



Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar's Timeline

(May 21, 1922 - October 21, 1990)

Philosopher, social reformer, humanitarian,
spiritual teacher and founder of Ananda Marga (the
Path of Bliss), P.R. Sarkar is also known by his
spiritual name, Shrii Shrii Anandamurti.



1922

Birth

Prabhat Rainjan Sarkar was born on the morning of the full moon in May 1922 in Jamalpur, India, the same day on which the Buddha's birth is celebrated. He began practicing meditation on his own at the age of four and even as a young child gained a reputation for his uncommon knowledge and wisdom. The young Prabhat is pictured on the left.



1939

College

Prabhat left Jamalpur in 1939 at the age of seventeen to attend Vidyasagar College in Calcutta, where he was enrolled in the Bachelor of Science program. Photo: Vidyasagar College.



1939

First Initiation

On the full moon night in August 1939, Prabhat was meditating in a deserted cremation ground on the banks of the Ganges when he was accosted by a thief with a dagger who demanded that he hand over his valuables. Rather than show the slightest preoccupation, Prabhat smiled and asked him if he had made a habit of robbing poor students like himself. The thief was soon so unnerved by this young boy's eerie calm and his promise that he could give him something much more valuable than money, that he threw away his dagger and accepted initiation into spiritual meditation.



1941

The Jamalpur Railway Workshop

With the financial condition of his family worsening, due to the death of his father, Prabhat left school in 1941 and joined the accounts department of the Jamalpur Railway Workshop. Photo: Jamalpur Railway Workshop, 1897.



1954

The First Gathering

In the years that followed, Prabhat continued to initiate new disciples, though he did not allow them to divulge his identity. On November 7, 1954 he called them together for the first time for a spiritual gathering.



1955

Ananda Marga is founded

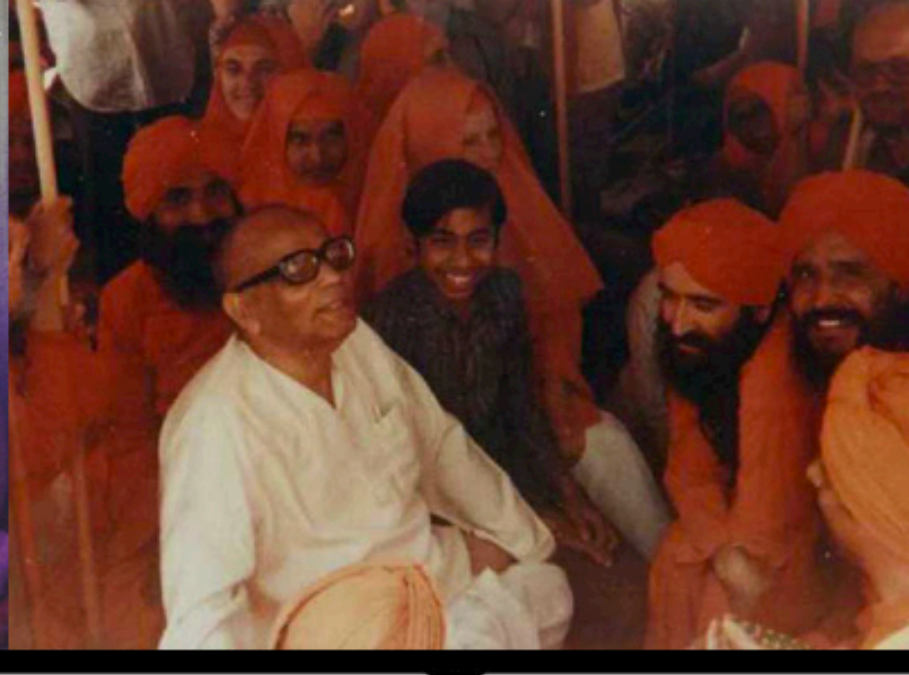
On January 1, 1955, Prabhat founded Ananda Marga (The Path of Bliss). From then on he would be known to his disciples as Shrii Shrii Anandamurti, or more affectionately as Baba. The goal of the new organization, he explained, would be "self-realization and service to humanity."



1959

Beginnings of PROUT

In 1959 Anandamurti began to propound a new socio-economic theory, the Progressive Utilization Theory (PROUT), as an alternative to capitalism and communism. PROUT seeks a harmonious balance between economic growth, social development, and environmental sustainability with the goal of promoting both individual and collective welfare.



