

ON HER BIRTHDAY SISTER LUCY PAYS TRIBUTE TO CHHATRAPATI SHRI SAMBHAJI MAHARAJ & CLEANS THE SAMADHI HERSELF



Mr. Bernhard Girardi & Prof. Dr. Josef Hainz passed away.

MAHER is very grateful to both benefactors.



A Word from the Sister

Welcome yet to this another edition of Maher newsletter.

Whenever I have received an honour, I have always felt it to be an acknowledgement of the efforts and hard work that my colleagues at Maher have put in toward the final goal of Maher: the end of destitution. It makes me more humble and yet more determined in Maher work. I feel happy that these honours enhance the value of the work Maher has been doing and eventually enable it to reach more people in distress.

Of the two major honours I have received over last six months, I felt particularly proud receiving the Neerja Bhanot Award. What a brave woman Neerja was to have sacrificed her life at the age of just 22 years for the sake of saving others' lives! She paid the highest price performing her duty and became a loadstar for everyone of us.

The Ooms honour placing me among the 100 inspiring people in the world was flattering but made me happy that the work my Maher colleagues have been doing has received yet another international recognition.

Attending the historic Parliament of the World's Religions meet at Toronto was a real moment of pride. It was from this platform that Swami Vivekanand had addressed the first meet of the Parliament in 1883 at Chicago. The meet at Toronto as expected was attended by a large number of dignitaries, all firmly committed to religious and cultural harmony and representing as many as 50 different traditions. While the Parliament was founded more than 130 years back, it is unfortunate that we still have to underline the importance of interfaith dialogue. Maher in its own small way is highlighting this issue through its own Interfaith Association. I feel Maher is most well-placed to spread this message since it is a vibrant hub of young people cutting across all the barriers of caste and faith, staying and interacting together, and undertaking a variety of activities in a milieu of friendship and camaraderie.

In this issue we break the sad news of the death of two of Maher's long-time friends: Mr Bernhard Girardi and Mr Francis Noel D'Souza. Mr Bernhard owns a lion's share in the development of what Maher is today. He has been a loving witness to the ups and downs in the history of Maher and has stood like a rock behind Maher in all those vicissitudes. He has been a close associate of mine ever since the idea of Maher was born and Maher will remain ever grateful to him for this loving bond.

Mr D'Souza has long been my associate on the Maher Board of Trustees. We will definitely miss his wise counsel in years to come. In his dry accounting calculations as a leading chartered accountant, he had kept the flame of social commitment burning in his heart. This is not as commonly seen as it should be. Maher conveys its heartfelt condolences to the families of both Mr Girardi and D'Souza and prays Almighty to give them enough strength and courage to withstand their grievous loss.

With these words we get ready to enter another year, full of new challenges and new developments.

Thank you.



**Sister Lucy Kurien
Founder-Director**

Sister Lucy receives the prestigious Neerja Bhanot Award

At a solemn and impressive ceremony in Chandigarh, Sister Lucy Kurien received the prestigious 27th Neerja Bhanot Award, instituted in 1990 in memory of the brave Senior Flight Purser Neerja Bhanot who saved hundreds of lives while sacrificing her own during a Pan Am flight hijack at Karachi airport in September 1986. The award consists of Rs 1.50 lakh, a citation and a trophy. The award is conferred on an Indian woman who when faced with social injustice overcomes it with guts and grit and then helps those in similar distress.

Accepting the award, Sister Lucy said the award represented the spirit of immense courage that Neerja had showed in the face of the daunting occasion in 1986. She underlined that women must stand in defence of their own rights as well as those of others especially children.

Congratulating Sister Lucy, Shri. Akhil Bhanot, Managing Trustee, Neerja Bhanot Pan Am Trust, appreciated Sister Lucy's work saying that the Trust was proud of her work and hoped that her mission of spreading compassion and love continue ever stronger in years to come.

Aneesh Bhanot, General Secretary of the Neerja Bhanot Pan Am Trust, said the trust was dedicated to promoting the two core values that Neerja stood for: 'do your duty come what may' and 'never tolerate injustice or compromise on your self-respect'. It was just apt that Sister Lucy received this award since she too has always nurtured and represented these values in her own life and mission.



