



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

Child Haven International

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June, July, August, 2011



It's nice to have someone to look up to ! With Sowmlya and Melveena coming into their own at our Kaliyampoondi home, the country will be in good hands.

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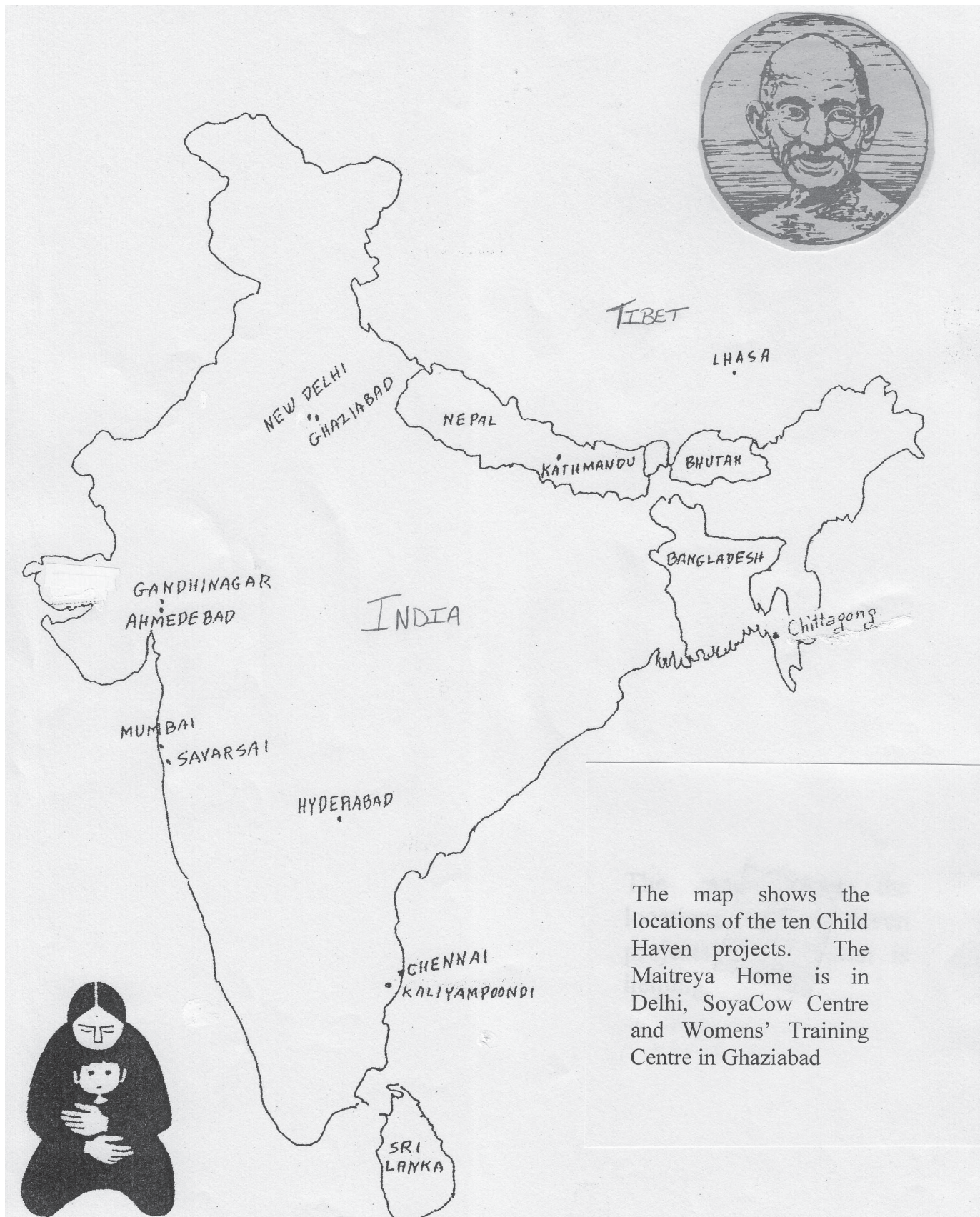
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Guest Editor - Robin Cappuccino



