



BEING BORN HOMELESS I FOUND A HOME



*Documented by
Dr.I.Sebastian M.A.,M.B.A.,Ph.D*

TO SURVIVE AND SHINE

St.Joseph's Development Trust



VISION Statement

Kingdom of brotherhood where equality and social justice reign. Everyone's right is respected and equal opportunity is provided for all.



MISSION Statement

Our organization in participation with the grass root level people seeks to serve irrespective of caste, creed or religion, the weaker sections of the society, the women, children, youth and marginalized communities and offer them the opportunities for developing their potentials leading them to have a self sustaining life.

SJDT's Approach

SJDT's Approach is called "MEALS" Approach.

Motivating
Equipping
Accompanying
Linking &
Self sustaining

The MEALS approach envisages the NGO as a facilitator in motivating and mobilizing the community from the outside and not as "one of the community" equipping the community through skill transfer, accompanying the community by providing relevant backup, and eventually enabling them to link with mainstream resources and services and being instrumental for policy influences.



Being born homeless I found a HOME



Dr. I. Sebastian M.A., M.B.A., Ph.D.,



St. Joseph's Development Trust-2013.

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St. Joseph's Development Trust

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Author's Words.....

Dr.I.Sebastian M.A.,M.B.A.,Ph.D.

Dear Friends,

Through this little book SJDT is proud to reach you with some impressive case studies of children. What makes us even more proud is that these children came to us as babies of few months old and now growing up. To show you an idea of their growth and development we have given photos of different stages. Today as I see these photos I myself is amazed and surprised over the rapid growth of these children. As we present you these photos we share our immense joy with you for you have equally played an important role in bringing up these children. Together let us feel proud that we have helped these children to survive and shine out as grown ups.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

Dr.I.Sebastian M.A.,M.B.A.,Ph.D.

Founder & Executive Director.





Xavier was below the minimum weight of the new born child when he was brought here and it was a difficult task for the foster parents in the home to take care of him. He was admitted in the hospital for gaining sufficient weight and he was under treatment for about a week. He was very weak as his mother had not taken care to give good and hygienic food when he was in the womb. His father was a careless man and he had not provided good food for the pregnant mother. Already his mother was very weak and she was not in the state of carrying one more child. Due to poor intake of proper food and poor health she died during delivery. Xavier had not seen his mother and his father comes to this home at occasionally to see him.

Xavier was brought to Puthu Punal on the second day of his birth by his maternal aunty. His mother died during delivery due to over bleeding. His father a strong believer of astrology concluded that it is because of birth of Xavier his wife died. He was not interested in bringing him up. He did not receive the child and went to some unknown place for the time being. In this situation Xavier was handed over to his maternal aunty who in turn brought Xavier to Puthu Punal on the second day itself. Xavier's birth place is Usilampatti in Madurai district. He has got one brother who is at present lives with the maternal aunty. His father has returned to the native place after a short period and as of now he is planning for his second marriage.





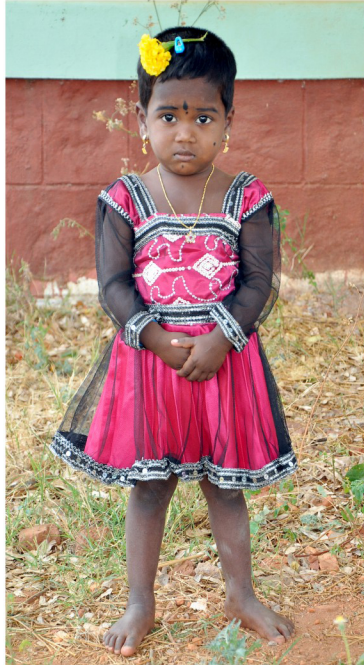
Xavier is now four years old and he is attending Government Balwadi at Sriram Nagar which is half a kilometer away from the home. He is very active and interested in playing. He mingles with all the children and plays friendly. He has got good knowledge and picks up faster. He speaks very clearly. All the needs of Xavier are met out in the home and he is taken good care of. Regular medical checkup is provided to him and at present he is enjoying good health. Xavier will have good life in this home and he will be helped to get good future.



PEULA PUSHPA



Peula Pushpa was born on 20th September 2009. Her parents are coolie workers and were living under hand to mouth existence with the meagre earning. She was the fourth female child to her parents. Her parents who were already fed up of three female children were expecting a male child but once again female child was born and they were irritated and wanted to desert or put away the child somewhere. To make the situation still worse Peula was born in the month of Adi(Tamil month). As per the culture of Tamilians, birth of girl child in the month of Adi is considered to be inauspicious to the family and so her parents were not interested to bring her up. Her parents some how came to know about Puthu Punal and on the very next day of her birth brought her to Puthu Punal and handed her over to us. Her parents are living in the same village and very rarely they come to meet her.





Now Peula Pushpa is four years old and she is attending Balwadi programme at Shriram Nagar which is half a kilometer away from Puthu Punal. She goes to Balwadi regularly and she is average in her studies. She looks very lethargic in her attitude. She is very adamant. She speaks well with clarity. She plays well. She is keeping good health and in the coming academic year she will be enrolled in first grade. She regained her life through Puthu Punal and Puthu Punal will continue to support her until she stands on her own leg. If SJDT had not intervened through Pudu Punal home Programme today Peula Pushpa's fate would have been otherwise and only by the constant support of sponsors we have been able to bring her up. Thanks to the sponsors of Peula Pushpa.



