

Site visit to Bharathi Trust – Kuvempu project, Dec 23-24, 2012

### **Vidya Kendras**

Visited six Vidya Kendras (evening schools) spread out over at 10-15 km range. One of the items of focus on this visit was to observe the reading skills of students as this was set as an area for improvement over the last year.

Hulluru: (30/30 present) Students at the Vidya Kendra are mostly from the SC community. Teachers were able to correctly assess the reading ability of students. Most of the students are average or below what I would expect as the reading ability for that grade. At least three fourth graders had difficulty in reading Kannada fluently. A sixth grader demonstrated fluent reading ability. Children were very enthusiastic – they put up an impromptu play and dance recital demonstrating they are not shy.

Singapura: (25/30 present) Almost a third of the students are 3-4 years old. There is strong indifference between upper caste Lingayats and the SCs. Teachers are not doing a good job but local politics is preventing taking action as the parents are supporting the teachers. All five fifth graders were able to read Kannada prose but slowly. Tested some students in fractions and results were poor.

Nagarhatta: The solar light supporting the center has stopped working three months before and classes are being held in candle light. Most probably the battery needs replacement. Most students in the 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grades were able to read from Kannada text – not fluent but better than the first two schools visited. The teachers (Nagarajappa and ?) are doing a good job in imparting reading skills. This center was very good a few years back in Math. Now only one student could complete a fractional addition. Graduates of this center have gone on to complete higher education consistently due to the efforts of the teachers.

Eachgatta: Met 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in their day school. The classroom had a Kannada books hanging on the walls all around the room. Asked students to pick up a random book and read. Overall students' reading levels were very good.

Tekalavatti Gollarahatti: (41 of 58 present). Students are mostly from the Yadav community. Kannada reading performance was average but students have to improve on fluency. In Math, students were good at basic arithmetic (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) but not with fractions.

Tekalvatti I: (25 present) Class is being conducted at teacher Siddha Raju's house. Students in 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grades are able to read Kannada but only some are slow. A second grader reads much better for her level. There was some discussion on how to identify and encourage good performers. One way is to have reading competitions at each grade level.

Shivaganga I: Lokesh is one of the teachers. Students are doing well overall in Kannada reading and basic math.

In all centers, the usage of the library books was low. The library collection needs to be updated with more picture books. Currently the collection has more non-fiction books, and children are not as motivated to read them.

### **Chitrahalli migrant laborer bridge school**

Classes are being held at the Eachgatta middle school in a unused room. Headmaster of the school has been very cooperative in letting students integrate into the mainstream school. There is one student admitted to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Three students were joined in a privately run convent – Don Bosco in Chitradurga. They are completely sponsored due to their economic condition. 8 students were admitted to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades (in the elementary school in another location) but they are currently only attending the bridge school to up to speed for their level. Next year the five fourth graders will be admitted to the middle school at Eachgatta. Students who were there for more than 2 years are doing reasonably well in reading and basic math given that they were starting with almost not education.

Students were highly motivated to use “Nali Kali” material published by the Karnataka State Govt. This material is based off a Montessori-like concept of learning and has many picture cards for learning Kannada and math. Have to investigate if this material can be made available to other Vidya Kendras – Dr. Geetha will follow up with the Dist. Level officer about this material.

### **Computer Classes**

There are number of high school and PUC students enrolled. MS office, and Windows applications, as well as Tally, an accounting software is taught. Basic MS office course runs for 3 months and with Tally for 6 months. Students are charged a fee of Rs 500 for the class but not everyone is able to pay. Only Rs. 2000 was realized last six months. Students demonstrated Tally ledger creation and MS Powerpoint presentation but not confidently; lacking basic Excel skills. A professional sculptor is learning to use the computer to create his plans - just by using basic paint, he is able to sketch plans very well.

Overall, computer students – average levels of learning. The teacher Raghu needs to do a better job.

### **Vocational training**

Eight students were learning tailoring. The classes are going well. Most of the women claim that they have learned a lot. There is a nominal charge of Rs. 50/month that some can't pay because of economic hardship. Women can readily stitch and sell products from home. Rs. 150 for a skirt + top for a two hour job. Students primarily learn stitching ladies garments.

Teacher Kusuma (a single parent) get Rs. 1900/pm and needs more salary to support a larger family now. Also require some new replacement sewing machines.

