



## Master's Report

On Saturday, 18th February, Master came to the ashram around 10:30 a.m. from Gayatri. Satsangh had just concluded and abhyasis lined up to welcome him.

Master watched the IT workshop proceedings from his office via CCTV. He heard the talks delivered by Br. Kamlesh and Br. P.R. Krishna. He keenly listened to all the talks and asked questions. After dinner, Master was told that there were some new DVD releases to be made the next day after satsangh. Master replied, "Please find some others to do the AV releases. From now onwards, I come only to give transmission. I am like the telegraph post, used for relay". On Sunday, 19th February, Master conducted the morning satsangh and then a few audio-video releases were made by the publications team.

## North American Seminar

On Monday, 20th February, the North American Seminar started. In spite of not feeling well Master conducted the morning satsangh. In the evening, a group of new abhyasis from USA assembled in the hall. Master was very happy to meet them and gave a motivating talk that touched everyone's hearts. During the week of the American Seminar, Master was preparing three prefects each morning. It was very tiring for him. He was working non-stop despite being tired and unwell.

On Tuesday, 21st February, Master attended the AGM meeting in the meditation hall and gave a powerful talk titled,



"Give your whole heart". Some snippets from the talk:

- ♦ In Sahaj Marg we are judged by our effort, not by what we are able to achieve.
- ♦ To give love, it does not cost anything. But that is the thing which we hold back.
- ♦ God gave us nothing for pleasure. None of the five senses are to be used for pleasure. The five senses are there to guide us through life.
- ♦ Spirituality helps you to keep your heart unbroken.

On Wednesday, 22nd February, Master received the news that Sis. Kasturi had passed away. He was also very sad because a young abhyasi fell down in the Hyderabad

ashram and died.

One of the days during the seminar week, just before going to bed, Master said, "It looks like it is going to be 'Shivratri' for me", meaning that he would not get much sleep. The next day, Master's doctor said that he had not slept the whole night. As usual, there was a steady stream of abhyasis wanting to meet Master and he was doing his best to meet the abhyasis whenever it was possible for him.

On Thursday, 1st March, when Master was talking after breakfast, he was referring to and recommending a couple of books written by Arthur Koestler and said:

- ♦ You see things in the way that you're trained to do. To transcend thought, you need to know things -





## ECHOES INDIA NEWSLETTER

science, art and so on. You don't need to know all of it, but need to recognize its place.

- ♦Tragedies bring out the best in men because suffering does so. Comedy does the opposite--brings out the worst of men.
- ♦Nothing is so bad that it has no good in it and vice versa. If one is there, the other has to be there.

On Saturday 3rd March, Master was preparing a young boy from Boston for prefect. Master told him, "Before I make you a prefect, I want to warn you. In your enthusiasm, you are not to bring everyone without discretion into Sahaj Marg. Say there is a drug addict, you cannot say, let me help him by giving sittings. It is not for you to be compassionate; it is for Him (pointing at Babuji Maharaj's photo) to be compassionate."

### The Iranian Seminar

On Monday, 5th March, the Iranian seminar started and on 6th, Master conducted satsangh in Dorm A. After the sitting Master said he would not be able to give a talk as he was not feeling well. Then, as a few Iranian abhyasis started giving gifts to Master, he seemed to be touched. One could immediately feel that Master would change his plan and give a talk. Many were moved to tears. Even Master's voice was extremely soft, and something special was getting transmitted. Master said, "I was not going to give a talk as I am not feeling well, but your intense love has made me talk." Almost everyone in the room was crying. Master said, "When someone cries like this, it is a sign of their heart softening up. And, at that point, it is not right for another person to go and console that person or tell them not to cry, etc." Master said, the whole of Sahaj Marg practice should result in this softening of the heart. In the initial years, they produce tears, but then the softening should still continue without tears; the softening of the heart should never stop. After this session, Master went to Gayathri. On Friday, 9th March, he invited all the Iranian abhyasis to Gayathri for dinner.

