Child Haven International

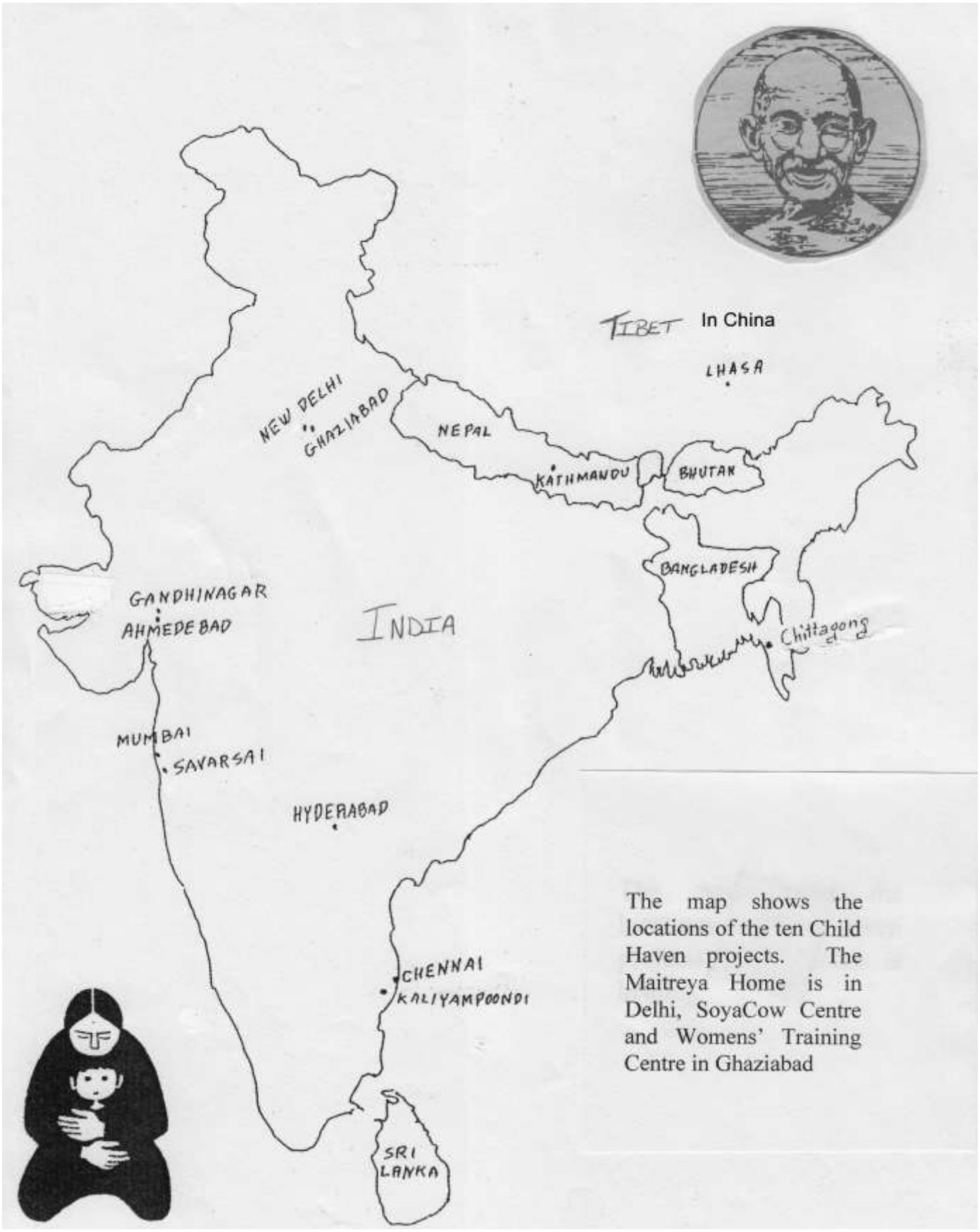
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April 2016



Bangladesh - Ridowan and Manik hanging out with the laundry on the rooftop.

