

# Sangh Mail HSS(UK) Events

December 2023 – Extra Edition

info@hssuk.org • www.hssuk.org • Registered Charity No. 267309

## In this edition

- 3 Vibhag Events
- 9 Vargs
- 12 News from other Dharmic organisations
- 15 More news

Sangh Mail is a monthly publication showcasing the activities of Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (UK) for circulation to it's members and well-wishers.

# Vibhag Events

Bringing Shakhas together



#### Mitra Milan Shakha, North West & Northern Ireland Vibhag

### Gita Jayanti

NW & NI Vibhag Dainik Prabhat (morning) Shakha, Mitra Milan Shakha celebrated Gita Jayanti, which also coincided with the completion of the 700 Bhagavad Gita shlokas in shakha. The program consisted of an overview of the two years, the children sharing their learnings and talks by Shri Nitish ji Rai Parwani, and Mananiya Shri Dhiraj ji Shah, both emphasising the importance of Bhagavad Gita in our lives.

Mitra Milan Prabhat shakha, a 15 min online daily morning shakha, was started during the pandemic and continues till date. As the name Mitra Milan indicates we can meet and greet Surya Bhagvan (the Sun), as well as friends.

Studying Gita through a joint study has been a great initiative. Reciting one shloka (verse) a day, contemplating on the message has been quite effortless and enjoyable. Thus structure gives us a constant reminder to apply our learning to our own life and activities that we do everyday.

The shakha is lead by our efficient team, consisting of both adults and children. We have seen everyone attending the prabhat shakha participate and progress over the past 3 years of shakha. People have joined from wherever they were, even when they were out of town on work or holiday. This only shows that Mitra Milan shakha has been a successful model in its own unique way. We look forward to joining it every morning!!



#### North West & Northern Ireland Vibhag

### Bauddhik Pratiyogita 2023

NW & NI Vibhag was hosted a Bauddhik Pratiyogita (competition) for the first time. A jam-packed 6 hour day was planned for the Kishors (secondary school children to engage in public speaking sessions, debates and the Gyaan cup- a dharmic quiz! 65 participants from 5 shakhas participated and approx. 60 spectators were present. This event was planned and executed by the Tarun gana, who applied their learnings from SSV, and did a phenomenal job!

The rooms were buzzing with excitement (literally) as the quiz teams were rushing to press their buzzers to answer questions first to get quiz points. Questions in the quiz covered topics such as general knowledge, history, dharma. Debates held on topics such as 'Should mandirs have a dress code?' raised very interesting perspectives from young British Hindus. The public speaking sessions saw very high calibre of speeches, particularly from the 11/12 year old children, who researched well for their topic ' What can we learn from the Ramayana and Mahabharata?' many of whom included Sanskrit shlokas in their speeches. Finally, a Bauddhik on the importance of *Shastrartha* (discussing the meaning of Hindu scriptures) was given. A big Om to all the participants and winners of each section!



#### **Birmingham Nagar**

### Geet Pratiyogita & Vijaya Dashmi

After many years, Birmingham rekindled a muchneeded, lively, and bonding family event, with a Geet Pratiyogita (singing competition). Eight teams participated to compete for the Saraswati Trophy. The Judges included Dinesh ji Mistry (West Midlands Sanghachalak), Jyoti ji Gupta (from North West Vibhag), and Pravin ji Mistry (Birmingham Prajapati Samaj president). They surely had a difficult task, as all teams were well prepared. Mananiya Sanghchalak, Shri Dhiraj ji Shah was also in attendance, though he too was part of a competing team of Jyeshtha Keshav Shakha.

A Vijaya dashmi Bauddhik was given by Jyoti ji, on the importance of the festival. The winning team was Shiva Sevikas, who performed the geet 'Shoora Vayam..' It was a memorable and fantastic family event.

10

Shakhas

### 10 Teams

#### North West & Northern Ireland Vibhag

### Geet Pratiyogita 2023

On Sat 2nd December 2023, NW&NI Vibhag hosted a Geet pratiyogita. 10 geets were presented by 7 shakhas, including geets in different languages, and fantastic participation from all ages.

All teams sung exceptionally and included use of musical instruments, presentations, dance, role plays and props to further express the deeper meaning of their selected Geet. The judges had a very difficult task and announced winning team as Warrington Shakha who performed 'Jayostute'.



233

attendees

In true sense this was not a competition but a challenge to every individual to identify and develop their hidden abilities. The aim of the pratiyogita was to remind everyone of the importance of Geet in Shakha and encourage regular Geet practice to flourish our Hindu culture. It was a vibrant and joyful atmosphere- a big Om to all the participants for this memorable program.

#### North West & Northern Ireland Vibhag Geet Pratiyogita 2023



Planning and preparation sessions, to gear up for the year ahead!

