



# Shiksha Sopan

*An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment*

Reg Office: 391, Nankari, IIT, Kanpur 208016

**News Letter October 2008**

Apart from running the four Evening Centers, Sopan Vidyalay and other regular programs, we had some special initiative in the month of September 2008. These include making Greeting Cards on Teachers Day, Workshop on making efficient Paper aircrafts and Lectures in the Evening Saturday Assembly. Here is description of all these activities.

## **Orientation Session for Sopan Workers**

An orientation session for all the Shiksha Sopan workers was conducted on September 14. A total of 16 active workers participated in this meeting at Sopan Vidyalaya. In this 2 hour session workers freely expressed their views and experiences. As the work of Shiksha Sopan has many dimensions, not everyone in our team was aware of all the activities. Through this meeting our activity this spectrum was made known to all.

Shri Jaiprakash Ji, our senior member, had attended a one week teachers training at Kempt, Massourie organized by the NGO SIDH. In the September 14 meeting he shared his experiences in this training with all the workers. The learning process of children, the difference between knowledge and understanding, role of evaluation etc were the aspects he discussed.

The President Shri Ranjan Ji coordinated the meeting and gave the vision of Shiksha Sopan to all the workers.

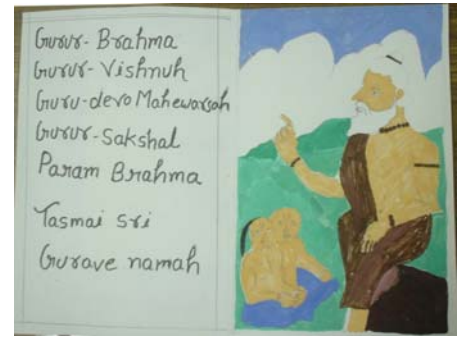
## **Making Greeting Cards on Teachers Day**

The students of Final year Integrated MSc Mathematics planned to give a greeting card to each of their faculty members in the department on the occasion of Teacher's Day. They approached us to explore if Shiksha Sopan children can make the cards for them. Indeed they could have purchased the cards, but they preferred to get it hand made by the children.

The message was sent to Shiksha Sopan Centers and a group of children under guidance of Shri Jaiprakash Ji and Shri Amit Ji started working on it. In a period of



three days they came up with 40 fantastic greeting cards. They made beautiful drawing and painting on the cover as well as on the inside page depicting the message of gratefulness towards the teachers. The drawings were of a number of different varieties according to the imagination of the child. The message in English was given by us and the children wrote them as it was. We did tell them the meaning of each message.



A group of children decided to append the greeting card with a hand made cloth flower. Soon they made 40 beautiful flowers with decorated stems and attached them with the greeting cards.



The students of Mathematics department were extremely happy to see the emotions put in by the Sopan children and the quality of the gift prepared.

## Interaction with Hall-7 students

A group of students from Hall-7 who had interacted with Sopan children at various occasions came to visit Gahan Adhyayan Kendra on September 1. They talked to children and inspired them to work hard in focussed directions to get the success in life. They shared their own life experiences and narrated the difficulties faced by them and the way they came out of these situations.



They gifted each of the 40 children a Writing Pad which was very useful for them. At Gahan Adhyayan Kendra we don't have writing desks and children often keep the notebook on the ground and bend a lot to write. The pads will give them some relief.

## SUNDAY Center for 10<sup>th</sup> class students

As the teaching at Gahan Adhyayan Kendra is going on very well, more and more children of class 10 from the villages of Barasirohi, Naramau and Nankari are getting interested to join. However we cannot accommodatwe them in Gahan Adhyayan Kendra due to infrastructural and manpower limitations. A new **SUNDAY CENTER** for these children is started on 21<sup>st</sup> September in Type-1 where they are called for four hours and IITK students teach them different subjects in units of one hour.

## Making Paper Aircraft Workshop

Making aircrafts from paper and flying it is one of the most fascinating and common activities that all children enjoy. However to make efficient aircrafts from paper needs lots of Aerodynamics and Physics Principles. Dr D P Mishra, Professor in Aerospace Engg Dept and an active Shiksha Sopan worker, invited Dr Kirti Prasad, Convener, Science for Villages, Pilani at IITK and arranged a Lecture-cum-Demo on making and flying paper aircrafts. About 150 children from Shiksha Sopan and another 100 from Campus community attended the two hour lecture. In a very lucid and interactive presentation in Hindi, Dr Prasad explained the concepts involved in a real aircraft and showed how these concepts can be used to make efficient paper aircrafts.

He showed a variety of aircrafts, all made with paper, resembling the actual aircrafts used for different purposes. In addition, he showed photographs of beautiful paper aircrafts. Children also made aircrafts from the paper sheets given to them.

Not only children, adults too went down the memory lane and enjoying making the paper aircrafts.



In the afternoon there was a 2-hour workshop exclusively for selected Shiksha Sopan children. With 20 children Dr Prasad made a beautiful paper aircraft. In each stage he explained the process and the science behind doing it. He made the children participate in the process by involving them in making proper cuts and pastes.

During all his interaction with children Dr Kirti Prasad emphasized on human qualities, the real goal of life, importance of collective working and so on.





## Other news

•On the initiative of Shiksha Sopan Secretary, a total sum of Rs 200,000 was collected from the IIT Community for Bihar Flood Victims. It includes Rs 1078 from Shiksha Sopan children.

•Mr Amarendra Narayan, a Shiksha Sopan Alumnous, has formed a group Indian Students Association at Mississippi State University and they are donating to Shiksha Sopan on monthly basis. A blog with address <http://shiksha-sopan.blogspot.com/> has also been created by him.

•The Manangement committee of Opportunity School has been reconstituted by the Director, IITK. In the new constitution there will be a Shiksha Sopan representative in the Management Committee. Dr Yogesh M Joshi, Asst Prof Chemical Engg Dept has been nominated by Shiksha Sopan in the committee.

•Income Tax Rebate under u/s 80G has been renewed for the period April 2008 to March 2011. It took about six-months of persuasion of files in the income tax department but finally it could be obtained without paying any money to anyone.

•Pratibha Poshan Yojana (Junior 09) will be floated next year as we already got a request and donation for sponsoring one child for his complete education from class 6 to class 12. Depending on the offer by other doners we will decide the number.

•Some of our members have made donations for the education of Ragi (Gudari Ki Lal, Sept 08 Newsletter). That should take care of her remaining expenses of this semester.

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## Other Informations

**Web site** : For more details please visit [www.shiksha-sopan.org](http://www.shiksha-sopan.org)

**How to donate** : The cheques/draft for donations should be made in the name of "Shiksha Sopan" payble at Kanpur. Doners may kindly give their personal details such as name, postal address, email address, so that the receipt, updates etc. may be sent. One can also make online transfer to Shiksha Sopan account in State Bank of India, IITK branch in the Account 10426002488 in the name "Shiksha Sopan".

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