

All glory to Sri Sri Guru Gauranga Gandharva Govinda-sundarjiu

**All glory to His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Sundar Govinda Dev-Goswami Maharaj
and to his eternal, faithful associates.**

All glory to Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math

Report for the 10th National Youth and Children's Camp at Palma de Sandoval, Michoacán, Mexico.



Dear Srila Govinda Maharaj

We are very happy for the opportunity of offering our service to the Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math followers, by sending you this report to share the wonderful experience we lived in this 10th National Youth and Children's Camp of the Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math, attended by followers from different parts of the country, like Mexico City, Monterrey, Veracruz, Guadalajara, Mérida, Celaya, Querétaro and Morelia.



We wish to report the experiences we lived, detailing them day by day, from the opening to the closing ceremony. We hope this report may please you and it could grant us your mercy.

By Kalpa Druma Das: from Guadalajara
Sruti Devi Dasi: from Veracruz
Laksmi Priya Devi Dasi: from Tamaulipas

Monday, 1st day of the 10th National Youth and Children's Camp.

All of us followers got up at 6:00 am, to chant the Maha Mantra until 6:30 am, and we continued with Mangal Arati until 8:30 am. The followers with kitchen service (Ajita Krsna Prabhu, his wife Ratnavali D.D., Vraja Kumuda D.D., Ekalaisvara D. and Abhay Charan Prabhu) prepared the offering very early, and we honored prasadam from 9:00 am to 10:00 am. It is worth mentioning that four groups were made, each one with a monitor, to compete in the different services during the camp. The groups and monitors were:

Laksmirani D.D. of the Yamadutas group, with Laksmi Priya D.D. from Reynosa, Nadia Rani D.D., Arjun Krishna P., Hari Gopal P., and Laura, a friend invited by Laksmi Priya D.D.

Jivanananda D. of the Panditas, "Panditas", with Sruti D.D. from Veracruz, Radharani D.D. from México City, Padmavati P, from Yucatan, Rasamoy P. from Morelia and Kalpa Druma P., who arrived a few hours later from Guadalajara.

Radhakanti D. of the Icongnitos with Karuna Mayi, Christian Krsna, Danvantari, Varsavanavi Alvarado and Jahnavi D.D.

Madhuchanda D.D. of the Tinky Winky with Saraswati from Monterrey, Narayana from Morelia, Yoga Maya from Yucatan and Krsna Kumar D. from Toluca.

Later that day, more followers arrived from other communities and it was very exciting because we could meet other followers.

Then, we were assigned services for every day of the week, for example: on Monday, we Panditas were assigned to clean the inside of the Temple and toilets, on Tuesday we washed the dishes, on Wednesday we distributed prasadam and Thursday and Friday we cleaned the outside and the toilets. Monitors rotated services to every team as days were passing. Then, we undertook the service we were assigned to.

Later that day His Holiness Sripad Bhakti Kusum Ashram Maharaj arrived, accompanied by Bhagavan Prabhu and his wife Subha Laksmi Devi Dasi. We welcomed them with a great kirttan. He liked that very much and we were also very excited that he arrived. The most important event of the day was Maharaj's arrival and we want to share that with you.

Later Gaura Arati followed and then the Prasadam. At night we all went to rest to get up the next day with energy because we would start the day very early.



By Rasamoy
Prabhu, from
Morelia
Michoacán.

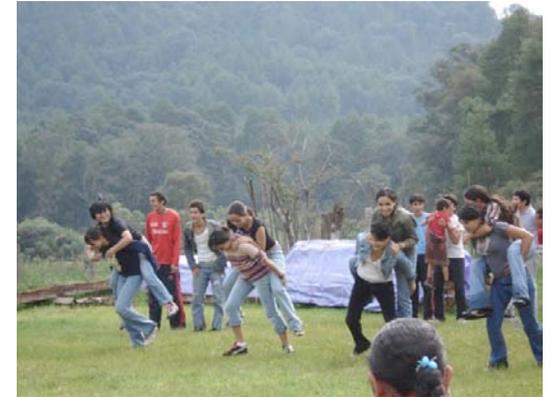
Tuesday, second day of the 10th National Youth and Children's Camp.

iiiiiiiAll glory to His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Sundar Govinda Dev-Goswami Maharaj!!!!!!!

