



VANAMITRA

NAGARVASI GRAMAVASI VANAVASI - HUM SAB BHARATHAVASI

VANAYATRE

What is Vanayatree?

Vanayatree is a 1-2 days trip to deep interiors of forest by city dwellers to understand the life of VanaVasi / Janajathi people.

What is the takeaway from the Vanayatree for City dwellers?

Meeting Vanavasis: Main purpose of the visit was to meet Vanavasis in their hamlets / to see them living in harmony with Nature. I would say we achieved this objective.

Imparting Education / Nationalism: Selfless team is taking care of children, their Education / making them a better citizen.

Learning Centres: Visiting Learning centers is an eye opener. Motivating students to attend classes is not easy & this is achieved by devoted Teachers. To watch students strict and discipline routine, Chanting Mantras early morning followed by Yoga and SuryaNamaskra, It's simply wonderful & amazing.

Contacts: Met selfless/dedicated people who are just focusing on the objective of creating awareness / comprehensive development of the tribals.

Highlights:

- 1) Selfless Service
- 2) Devotion towards society
- 3) Disciplined Students

What are the other surprises?

The Bonus is we get to see the nature in its true form Along with forest, we also get to see waterfalls, temples and other historical places.

The people also take special interest in explaining the history of the place, temples etc because we wear the special cap of VanaVasi Kalyan Volunteers.



Glimpses of VanaYatre

VanaVasi Kalyan Conducted two days Vanayatree to Chipageri and Yellapur, Sirsi, Uttara Kannada on 17th and 18th of December 2022 (Left Bangalore on 16th Night and returned to Bangalore on 18th late evening)





Jenukallu gudda, Sirsi



Inside a hamlet in Chipgeri in deep forest



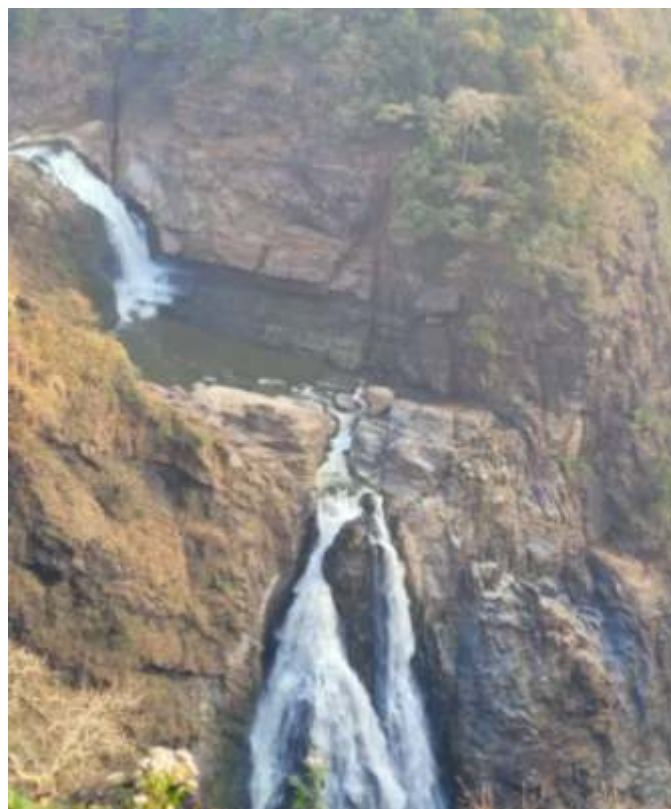
Learning Center/ Kalika Kendra



Vanayogi Bhavana - Hostel for students



Madhukeshwara Temple



Magod Waterfalls



Whom to contact for the next VanaYatre?

Ramesh Bhat Ji - 84318 54492 or
Prathima ji - 99020 16120
for the next upcoming Vanayatre.
Either they will be directly involved or
will co-ordinate for the event.

VanaVasi Kalyan Events

Glimpses of Vanavasi Kalyana Dandeli hostel girl students visit to Bangalore.