Sister Lucy included among 100'World's Most Inspiring People'

Describing Sister Lucy as a 'heroine (who) gave a home to thousands of Indian street children', 'Oooms', the famous Austrian magazine, included Sister Lucy Kurien in its 2018 list of 'The World's Most Inspiring People'. These are the people who, the magazine said, inspired, influenced, motivated or inspired us most in 2018. The Ooom magazine is published by the Ooom Publishing House which is a part of the Ooom Corporate House.

This list includes the names of people all over the world from a variety of fields chosen by a very eminent panel of juries. It has been a matter of great pride for all Maher well-wishers that Sister Lucy is a part of the list that includes such illustrious names as Barak Obama, Angela Merkel, Bill Gates, Emmanuel Macron, Xi Jinping, Malala Yousafzai, Dalai Lama and Al Gore.

Children and staff enjoy the learning experience at Thoughtworks

On 19 August 2018, the children and staff at Maher visited the Pune branch of ThoughtWorks, a privately owned, global technology company with 42 offices in 15 countries. The visit to the company which provides software design and delivery, and pioneering tools and consulting services was really a deep learning experience for the children.

At the outset of the visit, the children were divided into two groups and given information about the company. They were then asked to draw pictures on the theme of their choice and to explain why they chose the theme. The pictures drawn by the children carried a bewildering variety of themes like environment, tree plantation, house, natural scenes and the like. The pictures were in a way a window on children's personality and reflected the uppermost thoughts in their minds. It proved to be a really good exercise and a learning experience.

The activity also featured a discussion on a motivational video screened on the occasion. The children were amazed to see a large number of Apple computers around and were given an opportunity to



use them to play a game of their choice which they very happily did. The visit which ended with a dinner at the end proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable learning experience for the children who were very grateful to the organisers at the company and at Maher.

Two training programmes in collaboration with CAF successfully completed



Maher has been undertaking many skill-development activities for needy women in cooperation with the Charities Aid Foundation which is a leading organization in UK providing services and

assistance to UK and international charities. In general CAF is well-known for promoting general donation to charitable organisations.

On August 4 and 25, Maher organized a certificate distribution programme for women who had successfully completed respectively the bag making and tailoring course. Both programmes were held in Shirur.

At both programmes the student-women of the class appreciated the teachers for their teaching skills and friendly attitude toward them. One of the organisers of the programme, Ms Tejaswini Pawar informed the gathering that the tailoring class had trained so far more than 550 women and that it was the 38th batch completing the course successfully.

There was also similar certificate distribution ceremony on 29 March at Shirur for another tailoring class batch.

Ms Shirly Anthony and Mr Vaibhav Pawar had put in large efforts for the conduct of these courses. Maher is grateful to CAF for its cooperation in its skill development efforts.

Sister Lucy attends the historic Parliament of the World's Religions meet at Toronto

Sister Lucy was honored in September 2018 by the historic Parliament of the World's Religions when she was invited by the organizing committee of the Parliament to attend its meet in Toronto, Canada from November 1 to 7, 2018. The Parliament was founded in 1883 and has been organizing its meets since then all over the world. Sister Lucy was invited to the meet in appreciation of her deep spiritual commitment to peacemaking, and her interest in interfaith dialogue.

The Toronto meet of the Parliament involved distinguished persons from all over the world, representing over 50 faith traditions.

It was at the first international convention of this Parliament in 1883 at Chicago that Swami Vivekanand represented Hinduism and delivered his famous speech to the delegates of the world. It has certainly been a matter of great pride for all the Maher well-wishers that Sister Lucy was invited to the meet of such historic background to represent Maher and the interfaith philosophy to which she is deeply committed and which the world so badly needs during the present times.

During her trip to US, Sister Lucy met with several well-wishers of Maher and updated them on the recent developments at Maher.

