



The partaking schools

St. Mark's Senior Secondary
Public School, Meera Bagh,
New Delhi, India

&

Millennia Institute, Singapore

MI. WORLD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Dated:

1st - 11th May,

2013



About SMS

The students of SMS are trained to handle curricular and co-curricular activities simultaneously. Care is taken to instill self discipline in their receptive minds. They are being schooled to become responsible leaders with a commitment to society.



The main view of St. Mark's

Under the canopy of the school motto “Loyalty, Truth and Honor”, the students, the staff and the management of St. Mark's endeavor not only to enable students to compete with others for a place in the professional outlets, but also imbue them with social awareness, pride in their rich cultural heritage and a sense of responsibility towards the nation.

SMS Global Program

The SMS Global Program is an initiative by the school to equip our students with a global perspective. The educational experiences offered in this program in the context of real world issues will widen their horizons and enrich their lives which will stand them in good stead. SMS believes in giving learning opportunities beyond geographical boundaries which allow our students to network with their peers overseas and make connections with what they have learnt in the classroom with the real world.

Cultural Exchange Program

Student exchange programs are educational and cultural opportunities for high school and university students to live, study and work abroad. During such exchange programs, students live in host families or on college campuses where they are exposed to the host country's culture and language. Not only the academic and social development of the individual student plays a significant role in exchange programs, but also the foreign policy interest of each country that sends or receives exchange students. Exchange programs present a golden opportunity for students to visit and live in different countries and gain crucial experiences and skills for their later careers. Such programs help in building relationships and strong bonds with students abroad. The cultural differences must not separate us but rather bring us together and bring in us a united strength that benefits the humanity.



Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF), & “ASEF Classroom Network (ASEF Class Net)”



Conceived in 1998, the Asia-Europe Classroom (AEC) is a program under the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), which has a unique structure that connects secondary or high schools in Asia and Europe. Through its activities, the AEC

provides opportunities for collaborative learning and intercultural exchanges. It is a cyber-classroom shared by students and teachers to build stronger bi-regional networks and partnerships in the course of implementing common online projects and participating in face-to-face exchanges.

The Asia-Europe Classroom was conceived at a brainstorming session attended by secondary and high school teachers and educators from Asia and Europe held in Copenhagen, Denmark, in May 1998. Since then, AEC has evolved to encourage more active interactions between secondary and high schools in Asia and Europe.

The MI World
being one of

Conference
them.





Under the leadership of Mr. Tan Chor Pang (Principal), and Mr. Mohd. Azman Bin Mohd. Sidek (Vice Principal, SEL), MI was the fifth pre-university institution to be established in Singapore as a centralized institute which was a result from the merger of Outram Institute and Jurong Institute in 2004. It is the only pre-university institution to offer the Dual Track Program, where students of MI can take the GCE 'A' Level and Diploma together. MI offers students with a wide range of subjects booked under science and arts and also subjects of business streams. It has a huge campus with abundant facilities.



MI. WORLD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE- 2010

The 1st MI. World International Conference 2010 organized by the Millennia Institute invited 13 overseas partner schools for a cultural exchange. Our school was fortunate enough to be a part of it too. A four member student delegation comprising of Vanya Bhatnagar, Danish Girdhar, Anish Sharma and Manvi Mahajan along with our Vice Principal, Ms. Veena Wahi attended it. From 28 April-9 May 2010, the 12 day program involved classroom experience, home stay, an adventure day camp, International Friendship Day celebration, NE Amazing Race etc. Our students performed the Kalbelia dance on the day of the welcome dinner. They had a wonderful time during their stay in Singapore.



MI.WORLD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE- 2013

After the grand success of the first MI conference in 2010, the second MI Conference came up in 2013. A group of 4 students Ria Nagpal, Roshni Khatri, Christina Chand and Karan Dua along with their teacher in charge, Ms. Geeta Rajan attended the 2nd MI World Conference from 1st May to 11th May 2013. It was a platform for knowing the education system and the life of students at MI and also the other participating countries. The conference aimed at bringing together students from all over the world to give them a chance to know about hosts' heritage and country through various fun filled activities and collaborating and working together on one thing. An amazing part of the Conference was the MI Mart set up for the participating countries. It was a platform to showcase the specialties of one's country to people from various parts of the world. The language workshop, NE Amazing Race and adventure camp at Dairy Farm centre were some of the other activities which helped to enhance global friendship. The Conference ended with the grand 10th Anniversary of Millennia Institute as everyone cherished the happy moments and the successes of MI in the past 10 years.



