



Samskruti Foundation
Our Culture, Our Identity

Newsletter

Issue 13 November 2022 Hyderabad

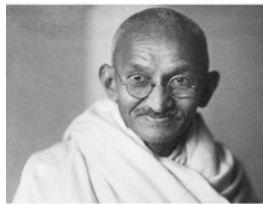
www. <https://samskrutifoundation.in/>

Samskruti Samachar

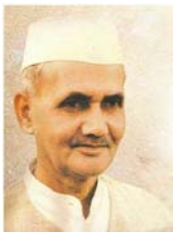
Diwali represents the annual celebration of the victory of the forces of non-violence and truth over those of violence and untruth. This is Ram Rajya. Mahatma Gandhi

Samskruti Foundation pays homage to the national leaders who led their lives with great commitment and contributed to our national unity. Youth across the country participated in the celebrations. The festivals of Diwali, Dussehra, and Chhath Puja were celebrated with great joyousness. These festivals resonate the Indian cultural ethos.

Living Up to Babu's Ideals is the Way Forward.... The nation celebrated Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd October with great fervour. Paying homage to Mahatma Gandhi on his 153rd birth anniversary, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said *"This Gandhi Jayanti is even more, special because India marks Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. May we always live up to Babu's ideals. I also urge you to purchase Khadi and handicraft products as a mark of tribute to Gandhi ji."*



"Gandhi Jayanti is an occasion for us to rededicate ourselves to the values of his inspiring life-peace, equality and communal harmony" President Smt. Droupadi Murmu said.



Jai Jawan! Jai Kisan! ...2nd October is also the birthday of the **Man of Peace**, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said *"Lal Bahadur Shastri ji is admired all across India for his simplicity and decisiveness. His tough leadership at a crucial time in our history will always be remembered."* Under former Prime Minister Shastri's Leadership, India faced and repulsed the Pakistani invasion of 1965. His slogan *Jai Jawan! Jai Kisan!* reverberates even today through the length and breadth of the country.

Remembering the Iron Man of India - Ekta Diwas

"Sardar Patel's Jayanti and Ekta Diwas are grand celebrations of India's cultural strength. *"For India, unity was never a compulsion, it was always a feature of our country. Unity has been our uniqueness"*, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi emphasised. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was instrumental in India's independence struggle and for the integration of over 500 princely states into the Union of India.



Diwali - The festival of lights, (or Deepavali in south India) is a time for religious rituals and sharing traditional stories. The festival serves as an opportunity to spruce up the home, buy new clothes, and enjoy feasting and exchange of gifts.

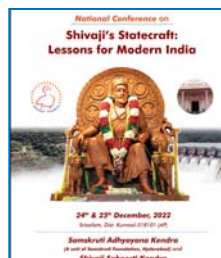


Vijaya Dasami, marking the tenth day of Navratri, is the celebration of Good over Evil, the victory of Lord Rama over the demon Ravana. This day is also symbolic of the end of Mahishasura, the king of demons who was killed by Goddess Durga on this day. Ravana Dahan is done by burning Ravana's effigy symbolizing the end of evil.



Samskruti Foundation's Cultural Leadership Centres across the country promoted a clean and green Diwali with great gusto!

Calling Samskruti Foundation Cultural Leadership Centres
Promote Clean and Green Diwali
Focus on the 4 Rs - Reduce, Refuse, Reuse, Recycle



Preparations are afoot for holding a National Conference on 'Shivaji's Statecraft: Lessons for Modern India' at Srisailem, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana.

Understanding Shivaji's contribution to administrative structures, systems and restoration of religious faith.

Annual Meeting of the Governing and Advisory Councils was held on 16th October.

More Outreach to rural areas mooted.





Annual Meeting of the Governing and Advisory Councils



Dr. C. Umamaheswara Rao welcomed the members of the Annual Meeting of the Governing and advisory Councils held on 16th October. Condolences were paid to Smt. Vasumathi ji, mother of **Sri Ch. Venugopala Reddy**, Chairman, Bharath Institutions, Hyderabad.

Sri Venugopala Reddy has generously offered premises at Narayanaguda for the functioning of Samskruti Foundation.

Dr. W G Prasanna Kumar updated the members about the Cultural Leadership Centre activities of Samskruti Foundation - Vivek Band, Samskruti Samvad, RFS, NSC,

Dr. K Aravinda Rao suggested that along with the activities which are urban based and academically oriented, Samskruti Foundation needs to look for ways to establish contact with rural areas. The next few years are crucial for the Nation as we face the threat of predatory civilizations out to trouble India. We need to reach rural areas where they can be easily sensitized to the cultural values.

