

## BENGALI CHRONICLE 268 NOVEMBER 2022

### 'SHRAD' CEREMONY FOR THE DEMISE OF OUR SECRETARY'S BROTHER

During three days, more than 100 members or friends of the tearful family were gathering at Chowani-Guzrat (Bagnan II)



I was present and could take one general picture the last day from ICOD's car: I could recognize 'left to right) Devdut/Rana, Suchetona, Blandina, the elder brother Amitabho, Monami, Antara, Phushan, the so sad widow bo-uma (in orange) and Mampi.

### VISIT OF THE WIDOW AND HER SON ORPON



They remain one week at ICOD, but Orpon's mother could not be consoled.

### VISIT OF CHLOË and her friend, both FRENCH.,

(pictures by Binay)



They are working in Bengaluru for OFI NGO which has accepted to sponsor some new projects of ICOD.



Both are in front Mother Mary's Grotto, and Saint Mother Teresa Statue.

**VISIT cum RECEPTION at RAJAPUR where six of our inmates have been transferred.**



65 children are ready to welcome us through songs, dances and sincere prayers. The Founders are **AMIT** and his wife, whom I know since 30 years. They are sponsoring 12 orphan and handicapped boys and girls with their own salaries since the inception. Both are genuine '**Shebok & shevika**" **Servants of the Poor**". These kinds of people are more and more difficult to find in Bengal since some 10 years, and even more.



Everyone came to touch the feet of Gopadi, and myself after the prayer.



!

The two children of Amitda: the boy is studying medicine and the daughter wears a tee-shirt where it is proudly proclaimed:

« Believe in yourself » What a nice program for a modern teen!

**The FEAST FOR THE 16 YEARS OF SUNETRA**



We did not know this young girl. But her family has decided to discard any familial ceremony and to do it at ICOD, offering for all our inmates' cakes, mishtis, school material and food for all. It was for us also a wonderful and moving day: **HAPPY BIRTHDAY! SUNETRA dear!**

**Ex inmate Lokkhi and her daughter.**



**Left us suddenly to get married the next day...then repent and returned.  
Now, after a proper marriage, the whole family is happy!**

**THE MARRIAGE OF OUR EX-ORPHAN INMATE SOMA;**



**She left us, found an adivassi family to welcome her...and married the boy. Now, she is 6 months pregnant, and her mother-in-law, who loves her very much, requested us to keep her since the doctor found her too weak and obliged to take rest. We rejoice to welcome within March my 43<sup>rd</sup> or? 47<sup>th</sup> grandchild!**

**INNOCENT BOY ARRESTED BY THE POLICE AND BROUGHT TO ICOD (Major injustice rectified!)**



**Discussing in the road with a friend, who, seeing the police, run out, several cops surrounded him and arrested him. Brought under judicial order, at 15 years, he was crying and trembling. The police officer himself found him innocent. We refused to take him. But in this case, he will be put in jail! Poor boy! We took him, and Binay went the day after to the police to convince them to approach the judge to release him. It took time (and money for lawyers and affidavits), but her poor mother came to pick him back: her husband died three years ago. She is working as a mason (sic!), and her son is in a tailor's shop! What a joy for them both! But what a shame for the policemen of a far-away thana, not our own!**

**THE CALVARY of ORSINI**



**Orsini with his brother Rajesh were both handicapped orphan at our Belari Home...27 years ago. Both succeeded to be rehabilitated completely, built a modern house, and one got married. But in February, motorcycle accident; Orsini in Coma, head operation...and serious brain handicapped with loss of memory ...We took him at ICOD where**

he was slowly – very slowly - improving. Sunday 21, he went through three hours of paroxysmic convulsions with signs of cerebral attack. I was alone and tried my best to help...waiting for the ambulance. Then Kolkata hospital, coma followed by several days of uncertainty. Then he was discharged with promise of brain operation. I could just meet him in the ambulance. He could not speak, but just smiled to me. Now, he is with his brother coming back from Bangalore.

**THREE YOUNG EX-INMATES ORPHAN REHABILITATED**



**GOPAL**

We met often our married girls, but quite less the boys, because it takes quite more time to find a job, a home or get married. Great was our joy to meet those old kids radiant and in full bloom growth! **Krishnendu** studies at university, and **Sojol** is apprentice hair-dresser. As for **Gopal**, he is now assistant-boys in-charge at ICOD, but we are trying to send him at Don Bosco for apprenticeship. His mother Aroti is mentally sick at ICOD, and one younger sister student in an NGO where we have put her. Soon he will be head of family. What a big responsibility. Here are three excellent boys with a certain future. Look at their radiant faces!

**'Cattle egret' attacked by a cat**

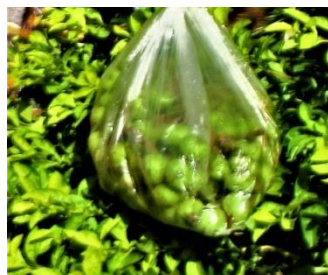


Our girls have saved this heron (Bulbulcus ibis) from their own cats, with broken leg and wing. I could make a fracture reduction, and took it in my room, well protected from the cats. But it died on morning, the classical shock of wounded wild birds. See how it was sleeping, neck and head completely protected.

**WINTER FRUITS**



Amloki ...



and Jolpai .... Both for pickles.



Delicious Sabedas,



We have five grapefruits-trees dispersed in the jungle

**VARIOUS WAVES OF HEAT AND RAINS CONJUGATED, PROVOKED GRAVE DEPREDATIONS DUE TO OVERGROWN VEGETATION: A PERMANENT STRUGGLE!**



**Under this super-vegetation lies an orchard of 25 mangoes-trees planted in 2020**



**Rakesh started to clean two of them...Many have been attacked by caterpillars!**



**Orchard rehabilitated up to the wire netting of the boys 'Home. But what a labor!**



Above the large island **biodiversity preserve**, all the trees are completely covered by creepers and damaged...But we shall not interfere with Mother Nature!

**NEW VEGETABLE GARDEN**



In front of the dispensary, with six kinds of vegetable...



Sanjay, with us since 17 years.



Gopa preparing the daily menu for all...



Future flowers garden where three high trees were crushed by the cyclone.

**36 th Birthday of BINAY in his family** (photos de Binay)



... and with his friends the permanent workers of ICOD



Around Palash and Novin, the six pillars of ICOD since 18 years...

### TOTAL REFLECTION OF AN OLD BRIDGE IN FRONT OF THE BOYS' GATE



Workers' masters: Binay, Novin...our carpenter Anondo ... I test the strength!!!  
All the beams and planks are made with the wood of our crushed trees. Masonry is still not completed.

### AUTOMN'S FLOWERS



Giant Cannas of culture received at my birthday (?) One flower every alternate day during one week!



**MANASA DEVI PUJA WITH FIVE COBRAS**(photos de Binay)



With our girls and **Jagannath** (right), who is dynamic member of their Committee and in-charge of ICOD's boys. Upon the podium, several very old ladies seated . Binay and I speaking





Invitation Committee came at ICOD.



Our four Class X students are observing...

### **COUPLE VARANS OF BENGAL,**

They are warming up at the feet of the Lord Jesus of MERCY's statue



The young female lies just above the right beam and the very old male (almost two meters!) lies very close to his burrow. We have three pairs of them...