

FOIA Marker

This is not a textual record. This FOIA Marker indicates that material has been removed during FOIA processing by George W. Bush Presidential Library staff.

Records Management, White House Office of Subject Files - PP005-01 (First Lady)

Stack:	Row:	Sect.:	Shelf:	Pos.:	FRC ID:	Location or Hollinger ID:	NARA Number:	OA Number:
W	12	16	2	1	7581	20444	9194	9289

Folder Title:

690553

SAMUELS_W

690553

PP005-01

Barcode Scanning Sheet



Collection Code: **CTRACK**

Staff Name:

Document Date: **3/20/2006**

Correspondent: **SISTER SABITA**

Subject/Description: **MY TIME AT JEEVAN JYOTI HOME IS AN EXPERIENCE I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER, AND I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU, THE NUNS, AND THE CHILDREN FOR YOUR WARM HOSPITALITY. PHOTOS ALSO ENCLOSED LB 1. SISTER SABITA P030206SC-0989**

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 22, 2006

Sister Sabita
Regional Superior for the Delhi Region
Missionaries of Charity
New Delhi
India

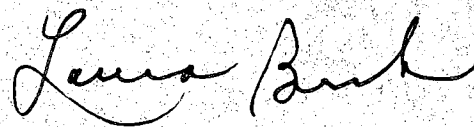
Dear Sister Sabita,

My time at Jeevan Jyoti Home is an experience I will always remember, and I am grateful to you, the nuns, and the children for your warm hospitality. Thank you for your kind greeting when I arrived and for your company during the tour.

I greatly admire how completely the Missionaries of Charity fulfill Mother Teresa's mission of caring for the most vulnerable members of society. The love and compassion of the nuns for the children is visible in all their interactions, and your effective leadership and guidance are evident.

President Bush joins me in sending admiration and best wishes.

With warm regards,



APR 13 2006

~~MAR 31 2006~~

✓ Encl: Photos Photos

Sister Sabita
Regional Superior for the Delhi Region
Missionaries of Charity
c/o Beth Hogan
USAID
U.S. Embassy
9000 New Delhi Place
Washington, D.C. 20521-0001

3/22 Joan

EVENT CLOSURE
VISIT TO MOTHER TERESA'S JEEVAN JYOTI ("LIGHT OF LIFE")
HOME FOR DISABLED CHILDREN FL CORR

Thursday, March 2, 2006

MAR 2 2 2006

3:45 pm - 4:15 pm

Mother Teresa's Jeevan Jyoti ("Light of Light") Home for Disabled Children
Jangpura B, Mathura Road 11014

New Delhi, India
Lindsey Lineweaver

Sister Sabita, Regional Superior for the Delhi Region, Missionaries of Charity. Sister Sabita greeted Mrs. Bush on arrival and was with her throughout the visit. Jeevan Jyoti is just one of the *Missionaries of Charity* that Sister Sabita supervises in New Delhi. This loving humble home is so full of love and provides these special children with hope and encouragement that they were not receiving before they came to Jeevan Jyoti. Mrs. Bush saw firsthand the way the nuns interacted with these disabled (some more severely disabled than others) who need such special care. The choir who sang to Mrs. Bush was especially moving. They proudly sang Indian songs in English. They were all dressed in their matching choir uniforms. Some in wheelchairs, some with braces, all disabled in some way, but all were truly smiling. One of the children, Swati proudly presented Mrs. Bush with a lei. Please thank Sister Sabita for this inspirational visit and commend all of the nuns' unselfish dedication to these very special children.

"Dear Sister Sabita,"
c/o Beth Hogan, USAID
US Embassy
9000 New Delhi Place
Washington, DC 20521-9000

Sister Teresa Paul, Home Superior for the Jeevan Jyoti Home, Missionaries of Charity The same letter should go to Sister Teresa, but with slightly different language. Sister Sabita presides over the region, Sister Teresa presides just over Jeevan Jyoti.

"Dear Sister Teresa,"
c/o Beth Hogan, USAID
US Embassy
9000 New Delhi Place
Washington, DC 20521-9000

PURPOSE

To visit with homeless and disabled children living in one of Mother Teresa's homes in New Delhi.

MESSAGE

- Faith-based organizations around the world help people who live at the margins of society. President Bush recognizes the powerful work of faith-based charities.
- Mother Teresa set an example of compassion and service to others, which continues today through the work of the sisters of Jeevan Jyoti.

PRESS PLAN

Occupational Therapy Room – Pool Press
Music Room – Pool Press

DRESS

Casual

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

3:45 pm MRS. BUSH arrives Mother Teresa's Jeevan Jyoti ("Light of Life") Home for Disabled Children and proceeds inside.

Met by: Sister Sabita, *Regional Superior for the Delhi Region, Missionaries of Charity*
Sister Teresa Paul, *Home Superior for the Jeevan Jyoti Home, Missionaries of Charity*

3:50 pm MRS. BUSH begins participation in Visit.

Note: Sister Sabita will lead Visit. During the Visit, MRS. BUSH will visit the following:

- **Occupational Therapy Room where MRS. BUSH will sit with children participating in a coloring activity (Press Coverage).**
- **Classroom where MRS. BUSH will visit with children who are more severely disabled as they play with blocks.**
- **Music Room where children will sing a song for MRS. BUSH. MRS. BUSH will be presented with a flower lei created by six year old, Swati (SWA-tee) at this time (Press Coverage).**

Note: Severely disabled children will be in their highchairs in the hallway during the visit.

4:15 pm MRS. BUSH concludes participation in Visit and proceeds to Vehicle.

