

VARNASRAMA RESEARCH TEAMS

(VRT)

(V)arnasrama

(R)esearch

(T)eams

Initiative of ISKCON Daiva Varnasrama Ministry

IDVM-India

What is

Why Establish

How to Establish

**DAIVA
VARNASRAMA
DHARMA**

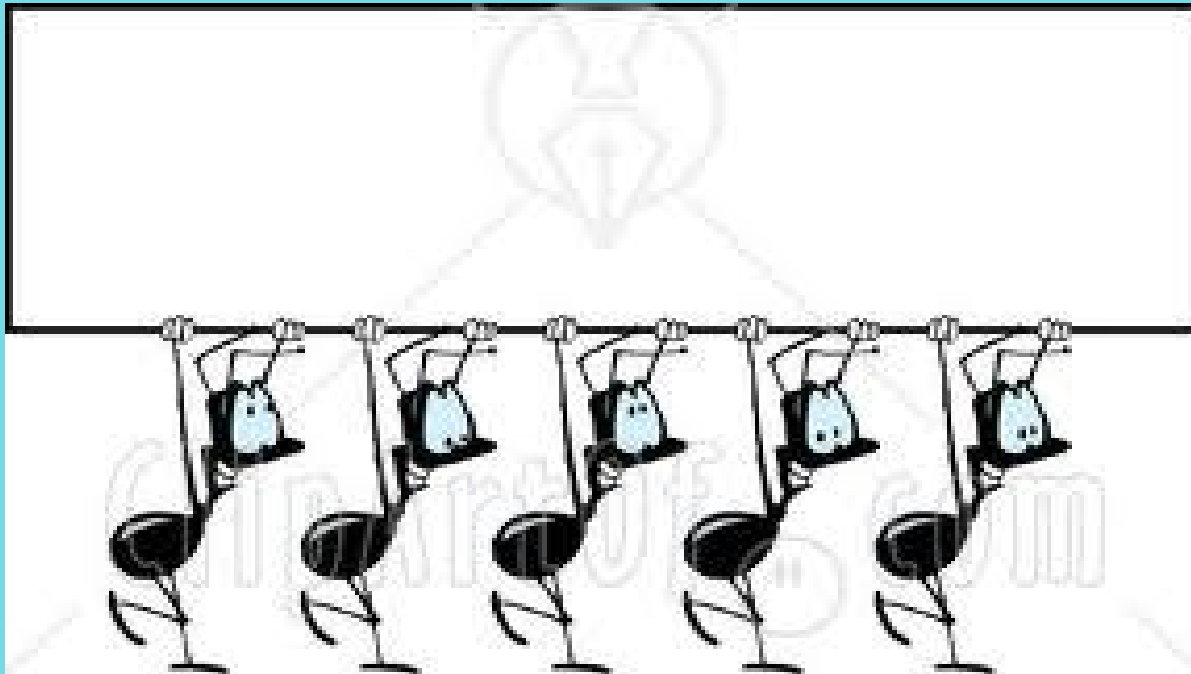


More specifically details about

- Purchasing land
- Studying land, water, seeds, pest control, cultivation, harvesting, storing, manure, protecting the crop from wild animals
- Building Goshala, selecting breed of cow, cow care.
- Constructing Traditional houses with local material.
- Making own cloth
- Health and Diseases prevention
- Village technologies such as – pottery, jaggery, water lifting devices etc.
- Protection from wild animals/local threats
- Engaging farm congregation
- Guidelines for proper relationship between devotees
- Training children in Gurukulas
- Proper spiritual standards according to Occupation
- Preaching in Community

One alone cannot accomplish this major task alone.

A **Team Effort** is required.



Varnasrama Research Teams

VRT

*** Bringing Talents Together ***

*** Building Networks ***

*** Finding Solutions ***

Varnasrama Research Teams (VRT)

Varnasrama Research Teams constitute various interested individuals forming a team to lend support to the Global Varnasrama Mission.

- This service opportunity is open to both men and women who would like to give some of their time and energy in helping materialize Srila Prabhupada's vision of the Varnasrama mission.
- VRTs are localized.
- Stepping out to the Outside world.

