



MUMBAI BUGLE



NEWSLETTER OF SHALOM MUMBAI MISSION

(For Private Circulation only)



SHALOM BHAVAN - TITWALA

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READ MORE

It has been over a year since we submitted the application for approval for the Phase 2 project. The preliminary inspection, which is a crucial part of the approval process, was completed last year. Upon inquiry, the office has informed us that the documents have been transferred from the Town Planning office to the Collector's office for further verification and approval. We humbly request your earnest prayers.

OUR DREAM

1. To have our own Rehabilitation center with following facilities

- To host 35 inhabitants
- Quarters for Directors
- Employees Quarters

2. Vocational Training Centre

- Tailoring
- Embroidery
- Fabric Painting
- Cloth Dyeing
- Handmade Jewellery Making
- Bag Making
- Small Scale Industrial Training

3. Counselling Centre

- Counselling Classes
- Therapeutic Support
- Chapel

4. Palliative Care Centre

- Doctors on call 24 x 7
- Doctor's Spot Clinic
- Medical Camp
- Ambulance Service

For more information

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From the Editor's Desk

Dear Shalom Mission Friends,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

It is with great excitement and a profound sense of responsibility that I take the helm as the editor of Mumbai Bugle. As I step into this role, I am acutely aware of the legacy that this publication carries and the impact it has on our community. Shalom Mission has long been a beacon of hope, a platform for meaningful dialogue, and a source of inspiration for individuals seeking to make a positive difference in the world.

In a world that often seems divided by differences and strife, Shalom Mission will remain steadfast in its dedication to promoting unity. Our stories will focus on what brings us together, rather than what tears us apart. Through the power of storytelling, we can shed light on the shared human experiences that transcend cultural, social, and ideological boundaries. By highlighting the threads that connect us, we hope to inspire a sense of empathy that is essential for building bridges and nurturing a more harmonious world.

Compassion will be at the heart of everything we do. Each article, interview, and feature will center on the stories of individuals who have dedicated their lives to making a positive impact. Whether it's shining a light on grassroots initiatives, showcasing the tireless work of volunteers, or exploring innovative solutions to pressing global challenges, Shalom Mission will amplify the voices of those who are actively striving to create a better future. By doing so, we aim to ignite a spirit of kindness and generosity that ripples outward and sparks positive change.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to the readers, contributors, and supporters who have made Shalom Mission a cornerstone of positivity and progress. I am honored to be part of this journey and excited to embark on this new adventure with you all. Together, we will continue to spread the light of unity and compassion, illuminating the path towards a brighter, more harmonious world.

With warm regards,

Shalu Achen

Rev. Shalu T. Mathew

Missionary's Letter

Can a woman forget her child? Will she not feel pity for the son she gave birth to? Even if they forget you, I will not forget you. (Isaiah 49:15)

This verse conveys a divine promise that serves as an uplifting message for all of us. It beautifully illustrates the depth of God's love, emphasizing that this love extends not only to us but to everyone. When we apply this message to the context of children who have been abandoned by their parents, we become vessels through which God's love flows. The significance of our mission work lies in our ability to share this love with many children through our ministry.

A considerable number of those who come to us have experienced parental abandonment or lack of acceptance from their parents. Nevertheless, through our actions, we can demonstrate the love and care of a mother or father to them. To accomplish this, we have a dedicated team working tirelessly at Shalom Niwas. One poignant example is a girl who joined us last year after being abandoned by her parents. After just three months, she approached our house mother, Shaila, with a heartfelt request, "Will you accept me as your daughter? Can you be my mother?" To this day, the girl affectionately refers to Shaila as "Amma" (Mother). Remarkably, this experience has resonated with others, and now everyone calls her endearing names like Ma, Ammi, Mummy, or Amma. Through these heartwarming interactions, we firmly believe that God is giving us the opportunity to express His love through our humble gestures.

With the admittance of new Children, Shalom outreach has expanded significantly. Currently, we provide a loving home for 17 girls, and both our houses are at full capacity. However, there is an urgent need for further expansion. We are eagerly awaiting permission to construct a new building at our Tittiwala site, and we kindly request your prayers for this endeavor. Please know that we rely on everyone's prayers and support to ensure the continuity of our mission work. Your contributions make a profound difference in the lives of these children.