Prof. Hemnath Rao updated the members about the activities of Samskruti Adhyayana Kendra (SAK). He



Yoga for Youth – which are conducted in the identified colleges by entering into MOUs. Students are involved in planning and execution of the activities.

Lt. Gen. Rama Chandra Rao opined to have an ethical hacking group as a part of general security setup. Prof. G. Ramesh said that we need to harness the cultural clubs of institutions such as IIT and ISB. He also assured to give more time for Water Policy group.

Dr. Vivek Modi threw light on the upcoming activities of Cultural Leadership Centres –

1. Planning for more interactions with the zonal teams to strengthen the activities
2. Planning for upcoming event of Vivek Band by introducing new themes -
 - a) Promoting Indian games
 - b) Nature friendly activities
 - c) Sustainable living
3. Planning to fix a place for hosting Viveka Subhashitham events at RK Math premises

highlighted that researchers are working voluntarily on Cultural Heritage; and Public Policy Experts and Public Policy Practitioners on two themes viz. Water Management and Food Security. He explained the theme and sub-theme of upcoming event '*National Conference on Shivaji's Statecraft*'. The Brochure and Invitation of the same was shared with all the members.

Sri Anil Reddy assured to provide references from Mumbai which can add value to the programme. Prof. Hemnath Rao also shared the advantages of visiting The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (Pune).

Justice L. Narsimha Reddy stated that currently a new body - Uchcha Shiksha Sansthan - is being set up for higher Education. A new University, Chanakya University, has been established in Bangalore to promote nationalist attitude in people.

Sri Krishna Kishore suggested that our cultural /ethical values shall be introduced in Hindu Colleges and installation of Goddess Saraswati Devi's Vighraha will be promoted.

Dr. U M Chaudhari outlined the need for sustaining Cultural Talks as a part of SAK. He explained the background for choosing Srisailam as the venue for hosting the National Conference on Shivaji Statecraft. Shri Narsimha Murthy reiterated the need for high impact activities in urban areas. Media support team should be ably informed on history and culture.

Smt. Manjulatha suggested that we need to speak to the tribals by giving simple inputs on our culture in simple words. They should not be brainwashed by complex religious literature and advice.

Sri Chandu Rao explained the components of the Budget for the Financial year by referring to the Audited Income & Expenditure statement and Balance Sheet. He requested for more contributions from the members and their references to meet the current year expenses.

Sri L V Subrahmanyam emphasized on approaching the Ministry of Culture and explaining Samskruti Foundation's activities related to culture and seek collaborative and financial support from the Ministry in conducting the activities.

Dr. C. Umamaheswara Rao concluded the annual meeting by collating all the inputs and suggestions. He stated that the suggestions of the distinguished members will be taken into cognizance and the needful will be done as per the organisational purview. He advised that Samskruti Foundation could provide Internship to the students who are interested to work with the NGOs. They need to go to rural areas and spend 10 days to complete the research. Samskruti Foundation will try to expand its outreach to rural areas. The annual meeting ended with the members chanting the Shanthi Manthra.

National Conference on Shivaji's Statecraft: Lessons for Modern India



24th & 25th December, 2022

Srisailam, Dist. Kurnool-518101 (AP)

Samskruti Adhyayana Kendra
(A unit of Samskruti Foundation, Hyderabad) and
Shivaji Sphoorti Kendra

The National Conference on Shivaji's Statecraft: Lessons for Modern India is scheduled on 24th and 25th December 2022 at Srisailam, Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh.



Shivaji Sphoorthi Kendra is a memorial dedicated to the great Hindu Emperor Chhathrapathi Shivaji Maharaj. Shivaji visited Srisailam to worship the presiding deities Mallikarjuna Swamy and Bhramaramba Devi. As a mark of respect for the deities, he constructed the northern entrance of the temple known as 'Shivaji Gopuram'. The Kendra's mission is to enkindle the spirit of patriotism and devotion in the society that the great Shivaji epitomized.

The key objectives are -

1. To sensitize the participants and enable them to understand Shivaji's system of Public Administration and Public Service delivery.
2. To appreciate Shivaji's policy on Women's security and their welfare.
3. To link the system of taxation and revenue collection adopted by Shivaji to the modern context.
4. To learn lessons from Shivaji's military strategies.