MASILA



Masila is now two and half years old and she is attending Balwadi programme. She was brought to Puthu Punal which is a home for the destitute, abandoned and orphan children just after 15 days after her birth. She was born on 25th December 2010. Her parents expected a male child as their second child but unfortunately once again it was a girl child. Her father was not happy with the birth of Masila and he developed bitterness over both the mother and the new born child and was thinking of deserting the child without anybody's knowledge. Her mother came to know about the evil plan of Masila's father and approached her neighbours for support. Through the neighbours help she handed over Masila to staff of Puthu Punal just after 15 days of her birth. From that time onwards Masila is taken good care at our home and at present she is a grown up child. Her mother comes and meets her every now and then.



Now Masila is attending Balwadi programme along with other children of this home and she is a good dancer. At this very young age itself she has danced on the stage and everyone appreciated her for her graceful performance. She is also good at studies and picks up the teachings very fast. She mingles with all the children at home. She sings Rhymes very beautifully. She is having good health. Thanks to the sponsor of Masila it is by your kind help we are able to bring this child and your support will be remembered for ever by us and by Masila.



JEYA JENITA



Jeya Jenita was born on 20th April 2011. Her parents are coolie workers. Jeya Jenita was the fourth girl in the family in a row and she was not liked by both the parents who were expecting a male child. Her parents became frustrated after the birth of Jeya Jenita and her father wanted to desert the child.. He was not touched by the cry of this innocent child. He cursed God and his wife for giving one more girl child and wanted to get rid of the child by any means. Her father left the family and married some other woman in the same village. Her mother was frustrated and wanted to commit suicide but she wanted to live for the sake of the children. However she was not paying full attention towards Jeya Jenita and just for the sake of giving food she was feeding the child. She was struggling hard to make their living. It was in this situation she came to know about Puthu Punal which is giving life to those children who are unwanted in the family, destituted by the family members, abandoned, neglected, uncared through one of the field staff of SJDT and then approached Puthu Punal and requested Brother to bring up the child. Brother seeing the selfish and foolish attitude of the father and the plight of the frustrated mother and the innocent smile and cry of Jeya Jenita, admitted her in Puthu Punal home. She was brought to Puthu Punal just after few months of her birth. From then onwards she is taken good care of in the home.



Jeya Jenita was an underweight child when she was brought to Puthu Punal but as of now she is having good health due to our regular treatment and good diet. She finds it difficult to walk and she is under physiotherapy treatment. She is recovering well and hope soon she will be able to walk properly. She is a good and calm child. She is attending Balwadi programme and picks up the teachings easily. We hope to give her all that she wants with the continuous support of her sponsor and thank the sponsor for his spontaneous love and constant support.





Isac is three years old boy living in Puthu Punal along with his sister Rashita. Isac was born on 12th March 2010. He is from Thillaiyadi village in Tranquebar block in Nagapattinam district. Isac's mother died within a week after giving birth to him. His father was bringing him up. Including Isac they are totally three children in the family. Isac's father was not able to bring up all the three children and looked for the support of someone. He could not meet out all the three children's needs and at the same time he was finding it difficult to bring up three small children. In this situation he approached the help of his father-in-law and mother-in-law who in turn assured to take care of the children. And so Isac and his sister Rashita were handed over to their grandparents. The eldest child remained with the father to assist him in the house.





Isac and his sister were brought up in their grandparents' house but unfortunately their grandfather died and it became very difficult for the aged grandmother to support two small children. She also became very weak and she needed the assistance of someone to move around. It was in this situation she looked for some institutions to admit both Isac and his sister to their custody for taken good care. She came to know about Puthu Punal and approached brother for help. Brother appreciated the commitment of the aged woman and at once admitted both the children at Puthu Punal. From then onwards Isac and his sister are brought up in this home. Isac is a very active child and he goes to Balwadi. He is very kind and helps other children. He is interested in gardening. He sings and dances. He is living happily here. We hope that Isac and his sister have good future in this home . God has rescued them by His mercy in the form of their Grandparents. The life that the grandparents bestowed Isac and his sister is now taken further by Puthu Punal with the support of generous sponsors and while thanking the sponsors of Isac and his sister we would like to say that your help will be remembered for ever.



Rashita is four and half years old girl living in Puthu Punal along with her brother Isac. Rashita was born on 24th January 2009. She is from Thillaiyadi village in Tranquebar block in Nagapattinam district. Rashita's mother died within a week after giving birth to her younger brother by name Isac. Her father was bringing her up. Including Rashita they are totally three children in the family. Rashita's father was not able to bring up all the three children and looked for the support of someone. He could not meet out all the three children's needs and at the same time he was finding it difficult to bring up three small children. In this situation he approached the help of his father-in-law and mother-in-law who in turn assured to take care of the children. And so Rashita and her brother Isac were handed over to their grandparents. The eldest child remained with the father to assist him in the house.





Rashita and her brother were brought up in their grandparents' house but unfortunately their grandfather died and it became very difficult for the aged grandmother to support two small children. She also became very weak and she needed the assistance of someone to move around. It was in this situation she looked for some institutions to admit both Rashita and her brother to their custody for good care. She came to know about Puthu Punal and approached brother for help. Brother appreciated the commitment of the aged woman and at once admitted both the children at Puthu Punal. From then onwards Rashita and her brother Isac are brought up in this home. When Rashita came to Puthu Punal she was one and half years old and as of now she is four and half years old and she is attending Balwadi, she is very slow in picking up the teachings. She also finds it difficult to walk properly and she is under physiotherapy treatment. She is a charming child and likes gardening. Next year she will be enrolled in first standard. We hope that Rashita and her brother will have good future in this home. God has rescued them by His mercy in the form of their Grandparents. The life that the grandparents bestowed Rashita and her brother is now taken further by Puthu Punal with the support of generous sponsors and while thanking the sponsors of Rashita and her brother we would like to say that your help will be remembered for ever.



