



# LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

**Love 5      Sevalaya's News Letter - May 2010      Serve 2      Price-Re.1**

Dear Friends,

In India rivers are considered as goddesses and we worship them. They are referred as Mother Ganga or Mother Cauvery etc. All ancient civilizations have developed on the banks of major rivers and the civilizations have been named after those rivers. Any life can exist only if there is good quality and quantity of water available. To ensure that we protect our water resources, our religion and practices in India refer to them as Goddesses and many rituals and festivals are designed so that we respect and maintain our water resources.

In this generation, we follow only the rituals and forget the meaning behind them. It is a pathetic scene to see the 18<sup>th</sup> day of the Tamil month Adi being celebrated on the banks of the river Cauvery, where we can see many newlywed couples and their friends and relatives gather on the river bank and offer flowers and fruits to the river, but there is not a single drop of water- only a vast expanse of sand!

Added to this rivers are used as open toilets, open washing area and all the drainage water and industrial waste are all diverted to rivers. Once upon a time, Coovam in Chennai was a nice river and people use to go boating in it. Today it is just a big "sakkadai".

One man in a small town, Musiri, near Trichy decided to change this, atleast in his hometown. His name is Subburaman and he runs an NGO "Scope". He has redesigned the public toilet near the river bank and made it as an Eco-friendly toilet. The human waste gets converted into natural manure, which can be used in organic farms. The urine is converted into natural

urea, and this can also be used in organic farms. With the result, the waste from the toilets can be marketed and sold. With this concept, he has come up with "Use and get paid toilets". As this is an attractive proposition, the local people have started using the public toilets and stopped polluting the river. He has designed such toilets for individual houses and for schools and other institution. With his help, many houses and schools in Musiri have converted to "Ecosan" toilets.

He has worked with the municipal corporation of Musiri and converted the garbage dump yard as a beautiful garden. Waste is segregated and bio-degradable waste is converted into natural manure and non-degradable are recycled. He has also produced gas from human waste and we saw some houses getting this gas connection.

Sevalaya staff went on a one day awareness trip to this town. We are already constructing "Ecosan" toilets for the new school building at Sevalaya. We will slowly bring in other green concepts also in Sevalaya campus.

Next time when we have 18<sup>th</sup> day of Adi, let Cauvery flow with full force and let the rituals be done with the understanding of the real meaning.

Thanks & Regards  
Murali

"Karuna Ratna" Award



"Rose of Ridvan" Award





## Nomination to Government Committee

Mr. V.Muralidharan, Founder & Managing Trustee is nominated as the NGO Representative member in the District Committee for Senior Citizens, Thiruvallur District, for the effective and coordinated implementation of The Tamilnadu Maintenance and Welfare of Senior Citizen Act. The first Meeting of the Committee was held at The District collector's Office under the Chairmanship of the District Collector. Thiruvallur District Social Welfare Officer and other officials participated in the meeting.

## Awards

Karuna International, in line with its tradition of honoring outstanding work, presented "Karuna Ratna" Award to Mr.V.Muralidharan & Ms.Bhuvaneshwari Muralidharan, Founders of Sevalaya on 05/04/2010, at The Music Academy., Chennai. They received the Award at the hands of Dr.M.S.Swaminathan, MP and renowned agricultural scientist.

Mr. V.Muralidharan & Mrs. Bhuvaneshwari Muralidharan were the



recipients of "Rose of Ridvan" Award by the spiritual assembly of Baha'is of Chennai for Outstanding Achievers in the field of Education on 25<sup>th</sup> April, at the Bahai centre in Sarangapani street, T.Nagar, Chennai.

## Bharathiyar Team

### Events

Ln.Dr.Henry Christopher, Founder-Good Shepherd Educational Institutions, Pattabiram, was the Chief Guest for the Easter Celebrations at Sevalaya on 03/04/2010. He spoke to the students about Christ's resurrection for the welfare of mankind. He also said that truth always triumphs. He mentioned that in spite of the cruel crucifixion Christ's divinity was revealed and likewise lies and dishonest allegations always come to an inglorious end and the truth can never be trampled upon.

Industrialist JAK Jayaraman treated all the 1050 students of



Sevalaya School and the residents of the Old Age Home with a festive lunch on 10/04/2010, on the occasion of his birthday.

