



LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

Love 5 Sevalaya's News Letter - September 2010 Serve 6 Price-Re.1

Dear Friends,

We keep talking about "Macaulay" system of education. That it was created by the British to rule India and to produce only clerks to work in their offices is well known. Thinking was not required and they only needed people to obey commands. We also say that even after so many years of independence, our Governments have not taken a serious look at this flaw and we continue to produce dull clerks.

Well, now there is a chance to feel good and appreciate the efforts of one Government. The face of the classroom is changing a lot recently in Tamilnadu. It is no more a teacher standing near the black board and keep "vomiting" from a dull colourless book and children taking notes on whatever is written on the board, and reproducing like tape recorders in the tests and exams. Whoever is the best tape recorder will come first in the class! It is said that there is only a small difference between teacher and student, the teacher learns by heart one day before the class and the student does the same one day after. This situation has drastically changed in the recent past.

The "Activity based learning" (ABL) method used till class five, encourages children to do various activities and learn the concepts. Children form groups and they learn as per the "ladder of learning" not as per their age or grade or class. All children up to class 4 are grouped together and they organize themselves based on where they are on the ladder thus giving the child enough time to learn the concept, not rush through for the next monthly test. Very attractive colourful cards and charts have been designed and text books are full of colour pictures and photos and stories, in nice glossy

paper! When I was a student I still remember staring at complete "dark black rectangles" and some description written under that. We have to understand that it is a photo of the description mentioned! Those days are thankfully gone.

From grade 6 to 8 they learn through the "Active learning methodology" (ALM), using experiments, mind maps etc. It was great to watch poor village children of a Government Tamil medium school in Palavedu village, draw mind maps and discuss them with confidence. The teachers are also geared up to welcome the new ways of teaching; the children enjoy coming to school; the books are interesting and attractive. What else we need?

On top of all this, from this year onwards no child can be failed in a class till grade 8. This removes exams and marks from the centre stage of education and brings in real learning to the centre stage. Sevalaya got the benefit of ABL and ALM training thanks to our Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Mr. Thangam Thennarasu; Director of school Education Dr. P. Perumalsamy and Joint Director of Sarva Shiksha Abhyan (SSA) Ms. N. Latha.

Now Macaulay is gone. This year 15th August was a really satisfying experience. Independence has come to the Tamilnadu classrooms.

Thanks & Regards

Murali



22nd Annual Day-Release of Souvenir



Opening of the Primary School Building

Bharathiyar Team

Events

Sevalaya entered in to a Global Exchange Programme with Cunningham Junior School in UK. As a part of the programme two teachers from the school in UK were on a week long visit to Sevalaya. They arrived in Sevalaya on 01/08/2010.

The 22nd Annual Day celebrations and the Inauguration of the new Primary school Building was held on 03/08/2010. Mr. Thangam Thennarasu, Honourable Minister for School Education was the Chief Guest and inaugurated the new Primary School Building and released the 22nd Annual Report. . Dr. M.Jeganmurthy, Honourable Member of Legislative Assembly, Arakkonam, Mr. M.Kutralingam, IAS Principal Secretary, Education Department, Mr. T.P.Rajesh, IAS, District Collector, Thiruvallur, Mr. A.V.Muralidharan, Chairman & Managing Director, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India, Mr. A .Krishnaswamy, Former Member of Parliament, Mr. V.S. Shanmugam, Chairman, Thiruvallur, Ms. P.Selvakumari, Chief Educational Officer, Thiruvallur, Mr.N.Kalyanasundaram, District Educational officer, Mr. R.S.Rajaraman, District Councillor, Thiruvallur , and Mr. M.Subramani, Union Secretary, Puratchi Bharatham, and Mr. Richard Dawson, Head Teacher, Cunningham Junior School , UK participated in the celebrations.

The annual three day exhibition was held from 13/08/2010 to 15/08/2010 at Sevalaya. The theme of this year's exhibition was ""Know Your World". The exhibition highlighted the countries, life of people, important monuments, resources of the seven continents of the world, models of the World's Wonders were on display. The exhibition was inaugurated by Ms. N. Latha, Joint Director, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan , DPI, Chennai. Mrs..Selvakumari, Chief Education Officer, Thiruvallur, and Mr.Muthukrishnan, Additional District Education Officer, Thiruvallur were the chief guests. Students of Angel Mat.Hr.Sec.School, Grace Park Convent, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Dasar's High School and Amudha Matriculation School also exhibited their projects in the exhibition.

