

The Link of Baduraliya

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SITE INTERNET : <http://amc0.webnode.fr>

TRIP TO SRI LANKA

sunday, March 5th

Today is the day trip with the girls. As each time a group from the MCA (Martial Caillaud Association) goes to Sri Lanka, it goes to the orphanage and takes the girls for a one or two day trip in the country. Our little girls are not used to travel and generally they never go far from Baduraliya .Last year, on the World Children's day they went to the seaside, next to Kalutara.

The first time, the MCA had taken them to a zoo next to Colombo.

In 2011, on the first trip for the « Sponsors », the association had taken them to Kandy. Visit of the elephant's orphanage, lunch on the riverside where they take a bath and play. The dinner and the night at the hotel are always a moment of happiness for the girls.



In 2013, with the help of the Montaigu Lions Club, we were able to take them to Yala, a reserve situated on the south of Sri Lanka. Bus trip with visit of Galle, lunch in a restaurant on the way, hotel and visit of the reserve in a jeep. Only 4 of the girls are still at the orphanage. They remember it very well.

Today, Sunday March 5th, we arrive at the orphanage at about 10 a.m. They are eagerly waiting for us outside. Even if it is unusual in Sri Lanka they give us a kiss, saying « bonjour » in French. They give us some dolls that some of them have made for their sponsors.



We get on the bus with them. One girl takes the microphone, she will sing all along the trip. The girls represent the French flag with balloons.



THE MASKS FACTORY

Our first visit takes place in Ambalangoda, on the south of Kalutara. This town is well known for the shops and sanniy masks factories. We visit the Ariyalpa Mask Museum with its great collection. Very bright, nevertheless sometimes frightening with huge eyes, disheveled hair, twisted mouths... they represent sanniyas or devils causing illness. They are used for ritual dances... they are more than 2500 years old.



First we visit the workshop. The masks are cut from a very light wood: kaduru. A sculptor makes the mask entirely: cutting with scissors, smoothing with leaves from a breadfruit tree, painting with natural colours...



At the museum the girls don't look frightened at all! They go from one room to another, want to have their photo taken, on their own or with their friends.



We end our visit in the shop where everything is tempting. We buy each girl a magnet with a painted elephant. They will be able to put it on their cupboard.



THE TURTLE FARM

Then we go to the turtle farm: « Kosgoda turtle hatchery ». It is situated next to the village where the Martial Caillaud Association built 35 houses after the tsunami which destroyed, among other places, the south and the east of Sri Lanka on 26th December 2004.

This visit is interesting for our goddaughters as they have just worked on the subject in class. They listen very carefully to the explanations given by the owner of the place: Abrew Chandasir.



1000 eggs have been picked the night before. Each egg is paid 2 rupees. They are kept away from the predators. When they hatch, 7 or 8 weeks later, the small turtles are put in a tank for the first four days of their life. They will then be put into the sea, of course far away



from their predators.

A way to protect nature.

Only one turtle in one thousand will survive at the end.



ON THE BEACH



The bus takes us to the restaurant, at the seaside.



Then we go to the beach where the girls make sandcastles, swim in the waves...



Night falling, it is time to say goodbye, the girls going back to Baduraliya, and us, carrying on with our visit to the north of Sri Lanka.

