

# Child Haven International



Green Tara of Nepal, goddess of compassion and the environment.

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**June, 2009**



**MAHATMA GANDHI'S LAST SURVIVING PRIVATE SECRETARY**

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Bonnie Cappuccino was quite overwhelmed to discover that Mr V Kalyanam had already visited our Kaliyampoondi Home. He was delighted to meet people who were trying to follow Gandhian philosophy. He was able to speak with our 250 children and with Chief Administrator P. Padmanaban (Bathu). He was pleased with the Home and happily agreed to become a Patron and a Board Member of Child Haven International / India. Bathu is the newly appointed Chief Administrator of Kaliyampoondi Child Haven.

At age 88, quick-witted Kalyanam, laughingly told how Gandhi abused him. *“I didn't want to be his secretary. When I joined his Sevagram Ashram in 1944 as a gardener, Gandhi and all his secretaries were in prison. Gandhi was released early for health reasons, and didn't have a secretary. Unfortunately he discovered that I could speak English and could type with one finger, so I was expropriated!”* (more on this amazing man on childhaven.ca)

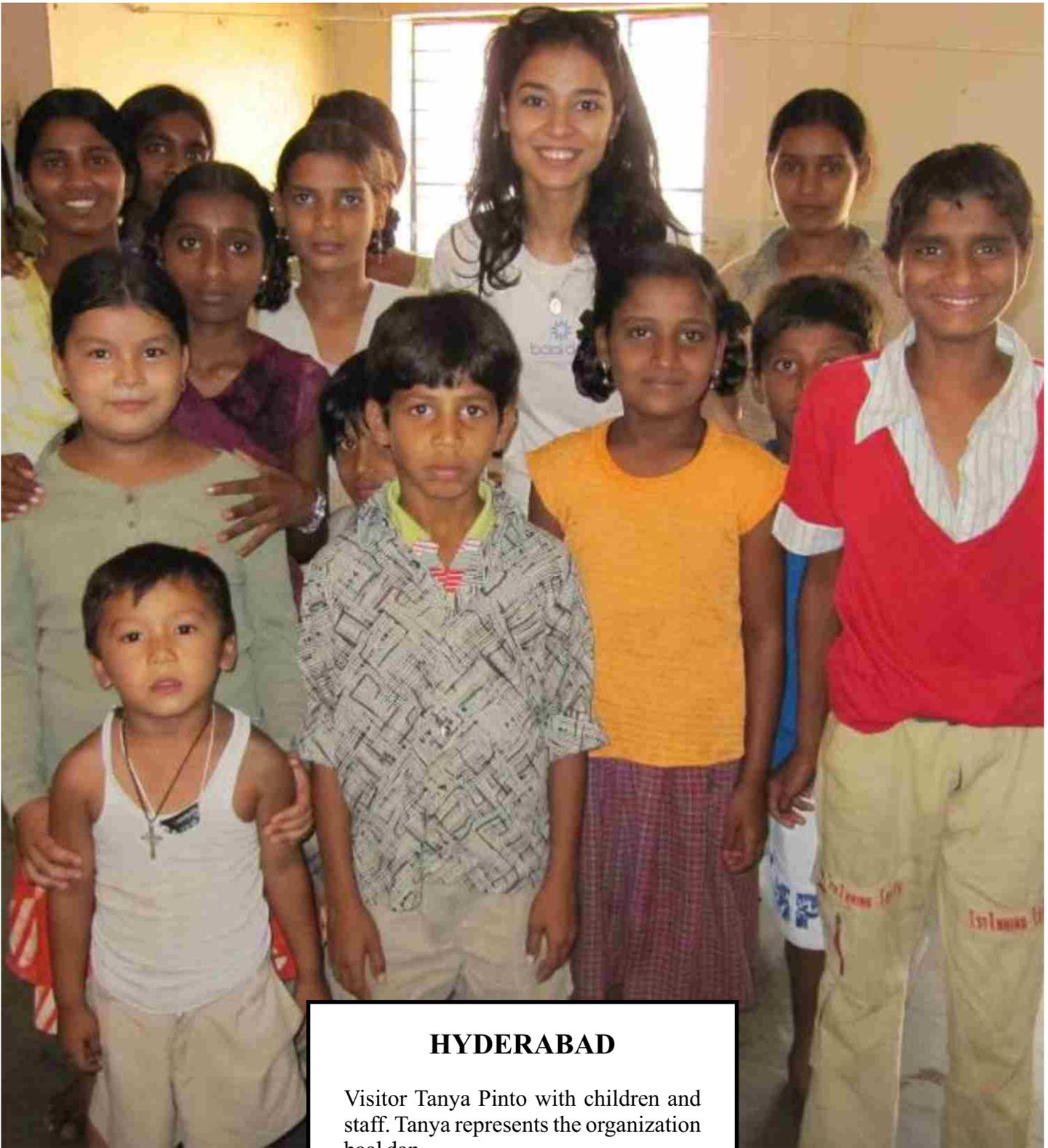
## KALIYAMPOONDI

Sundaram has been a tutor at Child Haven for many years. Many of his students have done well in their further studies.



Radha is another tutor who has done well in preparing many children for post-high school learning. We can see that the kids are terrified of her.





## HYDERABAD

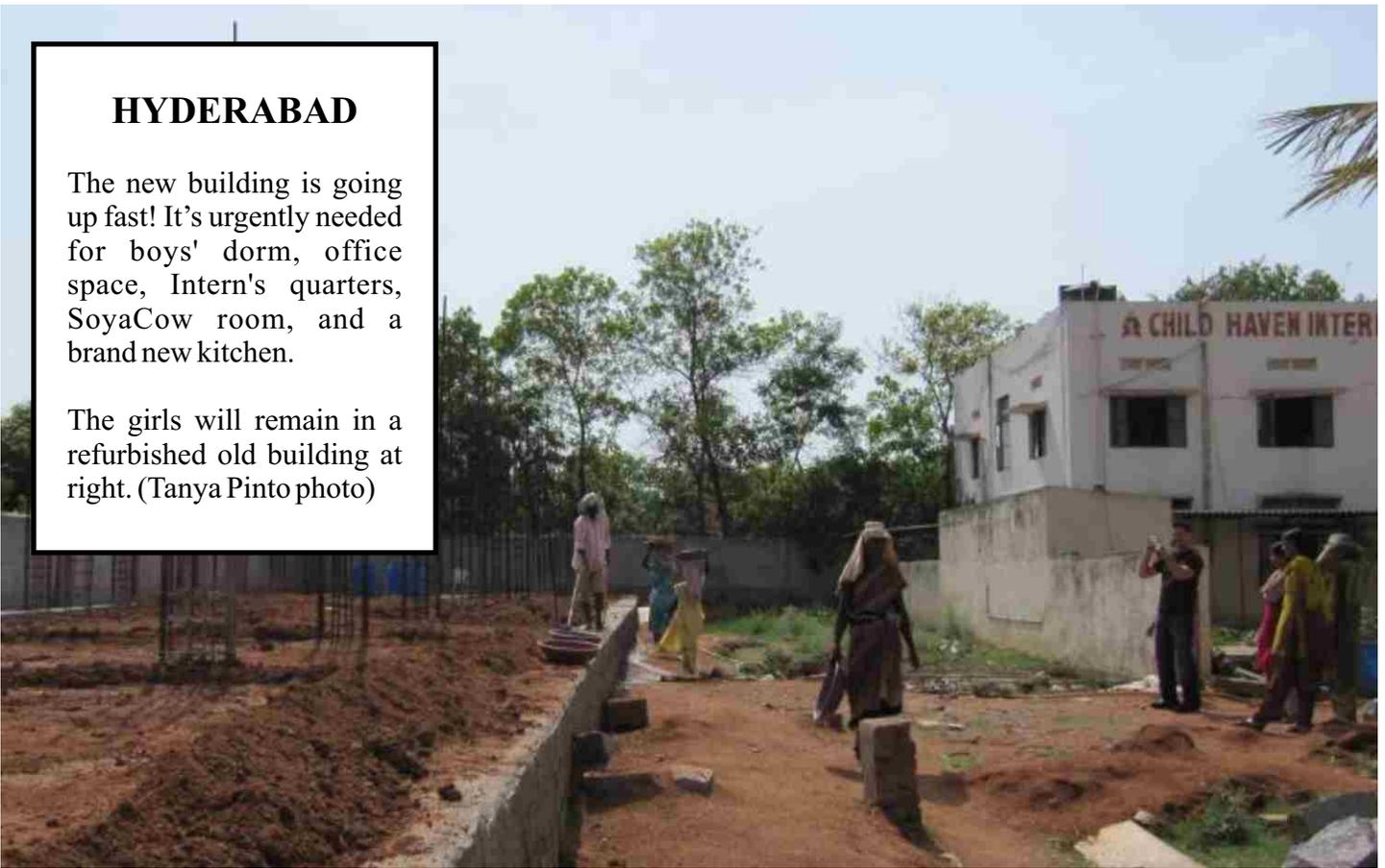
Visitor Tanya Pinto with children and staff. Tanya represents the organization baal dan.

