

A New Sunrise on a New Life

“ From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord’s name is to be praised.” *Psalm 113:3*

By John Alfred, Asian Aid India Correspondent

Durga and his brother Rajesh woke up everyday to the blaring of train engines or the screeching halt of its iron wheels. The buzz and the hustle of the street near the train station at Vizianagaram was their shelter. The boys earned some money selling fruit - hardly enough to buy them one nourishing meal a day.

The boys’ mother was still in her teens when she became pregnant with Durga. She was living with her boyfriend. When her parents discovered her out of wedlock pregnancy, they quickly arranged her to be married to her own uncle to cover up the disgrace it would bring on her and her family. Soon she gave birth, and a year later she gave birth to another son, Rajesh. When Durga was three years old and Rajesh was two, their father died. Their mother decided to return to live with her boyfriend along with her two boys. However, she discovered that he was already married to another woman and that they also had two children. He started an affair with Durga and Rajesh’s mother and then forced her into prostitution, living off her earnings from her work. He would beat her when she protested and started

“When they wear new clothes, they are very happy”

Durga and Rajesh are beaming with smiles to be able to attend school and live a new life at Sunrise Home



beating Durga and Rajesh. Worried about her boys’ safety, she lodged a complaint with the police. Although her boyfriend was arrested and put into jail, he was released two days later.

Durga and Rajesh were forced to beg or steal. When they refused, their mother’s boyfriend hit Rajesh with a bottle causing a bloody head injury. He was rushed to the local hospital for treatment, and thankfully for Rajesh, the injury wasn’t fatal. A local government

child welfare institution heard about this incident and took Rajesh and Durga to Sunrise Home. Lalitha Varma, Director of Sunrise Home, states that their mother doesn’t know the whereabouts of the boys. “It’s for their own safety”, she explains.

I had a chance to meet Durga and Rajesh in their classrooms. For the first time in their life they are attending school. It’s no wonder their faces are beaming with smiles as they are now living a new life in a new home. “They are very good in helping others”, Lalitha says warmly. “When they wear new clothes, they are very happy”. Because of your support of Sunrise Home, each new sunrise brings a new and better life to a young Indian man or little Indian girl whose life depends on you.

You Make Dreams Come True

A year and a half ago, children who had slept the night before cramped together on a cold concrete floor, squealed with delight as they bounced on their clean, new bunk-bed mattresses and laid their heads on their very own soft, downy pillows. It was like a dream come true. But can dreams come true twice?

For a little orphaned boy or girl in India growing up sharing a thin blanket at night, using a folded pair of dirty pants for a pillow, and not having a mommy or daddy to tuck them into bed at night, dreams have come true many times as they’ve experienced a new life at Sunrise Home. However, in just a few months, you will have given the Sunrise children another reason to squeal with delight as the new boys’ dormitory opens. After various delays due to

structural requirements, state-wide strikes, and torrential rains, this new home that will house even more children in the Bobbili, India area is a home that you can be proud of building.

Asian Aid USA’s CEO just visited the Sunrise children and campus and was very excited to see the dormitory almost finished, a big crop of corn and other vegetables growing on the Sunrise farm, and later see the children eating the fresh produce in the cafeteria. “It’s very cold in the USA right now,” he explained with chattering teeth to the children. Of course, crowding around him in their flip-flops under the hot Indian sun, it was hard to imagine, especially since none of them had ever seen snow. Their one request was for the CEO to bring some snow back in a jar the next time he came so they could see and touch it themselves!



Sunrise Home's second dormitory nearly complete

You Helped Keep Refugees Warm

Tanveer, the Indian foreman helping to oversee one of Asian Aid's projects, comes from the north part of India where refugees fled riots due to Muslim and Hindu clashes. Over 24,000 were living in refugee camps in Muzaffarnagar where accommodations were bare to none with whole families living in thin tarp tents. With the temperatures dropping and little clothes or blankets, many were dying of sickness and cold.



Refugees faced desperate situations

When Asian Aid heard of the need, funds were immediately sent to purchase blankets, warm clothing, and food. Tanveer and his family and friends drove the supplies by the truckload to the camps where they were overrun by desperate refugees. He explains:

“When we reached the camp to distribute stuff so many people are come to us for help. Our team tried to manage and told them to make a queue then it will be easier for them and for us. But this was not possible to manage 1,000 people at a time by only an eight people team.”

