

SRI RAMAKRISHNA SEVA SAMITHI

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VIJAYALAKSHMI PURAM

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

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

ANNUAL REPORT 2010–2011

Our Samithi has a Dhyana Mandiram located in Vijayalakshmi Puram of Bapatla. All the activities are being conducted from here. This organisation was founded in the year 1970 as a registered society with the inspiration of monks of the Ramakrishna Order.

We present hereunder the various activities undertaken on several fronts during the financial year 2010-2011 : 1.Spiritual activities; 2. Regular Lectures 3. Narayana Seva 4. Children's activities; 5. Youth Activities; 6. Annual Competitions; 7. Publication of Books, 8. Others.

1) SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES

Daily Prayer meeting was held on all days throughout the year. On *Ekadasi* Days Ramanama Sankirtanam was conducted 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 6 March, 2011. Puja was performed in the morning. Sankirtan and lecture were conducted in the evening. The *Birthday of Sri Sarada Devi* was celebrated on 27 December, 2010 with Puja in the morning and by lighting of candles in the evening. The birthday celebrations of Swami Vivekananda were celebrated 26-01-2011.

On 11 September, 2010, *Vinayaka Chaviti* was celebrated. Bala Vihar children made an idol of *Vinayaka* with black soil and the idol was worshipped. In the evening 'Nimajjanam' was performed with sankirtan. On 5 November, 2010, *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* (24 March, 2010), *Krishna Ashtami* (1 September, 2010), *Siva Ratri* (3 March, 2011), *Christmas Eve* (24 December, 2010) were celebrated in the Samithi with special Puja in the morning and special Bhajan in the evening.

SPIRITUAL RETREATS

On 3 September, 2010 a Spiritual Retreat was conducted under the guidance of Srimat Swami Sithikanthanandaji Maharaj (Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad). Revered Swamiji delivered a lecture and conducted Sankirtan.



2) REGULAR LECTURES

Throughout the year on Thursdays Lectures on Geeta were conducted by Sri A. Naresh on Thursdays and on Sundays Lectures on Kathamrita were conducted by Sri A. Natarajan, Secretary of our Samithi.

3) NARAYANA SEVA (POOR FEEDING)

On 27 February, 2011, 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 '**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 singing class is being conducted. Children are learning to play it as well as sing to its accompaniment. A teacher is engaged to conduct Dholak and Tabla classes 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 the volunteers of the samithi.

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF DRESSES TO SCHOOL CHILDREN

School Uniform Dresses were stitched and provided to 74 school children of Sitarama Municipal Primary school, 1st line Vijayalakshmi puram, Bapatla at a cost of 24,000/-



5) 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 yoga.



FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. Mr. K.Srinivas is being given scholarship, who joined in the school of Temple architecture run by TTD at Tirupati. He is specializing in wood carving.

2. Mr. B.Venkata Rao, III year student of Ag. College was given financial aid.

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.

1. During the year the youth were trained in making leaf-plates which are being used for distributing supplementary food to the children. The youth also prepared The youth were paid a nominal amount as an incentive.

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

3. 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.

TRAINING PROGRAMME IN AGRI-BUSINESS

Extending the various training programmes to youth, we have constructed a small room and a hut in the nearby site owned by the samithi. The room would be useful as a tool-



room and the hut is being used to raise chicken etc. Youth members are encouraged to take part in the activity and they are being trained in various methods of feeding, watering, vaccination and other care. Encouragement is being given to evolve new methods of producing larvae from kitchen waste, and vegetable/fruit market waste to be used as feed for the chicken. Vermi-composting is also being done on a limited scale.

AFFORESTATION PROGRAMME

A large number of *Pongamia* seedlings were being raised in the Samithi and this year, the plants were planted in the road-sides of Vijayalakshmiapuram. The plants are being watered by the volunteers of the samithi.



CARNATIC MUSIC PROGRAMME

With a view to encourage young learner's of Carnatic Music, monthly programmes are arranged where young talent is showcased. Every month two youth would sing to accompaniment of drums and other instruments.

6) ANNUAL COMPETITIONS FOR YOUTH: VIVEKANANDA CULTURAL AWARDS PROGRAMME (VCAP)

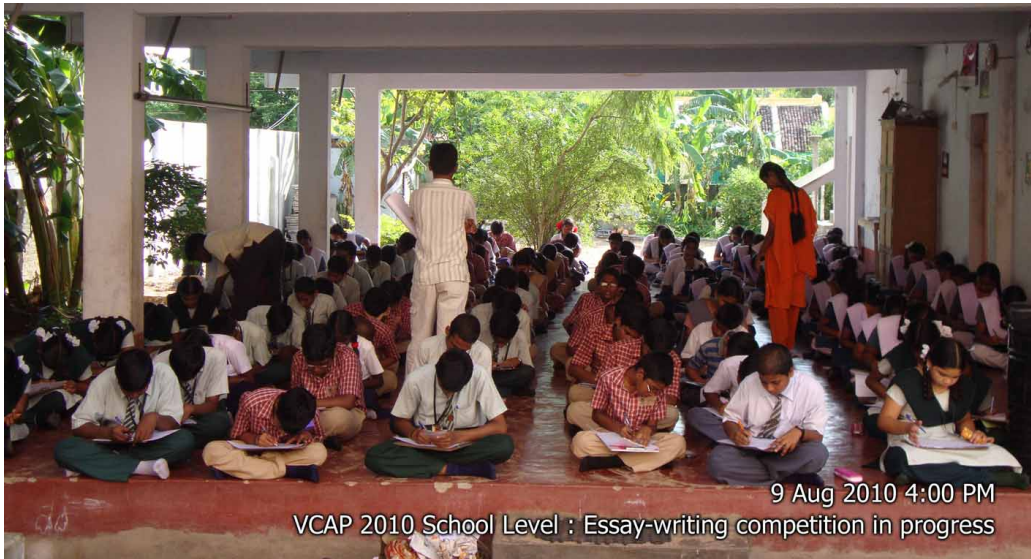
= = = SILVER JUBILEE OF VCAP 1985-2010 = = =

