



TQI DAAN UTSAV 2015

In the spirit of celebrating the spirit of sharing, we welcomed the season of Daan Utsav 2015. As the adage goes, “*sharing is caring*”, we at Talent Quest for India (TQI) were honored to host the festival in various districts of Tamil Nadu. At Talent Quest for India we always believe in inspiring the youth to take up the responsibility of revolutionizing their environment. Keeping this in mind we are proud to claim that the entire festival of Daan Utsav 2015 was driven by the youth at various districts under the TQI banner. A gist of all those moments has been presented here.



21-Districts

50-Events



150+Volunteers

Reached 2000+ People



TQI Celebrated DAAN UTSAV in 21 Districts of TAMIL NADU

Dharmapuri district

Books are man's best friend. To add weight to this statement, the local volunteers of TQI at hale in Dharmapuri district conducted an awareness program on the importance of reading. As Mark Twain rightly put it, "*The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read.*" Keeping this as our mission for this year's Daan Utsav the following event was conducted. On 2nd October 2015 a library awareness program was conducted at Hale, Dharampuri where many school and college students in that area were made to enroll in the local Library. The Village President and the students brainstormed on the different ways to improve the quality of the library. Samplings were also planted outside the library.



“The ability to nurture and care for the environment must inculcated at an early age for the young to realize the potential of a sustainable future.” This idea served an inspiration for us to conduct the following event. On 3rd Oct 2015, an interactive session on Indian Farming methodologies, advantages of Organic farming and the ill effects of using chemical fertilizers was conducted at Mullai High school, for the children of that area. As a memory, TQI planted saplings in the school and the students promised to plant saplings on their birthdays and take care of them thereafter. The importance of being a good listener and a team player was drilled into them through games.



Daan Utsav in Dharmapuri concluded with a day well spent at the Annai Teresa Orphanage at Vijayamangalam. On 4th Oct 2015, the TQI Dharmapuri team celebrated Daan Utsav at Annai Teresa orphanage, Vijayamangalam by conducting drawing competition, singing, dancing and eating with them. The love we received was beyond our wildest expectations.





Sivaganga and Theni districts

The TQI team at Sivaganga kick started Daan Utsav by conducting a medical camp at Rajah's Hr. Sec. School on 2nd Oct 2015 where 35 villagers were benefited through their initiative.

To promote traditional sport among the youth of the villages in the districts of Theni and Sivaganga, on 3rd Oct 2015, a Kabbadi match was organized and they were exposed to the various options available to them to pursue their higher education at reputed institutions through sports quota.

Continuing our interest in creating awareness about sustainable development among the rural masses on the 4th of Oct the team planted 35 saplings at Keelamelkudi Road, Manamadurai. The farmer is the one who is responsible for putting food on our table, hence we felt it was important to make him feel valued, the team honored a farmer at the village.





Kabbadi game and Sapling plantation events in Theni district.



Erode district

Stories heard at your grandmother's lap or the evening walks with your grandfather and every conversation we might have had are memories etched in the eternity of our memory.

Grandparents are an essential entity as they shower their love without any preconditions neither being intrusive. It is therefore important we pay our gratitude back to them in whatever capacity that we can. On 2nd Oct 2015, our volunteers spent time reliving those treasured moments playing and eating with Thathas and Pattis (aged people) at N. L Karunai illam. Erode. It showed us what Love could actually be. Their experience and innocence are priceless. We are grateful to both Karunai Illam and the elders for allowing us to share a day in their lives.



Contemporary leaders stress that knowledge is power. It can act as a leverage to unshackle ourselves from whatever that holds us back on our path towards professional progress. When information is made accesible to people who need it the most, it brings that necessary motivation into their lives to seek a better quality of living. With this in mind on 3rd Oct 2015 a Career Counselling session was conducted at Don Bosco Hostel, Kedambur. Those students in the hostel are first generation learners and they are from villages around the hills in Erode district.



Tanjore District

Our model of social work is always based on identifying the needs of the people in a particular area and finding the most effective solution to it. The most important precondition is that the solution problem must be on which could be addressed by the villagers themselves with resources available to them. We always seek to empower the local community by rejuvenating their creative thought process towards problem solving. The following events conducted at Tanjore districts highlight the points stated above.

Oct 2: Our team visited an old age home and the needs were identified by the TQI team and Royal city Lions club donated wheelchair and water filter to the home.

