

NU-MB-24  
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### Children's Day Celebration

**Maria Bhavan, Bengaluru:** "Children are the most beautiful gifts and blessings that the creator has given to man and woman. Children are never a mistake" says Pope Francis.

India began celebrating Children's Day since 1959. Children's Day is celebrated across India on November 14th the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru. He was popular among children and fondly called by children as Chacha Nehru. He said that "Children are buds in a garden and should be carefully and lovingly nurtured as they are the future of the nations and the citizens of tomorrow".

We the Maria Bhavan community celebrate children's day every year in our campus. And this year we celebrated on the 17th of November 2019 according to the children's convenient time and availability. These children are mainly from the orphanages run by the religious and also by the laypeople. This year the total number of the children was 106 and we were immensely happy to organize the program for them. We began

our program with the prayer and with the Inaugural address by me. After that, the organizers formed different groups and then they conducted group games till noon.

After Lunch, the children who came from different orphanages put up the cultural program in our Auditorium. We began our program with the lighting of the lamp by the special invitees and children. The cultural program was excellent and outstanding we all enjoyed their program. The purpose of this cultural program was to give chances to exhibit their talents, to empower and to encourage them moreover to love them. After that, the program was concluded with the prize distribution by Fr. Provincial J Joseph smm and by the special invitees.

For the success of this program many were instrumental starting from Fr. Provincial, Montfort Lay Associates, Montfort Fathers from different communities, and the volunteers, we are grateful to them.

In a very special way, I would like to thank all the sponsors who financially helped for the successes of this event. We thank them wholeheartedly for the great help that you have rendered to us. I also thank Maria Bhavan community for their hard work, dedication and commitment particularly brothers who were in charge of this children's day program. I would like to conclude with the words of Pope Francis "Every child has the face of the Lord, lover of life, a gift for families and society." Let us love the children and pray for them.

Fr Selva Kumar Smm