ASGH: March 2018 Newsletter

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यद्वाचाऽनभ्युदितं येन वागभ्युद्यते । तदेव ब्रह्म त्वं विद्धि नेदं यदिदमुपासते ।।

Yad-vācā.nabhyuditaṃ yena vāgabhyudyate, Tadeva brahma tvaṃ viddhi nedaṃ yadidamupāsate.

Kena Upanishad. 1.1.5

That which cannot be expressed by speech, but by which speech is expressed—Know that alone to be God and not that which people worship as an object.



Namaste <<First Name>> <<Last Name>> ji,

In February, We kicked off SuperBowl of "LIKES" for ASGH FACEBOOK/AryaSamajOfGreaterHouston/ page campaign. To share ASGH communications in a timely, simple, quick, cost effective manner without newspapers. Requesting everyone to like our ASGH page, if you have not so far. You will starting seeing ASGH articles, videos, postings, in a timely manner etc.

https://www.facebook.com/AryaSamajOfGreaterHouston/

Please remember to like ASGH's few posts, e.g. performances from kids, National anthem. If you would like to post something, please let us know. Please share below link with target audience to keep up to date on ASGH events or include at end of your email signatures

https://www.facebook.com/AryaSamajOfGreaterHouston/

If you click on below picture, it will navigate you to the Facebook page also.



What's Happening:

- Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati Month at DA VSS
- · Holi Celebrations upcoming on 4th March

Send us a note highlighting your student's accomplishments and life events so we can include them in the newsletter

Ponder This

One should not be content with one's own welfare alone, but should count the progress of all as one's own.

-Maharshi Dayanand in the Ninth Principle of Arya Samaj

Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati Birth Anniversary Celebrations

EVEN IF PEOPLE BURN MY FINGER
BY BURNING THEM AS CANDLE STICKS
THEN EVEN I WILL NEVER DEVIATE
FROM PATH OF SAYING TRUTH
--Maharshi Dayanand

The month of February was dedicated to celebrating Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati's 193rd birth anniversary, his life, teachings, and work. Teachers, volunteers and school kids were engaged in learning Maharshi's sacrifice for the betterment of the society and his work towards Satya Sanatan Vedic Dharma in today's world.

Each class prepared either a presentation or skit on a topic related to Maharshi for a special event on Feb 25th 2018. Some of the themes showcased by the students included:

- · Maharishi Dayanand Life Timeline
- · Places related to Maharishi
- Maharishi's message Back to Vedas
- · Applying Maharishi's principles to our life
- · Maharishi's mission, work and activities
- Principles of Arya Samaj
- Relevance of Maharishi's work in the modern times.



Dev Mahajan ji and Sushma Mahajan Ji our day Chief Guest congratulated our dedicated teachers, volunteers, parents & kids from Pre-Sanskriti to 13 years, who worked hard together in this journey of learning Maharshi's sacrifice and showcasing his teachings and work for the event, which was truly appreciable. Acharya Dr. Harish chandra ji's talk

about Maharshi's mission, vision and its importance for the modern times was informative and motivational. DAVSS distributed specially designed 'Book Marks' by Acharya Dr. Kavita Ji to all the kids as a token of love and appreciation.

- Dolly Goyal



Happy Holi

DAVSS & Arya Samaj Holi Milan 2018: March 4 th at school campus with a lot of exciting attractions like:

- Holi Fire, Folk Dances and Dhol
- Lunch & Sweets
- Playing colors (in open field)
- Open for all, Free entry for all.

DAV Sanskriti School cordially invites everyone with family and friends to join in the celebrations.



DAVS School

Parent-Teacher Meeting

DAVSS Electives' Teachers and Parents meeting was held on Feb 25, 2018 in which DAVSS Elective Teachers explained the progress of children since the start of the year/session 2017-18 and also talked about some future projects and next level of learning to enhance and upgrade the knowledge till the session ends.

Nitin Sonawane, a 26 years old young man from Maharashtra, who is circling the globe on a bicycle to celebrate Gandhi Sesquicentennial shared his experience as a guest in the school assembly. Children were excited to learn about his dedication.

School function related changes

Due to the security concerns of children, the school main door will always be locked for everyone and it will be opened via a new remote control only upon request during the school hours.

Video Recording

Parents of each child speaker are requested to record their child's delivery when he/ she is speaking in the school

assembly and send the video to the school email ID or our director Acharya Dr. Kavita ji's cell phone number (832-874-3376) on Whatsapp. We want to post them on our Youtube channel, Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/SanskritiUSA/) and on our website (http://www.davss.org/).

Child Speakers

Harshil Sanklecha

Topic: Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati

Vidya Sofia Solano Khatri

Topic: Prakriti Humari Sahaayta Kerti Hai

AKM Youth participates in IM's iLead MLK Y outh Day of Service



On January 15th, 2018, Interfaith Ministries (IM) for Greater Houston held a Youth Day of Service on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in bringing over 100 youth from various faith denominations, churches together for dialogue, collaboration and service in honor of Dr. King. Director of Interfaith Relations Gregory Han and President & CEO of IM Mr. Martin Cominsky warmly welcomed youth from diverse communities, faiths, explaining about IM's mission, bringing them together to build relationships and perform meaningful service projects together. Arya Samaj of Greater Houston's AKM youth group of 27 strong volunteers, participated in a variety of refugee service projects. Religion is often something that is not discussed outside of own's religious groups. Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston has made an effort for people of all faiths and backgrounds to talk to each other about their respective religions.



