

FRIENDS OF SHAMAYITA MATH

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June 2019

Dear members and Friends of Shamayita Math

Let me start by mentioning the two biggest events this year.

On 2. February at the Grønnemoseskolen in Gladsaxe, members of the Indian community in the Copenhagen area had arranged a big Indian song and music event with several hundred participants.

The Theme was A JOURNEY THROUGH THE GOLDEN ERA with popular songs by R. D. Burman, who has written songs and music to more than 300 movies. The singers had rehearsed thoroughly and sang with bravura for an enthusiastic audience. Children from Deepshikha's dance school also performed with beautiful dances. We didn't have to go hungry since there was a big Indian buffet with many items. The organizers had decided the surplus from the event - appr. 4.800 DKK - should be donated to Friends of Shamayita Math. We are very grateful for that. We also used the event to inform about Friends of Shamayita Math and we got a few new members.



Deep's Dancing Divas at the charity event in May 2019

Our traditional summer event took place on 26. May in Anirudh's and Deepshikha's garden in Lyngby. The main attraction was again Deep's Dancing Divas and also children from other dance schools.

All the children were dressed in beautiful Indian dresses and performed the dances with charm and enthusiasm. I can understand their parents were proud of them. There were also great singing and dances from more grown up performers. Bente Hagelund had a visitor from West Bengal, her friend Madhumitha Bisnu. She is involved in supporting Shamayita Math and she told us about recent developments at Shamayita Math, amongst other things the building of a large new convent school for boys. The social work at Shamayita Math began years ago by the construction of a large convent school for girls, because it was difficult for girls to get a school education in that part of India. But the locals have wanted a convent school for boys, so the boys

don't have to travel long distances to get advanced education. It was also possible to see videos from Shamayita Math from Anders' and Eva's (and little Abel's) visit last year. You can see the videos on our webpage www.friendsofshamayitamath.dk



Two Indian Street food stalls made certain nobody had to leave hungry, and you could also enjoy mango lassi.

Last year, we had brilliant weather at the summer event, but this year the weather was not with us, so we had to borrow a big tent and buy some covers. Although we had a few showers it was possible to carry out the event. I want to thank all who helped with the tents.



Participants showed stamina and enjoyed the show

We had appr. 110 adults and 70 children to the event and we had a surplus of appr. 6.000 DKR. Thanks to Anirudh and Deepshikha for hosting the event.

It is really good that so many people attend and support. However, it is a challenge to have so many people in a private garden. So next year we will try to find another venue. Maybe at a school. We plan to have the event on Sunday 17 May 2020, so please reserve that day.



Bente Hagelund at her last visit at "our" school in October 2018

The money we collect is primarily send to the village school we financed in Darangpara: to running expenses, educational equipment, school uniforms and a daily hot meal. But you can also help by becoming a sponsor for a child in the school, which I think is a joy. The boy I have sponsored, Sanjit, has now grown out of the village school, and have advanced to a public school for bigger children some distance from the village. Shamayita Math has allocated another boy I can sponsor, Sudip, 8 years old.

Presently, we have arranged 8 sponsorships for children from the village school. The cost is 700 DKK a year. There is one sponsor for a student in the convent school. The cost here is 3.700 DKK.

If you are interested in learning more about the sponsorship program, you can contact Bente Hagelund on mail: bentehagelund@hotmail.com or mobile phone: 20862300.

At our general meeting 11 March 2019, the board of Friends of Shamayita Math was reelected and consists of:

Chairman: Lars Fynbo

Secretary and treasurer: Bente Hagelund

Event Manager: Deepshikha Daga

Volunteers and homepage: Lise Hagelund (presently on maternity leave)

Internships: Sarah Nissen and Søs Nielsen

Just now, we have 60 members. Recently, we have transferred 35.200 DKR to Shamayita Math. This amount include membership fees, donations, events and sponsorships. It also include an amount not transferred in 2018.

Thanks to everyone of you for your support. I wish you a pleasant summer. As I write this, the temperature at Shamayita Math is 37 C, and the monsoon period is approaching.

Lars Fynbo
Chairman

