



NRIVA makes a difference in 2019



NRIVA Adopt-A-Student supports

75 students

in the tune of Rs. 24 lakhs approx.

PAVING A PATH TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE...

NRIVA cares by
RISING AGAINST HUNGER



PLEGED TO DONATE
1M MEALS IN NEXT 5 YEARS

22 CHAPTERS
RAISED \$75K

DONATED 225,000
MEALS IN THE FIRST YEAR

Rise
AGAINST HUNGER



OUR JOURNEY WITH VISION 2020...

LEARN (Webinars)

Health Awareness
Investor Education
EduTalk (For Youth)
Women Empowerment
Career Guidance
Taxes & Investments
College Preparation
Immigration
Real Estate
Business

SERVE

Adopt A Student
Food/Cloth Drive
Rise Against Hunger
Mangalasutram
Soup Kitchen
Blanket Donation

RESPECT

Shathamnam
Bhavathi

SHOWCASE

V Got Talent
Miss & Mrs NRIVA
Global Convention

PRAY

Vasavi Jayanthi
Atmarpana Day
Lakshmi Narasimha

BUILD FUTURE

Eedu-Jodu

NETWORK

Cruise to Alaska
NRIVA Day
Global Convention

ESTABLISH

India Foundation
GMR Grant
Vasavi Vidya Nidhi

CELEBRATE

AAS Day @ Hyderabad

VISION 2020

A LOOK BACK ON OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS...

- ◆ Organized Oath taking ceremony for all leaders of 2018-19.
- ◆ Revealed long term roadmap and Vision 2020
- ◆ NRIVA Seva Days on the occasion of Vasavi Atmarpana Day
- ◆ Sponsored 4 families as part of Mangalasutram project
- ◆ Campaign to raise funds of Kerala flood relief
- ◆ Vasavi Jayanthi celebrations across 35+ chapters with 6000 members attending the event
- ◆ Published Chapter guidelines
- ◆ Onboarding sessions with chapter leads
- ◆ Created standardized banners/flyers to establish a branding identity
- ◆ Implemented Social Media guidelines
- ◆ Launched a new web portal & continue to enhance
- ◆ Setup **SRUJANA** (Women's committee)
- ◆ Initiated youth committees at chapter levels
- ◆ Conducted STEM workshops and hosted educational webinars by youth
- ◆ NRIVA India Foundation established by completing 80(G) formalities.
- ◆ Conducted Immigration sessions and formed several whatsapp groups to provide immigration related guidance.
- ◆ Sponsored 75 students in 2019 through Adopt-A-Student
- ◆ Conducted health awareness webinars
- ◆ Conducted emergency fundraisers through Helpline team
- ◆ A total of 350 members set sail on a cruise to Alaska
- ◆ Conducted first Matrimonial session on the Cruise
- ◆ Added new chapters bringing our total to 42 chapters
- ◆ Implemented G-Suite for non-profit for operations
- ◆ Launched NRIVA channel @ Youtube
- ◆ Launched NRIVA Facebook page
- ◆ Formed Stocks & Equities investment groups (**Only for Life Members**)
- ◆ Conducted investment education webinars
- ◆ First regional Matrimonial meet @ New Jersey

...our vision

A roadmap to the next decade focusing in the areas of outreach, services and diversity with increased participation and contribution from Officers and Members alike.



- ◆ Connected NRIVA investment community via social media groups with 1000+ members
- ◆ Launched **Remarriage**, a program for widowers/divorcees
- ◆ 5th global convention hosted several sub-conferences and events:
 - ◆ Youth conference w/ their own banquet
 - ◆ Women's conference
 - ◆ Business conference
 - ◆ 2 day matrimonial session (3 marriages arranged)
 - ◆ Miss & Mrs NRIVA contest
 - ◆ NRIVA Got Talent contest
 - ◆ Shathamam Bhavathi
 - ◆ Volunteer appreciation dinner
- ◆ Hosted "AAS Beneficiaries Meet" @ Hyderabad to celebrate success of the signature program
- ◆ Conducted Ladies meets, workshops for women as part of Srujana initiatives.
- ◆ Launched "Each One Coach One" (EOCO) to empower women by providing mentoring/coaching.
- ◆ Packed 200k+ meals and raised 75k+ in partnership with **Rise Against Hunger**.

