

Green Tara - Protector of Children, Women and the Environment

Child Haven International



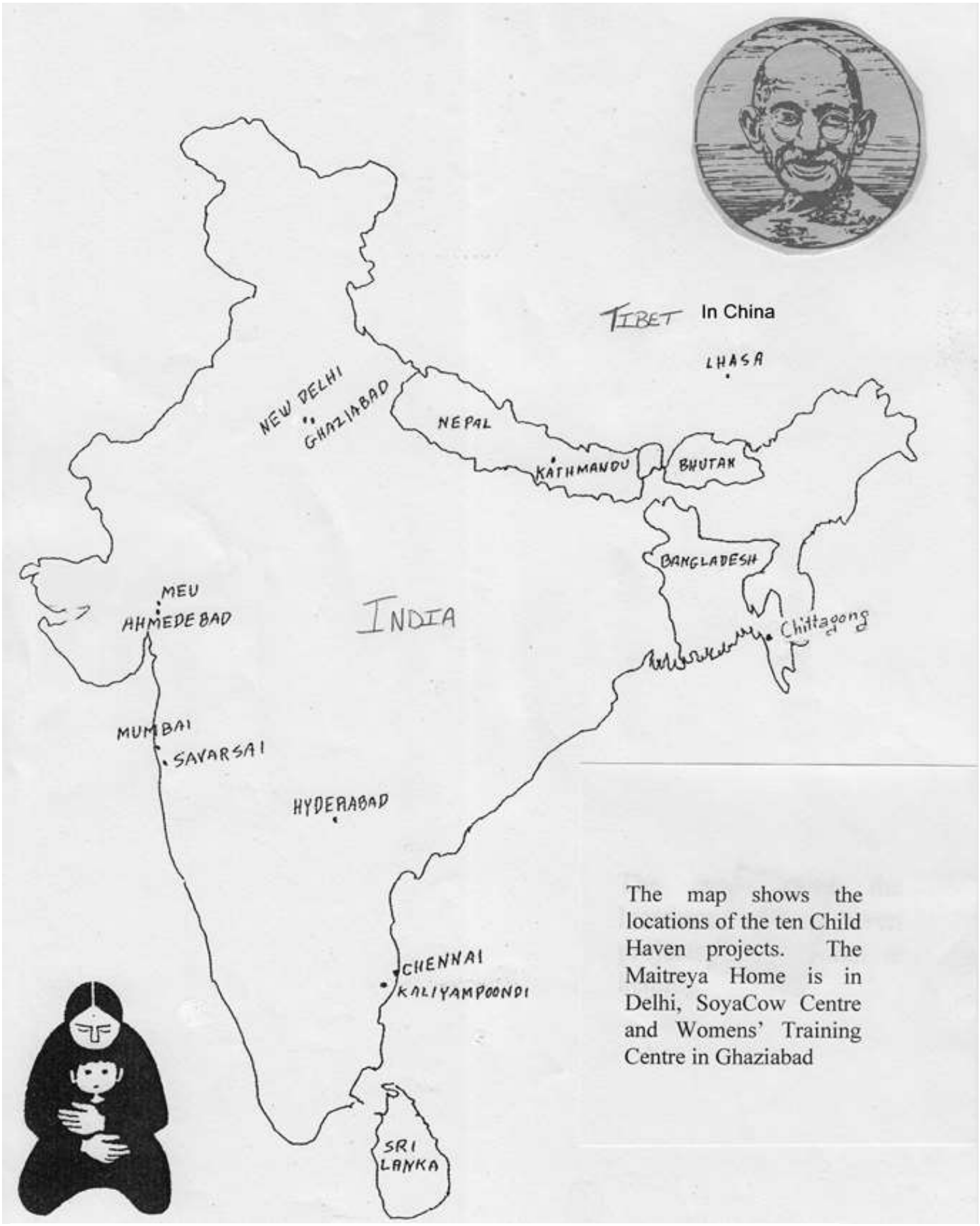
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Winter 2018