On Saturday, 10th March, Master came to ashram around 8:45 a.m. After satsangh for the Iranians in Dorm A, Master said, "I was originally planning only to give the talk but then this Iranian lady here wanted to start meditation, and so I gave the sitting to all. You see, how we make plans and how it changes. We should not plan too much like the western people but be ready to go with the flow." He then talked about the river, and how it makes its way

as it goes and flows along. Our life should be like that. We should start at the top, with highest ideals of love, faith, etc. and then it must be allowed to flow down to the lowest levels, reach everyone, without compromising the ideals themselves.

In the evening, Master watched a video on the zonal ashram of Kerala and said the ashram was inaugurated as of that moment and abhyasis could start using it.

### On liberation

On Sunday, 11th March, after morning satsangh, talking in his bedroom, Master said how for children every experience is new and filled with wonder. "After wasting so many years, I am learning to be myself". He added, "No, I am not joking. Spirituality taught me to be myself. Spirituality taught me that unless I am myself, I cannot progress". Then the topic changed towards liberation and Master talked about how he has liberated himself from abhyasis, liberated himself from the Mission, and liberated himself from the successor. He said, "I felt I was responsible for my abhyasis. That is why I used to, figuratively speaking, 'kill myself' for my abhyasis. But at one stage, I felt that my responsibility was to show to my Master what I could become through my work, not what I could produce and that liberated me from my abhyasis. Then came the problem of my successor, I used to worry, you know, what will happen after me? One day, I said, I am done with it. I have handed over, he has to take charge and that is his problem and I am liberated from that".

On Saturday, 17th March, after breakfast, Master went to Dorm A to meet around 500 abhyasis from Chittoor. On Sunday, 18th March, Master conducted satsangh and after that he met a group of abhyasis from Villupuram. They proposed to buy seven acres of land, with a portion for the ashram and the remaining for abhyasis' colony. Master watched a movie 'Star Wars' and said that he liked one of the Yoda's dialogues, "Fear leads to the dark side because fear leads to anger, anger leads to hate, hate leads to suffering, which leads to the dark side". In the evening, a group of abhyasis from Gujarat had assembled in the cottage. Master skipped his breathing exercises and came to give a sitting to them. He patiently met everyone and addressed their requests.

On Wednesday, 21st March, Master planned to shift a mango plant from one side of the mango grove to the other. He personally ensured that all

precautions were taken so that the plant would not get damaged. On 25th March, Master met with around hundred students of Class XII from the Omega school who are passing out this year. He spoke to them, had snacks along with them and posed for a group photo. The next day Master went to Gayatri and stayed there for the week returning to the ashram on Saturday.



### “Every satsangh should be like an individual sitting”

On Sunday, 1st April, Master conducted an absorbing satsangh. He left the hall, sat in the golf cart and then called for a microphone with a long cord and gave a short talk on “The art of giving Group Sittings”. He said that as he was giving the sitting, he thought that preceptors should learn to make satsanghs feel like an individual sitting for each abhyasi. He said that Br. Kamlesh Patel would have to do this and hereafter he would conduct the Sunday satsanghs. Adding to this, Master said, “Of course, I am here. I will be here sometimes to give sittings, too. But it may not be a Sunday; it may be a weekday also. So, be prepared!” He repeated this in chaste Tamil and then left.



In an informal discussion, one sister mentioned about how inner beauty becomes visible in a person who is meditating. Master clarified saying, it is not that a person becomes more beautiful when he meditates. It is that their inner divinity becomes visible and it glows. Such a visible change he had seen when a person looked completely different just after one sitting.

### “Remembrance attracts Master”

On Monday, 2nd April, the week-long seminar for around 650 abhyasis from Kanpur started and Master went to Dorm A and conducted satsangh. There were few Iranian abhyasis who met Master. One abhyasi asked, “Once we go back, how do we continue to have Master's attention on us?” Master



replied, “How does a rose attract - by its beauty and smell; how does the baby attract its mother - by love; how does an abhyasi attract the Master- by his / her condition”. Master said, “Our spiritual condition must be such that it keeps the Master with us. And the way to do this is to do meditation properly and then practice constant remembrance, knowing that remembrance is superior to meditation, and so on”. The abhyasi then asked, “What is the next level beyond constant remembrance” and Master responded, “When you come to that stage, I will tell you”.