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Child Haven Patron Swami Agnivesh is a leading campaigner against bonded labour. He puts the number of child labourers in India at over 65 million. Some are in debt bondage or have been pledged by parents in return for financial advances. He founded, *Bandhua Mukti Morcha*, or the *Bonded Labour Liberation Front* which has secured the release of more than 172,000 Indian workers

Swami Agnivesh has also repeatedly been elected as Chairperson of the *UN Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery*. In 1987 he led a 18-day-long 'padyatra' (march on foot) from Delhi to Deorala in Rajasthan to protest against sati (the immolation of widows on their husband's funeral pyres) following a particularly notorious incident. As an Arya Samaj Scholar and President of the World Council of Arya Samaj, he helped launch a multi-religious forum called *Religions for Social Justice*. Agnivesh has deplored in newspaper articles and elsewhere the consumerism and materialism that he perceives to be undermining Indian culture. We cannot think of a better mentor and role-model for our children.



Below is a statement to Child Haven supporters he dictated to Bonniema, right, Sharon and Maia Fialco, and Robin Cappuccino, (above) on their visit to his Delhi home and office.

"All children deserve not only love of their parents and other family members, but they are entitled to a good quality of life, including equal opportunity in education. All children have an inherent right to childhood, to play and dream and harness their potential. That is where the state and the non-state actors should join hands, particularly religious organizations, to support and further this cause.

"Children are the most beautiful gift of God. Instead of going to any temple or mosque or church or gurdwara, and instead of worshipping stone idols, we should be worshipping the little creatures of God and make the planet earth a blessed place for all."

Ghaziabad - Intern Sharon Fialco gets some pointers from a young women in the tailoring course Child Haven supports in this low-income community.



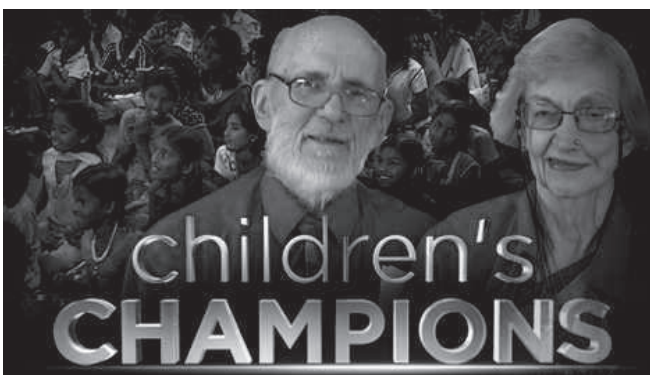
W5: A Journey into the World of Child Haven

We were honored to have a crew from Canada's **CTV News Program W5** come with Bonniema to Kaliyampoondi to film a segment for their award winning program. The crew was wonderfully warm, sensitive and respectful of our children and staff and their stories. You can still find the link to the **W5** segment on Child Haven by Googling "**W5 Child Haven**" or at the following link.

<http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/WFive/20110401/w5-childrens-champions-110402/>

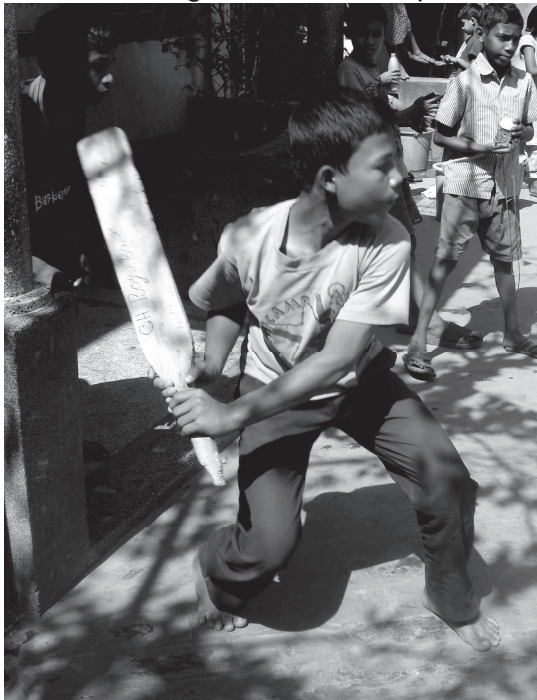


The **W5** crew in Kaliyampoondi. From the right, Cameraman Al Stephens, Reporter Janis Mackey Frayer, Producer Garry Dwyer-Joyce, and Soundman Fredy George.

