



Message from the President

First of all I thank all sponsors for renewing the school sponsorships this year. You would have received details of your school from EVF India. If not please let us know. Please also remember that you can always see details of your school on EKAL web site (www.ekal.org.au) by logging in using your sponsor number.

It is pleasing to see that EKAL Walk has been happening regularly every month and more and more people are joining this. I appeal to you all to join us in this regular event.

I thank the organiser of Jhoom-2 program in Perth-Urja—for supporting Ekal movement in Western Australia through donating part of the program proceeds and increasing awareness of Ekal in WA community.

This year's AGM is scheduled on 22nd November 2009.

As we are approaching the end of the year, some of you may be planning to go to India. I know that generally we are busy with visiting our families and friends in India but if you would like to visit EKAL School in your area / state please let us know. We may help you in providing the EKAL contacts in that part of the country so that your school visits are better organised and facilitated.

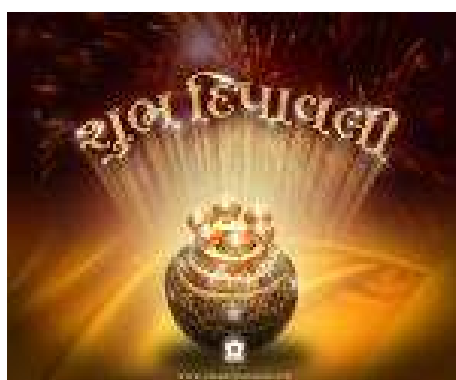
Also please send us suggestions to spread the EKAL news.

I wish you and your families a very happy Deepavali.

Dr. Nihal Agar

To all readers, EKAL Children, Sponsors and Volunteers A Happy Deepavali-2009

A CANDLE LOSES NOTHING BY LIGHTING ANOTHER CANDLE



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EKAL - Regional News

Here is an excellent program coming up in Perth- WA, Australia for your entertainment whilst supporting two charities. Please forward to your friend interested in Dance, Music, Fun and lot more...

Urja is bringing **Jhoom 2**, once again in response to a huge success last year in raising \$6500 for Manav Sadhana (www.manavsadhna.org) working for children living in slums.

In addition this year Urja is supporting one more charity, **Ekal Vidyalaya** (<http://ekalindia.org>).

This charitable trust initiates supports and runs informal one-teacher schools all over India, particularly in rural and tribal villages. Featuring local artists, **Jhoom 2** is a dance-drama that has been created, choreographed, composed and performed by the dance group Urja comprising of Indian youth of Perth. Additional attraction of the show is Live music with Bollywood twist from fusion band 'Tabla Tronixa'.

Join us on this energetic, colourful & dance filled journey! Please preview on You Tube:
Jhoom 2009 Urja <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jXzii4SLWU>

A BOLLYWOOD EXTRAVAGANZA

URJA PRESENTS **Jhoom 2**

2 NIGHTS ONLY
OCT 9TH & 10TH
JOHN CURTIN THEATRE
FREMANTLE

ALL PROFITS DONATED TO CHARITY
MANAV SADHANA/ EKAL VIDYALAYA

TICKETS:- \$25/\$40

youtube: jhoom urja 2009
ALSO FEATURING:- LIVE MUSIC BY **TABLATRONIX**

FOR TICKETS
UTPAL MEHTA:- 0407-088-219/ 9354-5864
VIRENDRA PARIKH:- 0412-052-304
utpal.mehta@yahoo.com.au

Inspirational Story from a Sponsor!!

My name is Shridhar Srinivasan, I grew up in a big size family at a place near Jamshedpur in India. During my school years back in 1965, I was quite weak in some subjects and required some help with my studies. My father couldn't afford to pay for the tuition fee for me. But our Guruji (family teacher) Shree J.P.Singh was very generous and taught me for free which otherwise would have costed me about Indian Rupees ten (INR10) per month.

By the grace of God and with the kind help of our Guruji, I completed my studies and got the job to support and maintain my family in India. Later in 1986, I was fortunate enough to get an opportunity to migrate to Australia with my wife and kids. We are now very much content and happy here in Sydney. I am working for a multinational company; my wife works for Australia Post, my daughter is doing well in medicine as 'Cancer Specialist' and my son is a 'Corporate

Lawyer'. We all are living together in our own house in Sydney.

Recently after hearing from my colleague Ashish about Ekal, I was quite moved with concept of Ekal and immediately decided to support unprivileged children of India by sponsoring a school. I think, for me, there would be no other better way to pay tribute to my teacher who is no more in this world.

-Shridhar Srinivasan.

EKAL at Deepavali-2009 Fair in Parramatta, Sydney

EKAL volunteers will be present at Deepavali Fair to promote the EKAL cause. They will distribute EKAL bags and brochures, and will be on hand to answer any questions people may have about EKAL.