On another occasion, an abhyasi sister said that music was her profession but she felt that these days Master was taking over her heart and that she was not able to put her heart into music and play. She asked if she should change her profession. Master said, “That is not necessary. Instead, whenever you play, think that it is the Master who is playing the flute inside you and then play your musical instrument.”

On Friday, 6th April, Br. Krishna delivered a talk and Master listened from the cottage via CCTV. After the talk, Master decided to go to Dorm A and give a sitting. Thereafter, he indicated to the center-in-charge that his work was not over and he would like to give another sitting the next day. On April 7th, Master gave a talk in Hindi and then gave a sitting. He said that had he gone to Kanpur, he would have met them only for one or two days but now that they had come he was able to meet them for a full week. Many abhyasis felt complete transformation in that



one week and they were able to see the difference, from the first to the last sitting.

Sunday, 8th April, was the first time after Master's announcement that Br. Kamlesh conducted Sunday satsangh. In the evening, Master had a lively discussion with some abhyasis who had arrived and then he decided to conduct a sitting for all, including a group of about 5-6 young abhyasis who were 17-18 years of age and wanted to start Sahaj Marg. When they asked Master's permission, he consented to include them in the sitting.

## Pujya Babuji Maharaj's Birth Anniversary Celebrations

Pujya Babuji Maharaj's birth anniversary was celebrated in centres all over the country with reverence, fervour, joy and devotion. As per Master's instructions, the celebrations were held in all ashrams and centres. Abhyasis gathered with a feeling of anticipation and eagerness to participate in the auspicious occasion. Various programmes were planned and many abhyasis put in a lot of effort in the planning and execution to ensure that the celebrations went off smoothly.

In Chennai, Master conducted satsangh and then spoke on the occasion. He spoke about the necessity of such occasions which we celebrate to remember the great personalities. He said the remembrance should not take us into the past but we should remember as if they were in the present, living with us

today. Referring to Babuji he said we should also remember his life, the way he lived and his simplicity.



Bhilwara



Ajmer



Aligarh



Aluva



Jodhpur

### Developing sensitivity to Master

Nowadays, we can notice Master's concern to make abhyasis feel his spiritual presence in his physical absence and also balancing it by trying to satisfy their craving to meet him in person as much as his health permits. The appointed volunteers are doing a good job to convey the wishes of individual abhyasis and groups to

Master and arranging appointments for them with him. Where there is a real need, such meetings take place and in all other cases, Master would like abhyasis not to put pressure on his mind and on his health. Our love for him should not permit us to cause distress to the very object of our love!



Master released the fourth volume of 'Whispers from The Brighter World'. Some messages were played from the new MP3 CD titled 'Whispers' which contains selected messages from the books being read out.

We have a photo feature which will give you a feel of the gatherings held at various centres.



ECHOES INDIA NEWSLETTER



Dehradun



Davangere



Kolar



Sri Ganganagar



Bikaner



Madurai



Bangalore



Kashipur



Rampur



Siddipet



Ranchi



Gorakhpur



Mirzapur



Udaipur



Kanpur



Varanasi



Payannur



Noida

**Yatra to Strengthen Brotherhood**  
**Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**



Varanasi is in Sonbhadra district of U.P. which is in the Vindhya mountain range. On 23rd March, thirty abhyasis of Varanasi centre started by bus, carrying Master's message to develop and strengthen love and brotherhood among abhyasis in the satellite centres. The group was greeted and received by prefects Br. Ravi Jain and Br. R.K. Malviya. As they visited centres like Adalhaat, Robertsganj, Renukoot, Shaktinagar and Dudhi, they were greeted by abhyasis of local as well as nearby centres. Home gathering was organised at Adalhaat and Rihand Nagar and satsanghs were conducted at Robertsganj, Shakti Nagar and Dudhi. During the two day tour, every abhyasi felt as if Master was travelling with them. His presence and love strongly vibrated in the hearts of abhyasis. The love and affection shown by the abhyasis of various centres was tremendous and unforgettable.

