The Indian festive season brings in a lot of memories to cherish and offers an opportunity to meet, greet and feast with dear and near. The mythological stories and its deeper sense that goes in celebrating each festival essay and convey much more than meet the sight. Let’s visit VIDYA Bangalore festivities with all its shades and flavors.

**Celebrations**

**Ayudh Pooja & Dussehera**

It’s that time of the year when we relive the victory of lord Ram and the triumph of Goddess Shakti, all displaying and unfurling the conquest of Good over Evil. It is also a day to celebrate and honor the tools, materials and equipment that make our lives easier in addition to aiding, supporting and tending to our needs and requirements, making all our efforts a success eventually.

@ VIDYA Mali Foundation

@ VIDYA School:

@ VIDYA South Bangalore

@ GLPS Avalahalli:
Dance competition for classes 1-7 was conducted at Avalahalli School to celebrate Dussera. Students showcased solo and group dances. Boys made pyramids. Students spoke about Dussera festival and its importance. Prizes were distributed to winners. Students were very happy and motivated. In the end, teachers and H.M. also danced along with students which was a treat to watch. Everyone enjoyed the day.
@ VIDYA Shakti
Students of Weavers Colony centre made sweets and savories and received the blessings of the Goddess.

Phuljhari 2019 - a festivity with pomp and grandeur!

The amazing big Indian festival of Diwali, and Phuljhari 2019 of VIDYA Bangalore celebrated during this time is an occasion to meet and bond. The presence of donors, volunteers, guests and the talent exhibit by staff and students definitely makes it more memorable.
Drowned in festivity, the team grooved to music, performed, cooed to songs, adding hues and hale to the eventful event celebrated @ The Bangalore International Centre.

The Shiva Thandavastotra, celebrating the divine dance form of lord Shiva was brought live to the audience in a semi-classical fusion dance form by the students of the Avalahalli Beyond School.

To commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary year of Mahatma Gandhi, a skit enacted by the 7th standard students of Vimanapura School displayed his philosophy of Satya, Ahimsa, Sarvodaya and Satyagraha that still hold as much relevance today as it did 150 years ago.
The women of VIDYA Shakti Livelihood Programme & VIDYA East Bangalore sang one of the favorite songs of the Mahatma - Vaishnav Jana To…. and the VIDYA South Bangalore team beautifully rendered a classical song.

Man has destroyed his environment with greed and callousness. VIDYA Mali Foundation staff and students presented a dance drama on the causes of damage and how can the Mother Earth be saved from further devastation…

Students from Ejipura Community Computer Centre grooved to Jai Ho, with a patriotic fervor. Ravi from Ejipura Computer Centre captured a streak of his feelings for VIDYA in words.

Students from the Siddapura Beyond School tapped to a music number gracefully
Ms Vanishree, a senior teacher from Siddapura Government School shared her appreciation for VIDYA and the impact that VIDYA has made in the young minds within a short period.

All the way from Chikkaballapur, we had a street play presented by the staff of VIDYA School elucidating on good habits for a healthy living, with reference to Mahatma Gandhi’s thoughts and its relevance today…

The phuljari 2019 celebration would have been incomplete without the dandiya dance by the students of VIDYA South Bangalore; it did give a grand final touch.

The students and alumni of all vocational courses put up their stalls.

This Diwali, Avalahalli School witnessed a variety of competitions such as Rangoli, Mehndi, Clay modeling for classes 4-7. Meanwhile classes 1, 2, 3 had recitation competition. Prizes were also distributed. Children whole heartedly participated in the competitions.
Daan Utsav - The joy of giving!!!

Celebrated across all VIDYA centres for a week starting from 2nd October every year, the joy of giving week brings extreme happiness, deep satisfaction, an adrenaline rush and an empowering experience of giving back to the society and a strong sense of purpose.

@ VIDYA Mali Foundation: In a series of activities, VIDYA Mali Foundation celebrated 'Joy of giving' with a treat of snacks to the students. Cultural programme was held and certificates for completion of courses were given.

Donation of new and reusable clothes and paper bags made by the students was done to the 'Charity Shop' of Karunashraya, an NGO next door.

@ VIDYA South Bangalore

Students celebrated DaanUtsav at the Government Hospital Arekere. Baby clothes stitched by Vastra and Shakti Students were donated.