The Deepavali Fair is being organized by the Hindu Council of Australia (HCA) at Parramatta Stadium on 11 Oct 2009, 11.00am to 8.00pm.

Please come and say hello to the volunteers at the HCA stall. If you are coming with friends make sure you bring them to the stall and give them an opportunity to know about EKAL.



"Do you know all donations to EKAL are tax deductible in Australia? Why not use the tax refund to sponsor another EKAL school?"



EKAL-WALK FOR YOU

EVF Australia are proud to announce the formation of a new monthly walking group

1st Sunday of 1st Sunday of

Time: 9:30 am

All ages welcome



**OUR FIFTH
WALK**

**Lane Cove National
Park**

9:30 am

Sunday, 4 October 2009

**Meet at Lady Game
Entrance to Lane Cove
National Park**

Starting in June, the Ekal walking group will gather on the first Sunday of each month to walk around a beautiful park in Sydney, and meet new and old friends — so please join us and have fun!

Members and non-members of EVF Australia, friends and family are all welcome.

For senior citizens, transport to and from the venue can be arranged with volunteers.

For more information or to join the mailing list, please contact:

Vijay Gupta: 0414 879 542
vgupta@optusnet.com.au

Savita Gupta: 0403 148 052
savita_r_gupta@hotmail.com

Virendra Patel: 0401 687 213
vp.july05@optusnet.com.au

Hari Kishan: 0412 258 183
hari_40@bigpond.net.au



(Parking is available in the park - entry fee is \$7 per car. Some street parking may also be available outside.)

Benefits of Walking

Walking is very beneficial to your health and wellbeing, and has been known to reduce the risk of many diseases such as heart disease and diabetes. Walking also helps control existing conditions and builds aerobic fitness

EKAL AUSTRALIA
A PEOPLES MOVEMENT

<http://www.ekal.org.au/>

EKAL - Global News

Ekal Karyakartas celebrate Raksha Bandhan with great enthusiasm



On 1st of August, 2009 Ekal Karyakartas celebrated the festival of 'Rakhi' at 'Ekal Bhawan' in Delhi with traditional but unique fashion. Smt. Sangita Gupta, Secretary EVFI, who is popular as 'Didi' among all the Karyakartas, tied Rakhi on the wrist of hundreds of Ekal Volunteers and also offered them gift. Later, a sumptuous food was served to all. It was really a memorable event.

Sangita Gupta, Secretary EVFI narrates her Van Yatra experience of MTS Ekal Schools in Tamil Nadu

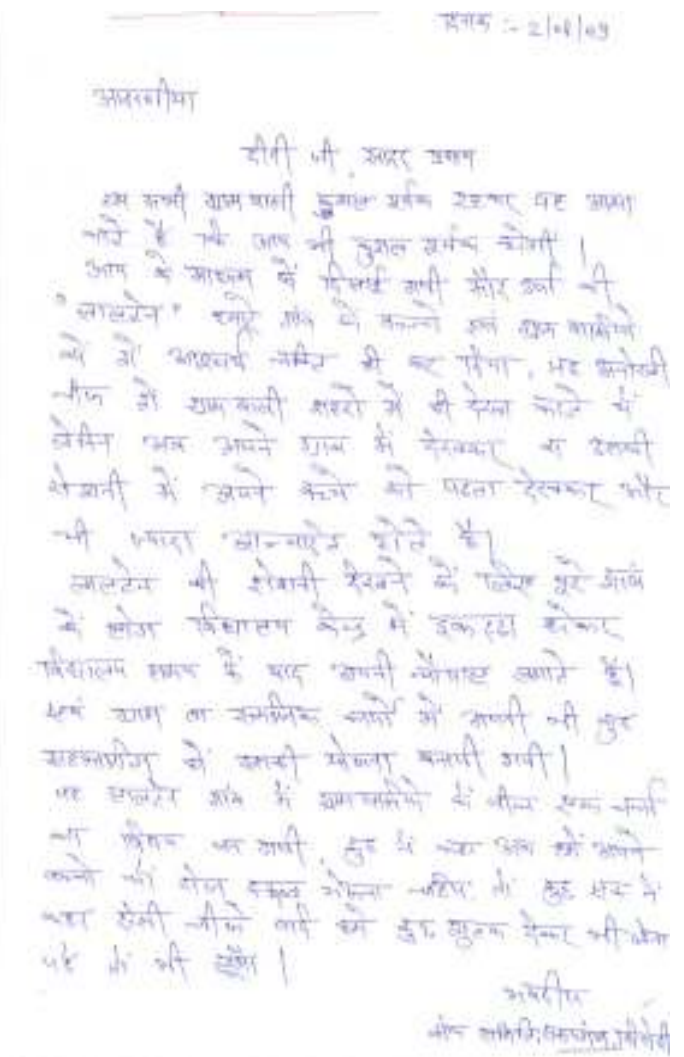
I along with my husband Sri Gouri Shankar Gupta went to attend the opening ceremony of 25th Chapter at Erode. The chapter opened with great applause.

