

Children's Evangelism and Education Project

OUTCOMES as of October 26, 2009:

a. Outcomes summary

The projected outcomes for this project were:

- Bring the Gospel to at least 16,000 children who otherwise would have no access to the Gospel Message
- Lead at least 4,000 of them to a clear decision to follow Christ.
- Provide these children foundational Bible teaching and moral values
- Provide them basic reading and writing skills.
- Establish local unpaid leadership resulting in these Sunday School groups becoming sustainable independently of the paid Children's Workers.



The actual outcome has exceeded the projection as follows:

- Over 19,000 children have heard a clear Gospel message
- Most of them have made a decision to follow Christ
- They have learned to read and write as well as learning the Bible
- Most of the 79 Education Centers are now self-supported.

In order to achieve these outcomes, 5 different training programs as well as other extracurricular activities were held during the project term. These served to motivate both children and their teachers for maximum throughput.

As a little past the midpoint of the project, we had 15,000 children who were receiving a quality education and being led toward eventually committing their lives to Jesus. Of these children almost 2,000 were given VBS classes in May with the aim of strengthening their relationship with God. During the summer they were motivated to bring along 5 additional friends for a total of 9,000 children ($1500 \times 5 + 2000 = 9,500$). These in turn brought along a minimum of 2 friends each. Thus as of October we now have a total of 19,000 children participating in the Education Centers.

b. Setbacks encountered

Christian organizations in this part of India regularly face opposition and rejection from the village communities they work with and so did we. Setbacks included non-participation of parents/children in our programs, lack of interest shown by parents and poor attendance of children. At the beginning of the project, most villagers rejected us as they thought this project was just another means by which children would be converted to Christianity. We handled these setbacks by constant prayer, persistent efforts and patience.

The hearts of parents began to melt as they began to see their children learn reading/writing skills, developing a sense of hygiene and enhancement in their emotional, social, spiritual, intellectual and physical growth.

c. Sustainability

Most of the 79 Centers have become self-supporting. This has come about by:

- 1) Paid teachers have trained others who are teaching the children voluntarily. Starting from the very first meeting, the paid teachers sought out a person or persons that he/she could train and mentor throughout the Project duration. Teachers and disciples both had in mind a 12-month deadline, at which point the disciple should be ready to take full leadership of the Education Center in his or her village. In some Centers where sufficient funds aren't being generated, a volunteer teacher is necessary though this is not the optimal situation.
- 2) Churches are contributing average Rs. 400/month to the Education Center in their respective village. Funds for literature, stationary, and text books for the ongoing project are being acquired in part through offerings taken in the house churches.

Parents are beginning to pay a nominal fee per month for their child to attend the Center. One of our strategies was operating on week days but not at all on Sundays. This helped parents recognize the program as a genuine school/tuition not a religious meeting. The tuition fee currently is only one rupee per child per month.

d) 2010 Project

Now, 150 new teachers are ready to launch 150 new Centers with a target of reaching 40,000 children in 2010. These teachers are committed Christians who are passionate to provide both Biblical and academic education to the children of their village. In each Education Center children will:

- o Come to know who Jesus is and make a decision to follow Him
- o Be taught reading and writing skills along with Bible stories
- o Play games that teach Biblical values and teamwork.

Like last year, within the 12 month time frame, most of these Centers are expected to become self-supporting. Therefore your one-time investment in this project will bear fruit for many years to come, touching thousands of children's lives.



This family came to know Jesus Christ through their children, who shared the Gospel with them after participating in the Education Center at the village of Hatiya, Varanasi District.



Some of the Education Centers incorporate games. This is the center at the village of Kuddupur, Jaunpur District.



Children learn to lead in prayer at the Education Center in Chandauli, Varanasi District.



Showing off their numbers.



Partner agency New Life Fellowship working with our children at the village of Harhua.



Children with their parents at a parent-teacher meeting at the village of Shihorwa.



Children from other schools interacting with our children at the village of Murdi



Mr. Vinod from Kachhanar teaching children to pray



Miss Sanjana teaching students at Mohan Sarai.



