PSYCHIATRY WITH SHRADDHA

Michelle "Mickey" Mathews had sought out the remarkable Drs. Bharat and Smita Vatwani at Shraddha Nursing Home, Borivli, in order to explore their fascinating work of bringing back people from the edge of sanity to normal existence. A recent fatal motorcycle mishap prevented this young Observer reporter from ever having a chance to file the story. Anjan Ray, who accompanied her to Shraddha, recalls that evening and articulates the tributes she wished to pay the dynamic doctors.

"If any one knows what to look for; they'll feel at home to stop. Unlike the other hospitals, they do not fight for food. Often, they are found talking and laughing to themselves, just in a world of their own. Time and space have left them. Sometimes events can intersect them and turn on their latent aggressiveness, which can make them difficult to handle." But that has not deterred this amazing couple from taking on the challenge of rehabilitation for those cases where a chance may exist. However, they generally do not attempt therapy outside the age group of 14 to 40, preferring to concentrate on the elderly and chronically mentally disabled patients. They generally do not attempt therapy outside the age group of 14 to 40, preferring to concentrate on those who are more likely to benefit from their expertise.

"People often fail to recognize the onset of mental disorders in their near and dear ones. Sometimes they pretend the problem doesn't exist."