***Alert! Toronto Area people -  
please note Mississauga Dinner date has been  
changed from June 27th to Sept 19th***

## HYDERABAD

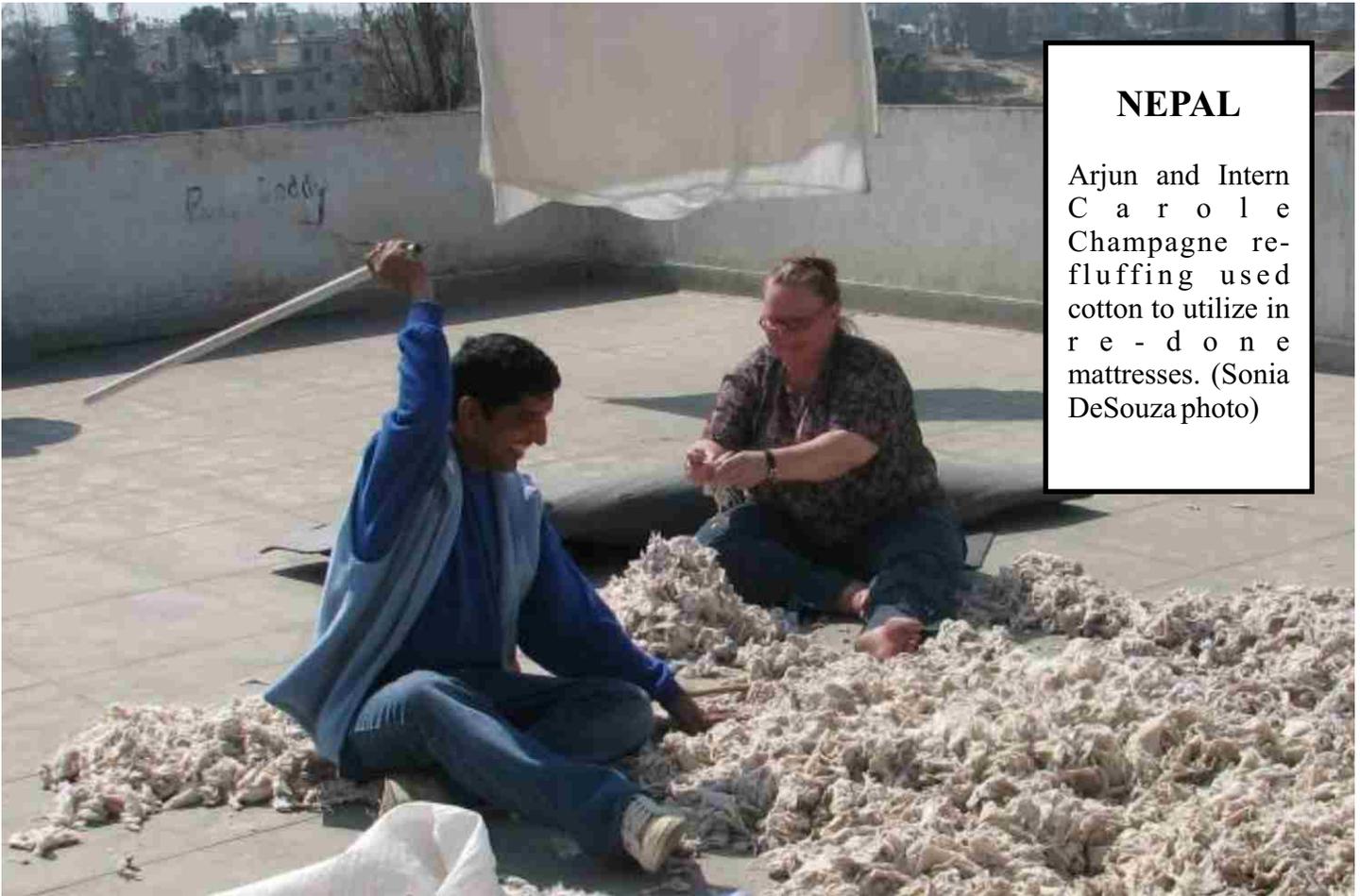
The new building is going up fast! It's urgently needed for boys' dorm, office space, Intern's quarters, SoyaCow room, and a brand new kitchen.