Participants include academics, social scientists, social activists, media professionals, administrators and civil society leaders with demonstrated interest in Shivaji's ideals and philosophy. Conceptual, review, research and case study based papers relevant to Shivaji's system of public administration can be submitted by the participants (before 5th December), preferably bearing relevance to the conference themes and sub- themes. The papers will be evaluated by the conference committee and selected papers would be published with Conference Proceedings.

"When you start loving your goals by all your heart and mind, then from the grace of Goddess Bhawani, you will surely get the victory." Shivaji

Cultural Leadership Centres – Activity Review



Calling Samskruti Foundation Cultural Leadership Centres
Promote Clean and Green Diwali
Focus on the 4 Rs - Reduce, Refuse, Reuse, Recycle

Diwali – The Festival of Lights – 24th October 2022

- Create Awareness - Homes, Schools, Colleges, Offices and Businesses
- Document the Efforts and Outcomes and send to samskrutifoundationindia@gmail.com



- Use Less Firecrackers
- Save Electricity - Decorate with flowers, LED Lamps and Lights
- Celebrate with Lights and Earthen Diyas
- Make Organic Rangoli (Flowers, Turmeric, Kumkum, Organic Colours)
- Give Eco-friendly Gifts (Handmade Paintings, Organic Food) in Eco-friendly Gift Boxes
- Paint walls with Eco-friendly Colours
- Provide Shelter for Stray Animals
- Eat Home-Cooked Food

- Reduce Air Pollution/Plastic Usage
- Refuse Noisy Firecrackers/Electronic Lights
- Recycle Burnt Firecracker Papers
- Reuse Earthen Diyas/Decorative Pieces
- Manage Waste - Separate the bio-degradable and non-biodegradable waste to dispose it properly.



Responding to the call given by Samskruti Foundation, Higher Educational Institutions across the country organized awareness programmes about Diwali and eco-friendly practices. Students propagated the use of less firecrackers, saving electricity, using LED lamps and lights, using earthen diyas and emphasized on the 4 Rs - Reduce, Refuse, Reuse, Recycle. The students and the teachers were encouraged by such novel thoughts and ideas. They were eager to know more about the 4 Rs. They assured to carry on such activities for promoting a clean and green environment.



♦ Readymade paper rangoli with decoration and double fold



Let Us Celebrate Diwali in our Traditional Ways!

<https://samskrutifoundation.in/>

[SAMSKRUTIFOUNDATIONHYD](https://www.facebook.com/samskrutifoundationhyd)

[SAMSKRUTIFOUNDATION](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsamskruti)





