

CHENNAI, INDIA

ARRIVE:	TUESDAY	14 OCTOBER	0800
DEPART:	SATURDAY	18 OCTOBER	2000
ON-SHIP TIME:	SATURDAY	18 OCTOBER	1800

The Semester at Sea Field Program has a strong academic component. Faculty members develop field requirements that constitute 20% of the contact hours for each course they are teaching. As part of these field requirements, all Semester at Sea faculty design and lead field trips that integrate with their course work. The Faculty-Directed Practica (FDPs) for India are listed below.

CHE01 PEBBLE CREEK MINING: A CASE HISTORY OF DOING BUSINESS IN INDIA [FDP: KAPLAN] (On Ship, Following Diplomatic Briefing, Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 20/No Maximum (PRICE: Free)

Andrew Nevin, President and CEO, Adi Gold Mining, Subsidiary of Pebble Creek Mining Ltd., Vancouver, Canada, will present a case history of Pebble Creek to illustrate how India is developing within the global marketplace and to provide some general observations about cultural and business practice differences between India and Western society.

Pebble Creek is one of about 2,500 small entrepreneurial Canadian, Australian and UK exploration and mining companies that are raising capital from investment banks around the world and deploying it to find and develop new mineral deposits around the world. Pebble Creek is developing a copper and zinc mine in the Indian state of Uttarakhand in the foothills of the Himalayas, with commercial production scheduled for 2010. They have been prospecting and acquiring promising mineral properties in India since 1995. Mineral exploration and mining in India are highly regulated, more so than in most other countries, and much of the management effort is directed toward working with all levels of the bureaucracy. On the social front, the Pebble Creek mine will be “environmentally perfect” and will improve the well-being of a rural mountain community of less-than-subsistence farmers and villagers. Following Dr. Nevin’s presentation, he will entertain questions and discussion.

CHE04 WORKING WOMEN'S FORUM [FDP: DUNCAN] (1100-1430 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 20/ Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$14.00)

This activity will provide participants with an opportunity to learn more about the role of women and gender in development. Founded in 1978, the Working Women’s Forum assists poor women to realize their economic potential in the informal economy. Working Women’s Forum assists lower-income women to achieve economic independence by providing them with financial planning services, job training, and cooperative loans. The Foundation’s work has helped to sponsor the successful development of thousands of micro-enterprises throughout India. We will meet with Dr. Jaya Arunachalam, the founder of the program, to learn about the organization’s history. We will then visit their micro-credit program and meet with women currently being trained for various occupations. The price on this trip includes a small donation to the Working Women’s Forum. For additional information, please reference <http://www.workingwomensforum.org> Box lunches will be provided.

CHE06 MULTILINGUALISM IN INDIAN SCHOOLS: VISIT TO SRI SAI VIVEKANANDHA VIDYALAYA SCHOOL [FDP: DUBINER] (1200-1500 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 10/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$)

Located in the poorest section of downtown Chennai, Sri Sai Vivekanandha Vidyalaya School educates children 3 to 16 years old (grades K-12). We will have the opportunity to engage in conversation with school administrators, teachers, and students on how they handle multilingualism in their school. We will also learn about the attitudes of children, parents and educators toward each of the languages they speak and the rationale for choosing the specific languages of instruction and communication.

CHE07 ST. THOMAS MOUNT [FDP: FARES] (1200-1600 Tuesday, October 14) Minimum 15/ Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$18.00)

St. Thomas Mount is a hill located in Chennai and is associated with St. Thomas, the apostle of Christ, who is believed to have been martyred there. A small relic-filled Church built in 1523 by the Portuguese stands at the summit of the 300-foot-high St. Thomas Mount. The place was visited by Pope John Paul II during his visit to India on February 5th 1986. During this practicum, we will visit the mount, the church, the shrine, and leave time to reflect on our experience and on the ways it can be seen as present in literature and art. We will be accompanied by a local English professor who will offer insights into the area. The objectives of this practicum are to explore a site that was immortalized in Marco Polo's Travels, to examine the Christian tradition according to which the Apostle Thomas reached India and was martyred in the mount, and to also reflect on the encounter of cultures (Portuguese church, in Indian soil, with a Christian association in a Hindu land).

CHE10 WOMEN WRITERS OF INDIA [FDP: CHAPMAN & MILLER] (1230-1800 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 25 (PRICE: \$33.00)

We will travel to the home of an Indian professor to meet with a group of Indian women, including two writers, to discuss major concerns for women in India as well as changes in the role of women in India and the United States. We will also learn about some of the recent literature that has been written by and for women. South Indian coffee and snacks will be served.

This exchange should be invaluable, given that the World Literature course will be looking at the implications for women of the post-colonial situation and particularly of the closely related issue of Indian women migrating to other cultures, like the United States. The practicum will afford participants with a range of rich material to write papers on.

CHE11 ECO-FRIENDLY FARMING PRACTICES [FDP: TIMKO] (1230-1830 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 35 (PRICE: \$33.00)

Depart by motorcoach for a visit to a small working farm located in what once was a rural setting, but now is a rural island in a rapidly spreading urban suburb. Meet with the owner for a tour of his farm as you learn about his eco-friendly farming practices. Enjoy a traditional Indian lunch prepared and served by the owner of the farm.



CHE12 VISITING/TEACHING IN AN INDIAN SCHOOL [FDP: SOBEY] (1230-1830 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 35 (PRICE:TBA)

Visit an Indian school to meet the students and teachers to see how they learn. Then it's your turn to lead a learning activity! Two local schools have graciously opened their classrooms to welcome our visit. We will divide into two groups. Some students will visit one local school; others will visit another local school. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Indian way of life and schooling by being a part of it for a few hours.

CHE09 CONSUMER ACTION GROUP [FDP: ROSENCRANZ] (1230-1530 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 20/ Maximum 35 (PRICE: \$20.00)

We will meet with civil society panelists for a lively and informative discussion on international environmental and development issues, including coastal protection, climate change, corporate environmental crimes, biodiversity protection and India's toxic waste imports. There will also be a side panel on current Indian and Tamil Nadu coalition politics.

CHE14 MANAGING SCHIZOPHRENIA [FDP: CARGILL] (1330-1800 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 15/ Maximum 25 (PRICE: \$29.00)

We will visit the Schizophrenia Research Foundation to meet with Dr. Thara, the Director of the Foundation. She will describe how schizophrenic individuals are identified and treated in India and also how her special treatment project works with the families to keep the affected individuals in the home as much as possible. This visit will not only illustrate how different cultures have developed methods of treating behavior disorders seen the world over, but also will illustrate the modern community mental principles we have been studying.