Annual Competitions were conducted for students of School and college under the name Vivekananda Cultural Awards Programme. During this year, the 25th year of the competitions, a special Silver Jubilee Edition of competitions were conducted for school and college students separately. A special report on the activity of competitions was published under the name, "VIVEKA SPHOORTHY". (This year happens to be the 40th anniversary of the Samithi.)

SCHOOL LEVEL

From 07.08.2010 to 21.08.2010 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 con-

ducted. 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 2500 children from 20 schools participated in the event.



9 Aug 2010 4:00 PM
VCAP 2010 School Level : Essay-writing competition in progress

On 04.09.2010 at 4 p.m. the Silver Jubilee of VCAP prize distribution ceremony was conducted. Revered Swami Sithikanthanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad graced the occasion, blessed the children and gave away the prizes and mementoes. On this occasion he released the 14th publication of our Samithi titled, “Mana Mahonnata Vaarasatvam.” Dr. Pannala Syamasundara Murty, President of our samithi and State Convener, AP Ramakrishna Vivekananda Bhava Prachara Parishat graced the occasion as special guest.

COLLEGE LEVEL

From 27.08.2010 to 29.08.2010 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.

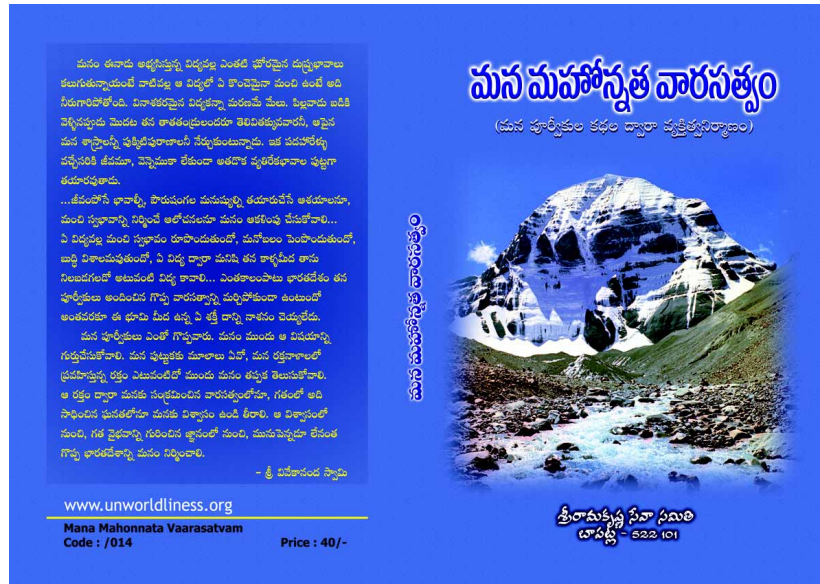


4 Sep 2010 4:54 PM
VCAP 2010 : SILVER JUBILEE OF THE COMPETITIONS
The Prize distribution-function of the School Level Vivekananda cultural Awards Programme
Revered Swami Sithikanthanandaji Maharaj released the book
"Mana Mahonnata Vaarasatvam" published on the occasion.

A Youth Seminar was conducted on 05.09.2010 on the topic, 'Youth and Self-confidence' in which Revered Swami Sithikanthanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad spoke and later gave away the prizes to prize winners of the competitions. On this occasion Revered Swamiji Sithikanthanandaji Maharaj, released the souvenir "Viveka Sphoorthi" which was published on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the competitions. Sri, P.V.Narasimha Rao, Divisional Manager, BSNL, Ongole, was the chief guest. Several important dignitaries of the Bapatla town who attended this meeting and who had been associated with the competitions in various ways gave their impressions about the competitions. They were given special mementos by Revered Swamiji.

7) PUBLICATION OF BOOKS

During the year a new book on personality development through the study of the great personalities of Puranas and Upanishads entitled "Mana Mahonnata Vaarasatvam" in Telugu was published and released on 04.09.2010 by Rev. Swami Shithikanthanandaji Maharaj. During this year all of the publications were re-printed and all of them continued to receive good response from public.



8) OTHERS: 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.

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 RAMAKRISHNAR PANAMASTU

Date: 01.05.2011
Place: Bapatla.

(Amirapu Natarajan)
Secretary