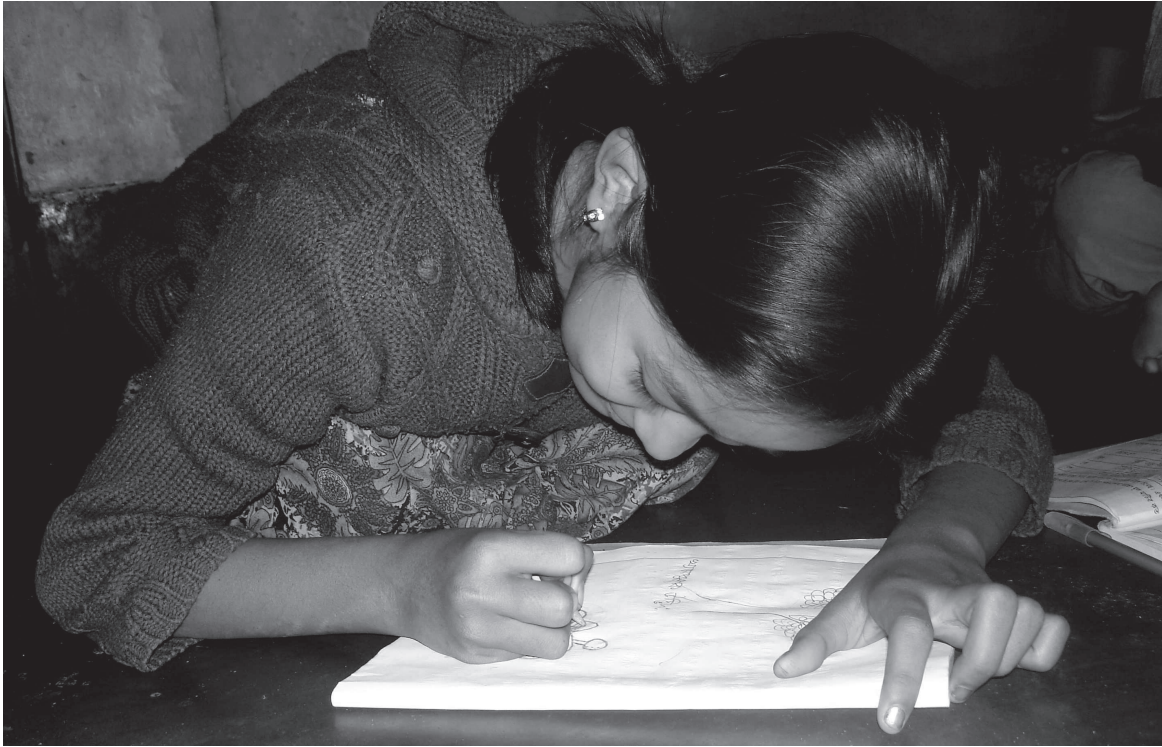




Chittagong - This year's World Cup Cricket matches played in Bangladesh were closely monitored by our home's many avid cricket fans. Here Saiful reads the scores to Sakib on the left and Aklima on the right, as Hasib helps with his posture.



Meanwhile, two of our own Child Haven cricket superstars, Rajkumar and Farouk, practice their own World-Cup-worthy batting and pitching technique in the front yard of our Chittagong home.



Chittagong - Above, Sonipru working carefully on a drawing for biology class. Below, Siam, Jingnoon and Mithu helping to chop vegetables using the knives on stands, forcing vegetables over the blade. It's safer because sharp knives aren't moving around. Fred thought about getting one for Bonniema, but decided she doesn't sit still that long.





