



R E A C H O U T T O A L L C H I L D R E N

ANJALI

National Children's Festival-2009

From the Chief Coordinator's Desk



For six days, children, organizers, volunteers, escorts, supporters, and the people of Bhubaneswar laughed, applauded, got inspired and also shed many a tears as they watched and participated in various activities in 8th Anjali National Children Festival.

All of us have a child within us. Perhaps, to the adults, Anjali gives an opportunity to deeply and truly

connect with this child, no wonder, we had many adult audience. The first thing that struck most visitors was the sheer abundance of color and laughter. Everywhere there were groups of happy children busy crafting pottery, painting, making collages and sculptures. Some groups, amateur artists, were busy preparing for the valedictory day – a dance, a song or a theater presentation. Then there were festivals of joy, competitions, young scientists displaying remarkable models, passionate collectors with amazing hobbies for display and many exhibitions. And in between children rushed to the game zone, a new addition, to ride the train or slide down the mighty Mickey!

I strongly believe in teaching our children the importance of acceptance, diversity and inclusiveness. A smile is the same no matter what part of India you are from, and as the chief coordinator I am proud that 8th Anjali National Children Festival truly reflected this in all its activities as was underlined by its theme 'Many Faces One Nation.' Anjali had a mascot for the first time. The green crocodile carrying a lantern symbolized that Anjali is a festival of joy, happiness, and light.

My heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers, well wishers and sponsors who helped organize this year's Festival. Enjoy the revelry in the lively pages that follow. And until next time....Happy Reading!

Sruti Mohapatra



Anjali 2009

A Synopsis

Eighth Anjali National Children Festival commenced on the 9th and continued till the 14th of November. Arriving delegates were welcomed in traditional Indian style. The 6 days camp was inaugurated by Sri Jagadananda, Information Commissioner of Orissa, in the presence of Dr. Sruti Mohapatra, State Youth Coordinator Madhubhai and Dr. Bijaya Mishra, Director, Mamata, which collaborated with Swabhimana to organize the festival this year. Madhubhai's "*Desh ki daulat, hum sab bacche; Desh ki kismet, hum sab bacche*" had hundreds of children in concert with rhythmic thumping of feet on the stage. Young and old, participants and organizers, all sang "*Jai Jagat*". As this song reverberated the Adivasi Exhibition grounds, the festival



kicked off to a befitting beginning.



A total of 1404 children from 15 states participated in the camp. Participation was as far spread as from Jammu & Kashmir in the north to Nagaland and Mizoram in the north-east, Rajasthan from west to Kerala in the south. 10 interactive workshops were held. The program was coordinated by 86 volunteers supervised by 12 coordinators. Seven inter-school competitions were held and four festivals were celebrated this year.

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The running crocodile also personified the running children. 'Let's carry this light to all those places that are still dark and bring light, life, hope, festivity, joy and celebration into the lives of all.'

The valedictory day saw H.H Paramahansa Prajnanananda, His Excellency, Shri Muralidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, Governor of Orissa, Shri Abhay Shrivastav, Chairman and MD of NALCO and Shri Sudhanshu Bhusan Mishra, ex-Chief Secretary of Orissa and Chairman of Mamata on the vibrant dais of Anjali. Anjali Scholars 2010-11 were felicitated by the esteemed guests.



Workshops - Our Experimental Classrooms

First Aid : "Having knowledge of basic skills will help us save lives." Children in this workshop learnt basic first aid skills with procedures and techniques requiring minimal or no equipment from TOT, International First Aid, St John's Ambulance, Dr. Bikash Kumar Prasad.



Music : Celebrated Oriya composer, music director and singer, Shri Laxmikant Palit taught the participants and the five day workshop blossomed into a beautiful performance.



Odissi Dance : This workshop by Smt. Geetanjali Acharya helped little masters learn fundamentals and discover a renewed sense of inner power and to present a master piece on stage.



