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**PANDITA RAMABAI MUKTI MISSION  
AND  
SHARADA SADAN SCHOOL  
(1889-1964)**

**DIAMOND JUBILEE  
CELEBRATION.**

**MARCH 9 TO 12, 1964**

**PRAYER BELL**

APRIL / JUNE 1964



**PANDITA RAMABAI MUKTI MISSION**

**KEDGAON (DIST. POONA)**



Former Mukti Girls Come Home



Preparing The Garden For The Diamond Jubilee

# How We Celebrated The Diamond Jubilee

## PREPARATION

*Our Superintendent Miss Fletcher gives a peep behind the scenes—*

There is busyness everywhere. Workmen are hammering up notices. Mr. McMillen and his workers are erecting a big bamboo matting tent to act as an eating hall. Mr. Wescombe is busy working on the generator which has broken down just before the Jubilee. We must have lighting for this special occasion! Kamalbai is busy in the printing press getting out materials for use in the meetings. Miss Williams is travelling to Poona day after day to see that the Jubilee Prayer Bell and booklet will be here on time. Miss Callan, Miss Harrell, Miss Werghis and Mr. Zawlekar are getting ready to meet the many trains that will come in during the day and night with visitors for the Jubilee. Mrs. McMillen, Miss Bollman and Mr. Joshi are preparing to register the guests who will arrive. Vimalbai and the teachers are training the children to portray "Sharada Sadan through the years" with scenes covering the progress of the school. Miss Gray and Miss Adhav are setting up basketry and other articles for the sale of handwork done by our Mukti girls. Miss Johnstone and Miss Johnstone are planning to care for the needs of the children during the services so that the older ones may attend the meetings undisturbed. Miss Rutledge is dealing with the correspondence. Mr. Kulkarni, Rev. Choudhari and Miss Anda are attending to the catering for the national guests. Miss Siemens is seeing to their seating arrangements, and working with Miss Nicholson on the preparation of guest rooms. Miss Rohrer and Miss McFarland with their helpers are spending hours preparing to care for the sixty people who will sit down to meals in our dining room and outside on the verandah. Miss Harishchandra is helping to welcome the many former Mukti girls who have already begun to return, well before the commencement of the meetings. Rev. G. L. Carner, our Chairman, is spending hours practising the Kirtan, (singing interspersed with story) on Pandita Ramabai's life.

This is the picture of Mukti just prior to the Diamond Jubilee. Even the children were busy in the garden. There was no one idle. The co-ordination and co-operation was wonderful. Everyone was available to help the other, because the Spirit of the Lord was amongst us strengthening for the work. There was real joy in service. One could feel it in the air.

As the various guests began to arrive there was a spirit of expectation. Nor were we to be disappointed as the word of God was unfolded by the guest speaker, Rev. Subodh Sahu, and at one of the services, by Rev. F. W. Schelander. As we met together around the Lord's table in the dawn hours on the closing morning of the Jubilee, it was with hearts full of praise to the Lord for all that He had wrought.

To those of you who prayed in distant lands we owe a deep debt of gratitude. Word came from friends in many countries to say they were praying for us that a true work of the Holy Spirit might be accomplished. This we believe was done, and we look to the Spirit of God to continue to work on in our midst in the days to come.

## PARTICIPATION

*Miss Steed, a former missionary to India and Secretary of the American Council at present visiting Mukti, gives her impressions of the meetings—*

As the Mukti family and a large company of friends totalling altogether about 1500 people, gathered in the big Mukti Church for the Jubilee Celebration, there was a quiet reverence and a consciousness that the Lord was in the midst. This was due to the chain of prayer around the world during the preceding days. This culminated in twenty-four hours of continuous prayer in the Mukti church, when it was difficult for all to pray, as there were no gaps between the audible prayers. Thus hearts were prepared by the Spirit to receive God's Word as given by His chosen servants.

Rev Subodh Sahu of Calcutta brought inspiration and challenge to a life of faith, centering his messages around Hebrews 10:38 "The just shall live by faith." The kirtan led by Rev. G. L. Carner, in vivid manner portrayed the life of Ramabai, India's outstanding Christian saint, ranking with George Mueller and Hudson Taylor in her life of faith. The history of Sharada Sadan School as portrayed by students past and present, showed the daring faith of the founder as she pioneered in realms hitherto untrod by women of India. Rev. F. W. Schelander in his message, showed the endurance of faith as exemplified by Ramabai's trust in God for ever greater needs for her greatly enlarged work. She who had in early life owned only one sari, trusted God for the needs of a family of 1900. Her work stands today, while a nearby Hindu place of pilgrimage founded during the days of Ramabai, and visited annually for a period of time by thousands, is now practically deserted. What a contrast!