AROCKIA ANULA



Arockia Anula is the fourth girl child in the family and so she became an unwanted child to her parents. Her parents were already agitated to bring up three girl children and were desperate to desert the fourth child by any means. They were not at all in a position to bring up all the four children and all the children in the family were very weak and anaemic. One of the neighbours came to know about the idea of the parents and he took the child from them and handed over her to Puthu Punal. When she was brought to Puthu Punal she was six months old child. She was born on 20th July 2010.

Now Arockia Anula is two and half years old and attends Balwadi. She is a good girl but very adamant in her demands. She is good at speaking and sometimes she is over speaking. She is good at dancing and has performed dance during gathering programme. She is having good health. She mingles with all other children in the home and plays friendly. Her life has been saved miraculously through the intervention of a neighbour and the saved life has been watered through Puthu Punal with the support of generous sponsors. Together with Arockia Anula we express our sincere gratitude to her sponsors for all the support that you are extending to Arockia Anula and request you to continue to support her so that she would get good education with all other basic needs.





Emili became an unwanted child to her parents just because she was a girl child and that too third girl child in a row with fits problem. Emili was born on third May 2010. Her parents were poor coolie workers and they could not manage to maintain their family of three girl children with their meagre earnings. With half mind they were bringing up the children. Since Emili had problem of fits they could not provide her proper treatment and she was left uncared to meet her fate. However God had some other plan for Emili and she was brought to Puthu Punal by her parents who came to know about the service of Brother.I. Sebastian through some of their villagers and approached him for admitting Emili in Puthu Punal. Brother accepted their request after understanding their family condition and admitted Emili in Puthu Punal. Emili was brought to Puthu Punal when she was just three days old and from then onwards all her needs are fulfilled by the home with the support of sponsors. Emili also was an underweight child and she was suffering from fits often. She was admitted in the hospital and provided proper treatment. As of now she is having good health but continues to get fits. She is under treatment and up to five years she needs to be given regular treatment for fits. Puthu Punal will continue to give her treatment until she gets fully recovered from fits. She is given





Now Emili is three and half years old and she is attending Balwadi programme. She goes to Balwadi with other children of the home and understands the teachings. She is a very calm child but takes part in the common programmes. She is interested in playing. We are sure that Emili will have good future with the continuous support of the sponsors and reach a good stage.



ADAIKALA LEEMA

Adaikala Leema was born on second April 2010. She was the second girl child to her parents. Her parents were agricultural coolie workers and their labour depended upon the monsoon. Due to insufficient income her father was finding it difficult to manage the family expenses and he was a frustrated man. When he came to know that his wife had given birth to a female child once again he became more frustrated.

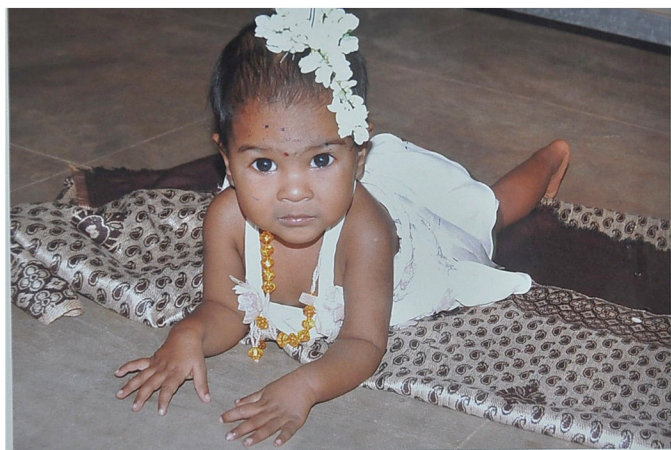


He did not come to see the new born child. He started to hate his wife and the new born child. He planned to desert the child somehow. His evil desire came to the knowledge of the mother and she stopped him from killing the child. It became a routine activity for the mother to save the child from the cruel father. It was at that time she came to know about Puthu Punal and the tender heart of Brother I. Sebastian through her village people. She at once informed her husband that instead of deserting the child we can hand over the child to some orphanages. Her husband was very happy to hear that and said that all that he wanted was



After receiving permission from her husband, Adaikala Leema's mother took her to Puthu Punal and informed brother about the evil desire of her husband and requested to save the child from the cruel father. Brother admitted the child in the home. Till today the father of Adaikala Leema does not know where Adaikala Leema has been given and brought up as the mother of Adaikala Leema has not informed her husband about the whereabouts of Adaikala Leema. Adaikala Leema was brought to Puthu Punal when she was just few days old baby. She was given good care and as of now she is three and half years old and attends Balwadi. She is not so good at picking up the teaching and struggles to understand. She plays and mingles with the children. Adaikala Leema has been given a second life in Puthu Punal with the spontaneous love and support of some generous sponsors and we hope that she gets good life and good future by the grace of God the Almighty.





Jayaseeli is three years old girl living in Puthu Punal. She was born on 25th December 2010. She was brought to this home in the first week of her birth. She became an unwanted child to their parents who are coolie workers. The only reason for becoming unwanted child is that she was the third female child in the family. Her parents were not able to bring up the two girl children and were expecting a male child during the third delivery but to their fate once again it was girl baby. Her father was not willing to own her but he wanted to hand over her to some institutions to be taken care of and brought up. With the idea of dropping Jayaseeli in some orphanages he was enquiring about the orphanages to his friends and villagers and came to know about Puthu Punal which was giving abode for the abandoned, neglected and destitute children and approached brother requesting to admit Jaya Seeli in the home. Considering the family condition and the inability of her father to bring up three girl children with his meagre income brother admitted Jayaseeli in Puthu Punal. She was brought to the home in the first week of her birth. She was an under weight child and needed medical care. She was admitted in the hospital for about ten days and proper medical aid was provided to her. Once she became normal to certain extend she was brought to our home back.

