

Founded in 1980

by
Brian et Jo
Millar

~
Décembre 2008



...a brighter tomorrow for disabled children
 ...support to become self-supporting and autonomous.
 ...informing the Indian public about disability rights.

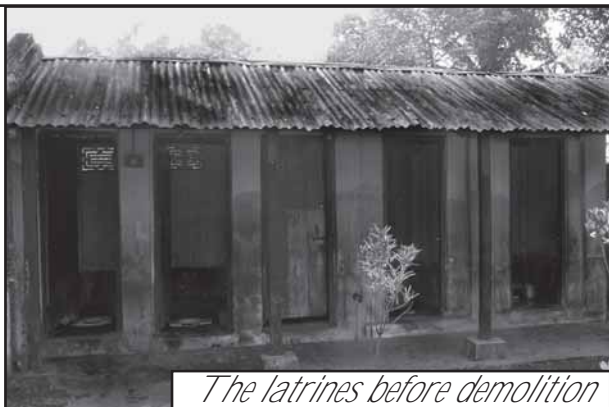
2008 : HAIL TO THE LATRINE !

The United Nations declared 2008 «International Year of Sanitation» but MIBLOU did not wait to finance the building of latrines and the installation of water-pumps in India.

Talking «latrines» may raise a smile. Its not a very catchy subject, but today there are 2,5 billion people in the world without a toilet of any kind.

No one will argue this lack of basic sanitary facilities creates serious health and hygiene problems; worse, the land is contaminated; rivers and underground water tables polluted.

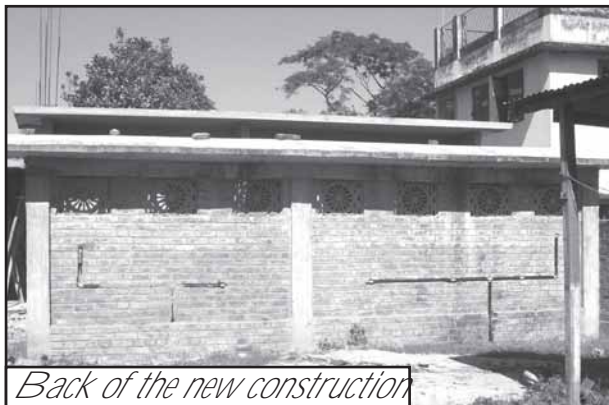
MOGRADANGHI



The latrines before demolition

A few km. from Bangladesh, in North Bengal, there is a school where, out of 530 children, a large number are disabled.

Their five latrines, ridiculously insufficient in number, were so dilapidated that it was decided to demolish them. MIBLOU financed the construction of 15 new toilets fully accessible for disabled children. At once, these pupils have become «friends of the earth»!



Back of the new construction

CHAMRAJNAGAR

On the border of Tamil Nadu, South of Bangalore, there's an arid and extremely poor rural region. In order to improve the conditions of hygiene in ten villages, MIBLOU collaborated with a local NGO and is helping finance accessible latrines for seventy families.



Leaflet handed out by the government

Only families with one or more disabled members can benefit. The Indian government allocates a very small sum towards the latrine construction.

Without MIBLOU's financial contribution, they couldn't purchase all the basic material, essential for the construction of accessible to all toilet. Each villager constructs his or her own toilet.



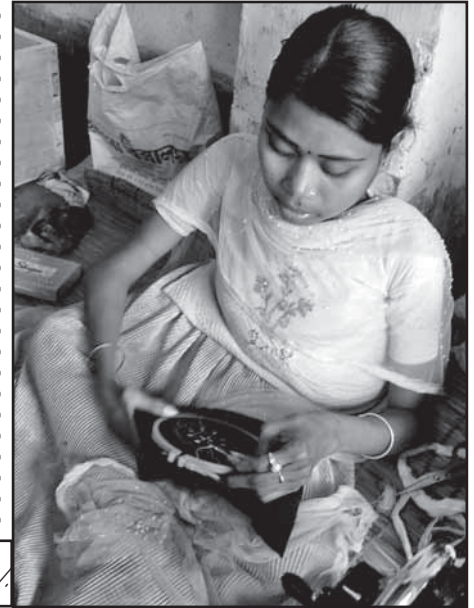
Happy beneficiaries

**Help Miblou campaign for better hygiene by building toilets.
 HELP MIBLOU GIVE SANITATION TO A FAMILY.**

MIBLOU AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING



With a sponsorship you can offer a training to a disabled person!



From orthopaedics to embroidery

As you know, MIBLOU, over the years has allowed a large number of young disabled people, from lower-income families, to acquire social and financial independence by means of professional training. Such as orthopaedic technician, physiotherapist, machine designer, welder, fitter, carpenter, tailor or office manager etc. The basic intention is to enable them later to provide financial assistance to their family and themselves.

At the end of their training, all are followed for two years, until they obtain professional stability. This year, forty young people benefited from training thanks to MIBLOU's assistance.