We were organized in teams. Our team's name was "Tinki Winkis" and its members were Narayan P., Krsna Kumar P., Yoga Maya P., and myself, Divya Saraswati D.D. Our monitor was Madhuchanda D.D. and I would like to thank our monitor and all followers for all the support and for making sure we had all we needed. The most exciting happening was we could be together with Sripad Ashram Maharaj.



All of us followers got up at 6:00 am, to chant japa, until 6:30 am, and then we followed with the Mangal Arati until 7:00 am. All the youth chanted. I was assigned the Sri Guru Arati. Rasamoy P. and Kalpa Druma P. played the mridangas. At 8:30 am we had a class with Maharaj, chapter 6 from the book of Sri Chaitanya Charitamrita, entitled: The Liberation of Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya.



When the morning program was over, the physical education instructor arrived and we did stretching drills to warm-up. Then, we youth played horse races, where a follower climbed onto another one's back, and we also played the wheelbarrow, where a follower grabbed the legs of another one, and this last one had to move forward using his hands.

After that we played table five-a-side. First the female followers played a 10-minute match and later the male followers. In the end, we all played with Maharaj, and his team beat us 4-1, three goals by Maharaj and one by Narayan P. who scored the winning goal, ha ha ha ha. In our team, only Kalpa Druma P. scored. I was playing defense, and we were so excited about the game that we even forgot to eat breakfast. After the game, around 12:30 we had prasadam, we had fruit, tea, a potato vegetable and pineapple halava. It was delicious.

As we were organized in teams, mine was assigned the prasadam. Narayan P. was assigned to serve tea, Yoga Maya D.D. served the vegetable, Krsna Kumar P. served the food, and I served the halava. After honoring prasadam all other teams did their assignments like cleaning the Temple, washing the toilets, washing the dishes, and cleaning the outside. Then it was time for us to wash ourselves, to attend our mridanga class with Kalpa Druma P., where I learned the beat “**na ko na ko na gue de na**”, and “**na gue gue na gue**”. I hope I can participate in the Monterrey program with the mridanga.

When the class was over we attended the theater class with mother Saranagati D.D. and we practiced a drill which relaxed all our bodies. Mother said that drill was equivalent to a 3-hour sleep. Narayan P., Arjun Krsna P. and Nadia Rani D.D. fell asleep, hahahaha. When we finished that drill, we started organizing ourselves for the closing ceremony play, which will tell about the advent of Lord Chaitanya. All the youth participated, some of us acted, others worked on the make-up and costumes. Yoga Maya D.D., Narayan P., Barsa D.D., Padmavati D.D. and I worked the stage design. We made 2 doors with carton board, a carton cradle, and the little footprints of the Lord. We made light contrast with 4 boxes of different colors — red, green, blue and yellow — to set every scene. iiiThe play was so beautiful!!!



After organizing the play, there was the night program that started at 7:00 pm. I was assigned to chant the Sri Guru Arati. On that day, they were going to prize the punctuality of all programs and our team, the “Tinki Winkis”, won, and they gave us some presents. After that we honored prasadam. We Tinki Winkis cleaned the kitchen in the afternoon.

Prabhu Pitambar gave us chanting lessons. It was very exciting for me to go out on Harinama and we gave out books. I have never done it and it was a very beautiful experience, because we spread mercy. In the beginning I was a little scared, but no sooner I reached the first person my fear was gone and I could give out eight books, thanks to his mercy.

This camp has been one of the most beautiful. We are always encouraged when we reach our communities. My gratitude to all followers for their attention. Everything was well organized and very nice.



**By Divya
Saraswati D.D.
from Monterrey
Michoacán.**

Wednesday, third day of the 10th National Youth and Children's Camp.

We started the day very excited because we were going on Harinam. We started the day with Mangal Arati at 7:00am and then we had class with Sripad Bhakti Kusum Ashram Maharaj. He told us about Sri Chaitanya Charitamrita and we continued with chapter 6, "The Liberation of Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya", a very interesting chapter that tells us about the time Lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu accepted the life of a sannyasi and left Nabadwip to go to Jagannath Puri, because his mother Sachi Devi wanted Him to be closer to have more contact with Him, through his associates.