PARTICIPANTS

Greeters on Arrival

Sister Sabita, *Regional Superior for the Delhi region*

Sister Teresa Paul, *Home Superior for the Jeevan Jyoti Home*

Attendees

Mrs. Jeannie Mulford, *wife of U.S. Ambassador to India*

BACKGROUND

Disabled children in India are sometimes “hidden” by families, and poor parents often abandon them to street life. Services for such children are severely limited. It was the mission of Mother Teresa to care for those most marginalized and forgotten in society. This home, run by the Missionaries of Charity, is dedicated to youngsters with a range of disabilities – physical and emotional. Children with moderate disabilities are even attending schools for special children; for others, the sisters provide warm, compassionate, custodial care. In this safe environment, many children blossom to reach personal if very humble milestones: standing, walking, smiling, attending school, etc. For some, meeting basic needs is an achievement. The mission is small and the sisters live very modest, hard-working lives. No U.S. Government support is provided to the orphanage.

Missionaries of Charity

Mother Teresa came to India with the Sisters of Loreto, an Irish community of nuns with missions in India, where on May 24, 1931, she took her initial vows as a nun. From 1931 to 1948 Mother Teresa taught at St. Mary's High School in Calcutta, but the suffering and poverty she glimpsed outside the convent walls made such a deep impression on her that in 1948 she received permission from her superiors to leave the convent school and devote herself to working among the poorest of the poor in the slums of Calcutta.

On October 7, 1950, Mother Teresa started her own order, "The Missionaries of Charity" whose primary task was to love and care for those persons nobody was prepared to look after. In 1965 the Society became an International Religious Family by a decree of Pope Paul VI. Today the order comprises Active and Contemplative branches of Sisters and Brothers in many countries. They provide effective help to the poorest of the poor in a number of countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and they undertake relief work in the wake of natural catastrophes such as floods, epidemics, and famine, and for refugees. The order also has houses in North America, Europe and Australia, where they take care of destitute alcoholics, homeless, and AIDS sufferers.

In all, the Missionaries of Charity run 710 homes in 130 countries spanning 5 continents. Of these, 229 homes are located in India.

Jeevan Jyoti Home for Disabled Children

The Jeevan Jyoti (“Light of Life”) Home for Disabled Children is run by the Missionaries of Charity, an order founded by Mother Teresa in 1950 that cares for the helpless. This Home is dedicated to caring for youngsters with a range of disabilities, both physical and emotional. The Home was established in 1988 on land that was donated by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi and

receives donations and support from the Catholic Church as well as private entities throughout the world.

There are 82 children who reside at the Home, many since birth. Some of the children have moderate disabilities and attend schools for special children outside the Home. Others, with more severe disabilities are provided warm, compassionate, custodial care by the Sisters. In this safe environment, many children blossom to reach personal if very humble milestones: standing, walking, smiling, attending school, etc. For some, meeting these basic needs is a major achievement. The mission is small with six sisters actively involved in caring for the children and they live very modest, hard-working lives.

FUNDING

There is no U.S. Government support to the orphanage.

NOTES

- MRS. BUSH is donating 96 bags of gifts for the children, including play dough, art supplies, construction paper, crayons and sidewalk chalk.

ATTACHMENTS

- Biographies of Greeters

BIOGRAPHIES OF GREETERS

Sister Sabita (SA-BEE-TA), Regional Superior for Delhi Region, Missionaries of Charity

Sister Sabita joined the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta (now, Kolkata) in 1972 at the age of 17. After completing three years of training she worked in South India (Madhurai) from 1975-1978, mainly caring for abandoned babies. From 1980-1981 she was assigned to Rome as a House Superior, after which she served as House Superior in the United States. She completed assignments in various cities including New York (Harlem) (1981-1982), Miami (1982-1985), Toronto (1985-1986), and again in New York (1986-1988). She was assigned as Regional Superior for the mid-west (Louisiana to Chicago) from 1988-1990. From 1991-1994 she served as the Regional Superior for Central America covering the countries of Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. In 1994 she transferred to the US, Washington DC, as a tutor for Sisters preparing for final vows. From 1996-1999, Sister Sabita served as the Regional Superior for the East Coast of Canada, including Toronto and Montreal.

From 1999-2001, Sister Sabita returned to India where she served till 2001 in the southern region. It was in 2001 that she was assigned as Regional Superior for Delhi. Her jurisdiction spans the states of Delhi, Haryana, Chandigarh, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir. In all, she manages and supervises 15 shelter homes.

Sister Teresa Paul, Home Superior for the Jeevan Jyoti Home, Missionaries of Charity

Sister Teresa Paul joined the Missionaries of Charity in 1976 in Madras for her initial three-year training. From 1979-1980 she served in Calcutta (now Kolkata), caring for babies at the Children's Home. She served in the north-eastern state of Tripura from 1980 to 1983 and then went back to Kolkata for her final year of preparation and study. She transferred to the north-eastern state of Meghalaya where she served for two years from 1984-1986. From 1986-1990 Sister Teresa worked in Phirozpur, Punjab and from 1990-1992, in Jalandhar, also in Punjab. During this entire period, she primarily cared for babies and small children.

She was made House Superior in 1992 through an assignment to Jammu, three years after which she went to Kashmir where she served until 1998. Sister Teresa Paul came to Delhi for the first time in 1999 and worked for a year and then returned to Punjab for another three years, from 2000-2003. From 2004-2005, Sister Teresa supervised another home in Delhi, and was assigned to the Light of Life Home for Disabled Children in May of 2005 as House Superior.