

ASHARAN ORPHANAGE
NEW DELHI



Quarterly Report

April - June 2008



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A Miracle Named Guddu

There was a little girl in our orphanage called Guddu. When she came to us, her hand was dislocated, and she had many bruises around her eyes and other parts of her body. According to Guddu, her father beat her up before he chased her out of the house, never to return. During the course of her stay at Asharan, Guddu learnt that you should say sorry when you hurt someone. She wished that someday her father would come to apologize to her and take her back. However, that never happened but another miracle happened instead. A loving family from Italy decided to adopt this lovely little girl.

She met her new parents on the 12th of March. Guddu was very excited to go with her parents. That night, Guddu slept peacefully. Her new parents could not sleep; instead, they sat beside her bed and watched her the whole night. Guddu means the world to her parents now. To see Guddu sit on her father's lap; and play with, tickle, joke with, and hug him gives us tremendous joy that has no comparison.



Our Miracle Babies

According to the Bible, Moses was a miracle baby. Placed in a basket coated with tar and pitch, his mother left him among the reeds in the Nile to protect him from Pharaoh's fury. His sister watched from a distance to see what happened to him. Miraculously, Pharaoh's daughter drew this baby out of the water and adopted him as her son while thousands of male babies were killed on the delivery tables and in the river Nile.

Asharan also has had many miracle babies escape death. A newborn female baby was found hidden under a bush with a feeding bottle near her about one and a half years ago. We called her Mridula. We do not know if any one was watching over her but we watched the miracle of her adoption. Recently, a woman adopted Mridula while hundreds of female babies are killed in India.

The mother of Karishma did not want her to die, so she took the risk of delivering her in a hospital before escaping without anyone's notice. We are not sure if she stood outside the hospital to see what was happening to her daughter! When she was carried out of the hospital, Karishma was sleeping with her eyes closed. When she opened her eyes, she was surrounded by the children and staff of Asharan. We were again privileged to see this miracle child go into her adoptive family that treasures a female child.



Nitin: Still Waiting For a Miracle

There was another child, a boy of about 4 to 5 years, wrapped and placed under the darkness of a flyover in Delhi. He too was picked up and brought to Asharan. Unfortunately, his body and joints were bent as he has cerebral palsy. He had a fading light that sparked in his eyes when he faintly smiled at us. The staff in the orphanage is committed to care for him and help him to go through his therapies. He has improved tremendously. No one has seen such a content and joyful child in times of helplessness. Nitin's never fading smile and brightness in his eyes teach us how to be content in times of adversity and lack of strength.

We are still longing to see the miracle of his adoption in a loving family that would take up the challenge to walk with him and raise him up. This would be one of the greatest joys for all of us.



Statistics:

	Boys	Girls	Total
Number of children in the beginning of April	7	11	18
Enrolments	0	0	0
Restored to biological family	0	0	0
Indian Adoption (Interim Custody)	0	1	1
Non Resident Indian Adoption	0	0	0
International Adoption	1	0	1
Number of children in the end of June	6	10	16

M. Night Shyamalan Visits Asharan

It was extremely exciting to have M. Night Shyamalan and his family visit Asharan orphanage in New Delhi. M. Night Shyamalan is one of the most recognised Hollywood directors whose films often feature major Hollywood stars. He has also started a foundation called the M. Night Shyamalan Foundation that helps people throughout the globe.

He visited the orphanage with his wife, two daughters, father, mother, and mother-in-law. Coming to India to collect the Padma Shri, he took time out from his busy schedule to come to Asharan. After his first visit, he was inspired to return 2 more times spending around 2 to 3 hours with the children. The children were very excited to have them there.

The relationship had started with Bhavna's tour of various homes and orphanages in India in 2007. One of the last ones on her itinerary was Asharan. She was very inspired by the work done there. Wendy, our Adoption Officer, kept in touch with her. Therefore, when she came to Delhi, she was eager to see the orphanage again. This time, she was also excited to see the new house where the orphanage is now located.