64th Independence Day celebrations and Valedictory function of "Know the World" Annual Exhibition were held on 15/08/2010. Mr.Dilli Babu, Sub-Inspector of Police, Vengal hoisted the National flag. The students presented a cultural programme on the occasion.

The Thiruvallur District Readers' Circle Meet of the Tamil weekly "Puthiya Thalaimurai" was held at Sevalaya on 15/08/2010. Mr. D.V.Venkatagiri, Secretary, Puthiya Thalaimurai Readers Circle, A.Abdul Kareem, Public Relations Officer and 40 members of the Readers' circle participated.

5 students from Sevalaya won prizes in the essay competition conducted by Nandini Voice for the Deprived, on the occasion of Independence Day on 14/08/2010.

Mr. V.Muralidharan, was one of the Chief Guests in the event to launch the "Design For Change" contest for schools globally organized by the Riverside School, Ahmedabad on 19/08/2010. Mr.Krishnamachari Srikanth, the former Indian cricket captain was the other Chief Guest.

On 30/08/2010, 15 students participated in Drawing competition held at P.S.Hr.Sec.School, Mylapore.

Lions club of Padi-Shenoyanagar and IIT Chennai organized a program to donate bicycles on 26/08/2010. Ms. Bhuavaneswari Muralidharan received 10 bicycles donated to Sevalaya children from the hands of Dr.A.Mani, of IIT Chennai.

Staff Book Review

On 07/08/2010, Ms.S.Mariyammal spoke on "Gandhi & Service" and Mr. T.S.Venkatramani spoke on "Bhopal Gas Tragedy". "The book on People who made great sacrifices" was taken up for discussion by Ms.G.Jothi on 14/08/2010. On the same day Mr.Louis shared his views on "Bangladesh Independence".

Sports

Sevalaya's Senior and Super Senior team won the 1st place in the Poonamalle Zonal level Hand ball match conducted at Sevalaya campus on 10/08/2010. In Table Tennis, Sevalaya's Senior and Super Senior team won the first place. In the Ball Badminton Super Senior team won the first prize.

In the Zonal level Kho-Kho match conducted at Dasar Hr.Sec.School, Thiruninravur on 12/08/2010, Sevalaya's Junior, Senior, Super Senior teams were runners up.

On 19/08/2010, PYKKA (Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan) conducted Block Rural Competitions 2010-2011 for under 16 year students at Ekkadu Govt.Hr.Sec.School. Sevalaya's Kho-Kho both boys and girls teams won first prizes. In Volley Ball the girls team won the first prize and in Foot Ball the boys team won the second prize.

On 20/08/2010, PYKKA (Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan) conducted the track events of the Block Rural Competitions, 2010-2011 for under 16 year students at Veppampattu Govt.Hr.Sec.School. In the 100m running Ramakrishnan and Prasanth got first two places. In the 200m running M.Diwakar and L.Kandaswamy got first two places. In the 400m running M.Diwakar came third.



In the 1500m running M.Diwakar, Dillibabu and S.Kamalakaran won the first three places. Sevalaya's 4 X 100m Relay team and 4 X 400m Relay team got first prize in both boys' and girls' category. In the Discus Throw M.Vijaya Kumar came won the first prize. In the Shot-put Silambarasan got second prize and M.Vijayakumar got third prize. In the High Jump Ramakrishnan got first prize. In the Long Jump S.Kamalakaran got third prize. In girls category 100m running K.Chitra got third prize. In the 200m running B.Subashree got first prize. In the 400m running K.Mala and K.Chitra came in the first two places. In the 800m running S.Anu got third place. B.Subashree got second prize in the 1500m running. In the Discus Throw K.Chitra came first. In the Shot-put K.Chitra got first prize and K.Mala got second prize. In the High Jump B.Subashree and K.Mala won the first two places. In the Long Jump K.Mala won the first prize. Sevalaya Team won the **OVERALL CHAMPIONSHIP**.

On 20/08/2010, open competitions were also held at Veppampattu Govt.Hr.Sec.School. G.Nandhini got 1st prize in the 100m running. In the Discus Throw G.Nandhini and B.Subashree got 1st and 2nd places. K.Nithya and V.Preethi got first 2 prizes in Shot-put.

