

Aparajitha

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2016

18

Contents	Page
Hello!	2
Imprints	3
Footprints	5
Echoes	7

Aparajitha Foundations

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Seeds of Success



A Transformational Change Through Awareness

Hello!

Down fell the rain. Up sprouted the seed. Watching this, the child said, “It rained of its own accord; responding to the rain’s gentle touch, the worthy seed sprouted.” This is a micro mini story. This is not just the plot of a story; this is the story of many thoughts and efforts too.

As a result of the rain that started in the academic year 2008-09 as Thalir Thiran Thittam to provide life skills education to adolescent children through the video lessons, seeds of change have sprouted positive behaviour in them. Children have been transformed in terms of their thoughts, words and actions. The *Imprints* section of this issue shares the findings of a doctoral thesis on the impact of TTT. Though the programme was initially conceived for adolescents, it has also been customised for children of a younger age group. Ms Suvega, Headmistress of Madurai Corporation Primary School shares her thoughts with us on the impact of TTT on her school children.

Just as a seed that germinated in a place develops and spreads its branches far and wide, Thalir Thiran Thittam, originating in Tamil Nadu spread to Gujarat and is now stretching out in Rajasthan too. Another article in this issue speaks about this.

Read these.... Share your thoughts..... Spread the message about the importance of life skills education to everyone.....Share this newsletter wherever possible.....

I look forward to your continued support and suggestions.

*Regards,
K. Ariaravelan
Manager*



Thalir Thiran Thittam (TTT) offers life skill education to students in classes 7 to 12. Based on the 10 life skills listed by World Health Organisation (WHO); lessons have been created to engage the students in happy experiential learning. The lessons at the primary level are imparted using Teachers’ Handbook and at the secondary, high school and higher secondary levels, through DVDs. This programme aims to create responsible students and was piloted in 2008-2009 in 5 higher secondary schools. In 2009-10, it was expanded to all high and higher secondary schools in Tamil Nadu by the Tamil Nadu Government’s Education department. Later it was implemented in primary, govt- aided and private schools that were interested in TTT. Now the programme is being implemented in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

(Articles of this issue are translated from Tamil into English by Ms. Mali Nandakumar)

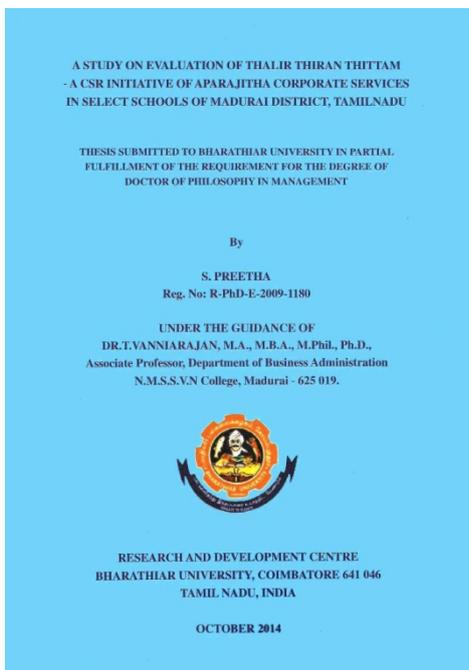
Imprints

Doctoral thesis on Thalir Thiran Thittam

Ms Preetha has been conferred a Ph.D by Research and Development Centre of Bharathiar University, Coimbatore for her study on the evaluation of Thalir Thiran Thittam. She is currently working as Associate Professor, Department of Business Administration, Vael's University, Chennai. She selected 52 schools implementing Thalir Thiran Thittam in Madurai. This study was based on data collected from 52 teachers handling these sessions and 388 students.

This study focussed on the impact Thalir Thiran Thittam has on students as perceived by themselves as a result of inputs on self awareness, empathy, interpersonal skills, adapting skills, communication skills, time management and positive values. The study reveals the following:

Abilities and skills predominantly developed in urban students are time management, adaptability, maintaining confidentiality, awareness about what might annoy others, making eye contact and modulating the voice during conversation, spending quality time with friends and relatives, displaying appropriate emotions, sharing personal concerns and worries with trusted people.



Rural students largely developed the following – communication skills, positive values, awareness about people who are younger, ability to understand the behaviour of friends in difficult situations, making eye contact during conversation, speaking in public without being self conscious or nervous, spending quality time with friends, willing to pardon the mistakes of friends, appreciating others, sharing concerns and problems with trusted people.

