

## Trip to Shantiniketan with Family

My uncle and aunt came to visit us from Bangalore a week back. So we planned a trip to Shantiniketan on 29th August 2020.

Before that day, my grandfather brought candies and biscuits for the trip. My aunt made sandwiches for breakfast on the road. We planned to start early, around 06:00. Lochan dadu made tea and filled it in a flask for the road.

We started on time. My grandmother, grandfather and I were in my uncle's car. Hari dadu, my aunt and my mother were in Lochan dadu's car. After an hour and a half's drive on NH19, we stopped for 30 minutes for breakfast by the road.





Roads were good till Burdwan. The road condition deteriorated once we left Nh19 and took the turn towards Bolpur which is connected by a state highway. It took us almost 2 hours for the last 70kms. We reached "The Creek" resort in Shantiniketan around 10:30.



We were greeted with a spread of loochi and sabji for our 2nd breakfast of the day. After finishing our meal, we checked into our rooms. The rooms were very clean with a big

bed, television and clean bathrooms. We decided to quickly take our shower and then sit together for some chat. While having breakfast, we had ordered rice, shukto, dal, aloo bhaja, katla Kalia, prawn malai curry and aam chutney for lunch.



We decided to stay in our rooms most of the time as the resort started filling up with other guests. We were quite full after the heavy breakfast, so we had a late lunch. Post

lunch, we slept for a while. When I woke up, the resort was looking beautiful with the sun setting.



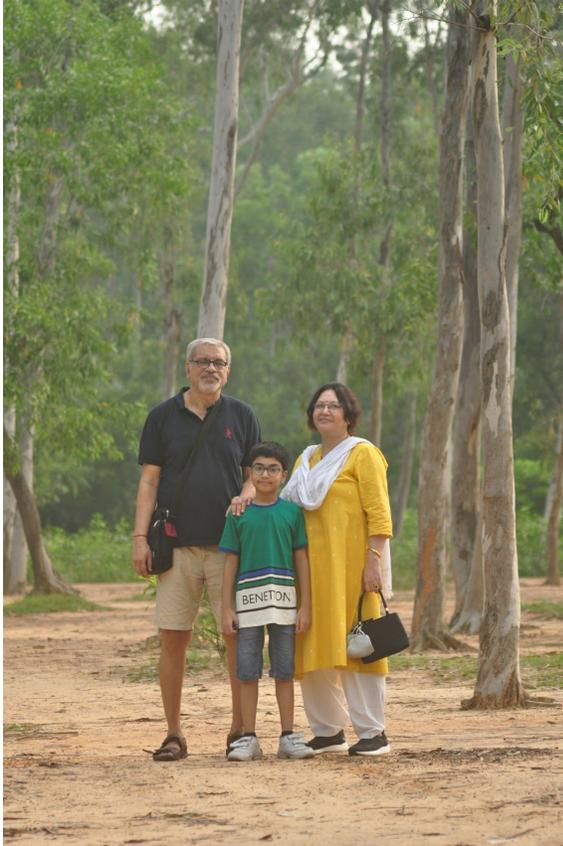
We played UNO and Ludo through the evening. Around 10:30 at night we had our dinner. Grandfather, Hari dadu and Lochan dadu had Indian whereas the rest had Chinese. We called it a day at around 11pm.

Next morning I woke at 5:30 as we had plans to visit Khoyai.



We reached Khoyai at around 6:30 and had some tea from a resort there. We took a lot of photos by the Eucalyptus trees.





It was getting very hot so we decided to return. While walking towards our car we saw a villager selling handmade sarees, Kurtis, Panjabis and many more things our grandfather got excited seeing the shop and fell while rushing towards it. He got hurt on his knee and started bleeding. We made him sit in the car and turned on the AC to make him comfortable. We went back to the shop and bought a few sarees and Kurtis for my aunt and mother and a punjabi for my grandfather.

While returning to the resort we took a detour to explore Shantiniketan. I saw Deer Park, Chatimtala where Rabindra Nath used to teach, Ram kinkar's famous sculpture of a villager's family and Upasanaloy. It was very peaceful everywhere.



Once back to the resort we took a quick shower and waited for the restaurant to get empty for breakfast. We had to wait till 11 for breakfast. I again had Puri and Sabji. My uncle had some urgent work for which we waited till 1 pm to start our journey back home,



While returning we took the route via Panagarh. It took us 4 hours to return home. I enjoyed the trip very much.