

Inner Wheel Club of Central Calcutta

IW District 329 • Charter No. 3743



HELP bring HOPE
IIW Theme 2009-10

ECHO

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Sudha Choudhury
President

Renu Lakhotia
Secretary

Babita Moody
Editor



President's Message

Dear friends,

The beauty of a person....

"There is nothing more beautiful than meeting a kind, content person, who maintains a healthy and balanced lifestyle and is happy with who they are.

There is nothing worse than meeting a beautiful person who is sad, because their main focus is on their physical appearance, and they have neglected their soul, health and happiness. There are no limits to how much cosmetic attention you can give but there will always be someone more gorgeous. Remember, the beauty of a person is not in facial mould. True beauty is reflected in their eyes, which is the pathway to the soul."

Yours in friendship
Sudha Choudhury



Physical fitness is not only one of the most important requisite for a healthy body, it is also the basis of dynamic and creative intellectual activity.



It's beauty that captures your attention; personality which captures your heart.



Those who think that they have no time for exercise will soon have to find time for illness.

Visit us at www.innerwheelccc.com

Today's Programme



DEBATE ON "PARENTS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE GENDER OF THEIR OFFSPRING"

Participants

For the Motion



Dipti Khaitan



Mridu Somani



Shruti Tantia



Sunita Jalan

Against the Motion



Anjana Bhuvania



Deepa Banka



Mona Saraf



Sarla Bhadani

Moderator : Ms. Anuja A. Kumar

ANUJA A. KUMAR

Career Counselor, Psychologist and Human Resource Consultant

Anuja is a course co-ordinator at IIFT-KOL, Visiting faculty for Personality Development & Inter personal skill at IAM and Frank Finn Institute of Airhostess Training Kol. She has worked as a faculty member in Dept. of Psychology, University of Lucknow. She has conducted various sessions on Communications Techniques, training programmes like Teamwork, Leadership, Motivation etc as a corporate trainer like Writer Corporation, RKHS LTD to name a few. She is also an invitee member and consultant for ITC Selection Board and is also associated with Hindustan Lever. She has conducted various recruitment projects for several companies.

Anuja is a career counselor in several schools like La Martinere, Modern High, St. James , Birla High etc . She conducts workshops on Parenting Skills too.

She has been awarded a Gold Medal for M.A (Psychology) Lucknow, 'Young Scientist' Award by Indian Science Congress in 1990. She topped with distinctions in the 'Educational and Vocational Guidance' course. She has been awarded the "Junior Research Fellowship" by UGC. Has done her Phd at IIM Lucknow in Human Resource and Applied Behavioral Sciences.

Background and Context of the Debate

"PARENTS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE GENDER OF THEIR OFFSPRING"

Generations of parents-to-be have hoped and prayed for a baby of a particular gender (often in practice, for a boy, as cultural factors such as restricting inheritance of property and the family name to male heirs, restrictions on female economic activity, and the heavy cost of dowries when daughters are married have all encouraged male preference throughout history). In some



circumstances gender selection has been practised after birth by the abandonment of unwanted infants, a practice which has not entirely died out today in some countries. The development of ultrasound scanners which allow the sex of an unborn child to be determined in the womb has more recently led to selective abortion, especially in China where cultural factors combined with the single-child policy in the 1980s and 1990s to make many families determined to ensure their only child was male. Although ultrasound scanning for sexual selection is illegal, it is widespread in China

and the 2000 Census revealed that 117 boys are now born for every 100 Chinese girls. Similar figures for India, although less reliable, also indicate widespread use of (illegal) ultrasound scanning and selective abortion of female foetuses. It is time for a balanced debate - as to whether new methods for selecting the gender of a child at the start of a pregnancy should be allowed. There are two relatively new technological methods of achieving the goal of embryonic gender selection, which has for so long been the stuff of science fiction. These are genetic diagnosis, in which embryos created in a test-tube are analysed before being implanted in the womb, and the MicroSort technique, in which sperm is 'sorted' to make it much more likely that the egg is fertilised by a sperm carrying the desired chromosome. Most of the arguments apply to both as they are about whether this practice should be allowed in principle, but the distinction is touched on.



A Past President Remembers



In the year 2000, my life changed. My husband was invited to join Rotary Club of Central Calcutta and in turn I was welcomed into my family of Inner Wheel Club of Central Calcutta - a blessing in disguise to serve the needy of this world. Since then it has been a dream journey of 10 years for me. A journey full of fun, fellowship, love and social service. Along the way I have donned various hats - starting with becoming an EC member and finally leading my club as the President.

Each post taught me a different lesson and enriched my experience. At every level, I learnt to participate and organise various projects like blood donation camps, artificial limb donation camps, school building renovations etc. My skill of raising funds was also honed with chairing and organising fund raising projects like the Temptation Twins and Fashion Quotient, amongst the others.

