



VANAMITRA

NAGARVASI GRAMAVASI VANAVASI - HUM SAB BHARATHAVASI



Vanavasi Kalyana (R) Karnataka (VKK) is a voluntary organisation dedicated to the upliftment and empowerment of the tribal community and having all the Statutory Registrations. It is a Public Trust registered under the Indian Trusts Act 1882, and started functioning in the year 1989 as a legal entity in the State of Karnataka.

INTRODUCTION



India is a land of diverse cultures. It is also a land of hundreds of 'Vanavasis' (Tribes or Janajatis). The Vanavasis are mentioned in the ancient Holy Hindu scriptures. In Ramayana, there are several references like Shabari, Vali, Sugreeva etc. while Mahabharata has references of Ekalavya, Ghatotkacha etc. Many Vanavasis had actively participated in Bharat's freedom struggle. Some of them were Raja Venkatappa Nayaka, Gandugalli Kumara Rama and Rama Habsi in Karnataka, Umaji Na Gula and Maharaj of Dhule from Maharashtra, Talakkal Chandu from Kerala, Vishoi from Orissa, Tirot Sing from Meghalaya, Santhal leaders from Bihar (Siddo, Kano, and Tilka Majhi), Birsa Munda from Ranchi region, Rani Gaidinliu from Nagaland, Govind Guru and Rana Punja Bheel from Rajasthan, Alluri Sitarama Raju from Andhra and Komaram Bheem from Telengana.

Who are the Vanavasis?

Vanavasis comprise approximately 9% of the total Indian population, spread practically in all the States & Union Territories but the majority are in the Northeast part of India. There are more than 630 indigenous groups constituting over 12 Crores population living in remote hills and forests across the length and breadth of our nation. The peculiarities which set the Vanavasis apart from other people are their dresses, traditional adornments, dialect, lore and customs. Their lifestyle, traditions, customs, their deities, etc reflect the primitive traits they harbour.

How did it start?

Vanavasi Kalyana, Karnataka was established in the year 1989 to work towards the welfare of Tribals (Vanavasis) and to provide better opportunities to them. The motivation and goal is to enable the social inclusion of the tribes, their education and economic growth and stability while retaining their core and social fabric.

Why this organisation?

Despite independence, industrial development and globalization, the living condition of the Vanavasis is miserable as compared to the "Nagaravasis" (city dwellers) and "Gramavasis" (villagers) of India. Their children are deprived of formal education due to the unstable lifestyle. Their lives are fossilized in poverty, superstition and ignorance. They have remained economically and socially backward. It is the need of the hour for our society to respect the Vanavasis and their culture. Presently, VKK runs 500 plus varied projects for Tribal welfare in Karnataka.

FOUNDERS of the organisation



Late Shri Ajith Kumar, one of the founders of Vanavasi Kalyana, Karnataka was born on 27th August 1934 in Tumkur District. He was a double graduate BE in Electrical and Mechanical Streams. He completed his Yoga education under the guidance of Shri Pattabhi Jois and Shri BKS Iyengar and devoted his entire life to social service.

Late Shri Prakash Kamath was behind the start of Vanavasi Kalyana activities in Karnataka under the guidance of Late Shri Ajith Kumar. He was born on 10th April 1949 in Sringeri, Karnataka. He was a Gold Medallist in his Bachelor Engineering (Electrical) from Regional Engineering College, Suratkal. He devoted his entire life to society and particularly for the welfare of the Tribals. He worked in various capacities for the development of Vanavasis including around 10 years in the Northern part of the Country.



Mission

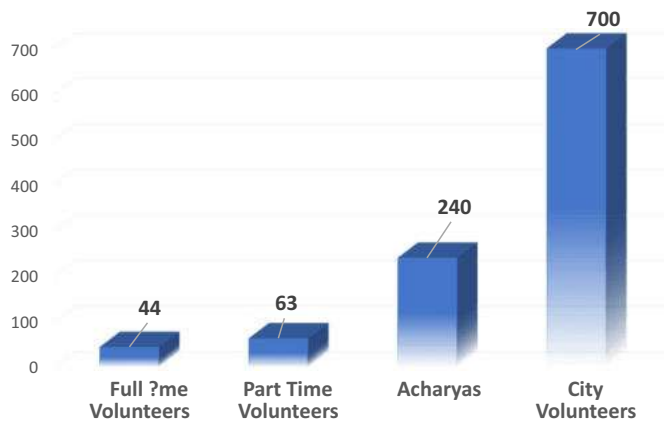
“Reaching the Unreached”

Explore the capabilities of tribals, make them self reliant without losing their identity and integrate them with the mainstream society.