A term of legacy...

| Vision 20/20 | Vision 2020 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ✔ Back to normal sight | ✔ Year 2018-19 term planning |
| ✔ A culture of foundation | ✔ Alignment with 2020 plans |
| ✔ Attitude of service | ✔ Strategic and operational projects |
| ✔ Inclusive environment | ✔ Milestone based planning |
| ✔ Respect core values | ❑ Balanced budget |
| ✔ Support innovation | ✔ Accountability & driven by EC |
| ✔ Transparency | ✔ Executed by Committees |
| ✔ Chapter integration | ✔ Chapter involvement |

Do we value our values?

A few months ago, I heard a little girl explain Dharma in simple terms "doing the right thing no matter what". These words got me thinking, Are we always able to do the right things?

As NRIs, we have learned to adapt to circumstances while doing our best to preserve the values we grew up with. Be it celebrating the festivals over the weekend, when the thithi falls on a week day or placing a Christmas tree in our houses to celebrate the holidays, we have adapted.

Are these acceptable? Do we compromise our values when we adapt to circumstances? Well, the answer could be totally subject to the exposure an individual had while growing up. But, where do we draw the line?

Some might have changed their food habits or chosen entertainment methods which do not align with Vasavi Matha's teachings. As Vasavites, aren't we committed to follow Her principles? Of course yes will be everyone's answer, but the question is, Are we able to? Little did we think about these until we

had our own little ones, for whom, we are their life's first role models.

Parents of modern times know kids are watching them. They learn from us, they take precedence for their actions from us. But, are we able to conduct ourselves guided by our values, be it at home or a public gathering? For example, our belief calls for a strict vegetarian diet, yet some have chosen to stretch the lines either for themselves or for their kids. Let us not debate if a personal choice should be even criticized. Are our choices compromising our identity? Moreover, is it right for one to expect others to accept their choice? Is it right to justify the choices in the name of rationale thinking and adapting to changing world?

What do you think? Are we compromising our values with adapting to changing times? What does our actions tell the future generation?

Write your thoughts to vasavivani@nriva.org.

- Editor



NRI Vasavi Association
www.NRIVA.org
1-855-WE NRIVA

2020 CRUISE
JULY 26 - AUGUST 2, 2020

Below the main image are three smaller images: a Venetian building, a classical temple facade, and a Venetian gondola.

| MSC MUSICA July 26 - August 2, 2020 | | | | Cruise Fares Per Person | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------------------------|--|
| DAY | PORT OF CALL | ARRIVAL | DEPARTURE | INSIDE BELLA | |
| 1. | VENICE, ITALY | 4:30 PM | | \$949 | |
| 2. | BRINDISI, ITALY | 1:30 PM | 7:30 PM | OCEANVIEW BELLA | |
| 3. | KATAKOLON, GREECE | 11:00 AM | 6:00 PM | \$1,119 | |
| 4. | SANTORINI, GREECE | 8:00 AM | 5:00 PM | BALCONY BELLA | |
| 5. | ATHENS, GREECE | 7:30 AM | 4:30 PM | \$1,319 | |
| 6. | CORFU, GREECE | 3:00 PM | 6:30 PM | SUITE BELLA | |
| 7. | KOTOR, MONTENEGRO | 7:00 AM | 1:00 PM | \$2,089 | |
| 8. | VENICE, ITALY | 8:30 AM | | | |

(ADDITIONAL \$102 TAX & SERVICE FEE)
* THIS DOESN'T INCLUDE AIRFARE.

| Additional Adult in Room | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| BELLA: \$559 | FANTASTICA: \$589 | AUREA: \$839 |

The price does not depend on inside/ov/bal/suite for an additional adult. It depends on whether it is bella/fantastica/aurea.

| Additional Child in Room | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| CHILDFARE (12-17): \$449 | CHILDFARE (2-11): \$159 |

For additional info and reservations contact: **Gita Travels Inc.**
248-689-5201, Tours@GitaTravels.com
www.GitaTravels.com

Srinivasa Rao Pandiri: 314-239-1104
Ram Garipalli: (864) 363-7439
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The Challenge Of Silence

Story by: Ms. Anika Kaparthy
(Continued from previous issue)

Chapter 3 - Mousey Squeak

That night, June talked to her mother, Harmony over dinner. Her father was yet to stop watching football. In an attempt to pull her father's eyes away from the screen, June yelled, "DINNER'S READY!"

Her dad immediately got up.

"Sorry. The Steelers just lost, " he said.

June was a fan of football, but not super-obsessed.

"Well, that's sad." Mom and June said at the same time. Her dad laughed.

"So, what's for dinner?" her dad asked.

"Soup." Mom told him.

"Okay, " her dad said.

