

THE ROLE OF SREE MAA SARADA IN THE FORMATION OF THE VEDANTIC TEACHINGS OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

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Abstract

This study explores the profound role of Sree Maa Sarada in shaping the Vedantic teachings of Swami Vivekananda. As a spiritual mentor and maternal figure, Sarada Devi provided not only emotional support but also philosophical insights that deeply influenced Vivekananda's interpretation and practice of Vedanta. Through their intimate spiritual relationship, Sarada Devi's emphasis on devotion, selfless service, and inner strength played a pivotal role in Vivekananda's formulation of key Vedantic concepts such as practical Vedanta, karma yoga, and the integration of spirituality with social reform. This research examines how Sarada Devi's guidance nurtured Vivekananda's intellectual and spiritual growth, fostering his vision of Vedanta as a path to personal empowerment and societal transformation. By analyzing historical texts, correspondence, and their shared spiritual practices, the study highlights the enduring impact of Sarada Devi on Vivekananda's philosophical evolution and the global dissemination of his teachings.

Keywords: Sree Maa Sarada, Swami Vivekananda, Vedantic teachings, spiritual relationship, practical Vedanta, karma yoga, maternal guidance, inner strength, philosophical influence, Vedanta.

Introduction

Sree Maa Sarada, the divine consort of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, played a crucial yet often underexplored role in shaping the Vedantic teachings of Swami Vivekananda. Her deep spiritual insight and maternal guidance influenced Vivekananda's philosophical development, particularly in his interpretation and dissemination of Advaita Vedanta (Brahman as the ultimate reality). Swami Vivekananda, whose teachings emphasized the practical application of Vedantic principles in daily life, found in Maa Sarada a source of profound spiritual wisdom and strength. Her compassionate approach to spirituality, which balanced devotion, renunciation, and service, aligned with Vivekananda's vision of a harmonious spiritual path for both the individual and society. By nurturing his inner strength and fortitude, Sree Maa Sarada's influence was pivotal in molding Vivekananda's ideas about self-realization, the divinity within all beings, and the interconnectedness of humanity (Ramakrishna, 1992; Vivekananda, 2008; Bhattacharya, 2015; Bose, 2013; Nikhilananda, 1953; Sanyal, 2006). Her quiet yet profound impact on Vivekananda's Vedantic teachings highlights the integral role of maternal wisdom in the formation of spiritual ideologies.

1.1. The Statement of the Problem

The role of Sree Maa Sarada in the formation of Swami Vivekananda's Vedantic teachings

overlooked in scholarly discourse, despite her profound influence on his spiritual and philosophical development. While much written about Swami Vivekananda's interpretation of Vedanta and his contributions to modern Hindu thought, the specific impact of Sree Maa Sarada's maternal wisdom, guidance, and spiritual practices on his teachings remains insufficiently explored. This research aims to address this gap by examining how her spiritual insights and philosophical contributions shaped Vivekananda's understanding of Advaita Vedanta, particularly his emphasis on self-realization, the practical application of Vedantic principles, and his vision of spiritual unity. Understanding the nature of their spiritual relationship and the nurturing of Vivekananda's inner strength by Sree Maa Sarada will offer a more comprehensive view of the formation of his Vedantic ideologies and their impact on contemporary spiritual thought.

1.2. The Significance of the Study

The significance of this study lies in its potential to illuminate the often-overlooked yet crucial role of Sree Maa Sarada in the formation of Swami Vivekananda's Vedantic teachings, thereby offering a deeper understanding of the spiritual and philosophical roots of his work. By exploring the profound influence of Sree Maa Sarada's maternal wisdom, spiritual guidance, and philosophical insights, this study will contribute to a more holistic understanding of Vivekananda's interpretation of Advaita Vedanta. It will highlight the symbiotic relationship between the two, emphasizing how her nurturing of his inner strength and spiritual resilience shaped his approach to Vedantic principles. Moreover, the research will provide new perspectives on the integration of feminine spiritual wisdom into Vedantic discourse, which has traditionally been dominated by male voices. This study, therefore, offers both historical and philosophical value, enriching the current scholarship on Swami Vivekananda's teachings and deepening the understanding of the spiritual dynamics that shaped his vision for a harmonious and spiritually awakened society.

1.3. The Research Questions

RQ1: How did the spiritual relationship between Sree Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda influence the evolution of his Vedantic philosophy?

