



IDEAS Newsletter

Initiatives in Development, Empowerment and Awareness Society

Tiruvuru, Krishna Dt.

Vol. 2

June/July/August/September 2010

Dear Reader,

This is our IDEAS- Newsletter which is published every three month. Our intention is to inform all supporters and friends of IDEAS about all important news and also about our daily life, so that you have a chance to get a closer insight in our homes for boys and girls and all the other projects and programs which are organized by us or in which we are involved and participate. Through this news letter we can stay in contact, work together and share information. Surely we offer you to reply us and also to speak out your critics or suggestions to us

This newsletter contains everything about IDEAS from June to September, 2010. First we list all the activities in this time, so you have a chance to get a deeper overview about our work. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, "Focus on faithfulness, not on success" yes, for us faithfulness is more important than success. Thank for your continuous support and good will.

Mr. Avvari Showraih
Director



June

- enrollment of child laborers in the school
- **09.06.2010** On this day we celebrated the international day against child labour; the munsif judge from tiruvuru was our chief guest

July:

- We visited 20 villages to find the victims of violence in families. We also visited four police stations to record the cases of violence on women registered in the police station.
- We welcomed Shouri who came back from his 2-month-journey in the U.S.A.

- We visited the short stay home, where women and girls can have a short stay due to various problems they face at home.
- Organized an awareness program to 300 girls aged 17 to 20 year old at Prathiba Degree College on the court of women. Advocate Ramaseetha, Mrs. Indhira, Teresa and Shouri participated.

August

04.08.2010 Shouri received Sarah, our new volunteer for this year in Chennai. After a long journey, she was very happy to reach her destiny India, but the hard sleepless journey did not end, because

they had to travel another 10 hours to arrive in her new home Tiruvuru. But before, they spent a nice day for sightseeing in Chennai.

On **05.08.2010** we, that means all the IDEAS-staff and -children and also other guests of our house welcomed Sarah officially and warmly , by organizing an amazing welcome program. The children made a nice show of dance and songs, she was garlanded with flowers and we ate all together her welcome-cake. She introduced her self and shared her willingness to do service to the children for one year here in our home. The following days, Sarah and Shouri spent mostly in Manchilipatnam for trying to get the strongly needed registration for our volunteer. After 3 weeks of waiting we were happy to hold this paper in our hand.

10.08 2010 Our new staff member

Babu joins IDEAS. Babu k.k is 23 year old and has finished his graduation at Loyolo College, at Vijayawada. He is our new warden for the boy's children.



Since he knows English well, our German volunteers can work with him together very closely.

15.08.2010 We celebrated the national Independence Day under the motto: "thousands laid down their lives so that our country is breathing freedom this day. Never forget the sacrifice". Children of IDEAS received new school uniforms

on this day and wore them for the school program. Thus remembering the sacrifices our national leaders did, we



hoisted flag at our hostel early in the morning and the children did the same in



their schools, Sarah joined them. In the evening we visited our colonies and gave the children sweets and message on the freedom of the country and remembered them, who sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

18.8.2010 We got to know that some children were missed from a voluntary organization named Nee Rakshana which is in Tiruvuru. On this day seven of these children were kept in our custody by the police for few days, we bought them new dresses and looked after them well. The press, both the electronic media and newspaper media came to our hostel, spent a lot of time here and made a lot

of trouble too, because the whole state was interested in missing children. The police, the press, and general public praised and congratulated IDEAS for taking care of seven children and for working to find other six more missing children with child welfare committee.

19.08.2010 Rani Agniparthi, our new girls' warden joins us from this day on.

She is from Kotha Gudem village, which is very remote too. She finished



her college and now gets used to her new work as a warden. Also she is taking computer lessons at the moment to support our office.

20.08.2010 We welcomed three new girls aged, 15, 13, and 10 in our home for girls. However now only one of them, Hemalatha, 10 years old, could stay with us.

