## VISIT TO OLD AGE HOME ANNAI ASHRAM, KK NAGAR, TRICHY

"LIFE" is lived only once by all, but the difference comes in the way it is lived. It is not about the difference in the lifestyles between the rich and the poor, but something that affects everyone equally. This realization hit the students during a recent visit to an old age home, "Annai Ashram" at KK Nagar, Trichy on 20th February, Thursday.

A total of 34 students of II ND A SEC visited the Ashram. It was an overwhelming experience for everyone. At first the students interacted with all the boarders in the Ashram, while it was really hard to digest the reality that was put before their eyes. In the Ashram there were a total of 41 residents present. We found two categories of people there: the ones who were abandoned and deserted by their families and others who were physically disabled and mentally disturbed. Whatever the case may be, the sufferers were the aged ones. Old age is also called the second childhood, and is a time when one needs love and care of the near and dear.

According to Shakespeare, old age is the age where the person behaves like a child again. We witnessed the same. They were in hunger for love. The people of old age were very friendly. They treated our whole day with their beautiful smiles and didn't reflect their problems even for a second.

Witnessing the elderly parents not taken care of and sent to centres like these, is not a pleasant thing to encounter, but seeing their sad conditions, brought tears in the eyes of students. After the interaction, students distributed fruits and biscuits to all the elderly people and had some fun time with all the people by singing songs. The elderly were really happy to see the students and spent time with them.

The final take away from the visit was that it's not about how much we help those people who are left in their most helpless times, but it's about preventing such acts in the future.

Though we spent only a few hours with them, they made us realize the value of our grandparents and the tenderness with which we need to take care of them. The Students realized that their love for their family, particularly their grandparents has grown stronger and deeper.

Opportunity, words and loved ones — once gone, they never come back!

The message driven home was that elderly people need someone who can spare their time and affection not their precious gifts or money. All they ever needed was a compassionate soul and a holding hand.

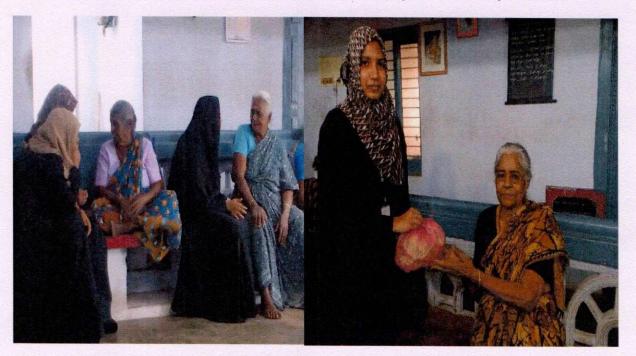
With the day's events we learnt the basic Principles of Humanity and the unconditional love that we need to share with the less privileged.

The visit to the old age home was a fulfilling experience for us as we came back home with not only memories but also with some valuable lessons about basic Principles of Humanity.

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STUDENTS INTERACT WITH THEM AND GAVE THEIR TOKEN OF LOVE



STUDENTS VISITED TO THE OLD AGE HOME

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