



NEWS FROM

HOINA

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

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Chickens and Mangoes and Music

By Glory Janes, Executive Director

As 2022 moves right along, we find ourselves once again in February, the month when everyone thinks of love and of their loved ones.

When I think of love, I can't help but think of all the love that our HOINA children receive and, in turn, give. The reason many thousands of HOINA children have experienced a loving, nurturing home life is because of faithful supporters who have not only sponsored children, but also shared love. You more than help us provide the kids with basic requirements; you also love them. The Christmas cards, birthday cards, and small notes that you write to the children go a long way for their morale.

Over the years we have tried to show you glimpses of the children. This month we will share some photos of the campus and other fun things we have at HOINA to help children have the best growing-up experience.

Many years ago, HOINA President Darlene Large's husband, Papa Bruce, began to implement agricultural programs on the campuses. He taught the staff the skills of raising fruits and vegetables and was very involved with various animal husbandry projects on our campuses. We had various degrees of success raising buffaloes and cows for their milk. Today, our acreage holds a papaya grove, a banana grove, a citron grove, a sapote grove, a mango grove, and a coconut grove, as well as the tall palm trees that stand along the edge of our property. You may not have heard the names of some of these fruits, but if you ever go to any coastal country, make sure you look for these delightful and healthy treats. I must tell you, the papayas we grow are some of the sweetest ones I have ever tasted. We currently have chickens—44 and

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We are thankful for the yummy fruit the HOINA campus yields! The kids get to feast on fresh bananas, papayas, coconuts, and mangoes all from their own backyard.



Chickens and Mangoes and Music (continued)

counting, a duck pond for the birds, our flock of noisy guinea hens to scare away snakes, and sparkling parakeets darting to and fro. The HOINA kids have hours of fun playing with their many “friends.”

Following up on what I wrote to you in our January newsletter, we are really hoping to start an instrumental music program on this campus. HOINA

has always had arts, music, and dance as an integral part of the kids’ upbringing. We’ve had wonderful dance teachers allow the children to express themselves physically through dance and learn more of the history of their Indian culture through formal Bharatanatyam lessons. Talented and even famous artists have taught our kids at the Chennai and Bapatla campuses. We have had a wonderful vocal music teacher at the Kothavalasa campus for years now. Our next step forward is to find some willing instrumental teachers with serving hearts. Our campus is a bit of a distance away from the city, making it a challenge to find instructors who would be willing to come that far to teach. Please keep this matter in your prayers.

Let me give you a small quiz: do you remember reading last month about a child who asked to sing like the kids in the city? T. Anand, pictured above, is that boy. Shy and introverted, this young man doesn’t talk much; however, he always wears his sweet smile. Every day when I was in my office on the HOINA campus, he would come over and just hover around. I invited him in, and he would just sit there, with his big smile, and not talk much. I would ask him little things like if he ate or how school was, to which he would answer. Then I’d ask if he needed anything, and all I’d get is a head shake and a smile. Eventually, he warmed up to me, and one day, even without me asking him what he wanted, he



T. Anand when he first came to HOINA; after surgery in 2014, getting his new glasses; and today.



On the eve of my departure to return to the U.S., Anand came up and handed me this beautiful sketch he made.

asked, “Akka, can you get me some papers so I can draw on them? The paper that I’m using keeps tearing.” Wow! Did I just hear him talk to me and ask me for something? I have to admit, I felt like jumping out of my chair and doing a little happy dance. I told him I would bring him some “good papers” when I next went to the city. Rather than buying him more of the paper he had, I planned to get him a real sketch pad.

Chickens and Mangoes and Music (continued)

The next day he came again and sat in the chair across from me with some papers in his hand. When I asked him what he had, he told me, “I’m trying to learn this English song, but can’t really get this line. I only have the lyrics for the first verse. Can you help me with the tune please?” Thanks to Google, I quickly went online on my phone and found the lyrics and wrote down the whole song for him.

It turned out that he practiced the song on his own. After I left India, our housemother Mrs. Krishnaveni took the kids to the city again to meet their friends there.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

This past March [2013] I was shopping when our general manager called me on my cell, “Mom, we have a new arrival. His name is Anand like mine, and he is 90% blind. Can we take him in? A student saw him searching for food in the garbage and begging in the streets. He informed the police, [who took him] to the Child Welfare Project Director, Mr. Roberts. He saw how smart little T. Anand was and decided that he belonged in HOINA.”

“If Mr. Roberts sent him, then by all means, find him a bed,” I said.

[When asked, this sad little fellow] began his story: “When I was five or six years old, I was fishing in a puddle of water in my village. One of my friends came to find me. He was running so I knew it was urgent. He told me that a bad man ran up behind [my father] and hit him on the head, and my father died. This made me very sad. For a while my Mummy was there, and one day she became sick. Then she died, too.”

On my recent trip, [Fall of 2014] I took Anand (pictured on page 2) to the eye hospital because his

Anand got to go to the front and sing a solo for them. Yay! I know you are having a “happy dance” moment too right now. By the way *Anand* means “happy.” How fitting!

We have many more lovely stories of our HOINA children—stories of dreams, stories of happiness, stories of LOVE! Adults or children, we all know that there’s no better feeling than to know that you are loved. “*And now these three things remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.*” (1 Cor. 13:13) Thank you for loving the HOINA kids and staff.

Info compiled from Summer 2013 and November 2014 Newsletters (edited for space)

vision was terrible. We didn’t know if there was any help for him.

However, after three hours with the nurse, we were told that the doctor wanted to do surgery on Anand that very afternoon.

After the operation, the doctor told me what a brave boy he was. You see, Anand had big holes in his retina, and the doctor said it was a very painful operation. Most children would have been screaming, but this little guy only whimpered. The doctor told me to bring him back in January for the second surgery he’ll need to repair his vision. With a new pair of glasses, he has some of his vision restored and is all smiles. How grateful we are for God’s provision.

Isn’t it wonderful that children who have been orphaned like Anand can come to us and be restored?

See the full articles at: <https://hoina.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/November-2014.pdf> and <https://hoina.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Summer-2013.pdf>



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

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February 2022 

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CHRISTMAS 2021

The kids had a wonderful post-Christmas party thanks to your generosity. Cake and a presents for everyone!