Savarsai – Something fishy's going on here! There's nothing like a cool stream on a hot day, and in Savarsai hot means hot! Luckily for the children in this Home there is just such a stream bordering Child Haven's property. *Isabelle Audette photo*

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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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Rahon, Punjab, India – Surajbhan Srivastav, (in white shirt standing center rear) from our MVP project makes regular visits to our new Women's Tailoring and Beautician Program in Rahon Village. Rajni, the coordinator of the MVP Project often accompanies him. They offer their experience and expertise to the new program based on several decades of working with women in Ghaziabad.

Child Haven Homes and Projects

Meu, Gujarat, India 68 children 8 women, Language: Gujarati
Hyderabad, Telangana, India 183 children 14 women, Language: Telugu
Kaliyampoondi, Tamil Nadu, India 325 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, 73 children in Home, 121 in our school, 24 women, Language: Bengali
Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh and **Rahon,** Punjab, Women's Centers, India; education in tailoring for 50 women at a time; inexpensive sanitary napkin production and sale; Beauty and Wellness Course. Languages: Hindi and Punjabi
(Many other children are sponsored for education, but are not living in one of our Homes.)





Kaliyampoondi – Monisha, (left above) in 7th grade and her brother, Shiva in 5th grade are being visited by their grandmother, who has brought them a treat. The siblings came to the Home six years ago after their parents passed away. Their grandmother visits when she can. Child Haven encourages family members to visit and maintain relationships with their relatives in the Home as much as possible.

Ananti, far left is enjoying a visit from her mother. Her father is blind and was unable to support his family economically. Ananti is in her second year of nurse's training.



Kaliyampoondi – Nivetta, in grade 7 (above left) and her sister, Pritta, in grade 6, with their aunt who has come for a visit. The girls came to the Home after their parents died when their house caught fire and burned down. They are both bundles of energy and flash their bright smiles often.

Yuvaraj and Janani (right) recently joined the Home after their father drowned in a river. Yuvaraj is 6 years old and in first grade and Janani is 10 and in the 5th grade. Their mother is unable to financially support her children but will come to visit when she is able to.











Kaliyampoondi – Between school, two study periods and meals, there is not a lot of free time at the Home. When it comes there are many ways to spend it and so many friends to play with.



Kaliyampoondi – Jothika, above, poses with a Rangoli Kolam that she and her team created out of coloured rice flour as part of a competition at the Home. Below are some of the other participants who seem to have decorated themselves as well! *Seenu photos*











Meu – There's a lot of studying going on at the Home during the two study periods every day. The Home's van makes two trips to take first the girls then the boys to the school in the nearby village.

Meu – Zalak, age 8, and Nandini, 10, (right) create imaginary feasts with flower petals and buds served on leaf plates from the prolific Home gardens.



Below, Karan, 12 and Rohit 10, have also become good friends. Children at our Child Haven Homes have all come from challenging backgrounds. Their resilience and collective ability to form new friendships as they become part of our Child Haven family is both astonishing and heart-warming.





Tribal Home – Volunteer Isabelle Audette, (above right) spent 3 months at our Savarsai Home which is very close to the Tribal Home. Here she is after visiting one of the families of the Tribal Home children in their village. More Interns are always needed! You can learn more about how to apply to be an Intern and what they do at our web-site *childhaven.ca*.

Below are more pictures of her rainy day walking companions.







Tribal Children's Home – Here are boys from the Home leading a march commemorating the life of Navya Mahada Kathkari. He was a tribal freedom fighter during India's struggle for Independence. Every year on the anniversary of his death, the indigenous community in this area come together to pay homage to him and raise their voices about the critical issues they face.

