

Asian Aid USA, PO Box 2258, Collegedale TN 37315  
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Dear Friends of Asian Aid,

As another year drifts into the past, I reflect on the blessings of 2016. Asian Aid proudly celebrated 50 years of giving hope while looking back on the legacy that has been built. Over 3,500 children living in Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sri Lanka express their deepest gratitude for your support — it doesn't go unnoticed. However, there are millions of children still in need. There are still many children yearning to join our program and have a loving sponsor give them an education.

In 2017, we need your continued support of the mission of Asian Aid by getting our message out to your friends and family. It can be by inviting us to present at your local church or you yourself giving a presentation with a short DVD featuring Asian Aid's Honorary Ambassador Shawn Boonstra. Together, we can continue to lessen the number of children deprived of an education in Southern Asia.

Early December, I traveled to Bangladesh where I was filled with joy meeting some of the 250 future teachers, businessmen, and doctors. I was able to visit SAMS College, an Adventist Mission College with over 600 children. Security is tight in that part of the country and wherever I went I had to have a police escort. It was a unique experience that I will always remember. I will be sharing more about my trip in this newsletter.



Asian Aid is a unique ministry in that over 90% of the funds we send to countries are funneled back into the church to support Adventist mission schools. Schools that are not only teaching math, science, and history, but that share the love of Jesus to children who otherwise would not have the opportunity to hear that precious name.

I thank you again for your valuable and cherished support.  
In His Service,



Jim Rennie AAUSA CEO

## Sunrise Home Update



Sunrise Home is a beautiful orphanage in Bobbili, India serving over 120 orphan children. With 12 acres of land, Sunrise is able to grow their own food and connect their children with the beauty of gardening. As the orphanage continues to grow, God continues to lead as plans are being made to construct a new multipurpose building. This building will include a pre-school room, a computer lab, and a vocational training center for the older students.

**Just imagine all of the young minds that will thrive in their new environments?**

Early January of this year, the architect visited the campus and a full survey of the property was completed. Anticipation of the new building is spreading all over the campus. Please continue to keep the planning process in your prayers. Thank you for all the support that you have provided.





# Jim's Bangladesh Trip

Early December, Jim Rennie, CEO, got on a plane for 30 hours of flying from the US to Bangladesh for the first time.

Bangladesh is located on the east border of India and the west border of Myanmar. This beautiful country has a population of over 156 million people and over 29,000 members of the Adventist church. During the first weekend of the visit, he joined in the 100th year celebration of the Adventist church in Bangladesh.

For this exciting event, General Conference President was in attendance with his wife Nancy. Pastor Wilson was proud of the key role Asian Aid has taken in sponsoring children while simultaneously supporting Adventist mission schools.

After the ceremonies, Jim flew an hour north to visit the Seventh-day Adventist Maranatha Seminary (SAMS) campus. SAMS is located on the northern end of the Bangladesh-India border.

In that area, security is tight and all foreign visitors are required to have a police escort. For Jim it was very different to have four heavily armed policemen as his escorts.

SAMS was built by Garwin McNeilus, an American businessman, in 1993 and has become a huge means of outreach in the area. With over 800 students and about 50 sponsored children, SAMS has a lot of property that includes some vegetable gardens that provides fresh produce for them. The principal, Benjamin Mrong, gave Jim a tour of the campus and pointed out the shortage of computer

resources. Recognizing the importance of this need, Jim made arrangements for the school to purchase 20 new computers and two new printers. What a blessing!

For Jim it was very different to have four heavily armed policemen as his escorts.

God is doing a lot through the staff at the Adventist mission schools in Bangladesh to revive hope in their hearts and inspire their minds. Jim looks forward to his next trip back to Bangladesh this year.



## Success Story: Milton Das

Milton Das is the Director of Bangladesh Children's Sponsorship Services (BCSS), a partner organization of Asian Aid. He enjoys the smiles and happiness of children and young people after giving hope with assurance of sponsorship for their education. "I enjoy seeing that the students are graduating, being self-reliant and also helping others," he says. "Further, I am very happy to have very dedicated team."

Before his fourth birthday, Milton lost his father to liver cancer and as a result, his education was put in jeopardy. With his then pregnant mother unable to carry the burden of caring for Milton and his younger brother, he wondered, how would I be able to start school? Who would support my education?

Thousands of miles away, Joy Butlin, a typing teacher, attended a meeting at her job. That

day an appeal was made for the staff to join the Asian Aid family and sponsor a child. "I chose Milton that day," says Joy. Milton was now a part of the Asian Aid family with a sponsor and a chance for a better future.