Requisites for Establishing VRT

- A team of individuals with good working relationship and understanding of the purpose of establishing Varnasrama Dharma.
- The members of the team should be ready to spend at least few hours each week, to research various subjects with proper planning and discretion.
- The team should meet at least once a week and share their researched information and systematically compile them.

Functions of VRT

- Preaching Daiva Varnasrama Dharma
- Implementing concepts of Daiva Varnasrama Dharma

Preaching Daiva Varnasrama Dharma

- Creating awareness among devotees on Daiva Varnasrama Dharma in two ways
 - 1) Dangers of modern lifestyle
 - 2) Importance of taking up traditional occupations and natural lifestyle

Implementation of Daiva Varnasrama Dharma

The following things are needed in order to implement Varnasrama Dharma

- 1) Knowledge & Skills
- 2) Resources – Manpower & Money
- 3) Mercy of the Supreme Lord and Acharyas.

Gathering Skills and Knowledge

- NGOs – Organic farming, Construction, rural development, Terrace gardening, Water management, manure, seeds, village organization
- Meeting individuals to get information.
- Visiting various farm projects
- Libraries
- Attend trainings and workshops on various Varnasrama related topics

Manpower & Money

- Supporting local farm projects
- Visiting farm on weekends and getting involved there
- Help in acquiring/reviving village technologies

Some Examples

NGOs:

Sahajasamrudhha- Organic farming

Deccan development society – Natural farming

- Water management

- Construction

Karnatak khadhi Grama udyoga-Village technologies

Dharma chakra – for cow protection

FRLHT – Ayurveda and health

Some Examples

Individuals:

Narayana Murthy – Organic farming

Sarva Dharman – Biodynamic farming

For Example

Communities:

Auroville – Eco village development

Vanastree – Farm project developed one
corporate family

Saraswathi Library , Tanjvur – Ancient books

Attending Conferences



Attending Conferences



Exhibitions and Mela



What next?

Share the skills and knowledge thus obtained with local farm projects.

Maintain Database or Library

- The collected information, books, etc., can be maintained in a library or Database.
- Data systematically compiled or organized can be easily available for access and sharing.

Support!

Varnasrama Media Productions (VMP)

Support!

OM Sri Surabhi Campaign

Producing Books
and Articles
to Record and Share

Alternatives to Weekly Meeting

VRT teams can also set up Conferences using technology such as Voice chat, Skype, etc.

Information can be shared better by using the Google/Yahoo groups and WhatsApp

Benefits by Establishing VRT

- Faster farm development and shift from cities to villages
- Team members gets some idea on the occupations that suits their nature
- Collective working improves relations

More Activities in the Future

- Understanding deeper the various systems as prescribed in Vedic Scriptures
- Understanding guidelines for the establishing proper government
- Conducting conferences for general public.
- Gurukula teacher
- Establishing proper understanding of the Varnasrama mission

A Way to Start VRT

- Initially one can take up distribution of produce from farms and Goshala
- Regular discussing about importance Simple Living and High Thinking with devotees.
- Identify interested individuals
- Invite them to weekly meeting
- Yahoo, Google groups, WhatsApp

How City Temples Can Be Involved

- Starting Varnasrama Research Team
- Maintaining the stall with farm products from local project
- Terrace gardening in temple area
- Starting Govinda Darshan
- Introducing the training in different arts like making handmade papers, agarbattis, etc.

Terrace Gardening



City Grihastha devotees should plan to do terrace gardening so that in the future this experience can be useful to do farming and settle in our farm communities.

Farm Trips



Reducing Dependence on Outside World

- Utilizing farm produces in restaurants
- Incense making
- Rose water making
- Handmade paper

Learning Ayurveda Courses



Working with Other NGOs

- Working with other NGOs in following areas
 1. Plastic free city or village
 2. Rainwater harvesting
 3. Ayurveda medicine development
 4. Village adopt program
 5. Forest preservation

Necessities

Skills,
Knowledge,
Information,
Resources

Outside ISKCON

Training,
Conferences,
Visiting individual
experts,
Libraries,
Exhibitions,
Hiring

**Varnasrama
Research
Team(VRT)**

Temples

Farm communities

IDVM
India

Chant Hare Krishna
Be Happy

www.iskconvarnasrama.com
www.srisurabhi.org