



Newsletter ~ Vallabh Vidya Mandir ~



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Volume Number 3

Issue Number 7

Date: Oct 2007

An Expression...

"The Bhagwad Gita is a bouquet composed of the beautiful flowers of spiritual truths collected from the Upanishads."

Swami Vivekananda.

An old Farmer lived on a farm in the mountains with his young grandson. Each morning Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading his Bhagwad Gita. His grandson wanted to be just like him and tried to imitate him in every way he could. One day the grandson asked, "Grandpa! I try to read the Bhagwad Gita just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bhagwad Gita do?" The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and replied, "Take this coal basket down to the river and bring me back a basket of water." The boy did as he was told, but all the water leaked out before he got back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You'll have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again. This time the boy ran faster, but again the

basket was empty before returning home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was impossible to carry water in a basket, and he went to get a bucket instead.

The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again. At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got back to the house. The boy again dipped the basket into the river and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was empty again. Out of breath, he said, "See Grandpa, it's useless!"

"So you think it is useless?" The old man said, "Look at the basket." The boy looked at the basket and for the first time realized that the basket was different. It had been transformed from a dirty old coal basket and was now clean, inside and out. "Son, that's what happens when you read the Bhagwad Gita. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it,

you will be changed, inside and out. That is the work of Krishna in our lives."

Bhagwad Gita is the greatest, poetical spiritual discourse given by Lord Krishna to his disciple and friend Arjuna, around 5000 years ago. "Bhagwad Gita" means the song of the LORD. The original text in Gita is in Sanskrit. As Aldus Huxley has said "The Gita is one of the clearest and most comprehensive summaries of the perennial philosophy, ever to have been done. Hence it is enduring in values, not only for Indians, but for all my kind."

VVM Picnic....

Kitty Hollow Park
9555 Hwy 6 South
Missouri City, TX 77459

Saturday Oct 6 11 am - 4 pm

*For details contact Priti Parikh -
pparikh@gardenridge.com or
call 281-277-0903*

Bhagwad Gita is one of the essential tools for all ages. Practicing Gita in daily life and to make Gita a driving force in our consciousness may be the best



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salvation for mankind. Gita's applicability to our daily life, to our modern world is so appropriate. "Wars are fought in the mind's of men", Gita answers, "cultivate peace in the minds and there will be no wars."

From time to time people need to face challenges, confront ideas and stand up for what they are, and what they believe in. Bhagwad Gita's teachings can be metaphor for life-struggles.

"The Bhagwad Gita is a valuable aid for the understanding of the supreme ends of life."

Dr. S. Radha Krishnan.

Phalguni Kikani

...One More

Chess Club

*Classes will be held on
October 14th and October 28th*

(Twice a month at 1 PM)
Bring your own Chess Board

Free for VVM Students
(Ages 8 & Up)

The March is On..

We meet parents at Registration Desk and notice how they and / or their children make course selection. We believe some guidance on this matter is in order. It may be little too late for this year but if remembered, it can help in the future.

First of all, everyone included in course selection should be aware of the goals and benefits of learning at Vallabh Vidya Mandir.

These are:

i) To be exposed to India's cultural heritage, to learn about it and to learn to be proud of it.

This makes it necessary that one enrolls for one of the religion classes (religion, Indian History etc), one of the language classes (Gujarati, Hindi etc), one of the cultural enrichment classes (Cooking, Kirtan Singing, Key Board, Yoga, Folk Dancing etc..

ii) To improve academic skills - Enroll for Pre SAT or SAT.

iii) To include variety - Consider Arts & Crafts, Chess, Bollywood Dancing etc

iv) To take maximum advantage of time spent at VVM – Enroll for as many time slots as you can

v) To establish good social contacts and build relationships which will last a life time. This is indirect benefit of attending VVM Classes. Its importance can only be realized when one compares with children who stay home and who sleep late, watch excessive TV, stay bored, become introverts, lose focus and eventually become low achievers.

As one can see, it is not advisable to sign up just for SAT or Yoga. It is highly recommended that to get most out of what VVM offers, keep above guidance in mind and enroll for as many classes as possible.

Sureshbhai Patel

..Correction

VVM Classes will be held as planned on **October 21st**

Questions :

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Free Seminar...

Bridging the Gap...Mission Possible!
(Issues of Raising Children in two different Cultures)

By
Motivational Speaker
Dr. Vijay Mehta
(Oct 21st, 10 AM Sharp)

A Poem..

Shri Rabindranath Tagore

Go not to the temple to put flowers
upon the feet of God,

First fill your own house with the
fragrance of love...

Go not to the temple to light
candles before the altar of God,

First remove the darkness of sin
from your heart...

Go not to the temple to bow down
your head in prayer,

First learn to bow in humility before
your fellowmen...

Go not to temple to pray on
bended knees,

First bend down to lift someone
who is down trodden...

Go not to temple to ask for
forgiveness for your sins,

First forgive from your heart those
who have sinned against you...

Future Seminar...

*Strong Families – by ESCAPE
Family Resource*

(Tailroed to Strengthen
Families and Shape Happy
childhood)

By
Ms. Urmila Kumar
(Dec 2nd 10 AM Sharp)



VVM's First day with PP Shree VrajRaj
Kumar Shree

..Important

If you are not receiving my
e-mail, please send an e-mail to

kikanis@earthlink.net

This is the best way to
communicate with me
Phalguni Kikani

