



RAMAKRISHNA MATH & RAMAKRISHNA MISSION

(A Branch of Ramkrishna Math & Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math, West Bengal)

Swami Vivekananda Chowk, 12th Road, Khar (W),

Mumbai – 400052; Tel.: 022- 6181 8000 / 6181 8002

E-mail : vivekotsavrkm@gmail.com; Website: www.mumbairkm.org



VIVEKOTSAR

Inculcating The Spirit Of Vivekananda

On the occasion of Swami Vivekananda's Birth Anniversary

31st Inter-School Reading Competition – 2026

FOR THE HEARING – IMPAIRED CHILDREN

To,
The Principal / Headmaster / Headmistress of School

October 13, 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are glad to announce the **31st Inter-School Reading Competition** for Hearing-Impaired Children.

The objective of such competitions is to inculcate the character-building teachings of **Swami Vivekananda** among the youngsters so that they grow and become noble citizens of our Motherland.

It gives us immense pleasure to announce that we will be awarding the **BEST SCHOOL TROPHY** for **Reading Competition**. The school which secures Maximum Number of Prize Points will receive the Trophy. The allocation of Prize Points is as follows:

First Prize	9 Points
Second Prize	4 Points
Third Prize	1 Point

We request you to kindly extend your co-operation as in the past by sending selected students from your school and making the competition a success.

Thanks and with best wishes,

Yours in the Lord,
Swami Satyadevananda
Adhyaksha

❖ Date	Friday, December 5, 2025		
❖ Type of Competition	Reading		
❖ Languages	Hindi / Marathi / English / Gujarati		
❖ Eligibility	Sub-Junior Boys/Girls Standard III to V	Junior Boys/Girls Standard VI & VII	Senior Boys/Girls Standard VIII to X
❖ Time	09.30 a.m.	09.30 a.m.	09.30 a.m.
❖ Topics Prescribed	Based on the Life & Teachings of Swami Vivekananda		
❖ Time Allotted	5 (Five) minutes for each participant		
❖ Venue	Ramakrishna Mission, 12th Road, Khar (West), Mumbai – 400 052.		

Special Notes :

- ❖ **Participants are required to speak on the mike.**
- ❖ There is no entry fee.
- ❖ Any number of entries permitted.
- ❖ The list of participating students should be sent in advance.
- ❖ Participants will be assessed by a panel of judges whose decision shall be final and binding.
- ❖ Participation can be in any of the four languages – Hindi / Marathi / Gujarati / English.
- ❖ Prescribed passages in each of the four languages are provided.



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VIVEKOTSAV

Inculcating The Spirit Of Vivekananda

**On the occasion of Swami Vivekananda's Birth Anniversary
25th Inter-School Multi-Talent Competitions – 2026**

To,
The Principal / Headmaster / Headmistress of School

October 13, 2025

Dear Sir / Madam,

We are glad to announce the **25th Inter-School Multi-Talent Competition**.

These competitions are organized with a view to encouraging the creative talent among young students as well as to acquaint them with the highly inspiring life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda. We extend a warm invitation to the students of your school to participate in the Drawing Competition. The details of the competition are given below.

Thanks and with best wishes,

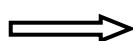
Yours in the Lord,
Swami Satyadevananda
Adhyaksha

DRAWING COMPETITION

❖ Date	Thursday, December 18th, 2025	
❖ Time	09.00 a.m. - Juniors (Std. V – VII) & 01.00 p.m. - Seniors (Std. VIII – X)	
❖ Venue	Ramakrishna Mission, 12th Road, Khar (West), Mumbai-52	
❖ Eligibility	Junior Boys and Girls Standard V to VII	Senior Boys and Girls Standard VIII TO X
	Only 8 (Eight) students (2 each in Junior Boys/Girls and Senior Boys/Girls group) from each school will be allowed	
❖ Time Allotted	2 (two) hours for each participant	
❖ Theme/Topic	Two themes (on the life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda) each for Junior and Senior groups have been prescribed, details of which are given overleaf. The participants can choose any one theme.	
❖ Requirements	<p>The organizers will provide only one sheet of drawing paper (11" X 15" size). The participants should bring their own painting materials.</p> <p>Imp. Note – Participants (Juniors & Seniors) are free to choose any medium of their choice like Crayons, Oil Pastels, Water or Poster Colors etc. or Mixed Media</p> <p>The drawings will be the exclusive property of the organizers and will not be returned to the participants.</p>	
❖ Assessment	This will be made on the basis of composition/colour scheme/finishing.	