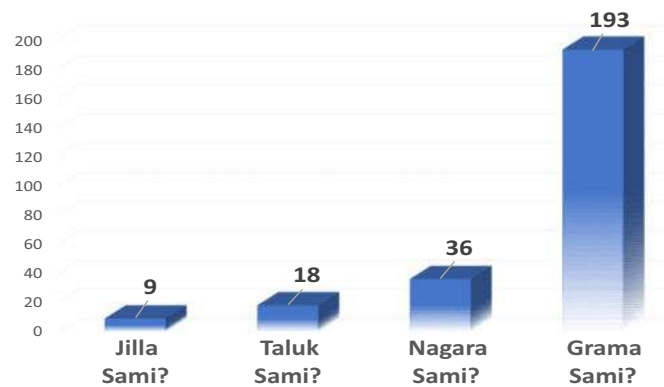
- ✦ To ensure tribals are an inseparable and invaluable part of our society.
- ✦ To empower tribals through education, sports, healthcare and economic upliftment.
- ✦ To create social awareness in the non-tribal society about the needs of the tribal society.
- ✦ To enable tribals to play a major role in environmental protection, national integration and nation building. To develop community leadership among their various groups.
- ✦ To bring about an overall development in the lives of Vanavasis while retaining their cultural identity and social value systems.

Objectives

VOLUNTEERS



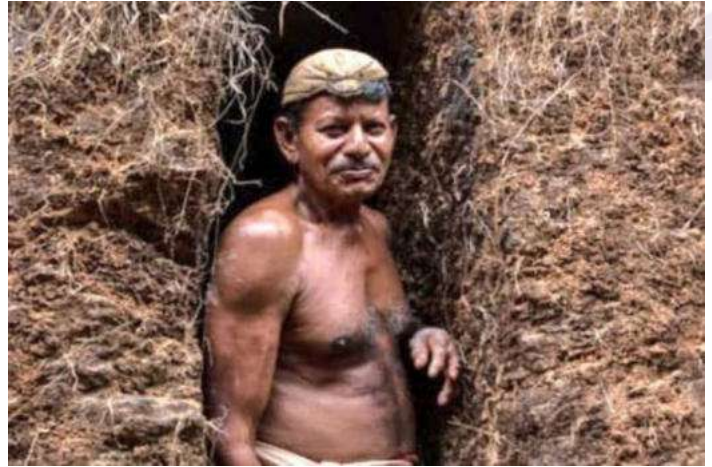
SAMITIS



GEMS OF TRIBAL COMMUNITY



1. Water Warrior, farmer, Amai Mahalinga Naik, has been awarded the Padma Shri in January 2022 for transforming a sloping barren land into a fertile farm by using the innovative Zero-Energy Micro-Irrigation system.



2. Tulasi Gowda from Karnataka was presented with the Padma Shri in 2020 for possessing endless knowledge of plants and herbs.



3. Smt. Sukri Bommu Gouda from Karnataka was presented with the Padma Shri Award in 2017 for folk music and preserving around 5000 songs which are more than 100 years old.



जनजातीय महापुरूष हमारे प्रेरणा स्रोत

देश की आजादी या धार्मिक-सामाजिक जागरण के प्रयासों में जनजाति समाज का योगदान अतुलनीय है। मुगलों और अंग्रेजों से हुए संघर्ष के इतिहास को अध्ययन करने से पता चलता है कि देश के जनजाति क्षेत्र के लोगों ने मुगलों और अंग्रेजों की गुलामी को कभी भी स्वीकार नहीं किया। चाहे झारखण्ड, उड़ीसा, महाराष्ट्र, मध्य प्रदेश, उत्तर-पूर्व के राज्य हो या देश के अन्य राज्यों में भी जनजाति समाज में मुस्लिम शासन और ब्रिटिश शासन का पुरजोर विरोध किया है। जनजाति क्षेत्र के ऐसे अधिकांश जनजातियों से सैकड़ों वीर-वीरांगनाएं हो गये जिन्होंने तत्कालीन समाज को जागृत किया और मुगलों और अंग्रेजों से संघर्ष किया तथा अपने प्राणों की आहुति दी लेकिन मुगल-ब्रिटिश शासन के सामने घुटने नहीं टेके।

