

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

(Accredited with “A+” Grade by NAAC (CGPA:3.64) in the Third Cycle & Graded as Category-I University and
Granted Autonomy by MHRD-UGC)

KARAIKUDI - 630 003

Date: 2.4.2019

A “National Conference on Character Building: Sensitizing the Youth with Ideologies of Swami Vivekananda” was conducted under the aegis of Swami Vivekananda Centre for Higher Research and Education, Alagappa University, Karaikudi today (02.04.2019) at the Seminar Hall of the Convocation Auditorium.



Dr. K.R. Murugan, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Coordinator Swami Vivekananda Centre for Higher Research and Education, while welcoming the gathering, said that the objective of the conference is to sensitize the youth with the inspiring ideas and thoughts of Swami Vivekananda on character-building - building certain useful traits in a person’s character such as self-reliance, endurance, courage and confidence.

Presiding over the conference, Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, stated that the impact of Vivekananda’s ideologies on the youth during the period of Cultural Renaissance in India added greater impetus to the Movement. He added that Vivekananda was rightly considered the “pride of India” as he propounded the ideal of universal brotherhood and highlighted the relevance and greatness of all religions in the world for the progress of mankind in his Chicago Speech. He also averred that the anchor-sheet of all development is intrinsically connected with the social harmony and social cohesion. Vivekananda’s man-making and value-based education laid great stress on character-building. The speaker exhorted the students to read the inspiring books of Vivekananda for imbibing the ethical values.

A compendium containing 74 articles on Vivekananda's philosophy was released at the function by the Vice-Chancellor and the first copy was received by Swami Harivratananda.

Dr.T.R.Gurumoorthy, Syndicate Member, speaking on the topic "Value Education" said how Swami Vivekananda has emphasized the importance of concentration and said it is the key to knowledge. According to Vivekananda, essence of all learning lies in the concentration of the mind on one single ideal. One has to live adhering to that important one single ideal for a successful life. Education is the manifestation of perfection. Perfection leads to the realization of power inherent in a human being: Education and Wisdom are the two sides of the same coin. Each soul is potentially divine. The ultimate aim of education should be to kindle the spark of divinity inherent in man. It is not the dress that one wears makes a youth beautiful but it is the moral rectitude that makes him really beautiful. He concluded by saying that young men and women should always be conscious of this fact.

Swami Harivratananda, Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Coimbatore, delivered the keynote address. He highlighted the great relevance of celebrating Swami Vivekananda's birthday as the National Youth Day. He referred to Swami Vivekananda's clarion call to the youth of India during India's freedom struggle to imbibe the spirit of patriotism. He added, that in colonial India women and the work force were not given due respect and it was almost a sin and later there was a change in the attitude of the people owing to the propagation of Vivekananda's ideologies. He said that a great intellectual like Tagore advised a foreigner; when he expressed his desire to learn about India, to study the writings of Swami Vivekananda for a proper understanding of India and its culture. There is nothing negative in Vivekananda's life and views. He recalled the words of Vivekananda who said "you are the creator of your own destiny". With great confidence the youth should follow the ideals of Vivekananda for creating an ethically and morally superior India.

Dr. M. Vasimalairaja, Deputy Coordinator, Swami Vivekananda Centre for Higher Education and Research, proposed a vote of thanks.

Prof.H.Gurumallesh Prabu

Registrar