

hope foundation

2017 Summer Update



DR. VARUGHESE PHILIP DEDICATING THE NEW BOYS HOME BUILDING

Big changes in 2017

Once again, we thank you for your support and prayers. By the grace of God, our work in India continues to progress and we would like to provide an update of the latest developments. After the summer holidays in India, all our children have started their new school year for 2017. We request your continued prayers and support.

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION UPDATE

At the end of the last school year, six students appeared for their high school graduation final examination and all of them, four boys and two girls, passed the SSLC examination. We are proud to let you know that two of them passed with distinction (91% and 89%). Four of them joined a pre-university college (PUC) to complete their 11th and 12th grades and two others joined polytechnic colleges for engineering studies.

Three students appeared for PUC (12th grade) examination and two of them passed with 1st class. One failed in two subjects and is retaking the examination. Those who passed will be joining an undergraduate program.

BANGALORE CHILDREN'S HOME

We will be moving all the boys we care for to a new location in Bangalore by the end of July. The new location is a building that has been leased (without compensation) to Hope Foundation by a board member. All children below 10th grade will be attending St. George School. The school management has given a substantial discount for the student fees, and the school is providing transportation to and from our boy's home. A new warden and his wife are joining our staff at this location. Four of our boys are studying in PUC and other colleges.

KOLAR CHILDREN'S HOME – GIRLS HOME

We currently have 23 girls at this location. Five staff members live along with the children and provide care and support. In addition, we have been able to partner with students from a nearby medical college to come volunteer and tutor the children. Eight of our children are in college. The remaining 16 students are still in school, and the school has been generous in charging discounted fees to our students.

WIDOWS TRAINING CENTER - BANGALORE

The widows training center is functioning well and a new batch of six women started the tailoring training at the beginning of July. God strengthened us to help several widows and poor women through this training center so far.



WIDOWS TRAINING CENTRE BANGALORE



HEADING TO SCHOOL AT KOLAR CHILDREN'S HOME



TABITHA RIDING BYCYCLE, BOYS GOING TO SCHOOL, NEW BOYS HOME BUILDING

RANCHI CHILDREN'S HOME

We currently care for eleven children at this location and most of them are doing exceptionally well in their studies.

EXCERPT FROM AN ARTICLE ON ORPHAN CARE BY DR. VARUGHESE PHILIP

People around us today show a high interest of care and concern for various elements of God's creation such as the environment, wildlife, pets, plants and so on. However, while we show care for many things around us, we as human beings need to know the significant and spiritual act of caring for the crown of creation which is the human being. Given our limited time and resources, it is my assertion that caring for orphans appears to be a greater act of godliness and humanness than any other.

An orphan is defined as a child who has been deprived of parental care, and is fatherless, comfortless, or helpless. UNICEF reports that every day over 5,700 children become orphans. More than 17.8 million children have lost both parents and 153 million children are full or semi orphans. Globally, 132 million children are in need of a new parents, family, shelter, and care. There are many instances where orphan children are used and abused for various reasons. It is said that each year, about 2 million children are drawn to the sex trade, and the majority among them are from an orphan background. These orphan children are offered food, money and clothing and often exchange sex for food to prevent starvation. In some cases, orphans get some partial basic needs met but greater abuse is then done to them. Children in that situation and at that time may not have any long term goal, but rather focus on survival in the present context of their struggle.

Apart from that, these children may not have any voice to raise even if they know they are abused. Hence, a family is the essential place and environment for children, and indeed every orphan, to receive love, values, safety, basic human needs, trust and grow in the environment of belonging, which is a home. Caring for the orphan is a significant human response of a good human being and a responsibility of every Christian. For effective care, it is essential to understand both the divine and human perspective on orphan care.

TO READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE, PLEASE VISIT ONTOHOPE.ORG

OUR THANKS

Thank you for your continued support as we work to accomplish our mission. We need your prayers as we try to change the lives of the children in our care, and provide resources to help poor widows become financially independent.



BANGALORE BOYS HOME OPEING



VOLUNTEER AT THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY AT KOLAR CHILDREN'S HOME



VISITORS AT OLD BANGALORE CHILDREN'S HOME LOCATION

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