Sister Lucy attends WARP summit at Seoul, Korea

Last year Sister Lucy attended the WARP (World Alliance of Religions for Peace) summit held in Seoul, Korea from 17th to 20th September. The purpose of this summit was to establish a basic ideological foundation upon which a World Alliance of Religions can be built in order to bring conflicts founded on differing religious ideologies to an end. The WARP is an extensive gathering of like-minded leaders and citizens who wish to create a sustainable environment for world peace. With its main slogan as "Together for Peace as Messengers of Peace," the summit provides a platform for leaders in the field of politics, religion, youth and women issues, journalism, and civil society around the world to discuss the ideas and practices required for a world of peace.

Sr Lucy had a wonderful chance to be part of this summit and met many religious and heads of the countries who attended the summit.



Sister Lucy's birthday celebrated with blood donation and cleanliness drive



Maher children and staff in a very exemplary way celebrated Sister Lucy's birthday by donating blood and undertaking a cleanliness drive of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj and Govind Mahar samadhis in Vadhu.

The blood donation and cleanliness drive were respectively organized at Vadhu on September 1 and 2 as per the wishes of Sr.

Lucy. As many as 56 Maher children, staff and friends of Maher gave their good wishes to Sister on her birthday by donating blood at the camp at Vadhu. The camp which had been organized in cooperation with the Sassoon Hospital received very enthusiastic involvement from the Maher staff. Sister herself inaugurated the camp by cutting the cake in the presence of large number of Maherites and Shri Sherkhan Shaikh, Vice President of the Shirur Taluka Patrakar Sangh.

Maher children were equally enthusiastic in cleaning up the Sambhaji Maharaj and Govind Mahar samadhis, which are located very close to Maher's Vadhu office. With each of them carrying a broom in their hand and shouting aloud slogans they reached the Samadhi and with great excitement and zeal and cleaned up the place. Here too Sister Lucy herself inaugurated the cleanliness programme by garlanding the statue of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj and paying respects to Govind Mahar at his Samadhi.

Both activities were accomplished in a very disciplined and respectful atmosphere for which the Maher staff deserve great appreciation.

One-day workshop conducted by Shri Aniruddha Gadankush

Shri. Aniruddha Gadankush conducted on April 4 a very educative and instructive workshop which was attended by as many as 70 Maherites. The workshop featured varied activities that the participants found very enlightening.

At the outset Mr Aniruddha divided the participants into 4 groups and asked them their views about Maher and what they thought were core values of Maher. This task led the participants to peep into their own mind and thus introspect upon the Maher values. The groups were then told to present views before other participants.

The other activity of the group was a discussion of a video clip which included the participants' reaction to the video clip as well as to the songs sung by the participants.

Making of a paper tower was another activity. It was a kind of experience in creation. At the end there was a discussion on the project.

The workshop ended with each of the participants going through a steel ring. It probably aimed at reaching ones goal in the face of



challenges. Mr Aniruddha exhorted the audience to work for Maher in a spirit of unity and harmony.

The participants gave their feedback at the end and left the premises

Maher undertakes various programmes to promote environmental awareness



From June 23, the plastic ban came into being in Maharashtra and the authorities started penalising all those found using plastic products. Maher social workers as vigilant as ever organized various programmes to create awareness among people about plastic use.

At the local Sharadchandra Pawar High School at Shirur, Maher social workers, Atul Shelke and Prasanjit Gaikwad with the help of the Headmaster of the school organized on 16 August a street play to send the message against the use of plastic. On the same day the street play was also staged at the Vadhu chowk to spread the message of man-made destruction of environment through waste and waste material like plastic. At Perne Phata, the play was presented on 27 August and at Aпти on 30 August.

To celebrate 5th June (World Environment Day), Maher children and Bachat Gut women held a rally at Shikrapur, holding placards in hands, to spread the message of importance of environmental

conservation. It was a huge rally with more than 700 people participating in the event.

Another huge rally was organized at Vadhu which featured a procession of 300 participants from Bhondve vasti to Vadhu gaon. As the children proceeded in procession they threw plant seeds on the sides of the road indicating the dire need to plant trees to save our planet. Children must have thrown this way as many as 10000 seeds which were kindly provided by the Corning India Pvt Ltd.