The experience of being the President was a unique one. I was the leader and I had to take my club forward on the glorious path navigated by my predecessors. I was able to do justice to the faith reposed in me with the support and love of my club members.

Inner Wheel has become a way of life for me with sweet memories of great fellowship evenings and joyous Husband's Nites, of heart warming project like "ARPAN" where we had distributed blankets and other household items to the needy, in the august presence of the Association President Gomathi on 27.11.2007, and many other such projects. The sweetest memory that will forever remain etched in my mind is that of "DIL-Se" evening on 2nd April, 2008, when we had hosted a dinner in honour of the delegates of "PRABARTAN" - the Incoming Chairman's Institute. All the delegates, Association office bearers and District officials had words of praise on their lips and love in their hearts.

Oh! what a journey it has been for me. All my Committee members and Chairmen have enriched me with their love and words of praise. Our partners in service, our very own Rotary Club of Central Calcutta members were always by our side. Now, as I move forward in my yatra, I realise that the journey that I am undertaking to give something back to the society is giving me more in the form of love of all my fellow club members.

--- PP Kamini Mehta



A man spoke with the Lord about heaven and hell.

The Lord spoke: "I will show you hell" and entered a room where people sat around a pot of stew.

Starving.

Each held a spoon with a handle longer than their own arm that made it difficult to get the stew into their mouths.

"Now I will show you heaven," the Lord spoke. And off they entered another room – the same pot of stew, a group of people, the same long-handled spoons. But here everyone was happy.

"Er, I don't understand," said the man. "Miserable there but happy here. How?"

The Lord smiled, "Simple, son. Here they learned to feed each other."



What the legendary wealthy Brooke Astor

(died at 105 on 13 August 2007) enjoyed most was giving money away. One day, her foundation exhausted its resources. After having spent \$195 million to support institutions, programmes and public-benefit projects. Rather than complain, Mrs. Astor did the opposite. She celebrated the fact, and thereafter continued to contribute her personal fortune.



After actor Nargis died from cancer in 1981,

husband Sunil Dutt founded the Nargis Dutt Cancer Foundation, a non-profit charitable organization committed to improving medical care on the Indian subcontinent. This Foundation supports the advanced training of physicians in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, imports medical equipment and assists those who cannot afford cancer treatment. It supported India's first bone marrow transplant at the Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai in 1984.

THE POWER OF TWO RUPEES

At the Brahma temple in Pushkar, there was a serpentine queue for *darshan*. As my friend and I lit a cigarette, a grey-haired, spectacled and wrinkled old beggar woman asked us for a rupee to buy lunch. We refused. Meanwhile, a friend called to ask us to hurry for *darshan*. We crushed the cigarette with our shoes, I took my son in my arms and asked my wife to follow. I overheard: "These young men will burn more than a rupee for their bad habit, but will never give a rupee to a hungry person." During *darshan*, the beggar's remarks resounded.

On my return, I found the woman standing near a shop. I asked her where she was able to buy lunch for a rupee. She replied, "At an alms house where they have stipulated this as a token amount for each meal."

I gave my son two rupees to give her. Before accepting, she took my son's hand in her own, embraced him, ran her fingers through his hair, prayed for his prosperity and wept.

An hour later, when returning to the hotel, we found the woman under a tree. Feeding a little girl in a dirty, torn dress. I asked, "Amma, who is that girl?" She replied, "This poor girl is new here and yet to learn how to beg. She couldn't arrange a rupee today. So, I brought her lunch out of the money you gave for dinner. Don't worry, God will arrange for my dinner."

I tossed the half-burnt cigarette. And quit smoking. No 'statutory warning' could have taught me the lesson that the beggar woman did.

Source: Abridged from an article by Ashis Kumar in *The Times of India*, 24.08.08

Inderjit Khurana teaches 400 destitute children (age group 16-18) on 12 railway stations in Orissa (Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Mirgandi, Nirakarpur, Puri, Jajpur, Berhampore, Jagatpur, Kendrapara, Kotia, Khurdah, Bhushandapur and Chandanpur).

TAKING EDUCATION TO



THE RAILWAY PLATFORM

She has also set up a pre-school and high school called Ruchika in Bhubaneswar. Starts her day at 7 am when *chhatu*, the supplementary meal, draws students. Teaches till 11 am. Students are taught till Class III, after which they attend government schools. Won the World Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child 2007, instituted by Swedish Organisation Children's World.