Bangladesh	24	Hyderabad	4-5	Nepal	6-7,23
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The map shows the locations of the ten Child Haven projects. The Maitreya Home is in Delhi, SoyaCow Centre and Womens' Training Centre in Ghaziabad

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Savarsai – Ruchita, Dhaneshri and Nutan relax in a door-way to the Girl's Dorm. Congratulations to Nutan, who just received an award for the highest marks in her Grade 11 class!

Child Haven Homes

Meu (Gandhinagar), Gujarat, India 68 children 8 women, Language: Gujarati
Hyderabad, Telangana, India 183 children 14 women, Language: Telugu
Kaliyampoondi, Tamil Nadu, India 297 children 35 women, Language: Tamil
Maitreya Foundation, New Delhi, India 24 children 1 woman, Language: Tibetan & Hindi
Savarsai, Maharashtra, India 48 children 4 women, Language: Marathi
Tribal Home, City of Pen, near Savarsai Home, 55 children, Marathi plus tribal languages
Kathmandu, Nepal, 203 children 22 women, Language: Nepali
Tibet in China, sponsoring 14 children 4 women, Language: Tibetan
Chittagong, Bangladesh, 72 children 15 women, Language: Bengali
Ghaziabad Women's Centre, Uttar Pradesh, India, informal education in tailoring for 50 women at a time, inexpensive sanitary napkin production and sale, Beauty and Wellness Course, Language: Hindi
(Many other children are sponsored for education, but are not living in one of our Homes.)





Hyderabad – Above left, Sweta decorates one of her friend's hand and arm in preparation for the Wedding Reception of Chitra and Shanmugan. Above right, Mahesh takes his turn at bathroom cleaning chores. With that smile, you'd almost think he was having a good time!

Below these future aeronautical engineers have made the great discovery that it is difficult to fly a light-weight plastic shopping bag as a kite!





Hyderabad – Left, future mechanical engineers collaborating on the construction of a complex gyroscopic instrument utilizing wooden matter and a carefully chosen stone hammering device.

Below, Carol Madsen and daughter Mette with some of their adoring fans at the Hyderabad Home. Carol and Mette, from Edmonton, spent three months at the Home as Volunteer-Interns and got to know everyone quite well!





Nepal – Due to a blockade of goods coming into Nepal from India, gas for cooking has been in very short supply. Our bio-gas system provides some back-up, but not enough to feed the Home's 200 plus mouths. Luckily, our resourceful staff made arrangements to purchase some lumber gleaned from houses destroyed by the recent earthquake. With the help of a 2 handled saw, volunteer Intern Simon Good, from Ottawa, and the older boys cut the beams down to size and Badri (left) and the rest of the kitchen crew were able to work their magic on a makeshift brick stove. We are relieved that the long blockade of goods coming from India to Nepal seems to be over. It was a severe hardship not to have food, medicines, and oil products coming into Nepal.

In the Dining Hall, the food is now served "family-style" with each care-giver serving her group. Below, Maya serves her charges. It means more serving dishes to wash, but everyone seems to enjoy the new arrangement.





Nepal – Above, avid readers catch up on the news of the day while practicing their English.

Below, Sudip and Bibek playing a Nepali drum, the madal, during the Home's music class held every Saturday. In the back-ground children are playing a jembe, and harmonium.



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DONATING BY CREDIT CARD can be made through our web site or by calling Child Haven directly, 613-527-2829.

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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. GIVERS THROUGH CANADA HELPS ARE ALSO ANONYMOUS.

We are also able to receive **gifts of stocks and securities.** (better tax advantages than donating cash.)

Another way to offer your support is by **leaving Child Haven a bequest in your will**. There is a brochure on several ways to do this on our web-site under "Donating"



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Erudite and Elegant Newsletter – Editor, Fred Cappuccino
Guest Editor this issue – Robin Cappuccino





Kaliyampoondi – One of our farmer neighbors told Home Manager Ganesh that he had some saplings coming up in a field he wanted to clear to increase the size of his rice paddies after the great rainfall of the last few months. He offered that if the Home sent some staff to clear the saplings they could have them for fire-wood. So, our watchman, Suriyakumaumar (cutting brush above left and steering the team above right) and other staff, cut the brush with short, sharp and thick machete-type tools. With the help of the older boys, they brought back several ox-carts full. Also brought to the home for firewood were the tree roots which were pulled from the ground to make room for the rice planting. All will be split and dried. The wood gathered should last for about 3 months. It is used to supplement the fuel from our bio-gas plant and the purchased propane, all of which is utilized in cooking for the 300 people served three times every day at our Home.







