

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA IN THE EYES OF SOME GREAT MEN

I have gone through his works very thoroughly, and after having gone through them, the love I had for my country became a thousandfold.

Mahatma Gandhi

I do not know how many of the younger generation read the speeches and writings of Swami Vivekananda. But I can tell you that many of my generation were very powerfully influenced by him and I think that it would do a great deal of good to the present generation if they also went through Swami Vivekananda's writings and speeches, and they would learn much from them.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

If you want to know India, study Vivekananda. In him everything is positive and nothing negative.

Rabindranath Tagore

How shall I express in words my indebtedness to Shri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda? It is under their sacred influence that my life got first awakened..... If Swamiji had been alive today, he would have been my Guru.

Subhash Chandra Bose

Vivekananda was a soul of puissance if ever there was one, a very lion among men.

Shri Aurobindo

If you really believe in the divine spark in man, do not for a moment hesitate to accept the great tradition which has come to us, of which Swami Vivekananda was the greatest exponent.

Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan



: CONTACT :

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIVEKANANDA MEMORIAL

"Dilaram Bunglow", Opp. Circuit House, R.C. Dutt Road, Alkapuri, VADODARA-390007.

Phone : 0265-2356426, 2320930 | Fax : 0265-2351176

E-mail : rkmvmv@rediffmail.com / rkmvmv1@gmail.com | Website : www.rkmvadodara.com

150th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

INFORMATION BROCHURE

VIVEKANANDA CENTRE OF POSITIVE THINKING



RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIVEKANANDA MEMORIAL, VADODARA

**Arise, awake and stop not till the goal is reached
- Swami Vivekananda**

VIVEKANANDA CENTRE OF POSITIVE THINKING

You might be aware that Swami Vivekananda's 150th birth anniversary is being celebrated throughout the world from 2011 to 2014. Many important projects have been undertaken by Ramakrishna Mission with the financial help from Government of India and donations from public, e.g. Gadhadhar Abhuday Prakalpa, Vivekananda Swasthya Pariseva Prakalpa, Sarada Palli Vikas Prakalpa, Swami Akhandananda Seva Prakalpa etc. apart from Seminars on Interfaith Harmony, Value Education programmes and programmes specially meant for the youth.

One of the most important components of the special youth programmes is the scheme of starting 'Vivekananda Centres of Positive Thinking and Counselling' in the educational institutions. Ten Resource Centres will be started in 10 states of India. Vadodara Centre of Ramakrishna Mission will be the Resource Centre for guiding 'Vivekananda Centres of Positive Thinking and Counselling' to be started in various educational institutions of Gujarat. To start with, one such centre will be started in the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.

There is an urgent need of starting such centres because of increasing number of suicides and cases of depression among modern youth. The modern youths are highly ambitious, intelligent and energetic but they break down and get frustrated easily when they have to face failures or some problems of life. The fault lies with our education system. We are giving more importance to academic excellence than to excellence of character, or acquisition of life skills. With a view to implement the message of Swami Vivekananda of man-making and character-building education, and with a view to bring a positive outlook among the modern youth and to prevent them from becoming prey of frustration and depression, we want to start 'Vivekananda Centres of Positive Thinking and Counselling'

At present, the operational aspect of these centres is envisaged as follows. Each of these centres will have a Library containing some basic books (on value education, Swami Vivekananda's Life and message, elevating and inspiring lives from various fields, on science and technology written from the perspective of the struggles undergone by the scientists, etc.). There will be senior and mature resource persons who could be trained counselors, psychology experts, as well as senior

monks, dedicated teachers, parents who have been successful in various walks of life, etc. There will be periodical gatherings, discussions, readings, interaction, etc. in addition to individual one-to-one counselling sessions for the seeking youths. Most importantly, these centres will form service groups (like Peace Corps) called 'Vivekananda service Corps' and undertake selfless service activities in various directions – educational, medical (health / hygiene awareness) etc.

RAMAKRISHNA MATH AND RAMAKRISHNA MISSION

Swami Vivekananda founded the Ramakrishna Mission in 1897 in Kolkata. Ramakrishna Mission is the social service wing of Ramakrishna Math which is a monastic order of ordained sanyasins brought into existence by Sri Ramakrishna, the great saint and prophet of modern India. For the past 110 years, the twin organizations with their 171 branch centres in India and in other countries have been engaged in various kinds of service activities such as running hospitals, polyclinics, mobile medical units, schools, colleges, rural development centres, tribal development centres, etc. Monks of Ramakrishna Math also conduct religious classes and discourses and give spiritual guidance to thousands of people. When natural calamities such as cyclones, earthquakes, floods strike different parts of India, Ramakrishna Mission immediately conduct relief operations on a massive scale. Special attention is given to the programmes related to the youth through conducting Value Education programmes, Youth Conventions, etc.

- ◆ Arise, awake, sleep no more. Within each of you there is the power to remove all wants and all miseries. Believe in this, and that power will be manifested.
- ◆ All expansion is life, all contraction is death. All love is expansion, all selfishness is contraction. Love is therefore only law of life. He who loves lives, he who is selfish is dying. Therefore love for love's sake, because it is the only law of life, just as you breathe to live.
- ◆ This is the time to decide your future---while you possess the energy of youth... Work; this is the time, for the freshest, the untouched, and unsmelled flowers alone are to be laid at the feet of the Lord.
- ◆ Education is not the amount of information that is put into your brain and runs riot there, undigested, all your life. We must have life-building, man-making, character-making, assimilation of ideas.

- Swami Vivekananda