23.08.2010

On this day all ideas boys and girls made a nice and relaxing trip to Lanka Sagar, a nearby dam in a nice countryside. Although the



weather was very hot, we had a lot of fun by spending most of the time in the cool water.

25.08.2010 Kamalamma and Sarah



started our new project for the Domestic Workers Union. From now they visit together the trade union's members in their villages to take pass photos. Our plan is to give

them identity cards to develop and intensify our work with them.

26.08.2010 On this day we celebrated the Birthday of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. With some friends of IDEAS we garlanded her statue to honor and respect her. We also prayed in front of the statue to give us gift of selflessness



like her to serve as she did for the aged and unborn children. We decided to take her life full of service as an example for our work and donated some bed sheets to old aged people.

24.08.2010 We celebrated Rakhi on this day: the thread of affection

Raksha bandan (bond of protection) is one of the feast for showing affection between brothers and sisters, thus the brothers are supposed to protect the sisters from harmful people. This is an occasion to flourish love, care, affection and sacred feeling of brotherhood. The children at IDEAS tied the knot of friendship and brotherhood to one another.

31.08.10 Shouri went to Mumbai for five days to visit the office of national domestic workers movement. He also visited some friends of IDEAS.

September - 2010

03.9.2010



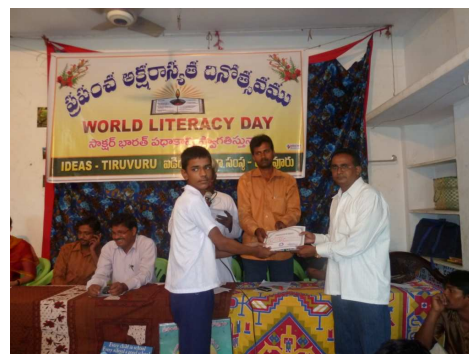
Competitions on essay writing, painting and singing were conducted at IDEAS for 58 children. These competitions take yearly place at IDEAS. All the children from nearby schools can take part in one of the three competitions. The topics this year were the following. For drawing-competition they should visualize their ideas for saving the nature and reducing pollution. This year the participants in the singing competition showed their talent in singing national songs. A lot of nice essays were written on global warming.

4.9.2010 The first awareness program on the court of women for our staff took place at IDEAS. Theresa from PSVS held a nice and very informatic power point presentation and showed us once more how important it is to work for the rights of women in this project.



5.9.10 In India there is a special day to say thank you to all the school teachers for learning many different things in the school. By celebrating this teacher's day, the pupils show their respect to their teachers. School today was a little bit different from a usual school day, because pupils and teachers changed roles. Some children dressed like teachers to teach in the school and had the chance to educate their teachers for one day.

8.9.2010 This day is the international world literacy day and was celebrated at



IDEAS by organizing a meeting in which many school children participated. Among other things the winners of the school competitions received their prizes. Some principals participated on world literacy day celebrations and spoke on the importance of literacy today. Because of this we chose some literally important books as prizes for the competition winners.

10.-13.09.2010 Sarah made her first small holiday trip and was guided by Shouri. They spent some nice days in



Hyderabad, which they used to get to know the city and to see all the important sightseeing places. Next to these relaxing actions they visited the Domestic Workers bureau, in which an old friend of Shouri, Lizzy Joseph works.

14.09.2010 We held our first core group meeting for our new project the Courts of Women with sixteen people and discussed about donations and how to conduct the future programs. Teresa, who was supported by her new volunteer from London, also showed power point presentation about the Court of Women to all the participants. Furthermore, we decided to invite victims of violence to talk about their

problems and we got to know which violence and fear they are used to at their homes. In the following months we try to find more of these shocking cases and want to help them in getting out of their terrible conditions.

16.09.2010 IDEAS participated in the local area "clean and green program" by spreading an anti-mosquitoes-spray, which should prevent the people of Tiruvuru from Malaria. Because of the



strong rain falls at the moment, we have big problems with mosquitoes that transfer a lot of dangerous sicknesses. By the way, also many of the IDEAS children suffer from different illnesses at present because of the bad weather conditions.

