

Sadharan Brahmo Samaj

Sadharan Brahmo Samaj – Activities at a Glance

<i>SL No.</i>	<i>Activity / Division</i>	<i>Brief Activities</i>
1.	Calcutta Congregation	The Calcutta Congregation is a unit of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj responsible for conducting regular prayer services (Sunday services) in the Prayer Hall. It is also entrusted with appointing and training Acharyas, as well as propagating the basic principles of Brahmo Dharma.
2.	Mission Work	This sub-committee, operating under the Executive Committee, is responsible for sending mission workers to various locations to conduct services and for organizing seminars and similar programmes aimed at promoting religious thought and social well-being.
3.	Mofussil Samajes	This sub-committee oversees the Mofussil Samajes and manages the properties of these Samajes under the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj. In addition, the sub-committee arranges periodic programmes in these Samajes at regular intervals.
4.	Brahmo Samaj Relief Mission	The Sadharan Brahmo Samaj has formed the Brahmo Samaj Relief Mission as a sub-committee comprising a group of volunteers. The Mission undertakes relief work during natural disasters such as floods, droughts, earthquakes, and cyclones. It organizes the collection or purchase of relief materials and ensures their distribution in affected areas, along with providing medical aid.
5.	Medical Aid	The Sadharan Brahmo Samaj has a dedicated medical team that regularly organizes medical and health camps for underprivileged individuals.

		<p>The Sitanath Bakshi Memorial Eye Care Centre, located at Balarampur in Kharagpur, provides regular treatment to patients with eye ailments. Also an eye care centre has been operating at Baniban, Howrah district.</p> <p>In addition, the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj has set up a doctors' chamber on its premises to be started from this month, where voluntary medical practitioners attend patients once or twice a week, offering free medical consultations.</p> <p>With the aim of further extending its medical services to economically disadvantaged people in both urban and rural areas, the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj has resolved to establish clinics and diagnostic centres. Space has already been allocated to the Sitanath Bakshi Rural Eye Care Centre in Balarampur, West Midnapore, for the construction of an operation theatre equipped with post-operative rest and care facilities for the residents of Balarampur and its surrounding areas.</p>
6.	IBF & Charity	<p>Every year, the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj distributes grants for educational, medical, and general purposes. A dedicated committee is formed to identify the most deserving candidates from among the many applicants.</p> <p>Since its inception, various trust funds have been established by members and well-wishers of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj. The accrued interest from these funds is disbursed to underprivileged individuals in accordance with the wishes expressed by the founders of each fund.</p>
7.	Publication	<p>Since its inception, the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj has maintained a publication division, which has published over 350 titles to date. Its main functions include the regular publishing and reprinting of books, along with ensuring their proper marketing</p>

		and distribution. The publication division also participates in the Kolkata International Book Fair every year.
8.	Indian Messenger	he Indian Messenger, successor to <i>Brahmo Public Opinion</i> , is an English journal and the official organ of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj, published monthly regularly since 1883. Activities such as subscriber management, mailing, collection of articles and news, editing, and proofreading require significant attention.
9.	Tattwakoumudi	The Bengali journal, published since 1878, also requires the involvement of members or volunteers in activities such as subscriber management, mailing, collection of articles and news, editing, and proofreading.
10.	Celebration	The Celebration Sub-Committee organizes all religious and cultural programmes held within or outside the Samaj throughout the year, except for the Maghotsava, for which a separate committee is formed annually.
11.	Estate & Building	This sub-committee oversees all activities related to the repair, maintenance, renovation, and new construction of Sadharan Brahmo Samaj properties across the country, including the Prayer Hall. Its key responsibilities include preparing estimates, obtaining fund sanctions from the Executive Committee, selecting contractors, supervising work, conducting regular site visits, and initiating legal action against encroachers when necessary.
12.	Bhowanipore Brahmo Samaj (Paddmapukur)	A separate sub-committee is formed by the executive committee to look after the activities of Bhowanipore Brahmo Samaj.
13.	Krishnanagar Brahmo Samaj	A separate sub-committee is formed by the executive committee to look after the activities of Krishnanagar Brahmo Samaj.

14.	Darjeeling Brahmo Samaj	A separate sub-committee is formed by the executive committee to look after the activities of Darjeeling Brahmo Samaj.
15.	Communication, Publicity & Networking	This sub-committee is responsible for managing website updates, social media communications, and interactions with both print and electronic media.
16.	Fund Raising	This sub-committee is responsible for assessing the fund requirements of various projects and taking appropriate steps to raise the necessary funds.
17.	Brahmo Samaj Mahila Bhawan	Established in November 1946, the Brahmo Samaj Mahila Bhavan aims to help destitute girls and women become self-reliant. It operates three departments in Kolkata: (A) Residential Home, (B) Industrial School, and (C) Production Centre. Additionally, it has a branch in Konnagar, District Hooghly, and an Industrial School in Bagnan, District Howrah.
18.	Brahmo Samaj Balya Bhawan	The Brahmo Samaj Balya Bhavan was founded in 1943, in the aftermath of the devastating famine that claimed numerous lives, as an orphanage for boys. It was later relocated to Ariadaha for a period before moving to Baniban in Uluberia, Howrah District, where it now operates from its own building. The Samaj is currently working to revive its operations, which have been suspended since the pandemic.
19.	Sadharan Brahmo Samaj Library	Recognizing the importance of enriching people through mass education, the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj Library was initially founded in 1879, along with the formation of a Library Sub-Committee. It was formally established in 1895 by Dr. P. K. Roy, the first Indian Principal of Presidency College. Over the years, the Library has been supported by many distinguished patrons and donors, including Maharshi Debendranath Tagore, Dwijendranath Tagore, Ananda Mohan Bose, Sivanath Sastri, Dr. P.

