

Experiencing Rajasthan at Chokkidaani



The Annual picnic of St. Catherine of Siena School and orphanage was held on 27th April 2012 at Chokkidaani, Bhiwandi. Chokkidaani is a fun-filled, culturally interactive place which showcases the Rajasthani culture with street magic, rope walks, folk dances and music, puppet shows, pottery, camel rides, horse and bullock carts, games and rides in the background of a fortified typical Rajasthani village. The entire backgrounds are painted elaborately with Rajasthani drawings and decorated with statues, farm equipments, bullock carts, traditional lanterns etc., to give the children an excellent feeling about the Rajasthani culture and life. All children, accompanying staff and volunteers are welcomed with Music and Horse dance (Kacha Ghodi). A welcome drink was provided as well as the break fast consisting Upma, bhel, vada etc., on arrival.



The group is divided into three and taken to see the traditional dance forms, magic, rope walk, puppet show, pottery work etc., The shops were opened to show case jewellery, clothes, foot-wears. Once the visits to these traditional art forms are over, the children are introduced to the different types of rides. Each one had the option to take two complementary rides from a choice of rides. There were camel, horse-carts, bullock carts, giant wheels, wooden swing and a toy train ride.



The lunch is served in Rajasthani ethnic style. The lunch is served in special silver plates (paper) and it was plenty. All had a very nice, interesting, delicious food. The entire serving area was designed in Rajasthani style. After the lunch the children

had a very good time playing games or spending time on swings. The ice-golas are served to the children and Nimboo sherbet was available through out to beat the heat.



There were 235 members in the picnic including 200 students and staff & volunteers. The Annual Picnic this year was supported by M/s. Siemens Limited and a generous donor Mr. Yogesh Shah. All children and staff members are grateful this great and generous gesture from M/s. Siemens Limited and Mr. Yogesh Shah.