



If you know a differently abled child who needs special education, help them by referring to us.

Each child is unique, and comes with their strengths and weaknesses.

Come; let us join together so that we can provide Help, Opportunity, Participation and Education (HOPE) to enhance their strengths to overcome their weaknesses.

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HOPE Qatar is a Not For Profit organization  
Affiliated to the Indian Cultural Centre  
Under the aegis of the Embassy of India.

Spreading the Ray of HOPE



Our team is indebted to each and every one of you who supported our activities during the last year. Without you, we could not have come this far and accomplished what we have. Individual and corporate supporters have always been there for us when we needed you.

This term, we thank in particular:

Qatar Technical Inspection Company  
Aamal Readymix Company  
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Air India  
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Sri Lankan Airlines  
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Najda Communications (Solutions)  
Lulu Hypermarket  
Dr. Aju Koshy's Dental Clinic  
IGTC Chubb Fire Qatar  
Qatari Industrial Equipment Company

Our thanks to the following organizations:  
The Indian Cultural Centre  
Indian Women's Association  
The Indian Club  
Sanskriti  
Kalakshetra

A big thank you to the members of the press and TV who have taken our message to the general public.

Our thanks in this regard goes to:

Qatar Tribune  
Gulf Times  
The Peninsula  
Kairali TV  
Asianet TV  
Jeevan TV

We also thank Their Excellencies the Ambassadors/ Charge de Affairs of the following embassies:  
The Embassy of India  
The Embassy of Sri Lanka  
The Embassy of Nepal  
The Embassy of Malaysia  
The Embassy of Thailand  
The Embassy of Indonesia

Our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Nizar Kochery, Founding member & the President of our Advisory Board and to all the members of our advisory board.

Our thanks also to Mr. Rajeev Thomas, Founding member & the President of Friends of HOPE and all members of Friends of HOPE.

If you would like to receive our commemorative souvenir released during our First Annual day ceremony, please let us know.



## Friends of HOPE

'Friends of HOPE' a forum that provides an opportunity for any member of the society to participate and support the activities of HOPE was launched based on a suggestion from the ambassador of India Dr. George Joseph. This group will strive to enable the objectives and activities of HOPE. The forum will carry out ongoing activities to enhance awareness in the Qatari society about the activities of HOPE whilst ensuring mobilization of financial and other resource support to further enhance it's educational programs. As a sub group, it will function to accomplish the vision of the parent organization. Membership is open to any person fulfilling selection criteria and is completely voluntary in nature. Friends of HOPE invites individuals and corporate supporters to join them and become 'FRIENDS' of HOPE. For information please contact info@hope-qatar.org or +974 5842270.



## New Logo & Website



HOPE Qatar launched its new logo and website at a private function attended by its patron His Excellency Dr. George Joseph, the Ambassador of India, members of the advisory board of HOPE, Staff, Students, and members of the press.

The ambassador insisted that the opportunity for launching these be given to the children of HOPE themselves and accordingly Edwin Mathew and Rinesh Rajan both students formally launched the logo and website respectively.

While the new logo (see logo on page 1) displays children who are different from one another reaching out to the horizon in pursuit of their fullest potential within the protective circle provided by HOPE, the website provides various details about the organization, its activities, objectives, etc. Both were designed and developed in-house.



### From the Editor

"Let us leave no stone unturned" seems to be the untold motto of the HOPE team as they move into their second year of operations in Doha.

With minimal resources that were available to them, the dedicated team at HOPE have ensured that their outcome focused training methods churn out the best results for the fifteen children who attend the educational program.

This issue of the Ray of HOPE takes a look at a year of accomplishments and invite each of you to be an active participant in their future.

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# The Ray Of HOPE

In-house newsletter for private circulation to all well wishers of HOPE.

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## One Year of dedicated service to children

It was a long journey and certainly not an easy one, but dedicated team whose relentless efforts amidst all difficulties encountered has resulted in the successful completion of one year of high quality service to differently abled children in Qatar.

To commemorate this occasion, HOPE Qatar celebrated its first annual day at a function attended by diplomats, distinguished guests, members of the business community, representatives of various community organizations, parents and children.

