



# WORKSHOP INFORMATION

## **Basic Training:**

23<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018

## **Advanced Training:**

30<sup>th</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## **Venue:**

Sacred Heart College in  
Shenbaganur near Kodaikanal,  
Tamil Nadu, India

## **WORKSHOP ON BIODYNAMIC FARMING – KODAIKANAL 2018**

### **Please Contact:**

Sundeeep Kamath, Secretary, Biodynamic Association of India (BDAI)  
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## Invitation

Farmers in India are increasingly opting for organic farming as a viable alternative to chemical agriculture. In this context, biodynamic (BD) agriculture will strengthen the organic farming movement and be of immense help to organic farmers.

The next basic six-day BD training course is being held at Sacred Heart College in Shenbaganur near Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu, from September 23rd – September 29th 2018, followed by a four-day course in BD prep making and retrieval from September 30th – October 4th 2018. A number of experienced BD practitioners trained by Peter Procter will conduct the course. The course has a good balance of theory and practical sessions.

## Background

### What is BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURE?

Biodynamic farming is based on Dr. Rudolf Steiner's Agriculture Course held in 1924 in Germany. It is one of the oldest forms of organic farming in a modern sense, but is much more than organic farming. In BD agriculture, the farm is treated as a 'living whole' where all farm activities are interrelated and influence each other. Careful observation and prudent farm management along with the use of the BD preparations can improve soil fertility and enhance the health of plants. The use of lunar and planetary rhythms for deciding farm activities is also helpful. The theory and practical sessions during the course include the following:

#### A. Basic Course (6 days) from September 23rd – September 29th 2018:

- Basics of Biodynamic Agriculture
- Biodynamic preparations BD500 and BD501 – theory and practice.
- Practical demo: 1) Horn Manure (BD500) – Demo making, retrieval, stirring and application, and 2) Horn Silica (BD501) – making, stirring and application.
- Biodynamic compost preparations (BD502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507) – theory.
- Practical demos: 1) BD compost, 2) cow pat pit manure (CPP), 3) liquid manures.
- The significance of moon rhythms and planetary and stellar constellations, and the use of a planting calendar in agriculture.
- Increasing soil fertility, control measures of plant pests & diseases, and weed control.
- Animal husbandry in BD farming.
- Converting a farm to organic and BD agriculture.
- Demeter standards and certification procedures.

B. Preparation making and retrieval course (4 days) from September 30th to October 4th 2014

- Practical demonstration of making of BD501
- Practical demonstration of making BD500 preparation
- Demo of making & retrieval of compost preparations BD 502-507
- Making CPP

**Course Fees:**

Type	Basic Course (6 days)	Advanced BD Prep Making Course (4 days)
Indian Nationals	Rs. 12000 (till August 31st)	Rs. 5000
	Rs. 14000 (from Sept 1st)	
Overseas Participants	300 USD	100 USD

- Only a limited number of seats are available and preference will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Please send the filled-in application form at [office@biodynamics.in](mailto:office@biodynamics.in)
- For transferring the course fee through NEFT, the details are:  
 Payee Name: Biodynamic Association of India  
 Bank details: Vijaya Bank, Indiranagar, Bangalore  
 A/c No: 130101010011429  
 IFSC Code: VIJB0001301  
 Please inform Secretary, BDAI, about the transfer of the money.
- Participants are advised to come to the course venue, Sacred Heart College, Shenbaganur, 6 kilometers before Kodaikanal, on Sunday, September 23rd 2018.
- Only applications accompanied with the payment details will be accepted.
- Plant and animal parts are used for the making of BD preparations (similar to practices in Vriksha Ayurveda)
- Non-participating spouse or husband and children and pets cannot be accommodated.
- Course fees include basic accommodation and boarding in SHC, a Jesuit monastery and study materials.

## Our Trainers

### **Mr. Jakes Jayakaran:**

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Mr. Jakes Jayakaran is currently based in Kodaikanal in Tamil Nadu, India.

He has worked with NGO's on Environment protection work in mountains of Kodaikanal, from 1985 to 1998. He is experienced in rehabilitation of degraded wasted lands in Tamil Nadu province and has transformed such lands into productive Agro forests.

He set up his own Organic fruit company in 1991 called Kurinji Organic Foods, and spent years in Organic fruit cultivation and fruit processing (dried fruits and fruit juices). His company has been exporting these Organic / Demeter certified fruit products to Germany/ Europe, for nearly 25 years now. These Fruit Orchards were developed from abandoned waste lands from early 1980s, and now spread over 300 hectares of NPOP/Demeter certified fruit orchards in the Palni Hills area of Theni District in Tamil Nadu / South India.

In 1995, the great BD Master Peter Procter from New Zealand trained him in Biodynamic Farming methods. Since then, he has been actively involved in BD Farming, BD Advisory work and in organizing BD Farming training programs in Kodaikanal.