DAY 1: 1st MAY

On this day, we, a group of four students with our teacher, Mrs. Geeta Rajan started our journey to Singapore by boarding the Jet Airways flight. We reached the same day. Our host families were waiting for us at the Changi Airport to take us to their homes.



On arrival at the Changi Airport our hosts warmly welcomed us to Singapore.

DAY 2: 2nd MAY

Knowing life at Millennia Institute

That day in the morning we got ready in our school uniforms and headed to school with our hosts. We entered the conference room where we met our friends from various other countries like Slovenia, Indonesia, Korea, etc. We attended their morning school assembly which was quite interesting. Later, we were briefed about how the school works and their education system.

We then enjoyed the school tour they had organized for us. It was amazing to see their beautiful and huge campus. The amazing art works of the children displayed in the entire school attracted everyone. We got the privilege of attending the classes with our hosts which was altogether a different experience. We also set up our cultural booth that day. Later, we had rehearsals for our performance at the Welcome Dinner. After that we left for home with our host buddies.



At the Millennia Institute with our hosts



A tour around the campus of MI

DAY 3: 3rd MAY

Official welcome to Millennia Institute

We headed to the school and attended the morning assembly. After attending a few classes and our lunch break, we started to get ready for our performance at the Welcome Dinner. This was an official welcome to all the guests from various countries and it helped us all to know their cultures in a much better way. Different countries gave performances showcasing their culture. We did a performance that showcased Lord Krishna's life. It was amazing to represent the exquisite culture of our country at a global platform. After the performance we were at the cultural booth representing our school and our country.



DAY 4: 4th MAY

The MI Mart

This day we headed to the Orchard Street for something that we had never done before. Millennia Institute had organized the MI Mart. We set up our Indian stall where we sold sarees, pickles, masalas, paper bags and so much more. It was really interesting to sell Indian things to people from all around the world and to also see what they had brought for us to buy. It was an amazing mart which offered so many different things which we had never seen before at such an affordable price. Also, there were fun activities and a music concert going on. Later, we got the opportunity to explore Orchard Street with our hosts.



At the stall set up by Korean students



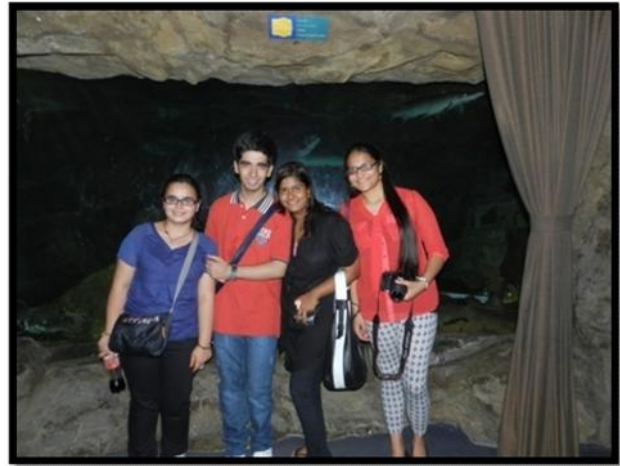
Various stalls set up by different participating countries

DAY 5: 5th MAY

Since it was a holiday in school, we went with our teacher to the sentosa. We saw an amazing dolphin show and also went through a 3 stage 4D experience where we played a game, saw a movie and then went on a ride, all in 4D! We were fortunate enough to see the Underwater World and the beautiful marine life. Then, we also took a ride in the Singapore flyer and the experience was enthralling.



The amazing dolphin show



Underwater World!



The 4-D Experience



Inside the Flyer

DAY 6: 6th MAY



The ongoing language workshop

We went to the school in the morning where a language appreciation workshop was organized for the MI students. The students had signed up for different languages which had to be taught by partner schools from different countries. Our teacher, Geeta ma'am taught Hindi for the first time since she is an English teacher and even we gave our inputs to teach the students some simple and common phrases of Hindi. Then we went to the River Safari which is

a river themed zoo. Though we couldn't take the boat ride because of the rain, we had a good time as we saw two giant pandas along with several other animals and we also saw an animal show.



At the Singapore Zoo

DAY 7: 7th MAY

MI had planned an adventure camp for us on this day. We went to the Dairy farm adventure centre where we did a number of high and low level obstacles which helped us gain confidence. There were a lot of thrilling activities like flying fox, rappelling



etc., which helped us discover our adventurous side.

Preparing for the adventure!

DAY 8 :8th MAY

This was a long day for us. We went to the school in morning and became a part of MI's daily classes. It was a special day since it was MI International Friendship Day. Schools from all countries gave a presentation on their city and school. Then came the fun part. The school had organized NE Amazing Race for us. We were divided into different teams and were given clues and tasks which led us to various destinations in Singapore. It was a good combination of fun and exploration. At last we came to our final destination Lau Pa Sat where we enjoyed food from different cuisines.