There are two critical issues the indigenous community faces as of now. The first is land rights. There were two thousand claims that the indigenous community filed in 2009 under "The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act 2006". To date only 20% of these claims have been settled.
The second issue is food security. The food security situation is very grim in the indigenous community of this region and the percentage of people with malnutrition is also very high.

The Home is attentive to celebrating the knowledge, traditions, heroines, and heroes of the Tribal community. They also spend time learning about social issues affecting the Tribal community and ways these issues might best be addressed in the future.

Many of these children are from families where no one has had the opportunity to go to school because they work as migrant farm workers travelling from place to place with the plantings and harvests. When the school year is done, they return to their families for the summer vacation.





Savarsai – Jayesh (above left) is new to the Home. He came to the Home after his parents died. He had been staying with his aunt in the forest on government land. He is now in grade 5 and doing all right. His family came from Uttar Pradesh, so he speaks Hindi and Bhojpuri. He has also learned Marathi, the primary language spoken at the Home.

Brothers Onkar and Harium, (above center and right) are also new to the Home. Their father abandoned them and their mother who collects garbage for a meagre living. They were not going to school, but are working hard to catch up with the other children.

Below Isabelle captures a cup balancing competition between the boys on their way to get soya milk.



Child Haven Wonder Women a newsletter column by *Sharon Fialco*



As a girl with many childhood illnesses, Laxami (right) spent hours and hours waiting in line for care at the government hospital. She dreamed of becoming a nurse to serve the poor, and help shorten those queues!

From Laxami's background, this was an ambitious dream. Her family belongs to the Kathkari tribe, one of the ancient and diminishing tribes of India. As Tribal people pushed onto marginalized land and into low-wage labor, both parents worked in brick kilns. Loans from an owner landed them in semi-bonded status, forced to return to the same kiln year after year to repay their debt with their undervalued labor. Wanting a different future for their family, Laxami's parents sent their two daughters to school.

Laxami remembers enjoying her village preschool and learning the "foreign" Marathi alphabet. Marathi is the dominant language in Maharashtra State where they live. Before going to school, Kathkari was her sole language. There were hurdles to continue on to the distant primary school. When rivers swelled during the rainy season, school was often impossible to reach. To be close to a school, Laxami and her sister left their village to join the Ankur Trust/Child Haven Tribal Home in Pen. This Home is designed to assist Tribal families in providing an education for their children.

At first young Laxami found it extremely difficult to stay away from her home and the village. Even with her sister's company, she cried at night. Formal school was also alien to her, as was the language of Marathi. It all made her extremely nervous and frightened. She says she was never able to speak a complete a sentence in Marathi. When she filled in with words of Kathkari, children used to laugh at her.

And, still, as only a Wonder Woman can, Laxami persisted towards her dream! Though school proved challenging, Laxami completed 12th grade and then a nursing course. Today she lives again in a tribal village, has a government job, and she is recognized as a healer in her community. She volunteers conducting health awareness camps for women (as she is doing in the picture above) and works hard so that her community will be free of malnutrition. She is the proud mother of two daughters. Laxami's parents made bold decisions to offer their daughters opportunities. In turn, Laxami has become a Wonder Woman bringing healthcare to her community.



To the left are a few of the current girls at the Tribal Home after a recent cultural show.

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Peter Downie, educator
Vera Freud, former IHEU Permanent Representative, UNESCO
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Using our secure online application, you can set up a withdrawal from your bank account through a simple electronic funds transfer. Lower transaction charges and reduction of handling and processing; Direct Deposit is a cost effective method of receiving contributions. The Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) Agreement form is available through our web site under "direct deposit" Call us if you need help.

DONATING BY CREDIT CARD can be made through our web site or 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 NAMES OF UNITED WAY DONORS ARE NOT GIVEN TO US. WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR DONATION. DONATIONS THROUGH CANADA HELPS MAY ALSO BE 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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International Director, Bonnie Cappuccino
Erudite and Elegant Newsletter – Editor Emeritus, Fred Cappuccino
Editor, Robin Cappuccino

Bonnie Lore



by *Fred Cappuccino*, her long-suffering husband

Here is a statement read by Bonnie at all our Child Haven Dinners since the 2nd of October, 2018.