18.9.2010 Sarah and Shouri went to Atkur to participate in the governing body of PSVS, in which Shouri is the new



president. They spoke about the Court of Women and the solidarity walk for women in the Netherlands which is planned for the next month. We also visited the 7 children who took shelter in IDEAS for some days. They are now living at Care & Share at Vijaywada. We spent a nice time in seeing this big organization and saw other possibilities to serve street children here.

19.09.2010 On this Sunday Sarah decided to wash the hair of all children with special hair shampoo against lice. Because she noticed that many of them



suffer from this hygiene problem, she wants to

do this special hair washing once in every month with the children. But it wasn't a burden to none of us, because we had fun to spend the hot day with this activity.

21.09.2010 Here we celebrated the international peace day, thus we organized a meeting with three religious heads, namely Muslim, Hindu and



Christian priests in our premises. We spoke about the importance of peace, especially between these three religions and invited many school children. The IDEAS children also contributed to our meeting by designing peace doves, which remembered everybody that peace should be in every corner of the world, because they wrote it down in many different languages.

22.09.2010 We held a meeting of the Court of Women for awareness for Domestic Workers. We encouraged them to speak about their problems and to publicise their stories in order to get help from outside and to prevent other women from this violence.

27.09.2010 All the day we held **methodology training** on Court of Women for the core group. It was held by a Mrs. Dona Fernandez from Bangalore who explained the idea of this program, as they have organized 30 courts of women, with that experience she spoke to 30 participants who enrolled as trainers to conduct court of women at tiruvuru. Mrs. Dona spoke mostly how to begin to work together with the victims and survivors. For the court of women at tiruvuru we took the theme as "towards violence free families"

The Court of Women

"Here on the slopes of the hills,
Facing the dust and canon of time
Close to the gardens of broken shadows
We cultivate hope"
~ Mahmoud Darwish



In July, we started to bring a new program to Tiruvuru which is named The Court of Women. It is an international program which organizes public hearings for both victims and survivors of domestic violence. These have been initiated by Corinne Kumar, the International Coordinator of the Courts of Women who is at present the Secretary General of El Taller, which has been central to the organizing of the Courts in other regions along with groups and networks involved with issues related to women's human rights. Here the women are able to tell their personal stories of pain, but also of courage and survival. The courts intend is to break the silence, name the crimes, seeking redress and even reparation. It has the idea of a new form of justice, because this private violence, which is both physical and especially psychological, is not covered by the government's present justice system. In the Court there is a space for affection

and emotions. The Court and a jury listen to the subjective testimonies of the women. In this way the Court tries to face the inequality between men and women in India and makes all the cruel happenings within the four walls of the house public.

We are now in the beginnings to build up this program in Tiruvuru, therefore we had a lot of meetings to learn how to work for this program, find supporters and how to find and help victims. In the last time, our staff spent a lot of time to find people in the area who are interested to take part in the core group and to find women, who are willing to make the first step and speak out their story. We have no funds for this programme and are desperately searching for supporters.

The Right to Information(RTI)

RTI is a local new project in which IDEAS along with other small organizations participates in. Its main aim is to spread all kind of information, regarding civil-rights, project costs, all information concerning government etc. Many people here live under inhuman condition also because they were not informed about their rights which could improve many parts of their daily life. By spreading all these information, corruption can also be reduced. And people know what government is doing with tax payers' money. With this RTI people are increased to ask and to become active towards this topic. But this project can also be dangerous for the organizer and the people who receive information. RTI activists were killed because they asked information when something goes wrong.

Readers are welcome to send their valued suggestions/opinions to make this news letter more informative and attractive.

Special Congrats & Thanks to Sarah Kortenhau, our German volunteer at IDEAS, for writing the present newsletter.
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