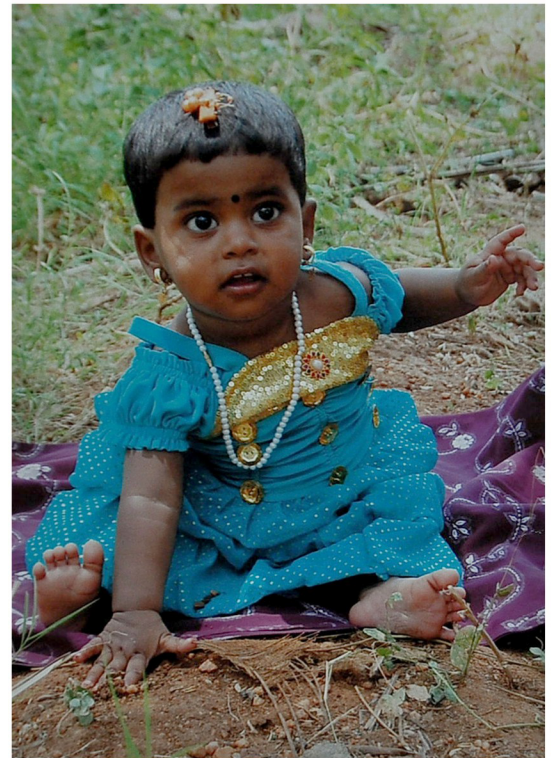


Now Jayaseeli is three years old child attending Government Balwadi programme. She is a charming child and mingles with every one very friendly. She is able to understand better and studies well. She is good at singing and dancing. She likes to eat fish. She has been saved by us because of the support provided by you dear sponsor and thank you for all your good works and request you too extend continuous support this child until she reaches a stage to stand on her own.





Alphonse was born on 24th April 2010 in a village called Varadharajanpet in Ariyalur District, Tamilnadu. She was born through the illegal relationship and so her mother could not keep her in the village. The villagers were against the mother and asked to take away the child to somewhere. Her mother left the village on the same day of the birth of the child and she was in search of some orphanages to hand over the child. It was in that situation her mother came to know about Puthu Punal that was sheltering and caring the poor, neglected, abandoned and destitute children and approached brother requesting to shelter Alphonse in Puthu Punal. Considering her condition and the critical situation brother admitted the child in the home. Alphonse came to Puthu Punal in the very next day of her birth. She is very cute and charming. Now she is three years old and attends Government Balwadi at Sriram Nagar which is half a kilometer away from Puthu Punal. She sings rhymes by heart and recites stories. She is able to understand and act accordingly. She gives respects for elders and obeys their commands. She is interested in gardening and likes flowers very much. She mingles with all the children in the home and plays well. Along with Alphonse we sincerely thank you our dear sponsor for understanding the situation of Alphonse and coming forward to help her and we assure to remember you in our prayers.





P. Malliga was born on 20th December 2009 in a small remote village in Tamilnadu. Her father was a tailor and mother was a mentally ill woman. Her mother was looked after by her father. Malliga was born, her father was not able to take care of the child with his mentally ill wife and requested the help of his mother in law and she was taking care of the new born child and the mother. Her father left them in the village and migrated to city in search of job. He wanted to earn high and look after the family. But he could not earn much. With the meagre income he could not give proper treatment to his wife and he was not able to save money for the child. Malliga's grandmother was ageing and she was also a sugar patient. She was not able to take care of the two years old Malliga. It was in that situation Malliga's father decided to drop her in some orphanages and was looking for some orphanages. He came to know about Puthu Punal and informed his mother in law to approach brother for support. Malliga's grandmother came to Puthu Punal and met brother and explained their home condition and their inability to bring up the child. Understanding the situation of Malliga's family kind hearted Brother admitted her in Puthu Punal. Malliga was two and half years old when she was admitted in Puthu Punal. In the initial days she was not going to anyone and only the care taker of her cottage could touch her and take around. She was asking for her grandmother always. But as the days went she started to mingle with all the children and play friendly. She is very active and interested in playing games. She is good at drawing and singing. She does good garden work. Now she is three and half years old and attends Government Balwadi programme. We hope that she finds bright future with the continuous support of her sponsor who adopted her after understanding her family condition and has been supporting all these days for her wellbeing.

SEBILA



Sebila is one of the twin babies born to her mother during her third delivery. The other twin child is a male child. She has two elder sisters. Her mother was a house wife and father was a coolie worker and they were finding it difficult to take care of the two female children already with the meager income. They were looking for a male child during the third delivery and as they expected they got a male child as one of the twin babies. In this situation her father developed hatred towards the girl child and showed love and affection to the boy child only. He wanted to keep male child with him and through away the female child. Thus Sebila became an unwanted and neglected child to her parents and she was not taken good care. At one stage Sebila's father wanted to drop the girl in some orphanages and after coming to know about Puthu Punal and its service he approached brother seeking for his help. Brother wanted to save the life of poor child Sebila and admitted her in Puthu Punal.



When Sebila came to Puthu Punal she was just 33 days old baby. She was an underweight child and was looking very pale and weak as she was not taken good care in the family. Foster mother in the home showed special attention for her and she was fed nutritious food and after few months she became a normal weight child with good appearance.



She was given all her needs. Today she is five years old girl and lives happily in the home. She is very good at studies and she is also a good singer and dancer. She is interested in drawing also. She likes gardening. She is very calm and amicable. This coming academic year she will be enrolled in regular school. We are happy for her growth and thank her sponsor for supporting her all these years and giving her childhood happiness with ensured future. Your support will be remembered for ever by her and by us.