**Programmes for the Youth**

**Ahmedabad, Gujarat**

On 25th - 26th February 'Youth- A time of promise and effort' was the theme at Ahmedabad ashram. The participants were divided into small groups and were given work in the ashram. After this they played an outdoor game with a feeling of enjoyment rather than that of winning. A video presentation by Pune centre participants shared the various activities of the Mission in which youth could involve themselves. On Sunday after satsangh they were given Master's messages to read and introspect followed by a video clipping from which they were asked to find the spiritual meaning. Abhyasis from Surat enacted a skit on Lalaji's life. Useful tips were given on how to represent and talk about Sahaj Marg in general public. A great sense of bonding was felt amongst the youth after this programme.

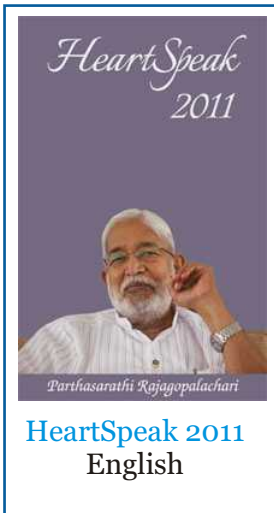
**Bhilwara, Rajasthan**

On 26th February seven abhyasis participated in a youth programme on the topic 'Love'. They expressed their views and discussed on excerpts from Mission books. On 25th March after satsangh around nine abhyasis discussed how to bring awareness amongst the youth of Sahaj Marg and ways to get them involved in Mission activities. Suggestions were received on playing a skit every week after the satsangh and to go for a picnic during the summer vacation to strengthen the bond.

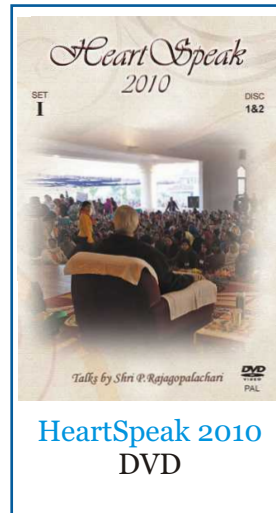
**New Publications**



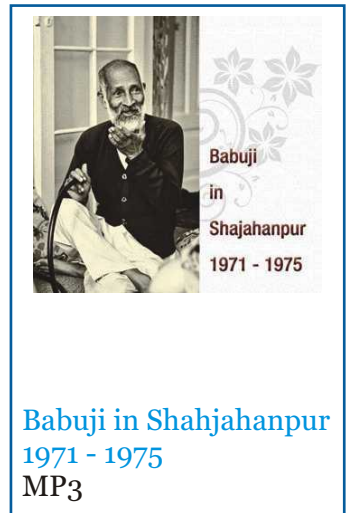
Reprint of the Tamil translation of 'Love and Death'.



HeartSpeak 2011 English



HeartSpeak 2010 DVD



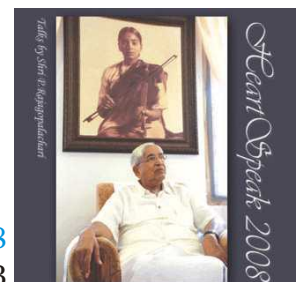
Babuji in Shahjahanpur 1971 - 1975 MP3

**HeartSpeak 2009**, the latest addition to the HeartSpeak series, featuring the talks and informal discussions given by Master in India during 2009.



Whispers (Selected Messages) MP3

HeartSpeak 2008 MP3



## ***Ashram Development***



### **Jaipur, Andhra Pradesh**

Master inaugurated the meditation hall at Jaipur, Adilabad district on Sunday, 25th March from Chennai. He watched a video on the ten acre ashram property and following his declaration of the inauguration, over 200 abhyasis quietly entered the meditation hall and sat for satsangh. The hall has a capacity for accommodating 1500 abhyasis. Several centres in the coal-belt area including Godavarikhani, Mancherial, Srirampur, Mandamarri, Bellampalli, and Goleti will now have an ashram owned by the Mission.

