



# LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

**Love 8 Sevalaya's News Letter - May 2013 Serve 2 Price-Re.1**

## Dear Friends,

She was just five years old when her father died. Her mother was also sick. As close relatives duped her mother and took away a small house and a piece of land in the village, the family found it very difficult to have even one meal a day. The mother came to know of Sevalaya and left the two kids under its care.

Three months later, the news about mother's death reached the children through a close relative. The relative had come to take the children for their mother's funeral. The kids attended the funeral without fully understanding what was going on. They somehow found food to eat in the next two days when many relatives were around, who had come to attend the funeral.

After two days, when the little girl felt really hungry, she approached her aunt and asked for food. One might have lost one's father, mother or any dear one, but hunger stays. The aunt didn't want to encourage the child in her house, fearing that the child may permanently latch on to her family – she refused to give food and told the child to go the other uncle's house to get food. The child, not understanding what was in the mind of her aunt, innocently went to the other uncle's house and pleaded that as she very hungry, she should be fed immediately.

This uncle also had the same mindset and asked the girl to go back to the first uncle's house and ask for food. Both the uncles refused to give food fearing that they may have to take full responsibility and the girl didn't know where to go.

Suddenly the girl remembered her mother – even at the time of utter poverty, she never left her children hungry – where is she? The girl ran to the village burial ground, located the spot where her mother was consumed to flames, and started crying aloud – "please mother give me food". She took the ashes from the ground, threw it up into the sky and cried uncontrollably. May be she was too hungry, may be her mother's ashes gave her the comfort of mother's lap, she fell asleep in the burial ground. A few hours later some of the villagers spotted her and brought her back to Sevalaya hostel.

This girl grew up in Sevalaya and completed grade 12. She was very much interested in drawing and painting and she also got a chance to exhibit her talent in the art camp conducted by Children's art village in Sevalaya. Mr. Bob Breech & Mrs. Mai Lai Breech of the children's art village were very much impressed with her drawings and agreed to sponsor her higher studies in art. She joined the fine arts college and is now stepping into her final year.

On 14<sup>th</sup> April the alumni of Sevalaya had gathered together to celebrate Sevalaya's silver jubilee. They had invited the editor of Dinamani, Mr.K.Vaidyanathan as the chief guest. Abirami, the girl in this story, came up to the stage and gave an emotional speech on how Sevalaya helped her and how she found many uncles and aunts through Sevalaya. Mr.Vaidyanathan immediately offered to give her a chance in his leading Tamil magazines. Very soon you will see Abirami's drawings in Dinamani group of publications.

**Thanks & Regards**  
**Murali**



**Mr. K.Vaidyanathan, Editor, Dinamani at the Sevalaya Silver Jubilee Celebration by the alumni of Sevalaya**



**Mr. R.Manimaran, Hon'ble MLA of Poonamallee at the training Programme for Protection of Village women and girl children**

## Gandhi Team

### Mobile Library

Mobile Library visited Khadharmedu village on 21/04/2013.

### Joint program with Social defense department, Government of Tamil Nadu

The Social Defense Department of Thiruvallur district and Sevalaya jointly organized a training programme for the members of the Thiruvallur Panchayat Union, Presidents and Vice Presidents of the Panchayat Union on their role in prevention of child trafficking and protection of girl children from sexual abuse on 22/04/2013. The training was conducted by Mr. M.Syed Rawoof, the District Probation Officer cum District Protection Officer and other protection officers in the Department. The Honourable Member of Legislative Assembly of Poonamallee, Mr. N.S.A.R.Manimaran and Chairman of Thiruvallur Panchayat Union Mr. Puttur Chandrasekar were the special guests and addressed the gathering.

## Vivekananda Team

### Events

On 07/04/2013, Mr.Panneer Selvam (philosopher) spoke to the Old age residents about peaceful living.

HCL Technologies Chennai, is sponsoring the solarisation of Sevalaya's Girls Hostel and Old Age Home Building. The announcement was made and the project was launched at Sevalaya on 13/04/2013 by Mr. V.S. Sriram, Corporate Vice President of HCL Technologies.

On 18/04/2013, 85 resident children of Sevalaya were taken to a movie and lunch by the Food Bank of Rajasthani Association .

A month long programme of fun activities has been scheduled for the resident children during summer vacation. Enough opportunities will be provided to the children to learn music, craft etc during this period.

On 24/04/2013, Mr. K.K.Shivasailam attended a meeting of FSL India , a youth development organisation focused on Inter-cultural learning through voluntary service, where many issues like how to actively involve the foreign volunteers in the activities of the institution and ensure that the volunteering programme is meaningful and mutually beneficial for the volunteers as well as the beneficiaries.

### Volunteers

On 21/04/2013, Ms. Annie Vannasing from USA arrived at Sevalaya for volunteering activity. She will be working with the resident children helping them with summer courses.

On 29/04/2013, 20 resident children and two staff were taken on a one week trip to Puttaparthi by Sri Sathya Sai Seva Samithi, Besant Nagar.

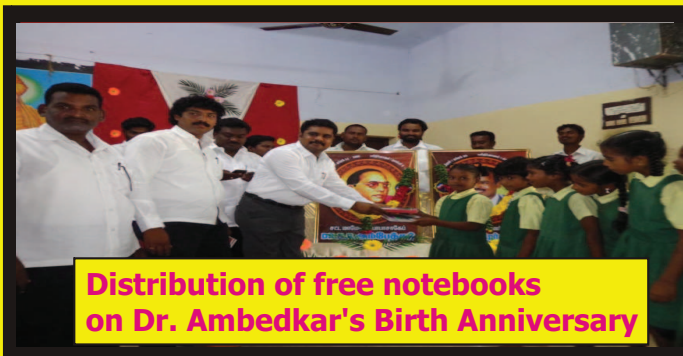
### Sri Ramanavami Celebration



### Tamil New Year Celebration



### Distribution of free notebooks on Dr. Ambedkar's Birth Anniversary



### Summer Camp for Residential Children



### HCL Volunteers at Sevalaya



### Drawing Competition Conducted by Volunteer Rosa