Modern Dance : Borrowing from many Hindi film songs Master Harihar Deo created a medley to aptly reflect our theme 'Many Faces-One Nation' on the valedictory day.



Theatre : The theme of Anjali 2009 saw itself transformed into an awareness of one's own country through theatrical expression under the able guidance of American Odissi dancer, Smt. Amanda Geroy.



Puppetry : In the able guidance of Pune-based, Smt. Mrudula Kelkar this workshop took children through the process of creating a puppet, giving a voice and present a play on environment.



Fine Arts : Discovering art at an early age is empowering and develops the subtleties of perception in color, contrast, texture etc. This was the approach of celebrated artist Shri Rabi Narayan Ratha.



Paper Craft : It was led by Ratnagiri, Maharastra-based, Shri Arun Phatak. From toys, to flower bouquets to paper masks the workshop was delight for all.



Pottery & Terracotta : Experts Debraj Sahoo and his son Tarun Tapas Sahoo created endless hours of fun for children to work with clay. Children learnt pottery making, wheel throwing, clay hand building, making toys etc.



Jute Toys : Under the guidance of Smt. Pragnya Sathpathy the participants created jute dolls, tortoises, key rings and many other gift items.



Resource Persons



Dr. Bikash Ku. Prasad



Shri Debraj Sahoo



Shri Rabi Narayan Ratha



Smt. Pragnya Sathpathy



Shri Laxmikant Palit



Shri Arun Phatak



Shri Harihar Deo



Smt. Amanda Geroy



Smt. Mrudula Kelkar



Smt. Geetanjali Acharya

School Programs

Visit of Mainstream School Children

This activity aimed at providing young children with the necessary understanding of children with disabilities, their challenges, strengths and capability to become equal citizens. It also aimed at children's understanding of inclusive society and acceptance of diversity. A total of 640 children from six schools visited the camp.



Experiencing Challenges of Disability



Orientation by Disability Expert R.K. Sharma

Inter School Competitions

To foster bonding among children the festival encouraged group competitions over solo performances. Competitions were held in song, classical dance, modern dance, quizzing, collage making and scientific model making.

Classical Group Dance	Collage Making	Synchronized Yoga	Group Song
Group Science Model	Painting	Group Folk Dance	Group Modern Dance
	Group One Act Play	Fancy Dress	



Passionate Collectors

It was interesting to see the variety of hobbies, ranging from philately to pen collection in the many stalls of Anjali. Students of Govt. High School, Unit II, had a vast collection of old and new Indian coins; others foreign coins as well as rare stamps. One Participant from BJEM school, had a unique possession of no cash value coins. There was on display a compilation of more than two hundred pens from BJEM school and one group exhibited outstanding paintings.



Young Scientists

Students from various schools displayed their inventions to control pollution locally. Students of DAV School were unique with their model to curb industrial water pollution by using coal, cotton, sand and other filtering objects. Students also made models for purifying water at home.



College Students as Volunteers

College students were the backbone of this festival. From cleaning and sweeping to serving food; from receiving the children from station and bus stand to taking care of them at the accommodation and bidding an emotional adieu on the final day; organizing the competitions and cultural program to publishing the camp bulletins, our volunteers conducted the entire event with vigor and enthusiasm.



Anjali Scholars 2010-11

All Scholarships of 2010-11 are sponsored by Dr. Sruti Mohapatra from her CNN-IBN Real Hero Award (cash gift)



Polio affected Munna Dharua, from Jarsuguda, mesmerized audience with a stunning blend of contemporary dance and Hindi film numbers. Without any mentor to teach him, he has mastered the steps and movements by watching reel dances and real life shows. He has completed his +2 and a diploma in computers. He desires to take up a career in Odissi classical dance.



Rajeev Bhoi, visually challenged boy from Kandhamal, is a 10th class student in School for the Blind, Koraput. He is also an artist of Akashvani, Cuttack. Apart from classical music he deftly plays on the harmonium, flute, lalbaaza etc. His Children's day flute recital created a deeply profound atmosphere, captivating young and old alike. He is also a master imitator of the animal and bird calls and voices of cine artists.



