

# Eight-month-long national programming contest by Amrita University now open for school students all over India

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**New Delhi:** Aiming to stimulate the intelligent minds of the nation's youth, Amrita University is organizing a marathon programming competition that will span the next eight months. Titled "Lord of the Code," the contest is open to school students of any age group from across India. The winners will be sponsored by the University to participate in its prestigious "Battle of Whiz" programming camp to be held in December 2016.

The online contest, hosted on Code Chef ([codechef.com](http://codechef.com)), will take place on the last four days of each month. While all new participants will receive a T-Shirt, the monthly winners will receive prizes in the name of Harsha Suryanarayan, the legendary coder and algorithmist who passed away in June 2014 at the young age of 32. Harsha was a finalist in ACM ICPC, one of the world's most prestigious programming contests which Amrita University has hosted regionally since 2005.

Said Anand Sheno, Regional Contest Director, ACM ICPC Asia, at Amrita University: "Events like the Lord of the Code help Indian school students of all ages sharpen their programming skills and exhibit their talent in the international arena. It is our dream and goal to take India to the heights of competitive programming. The molding of budding programmers has to start early from school days. The aim of this marathon contest spanning eight months is to maintain the momentum of interest among beginners and recognize youngsters who excel in programming and competitive programming."

The Lord of the Code contest will culminate with the winners attending the Amrita University-hosted programming camp called "Battle of Whiz" in December this year. Since the Battle of the Whiz camp will coincide with the ACM ICPC Regional Contest, also being held at the Amrita University, the participants will get an opportunity to interact with some of India's top programming geniuses.

Added Anand Sheno: "The problem sets are being prepared by the best programmers in India. By solving these with a computer program, the mental sharpness and problem-solving skills of students improve. Moreover, since the contest involves real-world problems, the creative talents of participants can be channeled for the good of the society."