### **Bargur, Tamil Nadu**

Br. S. Prakash (ZiC, TN North) inaugurated the meditation hall at Bargur, near Krishnagiri in Tamil Nadu on 3rd March in the presence of about fifty abhyasis. It was followed by a satsangh and discussion on improving the quality and quantity of the abhyasis.

### **Chikhli, Maharashtra**

Land was bought at Chikhli in the year 2005 and over the years, the meditation hall, Master's cottage and kitchen were built and were awaiting Master's visit for the inauguration. As Master's travel has been restricted, a group of twelve abhyasis went to meet Master along with a video of the ashram. On 27th February, Master declared the ashram inaugurated. To the surprise of all, on the evening of 29th February, Master connected with Chikhli ashram through video conferencing. He spoke to the abhyasis in the local language and asked Br. Nivrutti to start the satsangh. There were about 100 abhyasis from Chikhli and nearby centres like Buldhana, Khamgaon, Kinhola and Deulgaon Ghube.

### **Daman**

Till October 2008, the abhyasis of Daman used to go to Vapi centre for Sunday satsanghs. In November 2008, Master appointed Br. Shailendra as a prefect and satsanghs were conducted at the residence of Br. M.S. Pandey for around twenty abhyasis. With the strength reaching thirty-five, Br. Pandey offered to construct a meditation hall on the first floor. In March 2012, the construction of a hall of 1600 sq. ft. was completed. The abhyasis donated fans, chairs, tables and a book shelf.

On 1st April, the new meditation hall was inaugurated with abhyasis gathering from nearby centres and the CiC of Surat and ZiC of Gujarat. Ninety abhyasis and twenty-one children attended the function. There were talks by Br. Anil and ZiCs Br. Rajubhai and Br. Surendra. The abhyasis from the nearby centres shared the different activities conducted for the growth of their centres. The programme also included a skit on moral values and bhajans by abhyasis and their children.

### **Villupuram, Tamil Nadu**

A group of abhyasis from Villupuram visited Manapakkam ashram to present the Villupuram ashram land papers to Master. The original plan was to restrict the team to nine members. But other curious abhyasis, who waited in anticipation and with hearts full of love were also allowed to meet Master. He promised to visit Villupuram and enquired whether he could stay there for a night. He also interacted with the children. He asked the abhyasis to go ahead with the ashram construction. The abhyasis were overwhelmed and felt blessed after meeting Master.



## ECHOES INDIA NEWSLETTER

**Zonal Ashram, Bangalore**

A new meditation hall has come up at the Zonal Ashram in Bangalore. The new hall was dedicated to The Great Master of this age Parampujya Babuji Maharaj by Master on 19th February 2012. The meditation hall is 80 by 120 feet with a capacity to hold 2,000 abhyasis. It is an open style hall suitable to the greenery around and the local weather conditions.

A full day program to mark the occasion was conducted on the 26th of February 2012 with satsanghs at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The program was attended by 1,353 abhyasis and 125 children from Bangalore and nearby centers. The day's talks given by Br. A.P. Durai, Br. Prasanna, Br. Nagaraja and Br. Venkatadri gravitated towards 'The Guru and the Goal' leading to introspection among the abhyasis. The experience was also enriching and revealing for the recently appointed AMC team.

**Full day programmes****Bhilwara, Rajasthan (4th March 2012)**

A mix of old and new abhyasis discussed various reasons for joining the Mission like peace of mind, solution for problems faced during life and in search of truth and in search of God. They then discussed various problems associated with sadhana and also the problems associated with interaction among abhyasis.

Many of them expressed how they felt the presence and help of guru in overcoming these problems. In essence, the unconditional love and assistance of Guru was motivating abhyasis to continue on this spiritual path. It was hoped that the programme would not only help them overcome their problems but will also strengthen their faith in Master, thus helping them reach their ultimate goal.

