



C.V.O.CA'S

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NEWS & VIEWS

From President's Desk...



Dear Professional Colleagues and Readers,

I am taking this as an opportunity to narrate a story of a legend, truly an inspirational figure. When I read her story, I realized how lucky we all are, we have all means to live, we have a good life to live, we have relatives and friends to take care and still we all crib so much from our life. I am sure, when you all will read her story, you also will feel how we are wasting our life. I am going to talk about Sindhu Tai Sapkal. "Sindhu" stands for a river - the lifeline for many, and "Tai" stands for mother - the lifeline of a child. Sindhu Tai was indeed a lifeline for more than 1,500 orphaned children. She is not less than an incarnation of a god for abandoned children. Her story is no less than Mother Teresa's.

Sindhu Tai was born on 14th November 1948, in Maharashtra, just after Britisher's left India in a miserable state in a poor family. She was an unwanted child for their family and even mother never loved her. **Being an unwanted girl, she was called "Chindi"** (torn cloth in Marathi is called Chindi) by her family and villager. She used to love reading and completed her 4th Standard study. But poor financial condition of the family forced her to stop formal education. At the early age of 12 years, she was married to a person, who was 20 years elder than her. Her husband was very cruel to her, regularly used to beat her, and used to consider females inferior to men. Sindhu Tai was very fond of reading and whenever she will see any reading material, she will start reading it. Her husband, being uneducated, started having an ego issue with that and used to beat her whenever he will see her reading anything.

At an early age, she noticed injustice in society, especially toward woman of the society. Due to her leadership quality, she started raising her voice. The male-dominated society did not favor it and started conspiring against her. At the age of 20, she was pregnant for 9 months and her husband left her and forced her to leave the house. She said in one of her interviews, that she went door to door for a shelter but no one accepted her, not even her own family accepted her. With 9 months of pregnancy, finally, she had to take shelter in a cowshed. She quoted, she delivered her baby in that cowshed without any of doctor or nurse around her. She delivered her baby by her own under terrible pain. She remembers, at the time of birth of her kid, she took a stone from nearby in most unconscious state and hit the lifeline cord of the new born child as many as 16 times so as to detach it. She gave birth to a healthy girl child. With nowhere to go and no one accepting her, she started begging. She took care of her infant kid with whatever she could earn from bagging. To protect her from the bad element of society, she took shelter in the nearby cemetery. After begging for a full day at nearby railway station, she will sleep at the nearby cemetery. She felt more safe and secure as people are afraid of entering cemetery in night. She had lost all her hope in her life and many times attempted to kill her child and commit suicide but destiny had a different story for her. In the process, she realized that there are so many children abandoned by their parents and no one was there to feed those abandoned. She started adopting those children. To feed these infants, she started begging more vigorously. She had very good vocals and hence started reciting "Bhajans" in various temples. She said once, "Bhajan" used to give me and my children "Bhajans". Day and night she used to beg at temples and whatever she used to earn; she started feeding those all adopted kids.

Many of her adopted kids have stated on recorded TV programs, that Mother Tai, many a time remained hungry, to ensure, that all her adopted kids get good food. And that was done by singing bhajans on the street, railway stations, and temples. She started developing an attachment to her biological child. Just to eliminate the feeling of partiality between her biological child and the adopted children, she donated her biological child to a trust. By now, she had decided that she will spend her entire life for all these orphans. Many saw her Nobel work and then many Trusts, Societies came forward to help her with funds. With funds coming from all the corners, she took her mission to next level. During her life, she adopted more than 1500 children. She ensured proper education, food, and quality of life for all those kids. At the time of her death, she had 200+ sons-in-law, 36+ daughters-in-law, and more than 1000+ grandchildren. In the 2021, she was awarded with Padma Shri, which is the fourth-highest civilian award, after the Bharat Ratna, the Padma Vibhushan and the Padma Bhushan. Apart from Padma Shree, she has been awarded more than 15 nationally recognized awards. She was featured in "Kaun Banega Karorepati" once where, Shri Amitabh Bachanji after knowing her social work, touched her feet.

When I read her story, I literally had tears in my eyes. I thought to share her story, which is inspirational in so many senses. Friend, we it's time we realize importance of giving back to the society, whatever best we can. CVOCA, has taken a step towards it, where we are educating and promoting our members to come forward and start inculcating the feeling of donating. The details of the program will reach you soon.

Further, I would like to take this as an opportunity to announce our upcoming events:

We have a member-self contributory picnic to Dandeli from 4th to 6th November. The committee has ensured a perfect stay and memorable time for everyone. I would like to invite you all to join us for the picnic. For more details kindly connect to any of the managing members.

Events in retrospect:

On 22nd July' under our 50-year celebration committee, we had our 2nd public awareness seminar on "Will, Nomination, and joint ownership". The abled speaker answered all the issues being faced by the public at large. The event was jointly with Borivali KVO Mahajan. I would like to conclude with a famous saying "it's not about how much we give or we can give, it's all about how much love we put into giving"

Wish all our members a happy Diwali and a prosperous new year.

Thank you all..... Always in Gratitude


CA Amit Chheda

October 1, 2022