@ VIDYA Shakti

Students visited the Anganwadi at Weaver’s Colony and spent quality time with the children with games, songs, and coloring activity. Some essentials for children & snacks were given.
Graduation day@ VIDYA Shakti

On Friday October 11, 2019, the women who had completed the VIDYA shakti Livelihood Programme celebrated their success. Ms. Shoma Bakre, Vice- President, VIDYA, Bengaluru, presided over the function, and gave away the certificates of participation. Ms. Snehalata Ramachandran, Project head, VIDYA school, Chikkaballapur, was also present to share the festivities.

Donor Employee Engagement

Danske IT & Youth for Seva @ VIDYA School

Volunteers from Danske IT spent a day at VIDYA School @ Drik Viveka Campus and engaged with the staff and children on the 19th of October 2019. It was wonderful to see the energetic and positive team taking the effort to connect and gel with the students, made it a fun filled day for all. The major take away was the ingenuity and how everyone just went with the flow and became a part of VIDYA School. The teachers & staff also got an opportunity to meet so many from an entirely different profession. The camaraderie among all the members contributed to making it such a memorable day that everyone left with a happy smile and a sense of satisfaction.

MARGAM – An initiative of VIDYA
The festive seasons bring lots of fun, happiness and delight, and at the VIDYA festival stalls that's a lot more empowering experience as well!

**VIDYA Bangalore Dussehra & Diwali stalls:**

@ Courtyard Marriott, Marriott Whitefield, Adarsh Palm Retreat, Prestige Sunnyside Oak, Flo Bazaar, Quest Global, Broadcom and SG GSC Pritech.

**Achievements:**

Meet our Alumini sashikala, a receptionist at vydehi hospitals. Congratulations and best wishes for her future from VIDYA family!!
Our Founder and President, Ms. Rashmi Misra and our COO, Bangalore, Ms. Rekha Srinivasan had taken a tour of the U.S. to spread the VIDYA message and build concrete connect with interested volunteers and individuals who are keen on supporting the VIDYA cause. They had wonderful VIDYA meetings across the US and created a movement as well as a registered organization called "Friends of VIDYA North America/ Friends of VIDYA Canada". In each city they visited, they created a VIDYA group of leaders who will from now on take on all our challenges, resource management, share awareness about our work and mission, bring in volunteers/Mitrs/mentors and penpals. This will help VIDYA immensely as we will have an extended family of supporters across the world.

Meeting with an old student of VIDYA in LA. The champion of VIDYA, Bhadresen Negi at LA- the shepherd boy who is a software engineer working for the LA Govt.

On the whole, it was certainly a very successful tour and this would definitely take our vision and mission across boundaries.

Interview session

VIDYA @ Canada Expo
LOOKING FORWARD TO YET ANOTHER EXCITING MONTH!

A brief look at our Projects:

I. CLRC computer programme for children & residents of the community
II. Beyond School Programme in 12 Government Schools
III. Scholarship Programme for Boys and girls, to pursue higher education
IV. VIDYA Shakti – Livelihood programme for women in the community
V. VIDYA School @ DRIK Viveka Campus
VI. Bhagini- Women’s Programme @ VIDYA Centres:

Academic:
1. Communicative English- Basic, Advance & NIIT certified SEPD
2. Computer Literacy- Basic, Advance, Web design, Tally, Java ....
3. NIOS – X and XII
4. NTT- Nursery teacher Training

Vocational:
1. VIDYA Vastra- Diploma in Tailoring from Singer.
2. VIDYA Varna- Madura Coats certified Embroidery and block printing course
3. VIDYA Vividha- Product making in Art and Craft
4. VIDYA Vaahan – Driving for women
5. VIDYA Aahaar- Catering and Cooking
6. VIDYA Shringar – Beautician Course powered by Shahnaz Hussain

Thanks to our supporters- Mali foundation, Semikron, Synergy Properties, SG, AIG, Broadcom, PWC, State Street, Nutanix, Subzero, Total Yoga, Phoenix Market city, Law NK, KKS, Danske IT and all the noble hearts that have worked for the cause and are making a big and bigger impact in the lives of our beneficiaries in their most unique ways.

PUSH YOURSELF.....

BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE IS GOING TO DO IT FOR YOU.