



LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

Love 5 Sevalaya's News Letter - February 2011 Serve 11 Price-Re.1

Dear Friends,

Sevalaya has most of its students residing in the Kasuva campus and some of them are staying in various hostels all over Tamilnadu, pursuing their higher studies. All these children land up in our Kasuva campus during holidays. One such student is Ms.Mahalakshmi, who is doing her nursing course in Dindigul, around 450 KMs, south of Chennai. She came to Chennai during this holiday season. As her bus was to arrive at the Chennai bus station at 6 in the morning, we had sent a staff member to pick her up and bring her to Sevalaya. You need to change two local buses and it will take sometime to reach our campus in the village. But that day morning around 6:15 I got a call from our campus in-charge that the girl has already arrived in the campus on her own, as her bus reached one hour before time and she didn't wait for our staff to pick her up. I was happy that the girl could manage on her own but I was also upset that the girl didn't bother to call on arrival, in which case we would have told that our staff was on the way. When I met her that afternoon, I tried to talk tough and told her not to take empty buses in such early hours all by herself, which may not be safe. "You are still a child for us; so don't try all this adventure". The girl was silently listening to me and then she said, "I have something else to tell you".

She told me how she met a boy by name Raja and she is in love with him and wants to marry him. "But, I will marry him only if you permit". I was speechless for a moment. I was advising this girl not to travel alone and she is talking to me about her marriage! She is not a child any more. Of course, she is 22 years old! Mahalakshmi lost her mother when she was very young and soon after her father deserted the family.

Some distant relatives brought her to Sevalaya and left her with us when she was a little girl. I am still assuming she is that little girl!

As she has no relatives, conducting the wedding becomes Sevalaya's full responsibility. So we first sent a staff member to Karur, around 400 KMs south of Chennai to visit the boy's home and meet his family members and of course verify the details given by the girl. After getting positive reply, we asked the boy and his family to visit Sevalaya. Then myself and another staff member went to his house again, this time to fix the date for the wedding and pass on our personal invitation to his family and relatives. We explained to the boy's mother that we have hundreds of girls like this and whatever we do for this girl, we have to do it for all. Hence costly wedding presents in terms of gold and silver are not possible. They understood the point and said there is no demand from their side.

The wedding will be conducted on 20/02/2011 Feb, from 9 AM to 10:30 AM, in a traditional Indian way at Sevalaya's Kasuva campus. This is a wedding of a daughter of Sevalaya. So you are her family. Please do attend the wedding and bless the couple.

Thanks & Regards

Murali

Sevalaya successfully clears Credibility alliance audit for credibility, accountability and transparency and gets the highest level of accreditation.

Mr.P.R.Krishnan, VP, TCS handing over computers



Smokeless Bhogi Awareness Rally



Bharathiyar Team

Events

On 01/01/2011, Mr. P.R.Krishnan, Vice president, TCS handed over the 20 computers donated by Tata consultancy services , Chennai to Sevalaya .

On 07/01/2011 Dr. A. Sheik Allaudhin conducted Acupuncture Medical Camp for the students and staff of Sevalaya.

On 08/01/2011, HCL CSR volunteers and Rotract club of Madras celebrated Pongal at Sevalaya.

On 09/01/2011, Sevalaya organized an awareness rally on Smokeless Bhogi. More than 1500 students from Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher secondary School, Govt. High school, Pakkam, Govt. Middle School, Melappedu, The New College, A.M Jain College, S D N B Vaishnava College, Gurunanak College, Siddharth College, Scio College, Green Galaxy, DRBCC Hindu College and Madras Central College participated in the rally. The rally was flagged off by Mr. V.S.Shanmugam, (Chairman, Thiuruvalur Union). The students carried placards containing messages on the need to protect our environment and raised slogans against the evils of burning plastic and tyres.



On 12/01/2011 two hundred students from Sevalaya participated in the National Youth Day celebrations organized by Sri Ramakrishna Mutt, Mylapore on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda Jayanthi. Mr.V.Muralidharan was one of the guest speakers on the occasion. Six thousand five hundred students from all over Tamil nadu participated. On the same day, Sevalaya put up a pictorial exhibition on the Life of Swami Vivekananda at Meenakshi College for Women, Chennai.