VINCI VIMALA



Vinci Vimala is fourth born child in the family. She has two elder sisters and one elder brother. Her father is a coolie worker and he spared very minimum for the family. He spent his earnings in consuming liquor. He was not interested in bringing up and taking care of his children. He was indifferent towards the needs of the family and family members. It was in this situation Vinci's mother conceived for the fourth time and gave birth to her. The delivery took place in the hospital and when her father came to know that the newly delivered child is a girl child he did not come to hospital to see the new born child.

Moreover with stubborn heart he informed her mother not to come home with the child and if she comes with the child he will not allow her inside the house. Her mother was terribly shocked to hear that.

Her mother knowing the character of her husband and to save the other three children decided to sacrifice Vinci.

From the hospital itself she enquired about orphanages and once she came to know about the noble service of brother



I. Sebastian he approached him and cried out her situation and requested brother to take care of the child. Brother with his loving heart understood the plea of the mother admitted and Vinci Vimala in our home.





The mother was very happy that the child whom she carried in the womb for the past 10 months has got a place to live. She was very happy that the child has been saved from the cruel father. When Vinci was brought to Puthu Punal she was just 15 days old child. She was given good care with nutritious supplements and medical care. Today Vinci Vimala is five years old grown up child and ready to enter into school studies. She is a charming child with attractive and innocent smile. She is a child with helping tendency and finds happiness in helping other small babies. She takes care of other small babies in the home. She takes them for walking, she plays with them. She is reborn in Puthu Punal and living happily because of the constant support of her sponsor who has been supporting her in many ways to lead a happy life here with us and dear sponsor for all your support we express our sincere gratitude to you along with Vinci Vimala.



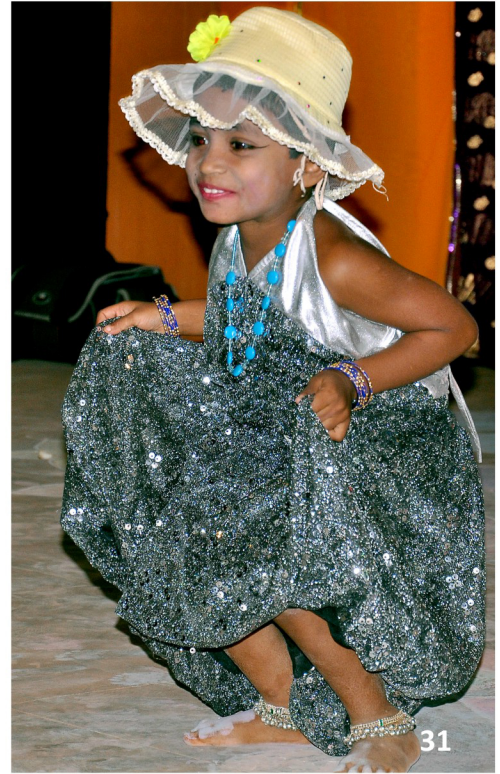
FELCY FATHIMA



Felcy Fathima is five years old girl child living in Puthu Punal. She was the fourth girl child in her family. Her mother is a sickly person and unable to go for any work. Her father is a coolie worker and goes for load man work in Madurai city. Father alone was the main breadwinner of the family and with his meagre income he could not manage the family expenses. Moreover he had to spare lion's share of his earning towards medical expenses of his wife. Children were not provided good food to eat and good clothes to wear. They were very weak and looking pale. It was in this pathetic financial condition the family was surviving. Meanwhile her mother conceived for the fourth time and once again it was a girl child. Father became very sad and he was worried about how to bring up all the four girl children and he was cursing God for his destiny. It was in that situation he wanted to drop the child in some orphanages and as soon as he came to know about Puthu Punal thorough one of the field staff of SJDT he informed his wife to admit the child in Puthu Punal.



And so the mother of Felcy Fathima met brother at Madurai when he had gone to take part in the street and working children gathering programme and handed over the child to him informing her family's poor financial condition and their inability to bring up four girl children. Thus Felcy Fathima was brought to Puthu Punal on the very fifth day of her birth. She was looking very weak and needed special care. The foster mother in the home showed special attention towards Felcy Fathima. She was given nutritious food and iron and vitamin fruits. She gained weight and good health. Now Felcy Fathima is five years old and she is ready to be enrolled in first grade from the coming academic year. She is very active and agile. She is a graceful singer and good dancer too. She mingles with all the children in the home and helps the small children to do their daily living activities. She is specially blessed child and we hope that she will have bright future with the constant support of the sponsor who is supporting her at present for all her needs. Along with Felcy Fathima we thank her sponsor for all the support that is extended to Felcy Fathima. May your good work continue to reach many more underprivileged children.



IMMANUEL IRUDHAYA

Immanuel Irudhaya was born on 16th April 2007. She is from Bodi Nayakkanoor village. She was handed over to Puthu Vasantham (Girls' Village) staff on the very next day of her birth and from there she was brought to Puthu Punal. Her story is very different and God has saved her through brother I. Sebastian. Immanuel Irudhaya is third girl child in the family. Her father was a coolie worker and mother was house wife. When Immanuel Irudhaya was in the womb of her mother her father divorced her mother due to some family quarrel. He went and married some other woman. He was not giving his earning to her mother and the children were starving. He was spending the money for some other woman and when his wife came to know about it questioned him and thus the quarrel started and ended in divorce. Divorce of Immanuel Irudhaya's parents' took place just seven months before her birth. Once the husband left the family Immanuel Irudhaya's mother started to go for some available coolie works so as to feed the two female children. She could not meet out all the family expenses as well as her medical expenses. She never thought of the child in the womb and did not care about her health. Children and mother had very poor intake of healthy food. Children were starving out of hunger. None of their relatives came to their support. It was in this situation Immanuel Irudhaya's mother was living and bringing up the children. She wanted to abort the child in the womb as she was sure that she cannot take care of all the three children with her meagre earning. However she continued to carry the child and at the same time looking for some orphanages to hand over the child as soon as she is born. She had come to know about Puthu Vasantham just a month before the birth of Immanuel Irudhaya and decided to leave the child in their care.