Phone : 6181 8000, 6181 8002

Office/Book Sale Timings : 8.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Open all days

PLEASE SEE THE THEMES OVERLEAF 

DRAWING THEMES

FOR JUNIORS (STD. V TO VII)

1. SWAMIJI PRACTISED WHAT HE PREACHED

In one of his discourses at a Western American town, Swamiji said that one who has attained Absolute Truth or Knowledge remains the same under all circumstances; he is always calm and unruffled by things external. A few churlish cowboys heard this lecture and decided to test him. When Swamiji went to their village to deliver a lecture, they asked him to stand on a reversed tub and address the gathering.

Swamiji did as requested and then became absorbed in his subject. The cowboys meanwhile started firing from close range, the bullets whizzing past Swamiji's ears. This did not perturb Swamiji in the least. He continued his speech with as much composure as he had started with. When he had finished, the cowboys surrounded him, shook hands with him and declared : "Yes Swamiji, you are absolutely genuine. You are what you preach!"

2. INNOCENT BILEY

OR

The elders of the household had told Biley, in fun, that if one meditated, one's hair would become as long and matted as the monks', and would gradually enter deep into the earth like the roots of a banyan tree. So the simple child, seated in meditation, would once in a while open his eyes to see if his hair had grown long and matted. But when his expectations were not fulfilled, he ran in bewilderment to his mother, and asked, "I have meditated; but why has no matted hair grown?" His mother consoled him: "It is not grown in an hour or a day. It takes many many days, yes, many many months, before matted locks can be grown."

FOR SENIORS (STD. VIII TO X)

1. THE BARANAGORE MATH

After the Mahasamadhi of Sri Ramakrishna, Narendranath and his brother-disciples rented an old dilapidated house at Baranagore where they founded the first Monastery of the Ramakrishna Order. The garden was full of weeds and cobras lived under the ground floor ! For months they had nothing to eat but rice and boiled leaves. But Naren and the brother monks cared nothing for it. They thought only of God. They meditated for long hours, sang songs and discussed the religious ideas of all sects and religions. During this period they took the monastic vow of Sannyasa. They tried to follow everything that Sri Ramakrishna had taught them.

OR

2. BRAVE NAREN

Once 6 year old Naren was returning from a fair with one of his younger cousins. He has purchased some Shiva idols. It was dark and they got slightly separated. At that moment, a carriage came dashing along. Naren turned at the noise and was horrified to see that it was a question of life and death for the little lad who stood terrified in the middle of the road, about to be run over! Putting the Shiva idols under his left arm, Naren rushed to him and heedless of his own safety, pulled him almost from under the horses' hooves! Some people patted Naren for his bravery while others blessed him.

YOGA ASANA PRESENTATION

(Team Event)

YOGA FOR MIND AND MEMORY

Tell your body that it is strong, tell your mind that it is strong and have unbounded faith and hope in yourself.

-Swami Vivekananda

VENUE : RAMAKRISHNA MATH, KHAR (WEST)

Tuesday, December 16, 2025
9.00 a.m. Juniors : 9.30 a.m. Seniors

Categories :

- Junior Boys - Std. V to VII
- Senior Boys - Std. VIII to X
- Junior Girls - Std. V to VII
- Senior Girls - Std. VIII to X

Dress Code : Decent loose fitting clothes

- Boys - Track Suit
- Girls - Salwar Kameez or Track Suit

SURYA NAMASKAR : Students have to demonstrate 2 rounds of Sashtang Namaskar also commonly known as Surya Namaskar.

ASANAS : After Surya Namaskar, students will have to demonstrate **any three Asanas** of their choice.

Time given for total presentation will be **5 minutes**. Each school can send **3 students per group**. All students from the same school will perform together in their respective groups.

1) स्थिरम् सुखम् आसनम् ।

Asana is that which gives you stability and ease.

2) योगः चित्तवृत्ति निरोधः ।

Yoga is that through which one directs, guides and channelises one's thought towards a desired goal.