On 14/01/2011 Pongal, the harvest festival was celebrated in the traditional way. Venkatesh Mudaliyar, a village farmer, Mr.N.R.Sambasivam, owner of NRS brick chambers and R. Ramadass, Former President, Puliur were the Chief Guests.

On 20/01/2011, a team of teachers from Sri Karpagavalli school from Mylapore visited Sevalaya to study Sevalaya's education system.

Raghu, a student of Sevalaya participated in the Gandhi Yathra for ten days from 20/01/2011 to 30/01/2011 organized by Gandhi Yathra Darshan Kendra, Chitlapakkam.

On 21/01/2011 Annual Sports Day was celebrated. Mr.B. Balachandaran, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Uthukottai was the Chief Guest. While addressing the gathering he talked about the importance of games and sports in life.

On 24/01/2011 Volley ball and Kho-kho boys Team of Sevalaya participated in State level meet at Nazareth College, Avadi.

On 25/01/2011 Kho-kho girls Team of Sevalaya participated in State level meet at Nazareth College, Avadi.



On 25/01/2011, one hundred students participated in the awareness rally on "Right to Vote" organized by the district administration of Thiruvallur. Mr. T. P. Rajesh, District collector, Thiruvallur flagged off the rally.

Sevalaya put up a stall in the Hindu Spiritual & Service Fair 2011 held at Sri Ramachandra University Ground, Thiruvannamiyur from 25/01/2011 to 30/01/2011.

On 26/01/2011 Republic day was celebrated. Mr. S. Chandrasekaran, Manager, The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd was the Chief Guest. A blood donation camp was organized by Sevalaya Old students Association and Puthiya Thalaimurai Foundation through Indian Red Cross Society on the occasion. Public, Alumni, members of Puthiya Thalaimurai Foundation and staff of Sevalaya donated blood in large numbers.

A farewell party for twelfth standard students was organised on the same day.

On 29/01/2011 CTS Outreach, the CSR arm of CTS, conducted Junior Achiever Program for Sevalaya Students. 428 students participated and enjoyed the motivational lectures by the software professionals.

Sevalaya underwent Social Audit on 29/01/2011 & 30/01/2011. The audit was conducted by Mr. Patrick, Lead Auditor, from UK. He was assisted by Mr. D. V. Venkatagiri, Ms. Vijayalakshmi, Ms. Smita & Mr. Srinivasan as panel members. The audit was coordinated by Ms. Latha Suresh and Mr. S. Anand of Centre for Social Initiatives & Management.

On 30/01/2011, Sarvodaya Day - Mahatma Gandhi's death Anniversary, our students sang Gandhi Bhajans at Marina Beach near Gandhi statue.

Staff Book Review

"Gandhi" was taken up for discussion by Mr. C. Adhimuthu on 08/01/2011. On the same day Mr. V. Muralidharan shared his views on "Breakthrough Innovation". On 22/01/2011, V. Magariga spoke on "Stories of Gandhi". On the same day Ms. R. Kalamari spoke on Bapu My Mother.



School Clubs

On 19/01/2011 Bharathi Poem Recitation Competition was conducted by the Tamil club. On 25/01/2011, Reading Comprehension Competition was conducted by English Club. On 27/01/2011, Ms. J. Latha (Teacher, Karpagavalli School) shared her views on "India and its Pride" in the Social Science Club.

NSS Activities

The NSS wing of Sevalaya undertook the cleaning of boys' hostel on 24/01/2011.

TERI club

On 09/01/2011, three students participated in the Five days Bird watching and Environmental awareness camp organized by TERI at Point Calimere. (Kodiakarai)

Tour

On 13/01/2011 III B and VIII B students were taken on a tour to Vandallur Zoological Park

Trainings and seminars

R. Vijayaragavan, BT assistant attended a seminar on "Ennangalin Sangamam" (Confluence of Thoughts) on 02/01/2011 at Pattabiram. The Seminar was about how to serve the society in a coordinated way.