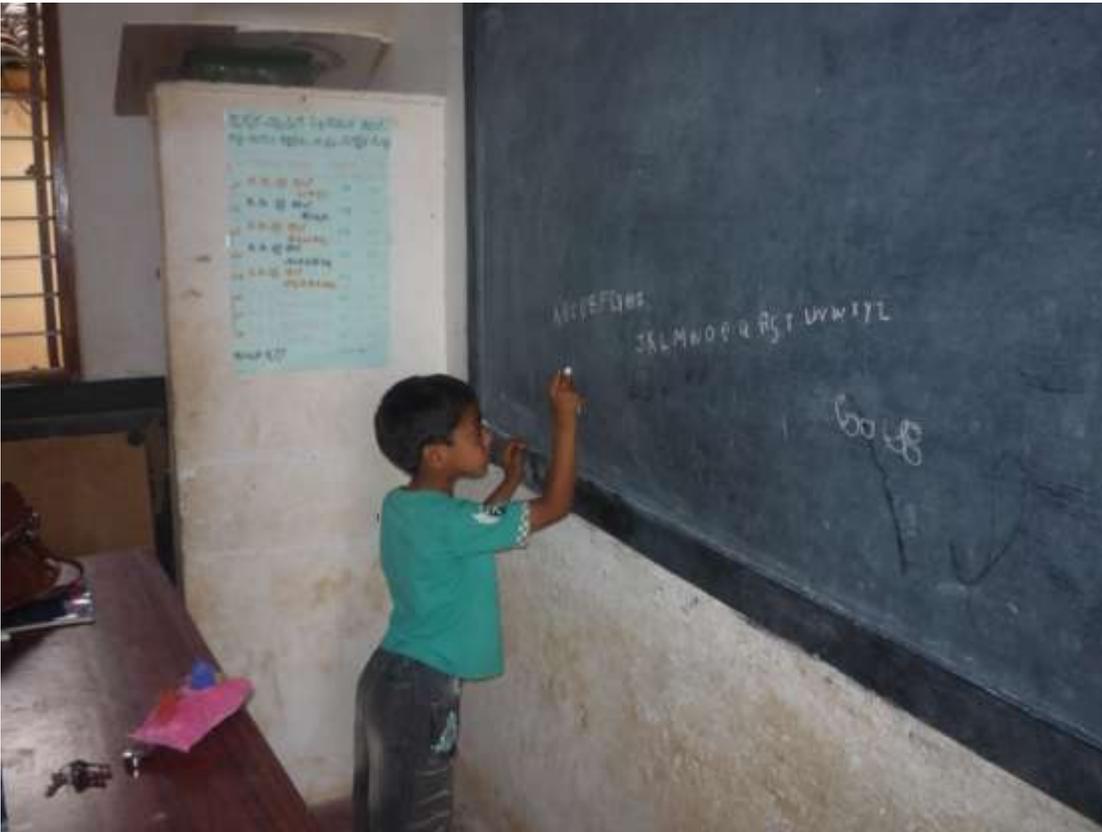
### **Govt school**

The Shivaganga Govt. Model higher primary school was running from 1935 but was on the verge of closure due to low enrollment (down to 33 in 2011). Most students are lured to low-cost private schools as the impression is that they are anyway better than the Govt. school. Kuempu stepped in to increase the enrollment as the children who would suffer are from the marginalized sections of the village. Kuvempu organization has the authority to manage the school now. Enrollment is up to 78 for grades 1-7 and in addition 48 in Kindergarten. The Kindergarten teachers, Veda and Nazeema are well qualified (D.Ed/BA) and are doing an excellent job in preparing the Kindergarteners for the regular school. U KG – all children know the alphabet and LKG around 60%. Reviewed workbooks with the teachers and saw that the progress is being kept track off well. A lot of political issues are threatening to stop the Kindergarten activities next year.

One teacher's salary is supported by a private donor (Asha volunteer). Another local donor gave books for the first year. Hoping that this cost will get absorbed in to the Govt school next year.