With love and prayers

Rev. Abraham G. Satyanathan

Missionary in-charge

Secretary's Letter

“Grace & Peace to all in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ”

In our journey at Shalom Charitable Trust, we are blessed by the presence of God, who understands our needs, listens to our cries, and shares our pain. This year, we successfully reintegrated some of the children from Shalom Niwas with their families and into society. We welcome Rev. Robin Eipe Mathew, Rev. Shalu T. Mathew, and Rev. Soji A. Thomas for their support and encouragement to the cause. We hope that the new vicars, along with the missionary in charge and other presbyters, continue our fundraising efforts for Phase 2.

In Titwala, we have initiated paddy cultivation, alongside our Ragi fields. The NA (Non-Agricultural) application is still pending approval at Collectors office. We kindly request your fervent prayers for the necessary approvals.

Thanking you

In His name

Varghese Philip

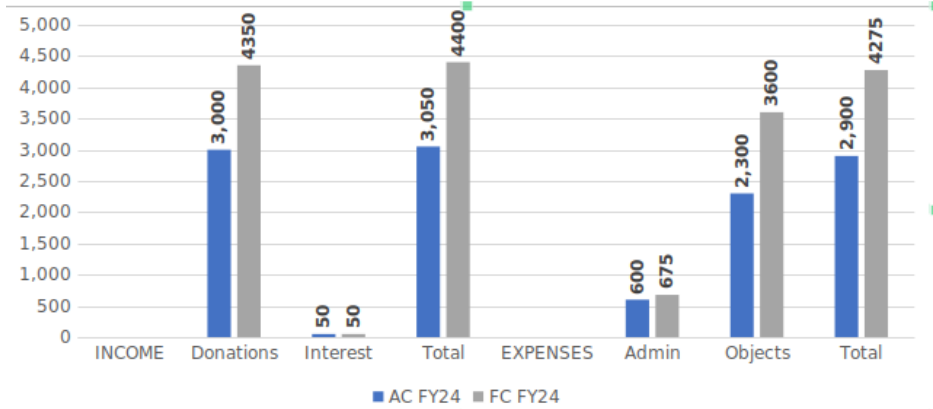
From The Hon. Treasurer

Dear Friends & Well Wishers,

Greetings to each one of you and a big THANK YOU for your steadfast financial support during FY23.

Since phase 2 project is also running concurrently with Shalom Niwas after care home, we kept the number of inmates at Shalom Niwas at a conservative monthly average of 12. However, the quality of life at Shalom Niwas is being discussed with appreciation by inmates of a large number of institutions. Today, Shalom Niwas has infrastructure to accommodate 25 girls. The current occupancy is 17 girls. We expect this number to touch 20 in the coming days and remain till end of FY24. During FY25, we expect to host 25 girls, utilizing the full infrastructure at Shalom Niwas.

At an average occupancy rate of 12 girls, expenses per girl comes to Rs. 15,972 per month. At an average occupancy rate of 20 girls, expenses per girl comes to Rs. 15,000 per month. In view of the increased inmates to be hosted, we are presenting below a Budget Vs. Forecast for FY24.



Expense Heads	Monthly Expenses	Yearly Expenses
Shelter, Food, Cloth, etc	1,00,000	12,00,000
Medical Help	10,000	1,20,000
Academic & Professional Education	65,000	7,80,000
Counselling, social & recreation, Legal, including Aadhar, PAN, Voter ID)	75,000	9,00,000
Reintegration (Marriage / Group Home, etc.)	25,000	3,00,000
Administrative and miscellaneous expenses	25,000	3,00,000
Total	3,00,000	36,00,000

We are committed to move forward and not be pulled back due to lack of adequate finances. We invite you to partner us in this noble cause by providing financial support. While the amount, no matter how big or small, is important, your decision to partner us in this noble venture would be a great morale booster .. Our bank details are provided below.

A/C Name: Shalom Charitable Trust;
A/C No. 465010100004367;
Bank: Axis Bank; Br: Lamington Road
IFSC: UTIB0000465

(Donations to Shalom Charitable Trust qualify for 80G exemption under the Indian Income Tax Act.)

With Regards

Hon. Treasurer

Shalom Charitable Trust

Shalom Niwas, Vangani

We have achieved successful reintegration of five girls who had completed their courses at Shalom Niwas. Among these reintegrated individuals, one has secured employment at J.P. Morgan, another found a job at the Forest Club in Karjat, and two others have been employed at Somerset, Mira Road. Furthermore, we admitted 11 new girls, and currently, there are a total of 17 girls residing at Shalom Niwas.