The valedictory function of the four weeks "Introspection" course by World Community Service Centre, Ambattur Branch was held

on 11/04/2010. Certificates were distributed to Sevalaya staff on the occasion.

The 10 day Annual Strategy Meet of Sevalaya where the Plan for the coming year is drawn up by the staff commenced on 20/04/2010.

## Staff Book Review

On 03/04/2010, Ms.Shanthi spoke on Swami Vivekananda's "Youth of India". On 10/04/2010, Ms.Priya spoke on Vivekananda's Education. Swami Vivekananda's Make New India was taken up for discussion by Ms.Jayanthi on 17/04/2010. On 24/04/2010, Ms.Maragatham spoke on Vivekananda Self confidence.

## Bharathi, Gandhi Vivekananda Programme in Prison

### Puzhal Prison



On 10/04/2010, Mr. P.Soundararajan addressed the residents of Puzhal I on "Important Incidents in Gandhiji's Life" and Ms. Jayanthy spoke about Vivekananda's "Make New India" to the residents of Puzhal III(Women). On 17/04/2010, Mr. J.Selvanayagam addressed the residents of Puzhal I on "Bharathi's Panchalisabatham" and Ms. Priya spoke about Vivekananda's Education to the residents of Puzhal III(Women). A film on Gandhi was screened for the residents of Puzhal I & III by Mr. Rajkumar on 24/04/2010.

## Gandhi Team

A One day general medical camp was conducted at Sevalaya on 11/04/2010. Nearly 150 students and 60 Old Age Home residents were benefited by this camp.



The Annual one month free summer course on Computers and Spoken English was inaugurated on 16/04/2010 at Sevalaya. This year the course is conducted in collaboration with EdServe. 300 village students are participating in the course. Inaugurating the course, Mr. Sivakumar (EDSERVE, Senior Vice President) motivated the students by announcing that even village students can become Bill Gates. Students who complete the course successfully will get central Government approved Certificate.



### Yoga Training by KYM at Old Age Home



Mr. V.Muralidharan, Founder & Managing Trustee of Sevalaya received the first copy of the book "Ini Ullathu Un Kaiyil" a collection of poems authored by Poet Vasanthakumar at in a book release function at Ambattur on 04/04/2010.

### Medical Camp



supplying vegetables and fruits to Sevalaya free of cost and has promised to continue this in the forthcoming years as well.

### Book release function



Mr.T.S.Venkataramani, Hon. Coordinator of Sevalaya, attended a meeting organized by Confederation of Indian Organizations for Social Advocacy (CIOASA) with funding agencies on 10/04/2010.

### Annual function of "Ilakkia Chinthanai"



On 15/04/2010 the annual function of "Ilakkia Chinthanai" was held in A.V.M Rajeswari Kalyana Mandapam, Chennai A book containing selected shortstories was released and and Mr.V.Muralidharan received the first copy.

### Eco Club - Training on water testing



On 17/04/2010 Mr. V. Muralidharan attended the Preparatory meeting organized by Give India for the Joy of Giving week to be celebrated in September 2010.

Sevalaya, Rotary Club of Madras Chennapatna and Dr. Kamakshi Memorial hospital jointly organized Kalaigal's Free insurance Programme Medical Camp on 24/04/2010. ENT Check up and Checkups for arthritis, and nerve related problems were conducted. Nearly 200 patients were benefitted.

### Vivekanandar Team

The Valedictory function of Presidency college NSS camp was held on 06/04/2010. They conducted an Environmental Awareness rally on that day. 150 students of their college participated in the rally.

Sevalaya celebrated Tamil New Year( Chithirai Thiruvizha) on 14/04/2010 with great enthusiasm, in the presence of friends from Koyambedu Periyar vegetable market welfare association,

Mr.G.D.Rajasekaran President of Periyar vegetable market welfare association presided over the function. On his felicitation address he appreciated the organization for their service to the poor and destitute people. He expressed his desire for the

organization to grow further and extend its services in the future. He added that for the past seven years Koyambedu Periyar vegetable market welfare association has been

On 17/04/2010, hostel boys and girls went to Villivakkam for Rukmanidevi Natyakshetra Foundation's Music Festival.