Voros



North London & Hertfordshire Vibhag

### Karyakarta Planning Weekend

From 2nd to 3rd Dec, the Vibhag held its annual Overnight Karyakartas varg.

50 Karyakartas came together to review the year 2023 and plan for the next year.

While having great fun and taking part in plenty of chintan, important decisions were made.

This has become an annual feature for the Vibhag, which leaves everyone inspired and energised.

#### **Rugby Nagar**

### **Planning Retreat**

Rugby Nagar has re-initiated their annual Karyakarta planning weekend.

This year we were in Derbyshire from Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd December with 27 Karyakartas which also included 'trainee' Karyakartas.We covered lots of vishays, including Geet Abhyas, Dumbells, and Samata.

We learned various new Khel and how to plan/deliver a Baudhik.

There was plenty of time to mingle with each other during a frosty 3-hour walk through the Derbyshire countryside.

The weekend program was varied giving individuals plenty of time to do leisure activities, we even managed a Joe Wickes HIIT session!

As always, the catering during the weekend was top-notch. The new Karyakartas are already looking forward to next year's weekend.

News from other Dharmic organisations

#### KAHO (UK) – Karunaadina Anivaasi Hindugala Okkoota

### Annual Karyakarta Varg-Fostering Unity and Reflection

KAHO(UK) recently on December 8th concluded its annual KKV, a two-night stay residential gathering designed to facilitate reflection on achievements, strategic planning for the future, and the welcoming of new members into the team. Meticulously planned and executed.

This year's Varg, showcased a blend of insightful discussions, Bauddhik sessions, team-building activities, and a strong sense of camaraderie. The evening commenced with a warm welcome and enthusiasm permeating the air as participants settled in for an eventful 36 hours. The day began with a unique Yoga session, featuring 'Ganapathi Namaskara' 'Durga Namaskara'; and 'Vishnu Namaskara'; asanas, led by Dr. Madhu Gowda ji. An insightful Bauddhik session on; Ramayana and Mahabharata and their relevance to our lives and Dharma; set the tone for a day filled with inspiration.

Children were given a platform to showcase their public speaking skills, presenting talks on Karnataka's unique traditions, culture, food, language, and temples, and participating in the Rathri Karyakrama (Night program), featuring a diverse showcase of talents involving both kids and adults. The day was marked by a sense of unity, akin to a large family, as Karyakartas shared their experiences and stories, and connected with new members.

'Samarop Margadharshan' by Satish Kamat ji, discussed Karyakartha Nirmaan (How to become an effective Karyakarta). Also present at the Varg was Dr. Raveendra Surange, Karyawaha of HSS(UK).

As KAHO moves forward into 2024, the bonds built during this VARG will undoubtedly fuel their endeavours for a committed responsibility for society.

#### KAHO (UK) – Karunaadina Anivaasi Hindugala Okkoota

### Annual Karyakarta Varg-Fostering Unity and Reflection





rühmtesten Gebäude aus dem mit Arbeiten an einem der bemit Arbeiten an einem der berühmtesten Gebäude aus dem englischen Mittelalter beschäf-mit Arbeiten an einem der be rühmtesten Gebäude aus dem englischen Mittelalter beschäf-mit Arbeiten an einem der berühmtesten Gebäude aus dem nglischen Mittelalter beschäf mit Arbeiten an einem der bemeter rast mit Arbeiten an einem der berühmtesten Gebäude aus dem englischen Mittelalter beschäf-4 mit Arbeiten an einem der berühmtesten Gebäude aus dem mit Arbeiten an einem der berühmtesten Gebäude aus dem rks. Die traf er, als diese meter raste er m mit Arbeiten an einem der be werks. Die trat er als eineke meter raste mit Arbeiten an einem der bemeter raste er mit Arbeiten an einem der be and, Lote trait er, als the meter raste More news



#### High Wycombe Shakha

### First Anniversary

High Wycombe Adi Shankhara Shakha recently celebrated its 'Pratham Vardhapan Din' (first anniversary). There was a good turnout with 88 people attending the celebration. The event was well received, and it was evident in the enthusiastic participation in several programs like shloka competition, sharing experiences and showcasing of the past year activities captured in a video reel.

It turned out to be a great outreach event. The strengths and experiences that are garnered during this year will go a long way towards uplifting the objectives of HSS. The Shakha is geared up for opportunities for many years to come.