CHE15 TRADITIONAL MEDICINE IN INDIA [FDP: YODER] (1330-1800 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 15/ Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$24.00)

We will visit Anna Hospital in Chennai, a facility devoted to treatment through Indian medicines. This includes both the Hindu approach to medicine (*Ayurvedic*) and the Muslim approach (*Unani*). We will tour the hospital facilities and attend a discussion/demonstration of herbal medicines, techniques and philosophy of use.

CHE18 THERU KOOTHU THEATER PERFORMANCE [FDP: VASEK] (1100-1900 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 40/Maximum 100 (PRICE: \$)

We will attend a performance by members of Theru Koothu, a professional theater group. The performance will be based on episodes from the Mahabharata, one of the great Indian epics. Preceding the performance, there will be a tour of the venue, DakshinaChitra, and we can watch the actors doing their makeup. DakshinaChitra is a unique heritage center that provides insight into the lifestyles of the diverse peoples of South India. Traditional craftspersons and folk artists work and perform in the reconstructed period settings of the 19th century streets, homes and workshop spaces. The reconstructed houses are representative of those once found in India's four southern states: Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka. There will also be a brief lecture about the performance and the performing company, a question-and-answer session and time to meet and interact with the Theru Koothu members.

CHE22 WELCOME RECEPTION [FDP: PATERSON] (1830-2200 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 75 / Maximum 400 (PRICE: \$35.00)

This practicum will provide a unique opportunity for participants to interact with Indian students and ask questions about local cultural practices. In this special setting, we will gain a deeper understanding of how culture is performed; how clothing, decoration, movement, gesture and expression are rich with symbolic meanings that tell the stories of myth and legends. The aim of this practicum is for participants to come away from this experience better able to reflect on their own cultural performances; how their dress, decorations, movements, gestures, and expressions are expressions of culture.



This is an excellent opportunity to meet Indian students, experience a traditional dance performance, and enjoy Indian snacks. You will travel by motorcoach to the reception area where you will be given a traditional welcome with sari-clad ladies offering flower-buds, applying *kum-kum* (red dot or sandalwood paste on the forehead), and sprinkling rose water. Enjoy mingling with the invited guests from local colleges in the outdoor atmosphere of a local fair. Along with sampling the tempting snacks, you may learn how to tie a sari, have a design painted on your hand with henna paste, and observe a *Bharata Natyam* dance demonstration. *Bharata Natyam* is the subtle and sophisticated dance-art of Tamil Nadu. It is a dynamic and very precise style of dance. The dancer presents a story at several levels of meaning using a variety of complex body postures and movements, hand and arm gestures, and facial expressions. A dancer needs substantial knowledge and appreciation of the thematic and philosophical content of Indian myth and

legend as well as a thorough grounding in technical skill. The meaning of a portion of the dance will be interpreted for you and some of the movements, gestures, and facial expressions will be explained. You will also have the opportunity to buy Indian clothing and costume jewelry.

CHE40 KANCHEEPURAM/MAMALLAPURAM - GROUP C [FDP: BENDER, MILLERSTROM & PARKER] (0700-1830 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 25/Maximum 31 (PRICE: \$53.00)

For a description of this practicum, please see CHE26 – Kancheepuram/Mamallapuram – Group A.

CHE41 SOCIOECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN CHENNAI – GROUP A [FDP: EHLERS] (0800-1200 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 16/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$30.00)

We will travel by bus to the edge of one of the poorest sections of Chennai, then break into small groups to explore the area on foot. We will meet some of the residents and will observe how the poor of India actually live, including their housing, clothing, food, and health conditions. These observations will help translate the ecological principles studied in the classroom into the realities of everyday living experienced by the poor of a developing country. **Please note: Participants should not carry photo/video cameras for the visit, as the local families wish not to be filmed.**

CHE43 HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDIA WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN [FDP: ENGELMANN] (1030-1200, On Ship, Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 20/No Maximum (PRICE: \$5.00)

Ms. Geeta Ramaseshan, a practicing lawyer in Chennai with a special emphasis on human rights, will join us on board for a talk and discussion. Ms. Ramaseshan is an expert on international human rights and consults with two international human rights organizations, Forum Asia and IWRAW Asia Pacific, in the Asia Pacific Region. She co-edited the book *Child and the Law*, and has written many articles on HIV positive women as well as on child sexual abuse. A trustee of Aali, an organization working in Uttar Pradesh on gender issues, Ms. Ramaseshan is also an advisor to the Positive Women Network (PWN), an organization comprised of HIV positive women, and trustee of Tulir, an organization working in the area of child sexual abuse. **Please note:** Proceeds from this FDP will go towards Ms. Ramaseshan's work with HIV positive women and child sexual abuse.

CHE44 SOCIOECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN CHENNAI – GROUP B [FDP: WERNET] (1300-1700 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 25/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$30.00)

We will travel by bus to the edge of one of the poorest sections of Chennai, then break into small groups to explore the area on foot. We will meet some of the residents and will observe how the poor of India actually live, including their housing, clothing, food, and health conditions. These observations will help translate the ecological principles studied in the classroom into the realities of everyday living experienced by the poor of a developing country.

As we visit the poorest sections of Chennai, you will have a first-hand look at the dire poverty that nearly half of the world's population experiences. As you meet these individuals, remember that there are social forces at work that have caused these terrible conditions to occur. Reflect back on World Systems Theory and a question that we are exploring in class, "Who gets what, and why?" **Please note: Participants should not carry photo/video cameras for the visit, as the local families wish not to be filmed.**

CHE45 POLITICS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA [FDP: ROSENCRANZ] (On Ship 1630-1730 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 25/No Maximum (PRICES: \$8.00)

The realities of malnutrition, social inequalities and dwindling natural resources are major challenges to India. Ideally, sustainable development can help solve these life and world threatening problems. However, the words of Mahatma Gandhi reveal an uncomfortable truth: "Nature provides for everybody's needs, but not for everyone's greed." Heated debates continue to surface year after year on sustainable development and action to be taken.

Professor P.C. Kesavan, Director, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), will talk about the politics of sustainable development in India. The foundation is named in honor of Professor M.S. Swaminathan. Professor Swaminathan was hailed by TIME magazine as one of the twenty most influential Asians of the 20th century and is often described as the “Father of Economic Ecology.” Swaminathan was joined on the TIME list by only two other Indian nationals: Mahatma Gandhi and Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore. The basic mandate of MSSRF is to impart a pro-nature, pro-poor and pro-women orientation to a job-led economic growth strategy in rural areas through harnessing science and technology for environmentally sustainable and socially equitable development.

The remaining trips in the Semester at Sea Field Program provide a variety of opportunities for students to enhance their overall study abroad experience. Students can visit sites of historical and cultural interest; learn about local environmental, political, economic and social issues; interact with local university students and other residents; become involved in community service; explore what is unique in each country; and enjoy some recreational activities.

CHE00 DIPLOMATIC BRIEFING (On Arrival, Tuesday, 14 October, On Ship) Attendance is mandatory.

Officers from the U.S. Consulate in Chennai will come aboard to discuss current political, economic and social issues and conditions in South India. They will provide suggestions to ensure safe travel in India and will also provide practical information on such things as postal service, currency exchange, and local customs and practices.

CHE02 YOGA DEMONSTRATION (After Diplomatic Briefing, On Ship, Tuesday, 14 October) No Maximum (PRICE: Free)

Yogi Patanjali lived in 200 BCE and is called the Father of Yoga. He was the first to put into writing what had until that time been handed down only verbally from master to pupil. Yoga is a union of spirit and matter. Since the human body is the temple of the living spirit, it should be brought to the highest state of perfection. Yogic exercises are designed to benefit one's health, to remove certain diseases, or to drive impurities out of the body. Yoga bends the spine in slow motion and stretches out the muscles in order to restore youthful flexibility and relieve tension. You can learn the rudiments of yogic exercise and the yoga philosophy by attending this demonstration. Comments and explanations will be provided in English. The basic demonstration will take about one hour. For those who are interested in learning specific positions and programs, the instructor will continue teaching a small group for 30 minutes to one hour.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION FOR ALL TRIPS INCLUDING THE TAJ MAHAL (Six separate trips are offered. See below for dates, times, and specific itineraries.)



It was during the Mughal period (16th and 17th centuries) that Agra first gained prominence as a capital city. For many years, travelers from around the world have visited this historical city to gaze upon what many believe is one of the world's most breathtaking sights – the Taj Mahal. The Mughal Emperor, Shahjahan, married Mumtaz Mahal (as she is known in history) in 1612 when she was twenty-one. It is said that tales are still told of her generosity and wisdom. She bore him 14 children, and it was in childbirth that she died when Shahjahan was waging a battle campaign. Grief stricken, he vowed to build her a memorial surpassing in beauty anything the world had ever seen. It was this love that built the splendid Taj Mahal.

You will also visit Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri. Agra Fort is the flourishing center of the Mughal dynasty, created by four successive emperors. Agra Fort is a perfectly preserved Mughal City at the height of the empire's splendor. There are many fascinating buildings inside the massive 20-meter-thick walls of the fort that stretch for 2 ½ kilometers. Fatehpur Sikri is a silent and petrified sandstone city where time has stood still for the last four hundred years. According to legend, Emperor Akbar was without a male heir and made a pilgrimage to this spot to see the saint Shaikh Salim Chisti. The saint foretold the birth of Akbar's son. In gratitude, Akbar named his son Salim and transferred his capital to Sikri. He built a new and splendid city which was later abandoned, probably due to difficulties with the water supply. Its red sandstone palaces are still in a remarkable state of preservation. Here you will almost feel the haunting presence of the Mughals.

In addition to visiting the Taj Mahal and the sites of Agra, you will have an orientation to Old and New Delhi. Some of the following sites will be included: (1) Humayun's Tomb, a forerunner of the ornate Mughal style of architecture later perfected in the Taj Mahal; (2) *Qutub Minar*, a 71-meters-high fluted minaret of the 13th century; (3) a drive along the ceremonial avenue, *Rajpath*, past India Gate (the War Memorial), Parliament House, the Secretariat Buildings and the official residence of the President of India; (4) the Red Fort in Old Delhi, once the most opulent fort and palace of the Mughal Empire; (5) *Jama Masjid*, India's largest mosque, built by Emperor Shahjahan in the 17th century; (6) Birla Temple; (7) a Sikh Gurdwara; (8) a Baha'i House of Worship and (9) the Gandhi Museum and *Raj Ghat* (memorial).

For all Taj trips involving trains, please note: Every attempt will be made to secure first class air-conditioned chair seats. However, on occasion, it may be necessary to provide second-class non-air-conditioned accommodations.

CHE03 TAJ MAHAL & JAIPUR (1030 Tuesday, 14 October - 2130 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 25/ Maximum 70 (PRICE: \$1,235.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

This trip combines the bustling city of Delhi, the majesty of the Taj Mahal, and the wonders of the "Pink City" of Jaipur. Jaipur, the capital city of the state of Rajasthan, is popularly known as the "Pink City" because of the pink-colored sandstone from which the buildings in its old, walled city are constructed. Visit the observatory designed by the astronomer Prince Maharajah Jai Singh, who founded the city in the 1700s. View the landmark of Jaipur, Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds). Also, visit the City Palace, home of Jaipur royalty, which houses a museum with an extensive collection. In nearby Amber, explore the fort which is perched on a hill overlooking the desert plains of Rajasthan. The fort is a superb example of Rajput architecture. Enjoy the beauty of the hillside fort and the lake reflections of its terraces and ramparts.

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Transfer to the airport for your 2½-hour flight to New Delhi where you will be met and transferred by motorcoach to your hotel for dinner and overnight. En route visit the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of *Qutub Minar* (the 239-foot sandstone tower) and Humayun's Tomb (the first example of Mughal architecture in India). (Lunch on flight, D; Hotel Ashok or similar)

Day 2: The morning's activities begin very early with a wake-up call at 0345 hours. Depart for the two-hour train ride on the Shatabdi Express for Agra (a two-hour journey). Upon arrival, proceed to the hotel for breakfast before continuing to Agra Fort to view the halls and palaces of the Mughals. Next visit the fabled Taj Mahal. After lunch, depart for Jaipur – a drive of approximately six hours covering 150 miles. En route visit the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri. (B, L, D; Hotel Mansingh or similar)

Day 3: After an early breakfast at the hotel, depart for an excursion to Amber, the former capital. Travel to the Amber Fort by jeep. Or, if elephants are available, you may make your ascent to the citadel on the back of a gaily-caparisoned elephant. Government regulations limit the number of times elephants may proceed to the fort (four trips each day) for the individual animal's welfare. After lunch, enjoy an orientation of Jaipur. After dinner at a local *haveli* (residence), the evening is free for individual pursuits. (B, L, D; Hotel Mansingh or similar)

Day 4: After breakfast at the hotel, depart by road for Delhi, arriving at approximately 1230. Enjoy lunch before proceeding on a tour of Old and New Delhi, highlights include the Red Fort and Humayun's Tomb. In the late afternoon, proceed to the airport for the return flight to Chennai. (B, L, Meal on flight)

Note: This is a rigorous itinerary involving a lot of traveling and early morning departures.

CHE05 ART OF LIVING AND DAKSHINACHITRA HERITAGE VILLAGE STAY (1130 Tuesday, 14 October – 2200 Thursday, 16 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$230.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

This program has been recommended highly by past participants. It is a holistic program structured to learn a particular type of yoga, while also providing glimpses of various aspects of India. Thus, it includes visits to an ancient historic monument, a Hindu temple and several heritage buildings. It is an opportunity to see the old-world lifestyle of India. The program starts with a visit to Mamallapuram, one of the most popular tourist attractions near Chennai. Mamallapuram has great architectural and artistic merits including a 1,200-year-old shore temple, many beautiful and ancient sculptures, and an ancient Hindu temple.

The main part of this program is the Art of Living, a self-development program. The emphasis is not on the physical aspect of Yoga, so everyone can attend. Past participants have praised this trip for its self-transformation value. Come prepared to explore your inner self.

The three-day intensive course includes: Yoga, breathing exercises of Pranayama and Sudarshan Kriya, meditation, informative talks and other personal and group processes. These have helped to cure or prevent problems related to stress, depression, and breathing difficulties. Intensive training classes will be held each day for four hours in the morning and four hours in the evening. The course is offered by an organization called Vyakthi Vikas Kendra, which has branches in 140 countries. (Please visit www.artofliving.org for further information.)

Comfortable accommodations with the right ambiance are provided at the popular tourist center, DakshinaChitra, which is a unique center with heritage atmosphere. Here they have recreated 19th-century houses from four southern states of India. Demonstrations of traditional Indian dances, as well as hands-on experience of making arts and crafts, are included in the program. There is an opportunity to shop for Indian clothes and handicrafts in this center. Traditional Indian vegetarian food is served for all meals. Please note: Accommodations vary from two to six students per room. Bring towels, toiletries, loose fitting clothing and mosquito repellent.

Day 1: Depart by air-conditioned bus for Mamallapuram. Visit a temple en route and arrive at DakshinaChitra around 1730. On arrival, snacks will be served followed by a two-hour introductory session to the Art of Living, Pranayama, yoga and relaxation techniques. Then enjoy a traditional Indian style sit-down dinner. You will have an opportunity to discuss Indian society and culture with your hosts. (Box L, D; DakshinaChitra)

Day 2: There will be two morning and two evening sessions to learn yoga, meditation, breathing techniques, and Sudarshan Kriya. After a typical Indian-style Thali lunch, you will have a guided tour of DakshinaChitra. There will be demonstrations in the making of traditional arts and crafts. You will get a first-hand experience in these centuries-old legacies. Dinner will be buffet style, offering typical South and North Indian dishes. After dinner, there will be a grandmother's story telling session. (B, L, D; DakshinaChitra)

Day 3: Commencement of the day is with yoga, followed by other aspects of Sudarshan Kriya. This session will help to develop the techniques for improving the interpersonal relationship. There will be two evening sessions of the practice of yoga and Sudarshan Kriya. This will be followed by group singing and dancing known as Satsangh. The day ends with dinner and discussion before departing for the ship. (B, L, D)

CHE08 SERVICE PROJECT: DALIT WORK PROJECT (1200-1800 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 15/Maximum 25 (PRICE: \$23.00)

Introduce yourself to India by lending a helping hand. Meet some members of the Bridge Education Services Trust who have organized a work project in one of the poorer areas in Chennai. The Bridge Education Services Trust, which sponsors Human Rights Education Movement of India, is an agency that is dedicated to improving the conditions of the Dalits ("Untouchables") in the Chennai region. This work project may involve cleaning, painting, repairing, cutting the grass, or gardening – whatever needs to be done. Be sure to bring plenty of bottled water as you will most likely be working outside.

CHE13 CHENNAI CITY ORIENTATION (1300-1800 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 25/No Maximum (PRICE: \$22.00)

During your brief orientation to the fourth-largest city in India, you will drive through the city center on Mount Road, the commercial hub of Chennai. You will also drive through residential areas that present a striking contrast between the rich and poor. You will drive past an important landmark, Fort St. George, which contains St. Mary's Church and the Fort Museum – monuments reflecting the history of Chennai from the days of British India. You will continue your drive along the elegant promenade of the Marina, one of the longest beaches in the world. You will see the stately buildings of the University of Chennai, the Senate House and the former palace of the Nawab of Arcot. Upon reaching the oldest section of the city, you will visit San Thome Cathedral (where the apostle Thomas was buried) and the ancient Kapaleeshwar Temple. Along the way, you will also have an opportunity to visit a local home. (Please remember that it is appropriate to remove your shoes prior to entering the temple and the home.)

CHE16 SERVICE VISIT: YMCA COMMUNITY CENTERS & DESTITUTE HOMES (1400-2100 Tuesday, 14 October) Minimum 10/Maximum 12 (PRICE: \$36.00)

You will travel by air-conditioned motorcoach to visit community centers and destitute homes run by the YMCA at Fort Boys Town and Boys Town Kottiakam. A YMCA staff member will accompany you throughout the day. You will have the opportunity to tour each facility and to meet and interact with the children to learn more about their backgrounds. The YMCA will host a special dinner prior to your return to the ship. (The price of this practicum also includes a donation to the YMCA facilities.)

CHE17 TAJ MAHAL & VARANASI - GROUP A (1415 Tuesday, 14 October March - 2350 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 32/Maximum 70 (Price: \$1,512.00)

This trip combines the bustling city of Delhi, the majesty of the Taj Mahal, and the "eternal city" of Varanasi, one of the most important pilgrimage sites in India. Located on the banks of the sacred River Ganges, Varanasi is the holy city of the Hindus. Often called "the heartbeat of India," it is the oldest inhabited city in the world. Varanasi has been a center of civilization and learning for over 2,000 years. Here you can observe the ritual bathing in the Ganges at dawn, a practice that has continued virtually unchanged over the centuries.

Day 1: Transfer by motorcoach to the Chennai airport for your 2 ½-hour flight to Delhi. Upon arrival, proceed to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (Snack on flight, D; Hotel Ashok or similar)

Day 2: Following an early wake-up call (0415), depart for the two-hour train ride on the Shatabdi Express for Agra. Upon arrival, drive to Fatehpur Sikri, with its red sandstone palaces which are remarkably preserved. Return to Agra for an optional shopping stop and lunch at Hotel Clarks Shiraz. After lunch drive to Agra Fort to view the halls and palaces of the Mughals. Then visit the fabled Taj Mahal where you will have the opportunity to view the Taj Mahal at dusk. Return to Hotel Clarks Shiraz for dinner before departing on the Shatabdi Express for your journey to Delhi. (Packed B, L, D; Hotel Ashok or similar)

Day 3: After an early breakfast, drive to the airport for your flight to Varanasi. Upon arrival, proceed to the hotel for lunch. An optional shopping tour, with your guide, is available at that time. After lunch, continue to Sarnath, located six miles outside of Varanasi. Although the ancient city of Sarnath lies in ruins, it is as holy to Buddhists as Varanasi is to Hindus; Buddha preached his first sermon here. See the stupa and ruins of an ancient monastery as well as the new Buddhist temple. Depart in the late afternoon to witness the illuminated *Ganga Aarti*, the popular ritual at *Dasaswamedh Ghat* on the banks of the River Ganges. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D; Ramada Plaza JHV)

Day 4: Depart the hotel before sunrise and drive to the banks of the River Ganges. Board a boat and sail along the river to witness a spectacle of religious practice that has continued unchanged over



centuries. At dawn, pilgrims converge at the holy waters for the ritual immersion and prayer to release their souls from the cycle of rebirth. This is one of the most memorable experiences of a visit to India. Enjoy a city orientation to Varanasi before returning to the hotel for breakfast. Proceed to the airport for lunch and your flight to Delhi. Upon arrival, enjoy a city orientation. See the sites of Old and New Delhi. Visit the Birla Temple and a Sikh Gurdwara. Drive along *Rajpath*, the ceremonial avenue, past the War Memorial, the *Raj Ghat* (Gandhi Memorial), Parliament House, and the *Rashtrapati Bhavan* (Presidential Palace). Return to the airport for your flight to Chennai. (B, L, D on flight) **Note: This is a rigorous itinerary involving a lot of traveling and early morning departures.**

CHE19 TAJ MAHAL & VARANASI - GROUP B (1500 Tuesday, 14 October March - 2230 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 32/Maximum 70 (Price: \$1,512.00)

For a description of this practicum see CHE17 Taj Mahal & Varanasi – Group A.

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Transfer by motorcoach to the Chennai airport for your 2 ½-hour flight to Delhi. Upon arrival, proceed to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (Snack on flight, D; Hotel Ashok or similar)

Day 2: Following an early wake-up call (0415), depart for the two-hour train ride on the Shatabdi Express for Agra. Upon arrival, drive to Fatehpur Sikri, with its red sandstone palaces which are remarkably preserved. Return to Agra for an optional shopping stop and lunch at Hotel Masingh. After lunch drive to Agra Fort to view the halls and palaces of the Mughals. Then visit the fabled Taj Mahal where you will have the opportunity to view the Taj Mahal at dusk. Return to Hotel Masingh for dinner before departing on the Shatabdi Express for your journey to Delhi. (Packed B, L, D; Hotel Ashok or similar)

Day 3: After an early breakfast, see the sites of Old and New Delhi. Visit the Birla Temple and a Sikh Gurdwara. Drive along *Rajpath*, the ceremonial avenue, past the War Memorial, the *Raj Ghat* (Gandhi Memorial), Parliament House, and the *Rashtrapati Bhavan* (Presidential Palace). Continue to the airport for your flight to Varanasi. Upon arrival, proceed to the hotel for lunch before continuing to Sarnath, located six miles outside of Varanasi. Although the ancient city of Sarnath lies in ruins, it is as holy to Buddhists as Varanasi is to Hindus; Buddha preached his first sermon here. See the stupa and ruins of an ancient monastery as well as the new Buddhist temple. Depart in the late afternoon to witness the illuminated *Ganga Aarti*, the popular ritual at *Dasaswamedh Ghat* on the banks of the River Ganges. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D; Hotel Radisson)

Day 4: Depart the hotel before sunrise and drive to the banks of the River Ganges. Board a boat and sail along the river to witness a spectacle of religious practice that has continued unchanged over centuries. At dawn, pilgrims converge at the holy waters for the ritual immersion and prayer to release their souls from the cycle of rebirth. This is one of the most memorable experiences of a visit to India. Enjoy a city orientation to Varanasi before returning to the hotel for breakfast. The rest of the morning is at leisure. An optional shopping tour, with your guide, is available at that time. Proceed to the airport for lunch and your flights to Delhi and Chennai. (B, L, D on flight) **Note: This is a rigorous itinerary involving a lot of traveling and early morning departures.**

CHE20 TAJ MAHAL - GROUP A - 3 nights (1530 Tuesday, 14 October - 2300 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 26/Maximum 70 (PRICE: \$1,305.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Transfer to the airport for your 2½-hour flight to New Delhi where you will be met and transferred by motorcoach to your hotel for a late dinner and overnight. (Snack on flight; Hotel Ashok or similar)

Day 2: The morning's activities begin very early with a wake-up call at 0500 hours. Depart for the two-hour train ride on the Taj Express for Agra. After check-in at the hotel, the remainder of the morning is at leisure. An optional shopping tour, with your guide, is available at that time. Following lunch at the hotel, drive to Agra Fort to view the halls and palaces of the Mughals. Then visit the fabled Taj Mahal. Return to the hotel at dusk. After dinner, the rest of the evening is at leisure. (Packed B, L, D; Yamuna View Hotel or similar)

Day 3: After breakfast, visit the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri with its red-sandstone palaces which are remarkably preserved. Return to the hotel for check-out and lunch. Afterwards, visit Mother Teresa's Ashram to interact with the orphanage children. In the late afternoon, depart for the railway station to board your return train to Delhi.

(Packed B, L, D; Hotel Ashok or similar)

Day 4: After breakfast, see the sites of Old and New Delhi. Drive along *Rajpath*, the ceremonial avenue, past the *Raj Ghat* (Gandhi Memorial), the War Memorial, Parliament House, and the *Rashtrapati Bhavan* (Presidential Palace). Drive to the Baha'i House of Worship. Completed in 1986, this Mother Temple of the Indian subcontinent has won numerous architectural awards. Then visit a Sikh Temple. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Return to the hotel for check-out and lunch before departing for the airport and your return flight to Chennai. (B, L, D on flight)

CHE21 NAGARKOIL: VILLAGE, FARM AND PLANTATION VISIT (1730 Tuesday, 14 October – 0815 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 5/Maximum 10 (PRICE: \$295.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

This is a great opportunity to experience rural India and Indian joint-family system while staying in the home of plantation owners. You will visit a village, farm, and rubber plantation to learn about farming practices and growing spices and exotic plants like vanilla. You will have the opportunity to interact with students of the school managed by your hosts. You will visit a *coir* factory, pottery-making unit and spinning mill. You will also visit one of the very few temples dedicated to snake worship. The practice of snake worship symbolically invokes the power of Kundalini shakti, the coiled energy contained in the chakras of the spinal column and believed to be released through the practice of Kundalini yoga. You will also visit Kanyakumari – a popular tourist spot. To help answer your questions, one Indian student from Chennai will accompany you on this trip. Bring towels and washcloth, mosquito repellent, toiletries and bottled water. Please also bring a small gift for your host family.

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Depart by overnight sleeper train for Nagarkoil. (Box D; Bedding is provided.)

Day 2: Upon arrival, enjoy breakfast before visiting a Hindu temple and Kanyakumari, a popular tourist spot at the southernmost tip of India. A boat ride will take you to Vivekananda Rock, a beautiful memorial in the sea for Swami Vivekananda, a disciple of Swami Ramakrishna Paramahansa, a famous 19th-century Hindu saint. Return to Nagarkoil to visit a school and interact with the students, giving you a glimpse of rural educational facilities. In the evening, interact with the host family and discuss various aspects of Indian life. (B, L, D; Homestay)

Day 3: This morning, visit the farm, plantation and handicrafts center. A delicious traditional Indian lunch will be arranged before your visit to the spinning mill. Then interact with the students of a college managed by your hosts. In the evening, depart for the train station for the overnight return to Chennai. (B, L, Packed D)

Day 4: Arrive Chennai around 0815 and transfer to the ship.

CHE23 COCHIN/PERIYAR/MADURAI (1900 Tuesday, 14 October – 0640 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 25/ Maximum 35 (PRICE: \$627.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

The state of Kerala on the southwest coast of India is famous for its palm-fringed beaches, its unique system of backwaters and canals, and its rolling estates of tea, coffee, rubber and pepper. Forests cover more than one-quarter of the state, and an annual rainfall of over 100 inches provides a lush green home to a huge variety of plant and animal life. This area also has a rich history, containing the oldest Christian church and Jewish synagogue in India, as well as innumerable Hindu and Buddhist temples. Indeed one objective of this practicum is to observe how people of many religious faiths can co-exist in harmony. Kerala is one of the few Indian states with a matriarchal society. Its educational system is one of the best in India, achieving a literacy rate of 95%.

Cochin, the commercial capital of Kerala, is also known as the "Queen of the Arabian Sea." In Cochin, you can visit the Dutch Palace, a 16th-century Jewish synagogue, the first European church in India, and the original grave of Vasco da Gama (who "discovered" India in 1498) and have a chance to photograph the huge Chinese fishing nets. Enjoy a four-hour boat trip down the backwaters and see a way of life untouched by the



centuries. Take a bus ride up the mountain to visit a wildlife preserve where elephant, spotted deer, sambar, and bison may be seen.

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Depart for the train station to board the overnight sleeper train to Madurai.

Day 2: Arrive in Madurai (around 0615) and transfer to a local hotel for breakfast before proceeding on a city orientation that includes a visit to the Meenakshi Temple. Dedicated to Lord Shiva and his consort Meenakshi (also known as Parvati), this temple is one of the largest and most ancient temple complexes in India. After lunch, depart by motorcoach for a four-hour drive to Periyar where you will spend the night. (B, L, D; Spice Village)

Day 3: Following an early morning breakfast, enjoy a two-hour boat ride on Lake Periyar to view the wildlife of the area. If you are lucky, you may see some elephants, which are known to frequent the edge of the lake. Then depart for a two-hour drive to Kumarakom where you begin your "covered country boat trip" to Alleppey. This trip along the backwaters provides a unique view of Kerala village life. Upon arrival in Alleppey, proceed by motorcoach to Cochin (about two hours) for dinner and overnight. (B, L on boat, D; Cochin Casino Hotel)

Day 4: After breakfast, depart for a city tour of Cochin which includes driving past the 16th century Jewish synagogue, the Dutch Palace, St. Francis' Church (the first European church in India), and the workings of Chinese fishing nets. After lunch, depart for the railway station and the overnight sleeper train to Chennai. (B, L, Packed D from hotel; Sleeper train)

Day 5: Upon arrival to Chennai, transfer to the ship.

CHE24 VILLAGE HOMESTAY: ERODE - GROUP A (2030 Tuesday, 14 October - 0700 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$257.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

This experience has been ranked very highly by previous participants as a golden opportunity to experience rural India. You will travel through coconut groves and rice paddies and learn about farming practices. In Erode, you can interact with students at a residential school and visit the handicapped training center started by the Social Welfare Department. In Jayaramapuram (20 students) or Gobichettypalayam (10 students), you will be the guests of the village landlord, who has graciously provided vegetarian meals as well as overnight accommodations in his home in the village for everyone. Accommodations are clean and neatly kept. Good beds, with pillow and bedding, are provided. Bring towels and washcloth, mosquito repellent, toiletries and bottled water. Please also bring a small gift for your host family.

Day 1: Depart by overnight sleeper train (Yercaud Express) for Erode. (Bedding is provided.)

Day 2: Arrive in Erode (around 0600) where you will proceed to Gobichettypalayam (10 students) to visit the farm and school operated by your hosts, or to Jayaramapuram (20 students) to visit the farm operated by your hosts. You will have a chance to discuss Indian culture and history with your hosts as well as some leisure time for hiking and enjoying new friends. You will visit agricultural workers' huts and the village market place, learn about farming practices, watch coconut tree climbing and ride a bullock cart. You will spend the night in your host's home. (B, L, D; Homestay)

Day 3: Travel by bus to Erode where you will visit a residential school, Bhavani temple and a carpet weaving center. Return to the school, managed by your hosts in Erode, for lunch followed by an afternoon visit to a disabled children's school and training center. (The children may provide a performance for you. Be prepared to perform in return.) After a dinner hosted by the owner of the indigenous medicinal plants garden, depart for the railway station and the overnight train to Chennai. (B, L, D; Sleeper train)

Day 4: Arrive at the railway station (around 0510) in Chennai and transfer to the ship.

CHE25 TAJ MAHAL - GROUP B - 2 nights (0600 Wednesday, 15 October – 2100 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 26/Maximum 70 (PRICE: \$1,090.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Transfer to the airport for your 2 ½-hour flight to New Delhi. Upon arrival, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, depart on a three-hour train ride for Agra. Once in Agra, proceed to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast on flight, L, D; Hotel Mansingh or similar)

Day 2: View the Taj Mahal at dawn, then return to the hotel for breakfast. Visit the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri with its well-preserved sandstone palaces. Return to the hotel for lunch. The afternoon will include visits to Agra Fort and the Taj Mahal. After viewing the Taj Mahal at sunset, board the express train (two hours) for New Delhi. Dinner will be served on the train. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. (B, L, Early D; Hotel Ashok)

Day 3: After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy a city orientation of Delhi. Drive along *Rajpath*, the ceremonial avenue, past the *Rashtrapati Bhavan* (Presidential Palace) the *Raj Ghat* (Gandhi Memorial) and the Red Fort. After lunch at a local restaurant, transfer to the airport for your return flight to Chennai. (B, L, Snack on flight)

CHE26 KANCHEEPURAM/MAMALLAPURAM – GROUP A (0700-1830 Wednesday, 15 October)
Minimum 25/Maximum 31 (PRICE: \$53.00)

Kancheepuram or "Golden City" is one of the seven most sacred places of pilgrimage for Hindus. Once known as the "City of a Thousand Temples," there are still over 100 shrines in the environs of Kancheepuram. The most important are the "living" temples where the practice of worship continues today. See the 7th and 8th century paintings on the walls of the 1200-year-old Kailasanatha Temple. View the ten-storied, intricately sculptured tower of the 16th century Ekambareswara Temple. Visit the Hall of 96 Pillars and see the handsome pavilions at Vaikuntanatha Temple. Kancheepuram is also famous for its traditional art of silk weaving.

Mamallapuram (Mahabalipuram) is an ancient port city of the Pallava kings. Apart from being a popular beach resort, it is famous for three major sights of great architectural and artistic merit. See the 1200-year-old Shore Temple standing in solitary splendor on the sand of the shoreline. Visit the *Five Rathas*, named after the Pandava brothers, heroes of the *Mahabharata*. These large stone edifices are sculptured and shaped into temple prototypes. Then view the biggest bas-relief in the world, *Arjuna's Penance*, which portrays the descent of the Ganges from Siva's locks and other fables from the *Panchatantra*. (Lunch at a local restaurant is included.)

CHE27 TAJ MAHAL - GROUP C - 2 nights (0930 Wednesday, 15 October – 2130 Friday, 17 October)
Minimum 26/Maximum 40 (PRICE: \$1,090.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Transfer to the airport for your 2 ½-hour flight to New Delhi. Shortly after arrival, depart on a three-hour train ride for Agra. Once in Agra, proceed to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (Lunch on flight, D; Hotel Mansingh or similar)

Day 2: View the Taj Mahal at dawn, then return to the hotel for breakfast. Visit the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri with its well-preserved sandstone palaces. Return to the hotel for lunch. The afternoon will include visits to Agra Fort and the Taj Mahal. After viewing the Taj Mahal at sunset, depart by express train (2 hours) for New Delhi. Dinner will be served on board. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. (B, L, Early D on train; Hotel Ashok)

Day 3: In the morning, enjoy breakfast at the hotel before departing for a city tour of Old and New Delhi. Drive along *Rajpath*, the ceremonial avenue, past the *Rashtrapati Bhavan* (Presidential Palace), the *Raj Ghat* (Gandhi Memorial), the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of *Qutab Minar* (the 239-foot sandstone tower) and Humayun's Tomb (the first example of Mughal architecture in India). The afternoon is at leisure before proceeding to the airport for your return flight to Chennai. (B, L)

CHE28 ROTARIAN HOMESTAY (1100 Wednesday, 15 October - 1100 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 10/
Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$67.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

This homestay, hosted by a Rotarian chapter in Chennai, has been rated very highly by past SAS participants. It is your chance to spend two nights in an Indian home and to exchange views on various topics or aspects of Indian/U.S. culture. During the time with your host family, you will visit the temples of Mamallapuram and participate in other activities. To meet your host families, you will travel by coach to the Hotel Taj Connemara. Each pair of participants (two males or two females) will be met at the hotel by their host family and accompanied back to the ship after their homestay. Be prepared with a modest gift for your host family. The price of this practicum includes a donation to the Madras Rotary Club's scholarship fund.

CHE29 SERVICE VISIT: BALA MANDIR ORPHANAGE (1330-1800 Wednesday, 15 October) Minimum 16/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$31.00)

On this visit to Bala Mandir Orphanage in Chennai, you will meet and interact with the children. You may also talk with orphanage personnel about the problems of poverty and childcare in India. You will be provided with coloring books, picture books, or other materials to aid your interaction with the children. These materials will be donated to the orphanage upon your departure. The price of this practicum also includes a donation to the orphanage.

CHE30 VILLAGE HOMESTAY: ERODE - GROUP B (2030 Wednesday, 15 October - 0600 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$257.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

For a description of this practicum see CHE24 Village Homestay: Erode – Group A.

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Depart by overnight sleeper train (Yercaud Express) for Erode. (Bedding is provided.)

Day 2: Arrive in Erode (around 0600) where you will proceed to Gobichettipalayam (10 students) to visit the farm and school operated by your hosts, or to Jayaramapuram (10 students) or Vadugatpatti (10 students) to visit the farm operated by your hosts. You will have a chance to discuss Indian culture and history with your hosts as well as some leisure time for hiking and enjoying new friends. You will visit agricultural workers' huts and the village market place, learn about farming practices, watch coconut tree climbing and ride a bullock cart. You will spend the night in your host's home. (B, L, D; Homestay)

Day 3: Travel by bus to Erode where you will visit a residential school, Bhavani temple and a carpet weaving center. Return to the school, managed by your hosts in Erode, for lunch followed by an afternoon visit to a disabled children's school and training center. (The children may provide a performance for you. Be prepared to perform in return.) After a dinner hosted by the owner of the indigenous medicinal plants garden, depart for the railway station and the overnight train to Chennai. (B, L, D; Sleeper train)

Day 4: Arrive at the railway station (around 0510) in Chennai and transfer to the ship.



CHE31 OVERNIGHT TO KANCHEEPURAM/MAMALLAPURAM (0700 Thursday, 16 October - 1800 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 21/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$212.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

For a description of the areas visited, please see CHE26 – Kancheepuram/Mamallapuram – Group A.

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Travel to Kancheepuram via air-conditioned motorcoach, arriving at approximately 0900. Spend the morning exploring some of the many temples and silk weaving workshops. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant then proceed to Mamallapuram for hotel check-in. After dinner at the hotel, the rest of the evening is at leisure. (L, D; Ideal Beach Resort)

Day 2: After breakfast, visit the major sites of Mamallapuram. Lunch is buffet-style at a typical Indian restaurant. During lunch, a local musician will entertain you with a jaltarang performance – the musical notes are rendered by striking, with wooden sticks, an array of small cups of water. After the performance, return to Chennai. (B, L)

CHE32 CHILD LABOR IN RURAL INDIA: OVERNIGHT VILLAGE STAY (1300 Thursday, 16 October - 1830 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 50 (PRICE: \$68.00) PRE-SALE ONLY



Despite Indian laws prohibiting child labor, thousands of children, ages 4-14 years, have been sold into bondage in the sari-making industry. Some of these children have had to work in these factories for 12-14 hours per day with no breaks and only a cupful of rice for lunch. They have earned an average of only \$2 per month. This overnight field program provides the opportunity to visit a successful micro-credit lending program for women and a bridge school for children who have been child laborers in the silk weaving industry. The Rural Institute for Development Education (RIDE) began as a bridge school to help children leave the silk-weaving industry. They quickly learned that the best way to help children was to help their mothers increase their income. This visit will include an overnight stay in

the village where you will see the women at work weaving silk and bamboo mats, a meeting with the self-help group leaders to ask questions, a tour of one of the bridge schools to meet the children, and a visit to Kancheepuram to view its beautiful temples and tour the silk-weaving factory and shop that supports child-free labor. (Please bring a sleeping bag and enough bottled water for two days.) Visit www.rideindia.org for further information.

CHE33 SERVICE VISIT: MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY ORPHANAGE (1400-1800 Thursday, 16 October) Minimum 25/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$19.00)

Missionaries of Charity is a religious order founded by Mother Teresa. Born to Albanian parents in Yugoslavia, Mother Teresa became a nun at age 18 and served as a teacher at St. Mary's School in Entally, Calcutta. The school was a beautiful, serene place that was far from the city's slums. At the age of 36, Teresa said that she received a calling from God to serve the poorest of Calcutta. Nearly 20 years after she had chosen Calcutta to carry out God's work, she finally found exactly what God wanted her to do. Throughout India, Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity has over 2,000 sisters in its order, 100 slum schools servicing 14,000 children, 200 relief centers where 45,000 are fed per day, 200 sewing and typing classes serving 8,000 girls, 750 mobile clinics, and 103 homes for abandoned children. You will be visiting one of the orphanages for infants and small children, some of whom suffer from birth defects and mental retardation. Many of these children were abandoned on the streets of Chennai or left on the orphanage's doorstep. There will be time to visit and play with the children. Some materials, such as coloring books and crayons, will be provided to aid your interaction. You may wish to make arrangements to return to the orphanage for a day of volunteer work while we are in port. (The price of this practicum includes a small donation to the orphanage.)

CHE34 SERVICE PROJECT: SAMARPANA HANDICAPPED HOME & ORPHANAGE (0700-1230 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 10/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$27.00)

Samarpana, founded in 1995, serves the society in general and the deprived sections of the society, such as those who are mentally and physically disabled, women and orphaned children, and destitutes. There are approximately 45 residents ranging from 3 to 50 years old who are provided with specialized services, such as physiotherapy, speech therapy, special education, pre-vocational and vocational training by a specially-trained and highly dedicated staff.

Your 1½ hour journey to Samarpana will take you to the outskirts of Chennai. Your orientation will start with a brief lecture and tour of the facility. Then, you will roll up your sleeves and start a work project of painting a classroom or gardening, so bring your work gloves and wear closed-toe shoes! You will also have time to visit and interact with the residents, and you will be provided with coloring books, picture books, or other materials to aid in your interaction with the residents. The price of this practicum also includes a donation to Samarpana to help sponsor a child's room and board, food, clothing, and therapy sessions.

CHE35 KANCHEEPURAM/MAMALLAPURAM - GROUP B (0700-1830 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 25/ Maximum 31 (PRICE: \$53.00)

For a description of this practicum, please see CHE26 – Kancheepuram/Mamallapuram – Group A.

CHE36 RURAL INDIA & DAKSHINACHITRA HERITAGE VILLAGE (0700-1830 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 60 (PRICE: \$53.00)

Experience rural India, interact with locals, and enjoy a full day of a variety of activities! In the morning, depart by motorcoach for a visit to an Indian village to observe village life, visit village homes, and interact with the residents. You will have the opportunity to ride a bullock cart, climb a coconut tree and visit a working farm. In the afternoon, visit and enjoy a traditional lunch in DakshinaChitra, a unique heritage center that provides insight into the lifestyles of the diverse peoples of South India. Traditional craftsmen and folk artists work and perform in the reconstructed period settings of 19th - century streets, homes and workshop spaces. The reconstructed houses are representative of those once found in India's four southern states: Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka. Throughout the day, four Indian students will accompany you.



CHE37 DALIT VILLAGE OVERNIGHT (0800 Friday, 17 October - 1200 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 24/ Maximum 36 (PRICE: \$125.00) PRE-SALE ONLY

The Dalit Training Campus is a non-profit voluntary agency devoted to improving the conditions of the Dalits ('Untouchables') in Tamil Nadu and the Chennai region. You will depart on a 1½-hour journey on the scenic East Coast Road to the Dalit Delta Training Center. Here you will participate in an informational question-and-answer session to learn about the Dalits in India, the village, their current work and the advances that are being made. The Dalit nursing students will present a reception including a cultural program. Lunch will be held at the Training Campus, located on the banks of Palar River. After lunch, the group will be divided into smaller units, and each unit will travel to a Dalit village for an overnight visit. You will have an opportunity to see the houses, visit village homes and interact with the families. You will get a first-hand look at the caste system that, though illegal, still structures rural society. The people of the village will usually arrange a reception for you that will include music and folk dancing (*i.e.*, Dummy Hose and Peacock dance). They will also perform *Silambattam*, an old form of martial arts. In the morning, there will be additional opportunities to interact with the people in the village before your return to the ship. (Box dinners from the ship will be provided.)

Please Note: As you will be the guests of a Dalit village, be certain to dress appropriately (no shorts, please). Also, please refrain from smoking in public. Your sleeping quarters will be very basic, probably the floor of a community center, with no running water and no indoor toilet facilities. Bring a sleeping bag and bottled water.

CHE38 COLLEGE VISIT AND INDIAN HOME VISIT (0830-1900 Friday, 17 October) Minimum 10/Maximum 40 (PRICE: \$50.00)

Your visit to SRM Engineering College will begin with a welcome by faculty and students and a brief overview of the college. You will be divided into small groups, each with one or more student guides, for a tour of the campus. The college will host a typical South Indian lunch, where you will be joined by local students. The students will explain the menu selections and help you learn about the cuisine and dining customs of South India. After lunch, depart with your hosts, in groups of ten, for a home visit and the chance for interaction and discussion of Indian culture and customs. You will be treated to some South Indian snacks and then return to the ship by bus.

CHE39 SERVICE PROJECT: SRI SAI VIVEKANANDHA VIDYALAYA SCHOOL (0700-1230 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 10/Maximum 30 (PRICE: \$27.00)

Located in the poorest section of Chennai, Sri Sai Vivekanandha Vidyalaya School educates children 3 to 16 years old (grades K-12). After a brief lecture and tour of the facility, your work project will be to help clean the classrooms and other areas around the school. So, bring your work gloves and please wear closed-toe shoes! You will also have time to visit and interact with the children, and you will be provided with coloring books, picture books, or other materials to aid in your interaction with them. (The price of this practicum includes a donation to the school.)

CHE42 SERVICE PROJECT: DISABLED CHILDREN'S HOME (0915-1745 Saturday, 18 October) Minimum 20/Maximum 25 (PRICE: \$32.00)

“This trip will be a humbling experience for the students,” remarked Mrs. Susan Critz, a U.S. citizen living in Chennai, as she explained the experience that occurs during a trip to Andra Mahila Sabha, a residential school for disabled children. Many of the children were born with disabilities or suffered from polio. The children are between the ages of 5 and 15 and come from impoverished families. The school recently received wheelchairs for a few students for the first time. The trip to the school will include play time with the children as well as painting and clean-up work at the school. A traditional Indian vegetarian lunch will be served at the home. (The price of this trip includes a donation to Andra Mahila Sabha.)

