



Last month we celebrated the 25th year of our engagement with the communities in India. It was indeed a celebration that acknowledged a multitude of individuals, volunteers and partners who have joined hands through the years to transform communities.

We made a conscious decision to celebrate not just our journey but also the lives of those we have served. When we see their determination to overcome the difficulties

of life and progress towards their dreams, it is an inspiration for us to continue our work. There are several of them who have been in our programmes since 1994 who are doing outstanding work to help others and it is encouraging to witness that.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of you for being there with us through the years and also to those who joined us at the event. Even though Oasis India has existed for 25 years there is much work to be done in the next 25 and we need your support and encouragement to carry on. So, to our donors, partners, the government, former and present staff, please continue to stand with us as we move ahead. And, may the next 25 years be more fruitful.

I wish all of you a wonderful Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Regards,

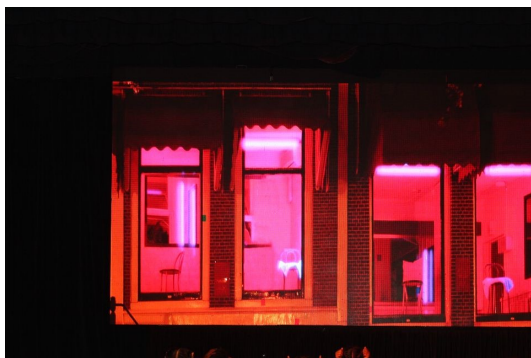
Mangneo Lhungdim

Executive Director

Oasis India

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At the 25th celebration in Mumbai, we had the pleasure of having beneficiaries, donors, board members, partners, global staff, current and former Oasis India staff who filled the event with lots of love and memories. We also had the opportunity to look back at the history of Oasis India together with them. Here's a sneak peek at the event.





Oasis India has history dating back to 1994. Although it is difficult to capture everything, we have put together some major milestones of Oasis for you. Click the link below to watch the video!

[Watch video](#)

### ***20 YEARS WITH OASIS INDIA***

Among the many that work tirelessly for Oasis, we have staff who have worked with us for over 20 years. We had the opportunity to honour them at the celebration.





Here's their response when asked about why they chose to work with Oasis for as long as they have.



I have always wanted to work with children and I find a sense of freedom in doing that. At Oasis, I worked without any pressure in any of the projects that I was a part of. My leaders trusted me and appreciated my work. Oasis is like family for me. I went through a lot of problems at home but through all of that my colleagues were a great pillar of support. When I joined for work at Oasis, I was in a difficult place in life but Oasis brought joy through work. It is still hard to believe that it has become 20 years already.

Rosy  
Community Development Officer  
Mumbai



It's been a privilege to work with Oasis for the past 20 years. I am grateful for the warmth that I have received from the people around me at work and they have always supported me in many ways. I worked in different projects in Oasis under the guidance of different coordinators and I have learnt a lot from all of them. I worked very closely with HIV patients and that experience really moved my heart.

Sonu  
Nurse  
Mumbai



I've always been passionate about working with children and what caused me to stay is the good working environment at Oasis. The staff and line managers have always encouraged me to take up responsibilities and work across projects. There are many memories at Oasis that I will never forget but one memory that will always stay with me is when I went on a 48-hour train journey to Rauxhaul in Bihar to join a beneficiary at a nursing programme. En route we faced a lot of challenges but we became very close friends. She came with her son to the 25th celebration and it was a very happy moment for me.

Jane Pereira  
Consultant  
Mumbai

Oasis will always be special to me because I have seen lives being greatly transformed from absolutely nothing. All the staff in Oasis work together to bring these changes in our beneficiaries' life. That gives me an immense satisfaction. One unforgettable memory at Oasis would be when I spent an evening at Oasis' Purnatha Bhavan (PB), a home for HIV/AIDS affected children at Igathpuri. I remember this boy called Vilas who was in his last stage of AIDS and that particular day he had a great time with us. The next very morning, he unfortunately passed away. This affected me very much but also pushed me to work towards supporting Oasis in their cause.

Harish  
Vocational Tailoring Training Coordinator  
Mumbai

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To mark our 25th celebrations, we launched our book '25 years. 25 stories.' which is a compilation of inspiring stories of those whom we have worked with since 1994. *If you would like to purchase this book please email [communication@oasisin.org](mailto:communication@oasisin.org) or contact Mercy Jennifer - 9600177764*

Here are a few snippets from the book.





**H**i, my name is Poonam (Anjali Rajbhar) and I am 17 years old. Originally I am from Undura in Uttar Pradesh. As a family we shifted to Mumbai in 2014. That is, my parents, three sisters and myself. I am the eldest and two of my sisters go to the local municipal school and my youngest sister is just 5, so is not yet enrolled. My mother does some beading work and my father is a gardener.

My parents seemed very frustrated and unhappy as they conceived all girl children. Our financial condition was often very bad, because of which I was not sent regularly to school. I often helped my mother in sticking beads to clothing, through which we earned some money. My father and mother often abused me verbally and physically.

So, one day I decided to run away from my home and on 14th June 2018, after being tortured and beaten up by my parents, I finally did so. For almost three days I roamed around on the station and train and then a woman met me who handed me over to the police and told them that I didn't have any parents. The police then handed me over to the Kasturba Government Home and there too I mentioned that I was an orphan.

In the month of August 2018, the government home



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Click the link below to know more about how you can bring a smile on the faces of our after-school programme children.

**#BeSanta**

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