Over the next 20 years, Joy continued to support Milton until he completed his bachelor's degree in education at Bangladesh Adventist Seminary and College. Joy was proud of the man who Milton had become. "It is a delight to me that Milton has been able to care for his widowed mother and be a tower of strength for his family, church, and country," she says.

Now, Milton continues to live out his passion of being an "agent for changing lives for this world and the world to come." He believes he is the fruit of the seeds that were planted so many years ago. "Today," he says, "Asian



Aid is continuing to plant the same seeds of love and care for other children and young people through education; seeds that will bear fruit tomorrow."

While Milton has a story that is his own, there are many more children who have overcome tough obstacles in their lives to get an education. Asian Aid is a part of many past stories, many current stories, and with your help, many more to come.



During his Holiday Tour, Jaime Jorge, world-renowned violinist, prepared to pick up his prized violin and walk on stage in Birmingham, Alabama to share his passions for God and for music. This concert would give Jaime the opportunity to share his other passion – Asian Aid USA and child sponsorship.

For more than a year, Jaime has traveled as an Asian Aid Ambassador sharing the blessings of child sponsorship. During the concert he was going to air a video of his trip to Myanmar with Asian Aid CEO, Jim Rennie. Jaime wanted everyone to see for themselves the need of the beautiful children of Myanmar to learn about Jesus. Tonight was going to be a blessed night.

Rocco sat down with his mother Gina on a church pew ready for the concert to begin. Rocco loved music. As Jaime's trip to Myanmar played on the screen, Rocco watched intently. Myanmar was so different from anything Rocco had seen in his 8 years. From the tall mountains, to the large gold temples, to the narrow boat where Jaime sat with a slender native navigating down the river, it was all so different from his world. Rocco was intrigued by their faces, their classrooms and even the type of sunscreen they used to coat their faces.

Rocco turned to his mother and politely asked for her phone. His tiny fingers opened up the calculator application and keyed in  $38 \times 12 = \$456$ . He showed her the numbers and asked, "Do I have enough to sponsor a child for a year?"

Jaime Jorge filming Asian Aid's Hope in Motion series



# KIDS HELPING KIDS

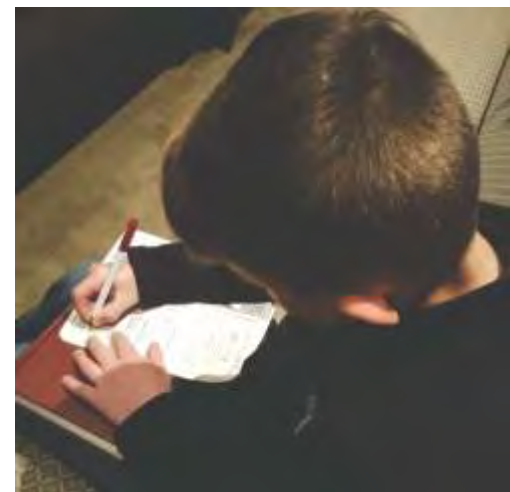
She smiled and told him that he did. Rocco had always been careful to set aside the money he received on his birthdays and Christmas. Jesus had spoken to his heart and now he would be able to put those funds to good use. After the concert, Rocco and Gina selected a Myanmar child to sponsor—Nay.

Rocco attended a Christian daycare center since he was a baby. This Christian education left an impression on him. One day, at four-years-old, he came home and proclaimed, "Mommy, we haven't been going to church but we should!" The following weekend they found a church to attend and as they pulled in, Gina rolled down her window to ask a man where to park. She explained it was their first time to attend. Rocco piped in from his car seat in the back, "But we'll be coming here forever!"

Now, Gina and her husband have given their hearts to Jesus and Rocco has been dedicated to Him, too. This was a day full of joy. Rocco now has two parents who don't just love him, but love and live for Jesus. Today Rocco and his step-father are learning to play the piano and the guitar and hope to share their testimony through music.

Since becoming a sponsor, Rocco says he, "feels changed." He prays for Nay daily. Nay has a special place in Rocco's heart and he hopes that one day, they might meet if not here, then in Heaven. That night at the Jaime Jorge concert will always hold a special place in their hearts. Gina is so proud of Rocco for being willing to be used by God. "I am so grateful to God for His son, Rocco. While I gave Rocco life, Rocco saved my life. To God be the glory for it all!"

Rocco fills out his sponsorship form





# Sponsorship Gift Program

## All children love to get presents!

Asian Aid understands how rewarding it can be to send your sponsored child a special gift; however, the process and cost has been prohibitive and confusing for many years.

Both you and Asian Aid have encountered:

- High cost of postage.
- Gifts not reaching our office in country.
- Gifts missing during the country delivery.
- Student owing duty on a package that they can't afford to pay.
- Packages arriving opened with missing items.