Rehabilitation Programs

In our ongoing efforts to empower the girls at Shalom Niwas, we've seen remarkable progress. One girl has enrolled in a degree course, three have joined 11th in regular college, three have chosen to pursue graphic designing, two are undertaking nursing assistance courses, and one is enrolled in diploma in Hotel Management. Additionally, one individual has taken admission in DMLT. The girl who joined us in July has been admitted to a General Nursing course. All the girls are excelling in their studies. It's worth noting that two girls currently pursuing a 2-year hotel management diploma course are set to successfully complete their studies this month. They have received assurance of employment in the hotels where they completed their internships. So far, our programs have positively impacted the lives of 53 girls on their journey towards self-sufficiency.

Reintegration into Society

In the past year, nine girls, including one who got married, have been successfully reintegrated into society with our support. She is staying in a rented house near her husband's work place and is working in a food Plaza. Four of them have secured full-time job in an exporting company, enabling them to earn a decent income. They now reside in a Group Home facility located near their workplace. Another girl, has moved to Mumbai with her younger brother is doing her M. Com studies while working part-time. Additionally, one girl has been relocated to another Group Home to pursue further education and job training. In a relatively short span, Shalom Mission has successfully reintegrated over 40 girls into society, a testament to God's grace and our unwavering belief in the Mission.

Rejuvenation Programs

As part of our rejuvenation program, we offer various short-term classes, including computer skills and tailoring, providing valuable opportunities for skill development. We also encourage the girls to accompany our staff on shopping trips to inculcate life skills and a sense of self-sufficiency. We also organize outings to recreational destinations such as Mumbai Zoo & Udyan in Byculla and Shalom Bhavan Land in Titwala, for amusement and relaxation. These outings serve as therapeutic experiences, promoting the physical and psychological well-being of our residents.

Shalom Niwas Staffs

At Shalom Niwas, we are fortunate to have a dedicated and compassionate team of staff members who work tirelessly to provide care, support, and guidance to the girls residing in our shelter. They are committed to creating a safe and nurturing environment where the girls can heal, grow, and rebuild their lives. Here are some key members of our current staff:

Mrs. Jayalakshmi K.(Advisor/Consultant; joined in December, formerly the Superintendent of Asha Sadan CCI)

Mrs. Neeta Bhanudas Fulzele (Social worker ; joined in June)

Mrs. Shaila Lazer (House mother)

Miss. Pranalee (Care taker; joined in August)

Additionally, we would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of our former caretaker family, Mr. Rahul and Mrs. Sheethal, who have left us as they found another placement. We are grateful for their dedicated service during their time with us.

Together, our staff members work to create a nurturing and empowering environment for the girls at Shalom Niwas, assisting them in their journey towards successful reintegration into society.

Dress, Bags, and More

We provide dress materials, educational supplies, and other necessary items to our girls twice a year. Thanks to the generosity of our well-wishers and sponsors, our girls received new dresses, uniforms, bags, books, sandals, umbrellas, watches, and other personal items as they prepared to return to school. Through our social media channels, we raised awareness of these needs, and within two weeks, we received sufficient sponsorship from our caring supporters. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have supported these girls.

Household Items

Our accommodation was originally set up for 12 girls and staff, but with a growing need. We increased our capacity to accommodate up to 20 individuals. We reached out to our well-wishers who came forward to sponsor essential items. As a result, we were able to acquire 10 new mattresses, 5 bunk beds, 3 fans, and 3 cupboards. We extend our sincere thanks to the churches in Mumbai and our dedicated well-wishers for their generous sponsorship of these necessary items.

New Computers

The computers we were using were quite old, frequently crashing, and we had been hoping for new ones. Fortunately, some of our friends from abroad stepped in and sponsored two desktop computers for us. We are genuinely thankful to these generous individuals for their valuable gifts.

Visitors

In February, the **W.F. (Women's Fellowship) of St. Christopher's Church in Kalyan** visited our home and spent a day with the inmates. They organized a special lunch and handed over a cheque as a contribution towards supporting the mission.

