

SRI RAMAKRISHNA SEVA SAMITHI

RAMAKRISHNA COMPLEX ROAD
VIJAYALAKSHMI PURAM

BAPATLA – 522 101

e-mail: rksamithibapatla@gmail.com

For more details visit our web-site: www.unworldliness.org

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

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

Our Samithi which has a Dhyana Mandiram located in Vijayalakshmi Puram from where it is conducting various activities 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. Visits by Dignitaries 4. Narayana Seva 5. Children's activities; 6. Youth Activities; 7. Annual Competitions; 8. Publication of Books, 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 1st 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 16th February, 2010. Puja was performed in the morning. Sankirtan and lecture were conducted in the evening. The *Birthday of Sri Sarada Devi* was celebrated on 8th December, 2009 with Puja in the morning and by lighting of candles in the evening. The birthday celebrations of Swami Vivekananda were celebrated 6-01-2010.



On 23 August, 2009, *Vinayaka Chaviti* was celebrated. Bala Vihar 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 in the evening. 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 13-9-2009 a Spiritual Retreat was conducted under the guidance of Srmat Swami Aksharatmanandaji Maharaj (Ramakrishna Math, Rajahmundry). Revered Swamiji delivered a lecture and conducted Sankirtan.

2) REGULAR LECTURES

Throughout the year on Thursdays Lectures on Geeta were conducted by Dr. 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 Dr. N. Ramagopal on the life and teachings of the disciple.

3) VISITS BY DIGNITARIES

Sri C. Sridhar I.A.S, Municipal Commissioner, Patna, visited our Samithi on 12.1.2010. He addressed the Children, Youth and Elders of the Samithi.

4) NARAYANA SEVA (POOR FEEDING)

On 14-2-2010, Narayana Seva was conducted on the occasion of the birth anniversary Sri Sri Guru Maharaj. 500 people were sumptuously fed.



5) CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Children activity '**BALA VIHAR**' 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.

1. Every evening a yoga class is conducted.
2. A class of singing is being conducted. Children are learning to play it as well as sing to its accompaniment. A teacher for playing Dholak and Tabla is engaged who is giving classes to the children on every Sunday.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. The leaf plates used for serving the food are being stitched in the Samithi as a part of the Earn While You Learn programme.
6. The Balavihar children who attended regularly were distributed two sets of stitched dresses.

6) YOUTH ACTIVITIES

STUDY CIRCLE

Study circle is being conducted regularly. Teachings of Swami Vivekananda are the topic of discussion along with learning English and general knowledge, through reading, discussing, and watching documentaries on the computer. The youth are encouraged to practice yogaasanas.

FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. Mr.P.V.Subba Rao, whose education was sponsored by samithi, completed a 4-year Diploma in Temple Architecture at Tirupati in this academic year. He specialised in cement sculpture.

2. This year, one more student Mr. K.Srinivas sponsored by samithi was joined in the school of Temple architecture run by TTD at Tirupati. He is specializing in wood carving.
3. Mr. G.Venkata Rao, II year student of Ag. College was given financial aid.

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN PROGRAMME

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. The youth were also encouraged to learn skills by plumbing, electric wiring, gardening and other maintenance works in the samithi on a voluntary basis.
4. The youth are encouraged to conduct book-stalls to spread the message of Swami Vivekananda by selling the low-priced books of Ramakrishna Math and the Samithi.

7) 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.

SCHOOL LEVEL

From 08.08.2009 to 21.08.2009 competitions for school children were conducted. Various competitions like Essay writing, Elocution in English and Telugu, Quiz, Recitation of Poems, Slokams and quotations of Swami Vivekananda, Spot painting, Singing devotional songs, patriotic songs, making models of science, and vocabulary tests, group discussion were conducted. For several of the competitions the Samithi publication Pushpanjali was used as a source book. The competitions were conducted from L.Kg to 10th class at 6 levels. A total of 2400 children from 20 schools participated in the event.



On 13.09.2009 at 4 p.m. a prize distribution ceremony was conducted. Revered Swami Aksharatmanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry graced the occasion, blessed the children and gave away the prizes and mementoes. Dr. K. Lakshmi Prasad, Principal, Bapatla Engineering College and Dr. C. Sriramachandra Murthy, Vision Institute of Technology, graced the occasion as special guests.

COLLEGE LEVEL

From 28.08.2009 to 30.08.2009 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, 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 500 students from 25 different colleges Guntur and Prakasam districts participated.

A seminar was conducted on 'Re-building personality through Self-esteem' in which Rev. Swami Aksharatmanandaji Maharaj, President, Ramakrishna Math, Rajahmundry spoke and gave away the prizes.



8) PUBLICATION OF BOOKS

During the year a new book on the importance of “Adherence to Duty” titled “Kartavya Nishta” in Telugu was published and released in December, 2009. During this year most of the publications were re-printed and all of them continued to receive good response from public.

9) OTHERS: BOOK-STALLS AND VIVEKANANDA EXHIBITIONS

An Afforestation Programme is started this year. A large number of *Pongamia* seedlings were being raised in the Samithi and this year, the plants were planted in the road-sides of Ramakrishna complex road. The plants are being watered by the volunteers of the samithi.

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.

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, maintaining the accounts 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: 01.05.2010
Place: Bapatla.

(Amirapu Natarajan)
Secretary