"Child Haven is a Gandhian organization. Mahatma Gandhi believed in truth and non-violence. Journalist Jamal Khashoggi was recently tortured and murdered in the Saudi Embassy in Turkey for reporting the truth. This took place on October 2nd 2018. At this time let us observe a moment of silence for Jamal Khashoggi."



Chittagong – From left to right, Sazada, Parben and Reshana are three of the staff members at this Home who provide loving care to our children.





Nepal – During free time, when the children aren't studying or doing chores, there is a plethora of activities at the Home. Above left, Ringin Tamang, age 11 and Sujan Tamang, also 11, practice some tunes on the Home's harmoniums.

To the right above, right, Parash Pariyar in grade 4 and Bibek Tamang, in grade 6, are learning some guitar chords.

Who says chess is not a group sport? below left. And to the right below, Rebika Sherpa, 11 years old, Purima Bhandari Below left, , and Ganga Chatyal, both 7 years old, play the board game Ludo.









Tibet – Two of the young people supported by Child Haven in the village where our project is based. Seventeen-year-old Dolgar, left, is one of three siblings. Her father was as elementary school teacher in the village for many years. Several years ago he was fired because his mastery of the Chinese language was considered insufficient. He now works as a farm labourer and struggles to support his family. Child Haven provides some living assistance and helps with school books, uniform, and supplies. Yishi, age 19, also lives in the village with her mother. She is now in her first year of college. Her father passed away some years ago. Her mother also finds seasonal farm work and Child Haven provides some living support and pays her college fees. Our Tibet project is coordinated by Norbula, whose family has lived in the village for hundreds of years.



Suu Yang Ani (left) is a former Tibetan nun that Child Haven provides support for. She has no family and when her monastery was closed following the Chinese invasion, she struggled until Child Haven learned of her plight. She is one of hundreds and sometimes thousands of Tibetans who walk around (circumambulate) the Jhokang Temple and Potala Palace in Lhasa swinging their prayer wheels and chanting Buddhist prayers and mantras.



Kaliyampoondi

Mary and Balimal serve rice to two of our girls. These are just two of the 1,000 meals our cooks prepare every day at this Home.

Child Haven Support Groups and our Fundraising Dinners 2019

Please check our web site for updated information

Fri April 05	**Cornwall, ON**	Elaine Macdonald 613-330-3117
Sat April 06	**Kingston, ON**	Andy Rush 343-333-1974
Sat April 13	**Calary, AB**	Dave Green 403-816-1705
Sat April 27	**Mississauga, ON**	Shyam Seth 647-876-8488
Sun April 28	**Waterloo, ON**	Sydney Cook 226-929-4275
Fri May 03	**Ottawa, ON**	Lynda Inkster 613-837-3532
Sat Sept 14	**Vancouver, BC**	Katherine Doyle & Ian Cameron 604-220-9324, Yamini 604-476-0264
Sat Sept 14	**Maple Ridge School, BC**	Tejas Gandesha 778-984-7502
Sat Sept 28	**Edmonton, AB**	Sylvia Krogh 780-454-6216
Sept	**Winnipeg, MB**	Zobida Ambtman 204-489-7630, Jameel Ali 204-489-7630
Fri Oct 18	**Montreal, QC**	Sheila Laursen 514-697-4195, Conny Belanger 514-542-3381
Oct	**Hardwick, VT, US**	Robin and Sharon 802-533-2296, Deborah Hartt 802-472-5284
Oct	**Glengarry, ON**	Alyson Graham 613-525-0796, Julie Slater 613-525-1104
Oct	**Comox/Courtenay, BC**	Heather Holm 250-338-2181
Oct	**Qualicum/Parksville, BC**	Cilla Lewenhaupt 250-752-0968
	Carleton Place, ON	Jane Hamilton 613-853-7959
	Canmore,AB	Paula Duncan & Simon Bryant 403-609-8125
	Lincoln, MA,USA	Christine Damon 781-879-5870
	Perth, ON	Lori Taylor 613-803-1184, Tracy Parker 613-267-4305
	Burlington, VT, US	Elango Dev 802-598-2630, Tres Crady 802-660-0095