1962

Establishment of a Monastic Order

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1963

ERAWS

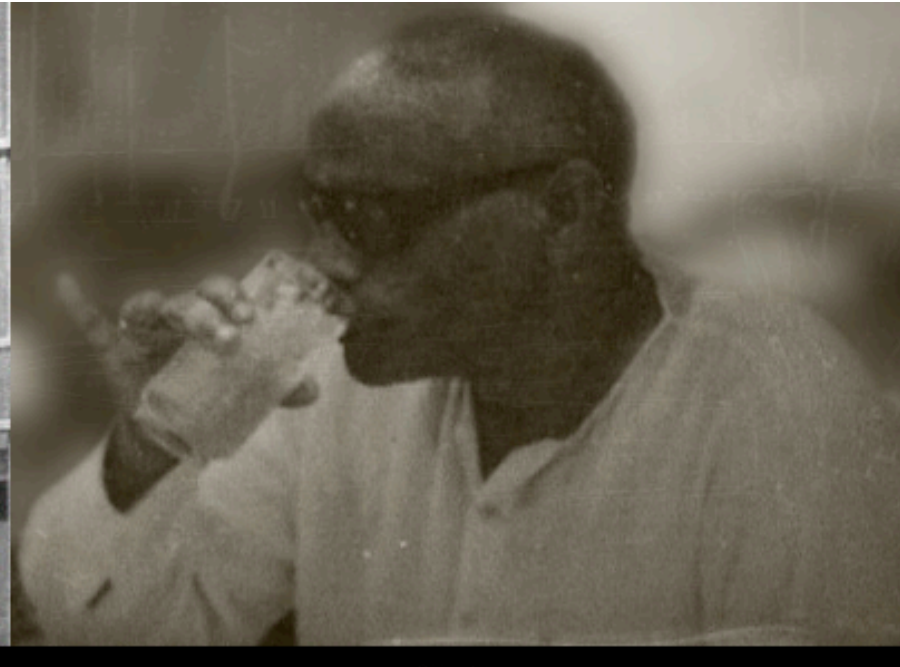
In 1963 Anandamurti established the Education, Relief and Welfare Section (ERAWS) to oversee its service projects, which include schools, orphanages, medical clinics, soup kitchens, drug rehabilitation centers, homeless shelters, and diverse other projects. The Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team (AMURT), a branch of ERAWS, provides disaster relief throughout the globe and has received numerous citations from the United Nations, the Red Cross, and various governments.



1971

Imprisonment

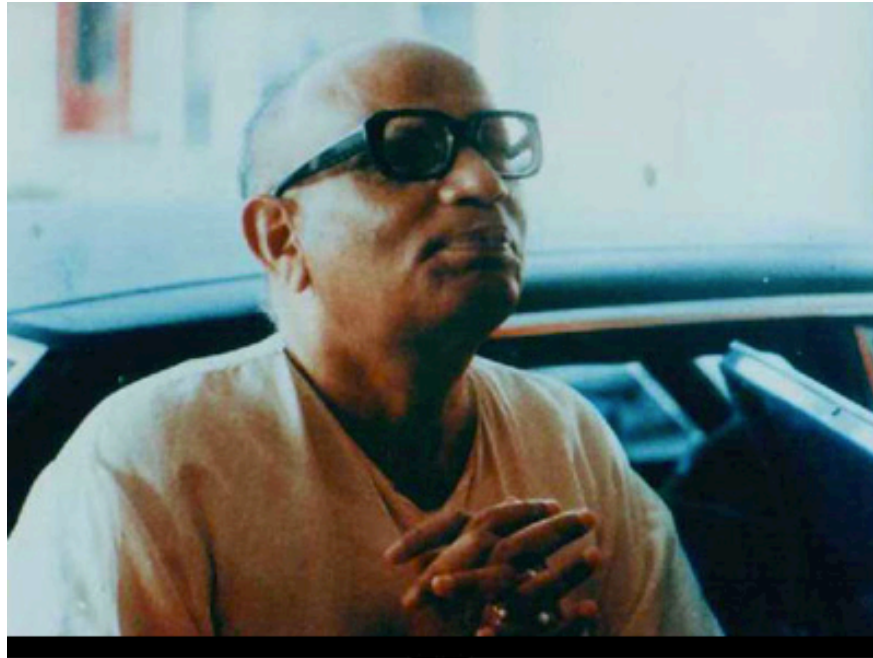
Anandamurti was arrested in 1971 for allegedly conspiring to murder some of his followers, charges that were later shown not only to be unfounded but to be part of an attempt by the Indira Gandhi government to destroy his rapidly growing organization. He was incarcerated under brutal conditions for more than seven years.



1973

Poisoning and Protest Fast

On February 12, 1973, the jail doctor administered poison to Anandamurti on orders from the central government. After being refused a judicial inquiry, Anandamurti began a protest fast on April 1. His fast lasted until his release from prison five and a half years later, during which time his only nourishment was a single glass of buttermilk per day.



1978

Release from Prison

After the fall of the Indira Gandhi government in 1978, Anandamurti was granted a retrial and was declared innocent of all charges. He was released on August 3.



1979

World Tour

In 1979 Anandamurti went on a world tour to meet his disciples in Europe, Asia, and North and South America. He was banned from entering the United States by the US State Department but met his American disciples in Jamaica.



1981

Dharma Samiksha

In 1982 Anandamurti conducted an extraordinary three-month program in which he used his subtle spiritual powers to individually review the conduct and health of thousands of his disciples and to give them each instruction in matters of diet, spiritual practices, etc.



1982

Neo-humanism

Anandamurti also introduced the philosophy of Neohumanism in 1982. "When the underlying spirit of humanism is extended to everything, animate and inanimate, in this universe, I have designated this as Neohumanism. This Neohumanism will elevate humanism to universalism, love for all created beings of this universe."



1982

Prabhat Samgiita

In September 1982, Anandamurti began composing devotional songs that became collectively known as Prabhat Samgiita, "Songs of the New Dawn." By the time of his death in 1990, he had composed 5018 songs in various languages.



1986

Microvita

In December 1986, Anandamurti introduced a new scientific theory in which he identified the basic building block of the universe as emanations of consciousness, to which he gave the name microvita. Microvita theory provides a link between the worlds of perception and conception, and a scientific explanation of the relationship between mind, matter, and consciousness.



1990

Ananda Marga Gurukula

The Ananda Marga system of education, known as Ananda Marga Gurukula, runs a worldwide network of Neohumanist schools and institutes whose curriculums are designed to foster a peaceful and just society inspired by the ideals of universal love.



1990

Physical Departure

Anandamurti left his physical body at his residence in Calcutta on October 21, 1990.