

Camp at AVG Nagpur November 20-24

Vidya Vaaridhi Trust organized a four day Vedanta Spiritual Retreat during November at Arsha Vijnana Gurukulam near Nagpur. Participants from Mumbai, Pune, and New Mumbai took part in the camp between 20th and 24th of November. This was the first camp of its kind being held at the Gurukulam and it was eagerly looked forward to by all the residents of the Gurukulam.



Swamini Brahmaprakashananda inaugurated the camp on the 20th with all the students of the Gurukulam gathered in the lecture hall for the event. A camp kit containing the camp brochure, note books, and other study material was distributed to all the participants. Mataji (Swaminiji) fondly recalled the old times when she was part of the Chinmaya youth group in Chembur of which Uday Acharya, Swami Brahmavidananda, and some of the present Gurukulam students were members. Inmates in the Gurukulam who knew Acharyaji in his student days also recalled happy memories from the past.

A separate lecture room was made ready for the camp participants in the guest quarters and classes started formally in the afternoon of the 20th after tea. The camp schedule included morning Meditation (Matsthaani Sarva Bhootaani), morning classes on Vedanta (Aatma Vaare Drishtavyah), afternoon workshop session on Emotional Intelligence, evening prayers, and satsang (Vedo Nityam Adheeyataam). At the request of Mataji, a special musical session was held in the lecture hall in which Acharyaji entranced the audience with his melodious singing and selection of bhajans composed and sung by Pujya Swamiji himself.

The campers were overjoyed to attend two special talks by Mataji on the origin of Sanskrit Grammar and the phonetics and structure of Sanskrit language. Mataji motivated the participants to learn the language and become fluent in reading the original Sanskrit texts of Vedanta. She emphasized on the mastery of the language to gain uninhibited access to the original volumes on Vedanta written by Adi Shankaracharya and other great teachers of Vedanta.

A bhiksha was arranged for all the inmates of the Gurukulam on the penultimate day. Individual archana was done in the temple on behalf of all the campers. The campers participated in the evening puja and offered melodious songs during the aarati session. The morning puja to Pujya Swamiji in the main lecture hall was charged with devotion, and Acharyaji sang a namavali on Lord Shiva which was very appropriate to the meditative mood of the participants. After the morning meditation session and Vedanta class, a convocation session was held in the main lecture hall in the presence of Mataji and the campers presented a skit in the form of a TV show in which participants shared their experiences of the camp. Special thanks were proffered to Kalpana Acharya who compered the TV show and also took complete responsibility of organizing the entire camp and travel arrangements of all the participants.

The camp concluded with a Guru Dakshina ceremony, and distribution of Pujya Swamiji's books on various topics as prasad. The serene atmosphere of the Gurukulam held a special attraction for the participants who were transported to a different world altogether in which all thought of home and work were blissfully forgotten. Mataji urged Acharyaji and others to keep coming to the Gurukulam for spiritual camps and to brush up their knowledge of Sanskrit. The invitation was happily accepted by the campers who resolved to come back every year for camps of a longer duration.

Namaste!



On this auspicious day of Makara Sankrānti, when the Uttarayana begins, Arsha Vijnana Gurukulam - Nagpur launches this new website and the YouTube Channel for the benefit of all the mumukṣus, seekers of the Truth.

Please check the links below...

Website <https://www.avgnagpur.org/>

YouTube Channel https://youtu.be/SaNDcROF_00

सर्वेषां शुभमस्तु।
Namaste!