Chittagong - Bonniema hanging up her daily laundry in the court-yard garden at our home. The kids are avid gardeners and take good care of the container-grown flowers, shrubs and spices. Papayas and coconuts are also a home-grown treat in season.

MORE OVERSEAS INTERNS NEEDED. We have space for more people who will pay their own travel and commit a minimum of three to six 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. A \$50 fee will cover administrative costs of processing your application and your attendance at a 2-day Orientation in Maxville. Once accepted as an Intern, 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.

Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India, 50 children 8 women, Language: Gujarati
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India 157 children 15 women, Language: Telegu
Kaliyampoondi, Tamil Nadu, India 280 children 35 women, Language: Tamil
Maitreya Foundation, New Delhi, India 24 children 1 woman, Language: Tibetan & Hindi
Savarsai, Maharashtra, India 26 children 4 women, Language: Mahrathi
Kathmandu, Nepal, 203 children 22 women, Language: Nepali
Tibet, 41 children 4 women, Language: Tibetan
Chittagong, Bangladesh, 66 children 15 women, Language: Bengali
Ghaziabad, India (informal education) 30 children, 90 women, Language: Hindi
Tribal Home, City of Pen, near Savarsai Home, 30 children, 2 women,
 Language: Mahrathi plus tribal languages

Savarsai



Arti, left, knows that you have to be fast to find mirror-space right before school!



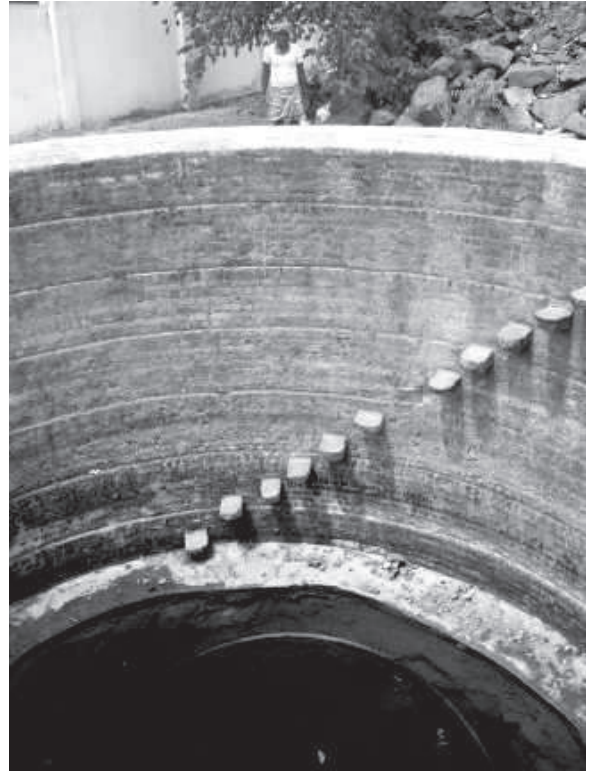
Luckily, as Sunali and Rughita demonstrate, helpers can see the back of your head!



Engineers Bamraj and Suraj with a proto-type of their super-light styrofoam auto-rickshaw. (great gas-mileage!)



This model of our Child Haven home made by architect Suresh has a table, chair and even a plate with food on the table!



Kaliyampoondi - Seen from the roof of our home's dormitory, the neighboring steel plant's chimneys tower over the surrounding country-side. As a precaution against ash pollutants from the plant be-spoiling the water in our well (above right) we are constructing a cement cover for it with a small entry door for access. Although with one step missing, even Bonniema is reluctant to climb down. Our gardener Muthiyal is standing behind the well.



Staff and kids working together to sort the hundreds of school note-books and texts that will be used by our several hundred Kaliyampoondi students this year.



Kaliyampoondi - The ever resourceful Arulmani, Nitish, Prabakaran, and Karthi playing a Snakes and Ladders game they made themselves.