On 29 July, under the auspices of the Adivasi Kalyan Kendra, Maher children planted trees at Pimpalkhori at Kendur. Children planted on the day a variety of plants like mango, gulmohr, tamarind etc.

It is clear that Maher is organizing environmental education in a truly big way by involving students, young people and general population. In this context it may be noted that Maher has installed Biogas and Solar pan in every home.

Adarsh Gammat Shala completes 10 years

The Gammat Shala project was started by Maher particularly for the children at Paradhi Wasti whose parents were away at work and who are therefore left on their own during the day. While these children are with their parents and family, they have never been to a school. The Gammat Shala project was opened to attract these children to school and thus inculcate in them a habit of attending school and learning a few basic things. Thus at the Gammat Shala they are taught basics of personal cleanliness and grooming as well as other learning-based activities and games which makes them sociable and outgoing. This develops in them a steady interest in attending the regular school. It is with this aim that the gammat shala was started at Perne Phata ten years back in 2008. The project works with children of 1-8 years of age who are now happily developing a taste for attending school. The number of children attending the shala has also been steadily rising with the present number being 35. More than 400

children have benefited from this shala since its inception in 2008.

In this context, the work done by the Abhyasika in the Waghmare Vasti at Perne Phata may be mentioned. The Abhyasika was started in 2009 to help children in their daily homework and general studies. Under the auspices of the Abhyasika, there have been regular tuitions for the children from 1st to 7th standard classes. Emphasis is particularly laid on the subjects of English and mathematics. The children are also taught various sports like football, cricket and kho kho.

These efforts are supported by other Maher projects like bachat guts- there are 30 bachat guts- and social awareness programmes through street plays.

Our congrats to teacher Ms Anita Gaikwad for her accomplishment!

Sister Lucy and Hirabegum give detailed instructions at the Annual parent-guardian meeting

The annual parent-guardian meeting which was this year held on 4 August 2018 was attended by 250 people. It was addressed by Sister Lucy Kurien and Hira Begumulla.

The programme began with a small entertainment programme which featured a dance by Maher children and a short film that appealed viewers against food wastage and public trash. This was followed by a short speech by Sandip Mhetre and Mangal Gaikwad who rose from dire difficulties in life to rise to an accomplished dance teacher.

Maher social worker Harish Avchar presented on the occasion a PPT on sports in Maher which was much appreciated by the audience.



Four day Maher Winter Camp was all activity and enthusiasm

The 10th Maher Winter Camp held from 22nd to 25th November 2018 was attended by several dignitaries in the field of sports and was conducted in a true spirit of sport and camaraderie.

The dignitaries during the inaugural ceremony included Sulakshan Kulkarni, Ranji cricket player, sayli Keripale, Asian kabaddi player, Ajay Landge, Mahapaur Kesari, Ajay Chavan, National



player and many others.

The players had been divided colourwise into Yellow, Green, Blue and Red. The first day featured tournaments in chess, badminton, cricket, running, elocution and quiz contest. With the score of 195, the Red Team won the first place during the first day. It was followed by the Blue, Yellow and Green Teams who respectively scored 160, 70 and 55 marks. Rahul Undre, Somanath Sonawane, Sandip Gaikwad provided much-needed guidance to the participants in the elocution competition.

The second day began with funny games for children and staff like bursting the balloons, brick walking and musical chair. The evening programme featured group and solo fancy dress competition and vocal music. During this second day, the Red, Blue, Yellow and Green Teams respectively scored 380, 360, 320 and 220 marks.

The third day too began with some funny games but featured serious sports as well. These included throw ball, long jump, football and others. The evening programme included dance performances, street play and fancy dress competition. The fancy dress competition for staff had a lot of message in it with staff members dressing as the Queen of Zansi, Savitribai Phule, Swami

Vivekanand and the activists in the Cleanliness Drive. The marks scored by Blue, Red, Yellow and Green were 570, 530, 345 and 330.

