

**HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES OF KARMA YOGA LEADERSHIP EXPERIENTIAL ACTION PROJECT DURING JAN-MAR, 2016**

Great Lakes Institute of Management (<http://greatlakes.edu.in/>) became a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) in 2013. This quarterly newsletter is published with the objective of sharing with others the way in which the institute inculcates responsible behaviour in students

Dear Colleagues

Greetings from *Karma Yoga*.

Great Lakes Institute of Management is part of the UN Global Compact and our *Karma Yoga* Newsletter is published to share the information among the global business schools to promote the importance of responsible management education.

The *Karma Yoga* convention was a great success as the testimony for the gratifying activities of the students among the village communities. First time the local government body joined with us to organize this event for creating awareness on clean India campaign. We donated ten tricycles to the panchayats for garbage collection through the block development office.

Large number of participation from women and children are vindicates our presence among the most vulnerable section of those communities.

We are happy to circulate the news of Karma Yoga in updating the role of our Great Lakes Institute of Management in leveraging what we each do best and what we all can do together to support the societies around us.

*KY Team*



## CLASSES FOR X AND XII th STUDENTS

Education is one of the major activities of Karma Yoga LEAP (Leadership Experiential Action Project). The KY students organized motivation classes for 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> appearing students at Vengampakkam, Manamai and Vayalur Government High/Higher Secondary schools on 28,30 Jan-2016 . Around 155 students were benefited through these classes. The classes were conducted by Prof.Veeravalli and Dr.Muthuraj of Great Lakes about learning methods and how to study with time management.



For more photos follow the link: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BzN-52jRsijecDhwYUZaelpvV3c&usp=sharing>

## SPECIAL GUEST LECTURE - PROF.JOHN CLAMMER

Prof.John Clammer from Institute of Sustainability and Peace, United Nations University, Tokyo visited Great Lakes and presented a special guest lecture to the Karma Yoga students on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb-2016 at Lake Red Hills . The Professor taught about Sustainable Development and Business Models. The Karma Yoga students clarified their doubts by interacting with the professor.





## DUTCH DELEGATES AND KARMA YOGA VISIT

A team of management experts from Netherlands visited Great Lakes on 12.01.2016. The Karma Yoga students explained to them about LEAP (Leadership Experiential Action Project) activities and their experiences learned through Karma Yoga. Then they drove to see the Perumalcherry colony , one of the KY village and they saw the toilet provided by Great Lakes. Finally the visitor's team had an interaction with a beneficiary and with the community .



For more Photos follow the link: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BzN-52jRsijeZW9PSGh6eWM5MEk&usp=sharing>

## KARMA YOGA VIDEO LAUNCH

The Karma Yoga video was launched by our Founder and Dean Dr.Bala V Balachandran on 31.01.2016 at Great Lakes Institute of Management Manamai. The founder honored the video making team.





## MEETING WITH YAKSEE CEO

The karma Yoga students and staffs had a small meeting on 09-01-2016 at Great Lakes with YakSee CEO. In that meeting students discussed how to implement the technology in the Karma Yoga LEAP and how to utilize the YakSee technology in order to teach community children. The CEO of YakSee answered the different questions for using this application for teaching the kids in the Karma Yoga villages.



## Karma Yoga Annual Convention -2016

The Karma Yoga Annual convention was jointly organized by the Block development office, the local government body and Great Lakes held on March 6<sup>th</sup> at Annai Teresa Arts and Science College Tirukazlukundarm. The Convention started with Mr.Arulsamy, ADGM speaking about how and why Karma Yoga was created by our Founder and Dean Dr.Bala V Balachandran to cater to the needs of various villages around our campus. He wholeheartedly thanked all the people for showing warmth to the Great Lakes students and treating them as members of their own family. In support of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi led **Swatch Bharat Abhiyaan, 10 tri-cycles** that can be used for collecting garbage were distributed to various villages to the village panchayat elected leaders who were present at the venue. Mr.Satyanarayana Addl GM-administration from Great Lakes was present during the handover function to the village leaders. Mr. Jeyavel from TNSF sung a wonderful song by the name "**Edanalae Edanalae**" which urged all the villagers and especially students to ask "**Why**". The Song was received very well by all present in the convention. The government coordinator Mr. Rose for **Clean India campaign** spoke about the importance of cleanliness and hygiene. It was an interactive session which made one realize how mechanical we are in our lives and important to act right now



and bring the change to pass on a sustainable world to the future generations. Mr. Rose's speech was followed by live demo of **"Alert" NGO** who showed various techniques to people on how to save persons lives when encountered with difficult situations such as heart attack etc. **Cultural performance** was the highlight of convention with small children dancing to the folk tunes, women giving wonderful skit performances. Certificates and prizes were distributed to all the participants and finally convention ended with sumptuous lunch. March 6, 2016 will have a special place in Karma Yoga calendar not just because of the convention but also because it gave a platform for people from different platforms to exchange their perspectives thus enabling great learning. We are happy to share the news that on **6<sup>th</sup> March, 2016** the Karma Yoga convention went on very well with donating **10 tricycles** for garbage collection in the KY adopted villages. Ten village panchayat leaders were present and they took possession of the cycles. **Four hundred villagers** participated and shared their happiness with our students in the various events held during the convention. It was a mile stone event in the journey of Karma Yoga in creating mutual trust among the communities around us by our Institution.



For more Photos follow the link: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BzN-52jRsijeMUZLYINhTTJLZU0&usp=sharing>



## SPANDAN- 2016

L'Attitude 2016 theme of Spandan is all about startups and how they are going to cause disruptive innovation in the world of business. This year's Spandan was focused on the true spirit on entrepreneurship and how startups have helped address the various social issues plaguing the Indian economy. Two rounds were conducted for the same. The first round involved a problem statement focusing on successful NGOs like TFI, MAD and so on and how they revolutionized the world of NGOs. The second round focused on development of a sustainable business model that will encourage the entrepreneurial spirit of the villagers and provide an alternative to MGNREGA scheme of the government. Spandan 2016 saw a huge participation in the preliminary round and finally 5 teams from reputed colleges such as MDI, LBSIM and the like were shortlisted for the on campus round. The Judges for the event included MsSandya from Teach For India and Mr.Suresh, Head CSR, Madras Atomic power station. Mr.Shankar Ramasamy, General Manager (Technology) of Great lakes distributed the prizes to the students.





## Miami students visit

Miami Students visited Great Lakes on 01.03.2016 and had an interaction with Karma Yoga students about LEAP (Leadership Experiential Action project) activities. They visited Karma Yoga Villages, Schools along with KY students and also interacted with school children and community people. Finally their visit ended with Cultural programs.

Ted, a Spanish student from the University of Miami said that he found the Karma Yoga activity extremely fulfilling. "It is amazing to see what Great Lakers have been doing in these villages. It is a unique curriculum and it provides a different perspective towards management. It makes a person socially responsible. I belong to a different part of the world and what is I see here is the reality."



For more photos follow the link: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BzN-52jRsijeMHY4SzIwUEZTc0U&usp=sharing>



## FIRST AID TRAINING AT KADAMPADI/VEERAPURAM

Safety is one of the important aspects of human life. This vital knowledge about safety was provided to the kadampadi and Veerapuram village people through Karma Yoga students by organizing FIRST AID Training in both villages. The trainings were conducted by ALERT NGO staffs on 24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016 and 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016. Around 500 villagers were benefited and 10 First Aid Kits were provided to Veerapuram villagers by Karma Yoga students.



For more photos follow the link: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BzN-52jRsijeTUVWUmhDWGl1ZTg&usp=sharing>

## Education in KY villages

The Kariyacherry, Pudupattinam KarmaYoga students visited the schools at the villages and taught special classes to the small children to enhance their learning skills. The quiz program conducted by the KY students was very useful to the students and improved their general knowledge.



For more photos follow the link: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BzN-52jRsijeZGFEMkE3ZlozSHc&usp=sharing>



## GREEN FARMING -KITCHEN GARDEN

The kitchen garden initiative was started by the Karma Yoga students at Kollamedu village. In the process, first the students conducted survey for forming kitchen garden and discussed with the villagers. Then the students conducted training and provided four varieties of seeds (tomato, ladiesfinger, avarakai and brinjal) seeds to the villages. The students physically involved in the kitchen garden farming process. Through this Kitchen garden training many of the families got benefited.



For more photos follow the link: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BzN-52iRsijebE0xc1A5bndybnM&usp=sharing>



## From My Heart – Mayank Bhayana- FT NO: 163050

Karma Yoga has completely exceeded my expectations of what I thought I would learn in the field visits to various villages around Great Lakes Institute of Management. It has enriched and cultivated



my managerial skills as well as my knowledge of social justice. To say the least it was and has been an experience, something that educated me quickly and made me very aware of issues that people in villages face every day. For me Karma Yoga was an opportunity to fight for peoples' rights, protect the vulnerable, and support those who need support. It also allowed me to have a positive impact on others, if they so choose. As a

Karma Yogi, I worked with a varied and diverse group of people and experienced a multifaceted life that is consistently dynamic and evolving. It allowed me to try and tackle the wicked issues, to help empower others to solve their own problems, and to make a difference (hopefully for the better) to individual's lives. Various opportunities to interact with activists in the field of Social Service inspired me to work on varying levels of society, to have a hand in changing it and to push forward to a fairer, more equal and just society. Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Consciously or unconsciously, every one of us does render some service or another. If we cultivate the habit of doing this service deliberately, our desire for service will steadily grow stronger, and it will make not only for our own happiness, but that of the world at large." Karma Yoga is one such noble initiative of Great Lakes Institute of Management to cultivate this habit of doing social service to humanity in the future leaders of the world. I am highly obliged to be a part of 'Karma Yoga' and contributing my part to make this world a happier place to live in.