When the class was over, the kitchen-assigned followers had already prepared the offering so we could chant the Holy Names of the Lord with energy.

Right when we finished that delicious prasadam, we got ready and waited for the bus that would come to pick us up. Some followers like Jivananda P. and his beautiful children, had the service of seeing that the give-out books were complete and in good condition.

When the bus arrived and after we boarded, Kalpa Druma P. started the kirttan in the bus. This prepared us along the road to the Pátzcuaro town. We chanted with lots of energy and enthusiasm!

When we reached Pátzcuaro downtown, we organized ourselves to start our book give-out adventure. All followers started chanting the Holy Names and went out with competitive spirit to give out the books we had been assigned. The team giving out the most books would be the winner.

We gave out 102 books (Home Comfort and Inner Fulfilment). There were four teams, each one with four or five members. Twenty-five books were given to each.

Something really nice happened. When a follower saw a receptive attitude in a person and when this person showed interest in a book but had so little money to donate, the follower would kindly give it away and he would later donate for the book he gave away. This happened with most of the followers.



Some of the followers experiences were very motivating. They reported that those interested in the movement easily bought a book or traded it for some present. Those not interested showed indifference towards the followers, but they were tolerant and understanding. Those externally indifferent people are internally interested, and we followers could understand and even learn from them.

We all walked round the park giving out books, chanting, chanting and chanting.

Suddenly my team mate Radharani D.D., who gave out books with me, Sruti D.D., we both realized that in the places we were offering the books, people said they had already been offered some, and we didn't understand why. A bit farther ahead we ran into the followers who had beaten us to giving out the books in that area of the park, then we split and moved to another area that was better. After the book giving out, Maharaj and all of us went to enjoy a typical ice-cream of the Pátzcuaro town.



The team that finished giving out the books first was mine, the Panditas. They gave out all their books and received donations in return. It was very exciting to know that almost 100 people had those books, which are no ordinary ones. That was the most important thing about it, to know many people will read about the Lord and His nature.

When the book distribution was over we got together, and some discomfort was noticed in the other three teams that finished behind us. Fast selling was not being qualified but more so, the quality of the donations received. In the end, monitors arrived to an agreement and all teams were winners. Buuuu!

Returning from the Harinama, Prabhu Nitay Charan started chanting and we all chanted along all the way back.

When we arrived, mothers welcomed us with delicious prasadam, and after eating we bathed in time for the Gaura Arati, and we shared all our experiences with Sripad Bhakti Kusum Ashram Maharaj. Every team commented on the people's reactions when they saw us chanting in the street. It was very funny! Some people looked at us kind of strange but others came closer, showing interest. We role-played showing how followers reacted in those cases. Maharaj showed a great smile and that made us all happy.

In the end, teams were given prizes, and this was organized by our dear Srimati Madhuchanda Devi Dasi. We were all very happy for the experiences we lived. This happened on Wednesday, a very nice day for us all to remember.



Jivanananda instructing how making sankirtan

By Sruti D.D. from Veracruz.



Thursday, fourth day of the 10th National Youth and Children's Camp.

Unfortunately, I arrived at 4:00 pm that day because I didn't pass my subjects at school in the morning, and I had to stay to enroll and sit the make-up test of the subject I did not pass.

When I arrived at La Palma, I felt so glad to see all followers and most especially the young ones, and well, that day I regretted not passing my subject, and I committed myself to never fail a subject again.

As I arrived late (on Thursday) there was no place to sleep. Well, there was some, but not with my follower friends. They were all kind of jammed in a very small room, and I was stubborn to go in there. And well, we were all jammed, but I slept there.



Your humble servant Gadadhar Das.

Friday, fifth day of the 10th National Youth and Children's Camp.

That day we got up at 6:00 am, we did the Mangal Arati and we recited Vandana, then we attended class on Sri Chaitanya Charitamrita that was given by Sripad Bhakti Kusum Ashram Swami, and he asked us some questions. At 8:00 am we were served prasadam, and followers prepared tamales — a typical Mexican dish.

