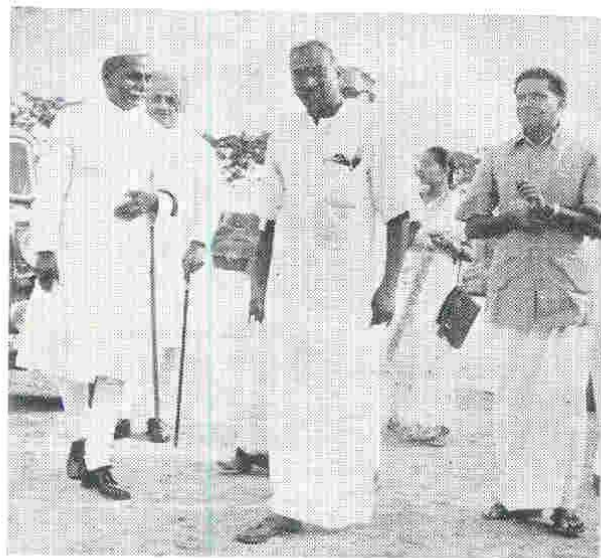


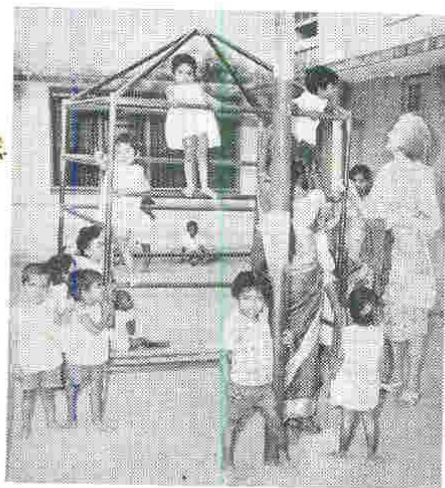
BALA MANDIR

126, GOPATHY NARAYANASWAMY CHETTY ROAD
MADRAS-600017

FOUNDED MARCH 1949



Kamarcj with Dr. Rajendra Prasad 1951



*Lady Nye with Tiny Tots at
Play 1977*

29
YEARS

BALA MANDIR: WHAT IT IS

Bala Mandir is a home for homeless children. It is an institution which gives protection and care to any child who needs it. Admitted below the age of three years, children are cared for until they are eighteen years old. The institution serves the triple role of parent, teacher and community. Its present strength is over 400 children.

Bala Mandir is associated with no social or religious group. There is absolutely no distinction of caste or creed; the parentage of many of the children being unknown.

FACILITIES

The Hospital: It is a vital wing of the home accommodating all infants below 5 years of age. It helps to nourish and cherish the infant, who on arrival needs constant care.

Qualified honorary pediatricians, a physio-therapist, a psychologist and a dentist guide the dedicated staff.

The Dormitories: Boys over 10 years of age are housed in a separate building with a warden in charge.

Girls over 5 years of age and boys between 5 and 10 years are in the dormitories in the main building under the supervision of a well-trained staff.

The Kitchen: Balanced meals with emphasis on the nutritional values of foods cater for all the children. Enriched flour, soya bean oil and milk powder are donated by service organisations.

The Schools: In the Nursery School nearly a hundred children of Bala Mandir get educated. The Primary School with 16 class rooms has been constructed with generous donations from the public and a State Government grant. The Satyamurthi High School and the Primary School educate boys and girls from Bala Mandir as well as children from outside the Home. Each has almost 600 children.

Multi-purpose Hall: The Hall is intended for cultural activities such as Music, Film shows, Yogasanas, Bhajan singing and games.

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Carpentry unit, Laundry unit and Tailoring units provide vocational training for the boys and girls of Bala Mandir. Apart from this boys are being trained by outside institutions in mechanics, photography, automobile repair, type-writing and electrical wiring; some girls are being trained in book-binding, creche course and as compositors.

REHABILITATION THROUGH ADOPTION AND MARRIAGE

Apart from rehabilitation through careers, children are given in adoption to suitable couples. Several children have been happily absorbed into families.

Social rehabilitation through marriage has been successfully achieved in the case of several girls.

HOW EXPENSES ARE MET

The State and Central Governments Service Organisations and individual Donors in India and abroad all contribute. Some gifts come in kind; any help, small or big is welcome.



Sri Kamaraj with Children

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

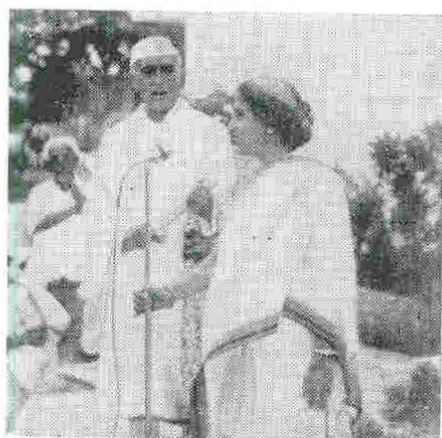
National stalwarts such as Sri S. Srinivasa Iyengar, Sri S. Satyamurthi, Srimathi Rukmani Lakshmipathy, Sri Rajaji and Sri G. Rajagopalan have units dedicated to them. It is now proposed to dedicate the whole complex to Sri K. Kamaraj. He drew his inspiration from Gandhiji and was the Founder President of Bala Mandir from its inception until his passing away. He was the source of strength and inspired guidance to the institution. Bala Mandir is a symbol of what he lived for and worked for.