The study also gathered the views of teachers on the impact of Thalir Thiran Thittam on students in terms of these eight aspects- adaptability, education, interpersonal skills, behaviour, communication skills, individual preferences, personal habits and relationship with teachers. The study concludes that the impact of Thalir Thiran Thittam on students based on the above parameters is as high as

79.64% .

It is apparent from this study that when there is whole -hearted involvement of teachers and participation by students, it is possible to increase the impact of Thalir Thiran Thittam programme on student behaviour.

We began to understand children better

Thalir Thiran Thittam is being implemented in Madurai Corporation's primary and middle schools. Ms. Suvega, Headmistress of a primary school in Thathaneri records her observations as follows:

We have been implementing Thalir Thiran Thittam for three years at our school. Initially it was done only on a trial basis. But at the end of the very first year we could see positive results. Life skills have been allocated 10 marks under the simplified activity based learning (SABL) programme. We were not aware how to incorporate this into our assessment scheme. Then as an experiment, we implemented Thalir Thiran Thittam.

We see a noticeable improvement in their behaviour. It is also very simple, convenient and helpful to evaluate students. This has become a part of our curriculum now. Hence the teachers didn't find it an additional burden. They were in fact happy to implement this. Children are also participating enthusiastically.

As a result of implementing TTT, we observe many positive changes in student behaviour.



Thathaneri is a locality of labourers. Parents do not often find quality time to shower affection on them; nurture life skills or develop any special ability or talent in them. It is only when we handle TTT sessions wherein they share their feelings and thoughts and their family problems that we even come to know about these and what they feel about their parents, teachers and so on. We become more attached to them when they openly share their views and we realise the problems they face at such an early age. They also grow closer to us when they understand that the Headmistress and teachers are there to spend time with them

and also listen to them with empathy. If you implement this programme you will also see the impact first hand.

To listen to her views in her own voice, use the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QEuzx74Y0Q&feature=youtu.be>

Footprints

(Events: January – March 2016)

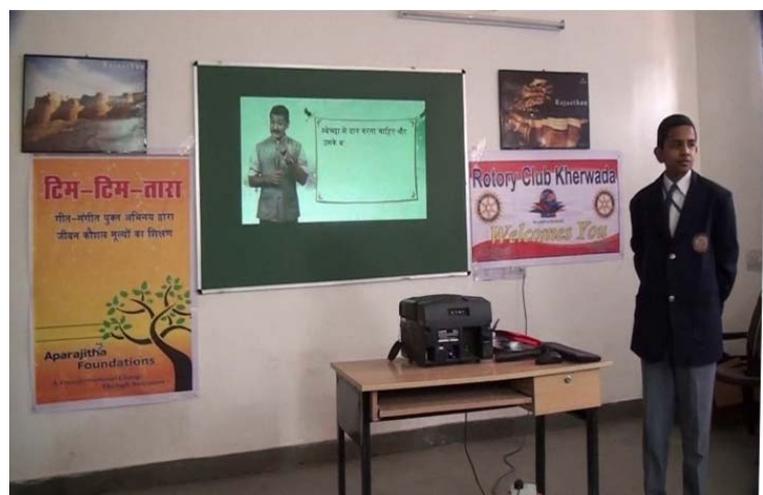
Tim Tim Tare in Rajasthan

Tim Tim Tare, the Hindi version of TTT, which took baby steps in Rajasthan last academic year will make a giant leap in 2016-17 and be implemented in 1410 schools.



Under the National Secondary Education Movement (*Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan*) in Rajasthan, Vivekananda Model Higher Secondary Schools cater to students of standards 6-12; and Adarsh Schools cater to students of standards 1-12. These schools aim to provide quality education to children in the rural sector. Tim Tim Tare was piloted in a model school in Kherwara in

Udaipur District. A teacher driven model was conducted on October 26, 2015. On 11.12.2015 a peer teaching model session was handled by one of the students. Learning about the impact these experiments had, Principal Secretary of School Education to the Government of Rajasthan, with a view to implementing Tim Tim Tare throughout the state issued an order on 19 January 2016 to launch the same in 71 model schools and 1340 Adarsh schools. Following that, an MoU has been signed between Aparajitha Foundation and the Government of Rajasthan. Training will be provided to teachers to impart life skills education programme Tim Tim Tare. As a precursor, a planning session between the higher officials of Rajasthan's education department and trustees of Aparajitha Foundation will be held on April 26, 2016 in Madurai. This will add another feather to Aparajitha Foundation's cap. Aparajitha is happy to make a humble contribution to the Rajasthan government's efforts to create a generation of confident and responsible people.



