

# Hope Children's Home

Visakhapatnam, India

Special 1<sup>st</sup> Ann. Edition  
HCH Newsletter  
Aug/Sep 2005

.....the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless. Ps. 10:14

Dear HCH supporters and friends,

Bro. Kerry Melton and I just returned from India and the HCH and what a blessed trip it was! It was so good to see the kids and give them the gifts we brought. Friday evening Bro. Abraham handed them out as Kerry and I took photos. They were thrilled to receive them. We also took the kids to a park and to the beach and spent all the time we could with them while we were there. We found the children happy and doing well. Two of the newer children had some type of skin rash. I asked Bro. Mathew about it and he said this came from the conditions they lived in before they came to the HCH. A doctor is treating them now.

The Lord was so good to allow us to get in and get out of the Vizag airport. When we arrived on the 23<sup>rd</sup> the airport had been closed for several days due to flooding, but re-opened the night before. Then, on the 30<sup>th</sup>, airline strikes hit the country and most flights were cancelled, but we left on the 29<sup>th</sup> and made it out before that happened. God is good! I asked Bro. Mathew about the needs of the children. One need was a CD/DVD player so that they can listen to good Christian Telugu music and watch the Bugs Bunny DVD's I left with them. We thank God some folks from Bro. Kerry's church gave a gift to buy this. The cost was \$112.00. One need for the children is a van so they can be transported to school and various other places. Right now they walk to school and vehicles must be rented at a high cost if they are taken anywhere else. Bro. Mathew said a good used van would cost about \$5,000.00. I know the Lord will provide this need in His time through those who give to the HCH.

In the last newsletter I mentioned that my brother in law Eddie Kelso, and nephew David were to go visit the HCH. Well, they made it as far as Amsterdam and had to return. On the July 25<sup>th</sup>, a world's record was set in Bombay for rainfall in a day. Over 3 feet! With no promise from the airlines as to when flights would resume to Bombay, Eddie and David had to turn back. They hope to return soon.

The morning we left the kids, I hugged each one goodbye. About halfway through the emotion of the moment overtook me and I had to pause to weep. Then later as I watched the night-lights of Bombay fade in the distance as we flew away from India, I shed some tears knowing it would be at least another year before I returned.

I praise God He has given me a love for these children and that we can make a difference in their lives for His glory! I want to thank each one of you who have given, and are giving to the HCH.

Included in this edition are several photos taken on the trip, as well as a letter from Bro. Kerry about his thoughts of the trip.

From Bro. Kerry Melton, HCH supporter:

*The Lord really blessed me on my trip to India with Shawn. I had prayed for months that the trip would be enlightening and rewarding through the grace of God. Shawn and I were able to share the gospel in India and spend some time with the children at the Hope Children's Home at Vizag, and also at the Lighthouse Children's Home in Kakinada (Larry Neff, founder.) We both spoke at three different churches in India. On the morning of Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at Vizag, Shawn spoke at the Carmel Baptist Church and I spoke at the Bethel Baptist Church where several decisions were made at both churches. That Sunday night, Shawn and I attended a church service with Brother Mathew Henry on the beach just outside Kakinada and we both spoke for about 15 minutes each. The following Tuesday night we both spoke at Brother Robert Emmanuel's church (Life Gate Tabernacle) in Hyderabad and Shawn sang three songs. Attending these church services with Brother Mathew and Brother Emmanuel were wonderful and gave us the opportunity to worship Jesus in a different culture. The music was great even though I did not understand the language but I knew everyone was worshipping Christ. Brother Mathew and Brother Emmanuel were so kind to provide travel, food and some shopping for us while we visited both Kakinada and Hyderabad. Both men are great men of God who are very kind, generous and thoughtful in everything they do. It was a pleasure to spend time with these men and see how the gospel of Jesus is spreading throughout the country.*

*The people in India were so wonderful in showing us kindness and hospitality. Brother Abraham Lincoln and his wife gave up their time to feed us and show us wonderful hospitality in their home while we were in Vizag. Shawn and I were able to spend several days with the Hope Children's Home children and we presented gifts to them and played with them during our stay in Vizag. We were also able to spend one day with the Lighthouse Children's Home children in Kakinada. All the children were very special and it would have been nice to spend more time with them. Please pray for the children that they will continue to grow spiritually in the word of God and that God will use these children in different capacities of the ministry.*

Photos on page #2:

1. The kids play at the park in Visakhapatnam.
2. Nagabushanam and Raju show us their rabbits.
3. Little Jeevan receives his new shirt.
4. The children pose with their new shirts.
5. An afternoon at the beach.
6. Farewell for now: Adults L to R: Bro. Abraham, Bro. James Paul, Bro. Mathew, me, Bro. Davadenum (children's caretaker), Bro. Kerry Melton, Bro. Yesdas, and the children's cook.