**Tribute to Swami Vivekanada Ji on the Occasion of Swamiji’s 150th Jayanti Celebration**

**by Swami Sadyojaatah of the Art of Living Foundation**

**Tokyo, 25th May 2014**

**Life is a complex gift to us. Infinite and Finite, Peace and Dynamism, Love and Action, Silence and Service. Activism needs to combine itself with spiritual serenity. Swamiji's life is such an inspiration.  He is an eternal inspiration for the youth. Swami Vivekananda ji has left the youth of this world with a dream. And when we carry this dream in our heart, there is no other way than progress for this world.  
  
In Swami Vivekananda, one finds the perfect convergence of love for Divine & love for the nation. The dedication for a nation will no way become an obstacle for your universality. We should never think that our universal consciousness will be obstructed by patriotism. Swami Vivekananda ji is the best example of how you can be universal and at the same time be patriotic . A hundred and fifty years ago, Swamiji came at a time when people did not give any importance to India's knowledge and religion. Hinduism and Sanatana Dharma was considered to be a superstition. Swami Vivekananda presented this from a scientific standpoint and accorded it its rightful place in the world.  
  
Art of Living foundation of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji has taken this inspiration forward and spread the light of our Indian culture and spirituality in more than one hundred fifty countries of the world.  
  
On this occasion we must revive the knowledge of Vedanta. Vedanta, Yoga and the ancient tradition of Sanatana Dharma is the solution for all the ills and problems of today's world. This knowledge of Swami Vivekananda and his talks can uplift people from a state of depression and despair to realising that life is a celebration. Whenever you celebrate a Saint's birthday, it is not just celebration, it is imbibing their qualities in our lives. So, let us imbibe all those qualities of valour, courage, compassion, integrity, royalty and the Dharmic principles in life and may your life be a celebration!**