Everybody's got a job to do in Kaliyampoondi, including the hard-working Frankey, the fly catching lizard on the wall of the cow barn and Marguerite, below, the mosquito catcher in the shower-room.





Kaliyampoondi -Eleven-year-old twins, S. Vijay and S. Ajit were welcomed to our Child Haven home on Bonniema's last visit. Their mother had died three months earlier.

Below, World Cup Cricket fever comes to Kaliyampoondi as Management Team Co-ordinator/Manager Ganesh gets ready to hit a ball over the dining-hall. Sure is good we don't need windows on that hall!



Maitreya



Shubam, left, lives just a few houses up from the Maitreya Home. His father is a gate-keeper, and his mother is often not home, so Shubam spends a good deal of time and has many meals at the home. It's great to have good neighbors.

Intern Maia Fialco (below) found the Maitreya kids were pretty fast at learning the rules to the shape and numbers game "Set". Kids quickly overcome language differences to communicate with each-other. The Maitreya kids go to school in Hindi, speak and study Tibetan at the home, and are becoming proficient in English as well!





Maitreya - Sonam, Lhamo Dorje, and Lama Tenzin look at a new book in Tibetan that Bonniema brought back to the home from her recent trip to Tibet.



FRED LORE – (guest editor Robin Cappuccino)

How Fred Saved his Sole in Selma

Certainly one of the more Fredloric episodes I can remember was Daddy's trip to Selma, Alabama. During the spring of 1965, the campaign to register Negro voters was in full swing in the U.S. South. While they had the legal right to vote, they were denied that right by unfair poll taxes, literacy tests and other techniques designed to keep them disempowered. On May 7th, of that year, a march to register voters at the Courthouse in Selma was attacked by police. On what became known as "Black Sunday," they beat back the marchers with nightsticks, and used tear gas, which was especially hard on the children, since tear gas tends to stay at ground level. When he heard about this brutality, a friend and fellow Unitarian minister colleague of

Daddy's, James Reeb, flew down to join the March to the Courthouse which remained stalled at a police line set up after the attack. Daddy remembers James as "the kind of guy who, when he entered a room, the whole place brightened up. He had a trace of mischief about him, and a deep, endearing sense of humour." Several days later, James and two other Unitarian ministers were attacked by whites as they left a Selma restaurant. James was hit from behind with a piece of wood, severely damaging his skull. Upon hearing that James had been wounded, Daddy also went to join the March. Here are some reflections on that experience from a sermon he gave upon his return.

"Our goal was to march to the Court House and have a prayer service for Jim Reeb – and a few days later, after he died, to have a memorial service for him. In the mornings we would line up five abreast, in front of the Baptist Church. We'd walk forward to the line of police and ask to be allowed to pass through. Police Chief Baker would refuse. So we waited, through the day, with a thin line of police straddling the road, facing several hundred marchers standing 20 feet back. In the middle ground there usually was a civil rights leader, addressing the demonstrators, joking, and leading songs. Both groups stood there through the night, at times changing personnel so some would sleep and others maintain their vigil. This non-violent confrontation lasted for five days and nights.

"Those demonstrators who felt that they might be provoked into reacting with violence were asked to stay in the church and pray for their opponents. Not many availed themselves of this alternative. They all converted to pacifism!

"During the orientation for newly-arrived ministers, an associate of Dr Martin Luther King, the Rev P. T. Vivian, explained about putting your arms over your head, and especially the sides and back of your head should be protected, because that's the thinner part of the skull, which is quite thick on top. He said, "You can get a broken arm, and it heals. But you get your spirit broken from segregation through the years, and the wound stays open for a lifetime." Vivian explained that if they arrest all of us, we will willingly go. But if they try to take one, then we will lock arms, and they'll have to drag as many as are locked together. At one point Chief Baker actually did place Vivian and Ken Marshall under arrest, and the whole group quickly locked arms. Baker had to laugh, and said, "Well, all right." He didn't arrest them when he saw what was happening.

