



NEWS FROM

**HOINA**

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

P.O. Box 636, Brownstown, PA 17508-0636 • [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) • November 2021

## Walls Fall Down When the Floods Come Up

*Information sent by HOINA General Manager, Mr. Anand and written by Letti L. Becker, Editor*

News from our HOINA campus is full of problems and praises. September saw Cyclone Gulab making landfall directly in the Visakhapatnam vicinity where over 11 inches of rain fell in a 24-hour time period. From the coast, the deluge moved inland where HOINA took a direct hit. The storm had gale force wind speeds up to 62 mph, similar to a tropical storm in the Western Hemisphere. The pouring rains filled the ponds that many locals have on their properties, which overflowed and headed into the canal that cuts across the HOINA campus. The top photo shows the water at its worst.

Unlike 2014's Cyclone HudHud, which caused HOINA to lose doors, windows, some out-building roofs and 291 trees; the main impact this year from Cyclone Gulab is the toppling of 80 feet of the concrete wall that surrounds HOINA's acreage (bottom photo). After getting construction quotes, we are now raising funds for this unexpected repair work. If you would like to contribute to the reconstruction and repair fund, please



return the coupon on page 4. We are sincerely grateful that no staff or children were injured or killed in either of these storms.

Another problem during the monsoon season is the regular occurrence of viral illnesses that

strike. These "fevers" and malarial outbreaks are not uncommon at this time of year, just as we, in the West, suffer during the winter flu season. When our G.M., Mr. Anand, took ill, he immediately isolated from the children. Nevertheless, about 20 of our

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Another one of those weeks, I thought, as I hurriedly bathed and dressed to go to Madras. I'd had five hours sleep the night before and had spent five of seven nights on Indian trains.

I took the 71E bus from our village to the Jewel Box Restaurant. I went in to collect my mail from Mr. Razak, the owner of Blue Diamond Hotel and then ate my breakfast of idlis with jam and papaya. As I came out of the door, a bus nearly hit three small boys about three, five, and seven years of age. They moved quickly to avoid the large wheels that advanced menacingly towards their small, emaciated bodies. I dashed over to them and asked them to sit on the front steps of the restaurant. When I did, the waiter came outside. I ordered papaya, juice, paratha, and curry.

He said, "Bring them inside, Madam." I did. We sat at a table. I worried that they might dirty the seats since they weren't wearing any underpants—just shirts. They inhaled their food, and I remembered to order them milk.

"Milk, Madam?" asked the waiter with a surprised look on his face.

"Milk," I replied in a strong, firm voice. He brought the hot cups of milk, and within a second or two they had emptied their cups.



One of the Guindy Rotarian doctors of Madras was in the restaurant. [Guindy Rotary Club helps HOINA.] I hadn't noticed him. He came over to me and said, "I told my cousin here, 'Watch that lady. She'll feed those children.'"

He asked them where they lived. Two had a father; the little one had a mother. All were semi-orphans who lived one and a half hours away in a small village. Their grandmother was around the corner at the bus stop, begging. We took a parcel of food and set off to find her.

They walked behind me begging a coin as people passed us by. At the first bus stop they said their grandmother was far away. By this time, a crowd began to gather and watch us. Finally the crowd called a policeman. Who knows what they thought. I could only think that I was not interested in spending my day in the police station. I'd spent two hours with the boys already, and I had other work to do. I climbed into an auto-rickshaw and went to the train station. I thought as I drove off and looked through the back window, you win some and you lose some. I tried.... I realized it didn't matter if the boys had led me on a wild goose chase. I had done the important thing that I was directed to do for that moment. When we are a blessing to those in need, we find our blessing.

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# 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.



## MEET the HOINA BOARD David Yalla

David is a resident of Minnesota and works in the IT industry as a Quality Assurance Manager. He has worked for state governments and in the health care and the retail sectors.

He is originally from Visakhapatnam, India, and started off his career as a high school teacher and has been a role model for many youth in the Indian community. He was a youth leader and also a worship leader at his local church in India. He volunteered with several organizations like EHC, FMPB, OM, YFC, and YWAM while in India.

After moving to the United States, he served on the outreach committee for several local churches due to his passion for international service and has also been a child advocate, volunteering for World Vision and

Compassion International. He is actively engaged with the Indian Christian Fellowships in major cities in the U.S. and networks with other organizations and businesses globally.

David visited HOINA a couple of times in India and loved the great work done by its founder Mrs. Darlene Large. He wanted to join hands for this noble cause and has been elected as a member of HOINA's Board of Directors. They are looking forward to the benefits he will bring with his I/T and international experiences.



HOINA is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt organization.

**Contact us at:**

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

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**Send donations and address changes to:**

HOINA

PO Box 636

Brownstown, PA 17508-0636

U.S.A.

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

## HOINA Sponsor and Contribution Coupon

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Account Number (on your mailing label): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail coupon to: **HOINA**  
**PO Box 636**  
**Brownstown, PA 17508-0636** 

November 2021 

Please use this gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for construction & repairs.

Please use this gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the HOINA Christmas Fund.

Please accept this gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of HOINA's 50th Anniversary.

This gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is in honor / memory of  
(circle one)

(please give name and address of person): \_\_\_\_\_

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**OR please consider donating online at**  
**www.hoina.org**

All donations are tax deductible.



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## Flood

continued from page 1

students on the campus came down with high fevers, diarrhea, and vomiting. At this writing a handful of children and one staff member are still isolating, but we are grateful to God that no one suffered too severely. Likewise, we are thankful that no one tested positive for Covid-19 throughout these recent months and that our staff and children have remained safe and healthy since the first round of the virus attacked India. Since Covid-19 cases have lessened, most of our children are back on campus again. We look forward to featuring new sponsor children next month!