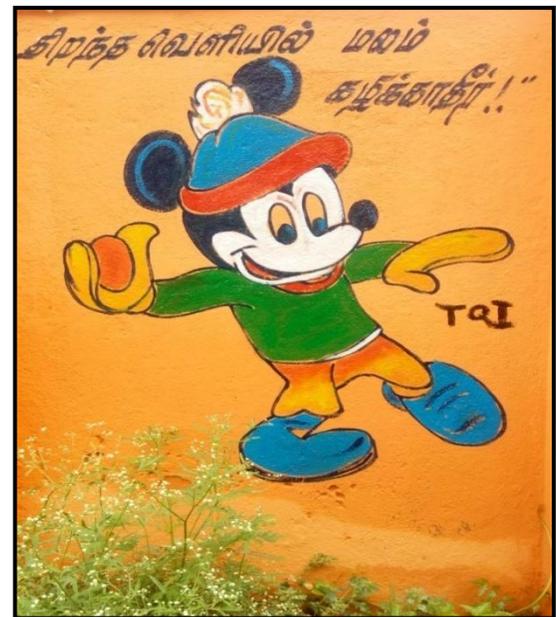


Kids have the ability to inspire curiosity in us through their innocent inquisitiveness. Kids awaken the latent spirit of celebration residing in our hearts. This is exactly what happened on the 3rd of October 2015. A spirited day spent with children at Annai Illam Kumbakonam, which included playing river and bank game, musical rounds, dance, they managed to get us up dancing with their singing skills. We planted a sapling and ensured that the children pledged to take care of it. Our former president Late Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam believed that dreams have the power to take our nation towards a glorious future. He also believed in the potential of the youth to realize their dreams and align them towards the progress of our nation. There the children have many goals to achieve; most of them want to become IAS, IPS, and scientist. Dr. Kalam is dearly person among the kids. Glimpses of their creative energy were at display when they came up with colorful ideas to improve their present living conditions. Finally they told us to bring video clip of aero plane flying above the clouds by next time when we meet them. Those minds are to be ignited!!!



Krishnagiri District

Human beings have the power to positively impact the environment around. Change always begins with a single inspired individual who inspires people around him/her to take up responsibility and ownership towards society. Change can be brought effectively when the locals residing in a particular area are motivated to care for their local environment. To cement this concept the TQI team at Krishnagiri selected dirty walls in the area and beautified them with drawings and quotes. Their efforts were commended by the local authorities. The adults in the area joined in with us in beautifying the walls around their respective localities.



Tirunelveli district

Continuing with our vision of creating social awareness through education, the TQI team at Tirunelveli organized "TQI Express" program which focuses on Soft skills, Value education and Social Responsibility from 2nd to 4th of October at Tirunelveli Society service Saranalayam, Babujinagar. At the end of the program, students planted saplings and they promised to water it daily.



Vellore District

An awareness about keeping public places like temples free of litter was created when our volunteers at Vellore took charge of cleaning up the premises Shri Gangadhara Eshwarar temple and planting saplings around the temple compound. A dustbin was installed outside the temple for the worshippers to use.



Madurai District



More often than not, solutions to our problems in our lives are present at an arm's reach. It is we who fail to recognize their existence. With rising epidemic such as Dengue fever it is important more than ever to create awareness on the various effective measures that can be taken to prevent us from contracting any such ailments. With this in mind on 2nd Oct, an Awareness program by local Doctors on Dengue fever, personal hygiene and sanitation was organized by TQI Madurai team at Scholavandhan Pachayat office and on 3rd Oct 2015, TQI Madurai team organized an awareness program on Usage of dustbins and toilets in the Thenakarai village.



"An interactive session by the TQI team with the village head and the people resulted in finding solutions to sanitation problems in the village". Samplings were planted as the symbol of success. An awareness program on scholarships, career choice and memory games are conducted at a tuition centre at Jahindpuram, Madurai district.



Ariyalur District

As of 2010 only 37% of those enrolled in primary education (after 1993) managed to continue up to High school. This negatively impacts our nation's progress towards becoming a progressive future. It is therefore necessary for us to take this issue seriously and find measure to mitigate it. With this idea a 2 days Awareness program on "Importance of continuous education without dropouts" was conducted at Siruvalur Village. Games and Swachh Bharath were conducted at a nearby temple where the students actively participated. The problem of early marriage of girls still persists in the area and hence a session was conducted on the ills of such a practice was conducted. At the end of the session a parent promised she won't let her child marry after 12th and asked our guidance for her studies after 12th.



Dindigul District

“The highest education is that which does not merely give us information, but makes our life in harmony with all existence.”

- Tagore

A session on Importance of Understanding and studying the subjects rather than just “mugging up” was conducted at Palani. Games were conducted and students were given prizes.