		<p>K. Roy, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose, renowned philosopher Pandit Sitanath Tattvabhushan, Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, Sukumar Roy, Heramba Chandra Moitra, Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis, and many others.</p> <p>Today, the Library has become an ideal resource for researchers in History, Philosophy, Theology, Religion, and related subjects, as well as for students of Ancient History. It offers a spacious free reading room, along with a catalogue of books and periodicals, accessible to all readers. The collection currently comprises more than 30,000 books and periodicals.</p> <p>In addition to its lending and reading services, the Library also organizes lectures, seminars, and exhibitions in its reading room.</p>
20.	Legal	The Samaj has a dedicated group of volunteers to manage court cases and other legal matters that require close attention.
21.	Sadhanashram	Pandit Sivanath Sastri established the Sadhanashram in 1882 to inspire spiritual awareness among people in general, and particularly among the Brahmos. Over the years, the Sadhanashram nurtured numerous Acharyas and Missionaries whose untiring zeal, devotion, and selfless dedication carried the banner of Brahmoism far and wide across India. Unfortunately, interest in religion among the Brahmos has been on the ebb in recent times, leading to a decline in the activities of the Sadhanashram. We look forward to revitalizing and reestablishing its work.
22.	Sadhanashram Seva Samsad	The Sadhanashram Seva Samsad was originally founded in 1912 by the revered Pandit Sivanath Sastri under the name 'Sadhanashram Seva Section.' It was registered on 9th April 1914 and, for

		<p>convenience, renamed 'Sadhanasram Seva Samsad' in 1932.</p> <p>The Sadhanasram Seva Samsad encompasses the following institutions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rammohun Roy Seminary at Patna, Bihar 2. Charitable Homeopathic Dispensary, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand 3. Hindu Widow's Home at Nimta, West Bengal 4. Society for the Improvement of Depressed Classes <p>Out of the above institutions, only Rammohun Roy Seminary is active at present. The Samsad has a Governing Body that oversees the affairs of each institution. These sister institutions have their own managing committees, which are constituted by the Governing Body of the Sadhanasram Seva Samsad as their parent body.</p>
23.	Brahmo Samaj Education Society	<p>After the establishment of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj, the City School (1879) and the City College (1881) were founded and entrusted by Ananda Mohan Bose to a body of Trustees, with a constitution that was exemplary for its time. This constitution ensured representation from both the teaching staff and the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj Committee. It was further developed and formally registered in 1905, granting it legal and permanent status. Under this arrangement, the appointment of the Managing Council rests entirely with the Executive Committee of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj, subject to the approval of the Trustees. Notably, fair representation of the teaching staff in the Governing Body was preserved.</p> <p>This Board of Trustees was known as the City College Institution. Over time, the City College</p>

		<p>Institution became a registered body and came to be known as the Brahmo Samaj Education Society.</p> <p>The Brahmo Samaj Education Society have several educational institutions, including City School, City College, City College of Commerce and Business Administration, Umesh Chandra College, Ananda Mohan College, Rammohun College, Prafulla Chandra College, Heramba Chandra College, and Sivanath Sastri College. It is a registered society under Act XXI (Registration of Societies Act) of 1860. At present, the control of the Governing Bodies of these eight colleges has been taken over by the Government of West Bengal. The Sadharan Brahmo Samaj has challenged this decision, and the matter is currently sub judice before the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court.</p>
24.	Brahmo Balika Shikshalaya – Primary, Secondary & H.S. Section	<p>The Brahmo Balika Shikshalaya was established on 16th May 1890 by the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj, coinciding with the 12th anniversary of its foundation. Its objective was to provide students with sound intellectual training grounded in religious and moral instruction. The vision was not merely to prepare students for examinations, but to nurture them into responsible citizens dedicated to serving society. This ethos is reflected in the school's motto, inscribed in its emblem: <i>Shraddhya, Tapasya, Sevaya</i>. The school also has a hostel within the same premises.</p> <p>At present, the institution has more than 1000 students. The Sadharan Brahmo Samaj Executive Committee and the Managing Committee oversee all academic, cultural, and administrative matters of both the school and the hostel.</p>
25.	Brahmo Balika Shikshalaya – Montessori Section	<p>In 1930, Lady Abala Bose introduced a Montessori section within the Brahmo Balika Shikshalaya campus. Miss Meher Vakil and Miss Maya Some,</p>

		both trained abroad as Montessori teachers, along with Mrs. Sovana Nandi, were appointed to teach in this section. Subsequently, Lady Bose sent Mrs. Nalini Raha to Rome to train under Madame Montessori herself. Upon her return in 1935, Mrs. Raha took charge of the Montessori section, introducing a variety of activities aimed at fostering holistic child development. Today, the Montessori section continues to be regarded as one of the leading early childhood education centres in the city.
26.	Brahmo Primary Teachers' Training Institute	To advance the cause of women's education, the Brahmo Primary Teachers' Training Institute was established in 1920. Currently located within the premises of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj, the institute offers a two-year D.El.Ed. course under the West Bengal Board of Primary Education. It is managed by a committee appointed by the Executive Committee of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj.
27.	Other Regular Administrative Activities of Samaj	This includes administering office, finance, membership, general correspondence etc.