The girls will remain in a refurbished old building at right. (Tanya Pinto photo)



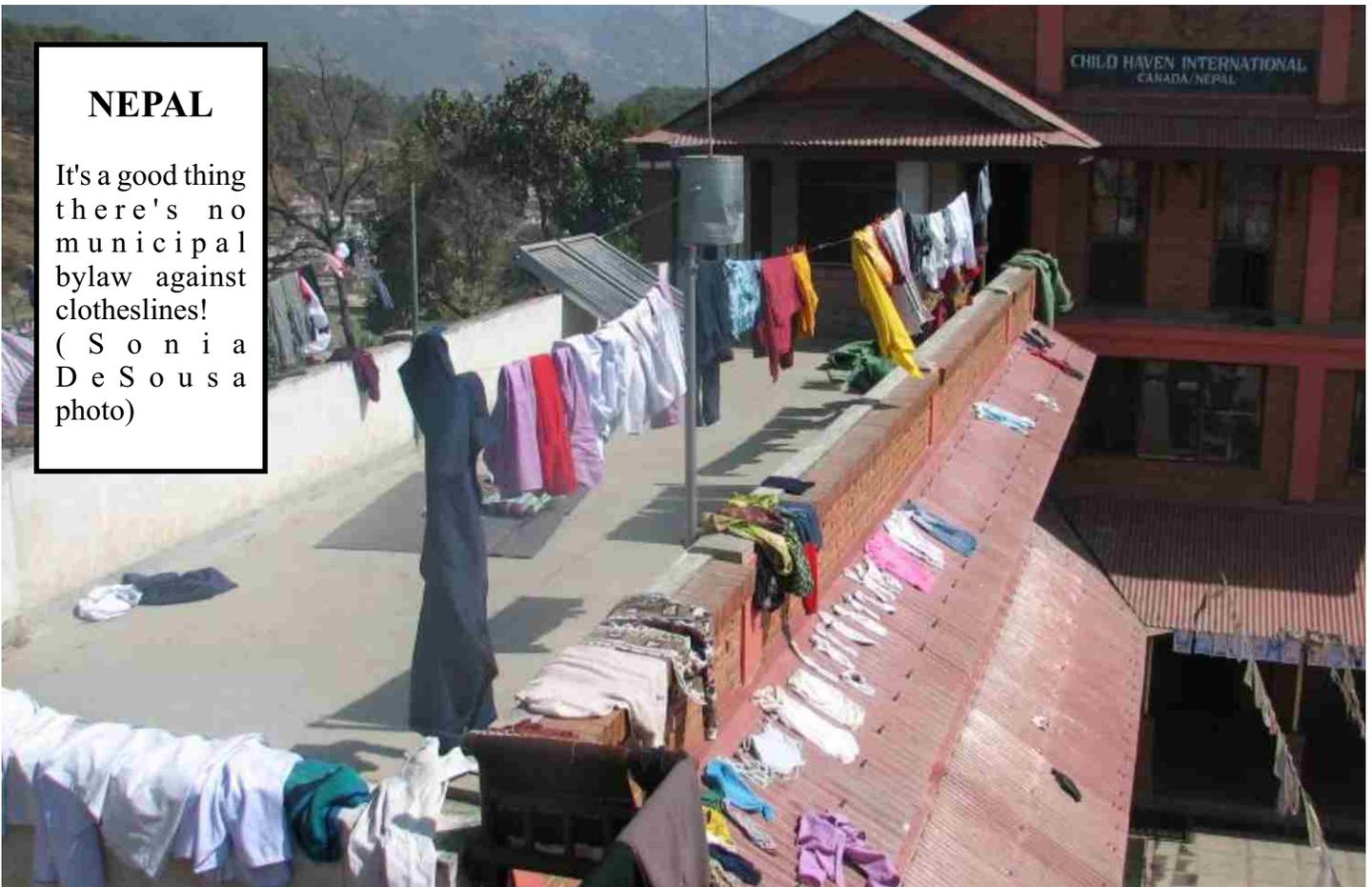
## NEPAL

On top of the new building of the Child Haven Green Tara School, Co-ordinator Arjun is giving a pep talk to the children.