Thiruvanamali District

Career options for students" session was conducted for a group of parents in the locality. A platform was provided for each student to share their dreams and interest with their parents'. This session created a huge impact among parents. Students then planted samplings as a memory of this program.



Thiruvallur district

Oct 2: the TQI team cleaned up the Sivan kovil at Madarpakkam. At the end saplings were planted and a dustbin was placed with TQI name written on it. The person in charge for the temple was so happy that we students did the cleaning, which even the elders hesitate to do. Public appreciated us and they joined us in cleaning and requested to include their children also in the team.

The LKG student in the picture was the one who actively picked up all plastics and cleaned the place so effectively. He promised to water the plants every day.



Oct 3: Games were conducted and the parent's were invited as chief guest at a tuition centre. It turned out to be a big surprise for the children over there at that moment. Both, the parents were so happy to present gifts to their kids and the children were overjoyed to see their parents felicitate them.



Kancheepuram district

Oct 3: TQI was invited by Vergal Trust to conduct a “Personality development “session for government school students at Kancheepuram. We delivered the session with our usual energy and verve, thus making it a learning experience for both of us.



வேர்கள் புத்துணர்வு முகாம் 2015 அக்டோபர் 1,2,3,4 கொல்லாத்தீரம், காஞ்சிபுரம்.		
அக்டோபர் 1	மாலை 7.00 மணி	மாணவர் பதிவு, குழம்படம் விவாதம் திரு. சுந்தர்- குமாரி, அவர்கள் காஞ்சிபுரம்.
அக்டோபர் 2	காலை 10.00 மணி	புத்தகம் வாசிப்போம் (திருமதி. கலைச்செல்விவெங்கடேசன், மறிலை ஒருங்கிணைப்பாளர் தமிழ்நாடு அறிவியல் இயக்கம்)
	மதியம் 2.00 மணி	இலவச பல் பரிசோதனை முகாம் (இந்திய பல் மருத்துவர்கள் சங்கம்)
	மாலை 5.00 மணி	வேர்கள் ஆசிரியர்களுடன் மாணவர்கள் கலந்துரைப்பாடல்
அக்டோபர் 3	காலை 6.00 மணி	நியாஸம்.யோகா (வாழும் கலை) திரு.என்.வி.என்.என். அவர்கள் காஞ்சிபுரம்
	காலை 10.00மணி	முதல்தலை அறிவேம் திரு.ஆர்.நாராயணன் அவர்கள் (St.John ambulance.chennai.)
	மதியம் 2.00 மணி	ஆதாரம் பயிற்சி வகுப்புகள் (Talent quest for India)
அக்டோபர் 4	காலை 6.00 மணி	நியாஸம்.யோகா (வாழும் கலை.காஞ்சிபுரம்)
	காலை10.00மணி	நிராமம், செக்ஷனம் அறிவேம் (அன்பு விழுதுகள்)
	மதியம் 2.00மணி	தந்திரம் வளப்படுத்துதல்
	மாலை 4.00மணி	மாணவர் மின்னோட்டு முகாம் நிறைவு
... அனைவரையும் அளிப்போடு அழைப்பது வேர்கள் மாணவர்கள் ...		
தலைப்பு :	திரு. சுந்தர்	வலை: குமாரி
	Contact : 8682054014	9751697746



Few casual pictures when volunteers grouped along with the government school students for discussion.



Tirupur district

Oct 1: a career counseling program was conducted for the students of the Government Hr. Sec. School at Tirupur.



Oct 2: A plantation ceremony was conducted at Government Hr. Sec. School, Velliravali. Students took an oath to water the plants daily and to plant more around the school premises.



Oct 3: A day spent with the children of Annai Ashram. We played games, sang, danced with them. Our team went to this ashram last Daan Utsav too and the students still remember us. This Ashram is too far away and there is no bus facility, those children took us and dropped back in cycle with so much love and care.



Ramanathapuram District

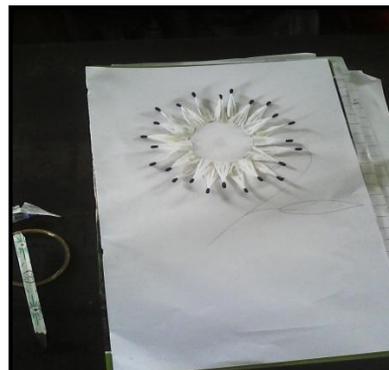
Oct 2: Swachh Bharath was conducted at a village where the local students and villagers actively involved and cleaned the place with full enthusiasm.



