## PREM DAN

Registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 BOM. 232/85 G.B.B.-SD dated 15-3-85 Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950, F10310 (BOM) dated 29-4-1985

15, Nathalal Parekh Marg, MUMBAI 400 001. TEL.: 284 1975/202 0474 FAX: 284 1975

March 1999

Dear Friends,

In a month's time we will come to the end of our academic year 98-99. At the moment all the children are doing their best to face the Final Examination. This is an extra burden on our staff as most of our children get no help at home with their home work.

You must have read about the recent attacks on our Christian Institutions and Communities. Its a sad experience for us as we dedicate our lives to uplift the marginalized in this country.

For the past 6 months the people we work with have been reduced to one poor meal a day. The present prices of food are beyond their budgets.

We are deeply grateful to all our dear sponsors who remembered us and their children through their letters, Christmas greetings and gifts.

You will be happy to know that our Italian sponsors under the able guidance of Mauro Mingrone of Alitalia have succeeded in registering Prem Dan in Italy. So now our Italian sponsors will have the facility of sending their sponsorship through this Registered Trust and can also avail of the tax benefits.

Dear Italian Sponsors - kindly contact at this address for details:-

Prem Dan Italy via Spallanzani n. 5 27100 Pavia Fax: 0382/302875

or P.O. Box 13

27058 Voghera (Pavia) Tel: 0338/2091991

Congratulations and thanks a million Mauro and his team! We are looking forward to your next visit. We thank all our dedicated Italian aunties and uncles for visiting us so often loaded with gifts for their children and Prem Dan. In this connection we cannot forget the role of our loving and generous Aunty Giovanna Berti. Now she is an inseparable part of the Prem Dan family.

We thank all our very dear Belgian sponsors for their innumerable cards and gifts sent to their children at Christmas.

Today was a sad day for all of us in Prem Dan, as we bade farewell to Prem Dan's Fairy God Mother - Havovi Medora. She has left for New Jersey, USA with her family. Her husband has been posted there as Director of KPMG Peat Marwick. Congratulations Sammy! Havovi, we will miss you but we know you will continue to work for Prem Dan in the U.S. We hope you will get the gift of bilocation so that you can visit us whenever you wish to.

Our boarding will be celebrating its first birthday. Time has really flown! The children have enjoyed their stay and I'm deeply grateful to Almighty God and to you my dear friends for helping me to realize my Dream.

Soon we will be entering the jubilee year 2000.

In the Bible, the year of Jubilee is the name given to the 50th year, which proclaimed liberty from oppression & release from debts. Slaves were set free. All debts of the poor were cancelled. Land and belongings were returned to their rightful owners. The land was left fallow. The Jubilee was a call to a new beginning of restoration and hope.

Jubilee 2000 is our best chance in a long while to put our beliefs to work -together. The Jubilee call is a reminder to us all that our God is a God of justice and that our God does not forget the poor and oppressed. It is a reminder that God intervenes to demand that things be set right again. As people of goodwill we must ask whether the poor must continue to sacrifice their children's health and education in order to continue to make debt payments. The call to Jubilee is a call to conversion, a turning away from existing economic patterns which demand sacrifices from the poor and the earth to continue paying an unjust debt. It is a call to compassion, a compassion borne not only out of gratitude for God's bounty but out of an understanding of the needs to make amends. It is a call for cancellation of debts, redistribution of wealth and the renewal of the earth. I am sure that in some way all of you have heeded this call as members of Prem Dan.

I wish each one of you a very Happy Easter with God's choicest blessings and graces on you and your family.

Yours gratefully in Jesus and Mary,

Lelialy Morres

(SISTER FELICITY MORRIS)