Before beginning their variety of service projects, youth from diverse faiths intermingled, sat down in circle and had a questions and answer dialogue regarding each person's religion and belief's. Youth explained what they valued about their religion and became more open to communicating with one another. It forced everyone to speak to each other in a friendly and welcoming environment.

Interfaith Ministries supports almost 2000 refugees and provides 4500 meals to Senior citizens daily in greater Houston area. AKM youth setup children's bicycles, welcome signs for refugees, prepared breakfast bags, made phone calls to refugees and created flash cards of English vocabulary for refugees. All the youth tasks seemed very simple, but everyone learnt how impactful small gestures could be. Projects allow refugees to feel welcome in a new and foreign country, and gives basic resources to those who need them most. Arya Samaj of Greater Houston can be reached on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/AryaSamajOfGreaterHouston/

-Sanika Kulkarni & Kanika T alwar



ASGH Library Sale

ASGH Library Staff wants to thank all of you for the support you have provided in the Library sale.



Aparigraha: Not to Acquire Beyond Legitimate Needs

Ahimsa (Not to Hurt), Satya (Truthfulness), Asteya (Not to Steal) and Brahmacharya (Not to Lust) are the first four elements in Yama (duties to others) listed in Patanjali's Ashtanga Yoga. The last fifth one is Aparigraha – Not to Acquire beyond legitimate needs. The above order of precedence is significant. For example, Ahimsa takes precedence over Satya. In other words, you should not tell something that could hurt somebody even though truthful. Say, you address a blind man as Hey, Mr. Blind! This could be truthful but is hurtful, and hence, not sanctioned by Patanjali. Taking into account the above order of precedence, one could ask why am I not allowed to make billions of dollars if I follow the principles of Ahimsa, Satya, Asteya and Brahmacharya. Why Patanjali added the fifth element of Aparigraha, effectively limiting my material prosperity.

For many reasons, we must be clear in mind about our needs and wants. First, I earn material wealth always at the cost of others even in the so-called win-win situation. The fact that I own something means that someone else doesn't own it.

Maybe, there are many others who need it much more than I do. Indeed, it is rightly said that the earth can fulfill everybody's needs but not even a single person's wants. We must learn to distinguish between our needs and our wants. Lest, our wants make us a greedy person, snowballing into other vices.

Second, maintenance of possessions requires time and effort. Once you acquire too many possessions then your mind is engaged in keeping them in good working condition. It can soon happen that you work for them more rather than they working for you. One Upanishad warns us: Be careful when you eat food lest food eats you. One must be careful in drawing the line: I eat to live and not that I live to eat. We are aware that eating excessive food can harm health and there are substances even if consumed in small amount, may harm greatly. What is true about food is true about other material things such as clothes, house, car, phone, laptop, etc. You should be careful in drawing your lines what you need. We see many people going to a shopping mall simply to find a bargain. They don't have a specific need but indulge in unnecessary purchases because things looked very cheap. You should periodically examine the size of house you live in.

Another related aspect is about liquid wealth, say, money in cash or in bank. If you have a lot of money then you don't want it to sit idle. You want it to multiply and at a fast rate. Then you invest it in all kinds of avenues. All this sounds quite legitimate but it often turns out that your mind hovers around the rise and fall of the market indices. Such a mind cannot progress on the path of Yoga easily. Though Patanjali leaves it open to an individual drawing his/her line, any Yoga practitioner (I mean, true Patanjali Yoga Meditation and not Hatha-Yoga) must judiciously draw his/her line so that perturbations in mind (called Vrttis of the Chitta) are minimized. As you advance in age, it is a wise decision to start thinking in terms of dispossessing your wealth that you acquired meticulously in your youthful years. Charity is the other side of the same coin called Aparigraha. India in its golden period had a king Harsh-Varddhan who used to distribute all his wealth every year and start a new year with one set of clothes he received from his sister as alms.

- Acharya Dr . Harish Chandra, V ed-Ratna

Listen to Acharya ji's Sunday Pravachan

To become yajman please contact Payal Talwar or Acharya Surya Nandaji.

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Newsletter Editors:

Poonam Agarwal

Regular Activities:

<u>Tuesda</u>y: 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Sanskrit and Vedas classes

Wednesday: 11.00am - 11.40 am

Gayatri Meditation

Thursday:__7:00pm - 8.00pm

Mandukya Upanishad classes

Saturday: 8:00-9:30am

Yoga Classes

Sunday:

8:00-9:30 am - Yoga Classes

9:45 am-12 noon - DAV Sanskriti School

10:00 am-12 noon - Satsang

The library is reaching out to members to return books that have been checked out over the last few years. If you have any books from Arya Samaj, please bring them back to the library. For more information, please contact Rajeev Khanna or email aryasamaj@gmail.com.



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