

Rabboni Mercy Trust

Summer Newsletter 2010

Challenges

Since we last sent out this news letter Jebasheela has been seriously ill. She was rushed into hospital with an umbilical hernia in February that was life threatening and had become infected. We had to find £1,500 for the major operation quickly and although it seemed impossible, we once again experienced God's provision through people like yourselves and all the money came in during a week. The operation was a success and then there was two months of rest and recovery. When we arrived to see them at Easter Jebasheela was well on the road to recovery and is now back doing most of the things she is normally involved in. At times it seems a punishing schedule as you can see from the daily timetable over the page. I know she and Pastor Raja and the family would value your ongoing prayers for them.

They have experienced a number of difficulties at Whitefield since our return and particularly with school enrolment. A large number of children have left and it is not entirely clear why but it does put running the school in jeopardy. Please pray that God would guide them about what is the best thing to do in the present circumstances. A number of the orphan children would attend this school.

As we mentioned last time there are many new younger children who have come to be cared for and others have moved on. We heard some of their stories and it is encouraging to know that many have found good jobs and are leading fulfilling lives. We tell the story of John over the page which he shared with us on Easter Sunday.

What a wonderful Trip!

In the end four of us made the trip to the Rabboni Mercy orphanage at Easter time and what a time we had! It was so wonderful to see Pastor Raja and Jebasheela again and all the children. A number of you had given money for us to take the children on a special trip out, so we did. We went to Water World in Bangalore and also a Fun Park next door. The children had such a fantastic time. I wish you could have seen their happy smiling faces as they splashed around in the water and enjoyed the fun fair rides. This would have been their only such outing since last time we went in 2007. We were also able to enjoy Easter Sunday with them and take part in their Easter Services at Bangalore and Whitefield. We were treated so well and their hospitality was amazing. They are so generous even though they may not have as much as we do. We noticed a real difference in the health and well being of the children and we could see what a difference your support had made over the years we have been helping them. We do give thanks to God for this change and also thanks to you. Please realise that you have been part of this. The help you have given has improved their lives and provided the means for the children's food, clothing, and education, as well as medical costs. When we were there with them they couldn't thank us enough and we want to pass that thanks on to you, for without you it would not have been possible to continue helping them in this way.



New Publicity

With all the recent changes in the children at the orphanage we need to update our publicity with pictures of the new children and so as soon as we have this we will send you a copy. When we were out visiting them we were able to take new photos of all the children in their care. We still need additional sponsors for some of the children and if you know of anyone who can help please contact us.

The Rabboni Mercy Team



Mercy Samuel Jebasheela Pastor Raja

Pastor Raja and Jebasheela are helped by Samuel and Mercy to look after and care for the children. Samuel does a lot of the practical work and driving. He is also a musician. Mercy does washing and cooking. She also works in the welfare service caring for women and children.

A Day in the Life of the Children

5.00 am	Wake up, wash dressed
5.30 am	Prayer and duties
6.00 am	Breakfast
6.30 am	Leave for school on bus
8.30 am	School starts
12.30 pm	Lunch Break
1.00 pm	Afternoon School
3.00 pm	School Finishes
4.00 pm	Homework
6.00 pm	Return home, change
6.30 pm	Snacks and duties
7.00 pm	Prayer and personal devotions
7.30 pm	Free Time
8.00 pm	Dinner
9.00 pm	Prayer and bedtime

Duties include folding clothes and blankets, cleaning and tidy up, and sorting schoolbags.

Nursery and young children have a sleep in the afternoon

John's Story

John shared some of his story with us on Easter Sunday. At 16 he has now completed tenth standard in his education and would like to study for Christian ministry in the future.

"I praise God at this time that he has given me a good opportunity to share my testimony with you all.. I stand as a young man, but many of you may not know that I came here as a 3 year old boy to this Rabboni Mercy orphanage. At that time I was forsaken by my father. he left my mother and went away with another lady. I with my 2 brothers and 2 sisters came here... It is not so easy to say that now I am in tenth standard. It is because of the hardship and great tears and struggle of my aya* and mummy* and their prayers that I am standing as a tenth standard student in front of you all...They made great sacrifices that I and many others may have a bright future... I also thank God with my whole heart for those who are supporting us with kind arms and prayers to this Rabboni Mercy orphanage. And I pray for them and request them to support this minisrty with children for generation after generation."



* aya and mummy are the affectionate names by which Pastor Raja and Jebasheela are known by the children

All money given goes to the work of Pastor Raja and the Rabboni Mercy Orphanage
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