



*"Reading is not completion of the journey. It is only the first step. Read for the sake of practising; not for reading's sake."*

Sathya Sai Baba on May 18, 1968

## **ABOUT THE DISCOURSE- #2**

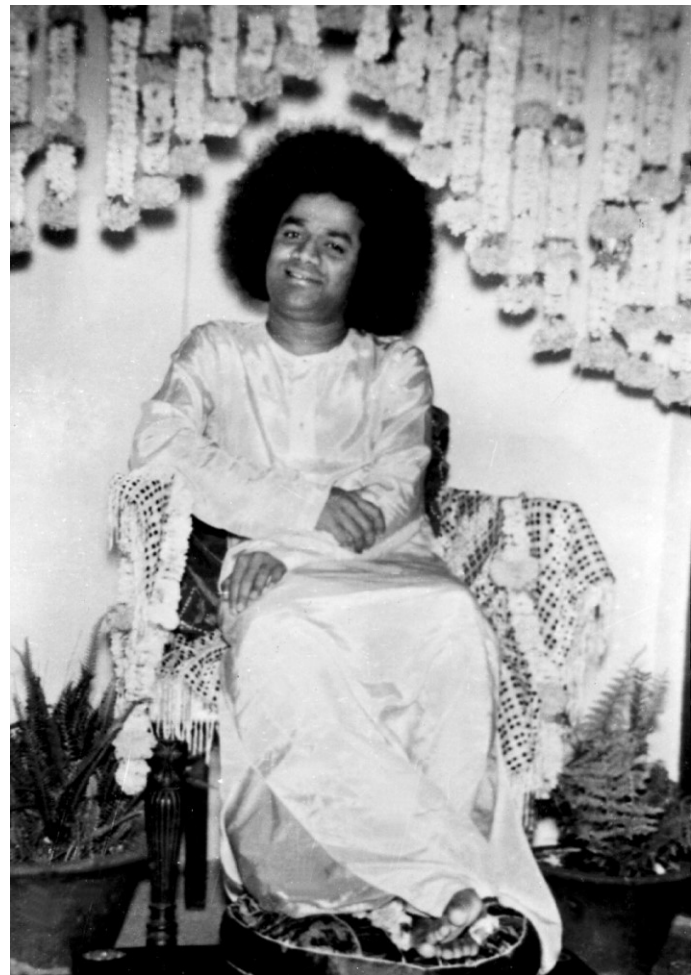
Swami visited B.Z High school in Chittoor on March 3, 1958. In response to prayers of the devotees, Swami addressed the gathering of students, teachers and patrons of education on Courage. This is one of the first documented public discourses.

