

## Timeline of ECKANKAR Milestones and Accomplishments

- **1965-1971:** Paul Twitchell establishes modern-day Eckankar and publishes foundational works. He served as the 971<sup>st</sup> Living ECK Master, the first Living ECK Master of the modern era.
- **1971:** Darwin Gross succeeds Twitchell as the Living ECK Master, focusing on continuity and stability.
- **1981:** Sri Harold Klemp becomes the third Living ECK Master of the modern-day, expanding the reach of Eckankar globally, often teaching through stories and parables, pioneering “everyday spirituality” as a valid form of spiritual experience.
- **1986:** Eckankar moves to Minneapolis, Minnesota, from Menlo Park, California.
- **1987:** Klemp establishes worldwide network of over 80 regional ECK leaders serving over 100 countries.
- **1989:** The  symbol is accepted by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as an emblem of belief for placement on government headstones and markers.
- **1990:** The Temple of ECK in Chanhassen, Minnesota, the worldwide spiritual home of Eckankar, is completed.
- **1992:** Harold Klemp is entered into *The International Who's Who of Intellectuals, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*, a reference of notable people worldwide.
- **1998:** Eckankar receives the “Copper Top Award” from the Greater Minneapolis Convention & Visitors Association in recognition of its community spirit.
- **2002:** ECK Outdoor Celebrations of Life Chapel built on the Temple of ECK campus.
- **2003:** Midwest Independent Publishers Association awards best overall book in the religion/philosophy category for 2003 to *The Language of Soul* by Harold Klemp.
- **2004:** ECK Spiritual Center, worldwide administrative center, built on the Temple of ECK campus.

- **2004:** Harold Klemp's book *Love – The Keystone of Life* receives the Benjamin Franklin Silver Award in the Religion Category and a Merit Award from the Midwest Independent Publishers Association.
- **2007:** Eckankar receives the *Environmental Excellence Award* from the City of Chanhassen "to recognize environmental improvements and encourage environmental stewardship throughout the community."
- **2007:** Harold Klemp's book *The Awakened Heart* receives three Finalist Next Generation Indie Book awards in multiple categories.
- **2011:** The University of St. Thomas announces the Interfaith Art pARTners Festival, a Twin Cities interfaith art collaboration that includes Eckankar's *Spiritual Art Gallery: Art as Stories of God's Love for Soul*.
- **2014:** The Huffington Post cites the [Temple of ECK](#) in Chanhassen as one of the most spiritual places in Minnesota.
- **2017:** Eckankar receives Excellence in Meetings, Events and Conventions Award from *Meet Minneapolis* (convention bureau for the City of Minneapolis)
- **2017:** The book, *Autobiography of a Modern Prophet*, by Harold Klemp is awarded New Age Non-Fiction "Best Book" by the American Bookfest.
- **2017:** The Board of Chaplaincy Certification Inc. (BCCI) recognizes and includes Eckankar as a faith for chaplains.
- **2018:** Eckankar and the HU chant featured in Ohio State University's *American Religious Sounds Project*.
- **2014-2024:** Interfaith activities take place in Africa, Canada, Australia, United Kingdom, and the U.S., including participation in the 2015 Parliament of World Religions
- **2025:** A new Living ECK Master will be announced, marking the next cycle in Eckankar's unfoldment. 2025 represents the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the introduction of the modern-day Eckankar teachings by founder Paul Twitchell. This new cycle is known as *The Days of Light and Hope*, seen as a time of both challenge and divine opportunity.