RQ2: What specific philosophical insights from Sree Maa Sarada influenced Swami Vivekananda's interpretation of Vedantic concepts?

RQ3: How did Sree Maa Sarada nurture Swami Vivekananda's inner strength through her maternal guidance and spiritual presence?

1.4. The Objectives of the Study

O1: To explore the spiritual relationship between Sree Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda and its influence on the development of his Vedantic teachings.

O2: To analyze the philosophical contributions of Sree Maa Sarada to Swami Vivekananda's understanding of Vedanta and how they shaped his spiritual practices.

O3: To examine the role of Sree Maa Sarada in the nurturing of Swami Vivekananda's inner strength, which reflected in his Vedantic ideologies.

2. The Review of Related Literature

Patra, L. (2024). Swami Vivekananda: An Epitome of Nationalism. *Journal of Indian Council of Philosophical Research*, 1-19. One who dedicates his life to promoting the above objectives for the glory of his nation is considered as a nationalist. Swami Vivekananda who has dedicated

his short, but meaningful life for the upliftment of his fellow country-men and worked hard for the freedom of his motherland from political, religious, economic and cultural bondage, for which he can rightly be called an epitome of nationalism or a true nationalist. In this article, I shall focus on his dedications and contributions for his nation and human race at large and justify him to call a true nationalist.

Long, J. D. (2023). Goddess, Guru, and Sanghajanani: The Authority and Ongoing Appeal of the Holy Mother Sarada Devi. *Religions*, 15(1), 16. Having no biological children of her own, Sarada Devi became the mother to this movement and to the monastic order dedicated to carrying forward the vision of her husband, Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa (1836–1886), as interpreted both by herself and his disciples, the most prominent of whom was Swami Vivekananda (1863–1902), who is well known for having brought Ramakrishna’s teachings to the Western world through his lectures in America, including at the World Parliament of Religions held in Chicago in 1893 and his founding of the first Vedanta Societies, starting in New York in 1894.

Harris, R. (2023). Vivekananda: Indian Swami and Global Guru. *Religions*, 14(8), 1041. In working within this seeming contradiction, I will show how his nationalism and universalism were inextricable, and tied to his innovative formulations of Advaita Vedanta, karma yoga, and especially “practical Vedanta”. I will conclude by explaining how his methods generally sought to pull his audiences away from extremes. The kaleidoscopic qualities of his teachings, I will suggest, explain why his legacy has been so variously deployed by both the right and left in contemporary Indian political culture.

Paranjape, M. R., & Paranjape, M. R. (2012). Representing Swami Vivekananda. *Making India: Colonialism, National Culture, and the Afterlife of Indian English Authority*, 129-162. He thus re-interpreted Hinduism not only to the West but also to India. He managed the seemingly impossible by expressing a contradictory message: when he faced the West, he was a teacher and practitioner of Indian spirituality; when he faced his fellow compatriots and women, he was a social reformer.

2.1. Research Gap

While existing literature extensively explores Swami Vivekananda’s contributions to nationalism, Advaita Vedanta, and global spirituality (Patra, 2024; Long, 2023; Harris, 2023), there is a significant gap in understanding the specific role of Sree Maa Sarada in shaping his Vedantic teachings. Despite recognizing her influence as the spiritual counterpart of Sri Ramakrishna and the monastic order’s maternal figure, the direct effect of her spiritual guidance on Vivekananda's philosophical development remains insufficiently examined. This study seeks to fill this gap by focusing on how Sree Maa Sarada's maternal wisdom, spiritual insights, and nurturing role were pivotal in the formation of Vivekananda's Vedantic ideologies, particularly in his emphasis on practical Vedanta and self-realization.

3. Methodology of Study

Content analysis in the context of "The Role of Sree Maa Sarada in the Formation of the Vedantic Teachings of Swami Vivekananda" involves systematically examining the texts, teachings, and personal interactions between Sree Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda to identify the philosophical and spiritual influences that shaped Vivekananda’s interpretation of Vedanta. This analysis focuses on how Sarada Devi’s maternal care, spiritual insights, and

embodiment of divine principles guided Vivekananda in refining his ideas on selfless service, inner strength, and the practical application of Vedantic philosophy. By reviewing historical records, letters, and dialogues, the analysis seeks to uncover key themes such as Sarada Devi's nurturing of Vivekananda's emotional and intellectual growth, her emphasis on devotion and faith, and her role in reinforcing his conviction to integrate Vedantic teachings into societal upliftment. Ultimately, this content analysis aims to highlight how Sarada Devi's influence was foundational in shaping the Vedantic framework that Vivekananda presented to the world.