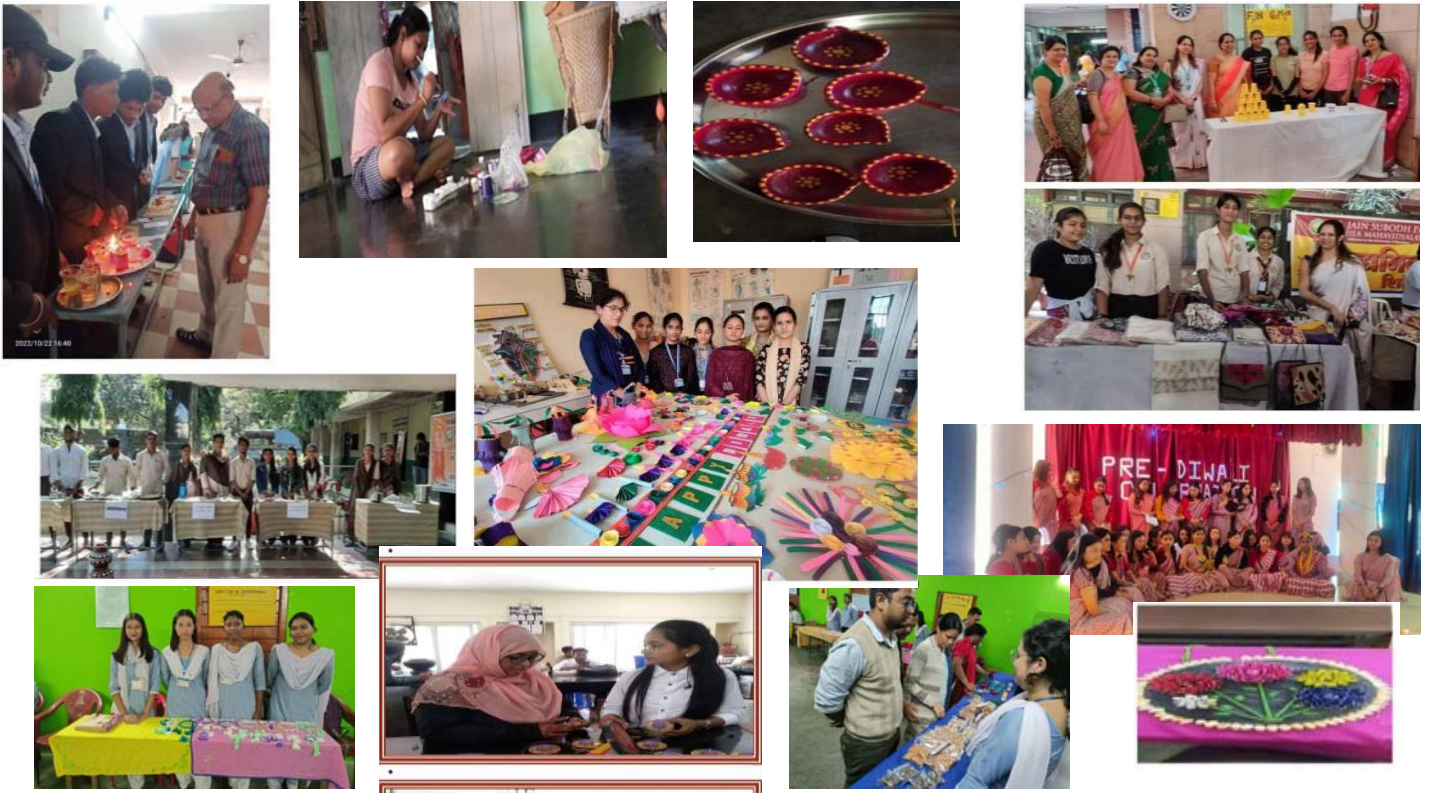
#	Institution
1	Kingston School of Management & Science, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal
2	Madhyamgram B.Ed. College, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal
3	Barasat Subhas Chandra College of Education, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal
4	Barasat College, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal
5	Barasat Government College, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal
6	DIET, Karbi Anglong, Diphu, Assam
7	Diphu Govt. College, Assam
8	Bokajan College, Bokajan, Assam
9	Deopani College, Assam
10	Harlongbi Velongbi College, Assam
11	Sri Aurobindo General Degree College, Tripura
12	Holy Cross College of Teacher Education, Tripura
13	Ramthakur College, Agartala, Tripura
14	Bhavan's Teacher Training College, Tripura
15	Women's College, Agartala, Tripura



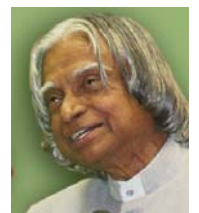
Key Activities Reported by the Institutions -

- ✓ We reduced air pollution and plastic usage
- ✓ We refused noisy firecrackers and electronic lights
- ✓ We recycled burnt firecrackers papers
- ✓ We reused earthen diyas and decorative pieces
- ✓ We managed waste and separate the bio-degradable and non-biodegradable waste to dispose it properly.
- ✓ We made organic rangoli from flowers, turmeric, kumkum, organic colours
- ✓ We made eco-friendly gifts like handmade paintings and organic food items in eco-friendly gift boxes
- ✓ We painted walls with eco-friendly colours
- ✓ We provided shelter for stray animals
- ✓ We served home-cooked food to the needy





An Institutional Visit to Model Sr. Sec. School, Siliguri, Darjeeling, West Bengal was done by Dr. Savita Mishra. The purpose of the visit was to work and interact with school students on our Bharateeya Samskruti. The objectives of the visit were to focus on the 4 Rs to promote eco-friendly activities, to build young leaders who will preserve, protect and encourage practice of the Bharateeya Culture and Ethos through science, research, education and training.



“Educationists should build the capacities of the spirit of inquiry, creativity, entrepreneurial and moral leadership among students and become their role model.” Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam

Sangam University, located in Bhilwara district in Ajmer division of Rajasthan, is the only educational institution where efforts are on to preserve and relate Indian art culture. In this sequence, in order to financially empower the children of the Fine Arts Department under the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, an exhibition of their artworks was organized under the direction of Professor Rajneesh Sharma, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Artefacts worth about one lakh rupees were sold which benefited the students. In the program, the Vice Chancellor of the University, Professor



Karunesh Saxena, said that Sangam University is determined to provide support to the youth through education, employment and economic prosperity, while working in the light of the provisions of the New Education Policy. National Poet and Social Worker Shri Yogendra Sharma told about the need to impart training to the youth on Sanatan Indian social, cultural and human values along with economic upliftment and higher education.