We have set up a gift program in India to alleviate the stress of sending gifts overseas. As we figure out how to overcome the issues in the other countries, we will open up the program in those countries as well.

If you are a sponsor of a child in India, you will be able to select a gift and purchase it through the Asian Aid USA office. Gift options will be sent to all sponsors of Indian children

based on age and gender. As you select your gift, we encourage you to write a letter to accompany your gift. You can then place your order, send your letter and payment to our office or give us a call to make your payment. **All orders and letters must be received by the deadline.** We will send the order to our partner office in India, they will fulfill the order and then deliver it to your sponsored child.

**The two deadlines each year will be:**

**May 31**

Deadline for order and payment to be received by the Asian Aid office

**August**

When your gift and letter will be delivered to your sponsored child

**October 31**

Deadline for order and payment to be received by the Asian Aid office

**February**

When your gift and letter will be delivered to your sponsored child



## Special help required

# **RIGHT NOW!**

Asian Aid has two key funds that it needs to run its operations:

**Where Needed Most fund:**

This fund allows us to have resources available as need arises in all the countries it operates. The fund also helps with costs to manage our program and give support to over 3,500 children.

Contributions to this fund are key to Asian Aid's operation and urgent needs!

**Un-sponsored children fund:**

Asian Aid always has up to 600 un-sponsored children. Once a child is in the program even without a sponsor Asian Aid continues support. **If you are unable to sponsor a child any contribution, small or large, ensures these children continue their education.**

**Please consider helping us with these vital tasks!**





# URGENT NEED

We have 12 students at our Blind School in India who urgently need sponsorship or some support.

Sponsorship is \$48 per month which includes their education at the blind school, uniform, boarding, food and medical support. These children have no hope of any real education without your help ! You can also make a donation to help them, remit with the envelope or donate to our "blind school" at [www.asianaid.org](http://www.asianaid.org)



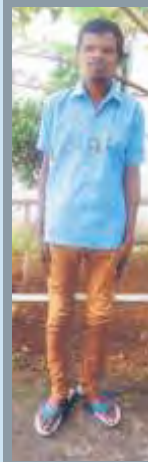
**Surya Prakash** was born blind. He is in the 5th grade and loves learning. Surya has one sister who is not blind. He wants to become a teacher and teach other blind students. He loves music and enjoying the GodPods provided to the Blind School.

ID: U20740



**Dileep** is totally blind and is in the 12th grade. Both his mom and dad passed away leaving him with only one sister. He reads Braille and loves to read and to listen to music

ID: U20739



**Banewar** is an orphan. He is in the 9th grade and loves school and the ability to learn Braille. He is a good student and would like to be a teacher. He loves listening to music, too.

ID: U20735



**Dhasardha** is totally blind. He has been living with his mother but is happy to have a place at the Blind School where he can learn. He is in the 10th grade and is a good student. He loves to sing. Becoming a teacher would make him very happy.

ID: U20732



**Vivek** is only partially blind and has struggled in other schools. He is in the 7th grade and happy to attend a school that can help him learn. He is a good student but he also loves to play with his new friends at school teacher when he grows up.

ID: U20696



**Satish** is partially blind. He enjoys learning how to study and wants to become a teacher. He loves cricket and plays the game well. He has two younger brothers and is in the 7th grade.

ID: U20698



**Sangeetha** is partially blind. She is in the 1st grade. She is happy to be in school and is very interested in studying. She has two siblings that are older than her. The blind school has given her hope of a brighter future. She likes to sing and listen to music.

ID: U20730



**Jyothi** is totally blind but has an older brother who has always helped him with his school work. He is in the 4th grade and is learning Braille and enjoys learning. He can now "read" stories. He enjoys playing with his new friends at the blind school.

ID: U20694



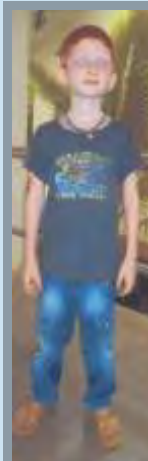
**Varalaxmi** is a 7th grader who is partially blind. She has one younger sister who she misses, but she is happy to be in a special school that is teaching her skills to have a better life. She loves to help others and wants to become a teacher.

ID: U20731



**Mohan** is in the 6th grade and is partially blind. He has a sister who is partially blind that is attending the blind school with him. He is very happy to be at the blind school where he can learn and become a help to another blind person. He wants to be a teacher.

ID: U20689



**Nireekshan** is an albino who is in the 2nd grade. He is partially blind, due to his albinism. He has a younger brother who is not albino. He is a fast learner and happy to be in school where he can study. He is learning Braille and is beginning to read. He loves music and likes playing with toys, too.