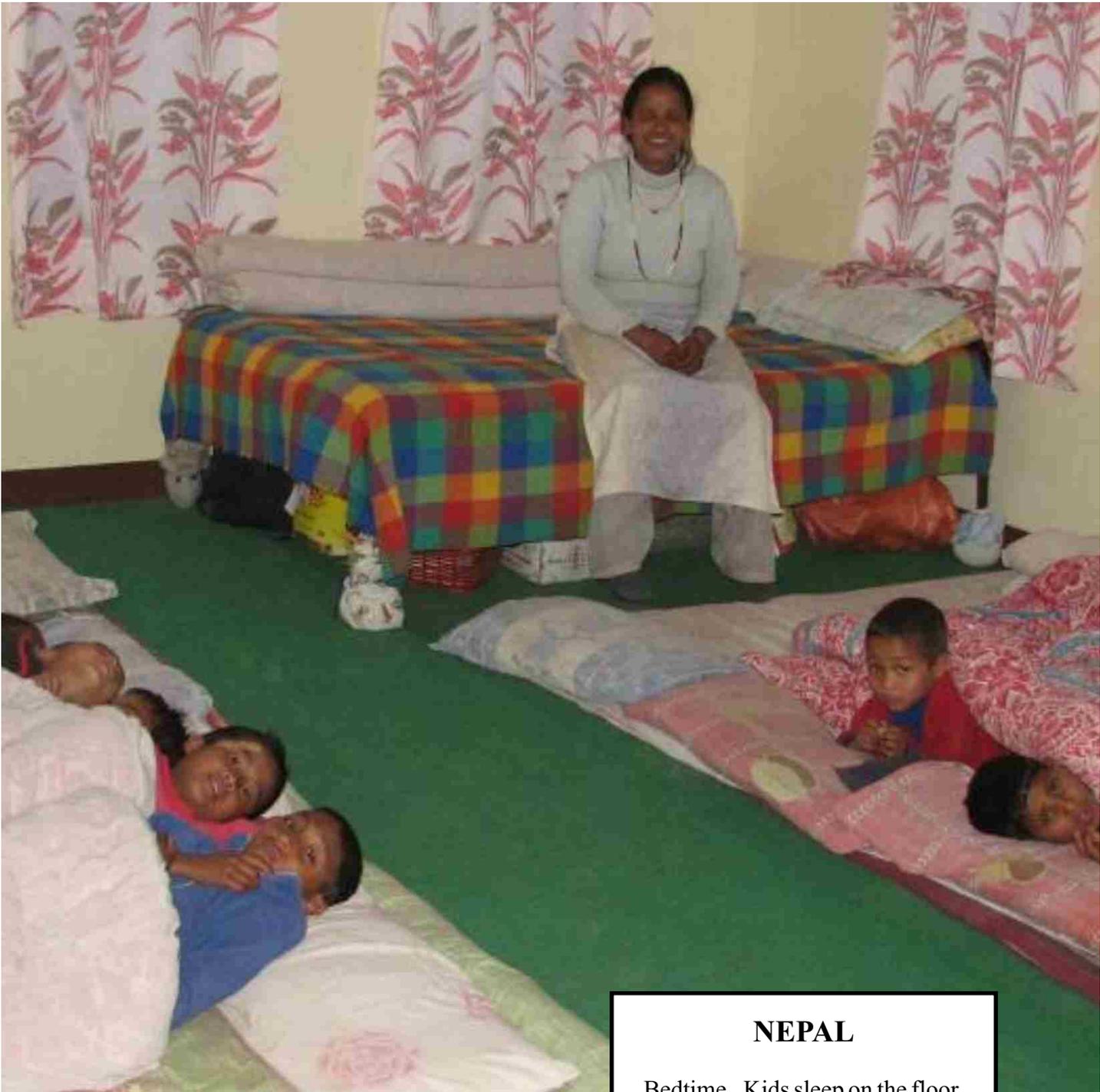
## NEPAL

Arjun and Intern  
C a r o l e  
Champagne re-  
fluffing used  
cotton to utilize in  
r e - d o n e  
mattresses. (Sonia  
DeSouza photo)



## NEPAL

It's a good thing  
there's no  
municipal  
bylaw against  
clotheslines!  
( S o n i a  
D e S o u z a  
photo)



## NEPAL

Bedtime. Kids sleep on the floor, according to Nepali custom. Caregiver Ganga has a bed under which she can store important stuff.



## NEPAL

The new Child Haven Green Tara School seen across the chasm from the Home compound.

## CHITTAGONG

Interns Tricia Paul-Carson and her husband Michael visited many of the Homes in 2009.

They are visiting a pine forest with some of the kids. Tricia is Communications Co-ordinator for Child Haven.



## **BONNIE LORE**

- An occasional column by her long-suffering husband

### **Chapter Nine - The Arrival of Tran Thai Tong Cappuccino.**

We moved to Canada in 1967. We had seven children. By 1968 the war in Vietnam was still going strong. Bertrand Russell condemned the American slaughter as "genocide." Bonnie said to me, "I'd like to get an orphaned baby from over there."

I said, "We have enough babies. Besides, I've been told it's impossible to bring overseas children into Canada for adoption."

"Then you don't mind if I try?"

"OK with me. Lot's of luck, Heh, Heh."

It didn't take Bonnie long to learn that another family had already succeeded. Theirs was the first adoption by a Canadian family by proxy from Vietnam. (Proxy means the couple is not required to go to the country, but can be represented by a lawyer). So Bonnie followed all the same steps.

Finally we received a picture of a baby - a beautiful boy just a few months old. But because of Canadian red tape we couldn't get immigration papers for the child. We tried for months, until Rosemary Taylor, our nurse friend in Vietnam, informed us that the baby died. We were devastated and angry.