Last Date To Send Entries: Monday, December 8, 2025

KINDLY EXPLAIN THE THEMES TO YOUR STUDENTS IN THEIR MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

**VIVEKOTSAV - 2026****31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION****5th December 2025****HINDI****Sub-Junior Boys & Girls (Std. III – V)****करूणामय नरेन**

नरेन की विशेषता थी दूसरों के प्रति उनकी दयालुता । उनके साथियों के लिये वे करूणास्वरूप थे । समूह बनाकर घूमने निकलने पर यदि कोई घायल या अस्वस्थ हो जाता था तो असकी देखभाल के लिये वे अपना आनंद त्याग देते ।

एक दिन वे बीसेक बालकों के साथ कलकत्ता किला देखने गये थे । तभी एक बालक ने दर्द की शिकायत की । अन्य बालक उसपर हँसते हुये आगे निकल गये । अकेला बालक भूमि पर बैठ गया, उसका दर्द बढ़ता जा रहा था । नरेन भी सबके साथ आगे चले गये थे पर अचानक मुड़ते हुये उन्होंने कहा, "हो सकता है वह बालक बहुत बीमार हो, तुम लोग आगे चलते रहो । हम में से एक को उसके साथ रहना आवश्यक है । इसलिये मैं जाऊँगा ।" उन्होंने उसी समय अपने कदम वापिस लिये । लड़के को तेज़ बुखार हो गया था । नरेन ने सहारा देकर, उसे लगभग उठाकर, पास में खड़ी एक गाड़ी में बिठाया और घर ले गये ।

**VIVEKOTSAV - 2026****31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION****5th December 2025****HINDI****Junior Boys & Girls (Std. VI & VII)****स्वामी विवेकानंद का अगाध देशप्रेम**

धर्म महासभा के पहले दिन के सत्र के बाद स्वामीजी को एक लखपति सज्जन के आलिशान भवन में ले गये, जहाँ उनका भव्य स्वागत हुआ। वहाँ उनके आराम के लिये हर सुख-सुविधा का प्रबंध किया था। परंतु स्वामीजी को ना यश की कामना थी ना आराम की लालसा। इसलिये उस ठाटबाट और प्रशंसा के बावजूद स्वामीजी को चैन नहीं था। उनके देशवासी कितना कष्ट भुगत रहे हैं यह वे भुला नहीं पा रहे थे और वे आरामदायक पलंग पर सो भी नहीं पाये। वे ज़मीन पर लेट कर एक बच्चे के समान सारी रात रोते रहे।

स्वामीजी ने माँ जगदंबा से प्रार्थना की, “ओ माँ! जब मेरा देश घोर दरिद्रता के दलदल में फँसा है तो किसे यश की कामना है। हम भारतीय अत्यंत गरीब हैं, लाखों लोग मुट्ठी भर अनाज के अभाव में मर रहे हैं। जबकि निजी सुख-सुविधा के लिये यहाँ लोग खुले हाथ धन खर्च कर रहे हैं। भारतीयों को कौन सहारा देगा, कौन उन्हें अन्न देगा? माँ! मुझे बताओ, मैं किस प्रकार उनकी सेवा कर सकता हूँ?”

ऐसा था स्वामीजी का प्रगाढ़ देशप्रेम।

**VIVEKOTSAV - 2026****31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION****5th December 2025****HINDI****Senior Boys & Girls (Std.VIII-X)****वेदान्त का सार**

एक बार 'हितवादी' पत्रिका के संपादक, पंडित सखाराम देऊसकर स्वामीजी से मिलने आये थे। उनके साथ एक पंजाबी व्यक्ति भी थे। यह जानकर स्वामीजी ने उन लोगों के साथ उस प्रदेश की अन्न समस्या तथा उससे जुड़ी कुछ अन्य समस्याओं पर ही बातचीत की। और किसी विषय पर नहीं बोले। विदाई लेते समय उस पंजाबी सज्जन ने स्वामीजी से कहा, "महाशय, हम लोग बहुत आशा लेकर आये थे कि आप से धर्म के बारे में कुछ उपदेश सुनने को मिलेंगे, परंतु दुर्भाग्य, चर्चा भौतिक विशयों पर ही हुई। आज का दिन व्यर्थ चला गया।" स्वामीजी तुरंत गंभीर हो गये। वे बोले, "जब तक हमारे देश का एक कुत्ता भी भूखा रहेगा, तब तक हमारा धर्म होगा उसे खिलाना, उसकी देखभाल करना। उसे छोड़कर बाकी सबकुछ या तो आड़बर होगा या अधर्म।"