The Prize Distribution which took place on Sunday 25 November was also attended by many dignitaries who included Joint Charity Commissioner Shri. Navnath Jagtap and Shiv Chhatrapati Puraskar Awardee Shri. Swapil Dhere. The Group Trophy was presented to Blue and Red Teams who had respectively bagged first and second place in the camp sports. The Yellow and Green Teams won respectively third and fourth place. The Best Housemaster Trophy went to Shri Vaibhav Pawar (Men) and Amrapali Ankushe (Ladies).

The Best Captain Trophy went to Satish Banpatte (Boys) and Mayuri Katkar (Girls). Sayli Yadav and Rhishikesh Kadam were honoured with Best Player Trophy. Maher is thankful to Sandip Bhondve who has been providing finance for the gold, silver and bronze medals for the event.

Vaibhav Pawar, Soni Chhatrapati, Navnath Jagtap, Sahebrao Bhandare and Swapnil Dhamdhare spoke on occasion appreciating the spirit of sports and camaraderie shown by Maher children and commending the inspiration provided by the Founder of Maher, Sister Lucy and Maher President Hirabegum.

A 4-day programme imparts detailed training for Maher housemothers

A 4-day programme for Maher housemothers from 10 to 13 January covered extensive details regarding their duties as mothers to children under their care. The programme was conducted at Vadhu under the auspices of project Mamatadham and was attended by 50 housemothers.

The first day, 10th January, contained such activities as prayer, welcome and self-introduction of participants, discussion on activities during the summer vacation and interaction with Sister Lucy and Shri. Gaus. The discussion focused on the importance of proper language to be used by the housemothers in their interaction with the children under their care.

The sessions on the second day, 11th January, were addressed by Ms. Anuradha Karkare and Ms. Megha Marathe. The discussion underlined the importance of anger management on the part of housemothers while interacting with children. The discussion dealt with the causes of anger and the way it could be kept under control. The speakers asked the housemothers to treat the children as their friends and set aside their ego while finding a solution for a problem between them and the children.

The lunch was followed by the Marathi movie, 'Time Please', which highlights the importance of trust in the husband-wife relationship.

The second session on the day was devoted to sanitary and health matters. The housemothers were asked to keep the house and its surroundings as clean and neat as possible. They were also told not to skip meals and take a daily exercise for at least 15 minutes. Importance of fresh air and clean drinking water was also stressed by the resource persons.



The third day was devoted to spiritual matters. The session was addressed by Father Brishton Britto and Mariya in which they stressed the importance of positive thinking and the mechanism of dreams. There was also a discussion on the development of personality, chaired by Ramesh Dutonde. Mr. Dutonde emphasized the significance of a calm and serene personality and asked the housemothers to develop their own identity and not copy others in developing their personality.

The last day featured picnic to a fire brigade office and pratishirdi at Shirgaon.

Dr. Pradeep Sharma, Maher Trustee, very kindly hosted dinner to all house mothers on the last day at Hotel Sambar. Maher is grateful to him for this kind gesture.

New Maher Parliament declared

Maher has long been implementing a very laudable experiment of electing its own ministers to look after the various Maher activities. The activity is aimed at imparting the children the democratic values and dialogue, and developing in them a spirit of tolerance toward criticism. It also teaches them the importance of commitment to work and accountability to those who have elected them. The electorate consists of all the children (who are members of Parliament) above 5th standard in various Maher homes. The 2018 elections took place on 24 June and elected the following Council of Ministers:

■ Prime Minister: Pooja Badhe ■ Education: Adesh Ghisare ■ Health: Sarvesh Bhuse ■ Sports: Rhishikesh Vairat ■ Environment: Fatima Shaikh ■ Cultural Affairs: Mangal Gaikwad

The students who had passed 10th and 12th standard examinations were also felicitated on the occasion.



In brief:

Health Awareness Programme held (28 July 2018): The programme held at Adivasi Kalyan Kendra, Kendur, was aimed at bringing home to the tribals the importance of health and hygiene and of keeping their environment clean. The idea of Swachha Bharat was explained at the meeting and the tribals were asked to take care of their children in particular and refer them to the Primary Health Centre in case of an emergency.

Tribal Day observed (9 August 2018): Nine August has been designated as the World Tribal Day by the United Nations and was celebrated as such by Maher at its Adivasi Kalyan Kendra at Thakarvadi, Kendur.



