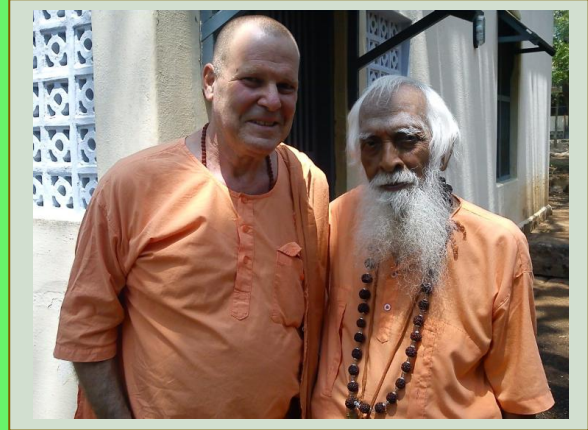


## Swami Sadasivananda, a rare saint from America

*Anecdote on Swami Sadasivananda  
Narrated by Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj*

**When the Lord has already decides  
who could stand in the way of it?**



## Swami Sadasivananda, a rare saint from America

Swami Sadasivananda was born in 1950 and was barely 18 years old or so when he was doing his post-graduation in Comparative Religions in a college in USA. He is an American. In the hostel, he had a roommate who used to spend his time in gambling, drinking, etc. as a result of some bad company. His father was an Army Doctor who got an idea that Swami Sadasivananda was responsible for his son going on the wrong track. He thought of taking his revenge on him.

Suddenly one day, Swami Sadasivananda [whose earlier name I do not recollect] was feeling so unwell that he had to go to the doctor and after several tests, was found to have a high degree of diabetes. Even the doctor was astonished to find such a young person develop this ailment.

With the Vietnam War in full swing, all these students in educational institutions [except those who had got the first five ranks] were to be compulsorily inducted into the army and sent to Vietnam to fight for their country. According to the procedure, the boys selected were to be first examined by a board of medical officers regarding their fitness and then the selected ones were sent to the field in Vietnam. Even though Swamiji was within the first four ranks, the father of his roommate who was a top medical officer in-charge of the entire process managed to get a letter issued to him that he should immediately report himself to the medical board for induction into the army to be sent to Vietnam.

The Swamiji got a certificate from his doctor regarding his high degree of diabetes and went to the medical board as all the doctors have been specifically instructed that this Swamiji

should not be medically examined but directly sent to Vietnam but none of the doctors bothered to look into the paper or certificate he was holding in his hand. He was directly taken to the last stage where the medical officer was to put his final stamp whereby he would be transported by a lorry waiting outside to be sent to Vietnam. That doctor in that room happened to be a new chap and so he asked Swamiji what the paper he was holding in his hand was about. When he went through that certificate he was shocked how he was allowed by all other medical officers. He just put a stamp 'not selected' and asked him to get out by a side door.

Thus, he was saved by this diabetes from being sent to Vietnam War.

The next day he went to his own doctor when all the tests were conducted again only for the doctor to find that Swamiji's blood sugar was normal and the diabetes has disappeared without leaving any signs. When the Lord has already decided that Swamiji was to be inducted into the spiritual army, who could stand in the way of it?

Even though Swami Sadasivananda is now about 63 years old, he never once had diabetes recur. Swamiji became a professor for a short while in Comparative Religions in a college somewhere near California. Sometime in 1974 or so, he told his mother, "Mother I have to go to India and become an Indian monk. In the last birth I was born in India and became a monk for a short while but due to some reason, I was born in USA this time." His grandfather tempted him with a huge fortune if only he was to become a Christian monk in USA. Swamiji was adamant, came to India, and got the first initiation from Ma Anandamayi, an Avatar. Later on at her bidding, he took sanyas from an American sanyasi in India.

Swami Sadasivanandaji is an excellent monk who is completely devoted to the Supreme Lord, and a good friend of mine too. After an extremely major operation in UK, he has recently returned to India and I wish him a long life.

**\*\* Hari Om\*\***

**Website:** <http://www.swamishantanandapurimaharaj.org/>