Hulluru Vidya Kendra

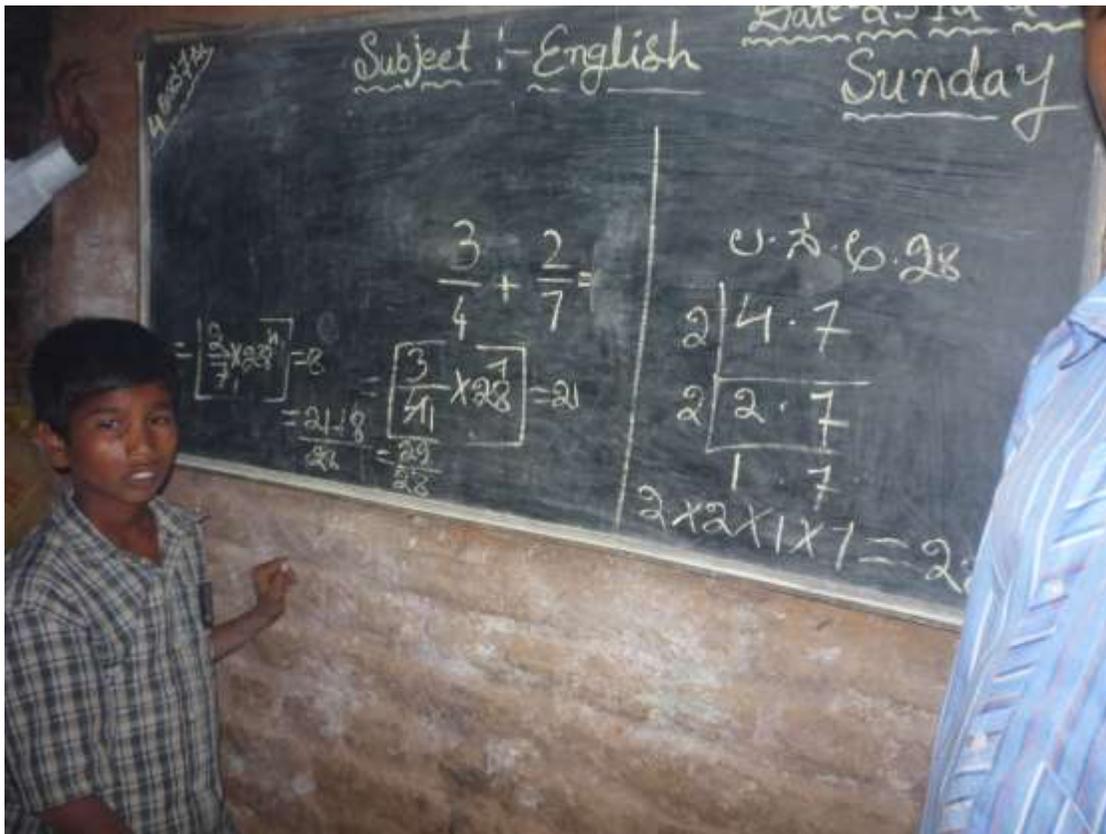




Hulluru



Singapura



Tekalavatti Gollarhatti





Chitrahalli Bridge School

Nali Kali Material example below

ಗಿಡ ಮರಗಳನ್ನು ನಡುನಡು  
ತೆನೆ ಗೋನೆಯಲಿ ಹಣ್ಣು ನೋಡು

ಝೂ ಗಂಭ ಕಂಪು ಹರಡು  
ಆಹಾ ಸುಂದರ ನಮ್ಮ ನಾಡು

ಕಾಡು ಉಳಿಸುವನ್ನಿ ವೃಕ್ಷರಾಜ್ಯ  
ಕೆನೋಡಿಸಿ ಬಾಲ ಚಾರೆಯಿದು



## ಒಗ್ಗಟ್ಟಿನ ಬಿಲ

39

ಒಬ್ಬ ಬೇಟೆಗಾರ ಹಕ್ಕಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ  
ಬಲೆ ಬಿಡಿಸಿದನು. ಬಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ  
ಕಾಳುಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಕಿದನು.



ಹಕ್ಕಿಗಳ ಗುಂಪು ಕಾಳುಗಳನ್ನು  
ನೋಡಿತು. ಕೆಲವು  
ಮರಿಹಕ್ಕಿಗಳು ಬಲೆಯನ್ನು  
ಗಮನಿಸಲಿಲ್ಲ.