As she decided, on the very next day of the delivery she brought the child to Puthu Vasantham and handed over to the manager of Puthu Vasantham. She explained her family condition and her inability to bring up the three children and that too all girl children. Since Immanuel Irudhaya was just one day old child she was brought to Puthu Punal where children from birth are sheltered and taken care. When Immanuel Irudhaya was brought to our home she was looking very weak and she needed special attention. She was also an underweight child. She was provided good medical care with good nutrition. She is having very slow growth and seems to be slightly mentally challenged. This may be due to the hardships and the mental agony that the mother had when she was in the womb. However she is showing good interest in all the activities in the home. She is liked by all the inmates. She is very fond of brother. Immanuel Irudhaya is special child in our home and it is because of her sponsor we are able to take care of her and for all the support that is extended to her we sincerely thank you dear sponsor and remember you in our prayers for your good health and peace of mind.

T. Siva Bala was born on 10th March 2009. She is the only child to her parents. She was loved by her parents and was taken good care. Her father was a mason and used to go for work regularly. Mother was remaining at home. Her father was so loving and taking good care of both the mother and the child. But everything changed when Siva Bala was six months old as her loving father died in an accident. Her mother was still a girl when she married. She got married when she was below 18 years of age. In that situation Siva Bala's mother was sent back to her parents' house and both the mother and child were sheltered there. Siva Bala's mother was terribly shocked by the sudden death of her husband and it took many months for her to come back to normality. She was not able to take care of the child properly. Siva Bala's health started to deteriorate as she was not provided healthy food. After three years of death of Siva Bala's father relatives of Siva Bala's mother planned for second marriage to Siva Bala's mother. They planned to arrange marriage between Siva Bala's mother and her maternal uncle's son. At that time Siva Bala's mother was just 18 years old. It was at this juncture Siva Bala's mother started to worry about her child as she was afraid that whether her second husband would take care of the child born of a first husband.



It was in that situation she was looking to shelter Siva Bala in some orphanages. She came to know about Puthu Punal and approached brother for helping her out in that critical situation. Brother understood her condition and admitted Siva Bala in Puthu Punal. Siva Bala's mother was very happy and thanked brother for his kind heart. When Siva Bala was brought to our home she was three and half years old cute child. In the initial days she was affected by home sickness and wanted to go back to her mother. She was very adamant and refused to stay in the home. She used to remain alone and would not eat properly. But as the days went she slowly started to mingle with all the children in the home and started to live happily. Now she is four and half years old and attends Balwadi. She is picking up the teachings and studies well. She has very charming smile and very affectionate with all the inmates. Her mother comes and meets her occasionally. She is provided good care and all her needs are fulfilled in this home through the kind support that is extended by her sponsor. Along with Siva Bala we thank her sponsor for your kind gesture towards this child and hope that your support helps this child to reach a good stage in her life. Puthu Punal will be there till the end to support this child.





My father Mr. Paraman is from high caste and my mother Mrs. Kaleshwari is from low caste communities. They loved each other and married. They were leading a happy marital life for one or two years and I was born. I was born on 15th May 1992. My native is one of the remotest villages near Usilampatti in Madurai District. One or two years after my birth both my parents got separated due to caste problem. My father married some other woman and similarly my mother also married some other man. They did not bother about me and I was left with none to care me. Since both my parents were not ready to take me along with them, my maternal aunty took me along with her and she was taking care of me. I was brought up by my maternal aunty for two years and she also could not meet my needs with her meagre earning and she wanted to drop me in some orphanages. She came to know about Puthu Yugam home at Dindigul and admitted me there. I came to Puthu Yugam in the year 1997 as street girl at the age of four. In Puthu Yugam there was one more girl by name Mary and we both were living like sisters. We were fond of each other and all our needs were fulfilled at Puthu Yugam. One warden was appointed by brother. I. Sebastian and she was taking care of us. We were there in Puthu Yugam for one year and in the year 1998 we were brought to SJDT's head office which was functioning at Boy's Village near Ghat Road. Within few months many more children like us came to the tender care of Brother. I. Sebastian. Many orphan, semi-orphan, abandoned, neglected, deserted children were handed over to the care of brother and we were living like brothers and sisters at SJDT's head office.





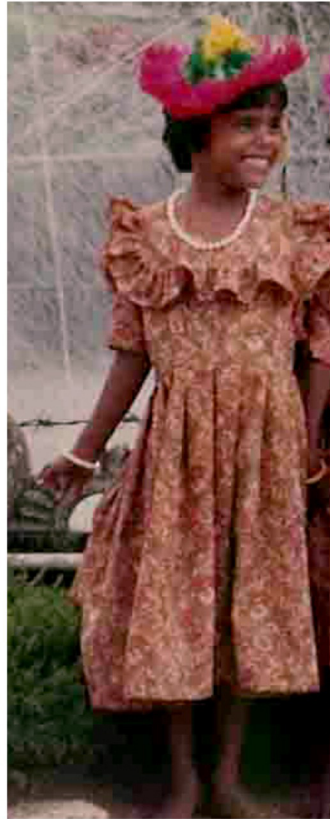
All our needs were met by brother through the kind help of generous sponsors. So as to take care of us one warden and cook were appointed by brother. They both took good care of us. As the days went number of children increased and could not be accommodated at SJDT's head office. Brother as a person who would say no to the ones who seek his help constructed a home for orphan, semi-orphan, deserted, abandoned girl children at Murugathuranpatti with the generous support of donor agency. The home was named as Puthu Vasantham which is a home for girl children. We all of us were shifted to Puthu Vasantham and from there I completed my 10th grade. I learned many good habits at Puthu Vasantham. Special time table was followed in the home considering the holistic development of the children. Special care is given for our individual growth, personality and extra-curricular development etc.