इतिहास में स्वतंत्रता के आंदोलन में लगे अनेक नायकों का वर्णन मिलता है परंतु बहुत से ऐसे नायक भी हैं जिनके साथ इतिहास न्याय नहीं कर सका है। देश के विविध क्षेत्रों में स्वतंत्रता के लिए संघर्ष करने वाले बहुत से नायक गुमनामी में धकेल दिये गये। देश के गौरवशाली पन्नों में उन पराक्रमी जनजाति वीरों, नायकों, समाज सुधारकों और क्रांतिकारियों का उल्लेख अतिआवश्यक है जिससे वर्तमान और आनेवाले भविष्य की पीढ़ियां जानकारी प्राप्त कर गर्व महसूस कर सकें।

वनवासी कल्याण आश्रम ऐसे सभी जनजाति महापुरूषों को देश भर में प्रकाशित हो रही अपनी पत्रिकाओं के माध्यम से उन अनमोल महापुरूषों की जीवनी को समाज के सामने प्रस्तुत करने का सार्थक प्रयास कर रहा है। वनबन्धु पत्रिका के इस विशेषांक में मुगल काल के

समय हुए संघर्ष में राणा पूंजा भील जिन्होंने मेवाड़ की रक्षा के लिए महाराणा प्रताप को साथ दिया था, उनकी प्रेरक जीवनी संक्षेप में लिखी गई है। रानी दुर्गावती, रानी कमलापति के मुगलों से संघर्ष की प्रेरणादायी गाथाएं भी हैं।

1857 के क्रांति के पूर्व उन महापुरूषों का वर्णन है जिन्होंने मुगलों और ब्रिटिशों से संघर्ष करते हुए बलिदान हो गये। मुसलमानों और अंग्रेजों के अत्याचार से खून खौल उठा और टक्कर लेने के लिए अनेकों के मस्तिष्क में स्वतंत्रता की लहर पैदा कर दी। शासकों ने गरीबों की भूमि पर और वनों में अधिकार कर लिया जिससे जनजाति समाज त्रस्त हो गये। अनेकों रूप में लोगों ने आंदोलन किया जैसे-भक्ति आंदोलन, भगत आंदोलन, लरका आंदोलन, कोल आंदोलन इत्यादि प्रमुख हैं।

1857 के क्रांति के दौरान नीलाम्बर-पीताम्बर, शंकरशाह-रघुनाथशाह और भीमा नायक आदि का योगदान को भुलाया नहीं जा सकता है। 1857 से 1947 के बीच जनजाति महापुरूषों ने अंग्रेजों के साथ संघर्ष किया है जिसमें लाखों जनजाति समाज के लोग बलिदान हुए हैं। इस दौरान महापुरूषों ने जल-जंगल-जमीन की सुरक्षा हेतु आंदोलन, धर्मांतरण के खिलाफ संघर्ष और स्वधर्म की रक्षा के लिए संघर्ष में अहम भूमिका को निभाए हैं। इस क्रम में बहुत से महापुरूषों ने टाना भगत आंदोलन, नशामुक्ति आंदोलन, साफा होड़ आंदोलन, जंगल सत्याग्रह आंदोलन और शिक्षा की ज्योति जगाने का आंदोलन के दौरान केवल शासन में बदलाव नहीं बल्कि स्वराज्य स्थापित करना मुख्य उद्देश्य रहा है जिससे महापुरूषों ने करके दिखाया। किसी भी तरह से अंग्रेजों की गुलामी से देश को मुक्त

आज जब स्वतंत्रता के 75 वर्ष पूर्ण होने पर देश अमृत महोत्सव मना रहा है तब इन सभी तेजस्वी व्यक्तित्व का परिचय करने का यह सुअवसर है। विश्वास है ऐसे सभी महापुरूषों की जीवनी पढ़कर समाज को प्रेरणा मिलेगी।

विचार



तिलका मांझी



रामजी गोंड



बुधू भगत



रानी कमलावती

करना यही सभी का लक्ष्य रहा है, इसके लिए पारम्परिक अस्त्र-शस्त्र, भाला, गड़ाशा, तलवार, तीर-धनुश और लाल मिर्च का पाउडर के प्रयोग के साथ-साथ छापामार युद्ध भी समय-समय पर करना पड़ा है तब जाकर हमारा देश आजाद हुआ है।

