



Balamitra Newsletter.... April – July 2011

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By draping itself in forest green,

And keeping its goal immensely clean,

Balamitra reverberates with sounds of Nature

Only to put on view its great confidence in future

Here it spreads for you the taste of its culture

Through this Balamitra quarterly news letter

Annual Day Function:

Balamitra model school celebrated its annual day on the 7th of April 2011 with great zeal and enthusiasm. The program was inaugurated by Mr. Ravi Rebbapragada, who is the Executive Director of Samata and Mr.Reddy, the DRO of

Visakhapatnam was the guest of honour. School Bazaar, which started at 3.00 pm, was the major attraction of the day followed by release of books on Tribal culture, and a colourful cultural programme. All the invitees and parents of children, who came from the villages, were enthralled to view the performance of children. They were captivated with the songs, dances and activities, of children. Play depicting the life of Freedom fighter and Tribal leader Alluri Sitaramaraju was enacted and volunteers prepared them with a play named 'Pancake'. All students got their yearly reports and a small parents meeting was held. It was nice that the whole Samata and Balamitra team and several interested guests came together on this special day.



Field School Assessment:



Assessment of Balamitra village schools is a quarterly activity of Balamitra. This time, assessments were carried out from 09-04-2011 to 16-4-2011. Overall assessment comments are that there is a substantial improvement in all except five schools and the teachers of some schools are to be changed. The team also identified

some students who dropped out of schools and is trying to get them readmitted.

Children's Summer Camp:

A Four day camp for the children of villages was held from 23rd to 26th May 2011 with a chief objective to educate them of their rights. The camp was held at our resource centre and more than 260 children from 42 schools got benefitted from this camp.



Teacher Training Workshop:



Universal Teachers' training workshop was held in the end of May with nearly 60 participants from the model and village schools, at the main resource centre of Balamitra. Mrs. Ute Meuser and Mrs. Neena Nambiar, who carried good amount of experience with them in the teaching arena, came as resource persons

for this training. Mrs. Ute has been a Waldorf teacher for 20 years. A warm welcome was extended to them by all the participants who were eagerly waiting to explore the fundamental concepts of Waldorf education.

Reopening and Admissions:

Balamitra model school reopened on 13-06-2011. Children felt happy to meet each other after enjoying summer holidays for two months. Balamitra also tries to secure admission for the students in government schools. It was heartening to know that three former students of Balamitra, Chandra sekhar, Prashant and Sanni babu could get admission in the school for excellence Parvathipuram.

New School Building at Dabbanda under Construction:



A new school building for Balamitra model school is being constructed in a farm near the city of Visakhapatnam. . The place called 'Dabbanda' is located in the beautiful Eastern Ghats and is surrounded by cashew and palm trees.

Health Care Checks at Balamitra School:

Routine health check-up was conducted after the reopening of Balamitra School. A mobile dental camp to provide dental care to the children was also set up by the students of Gitam Dental college of Visakhapatnam on July 5th.

Farewell to the Volunteers:

On 14 of July 2011, the school bade farewell to the volunteers Jana, Nora, Franciska, Estefania and Simon, whose contribution to the organization will be cherished and admired for ever. The function was graced by the Executive Director of Samata, Mr. Ravi Rebbapragada, who also distributed the certificates of appreciation to the volunteers. Everyone was sad to say goodbye to them. A good bye song was presented by the volunteers who also brought fine gifts for the children. With heavy hearts and tearful eyes, the children said goodbye to the volunteers.



Contact us

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Appeal:

You can contribute to our efforts by way of donations in materials or money. Financial contributions to Samata are exempt from Income Tax under Section 80G and has a contribution regulation act (FCRA) number from the Central Government which allows it to receive foreign funds. Please make Cheques payable to 'Samata'. Legal Status:

Registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 (No.554/90)
Registered under Foreign Contributions Registration Act