In the Zonal level Volley Ball sports conducted at Govt.Hr.Sec.School, Thiruninravur on 24/08/2010, Sevalaya's junior team were the winners.



On 26/08/2010, in the Zonal level Throw Ball sports conducted at Govt.Hr.Sec.School, Nazarath Pettai, Sevalaya Senior team was the winner.

On 30/08/2010, Rotary Olympiad conducted District level sports meet at RMK Engineering College Kavaraiptet. Sevalaya's Volley ball team and Throw Ball Team participated.



Training Programme

Sevalaya staff members attended sessions on "Child Rights" on 21/08/2010 and 28/08/2010. These were conducted by Mr.S.Kannayiram (Retd.Field Officer, Directorate of Social defense, Kellys, Chennai) at Sevalaya Campus.

Sevalaya School staff members attended the ABL (Activity Based Learning) training on 25/08/2010 and ALM (Active Learning Methods) training on 26/08/2010. These trainings were conducted by SSA (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Directorate of School Education.

School Clubs

On 23/08/2010, Ms.R. Kalamari spoke on "Make new words" in the Tamil Club Meet. On 23/08/2010, Mr.R.Rajesh and Mr.V.Jeevanandam explained about "Language games to improve English Grammar" in the English Club. On 24/08/2010, Ms.S.Bhavani explained about "Shapes in Maths" in the Mathematics club. On 24/08/2010, Ms.G.Jothi spoke about "New Inventions" in the Science Club. Ms.S.Dhivya spoke on "An Overview of the 1000 year old Big Temple of Rajaraja Chola at Thanjavur" in the Social Science club on 24/08/2010.

On 07/08/2010, Red Ribbon Club staff member Ms. Jayanthi conducted a session on Adolescent Age Education for the girls of IX and XI Stds. On the same day Mr.P.Narayanamoorthy addressed the boys of IX and XI Stds. on the same topic. On 19/08/2010, Ms.R.Vijaya conducted Adolescent Age Education session for the girls of IX and XI Stds.

NSS Activities

The NSS wing of Sevalaya undertook the cleaning of the Melappedu Mosque on 07/08/2010. On 24/08/2010 the NSS students engaged themselves in Sevalaya campus cleaning.



Gandhi Team

On 28/08/2010, a meeting of Panchayat leaders were organized in which Mr.M.S.Syed Rawoof (Probation Officer, Social Defense) participated and spoke to the leaders on their role in improving the village using social defense department programs.

Mobile Library

On 08/08/2010, Sevalaya's Mobile Library visited Melakkondaiyar and on 29/08/2010 Karalapakkam villages.

Kottu Murasu:

On 29/08/2010, Sevalaya's Kottumurasu Troup presented a cultural programme in Puliur Kandigai village.

Vivekanandar Team

Events

On 10/08/2010, Mr.A.A.Kingston participated in sensitization programme on child trafficking for Thiruvallur stake holders. This was arranged by Department of Social Defense, Thiruvallur.

Students Study Circle

On 14/08/2010, "Wonderful Truths" (Tamil) was reviewed by M. Kalpana. On 21/08/2010, N.Ramakrishnan shared his views on "Great Scientists". On 28/08/2010, S.Maheswari shared her views on "Footpath". (Tamil)

Visit to places of worship

On 06/08/2010, the hostel girls went to Ramanathapuram Vinayagar Temple and hostel boys went to Puliur Amman Temple. On 27/08/2010, hostel boys and hostel girls went to Ramanathapuram Vinayagar Temple.

On 05/08/2010, V.Muralidharan attended the District Senior Citizens Protection Committee meeting held at the Collector's office. The District Collector was the Chairperson and the meeting was conducted by the District Social Welfare Officer. Many district officials participated in the discussions.



On 16/08/2010, V.Muralidharan and C.Adhimuthu attended the function for distribution of free computers to rural schools organized by FORD and Digital Literacy Team of Rotary Club of Madras Midtown. Mrs.Poongothai Aladi Aruna (IT Minister, Tamil Nadu) was the chief guest.

On 19/08/2010, CISM conducted a one day workshop on Social Accounting and Auditing for Sevalaya's management team.

Mr.Page Pierre from Switzerland, visited our campus on 21/08/2010. He is one of the chief donors of the new primary school building.