Because of your support, you have made Christ's injunction a reality:

With the temperatures dropping and little clothes or blankets, many were dying of sickness and cold.

“He answered and said unto them, he that has two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise ... Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” *Luke 3:11, Matt 25:40*

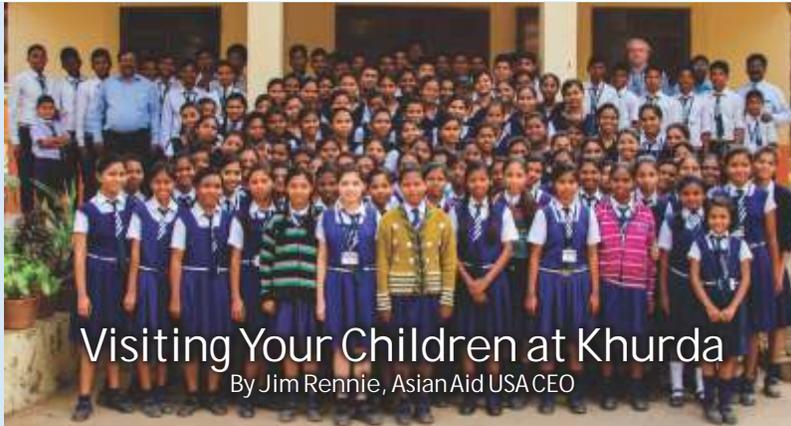


Above: Unloading blankets donated by Asian Aid

Below: A warm blanket brings a warm smile to a Muzaffarnagar refugee



In January I was privileged to visit one of our Adventist schools where Asian Aid USA donors support 150 children. I had not been there before so was excited to visit a new place. I flew into the town of Bhubaneswar which is on the upper east coast of India. It is a city known for its ancient, mysterious temples which dot the city's landscape by the hundreds.



Visiting Your Children at Khurda

By Jim Rennie, AsianAid USA CEO

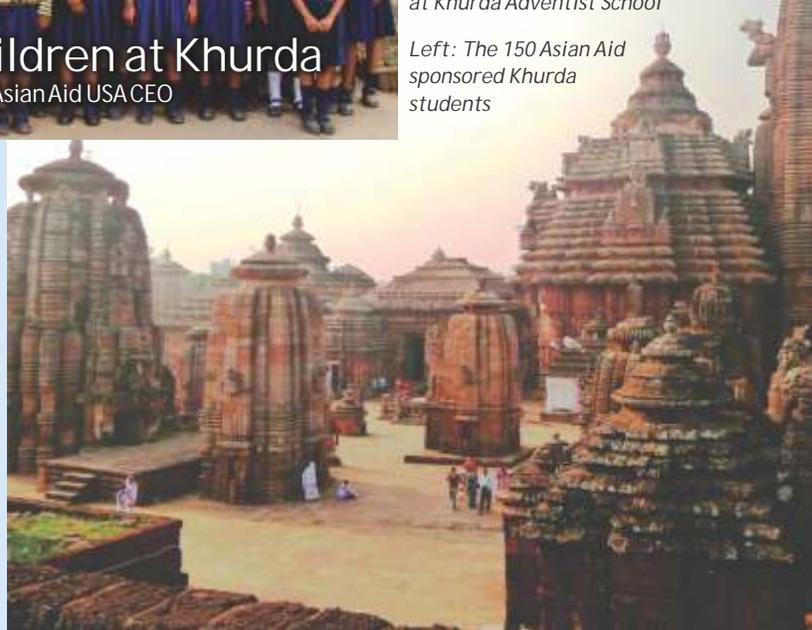
The Adventist school at Khurda has almost 1200 students consisting of both boarders and day students and it is run very efficiently by the principal, Mr. Kumar, and his staff. It was exciting to meet with the 150 children who are all supported by sponsors in the USA. Most of these students come from non-Christian backgrounds and are now not only getting a good academic training, but most importantly are being introduced to Jesus. In speaking to them they all have grand aspirations for their futures and are very grateful to their sponsors.

Thank you for the difference you are making for these children and please continue to pray for them and their families that they will know the new life that comes from experiencing Jesus.



Above: Sweet smiles greet you at Khurda Adventist School

Left: The 150 Asian Aid sponsored Khurda students



Orphanages in India Need Your Help!

