

Violinist Jaime Jorge Brings Music to India

It was a hot, sticky day at the Asian Aid Blind School and the humid air was alive with the sound of children's chattering voices as they excitedly filed into the patio holding the metal railing that ran the length of the courtyard. Some were partially blind and others fully blind since childhood, but they held hands leading and following each other with grins of anticipation as they sat down cross-legged on the concrete floor.

Jaime Jorge, renowned violinist, sat on a plastic lawn chair gazing at the 100 children seated on the ground in front of him. Some of them had never had the joy of seeing the faces of their friends sitting next to them or even knew the color of their uniforms, but they sat with smiles and their heads upturned eagerly awaiting whatever they would hear next. Jaime tightened his bow, adjusted his violin under his chin, and slowly drew his bow across the strings, filling the courtyard with the beautiful melody of "What a Friend We Have in Jesus". As he played with his eyes tightly shut, imagining how it would sound to a blind child, he suddenly heard little voices joining in. Soon, the whole courtyard of children had united in singing the familiar melody and swelled the song of the violin into a resonating children's choir. The sound spoke of lives broken with the challenges of life, poverty, and blindness, but alive with the hope of opportunity and the simple joy of knowing that they too had a wonderful Friend in Jesus. It was a moment that brought tears to Jaime's eyes and left a special memory in the hearts and ears of the children that day.

During his time in India, Jaime also visited the Vizak Slum School and Vizianagaram boys' dorm building project. At the Sunrise Orphanage he played a concert for over 800 local villagers and attended the opening of the new Sunrise boys' dorm. This new dorm will house another 58 children, has the option for a second floor, and contains a dean's apartment, two toilet/shower facilities, a clothes washing area, and a worship hall.

Thank you Jaime for bringing music to the children of India!

Jaime will also be conducting Asian Aid benefit concerts later this year. Stay tuned for Asian Aid's new *Hope in Motion* film series which will include footage from Jaime's trip, including the opening ceremony for the Sunrise dorm.



Above: Jaime Jorge plays for the Asian Aid Blind School
Below: With Asian Aid Slum School children

"I come from Cuba and have seen a lot of poverty ... but nothing matches what I have seen in the villages and slums of India."



Above: Opening of the new Sunrise boys' dorm
Below: Overlooking the Sunrise campus



How Your Dollars Improve India Schools



Children at Ibrahimpatnam School

Ibrahimpatnam Upgrades

Ibrahimpatnam SDA School is located near the city of Vijayawada in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. It offers grades K-12 and has over 700 children, of which Asian Aid currently sponsors 266. This school has extremely high potential as it serves a poor area of India but also is located in an area to attract fee paying students. To ensure that the school is able to grow and meet new government standards, the Asian Aid Education Development Fund has implemented a development project which covers sewer improvement, toilet and shower renovation, boys' dormitory refurbishment, building of a security wall, and providing new classroom resources (such as library books, computers, and science lab equipment). Once these have been completed, extension and redevelopment of the girl's dormitory will begin as the current rooms are overcrowded and susceptible to mold. **If you would like to help Ibrahimpatnam School, please consider a gift to the Education Development Fund.**

Vizianagaram Dormitory

On his recent visit to India, Asian Aid USA CEO Jim Rennie was able to visit the Vizianagaram boys' dormitory project and was pleased to see that the roof is now complete. This new building will house an additional 36 children (with room for expansion to a second floor) and includes a dean's apartment, cafeteria, and worship hall. **It will be a great blessing for this small, extremely needy school in the poor district of Vizianagaram.**

Vizianagaram boys' dorm almost complete



Asian Aid USA Project Team

To manage and direct its projects in India, Asian Aid USA established a project team which is based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The team is led by a USA father and son team, Wally and John Marienau. John is also accompanied by his wife, Malu, who assists with accounting and project support. Asian Aid has a number of Indian staff who are extremely valuable, especially as one of Wally and John's objectives is to train local staff to run development projects. Asian Aid is very grateful for the dedication of this team amid the many challenges they face. **We also are thankful for their families who support them and Asian Aid during their long periods away from home.**

*** URGENT NEEDS**

- **Education Development:** Repair and expansion of the girl's dormitory at Ibrahimpatnam School. Other requests for school resources including science equipment and library books.
- **Un-sponsored Children:** We always have approximately 150 children waiting for sponsors.
- **Where Needed Most:** This fund enables us to meet overhead and urgent requests from the field.
- **Godpod Sponsorship:** Thank you to those who donated towards Godpods for the Blind School! However, we are still in need of more sponsors so that all the children can have a Godpod where they can listen to the Bible and Bible stories in their own language.

Lakpahana Adventist School Making a Difference in Sri Lanka

Asian Aid is currently supporting the development of Lakpahana Adventist College in Sri Lanka. With a current enrollment of 350 students, Lakpahana serves a cross section of the islands' population. Students are enrolled in classes in three languages - Sinhala, Tamil, and English - and students can receive training in Special English, Seminary, and Teacher Training classes. In addition to the normal elementary and secondary classes, Lakpahana has a growing college and industrial education program.

