

SRI RAMAKRISHNA SEVA SAMITHI

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VIJAYALAKSHMI PURAM

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



ANNUAL REPORT 2013–2014

Our organisation founded in the year 1970 as a registered society with the inspiration of monks of the Ramakrishna Mission, continues to work upholding the ideal given by Swami Vivekananda - 'Atmano mokshartham jagaddhitayacha.'

We present hereunder the various activities undertaken on several fronts during the financial year 2013-2014 : 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 works.

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 3 March, 2014. Puja was performed in the morning. Sankirtan and lecture were conducted in the evening. The Birthday of **Sri Sarada Devi** was celebrated on 24 December, 2013 with Puja in the morning and by lighting of candles in the evening. The birthday celebrations of





Swami Vivekananda were celebrated 23 January, 2013.

On 9 September, 2013, **Vinayaka Chaturthi** was celebrated. The youth members made an idol of Ganesh with clay which was worshipped. In the evening 'Nimajjanam' was performed with sankirtan. On 2 November, 2013, **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 **Krishna Ashtami** (28 August, 2013), **Shiva Ratri** (27 February, 2014) **Christmas eve** (24 December, 2013) were celebrated in the Samithi with special Puja in the morning and special Bhajan in the evening.

SPIRITUAL RETREATS

Two spiritual retreats were conducted during this financial year.

First spiritual retreat was conducted under the guidance of Revered Swami Purnabodhanandaji Maharaj (Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad) on 18 August, 2013.



Second spiritual retreat was conducted by Revered Swami Paramasukhanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Math, Chennai on 1 September, 2013.

2) REGULAR LECTURES

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

Dr.N.Ramagopal, Treasurer, conducted talks on the life of Holy Mother Sri Sarada Devi.

3) NARAYANA SEVA

ANNADANAM (FEEDING THE POOR)

On 02 March, 2013, Narayana Seva was conducted on the occasion of the birth anniversary Sri Sri Guru Maharaj. 500 people were sumptuously fed.



HOMEO-DISPENSARY (MONTHLY)

A monthly Homeo dispensary is being conducted by the Samithi. Dr.N.Aruna Kumari, DHMS, a renowned homeo-physician is treating the patients. All the medicines are being provided free of cost. The activity has received good response from the citizens of the locality and nearly 50 patients are attending each camp and are availing the services.

4) CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

The activity of children 'BALA VIHAR' continued as a very important activity of the Samithi. About 70 children from the nearby locality irrespective of caste and religion attend Samithi regularly and are actively 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 sing bhajans and patriotic songs.

3. Moral classes were conducted for the children which include narration of 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 10 kgs of food is cooked and the children are fed.

5. Computer based teaching and computer learning classes were conducted for the children of Balavihar.



HINDI EXAMINATION

The children of Balavihar are encouraged to attend the Dakshina Bharata Hindi Prachara Sabha examinations. Five students for Parichay examination, three students passed prathamika, one student passed the Madhyama Examination in Aug., 2013.

TAILORING

Four children of Balavihar are learning tailoring. They are 1. P.Durga Rani, 2. K.Saranu priya, 3. Ch. Rajya lakshmi, 4. K. Satyavathi.

An amount of Rs.11,142 was spent on tuition fee and cloth. During the year as many as 60 dresses were stitched by these girls while undergoing the training classes. All the dresses were distributed to the girls of attending Balavihar activity. We are proud to add that we have achieved self-sufficiency in providing dresses to the girl children of Balavihar.



GADADHAR ABHYUDAYA PRAKALPA

Our Samithi conducted Gadadhar Abhyudaya Prakalpa programme for 36 months under aegis of Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry. The said scheme was funded by Government of India commemorating the 150th Birth Anniversary celebrations of Swami Vivekananda. The said programme concluded on 31.03.2014. During the above period the activity of balavihar expanded on a big scale. Children were provided with nutritious food, milk and fruits every day. They were also provided with toiletries, dresses, school bags, books etc.

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 yogasanas.

On 5 Sep., 2013 children from Govt.School, Epuru-palem, a village near Bapatla, visited our samithi. A class on personality development was conducted for them

and free books were given as memetoes.

FINANCIAL AID / SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. Mr. John Augustine, a member of Balavihar, who passed his tenth class, joined in the College of Temple architecture run by TTD at Tirupati final year specializing in stone sculpture. During this year he is awarded a scholarship of Rs. 14,000. During this year, he won a prize of Rs.1000 in a national level sculpture competition conducted in Tenali. He is also pursuing a course in Mridangam in the Music college at Tirupathi.



An amount of Rs.7540 was given as scholarship to other deserving students of Balavihar.