They sat over the dinner table. Dad chatted about work, and Mom told them about what had happened in the college. Dad started to stare off into the distance, and Mom snapped her fingers.

"James? Are you listening?"

"Huh? Yes. "Dad said.

Mom finished her story. The table went silent. The fourth bowl of soup was getting cold. Dad pulled out his phone and sent a text.

"Ava says she's on her way."

Silence again. June hadn't said anything while eating. So she spoke now.

"Mom, Dad.. you know about Priya right?"

Mom tilted her head. "Why do ask honey?"

"A few days ago she was nothing but rude to me."

"What's her last name?" Mom asked.

It was June's turn to tilt her head. "Kalireddy. Why?"

"Kalireddy? Oh, I remember! Me and Raj Kalireddy were both in the same Language Arts class in middle school. I know of his oldest, Arusha, and Raj spoiled her to no end. With Raj's kind of money, he could buy almost half the Versace store, no problem."

"Well, that explains Priya, "June said.

"Ava's here, "Dad said.

June could hear her sister's car pulling up into the driveway, but she didn't bother to open the door like she usually did. Ava went to one of the state college campuses, which was downtown. Mom had a job at the other campus in the city, so she didn't see Ava. But Ava could come back home every weekend, which she usually did. And today she was late. Super late.

"Welcome back, Ava dear, " Mom said while opening the door.

Mom guided Ava to the dining table. Ava took her seat next to June. She answered a text, and then looked up.

"Sorry last text, "she said to June.

"So, what's up?" "Nothing, "June mumbled.

"Awww, what happened to my favorite month of the year?" Ava asked

"Please don't inquire about your sister right now. One, we're eating dinner, and two, it's a very hard thing to fully explain while eating carrots, "said Mom, pointing to the carrot in her spoon.

"Ah, nice try. We're talking about whatever's bothering you later. M'kay?"Ava said.

"No we aren't, "said June. She finished off her bowl and went to bed.

After dinner, June hit the bed, and fell asleep, dreaming of mice who could speak.

Chapter 4 - Worth It

June was in the middle of a dream when the ground began shaking. Buildings started falling, and people started running. She could see a giant shadow looming in the distance. A few rumbles later and she could see a Priya of titanic size. The Priya stomped down on a someone's house, it turned around and spied June. Within one step of its stride, it was upon June. Just one stomp and she was gone. The foot was closing in, and closer, and closer, until, she could almost feel the rubber. Just about as the heeled-boot was about to make her human pulp, she hit the (real) floor. The sudden sensation knocked her out of the blissful silence and darkness.

"The lengths we go to wake your sister up...." voice said, obviously to Ava.

"Mom, she's very much awake now," Ava said knowingly.

"Um humph." June said groggily, meaning to say "mm-hmm".

"Ah, there she is," remarked Mom, almost unbelievably.

"Sleepy head! Good morning!" Ava exclaimed.

"This better worth it. Wait, actually never mind. Anything is better being squished by one of Priya's Jimmy Choos."

"Your friend Priya? Why would she be stopping you?" Ava asked.

"Wait, let me guess Mom. Please don't ask about your sister, because one, she just woke up, and two, her morning breath is like spoiled milk."

"Right now, your attitude is like spoiled milk." June retorted.

"Says the one who's being toxic. But, seriously, what's happening?"

"On Thursday, she was just straight up rude to me. Like literally, I'm not joking, if she turns on someone, her entire posse turns on them too." June explained.

"Then what about Carol? Didn't she move out during the summer?" Ava asked.

"She's still here. Her parents decided to let her finish off her elementary here."

"Wow. Timing is boss, huh?"

"You're the one who came late yesterday."

"Haha, I admit it."

Mom yelled from downstairs: "Pancakes!"

"Wow, we didn't even have to wait," Ava said, astonished.

"The first one there gets... uh?"

"First choice for TV?"

"Nah.....Oooh! The winner gets ice cream from Amy's!"

"You're on!" Ava said.

"Get ready to lose!" June said. "3,2,1.GO!"

They both dashed down the hallways and rushed down the stairs. June pulled her chair out and sat.

"You owe me, Ava," she said, as her mom pulled out golden stacks dripping with syrup.

"But I guess it was worth it."



Ms Anika Kaparthy, author of "The Challenge of Silence" is a budding author from Austin TX. She is a sixth grader attending Florence W Stiles Middle School , Leander, Texas.

Please send your feedback and comments to vasavivani@nriva.org . Your appreciation, comments and feedback will encourage our young contributors of Vasavi Vani to excel in what they are good at.