All students are required to participate in a work program where they work 1½ hours on weekdays and four hours on Sunday. In addition to the "normal"



work areas at a boarding school (such as janitorial, cafeteria, and grounds), students work in the campus dairy, poultry, agriculture, coconut trees, and bakery industries. By the end of the year the school plans to reopen the cereal puffing and peanut butter industries. All of these industries provide products for the cafeteria but are also designed to provide additional operating income for the school.

Thank you to the many individuals who have given towards this school and are helping provide a Christ centered education in the country of Sri Lanka.

Lakpahana's bakery produces 220 loaves of bread each day for the school and community

Exploring Opportunities in Myanmar



A little girl on her way to kindergarten class at Mountain View Academy

Asian Aid USA received a request from the church in Myanmar to implement its sponsorship program in Myanmar Adventist schools. Jim Rennie, Asian Aid USA CEO, recently returned from five days visiting the schools and meeting with the church leadership there to discuss the needs and challenges of Adventist education in that country.

Bordered by Thailand, China, and India, Myanmar is a very poor country that has suffered much political unrest and religious suppression. Public evangelism is not allowed outside the church buildings and schools, so Adventist education will play an important role in the future of the Myanmar Adventist Church.

Arriving in the rainy season made travel difficult due to widespread flooding, but Mr. Rennie was able to visit Mountain View Academy, Eric B. Hare School, West Yangoon Adventist Seminary, and a village school where he was impressed with the

dedication and spirituality of the Adventist staff. **Please continue to pray for the Lord's guidance as Asian Aid pursues how you as sponsors can help Adventist education and students in Myanmar.**



An extremely needy Adventist village school in Myanmar



Surgeries Give Hope to Children in Nepal

Earlier this year, Asian Aid received an urgent request from Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital in Nepal to help fund 100 children's hydrocele operations. Male hydrocele is a condition that occurs prenatally where fluid collects in the scrotal area causing pain and leading to hernias. In some cases, the hydrocele will resolve itself while the child is still young, but if not, Scheer Hospital has stepped in to provide hernia repairs for the children and prevent further complications.

The 100 surgeries funded by Asian Aid will assist children whose families are unable to afford the surgery and would otherwise be put on long waiting lists at government hospitals where they could wait up to a year. Thank you to those who have given towards the Nepal Health Fund and improved the lives of these 100 needy children.

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".

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[Facebook.com/AsianAidUSA](https://www.facebook.com/AsianAidUSA)

Visit our website at asianaid.org

Attending the NAD Women's Convention? It will be held Sept 25-28 in Orlando, FL and we would love to meet you. Come by our booth to say hello and pick up some materials to share with your local women's ministry group.

Asian Aid's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in Collegedale, TN on Oct 18. If you are interested in attending, please contact us.

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



Cubbo and his four family members live in a single room bamboo hut in Bangladesh. Cubbo likes to listen to music and wants to become a doctor.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U15465**



Bhoomika's father passed away and her mother works as a tailor. Bhoomika is in 5th grade and would like to become a nurse.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U17087**



Sanketh attends school in India. He enjoys collecting stamps and would like to grow up to be an engineer.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U17096**



Rosy is in 2nd grade at our Mysore SDA School in India. She likes to read and is very artistic and athletic.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U17252**



Priyathershini's father works as a cook and earns very little money. Priyathershini likes to play hide and seek and wants to become a teacher.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U17385**



Lijith's father abandoned the family and his mother works as a maid. Lijith likes to read and wants to grow up to be a police officer.
\$23 Day Student
ID: **U17587**



Niharika's father works as a milkman and her mother works as a housemaid to support their two children. Niharika wants to become a doctor.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U17430**



Lakshmi is in 1st grade at our Bobbili Day School in India. She likes coloring and would like to grow up to be a teacher.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U17434**



Yashwanth attends our Bobbili Day School in India. He likes drawing and wants to become a teacher when he grows up.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U17445**



Abhinaya is a quiet girl. She likes making crafts and dreams of becoming a doctor someday.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U17526**



Amrutha's father is a painter and supports his sickly wife, 2 children, and elderly parents. Amrutha likes reading, drawing, and painting.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U17703**



Shiny is in 5th grade at our Lakkavaram SDA School. She likes to draw and wants to become a doctor.
\$30 Day+ Student
ID: **U17711**



Jilepalli's father is a sweeper at the Ibrahimpatnam SDA School where she attends 7th grade. She would like to become a lawyer.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U02125**



Vijay's father died of jaundice, so he and his mother stay with his grandparents. Vijay likes collecting stamps and wants to become a pastor.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U07711**



Pradeep's father works as an evangelist and earns very little. Pradeep likes to play with toy cars and wants to become a preacher.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U08655**



Lydia's father works as a tailor. Lydia enjoys drawing and wants to become a nurse or doctor when she grows up.
\$35 Boarder
ID: **U16870**



Malleswara is partially blind and attends our Asian Aid Blind School. He would like to become an announcer for the railway.
\$45 Boarder+
ID: **U18051**



Sai is totally blind and attends our Asian Aid Blind School. He likes playing the keyboard and wants to become a lawyer.
\$45 Boarder+
ID: **U18052**



Pradeep is taking a degree in pharmacy. He enjoys reading the Bible and playing cricket.
\$80 Tertiary+
ID: **U08314**



Thingim is from Myanmar (Burma) and is taking the Bible Worker course. She likes reading and wants to become a missionary.
\$80 Tertiary+
ID: **U16751**