

Karuna Bal Vikas Facility Centre was started in December 2008. Our project is located in the north of Maharashtra state, in west Khandesh, Kothada village, near a town Navapur in Nandurbar District. We have 156 children, who are studying from class 2 to First Year. We have 7 full time staff; they are 4 Social Workers, an accountant, a cook, and a Project Co-coordinator. It is a joy how the Lord is blessing the lives of these children.

## 1. Shimon

Life's harsh realities had stolen dreams from little Shimon's eyes. The nine years old boy just wanted to grow up fast and take up some menial job so that he could help his father who worked as a daily wager. When some people from his village told him that they were starting Jeevan Jyothi Child Development Centre in his village, he had no intentions of joining the school. But when they insisted, he agreed to enroll.



Shimon joined the school without any expectation. But as he started attending the classes, he developed interest in studies and extra-curricular activities. The school didn't just give him good education; it also taught him good values that eventually became a part of his personality.

As years passed by, Shimon's confidence was restored. He started discovering different facets of his personality. The music classes made him realize that he could even sing. The computer classes gave him a chance to become friends with technology. The scripture classes renewed his hope and helped him build a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Shimon discovered his real talent when he met Sandeep Kumar, his kabaddi coach. The coach instantly recognized the sportsman in him and started working on his skills. He trained Shimon so

well that there was no looking back. He kept evolving from School level to Taluk level to District Level. Finally, his dream came true when he represented his state Maharashtra in Under 19

kabaddi championship. His dedication and hard work made his team to win third position in 2018 December tournament.

Today, Shimon is a confident young man who has cleared his 12<sup>th</sup> exams with good grades. He is now doing a computer course from the Industrial Training Institute. His goal is to learn computers and get a good government job. He loves to lead the choir in his church. And he dreams of going back to his village someday so that he can work with the children and rekindle their lost hope.

Shimon is thankful to God for sending him to school and changing his life forever.

## 2. Nilesh Mavchi

Nilesh and his parents always thought that tuitions were a privilege of the rich kids.

But when they came to know that JJCDC (Jeevan Jyothi Child Development Centre) offered tuitions to the underprivileged kids, they were filled with hope and gratitude.

Nilesh joined JJCDC when he was in 4<sup>th</sup> standard. The teachers at the centre were friendly and caring. They didn't just help Nilesh with his studies but also encouraged him to participate in the extra curricular activities such as High Jump, Long Jump and Kabaddi.

As the years passed by, Nilesh's grades kept improving. His hard work and focus made him score 80.4% in the Higher Secondary and 70% in the Senior Secondary.

Nilesh's joy knew no bounds when he found his passion in Kabaddi. He started representing his school at eminent Kabaddi championships





and played at District Level, State Level and National Level. In 2018, he brought glory to Maharashtra by winning the third position at the national level.

Today, Nilesh has come a long way. He is doing his Bachelors in Arts and has been selected for the International Kabaddi Championship 2019, under 19 that will soon happen in Nepal. Though he doesn't have a coach, he has a strong will. He practices every day by watching YouTube videos.

Nilesh's parents are proud of his achievements and they are thankful to God that he joined JJCDC.

### **3. Tejal Ruvaji Valvi**

Tejal still remembers the day when she first came to JJCDC. She was hardly six years old and it was a completely new



world for her. When she saw the school kids running around, she held her parents' hands tightly. Her nervousness melted away when the teachers and kids welcomed her warmly.

The little girl, who had never thought of studying because of her humble background, was going to school every day. She started developing interest in studies and life started changing for her.

The school didn't just open the doors of education but did a lot more for her. It gave her the confidence to connect with the world, taught her the importance of good behavior and inspired her to seek

new possibilities. It was at the school that she found her faith in Jesus Christ. The Bible classes helped her in understanding the sacrificial love of God and she started growing in the word of God.

The world of sports also opened up for her when her sports teacher saw that she was good at running. The teacher gave her special training and Tejal transformed into a powerful runner. She started representing her school in 100m and 200m racing competitions and won many laurels at district and state level.

Today, Tejal is in 10<sup>th</sup> standard and she continues to run for her school and state. The racing tracks of Nashik, Nandurbar and Thane salute her speed. This 100m champion now wants to run for the country and bring glory home.

She is thankful to God for opening the doors of JJCDC for her.

#### **4. Shiela Dolat Kokani**

Shiela's parents brought her to JJCDC when she was just three years old. Whenever someone heard her story, they knew that she was a brave child. She lived with her uncle and his family because her parents had to work in Surat as there was no job opportunity in her village.

She often missed her parents but never complained. The tuitions at JJCDC rekindled her interest in studies and she realized the true value of education. But as she grew up, life became tougher for her. She lost her father in 2011 and it became even more difficult for her mother to support her education.

When the school came to know about her situation, the authorities decided to help her so that she could continue studying. The teachers encouraged her and nurtured her academically and emotionally.

Today, Shiela is in 9<sup>th</sup> standard and she continues to live with her uncle and his family. She is determined to change her destiny. She studies on weekdays and works in the fields on weekends so that she can bear some of her personal expenses. She wants to become a teacher so that she can help her village kids. She is thankful to the school for standing by her and restoring her hope and confidence.





**JJCDC Staff with Pastor P. D. Thomas (Zonal President - North West Zone) standing in back row extreme left.**

The Child development Project is impacting the lives of several such Konkani and Mavachi tribal children. Along with coaching, they are provided career counselling and guidance in living productive lives. Emphasis is also given to sports and co-curricular activities. Several of our students have topped the State Board exams and have gone on for higher education. Others have been selected for participation in State and national level games and have excelled in the same. The focus is on all round development of the student so as to see them emerging as productive citizens of the country.

There are many more lives whom God is transforming and adding into the kingdom of God through his servants in North India. God is at work and we request you to keep God's work in prayer and support the work with your finances. We welcome you to sponsor a pastor and his family, by providing ministry tools for them, supporting a social project in a village or helping in village church building projects. Please check our website for more details or contact us through email.



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