A 3 month Course on Yoga for the residents of the Old Age Home was started by On 18/04/2010 by Krishnamachari Yoga Mandiram (KYM). 2 teachers from KYM Raja Annamalaipuram will visit Sevalaya once a week and conduct the training.

Workshop on Social audit was conducted by Centre for Social Initiative and Management to Sevalaya key staff members on 19/04/2010.

### Visit to Places of Worship

On 11/04/2010 residents of old age home and Children's Home visited Pakkam Sivan temple for Pradosham festival.



## Satyagraha Against Ourselves

Due to a gap in communication the hartal was observed in Delhi on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1919, instead of 6<sup>th</sup> April. It was a grand success with Hindus and Muslims united as one man, observing it earnestly. Swami Shraddhananda delivered an address in Jumma Masjid. The authorities could not tolerate this bond of unity and violence was unleashed. Shraddhananda requested Gandhiji to come to Delhi urgently. Gandhiji then was at Bombay and proposed to start for Delhi after the "celebrations" (as he called the hartal) on April 6 were over. As expected the hartal was 100% success, and Gandhiji was proceeding to Delhi, but on the way he was detained and was taken back to Bombay. The news of Gandhiji's detention and other atrocities reached people all around, and at Pydhuni where Gandhiji was dropped there was a huge crowd. Shouts of "Vande mataram" and "Allaha Akbar" rend the air and a procession was formed. As the procession was making its way, they confronted the mounted police at point blank range. The crowd was densely packed, and had almost broken through the police cordon. Gandhiji's voice could not be heard. The officer in charge of the mounted Police gave the order for dispersal of the crowd and immediately the mounted Police charged upon the crowd brandishing their lances as they went. There was total confusion. Some got trampled under foot and others were mauled and crushed. The lancers blindly cut their way through the crowd. The horsemen and people were mixed together in mad confusion.

There were atrocities in Ahmedabad and other places too. The Police had behaved monstrously and the crowd had retaliated with violence. An attempt had been made to pull up the rails near Nadiad railway station. A government officer had been murdered in Viramgram. Ahmedabad had come under martial law. On Gandhiji's assurance that he would cooperate to restore peace, the martial law was withdrawn. On April 13, addressing a meeting

Gandhiji tried to bring home to the people the sense of their wrong, declared a penitential fast for three days and appealed to the people to go on a similar fast for one day and suggested to those who had been guilty of acts of violence to confess their guilt.

Gandhiji announced his decision to suspend Satyagraha as the people had not learnt the lesson of peace. He found himself a sharer in the guilt. There were people who were unhappy with his decision. In their view if peace were to be expected everywhere and be regarded as a condition precedent to launching Satyagraha, mass Satyagraha would be an impossibility. But in Gandhiji's view, those who wanted to lead the people to Satyagraha ought to be able to keep the people within the limited non violence expected of them. At a meeting in Nadiad, he confessed to having made a Himalayan miscalculation. This statement brought down upon him no small amount of ridicule. But, what was the Himalayan miscalculation? Gandhiji speaks: - "Satyagrahi obeys the laws of society intelligently and of his own free will, because he considers it to be his sacred duty to do so. It is only when a person has thus obeyed the laws of society scrupulously that he is in a position to judge as to what particular rules are good and just and what unjust and iniquitous. Only then does the right accrue to him for the civil disobedience of certain laws in well defined circumstances. My error lay in my failure to observe the necessary limitations. I had called on the people to launch upon the civil disobedience before they had thus qualified themselves for that."

Gandhiji called this penitentiary fast as "Satyagraha against ourselves."

### SPONSORSHIP DETAILS

SPONSORSHIP	CHILDREN HOME		OLD AGE HOME		Other Sponsorship	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)
	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)			
FOOD							
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
Full day food Expenses	3500	50000	2000	28000	Funeral Expenses for one Grandpa/one Grandma	5000	70000
Full day 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



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### DONATION FORM

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E-mail Address : \_\_\_\_\_ I hereby enclose my donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your donation payable by cheque to **SEVALAYA** and send to:

**SEVALAYA,**  
Kasuva Village, Pakkam Po., Near Thiruniravur - 602 024.