**Virudhunagar Ashram, Tamilnadu**

Fifty-two abhyasis from Virudhunagar and surrounding sub-centres joined together on 18th March in group discussions on topics like 'The Strength of Will Power' and 'Awaken Now'. Discussions involved reading and explaining Master's quotes from the book 'The Guru and the Goal'. They also involved themselves in volunteer work like cleaning and gardening. The abhyasis felt the full day program was a wonderful opportunity to be in the remembrance of beloved Master.

**Tirur Ashram, Kerala (25th March 2012)**

Tirur ashram is gifted with the natural beauty of a river and the vast Arabian Sea on three sides of the ashram. It is located about 14 km from Tirur railway station. This ashram was inaugurated on 4th April 2009 and since then all Sundays are celebrated as full days.

On 25th March a mega full day event was organized at the ashram. About 200 abhyasis including children from the nearby centers of Ponnani, Manjeri, Perinthalmanna, Pattambi and Vallancheri, participated in this event. The program began with satsangh at 7.30 a.m. There were speeches on the 'three 'M's and Sahaj Marg in family life. The speeches were very informative and many abhyasis made a resolution to adopt this in their family life and experience the changes. A youth meeting was held in the afternoon. They decided to conduct meetings at various ashrams every month.

At children's corner all children participated in an on the spot skit program. Stories based on value education were told to children. They were divided into groups and asked to enact these stories on the spot as skits. Children participated with great enthusiasm. The programme concluded with a satsangh in the evening.

## Workshops and Seminars

### Seminar for Abhyasis from Mumbai Chennai - 26th February to 3rd March 2012



On 26th February around 500 abhyasis from Mumbai were filled with joy on seeing Master in the meditation hall, conducting satsangh and performing marriages. Br. Kamlesh Patel spoke on using the heart to follow Master rather than only looking for his physical presence.

There were talks and interactive sessions on 'Brotherhood' and 'Heart Speak' conducted by Br. Alberto and Sis. Lalita Sreenivasan. Q & A sessions were conducted by Br. Rajgopal on sadhana and Br. Somakumar on service in the Mission, constant remembrance and brotherhood.

Master met around fifty new abhyasis in his cottage on 29th evening. He spent time with all the abhyasis on March 1st and spoke on the importance of time management in an abhyasi's life stressing on understanding the seriousness of practice and to meditate whenever time is available.

A cultural event was organised by the abhyasis. The seminar, was like a booster to become more dedicated in sadhana and to ultimately become what he wants us to be.

### Faculty Training Programme

RK Puram Ashram, New Delhi March 23-25, 2012



The Faculty Training Programme was organized by Br. Santosh Sreenivasan, head of the Spiritual Training Delivery (SPD) team. After conducting many workshops and having discussions with the functionaries of the Mission, the SPD team had identified abhyasi training as a priority and

produced their first set of training modules called 'Grounding in the Practice'. This workshop was designed to train delegates from various zones to act as facilitators in their respective centres for training the abhyasis.

A total of 63 delegates participated from Zones 9-12 and 18 in Northern India. Br. Kamlesh Patel, who was in Delhi during this period, addressed the delegates on 24th March. A majority of the delegates mentioned that they benefitted a lot by participating in the workshop.

### A Seminar for Prefects

Vadugapatti Ashram, Tamil Nadu



A two day seminar on 16th & 17th March for sixty-eight prefects of Tamil Nadu north zone was organized at Vadugapatti ashram, Trichy. The program was facilitated by Br. S. Prakash, ZiC, on the theme of 'Spirituality for All'.

The aim of the program was to ensure that every spiritual aspirant in the zone should have heard about Sahaj Marg at least once by the year 2017.

Discussions and brain-storming sessions on the theme were conducted. Participants were divided into groups and asked to create and enact a skit on the theme. The skits proved to be hilarious at times and also thought provoking. The inputs were summarized into a list of ideas and action plans.

On the second day, the group visited Tanjore ashram where there were talks by a few prefects. Br. S. Prakash then reiterated the need for team work and being focused on the goal.

