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New Life for Abandoned Babies

As a part of its Operation Child Rescue program, Asian Aid has partnered with the Ashram Trust, an Adventist run orphanage and child adoption center in Hosur, India.

The rescue center's key roles are to:

1. Save the lives of rejected babies
2. Provide them adoption in India or a safe home in the orphanage

The black market for selling babies is a very real and active business, and the Ashram Trust undertakes rigorous checks to make sure the children are taken into

happy and healthy homes. Many children are raised at the orphanage and go on to Adventist schools and colleges. Jim Rennie, Asian Aid USA CEO, is "very excited to partner with this baby rescue center as we are actually saving lives of these helpless children and giving them HOPE."

John Alfred, the Director of the Asian Aid TV series "Hope in Motion" recently visited the center. He tells how his visit was an emotional experience for

him, even for someone who has seen and grown familiar with the struggles and difficulties of life for the underprivileged during his filming.



John Alfred writes about his experience:

I was led into the Adoption Centre by the director of Ashram Children's Home. The sight of sari-clad women attending to infants in their crib was adorable. There were 17 newborn babies in the crib and two little girls running around. They took me to each crib and told me the babies' names as I clicked photographs of each one of them. Some were sleeping and some looked straight at me with their wandering eyes. Out of the 19 babies I got to see, 17 of them were girls. These were all little ones who had been abandoned soon after their arrival into this world. "It's a girl!" These words from a midwife or a nurse in a hospital are enough to seal the fate of a newborn's innocent life.

Poomani was found abandoned in a thorn bush



Two-month-old Poomani was found in a thorny bush by the roadside. Upon hearing the faint cry coming from the bush, a passerby called the police. She was brought to Ashram with one arm broken and wounds all over her body. She barely survived the ordeal to recover from her certain death. No one knows who her parents are and it is believed her parents abandoned Poomani because they didn't want a girl child.

Packiyavathi was sold twice before coming to the rescue center



I found Packiyavathi gurgling delightfully on the mat spread out for the children on the floor. Packiyavathi was unfortunate to have been born as the fourth girl child for her parents. Instead of throwing her away like Poomani's parents did, they decided to make some money. Her parents sold her to a stranger for a few thousand rupees, and the stranger, who was running a child-snatching racket, sold her to a couple for 20,000 rupees, that's barely over \$300. A government agency rescued the baby and brought her to Ashram. So far two individuals have been arrested and sent to prison. Abandoned babies and orphaned children continue to be brought to Ashram almost on a weekly basis. But this is also an adoption center and their program to give children to qualified childless parents is continuing. Some older orphaned and destitute children are also brought here seeking shelter for protection, care and Christian upbringing.

The costs of operating the programs of the home are significant, and Operation Child Rescue's support of these children demonstrates Asian Aid's core belief in reaching out to children in desperate and needy situations.



Abandoned babies are brought to the center almost weekly



Love, nurture, and nourishment give abandoned babies a new life

Operation Child Rescue urgently needs \$20,000 for staffing, cots, food, and medical supplies for this baby rescue program. **WILL YOU HELP?**



3 Easy Ways YOU Can Change Lives

We need your help to be able to sponsor more children. Can you believe that we currently have over 300 children who urgently need sponsors? You can make a difference for these children! And the best part is that it doesn't cost you anything except a little time and talking to a few people.

Will YOU help us reach more children?

Here's what we need you to do:

1 Help us find sponsors:
We will send you the profile of a specific child. Simply share the profile with family, friends, or church members and explain how sponsorship gives opportunities and hope to children. If you find the child a sponsor, great! If not, no problem, just send the child's information back to us.

2 Invite us to your church:
Talk to your church pastor or leader to arrange for us to visit your church for a 10 minute presentation.

3 Share fliers and DVDs:
Simply give us a call and we will be happy to mail you a free packet of Asian Aid fliers describing what Asian Aid does and DVDs filled with inspiring mission stories. Hand them out to your friends, put them in the foyer of your church, or play a DVD for mission spotlight, Sabbath School feature, or for your Bible study group.

You can be an important part of Asian Aid's ministry to "reach the least of these"! Will you help us in this new year to spread the hope and joy of Jesus' love to those who have never heard? It's easy, so please contact us today!

As we look back on another busy year that has passed, we are so thankful for God's blessing upon Asian Aid and for the privilege of partnering with you in being His hands and feet to the children and needy around us. We are also incredibly thankful for you, our donors, whose sacrifice and dedication has filled classrooms with students, taught boys and girls Bible

stories and songs, and brought smiles and hope to the faces of thousands of children and communities. Jim Rennie, Asian Aid USA CEO, is happy to report that "thanks to the generous support of donors we achieved over 20% growth last year, but each day we face a greater need for sponsoring needy children."



" This year, please remember in prayer the Asian Aid... children you sponsor projects you support and lives that are influenced through Asian Aid's ministry ... that many souls will be won for God's kingdom"

"As we seek to win others to Christ, bearing the burden of souls in our prayers, our own hearts will throb with the quickening influence of God's grace; our own affections will glow with more divine fervor; our whole Christian life will be more of a reality, more earnest, more prayerful."
(Christ's Object Lessons, p. 354)



Experiencing Hope in Motion

By Felix Olive, Asian Aid Sponsor

When I heard that Asian Aid was inviting sponsors to travel to India and meet the children, I saw it as a great opportunity to see this organization in action.

I first learned about Asian Aid in 2012 at an ASI meeting in Connecticut. When I returned home, I looked up their website and began watching their "Hope in Motion" videos. My spirit was moved by the heart-wrenching stories. With a strong desire to have an active part in changing lives, I started sponsoring a child and giving towards the Sunrise Orphanage.