When Puthu Punal was inaugurated I was brought to Puthu Punal since I was a grown up girl and supportive of the home activities. I completed my 12th grade from Puthu Punal and secured good marks in my annual examination. After that I joined for college studies and as of now I am studying third year bachelor degree in commerce in Madurai Kamarajar University. I am doing well in my studies and I am confident to make my future. This is my life and I am really happy to share with you all my life and as I share this with you with grateful heart thank Brother I. Sebastian who is my loving fatherly figure and guide for helping me to lead a good life today and at the same time I also remember and thank all my sponsors who are supporting me all these years through Bro. I. Sebastian. I will be a loving child of Brother. I. Sebastian till the end of my life.



I am S.Mariyal one of the twin sisters born to very poor parents. Marthal is my twin sister and she is also brought up by brother I.Sebastian. My father is Mr. Sankaraiya and Mother is Mrs. Valli. When we were small children my parents died and we were brought up by our aunty. She was not able to take care of us as she needed to take care of her own children. In that situation she handed over us to Brother.I.Sebastian informing him about our parents' death and her inability to take care of us. Brother with his kind heart admitted us in Boys Village where there were many more children like us taken care. We were totally thirty children at Boys Village when we were admitted. We came to the care of brother when we were four years old. We were living very happily with one anothers' love and care.



Brother appointed a warden and cook to take care of us. They used to take care of us, prepare food for us, wash our clothes and bath us. Once Puthu Vasantham was constructed all of us were shifted to Puthu Vasantham which is a home for orphan, semi-orphan, abandoned, neglected and poor girl children. There we were living with more than 100 children and doing our school studies. We studied there up to 9th grade and learned many extra-curricular skills. We developed our skills in extra-curricular activities. Celebrations used to be celebrated in our home very grandly. During Pongal, Deepavali and Christmas occasions we used to wear new clothes and enjoy delicious meals. Brother used to take us for picnic during quarterly, half yearly and annual holidays to different places and we used to enjoy thoroughly.



Once I completed 9th grade I was brought to Puthu Punal which was newly constructed by brother I. Sebastian in the new head office premise of SJDT. Puthu Punal was special home for small babies. Here I was living a happy life with many other children. I was sent to Periyakulam to learn tailoring course from Puthu Punal. After that I learned printing and typewriting. Once I completed my tailoring course I was sent to Puthu Irudhayam which is at Tranquebar in Nagapattinam district. From there I was doing apprentice course in tailoring. As of now I am learning beautician course at an institute at Batlagundu. This course has helped me a lot and I am sure of making my future. For the past two years Christmas Camp is held at Puthu Punal during half yearly holidays and those days I get chance to meet my twin sister and mingle with my old friends who stayed with me at Puthu Vasantham. My life and my sister's life were saved by brother I. Sebastian and we were provided with all our needs for these many years. The love and affection which we could not receive from our parents were provided to us by brother I. Sebastian, Ms. Joselin, Ms. Devi Bala and many other foster mothers and cooks in the homes. Till today we are living very happily in this home and for all the support that is extended to us through brother I. Sebastian I along with my sister sincerely thank all our sponsors and remember and pray for your good health of mind and body and may God the Almighty give you happiness always.



I am S.Marthal one of the twin sisters born to very poor parents. S. Mariyal is my twin sister and she is also brought up by brother I.Sebastian. My father is Mr. Sankaraiya and Mather is Mrs. Valli. When we were small children my parents died and we were brought up by our aunty. She was not able to take care of us as she needed to take care of her own children. In that situation she handed over us to Brother.I.Sebastian informing him about our parents' death and her inability to take care of us. Brother with his kind heart admitted us in Boys Village where there were many more children like us taken care. We were totally thirty children at Boys Village when we were admitted. We came to the care of brother when we were four years old. We were totally thirty children and we were living very happily with one others' love and care. Brother appointed a warden and cook to take care of all of us. They used to take care of us, prepare food for us, wash our clothes and bath us. Once Puthu Vasantham was constructed all of us were shifted to Puthu Vasantham which is a home for orphan, semi-orphan, abandoned, neglected and poor girl children. There we were living with more than 100 children and doing our school studies. I studied there up to 10th grade and learned many extra-curricular skills. We developed our skills in extra-curricular activities. Celebrations used to be celebrated in our home very grandly. During Pongal, Deepavali and Christmas occasions we used to wear new clothes and enjoy delicious meals. Brother used to take us for picnic during quarterly, half yearly and annual holidays to different places and we used to enjoy thoroughly.



Once I completed 10th grade I was brought to Puthu Punal which was newly constructed by brother in the new head office premise of SJDT. From Puthu Punal I was taken to Puthu Irudhayam home which is at Tranquebar and there I worked as a warden for two years. As of now I doing nursing course in Vivekanadha Nursing Institute which is at Tranquebar and staying in Puthu Irudhayam. For the past two years Christmas Camp is held at Puthu Punal during half yearly holidays and those days I get chance to meet my twin sister and mingle with my old friends who stayed with me at Puthu Vasantham. My life and my sister's life were saved by bother I. Sebastian and we were provided with all our needs for these many years. The love and affection which we could not receive from our parents were provided to us by brother I. Sebastian, Ms. Joselin, Ms. Devi Bala and many other foster mothers and cooks in the homes. Till today we are living very happily in this home and for all the support that is extended to us through brother I. Sebastian I along with my twin sister sincerely thank all our sponsors and remember and pray for your good health of mind and body and may God the Almighty give you happiness always.