ID: U20734



**Bhavani** is totally blind from birth. She has a younger and an older brother who have helped her survive. She is so happy to be at a school that will teach her how to have a better life. She wants to be able to teach other blind people how to read. She loves music.

ID: U20733

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Asian Aid's 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](http://www.asianaid.org)) under "Resources" and then click "Video Library".

Don't forget that sponsorship rates increased on July 1, 2015. New rates are:

Day: \$25      Boarder+: \$48  
Day+: \$32      College: \$65  
Boarder: \$38      Nursing: \$90

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding your sponsorship payments.

For more information, articles and videos on our sponsorship program and the many projects we support please visit our website

[asianaid.org](http://asianaid.org)

Like us on **facebook** [facebook.com/AsianAidUSA](https://facebook.com/AsianAidUSA)



## Can you help?

We are asking if you could share what you know about Asian Aid with the world.

We desperately need sponsors and you are our best Ambassadors. Please tell others about Asian Aid and if you would like flyers, or other promotional materials, to distribute please contact us.

## What is Your Legacy?

Most of us give very little thought to this. We know our reward is eternity spent with Him and are satisfied to bask in that. However, until our Savior returns, we have the opportunity to use our assets to maximum capacity through a well thought out, planned allocation of our estate to benefit the lives of others.

If you believe in the impact Asian Aid is having on so many children's lives, why not consider an estate gift or designate all or a portion of your will to advance the mission of caring for underprivileged children?

Because Asian Aid is a ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, you can accomplish this through your local Conference Trust Department, or with the assistance of your Financial Adviser.

**Thank you for giving this careful consideration.**

**Please contact us for further information:**

Call toll-free **866-569-7933**  
or email [support@asianaid.org](mailto:support@asianaid.org)  
to arrange for a professional advisor to contact you.

## THESE CHILDREN URGENTLY NEED YOUR SPONSORSHIP



Isaan is a semi-orphan and his mother is mentally ill. Despite hardships he is cheerful and wants to be in school and become a doctor when he grows up.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U17718**



Pramod's parents make very little working as day laborers repairing roads. He likes drawing, singing, reading the Bible, and wants to be a policeman.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U18536**



Saw Htee only has one parent as his mother died. He studies English, likes to serve God and wants to do charity work for the needy when he grows up.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U19875**



Prabas attends school regularly and does all his class duties without fail. He has a great desire to be a teacher. His hobbies include playing cricket.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U20388**



Pretty likes school and listens attentively in the class. She has a melodious voice, enjoys singing, loves helping others and wants to be a nurse.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U17721**



Ma Mi's parents earn very little. She enjoys singing songs, her favorite school subject is Science, she wants to be a missionary and help orphanages.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U18886**



Ye Yo is the only one in her family to go to school, works hard, and would like to continue as she wants to be a Doctor. Ye Yo likes to sing and dance.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U19938**



Joseph En Tawi is in 3rd grade and lives with his grandparents. He enjoys playing the guitar and desires to be a pastor when he grows up.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U20714**



Sandeep is an outstanding student in class, goes to church regularly where he enjoys the song service. He is the eldest child and wants to be a teacher.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U18391**



An Me has two brothers and five sisters. She likes reading books and swimming. Her favorite subject is Science and she would like to be a teacher.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U18928**



Swarnalatha is in the 3rd grade, attends regularly and loves studying. She has three brothers and a sister, likes singing and dancing, and wants to be a singer.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U20208**



Cing Sian Lang is in 6th grade but her father is unable to support her. She enjoys reading, English is her favorite subject and wants to be a teacher.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U20717**



Blessy comes from a poor and humble family. She likes to take part in all the extracurricular activities at school, read the Bible, sing, and be a doctor.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U18423**



Eh Kalu's parents cannot afford school. Her favorite subject is History, plays the piano, likes volleyball, wants to be an Evangelist and serve God.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U19869**



Salomi is a hard working 2nd grade student, a keen observer who likes to play and enjoys spending time with her friends. Salomi would like to be a teacher.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U20377**



Cing Khan Khai's parents are farmers but recent floods mean little income. He plays the guitar, loves music, English and wishes to become a Doctor.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U20719**



Hardhik comes from a SDA family, reads the Bible and prays. He enjoys Sabbath school, does well at school and wants to become an engineer.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U18463**



Min Htet was abandoned so he lives with his poor grandparents. He like to study History, wants to be educated, and become a professional footballer.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U19870**



Akshithas is in 2nd grade. She studies well and is hard working. Her hobbies include reading books and playing with friends. She would like to be a teacher.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U20380**



Man Sian Hung is in 7th grade but her parents do struggle to support her. She loves to read, play soccer, and wants to be a teacher when she grows up.  
**\$38 Boarder**  
ID: **U20717**