Presentation of our school in process



DAY 9: 9th MAY

We had a learning journey on this day. We went to the school in morning in our school attire and we were taken to the Princess Elizabeth Primary School where the little children took us for a tour in their school. We were overjoyed to see the colorful walls and the children learning in a unique way. We came back to MI for lunch and then prepared for The Institute Day. Our host buddies taught us the steps for their dance performance. After that we were taken for the football girls' semi-final match between MI and MJC in Jalan Besar Stadium. We cheered for the MI girls with our full zest and zeal but we couldn't witness the entire match as it started raining and the match was delayed.



Inside the Princess Elizabeth Primary School

Day 10: 10th MAY

The day started with the exchange students visiting the ITE WEST College where we came across the diverse courses that are taught there from Instrumental Music to Hotel Management and many others like Art and Dances. Then, we all had a dance practice session wherein all the exchange students along with our hosts practiced a dance Routine which was a collaborated dance piece that included Indian, Chinese and Malaya dance steps.



Everyone at ITE West

DAY 11: 11th MAY

It was the day when Millennia Institute celebrated its 10th anniversary and the celebration was full of wonderful performances which included Chinese, Malaya, Indian and a Modern Contemporary dance followed by the dance performance by all the exchange students and our hosts. Also Ms. Geeta Rajan expressed her best wishes and told everyone about the relation and the bond that St. Marks and Millennia Institute shares. The same day our hosts took us to the most splendid place in Singapore, The Universal Studios. The place included all the eye catching elements of the Disney World. From Roller Coasters to 4d movie inspired from the movie Shrek and the famous Jurassic Park rides. After having a time of our lifetime at Universal Studios we went for a dinner with Our Indonesian friends and their teacher in charge, Ms. Adila, the dance teacher at Millennia Institute, hosted the dinner for us.



The giant rollercoaster at the Universal Studios



Dinner at Fish n Co. with Ms. Adila

DAY 12: 12th May

BIDDING ADIEU

This was our last day in Singapore. We departed from Singapore early in the morning saying goodbye to all our buddies and teachers of MI. We will never forget the time spent in Singapore as the experience instilled a new found confidence in all of us.



Goodbyes!

IMPRESSIONS

Feedback of host families

My host family was very happy to host me which was evident from what my host buddy Olivia told me during exchange of views regarding the trip. Also, her mom was very happy when I gifted them a statue of Lord Ganesh.

-Host parents of Karan

When Nasyitah told us that she will be hosting a student from India, we didn't really think much of it. In fact, our aim was to be supportive as a family. It was only when we were informed that Ria is a vegetarian that we started to panic. But thankfully Ria doesn't need anything fancy. Sometimes we cooked at home and even took her out for food at times. Ria didn't take long to adapt herself in our home. We learned so much from Ria. We wish Ria could be here longer as there are so many places yet to be visited. It has been a rewarding journey for us and the home will seem a little different when she leaves.



Ria with her host family.

-Host parents of Ria



Roshni has left us with great impact. It was great to have her at our home. We went vegan burger for the very first time when she was here. It was indeed a great dinner and the cable car ride; it was our first ride too. I hope she visits Singapore soon with her family and this time, she will be the "tourist guide" for them. We hope she takes care and keeps her sweet smiling face on, enjoys life and studies hard to achieve her goal.

-Host parents of Roshni

We are happy to have Christina at our home. We hope she will study hard and make a happy and prosperous life ahead. She's a sweet and nice girl and we hope she learnt something good during her stay in Singapore which helped

her understanding a different culture. "Home Sweet Home to India."

-Host parents of Christina

Feedback of students

I was very excited when I came to know that I had been selected to go for the 2nd MI world Conference because I always wanted to go for a student exchange and in my last year of school, I finally got this chance. I had a good time in Singapore since I got to know people not only from Singapore but from various other countries like Germany, Italy, Slovenia and Indonesia. The only thing I was concerned about earlier was food but we got to eat such delicious meals. My host family made me feel quite comfortable and even took me out several times. These 10 days were an experience of a lifetime.

-Ria Nagpal

It was one of the most enriching experiences of my life. Meeting people from all across the globe, knowing about them and their cultures, making new friends, knowing about Singapore, visiting so many new places, learning about how Singapore works has all been really an overall fabulous experience.