Introduction to Thalir Thiran Thittam in Income Tax Department's Training Workshops

A workshop was jointly organised on 19 January 2016 by the Income Tax Department and Madurai District Tiny and Small Scale Industries Association Foundation (MADITSSIA) on tax exemption provided to NGOs. Representatives of NGOs and auditors in Madurai, Dindukkal, Theni, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi Districts participated in the workshop. Thalir Thiran Thittam was introduced at the workshop to create awareness about corporate social responsibility to the participants.



Thalir Thiran Thittam at Community College

Ashwini Seetha Foundation, an NGO provides scholarships and skill development training to selected girl students of Madurai TVS Community College to prepare them for a successful career. As part of this training, TTT lessons on (1) self confidence, (2) transcending barriers, (3) handling adversity, (4) setting goals, (5) working towards attaining goals, (6) managing time, (7) adapting to changes, (8) working as a team, (9) disagreeing amicably, (10) handling criticism and (11) being assertive were provided to them.



Echoes

When I was desperate as a creeper looking for support, Thalir Thiran Thittam came as a boon. I obtained due approval from the school management and introduced this at my school along with my teacher colleagues. Although others could not, I continued to implement this in my classes. Each of the activities teach an important skill or value such as sharing, nurturing friendship, forging unity, speaking appropriately, making decisions to suit situations, respecting elders and so on. Youngsters of modern generation do not like to be taught these skills as lessons or through preachy lectures. The speciality of Thalir Thiran Thittam is that it imparts all these simply and easily through interesting games and other activities which children enjoy. I shall be grateful forever to Aparajitha for introducing such a wonderful programme to me and fervent teachers like me!

- **Sasikala**
Teacher, Sannathi Primary School, Vandavasi.

Much appreciated.

- **Kazi Arif Uz Zaman**
Managing Director, Everstone Capital Advisors Private Limited, Mumbai.

It is indeed heartening to see the good work you are doing. I wish you all the success in future.

- **Krishnadas**
Pallavanjali, Gurgaon.

Your excellent news letter is very nice and impressive particularly the video show which we feel will be helpful to improve the talents of our students. We have taken the liberty of circulating to all our units of Gandhigram trust and also to the selected NGOs in the field. The video by physically challenged children is touching and we have requested the Shanthi School team to listen and plan for similar activities. You have the experience of knowing their talents. We congratulate you and your team members for efforts in publishing which is useful and benefits to the children.

- **K. Shivakumar**
Secretary, Gandhigram Trust, Gandhigram.

I am sure the effect of all this quiet but dedicated work will benefit our society in the near future.

- **Dr. Haripriya**
Aravind Hospital, Madurai.

They say "Catch them Young" but you have "Reached the Young ones" - You are really doing a nation building activity.

- ***Cholavandan Srinivasan***
Altair HR Management & Projects, Madurai

We bow and congratulate for the noble activities of the Aparajitha Foundations

- ***P.Subbiah***
Director (Placement /MBA), SVN College, Nagamalai Pudukottai, Madurai.

Wishing you all the success for the inspirational work being done by you.

- ***Madhavankutty***
Kuwait.

Heartening to see the progress that has been made since its piloting. Very proud to see you personally contributing to the future of students who otherwise would have been deprived of this. Best wishes for continued success in 2016 and beyond.

- ***N.Krishnamoorthy***
TVS Group, Madurai.

Current issue of TTT News letter has more content than usual this time and is fascinating. Your programme aims to bring out attitudinal changes in young and 'unspoilt' minds and has reported many inspiring success stories. Should it spread, as I pray it will, and the underlying message reaches larger segments of the 'younger' population.

- ***Dr. S. Radhakrishna,***
Hyderabad.

With the commercialisation of education, making money has become the ultimate objective; importance is given only to marks and merit list; individuality of students is spoilt and talents are buried deep by 'educational philanthropists'. Against this scenario may all your efforts respecting students while being focused on making education a pleasurable experience, and also raising them to great heights succeed. May the noble work continue and spread far and wide everywhere.

- ***D. Samuel Lawrence***
Vice Principal (Retired), The American College, Madurai.

Thalir Thiran Thittam in Tamil Nadu and Tim Tim Tare in Gujarat rocks and it implants high morality amongst the minds of the children which paves way for a brighter India in the years to come.

- ***S. Balaji***
Associate Business Manager, Aparajitha Corporate Services, Ahmedabad.