

From: J. David Anderson
International Coordinator, KidZSanctuary

January 24, 2010

Hello to all our dear friends,

I have a new update on our India trip. Best get out the tissues, because this is heart rending. We went to the orphanage again yesterday, and our children have come from Orissa. We did a video interview with the guardians and pastor who brought them, but I haven't done so with the children yet. The story coming from that region, and why they are orphans is most gripping, and heart rending. I did a google search on it, and found some difficult stuff to begin to understand how heartless some people can be. As the guardians testified, Hindus had come and burned Christian businesses, churches, vehicles, and even burned people alive. It started when some other group had killed one of the Hindu leaders, and then they blamed the Christians for it. As they did all this, the police and even state government officials turned a blind eye, and some even participated in the massacre. Many of the people just ran into the woods to hide. Many were caught and burned. Most of this started over a year ago. Some of it in December 2007, and continued and still happens. The federal government finally stepped in and attempted to stop it, but a lot of it still happens.

Here is a site that shows some slides taken from the area. WARNING: some of them are most graphic.

http://www.persecution.in/orissa_persecution_india

The kids we received from Orissa was 10 girls and 2 boys. They had been from remote villages in Orissa near a place called Kandamal. I was told they had not even seen an electric light bulb before. Some got motion sickness on the train, and they gave them a pill for it. They didn't know what to do with it. They had never had medicine before. And during the journey here the couple bringing them had some serious questions being posed by the police. They are very careful, because often children are taken and put into servitude, and some girls are even subjected to sexual exploitation. So police are very sensitive to that too.

These children have had no education. We intend to teach them at BORN Foundation through the Michela Balos Memorial School starting them from wherever they currently stand. This will be done right there at the campus where they are living.

We request your prayers for these children, and for their healing of memories. They have been through so much. We pray that we will be a blessing to them and help them to grow in knowing their Savior. We also wish to thank you for all the support you provide.

BORN Foundation is a humanitarian organization investing in lives to create a lasting change in the lives of children, families and communities living in poverty and injustice.

BORN Foundation serves all people regardless of religion, caste, race, ethnicity or gender.[Type text]Page 1



These kids lost their parents in this Christian persecution. They then bonded to their guardians. Now these guardians brought them to us, and a few of the girls were hysterical as they were leaving the campus. This girl is about 7. She is being comforted by one of the staff:



The girl with the green top cried for about 20-30 minutes after they left. It was so heart wrenching. I had to use all the control I could muster to keep from crying with her. She is about 11. I am holding her hand, and speaking to her through the guy on my left, telling her that I understand she is scared, and feeling insecure. She is in a place where the other children do not speak their language, and only a few at our facility can speak their language. I told her that we will protect her, and love her, and that she will never go hungry or thirsty again. I told her God is with us, and He will show His love and protection to her.



This is a group shot of all the kids that came from Orissa. My daughter, Ariel, and the 2 on her right at the right side of picture are not part of the Orissa kids.



This is all the children we are caring for now, minus one. not sure where that one was. My wife was speaking to them and telling them something in Kannada, so I didn't know what she said.



We treated them to a special meal with chicken yesterday while we were there. We also handed out chocolates earlier in the day. And just before we left this afternoon, we treated them to ice cream. Here my daughter, Rachelle, is helping to hand it out:



And here is one little girl in the middle of all of them that has just gotten her ice cream:



These are children at KidZSanctuary prior to the arrival of the Orissa children.



I am walking the children to school. Some attend the school in the background, and others go to public school further along the trail.



This is the front side of the campus for the Bible College and KidZSanctuary, which is just behind the doors and on the right.



Here the children are on their way to school. It is a Saturday, so on that day they don't have to wear a uniform.



Breakfast time before school.

With much love and blessings to you,

David Anderson
International Coordinator, KidZSanctuary
david@bornfoundation.org



This is lunch time. Some of these children are from Orissa.