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Sponsorship Saved Susan's Life

It was a hot, sticky afternoon at Sunrise Home, but for 13 Sunrise children it was a special day - they were eagerly anticipating a dip in the cool, refreshing water. No, it wasn't for a fun splash in the river like Sunrise children often do when it gets hot like this in India. This time they were stepping into a makeshift baptismal pool carved out of the ground on Sunrise's campus where they would take their stand for Jesus.

Dressed in a pink Indian salwar and with her hair neatly tied back, Susan eagerly stepped forward towards the black tarp lining the water hole. Looking at the smile and glow on her face this Sabbath afternoon, you wouldn't have guessed that

Susan's eleven short years were ones of desperation, survival, and desertment. But before coming to Sunrise Home, Susan's life had very little of the joy she exuded today.

When Susan was born, her parents happily welcomed their beautiful baby girl, their first child. Although they lived in a hilly tribal area in a tiny humble hut made of palm leaves, the family was happy together and accepted the poverty-stricken life they knew. However, their simple contentment soon changed to tragedy when Susan's mother got sick and died of malaria. Soon after, her father went to collect wild honey, was furiously attacked by bees, and eventually succumbed to the massive number of inflicted stings. Susan was left a vulnerable 5-year-old to care for herself. In the family's palm leaf hut, she stayed all alone, only eating a little rice with water and some diluted millet porridge when neighbors or passersby would take pity on the pathetic, forsaken little girl. Finally, in June 2008, one of the men in the village took pity on her condition and brought her to Asian Aid's Sunrise Home. Over the next 7 years, life totally changed for Susan - she gained a new family (with more brothers and sisters than she had bargained for!), the love of a mummy and father who treated her as one of their own, and a place to call home.

Because of a sponsor in the US, Susan was able to go to school where she is now in 8th grade and has aims of becoming a nurse - an impossibility for most people in her village. But most importantly, Susan loves to read the Bible, help out with Sabbath School, and has learned about a Jesus who loves her and who never forsakes His children.



Left: 13 Sunrise children baptized.

Below: Susan beginning a new life with Jesus.



"In the family's palm leaf hut, she stayed all alone, only eating a little rice with water"



There are so many more children like Susan who not only need to be saved from poverty and helplessness, but need to be given a new life of hope through opportunities and knowing their Savior. Please keep Susan, the other 12 Sunrise children baptized, and the thousands of Asian Aid children in your prayers that they will all come to know the love of Jesus.

When her sponsors, the Blosser family, heard about her baptism, they wrote encouraging her in her decision and new life in Jesus:



"We were all excited to see the picture of you being baptized. This is awesome news for us. We now know that our special friend in India can also be our spiritual friend."

- The Blosser Family



Susan (right) helping on the Sunrise farm

Cast Down But Not Destroyed

“We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed.”

2 Cor. 4:8, 9

On April 25, 2015, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake shook the country of Nepal. It also shook our hearts as the stories of the destruction to cities, enormous fatalities, and despair of a country in shock and fear reached us during the next few days and weeks.

Asian Aid was especially concerned about Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital. Located just 16 miles east of Kathmandu, they felt the brunt of the shaking but thankfully suffered minimal structural damage. However, God had preserved them for a reason. Within hours, critically injured patients flooded their campus. The shaken medical personnel gained their footing, immediately jumped to meet the rising needs, and began tending to the hundreds of patients in makeshift tents outside the hospital.

Asian Aid has been partnering with Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital for the last few years, funding women's health and children's surgeries. Now, within hours of the disaster, it became apparent that Scheer needed help now more than ever, and YOU STEPPED IN!

As of this writing, you have given over \$200,000 which has been essential in Scheer's ability to treat patients who have no ability to pay. In addition, emergency teams based at the hospital are being deployed to the difficult to reach mountain areas where entire villages have been destroyed yet have received little to no relief.

