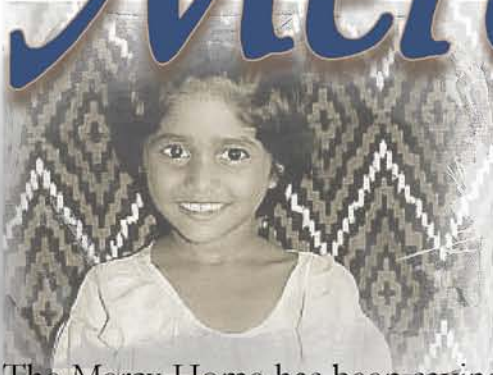


Mercy Home



The Mercy Home has been saving the children of India since its founding in October of 1978. Ravi Kumar and his wife, Mary Survana, have faithfully served as home directors since 1993 following the death of his father who was the founder of the home. The home started with 10 boys and is currently caring for 40 children. Throughout the years about 146 children's lives have been changed because of the ministry from the Mercy Home.

The children stay in the home until they have completed their 10th grade examinations, after which they are given the opportunity to continue their education through *Children of Promise's Further Education Plan*. When a student completes his/her studies, they have the option of staying at the home or moving out on their own. The home keeps the family bonds with the graduates by having monthly "family gatherings" at the home.

The children attend a government school that is located about one mile from the home. They walk to and from the school every day. Vocational training in auto mechanics, electrical work, and sewing are available to the children from institutes located in a nearby town. There are two graduates this year, both of which are planning on continuing their education.

The children learn to worship, pray, and read their Bibles while in the home. They also attend church every Sunday. The services are held in the home.

The children enjoy doing things as a family. They love to play games together often-- like chess and carrom (a game similar to pool).

Greatest Needs for the Home:

- ✦ At least 3-5 more lavatories for the home.
- ✦ A new kitchen.
- ✦ Land on which to construct these two needs.

Costs for Supplies:

- ✦ Shoes cost \$3.50
- ✦ A set of clothes cost \$7.00
- ✦ A Bible costs \$2.00
- ✦ A Book bag costs \$4.00
- ✦ School supplies for elementary costs \$6.50 and the cost is \$10.00 for the high school
- ✦ School uniforms cost \$7.00 per set



Information about India:

(as quoted from "Operation World" 21st Century edition)

- ✦ The population is 80% Hindu, 12.5% Muslim, and only 2.4% Christian.
- ✦ There are 4,635 distinct people groups in India.
- ✦ There are 407 languages spoken in India and 53 of the languages have the complete Bible.
- ✦ Yearly income per person is \$370 (1.2% of USA).
- ✦ There are 41 million Indians without a home.
- ✦ India is the second largest Islamic nation with 140 million Muslims.
- ✦ In India, nearly 400 million people are under the age of 18; more than 70 million are child laborers; 10 million are bonded laborers (a form of slavery to pay off family debts); 13 million are homeless; 2 million are street children without families and over 575,000 are child prostitutes.
- ✦ AIDS has spread rapidly. The major source of infection is drug use.

Prayer Focus:

- ✦ Please pray for the children of our home and the home directors. Pray that these precious children may come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior, grow in their faith, and become influential in their community and country.
- ✦ Pray for the Bible women, evangelists, and pastors (who follow up with the families of the children and share with the unreached), that many will come to know Jesus through their witness. Pray for their safety as they share in areas often hostile to Christians.

