



SOMAIYA
VIDYAVIHAR

K J Somaia College of Arts & Commerce



K J Somaia College of Arts and Commerce (Autonomous)

Vidyavihar, Mumbai - 400077

(College with Potential for Excellence 2016)

(NAAC Reaccredited with 'A' Grade CGPA 3.33)

Best practice: 1

1. Title of the practice – Gyan Yagna

2. The context that required the initiation of the practice: Our founder Padma Bhushan Shri. Karamshi Jethabhai Somaia, was pained to see the indifference of youth towards Sanskrit, sanskriti and samskara. Our scriptures are cradle of Indian culture and heritage, treasure of spirituality and great traditions. Young students should not only be made aware of our great scripture but also love and respect our Indian culture. With this motive, Padma Bhushan Shri. Karamshi Jethabhai Somaia started Gyan Yagna - Spiritual sessions in the Somaia Vidyavihar campus in 1989 and since then we have been following the tradition by organising these sessions every year in the month of January.

3. Objectives of the practice: The prime objective for organising Gyan yagna is to provide spiritual and Para medical services to the society. We involve students in organising these events whereby giving platform for students to do social work and also to learn event management. Cultural programmes are also organised to develop interest in different arts among students.

4. The Practice: Every year great Saints and Sages are invited to speak on Sanskrit texts Veda, Upanishads Purana and Bhagvadgita etc. The Founder of Manana Ashram, Param puja Shri Tejomayanand, his disciple Swamini Tanmayananda, Swami Chinmayananda, Parama puja Shri Haribhai Kothari, Swami Avadhutanada maharaj, and many more have been the prominent speakers. As the programme became more popular, gradually two hours





in the evening were kept for Cultural programmes like Folk music, folk dance and drama.

Further, we had introduced two sessions in the morning where second session was allocated for health. In this session renowned Doctors were invited to speak on health issues and their solutions. Yoga practices were organised. In the year 2021, due to pandemic all events were organised virtually using Zoom platform. Every day Gyan Yagna started with 1st morning session of Pravachan for 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. After providing food for mental health programme was followed by Yoga / Speech / medical camp. In the evening between 6:30 to 8:30 cultural programs were organised.

5. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them : In 2021, pandemic hindered the physical organisation of this event. Considering the viability of the situation, this event was organised online. Although our college is well equipped with IT team, we could not help the attendees to resolve technical issues faced at their end. Every year this programme was organised from morning to evening for one month. But this year it was not feasible to have this program for the whole day so we had it in different slots every day. Most of the speakers were not technology savvy so we faced problem in the conduct of their sessions. As this program is open for all, we generally face issue of security.

6. Impact of the practice : In COVID pandemic, when we are surrounded by negative news everywhere, which increased our worries for the social and economic wellbeing of our society, there was a need to spread positivity to overcome all the fear. This event Gyanyagya has been able to create positivity amongst the participants. There arises a need to uplift the physical and mental health of everyone. Gyanyagya through its daily sessions, made an attempt to connect the participants with Indian culture.

7. Resources required: There are extensive resources like infrastructure, staff and student volunteers, required to pull out this event on a huge scale for a duration of one month. Management has always been keen to support this event in every possible way. In last 32 years, Gyanyagya have never stopped for the dearth of resources.

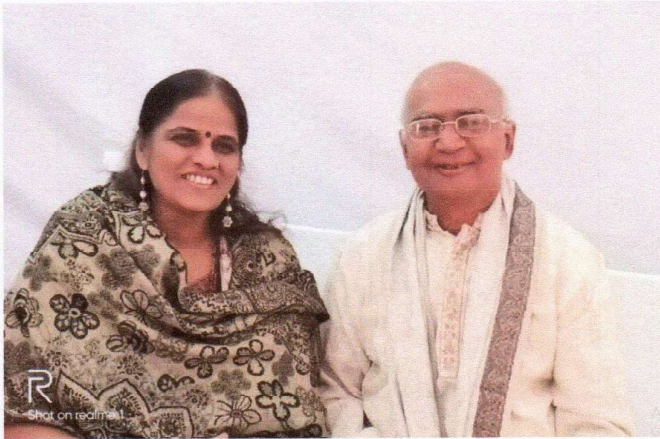
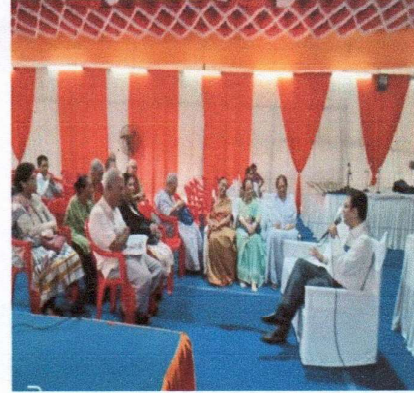




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