On 10/01/2011 N. Annapurna, R. Vijayaragavan and A.A. Kingston attended a seminar on "Developing the Creativity of the students" at British Council.

Annual Sports Day Celebration



Gandhi Team Events

On 15/01/2011 Rangoli competition was conducted for the village women of Kasuva, Ramanathapuram, Sivanvoil, Nallankavanur, Puliur, Kavanur, Puliur kandigai villages on the occasion of Pongal festival. Three women were selected from each village and winners were given prizes on the Annual Sports Day, on 21/01/2011.

On 16/01/2011 Volley Ball tournament was conducted for the village youth on the occasion of Mattu pongal. 32 teams participated in it and Venkatesh & Friends team walked away as winners and Veliur team as runners. The tournament was inaugurated by Dr.N. Ramu, Veterinay Doctor, Thiruvallur and the prizes were distributed on the Annual Sports Day on 21/01/2011.

Mobile Library

On 30/01/2011, Sevalaya's Mobile Library visited Kasuva village.

Kottu Murasu

On 27/01/2011, Sevalaya's Kottumurasu Troupe presented a cultural programme in Pakkam village.

Vivekananda Team Events

On 03/01/2011 Senior citizens attended Bharatanatyam programme presented by Ms. Bhavishya Balasubramaniam at Vani Mahal, T. Nagar.

On 15/01/2011 Mattu Pongal was celebrated in Goshala. Dr.N. Ramu, Veterinary doctor, Thiruvallur was the Chief Guest.

On 23/01/2011 Mr. A.V. Senthil conducted a motivation class for adolescent students staying in Sevalaya boys and girls homes.

Blood Donation Camp



On 24/01/2011 & 25/01/2011, A.A. Kingston participated in the two day seminar on sensitizing staff of NGO's on working effectively with children abiding by the JJ Act 2000, arranged by Department of Social Defense, Government of Tamilnadu, at Chennai.

On 25/01/2011 Senior citizens attended the Sinivasa Kalyanam organised by Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam at Sri Ramachandra University Ground at Thiruvannamiyur.

Visit to places of worship

On 02/01/2011 the hostel boys went to Ramanathapuram Vinayagar Temple. On 07/01/2011 the hostel boys went to Kasuva Vinayagar Temple. On 07/01/2011 the hostel girls went to Puliur Vinayagar temple. On 21/01/2011 the hostel boys went to Kasuva Vinayagar Temple.

Other events

On 16/01/2011, Mr.V.Muralidharan, along with few supporters of Sevalaya, visited Uttiramerur village to explore the possibilities of starting a Sevalaya branch there. Local contacts were made and the ball is set in motion.

On 18/01/2011, V.Muralidharan was an invited speaker at a meeting held by the Sociology department of M.O.P Vaishnava college and he made a presentation on the voluntary and employment opportunities for the students at Sevalaya.

On 24/01/2011, V.Muralidharan attended a meeting conducted by Puthiya Thalaimurai at Thiruvannamalai and presented his ideas on what should be covered as TV news.

Taking into account the expansion plans, Sevalaya has opened a city office in Adyar, Chennai. The address is given at the end of this newsletter. This office will operate as the head office and coordinate all activities of various centres of Sevalaya

Sevalaya boys and girls Home gets "Children's Home recognition" from the Department of Social Defense, Government of Tamil Nadu

