

ALICEPROJECT

Quarterly E-Newsletter - June 2007

AVAILABLE ALSO IN ITALIAN, SPANISH AND FRENCH

Just ask for your issue.

Photo Exhibition "Alice's Children"



Photo by Piero Sirianni

Among other initiatives, the Kalachakra 2007 (Florence, Saschall Theatre, 28-30 June, www.kalachakra2007.it), hosted also the photo exhibition "Alice's Children" devoted to "Alice Project (Italy-India): the school teaching to smile", by Piero Sirianni and Vania Andreuzza. A leaflet accompanying the show is available on request. We invite everyone interested to host and promote this photo exhibition in other cities or countries to let us know his/her availability.

News by the students

We invite you to read the most interesting news about the Sarnath school in the very language of the students themselves visiting their page on the website www.aliceproject.org.

What they are not confessing, on account of their modesty and shyness, but which we think is appropriate to let you know, is that at the board exams of 10th and 12th class, the results, once again, were excellent. All of them passed, many with the highest scores; good as well were the results of the chakma students from the Bodhgaya school, an unimaginable result a few years ago.



For the new academic year we have decided to stick to the same number of classes as the last year and to concentrate our efforts on re-organizing our school assets, especially the one in Bodhgaya, where a few difficulties and shortcomings had been brought to attention. We'll write you further in the next issue about the news in this branch, which is still waiting for the announced visit of the Italian Ambassador.

An Inflow of Volunteers

In the summer months we foresee several volunteers both in Sarnath and in Bodhgaya, to help with different teaching activities as well as the school and community management. A careful reflection by the volunteers themselves about their expectations, availability, competences and the difficulties in understanding and integrating in this environment at times so difficult and lacking in almost all commodities has been found useful and necessary.

A minimum stay of one month is required for people having a specific competence, like editing books, teaching English, computer education with the approval of the School Director; for others, we request a minimum two months' commitment. A short informative *vademecum* and a form to be filled-in and submitted to the Project Director for those willing to work as volunteers, will soon be available for download from the website www.aliceproject.info under the **VOLUNTEERS** section.



Important Warning

The Alice Project Management has come to know about some attempts to misdirect donations and to steal the intellectual property of the research made during the past 25 years and of the original publications by the two Project founders. This impels us to warn friends, volunteers and sponsors against those in India who claim to represent Alice Project and ask for money in its name destined to the children's supposed benefit, perhaps with the excuse they are starting improbable "brand new humanitarian projects" at once. Of course, these are nothing but cheating, just for the personal gain by people without any morality or shame. As a matter of fact, no donation to the school has ever come through the Sarnath or Bodhgaya shopkeepers or tourist guides. However, none either outside or inside the school is authorized to operate outside the direct and official channels of the Project registered here. In case of any doubt, we invite you to notify to us any suspect contact and to verify its authenticity with the SCHOOL director, in order to avoid any further abuse.

At this very moment when the Project is entering into a new phase, we would like to reconfirm our trust in all those who have believed in it and go on honestly working in the interest of the Project and of the children (teachers, staff, volunteers and sponsors) and request everyone of them to continue sustain us through this evolution.

A new association supporting Alice Project born in Friuli region in Italy

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Please note that, besides the other two "Progetto Alice" associations in Treviso and Padua in Italy, from July 2007, a new association of friends and supporters will be operating from Friuli, in the northeast of Italy. Its president will be Donata Montevecchi (a specialist in graphics and an organizer of arts workshops), sister of Agata (a long-term friend and volunteer of the Project). Among other things, this group has joined the S.A.D. (Support at Distance) Desk of the Friuli region for international volunteering and cooperation.

We exhort our friends to support or create such new local groups and associations both to promote the knowledge of Alice methods and to support the schools in India.



Photo by Piero Sirianni

We would like to thank in particular all those who put their efforts in making the Alice Project known to the more and more troublesome world of school. For example, prof. Odorico Bergamaschi of a Technical Institute in Mantova (Italy) has organized meetings of their students with Ms. Luigina de Biasi (co-founder of Alice Project) and asked the students to express their impressions through their own blog www.helpaliceproject.blogspot.com.

Our sincere thanks go also to the group of friends from Tuscany (Italy) for the friendship, commitment and creativity they have devoted to spread the message of Alice Project. We would like to invite once again our friends of all countries to inform us well on time of their initiatives and activities, so that we can share such news with all of you and publish them on these e-newsletters and our websites.

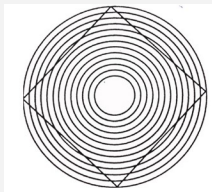
Alice's Family extends



Our friend Joy (an Italian teacher representing Alice Project in Padua) and her husband Joseph (a former Indian teacher of our Bodhgaya school) have announced the birth of their cute and lovely son Federico-Rajiv. The Alice students hail him and "make a little place" to welcome the newcomer into the wider family of Alice Project. We take advantage of this occasion to thank Joy once again for enthusiastically supporting the Project since many years, cleverly involving children, parents and teachers of her school, gathering consensus for the Alice philosophy and offering precious help. Thanks to her commitment, Alice Project got a consistent financing to start the Chakma Project in Bodhgaya (for details, see www.aliceproject.info/chakmas.htm). We also have to thank again dr.Boscarato and the Padua Provincial Administration for giving a hope and a chance to tens of these boys with many difficulties. (This Project is still going on today, even if the number of resident students had to be reduced to about a half).

Warmest regards to all of you

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