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## An American Teen's Perspective on HOINA

By Greeshma M. *HOINA Friend, Age 13* 

When I visited HOINA this past summer, it was a wonderful experience for me. Before we even came onto the campus, we were greeted by a nice watchman/security guard who had a really big smile on his face. When my father and I got onto the actual campus, it was beautiful. The whole area was tidy and clean, and the wall surrounding the campus was neatly painted with bright and colorful pictures.

The first building that we visited was the building that was holding all of their household type classes such as cooking, sewing, computer lab, and more. There were also offices of some personnel who work on the campus, including Uncle Anand's office, which was organized nicely. After looking at all of the different classrooms, we walked to the boys' home. Inside there were a few kids in the main part studying and doing their school homework. Slowly more and more of them began to arrive. We found out that it was studying time for them. It was really cool for me to see all of the kids because the previous few times we've been there, they were at school. We saw different ages of boys in the boys' home. They were polite in talking to us and giving us good wishes, which is very neat.

After looking at everything, we walked over to the girls' home. Their home was just as lovely as the boys'. Both were decorated on the inside with great art and were very clean. Before we even entered the place, we could hear beautiful singing. When we walked in, we saw that all of the girls were sitting in the main area



Greeshma—American style

and singing. They were enjoying their singing class, and they sounded so beautiful. I seriously got goosebumps. After they finished singing, they prayed and then sang some prayerful songs. Watching and listening to them pray and sing really made me feel the Holy Spirit and really moved me a lot. All of these girls from different ages were coming together and praising God, and it was amazing.

After the prayer was done, we went and ate dinner in the cafeteria. The food was delicious. When we gave

## **Cooking Demonstration—American Style**



While HOINA's US Board Member, Glory Janes (above left; with HOINA manager Mr. Anand in the background) has been in India for the last few months, she has been working with HOINA's staff and Indian board. One of the classes she taught was on Westernstyle cooking, given to the HOINA cooks and support staff at both the boys' and girls' homes.

HOINA recently purchased a built-in oven, which is quite unusual in India. Most people have a counter-top appliance called an OTG (or Oven, Toaster and Grill). It's not nearly the same as cooking in our American oven, but it produces better results than a microwave.

In our class, we made chicken fried chicken with white gravy and alfredo pasta. They enjoyed learning this, helping Glory to cook it, and also enjoyed tasting "foreign" food. Now they'll have a few new options to offer guests who come from America!





### **Christmas Needs at HOINA**

Those of you who sponsor HOINA children often wish to send them gifts during the holidays. However, for the sake of our children who haven't yet been blessed with sponsors (and because overseas shipping is expensive and unreliable), please consider making a gift to HOINA's Christmas Fund instead.

HOINA's Christmas Fund allows us to buy gifts for all of our children—making sure each boy and

girl receives something special—and, when funds allow, to give bonuses to our Indian staff members who do so much to run our homes with dignity and love.

Consider sending a gift—any amount would be a blessing—to HOINA's Christmas Fund with the



coupon on page 4. As always, your generosity is such a blessing. You make HOINA's important work in India possible, and we are so deeply grateful.

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#### **Student Achievements**



Sarat Kumar got the second highest marks among all the other graduates in his high school class. He was honored with prize money of 2000 rupees at the Independence Day festival on August 15th. Congratulations, Sarat Kumar!



We proudly announce that HOINA's own Meenakshi recently participated in a singing competition at Union Chapel in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Meenakshi took second prize among singers from 15 different churches!



Greeshma—Indian style

# Teen Perspective continued

out some sweets to the kids, all of them were so polite. Not one of them took a sweet without saying, "Thank you, Akka," or "Thank you, Chelli" (older sister/younger sister). I feel really blessed after meeting all of those wonderful kids.

After going to HOINA, I realized how much HOINA is doing. I've seen all of the staff doing their job with huge smiles on their faces. I have seen the kids and their kindness and obedience. Most importantly, though, I've seen how much God is in all of their lives; and I hope that the future of the kids and future of HOINA will be amazing and blessed.

Thank you for this opportunity to share about HOINA and my experience with the boys and girls.

HOINA is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt organization with international headquarters located at:

**HOINA** PO Box 87 Saint Charles, MO 63302-0087 U.S.A.

This newsletter is published to inform our readers of the work HOINA does among the handicapped and abandoned in India.

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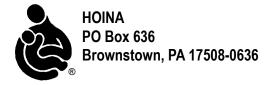
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The official registration and financial information of Homes of the Indian Nation (HOINA) may be obtained from calling, 1.717.787.1057. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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HOINA Sponsor and Contribution Coupon  Name:	☐ I want to Sponsor a HOINA boy / girl (circle one). Here is my <b>first</b> monthly gift of \$35.
Address: City:	☐ Please use this gift of \$ toward the HOINA Christmas Fund / General Fund.
State: Zip: Phone: Account Number (on your mailing label):	This gift of \$ is in honor / memory of (circle one)
Mail coupon to:  HOINA  PO Box 636	(please print clearly)
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### Give the Gift of a Fabulous Future

Yet again, we have a sad tale of a semi-orphaned child who needs HOINA's help. Little Kanaka Maha Laxmi, born September 18, 2005, is the daughter of Mr. Yerrinaidu and Mrs. Anuradha, who married in August 2007. Sadly, five years later, Mr. Yerrinaidu died in a work-related accident while he was driving a truck.

After his death his widow took a job in housekeeping for an apartment building, where she received a room to live in with her two girls. Since she had no home of her own and neither her in-laws nor her own parents were available to help her to care for her children while she worked, she struggled to know what to do. She heard about HOINA through our driver, Mr. Ramana. Now we ask for your help in supporting her sweet daughter. Consider sponsoring her as your Christmas gift to someone you love. If you do, please return the coupon above with your gift of \$35.



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