In March, a delegation led by the **W.F. of The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Parel** visited our home and spent quality time with the inmates. They also provided a special lunch, sweets, and financial support to our girls.

In April, we had the privilege of visiting Shalom Niwas with the **former C.S.I. Moderator and C.S.I. M.K.D. Bishop emeritus, Rt. Rev. Thomas K. Oommen**, accompanied by **Susan Thomas Kochamma**. This visit was a heartwarming and memorable experience for all the Trust Members, particularly since Rt. Rev. Thomas K. Oommen had inaugurated the Shalom Mumbai Mission. During their

visit, Bishop and Kochamma graciously joined us for a delightful evening, where they interacted with the children and staff. Later, Bishop and Kochamma partook in a meal prepared by the girls and their house mother.

MKD Diocese Officers Visit

In February, Mr. Jacob Philip Kallumala, the Diocese Secretary, and Mr. Philip M. Varghese, the Diocese Registrar, from CSI Madhya Kerala Diocese, paid a visit to Shalom Mission and held a meeting with the trustees of Shalom. They expressed their wholehearted support for the mission and suggested increased collaboration with CSI MKD Women's Fellowship to further assist the mission. It was their first visit to Shalom Niwas Vangani and Shalom Center Titwala, and they were highly impressed by the facilities provided at both locations.

Mission Fest (Kerala Visit)

Our six inmates, accompanied by staff members, had the opportunity to visit Kottayam, Kerala to attend the Mission Fest organized by C.S.I. Madhya Kerala Diocese. The Mission Fest was a special gathering commemorating the 100-year completion of the Parkal Mission and brought together various missions under CSI MKD. During the event, our inmates showcased their talents through dance and songs, captivating the audience. In addition to the festivities, they visited Kumarakom and enjoyed a boat ride on the serene Vembanad Lake, savoring the delicious cuisine of Kerala. This experience proved to be enriching for them as they had the chance to explore different places and interact with people from various parts of India.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Sabu Koshy Cherian & Jessy Sabu Kochamma's special invitation

During the Mission Fest in Kottayam, our Patron and C.S.I. M.K.D. Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Sabu Koshy Cherian and Jessy Sabu Kochamma warmly invited our entire team to the Bishop's House, where they hosted us with refreshments. Bishop and Kochamma took the time to interact with each of our girls, and Jessy Kochamma expressed MKD Women's Fellowships' commitment to play a more active role in Shalom Mission as a partner member, akin to the churches in Mumbai. Our team also extended an invitation to the Women's Fellowship team to visit Shalom Mumbai Mission and its Projects.

Missionary's Church Visits – Kerala

In the months of May and June, our missionary embarked on visits to churches in Kerala, specifically St. Mathias C.S.I. Church in Karikkattoor and St. Paul's

C.S.I. Church in Mooledom. These visits proved to be highly fruitful, as many individuals from both congregations generously provided financial support for Shalom projects. We express our sincere gratitude to Rev. Joseph Thomas (Mooledom), the M.K.D. Mission Secretary, and Rev. John Mathai (Karikkattor) for their kind invitations and warm reception. Our missionary also took the opportunity to visit some of our contributors and supporters, renewing bonds of love and affection.

Thanks to Rev. Aby K. Thomas

Rev. Aby K. Thomas Achen left for Los Angeles in March immediately after receiving his visa. Regrettably, we were unable to organize a farewell meeting for him. Nevertheless, Trust members visited the Sanpada Parsonage to bid him farewell and presented him with a memento as a token of our appreciation. Aby Achan played a pivotal role in urging Jubilee Malayalam Church, Sanpada to become partner of Shalom Trust. Achen consistently encouraged his members to actively participate in the Shalom Mission. He also completed the sponsorship drive for Shalom Phase 2 Project well ahead of his transfer. The Shalom Mumbai Mission extends its heartfelt gratitude to Achen and his family for their unwavering support of our mission.

Farewell to Rev. Sam Raju, Rev. Byju Eapen, and Mrs. Smisha Annie Sam

Over the past four years, our Mission has been greatly blessed by the dedicated service of three pillars of strength: Rev. Sam Raju, Rev. Byju Eapen, and Mrs. Smisha Annie Sam. Rev. Sam Raju Achen and Smisha Kochamma have moved to New Delhi, while Rev. Byju Eapen has transferred to Pullikallu, Kerala.