There are over 20 million orphans in India alone. Many of these end up begging on the streets for scraps of food or even worse, are sold into the horrifying child slave trade. What is life like for children who have nothing?

Children are learning that they have a Heavenly Father who loves and accepts them despite what life has dealt them or how society has labeled them.

Perhaps worse than the pains of hunger and abandonment is the hopelessness of a life without knowing a loving Father who understands our sorrows and gives us strength to help us through life's struggles.

But YOU can give HOPE to these children!

Out of the 70+ Asian Aid supported schools in India, four of these are orphanages, home to over 350 orphaned children (many who have been rescued from life on the streets) who now go to school, sleep in a bed, eat three meals a day, and play with "brothers" and "sisters" because of Asian Aid sponsors like you.



But most importantly, children who have never heard of Jesus are learning Bible stories, singing songs about Jesus, and are coming to understand that they have a Heavenly Father who loves and accepts them despite what life has dealt them or how society has labeled them.

Orphanage (City)	Students*
Sunrise (Bobbili)	80
Sunshine (Bangalore)	61
Elim (Hyderabad)	113
Bethel (Barobisha)	146

* sponsored by Asian Aid USA and Australia

These homes are run by the Adventist church in India, but have additional needs because of household living repairs, the requirements of growing and active children, and increasing food costs in India.

Without you, these children would have no home, no family, no future.

Your donation towards these orphanages will provide clothes and shoes, hygienic supplies, play equipment on campus, and of course, dal, rice and other food to keep active children happy and energetic, just to name a few. Will you be a part of changing these children's lives today and their hearts for eternity? Thank you in advance for your support of Asian Aid's orphanages.

A Look Behind While Moving Ahead

A Word from Asian Aid USA's CEO

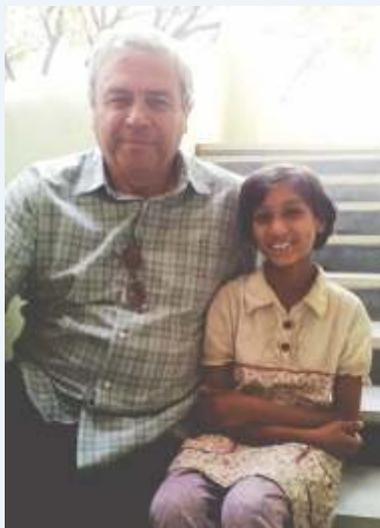
Dear Friends,

As we begin this new year, we can look back on 2013 and see the huge difference you have made with the Lord's blessing for thousands of children. We are also thankful that in 2013 even more people joined you in our goal to reach "the least of these", and we hope that 2014 will also be a year of growth for Asian Aid. Highlights from the past year include continued growth in child sponsorship, building Sunrise Home, and the launch of Operation Child Rescue. Just last month I visited India and expressed to the church leaders, principals, and children that it was only because of you, our donors, that Asian Aid exists and can be an element of change in children, schools, and communities.

During that trip, I also visited Khurda Adventist School where we have over 150 students who are sponsored by many of you. It was so inspiring to talk with these students and hear their aspirations to become doctors, pastors, and pilots. Their hearts were full of thankfulness for you, their sponsors, and I wish you could have been there to meet them.

Please tell others about the blessings of sponsorship so we can give hope to more children.

A special need we would like to highlight in this newsletter is our Orphanage Fund. You see, orphanages are not just buildings, but for the children who call it their home, it means "my own bed", a "mummy to braid my hair", "singing my favorite song for worship", and having more brothers and sisters than one ever imagined. Please prayerfully consider how God would use you to make a difference for Asian Aid's orphanages.



The work in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh is not easy, but we work with a God who has gone before us and works in our behalf. Thank you for your prayers for Asian Aid, the field staff, and the children. Christian regards,

Jim Rennie CEO Asian Aid USA

Jim Rennie (CEO) with Keerthana at Elim Home orphanage

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Asian Aid continues to air on 3ABN on Fridays at 4:30 PST, 5:30 MST, 6:30 CST, and 7:30 EST through Feb 2014.

Starting March 2014, Asian Aid will move to Saturdays at 8pm PST, 9pm MST, 10pm CST, and 11pm EST.

Missed an episode on 3ABN? Watch them all at your convenience on our website (www.asianaid.org) under "Resources" and then click "Video Library".