Volunteers From CTS Outreach taking classes at Sevalaya



Gandhiji's Fasts XVI Lalnath Episode

In 1934, Gandhiji undertook an extensive tour of the country soliciting support for the Harijan cause and creating awareness. Wherever Gandhiji went the sanatis staged black flag demonstrations. They used intemperate language, and bombs were hurled at his retinue. All these agitated Gandhiji's followers but Gandhiji was unruffled. He only told the sanatanists that he did not aspire for martyrdom but, "if it comes my way in the prosecution of what I consider to be the supreme duty in defence of the faith I hold in common with millions of Hindus, I shall have well earned it..." On July 15th, Pandit Lalnath, leader of the sanatanists appeared at the venue of the meeting to be addressed by Gandhiji and created a ruckus. There was an altercation and he received a lathi blow on the head. Gandhi soon arrived at the scene and rebuked his followers and then called upon Pandit Lalnath to speak in the meeting putting forth his points of view. In a statement issued to the Press on that day Gandhiji declared his intention to fast. He said, "I have now decided to impose upon myself a fast of seven days, to commence on Tuesday noon, the 7th August, that is two days after reaching Wardha, which I expect to do on August 5th next. This is the least penance I owe to Pandit Lalnath and the sanatanists whom he represents. It is, perhaps, fitting that the end (of the Harijan tour) will be signalized by a penitential fast. May it cover all the errors, conscious or unconscious, of omission or commission, of me and my co-workers. The movement will not end with the fast. Let it open with a new and cleaner chapter in this struggle for the emancipation of nearly fifty million human beings from thralldom, imposed in the sacred name of religion. Let it also be a warning to those who are in, or will join the movement that they must approach it with clean hands and hearts, free from untruth and violence in thought word and deed..."

There is an interesting anecdote connecting this Lalnath. When Gandhiji was in Benares, he received a warrant "on behalf of the Lord of Kashi" calling upon him to appear before the kotwal of the Lord and there to be tried for the breach of Sanatana Dharma. Gandhiji asked the young sanatanist who served the warrant as to who gave him the warrant. He replied that the Lord prompted him to arrest Gandhiji. Then Gandhiji asked him that why the Lord did not ask him to obey the warrant. "Because you are a sinner against the Sanatana dharma" was the reply. At this stage, Lalnath appeared on the scene and asked for two portraits of Gandhiji. Gandhiji declined. The sanatanists procured Gandhiji's portrait and publicly burnt it. All the while Gandhiji's followers were watching the scene but they could not do anything as their hands were tied by the pacifist Gandhiji.

In 9 months of the Harijan tour Gandhiji covered more than 12500 miles and collected about 8 lakhs of rupees. He summarized his impressions of the tour thus: The impression left on my mind is that untouchability is on its last legs... A demonstrable awakening on a large scale has taken place among the Harijans... I would hope that the savarna Hindus will realize the wickedness of untouchability as it is practiced today and get rid of it themselves, rather than that they should be compelled to do so by the circumstances beyond their control.

Reaching Wardha on August 5, Gandhiji issued a statement: "As I enter upon the seven days' fast from tomorrow, I would like to reemphasize the necessity on the part of the Harijan workers helping the cause by greater personal purification and greater concentration on the work before them."

At the conclusion of the fast on August 14, he wrote, "The fast was primarily and nominally intended for the hurt caused to Lalnath and his friends at Ajmer at the hands of the sympathizers of the movement. But in reality, it is a call to all workers to be most exact and correct in approaching the opponents."

SPONSORSHIP DETAILS

SPONSORSHIP	CHILDREN HOME		OLD AGE HOME		Other Sponsorship	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)
FOOD	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)			
Milk(One Time)	500	7000	200	3200	Residential Expenses for one Child/one child/one Grandpa/year	6000	80000
Breakfast(one day)	1000	14000	500	7000	Maintenance of One Cow/year	6000	80000
Lunch/Dinner	2000	28000	1000	14000	Education Expenses for one Child/year	6000	80000
Lunch/Dinner with sweet or fruit	2500	35000	1250	20000	Salary for one staff per month	5000	850000
Fullday food Expenses	3500	50000	2000	28000	Funeral Expenses for one Grandpa/one Grandma	5000	70000
Fullday food Expenses with sweet or fruit	5000	70000	3000	42000	Cultural Expenses for one child/one Grandpa/one Grandma	1000	14000
					Medical Expenses for one child/one Grandpa/one Grandma	500	7000
					Camps and Tours, Temple Visit for one child/one Grandpa/one Grandma	500	7000
					Sports Expenses for one child per year	500	7000
					Educational Aids	1000	14000
					Educational Kits	1000	14000
					Higher Education	20000	300000
					Professional Higher Education	50000	700000
					Workshop/Training/for one Staff	2000	28000



Farewell Party For XII std



Republic Day Celebration

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