"Those days in Selma were for me a deep religious experience. I'm not easily moved to tears. But down there, many times something would occur, and I would break down and cry - not for danger to myself. A good part of this "being moved to tears" was due to a recognition of human nobility - sensing the courage of the people who lived in Selma - that after all us brave fellows would go to our secure homes, these people would have to face the red-necks.

"Mahatma Gandhi's concept of God was not as a personal being in the traditional Christian sense. He felt that there is a power in truth, and in love, and this highest reality is what Gandhi called God. I had never experienced that power before. Certainly some power was on our side in Selma that the police did not have.

"An amusing aspect at Selma was that virtually every action taken by the police unwittingly helped the cause of civil rights. Of course, some elements were not amusing - for example, the police brutality. But it was amazing how shortsighted some of the police could be. One example: At 2 a.m. Sunday morning our line was thinning out. People were tiring and disappearing into the homes. We had a little fire in a barrel to warm us in the road behind our line. Sheriff Clark decided he was going to deprive us of this luxury, so all the fire engines in Selma arrived with blaring sirens - and the people came pouring out of their houses. Sheriff Clark solved our problem of the thinning line for the rest of the night.

"The shoes I wore in Selma were old. One sole loosened from the front, and peeled off all the way back to the heel. With each step I had to kick my foot up to flip the sole back under, much to the amusement of my colleagues. Finally I cut a short length of coat hanger wire, and hooked it right around the sole and onto my shoelaces. That's how I 'saved my sole in Selma'.

"Gradually we could sense some change of heart on the part of the authorities. In this face-to-face confrontation of kids and police officers, the kids tried to make the cops laugh. They'd do various funny things, and sure enough, some of the cops would start to shake, trying to suppress a laugh. One Black minister with a great voice was in front of the line. Between songs he would preach: "We believe in non-violence. That means we love our opponent. We love these policemen, don't we? Say Amen!" The crowd thundered, "AMEN!"

"He said, "These policemen in front of us have night sticks, and they have guns in their holsters. The guns are loaded. But they don't want to shoot these guns at us," and he turned around to the police and said, "You don't want to use those guns on us, do you? Say Amen!" And before they could think, several of the police said, "Amen!"

"Word finally came out that Sheriff Clark and Mayor Smitherman wanted no more beatings and brutality by the white citizens of Selma. Prior to this, the police would turn their eyes away; now, anyone who breaks the law would be arrested. The Selma kids were unaware of the extent and totality of their victory. I perhaps shouldn't use the word "kids." They were high school and university age young people. It was the courage of these kids which aroused the sleeping churches, aroused the nation, and aroused the President.

"The march was totally non-violent. President Lyndon Johnson was a segregationist from Texas. He was known to refer to a Negro Congressman or judge by saying, "Go and fetch that Nigger." But it seems that even he was deeply touched. Finally (I think it was Sunday evening) on radio and television he gave his memorable "We Shall Overcome" speech. He repeated that phrase several times. He said, "I am sending this day to the Congress a Voting Rights Bill!" Each time he said "We Shall Overcome," there was a cheer from the demonstrators, most with tears streaming down their cheeks.

"There is still much to do, but the Voting Rights Bill changed the political face of the American Southland."

**The full text of this sermon
can soon be found at
www.childhaven.ca
along with the entire
newsletter in full colour.**



The Selma March



*Rachel Davey and Deb Wilson, the Coordinators of the **Buffalo Mountain Co-op Café**, in Hardwick, Vermont, with their display rack of beautiful used saris on sale for Child Haven. The saris, donated to Child Haven by Indian women living in Canada, are sold here and at several other fine establishments, for \$35 to \$45 - a great bargain! In the past several years over \$5000 worth have been sold here, or enough to pay for two years of multi-vitamins for the 250 kids at our Kaliyampoondi home. If you have somewhere you'd be able to sell saris for us, let us know!*

SUPPORT GROUPS

Calgary, AB: Dave Greene, 403-295-7224, Lata Patel, plpatel_2000@yahoo.com, Alnoor Bhura, 403-289-3100. Next Dinner April 14, 2012

