



LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

Love 3 **Sevalaya's News Letter - September 2008** Serve 6 Price-Re.1

Dear Friends,

Some of the recent news reports make us think about what is happening to our level of tolerance to other human beings. Let me describe a couple of incidents which were highly disturbing.

A man, at the age of 93, has serious problems with his wife who is 83 years old. They live in the same house, but not together. One occupies the first floor and the other the ground floor. The man, just to give problems to his long term life partner, cuts off power supply to her portion in the house. As the single power supply is shared, this is possible to do it internally. Hence the lady approaches the electricity board authorities and asks for a separate supply line. But the authorities refuse her claim, because as per their data, it is a single house and they can't give two connections. So the lady goes to court. The judge who went through this case was so disgusted that in the judgment, which was in favor of the lady, mentioned that he is very sad to see the old couple, fighting legal battle like this. They should have been married at least for 60 years now, and to have a long married life is a blessing and calls for celebration. But in this case, it has ended up in so much of bitterness, legal battles, etc.

In another incident, reported in the press, a young medical shop owner had a problem with his neighbor. In our opinion, it is a very simple problem. The car was parked in front of the neighbor's house and not in front of his shop. The neighbor got angry and there was a scene created there with both 'gentlemen' shouting at each other. The

neighbor got wild, walked away, made few phone calls, and very soon a armed gang arrived at the scene, and the shop owner was killed in broad day light, inside his own shop. Now the killers are behind bars, and we don't know where the car is parked.

Violence and killing have become such common occurrences. Hatred and fighting for small nothings have become our life style. As life becomes fast paced, just because we have to make fast money, values change and might becomes right. To add fuel to fire, the television serials, only teach us how to develop hatred towards all others.

It becomes very important now, for organizations like Sevalaya, to continue spreading the message of love, peace, service and humility, at least to the next generation. This is done either through class room teaching or through the various functions and competitions Sevalaya conducts for many students all over Tamil Nadu.

Thanks & Regards

Murali

**The Atma Charity Wing of IIT Madras
donated a sum of Rs. 50,000/ to Sevalaya**





Events

Sevalaya and Exnora International organized a rally on 05/08/2008 to create awareness on "Global Warming" and "88888" Lights Out Campaign – exhorting people to switch off the lights and other electrical appliances for 8 minutes on 8th August 2008 from 8 pm as a symbolic gesture of common man's efforts to reduce Global Warming. Nearly 1000 students participated in the rally, carrying placards on the theme of Hazards of Global Warming, singing songs and raising Slogans highlighting the seriousness of the issue. The rally was flagged off at 10am by Mr. Rajasekar - District Environmental Engineer and Exnora Dist. President, Thiruvallur, Mr. Neethinadan.

Dr. Malavika visited the campus on 09/08/2008 and spoke to the students and staff about Hygiene and Nutritious Diet.

The Sathya Sai Samithi, Besant Nagar conducted 'Sai Bajan' at Sevalaya 10/08/2008.

The 3 Day Annual Science Exhibition was held at Sevalaya from 12/08/2008 to 14/08/2008. The theme of the exhibition this year was "Save our Precious Planet" The exhibition was inaugurated on 12/08/2008 by Mr. Henry Maris- Secretary, Nazereth Science and Arts College. An interesting and informative puppet show on the urgent measures to be taken by man to reduce Global Warming by adapting eco friendly lifestyle was the highlight of the exhibition. Commending the efforts of the students the Chief Guest announced a Cash Prize of Rs 1000 to the Best Exhibit. He advised the students to adopt the three "R"s namely (1) Reduce waste (2) Reuse and (3) Recycle. Mr. P. Rajasekar – District Environmental Engineer was the Chief Guest for the Valedictory Function on 14/08/2008.

The 61st Independence Day Celebrations were held on 15/08/2008. The National flag was hoisted by Mr. Subramani, Sub Inspector of Police, Vengal. Students presented a colorful cultural programme highlighting the glories of our nation, its unique unity in diversity etc. A blood donation camp was organized by the old students association of Sevalaya in association with the Indian Red Cross Society of Thiruvallur District on that day. Many old students and villagers donated blood at this camp. The old students association organizes blood donation camps twice every year on Republic day and Independence Day.



On 23/08/2008, Brahmakumaris from Sunguvarchatram celebrated 'Raksha Bandan' with inmates of Sevalaya by tying rakhis and distributing sweets.

Interact club Of Sevalaya was inaugurated on 26/08/2008. Inaugurating the club Rtn. S.N. Balasubramanian talked about the activities of these clubs both in India as well as abroad. R. Lakesh, student of Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Hr. Sec School was elected as the President of the Club. Rtn. K. Murali Venkatesh explained about the interact club. The Interact club leader R. Lakesh spoke about the projects the group would undertake. 150 students registered their names.

The Rotaract Club of The Hindu College, Pattabhiram visited Sevalaya and conducted Painting Competition for Children and distributed prizes to the winners.

The Bhoomi Puja (Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony) for the Primary School Building was done on 31/08/2008. This will enable Sevalaya to give free education for another 500 hundred poor children.

External Events

On 23/08/2008, 30 students participated in "Jaya Kalai Kulumam" competitions at Jaya group of institutions, Thiruninravur. Students got 3rd prize in 'Pattum, Barathamum', 2nd prize in 'Kavi Arangam' and 2nd prize in 'Muthamil Arangam'.

U. Radha & S. Ethiraj participated in an elocution competition conducted by Rotract club 25/08/2008 – at Kolaperumal School, Avadi. U. Radha is selected for the final round.

The Atma Charity Wing of IIT Madras donated a sum of Rs. 50,000/ to Sevalaya. The cheque was handed over to V. Muralidharan by Mr. M. S. Ananth, Director IIT Madras.

Mr. V. Muralidharan was a guest speaker at the valedictory function of Yatra to spread awareness of Gandhian ideals at Thakkar Baba Vidhyalaya, Thyagaraya Nagar, Chennai on 31/08/2008.

NSS Activities

The NSS wing of Sevalaya undertook the cleaning