I was so thrilled to be able to visit the Sunrise Orphanage during my trip to India and was impressed with the dedicated couple who take care of them with so much love and individual attention. To many of the children, Lalitha is the only mother they have ever known. The children are clean, well fed, go to school, and are happy to have a nice place to sleep and a mother and father who love them.

Another of my favorite parts of the trip was becoming friends with the children at the Asian Aid School for the Blind in Bobbili. Two of them took me by the hand to show me how they could write in Braille. Outside, the younger ones surrounded and pressed close around me, expressing their happiness for my visiting them. I learned to love these children during our short visit, and it was sad to see their hands waving goodbye as we left.

Towards the end of our trip, I was finally able to meet Manohar, the boy that I sponsor. It was an exciting experience and made me feel so happy to see Manohar smiling, clean, and well fed at Ibrahimpatnam Adventist School telling me about his favorite Bible story. We spent some quality time together getting to know each other and being a sponsor will never be the same after meeting my sponsored child face to face.

As I travelled through Andhra Pradesh with Jim (Asian Aid USA CEO) and Deborah (Asian Aid Sponsorship Manager), I met smart-looking young boys in uniform and cute little girls in pigtails and learned that behind each smile was a life story of difficulty and sadness, yet restoration. I realized that as a sponsor I had the ability and privilege to change the life of a child from adversity to prosperity, from begging on the streets to having a home and receiving an education, and most importantly, giving them the life changing opportunity to know their Savior. The more I saw and experienced, the more I

rejoiced and gave thanks to God for the blessing of sponsorship.

My whole trip was an unforgettable experience and difficult to express with words alone. I no longer watch the "Hope in Motion" videos and just feel sorry for the children, now I know that I am part of the family of sponsors who are

making a difference in the life of a child every day. Upon returning home, I decided to sponsor a second child in the same school, and I pray for both of them daily that they will grow in love and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

"Behind each smile
was a life story of
difficulty and sadness,
yet restoration."

Above: Felix loved the children at the Blind School and they loved him!
Left: Thrilled to meet his sponsored child

Below: Being welcomed by students at the Blind School



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Asian Aid's new 3ABN time is every Friday at 8:30pm PT, 9:30pm MT, 10:30pm CT, and 11:30pm ET.

Missed an episode on 3ABN?

Watch them all at your convenience on our website (www.asianaid.org) under "Resources" and then click "Video Library".


Manage Your Account Online

If your sponsorship payment is made via credit or debit card, it is now possible for you to manage your account, including changing credit and debit card information and updating expiration dates on our website.

Attending your Regional ASI Spring Convention?

Come look for our booth where you can learn about the latest Asian Aid projects and pick up some free materials to share.

We would love to meet you!

Like us on  facebook.com/AsianAidUSA | Visit our website at asianaid.org

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



Chethan comes from a Hindu home where his father works as a coolie. The family lives in a poor hut. Chethan wants to become a doctor.
\$23 Day Student
ID: U17324



Abishek is one of four children so his father struggles to provide their basic necessities. Abishek loves cricket and wants to become a professional.
\$23 Day Student
ID: U17463



Nikhil is a good student and is in 1st grade. He loves his teacher and wants to become a teacher someday, too.
\$23 Day Student
ID: U17999



Ramyashree is in the 6th grade and is very good in sports. She also enjoys reading, drawing, and helping her mother around the house.
\$23 Day Student
ID: U18507



Simhadri lives in a very poor area and attends Asian Aid's school that helps children who live in the slums. Simhadri wants to become a doctor.
\$23 Day Student
ID: U15178



Sabina attends the school on the campus of the Adventist hospital in Nepal. She enjoys cooking and loves playing with puppies.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: U16576



Durga attends the Asian Aid school in the slum area of Vizak. He dreams of being an engineer one day and loves to fly kites.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: U18256



Siva's father earns a small income by washing other people's clothes. Siva attends the school in the slum area and likes to collect marbles.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: U18257



Leslie is in 7th grade and ranks high in her class. She would like to become a county commissioner when she grows up.
\$35 Boarder
ID: U08916



Laya attends our school in Bangladesh and she would like to grow up to be a nurse. Her father sells fish in the local market for a small income.
\$35 Boarder
ID: U14557



Kirthana's family is very poor and live in a hut house. She is in 5th grade this year and likes to draw.
\$35 Boarder
ID: U14757



Khushboo's father is a day laborer and struggles to care for Khushboo and her brother. Khushboo likes listening to stories.
\$35 Boarder
ID: U16134



Akshay's father is a tailor. Their family recently became Adventists. Akshay likes to play football and wants to be a mechanical engineer.
\$35 Boarder
ID: U17198



Dinesh is an excellent student and wants to become an engineer. He likes to collect stamps.
\$35 Boarder
ID: U17788



Adit comes from an Adventist family and attends our school up in the mountains in Jeypore. He likes playing cricket and singing.
\$35 Boarder
ID: U18035



Kusuma is a helpful girl and assists the smaller children with their studies. She would like to become a doctor when she grows up.
\$35 Boarder
ID: U18281



Suntoshila's parents are living in a relief camp in a hut made of mud and sticks. Suntoshila likes attending school and wants to be a teacher.
\$45 Boarder+
ID: U11693



Pradeep is in college and taking a degree in business management. He is good in sports.
\$45 College
ID: U08314



Jangam graduated from our high school last year and is now in nursing school. He likes to play cricket and read.
\$80 Nursing
ID: U08407



Bhagya's parents died when she was a baby and her aunt took care of her. She is now in nursing school.
\$80 Nursing
ID: U13834