Rosalinee Chaudhury, a 13 year orthopedically impaired girl from Bhubaneswar, is a student of standard VII, in Mother's Public School. Her hip deformity gets overshadowed by her thundering legs and lightening fast movements. She has limited dance movements, but she compensated for these by dancing with great physical vigor.



Ruokuogwetuo Rupre a Std.IX student of St.Joseph School, Kohima. He is visually impaired 17 year old boy who is learning western vocal and Spanish guitar. The audience was in awe of Loko's talent for both song writing and guitar skills. His performance was pure inspiration, showing that hard work, talent and determination can make dreams come true.



Festivals of Joy

The celebration of festivals at camp Anjali goes beyond the frontiers of religious ambit and regional boundaries. Besides being the reminiscence of our rich and hoary cultural heritage, these joyous celebrations bear witness to the humanitarian love- spontaneous and unconditional and the spirit of togetherness.

Holi : Holi came alive with the gulal smudged colorful faces in the camp - bright pink and luminous green, vibrant yellow and cheeky blues.



Christmas : Santa's sledge arrived at Anjali on the fifth day. The event was commemorated with the lighting of candles, play on the birth of Jesus and singing of Christmas carols.



Kumar Poonnima : This autumn festival is one of the most popular and important festival of Orissa. 'Kumar' or 'Kartikaya', the handsome Son of Shiva was born on this day. As young girls always wish for a handsome husband, they propitiate Kumar.



Eid : On this occasion the girls wore the scarf, a part of the Islamic hijab and the boys wore a topi. From the local mosque Maullavijidid the prayer and sewwiayan, dancing and merry making followed.



Onam: Is the biggest festival in the South Indian state of Kerala. The festival was celebrated in the camp by the help of Kerala Kala Sanskriti, Bhubaneswar. They glamorized the stage with their traditional "Kaikotti Kali folk" dance.



Evening Parade

Participants and escorts from different states and different districts of Orissa treaded the paths of Adivasi Exhibition ground shouting slogans of "Anjali Zindabad", "Dur dur se aaye hai pyar ke Geet Laye Hai", "Long Live Anjali" and many more. All dressed in colorful traditional costumers and jewelry, the parade gave a glimpse of India's culture, tradition and language.

Every evening 7-10 groups were selected who went up on the dias with their banners and all team members, guests gave them memento and certificates, following this the same groups performed for the audience. The performances enabled the coordination committee to select scholars for the next academic session.



Evening Programs



Exhibitions



Museum-on-Wheels

Like past years, this year too, the Regional Museum of Natural History sent their mobile museum to the campsite. It was a showcase of forest wealth and environment, ecosystems of the world and conservation issues in India. The aquarium with its colorful fishes was an attraction for children.



Aero Models

No.1(Orissa) Air Squadron NCC, Bhubaneswar put on display radio controlled aero models, static models and posters for all to see and know about the their activities. Suresh Chandra Pattanayak, Aero Modeling instructor and cadets Mitalini and Ajay Behera gave visitors basic knowledge about air craft and helped them understand the basic requirment to construct models and fly them.



Handicrafts from Goa and Nagaland

The popular jewellery and beadwork was exhibited by participants from Nagaland. Handicrafts of Goa included bamboo crafts, pottery and terracotta, wood carving and sea shell crafts.



Fun Unlimited...



Magic Show

Amidst a show jam-packed with surprises and spectacle, audience took part in a delightful blend of captivating magic. On the inaugural evening, renowned magician Jeeban Mishra, stunned all when he made a ball reappear from nowhere, inserted a sword in and out of a girls body without hurting her and filled an empty glass with water and the source went unknown. He entered the world of magic in the year 1996 after completing his M.Sc in Chemistry. Presently he is working as resident magician in a world class hotel.