I am Benildus an adopt son of SJDT. Brother I. Sebastian is my fatherly figure and it is he who saved my life and helping me till today to live happily. If it was not brother who intervened in my life before 15 years today I would be an orphan youth struggling to make my living in some corner of the earth. However I was saved by God's grace and I thank him for saving my life through brother I. Sebastian and through my generous sponsors. I am from Sooranam village in Ramnad district, Tamilnadu. When I was around two and half years old my mother died by burning herself due to quarrel with my father. After the death of my mother, my father deserted me and my sister. We were left with none to care. It was our grandmother who was taking care of us in her old age. As she could not take care of us she wanted to drop us in some orphanages and as she was searching for some orphanages to drop us. At that time she came to know about brother I. Sebastian and brought both of us to brother. She shared with brother all that happened in our family and requested him to give us shelter. Brother with his kind heart immediately admitted me and my sister in Boys Village. I came to Boys Village when I was two and half years old and I completed my high school studies





After that I was admitted in a hostel at Tuticorin and from there I am doing my higher school studies now. Brother continues to support my personal and educational needs and as of now I am studying 12th grade and at present I am writing my annual examination. I am sure to secure high marks and continue my studies with the support of brother I. Sebastian. During my stay at Boys Village I have learned many extra-curricular activities and I am regular performer in my school programmes. I have won many prizes in different cultural and sports events. I am very good at playing foot-ball and I am in the school foot-ball team. So far I have not heard about the where about of my father and I don't want to know about him as I feel and believe that Brother I. Sebastian is my father. I also will never forget Ms. Joselin and Ms. Devi Bala who were very fond of me in the hostel and helped me in many ways. I go back to my brother during holidays and spent the days with him in the home. I exist today only because of brother and I am also confident to make my life and achieve many things in my life. I want to help many children for their studies with my earning and I am sure I will do that sooner. For all that I am today I sincerely thank my sponsors who continue to support me for all these years through brother I. Sebastian.

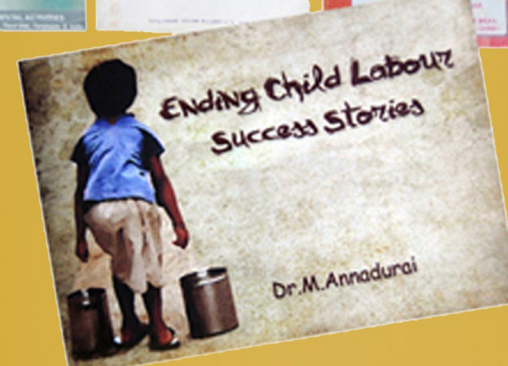
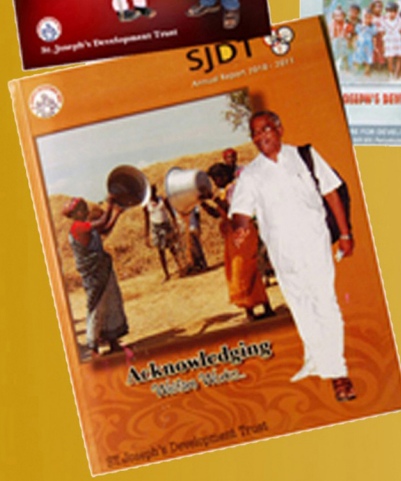
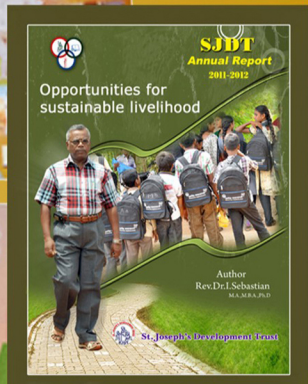
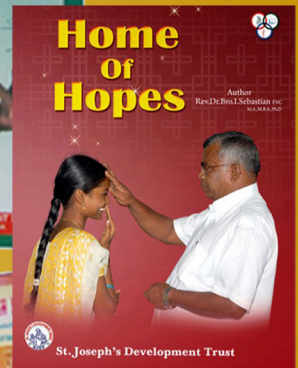
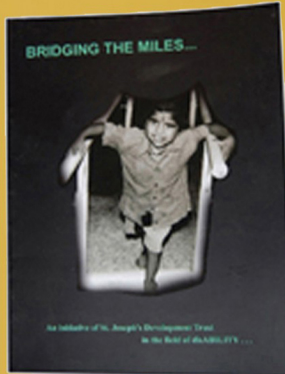
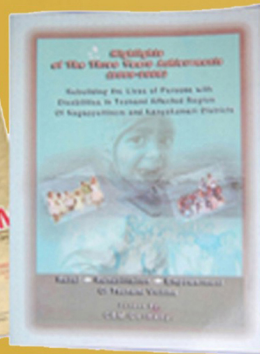




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OUR EARLIER PUBLICATIONS



St.Joseph's Development Trust



Dr.I.Sebastian. M.A.,M.B.A.,Ph.D
Founder & Executive Director.

' Today as I see these photos I myself is amazed and surprised over the rapid growth of these children.As we present you these photos we share our immense joy with you for you have equally played an important role in bringing up these children.Together let us feel proud that we have helped these children to survive and shine out as grown ups '..



St.Joseph's Development Trust

A Centre for Development Activities.

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