मुसलमान का और अंग्रेजों द्वारा कहीं कहीं सामूहिक रूप में हत्याकाण्ड भी हुए थे। संघर्ष के दौरान सैंकड़ों-हजारों की संख्या में वीरों ने अपने प्राण न्योछावर किए। ऐसे कुछ प्रमुख स्थानों का भी यहाँ पर हमने उल्लेख किया है और हम अनुरोध करते हैं कि भारतीयों ने ऐसे स्थान पर अवश्य जाना चाहिए। हमें विश्वास है कि इन स्थानों के दर्शन करने हेतु आयोजित आपकी यात्रा प्रेरक रहेगी।

देश की आजादी के बाद भी अनेकों जनजाति महापुरुषों ने धर्म-जागरण के लिए आंदोलन, धर्मांतरण के खिलाफ आंदोलन और स्वदेशी आस्था आंदोलन किये हैं। उत्तर-पूर्व में डोनी-पोलो का मंदिर बनाने का अभियान भी चला है। हंगपन दादा जैसे लोग सेना में रहकर दुश्मनों के साथ संघर्ष करते हुए बलिदान हो गये। शिक्षा का महत्व इस विषय पर भी आंदोलन चला है। सरकार में रहकर कुछ महापुरुषों ने पेसा-कानून और वनाधिकार कानून बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाया है। कुछ महापुरुष स्वयं जनजाति नहीं हैं लेकिन

जनजाति समाज की स्थिति को देखते हुए अपने नौकरी, व्यवसाय को छोड़कर संपूर्ण जीवन जनजाति समाज की शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, आर्थिक विकास के क्षेत्र में अर्पित कर दिया। कार्तिक उरांव जैसे लोग तो जनजाति से धर्मांतरित होकर ईसाई या मुस्लिम बने उन्हें जनजाति के आरक्षण का लाभ न मिले इस हेतु संसद में रहकर आंदोलन किया। कुछ महापुरुष स्वधर्म की रक्षा के लिए घर वापसी में पुरा समय लगा दिया। आज जब स्वतंत्रता के 75 वर्ष पूर्ण होने पर देश अमृत महोत्सव मना रहा है तब इन सभी तेजस्वी व्यक्तित्व का परिचय करने का यह सुअवसर है। विश्वास है ऐसे सभी महापुरुषों की जीवनी पढ़कर समाज को प्रेरणा मिलेगी।

यह सामग्री को एकत्रित करने, सम्पादित कर प्रकाशित करने में कई व्यक्तियों का सहयोग हमें प्राप्त हुआ है। हम उन सभी के प्रति आभार प्रगट करते हैं। वैसे भी पत्रिका प्रकाशन का वैचारिक गोवर्धन उठाना है तो सभी ने अपनी अपनी लकड़ी का आधार तो देना होता ही है। हम निमित्त बने और परमेश्वर के उंगली से प्राप्त आधार पर विश्वास रखें। वैसे भी अपना यह कार्य ईश्वरीय कार्य है।

-सत्येन्द्र सिंह, (जशपुर)
राष्ट्रीय उपाध्यक्ष, अ.भा. वनवासी
कल्याण आश्रम



गेंदसिंह नायक



बाबूराव शेडमाके



राणा पूजा भील

VKK Bengaluru committee got an opportunity to interact with some 300 doctors (including interns) at our City Railway station. Shyam Singh Ji, DRM along with his staff were present during this stopover of some 2-3 hours and interacted with doctors and VKK karyakarthis. Sri Sumer Singh Meena ji, commissioner IT was also present on this occasion. Sripadji, Manivannan ji, Deokanth Ji were also present. Railways had made excellent arrangement for the doctors short stay. Food and other arrangements were made by Krishnaji and Pradeep ji and our other karyakarthis viz, Amit Saran ji, Srinivas ji, Jwalaprasad ji, Youni ji and other karyakarthis.



As part of Sponsor-A-Child program under Uthishta, we distributed educational grants (2021-2022) of Rs.75000 to Rukmini Balika Nilaya, Dandeli, Karnataka. These students belong to economically marginalized groups from tribal areas, and they are largely dependent on these fundings to pursue their education. Join hands with www.Uthishta.org to serve the needy.