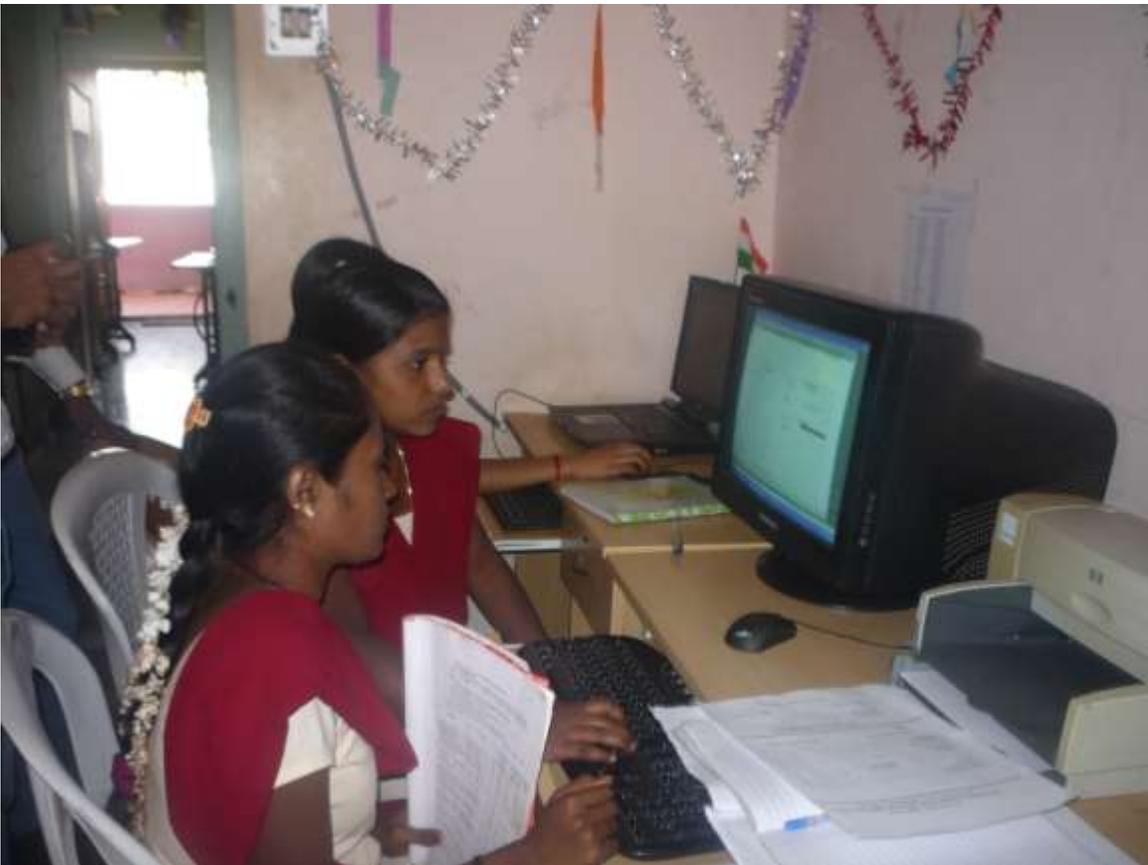


ಕಾಳು ತಿನ್ನಲು ಹೋಗಿ  
ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಕೊಂಡವು.  
"ಚಿಂಚ್ ಚಿಂಚ್" ಎಂದು  
ಕೂಗಿಕೊಂಡವು.  
ಬೇಟೆಗಾರನು ದೂರದಲ್ಲಿ  
ಬರುತ್ತಿರುವುದನ್ನು ಕಂಡವು.





