



Annual Report for the year 2007-08

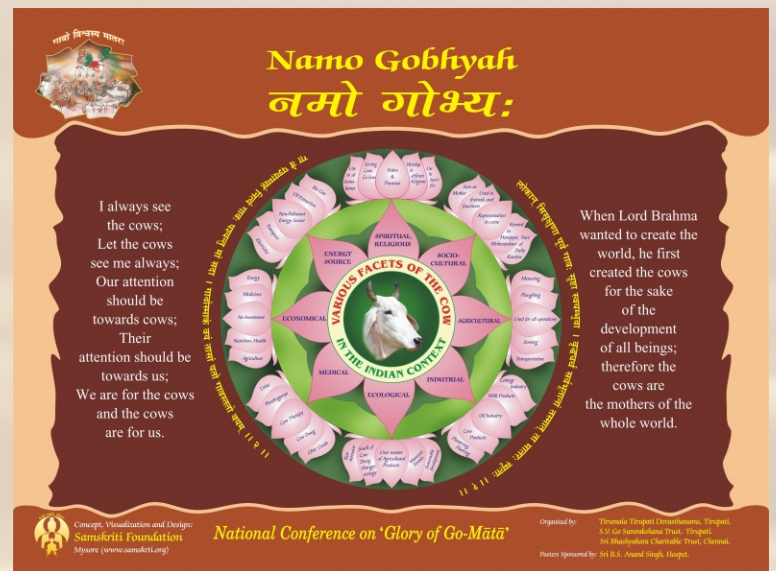
Introduction

The year 2007-08 was an important year in terms of the achievements of Samskriti Foundation. This year too saw a giant leap in the activities of the Foundation. The report of activities for the year 2007-08 is as follows:

I. Project undertaken to create a series of Exhibition Panels depicting the overall greatness and Significance of Cows

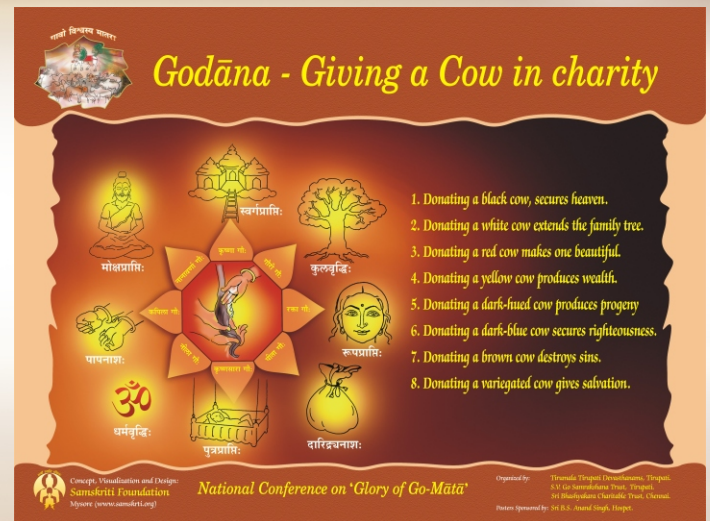
Cow and its progeny are not only precious national property but also form a basis for our rich heritage and resource base. The respect that our cow commands in our society arises out of the invaluable role it plays in the overall growth of our society. The benefits of rearing cows in the context of our social, cultural, economic, spiritual, therapeutic spheres of life is extremely significant. These have been well documented in our ancient scriptures from time immemorial right from the Rig Veda and other Vedas, Upanishads, Itihasas (the Ramayana and the Mahabharata), Puranas, different works of Sanskrit literature. Though all the above works deal in detail with the different aspects of cow, these have not been collected and presented in a single place in a uniform format in a comprehensive manner. While some collected information deals with the economic advantages alone of rearing the cow, other collections deal with either the spiritual significance of the cow or its religious importance alone. So far, we do not come across all the aspects about the cow covered exhaustively in a single place that is easily accessible and also easily comprehensible.

The TTD organized a National Conference on the Glory of Gomatha in the month of December 2007 at Tirupathi to create overall awareness of all the aspects associated with the cow and its continuing utility even in this scientific age. Exhibitions about the Gavya Chikitsa Kendras etc and book publications were also arranged. However, not much efforts were put in to create a comprehensive uniform awareness of all the aspects of the cow right from the Vedic age to the modern age and the utility of the cow in the different spheres of our life mentioned above. In this context, there was a dire necessity to provide comprehensive information about this topic to all the delegates and other members of the public who visit this conference.





