



Ambedkar Association of North America (AANA)

53rd Dhamma Chakra Pravartan Din Celebration

Days Inn Conference Call, Livonia, Michigan

Date: Oct.24th, 2009 - Saturday

Time: 4.30 PM till 11.00PM.

Sudhir Waghmare (AANA president) welcomes all the members from all over USA and Canada & start program with a very brief introduction about AANA. He also welcome all invited Bhante, guest speaker (Prof. Steve Burg). He also talks about hall amenities and general hotel guidelines.

Main Program Start with Trisharana Panchasheela and Buddha puja. Dhamma talk by Bhante Gayanoshri Sherman (from Canada) about importance of panchasheela in our daily lives. He explains all the five sheela and requests everyone to follow in daily life.



Kid's performance World Peace song (Light the candle for peace.....)



Bhante Maithree gives a short dhamma talk about the importance of dhammachakra pravartan din. He says that dhammachakra pravartan began when Gautama Buddha after attaining enlightenment gave his first talk at Sarnath to his first 5 disciples (Mahanama, Kodananna, Assaji, Bhadiya and Vappa). He explains that the wheel has been turned several times for the benefit of laypeople.

Guest speaker Prof. Steve Berg. (Department of Eng/History, Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Michigan) He talked about his experience with Theravada Buddhism. He also elaborates Buddhism in USA in general. He also brief about Theravada Buddhism activity in USA.



Bhante Mahinda (Prof. in Colombo University, Sri Lanka) dhamma talk on Importance of Dana in Buddhist culture. Perfection of giving (*dana-paramita*). This can be characterized by unattached and unconditional generosity, giving and letting go.

Buddhists believe that giving, without seeking something in return, leads to greater spiritual wealth and reduces acquisitive impulses that ultimately lead to further suffering.

Bhante Dharmananda explained Buddhism by means of 9C theory, washing machine theory and other daily life example to explain Buddhism. C theory starts with childhood and ends with corpse. In the washing machine theory, he says, detergent is the bhikku sangh that helps you to purify the mind (clean the cloth which represents your mind). He explains importance of mediation. He also explains importance to get united to contribute towards Buddhism.

Lalit Khandare and Haresh Dalvi talks about the young Buddhist generations in India. They mention that young generations are now again going back into Hinduism, so we need to convey the right message in new ways to them. They introduce their audio CD project by Dr.A.H.Salunke. They re-released audio book and sold some copies to the attendees.



डॉ. आ. न. साळुंखे यांच्या लेखणीतून उतरलेले
‘वैदिक धर्मसूत्रे आणि बहुजनांची गुलामगिरी’
 हे बहुचर्चित पुस्तक प्रथमच ‘ऑडिओ बुक’ स्वरूपात

<http://www.aanausa.org> web site launched by Surendra Wankhede & Shashank Vaidya. They explain important features in website including blogs, current event calendar, donation area and other related links.

Prof. P. Ramiah Chairperson, Centre for Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Currently he is in Colombia University having some workshop on caste conversion and various other related issues. He was very excited to see large Buddhist community across united state. He spoke about how the backward community in India is converted into Buddhism.

He ask a million dollar question, are we really Buddhist?

He

explains details how we can act like a Buddhist to achieve the ultimate goal.

Prof. Gopal guru ‘Eminent dalit guru’ delivered a speech. He was very proud to be with modern Buddhist families. He points that dhammachakra pravartan is not on a specific date but rather every day. He also emphasize on word pravartan not parivartan. Its Dhamma chakra pravartan not parivartan. He explained that Buddhism not a religion which is written in books or who said it but it’s an everyday life to feed it or to live it. Buddhism demolishes all the hierarchy and gave universal philosophy to live together. Buddhism is not for the one community but it is for all and we need to accept Babasaheb ambedkar philosophy who gave new birth to Buddhism. He says life is existing beyond modernity (beyond theory C) so first develop yourself, others who close to you and clean the societies who like to develop in Buddhism life.



Short speech by Mr. **Manohar Koche** - He talks about Buddhism and compares it with Hinduism and explains that Buddha never claimed himself as god and ones progress is solely dependent on ones efforts. Buddha doesn’t want people to worship him but rather understand his dhamma.

Short speech by Mr. **Martand Varade** (from Canada). He talks about his involvement in ambedkar mission in Canada. He pointed young generation involvement in Buddhism from their childhood.

Pratibha Kamble who represents OMNI development relief fund & Temp solutions talks about her experience with the ambedkar movement and she appreciates Mike Thewar (President OMNI development and relief fund & temp solution Inc.). She shares her experience with the group.

Mr. Gyanendra Kumar (New Jersey) who is representing AIM, talks about Ambedkar International mission overall activity and other future plan to support our community in India.

Dr. Sanjeev Waghmare (Indian University, currently working on Cloning & human stem cell research) talks about his experience with the ambedkar movement and appreciates AIM/AANA achievements in different area.

Mahila Mandal updates given by Trupti Wasnik, She talks about how Mahila Mandal activities are in USA. She talked about Self defense program and other future project going to take place in India. She also asks all women to join monthly conference call to discuss the issues and other project activity.



Cultural Program

Kids Individual Singing or playing instrument.

Vishali Waghmare (Vahini) Buddhist song

Piano play (Hindi Song) by Nikhil Sakpal, Piano play by Arsh Wasnik, Riya Badge

Guitar play (Hindi Song) by Nishad waghmare ,

Family song by Wankhede family(Maitreya,Sujata,Surendra)

Group song by Philadelphia group (2 to 3 Marathi & Hindi songs)

Group song by Michigan group (Buddhist song)

Piano play (Hindi Song) by prof. Rammia

Dance by Najuka and Nutan

Finally, Vote of thanks by Snehal Bhalesein, she thanks all attendees who come from outside Michigan. She thanks to the main speaker for guiding new generation. She had special thanks to entire member who made delicious vegetarian food for all.

There was more activity which was planned and many people want to talk but due to less time, we are not able to complete it all.

AANA appreciate everyone's participation in different activity.

Your involvement made us to make this program very successful.



Kids dancing



Philadelphia group song



Waghmare family song



Home Made food

Program Expenditure:

Items	Expenditure	Paid by
Days inn Hall Rental	\$210	mahesh
tea bag/milk/sugar/tea pot	\$84	mahesh
Gifts for kids	\$65	surendra
water/bhel/gulab jamun	\$50	shashank
fruit/flower/cutlery	\$110	AANA
Bhante Donation offered	\$220	AANA

Total Expenditure \$739

Total expenditure **739**

Total collection **717**

Remaining Balance 22

Total Collection from members

1	Koche	50
2	Prashant Bhalasain	40
3	lalit khandare	6
4	ODRF Mike	100
5	sakpal	10
6	Martand varade	100
7	Shasikant Chahande	50
8	Rakesh shende	50
9	Surendra Wankhede	50
10	Sudhir Waghmare	50
11	Shashank Vaidya	50
12	Nilesh Raut	50
13	Cash Donation	11
14	Vivek Chavan	50
15	Mahesh Wasnik	50
	Total Collections	717

Note: we may not list everyones name but please let us know if we forget to mension anyone who contributed for the program and not listed above, Appriciate for your contribution.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH