

Experience that changed my understanding of word “satisfaction” in life...

Smile is a curve that sets everything straight.

Who would know this better than MISSION SMILE(a Medical Charitable Trust based in India), who have been providing FREE life changing cleft care and surgeries to children born with Cleft lip, Cleft palate and other facial deformities. Thanks to Talwar uncle (Trustee of Mission Smile), who introduced our family to this organization.



On the initial screening day, I took few children through the entire screening process (like Registration, Photo booth, Nursing for checking patient’s vitals, check-ups by Surgeons, Dentists, Anaesthetists, Paediatricians, Speech Therapists, Laboratory for blood tests etc.). It was disturbing to see that there are still superstitions about causes for the clefts.

Thereafter, experts trained me to assist them in various departments (Pre-operative, Child-life, and Post-operative). I also got fantastic opportunity to visit the Operating Theatre as PIT – Patient Imaging Technician.

Learning’s that I have taken from this Mission are immense:

- **Medical** – Knowing about Cleft and palate deformities, challenges – physiological, psychological and social and the cure – surgery, Paediatrician Care, Dental care and speech therapy treatment.
- **Corporate** – Co-ordination between different departments, effective communication, team building, motivation, etc.
- **Social & Cultural** – Mixing with people coming from different cultures, backgrounds, speaking different languages, etc.
- **Personal & Human** – Empathise with children and their families. Feeling of helping others that brings in immense satisfaction.

I have carried back with me so many fond memories of children with whom I got emotionally attached. It was a pleasure to see the life of these children taking a better turn for them and in turn spreading smiles on the faces of their families and friends.

Upon return, I helped “Mission Smile” to get donors from across the globe, and thus, securing a permanent spot for their organisation on Global Giving platform.

I would certainly want this journey of mine to continue in one way or the other and also act as a conduit to spread the message of humanity to our generation encouraging them to participate in such causes, to enable world become a better and beautiful place for MORE people.

(www.missionsmile.org)

Isha Mahajan (Grade XI)

Birla Public School, Doha

Contact details: ishamahajan29@gmail.com