To fulfill the above-mentioned need, it was proposed to create an exhibition of a series of Panels (in the form of multi-cover posters). It was proposed to display these panels prominently in a hall that will be decided upon by the organizers (TTD). These panels were to be of multi color in the size of about 4' X 3' 9 (Tall or wide orientation) depending upon the theme to be presented. These panels would be designed in a particular order.



The panels were also designed in a thematic manner. When the viewer sees the complete exhibition of all panels from the beginning to the end, he will have a comprehensive holistic view of the greatness of cow and its rearing right from the Vedic period to the present, the economic viability of rearing the same, methods of rearing, ways and means to protect the indigenous species of traditional Indian cow breeds, utilizing the natural products of the cow and so on. The panels were artistically designed with a classical touch and a traditional fervor that will be in line with the theme of the content. The language in which the presentations was English so that it could appeal to people from all over India and abroad too.



These were the main themes -

1. Worship-worthiness of Cows and reasons thereof.
2. Cows being the inseparable parts of Indian Culture.
3. Cows being the inseparable parts of our society.
4. Crimes being committed against cows by the modern society and their ill-effects.
5. Our duties and responsibilities with regard to the cow.
6. Our cow-wealth around 40 varieties of Indian breeds, their special characteristics and so on.



The Project was graciously sponsored by Sri Anand Singh, Hospet. The Foundation is grateful to him for his graciousness.

This project was successfully completed and implemented and thus added a totally new dimension to the National Conference. Many national newspapers published raving reviews about the exhibition panels.

Hereafter too, it will also serve as a permanent exhibition material that will be an original, long-lasting and unique contribution of TTD to the cause of Indian Cows and its preservation. The same material can also be taken to different places of India and the world and displayed for the benefit of all the people and create a renaissance with regard to honor of the cow, its rearing and protection.

II. MoU signed with ESP Das Foundation, USA for publication of the Valmiki Ramayana translated into Kannada by Sri Devashikhamani Alasingracharya

In April 2007, an MoU was signed between Samskriti Foundation and ESP Das Foundation, USA for publication of the kannada version of Valmiki Ramayana (translated into Kannada) by Sri Devashikhamani Alasingracharya, which was first published in the early 20th Century by Venkateshwara Publishers, Chennai. It was agreed upon to re-publish the same with additional multicolor illustrations and other value additions, but without diluting the content in any manner. The publications are expected to be printed during the ensuing year. M/s Venkateshwara Publishers too have signed an MoU with Samskriti Foundation and have permitted Samskriti Foundation to publish the same.

III. “Kalyani Temple art Embroideries” opened under the aegis of Samskriti Foundation

At present Smt. M.A.Goda, Managing Trustee, has for the last several years been conducting classes for the public at large in Temple art embroideries which have been acclaimed not only in different parts of India, but also in different parts of the world. There is lot of demand for such classes in Bangalore, Mysore and other places. Now, the same was formalized under the name **Kalyani Temple Art Embroideries**, which will function as a wing and under the aegis of Samskriti Foundation, since it is one of the objectives of the Foundation to promote traditional art and allied subjects. Generally it is proposed to hold not less than one course every year.



IV. Prof ES Dwarakadasa, Eminent scientist, scholar and philanthropist becomes a Trustee of Samskriti Foundation

It is a great pleasure to announce that Prof ES Dwarakadasa, former Head of Dept and Prof of Dept of Metallurgy, IISc, Bangalore who is an Eminent scientist, scholar and philanthropist, has been co-opted as a Trustee for a period of three years to facilitate furthering the aims and objectives of the Trust. Prof Dwarakadasa has graciously accepted to be on the board of Trustees and actively guide the activities of the Trust. The trust wholeheartedly welcomes him to be part of the Samskriti Family .

V. Acquiring of a digitization Unit for digitizing rare books and palm-leaf manuscripts

Sri Ashok Patil, a leading philanthropist and green-activist has very kindly donated a Digitization unit to the Foundation. This will facilitate the Foundation to digitize the invaluable manuscripts and books that are made available to the Foundation. This will ensure that the information about the ancient knowledge systems housed in the brittle and delicate palm leaf manuscripts and old and dilapidated books will be kept intact in a digitized form. Digitization of books and manuscripts has started in right earnest.

Conclusion

The year 2007-08 has been a year of varied activities for the Foundation. It has also ventured into new fields in this year. The project to produce panels depicting the greatness of the Indian cow has brought great acclaim to the Foundation. It has also proved to the world that the Foundation is capable of executing major projects in a relatively short amount of time. It is proposed to continue the good work in the coming years also with the cooperation of scholars and philanthropists.