The University has an Entrepreneurship Development Cell with the Objective of providing skill and competency based education to the students with a view to promoting entrepreneurial acumen. The Cell encourages critical and lateral thinking and also integrates theory with practice.



Student demonstrating the importance of education and health through Kathak dance

India – in the midst of a Cultural Renaissance

October is Hindu Heritage Month in the United States of America! The redevelopment of Lord Sri Krishna Shreenathji temple in Bahrain, the foundation stone laying of the first Hindu temple in Abu Dhabi by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi speak volumes of the cultural reach of our country. That India is in the midst of a cultural rejuvenation is demonstrated by the spiritual constructions and developments across the country. The Ram temple at Ayodhya, Somnath temple complex development under PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive), the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor in Varanasi connecting the Ganga and Kashi Vishwanath temple, the opening of the Sikh religious place Kartarpur Sahib Corridor, the Char Dham Pariyojana and many others are some of the developments to cite.

India has also successfully brought back 157 artefacts and antiquities from other countries in a bid to recover our cultural past. Yoga is now being recognized by the United Nations and practiced across the globe. 23rd October was celebrated as Ayurveda Day and is now being adopted and collaborated by a number of countries.

It is high time that we reclaim our rich cultural past and go all out to preserve and promote Indian art, culture and history. Students of Higher Educational Institutions need to make monthly calendars of cultural events and chalk out their cultural programs all the while celebrating and rekindling the cultural fire.

Indian festivals seamlessly integrate elements of social, spiritual, cultural, and economic welfare, making them a holistic and immersive experience for all. It is for these reasons that Indian festivals and traditions – the ceremonies, food, stories and music around them, make us human and connected.

The Ministry of AYUSH celebrates Ayurveda Day every year on Dhanvantari Jayanti (Dhanteras) and this year it was celebrated on 23rd October. Ayurveda is a form of holistic medicine steeped in Bharateeya roots.





From the Chairman's Desk



Dr. C. Umamaheswara Rao
IAS (Retd.)

Mahatma Gandhi's ideologies on cultural unity hold all the more credence in these times. Samskruti Foundation pays homage to the national leaders whose birthdays were celebrated in October - Mahatma Gandhi, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Their inspiring journeys keep edging us to toil further to achieve our goals. We pay our deepest homage to the Indian aerospace scientist and statesman who served as the 11th President of India, Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, whose birthday is celebrated as Students Day. The festivals of Navratri, Diwali, and Chhath Puja are great ways to understand the rich heritage of India. These festivals also help students from across the world to know about India and its history.

I am elated at the huge response received to our call for celebrating Diwali as Bharateeya Paryavaran Festival promoting eco-friendly practices for a clean and green India. Educational institutions across the country participated and contributed to the cause. These steps are sure to further our commitment towards preserving our cultural heritage. The critical importance of being environment-friendly is a lesson to be learnt by all.

That rural areas should not be left out of our outreach was emphasized in our annual meeting of our Governing and Advisory Councils. We intend to now provide Internship to the students who are interested to work with the NGOs in rural areas. The national conference on Shivaji's Statecraft: Lessons for Modern India is being organized on 24th and 25th December. We have called for study papers on Shivaji's ideals and philosophy specific to public administration. Select papers will be published with the Conference Proceedings. The upcoming months will see our several innovative initiatives give a push to our objectives and goals in a holistic manner.



Samskruti Foundation

Samskruti Foundation is a registered trust consisting of prominent and accomplished senior civil servants, professionals and corporate citizens. It is constituted under section 4 of Indian Trust Act 1882 with registration no. 000124/2009. It has been striving towards promoting Nation Building activities among the youth of the society in Telangana and across India.

Our Vision – To be National Resource Center for Culture

Our Mission – To preserve, protect and encourage practice of the Bharateeya Culture and Ethos through research, education, training and Dialogue

Address: 3-5-1090/G, Metro Pillar No: B1158, Narayanaguda, Hyderabad, Telangana - 500029

Edited, Printed and Published by Sri T Rambabu, Co-convenor

Editorial Team – Sri G Natraj, Dr. Vivek Modi