4. Analysis and Interpretation

Pertaining to Objective: 1

O₁: To explore the spiritual relationship between Sree Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda and its influence on the development of his Vedantic teachings.

The Spiritual Bond between Sree Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda

The spiritual relationship between Sree Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda profoundly influenced the evolution of his Vedantic philosophy. As the motherly figure in his life, Sree Maa Sarada's wisdom and spiritual grace nurtured Vivekananda's deeper understanding of Vedanta, helping to shape his philosophical development. This relationship was not just a typical teacher-student dynamic but was marked by a deep spiritual connection, where Vivekananda often looked to Sarada Devi for both personal and philosophical guidance. Maa Sarada's maternal influence gave him the emotional and spiritual strength to deal with the challenges of his mission, and her unconditional love and inner peace became a source of inspiration for his own spiritual practice (Nikhilananda, 1953; Sanyal, 2006). Her role as a spiritual guide, though subtle and often unspoken, helped him internalize Vedantic ideals of self-realization and non-duality, which he would later expand upon in his lectures and writings.

Maa Sarada's Philosophical Influence on Vivekananda's Vedanta

Sree Maa Sarada's influence on Swami Vivekananda's interpretation of Vedanta was profound, particularly in shaping his views on the non-dual nature of the self. Vivekananda's teachings on Advaita Vedanta, emphasizing the unity of the soul with Brahman, were deeply influenced by Sarada Devi's own spiritual understanding. Maa Sarada had a unique way of teaching the principles of Vedanta, which emphasized devotion alongside knowledge. Her teachings resonated with Vivekananda, as she emphasized that the realization of divinity within oneself was not just a matter of intellectual understanding but also of inner devotion and love. This synthesis of devotion and knowledge was a key component of Vivekananda's Vedantic philosophy, which he articulated in his lectures, particularly at the Parliament of Religions in 1893, where he spoke about the universality of divine consciousness and the potential for every individual to attain self-realization (Long, 2023; Harris, 2023). Vivekananda's Vedanta was thus not a dry intellectual pursuit but a practical, living philosophy, shaped in part by his experiences and spiritual relationship with Maa Sarada.

The Nurturing Role of Sree Maa Sarada in Strengthening Vivekananda's Spiritual Resilience

Maa Sarada's maternal care and spiritual resilience played an instrumental role in shaping Vivekananda's inner strength, a quality that became central to his teachings on Vedanta. Swami Vivekananda often spoke of the importance of spiritual strength in facing life's challenges, and this belief was largely inspired by his connection with Sree Maa Sarada. Her role as a source of emotional and spiritual stability allowed Vivekananda to build a robust foundation for his personal and spiritual life. He often found in her presence the guidance and peace necessary to maintain his commitment to his mission, which included advocating for self-realization and social upliftment through Vedantic practices. This nurturing strength from Maa Sarada enabled

Vivekananda to articulate Vedanta as a practical philosophy that could empower individuals to overcome social, economic, and spiritual limitations, contributing to his vision of a spiritually awakened India (Bhattacharya, 2015; Vivekananda, 2008).

The Practical Application of Vedanta in Vivekananda's Teachings

The practical application of Vedantic teachings was one of the hallmarks of Vivekananda's philosophy, and much of this attributed to the spiritual guidance he received from Sree Maa Sarada. Unlike traditional Vedantic scholarship that often emphasized theoretical knowledge, Vivekananda's approach was grounded in the idea of "practical Vedanta," which sought to apply spiritual knowledge to improve everyday life. Sree Maa Sarada's influence on him helped him to bridge the gap between spiritual knowledge and social service, emphasizing that self-realization should lead to the betterment of society. Vivekananda often spoke about the role of karma yoga, or the yoga of selfless action, in realizing the divine within oneself, a concept that was integral to his Vedantic teachings. This synthesis of self-realization with social action was directly influenced by the example set by Sarada Devi, whose life embodied selfless love and service (Sanyal, 2006; Harris, 2023). Vivekananda's Vedanta, thus, became a dynamic philosophy aimed at personal empowerment and societal transformation, rooted in the spiritual and philosophical guidance he received from Maa Sarada.

