

## Tree Plantation Drive

(Sant Nirankari Spiritual Center, New York – March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021)

With the grace of Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha ji Maharaj, NY-CT Branch held its very first Tree Plantation Drive on Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Tree Plantation drive is one of the key hallmark events that is associated with the observance of the birth anniversary of Baba Hardev Singh ji Maharaj. As quoted by Baba Hardev Singh ji Maharaj, "Pollution is harmful whether internal or external," and what better way to reduce the external pollution than by planting trees.



On a metaphorical level, the notion of planting a tree aligns itself with the idea of first sowing, nurturing and then empowering the soul to help reduce the negativity in its surrounding just as a tree upon reaching its full potential helps purify its surrounding by releasing oxygen and eliminating carbon dioxide. Each enlightened and practicing soul, is capable of facilitating a positive and healthy atmosphere for everyone around. The event was presided over by **reverend Arun Ahluwalia ji**, General Secretary SNM USA.

In addition, fellow devotees from New Jersey, Connecticut and New York region participated with unparalleled enthusiasm. Within the outskirt property of the NY-CT Bhawan which was embellished with hand made banners voicing the various quotes of the Mission, a small ever green family tree was planted by reverend Arun Ahluwalia ji.

The great iconic act was witnessed and applauded by all the attending devotees. As COVID-19 is still a risk, safe issued protocols were strictly adhered to. Face mask with SNM logos were provided. All attendees wore face mask and maintained social distance all throughout the length of the event.



Following the key event of tree plantation, devotees expressed their gratitude to Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj in form of hymns and poems. **Reverend Arun Ahluwalia ji blessed the fellow devotees** and echoed the message of the Mission that all humanitarian acts, like the Tree Plantation, are not to be thought of something one carries out on rare occasion, rather such acts are to be inculcated in our very psyche as it is via action that we can spread the message of the Mission. As responsible citizens of the Mission, we bear the responsibility of alleviating both the internal and the external pollution in our vicinity. Members of the NY-CT branch humbly pray to Satguru Mata Sudiksha ji Maharaj that may such opportunities continue to come our way and that we may continue to help make our community healthier and peaceful by exercising our duties and responsibilities.

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