



NEWS FROM

HOINA

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

1175-B S. Aspen Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74012 • www.hoina.org • January 2025

A Military Connection

By Glory Janes, HOINA Executive Director

To start your new year off right, I would like to share a story with you about two of our HOINA graduates, who are successfully “adulthood” after growing up with us.

Once upon a time two little brothers had a mom and a dad. Sadly, theirs was not a happy family. When Santosh Kumar was just five years old and his elder brother, seven, they lost their mom and dad in an unfortunate situation of a domestic dispute that turned brutal. All of a sudden, the boys were left alone and completely orphaned, until they were brought to HOINA, that is. Santosh Kumar and his brother Trinadh found a new home, a new family, and hundreds of siblings. They were no longer orphans. Both boys consider HOINA their home. In spite of all the trauma they had been through, both of them grew up to be bright, intelligent and accomplished young men.

Trinadh graduated a couple of years ago with an Engineering diploma and is trying his hand at government jobs. Santosh, on the other hand, always had a passion for the Armed Forces and graduated last year with a bachelor's



Santosh when he first came to Hoina, with manager Srinivas Kumar.

degree in science. After completion of his degree program, he trained himself physically and academically with diligence. His focus and hard work allowed him to ace the selection testing process, earning him a spot in the Forces. He is now officially inducted into the Indian Navy, aiding his fellow servicemen and women at sea, protecting his home country.



Santosh in uniform.



Santosh's brother Trinadh, fellow HOINA grad.

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Scouts and Guides and National Cadet Corps Programs

As we feature one of India's current active military members and HOINA grad this month, we also want to highlight our students who are members of India's Scouts and Guides and National Cadet Corps (NCC) programs.

The Scout and Guides program in India is similar to the Boy Scouts of America, focusing on discipline and

serving in the community while the NCC teaches routine, discipline, organization, time management, and team work in a mini-military set up. They are also taught drill, marching, and physical fitness through cross-country.

The organizations meet weekly, and cadets are expected to attend in uniform and practice marching

and other activities. They also have quarterly out-of-town camps, to which the best cadets are selected and sent. Our HOINA participants look forward to the opportunity to travel, to see other places, and to meet students from other parts of their state. The skills they learn will benefit them in their futures.

Let us introduce you to some of our active students in their own words.



My name is L. Teja, and I'm studying in eighth grade. I join in Scouts and Guides last year. I like the uniform and keeping to control the children at the time of training. In training they will conduct camps in different places. In that camps different children [children] comes from all over Andhra Pradesh, so I am very much interested to meet them. If I get this certificate, I will get good jobs in Armed Forces. Thank you for your support.



My name is Y. Prasad, and I am an eighth grader. I have been joined in Scouts and Guides for one year. In my school our physical education teacher explained about the programme and inspired me to join. They will conduct camps in different places in India, so I am very much interested to see all the places. If I got this certificate, I will get good reservation in jobs. Thank you for praying for my life.



My name is K. Dileep, and I'm in ninth grade. One of my classmates, Rohith, inspired to join in Scouts and Guides in 2022. I am very much interested to do the parade at the time of training. Somebody told me that this certificate is very useful to join in Armed Forces.

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

Contact us at:

717.355.9494

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Website: www.hoina.org

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 7167

Lee's Summit, MO 64064 U.S.A.

Email financial questions to: info@hoina.org

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.



From the President
Todd Becker

Greetings!

As I think of the new year which is upon us, I think, too, of new ideas and renewed plans. HOINA Executive Director Glory Janes, our treasurer Randy Bentele, and I met for a day in late November.

We discussed the major investments of 2024: the girl's home roof and interior renovation; some more complex child medical needs; education at the K-10, intermediate 11-12, and college levels as we worked to strengthen both child fit and the overall quality of education; and a continued focus on appropriate placement and overall number of HOINA staff in India. We have a few less staff now than we did a year ago.

With the exception of the girls' home roof, the same items remain the major thrust of 2025. Education will elevate focus in three areas: remedial language

struggles—Telegu, Hindi, and English speaking, reading, and writing; career coaching—expanding knowledge of career and job options while increasing the fit when considering our students' aptitudes, desires, and academic performance; and lastly, matching the individual child to professional requirements while differentiating among lower-performing children, the average child, and highly gifted children. Gifted children receive the opportunity to attend a strong private intermediate school with integrated college test preparation coupled with weekly academic assessment and feedback.

A major new item this year is the addition of securing sponsors within India (both individuals and businesses.) HOINA has a renewed focus on continuing the increase of local / rupee (INR) donations as the organization moves forward in alignment with the government's focus on higher local accountability.



Hindi, Telegu, and English language lesson.

Military Kids

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Santosh and Trinadh are beyond grateful to Mom, the staff who raised them as their own, and to the sponsors and donors who made this possible. Together, we have worked to make stories like this possible.

By the time you read this newsletter, I'll be in India, on our HOINA campus. While I'm with the children, I will be focusing on making plans with students for further education, whether vocational training or higher education. I look forward to updating you more in a future issue.



P. Keerthana, (left) is a member of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) because she knows it will give her a path to join the Indian Navy one day. She is especially looking forward to going to India's capital, New Delhi. R. Bharathi (right) just joined NCC in July this year and looks forward to seeing new places. She hopes the NCC will help her to get a police job.

Annual Giving Statements

You should receive your annual giving statement from our HOINA office in Lee's

Summit, MO, by the end of January. If yours does not arrive or if you spot an error, please alert our treasurer, Randy Bentele, immediately at info@hoina.org; so that, we

can correct it for you.

Your generous support of our work makes all of this possible. Thank you!

HOINA Sponsor and Contribution Coupon

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State: _____ Zip: _____


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- I want to **Sponsor** a HOINA boy / girl (circle one). Here is my **first** monthly gift of \$35.
- Here's my gift of \$ _____ to help fund the **general expenses** of HOINA as we care for the children.
- This gift of \$ _____ is in **honor / memory** of (please print the name and address of person) (circle one)

Mail coupon to: **HOINA**
PO Box 7167
Lee's Summit, MO 64064



January 2025 

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National Cadet Corps

Pictured here from left to right are our HOINA girls—K. Bhavani, G. Bhavana, Y. Keerthana, C. Tejaswini—as they led the guests of honor to the dais for the Republic Day ceremony held this winter on the HOINA campus. The girls are members of the National Cadet Corps (similar to ROTC in the U.S.), which is evident by their uniforms and precise marching formation. The guests of honor are HOINA India board member Tabita Menon, U.S. Board President Todd Becker, Executive Director Glory Janes, and U.S. Board member David Yalla. The parade kicked off a day of grand celebration with speeches, awards, feasting, and fun.