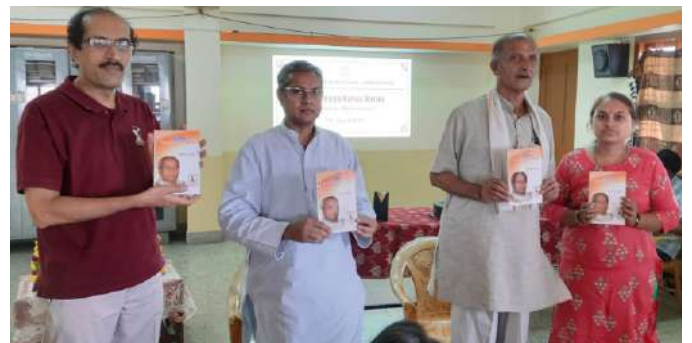


The above picture is from Belgavi Sangh karyalaya. Chinmay met our VKK student Sajan from Meghayala. He is staying in Karnataka since 12 years and every aspect of his well-being is taken care by VKK. He is studying Nursing and enjoying a lot of what he is doing. During summer time, he does farming in our Uttarkoppa Krishi Gau Gram Vikas Kendra. Nice discussion happened on various topics including Meghalaya culture etc. Its inspiring to see on ground VKK work and its impact on the lives of people.



Vanavasi Kalyana stall was put in Sri Ayappa Swamy community hall in Jalahalli. Brochures on Vanavasi Kalyan was kept and also honey and ghee marketed by Vanavasi Kalyana Natural Products(Vanasuma) was sold in good numbers.

Bengaluru Mahanagara Nagareeya Karya varga was held on 10th April Sunday. Sri Bhagwan Sahay ji Akhil Bharateeya Nagareeya Karya Pramukh guided us. Hindi translation of late Sri Prakash Kamat ji's biography was released. In all 38 karyakartas from Bengaluru attended this varga.



Meritorious SSLC Students were felicitated and career guidance program was also organised by the SABAL Initiative of VKK

- Sri Ramesh and team(Vidya HelpLine) – Conducted Career Guidance Program.
- Varun ji – Conducted options in Job oriented vocational courses
- Shri Somashekhar, director of S. M. Electronics Pvt Ltd awarded cash prizes for meritorious students.
- LGM Trust – Awarded cash prize to all SSLC participants.
- SABAL also distributed school bags and raincoats to all the children.

- Also present were Shrinivas Ji, Bhagini Vedavathi Ji, Dr. Suresh Babu Ji, Gopal Keshri Ji, Manish Ji, members of the mahanagar samithi along with hostel vyvasthapak.



Photographs of the UPS installed in our Yellapur hostel. Thanks to Namdev ji and his group for arranging necessary funds for this project.



Distribution of school bags to our Mane Pata Kendra (evening tuition centre) students- sponsored by SM Electronics.



Team Google visited Morarji Desai residential school in Ramanagara .They spent time with kids and conducted sports competitions and speech competition. It was a wonderful experience for Team Google!



7.5 Tonnes of Grocery was distributed in Ramnagara by Vanavasi Kalyan in collaboration with RobinHoodArmy.



President of our Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, along with VKA delegates met Hon President of Bharat, Smt Droupdi Murmu ji. Team congratulated her on being elected and wished her all the best!





Illustration of our Shantaram Siddi ji was included in our Karunada Kanmanigalu wall painting project on Old Madras Road, Indiranagar, Bengaluru.

The project contains 40 illustrations featuring 48 prominent personalities from Karnataka's history and culture. **Shantaram ji is included as one of them.**



Akhila Bharatiya Karyakartha Bhaitak - to give direction and speed to work in Bangalore

The All India Karyakartha Meeting of Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram was held on 16-18 September 2022 in the premises of Jan Seva Vidya Kendra-Chennanahalli near Bangalore. About 700 workers from all over the country at the provincial level and above participated.



On the eve of the meeting, Youth Dimension and Publicity Dimension(RSS, Kolkatta) organized an exhibition related to the theme 'Contribution of Tribal Society in achieving Independence'. The exhibition was inaugurated in the auspicious hands of Hon'ble Mr.Ramdudd Chakradhar, National President of Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram.

In the inaugural session of the meeting, three such dignitaries who came from the tribal areas of Karnataka, Padmashree Salu Marada Timmakka (Age-110), Padmashree Tulsi Gowda, Padmashree Amai Mahalinga Nayak were honoured. Environment supplementary efforts like tree plantation, tree promotion & water conservation of all three are exemplary. Shri Yogesh Bapat, General Secretary, Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram presented the annual report.

The workers were apprised of the achievements of Kalyan Ashram through narratives of various dimensions and important topics like delisting related to tribal society were discussed. The All India Sports Chief, gave information about sports competition organized in K.Babhni (District: Sonbhadra, Dec 2022).

This year Kho-Kho competition is going to be held with Archery. With the increasing participation of women , greater enthusiasm was seen everywhere.