The programme featured homage to late Shri. Birsa Munda, the famous tribal leader who fought against the British and died at the young age of 24 in prison in 1900. Shri. Sandip Mhetre related a few anecdotes from Shri. Munda's life and acclaimed him as one of the great Adivasi leaders. One of the guests at the function, Shri Wagatkar, himself an Adivasi, shared Adivasi traditions and customs with the audience and asked them to treasure value of education in their life.

Successful and meritorious 10th and 12th standard students felicitated (14 July & 29 September 2018)

Around 85 successful 10th and 12th standard students were felicitated on 14 July at Maher and were given best wishes by Maher for their future. Maher Social Worker Harish Avchar gave students advice regarding the stream they would choose for their further career. Ravina Kate, a Maher girl, who is now studying in US, appreciated Maher for giving her an opportunity to study abroad and asked students to be prepared for hard work to achieve their goal. Ramesh Dutonde and Anand Sagar also spoke on the occasion



and gave best wishes to students.

On 29th September, Students who had bagged more than 80% in their 10th and 12th standard examination were felicitated at Maher. These students included Adesh Ghisare, Sakshi Gokule, Sanjog Waghmare, Nikita Bhalekar and Bhushan Pagare.

Special days and festivals celebrated

This year too Maher children celebrated the Ganesh festival with usual enthusiasm and fervor. The celebrations were accompanied with a wide range of discussions on topic that included environment, child marriage, superstitions, female foeticide and eye donation. At Vadhu, the celebrations took the form of dance competitions. In street play competition on 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao', Kendur, Vadhu and APTI teams respectively won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize.

The Bakr Id celebrated on 22 August 2018 saw the children performing the namaz bringing out starkly the message of interfaith harmony and respect. Shir Khurma, the traditional Muslim delicacy which is a must on Eid held a special attraction on the occasion.

The Indian Independence Day was celebrated at various Maher branches in a spirit of patriotism and pride.

The Friendship Day celebrated on 5th August underlined the importance of friendship in life.

Children's Day or Baldin holds a special significance for Maher which is together a hub of 900 children all from the disadvantaged



families. At Vadhu the gathering was graced by a number of eminent guests. These included Harshada Bandal (dancer), Arya Ghare (Marathi actress), Dr Mayur Punde (academician), Minakshi Jadhav (corporate employee), Maruti Bandal (ex-serviceman) and Mohsin (Magician). The life-story of Prof Punde who lost his both legs and a hand in a railway accident was immensely inspiring. Prof Punde through sheer determination and passion, has managed to acquire Master's and doctorate degrees and is now working as a college teacher.

At Bakori, the children's gathering (30 Nov) was attended by several local leaders who have always encouraged and facilitated Maher activities. The function included a lecture by Dr Jagdish Rathod on the importance of studies and sports in life.

Sugarcane cutters and pavement dwellers join Maher Christmas

On the eve of Christmas, Maherites enjoyed a cultural evening and a family meal with sugarcane cutters and pavement dwellers. With as many as 1200 people attending, it was truly a big event. The sugarcane cutters and pavement dwellers were presented with

blankets, sarees and toys for children including toiletries and school stationery. It was a real pleasure to see their faces lit with happiness and smiles. This was followed by a candle light procession of baby Jesus being brought to the crib by people of different faiths and by the Christ mass by Fr. Ancelmo D'Souza. It was excitement galore with lot of dancing and singing.

On 25th, the day began with a simple prayer at the crib for Gauri and Vijay who were going to get married on the Christmas at 11.00 am.

The wedding invitees numbered a whopping 1500, many of whom gave a tearful farewell to Gauri who was leaving Maher after a stay there for more than 15 years.

The best part of the Christmas day programme was every child, woman, man and the staff receiving a gift with their name on it. Maher is grateful to the Management of the Vikhe Patil School for lending us their buses which hugely helped us in bringing children from their respective homes to Vatsalyadham and back.

Bernhard Girardi, a benefactor with a difference passes away

Bernard Girardi who steadfastly stood behind Maher in times, difficult as well as happy, passed away on 4th April 2018.