#### Leamington Sanskar Shakha

### Vijaya dashmi

Leamington Sanskar Shakha celebrated Vijaya dashmi Utsav with zeal and togetherness in the presence of external guests. One of the features was Pradarshan (performance) by different age groups - demonstrations of Yoga, Niyudh, Dumbbells and Vyayam Yogs, all the things we learn week in week out. The distinguished chief quest for the occasion was Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire Mr. Seccombe, and we also had Shri Dhiraj Ji Shah, HSS UK Sar Sanghchalak and Shri Dinesh Ji Mistry, West Midlands Sanghchalak. Their presence added a touch of pride and recognition to the Utsav. The Commissioner addressed the Shakha, emphasising the significance of social and cultural togetherness in fostering global harmony. He highly appreciated the spirit of HSS' purpose and its dire need today. Dhiraj Ji shared inspirational thoughts, encouraging the members to uphold the values of unity, discipline, and service. This utsav was a manifestation of unity, diversity, and the spirit of togetherness with society, the very purpose of HSS(UK).

#### Libraries

### Introduction of Hindu Libraries in Shakha across the country

Shakhas have been actively opening libraries in shakha to encourage children to enrich their knowledge of Hindu dharma and enhance literacy skills. Books have been thoughtfully selected based on the needs of the children, covering Indian history and scriptures such as Mahabharata and Ramayana. Libraries have opened in Hanuman Shakha Reading, Kesari Shakha Cheltenham, Birmingham Shiva Shakha and Macclesfield Pahal Balgokulam.



#### Awards

### A Prestigious Award



Professor Nawal ji Prinja received the Donald Julius Groen Prize at the Inst of Mechanical Engineers HQ in London on 1 Dec'23. The award is given for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of pressure systems technology. Nawal Kant ji is a Swayamsevak and Trustee of VHP (UK) and the Hindu Education Board. He is also the author of "Explaining Hindu Dharma - Guide to Teachers".

#### Condolences

### Shri Anil ji Nene

Shri Anil Ji Nene (78), Swayamsevak of Croydon Nagar left for heavenly abode, over the weekend of 24 to 26 November 2023, while attending World Hindu Congress (WHC) in Bangkok.

For many years both he and his wife Dr (Rtd) Ashvini Ji Nene went to Bharat annually from the beginning of November to the middle of March. This year they left on 2nd November wishing everyone well. They also extended invitations to those who visited India to come and stay with them in Pune. None of us thought that he would ever return to the U.K. After visiting Andaman & Nicobar Islands to pay tribute to Veer Savarkar Ji, both returned to Pune. He then travelled to Bangkok to attend WHC, where he breathed his last.

Shri Anil Ji Nene after graduating from Pune University, migrated to the U.K. more than 50 years ago to pursue his career. He became a Professor at the University of Surrey and taught there for some time, before becoming a banker until his retirement.

He became Swayamsevak during his childhood. Completed 3rd Year SSV (then known as OTC) at Nagpur in 1964 along with Shri Padmakar Mishra Ji (Swayamsevak of Croydon Nagar). He attended regularly Croydon Ratri Shakha and on many occasions delivered Bauddhiks. He also attended regularly Jyestha Vibhag annual shibirs at Beaumanor Hall, Leicestershire, and enjoyed meeting Bandhus from different towns.

Shir Anil Ji Nene also attended Croydon Nagars Yuva Shakha (every Friday) and enjoyed interacting with Bal and Yuva Swayamsevaks and Sevikas, despite his being a Senior.



He was also an active member of Maharashtra Mandal, London, and contributed a lot in different ways. Shri Anil Ji Nene was an active member of FISI and also acted as Vice President. He enjoyed traveling to different parts of the Globe and learned many attributes of the locals. On his return, he would narrate many stories at Croydon Ratri Shakha.

As a Philanthropist, it is unimaginable to think about the amount of work he has carried out both here and in Bharat. He carried out the assignment of translating into English, a Marathi Novel on the life of Param Poojaniya Doctor Ji (the original Marathi edition was compiled by Swargiya Nana Hari Palkar Ji, a long time ago.)

A week after his cremation, Bandhus of Pune came together on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023 to launch a book written in Marathi by Shri Anil Ji Nene titled "Tuj Vin Janan Te Maran". Shri Anil Ji was a prolific writer and today has written over two hundred articles in Marathi for publication in Pune. Shri Anil Ji Nene is survived by his wife Srimati Ashvini Ji Nene and two children and several grandchildren.

We pray to Parmatma to grant the divine soul, of Late Anil Ji Nene, a place at His Lotus Feet, and courage to the extended Nene Parivaar to come over this loss of a near and dear one.



# We want to hear from you!

When submitting your articles, here are a few points to consider:



Provide a summary

keep articles short, highlighting the best parts



### A picture tells a thousand words

select your best photos (maximum of 8) to go with your article in the same email



Who it's from

Don't forget to include your Shakha name and location

Send all articles to sanghmail@hssuk.org

info@hssuk.org • www.hssuk.org • Registered Charity No. 267309