The work did slow down to some extent during the corona pandemic, but at present the work has gained momentum, it is the experience everywhere.

At present, grand programs are being organized by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes in the universities regarding the contribution of tribal society in achieving independence.

Padmashree Dr. Dhananjay Sagdev, working for the last 42 years through the Vivekananda Medical Mission in Muttil village of Wayanad district of Kerala, was honoured. In some states in the tribal area, anemia (lack of blood in the body) and malnutrition is a health problem. As a solution to this problem, AANAMICA (Action against Anemia & Malnutrition Initiated by Kalyan Ashram) initiative has been taken up by the medical dimension of Kalyan Ashram. The workers have identified five states of the country as the first phase.





Hitraksha Dimension educated us with an informative PPT. Mr. Jain, an Indore VKK activist, informed us about the (PESA) law and a violence excerpt from the conversion.

All India Organization Minister Shri Atul Jog expressed his views about the seven points in the form of a three-year plan. Akhila Bharath. Co-Organization Minister Ramesh Babu guided everyone about '**Tribal Gaurav Din**' and 'Foundation Day' of Kalyan Ashram which is going to be held across the country on 15th November 2022. Akhila Bharath. Co-Organization Minister Sandeep Kavishwar appealed to organize programs by remembering Rani Maa Gaidinliyu on the occasion of 'Nari Shakti Diwas' which falls on

26th January. In one of the sessions, National Vice President Shri Satyendra Singh made an encouraging speech about the contribution of tribal great men in achieving independence. At the concluding ceremony, National President Shri Ramchandra Kharadi provided the workers with direction and speed.

On the third day, a cultural program was organized in the evening. The performance of dance troupes from the forest area of Karnataka garnered a lot of applause. The happy atmosphere of the meeting place and the arrangements made by the local workers were commendable. For this, a reception committee was formed in Bangalore. With the resolve to increase the pace and the quantum of work, the workers started walking towards their respective fields/states.





Grocery to around 480 families were distributed by Vanavasi Kalyan in collaboration with Robin Hood Army.





VANAVASI KALYANA[®] KARNATAKA (VKK)

Vanavasi – Gramavasi – Nagaravasi, we are all Bharatvasi

Reach the Unreached

VKK Annual Sports Competition Report

Event Name	Annual Sports Competition
Event Supporters	VRL Group, EMBITEL Technologies, BAPL & Public Donation
Event Date	Oct 29 to 31, 2022
<u>Event Location</u>	Adarsh High School, Dharwad, Karnataka
Participants Presence	300+ participants from 10 districts
Sports Events	Kho-Kho, Kabaddi and Archery
Prize Winners	<p>Kabaddi (Sub-Junior)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I Place – Sirsi District • II Place – Raichur District • III Place – Chikkamagalur District <p>Kho-Kho (Sub-Junior, Boys)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I Place – Yadgiri District • II Place – Sirsi District • III Place – Raichur District <p>Kho-Kho (Sub-Junior, Girls)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I Place – Yadgiri District • II Place – Raichur District • III Place – Bidar District <p>Archery:</p> <p>16 participants selected to participate in National Level Archery Competition to be held at Babani, Uttar Pradesh in Dec 2022</p>





QUIZ

TIME TO TAP YOUR MEMORY...

BY M. ASHOK

- 01) Who was the great- grandfather of Swami Vivekanda?
- 02) Who was the grant Father of Swami Vivekananda?
- 03) Swami Vivekananda Birth date is _____
- 04) What is the pet name of Swami Vivekananda?
- 05) Among the house servants who was the special friend of Swami Vivekananda?
- 06) What was the childhood ambition of Swami Vivekanada?
- 07) In which sports Swami Vivekananda won first prize and a silver butterfly?
- 08) Mr.E.T .sturdy a disciple of Swami Vivekananda from which country?
- 09) Narendranath and his friends joined gymnasium. who managed gymnasium?
- 10) Narendranath and his friends joined gymnasium in which place of calcutta is it located?

Answers:

- 01) RammohanDatta
- 02) Durgaprasad
- 03) January 12th 1863 (Monday)
- 04) Bileh
- 05) Coachman
- 06) To become a syce or groom
- 07) Boxing
- 08) England
- 09) NavagopalMitra
- 10) Cornwallis Street

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**

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IFSC Code:	CNRB0000033 (For IMPS Transaction)
Bank:	Canara Bank
Branch:	Kuvempunagar II, Mysore 570 001
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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:

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