Comox/Courtenay BC: Heather Holm, 250-338-2181, Alice Sinclair, 250-748-0716. Next Din, 27 Oct 2011

Cornwall ON: Elaine MacDonald, 613-988-7763. Next Dinner March 30, 2012

Edmonton AB: Sylvia Krogh 780-454-6216. Marjorie Russell 780-238-6150. Next Dinner April 15, 2012

Glengarry ON: Alyson Graham 613-525-0796. Next Dinner Oct 15, 2011

Kingston ON: Cindy Harvey, 613-389-9154. Mary Ann Higgs 613-545-1245 Judith Friend 613-634-1425, Next Dinner March 31, 2012

Montreal QC: Conny Belanger 514-636-0370, Sheila Laursen, 514-697-4195. Next Dinner Sept 23, 2011

Nanaimo BC: Rob and Wendy Stewart, 250-758-7532. Next Event Oct 29, 2011

Oakville ON: Daniela Jansson, 905-338-0416, Palvi Patel, 905-338-6063.

Ottawa ON: Dinner Group: Parin Bhimani and Dave Basu, 613-422-1573.

Ottawa ON: EveningFest Group: Barb Weinlander, 613-590-1481, Salim Gias Uddin, 613-863-5103. Next Dinner 15 Oct, 2011

Qualicum Beach BC: Maureen Hanright, 250-752-3216. Edith Kenny 250-248-3202. Next Din. Oct 28, 2011

Newmarket ON East: Erika Shrestha, 905-967-1099, Koki Patel, 905-886-7714.

St Anne de Bellevue QC: Susan Hawker 514-457-1793. Next Dinner April 14, 2012

Toronto ON West: Uma and Gagan Bhalla, 905-608-1993. Next Dinner Sept 17, 2011

Vancouver BC: Lilaben and Venilal Sisodraker, 604-985-5540, Ann & Ron Perrick, 604-929-6674, Yamini & Sam Gandesha, 604-937-0270, Neelam & Narendra Amin, 604-294-6759. Next Dinner Sep 10, 2011

Vermont, USA, Robin Cappuccino, 802-533-2296

Victoria BC: Dale Lawlor, 778-433-9876, Christine & Mel Johnston, 250-385-5444, Marya Nyland, 250-592-6484, Sandra and Jim Jordan, 250-654-0672, Suresh Basur, 250-216-2711.

Waterloo ON: Ida Fisher, 519-884-3466. Next Dinner April 22, 2012

Winnipeg MB: Zobida Ambtman, 204-489-7630. Sept 25, 2011

Germany: Rev Dr Eckhart Pilick, 49-721-405762, Pilick@t-online.de



Gujarat – One thing Child Haven makes possible is keeping siblings together. Balraj, Asha, and Rajkumar (above) came to Child Haven 10 years ago. Their widowed mother, was unable to care for them. Balraj and Rajkumar are making progress in 10th Standard, as is Asha in the 9th.

Brothers Vishal and Jignesh (below) arrived at Child Haven last year after their father became ill and could no longer support his family. Vishal is in the 6th Standard and Jignesh in the 7th. Both boys enjoy drawing and sports.





Gugarat - Above Sonal, Shital, Komal, and Asha studying. Komal cheerfully obliges the photographer.

Below, Intern Tricia Paul-Carson makes friends with some of our new neighbors at the future site of our new home. Located in a rural community not far from the airport, the home is being built on 2 acres of land with room for play and gardens.





Hyderabad - Many hands make light work with hundreds of chapattis to make.
Below, T. Sai, and his sister Monika show off two famous Child Haven smiles.



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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.***

*\$8826/month comes to Child Haven by **direct bank withdrawal** from the accounts of 22 donors saving us time and paper work. **Thanks!!***

***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.)*

Is Child Haven in your will? Do you have a will?