Oct 3: Games were conducted at a primary school and stationary items were given as gifts.



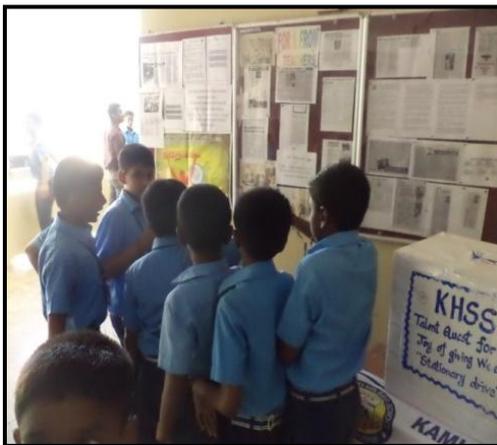
Oct 4: "Craft workshop" was conducted at a primary school and students did beautiful works in paper.



Tuticorin district

Kamlavati Hr. Sec. School, Sahupuram celebrated Daan Utsav by conducting Stationary drive from Oct 5- 8. Students donated 2500+ pencils, erasers, sharpeners and pens and it was donated to 8 middle and primary government schools in the villages around Sahupuram.

Students of KHSS donated with so much love and enthusiasm, the boxes were overflowing with items and they personally asked me to keep more boxes next time. When we gave those new stationary items to the government school kids, they received it with joy and happiness. Those kids will get new stationary items very rarely and they use same pencils and pens for a very long time. So getting these many items makes them feel so happy and many were jumping in joy. Here are few photos of stationary collection.





After successfully collecting the stationeries we distributed it to 8 different government schools nearby Sahupuram. These are the photos of stationary distribution







Nagapatnam and Pudukotai

Food is an integral part of life and it tastes best if it is prepared and served with love and affection. Our volunteers in Nagapatnam grouped with their family members to cook food. They transported the food from their home to an orphanage named Arumai Illam, served the food to kids in the orphanage and experienced true happiness. Also they sat along with the kids to have food and spent the whole day with them.

Education starts at a very small age as kids in the tender age learn things quickly. Few good things which are very essential to save earth are planting trees and maintaining cleanliness. Keeping this in mind our volunteers in Pudukotai hosted an awareness campaign on cleanliness and tree plantation in a village. Students of that village actively participated in the event and made it possible to plant saplings and clean the vicinity.

Chennai

In Chennai we provided volunteering support for the activities hosted by Chennai volunteers, in many orphanages, which included Spoken English sessions, recreational activities, visit to the beach, screening movies, games and sports sessions, Serving Smiles, Eco Warriors afternoons and many more. Thank you Chennai Volunteers for giving us a wonderful opportunity.



TQI District representatives, volunteered to share their journey in life. A humble beginning, hard work and grit, perseverance and above all positive thinking. These were the components of their success formula and it definitely struck a chord among our young friends at Police boys and girls club.



An exciting place, which no one would say no to, is beach. Added to the chill breeze and waves touching our feet, TQI volunteers spent time with Seva samajam orphanage kids playing relay and they merged with the kids and also became one. We just gave our time ,they gave us happiness ,smile and memories !



Sometimes a game can break all barriers of language and help you make friends even faster than speaking. Kho Kho, a tag team game was conducted by Talent Quest for India volunteers and students from ICCW took part in the event. This is one important entertainment with hidden lessons about team effort. Entertainment and awareness, dual purpose served.

Multiple award winning Tamil movie Kakka Muttai was showcased in Arun Maiyyam and Aman Maiyyam homes. This effort was made to entertain the kids and also show the reality of life. The movie is about the life of a poor family in slums of Chennai, where two kids work along with their mother for living. The movie has a collection of emotions which would be a beautiful and easily understandable to the kids.





It was amazing and awe inspiring to see not only the volunteers, but also the family members of the volunteers and Panchayat Heads, Village Administrative Officers who were called as chief guests for different events, to support Daan Utsav celebration and make it a huge success. The highlights and achievement in Daan Utsav 2015 are as follows:

- 1) 21 districts
- 2) 50 events
- 3) 150+ volunteers
- 4) Reached 2000+ People
- 5) 50 Samplings planted

We on behalf of team Talent Quest for India would like to thank all the members, volunteers and parents for their gracious support and extensive on field work which made an immense impact and a huge success. We also take this opportunity to thank all the Government school heads, Panchayat heads of various villages, Doctors who supported in medical camps, Chennai Volunteers, Vergal Trust, orphanages and old age homes and all the external & internal supporters.