Kaliyampoondi The torrential rains this winter that wreaked havoc on much of Tamil Nadu were no stranger to our Home. On several occasions, the staff brought the food to the dorms (above left) for the children to eat because walking from their dorms to the dining hall would have drenched them all.

Care-taker Selvi, (above right) uses a water jug as an impromptu umbrella. During a lighter rain some of the boys demonstrate their prowess balancing plates and cups as umbrellas. Fortunately the plates and cups are stainless steel so the crashes were loud, but harmless. Reports are that when the lake over-ran its banks, little minnows were seen inspecting our court-yard for the first time.







Kaliyampoondi At all our Homes we encourage family members to remain in contact with the children. Above, left to right, Mathumitha grew up in the Home and completed beautician training and a seamstress course. She is now working in the Home. She is holding Barat, the child of one of our caregivers. Her brother Vignesh in 8th Grade is standing next to their grandmother, who visits them twice a year from her home 160 kilometers away. Their older brother Murugan, (far right) is studying in a Vocational Course. The children's parents passed away.

To the left, Bhuvana is being visited by her father who works as an itinerant laborer. She came to the Home after her mother died.



Tribal Home – Above, a group of girls perform a dance celebrating the work of women. Below, visiting Volunteer Intern Sandy McFarlane from Calgary teaches the boys the Hokey-Pokey proving that they are great dancers too. Sandy has spent the last three months interning in Meu.





Savarsai – With feet barely touching the ground, sisters Sonali and Indrika fly across the playground with Dipali close behind. Below left, Bhageshri and Ambika clean up the grounds while Omkar (standing right) and some of the other boys do the same. The mango trees in the background were planted when the Home was first built.





Bonnie Lore



(an occasional column by her long-suffering husband)

Bonnie, who has over 1,300 children in South Asia, many of whom are orphans, has become involved in arranging marriages. Recently Chitra, who grew up in our Hyderabad Home and became a hard-working staff member, was ready to get married. She had no parents to arrange a match for her. Working in the Home she had little opportunity to find a suitable spouse herself. Board members at the Home introduced her to a number of prospects, but none seemed to be what she was looking for.

Bonnie began searching for a good match for Chitra. After some time, she thought of Shanmugam, a kind and hard-working staff member in Kaliyampoondi. She first spoke to Manager Ganesh, at Kaliyampoondi, who recalled that Shanmugam had told him earlier that he would like to marry a young woman who was an orphan. Bonnie and Ganesh met with Shanmugam, and with his family. With the help of Manager Sunil in Hyderabad, a meeting was arranged between the two of them which went well and the couple became engaged.

This January they were married in a Marriage Hall near Kaliyampoondi where the couple will reside. Child Haven Board Member Ramchandra and his wife Meena came all the way from Hyderabad, to the wedding and performed the role of bride's parents during the ceremony. Ramchandra had known Chitra since she was a child. Shanmugam's mother speaks Telugu, Chitra's language (the predominant language in Hyderabad). Chitra is quickly learning Tamil and Shanmugan is brushing up on his Telugu. Chitra will be much missed at our Hyderabad Home, and may join the staff in Kaliyampoondi after settling into her new home. Bonnie and Robin were able to be present at the wedding in Kaliyampoondi and reception in Hyderabad. We wish them well!



Chitra and Shanmugam lead the procession into their Wedding Ceremony.