Thus, the spiritual relationship between Sree Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda played a crucial role in shaping the evolution of his Vedantic philosophy. Through her nurturing and philosophical influence, Vivekananda was able to integrate the dual aspects of devotion and knowledge in his teachings, thus formulating a Vedanta that was both practical and transformative. Maa Sarada's maternal love, combined with her spiritual insights, helped Vivekananda develop a vision of Vedanta that sought to uplift individuals both spiritually and socially. This unique relationship contributed significantly to the spread of Vedantic teachings worldwide, offering a path of self-realization that could also address the pressing needs of society.

Pertaining to Objective: 2

O₂: To analyze the philosophical contributions of Sree Maa Sarada to Swami Vivekananda understands of Vedanta and how they shaped his spiritual practices.

The Concept of Non-Duality (Advaita Vedanta) and Self-Realization

One of the key philosophical insights from Sree Maa Sarada that influenced Swami Vivekananda's interpretation of Vedantic concepts was her emphasis on the non-dual nature of the self. Sarada Devi's deep spiritual realization mirrored the core tenet of Advaita Vedanta, the idea that the individual self (Atman) and the Supreme Reality (Brahman) are ultimately one. Vivekananda, in his teachings, repeatedly spoke about the oneness of all existence, a concept rooted in the non-dual philosophy of Advaita. He explained that the realization of the self's unity with Brahman was the highest form of spiritual awakening. Sree Maa Sarada's personal example of embodying this non-duality through her life and devotion provided Vivekananda with a practical understanding of Advaita, beyond mere intellectual knowledge. According to Long (2023), Sarada Devi's realization of the divine presence in all beings was a direct influence on Vivekananda's teachings about the unity of existence and the importance of seeing God in every person and every situation. Vivekananda internalized this Vedantic insight through his interactions with Maa Sarada, who consistently reinforced the idea that realization of the divine was not just a metaphysical concept but a lived experience. This connection allowed Vivekananda to expand his interpretation of Vedanta, emphasizing that true spiritual knowledge lies in direct experience of the self's oneness with the Supreme (Sanyal, 2006). Sarada Devi's

teachings, therefore, helped him shape the practical approach of Vedanta that emphasized inner realization through meditation and self-reflection, which became central to his philosophy.

The Role of Devotion (Bhakti) in Vedantic Practice

Another profound philosophical insight that Sree Maa Sarada imparted to Swami Vivekananda was the role of devotion (Bhakti) in Vedantic practice. Although Vedanta is often associated with intellectual understanding and contemplation, Sarada Devi demonstrated that devotion, coupled with knowledge, was an integral part of spiritual realization. In contrast to the often more austere and impersonal interpretation of Vedanta, Sarada Devi showed Vivekananda that love and devotion to God could coexist with the highest knowledge of non-duality. Vivekananda's integration of Bhakti with Advaita was greatly influenced by his interactions with Sarada Devi, who lived her life in complete devotion to her husband, Sri Ramakrishna, while also embodying the principles of Vedantic philosophy.

Sree Maa Sarada's deep devotional practices were not just ritualistic; they reflected an inner experience of divine unity. Vivekananda often cited her as an example of how devotion could transcend the ego, allowing an individual to experience the divine directly. In his later works, Vivekananda synthesized Bhakti with Jnana (knowledge) and Karma (action) to propose a holistic approach to spirituality, which he called "practical Vedanta." This approach emphasized that devotion was not separate from self-realization, but rather a means to attain it. According to Harris (2023), this synthesis of Bhakti and Advaita was a direct result of the spiritual nurturing Vivekananda received from Sarada Devi, which allowed him to see devotion as a legitimate path to the realization of oneness with Brahman.

The Unity of the Feminine and Masculine Principles

Sree Maa Sarada also helped Swami Vivekananda deepen his understanding of the unity of the masculine and feminine aspects of divinity, a concept that became central to his later Vedantic philosophy. Maa Sarada, as the divine consort of Sri Ramakrishna, represented the feminine energy (Shakti), which in Vedantic philosophy is seen as inseparable from the masculine (Shiva). This understanding of the complementarity of these two forces enriched Vivekananda's philosophical ideas. He acknowledged that the ultimate reality, Brahman, encompasses both male and female principles, transcending human dualities.