Highlights of "**Janajati Gaurav Program**" in Rastrothana school @ Kalyannagar Bangalore. Vanavasi Kalyana Karnataka Organizing Secretary Srinivas ji inaugurated the program with inspiring speech.



Janajati Gaurav Program



29th Nov is celebrated as **Thakkar Bapa's birthday**.

Thakkar Bapa was an Indian social worker who worked for upliftment of tribal people in Gujarat state in India.

Thakkar Bapa had rewarded Vanyogi Balasaheb Deshpande ji, the founder of Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, for starting 108 schools in tribal areas.

One more exhibition held on tribal freedom fighters in Sharada Vidya Mandir Varthur. Krishna Gunaga ji delivered inaugural speech. Quiz was conducted for 8-10 class students. Whitefield Samitee conducted this event!!!



Third tribal freedom fighter's exhibition in Bangalore at **ICON SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE** - Electronic City. Inaugural speech was delivered by Sri Saurabh Jogdand.



**12th-January, Memorial day of Honorable Bhaskarrao ji
Hundreds of salutations to this Karmayogi!!!**

Inspiration comes neither from words nor from speeches. Not even by preaching. Inspiration comes from actions more than from words, it comes from conduct and behavior. Inspiration is born out of coexistence. Neither does it have any time, nor can it be explained. There will be many such people in social life with whom we get energy to work just by being with them. One of them is our Bhaskarrao ji!!!



MOU signed between VKK and Wabtec corporation for the implementation of Mobile Medical van at Raichur.



Mobile Medical Van at Devadurga of Raichur district. This van will run across 50 villages in Yadgiri and Raichur district.

This project is sponsored by Wabtec Corporation. Bangalore Samitee karyakaratas were instrumental in establishing and building relationship with Wabtec CSR team.



Message from Gurucharan ji

This Year 2023, Vanavasi Kalyana, Karnataka has provided financial support for 96 students through SABAL out of which 66 are girls and 30 boys. Apart from regular graduation, we have students pursuing Engineering, Diploma courses, Post Graduation, Nursing, Horticulture and Physiotherapy.

ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿ ಸಂಪನ್ನಗೊಂಡ ಸಬಲ
ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಒಂದು ದಿನದ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರ

A one day workshop for Sabal Students at MadhavaKrupa Karyalaya at Mysuru was held on 22/01/2023

- A total of 29 female students and 5 male students participated from 3 districts – Chamrajnagara, Mysuru and Kodagu.
- In the first session, Shri Umesh Prasad ji (Trustees of Vanavasi Kalyan), got a detailed introduction to the students.
- In the second session Shri Shripad Ji (Regional Organizing Secretary of Vanavasi Kalyan) introduced the work of Vanavasi Kalyan to all the children.
- After lunch Mr. Venu Ji, a senior volunteer of the association, took a spiritual session in his own unique way to inspire all the children under the title "Binduvinindha Sindhu".
- A talent show was organized competitively for all the children present to recognize any talent they have, a total of 13 students participated and displayed many talents like dance, pugadi folk song, lyrical painting, speech on great men, original poetry etc.
- The judges were Mr. Shantarama Siddiji, State Secretary of Vanavasi Welfare and Legislative Council MLA, Mr. Girish Ji, employees of a software company in Bangalore and donors of Sabal. And Mrs. Srilakshmi from Mysore, a scholar in the field of music, participated. Finally on the decisive score





- Kumari Arpitha who sang a folk song, bagged the first prize.
- Prithvi Marathi has drawn a beautiful picture and she got the second prize.
- Sakrutai gave a speech on Savitribai Pule biography and Ranjitha who sang BavaGeethe shared the third prize.
- All the students who won the competition were given attractive prizes and consolation prizes to all the participating children.
- In the closing ceremony Shri Shantaram Siddi addressed the children and State Organizing Secretary Shri Srinivas Ji delivered the closing speech. Finally, the workshop was concluded by Mr. Gurucharan Ji, the State Head of this project and Executive Director of Solar Power System Company, Bangalore, giving away a book of "Badhukalu Kalieri" (Learn to Live!!!) printed by Ramakrishna Math to all the children.
- Shri Raghuram Ji (Volunteers of the Association and Secretaries of Mysore City Committee of Vanavasi Kalyan and Manager of Rani Guidenlew College Student Hostel) took care of the entire arrangement.
- In this program, all the important persons of the province of Vanavasi Kalyan, organizing secretaries of 3 districts and district level workers and some workers of the association participated.