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Mother & child logo, Eugene Fern
Sketch of Bonnie and Fred, Andrina Cox
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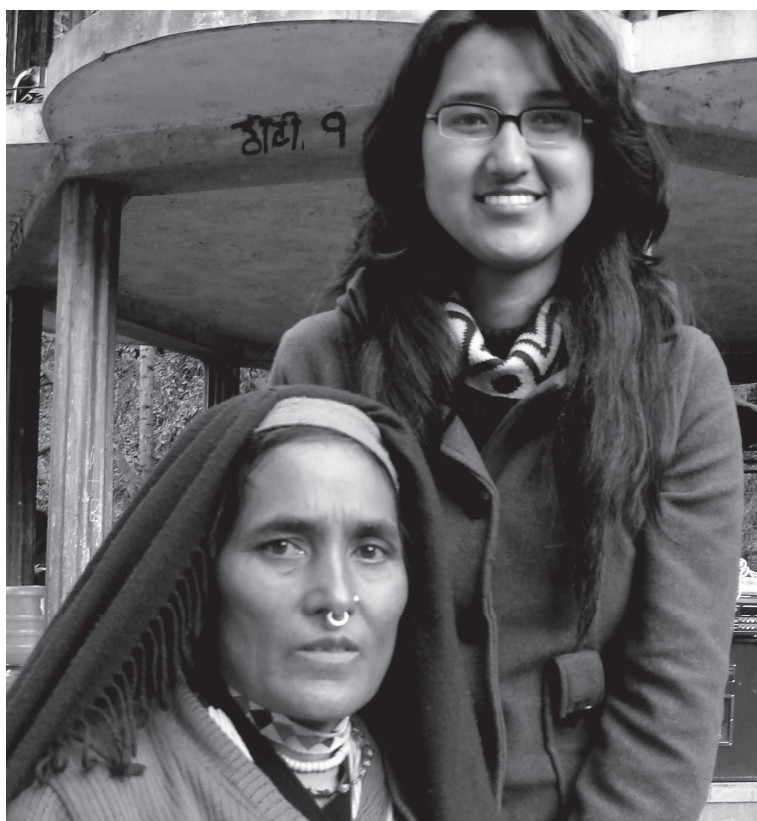
Tibet - Nydon is 11 years old and an excellent jump-roper. She is the only child in our home from a mainland Chinese back-ground. Although she spoke only Chinese when she came to the home, she now also speaks Tibetan very beautifully. Manager Norbula heard about her when she was a small girl begging and seeking shelter with some animals in a barn. Happily, he was able to get permission from the authorities for her to join us.





Nepal - Every year children and staff picnic in a park outside Kathmandu. Food is prepared on-site. Here Badri stirs a cauldron of curry while staff and older kids prepare vegetables. Manager Arjun, in the white hat, joins the chopping frenzy.

Also at the picnic were Phoolmaya Malla and her mother Belsara Malla. Phoolmaya and her brother Krishanaraj came to Child Haven 14 years ago, when Phoolmaya was three. Their mother, sole provider for her five children was having a difficult time supporting them all. A Unitarian Universalist Service Committee staff member heard about the family and recommended that the youngest two children come to Child Haven. The family lives in the Humla District in the far northwest of Nepal. So they took a 12-hour bus ride, and then caught a flight to Kathmandu. Due to the distance, Phoolmaya and her mother had not seen each other in many years. Phoolmaya is completing the first of a three-year registered nursing training with flying colours.





Nepal - A highlight of the picnic was a commemoration of the recent wedding of our own Shreejana Lama, who after receiving her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree, is now working as an animator. Her new husband, Jaya Tamang, is operations manager at a Kathmandu trekking company. Everyone placed a red "tika" on the foreheads of the new couple and sprinkled flower petals on their heads. There was tika paste to spare, so Sushmita, lower left, was included in the fun. We wish the couple a long, happy and mutually supportive relationship!

*Let me light my lamp, says the star, and never debate
if it will dispel the dark.*

Tagore



Tibet - A feed-bucket for yaks made from an old truck tire at our Tibet home.
It was even patched a few times.

Child Haven does not:

- 1. Sell or trade your name/address;**
- 2. Solicit by phone or door to door;**
- 3. Use professional fund raisers or paid advertising, except for small ads announcing local events**

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.

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