



## Press Release

**29 November 2020**

The Consulate General of India, Sao Paulo and Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Sao Paulo are delighted to announce that, on Sunday, 29 November 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke about Jonas Masetti, a Vedanta Teacher from Brazil and highlighted his work in the monthly radio programme, "Mann Ki Baat". Prime Minister's address reflects the spiritual and philosophical connections of India with Brazil.

2. In his remarks, Prime Minister Modi said, "I got an opportunity to know about the work of Jonas Masetti, also known as Vishwanath. Jonas teaches Vedanta & Gita to people in Brazil. His institution Vishwavidya is situated in the hills of Petropolis." The complete remarks can be accessed at:

• With English subtitles:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcdmsMDBnQU>

• With Portuguese subtitles: <https://youtu.be/OVJhy-4mZJ0>

3. Jonas Masetti studied Vedanta under the guidance of Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswati and earned the title of an Acharya (ācārya) in the Vedaa, which means he is an expert and distinguished in the field. Mr. Jonas is the head of Institute Vishva Vidyalaya in Rio and has dedicated his life, together with his family and associates to preserve the Vedic Culture and to spread the message of the Vedas to all the corners of Brazil and around the world. The Institute provides retreats as well as online classes about Vedanta, meditation and Vedic culture. The Institute has about 1000 active students in Brazil and more 200,000 followers around the globe. Jonas Masetti has also acted in the film "UMA - The light of Himalayas," about the history of seekers that comes

from different places of Brazil to have their blessings at mother River Ganga. The film is an India-Brazil co-production which has been widely screened in Brazil.

4. Mann Ki Baat (Inner thoughts) is a 20-minute long radio programme hosted by the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi through which he addresses the people of India on All India Radio and Doordarshan (National Television) every month. The first show was broadcast in October 2014 and there have been 70 episodes so far. The idea of the programme is to reach out to the people of India directly sharing his ideas through Radio as it is estimated to reach about 90% of the population. Citizens of India are encouraged to write or send audio recordings of their ideas and some are selected to be part of the broadcast. Interesting events and anecdotes on India sent by the large India Diaspora are also covered in the episode.

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