In appreciation of their unwavering commitment and contributions, a heartfelt farewell gathering was organized at the Missionary Memorial Chapel in Mulund on April 29, 2023. Members of the Shalom Trust Board and Shalom General Body joined in this occasion to express their gratitude. As a token of our deep appreciation, mementos were presented to them as parting gifts from the mission.

Rev. Sam Raju Achen and Rev. Byju Eapen Achen were not only integral members of the Shalom General Body, but they also worked tirelessly to raise funds for the various needs of the girls. They made frequent visits to our mission for various programs and, notably, played a pivotal role in garnering support for our Phase 2 project. They actively engaged their respective churches to raise funds. Shalom Mission extends its heartfelt thanks to them for their invaluable support.

Mrs. Smisha Annie Sam (W/o Rev. Sam Raju), served as the Superintendent of Shalom Niwas. Her regular visits and personal counseling sessions with each of the girls were of immense significance. She provided invaluable assistance in resolving issues and conflicts that arose among the girls and provided guidance to the staff on how to address these challenges. Smisha Kochamma also played a pivotal role in the admission process for the girls, conducting interviews and visiting institutions. We are deeply grateful for her dedication and the pivotal role she played.

As Rev. Sam Raju Achen, Rev. Byju Eapen Achen, and Mrs. Smisha Annie Sam and their family, embark on their new ministries in different locations, we extend our heartfelt wishes for a fruitful and fulfilling journey ahead. Their contributions to Shalom Mission have left an indelible mark, and we will always cherish their time with us.

Welcomes New Achens to Shalom Mumbai Mission

In the month of May, Rev. Robin Eipe Mathew (Borivali), Rev. Shalu T. Mathew (Parel), and Rev. Soji A. Thomas (Sanpada) joined their respective Churches as Vicars. Shalom Mumbai Mission extends a warm welcome to these Achens as they begin their mission work. They will serve as Trust General Body Members during their tenure.

Rev. Robin Achen previously served as Vicar in Parel. He brings with him a wealth of experience in mission work, having served as a missionary in Charkari Mission and Uttaranchal Mission. Before joining Borivali, he served as the Vicar of Chennai CSI Church. Achen and Shine Kochamma are blessed with two children, and we anticipate that Achen's mission experience will greatly benefit us in the days ahead.

Rev. Shalu Achen has also worked as a missionary in the Parkal Mission of CSI MKD. Prior to joining Parel, Achen served as the vicar in Seaford Church, New York, USA. Anila Kochamma also contributed to mission work as a missionary teacher and principal in Parkal School. They are blessed with two children, and we eagerly look forward to more of Achen's mission engagements in the coming years.



**Rev. Robin Eipe Mathew
&Family**



**Rev. Soji A. Thomas
&Family**



**Rev. Shalu T. Mathew
&Family**



**Rev. Johnson John
&Family**

Rev. Soji Achen has completed seven years of ministry in the Odisha Mission before joining Sanpada Church. Achen and Rosy Kochamma are blessed with two daughters. Given Achen's recent experience in another mission field, we anticipate fresh ideas and strategies for our mission endeavors. We extend our wholehearted welcome to all these Achens and their families as they become a part of the Mumbai Shalom Mission.

Rev. Johnson John Achen has completed one year of dedicated service at Vasai Church. His capable leadership within HIC Vasai has been instrumental in advancing the Shalom Mission. Last year, the church, and particularly the Women's Fellowship, made valuable contributions, not only in terms of financial support but also by providing cupboards for Shalom Niwas. We wholeheartedly express our gratitude to Achen and Vasai Church for their unwavering support.

Shalom Tittiwala – Agriculture

Starting this year, our focus has shifted towards cultivating crops that can be stored for extended periods. In pursuit of this goal, we meticulously prepared fields in the low-lying lands of Titwala. Specifically, we established four fields for paddy cultivation and two fields for ragi cultivation. Additionally, Tur Dal is being cultivated in several areas, with the hope that the harvest can also be distributed in Kerala. We are also cultivating banana and vegetable crops, as we have done previously.

To meet our agricultural requirements, we used to purchase saplings and plants from external sources. However, we have now established a small nursery in Tittiwala, which can serve our future needs and also be a source for marketing. In the future, we aim to provide ornamental plants, flowering plants, and tree saplings to our churches in Mumbai. The caretaker, Nithin and his family are responsible for managing all farming activities in Titwala.