Child Haven Support Groups and our Fundraising Dinners

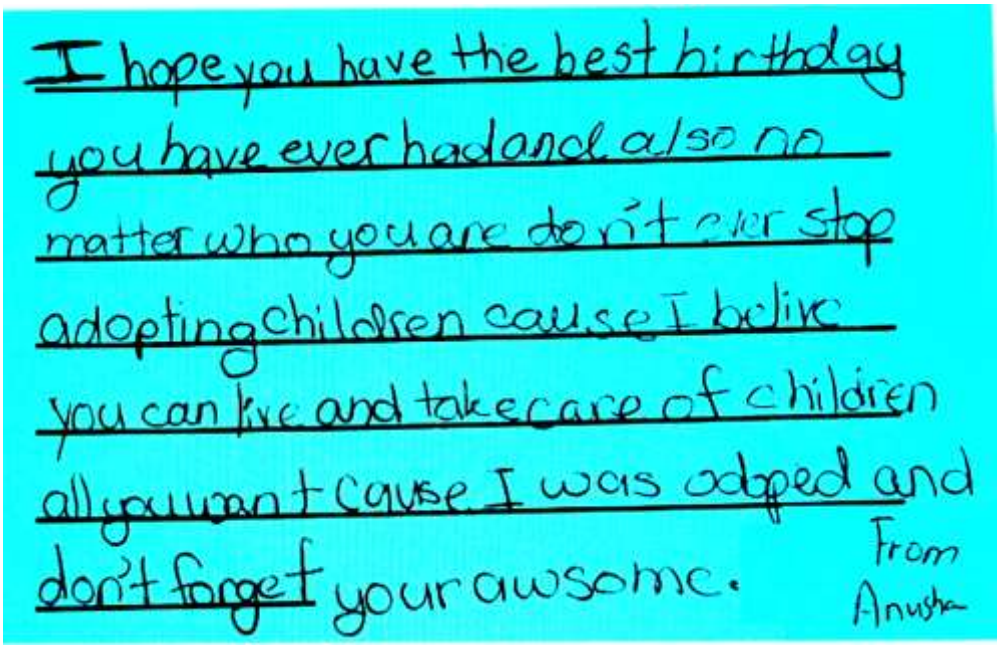
Please check our web site for updated information

March 12	**Kingston, ON**	Andy Rush 613-542-6992 or 343-333-1974
March 18,19	**Victoria, BC**	Jenny Farkas 250-721-1579
Apr 02	**Cornwall, ON**	Elaine MacDonald 613-938-7763
Apr 02	**Victoria, BC**	Surinder & Ann Kumar 250-412-5135
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April 12	**Lennoxville, QC**	Keith Baxter 819-346-8273
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Apr 23	**Mississauga, ON**	Shyam Sheth & Leena Motwani 647-876-8488, Tushar Mehta 416-839-1938
Apr 24	**Waterloo, ON**	Carol Burrows 519-744-8449, Deepti Celetti 519-846-0505
Apr 23	**Lincoln, Mass, USA**	Christine Damon 781-879-5870
Sept 10	**Vancouver, BC**	Katherine Doyle & Ian Cameron 604-255-4077, Yamini and Sam Gandesha 604-476-0264
Sept 16	**Perth, ON**	Sally Ziskowski 613-772-0678
Sept 25	**Winnipeg, MB**	Zobida Ambtman 204-489-7630
Oct 01	**Montreal, QC**	Sheila Laursen 514-697-4195, Conny Belanger 514-542-3381
Oct 19	**Comox/Courtenay, BC**	Heather Holm 250-338-2181
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	Hudson, QC	Adrienne Rayner 450-458-0580
	Shafali Ottawa, ON	Salim Gias Uddin 613-863-5103
	Edmonton, AB	Sylvia Krogh 780-454-6216

Fred celebrated his 90th Birthday and the launch of his new book **BONNIE AND HER 21 CHILDREN, *by her Long-suffering Husband*** with 140 friends and family in Ottawa in January.

Among the many Birthday Greetings which he thoroughly enjoyed was this one from Anusha, age 11.

Those of you who missed the Birthday Bash can order Fred's distinguished book at bonnieandher21children.com







Meu- Kajal, 17, and Tejal 10, above left, demonstrate their jump-rope doubles prowess. Brothers Naran and Mehur above right, pointing out one of the flowering shrubs they helped plant and care for. Below boys and girls having soy milk and corn snack in the dining-hall.







