

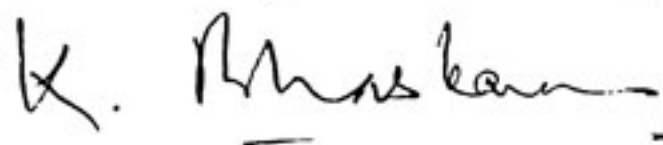
Letter

At the request of the United Nations Organisation 1979 is being observed as the International Year of the Child. Though this request has been accepted with great enthusiasm by all countries, it is a matter of shame that mankind had to wait till this late period in history to recognize the importance of the child in the delicate web of life and to become aware of its rights. The child is the weakest member of human society. Compared to other animals man's offspring comes into the world in a most helpless condition and has to be cared for and protected for a number of years if it is to survive at all. The child does not ask to be brought into this world of sorrow and suffering and as such those responsible for its birth have a tremendous responsibility and moral obligation towards it. It is the greatest of sins to take this responsibility lightly and to leave the child to the chance and change of earthly destiny. Awareness of this cardinal principle, has begun to beat its way, albeit slowly, into the consciousness and even the conscience, of mankind and let us hope that the IYC will be a turning point in the history of the world in respect of this matter.

I congratulate Sri V. Ramakrishnan BABT of the Raja's High School, Chirakkal, on his achievement in producing this beautiful album on the IYC. A glance through it will be real education to anyone who cares for the child, not only one's own but everyone else's, and everywhere in this unhappy world of ours. It will also convince one of the truth of what Mahakavi Kumaran Asan said:-

"Children are, in a way, a panacea for
the pain that is human life."

I wish Sri Ramakrishnan every success in his endeavours which, though a labour of love, are nonetheless, of lasting value.



"Westford"
Cannanore-670 001
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