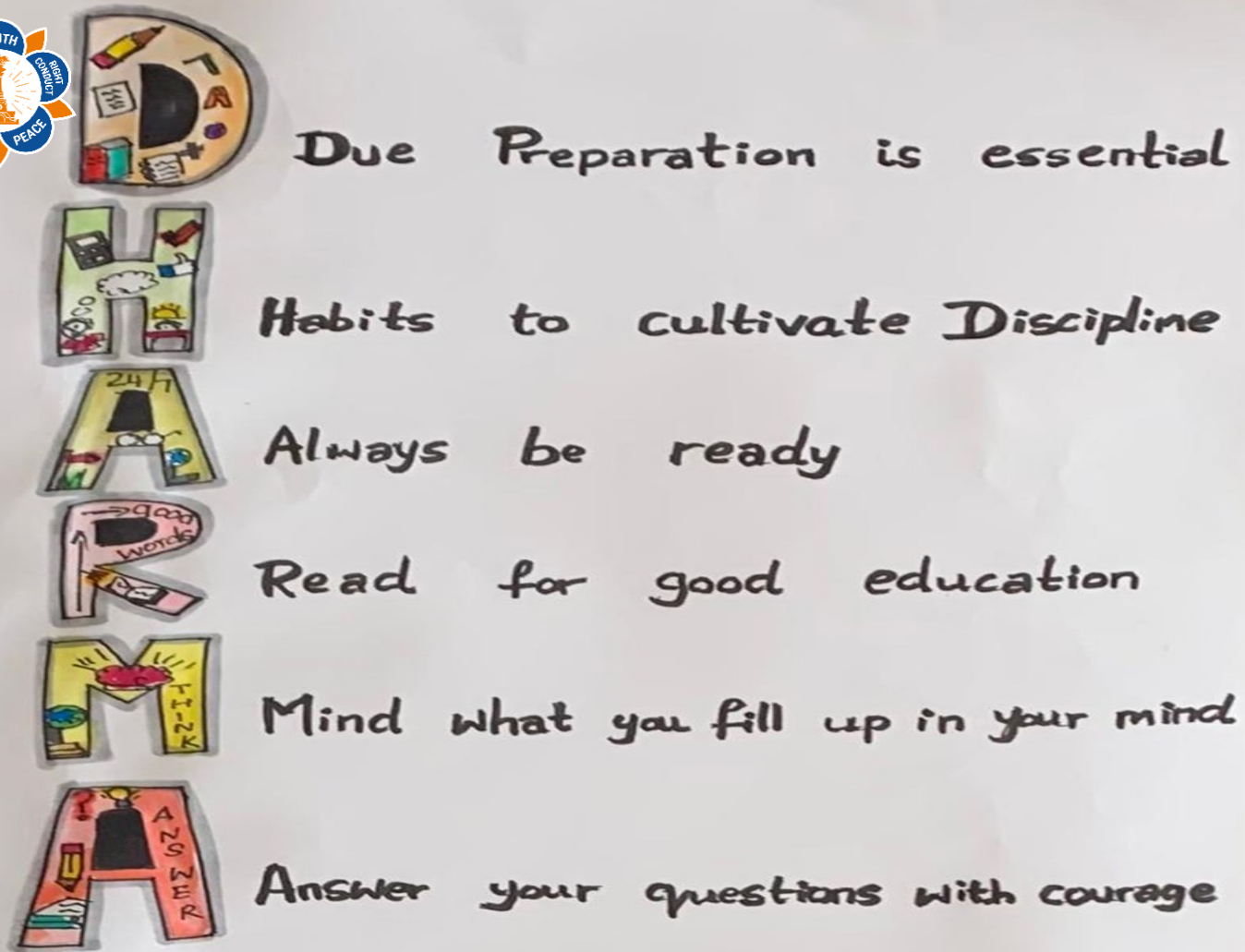
**Courage-** This talk was not previously planned, but it is a case of the prayer of devotees being fulfilled. I am not giving you any new advice today; it is the same advice that I have given to students in many places. For places may be different but students are the same, and their nature, character, ideals and problems are the same in all places.

The President of this meeting said just now that you are all busy preparing for the examinations and that many of you have taken up your books only now. This has become quite usual nowadays; nine months of the year you read all kinds of trash, and in the two or three months left you pore over the really essential books. This is not correct! It is very harmful to stuff the brain with all kinds of unwanted and paltry things. When you have some free time, read and assimilate such books as will promote an intelligent appreciation of the world and its mystery.

To live a happy, peaceful and contented life, good education is necessary, education that is based on *dharma* (righteousness).

Do not develop a dread of examinations; there, in a fixed time, you have to write answers to a certain number of questions. Well, some students start answering the very first question and go on serially with the rest. But it is always better to pause a little, read the entire question paper, select the questions that you can tackle with confidence, and write the answers for these in the beginning. This will give you a good fillip to exercise your brains better for answering the more difficult questions later.





@Artwork by PK, Study Circle team member

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) How can we apply Swami's advice so that we face our life's exams more confidently and fearlessly?
- 2) How can we, as SSE teachers, apply the strategy for "early preparation for exams" towards preparing for our SSE classes?
- 3) Swami says, "assimilate such books as will promote an intelligent appreciation of the world and its mystery." As SSE teachers how can we adopt the sadhana of intaking healthy content from books and other media sources?

### LIFE APPLICATION

In life situations, many of us may be prone to reacting immediately. For the coming month instead of reacting, let's attempt to Pause, Reflect on the situation, and Respond the way Swami would want us to.

### PAUSE. REFLECT. RESPOND.



We would love to hear from about your study circle experiences, any interesting questions/ insights that you would like to share, please send an email to [saispiritualeducation@sathyasai.us](mailto:saispiritualeducation@sathyasai.us)

