



# ZONE 5 HIGHLIGHTS

| COUNTRIES | CENTRES/<br>GROUPS | SSIO<br>MEMBERS | SSE<br>STUDENTS | ISSE | SATHYA SAI<br>School |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|----------------------|
| China     | 2                  | 35              |                 |      |                      |
| Hong Kong | 2                  | 503             | 247             | 1    |                      |
| Japan     | 27                 | 361             | 28              | 1    |                      |
| Taiwan    | 2                  | 93              | 58              |      | 1                    |
| TOTAL     | 33                 | 992             | 333             | 2    | 1                    |



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#### China

The Sathya Sai Centre of Guangzhou organised a talk and study circle to discuss the lessons we can learn from animals and how to practise these lessons.

In commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the Sathya Sai Centre in China, SSIO members from southeast Asia organised a special programme between 13th and 15th October 2016 that included 40 people from Hong Kong. The SSIO of Hong Kong donated 1,000 umbrellas, along with 150 school bags and water bottles for children, to a school adjacent to the Centre premises.

The SSIO observed Ladies' Day on 19th November 2016. Five volunteers distributed food to residents with mental challenges at the Huiling Home, and on 20th November, SSIO members presented a talk to about 25 people on the role of women at home and in society.

In April 2016, the ISSE of Hong Kong conducted a four-day "Train the Trainers" session with postgraduate students from two leading universities. This introductory session for 70 teachers and principals, local Education Bureau representatives, and a local university professor and her postgraduate students in the Yunnan Province, initiated a two-year project on human values education.





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### Hong Kong

On 7th April 2016, the ISSE of Hong Kong hosted a public meeting at St. John's Cathedral on "Parenting Strategies to Overcome the Stresses of your Children's Education."

The Ladies Wing, in collaboration with the public outreach team, organised an inspirational afternoon high tea on 21st May 2016, where about 100 young ladies participated in a lively presentation, "Are You Ready to Live It Up?"

The Sathya Sai Centre of Kowloon hosted about 60 members of the interfaith community on 6th September 2016 for a discussion on "Fear, Faith, and Freedom: Braving the Winds of Change."

On 24th September 2016, 75 SSE children, 20 SSE teachers, and 12 adults cooked, packed, and distributed food to about 150 "street sleepers" in public places.

The SSIO of Hong Kong released an illustrated storybook, The Sacred Life of Ants, on 20th October 2016. Suitable for all ages, the booklet reminds readers that God is immanent in all animals, insects, and human beings.

On 26th March 2017, the SSIO, in conjunction with friends from other faith traditions, hosted an Interfaith Walk for Values on the theme, "Protect Our Planet." Although rain had fallen overnight and early that morning, not a drop fell on the 300



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walkers. Major faith leaders presented uplifting talks on the importance of environmental protection, from spiritual and practical angles.

The senior SSE class and the Young Adults continued to teach English to selected groups of children at a local school.

### Japan

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On 18th June 2016, 30 children took part in a national SSE festival in Tokyo.

In August 2016, nine Sathya Sai students and a faculty member of Sri Sathya Sai Institutes of Higher Learning (SSSIHL) from India visited Japan as part of a Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Programme in science.

On 6th September 2016, ISSE volunteers participated in a "Study of India 2016" event at a local public high school.

On 24th and 25th September 2016, the Sathya Sai Centre of Tokyo manned a booth at Namaste India, the largest Indian fair in Japan, visited by thousands of people.





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### Taiwan

On 30th April 2016, about 135 students and teachers of Chinese SSE, volunteers, parents, and friends participated in a Walk for Values in Taipei City, carrying values-based banners to Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Park.

SSIO members celebrated the 20th anniversary of SSEHV in Taiwan on 26th June 2016. About 130 students, teachers, parents, grandparents, and guests gathered in Taipei City's Hakka Cultural Park auditorium to celebrate and share experiences of transformation through SSEHV.

SSIO members organised a blood donation drive on 7th August 2016, collecting 105 bags of blood. SSE children and their parents entertained the blood donors with songs and presented information about Sathya Sai. The group sponsored another blood donation drive on 26th March 2017, collecting 101 bags of blood.

In keeping with the "Love for Animals" theme of the global Serve the Planet project, the SSIO of Taiwan invited speakers from the Environmental Protection Administration on 24th March and 14th April 2017 to speak on the prevention of cruelty to animals.