Phase 2 Project – Updates

It has been over a year since we submitted the application for approval for the Phase 2 project. The preliminary inspection, which is a crucial part of the approval process, was completed last year. In August, we paid the required fees to obtain clearance from the fire department, as per the notices issued by the Land Commissioner's office. Upon inquiry, the office has informed us that the documents have been transferred from the Town Planning office to the Collector's office for further verification and approval. We humbly request your earnest prayers for the timely receipt of all necessary permissions without any further delays.

Furthermore, the road leading to the proposed site for Shalom Niwas has been successfully completed. We have also completed the fencing at the backside of our land using barbed wire. With our compound now fully fenced, we hope the issue of cattle entering our property from outside can be completely avoided in the future.

Some Real Stories...

Case 1

Risa is a girl who was born and raised on the streets. Her parents lived a nomadic life, moving from place to place until they settled in Mumbai. While living as a family in an underpass beneath a highway in Mumbai, her parents made the decision to sell her for money. Fortunately, some volunteers learned of this dire situation, and they rescued her, bringing her to a shelter home. When she turned 18, we brought her to Shalom Niwas, where she continued her education and pursued a course in fashion designing. After completing her studies, she secured a job in a company specializing in the manufacture and export of leather bags. She has excelled in her job and now earns a competitive salary. We are elated that, with your support, we were able to provide a better life for a girl who once roamed the streets. We give thanks to God that our actions saved yet another individual.

Case 2

Abandoned by her parents on a street at the age of four, Sonam was found crying by a policeman, who placed her in an orphanage. As she grew older, she ran away to the streets once more, where she endured abuse. After a few days, she was found and relocated to another shelter home. By that time, she had been diagnosed with MRTB disease, which is challenging to treat even with medication. It was under these circumstances that Sonam was brought to Shalom Niwas.

Following a year of continuous treatment, her disease initially subsided, but it resurfaced a few months later. As the COVID pandemic waned, she had to travel by train to the institution where she had enrolled for tailoring studies. However, upon her return, both her legs had swollen. Despite the doctors giving up hope, everyone continued to pray for her recovery. We got in touch with a specialist. After six months of treatment, the disease was completely healed.

Today, Sonam is joyous and employed. It's a testament to how, even when all paths seem blocked, God can prepare a way. Our prayers were answered, and we were privileged to be instruments through which care was provided to these girls in need.



Our Proposed plan for New Building in Titwala



School Opening Gifts of Dress, Bag, etc



Internship Completion Certificates

Onam Celebration



Farewell to Rev. Sam Raju, Rev. Byju Eapen, Smisha Kochamma



Road works



Fencing



Nursery



CSI MKD Officials Visit



Rt. Rev. Thomas K. Oommen & Susan Kochamma's Visit



Dress & Bag Distribution



New Computers



Shalom Programs



Titwala Vegetable farming



>>> HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

1. Please pray for the work of Shalom Mission, especially for the inmates of Shalom Niwas and their future paths in life.
2. **Sponsor a day:** Sponsor one day's worth of food for Shalom Niwas inmates at Rs.3500/-.
3. **Education Help:** Provide sponsorship for the education and vocational training of Shalom Niwas inmates – Rs. 60,000 per year or Rs. 5,000 per month (please contact us for more details).
4. **Medical Help:** Provide support for the Health & Medical needs of Shalom Niwas inmates at Rs. 10,000 per month.
5. **Sponsor a girl:** Sponsor a girl's food and nutrition at Rs. 5,000 per month.
6. Sponsor different charity and medical programs conducted by Shalom Mumbai Mission in Mumbai city (any amount).

SHALOM MUMBAI MISSION

a project of Shalom Charitable Trust,
Regd. No. E-12857 Mumbai

UNDER MUMBAI PUBLIC TRUST ACT 1950
REGISTERED U/S 80 G OF INCOME TAX ACT, 1961
URN: AAGTS6439MF20226

>>> BANK DETAILS:-

A/C NAME: SHALOM CHARITABLE TRUST;
A/C NO. 465010100004367;
BANK: AXIS BANK;
BR: LAMINGTON ROAD
IFSC: UTIB0000465

(Donations to Shalom Charitable Trust qualify for 80G exemption under the Indian Income Tax Act.)