Rev. Sahu challenged us to patience in faith as we watch for our Lord's return - "For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come and will not tarry" (Heb. 10:37). Those present who had never entered the life of faith found the way made very clear, especially in the evening services.

Counsellors were ready to help any who cared to remain after the services for help. More than fifty women and young people were counselled either individually or in small groups. One woman from a distant town said she had long been leader of a Christian women's organisation, but had never been saved. During the message on the suffering of Christ, she saw her own sins as piercing the Lord on the cross, and repented with tears. Two others in the same group had a similar experience. The woman first mentioned determined to return to her people to make known the living Christ. There were a number who professed salvation, and many who asked for help in overcoming some besetting sin in their lives.

Through conversation with many in Mukti since the Jubilee, we are assured that a goodly number have accepted the challenge of living a life of faith through Christ.



Visitors Dispersing At The Close Of A Service



Queuing Up For  
Meals At The  
Jubilee

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

*A former Mukti girl, Muktabai Sawakar, tells of blessings received during the Diamond Jubilee—*

“ I was very happy when I received an invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee, as I knew I would be spiritually blessed through the meetings.



*Muktabai Sawakar*

Through listening to the messages on the life of faith I learned many new things and received much encouragement. Life outside of Mukti is not easy, and there are many opportunities for discouragement. But I was reminded that whatever may happen I must remain steadfast in my faith. 1 Thess. 3:4, 5 and 7, Psalm 34:5 and 2 Cor. 4:6, brought especial blessing to my heart. Through these verses I received a challenge to remain true to the Lord, and to pure and holy living. There were many other verses through which I was helped, which I wrote down, and know they will be a blessing to me in the days to come.”

*Suprabha Kamble, a Mukti girl at present doing nursing training in Poona, wrote of the joys of coming home for the Jubilee—*

“ I do praise the Lord for this wonderful opportunity of coming back for the special meetings. I am happy to be able to tell you that truly the Lord blessed me so much, and I have realised just how precious is the opportunity to serve Him. Please pray for me that I may serve Him with all my heart and soul. Pray that as I attend to the sick in this hospital who do not know Christ, they will be drawn to Him as they see Him in me.”

And so it is with grateful hearts we return our thanks to the Lord for all of the blessings of the Diamond Jubilee, and look to Him that all who were blessed will go on to be as lights in the dark places where He has put them to shine.

“ To God be the glory  
Great things He hath done.”

## “ THE WILL OF GOD, NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS, NOTHING ELSE

By Jean Mitchell

As a little girl I was brought up on a farm, where I lived until the age of nineteen. At that age I went to work on the domestic staff in a hospital in Perth, Western Australia. During my time there I was converted through the ministry of a Christian girl with whom I worked, a Christmas film, and an evangelist. I was wonderfully happy, and right from that time I have had a deep conscious knowledge of the wonderful love of God, a love that becomes sweeter as the days go by.



*Miss Jean Mitchell*

children, I went to the Adelaide Bible Institute as cook-housekeeper, which position I held for two years.

It was the Lord who guided me to Adelaide, for on my way there I met Miss Jones and heard for the first time of Mukti. As I grew in the grace and knowledge of the Lord my interest grew in missionary work, and my heart longed to express its love for the Lord who loved me, in missionary service.

In order to prepare for this I entered Perth Bible Institute, and after two years graduated with their diploma. It was during the last term before graduating that I was greatly challenged concerning Mukti through reading the life story of Pandita Ramabai. After graduating I returned to Bible School as cook, and during this time the call came for service in Mukti. I thereupon made my application at the beginning of our second term in 1963.

There were many trials and testings during the months that followed, But on November 28, 1963, I received word to say that I had been accepted by the Ramabai Mukti Mission. “ This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvellous in our eyes ” ( Ps. 118:23 ).

In myself I am nothing and can do nothing, but I have proved that nothing is too hard for the Lord, the God of all flesh, and I know that “ I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me ” Phil. 4:13.

The Ramabai Mukti Mission is an international undenominational Mission of evangelical faith which depends wholly upon God. Friends are therefore urged to pray earnestly for it, that the Lord may "make all grace abound towards it," that it "having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." It is a member of the Interdenominational Foreign Mission Association.

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