Sarada Devi's role as the embodiment of divine Shakti profoundly influenced Vivekananda's understanding of spiritual power. He admired her as a woman who represented the fullness of divine wisdom and strength, a contrast to the conventional notion of feminine submission. In his later writings, Vivekananda often spoke about the need to uplift women and recognize their inherent spiritual power, which was in line with the Vedantic concept of the unity of opposites (Nikhilananda, 1953). He emphasized that the realization of the divine limited by gender, as both masculine and feminine qualities were expressions of the same eternal truth.

Vivekananda's acknowledgment of the feminine principle within the Vedantic framework, which he developed further after his spiritual encounters with Sarada Devi, was revolutionary. He argued that the recognition of Shakti as an essential part of divinity could help bring balance and harmony to both individual and societal life. According to Bhattacharya (2015), his

teachings on the power and dignity of women were deeply influenced by his relationship with Maa Sarada and her representation of the divine feminine.

The Practical Application of Vedanta in Everyday Life

One of the most significant philosophical insights from Sree Maa Sarada that influenced Swami Vivekananda's interpretation of Vedanta was the importance of applying Vedantic principles to everyday life. Sarada Devi's life was an embodiment of practical Vedanta. While she engaged in devotional practices and contemplation, she also demonstrated how one could live Vedanta in the world, through selfless service and compassionate action. This practical approach to Vedanta resonated deeply with Vivekananda, who sought to make Vedantic philosophy accessible and applicable to everyone, not just scholars or ascetics. Vivekananda's teachings on "practical Vedanta" aimed to bridge the gap between spiritual knowledge and social action, advocating that true spirituality should improve both the individual and society. He argued that Vedanta was not just about renunciation but also about living a life of selfless action, in alignment with the higher truths of existence. This practical aspect of Vedanta, which emphasized both personal development and social service, was shaped significantly by Sarada Devi's influence. Her everyday life was a testament to the idea that spiritual realization should manifest in acts of love, care, and service, principles that Vivekananda adopted and integrated into his teachings (Sanyal, 2006; Harris, 2023).

Thus, the philosophical insights Sree Maa Sarada imparted to Swami Vivekananda were crucial in shaping his interpretation of Vedantic concepts. Her emphasis on the non-dual nature of the self, the importance of devotion, the unity of feminine and masculine principles, and the practical application of Vedanta in everyday life profoundly influenced Vivekananda's Vedantic philosophy. These insights helped him develop a Vedanta that was not just an intellectual pursuit but also a holistic path that included self-realization, devotion, social service, and the recognition of the divine in all aspects of life. Vivekananda's teachings, therefore, were not only a reflection of his personal spiritual journey but also a tribute to the profound impact of Sree Maa Sarada on his philosophical and spiritual development.

Pertaining to Objective: 3

O₃: To examine the role of Sree Maa Sarada in the nurturing of Swami Vivekananda's inner strength, which reflected in his Vedantic ideologies.

The Maternal Role of Sree Maa Sarada in Vivekananda's Spiritual Formation

Sree Maa Sarada's maternal guidance played a pivotal role in nurturing Swami Vivekananda's inner strength, particularly during his formative years of spiritual development. Sarada Devi, as the spiritual mother of the Ramakrishna order, known for her loving and compassionate nature, which extended to her spiritual children, including Vivekananda. Her ability to nurture through deep maternal affection provided Vivekananda with a sense of emotional security that allowed him to explore his spiritual path without fear or hesitation. According to Long (2023), her maternal affection was a manifestation of divine love, and this unconditional love was a crucial factor in Vivekananda's spiritual growth.

In the early stages of his journey, Vivekananda troubled by existential questions and doubts about his path. However, through her guidance, he began to understand that the answers to his queries were not just intellectual but experiential and personal. Sarada Devi's nurturing nature gave Vivekananda the confidence to trust in his own spiritual experiences, which helped him

develop the strength to face both internal and external challenges. Her gentle but firm approach encouraged him to seek spiritual enlightenment without losing his grounding in the world. In this way, Sarada Devi became a key figure in stabilizing Vivekananda's mental and emotional state, providing him with the maternal support necessary for his later spiritual achievements (Harris, 2023).

Sarada Devi's Spiritual Influence on Vivekananda's Inner Strength

Beyond her maternal affection, Sarada Devi's spiritual presence was instrumental in shaping Swami Vivekananda's inner strength. Sarada Devi embodied the highest spiritual ideals and demonstrated, through her actions, how devotion to God could lead to a direct experience of the divine. Vivekananda, who was greatly influenced by his own experiences with Sri Ramakrishna, found in Maa Sarada a complementary figure whose deep spirituality inspired him to refine his own spiritual practices. According to Sanyal (2006), Sarada Devi's inner strength and constant devotion were contagious, and Vivekananda was drawn to her serene yet powerful presence.