Source: *Business Standard*, 19.01.07

AND LOVE FOR ALL

Artist Baldev Raj Panesar

lives in a small room at the YMCA in Kolkata's Wellington area. Retired in 1987 as deputy director of Indian Statistical Institute in Baranagar. **Gifted land in Madhyamgram to an old age home.** Given proceeds from his painting sales to institutes (mathematics, statistics and computer), ISI and YMCA (to repair the basketball ground). Transformed the daughter of a vegetable seller from South 24 Parganas into the celebrated collage artist Shakila.



AND WE THOUGHT LAPIERRE WAS ONLY AN AUTHOR

"When I visited Udayan, 19-year-old Ashu shouted, 'Dada! Dada!' and ran over waving a piece of paper. It was a diploma in mechanical engineering. I had rescued this boy from a leper colony [in India] 12 years ago. I had tears in my eyes. I thought: 'If I'd done only this in this world before appearing in front of the Lord, it would be enough.'"

"Mother Teresa introduced me and my wife (also named Dominique) to an Englishman (James Stevens, a wealthy haberdasher) who [donated] all his financial resources to opening a home in Barrackpore (West Bengal, India) to rescue, cure, educate and train young leprosy patients. He called his home 'Udayan' (Resurrection). When I met him, he had run out of money to support this island of hope amid the most abject poverty. I handed over to him the royalties I had brought from France, and told him, 'James, you will never close your home, Udayan.'"

Result: Udayan rescued and educated 10,000 leprosy-affected children with heavy physical and cerebral handicaps; cured one million tuberculosis patients; dug 500 tube wells; educated 2000 village women; extended micro-credits to 10,000 families; provided medical supplies to 35 isolated islands of the Sunderbans. Lapierre is better known as 'Benefactor of the Sunderbans' to the local populace.



WOULD YOU BELIEVE THIS ABOUT DR. DEVI SHETTY?

- Operates on children under 12 free-of-charge; has conducted 5,000 operations on children in a 16-year career covering 13,000 operations.
- Has aligned the RTIICS (Kolkata), Narayana Hrudayalaya (Bangalore), Hewlett-Packard, ISRO and seven north-eastern states into a non-profitable telemedicine network to diagnose, advice, treat and follow-up remote location patients; the network's 39 telemedicine centres have treated over 16,400 patients in India, Malaysia, Mauritius and Pakistan entirely free in a mere three years.
- Provides concessions up to 70% on medical or surgical packages based on the socio-economic background of the patient.
- Introduced a unique 'Yeshashwini' insurance scheme for 1.5 million farmers in Karnataka through which they are eligible to free surgery across 72 hospitals in Karnataka in exchange for a mere Rs 5 per month (to be replicated in Mukundapur, Kolkata).

[Source: Kamaal Kolkata]

Whatever is beautiful, whatever is meaningful,
whatever gives you happiness,
may all that be yours....

Today, tomorrow and forever.



Happy Birthday!!



7th April	-	Pushpa Agarwal
17th April	-	Renu Dalmia
22nd April	-	Dipti Khaitan
22nd April	-	Uma Modi

Happy Anniversary

An anniversary is a special day to celebrate
the beautiful bond of LOVE that two
hearts share. Happy Anniversary!!!!

26th April	-	Mona & Madhusudan Saraf
27th April	-	Shruti & Sandeep Mundhra
29th April	-	Indu & Gopi Kedia
29th April	-	Praveena & Rupchand Lohia

CHARTER DAY

Inner Wheel Club of Salt Lake Down Town is celebrating its 20th Charter Day on 19th April 2010 at Prakash Bhavan, Salt Lake at 4.30 p.m. Mrs. Snigdha Barat, District Chairman has kindly agreed to grace the occasion.

ATTENDED

Mona Saraf attended the Charter Day of
Behala at Nari Seva Sangh
on 24th March, 2010

DISTRICT NEWS

17th April 2010

Barsho Baran at Sovabazar Rajbari.

Registration Charges Rs. 200/- per person.

29th May 2010

Husbands Nite at District Chairman
Snigdha Barat's residence
at Sutanuti House.

INTERCITY MEET

President Sudha, PP Mamta Gupta, Renu Lakhota, Mona & Kalpana attended the 2nd Intercity Meet "BIBEK" which was held on Saturday 27th March at Gyan Mach. Eminent danseuse Mrs. Alokandara Ray graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The highlight of the meet was the screening of the award-winning documentary "The Jail" which was appreciated by all present. Our Club was co-host of the Intercity Meet.

*History has demonstrated that the most notable winners usually
encountered heartbreaking obstacles before they triumphed.
They won because they refused to become discouraged by their defeats.*

- B. L. Forbes



*It's not the great things you do that matter, but the
small things you do with greater heart.*

- Mother Teresa



*Perhaps the most valuable result of all Education is the ability to make yourself do
the things you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not.*

- T. H. Huxley