Padmashree awardees from Vanavasi community Smt. Tulsi Gowdaji, Smt. Timakka ji and Dai ma Narsamma ji on Karnataka Tableau for Republic Day Parade





"expert snake catchers guiding & teaching people across the globe"

Vadivel Gopal & Masi Sadaiyan

Global Snake Experts

- Expert **Snake Catchers** from **Irula Tribe**, specialised in catching **dangerous & venomous** snakes
- Despite lacking formal education, travelled **globally** to catch snakes and **train** snake catchers in other parts of the world
- Using old snake catching techniques **inherited** as **indigenous knowledge** from their **forefathers**
- Collectively, Irula tribe plays an important role in the healthcare ecosystem in India, through **antivenoms** collected



Padma Shri | Social Work (*Animal Welfare*) | Tamil Nadu | Duo

A camp was conducted in tribal residential school in Hunasedoddi, Ramanagaram. It was wonderful gesture by **Dayananda Sagar Dental College** to take dental care to doorstep of tribal students. Team of 10 doctors and 11 Nagar Samitee karyakartas participated in this camp in which ~225 students + school staff underwent dental treatment including cleaning, filling and tooth extraction as needed.





VKK Stall in **RSS IT Sangama -2023**,
City Engg College Grounds,
Vasanthpura, Bengaluru
on 11th Feb 2023.





Book launch of "Janajati Gaurav" - a book that chronicles and celebrates the contributions of Vanavasi heroes across India towards the freedom of our country. Sharing some pictures from the event - Sri Devkant

Amazing musical concert by indigenous group from Lithuania whose traditions are very similar to those followed by tribal janajatis in Bharat!!!



Ma. Sripad ji Vanavasi Kalyan Dakshin Madhya Kshetra Sanghatan Mantri, sharing his experience of Ujjain when he attended baithak of Pranta Karyadarshi/Saha Karyadarshi and Kshetreeta Mantris during last week of Feb 2023.



Ayurveda Medical Camp
organised in Nehru Doddi and
Ullehosalli near Kanakpura on
Sunday, 5th March 2023



Tarpaulin and water purifier distribution by Baxter



ವನವಾಸಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಖಜಾಂಚಿ ಸತೀಶ್ ಒತ್ತಾಯ ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತರಿಗೆ ಮನೆ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿಕೊಡಿ

■ **ವಿಕ ಸುದ್ದಿಲೋಕ ರಾಮನಗರ(ಗ್ರಾ)**

ಅಗ್ನಿ ಅವಘಡದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಲುಕಿ ಸೂರು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಬೀದಿಗೆ ಬಿದ್ದಿರುವ ಇರುಳಿಗೆ ಸಮುದಾಯದ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳಿಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೀಘ್ರವೇ ಮನೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿಕೊಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ವನವಾಸಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಖಜಾಂಚಿ ಸತೀಶ್ ಒತ್ತಾಯಿಸಿದರು.

ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಕೂಟಗಲ್ ಬಳಿ ಅಗ್ನಿ ಅವಘಡ ಸಂಭವಿಸಿ ಸುಮಾರು 14ಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಗುಡಿಸಲುಗಳು ಬೆಂಕಿಗೆ ಆಹುತಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದವು. ಈ ವೇಳೆ ಮನೆಯ ಲಿದ್ದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವಸ್ತುಗಳು ಸುಟ್ಟು ಕರಕಲಾ ಗಿದ್ದವು. ಮೂರು ಮೇಕೆಗಳ ಸಜೀವ ದಹನವಾಗಿದ್ದವು. ಇರುಳಿಗೆ ಕುಟುಂಬ ಗಳು ಬೀದಿ ಬಿದ್ದು ಸ್ವಂತ ಸೂರು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಹರಸಾಹಸ ಪಡುತ್ತಿ ದ್ದವು. ಇವರಿಗೆ ಹಲವು ಸಂಘ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಸಹಾಯಹಸ್ತ ಚಾಚಿವೆ.

ಇದೀಗ ಬಾಕ್ಸರ್ ಮತ್ತು ವನವಾಸಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಸಹಯೋಗದೊಂ ದಿಗೆ ಇರುಳಿಗೆ ಸಮುದಾಯದ ಕುಟುಂಬ ಗಳಿಗೆ ಗುಡಿಸಲುಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿಕೊ



ಕೂಟಗಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಅಗ್ನಿ ಅವಘಡದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂರು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡ ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳಿಗೆ ಬಾಕ್ಸರ್ ಮತ್ತು ವನವಾಸಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಸಲಕರಣೆ ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ಫಲ 100 ಬಾರ್ಫಲ್, 60 ಶುದ್ಧ ಕುಡಿ ಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಫಿಲ್ಟರ್ ಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ವನವಾಸಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಡುಗೆ ಪಾತ್ರೆಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಈ ವೇಳೆ ಸತೀಶ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಅಗ್ನಿ ಅವಘಡದ ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತರಾಗಿರುವ ಇರುಳಿಗೆ ಸಮುದಾಯದ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳಿಗೆ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕವಾಗಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲು, ಹಲವು

ಸಂಘ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮುಂದೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಇವೆಲ್ಲಾ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಮಾತ್ರ. ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಕಾಳಜಿ ವಹಿಸಿ ಶೀಘ್ರ ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತರಿಗೆ ಮನೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿಕೊಟ್ಟು ಹಕ್ಕು ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿದರು.

ವನವಾಸಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ರಾಜು, ಬಾಕ್ಸರ್ ಕಂಪನಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಉಪಸ್ಥಿತರಿದ್ದರು.

Due to Short Circuit, 16 Vanavasi houses/huts in Kootgal village of Ramanagara was gutted by fire on 7th March 2023. Two are still in serious condition and are being treated in the hospital.VKK volunteers and few concerned citizens visited and extended an helping hand.Few Items of immediate need were handed over to the affected families.



Gems of VKK - Vanayatra Diaries

Sri. Chinmay Chepurwar



Modern day Acharyas and its gurukula in Arranya. We often read in the stories of puranas and itihasa about acharyas and their gurukulas in arranyas.

Wanted to witness the same spirit?

Meet Smt. Meenakshi ji and family from Maragadi in the deep forests near Yellapur.

Her Husband is posted as a School headmaster in this remote area and Meenkshi ji is completing B.ed near sirsi. They have two kids, a dog and a cat.

What's special about this family?

They took up the responsibility and decided to be a change maker to give back to the society. This is in arranya and home of janajati vasatis.

Meenkshi ji and family lives in very small house of 3 room made with mud and cow dung with humble infrastructure and has turned this place into a Gurukul kutir.

They run a tuition center in this small home with VKK's support. Not only that! It is also a home of 5 more vidyarthi from other villages who stay with this family similar to gurukul (2nd janma of dwija) just like their own kids and they have taken all the responsibility of the well being of these kids and

imbibing all bhartiya sanskaras in these kids along with maintrem education. (with fixed time table)

Such a small kutir has got CCTV, Computer, Internet and well maintained Library and whiteboard.

This home has become the lighthouse in this small village for all their problems.

I was warmly welcomed for breakfast by the family and served delicious breakfast which I had for the first time. 'Mangalore Rotti' which intially I assumed to be a Dose. Served with homegrown coconut chutney,





Sambar with home grown veggies and the Homemade ghee - The best Ghee I ever had and an aroma I cannot forget.

