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# Swami Vivekananda

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**Why is in news?** PM recalls Swami Vivekananda's outstanding 1893 speech at Chicago

Swami Vivekananda (12 January 1863 – 4 July 1902), born **Narendranath Datta** was an Indian Hindmonk, philosopher and author.

He was a **chief disciple** of the 19th-century Indian mystic **Ramakrishna**. Vivekananda founded the **Ramakrishna Math and the Ramakrishna Mission**.

Influenced by Western esotericism, he was a key figure in the **introduction of the Indian darsanas (teachings, practices) of Vedanta and Yoga to the Western world**.

Swami Vivekananda is best known in the United States for his ground breaking **speech to the 1893 World's Parliament of Religions** in which he **introduced Hinduism to America and called for religious tolerance and an end to fanaticism**.

Swami Vivekananda **died at an early age of 39 years** on July 4, 1902, due to rupture in the blood vessel of his brain.

Swami Vivekananda **combined thinking of different religions, communities and traditions**. His thoughts inspire liberation from inertia. Swami Vivekananda is the inspiration behind **National Youth Day**.

Vivekananda linked **morality with control of the mind, seeing truth, purity and unselfishness** as traits which strengthened it. He advised his followers to be holy, unselfish and to have faith.

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