

Topics

2009 is the UN's International Year of Reconciliation. To highlight the above, the topics for the Annual All India Essay Writing Event 2009 are as follows:

Category 1 (Std 6 to 9, approx. 750 words)

Give Love Get Love

Points to ponder

- How does peace and friendship in society benefit the individual?
- Love is an expression of all that is good and balanced within an individual, and irreconcilable differences vanish in its healing embrace. The giving of love is therefore the gaining of love.

Category 2 (Std 10 to 12, approx. 1000 words)

Do unto others as you would have others do unto you

Points to ponder

- Can there be irreconcilable differences if everyone accepted this?
- R.Ingersoll has said, "Give to every other human being every right that you claim for yourself." What do you think?
- This ancient and contemporaneously relevant spiritual maxim, also known as the Golden Rule, resonates in every system of faith that the human imagination devised since the dawn of time so that individuals and nations can grow in love and compassion in the highest practice of peace.

Category 3 (College UG/PG, approx. 1000 words)

Love has hope, Hatred is hopeless

Points to ponder

- Can Love be a potent instrument of reconciliation?
- In a world where individuals strive to live a serene and balanced existence, love helps overcome the confines of intolerance and gently creates the environment for patience, respect and acceptance of differences. Love is a carrier of hope, lighting the pathway to reconciliation, often obviating its need altogether; while hatred, in its indifference to the appeal of reconciliation, is hopeless.

Recognition

National Prizes: Three students, from each category, will be awarded national prizes. Students may be required to clear a final interview to qualify for the final award. Selection for prizes at the national level will be made irrespective of the language in which the essay is written.

Regional Prizes: Three prizes will be declared for each zone, in each of the categories. (For administrative facilitation, 26 geographical zones have been defined.)

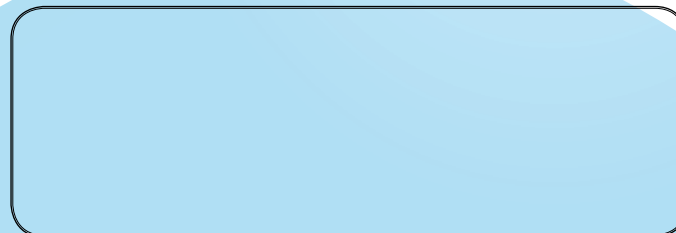
School-level Certificates: For every participating school, certificates will be awarded to the two best essays in each category.

Recognition and appreciation certificates will be given to selected faculty members who offer the highest level of support to this Essay Writing Event.

Important dates and contact information:

- 1) Date of the Essay Writing Event: 12 August 2009.
- 2) Date for submission of list of participants: 31 August 2009.
- 3) Last date for submission of top 20 essays by institutions: 1 October 2009.
- 4) Prize award ceremony: on or around 18 January 2010.

In case of any queries please contact:



www.sahajmarg.org/smrti/
essayevent@sahajmarg.org

Shri Ram Chandra Mission

in collaboration with the

United Nations Information Centre
(India and Bhutan)

presents the

Annual All India Essay Writing Event

conducted by

Sahaj Marg Research and
Training Institute (SMRTI)

in commemoration of the

UN International Youth Day

on the 12th of August 2009.



UN Information Centre
New Delhi

Shri Ram Chandra Mission

Shri Ram Chandra Mission (SRCM) is a non-profit, educational and spiritual service organisation dedicated to promoting universal Love and Brotherhood. It works for the cause of human evolution and integration, at the very root of the matter, with the belief that only individual transformation can lead to a worldwide social transformation, creating, thereby, an eternally peaceful human society founded upon Love and Harmony. Sahaj Marg Spirituality Foundation (SMSF) is a sister organisation of Shri Ram Chandra Mission. Sahaj Marg Research and Training Institute (SMRTI) is a branch of SMSF.

Shri Ram Chandra Mission and the United Nations Department of Public Information

The objectives and activities of Shri Ram Chandra Mission are thus naturally aligned to those of the United Nations. This makes a working relationship between the two organisations a key contributor towards the goal of creating a harmonious and peaceful human society.

As an NGO that works actively for the good of mankind and supports the principles outlined in the UN charter, Shri Ram Chandra Mission is now formally registered and associated with the UNDPPI.

Why Participate?

Organised by Shri Ram Chandra Mission in collaboration with the United Nations Information Centre (India and Bhutan), the Annual All India Essay Writing Event, through thought-provoking topics, attempts to spark a process of reflection among the youth, encouraging them to look within their hearts for possible solutions to the challenges facing the world. The students are motivated to think about the state of the world, its problems, and how best to remedy them. The process allows the individual to embark upon a journey of self-discovery and think deeply about his or her interactions with society.

In a world increasingly challenged by hatred, bigotry and war, the need for inculcation of moral and spiritual values in our youth can never be over-emphasized.

Shri Ram Chandra Mission (SRCM) has been conducting the Annual All India Essay Writing Event since 1989, and has reached thousands of students through this event. This year, a first of its type collaboration between SRCM and the UNIC promises to offer students some unique opportunities. To decide the top prize-winners, the authors of the best essays may be invited to appear at a national event to present their essays. The national prize winners will then have an opportunity to address an audience at a prize distribution ceremony jointly hosted by SRCM and the UN.

Details of the Event

The event will be organised at educational institutions — schools, colleges, other select educational institutions or at centres of SRCM — on the 12th of August 2009 to coincide with the UN International Youth Day.

Please talk to your contact person at Shri Ram Chandra Mission for further details and to organise this event at your educational institution. Contact details are given on the next page of this information bulletin.

Educational institutions will be requested to submit a complete list of participants from their institution by 31 August 2009, and, before 1 October 2009, select the top 20 essays from their institution evaluated on the basis of strict guidelines given by SRCM. The selected essays are to be handed over to SRCM.

This year the Essay Writing Event is being organised for three distinct age groups. The Junior Category (class 6-9), Senior Category (class 10-12) and the College Category (UG/PG). The topics for each of the above categories have been given overleaf. Essays can be in any one of the following languages: English, Assamese, Bengali, Braille, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu. The essays should be written in approximately 750 words for Category 1 and approximately 1000 words for Category 2 and 3.

The Essay Writing Event is being conducted to highlight the year 2009 as the United Nations' International Year of Reconciliation. The essay topics are designed to encourage thought towards the ways and means to facilitate and enable reconciliation, and hopefully bring about a prevalence of peace where there shall be no need for reconciliation.