

Camp on 'New Generation's View of Life' held at Dindigul



A two-day camp for youngsters was conducted on May 24 and 25 at Sat Darshana Kutil, Arsha Vidya Gurukulam Ashram at Dindigul. The first camp at the tranquil Ashram under Camp Acharya H.H. Swami Buddhatmananda Saraswathi, turned out to be an eye-opener in many ways for the youth from Chennai and Dindigul, nearly 30 in number, who were part of it. The main aim of the camp was to nurture the 'New Generation's View of Life', a positive one which when channelized in the right way would

certainly change the way the youth look at and lead life.

An inaugural session was held on the first day during when Sri. Kuppuswamy, a respected devotee, who runs four schools at Dindigul, delivered the Chief Guest address. The camp included interactive sessions on positive thinking, healthy food habits and common issues faced by a teenager by the Camp Acharya H.H. Swami Buddhatmananda Saraswathi.

Co-Acharya for the Camp, Professor Naren Jeeva from Sastra University, who has over a decade of experience in handling classes on Indian culture, in his sessions, highlighted the importance of praying for others' welfare and the burning need for youngsters to overcome the commonly-seen 'herd' mentality which often destroys the uniqueness in each individual.

The two-day program included guest sessions by two very experienced exponents of Vedanta and the Indian culture. H. H. Swami Brahmavidyananda, Acharya, Arsha Vidya Gurukulam – Vaadipetti, gave a spell-binding discourse, urging the campers to form an 'unselfish generation' by preserving the revered '*Guru-Shishya Parampara*' and expanding their mind to help and serve everyone around in the best possible way.

Smt. Vasantha Amma, blessed with the art of captivating children and youth alike with her style of lecturing, brought out the maximum number of queries from the young and energetic audience, with her thought-provoking words of wisdom. Vasantha Amma threw light on facts such as 'happiness' being the purpose of every action done by man and instilled the importance of 'values' in every human being's life.

The camp was not just a set of lectures within four walls but was also packed with a host of interesting and development-oriented activities and games including Memory Test, Math Riddle, Musical Chair, Needle & Thread, Lighting the *Kuthu-*

Vilakku among others. The youth group was also given an opportunity to test their physical stamina and fitness through a trek atop Vellimalai Hills, from the Sirumalai Hills nearby the Ashram. The trek not only tested the physical finesse of the campers but also their mental strength while it also gave them time for some quick prayers while at the peak and some constructive discussions on general knowledge during their upward and downward journeys.

Before the valedictory function, as part of which a series of concluding and thanksgiving speeches were delivered by some distinguished guests and selected campers, the children from Chennai presented an entertaining and value-filled drama on the 'Essence of the Bhagavad Gita'. The skit highlighted topics such as Jnana-Yoga, Karma Yoga, Bhakti Yoga and more from the eternal Bhagavad Gita.

Overall, it would be fitting to sum up by saying that the 'New Generation's View of Life' camp was an excellent success, thanks to grace of the Supreme Lord and H. H. Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswathi. The children who were part of the camp felt blessed and have expressed their interest in attending all future camps with even more zeal and happiness. With constant support of all those who made the camp a huge success and with continuous flow of divine grace from above, Sat Darshana Kutil hopes to conduct many more such camps in future.

*Report by
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