Kabirji’s philosophy... A legacy to cherish and carry forward!

Do not go to the garden of flowers! O friend! Go not there; in your body is the garden of flowers! Take your seat on the thousand petals of the lotus, and there gaze at the infinite beauty. *(Kabirji)*

Sant Kabir was a great mystic poet. He preached his ideology through his eloquent poetry. The language of his poetry was straightforward and understandable by the common people. His verses were a direct revelation of truth and full of spirituality. He believed in the purity of simple life. He was against false rituals and superstitions of both Hindu and Muslim religions which have no relevance with the enrichment of the human soul. He said that both are ignorant of reality. He believed that all the wealth of three worlds reside in the goodness of the heart. Mercy and forgiveness are the jewels of a spiritual soul. A human being who considers all the creatures of the world as his own and practises righteousness remaining passive in the affairs of the world, can attain immortality. He stated that true worship of God is from deep inside the heart and it is not mere chanting. Kabir was an unlettered person, yet his literary work and his life is a subject matter of research of several scholars. He was an eloquent observer, with an opinion that was unaligned and perched on fair-mindedness. His poems often interpret the trivialities of life.

“Lift the veil that obscures the heart and there you will find what you are looking for.”

“Love does not grown on trees or brought in the market, but if one wants to be ‘LOVED’ one must first know how to give LOVE.”

“Listen to the secret sound, the real sound, which is inside you. The one no one talks of speaks the secret sound to himself, and he is the one who has made it all.”

St. Kabir has evolved as an educational institution of repute and has successfully completed 25 years. The institution has always upheld the ideology of Kabirji. So to complement the completion of 25 glorious our Founder Director Tandon Ma'am once again went all out to revive and initiate the exploration of the Sufi wisdom of the renowned saint, Kabirji. Kabirji, in this doha crystallizes the power of the spoken word. He teaches us to speak in such a manner that keeps us harmonious and composed, thereby making the listener feel a sense of joy in the communication.

“Listen to the secret sound, the real sound, which is inside you. The one no one talks of speaks the secret sound to himself, and he is the one who has made it all.”

Reena Ginwala’s journey with Kabir has been a meaningful and powerful one. Her love for Kabir grew through fascinating experiences, during the kabir yatra and satsang with folk singers. St.Kabir has had the esteemed opportunity to have her as a resource person to share her Sufi wisdom with the kabirites.

Teacher’s Workshop

A session Koi Sunta Hai " was held on July 13 '15 by Respected Reena Ma'am based on an effort to initiate explorations of the Sufi wisdom of Kabir a revered saint and a mystic weaver poet, who lived in the 15th century in central India.

It was an enveloping session wherein was to overcome all barriers, personal goals, shift from profession to passion & set a positive purpose in life. The Resource person Respected Ma'am Reena Ginwala is a dream weaver & a healer who strives to connect with people by listening to their stories & offering " Soul Space " to deepen the understanding of the self & build a strong bond with others. This is how she hopes to manifest her dream of a just, inclusive & loving world. She lives in India & values Vipassana Meditation and Buddhist perspectives, the study of the mind and non-violent communication.

The session included excerpts from films with interactive discussions. There were introspections to connect with the Guru & also integration of Kabir Baani in daily life & hence the curriculum.

The second session was held on 31st July 2015 wherein only a few selected teachers attended, to know how we can work on this major project named "Kabir Aur Mein " (a year long immersion, exploration & manifestations of the Kabir within ) on account of the Silver Jubilee Celebration of our school St Kabir.

The main objective of the session was to how to consolidate Kabir’s Principles in our day to day life. It was firmly decided to have the involvement of not only the students and teachers but also the parents and grandparents to be successful in achieving our goal.
Kabirji’s philosophy... A legacy to cherish and carry forward!

An Inspiring session that stirred our hearts III!