Dr. Dale Mole, CEO of Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital, stated that their work for the people of Nepal during this crisis would not have been possible without the generous outpouring of support you have given. Thank you from Scheer Hospital, Asian Aid, and the thousands who have benefited from your giving.

A 28 year old woman was brought to the hospital's emergency department following an attempt of suicide. When we investigated the reason, we were told that 99% of the homes in her village had been destroyed and the villagers had been surviving on just water and salt for the last five days after the earthquake. We realized the urgent need to send aid to the villages and decided to send a team from Scheer Hospital to the villages about two and a half hours away to deliver food, materials for shelter, and provide medical treatment.

After a long journey over rough terrain, we reached the first village. Evidences of destruction were everywhere. Over 95% of the houses had been reduced to rubble - piles of bricks and mud where people were attempting to dig out any salvageable belongings. Sadly, there were still family members missing and buried under the rubble, along with cattle that had been tied under the sheds, so the air was filled with the heavy scent of decaying carcasses.

A temporary clinic was set up and people lined up for medical care. A six year old boy was waiting with his mother. He had multiple

A glimpse into a physician's firsthand experience

stitches on his scalp and an injured leg. He was alone in the house when the earthquake began and ran to a small mud hut nearby for protection which collapsed, burying him. She came running to the house, screaming her son's name, only to find her house turned into a pile of bricks and wood. She saw a hand sticking out underneath the pile and heard the faint cry of her son's voice. It took the villagers two hours to dig him out - alive but drenched in blood. The boy's foot was infected and emitting a foul smell, so we cleaned the wound and asked if they would come to the hospital with us for an x-ray and further treatment of the wound.

We reached the second village in the late afternoon, attended to some of the villagers' medical needs, and then

Left: Injured boy who was rescued from the rubble

Right: Devouring his first meal in six days

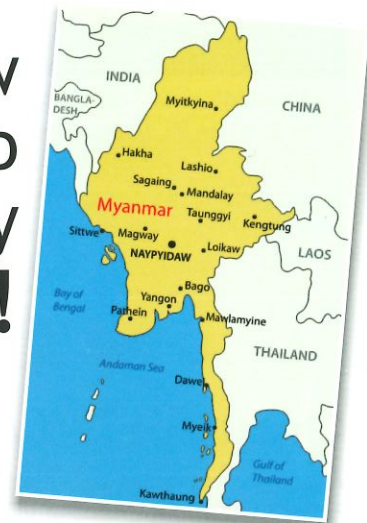
unloaded the precious cargo of food and supplies from the truck. As we finished unloading, the villagers clapped and thanked us for the little we could collect to offer them. It was just a drop in the ocean of need but nonetheless would support them for a week until they could rebuild their village.

We were heading back late, but didn't forget to pick up the mother and son with the injured foot. Back at Scheer, the wound was treated and fortunately the boy had not suffered any fractures. They joined us in the cafeteria and enjoyed their first real meal in six days.

Everyone in the team was drained and exhausted but had smiles in their faces. Tomorrow would be another long day, reaching out to few more, taking one day at a time.



New Sponsorship Country Myanmar!



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 church buildings and schools. Yet 80% of children who attend Myanmar Adventist schools are from non-Adventist and mostly non-Christian homes, so Adventist education plays a vital role in the future and growth of the Adventist church.

Now you can have an essential part of evangelism in Myanmar! The Adventist church in Myanmar has requested that Asian Aid USA implement its sponsorship program in Myanmar Adventist schools. So, for as little as \$38 per month, you can:

- Provide a needy child in Myanmar an Adventist education
- Cover full boarding costs, accommodation and food
- Introduce them to Jesus
- Support an Adventist mission school

You will be able to sponsor Myanmar children starting July 1, 2015

Unable to sponsor? Your donation towards Myanmar will make a big difference, too!

Get Ready for the New School Year

It's summer vacation for students here in the US and schools are busy getting ready for the next school year. But imagine if the school your child attended wasn't able to fix its leaks, paint its walls, or get new desks. What if instead of a newly painted classroom, sparkling bathrooms, and a library full of books, your child returned to cracks in the walls, toilets that were backing up, and a library with empty shelves?