Meu Some of the older children dancers exhibit their proficiency at dancing the traditional "plate dance" (left). Luckily the plates are stainless steel, so on the rare occasions when a plate slips, no harm is done.



In Meu no special occasion or event is complete without the dancing of a Garba, a Gujarati circle dance. Boys girls and staff dance in the court-yard to traditional Gujarati music until everyone tires out and is ready for bed.



Showing his fancy footwork, Kamlesh, age 10 (in grey sweater is new to the Home. Both of his parents are incapacitated.



Closkwise from Bonniema are Volunteer-Intern Ally Duckworth, Kaliyampoondi Home Manager, Ganesh, and Bonnie's grandchildren Kynan and Katarina Cappuccino. Kynan and Katarina travelled with Bonniema on part of her recent trip. They reflect on their many experiences on their erudite blog at *doublecappuccinotogo.wordpress.com*

Ally, from Calgary, completed three months as a Volunteer-Intern at our Kaliyampoondi Home this December. As luck would have it she stayed an extra 10 days due to the heavy rains which closed down the airport in Chennai. Ally reflects on her experience in this note to Bonniema:

"I want to thank you immensely for giving me the opportunity for this lifetime experience. Words cannot begin to describe how this trip has affected me, in a good way of course, it has given me so much to think about going home, and how fortunate we are, having a family, having a roof over our heads, having hot meals at our feet when we want. This trip has brought me a whole new outlook in life that I never thought I would see. For example seeing how happy the kids are with the amount of possessions they have taught me that in life it isn't about how much money you have that makes you happy. I knew that already, I just got to witness it first-hand".

Right, Ally, center, taking part in one of the weekly meditation classes at the Kaliyampoondi Home.



Overseas Interns Needed:

We have space for more volunteers who will pay their own travel and commit three to six months interning in India, Nepal, or Bangladesh. Please contact our office in Maxville 613-527-2829. A $50 fee covers processing costs and your attendance at a two-day Orientation in Maxville. An additional $200 donation to partially cover overseas room and board is also asked of Interns. You can check out our new Intern Brochure on our web-site www.childhaven.ca



Ghaziabad Women's Centre– Thanks to a new 3rd floor funded by Child Haven supporters Anne and Surinder Kumar from Victoria, BC, we now have space to offer Beautician Courses to the women in this low-income area of Ghaziabad. The course was requested by the women in the community who want skills they can use to set up their own businesses, or to work for others. Below, Anne and Surinder look over a textbook on a recent visit. The tailoring training and sanitary napkin production programs are continuing and also doing well.



We were saddened to hear of the death of Child Haven International India's Senior Board Member and Advisor, Dr. Suhas V. Mapuskar at his home in Dehu Village, Maharashtra, India. Dr. Mapuskar was a visionary medical doctor, and self-taught engineer, who designed and oversaw the construction of waste management systems for four of our Homes.

Doctor Mapuskar's interest in community sanitation began in 1959, when he was posted as a young medical doctor to Dehu Village. There he was astonished at the universal practice of open defecation. When asked where the toilet for the clinic was, he was directed to the woods. He also found high rates of diarrhea, typhoid and worm infestation caused in part by this lack of community sanitation. His first attempts to build latrines were based on a plan from the World Health Organization. These collapsed. He then followed his Gandhian inclinations to draw upon the work of Appa Patwhardan, who had worked with Mahatma Gandhi to design the latrine system at Gandhi's Ashrams. The system which Dr Mapuskar settled on, and worked to refine his entire life, is based on trapping the gases produced by composting human solid wastes, and piping the odor-less fuel to kitchens for cooking. The waste water is sent to a water stabilization system where the pathogens are removed producing water suitable for gardening.

Dr Mapuskar's pioneering work and gentle, persuasive manner led to over 800 latrines being built in his village, many of which are designed to be used by several families. His technology is now in use all over India. The gas produced is an economic boon to local households. Of course, also a boon is the good health engendered by good sanitation. Dr. Mapuskar also applied his keen mind to his general practice and invented the Mapuskar Technique of Vasectomy, which simplifies that procedure.