His Excellency Dr. George Joseph, Ambassador of India to Qatar was the chief guest and Dr. Saif Al Hajari, Vice Chairman of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, who is also the Vice Chairman of the Shafallah Centre for Special Needs, and Chairman of the Friends of Environment was the Guest of

Honour. Ambassadors and representatives of various other embassies also attended.

The evening themed 'The Good Old Times' witnessed spectacu-



Chief guests and dignitaries with the children during the annual day function.

lar display of talent and effort by each and every child studying at HOPE in a colorfully choreographed and directed show that often brought thunderous applause from the audience who appreciated and encouraged the children all along.

Messages were delivered by the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour,

and the Presidents of the Advisory Board, and Friends of HOPE. In her welcome address, Dr. Ciby Mathew—Coordinator of HOPE Qatar thanked all individual and corporate supporters without whom HOPE could not have achieved what it has done so far. She outlined HOPE's ambitious future programs to do more for the children, including enhanced infrastructure and facilities, and vocational programs that will further make the children self supporting as they grow up.

Mr. Nizar Kochery the President of the Advisory Board of HOPE called upon the corporates to invoke their social responsibility and to come out to support small not for profit organizations such as HOPE who are committed to such a noble cause.

Dr. Saif Al Hajari said that along with the Shafallah Centre, he too will stand by with HOPE in their endeavor and praised the vision of those who started HOPE.

## Presence at QAFCO flower show

Intermediary students of HOPE Qatar made their entry this year at the QAFCO flower show.

Their efforts need to be applauded because of the fact that though these children are differently abled, they were competing along with the other children from the various regular schools in the category for

'other class works'. They did not enter any category for children with special needs, but competed along with other regular children thus emphasizing the fact that even children with special needs can do what any other children could, and they should be provided all opportunities to come out and

demonstrate their abilities in all such competitions.



The HOPE students' entry



# Envoys pledge their support



Ambassadors of the Asian Countries at HOPE.

HOPE Qatar was graced when a delegation of the Ambassadors and Charge de Affairs of the many Asian countries to Qatar visited them and interacted with the students and staff. The delegation led by the Indian Ambassador His Excellency Dr. George Joseph who is also the Patron of HOPE, included their excellencies Sri Lankan Ambassador S B Atugoda, Thai Ambassador Voravee Wirasamban and his wife, Nepal Embassy's Charge de Affairs Rajinder Pandey, and

Indonesian Embassy's First Secretary Gulfan Afero. Founding Members and members of the Advisory Board of HOPE were also present.

The children welcomed the delegation with flowers. Dr. Ciby Mathew the coordinator of HOPE took the delegation on a guided tour and explained the activities and stressed the need for the support of all the communities in Qatar to spread awareness about the need for special education to children who need it.

Children were presented 'Stars of HOPE' certificates during the occasion and members of the staff were also given certificates of appreciation for their dedicated support and commitment that has resulted in various developments for the children under HOPE's care.

The envoys expressed their great appreciation for the work that the organization was carrying out and pledged all their embassy's support in HOPE's future endeavors.

*"To attend to the children with special needs is a personal and social responsibility, not only because they, like the rest of us, are God's children, but also because they are children with special gifts. Their potential for contribution to the well-being of our society is indeed immense."*

- Dr. George Joseph  
H.E. Ambassador of India and Patron of HOPE

# Making an unforgettable impression

"It was a heart rendering revelation at the 58th Indian Independence day celebration when children with special needs from HOPE Qatar made one feel the strength of

their will and fortitude when they drove the message of environmental protection home in a forceful manner that welled tears in many eyes" - Qatar Tribune



"HOPE Qatar Children steal the limelight at the ICC Republic Day Show" - Gulf Times

It was a truly moving experience for the 5000 strong audience at the

Doha Cinema when the children from HOPE made an exemplary performance that stood out from the rest of the day's celebrations. Their efforts were praised highly by the Chief Guests for the day, and moved by the performance, the Indian Ambassador auctioned his flower bouquet in aid of HOPE. It was a truly unforgettable experience for the children and their parents and the HOPE team as well.