This is exactly the challenge that faces many schools in India every year. Although sponsorship ensures that children can attend school, providing children with classrooms that are built soundly, water that is clean, and school resources that can help students get the academic advantages that they need, can be extremely difficult for most poor Adventist schools in India. This is where Asian Aid's Educational Development Fund steps in.

The Educational Development Fund provides essential school resources from science equipment and desks to new roofs and clean bathrooms. Thanks to those who have already given towards Educational Development, the Asian Aid project team is currently installing a

desperately needed water supply at Ibrahimpatnam Adventist School in Andhra Pradesh, India. Safe drinking water is critical to the health of the more than 900 children that attend this school, of which Asian Aid sponsors over 200. But there are so many more needs in so many more schools. Will you consider giving towards Educational Development so the students you sponsor can return to a better and safer school?

Your gift towards Educational Development will help provide the essentials needed to provide a good learning environment for hundreds of 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".

Asian Aid will be at the **NAD Ministerial Convention** in Austin, TX, June 28-30 (Booth 517)

Come see how your church can be involved with Asian Aid through sponsorship and children's ministries!

Attending the General Conference in San Antonio, TX, July 2-11?

Come see us in the exhibit hall (booth C1649) where you can also pick up a FREE Jaime Jorge concert ticket (Mention that you are a current supporter and you might even get a VIP seat!)

Like us on **facebook** 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



Leslie is in 7th grade at the SDA school in Flaiz. Her family lives in a thatched mud house.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U08916**



Ashish's father works as a volunteer pastor. Ashish would like to be a pastor too when he grows up. He loves to participate in church activities.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U12254**



Kaviya's father is not able to work to support the family. Her mother works in a school to support the three children. Kaviya wants to become a doctor.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U14246**



Laya attends our school in Bangladesh. Her father sells fish locally for a small income to support his four children and also their elderly grandfather.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U14557**



Jerome comes from a remote part of eastern Bangladesh. He likes to play football and wants to be a teacher when he grows up.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U14918**



Vanadana's father works as an agricultural laborer and her mother stays home to care for the three children. Vanadana wants to become a teacher.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U15120**



Ravi Shankar is a quiet boy and a good singer. His father is a missionary. Ravi likes reading the Bible and wants to grow up to be a pastor.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U16934**



Akshay's father works as a tailor. The family recently became Adventist. Akshay wants to become a mechanical engineer.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U17198**



Sakthivel is a good artist and loves to draw. He hopes to become a teacher when he grows up. This year Sakthivel is in 6th grade.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U17785**



Dinesh is an excellent student and is striving to become an engineer. He enjoys collecting stamps.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U17788**



Suraj is in lower kindergarten and loves to play cricket. He wants to become an engineer when he grows up.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18025**



Bijay is very active in Sabbath School and has a brother and sister whom he likes to play marbles with. He would like to become a teacher.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18027**



Adit is in 1st grade at Asian Aid's school in Jeypore. His parents are farm laborers.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18035**



Varshini is in 5th grade at Ibrahimpatnam school. She likes singing, drawing, and coloring; and would like to grow up to be a nurse.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18318**



Ramya is an excellent student and helps her friends with their studies too. She likes drawing pictures and wants to be a doctor someday.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18457**



Thriveni is in 6th grade. She enjoys helping with housework, singing, caring for the small children, and listening to Bible stories.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18667**



Timothy is the eldest of three brothers. He would like to become an engineer and enjoys drawing and playing cricket and marbles.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18669**



Rama Krishna's parents are farmers. Rama Krishna enjoys watching birds and caring for animals. He would like to become an engineer.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18672**



Rathna Prasad is the only child in his family. He likes to sing and draw and wants to grow up to be a pastor.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18674**



Rebacca is the second of three children and is a very helpful girl. She likes to read stories and wants to become a doctor.

\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18686**