He was the President of the Biodynamic Association of India for 7 years till 2015. He set up a Community College / School for Biodynamic Farming in Karur District in 2012; this was a 2 year, fully residential Diploma program, to help village youngsters who had completed their schooling, to learn BD Farming as a Profession. Two batches of 19 students (12 boys and 7 girls) have completed this 2-year Advanced Diploma program in Biodynamics.

Since 2005, he has been visiting China twice every year, and has conducted many BD Training programs in different provinces of China. Jakes is also a DEMETER accredited Advisor for Farms / Projects that work towards getting DEMETER certificate. DEMETER certified food products are considered worldwide to be of high quality.

For the past 5 years he was also a Resource Person for the Biodynamic module at the IPMTs held in Beijing (2013 & 2016), Malaysia (2013 & 2018) and Taiwan (2014).

**Address: Kurinji Farms , Genguvarpatti- 625203 , Theni District, Tamil Nadu, India.**

**E-mail: jakesjayakaran@gmail.com**

### **Ms. Grace Zozobrado:**

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Grace was born in Cebu City, Philippines in 1960. She earned a B.S. in biology from the University of the Philippines in Manila in 1980 and finished her postgraduate studies at the UP College of Medicine in 1985. Her further trainings include a family medicine residency from 1987 to 1989, and a Pediatric Residency from 1992 to 1994, both at the Philippine General Hospital, basic eurythmy and eurythmy therapy at the Eurythmeum Stuttgart 1998 to 2002 and Training in Anthroposophical Medicine in Filderstadt, Germany, 2002 to 2003.

Grace was engaged in community-based health services in mountainous areas of the Philippines from 1990 to 1991 and became the first school doctor and eurythmy therapist of the first Waldorf School in the Philippines (2003-2006). Since 2006, she has been engaged as a lecturer, adult educator and therapist in the Philippines, China, Germany, Switzerland, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and Taiwan. Since 2010, her work in the Philippines is focused on Koberwitz 1924, an NGO she co-founded, which is engaged in biodynamic agriculture, health, nutrition and education.

**Website:**     [www.koberwitz1924.com](http://www.koberwitz1924.com)

### **Walter Siegfried:**

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Walter Siegfried was born in 1958 in rural Bavaria. He was first trained as a gardener and was involved with biodynamic agriculture and

Anthroposophy since 1975. In the 1980s, his social and political engagement brought him to Social Threefolding and renowned artist Joseph Beuys. He kicked off his work with the sensory experience field in 1997 and was the managing director of the Freudenberg Experience-Field from 1997 to 2007. As part of his activities there, he hosted conferences for business, culture and civil society along with performances of lecturers and artists from around the world and the omnibus for direct democracy (free international university). He designed and implemented programming for groups of all ages and societal levels, based on sensory experience. Starting in 2004, he has supported and initiated experience fields in the US, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Bangladesh, Thailand, Singapore, the Philippines and China.

Walter has over 20 years of experience as a corporate team-building consultant working with employees from entry level to experienced CEOs. He has done lectures and workshops on the senses, Biodynamic Agriculture, Threefolding, Self-Development, Education, Biography and Enterprise Development in Europe, Asia and the US since 1995. He founded the FJGG (Voluntary Year for Social Sculpture) in 2005 and Erfahrungsfeld Bauernhof (agriculture as an experience-field) in 2006. He was also the Co-Founder of Koberwitz 1924 Inc. in the Philippines in 2010, an NGO engaged in promoting biodynamic agriculture, holistic health, nutrition and education. He has been writing for various magazines, a news agency and has published four books since 2001.

**Website:**     [www.waltersiegfriedhahn.de](http://www.waltersiegfriedhahn.de)  
                  [www.koberwitz1924.com](http://www.koberwitz1924.com)

## Additional Information for Course Participants

Please note that accommodation is simple and frugal. The weather at Kodaikanal (at 2,000 m above sea level) and Shenbaganur (1,850 m ASL) is cool. Please equip yourselves and dress accordingly. Bring along clothes and shoes that permit hands-on compost making and related gardening activities. In September it is likely to rain so bring umbrella or rain coats.

For participants coming from far away:

- The next airport to Shenbaganur / Kodaikanal is at Madurai (120 km).
- Nearest railway stations are at Madurai, Dindigul (80 km) and Kodaikanal Road (60 km).
- Regular long-distance buses are available from Chennai and from Bangalore. Get down at Shenbaganur, the last village prior to Kodaikanal. The Sacred Heart College is on the right side of the main road – sign boards to a “Museum of Natural Science” will show the way.
- The last part of your journey (up the hill to Shenbaganur) will have to be by road (from the plains in Dindigul District about 2 hours by bus or car). Taxi pick-up can be organized.
- Help with logistics can be organized if requests come in well in advance. The basic course will end on Saturday September 29th 2018, evening at about 5 pm. The prep making course will end on Wednesday October 4th 2018, evening at about 5 pm. Please book your return journeys accordingly.

### **In case of trouble in communication, please contact:**

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