### Workshop on Mission Literature

Karnataka

Publication volunteers of Bangalore center conducted a workshop to inspire abhyasis to read Mission literature. It was conducted at Shimoga and at Hunsur.

On 12th February it was conducted at Shimoga where thirty-two abhyasis from Shimoga, Bhadravathi, Nyamti and Mangalore centers participated. On 25th March about thirty abhyasis from Hunsur and Periyapatna had gathered at Shastri School auditorium, Hunsur.

In both places abhyasis were informed in advance to read a Mission book and select a story told by our Master. It was highlighted that as part of our sadhana we must read from the Mission literature daily, carefully and with purpose.

Abhyasis were divided into groups and asked to read the stories selected by them and to discuss the value in the story, whether it has been applied in daily life and if not, what are the challenges and how to overcome the challenges in inculcating it in daily life.

This was followed by displaying video clippings of Master telling the stories. All abhyasis participated actively with enthusiasm in the workshop and benefited. There was an arrangement for the sale of Mission literature.

### Sports Day for Children

BMA, Manapakkam, Chennai

A sports day for the children was organized at the Babuji Memorial Ashram on 1st April, 2012. About 160 children participated in different sports activities for 3 different age groups, that is, 6 to 8 years, 8 to 10 years and 10 to 12 years. Various games like spoon and lemon race, couple race, frog jump, lucky corner and so on were conducted in the play ground area from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The children very enthusiastically participated in all the games and enjoyed very much. The programme started with prayer by the children and volunteers. A prize distribution ceremony was also held.



### Workshop for Volunteers

Vellore, Tamil Nadu



A workshop for volunteers was organised on 25th - 26th February at Vellore and around forty abhyasis attended the programme from Vellore hub. The program focused upon motivating the volunteers in their sadhana, team work and importance of connecting to the heart in a practical way. Four topics were given for group discussion. They were also provided with guidelines for communication emphasizing the importance of listening. The atmosphere was divine during the programme.

### Gathering

Sawai Madhopur

On 3rd March, all abhyasis of Sawai Madhopur centre assembled for a session on Sahaj Marg practice and a quiz contest. The activity was organized by Br. Ayodhya Prasad and conducted by Br. Sandeep of Jaipur centre. The abhyasis were divided into two groups. Each group brought out points for better understanding of Sahaj Marg practice. The entire session was interactive and the material used for the quiz was drawn from the talks of the Masters. The local abhyasis were motivated to conduct well planned home gatherings.

### Spirituality and Medical Practice

Kasaragod, Kerala - 11th March 2012

A seminar on 'Spirituality and Medical Practice,' was held on 11th March at Bela, Kasaragod. Fourteen doctors from Calicut to Kasaragod participated in the seminar which was organized to inculcate among the medical practitioners the importance of spirituality in medical education. At present, treatment is restricted to just treatment of a disease, and the person behind the disease is not thought about. The doctor is thinking of the income to be generated, and the patient is worried about the expenditure. If a doctor wishes, he can create a positive change in the patient's attitude and introduce him to spirituality.

# ECHOES INDIA NEWSLETTER

## Essay Writing Event Certificate Distribution

In centres across India, functions were held to felicitate those who had participated in the Annual Essay Writing Event of 2011 and had won prizes at various levels. Bellary, Gulbarga, Hubli and Bidar in N. Karnataka, Tuticorin, Tiruchendur, Kovilpatti, Ooty and Tiruppur in Tamil Nadu, Bhuj, Mehsana and Vadodara in Gujarat and Ranchi in Jharkhand were the centres which conducted this function during February, March and April 2012. Students, parents and teachers were invited and certificates were distributed to the prize winners of the different categories. There were talks to create an awareness about the Mission's activities and the philosophy behind conducting the Essay Event. Mission literature was made available for those who were interested in knowing more.