Game Zone

This was a rides and slide area within the camp. Children enjoyed a short ride on a toy train, they slid from a huge Mickey mouse and went gaga in the merry-go-rounds.



Mickey in the Camp



Glimpses of the Camp

Bharat Ke Santan

Swarnaleta Jena of national integration program, Puri conducted this program along with Madhubhai on Children's day. "Bharat ke Santan" brought together 18 children, representing the 18 languages of the Constitution. The children in traditional attire did a symbolic activity of the state they represented and lit 18 candles around the map of India.



Tree of Life

The concept of a of "Tree of Life" as a many-branched tree illustrating the idea that all life on earth is related was used as a symbolic representation of this year's theme. It symbolized "that we all though linguistically, grographally, culturally are different, we all have a common descent as Indians." The branches were used to paste colorful leaves. On the leaves all wrote comments and reflections on Anjali festival and each day the tree grew with more leaves added.



Sign Language

In Camp Anjali we use four languages, English, Hindi, Oriya and Sign. Sri Pramod Mohapatra interprets for the deaf children.



2009 Mascot

The green crocodile carrying a lantern personified the running children. 'Let's carry this light to all those places that are still dark and bring light, life, hope, festivity, joy and celebration into the lives of all.'



Anjali Sand Art



Many Faces, One Nation

Our "FACES" may come from many far removed places, But we have tolerantly assimilated all cultures to make a great heritage, anew entity. Asinglenation...INDIA.



Our Doctor

Dr. Sangram Mohapatra kept all in good health and was our safeguard against the scare of swineflu.



Camp Bulletin

Anjali Daily, the English daily newspaper and Anjali Parikrama the Oriya daily newspaper for the six day event. A team of 12 students from Indian institute of Mass Communications, Dhenkanal volunteered for this activity.



Our Heartleft Thanks



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Dr. Annapurna Devi, Arnab Ray, Swati Panda, Gayatri Devi, Kamlesh Sarangi
Priyadarshi Mohapatra, Debasish Pattnaik, Prakash Mohapatra, S. Basa
Debi Prasad Patnaik, Chinmayananda Biswasroy, Swarup Ananda Mohanty

Our Special Thanks

A.K. Panda, Aditi Panda, Ajit Panda, Er. Anil Kumar Samal, Dr. B.C. Guru, Bhagirathi Nanda, Bibhu Prasad, CO Wing
Commander Bikash Kanungo, Charulata Sarangi, Dwiyeapan Das, G.N. Indresha, DCP Himanshu Lal, Jiban Mishra,
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Capital Police Station R.N. Satapathy, Rajalaxmi Mohapatra, Sambit Mishra, S.P. Chainy, Dr. Sangram Mohapatra,
Shyamahari Chakra, Sudhanshu Bhusan Mishra, AMI (NCC) Suresh Chandra Patnaik, Swarnaleta Jena, TEAM MD
Nishikant Mishra, Dr. V. Jagganath, Biju Pattnaik College of Social Science Bhubaneswar, BJB College Bhubaneswar,
Capital Police Station Bhubaneswar, Centre for Social Science & Research Bhubaneswar, Emarti Devi Women's
College Cuttack, Friends Puppet Theatre Pune, Indian Institute of Mass Communication Dhenkanal, Indian
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Sanskritika Kala Bikash Kendra Bhubaneswar, SSA Andhra Pradesh, SSA Bihar, SSA Chhatisgarh, SSA Goa, SSA
Jammu & Kashmir, SSA Mizoram, SSA Nagaland, Sunflower Nursing Home Bhubaneswar, Vasundhara Events Pune,
VISWASS Bhubaneswar and MEDIA FRIENDS.

Organizers



Swabhimana, Bhubaneswar & mamata, Bhubaneswar



Project Anjali, Swabhimana, A-98, Budha Nagar, Bhubaneswar
www.childrenfestival.org