Later, a volleyball tournament was organized with 5 teams: "The Saris" a team comprised only by mothers wearing saris, another team was called "The Yajaras", another one called "The Atlas", another was "The Nikes", another "The Danvantaris" and in the end, "The Atlas" won, and I, Kalpa Druma Das played in that team. Ashram Maharaj is a good player and he also participated.

In the afternoon I gave the mridanga class to the young followers. Some of them learned very fast and already picked up the basics, then Pitambar P. gave chanting lessons, then the theater class, in which the followers rehearsed a play in which Lord Chaitanya was a baby. At 6:00 pm we had the Gaura Arati and in the afternoon program, we chanted the Guru Arati, Sri Guru Arati Stuti, Manah siksa, Srila Prabhupada-padma stavakas. Instead of class, there was a recognition to all campers, like Vrajavasi P, Madhavi D.D., Madhuchanda D.D., Bhagavan P, the cooks and all class teachers, as well as the monitors. Everything was so nice and we could really see harmony among all followers, all together to serve their spiritual master and working together. All followers talked and expressed their points of view on the camp, there were lots of clapping for the followers who cooked, for the organizers and the teachers.

It all finished with a very enthusiastic kirttan, with Nama Sankirttan chanting, directed by Manjari D.D. The kirttan was extended until we left the Temple and all followers walked around the house happily chanting. By then, it was already dark and the followers had already lit a fire and we chanted on even more excitedly. Gadadhar P. and Nitay Charan P. chanted. We were all so happy, and we would not stop chanting until prasadam was served. They served beans and chilaquiles (Mexican dish made of corn tortillas with chili sauce). The night finished with the followers around the campfire telling ghost stories, and it was already 1:00am and all of us, a little scared, went to sleep very happy, but a little scared. The End.



By Kalpa Druma Prabhu, from Guadalajara.

Saturday, last day of 10th National Youth and Children's Camp.

This day had an auspicious beginning. We celebrated the Ekadasi, "The day of Lord Hari." Since early morning we strove and gave our best so that the celebration was followed accordingly.

Early in the morning we woke up and started our activities, for example, attending the morning Arati. Today was a special day for me because I took part in the morning program and that was meaningful and important to me. Then we had the class with Sripad Ashram Maharaj, and we received a magnificent lecture, and since we counted with the divine presence of Maharaj in this camp, we had your grace, Srila Guru Maharaj, through Sripad Ashram Maharaj.



On previous days we did teamwork, each one had a specific activity for the day that rotated to another team so that every team did different things, for example, serving prasadam, washing the toilets and the inside of the temple, cleaning the outside and the toilets outside, and washing the dishes and dirty glasses. I explain this because yesterday, Friday, my team was assigned to serve prasadam, and since the teams were busy organizing activities, our team was reassigned to serve prasadam again, but we happily did this service.

Then we rehearsed the theater play: Gadadhar P., Hari Gopal P., Nadia Rani D.D. and me, Laksmi Priya D.D. We were in charge of the background music for every scene. Anyway, to get some distraction after the work done we played some volleyball before the closing ceremony started.

After playing we got ready and we dressed up the followers who were going to act. That was the most stressing part of the day because we were a lot of people there with little time to do it.



Later, after everything finished, we attended the closing ceremony. I was a little late, not only because I was helping to put make-up on the actors, but I was also helping some followers to wear the sari correctly because they didn't know how to put it on properly.

Once in the closing ceremony, we watched the play the children put on with some puppets. Watching such effort was very joyful and inspiring. After the children's play, the youth's play was on and we gave our all to make it the best possible.

After the closing ceremony of the Camp we ate prasadam and we lit a fire, we told stories, and we chanted Hare Krishna in a kirttan around the campfire. As it started to rain, we moved towards the temple, chanting, and there we finished the kirttan.



At the end of the night we honored prasadam and we sadly realized that was going to be our last prasadam together in that Camp. We were so nostalgic it was over that most of us got sad, but we also came to the conclusion that only with Sri Guru's grace we could meet again in the following camp.

By Laksmi Priya D.D., from Reynosa.

Jai Gurudev!!





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