Mechanics and carpentry



Electronics and tailoring

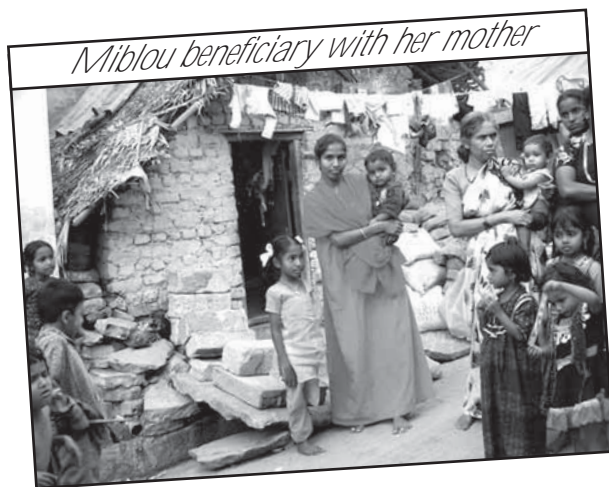


MIBLOU, DISABLED CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES

In 1998, MIBLOU had a major goal: to keep disabled children within their family to avoid them being abandoned ...

What a change we've seen in the community over the past ten years! They learned how to integrate these "special" children, helped them instead of ignoring or worse, abusing them.

Today we can proudly say we've almost reached our goal. The principle of integration is acquired in many regions of India. Therefore, our partner organisations share their knowledge by giving courses and training to other NGO's (Non Governmental Organizations).



The children, sponsored by MIBLOU, get medical care, are operated and get mobility aids. According to their capabilities, they are integrated in schools or receive an education at home. It is of primary importance that their family is also supported. Mothers form self-help groups. Saving programmes are set up. Mothers regularly put money aside then an amount, in the form of loan, can be allocated in turn to a member.

It's thanks to this saving system that young disabled adults, can, after vocational training, either open a small shop, or buy tools or a sewing machine, and through this become financially independent.



**Make a
disabled child
smile by
sponsoring him**



These programmes supported by MIBLOU, slowly but surely improve families quality of life, by gradually helping them to become independent.

This independence is possible due to their capacity to organise their life and find activities that will bring in sufficient income. So 50 children among the 150 families that MIBLOU has supported for four years, have attained a better quality of life. **Consequently, 50 new disabled children have been registered in the sponsorship program.**



REBA TAKES HER FUTURE IN HAND

In 2005, Reba took part for the first time in the meeting of the self-help group in her Kolkata slum. She's 21 and living in a small hut with her parents and her elder brother.

Her father and brother were daily workers who earn a few rupees per day. Reba suffered from post-polio syndrome since childhood. A orthopaedic appliance that her parents obtained when she was younger, lays unused because Reba grew up.

Reba had dreams of returning to school, since she dropped out as there was no income to finance her transport and exams. She remained at home and assisted her mother in whatever way she could. Frustrations and anger made her aggressive because she couldn't see how her future would ever improve.

The local NGO, who collaborates, with MIBLOU, provided the address that enabled her to receive a new appliance, and gave addresses of some study centres where she could enrol. Her physical and moral health improved, but unfortunately, she was still not attending school due to her disability.

Then Reba and her parents suffered a great setback: her brother married and decided to live separately. There was now

only one wage coming in to the home.

Finally, things improved: Reba was accepted in another school. As she did not need to attend class every day, she had spare time, so she started taking a vocational tailoring training. She successfully completed it, then MIBLOU offered her an old sewing machine so she could work at home.

She passed her 10th standard examination and ambitiously decides to continue her studies. Buying books was a problem. She asked the self-help group of which she is member, for a small loan and got it. Through our programme, MIBLOU offered her the sum she still needed.

Not wishing to beg for money and with the support of her parents, she started a small fast food shop on a footpath.

At dawn, before school, with her parents help, she sells "Indian breakfasts".

To her great joy, her elder brother then returned home with his wife and son. She also helped her brother to start another fast food stall beside hers with different food items. They also managed to add to their hut, another room for her brother and his family.

Reba has a dream of becoming a special teacher, is confident and has a positive feeling about life. She was also elected treasurer of the self-help group in her slum.

At each meeting, she does not have enough words to express her gratitude and thanks to MIBLOU and the local NGO who supported her all along the way.



WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN DO...

- * Cover the cost of an appliance
 - * Buy a wheelchair
 - * Sponsor a disabled child one year (education and medical)
 - * Sponsor the vocational training for a young disabled adult
 - * **Construction of a latrine**
- ...and give support in so many other ways...

MIBLOU...28 YEARS OF HISTORY

At the start of it, a young anglo-swiss couple: Brian & Jo Millar. Unlimited love and respect for children everywhere.

They had four «home made» children. Marika, Michel, Martin and Melany.

Then decided to adopt 6 more. All orphans, all from India. Mina. Bablou, Mouni, Mitsi, Joseph and Savita. Now there have 9 grand children too!

Immediately on return of their first trip to India Jo & Brian decided they must try to help its children. MIBLOU was born out of the name of their first adopted **M**ina and **B**a**B**LOU.

First 50 then 500 and now for 28 years tens of thousands of children have been looked after, nourished, had medical care, orthotics, physiotherapie, education and vocational training.

These children are destitute, untouchables, from rural or slum areas living with their downtrodden families.

In 1994, when Brian & Jo retired, their eldest daughter Marika became Executive Director

supervising a small committee of voluntary workers.

MIBLOU is a Non Governmental Organisation and assists many local organisations all over India with expertise and financial support. All fighting for the respect of the physical and mentally disabled children, to avoid parents abandoning their offspring. Worse, a child dying due to lack of assistance.

Each partner organisation uses locally employed Indian directors and personal, and is constantly in touch with MIBLOU Geneva, thanks to today's communication systems. MIBLOU is an officially recognised charity in Switzerland and India.

CONTACT US

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