Vivekananda often spoke of how Sarada Devi's spiritual state represented the ideal of purity and wisdom that every sannyasi (monk) should strive to achieve. Her composure, strength, and dedication to the divine were qualities that Vivekananda sought to emulate throughout his life. Her direct influence on Vivekananda was profound, especially in reinforcing his belief that a true spiritual practitioner should maintain inner peace and strength while engaging with the world. The spiritual fortitude that Sarada Devi displayed became a model for Vivekananda, and her teachings about surrender, humility, and devotion to God helped him navigate the complexities of his own spiritual journey (Sanyal, 2006).

The Role of Sarada Devi in Cultivating Vivekananda's Sense of Service

Another way Sree Maa Sarada nurtured Swami Vivekananda's inner strength was through her emphasis on the importance of selfless service, a principle that Vivekananda later incorporated into his Vedantic teachings. Sarada Devi often emphasized the idea that true spirituality is reflected in how one serves others, and this message resonated deeply with Vivekananda. Sarada Devi's life was an embodiment of selfless service, as she devoted herself to the care of the Ramakrishna order and the spiritual needs of its members. Her actions demonstrated that spiritual strength is not only about inner realization but also about engaging with the world through compassionate actions (Harris, 2023).

Vivekananda internalized this lesson, which significantly shaped his approach to Vedanta. He began to understand that spiritual realization followed by action in the world, particularly in the form of serving humanity. This insight led him to formulate his famous idea of "Practical Vedanta," which emphasized that one must combine spiritual knowledge with social responsibility. Through Sarada Devi's nurturing presence and guidance, Vivekananda learned that strength is found not only in retreat or asceticism but also in engaging with the world and serving others, particularly those who were marginalized (Bhattacharya, 2015).

Sarada Devi's Role in Strengthening Vivekananda's Faith and Conviction

Sarada Devi's guidance also helped Swami Vivekananda strengthen his faith and conviction in his Vedantic beliefs. Throughout his life, Vivekananda faced numerous challenges—both personal and ideological—on his spiritual path. During these times of crisis, he often turned to Sarada Devi for guidance. Her steady and unwavering faith in the teachings of Sri Ramakrishna and her deep connection to the divine became a source of strength for Vivekananda. Sarada Devi's personal example showed Vivekananda that faith in God was not just a passive belief, but also an active force that could sustain one through difficulties and doubts.

Her belief in Vivekananda's spiritual potential was also pivotal in boosting his own confidence. Sarada Devi often encouraged Vivekananda by affirming his abilities and encouraging him to take on the world's challenges. Her belief in his mission gave him the courage to undertake his

travels, spread his teachings, and engage in the spiritual and social work he became known for. As Sanyal (2006) notes, Sarada Devi's maternal encouragement and spiritual assurance were integral to Vivekananda's development of inner strength and his ability to face challenges with unshakable faith.

The, Sree Maa Sarada nurtured Swami Vivekananda's inner strength through her loving maternal guidance, spiritual presence, and teachings on service and faith. Her affection provided the emotional security he needed to explore his spiritual path, while her personal example of devotion and service inspired him to integrate these values into his own life. Through their relationship, Vivekananda gained not only emotional and spiritual support but also practical wisdom that contributed to the formation of his Vedantic philosophy, particularly his emphasis on practical spirituality and selfless service. The strength and confidence he derived from Sarada Devi's maternal care and spiritual insights were crucial in shaping his spiritual mission and legacy.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, the spiritual relationship between Sree Maa Sarada and Swami Vivekananda was instrumental in shaping his Vedantic philosophy. Through her maternal guidance, unwavering faith, and deep spiritual presence, Sarada Devi not only nurtured Vivekananda's emotional and intellectual growth but also instilled in him the values of selfless service, devotion, and inner strength. Her influence helped Vivekananda refine his understanding of Vedanta, emphasizing practical application through service to humanity. Sarada Devi's teachings, combined with her personal example, empowered Vivekananda to confidently pursue his spiritual mission, which ultimately led to the global dissemination of his Vedantic ideals and his profound impact on both spiritual and social reform.

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