Bellary, Karnataka



Hubli, Karnataka



Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu



Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu



Kovilpatti, Tamil Nadu



Bidar, Karnataka



Vadodara, Gujarat



Bhuj, Gujarat



Ooty, Tamil Nadu



Mehsana, Gujarat



Gulbarga, Karnataka



Ranchi, Jharkhand

## Vijayawada Ashram, Andhra Pradesh

## Centre of Light

Vijayawada, one of the oldest centres in India, has been a nerve centre for spirituality over a period of five decades for the abhyasis of the region. It came into existence in 1959 when Babuji Maharaj visited the town which had just half a dozen abhyasis. In 1963, he visited the centre once again, stayed for three days and conducted satsanghs. He inaugurated the meditation hall on the first floor of Preceptor Dr. V. Parthasarathy's house on 25 May 1967. Babuji Maharaj was also in Vijayawada when a typhoon struck the region.

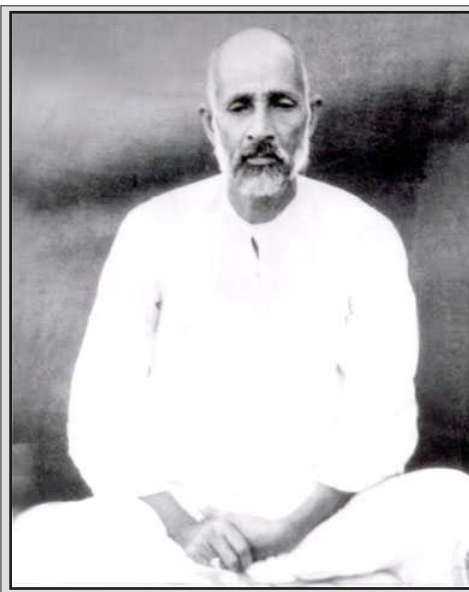
Br. Sunkara Venkatapayya donated a site measuring 1672.26 sq. mtrs. in the heart of the city on 16th May 1972. The ashram is on the main road and is just 4 kms from both Central Bus Station and the Railway Station. The foundation stone was laid on 18th March 1987 by Master for construction of 420 sq.mtrs. for a meditation hall, office room, dormitory and Master's cottage. This was inaugurated on 24th July 1995, by Dr. Chandrika Prasad of Allahabad. Master made a three day visit on 22nd, 23rd and 24th December 2002. Abhyasis from different parts of the state were present and received Master's grace.

In the year 2005, the first floor was added for a meditation hall with well laid out corridors. This was followed by the purchase of a building with a plinth area of 284 sq.mts. just behind the meditation hall for the Sahaj Marg Spirituality Foundation. It is proposed to add a kitchen and library to complete the infrastructure.

The medical centre in the SMSF building has basic medical infrastructure and every Sunday scores of abhyasis and local public utilize the services of doctors available for service. Medicines are distributed free of charge to the patients.

Morning satsangh is held in the ashram every day in addition to evening satsangh on Sundays and Wednesdays. About 250 abhyasis attend Sunday satsangh. The centre organizes open houses, abhyasi training programs and VBSE activities regularly. Welcome desk for aspirants and clarification session for new abhyasis are conducted every Sunday. Youth interaction sessions are a regular feature as well. The centre plans to expand the construction in the ashram premises.

While upholding the spirit of the Mission, the centre continues to spread the message of Master all over the district.



**Babuji's message during the inauguration of meditation hall, 25 May 1967.**

"Our ancestors had sought their ways of realisation in the forests, away from the life of action, forsaking all ties of worldly connections with their fellow beings and others. We, under the Sahaj Marg system, try to create such an atmosphere around us in our homes so that they serve the purpose of forests."



To download or subscribe to this newsletter, please visit <http://www.sahajmarg.org/newsletter/india> For feedback, suggestions and news articles please send email to [in.newsletter@srcm.org](mailto:in.newsletter@srcm.org)

© 2011 Shri Ram Chandra Mission ("SRCM"). All rights reserved. "Shri Ram Chandra Mission", "Sahaj Marg", "SRCM", "Constant Remembrance" and the Mission's Emblem are registered Trademarks of Shri Ram Chandra Mission. This Newsletter is intended exclusively for the members of SRCM. The views expressed in the various articles are provided by various volunteers and are not necessarily those of SRCM.