

Sri Sri Swami Vivekananda's 150th Birth Anniversary Celebration

Offering deep seated reverential - humble Homage to Most Rev. Muktiprana Mataji, the pioneer architect of Sri Sarada Math in general and Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, Khonsa, Tirap Dt, Arunachal Pradesh , specially, in particular, the Khonsa Centre observed a four - day long celebration in connection with Swami Vivekananda's 150th Birth Anniversary with due solemnity. On Wednesday, the 23rd October '13, there were - Shodashopachar puja, Homa, Sri Sri Chandipath and Bhajans in the Shrine etc. It was followed by the unveiling of seven feet tall Swami Vivekananda's metallic Statue by Most Rev. Amalaprana Mataji, the General Secretary , Sri Sarada Math and Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, Kolkata in the presence of about 1000 VIPs, invitees, devotees, delegates of Sarada Sangha from North-eastern states, Alumini, students and inmates of the Mission.

On 24th October, an Exhibition on Cultural Heritage of Arunachal Pradesh, Science , handicraft and weaving etc. was inaugurated by Most Rev. Amalaprana Mataji. First session of the Public Meeting Programme began at 9.30 am with Vedic Chanting by Brahmacharinis, Opening Song by present students, ceremonial lighting of Lamps by Most Rev. Amalaprana Mataji. After the felicitation , the Message of Benediction sent by Most Rev. President Mataji was read out. Pr. Atandraprana, Vice President, Managing Committee, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, Khonsa welcomed the gathering. At the outset, Most Rev. Amalaprana Mataji gave a very inspiring Keynote address. It was followed by enlightening speeches by eminent speakers – Sri H.K. Paliwal, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, . Topic: General - He gave a few captivating tips for self improvement and service to society in the light of Swamiji's twin ideals to the Nation –Atmanomokshartham jagaddhitayacha, Sri P.P. Srivastav, ex-member Secretary, North-East Council, Topic : 'What we owe to our country'.

Due to unavoidable reasons, Sri Ankur Garg, IAS, Special Secretary, Power, Govt. of Delhi and Smt. Swati Sharma, IAS, Addl. Secretary to L.G. of Delhi could not be present in the programme. Both of them sent their words of Homage to

Swami Vivekananda. Their messages and best wishes for the success of the celebration were read out. The first session ended with vote of thanks by Sri Kamalesh Joshi, IAS, Chairman, Managing Committee, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, Khonsa . About 1300 people, including VIP guests partook lunch.

The second session began with a remarkable classical dance performance by Smt. Rujuta Soman and party. It was followed by speeches of Sri Wanglin Lowangdong, Speaker, Arunachal Pradesh , Topic : 'Influence of Swami Vivekananda on Arunachal' , Pr.Amitaprana,Secretary, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission,Indore, Topic : ' Relevance of Vivekananda in the Modern Context', Dr.Sweta Pegu,HOD, Guwahati University, Topic : Man making Education in the Modern Context, Dr. T.G.K. Murthy, Former Director, ISRO Topic : 'Swami Vivekanada: India's Unifying Force'. All the speeches were so inspiring and enriched by the speakers' own life - experiences and anecdotes that the audience seemed to be spellbound and mesmerised by the electrifying thoughts of Swamiji.

Equally wonderful was the bewitching and superb effect created not only on the 24th but on all the following days by the Cultural Programme Troupe consisting trained artists from Itanagar, Deomali and Pune ; and untrained ex and present Student artists belonging to RKSM Main School and RKSM, Village Primary School kids. Cultural programme included Classical Dances, bamboo dances, tribal dances, Patriotic drama, skits, group songs and Devotional songs by Sannyasinis of SriSarada Math,Dakshineswar.

On Friday, the 25th morning at 7.30 am there was a recital of Sri Ramcharit Manas by Pr. Ambarprana , Sri Sarada Math, Benaras in the Shrine. The Women's Conference programme began at 9.30 am with Vedic Chanting and Opening Song by the present students. After the welcome address by Pr. Atandraprana, Most Rev. Amalaprana Mataji delivered an enlightening and captivating keynote speech on the topic - 'Indian women down the ages' . The other speakers were - Pr. Prasannaprana of RKSM, Pangot, Uttarkhand , Topic : 'Educate your women first and leave them to themselves ' Pr. Prabuddhaprana of Sri Sarada Math, Kolkata and Sri T.G.K.Murthy presented a very interesting power point show

on – ‘Western Women in footsteps of Swamiji’ and ‘Swami Vivekananda : India’s Unifying Force’, respectively.

The second session took the audience to the realm of devotion created by two ATMANS - Pr. Atmabodhaprana and Pr. Atmadeepaprana . The Speakers Dr. Mala Sharma, Professor, HOD, Dept. of English, Ramakrishna College, Assam , Topic: ‘Making the world your own -The Holy Mother’s way’, and Smt. Sumita Roy, Professor Dept. of English, Osmania University, Hyderabad , Topic: ‘Without Shakti there is no regeneration for the world’ held the audience back in the same realm by their rational thoughts spilling out of the platter of Devotion to Swamiji. The session came to an end after a special power point show by Sri T.G.K.Murthy on Chandrayan followed by a cultural programme in the evening.

On Saturday, the 26th October , too, at the request of all the staying guests, the recital of Ramcharit Manas by Pr. Ambarprana was arranged. Befitting the occasion of ‘The Youth Convention’ the programme began with the chanting of a number of verses from Katopanishad by RKSM, Village Primary School kids. After the welcome speech by Pr. Shivatmaprana of RKSM, Khonsa , the speakers of both the sessions ignited and saturated the head and heart of the gathering with the fiery, spirited, dynamic , inspiring and electrifying ideas of the Spiritual Nuclear Bomb – the Eternal Youth – Swami Vivekananda. The speakers of the first session were - Most Rev. Amalaprana Mataji, Pr. Atandraprana, Pr. Bhoomaprana, Dr. T.G.K. Murthy and Sri D. Bosai, DIPRO, Khonsa. After lunch the second session started with a Panel Discussion on the theme –‘ Let New India Arise ’ Moderators : Pr. Atandraprana, Pr. Amitaprana, The participants : Pr. Nirbhikaprana of RKSM, Siriti, Pr. Vedatmaprana, of RKSM, Khonsa , Pr. Suteerthaprana of RKSM, Khasso, Pr. Atmadeepaprana of Sri Sarada Math ; our ex-students - Smt. Mamata Riba, Director, Art & Culture, Arunachal Pradesh, Smt. Chalin Lollen, Block Education Officer, Deomali, Dr. Jayanti Thingnok , RMO, Deomali, Smt. Monjuli Komut, Circle Officer, Itanagar, Smt. Likhaw Loham, Teacher, Govt. School, Itanagar on varieties of topics. There was a warmed up - interesting interaction between the Panel Discussion participants and the awakened audience. The Alumni and the present students

of RKSM Girls' School, Khonsa and Rujuta Som and party of Pune cooled down the heated up audience with their remarkable Cultural Programme. The four day long auspicious celebration came to a close daily paying Homage to Swamiji with verbal- devotional - intellectual Flowers and ultimately Rousing the head and the heart of the audience and the participants to HIS Clarion Call – ARISE AWAKE AND STOP NOT TILL THE GOAL IS REACHED .