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Visit our website at
asianaid.org

Attending ASI in your area?
Drop by our booth, we'd love to meet you!

March 27-30	Kansas City, MO San Antonio, TX
April 10-12	Cohutta Springs, GA
April 17-19	Chevy Chase, MD
April 18-20	Grand Rapids, MI
April 23-27	San Francisco, CA
May 1-4	Grand Mount, WA
May 2-4	Newport, RI

Charitable Gift Annuities

Asian Aid has teamed up with the Western Adventist Foundation to make faithful gift planning simple. Western Adventist Foundation on behalf of Asian Aid offers expertise in gift planning from consultation to implementation and management of your gift plan.

The Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) is a popular way for our donors to provide income to themselves or their loved ones for life as well as to support the ministry of Asian Aid. The Charitable Gift Annuity is a planning tool that, at its heart, recognizes the fact that the rewards of giving begin with the desire to make a gift.

The Gift Annuity marks this decision with two things: the transfer of an asset from the donor(s) to the charity, and the signing of a contract in which the charity agrees to make payments to the donor(s) for life.

In addition to the satisfaction inherent in the act of giving, the CGA adds tangible benefits by providing an attractive income payment, with a significant portion of each payment being income tax free, and an immediate charitable income tax deduction for a portion of the gift. Your annuity payment is determined at the time your gift is made and will not fluctuate with the market.

Contact us for information:

Call toll-free 866-569-7933

or email support@asianaid.org

to arrange for a professional advisor to contact you.

Charitable Gift Annuities are NOT AVAILABLE in the states of AL, MD and WA. Annuities to benefit Asian Aid for CA and IL residents are provided by the Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; for HI residents they are provided by the HI Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Annuities to benefit Asian Aid in all other states are provided by the Western Adventist Foundation.



THESE CHILDREN URGENTLY NEED YOUR SPONSORSHIP



Anupom's father is a doctor in a small village in Bangladesh. They are Hindu but like Anupom to go to our Adventist village school.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U07838**



Sumit is from a Hindu family and his father hawks food to earn a meager income. Sumit is good in sports and likes to play football and cricket.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U10365**



Kashish lives with her parents, brother, and disabled aunt in a small house in the slum area. She likes playing badminton.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U12150**



Praveen is a bit mischievous but he studies well. He loves airplanes, loves to read about them, and wants to be a pilot.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U16908**



Diwas attends our Adventist school in Nepal. He loves to play soccer during recess and wants to become a professional soccer player.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U16565**



Chinnari's father works in a welding shop but they are still so poor they live in the slums. Chinnari attends our slum school.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U16940**



Bhavani's father works in a coal company and her mother stays home to care for her and her brother. They live in the slums of Vizak.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U16950**



Durga Prasad's father sells bangles from door to door to earn money. He and his brother and parents live in the very poor slums of Vizak.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U16966**



Amos' father is a watchman and his mother helps at our Adventist school. They live in a tin sheet house. Amos likes to collect pictures.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U08741**



Sindu Madhavi attends our Nuzvid Adventist School where she is in 6th grade. She likes drawing and collecting stamps.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U09701**



Shine Kumar likes to play volleyball, collect stamps, and participate in Sabbath School. He wants to become a medical worker.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U10908**



Niten wants to become an engineer. He enjoys playing football and reading of books. His family lives in a small mud and thatch hut.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U12247**



Shimul and his family live in Bangladesh but do not own their own land. His father works on other's land for 60c/day.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U14568**



Monita comes from the mountain area of Bangladesh where they live in a bamboo house. Monita wants to become a teacher.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U14688**



Rumi is in 7th grade and is striving to become a nurse. She likes to play badminton.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U15025**



Raju wants to grow up to become a businessman in Bangladesh. He is in 8th grade this year and loves to eat mangoes!
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U15044**



Lovely is a beautiful girl but her parents do not take care of her and have left her to live with her grandmother.
\$45 Boarder+
ID: **U16063**



Joy's father is physically disabled so is not able to work. His mother has to stay home to care for the three children.
\$45 Boarder+
ID: **U16235**



Bhuvanewari was sponsored through our schools and is now in her first year of nursing school. She likes reading the Bible.
\$80 Nursing
ID: **U08295**



Lalpekhi is in his first year of the Flaiz Bible Worker program. He has a passion to share the gospel with his fellow countrymen.
\$80 Bible Worker
ID: **U16734**