

Shoshana

Christmas 2020

Dear friends of Shoshana,

I was not able to visit India since we started Shoshana 20 years ago. For the first ten years I visited India twice a year from Germany and since my move to America I've been visiting once a year. Bindu has been by my side ever since - I can't think of anyone better for this job. Over the years she has become independent and can handle everything quite well in my absence. Additionally, she knows exactly how I think. She is a gift from God to me and to us. I asked Bindu to tell us about the situation from her point of view:

"The sudden lockdown was a frightening, unprecedented situation. I visited some of the women who had started their own business. Their families were deeply affected. Their Husbands / fathers lost their jobs during the pandemic and even now their jobs are endangered. One positive outcome is that many women benefit now from the training in our sewing projects because they learned how to take on the responsibility for supporting their families.



Barathi has two children



Marthamma, her husband is a daily laborer

Our sewing centers stayed open during the entire closure. Because many women are afraid of Covid-19 only a few participated in the courses. But the teachers started sewing more and more masks and distributed them in the churches.

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In the meantime, the situation has normalized again and both the sewing and medical centers are working as they used to. Thanks to all donors of Shoshana who have remained loyal even during this pandemic. We were able to help so many people! Special thanks also to the organization "Help - we help" from Germany for their timely support with the necessary items for hygienic care. "

Our Medical centers have been open the entire time. Many healthcare centers closed their clinics due to fear of Covid-19 but we continued to care for those in need with the necessary medication. We continuously provided emotional support for our nurses to be strong and to take care of the needy in such a dire time."



A special year will soon be behind us. Christmas is almost here. Despite everything that happened we thank God for His special help and protection during this time. May the light of Jesus Birth illuminate your hearts and houses and fill them with joy and peace. He is our Confidence and Strength; we trust in HIM.

Guide me, oh Lord, and guide my path according to your word. Be my protector and my refuge, today and every day.

(Führe mich, oh Herr und leite meinen Gang nach deinem Wort. Sei und bleibe du auch heute, mein Beschützer und mein Hort.)

I've been singing this old German hymn lately which I once had to learn by heart.

I wish all of you the protection and blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ for the year 2021.

With very warm thanks from all Shoshana members, from Bindu and all of our Indian employees.

Yours,

Martha B. Foerch (Embi)
CEO Shoshana