Bonnie wouldn't give up. Rosemary sent us a picture of another child. We went through the adoption procedures in Vietnam, but we ran into more Canadian obstructionism. One day little Mohan said to Bonnie, "It's a lot easier to have a child inside you. He would get here sooner."

Bonnie said, "Well, that takes a long time, too."

"But at least you know where he is," said four-year-old Mohan.

The first medical report on this second baby was not sufficient for Canadian Immigration Office in Hong Kong. They wanted to test him for syphilis by taking a spinal tap. Rosemary Taylor was aghast and refused absolutely!

Bonnie was horrified. This was her baby they were violating! She said to me, "Fred, you'd better get through to Mr Trudeau, because this baby is also going to die if they keep playing around." I isolated myself for two days to compose a letter.

We mailed the four-page document to Trudeau on December 9. Bonnie told me, "I'm not going to eat anything until those guys in Ottawa open the door for my baby." She assumed that Trudeau's office would likely receive the letter on the 10th. On that day she didn't eat any breakfast or lunch. She and I were the only ones who knew about her Gandhian type hunger strike. But if we

didn't hear anything by the following day, I would call the newspapers, show them a copy of our letter to Trudeau, and tell them Bonnie was fasting. I was eating, because one of us had to take care of the kids at home. Bonnie missed supper. At 7:21 that evening, we got a phone call with a telegraphed message:

RE: YOUR LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER DATED DECEMBER 9, 1968 AND RECEIVED TODAY, IT IS RECEIVING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. COPY OF IT IS BEING REFERRED BY HAND TO THE MINISTER OF MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION FOR URGENT ATTENTION. I AM SURE THE MINISTER WILL HELP YOU IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

- WILLIAM G MORRIS,  
SECRETARY.

Bonnie made herself a little bowl of salad and ate it quietly. A part of me was disappointed. I was hoping for a big splash in the newspapers about a determined woman on a Gandhian hunger strike! But all Bonnie wanted was her baby.

He soon arrived at Dorval airport. The immigration doctor at the airport was as horrified as we were that Canadian

officials in Asia wanted to invade his spinal column. We were all at the airport to meet this precious new arrival - always a joyful, joyful event.

There had been no milk in the orphanage. Our six-month-old son had been raised exclusively on rice water - the water the rice is cooked in. Into our home he brought head parasites, skin parasites, and intestinal parasites. But he was healthy, and at long last, we had him safely with us, Tran Thai Tong Cappuccino - the most beautiful baby in the world

- Fred Cappuccino

Large Gift Co-ordinator, Meena Roberts

Sponsorship Co-ordinator, Richa Aggarwal

Social Worker, Christine Johnston, MSW

Refugee Counsellor in Canada, Tara Upreti

Sale Table Co-ordinator, Pam Hellstrom

Communications Co-ordinator,  
Patricia Paul-Carson

Canadian Directors of Child Haven:

Dr Nat Shah, Peter Freud, Bonnie and Fred  
Cappuccino, Bernadette Caron.

Decal of Gandhi, P V Anthony

Mother & child logo, Eugene Fern

Newsletter editor, Fred Cappuccino

International Director, Bonnie Cappuccino

**Child Haven orphanages and projects:**  
*(“Women” are mostly staff, but include some  
in women's training programs)*

**Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India**

48 children 6 women Language: Gujarati

**Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India**

157 children 11 women Language: Telegu

**Kaliyampoondi, Tamil Nadu, India**

250 children 35 women Language: Tamil

**Maitreya Foundation, New Delhi, India**

21 children 1 woman Language: Tibetan&Hindi

**Savarsai, Maharashtra, India**

39 children 3 women Language: Marathi

**Kathmandu, Nepal**

309 children 22 women Language: Nepali

**Tibet**

41 children 4 women Language: Tibetan

**Chittagong, Bangladesh**

61 children 4 women Language: Bengali

**Ghaziabad, India (informal education)**

36 children 105 women Language: Hindi



**TIBET**

The two youngest children  
at Tibet Child Haven.

