



# The Sambodh Society, Inc.

A Non-Profit Organization for the teaching of Vedanta and Meditation

*Swami Bodhananda Saraswati, Spiritual Director and Founder*  
6363 N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49004 Phone: (269) 492-0544 Fax: (269) 492-0563

November 6, 2011

Dear Sambodh Community,

This year at Sambodh Aranya, in Kalamazoo MI, has been especially blessed. **Swami Bodhananda** has been in residence since May. He has offered regular instruction in meditation, lectured on *The Bhagavad Gita*, and given weekend retreats on Ramana Maharshi and Mahatma Gandhi. From this forest haven of study and reflection, Swamiji has journeyed across the United States to bring his teachings and blessings to our extended Sambodh family. He then returns to Kalamazoo with ever greater energy and commitment to his mission because he is inspired by the love with which people welcome him and the desire for knowledge they bring to their meetings with him.



The first weekend in August, Swamiji presided over the ninth annual **Rudra Abhishekam and Chandi Homa**. Ritwicks from Columbus, Ohio, came to help invoke the blessings of Lord Shiva here at the ashram and we were showered (quite literally due to a magnificent cloudburst) with divine love. Usha Aswath brought us a special gift – a **new song of praise for Sambodh Shiva** (see attached) that will become a focus for our daily prayers. At the conclusion of the Rudra, Sree Aswath initiated all the participants

into study of the Vedas and encouraged us to fulfill Swamiji's vision of studying and preserving the Hindu traditions at Sambodh Aranya.

Now we have a great opportunity to **help fulfill the Sambodh mission**. Swamiji is inaugurating a Sambodh mortgage reduction campaign, with the **goal of raising \$100,000 by December 31, 2011**. These funds will be restricted for use in paying down the mortgage, and allow us to negotiate a lower interest rate so that a greater proportion of future donations can be used in support of other aspects of The Sambodh Society's mission.

The **practice of dakshina** (donating) transforms our material earnings into spiritual offerings. Through our contributions we can acknowledge the transformative experiences we receive from the Sambodh teachings and express our desire to help bring these resources to others. Making offerings brings our daily lives into alignment with our spiritual practices; it opens our hearts to love and gratitude and deepens our commitment to spiritual practice.

In recognition that **Sambodh Aranya belongs to the people of the Sambodh Community** – the people who cherish the teachings and make fulfillment of the mission possible – the names of those who donate \$500 or more will be inscribed on a plaque placed prominently in the entryway.

We **thank you for your generosity** and for being part of the Sambodh community.

Ruth Harring, Trustee  
The Sambodh Society, Inc.

Pradip Sagdeo, President  
Sambodh Center for Human Excellence

Jimyo Ferworm, Treasurer  
Sambodh Center for Human Excellence