It is planned to make the entire complex, an economically viable one to provide more facilities—so that the children may grow up to be full and useful citizens.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM 1949-1978

- 1949 Bala Mandir was started with two foundlings.
- 1950 The Government of Madras assigned 29 grounds in G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar, Madras-17 for a building.
- 1951 Recognised by the Madras Government as a Fit Person Institution for destitute and deprived children sent by Juvenile courts.
- 1954 The Sri S. Srinivasa Iyengar Memorial Committee and others gave money for the construction of a hospital block.
- 1956 The Primary School was started. A carpentry unit intended as a Hobby Centre was inaugurated.
- 1959 The Union Ministry of Education gave a grant for the Nursery School building. The Volkart Foundation gave a donation.
- 1961 The Sri S. Satyamurthi High School was started.
- 1962 Recognition and a grant were given by the Central Social Welfare Board to the Carpentry unit, for the training and rehabilitation of young women.
- 1963 A sponsorship programme was started by Aktionsgemeinschaft Solidarische Welt e.v. a West Germany Welfare Organisation.
- 1965 The Laundry Section was inaugurated.
- 1968 Oxfam donated the Kitchen and Dining Hall.

- 1974 The Silver Jubilee of the Bala Mandir was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Srimathi Indira Gandhi. Foundation-stones for the Satyamurthi High School and for the Bala Mandir Primary School buildings were laid by Sri K. Kamaraj.
- 1976 The Government of India under their scheme of Care of Destitute children sanctioned two units with building grant for two blocks which were named after Sri Rajaji.
A sponsorship programme was started by the Deutsche Welthungerhilfe a West Germany Welfare Organisation.
- 1977 (a) A generous donation by the Chimata Seshachalam Trust and othar donors helped to complete the Primary School building.
(b) A permanent Office block was constructed with a grant from the Maduram Narayana Memorial Trust.
(c) A Multi-purpose Hall donated by the Deutsche Welthungerhilfe was opened by the German Ambassador.
- 1978 The building of the Satyamurthi High School has been started and nearing completion. With the help of a generous grant and a loan from the State Government, the whole complex is to be completed and dedicated to Sri Kamaraj by the President of India.



Pandit Nehru's visit 1952

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Give any amount of money you can spare, from a rupee to the Rupee Fund to Rs. 600 per year to maintain one child in Bala Mandir or give in kind—donate medicines, food, clothings, toys, books or school equipment or give in service—supervise the study hour of the children converse with them, teach songs, help in any way you can.

SOME QUOTES FROM OUR VISITORS' BOOK

With admiration of your good work and in appreciation for the opportunity to assist.

(Sd.) JOHN J. MCLEIGH

Catholic Relief Services.

U.S. Catholic Conference.

17th November, 1975.

I had the pleasure and privilege of visiting the Bala Mandir, though I had been wanting to visit earlier.

The institution is well run and the children are generally healthy and happy. What impressed me most is the personal interest taken in the welfare of each one of the children.

The Bala Mandir is also running two units for destitute children. The building is getting completed in respect of one and the other one has been completed. The children look well taken care of.

The Institution is doing well and under the leadership of Smt. S. Manjubhashini, I am confident, it will climb even to greater heights of usefulness to the children of this State.

(Sd.) M. M. RAJENDRAN,

Joint Secretary to Govt. of India.

Department of Social Welfare.

3rd March, 1976.

New Delhi.

I am happy to find that the institution continuing its noble work of bringing up hundreds of unfortunate children.

(Sd.) KANTHA EKAMBARAM.

Director of Coorectional Administration.

30th September, 1976.

Madras

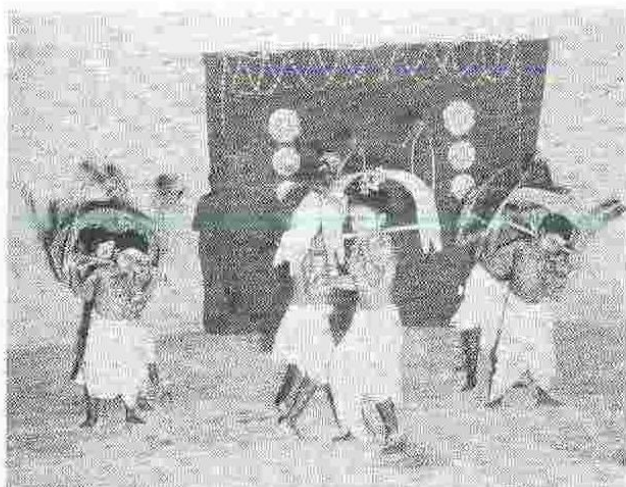
Impressed by the dedication with which Bala Mandir is running to the benefit of the destitute children by its well trained and friendly staff, I wish you the best for your future. I feel, that these children are saved both physically and emotionally for their lives.

(Sd.) HEIDEGART SCHMID NOERR,

Action for a work in Solidarity,

25th October, 1976.

Berlin, Germany.



Kavadi Attam

I am exceedingly delighted to be in this Temple of God with true ambassadors of God here. Children are taken the best care and the institution is well kept.

(Sd.) PRABHUDAS B. PATWARI,

15th July, 1977.

Governor of Tamil Nadu.

Bala Mandir is a noble institution. It is housing and maintaining a large number of orphans and turning them into useful members of our society. I congratulate its authorities and wish them all success.

(Sd.) P. C. CHUNDER,

Union Minister for Education,

23rd September, 1977.

Social Welfare and Culture.