***International Child Haven does not:***

1. Sell or trade your name/address;
2. Solicit by phone or door to door;

**HARD TIMES** have come to Child Haven. Some of our supporters have been laid off, and have to reduce or stop giving. Recently a family who have been giving \$12,000 annually increased the amount to \$14,000 because of the economic downturn. There are others, but it is not enough.

**In our 24 year history this is our first blatant pitch for money. Since we have been so very frugal, there is very little "fat" that can be trimmed. We are hoping that when our supporters hear that we are in financial difficulties they will respond. One urgent need is post Grade 10 sponsorships at \$400. to \$2000. per year.**

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Child Haven, founded in 1985, is funded entirely by contributions from friends. Bonnie Cappuccino, International Director, visits all the projects four times a year. We wish to thank the individuals who provide for three of her quarterly trips. We try to operate by a Gandhian philosophy.

This newsletter is also on our website, with photos in colour.

***Sponsoring:** general half-sponsorship is \$14 /month. Full sponsorship is \$28/month. Our erudite newsletter brings sponsors up to date on all our projects. The only "individual child" sponsorship is that of **Post High School Students:** 100 students need financial help for post high school vocational training. Diplomas take from two to five years. The cost of room, board, and tuition depend on the program being studied, ranging from \$500 to \$2000 annually. The number of students will soon increase dramatically. A few younger students with special needs also require sponsorship. Persons interested are asked to write, e-mail, or call our Maxville office (top left of page 2).*

**"LET ME LIGHT MY LAMP, SAYS THE STAR, AND NEVER DEBATE IF IT WILL DISPEL THE DARK." Tagore**

**MORE OVERSEAS INTERNS NEEDED**

*There is a need for more people who will pay their own travel and commit three months interning at our projects in India, Nepal or Bangladesh. To obtain an application please contact our office in Maxville by email [fred@childhaven.ca](mailto:fred@childhaven.ca). A \$50 fee will cover administrative costs of processing your application and your attendance at a 2-day Orientation in Maxville. An additional \$200 donation to cover overseas costs of room and board is also asked of first-time Interns unless they or their families are regular contributors.*

**DONATING BY CREDIT CARD**

*Child Haven is registered with CanadaHelps.org, which helps Canadian charities receive on-line donations via credit card. The transaction is free for the contributor. Child Haven pays a 3% administration fee which is similar to our own accounts setup. A link is posted on our website to the CanadaHelps.org site. Some donors are now using the service. Child Haven is notified immediately, and funds are sent directly to our bank account. Receipts are issued for the whole amount by CanadaHelps. Donating by credit card (Visa or Master Card) can now also be done by calling Child Haven directly, 613-527-2829.*

**DONATING THROUGH UNITED WAY**

*To give through United Way, just designate your donation to 'Child Haven International' and include our Registered Charity # 11885 1922 RR0001. Receipts are issued by United Way. In some cases the name of the donor is not given to us. We would not be able to acknowledge your donation.*

*\$7092 per month comes to Child Haven by **Direct Bank Withdrawal** from the accounts of 199 donors saving us time in the paper work.*

***Post-dated cheques** are also acceptable. A single receipt is issued at year-end.*

*We are also set up to receive **gifts of securities**. (better tax advantages than donating cash.)*

*Published quarterly in Canada (Publication Agreement #1596748). This issue is 12 pages, with 8000 copies printed. We'll send extra copies to anyone who wants to distribute them to friends.*

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For donations please make cheque out to CHILD HAVEN, and mail this portion to CHILD HAVEN, 19014 Conc. 7, Maxville, ON K0C 1T0 (or to Box 5099, Massena, NY 13662-5099, USA.) Donations to Child Haven are tax receiptable in Canada, India and the USA. General half- sponsorship is \$14/month or \$168/year. Full sponsorship is \$28/month or \$336/year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province/State \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_