एक बार उत्तर भारत के एक महान पंडित स्वामीजी के साथ वेदान्त पर वार्तालाप करने आये। उस समय देश में फैले अकाल की वजह से स्वामीजी बहुत दुःखी थे। वे बोले, "पंडितजी, चारों ओर हाहाकार मचा हुआ है, पहले उसके निवारण की चेष्टा कीजिये। एक मुट्ठी अन्न के लिये आपके देशवासी जो हृदय विदारक आर्तनाद कर रहे हैं, उसके प्रतिकार की चेष्टा कीजिये। उसके बाद वेदान्त की चर्चा करने आइये। सैंकड़ों लोग भूख से अकाल मृत्यु को प्राप्त हो रहे हैं। उनकी रक्षा के लिये अपना सर्वस्व न्योछावर कर देना ---- यही वेदान्त धर्म का सार है।"

**VIVEKOTSAV - 2026****31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION****5th December 2025****MARATHI****Sub-Junior Boys & Girls (Std. III – V)**

मायाळू नरेन

नरेन आपल्या मित्रांसाठी साक्षात दयेची मूर्तीच होता. आपल्या मित्रांना घेऊन कुठे सहलीला गेले असतांना जर एखादा मुलगा आजारी पडला किंवा जखमी झाला तर तो सर्व मौज मजा सोडून त्याची सेवा करत असे.

एकदा नरेन वीसेक मुलांना घेऊन कलकत्याचा किल्ला बघायला गेला होता. तिथे एक मुलगा अचानक वेदनेने तळमळू लागला. इतर मुलांनी त्याची चेष्टा केली आणि पुढे निघून गेले. मुलाच्या वेदना इतक्या वाढल्या की तो तिथेच खाली एकटा तळमळत बसला. नरेन इतर मुलांबरोबर आधी पुढे गेला होता. पण अचानक तो वळून म्हणाला, “कदाचित त्या मुलाला काहीतरी गंभीर आजार झाला असेल. तुम्ही व्हा पुढे ! आपल्यापैकी कुणालातरी त्याच्याकडे परत गेले पाहिजे. मी जातो आणि बघतो.” नरेन त्या मुलाकडे परत गेला. तो अगदी वेळेवर पोहोचला कारण त्या मुलाला खूप ताप आला होता! नरेनने जवळजवळ उचलून त्या मुलाला एका गाडीत बसवले आणि त्याच्या घरी सुखरूप पोहचवले.

**VIVEKOTSAV - 2026****31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION****5th December 2025****MARATHI****Junior Boys & Girls (Std. VI & VII)**

स्वामी विवेकानंदांचे अगाध देशप्रेम

सर्व-धर्म परिषदेच्या पहिल्या दिवसाच्या सत्रानंतर स्वामीजींना एका श्रीमंत व्यक्तीच्या आलिशान घरात नेण्यात आले. तिथे त्यांचे भव्य स्वागत झाले. त्यांच्या सुख-सुविधेसाठी पूर्ण सोय केली होती. परंतु स्वामीजींना कीर्तीची लालसा नव्हती किंवा आरामाची गरज नव्हती. म्हणून त्या ऐषारामातदेखील ते अस्वस्थ होते. आपले देशबांधव किती घोर दुःख भोगत आहेत हे विसरू शकत नव्हते.

मखमली पलंगावर स्वामीजींना झोप लागली नाही म्हणून ते जमिनीवर झोपले आणि रात्रभर एखाद्या लहान लहान मुलाप्रमाणे रडत राहिले. त्यांनी जगदंबेला प्रार्थना केली, “हे माते! माझा देश घोर दारिद्र्यात असतांना यशाची पर्वा कोण करील? आम्ही भारतीय लोक इतके गरीब आहोत की मूळभर अन्नासाठी लाखो लोक मरत असतात आणि इथे लोक स्वतःच्या सुख-सोयीसाठी पाण्यासारखा पैसा खर्च करतात. माझ्या देशवासीयांना अन्न कोण देणार? त्यांचा उद्धार कोण करणार? हे माते! मी कोणत्या प्रकारे त्यांची सेवा करू?” असे होते भारतासाठी स्वामीजींचे ज्वलंत प्रेम.

**VIVEKOTSAV - 2026****31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION****5th December 2025****MARATHI****Senior Boys & Girls (VIII – X)****वेदांताचा सार**

एकदा 'हितवादि' पत्रिकेचे संपादक, पंडित सखाराम देऊसकर आपल्या दोन मित्रांबरोबर स्वामीजींना भेटायला आले होते. त्यातील एकजण पंजाबी आहे हे कळल्यावर स्वामीजी त्यांच्याशी पंजाबमधील धान-कोठारांच्या भयानक समस्येबद्दल चर्चा करू लागले. त्यावेळच्या भीषण दुष्काळामुळे स्वामीजी इतर गोष्टींचा विचारच करू शकत नव्हते. निरोप घेताना पंजाबी मित्र म्हणाला, "आज आम्हाला आपल्याकडून आध्यात्मिक गोष्टी ऐकायच्या होत्या पण चर्चा भौतिक विषयांबाबतच झाली. आमचा वेळ वाया गेला!" ते ऐकून स्वामीजी गंभीर झाले आणि म्हणाले, "महाशय, माझ्या देशात एखादा बेवारस कुत्रा जरी उपाशी असला तरी त्याला खायला देणे, त्याची काळजी घेणे, हा माझा धर्म आहे. बाकी सर्व अधार्मिक आहे!"