-Roshni Khatri

The 2nd MI World Conference was an amazing lifetime experience. My host family took good care of me and the best part was that my host, Farah Dina, was with me each and every time wherever we went. She made sure that my trip was a memorable one. This trip also helped me to know my host better and we became quite close friends. I had the opportunity to make know school life at Millennia Institute. I also made many new friends from different countries and know their lifestyle. And, of course, it was a wonderful experience to know the beautiful country Singapore.

-Christina Sharon

Our families' feedback

We were very happy when we came to know that Ria has been chosen for a student exchange since we knew that it will be a good exposure for her and it was an opportunity to learn about a different culture. We had no doubts about whether to send her or not. This trip has infused a new confidence in her and helped her in several ways. We want to thank the school and her teachers for selecting her and also to her host family for their warmth.

-Ria's parents

We were comforted to listen that Karan's host family is taking care of him so well and we are thankful to the Silalahi family. Half of his trip has been a success because of his host family being so good to him.

-Karan's parents

It was a matter of great honor to send our daughter to attend the MI World Conference and for the exchange program. She had a really great time. This has been a great source of exposure for her. Meeting new people that too from all around the world and seeing new places always evolves one as a person and so is what happened to our daughter. We are very thankful to the school for selecting our daughter. Special thanks to her host family for making her stay so memorable.

-Roshni's parents

In the era of globalization, the entire world seems to be a home, a community where different religion, caste, color or creed adds to the beauty of it. Better means of transport and latest information technology has helped us to remain connected with anyone in the world with ease and comfort.

Christina's visit to Singapore was another step in this direction. Singapore - a developed country has indeed a lot to offer to the world in terms of its hard working people, their modern education system and sincere and dedicating people welcoming you with a smile. Christina learnt a lot about this country. She appreciated that how Singapore country can progress well and compete with other well developed countries and at the same time keep their traditional values intact.

This visit indeed helped her to broaden her horizon and now has a better understanding of their education system. She appreciated that how their youth combines the freedom they have with a more responsible approach towards life.

In a nutshell she has begun to appreciate the global community as one family with the common goal of achieving peace and progress for everyone

-Christina's parents

PRESS RELEASES

Students of St Mark's School go to Singapore

A FOUR member student delegation comprising Head Girl Christina Sharon, School Captain (boys) Karan Dua, School Captain (girls) Roshni Khatri and Editor of school newsletter Ria Nagpal along with Global Coordinator Geeta Rajan participated in the MI World Conference 2013 at Singapore. The Conference, from May 1 to May 11, was organised by Millennia Institute, Singapore. The students of St. Mark's School interacted and worked with students from several other countries — Sweden, Germany, South Korea, Brunei, to name a few. Among other activities that the students participated in, the Millennia Institute Mart was very special as students not only exhibited Indian goods like sarees, spices, pickles, but they also learnt the art of trade.

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, 13 MAY 2013

School Buzz



St Mark's Sr Sec Public School

Students of St Mark's Sr Sec Public School, Meera Bagh participated in a Multiple Intelligence World Conference, organised by Millennia Institute at Singapore. A four-member student delegation accompanied by global coordinator, Geeta Rajan attended the event. This event gave the students an opportunity to interact and work with students from Sweden, Germany, South Korea, Brunei etc. The highlight of the conference was the MI Mart, where the school's students exhibited Indian goods like sarees, spices and pickles.

THE TIMES OF INDIA, 2 JUNE 2013

Views of our principal ma'am



Our Principal Ma'am, Ms. Anjali Aggarwal

At SMS, we prepare every student to connect - and live in harmony - with the world around him. We strive to prepare the students to live in a global society. We believe it is the need of

the hour to produce global citizens. Moreover, St.

Mark's School aims to extend students' awareness of the world in which they live by opening them to the diverse heritage of human thought, action, and creativity. MI World Conference is one such event that teaches our students to live in harmony with all in the world. We are happy that our students attended the First MI World Conference held in 2010. I congratulate Millennia Institute for successfully organizing MI World Conference both in 2010 as well as 2013. I also wish SMS and MI continue to collaborate with the same zeal in the future too.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our sincere gratitude to our school ST. MARK'S SR. SEC. PUBLIC SCHOOL, MEERA BAGH, NEW DELHI, and our teacher, Mrs. Geeta Rajan for their support and guidance. We wish to thank Mr. Tan Chor Pang for giving us this golden opportunity to be part of 2nd MI World Conference.

We also acknowledge the role of "ASEF Classroom Network (ASEF Class Net)" in bringing classrooms closer and teach students the real meaning of education.





Thank You!

Sincere endeavors:

Names (in alphabetical order):

- 1. Christina Sharon**
- 2. Karan Dua**
- 3. Ria Nagpal**
- 4. Roshni Khatri**

Teacher in charge: Ms. Geeta Rajan