We were also served with homegrown fruits. The taste we can never experience in the cities.

All these experiences suddenly reminded me of our old gurukula system and I could surely witness the modern acharyas doing their duties still keeping the pace of modern times. Such people are the architects of modern Bharat.

Now I really know why ancestors used to say '**Acharya Devo Bhava**'



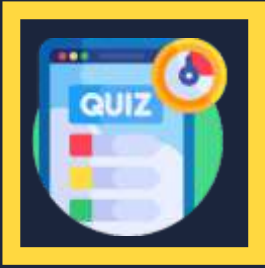
Meet Shri. Siddu Jore ji, and family who leads all the activities of VKK in Sirsi district. He and his family is associated with VKK since his childhood.

What makes him special, apart from being a full timer of VKK?

- He is 'Divyang'
- He cannot walk properly because of physical challenges. He walks miles barefoot without any footwares across the dense forests of western ghats.
- He has even learnt to drive bike with all the limitation god has thrown at him. And all these he has overcome it to work for not self but for society, is one of the brightest example of 'Samarpana'.
- I have completed 2 vanayatras of 3 to 4 days each with Siddu ji and have seen his commitment to the cause from very close. We often used to ride bike 60KM everyday for samparka and that is his routine job, he said.
- Filled with empathy, commitment for the cause and love for all people, I have seen the gem of the VKK.

Let's celebrate these Gems of VKK. They are the backbone of our work.





QUIZ

TIME TO TAP YOUR MEMORY...

BY M. ASHOK

- 01) In which sports Swami Vivekananda won first prize and a silver butterfly?
- 02) Naren learned the old Indian game chess at which place?
- 03) Under the BeniGupta (also known as BeniOstad) what Naren learned?
- 04) Narendranath joined presidency College in which year?
- 05) Narendranath passed his Bachelor of Arts examination from which Institution?
- 06) Narendranath studied at General Assembly's Institution Who founded this Institution?
- 07) Narendranath Passed his Bachelor of Arts examination in which year?
- 08) Narendranath met for the first time Shri Ramakrishna Paramahansa at whose house?
- 09) Narendranath compiled a treatise on music in Benagli what is the title of the work?
- 10) Narendranath compiled a treatise on music entitledSangita-Kalpataru in Benagli who published this work?

Answers:

- 01) Boxing
- 02) Raipur
- 03) Classical vocal and Instrumental Music
- 04) 1880
- 05) General Assembly's Institution
- 06) Scottish General Missionary Board
- 07) 1884
- 08) SurendranathMitra of Simulia
- 09) Sangita-Kalpataru
- 10) ChandicharanBasak

SPONSORSHIP DETAILS

- All donations are exempt from Income Tax under Section 80G of IT Act 1961
- One can make bank transfers as per below account details
- Donations can also be made through crossed cheques
- For 80G receipts, contact **Mr.Keshava +91-94829 84575**

India Resident Accounts

Account Name:	Vanavasi Kalyana
SB Account number:	04212160000078
IFSC code:	CNRB0011717 (For NEFT/RTGS Transactions)
IFSC Code:	CNRB0000033 (For IMPS Transaction)
Bank:	Canara Bank
Branch:	Kuvempunagar II, Mysore 570 001
Address:	834, New Kantharaja Urs Road, Kuvempunagar, Mysore.
Branch Phone:	0821 2342 425
Branch Cell Phone:	94498 60428

About VanaMitra



This is an attempt to provide information on the work done by Vanvasi Kalyan Karnataka and to create awareness for the comprehensive development of the tribals of Karnataka. You too can participate as a volunteer. Send your feedback to the editorial board:

VanaMitra Editorial Team:

Sripad Ji, M.Ashok, Mayuresh, Vivek

Reach Vanamitra Team at:

vanamitra@vanavasikalyana.org | www.vanavasikalyana.org