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



Along with working with incubators, chicken, turkeys, quails and quinea fowl are being incubated and reared. Youth members are encouraged to take part in the activity and they are being trained in various methods of feeding, watering, medication and other care. Homeo-medicines are being used. 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.

AFFORESTATION PROGRAMME

The pongamia and other plants which were planted in the road-sides of Vijayalakshmiipuram are being watered by the volunteers of the samithi.

CARNATIC MUSIC PROGRAMME 'SANGEETA JHARI'

With a view to encourage young learner's of Carnatic Music, monthly programmes are arranged where young talent is showcased. The programme is entitled "Sangeetha Jhari". Every month young singers would sing to accompaniment of drums and other instruments.

The anniversary celebration of this particular programme was conducted on 19 January, 2014. On this occasion a special lecture on carnatic music was conducted by Smt. V.S.D. Syamasundari Devi, Retd. Principal, Bandlamudi Hanumayamma College, Guntur. Smt. G. Lakshmi, Music Teacher, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Bapatla also participated. The participants of this years programmes gave a special music programme and were given away participation certificates and mememtoes.



6) ANNUAL COMPETITIONS FOR YOUTH: 28TH VIVEKANANDA CULTURAL AWARDS PROGRAMME

Annual Competitions were conducted for students of School and college under the name Vivekananda Cultural Awards Programme. During this year, the 28th year of the competitions, they were conducted for school and college students separately.



SCHOOL LEVEL

From 03.08.2013 to 15.08.2013 competitions for school children were conducted from L.Kg to 10th class at 6 levels. Various events 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, model making and vocabulary tests, group discussion were conducted. For several of the competitions the Samithi publication Pushpanjali was used as a source book. A total of 2300 children from 20 schools participated in the event.

On 18.08.2013 at 4 p.m. the school level VCAP prize distribution ceremony was conducted. Revered Swami Purnabodhanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad graced the occasion, blessed the children and gave away the prizes and mementoes.

COLLEGE LEVEL

From 21.11.2013 to 23.11.2013 competitions for college students were conducted for intermedite and degree students seperately.

A Youth Seminar was conducted on 24.11.2013 on the topic, 'Powers of the mind' in





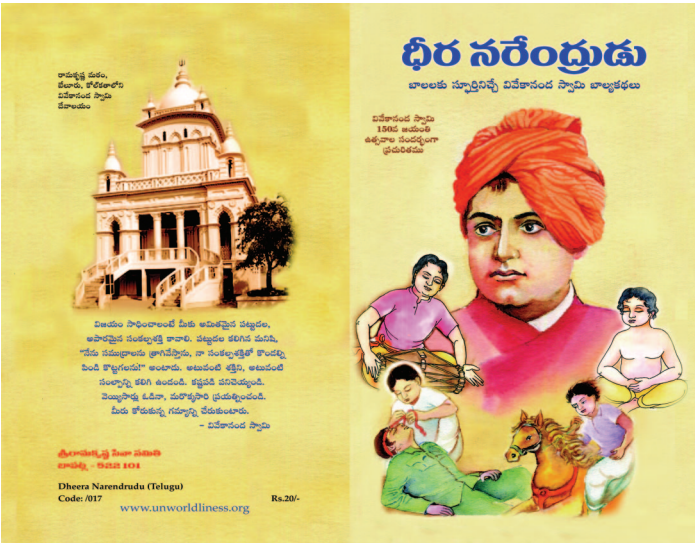
which Revered Pravrajika Bhavani Prana Mataji and Revered Pravrajika Atmanishtha Prana Mataji of Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, Guntur spoke, answered questions of students and later gave away the prizes to winners of the competitions. Prof. K.V.L.N. Acharyulu, Engineering College, Bapatla was the chief guest.

7) PUBLICATION OF BOOKS

A new, multi-colour, book entitled “Dheera Narendrudu” was published in

November, 2013. The book was written by Late Sri B.S.R.Anjaneyulu garu, founder of the organization. It deals with the heroic childhood episodes of Swami Vivekananda.

During this year all of the publications were re-printed and all of them continued to receive good response from public.



8) RURAL WORKS

Saradapuri: During the year, Samithi assisted in the conduct of the Annual Event of “Poleramma Tirunallu”, which was organised by the villagers of the Saradapuri colony.

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 numerous friends, well-wishers and donors for their continued patronize the Samithi. May Sri Sri Guru Maharaj bless them all is our constant prayer.

Since the year of its 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, maintaining the accounts etc., in the samithi are done by the volunteers. We pray to the Holy Trio to shower their blessings on all the volunteers for their tireless efforts.

OM TAT SAT
SARVAM SRI RAMAKRISHNAR PANAMASTU

Date: 01.07.2014
Place: Bapatla.

(Amirapu Natarajan)
Secretary