The state council meeting of the Credibility Alliance was held in Sevalaya campus on 27/08/2010.

On 29/08/2010, Sevalaya was honored for its selfless services in a meeting held by Vallalar sangams at Pazhaverkadu.

Gandhiji's Fasts XI Epic Fast

It is learnt that there was a minor fast by Gandhiji between June 22 and June 24, 1928 due to the moral lapse of an inmate of Sabarmathi Ashram. Details are not available.

The fast undertaken by him from September 20th to 25th 1932 was a breathtaking event in the life of Gandhiji and the history of the Nation. It was undertaken by him opposing the separate constituencies announced by the British Government for the depressed classes. This fast has come to be known as "Epic Fast"

The Second Round Table Conference attended by Gandhiji in London in September - November 1932 ended in a failure as it was bound to. Gandhiji was the only delegate with a representative character representing National Congress. Others were heads of the states and sectarian leaders nominated by the Government.

In the Round Table conference no consensus could be evolved about the future political set up of India. The main issue and the bone of contention in the Conference came to be the claim for separate electorates for the Depressed classes which was vehemently opposed by Gandhiji. Why did Gandhiji oppose this?

He said: "I will not sell the vital interests of the Untouchables for the sake of winning freedom for India. I claim myself in my own person to represent the vast mass of untouchables and I claim that I would get, if there was a referendum of the untouchables, their votes, and I would top the poll. We do not want on our register and on our census untouchables classified as a separate class. The Sikhs may remain as such in perpetuity, so may the Muslims; so may the Europeans. Will untouchables remain untouchables in perpetuity? I would far rather that Hinduism die than that untouchability lived".

Within a week of return from the Round Table Conference, Gandhiji was arrested and sent to Yerawada prison. While in jail, he learnt that the British Government release their decision to create separate electorates for the Depressed classes. He

wrote to Sir Samuel Hoare, Secretary of State for Indian Affairs, reiterating his objections to separate electorates for the Depressed classes.

He wrote: "I need hardly reiterate all the objections of separate electorates for the Depressed Classes. I feel as if I was one of them. Their case stands on a different footing from that of the others. I am not against their representation in legislatures. I should favour every one of their adults registered as voter irrespective of education or property qualifications even though the franchise test may be strict for others. But I hold that separate electorate is harmful for them and for Hinduism, whatever it may be from purely political standpoint... so far as Hinduism is concerned separate electorate will simply vivisection and disrupt it..."

"..I feel no penance that the Hindus may do, can anyway compensate for the calculated degradation to which they have consigned the Depressed classes for centuries... But I know that separate electorate is neither a penance nor a remedy for the crushing degradation they have groaned under...."

He "respectfully" informed His Majesty's Government that in the event of their decision creating separate electorates for the Depressed classes, he would undertake a fast unto death.

Gandhiji's plea went unheeded. On August 17, 1932 Mr. Ramsay McDonald announced the provisional scheme of minority representation commonly known as the Communal Award. Under the scheme, Depressed classes were recognized as a minority community entitled to separate electorate. While creating specially reserved constituencies for the Depressed classes it gave them the additional right to contest seats in the general constituencies, with the provision that separate electorates and reservation of seats would lapse after 20 years.

Gandhiji wrote to Ramsay McDonald about his decision to resist the scheme by resorting to a "perpetual fast unto death" from September 20 next.
("Epic Fast" continues..)

SPONSORSHIP DETAILS

SPONSORSHIP	CHILDREN HOME		OLD AGE HOME		Other Sponsorship	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)
FOOD	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)	Contribution(Rs)	Endowments(Rs)	Residential Expenses for one Child/one child/one Grandpa/year	6000	80000
Milk(One Time)	500	7000	200	3200	Maintenance of One Cow/year	6000	80000
Breakfast(one day)	1000	14000	500	7000	Education Expenses for one Child/year	6000	80000
Lunch/Dinner	2000	28000	1000	14000	Salary for one staff per month	5000	850000
Lunch/Dinner with sweet or fruit	2500	35000	1250	20000	Funeral Expenses for one Grandpa/one Grandma	5000	70000
Fullday food Expenses	3500	50000	2000	28000	Cultural Expenses for one child/one Grandpa/one Grandma	1000	14000
Fullday food Expenses with sweet or fruit	5000	70000	3000	42000	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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