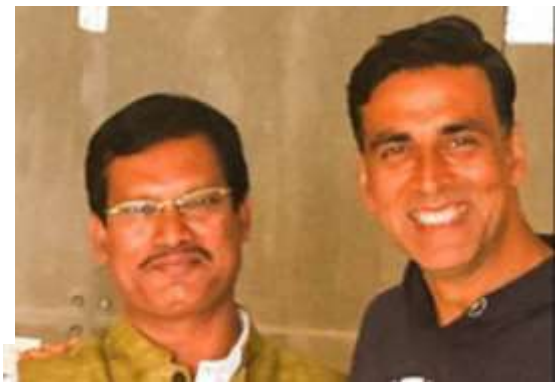


$\mathcal{MVP}$ – Our women's training program in Ghaziabad offers a Beautician's Course in addition to the popular Tailoring Course we have been offering for many years. Again, the women who take the training are working to learn a skill with the desire to be able to uplift themselves and their families in this predominately low-income community. Most of them are newly arrived in the area having come from remote regions of India to try to improve their financial stability.



To the left is one of the women employed at our project making low-cost sanitary pads for sale to local women.
She is using technology developed by Arunachalam Muruganatham, a Patron of Child Haven. You can watch him describe the humorous process he went through in researching and inventing his machinery on ***Ted Talks, How I Started a Sanitary Napking Revolution***. There is also a feature length Bollywood film about his life starring Akshay Kumar entitled ***Pad Man*** now available on **Netflix**

To the right are Arunachalam Muruganatham and the Bollywood star Akshay Kumar who plays him in the movie Pad Man





Hyderabad – Above, a daily morning jog follows calisthenics at the Home.

Below, after the jog, hot soy milk is served. Soy milk is made and served twice a day at our Homes. It is an important part of the children and staff's vegetarian diet.







Hyderabad – Naveen Reddy, (far left above) and Gopi, (far right above) like to help out in the kitchen on weekends. Naveen Reddy is in 9th grade and Gopi is in grade 8. Gopi came to the Home 6 years ago with his sister Shiva Kumari after their parents passed away. Behind them, Yadagiri and Balamani, brother and sister, are also helping out. They came as children after their parents passed away. Yadagiri has a degree in Catering and is currently serving at the home as Boy's Supervisor. Balamani is in the second year of a three year nurses training program.

To the left, staff member Indiramma serves dosas for breakfast on Sundays. Behind her staff member Mariyamma watches as Jyothi serves chutney to two of our college girls. Jyothi is studying catering and getting some practice serving coconut chutney at the Home. Receiving the chutney is Poojitha, who is studying biology physics and chemistry in university. Beside her is Soundarya who is in a nurses training program.



Chittagong – Robin, (far left) and Hasib are two of the very talented table tennis players at our Home. Together they have travelled to Dhaka for extra training and taken part in regional games. Table tennis is a great sport for a Home with less room for sports activities that require more room to play.

Below Robin and Hasib practice some of their moves with Boy's Supervisor, Forhad (right) and one of our senior boys, Saiful on the left. Signs of the ongoing renovations at this Home can be see behind them.





Kaliyampoondi – Our energetic boys giving the valiant seesaws a work-out

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



Kaliyampoondi – These leaders of tomorrow know how to keep the ball in the air! Their game of volleyball often involves counting how many times the ball can go back and forth without hitting the ground rather than seeing which side can win. In the rear is our Home library.

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.

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