

## Vidyavardhaka Sangha® VIDYAVARDHAKA LAW COLLEGE

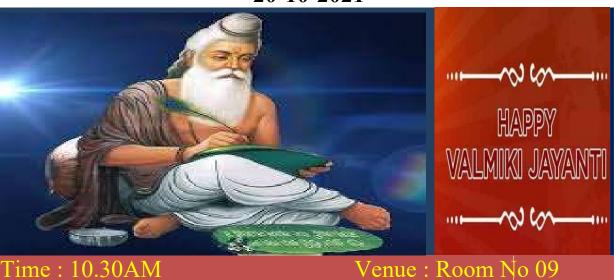
Sheshadri Iyer Road, Mysuru.

**IQAC** 

**CELEBRATING** 

## **VALMIKI JAYANTHI**

*On* 20-10-2021



By,

# Distinguish Speaker

Dr. Kumar N J Assistant Professor Vidyavardhaka Law College,

**Dr. Deepu P**Principal

**Prof K.B Vasudeva**Director of Legal Studies

**Dr. Prakruthi A R**Co-Ordinator

ALL ARE CORDIALLY WELCOME



### VIDYAVARDHAKA LAW COLLEGE, SHESHADRI IYER ROAD, MYSURU

## Valmiki Jayanthi Celebration Report

#### 2021-2022

On 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 the Valmiki Jayanthi was celebrated. Dr. Kumar N J Assistant Profession and distinguish speaker in this occasion pointed out the importance of celebration of Valmiki Jayanti. He said it is a Hindu festival that is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Maharishi Valmiki, who penned the famous Hindu epic Ramayana. According to the Hindu calendar, it falls on the full moon day of the month of Ashwin. It is also popularly known as Pragat Diwas. There are two stories revolving around the history of Valmiki Jayanti.



According to the first one, in his early life, Rishi Valmiki was believed to be a highway dacoit. He was known as Ratnakara at the time and used to frequently rob people. However, one such day, he crossed paths with Narad Muni, a famous Hindu messenger and witnessed a complete turnaround in his life. He

began following Lord Rama and meditated for several years. Eventually, he achieved enlightenment and was declared successful by a divine voice and he was renamed as Valmiki. There is a story behind how Rishi Valmiki got his name as well. Once during his prayers, it is believed that he became so engrossed in meditation that an anthill formed over him. In sanskrit, 'Valmika' means anthill. Thus, the name given to him is symbolic to his sheer devotion of Lord Rama and how he never broke his meditation despite ants making an anthill over him.

He thus achieved enlightenment and began to also be known as 'Brahmarishi'. Maharshi Valmiki is believed to have then built an Ashram on the banks of the Ganga River. He thus began living there and sometime during his stay, he is said to have been blessed by Lord Brahma with a Divine vision when he wrote the Ramayana.



According to the other story, it is believed that during Lord Rama's exile from Ayodhya, Maharishi Valmiki crossed paths with him once. He is also said to be the one who also rescued Sita after Lord Rama banished her later from the kingdom of Ayodhya and provided her shelter. It was also in his very ashram that

Sita gave birth to her sons, Lava and Kusha. Hence, Rishi Valmiki played an active role in the childhood of the two boys and became their instructor. He was also the one to teach them the Ramayana which contains 24,000 verses (shlokas) and 7 cantos (kandas).

Principal Dr. Deepu P said every year, the birth anniversary of Sage Valmiki, who wrote the Hindu epic Ramayana, is celebrated as Valmiki Jayanti. This year, Valmiki Jayanti will be celebrated on 20<sup>th</sup> October. Also known as Adi Kavi or the first poet, Valmiki also appeared as a hermit in Ramayana. It is he who takes Sita into his ashram. It is believed that Valmiki nurtured Sita and her kids, Luv and Kush during their exile. Every year, during this time, various religious events are held throughout the country. Risi Valmiki wrote the story of Lord Rama, which came to be known as Ramayana. Ramayana has 24,000 verses and seven cantos (kandas). It is 480,002 words long, a quarter of the complete text of Mahabharata, the Hindu epic.



It is believed that Valmiki learned the tale of Lord Rama from his guru Narada Muni. Parades, Shobha Yatras and devotional hymns are sung by the Valmiki sect on Valmiki Jayanti.





Finally the programme ended with vote of thanks conveyed by the Prof. M C Rajesh

Teaching & Non-Teaching Staff of the College were present.