एकदा एक उत्तर भारतीय पंडित स्वामीजींकडे वेदांतावर चर्चा करण्यासाठी आला होता. देशात सर्वत्र पसरलेल्या दुष्काळामुळे स्वामीजी अस्वस्थ होते. ते म्हणाले, "पंडितजी, सर्वप्रथम दुष्काळग्रस्त लोकांना सावरा! अहो, मूठभर अन्नासाठी भुकेल्या भारतीयांचा टाहो आपण ऐकत आहात ना? त्यावर उपाय शोधा आणि मगच वेदान्त चर्चा करण्यासाठी या. भुकेने तडफडून मरणाऱ्या हजारो लोकांसाठी आपण आपलं संपूर्ण जीवन झोकून द्यावे, हेच वेदांताचे सार आहे!"

**VIVEKOTSAV - 2026****31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION****5th December 2025****ENGLISH****Sub-Junior Boys & Girls (Std. III – V)****Caring Naren**

A characteristic of Naren was his concern for others. For his friends, he was kindness itself. Should anyone become hurt or ill in a group he had taken for an outing, he would give up the idea of fun to attend on him.

One day Naren went with twenty or more boys to see the Calcutta Fort. One of the boys complained of pain and stayed back, while others laughed at the boy's expense and went ahead. Left alone, the boy sat on the ground, his pain growing worse. Naren had gone ahead with the boys but suddenly he turned and said, "It may be that he is seriously ill. You boys carry on. One of us must go back to him, so I will go". He went back just in time. The boy had been overtaken with fever. Naren helped him, almost carrying him to a carriage nearby and took him home safely.



VIVEKOTSAV - 2026

31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION

5th December 2025

ENGLISH

Junior Boys & Girls (Std. VI & VII)

Swami Vivekananda's Deep Love For India

After the first day's session of the Parliament Of Religions, Swamiji was taken to the mansion of a millionaire and given a royal reception.

The host did everything to make Swamiji comfortable. But Swamiji neither cared for name and fame nor did he want any comforts. Even amidst it all Swamiji was uncomfortable and restless. He could not forget how much his countrymen were suffering. His heart continued to bleed for India. He could not sleep on the luxurious bed. He lay on the floor and wept like a child the whole night. He prayed, "O Mother, who cares for fame when my country is bogged down in deep poverty! We Indians are so poor that millions of us die for want of a handful of rice, while here people spend money lavishly only for personal comforts! Who will raise the Indians and give them food? O Mother, tell me how I can serve them! " Such was Swamiji's burning love for India!

**VIVEKOTSAV - 2026****31st INTER-SCHOOL READING COMPETITION****5th December 2025****ENGLISH****Senior Boys & Girls (Std. VIII – X)****The Essence Of Vedanta**

The Editor of 'Hitavadi', Pandit Sakharam Deuskar, came to see Swamiji along with two friends. One of them was a Punjabi. Knowing this, Swamiji talked with them very earnestly about the grim food situation in Punjab. Swamiji's mind at that time was so occupied with the terrible famine going on in India that he did not discuss anything else. While taking leave, the Punjabi gentleman said, "Sir, we expected to hear something spiritual from you today but unfortunately our conversation drifted to mundane matters. I think it was a mere waste of time." Hearing this, Swamiji became very serious and said, "Sir, as long as even a stray dog of my country remains without food, my religion will be to feed and take care of him. All else is either non-religion or false religion!"

A North Indian Pandit once came to Swamiji for a discussion on Vedanta. But Swamiji was constantly thinking about the people groaning under the impact of the country-wide famine prevailing at that time. He said, "Panditji, first of all try to relieve the terrible distress that is prevailing everywhere. Try to stop the heart-rending cry of your hungry countrymen for a morsel of food. After that, come to me for a debate on Vedanta. To stake one's whole life to save thousands who are dying of starvation ---- that is the Essence of Vedanta!"