya Dharma Center for Truth Consciousness.
- **Other income:** book sales, coaching calls, interest.

New Dharma's expenses fall into the following major categories:

- **Residential program:** operation and maintenance of the Satya Dharma Center for Truth Consciousness (rent, utilities, repairs, maintenance, landscaping, supplies, property taxes)
- **Operations:** professional fees (web design, communications, bookkeeping, accounting, legal), salaries and stipends, business expenses (software, licenses, insurance), event expenses (audio visual, printing).

Summary financial statements for New Dharma for 2024 and 2023 are shown below. As you can see, a difficult financial situation in 2023 came into greater balance in 2024. While income from programs and the residential program decreased from 2024 to 2023 (as Sat Shree stepped back), New Dharma's Monthly Giving Program introduced a new and reliable source of revenue and support for New Dharma that has allowed us to continue to serve its mission.

Summary Financial Statements

The Monthly Giving Program reflects the emerging co-created nature of New Dharma, where many people offer ongoing support to sustain something that is so much greater than what one person, or a small group of people, can sustain alone.

In 2024, we were also able to reduce expenses in many areas of the organization (for example by hosting all events at the Center to reduce retreat costs, and consolidating and updating several software solutions). Changes such as these have made us a leaner, more effective vehicle for serving the needs of the sangha.

Income	2024	2023
Donations	\$66,682	\$42,660
Programs & Events	\$107,929	\$120,210
Residential Program	\$48,072	\$65,290
Other Income	\$572	\$2,140
Total Income	\$223,254	\$228,160
Expenses		
Programs & Events	\$2,358	\$19,040
Residential Program	\$56,885	\$69,260
Operations	\$170,822	\$186,360
Total Expenses	\$230,065	\$274,660
Net Income	-\$6,811	-\$46,500

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Finally, we can hardly review this past year without noting that Natalie Jones resigned from her job in New Dharma's Office as our Programs and Events Manager, a position she held, through thick and thin, for ten years. Tasked with doing any and everything in a fast-moving and often-changing environment, Natalie always responded with a big heart and willing spirit. We salute her, and will miss her.

What *Really* Doesn't Change

Amidst all our changes, the one thing that never changes, is the precious, transformative Transmission that we are blessed to experience through the person of Sat Shree. This is the magic. The inexplicable mystical experience and intuition that has made our individual lives sacred, and our shared allegiance to New Dharma sacred. At the end of a recent online Satsang, some 25 of us just sat there looking at each other on our screens – with no impulse to leave. The air was ringing with the depth of silence and stillness we have earned through years of dedicated practice, in the field of this Transmission. And we knew it. And we know it now.

So – however New Dharma may change, the fire, from Sat Shree, is here among us, freely given. Our task, whatever may come, is to fan that flame into a fire, through the ongoing sacrifice of our human identity into the field of the Universal Life that lives us all. By doing so we not only advance along our unique individual Paths, but together, launch a spiritual impulse into a collective which, unknowingly, aches to receive it. This is our New Dharma, then: our noble sharing of the ordeal of *sadhana*, and its spiritual fruits, experienced in the company of a Realized Being.

“Step up, don't step back.”

Sat Shree

Thank you so much for reading this. And thank you for all you are and all you give by participating in this incredible new possibility.

With great thanks and appreciation to our dear Guru, Sat Shree.

Namaste,

Ram Narayan

On behalf of New Dharma:

Core Team (Agnipriti, Jaya, Lisa, Mahananda, Matt, Ram Narayan, Sat Nam, Satartha, and Satyamayi)

Office Team (Agnipriti, Jaya, Ram Narayan, and Satartha)

Board of Directors (Agnipriti, Natalie, Sat Nam, and Ram Narayan)



*You're creating a new holding.
New Dharma was nothing but a possibility, now
it's a paradigm.*

*I'm not the only one holding it.
The invitation is for all of you to hold it.
The invitation is for all of you to become a
holder of the paradigm of the possibility first
for those who come, but next, for the world.*

*~Sat Shree, Autumn Pilgrimage Completion,
November 12, 2024*



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