

RONI - SAURABH MASIH

IN MEMORANDUM

Let us talk about Roni - Saurabh Masih

When he was very young he approached Dr. Gladys T. McGarey and asked for help. He wanted to become a dentist, not an easy task when you are considered an untouchable, born in a home for children of leper parents. That is the way of India. India also happens to be the place of birth of the woman known as the Mother of Holistic Medicine, Dr. Gladys Taylor McGarey.

Roni exercised a self-confidence and resolve very few possess. He wanted to accomplish something almost unattainable and he let it be known. Becoming a dentist and going back to leper villages and to take care of the dental needs of those no one would touch.

The Gladys T. McGarey Medical Foundation took on the project. Roni went to school. Being who he was, Roni also took on the charge of two children Utam and Ravi. They were children of lepers living under cars and eating what others threw away. For those of you who have seen the movie, Slumdog Millionaire, you can easily imagine the conditions that they lived before Roni took them in.

How many among us would take on such a project? No money, no social status except perhaps being an untouchable... Roni had a few things few of us know anything about: clear intentions, tenacity, courage and the absolute faith that is was all possible.

Life, from our perspective, can be cruel. And so it seems in this case. Roni 's life ended last November.

At the Gladys T. Mc Garey Medical Foundation the news of his demise came in as a shock, for the life of this young man held promises.

The children home of Bohpur continues to function with very little funds. The other children are growing up, Roni's special children, Utam and Ravi are now part of this larger family.

I ask, what did the short life of Roni - Saurabh Masih leave behind for us to emulate? Do we have the clear intentions to help our fellow men? Do we have the tenacity and the courage to take on what Roni began and see to it that another child from this home continues his education and becomes the hope that our protégée aimed for.

He took on the charge of two children yet he did not have any money to buy them anything. He made sure that somehow they would go to school instead of roaming the streets. He shared with them his very meager quarters and he shared the food he had. He gave the boys a sense of hope and a home.

These days, we can use the excuse that times are hard, there is no money to give. We can also think of this young man and exercise the necessary faith to know that we can give and that what we do give will serve others well. Like Roni, we have no assurance that tomorrow will be time enough.

Please DONATE so the Legacy of Roni - Saurabh Masih continues to help not only Utam and Ravi but also all the other children in the home at Bopur, India.