



LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

Love 1

Sevalaya's News Letter - July 2006

Serve 4

Price .Re.1

Dear Friends,

Most of us are caught in a rat race, where we have to keep going on and on and earn more and more money. It looks like there is no limit to this and as we earn more, we have a better life style, and better life style needs more resources! Most of our life time and energy is spent on 'money chasing'. We feel that money can give us all the happiness we want, but somehow till the end, never reach a fully happy state, as the neighbor seems to have made little more money than us at any given point of time!

The richest man in the world, Mr. Bill Gates announced this month that he will quit his post in his own empire he created, Microsoft, within two years, and take up charity work full time. Bill & Melinda Gates foundation was established by Bill Gates and his wife, some time ago and many service activities are taken up all over the world under this foundation. When Bill Gates was in India, he announced a major donation for Aids relief work in India. Rich people in the world can give away their money for charity, but why should they give up their profession and become full time social workers? According to Kanchi MahaSwami, if you are rich and if you are giving away money and not doing any physical labour for the benefit of the poor, then it again shows your arrogance! You want to tell the world that you are rich and you are capable of throwing away money, by supporting charity. But only when you are able to spend time and work with the poor, you show real concern. Just writing a cheque will only boost your ego. Plunging into the service act, being physically present where help is required, reduce your ego. We all have a lesson to learn from the richest man in the world.

The second richest man went one step ahead. Many people donate money, and in return, they want their name to be put up in bold letters, wherever possible. Mr. Warren Buffet donated 44 billion US dollars to Gates and Melinda foundation this week. This is about 85% of his wealth. Mr. Warren says he does not believe in his sons and daughters inheriting such a huge property from him and they can stand on their own legs. He didn't prefer to start a foundation on his own, and felt it was much easier to donate to an existing foundation. He is not seeking his name to be engraved anywhere!

The top two rich people in the world have joined hands to serve the needy in the world. More than the money, the positive signals such acts can send will bring more peace and happiness in the world. Gates foundation has double resources now to fund projects all over the world and Bill and Melinda will be personally working on such charitable projects. May be the message from the richest people are that the money is not going to bring in happiness to you, unless it is given away. And along with giving away money, give your time also to charity, which will make your life more purposeful.

Sevalaya may or may not get any funds from this, but I am very happy, just to see that lot of funds are now available for the benefit of the poor in the world.

Thanks & Regards
Murali



strategy Meeting

Study Circle

Ms. N. Annapoorna reviewed the book "Pilgrimage" by Paul Coelho on 10/06/2006. On 17/06/2006 Mr. G.Chittibabu shared his thoughts on the book Gandhi's Education. Bharahiyar's Life History by Vaa.Raa was Ms. P. Sundari's choice for review on 24/06/2006

Students Study circle

K. Chitra shared her views on the book Secrets of Success (Tamil) by Akilan on 10/06/2006. Cine artiste and Social Activist Ms. Revathy was our special guest for the meeting. R. Kavitha chose Akilan's "Kalpana Chawla" for review on 17/06/2006. The book "World Famous Women" (Tamil) by Rajagopalan was discussed by S.Baby on 24 / 06/2006

For the fourth year in a row...

All the students of Sevalaya who appeared for the X Standard Board Examinations were successful. Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School is the only Higher Secondary School in Thiruvallur District to achieve this distinction. We present a brief report of our results following pages:



Revathi Visit to Sevalaya



sidda camp

Medical Camps

The bi- monthly free Siddha medical camp organised by Kilpauk Sathya Sai Seva Samithi and conducted by a team of doctors from Arignar Anna Siddha Medical College was held on 11/06/2006. Nearly 300 people were benefitted by the camp where free medicines were distributed.

NSS Camp

The students of Anna University conducted a 10 day camp from 17.06.2006 to 26.06.2006.

Revathi congratulates staff of Sevalaya

Ms.Revathi, film star and Director, came in person to Sevalaya campus on 10/06/06 and congratulated the Sevalaya staff for acheiving 100% results in 10th and 12th standards, for the fourth time in a row.

