

# SRI RAMAKRISHNA SEVA SAMITHI

RAMAKRISHNA COMPLEX ROAD  
VIJAYALAKSHMI PURAM

**BAPATLA – 522 101**

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An affiliate of Sri Ramakrishna Vivekananda Bhava Prachara Parishat, Andhra Pradesh

## ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009

Our Samithi was founded in the year 1970 as a registered society with the inspiration of monks of the Ramakrishna Order. We present hereunder its multifarious activities during the present financial year.

We present hereunder the various activities undertaken on several fronts: 1. *Spiritual activities*; 2. *Regular Lectures* 3. *Narayana Seva* 4. *Children's activities*; 5. *Youth Activities*; 6. *Annual Competitions*; 7. *Publication of Books*; 8. *Rural Development*; 9. *Others*.

### 1) SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES

*Daily Prayer meeting* was held on all days throughout the year. On *Ekadasi Days* Ramanama Sankirtanam was done in the evenings.

*Kalpataru Day* was celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> January with Puja in the morning and lighting of incense sticks and meditation in the evening. All the important celebrations like *Tithi Pujas* of Bhagavan Sri Ramakrishna, Holy Mother Sarada Devi and Swami Vivekananda were held with Special Puja in the morning and with arati and a discourses in the evening.



*Sri Ramakrishna Jayanti* was celebrated on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2009. Puja was performed in the morning sankirtan and lecture were conducted in the evening. The *Birthday of Sri Sarada Devi* was celebrated on 18-12-2008 with puja in the morning and by lighting of candles in the evening. The birthday celebrations of Swami Vivekananda were celebrated 17-01-2009.

On 3 September 2008, *Vinayaka Chaviti* was celebrated. Balavihar children made idols of *Vinayaka* with black soil and the idols were worshipped. In the evening 'Nimajjanam' was performed with sankirtan. On *Deepavali day Lakshmi puja* was conducted in the evening. An effigy of 'Narakasura' was prepared by the children and the same was burnt. Later sweets and crackers were distributed among children. All the other important celebrations like *Sri Ramanavami*, *Krishna Ashtami*, *Siva Ratri*, *Christmas Eve* were celebrated in the Samithi with special Puja in the morning and special Bhajan in the evening.

### SPIRITUAL RETREATS

On 31-8-2008 a Spiritual Retreat was conducted under the guidance of Srimat Swami Achintyanandaji Maharaj (Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry). Revered Swamiji delivered a lecture and conducted Sankirtan. Another spiritual retreat was conducted under the guidance of Srimat Swami Swasamvedyanandaji Maharaj (Ramakrishna Mission, Vijayawada.)



## 2) REGULAR LECTURES

Throughout the year on Thursdays Lectures on Geeta were conducted by Sri N. Ramagopal, Treasurer of our samithi and on Sundays Lectures on Kathamrita were conducted by Sri A. Natarajan, Secretary of our samithi. The Birthdays of the 16 direct disciples were celebrated with a discourse in the evening by Sri N. Ramagopal on the life and teachings of the disciple.

## 3) NARAYANA SEVA (POOR FEEDING)

On 20-2-2009, Narayana Seva was conducted on the occasion of the birth anniversary Sri Sri Guru Maharaj. 450 people were sumptuously fed.

## 4) CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Children activity 'BALAVIHAR' continued as a very important activity of the Samithi. About 50 children from the nearby locality irrespective of caste and religion attend Samithi regularly and are involved in all kinds of activities.

Every evening a class of yogasanas is conducted. A class of singing is being conducted with the accompaniment of musical instruments. Children are learning to play it as well as sing to its accompaniment. Moral classes were conducted for the children in which they are taught moral stories from Indian culture, life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda by using a computer for displaying various items. 'Academic assistance' was given to the children by teaching them.

Every evening the children are provided with supplementary food. A common kitchen run by the volunteers is being maintained in the samithi. Everyday 4 kgs of food is cooked and distributed to the children. The leaf plates used for serving the food are being stitched in the samithi as a part of the Earn While You Learn programme.

## 5) YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### STUDY CIRCLE

Study circle is being conducted regularly. It is receiving good response from the high school and college students. Teachings of swami vivekananda are the main thrust along with learning english and general knowledge, through reading and discussing, newspaper etc. The youth are being taught yogasanas.



### FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS:

One of our youth members Mr.P.V.Subba Rao is studying a 4-year Diploma in Temple Architecture at Tirupati. Our Samithi extended financial assistance to the tune of Rs.6,000/- to him to pursue his studies.

### EARN WHILE YOU LEARN PROGRAMME

Swami Vivekananda exhorted the youth of India to stand on their own feet. Samithi is making efforts to impart various skills to the youth attending the Samithi. During the year the youth were trained in

making leaf-plates which are being used for distributing supplementary food to the children. The youth were paid a nominal amount as an incentive.

The youth were also encouraged to learn skills by plumbing, electric wiring, gardening and other maintenance works in the samithi on a voluntary basis.

#### 6) ANNUAL COMPETITIONS – VIVEKANANDA CULTURAL AWARDS PROGRAMME (VCAP)

Annual Competitions were conducted for students of School and college under the name Vivekananda Cultural Awards Programme. During this year competitions were conducted for school and college students separately. Sri KVRG Sarma, member, acted as the convenor in organizing the competitions.

##### SCHOOL LEVEL

From 12.08.2008 to 31.08.2008 competitions for school children were conducted. Various competitions like Essay writing, Elocution in English and Telugu, Quizzes like General quiz, Science quiz, Culture quiz, Recitation of Padyams, Slokams and quotations of Swami Vivekananda, Spot painting, Singing devotional songs, patriotic songs, making models of science, and vocabulary tests etc. For several of the competitions the book Pushpanjali was used as a source book. The competitions were conducted from L.Kg to 10<sup>th</sup> class at 6 levels. A total of 2200 children from some 20 schools participated in the event.

On 31.08.2008 at 4 p.m. a prize distribution ceremony was conducted. Revered Swami Achintyanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry graced the occasion, blessed the children and gave away the prizes and mementoes.



##### COLLEGE LEVEL

From 01.08.2008 to 11.08.2008 competitions were conducted for college youth. Various competitions like Essay writing, Elocution in English and Telugu, Debating, Quizzes like General quiz, Culture quiz, Spot painting, Kavitha rachana, Kathanika Rachana, Group discussion, Singing devotional songs, patriotic songs etc. were conducted. Topics like the life and message of Swami Vivekananda, and topics of cultural significance and national importance were primarily used for the competitions. A total of more than 350 students from 30 different colleges Guntur and Prakasam districts participated. Rev. Swami Anupamanandaji Maharaj, Director, Vivekananda School of Languages, Hyderabad spoke and gave away the prizes. A Seminar was conducted on ‘Will-power and its Development’ in which students and Swamiji spoke.

#### 7) RURAL DEVELOPMENT

New dresses and educational materials were distributed to the school children at Saradapuri school at an expenditure of Rs.14,706/- Revered Swami Swasamvedyanandaji Maharaj graced the occasion, gave away the dresses and blessed the children.

#### 8) PUBLICATION OF BOOKS

During the year an illustrated edition of Oka Katha Cheputa Vinu was brought out. It received very good response. During this year English version of ‘Hanuman – Ideal for building a great personality’ was brought out. It has also received good response. During this year most of the publications were re-printed and all of them continued to receive good response from public.

**9) BOOK-STALLS AND VIVEKANANDA EXHIBITIONS**

During the year young members of the Samithi took pains in conducting book stalls at various places in Bapatla and surrounding towns like Chirala and Guntur.

**10) OTHERS**

Construction: An asbestos shed was erected on the building adjacent to the Samithi at an expenditure of Rs.84,812.50 ps. Additional space created by this would be used for various activities.



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We are grateful to the monks of the Ramakrishna order for their continued guidance and patronage. We thank our auditor Sri Karumanchi Krishna Murthy garu, Chartered Accountant for auditing the accounts of the Samithi. We also thank the several friends and donors who continued to patronize the Samithi. May Sri Sri Guru Maharaj bless them all is our constant prayer.

Since the year of inception in 1970 there are no paid servants in the Samithi. All the maintenance work like sweeping, dusting, cooking food for children, cleaning the vessels of the kitchen etc., in the samithi are done by the volunteers. We pray to the Holy Trio to bless all the volunteers.

OM TAT SAT  
SARVAM SRI RAMAKRISHNARPANAMASTU

Date: 01.07.2009  
Place: Bapatla.

(Amirapu Natarajan)  
Secretary