Bernhard was a benefactor with a difference in that he wasn't a wealthy man who wanted to dispose of his wealth just for a worthy cause. He was himself dedicated to the cause and went beyond just providing finance for a project. In the initial days when Sr. Lucy had not even started Maher, Girardi accompanied her over long distances in search of a suitable piece of land for Maher and volunteered to donate for its purchase. A noted musician himself, he took lead in organising a musical concerts in Austria to raise funds for Maher.

As Sr. Lucy has said 'if we have a home called Maher in this world, it owes a lot to Mr Bernard who showered all his love and encouragement on this idea of Maher. He stood by me when few dared to help. Maher was only a dream in 1993. But when Bernhard visited me way back in the early nineties and told me to go ahead, the dream started taking a shape. Bernard has been from that time till today a loving brother, a caring friend and a genuine benefactor.'

Maher conveys its heart-felt condolences to Mr Girardi's family and prays his soul may rest in peace.



Mr Francis Noel D'Souza passes away

It was with a very heavy heart that Maher received on 13th October 2018 the sad news of the demise of one of its wonderful friends, Mr Francis Noel D'Souza.

A chartered accountant of a long-standing reputation, Mr D'Souza specialized in tax planning and administration of charitable and religious trusts. He cultivated a deep commitment to social causes and himself founded 'Helping Hands' which undertook many projects that provided a variety of help to disadvantaged and indigent individuals.

Mr. D'Souza had been consultant to many organizations in matters management of public trust and lectured extensively on these issues in India and abroad. He became a member of Maher NGO Trust in 2003. Maher thus had always been a direct beneficiary of his financial knowledge and his passion for social work for which it will always remain indebted to him.

Maher will now miss his wise counsel both as a friend and a member of Maher Board of Trustees. The children, men, women and the staff of Maher offer their heartfelt condolences to Mr D'Souza's family and pray that the Almighty give them enough strength to withstand this grievous loss. May his soul rest in peace.



Would you like to help?

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. Of items	Appx.Cost Rupees	In Euros €@ 80Approx.	In US \$ @ 70 Approx.	In GBP £ @Rs.90/-
1	Solar System for Heating Water	1	300000	3750	4286	3261
2	Filing Cupboard	2	60000	750	857	652
3	Steel Cupboard	3	32000	400	457	348
4	Computer	6	183000	2288	2614	1989
5	Laptop	1	90000	1125	1286	978
6	Printer	2	30000	375	429	326
7	Plastic Chairs	200	160000	2000	2286	1739
8	4 wheeler for Bakori	1	1100000	13750	15714	11957
9	Two Wheeler	2	136000	1700	1943	1478
10	Fencing & floor tiles for Vadu		600000	7500	8571	6522
11	Grain Container	25	125000	1563	1786	1359
12	Steel Plates	500	35000	438	500	380
13	Steel Glasses (Medium Size)	500	17500	219	250	190
14	Steel Vatti (Medium Size)	500	12500	156	179	136

Bank Details - For People Abroad:

Maheer, S.B. Account No: 0261101061493.
 Swift Code - FD Pune CNRBINBBID
 IBAN NO. DE41500700100953458710
 Canara Bank, Deep Heights, Nagar Road,
 Ramwadi, Pune 411014,
 Maharashtra, India.

For People in India:

Maheer, S.B. Account No: 034104000033202
 IDBI Bank Ltd, Nagar Road,
 Yerwada, Pune 411006,
 Maharashtra, India.

IFSC : IBKL0000034

PAN NO.: AABTM1421G

Written and edited by Dr. Hemant Devasthali, Hon. Advisor, Maheer

Contact Details:

Maheer, Sr. No. 1295, Vadu Budruk,
 Bhima Koregaon, Tal-Shirur,
 Pune-412216, Maharashtra, India.
 Tel: 02137287517, Mob: 9011086131

National Admin Office:

Tel.: 020 27033421 Mob.: 9011086134.
 Email: maherpune@gmail.com or
 maher@maherashram.org
 Website: www.maherashram.org