On 24th August, we went to visit Ekal School in Kodaikanal under Dindigul Anchal which was first run by EVFI. Now, the School has become MTS, it is being run by an SVO of Tamil Nadu.

We visited two Schools. The first was at Vadakainniji village about 40 Kms. from Kodialur. It is a big village on hills having a population of about 300. The School Code is BHTN0212306. The second School, Code No. BHTN0211101, was in Poomparai village about 20 Kms. from Kodialur towards Kerakal. It is Sanch Kendra with a population of about 5000 people in the valley. There are 30 Ekal Schools. Buses ply on the route to and from once in a day.

Ekal village in Sirohi enchanted by solar light

The villages of Swaroopganj Sanch in Sirohi District of Rajasthan, India were illuminated by the light of solar lantern. It was a miracle for the students of Ekal School as they saw that much light for the first time. A total of 12 lanterns were distributed in the Ekal Schools of the Sanch. The Sanch Samiti has very much appreciated it and thanked the Ekal Volunteers for this wonderful gift in the letter below.



Meet A Sponsor

In this edition we would like you to meet our newest sponsor, actually a group of nine (9) colleagues working in ABB factory a Moorebank, NSW Australia who have recently decided to support EKAL and sponsor a school

Which part of Australia do you live in?

We all stay in Sydney, New South Wales.

What do you do?

We all are working at ABB factory at Moorebank, Sydney in different capacities. ABB is one of the world's leading engineering companies; we help our customers to use electrical power effectively and to increase industrial productivity in a sustainable way.

How did you find out about EKAL?

We are really grateful to our colleague and friend Ashish Garg who is active member of EKAL for introducing us to EKAL.

What are your interests?

Though we have varied interests but by and large we all love watching movies, listening to songs, going to the gymnasium, reading, swimming, playing soccer, cricket, adventure, history, traveling, tourism etc

What made you support EKAL?

We all wanted to do something for our country in best of our capacity. Ekal provided us with the opportunity to support the unprivileged children of India. We group of nine (9) joined together to support one school. We never thought that our small contribution will help unprivileged children to get some basic education.

Have you supported any other organisations in the past?

Merugun Selvemariyan is supporting Unicef and YSM and Sandesh Suradkar has been supporting some organizations in Australia. But to be honest we all have been more willing to do something for our country.

Would you like to visit your sponsored school one day?

Yes definitely, that will not only give us satisfaction but further motivate us.

Any other comments or messages for our readers?

Everyone donates something in some form but donation for EKAL is a genuine noble cause. Your support would dramatically change the lives of a number of people. Someday these children will grow up and take the right path of life through education. Donate and spread this message as the word of almighty God and let everyone understand the true virtue of life - *Merugun Selvemariyan.*

This is the best form of charity I have seen because it aims at educating children and eliminating poverty from its root - *Sandesh Suradkar.*

Many people wish to support helpless people but can't find proper channel. EKAL is providing opportunity to support such people - *Mahesh Yadav.*

Doing charity is good for both health and mind - *Emmanuel D'Silva.*

Helping others is helping yourself - *Atul Sathe.*

Try to help others - *Vivek Gaikwad.*



Clockwise from right top-Mervyun Selvemariyan, Vivek Gaikwad, Babasaheb Ghogare, Mahesh Yadav, Atul Sathe, , Emmanuel D'Silva Sandesh Suradkar. Akshay Mehendale & Sachin Bopardikar are absent



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E-mail: evfaust@gmail.com

Education is the best gift of humanity!

[www.ekal.org.au]

If you have an idea and want to get involved more, why not drop us a line or call us. We would love to grow our EKAL Family!!

A BIG THANK YOU...
...to all EKAL sponsors

Your sponsorship goes a long way in educating the poor in tribal India. Those children have no hope otherwise of getting out of the cycle of illiteracy and poverty.

Please keep up the good work by continuing your sponsorship and spread the word among your friends and community.

Not a sponsor yet! EKAL urges you to join the family of sponsors and volunteers in Australia and enjoy the great feeling of extending a helping hand to those most in need.

EKAL Update-EKAL Vidyalaya
Current number of EKAL Schools-26,797
Number of Children -769,575

EVF Australia apologizes for any error in name spelling or other sponsor details in information packages sent to you from EVF India. Please send corrections to us if you have already not done so and we will amend the details in our data base. Thanks - EVF Australia Volunteers