

Cathy Payne Visits Orphanage in Rajahmundry, India



Several years have passed since I have physically made a pilgrimage to India for any kind of ministry. During those years we have experienced significant changes including leadership and property. Several times during those years I was saddened to hear reports on how our orphanage work was suffering concerning a lack of an adequate facility in which to house the children as well as the news that limited funding had interfered with provisions for schooling or care. I am thankful to

bring a report that provides a very different reality.

Early this year I was blessed to travel into India as a part of a team of ministry led by Dr. Hector Ortiz. We were there to provide intense training to leadership through the ministry of SOPAS (School of Practical and Advanced Studies) and to participate in the National Convention. It was an honor to have the General Overseer as a part of the team.

While there the team was invited to visit the new orphanage home in Rajahmundry. We were delighted to be greeted with big smiles, warm hugs, and beautiful songs of praise that are clearly a testimony of love to a faithful God who has protected and provided for them in a land that is often overcrowded with desperate people.

While smaller in structure and in the number of children to whom we are ministering through the One Child Fund, we are indeed providing a

home, shelter, provision, opportunity for schooling, and an education in the Word of God for approximately 75 children who desperately need the assistance.

The children are healthy and loving. They were excited about our visit and shared in celebration with singing and dancing for those of us from their church family in the USA. Each child introduced him/herself in clear English and with a calm assurance told us which grade level they were in, what their hobbies were, and what they were dreaming and working toward for a career once leaving the orphanage.

The orphanage administrator told me that our children are well adjusted in school and are among the students who are the highest scoring and ranking in academics.

Currently the new building remains under construction to better accommodate the children, and to become a home that is better suited for housing so many children. Already there are two sides of the building, one that houses the boys and one the girls. There were already bunk beds to accommodate our children and their house parents and most of the beds had some kind of mattress or covering.

The ministry of One Child Fund continues to be a great blessing in the nations. To all the donors and sponsors of these incredible children who are among our church family, thank you so much for your expressed love and concerned care for the children. You are doing a great work and will certainly get a reward from the Lord.

Some of the children still need Bibles and some still need book bags to carry their school materials daily.



Children visit with Bishop Howard, General Overseer

For me, perhaps the most touching moments were when the children began to express their dreams. Some of the children dream of being doctors, nurses, pastors, police men, and service oriented occupations. Some of the children want to work in science or protect their nation as a soldier. Several of the children wanted to become teachers so they could return the kindness and instruction that has been invested in them.

My final word for this report is that of encouragement. Thank you for your willingness to invest in the lives of these children. Don't stop. Your support is making a difference in the lives of many dreamers and believers. May the Lord return to you as you have given.

Cathy Payne
International Director of Women's Ministries

I suppose what touched my heart so deeply is that I know without the investment and ministry of One Child Fund, these same children could never have dreamed with any kind of certainty that their lives would move on to a significant purpose in the work of their nation. Without the support and donors willingly investing in their lives, they might be a lost forgotten soul just thrown out on the streets of India, living from day to day. We are making a difference.



On the final evening of the National Convention the children from our sponsored orphanage work joined a sister orphanage group and presented a dramatic production of how the orphanage was first built and how God has sustained this amazing work and ministry. These children worked diligently to bring forward their best for the glory of the Lord.



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