# Learning from the leaders

Some members of the HOPE Qatar team led by its patron His Excellency Dr. George Joseph visited the Shafallah Centre for Special Needs at its state of the art facility on the west bay.



HOPE delegation at the Shafallah Centre

The team was received by Mr. Hassan Ali Bin Ali, Chairman of Shafallah Centre and Mr. Eddy Dening, its Managing Director along with the Public Relations team.

A model of the Centre including its present and future

expansion plans were shown. The visit also included a guided tour across the facilities and the HOPE delegation were shown the unique facilities available including hydrotherapy pool with adjustable floors, the sensory rooms, music therapy rooms, the 3D dome theatre, etc.

During the visit, the two organizations agreed to explore areas where they can cooperate and support one another. Mr. Hassan on his part encouraged the HOPE team in

its efforts for children with special needs. The Indian Ambassador also discussed possibilities for children from the Indian Community schools visiting Shafallah Centre and participating in any social service oriented programs that could be worked out in the long run.

The visit was organized and arranged by Mrs. Ikram Hammad Assistant Managing Director of QTIC, a well wisher and supporter of HOPE Qatar's activities.

# Community Participation



IWA members at HOPE HOPE Qatar received whole hearted support from various Indian Community organizations this year. The Indian Cultural Centre,

Indian Club, Sanskriti, Kalakshetra and the Indian Women's Association (IWA) supported HOPE's activities in various ways.

Members of the IWA led by Mrs. Seetha Krishnan its President visited HOPE and witnessed the activities there. They have identified HOPE as one of the organizations that will receive their support on an ongoing basis and have outlined various programs in this regard. Members of IWA have also volunteered to participate in the educational programs and support in whatever way they can.

# Fun day at WCMCQ

Weill Cornell Medical College Qatar (WCMCQ) Students Council hosted a Fun day for the children from HOPE. The WCMCQ team led by the Students Council President Mr. Adam and General Secretary Mr. Mohammed Shazly participated in HOPE's first 'Friends of HOPE' meeting and later welcomed the children and staff who spent a morning filled with fun games, activities, colouring, etc at the WCMCQ college premises at Qatar Foundation for Education Science and Community Development. The children were given gifts and refreshments and posed for photographs as well. WCMCQ is exploring more avenues of support for HOPE's activities.



Children at the WCMCQ fun day

# The Vision of HOPE

HOPE-Qatar envisions that all differently abled children and their families will have an evolving family-oriented, strength-based system of education and training, dedicated to excellence, so that each child can reach their full potential and thrive in their lives, thus becoming a value-adding member of the society.

In his presidential address during the First Annual day of HOPE, Mr. Nizar Kochery said that it is the vision of HOPE to play an active role in creating awareness in Qatar and other parts of the world about children with special needs, and to develop programs and curriculum that can provide high quality intervention and training to

these children not only in Qatar, but beyond geographical boundaries.

He stressed that it was also the responsibility of the society to wake up to the needs of such children as part of their social responsibility and to do their might to help improve the facilities available for these children.

"Let no child who needs our help be denied the opportunity" he added.

**HOPE**  
**Providing**  
**Help,**  
**Opportunity,**  
**Participation,**  
**and Education**  
**for differently**  
**abled children.**

# Edutainment Activities

HOPE believes in combining education and entertainment whenever and wherever possible. This term its 'Edutainment' program included various activities that encouraged group behaviour, and leadership roles.

Fabric Painting, Sandwich Making, and Flower Arrangement sessions were organized amongst others.

Some of the children also accompanied the teachers to the City Centre and Asmak Mall game zones.



# Bishop's visit

Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus Suffragan Metropolitan, bishop of the Malankara Marthoma Church visited and spent some time with the staff and children at HOPE. He was accompanied by Fr. Abey K Joshua, vicar of the Marthoma Church Doha.

The bishop was briefed about the progress that HOPE has made since its inception and the future programs and plans of the organization. He expressed his encouragement to the HOPE team and wished them the best for the future.

