



NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

P.O. Box 636, Brownstown, PA 17508-0636 • www.hoina.org • Aug/Sept 2022

India Trip Report

By Glory Janes, Executive Director

Greetings from India, where I am writing this newsletter at HOINA, where I have spent the last month. Being the tail end of our summer here, July is such a busy month with schools reopening for a new year. July also brings the beginning of the much-awaited monsoon season. Located near the equator and surrounded by water, southern India does not have the same four seasons the U.S. does. While India does have summer and winter, it also has monsoon and post-monsoon seasons. If you are wondering what a monsoon is, know that the rainy weather we are now having is not the hurricane season of the Western Hemisphere with tropical storms (all called different names like *hurricanes*, *typhoons*, and *cyclones*). Instead, this annual weather phenomenon brings high pressure ocean winds carrying much moisture over the land mass, where condensation occurs, resulting in rains; hence, it is called the “Rainy Season” in India. Much of India’s agricultural system relies heavily on the annual monsoons, and farmers design their planting around this season. July, August, and September bring the monsoons, where it rains almost every other day. Days are warm, and the afternoons get cloudy with rain and thunderstorms. Needless to say, everyone in India eagerly awaits the cooling rains after the scorching months of summer heat between 110°-113° Fahrenheit we experience between March and June.



Above you can see the clouds rolling in. Once the rains arrive, the roads flood.



continued on page 2

Report (continued)

The new season brings in much cheer for the adults and children. Children love playing in the rain, opening their umbrellas, getting on the school buses, and going back to school. The lazy days of summer are gone, and the days start early with the chatter of the kids getting up and ready for school. It's a race—a race to hit the bathroom first for a shower, a race to get some breakfast, and a race to the school bus to get a window seat. Beautiful scenes unfold of older kids doing the hair for the younger ones, the housemothers ironing clothes or finding that other partner sock for the one in hand. Everyone is busy, and the scene is, at times, chaotic; yet, I can testify to what a heartwarming thing it is to see the friendship and care all the HOINA children share with one another.

Most of the elementary and middle grades leave home by 8:30 a.m. Some of the older students who go to college in the city, pack their lunch and leave earlier. Currently, we have some of the older boys and girls who have written a qualifying entrance exam to study engineering called EAMCET and an exam to study Medicine called NEET. Since they just took the exam, they have a few months to wait until the results come. A good score means a free seat at a government college, and a lower score would mean that we have to enroll them in a private college with higher tuition. Sometimes we have the 10th or 12th graders who have not



Sitting in the coveted back of the bus is the best place to ride.



Our older girls, who are waiting to be admitted into college, usually help around HOINA with little projects. In this case, they are sewing on missing buttons and mending small tears in the children's clothes.

passed all their subjects to allow them to graduate. In those cases the Education Board gives them a chance to retake the exam again within three months.

While both of these groups of students are staying home at HOINA, we use this free time by engaging them in different daily activities. While some older girls go

to the primary school with lunch boxes for the little ones, other girls are helping out by mending the small tears on skirts, sewing missing buttons on shirts, etc. The older boys have started doing tile work to replace loose tiles in the library. When evening comes, many of the older kids help the younger ones with their homework assignments.

Report (continued)

Besides academics, there is a lot of fun filled in their routine too. Once they come back from school, the students quickly clean up and eat a snack. Then they get outdoors. The girls usually ride bicycles, play badminton, or walk around. Of course, some of them just sit and chit chat with their friends. The boys are usually all about cricket, a team sport brought to India by the British, which is somewhat similar to baseball. Some of the boys play on teams, and the rest of them are a faithful audience. It's so fun to watch the intensity and passion they have for cricket.

After their after-school break, it's time to clean up, eat dinner, and do their homework. The younger ones are in bed earlier while the high school and college kids go to sleep



With storm clouds looming, the boys enjoy some time outside playing before the daily rains arrive.

a little later. Now you know what a typical day in the life of a HOINA child looks like. Days become weeks, weeks become months, and before you know it the year is gone. Little

ones grow up and blossom into young men and women.

We thank you for your many sacrifices that have helped our children grow.

Orphan Brothers Need You

We have a new group of HOINA students enrolling this year, and we still have some children from last year awaiting sponsors. If you can help, please return the coupon on page 4 with your first monthly gift of \$35.

Nikilesh, 12, came to HOINA last year with his younger brother Lokesh, 8. Married in 1988, the boys' parents had waited 22 years to be blessed with children. Just short of a decade later, they lost their mother. Their father, a barber, died only three years after his wife. Fortunately, the boys' grandmother took them in to raise them, but she became paralyzed recently and could no longer care for her grandsons. Some of their



Nikilesh



Lokesh

relations learned about HOINA through a local church and approached us. Seeing their sad condition, our staff admitted the two brothers.

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

Contact us at:
717.355.9494

Email address: contact@hoina.org

Website: www.hoina.org

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

Edited by Letti L. Becker

Layout by Eberly Designs

Printing by Prestige Color

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Account Number (on your mailing label): _____

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



Aug/Sept2022 

- I want to Sponsor a HOINA boy / girl (circle one). Here is my **first** monthly gift of \$35.
- Please use this gift of \$ _____ for the education fund.
- Please use this gift of \$ _____ for the general fund.
- This gift of \$ _____ is in honor / memory of _____ (circle one)
(please print the name and address of person): _____

OR please consider donating online at www.hoina.org

All donations are tax deductible.



HOINA
PO Box 636
Brownstown, PA 17508-0636

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #910
Lancaster, PA

Letter from the Editor

As editor I feel I owe you an apology for our recent newsletter schedule gap. Our normally-scheduled summer issue was skipped due to some unforeseen circumstances. I broke my hand in mid-June and am only now getting out of my cast and brace. Thankfully, I did not require surgery, but the break was in my dominant hand and slowed my life down considerably.

My husband was traveling and, thus, not much help. I was grateful for my mom and both my adult children, who shuttled me around while I couldn't drive. I am thankful that I didn't have small children to tend to when this occurred. The recent drought was a blessing in disguise since our grass quit growing and needed no mowing! The heat wave discouraged going out and about, so

staying home in my A/C was another blessing. I marvel at how quickly I adapted to using my left hand for those things I could. I'm awaiting full strength and range-of-motion to return to my ring finger and pinkie and appreciate your prayers to that end. Thank you for your understanding.

Letti Becker
HOINA Editor