As a Child Haven Board member, Dr. Mapuskar was a tireless advocate for a compassionate Gandhian approach to all Child Haven does. Some of his many influences included reinforcing Child Haven's prohibition against corporal punishment by explaining to staff the underlying Gandhian philosophy. He also worked to ensure that each Home has a sanitary system that is clean, bright and functioning well, and that everyone, regardless of caste, gender, religion, or age be treated equally and with respect.

Understandably he was the recipient of many national and international awards for his innovative work. His warm smile, brilliant mind and ready laugh will be very much missed. Fortunately, his daughter Dr. Shilpa Narayan, who worked with him on many of his projects, is carrying on much of his work. We look forward to a long relationship with her and her team.



Dr. Mapuskar and his daughter, Dr. Shilpa Narayan,

Photo by Volunteer-Intern Jenn Bhatla

There is a brief video about some of Dr. Mapuskar's work entitled *'Sanitation - An essential lifestyle' at the link:* http://www.indiawaterportal.org/articles/clean-toilets-are-essential-clean-mind-story-behind-appa-patwardhan-safai-wa-paryawaran



Tibet in China – Tenzin, left, in Grade 3, is one of the children Child Haven supports. Child Haven currently supports 14 children whose families cannot afford their education and other expenses. Many of them live in the rural area surrounding the village our children's Home was located in.

Savarsai We were deeply saddened to hear that one of the boys in our Savarsai Home, Avinash, passed away due to cardiac arrest. His condition had been discovered earlier and he was scheduled for a valve replacement at the end of this school term. Avinash was a full orphan whose uncle brought him to the Home 7 years ago when Avinash was 7 years old. We will miss his warm and gentle presence.



Avinash

Four centuries ago, the poet, Ben Jonson, compared the relative worth of an oak tree that lives three hundred years, and a flower that blossoms for a day:

from A PINDARIC ODE

It is not growing like a tree
In bulk, doth make man better be;
Or standing long an oak, three hundred year,
To fall a log at last, dry, bald, and sear;
A lily of a day
Is fairer far, in May
Although it fall and die that night,
It was the plant and flower of Light.
In small proportions we just beauties see;
And in short measures life may perfect be.



Maitreya – Above the older children help prepare noodles for a special meal. Flavored with Tibetan spices and cheese, they are a good reminder of the joys of Tibetan cuisine for these Tibetan refugee children. Below, Lhamo Drema, now studying in her first year of an Arts Degree, is helping Ngawang Dolma finish her meal. Ngawang is so interested in what's happening she sometimes forgets to eat.





Nepal - Nikky Shrestha (left) is in 1st Grade at our Green Tara Child Haven School, and Akriti Sapkota, in Grade 3. They are having an after-school snack of spicy puffed rice in the Dining Hall.

Emergency Medical Fund

Child Haven is in dire need of **donations to an Emergency Medical Fund**. All our present donations are carefully earmarked for day-to-day expenses. When a child or staff member needs heart surgery or other critical treatment, we really have to scrounge for money. There is no Government Medicare available at any of our Homes.

One young woman who came to our Child Haven Nepal Home at age four is now married with a four year old child of her own. Recently she was in a motorcycle accident and her leg was severely damaged. We're still not sure if her leg can be saved. She may need treatment in New Delhi as several of our children have – all at considerable cost.

We have provided surgery for a care-giver's severe burns caused by her angry former husband, and for a care-giver in need of repeated surgery for a tumor in her head. We bear costly treatments for children brought to us whose limbs need corrective surgery. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Let me light my light, says the star,
And never debate if it will dispel the dark
Rabindranath Tagore



Bangladesh – From left to right, Nihimia Surzo, age 5, is new to the Home. His father left and mother is unable to provide for him. Salaha came a year ago after her father died of cancer. Juthi Tripura, age 7, is the daughter of our new gate-keeper, Nikodim, and Halal has lived at the Home for several years now.

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 Full sponsorship is $30/month or $360/year. Half-sponsorship is $15/month or $180/year.

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