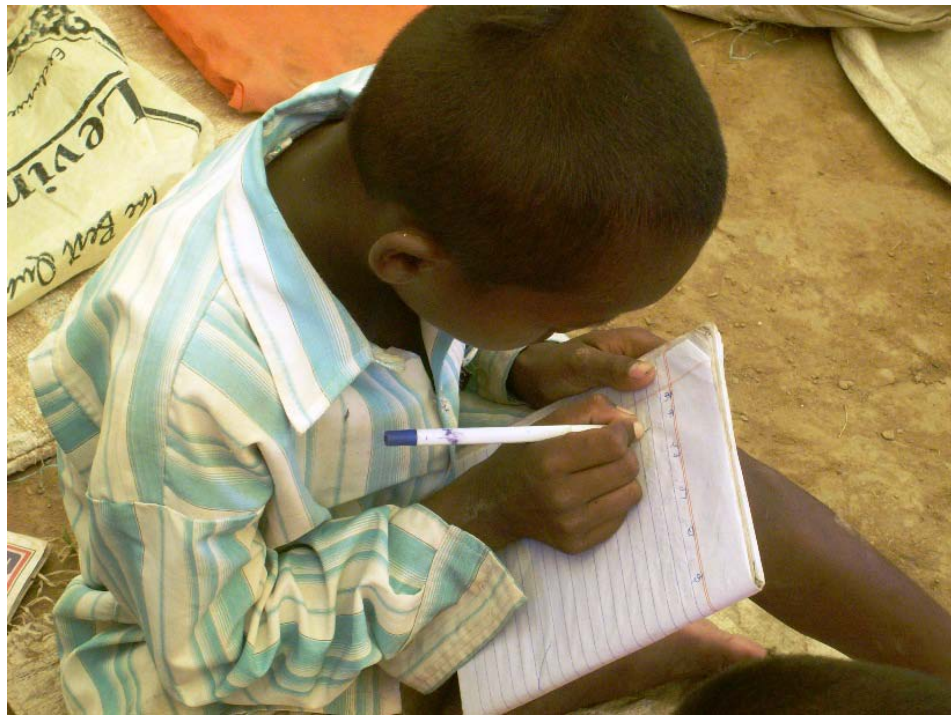
Teaching children the Word of God using Bible comics and other material provided by Sewa Bharat.

NEW TRIBE IN SONEBHADRA DISTRICT

Recently a new group of Kol tribals were discovered in the district of Sonebhadra. TellASIA is now reaching out to some of these people. The name of their village is Churk. This Tribal group had never heard of the name of Jesus and there was no school at all for the children. All of them were growing up illiterate.

One of the Education Centers is now operating among this group. As you can see in the following photos, their economic situation is far worse even than the other village children.







MORE PHOTOS FROM THE EDUCATION CENTERS...















GRUMPY GRANDPA GETS HEALED
A testimony from one of the Education Centers

Binda and Birendra came to know the Lord Jesus Christ while attending one of our Education Centers. After coming to know the Lord, both of them started coming to Sunday school in one of the local village house-based churches. When their grandparents got to know that they had been attending church, they tried very hard to stop them. They scolded the children and told them not to go to church.

One day, their grandfather became critically ill. Being all alone at home and not knowing what to do, Binda and Birendra started to pray for their grandfather placing their hands on him. The Lord had chosen that very moment to work a miracle through the kids. Their grandfather who was in a very bad state of health regained his health instantly! He got up from the bed feeling completely well, without any more pain. From that day onwards, both their grandparents started attending the church meetings. This miracle done by the Lord through the two kids received widespread publicity in their village. It is amazing to see how the Lord is working with our school children in unique ways. We ascribe all Honor, Glory and Praise to our God!



Left-Birendra Right-Binda



We are deeply thankful to our funding partners for enabling this children's outreach. The Children's Evangelism and Education Project has been one of the most fulfilling and transformational outreaches we've ever conducted. 19,000 underprivileged village children know Jesus and are able to read and write today because of your generosity teamed with the hard work of our indigenous leaders.

We look forward to our continued partnership in 2010 for the expansion of God's Kingdom in North India.

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