Ramayana for the Senior citizens

Shri. Keeranur Ramamurthy stayed in the campus for four days (19/06/06- 22/06/06)and condcuted a religious lecture on Ramayana for the senior citizens. The grandpas and grandmas of our old age home enjoyed the lecture.



Keeranur Ramamurthy Religious Lecture



R.Yamuna Rani 456/500



S.Deepa 439/500



R.Devi 409/500

HIGH SCHOOL TOPPERS 2005-2006

CENTUM IN MATHS

S.Deepa	100/100
R.Devi	100/100

Tamil

1.R.Yamuna Rani	93/100
2.S.Deepa	86/100
3.K.Anjali	78/100

MATHS

1.R.Devi	100/100
&S.Deepa	100/100
2.E.Murali	97/100
3.R.Yamunarani	96/100

English

1.R.Yamuna Rani	79/100
2.S.Deepa	74/100
3.K.Anjali	69/100

SCIENCE

1.S.Deepa	92/100
2.R.Yamunarani	91/100
3.M.Dhivya	82/100

SOCIAL SCIENCE

1.R.Yamunarani	97/100
2.R.Devi	91/100
3.S.Deepa	87/100
&P.Silambarasan	87/100



Anna university NSS camp



Monthly Cultural Programme

Thou Shalt Not Steal

Sometimes very funny and strange doubts arise in the minds of people. Once Haripada Mitra, a disciple of Swami Vivekananda put to him this question. "Why is stealing considered a sin? To me, to think that one thing belongs to me and another to somebody else is only a figment of the brain." Swami emphatically answered the question. "You should not do anything that brings misery to others or, weakens you physically or morally. That is sinful and its opposite is virtuous. ...Don't you feel sorry when someone steals something from you? What is true for you, you should know, is true for the whole world. If you can be so bad as to inflict pain on some being in this world, though you are fully aware that everything here is evanescent, you will gradually come to such a state that no sin will be too great for you. Again, social life becomes impossible if there is no division of virtue and vice. When you live in a society, you have to comply with its rules and regulations. If you retire to a forest, you can go about dancing naked; that harms nobody, and none will stop you. But should you behave so in a town, the reasonable thing to do will be to get you arrested by the police and have you locked up in some solitary place!"

Mahatma Gandhi prescribed non-stealing as one of the observances for his Ashramites. His concept of stealing was more encompassing. He says that every one of us is consciously or unconsciously guilty of theft. We may steal not only what belongs to others but also what belongs to ourselves. It is theft if father eats something secretly keeping the children in the dark about it. It is theft to take anything belonging to another without his permission even if it be with his knowledge. If something is found on the roadside, you should not take it believing that it is nobody's property. It belongs to the local authority, or the government.

Gandhiji's concept of stealing goes much farther. To take something from another, even with

his permission is theft if you have no need for it. It is theft if I take a fruit not needed for me, and if I take it in larger quantity than I require. We improperly multiply our wants, and thus make unconsciously thieves of ourselves.

There is another kind of theft subtler and far more degrading to the human spirit. It is theft mentally to desire acquisition of anything belonging to others, or to cast a greedy eye on it. Ideas may also be stolen no less than material things. To egotistically claim credit for an idea or work, which did not originate with me, or created by me, is theft. Many great men are guilty of this theft of plagiarism.

Gandhiji prescribed another virtue, non possession, which is allied to non-stealing. One is guilty of possessing a stolen property if he is holding a thing without needing it. The rich have a superfluous store of things which they do not need, and which are therefore neglected and wasted, while millions are starved to death for want of sustenance. If each retained possession only of what one needed, no one would be in want and everyone will live in contentment. Incidentally, Gandhiji applies his concept of non possession to thoughts too. There is no point in loading the brain with useless knowledge. Thoughts which turn us away from God constitute impediments in our progress. This does not mean a plea for inertia. "Every moment of our life should be filled with mental or physical activity, tending to Truth. One who has consecrated his life to service cannot be idle for a single moment. But we have to learn to distinguish between good activity and evil activity. This discernment naturally goes with a single minded devotion to service"

What is essential for one to observe these principles? Gandhi advises "Be humble, thoughtful, and vigilant and in habits simple."

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