Eachgatta





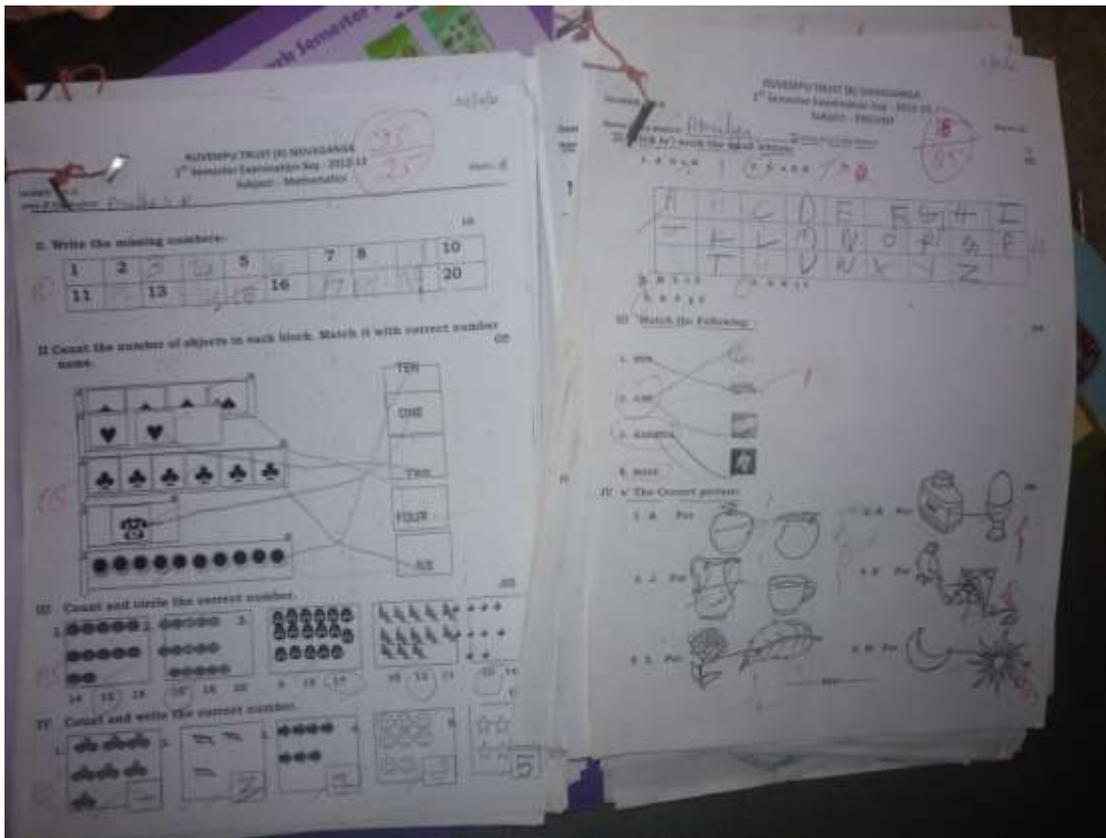


Adopted Govt. School (with Kindergarten Kids)











Shivaganga.



ಶ್ರೀ ಗುರು ಐನವಲಗಾಯನಮಃ

ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವೇಶ್ವರ ಕರ್ಮವೀರ ಕಲಾ  
ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆ, ಅಹೇಲಿ.



ತಾ/ಜಿ : ವಿಜಯಪುರ

ಉದ್ಘಾಟನೆ: 1982

## ಬಸವ ಜಯಂತಿ ಶತಮಾನೋತ್ಸವ ಸಂಭ್ರಮ-೨೦೧೨ Centenary Celebration of Basava Jayanti-2012

### ರಾಜ್ಯಮಟ್ಟದ ವಚನವಿಜಯೋತ್ಸವ

"ಬಸವಸಂಭ್ರಮ" ಸ್ಮರಣ ಸಂಚಿಕೆ ಲೋಕಾರ್ಪಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ  
ಬಸವರತ್ನ ಮತ್ತು ಬಸವಜ್ಯೋತಿ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಪ್ರದಾನ ಸಮಾರಂಭ

ಆನಂದರೂಪಿ ಸತ್ರಿಕೆ

ತೆರೆದ ಅಂಚೆ

ಗೆ,  
ಶರಣ/ಶರಣೆ .....

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ಮಂಗಳವಾರ ದಿನಾಂಕ : ೨೦೧೨-೧೨-೨೦೧೨ ರಂದು  
ಸಮಯ : ಮುಂಜಾನೆ ೧೦.೩೦ ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.  
ಸ್ಥಳ : ಶ್ರೀ ಕಂಠಗಲ್ ಹನುಮಂತರಾಯ ರಂಗ ಮಂದಿರ, ಸ್ವೇಶನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ.

ಶರಣು ಬನ್ನಿ..



Om Sai Designers@9864275447

ಉದ್ಘಾಟನೆ :

ಶ್ರೀ ಬಂಜಪ್ಪ ಬಿ. ಶೇರಿ

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವೇಶ್ವರ ಕರ್ಮವೀರ ಕಲಾ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆ,  
ತಾ/ಜಿ ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿ. ೫೦೦೦೧೨

Basavajyothi Award