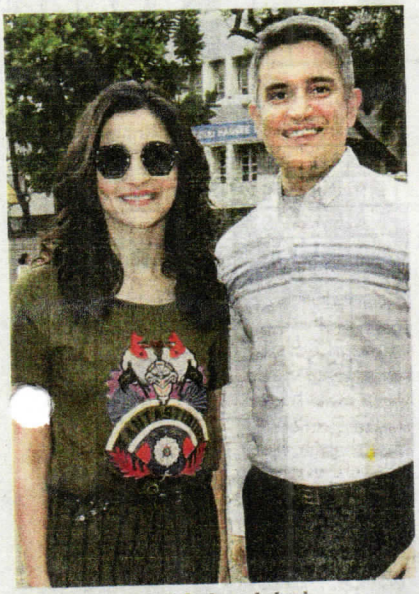
BOMBAY TIMES, THE TIMES OF INDIA

THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER 2017

When Alia Bhatt went back to school



Alia Bhatt and Sujay Jairaj

Jamnabai Narsee alumnus Alia Bhatt attended the 16th Annual Sports Meet for differently abled children, which was hosted by Jairaj Thacker of the Narsee Monjee Educational Trust. Over 1,150 differently abled students from 43 special schools participated in the Special Sports Meet in order to celebrate the spirit of inclusion.



Jairaj and Urvashi Thacker

The brainchild behind this event, Trustee Urvashi Thacker said, "This event symbolises the celebration of life. The maiden venture began in 2002. When I used to see our school students participate in the sports event every year, I always felt that we should also provide a similar platform for special kids as well."

All students participating in the Special Sports Meet are differently challenged — the visually and hearing impaired, the physically and intellectually challenged. They were assisted in their sports activities by Jamnabai Narsee School students, who volunteer and participate wholeheartedly to make this event enjoyable for them.

This event began with a march-past of contingents from all participating schools followed by a Mallakhambh performance by the students of the Victoria Memorial School for The Blind. The Athlete's Oath was taken by the winners of the previous year's sports event. The Torch Run was followed by varied athletic as well as festive races depending on the capabilities of the students. Each participant was given a gift and certificate while winners were awarded medals and certificates and overall winners received trophies.



ALIA BHATT REVISITS HER SCHOOL DAYS

Alia Bhatt takes the salute at the Special Sports Meet at Jamnabai Narsee School. Sujay Jairaj, Trustee, says, "We believe in celebrating what we have accomplished, but raise the bar a little higher every time we succeed." For more, turn to Page 3

Times of India

SPECIAL CHILDREN EXCEL AT SPORTS MEET

Teachers, parents and participants travelled the expanse of the city to participate in the 15th Sports Meet for Special Children sponsored by the Narsee Monjee Educational Trust. The mega event saw participation from over 1,200 students from 40 schools. The brainchild of Trustee Urvashi Thacker, this event symbolises the 'celebration of life' and was first organised in 2002.

Urvashi strongly believes in the quote, 'Your life is your message to the world. Make sure it's inspiring.' She is the inspiring force behind this motivational experience that the Narsee Monjee Educational Trust provides for differently abled children. It is her compassionate nature that pulls such a large gathering at the event year after year. "We believe in celebrating what we have accomplished, but raise the bar a little higher every time we succeed," she says.

The Chief Guest for the event was Johnny Lever. Manish Paul and Sharman Joshi were the guests of honour. The school was delighted and proud of the cheerful disposition with which the three interacted with everyone. Lever, in his address, appreciated the enthusiasm of all the participants and praised them for marching like true soldiers.

The event was a success thanks to the untiring support of the teachers, who brought their students to participate in this sports meet. Their passionate service, patient encouragement and nurturing nature helps participants celebrate life every day.



(L-R) Jairaj Thacker (Managing Trustee), Sharman Joshi, Urvashi Thacker, Johnny Lever, Manish Paul and Sujay Jairaj (Chairperson)





Balloon releasing ceremony (Right) Manish Paul and Johny Lever with the participants

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An engaging sports meet

Pics: Prashant Jadhav



Urvashi Thacker and Aishwarya Rai Bachchan

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan visited the 17th Annual Sports Meet for differently abled children hosted by the Narsee Monjee Educational Trust. The sports meet took place on the new, state-of-the-art Jamnabai Narsee Playground. Aishwarya took salute and declared the sports meet open in which 1,250 differently abled students from 49 special schools participated in order to celebrate the spirit of inclusion. The brainchild of trustee Urvashi Thacker, this event symbolises the celebration of life. The maiden venture began in 2002. "Seeing our school kids play at the sports event every year, I realised that we could provide a similar platform for special kids," said Urvashi.

Added Jairaj Thacker (Managing Trustee), "It is our good fortune to be able to offer this kind of a platform to the student community of the special institutions."

Sujay Jairaj (Trustee) emphasised, "Sporting activities help push boundaries and are vital to a sense of development and well-being."

All students participating in the special sports meet are differently challenged — the visually impaired, the hearing impaired, the physically challenged and the intellectually challenged. They were assisted in their sports activities on this day by Jamnabai Narsee students, who volunteered wholeheartedly and made this event enjoyable for them.

The event began with a march past of contingents from all participating schools followed by the Mallakhambh performance by the students of the Victoria Memorial School for the Blind. The Athletes' Oath was taken by the winners of the previous year's sports event. The torch run was followed by varied athletic as well as festive races, depending on the capabilities of the students.

This event is always a success owing to the untiring support of the teachers who accompany their students to enable them to participate in the sports meet. Their patient encouragement and nurturing nature is the guiding force, which helps participants celebrate life everyday. Besides providing transportation to the children to and fro, each participant was presented a gift and certificate while winners were awarded medals and certificates. Overall winners were presented trophies.



Jairaj Thacker with students

Vreeda
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