



Sanskar Gurukul Weekly Update



Class Name: Angirasa

Week#04: Oct 21, 2012

General Assembly (GA)

We started the GA with three Omkars followed by the Shanti Mantra.

Aparna aunty wished everyone "Happy Navarathri". she asked students what are considered scriptures for Hinduism. Response was: Vedas. Students recalled the four Vedas as Sama, Atharva, Rig and Yajur Veda. Talked about the content of Vedas. They contain prayers. Vedas have three sections. First major section contains hymns about nature(trees, sunrise, oceanetc.,). Second section contains rituals for desire satisfaction (for want of :-rain, good food, sons/daughters, etc.,). Third section contains aranyakas(studied in forests/mountains/jungles). Talked about the environment found in forests: cool, wet, snow, big rocks were some of the students responses. When we reach the mountain peak, we experience calmness/tranquility free from anger/anxiety.

The treasure of scriptures is Upanishads. These are texts that contain magic key to live your life purposefully. Students were given a handout of Taittiriya Upanishad which is a part of aranyaka. The Taittiriya Upanishad is divided into three sections or Valli's, the Siksha Valli(art of living), the Brahmananda Valli and the Bhrigu Valli. Each Valli further subdivided into anuvakas or verses. We learned how to chant first two lines of 11th verse under Siksha Valli section. Meaning of the first two lines is having taught the Vedas the teacher exhorts the disciple,--"Speak the truth. Perform the Dharma: Swerve not from the study of the scriptures"

Class

- Opening Prayers
- **Chapter 2 – Culture: Discussion and Reading**
 - Wrapped up Ch.1. and Ch.2 with class discussion on comparing and contrasting Indian and Western Culture with focus on the philosophy behind Indian, Hindu Culture.
- Closing Prayers.

Homework

- **Student Assignments for Reading/Presentation** for next 4 weeks:

Date	Assigned to	Chapter	Pages
Oct 28, 2012	Kinjal Patel	III	20-25
Nov 4, 2012	Keshav Patel	XIV	119-125
Nov 11, 2012	Anuraag Aggarwal	VI	56-65
Nov 18, 2012	Darshan Patel	VII	66-71

- **Others** – Need to still read the chapter and come prepared with questions/comments and share your thoughts (Use Index Card to jot down your points, if possible). Participation in class is a must active discussion/active listening.



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Announcements

1. Please take good care of the Taitriya Upanishad handout
2. Students are invited to dress up in honor of Halloween. (Your picture will be in Yearbook). You can dress up as any character from Indian history (Mahatma Gandhi-ji, Bhagat Singh, Sardar Patel, King Ashoka, Jodha Akbar etc.,) or from Scriptures (Sri Rama, Shabri Mata, Mother Seetha, etc.,) No queen Victoria or as any movie actor's please.
3. Remember to check the updates every week. Complete and submit any homework on-time.
4. Parents are welcome to attend General Assembly from 11:00 - 11:30 AM in the main hall.