Reena M'am conducted the second workshop for us. She was greeted by a batch of enthusiastic students who were looking forward in eager anticipation to attend the workshop. Not only did they get to know the deeper meaning behind Saint Kabir Das ji’s dohas, but also they derived a new perspective to life. The students were encouraged to speak their minds. Although a bit hesitant in the beginning, they soon broke the ice, and shared their views with the gathering. Ms. Reena explained that being “cool” doesn’t mean going around breaking rules and dressing weird. She encouraged the students to define their own cool statement. Due to her encouragement, the students were able to shed their inhibitions and talk freely. The room resounded with a thunderous applause. Then came the discussion of the “cool” factor. The teachers of St.Kabir were declared as the coolest teachers by the students. The workshop ended with an inspirational speech by Reena M'am. It was an inspiring session, which will have a profound impact on the students.

Tanay Tewar - XII SCI.

SESSION – I

On Saturday August 1, 2015 a two day’s workshop was organized for the student council team of St. Kabir. On the first day, several activities were conducted. Some of the activities were as follows: Each student was paired with another student, who was totally unknown and they were supposed to talk to each other and build a bond. In the mirror activity, students were asked to perform certain actions which they usually do when they are alone or sad and the child opposite, had to imitate the actions. In the self awareness activity, students were paired with each other and they were supposed to share ‘a proud moment’ and ‘an embarrassing moment’ of their life.

The underlying idea was to sensitize achievement and appreciate joy, be a good listener and imbibe confidentiality.

SESSION – II

A video Building Compassion was shown, whereby certain qualities like compassion, love, power of speech, empathy, connection etc. were discussed along with Kabirji’s couplets.

After the movies several activities were conducted.

Students were divided into 6 groups for comparison activity and they were supposed to compare school with various places, such as 1) school v/s prison 2)school v/s circus 3)school v/s holiday camp

The Students were able to find out many similarities and dissimilarities and they realised the importance of School, its culture and value systems. Students also learnt the importance of Non Violent Communication and its usefulness via the story of The jackal and the giraffe. They learnt the Jackal Language and its usage while performing their duties. There was an activity on Group Agreement – The Code of Conduct, in which students were asked about their choice of council Members. They were asked to share one idea which could be included in the Group Agreement. Each of the Council Members shared their views and agreed upon certain rules. Finally the Group Agreement was presented.

The objective was to realize the importance of group discussion and brain storming.

SESSION – III

On 2nd August, 2015 a session which was held at Vatsalya, was a unique experience for the students Interested activities were planned. Each student was asked to pick up one flower and had to give it to other student by telling them about their one positive quality. There was an exchange of ‘qualities’ amongst the students: The quality of sharing, caring, showing gratitude and appreciation was strengthened.

A special session was conducted with Tandon M'am addressing the parents and students... Reena Ma’am described Kabirji as an Electing Leader:

Some of the qualities of Kabirji’s Couplets are listed below:

When did you notice that you respected your self? 1)Self Respect: Guru Govind deme khade....
How do you encourage others to respect themselves? 2) Generosity: buda bhaiai tau kya hua.....
What do you have in abundance?
How will you share it with others? 3) Purpose of Life: Kabir jah pada hua....
What do you enjoy doing the most? 4) Simplicity: sadhu bhashka prem ka.....
How do you meet your need for love and care?
How do you take care of yourself when it is not easy? 5) Awareness: Kabirna Kabirna...
Name any one of the challenges you face due to distractions?
What support you need to handle yourself better? 6) Social Responsibility: Kabirna khuda bazaar me...

The presentations that followed were interesting too. It turned out to be a great session.

Soulful Parenting ... Parent’s Feed back III!

Once a parent always a parent’ - Our energy, skill sets, conditioning, creativity and innovation define our own experience and the impact we make on our children.

Your responses will be a precious gift that I treasure ... your presence, an opportunity to have a glimpse of myself! (Ms. Reema Gnowal)

I feel that I am growing up with my Kid! (Mr. Avnish Mehta)
Jackal language is ideal to know life skills in such a positive way! (Vinni)
Fosters healthy competitive spirit among students. It also gives a broader perspective as to how dreams can be achieved, step by step. (Sandip Daru)

A sense of equality and team work is necessary to achieve any dream. (Dr. Viren Shah)

Kabirites develop leadership qualities which should teach them not only to lead but also how to uplift others. (Dr. Avani Umatt)

We really got in depth knowledge of Kabirji. This was only possible due to the special efforts of the school. Such events are highly welcomed by us and in future we would be happy to lend our support. (Vimal Samani, Shital Samani)