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Swami Harshananda

Swami Harshananda of Ramakrishna Ashram no more

BENGALURU, DHNS: Senior monk and president of Ramakrishna Muttin Bengaluru, Swami Harshananda Maharaj (91) passed away in the city on Tuesday due to cardiac arrest.

The swami was initiated into Ramakrishna order way back in 1962. He was appointed the president of Bengaluruashramain 1989, the position he held till his last breath.

The monk had previously served at Belur Mutt, Allahabad, Mangaluru and Mysuru Ramakrishna Mutts. He was known for his scholarly bent of mind and spiritual discourses. He had authored several books on Hindu religion and philosophy in Kannada, English and Sanskrit. Many of his books have been translated into foreign languages. In May 2008, after working for over 30 years, his three-volume work - A Concise Encyclopaedia of Hinduism - was released.

The mortal remains of the monk were kept on the premises of students hostel at the Ramakrishna Ashram in Bengaluru for public viewing. Sources in the Ashram told *DH* that the last rites will be performed on Wednesday afternoon.