



Dear Friend,

It is with a great joy and a new seasons greetings I write this letter to you. From the time of my last letter, many things have happened at the HOPE House. The number of children has increased from 2 to 7 with each child carrying different kinds of past ranging from being very sad to sad. Every one of these children has gotten adjusted to this new environment quite well.

In the month of April, they all finished their exams and began the summer holidays from April 28<sup>th</sup>.

From May 1<sup>st</sup> our church conducted Vacation Bible School (VBS) for ten days (8:00 AM to 11:00 AM) and as you can expect all our children were enrolled and had a blast of a time. After the VBS, we engaged the children in different kinds of activities (coloring, singing, playing, and eating ice cream etc) to beat the heat and boredom. We also did some special activities such as learning to read the time and learning about the concept of mail by writing letters to their relatives.

During the month of May (peak of summer in India), the heat was brutal and we are glad that it is behind us now. On June 1<sup>st</sup>, our children started school and they all got new school bags, pencil boxes, notebooks and school uniforms. Daily they are accompanied by one of our staff to and from school. They leave around 8:45 AM and return by 4:30 PM. On weekdays they eat breakfast and supper at the HOPE House and lunch at the school. Evenings they drink a nutritious drink (mixed in milk) called “Nutrimix” as a snack.

I spend most of my day at my home office or at the HOPE House office doing my work but my interaction with the kids is in the evenings. As soon as they see me, they all run to tell me the time (newly learnt skill) in a hurry to beat others. We like to run, jump, scream and get tired. Around 6:00 PM they get to their home work with the in-house tutoring assistant (a new hire at the HH). They eat around 8:00 PM after the evening prayer and go to bed around 9:00 PM. On the weekends, they are involved in premises cleaning, more playing and sleeping etc.

Second Saturday is the visitation day for our children’s relatives. It is very hard to see those children that have nobody to visit them on such days.

We as staff are making a conscious effort to let them grow just as kids (allowing them to make mistakes, grow with fewer worries and speaking their mind etc). Few of our kids have been exceptionally successful at school and our staff takes great pride in their achievements.

My biggest fear for the HOPE House is to run to the capacity soon (around 13 children) and turn away the needy children when they need us the most. As you may know that we operate the HOPE House in a rented building and it will be crowded to house more than 13 children.

On our personal end, our wait for our belongings from the US has ended on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Now we have rented a house for ourselves (right in front of the grandparent’s house). I do have an internet connection at home but it has its own limitations. My older daughter started school on June 5<sup>th</sup> (“butterflies in my stomach” day). We remembered all those of you who have played a significant role in her life to that day (her day care, our church, our neighborhood, fiends and relatives etc). She loves to spend time at the HOPE House although she cannot communicate with them. Sometimes she eats with them and at times it’s a chore to get her home.

My younger daughter is growing like a wild weed. She can run faster than her grandparents and they are just coming to grips with it. Sam has been a great help at the HOPE House. She and her mother admit the new kids in the school; takes care of groceries, and hygiene of the HOPE House etc.

Last but not the least; it is not an exaggeration to say that I am having the best time of my life (doing what my heart always desired for me to do). Pray that my staff and I stay focused in our work that we only do what our God Almighty intend for us to do and nothing more. I wish you could see for yourself how much of a difference you make in these little lives everyday by your support. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for being you.

Kindly help us by helping others to read this newsletter by forwarding to them.

God Bless and more in two months.

Ruby

**NEWS:**

1. Mr. & Mrs. Mohanraj of Ranipet have donated a refrigerator to the HOPE House dining room.
2. A blender was donated to the HOPE House kitchen by Mr. & Mrs. Rajan Samuel of Vellore.
3. The HOPE House has been granted 80G status (equivalent of 501C3 in the US) under the Indian tax code to receive tax deductible donations within India.

**VISITATIONS:**

4. Terry and Roy bell (of Minneapolis, MN of the USA) visited the HOPE House on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
5. Mr. David Kirubakaran (of Kokoma, IN of the USA) has visited the HOPE House on March 23<sup>rd</sup> along with his friend Mr. Suresh.
6. Mr. Isac Jeyachandran (of Los Angeles, CA of the USA) and his family visited the HOPE House on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
7. Sam & Ruth Franklin and family (of Fort Wayne, IN of the USA) visited the HOPE House on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
8. Tom & Suzan Mathew and family (of Houston, TX of the USA) visited the HOPE House on June 20<sup>th</sup> 2006.
9. Mr. & Mrs. Mohanraj (of Ranipet, Tamilnadu of India) have visited the HOPE House in April.
10. Ms. Jean Jepeganam of (of Vellore, Tamilnadu of India) “Karunai Illam” has visited the HOPE House along with her staff on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**WE NEED:**

11. New or used Tamil (local language) children’s books.
12. New or used computer (along with Tamil CD ROM’s) to teach computer skills to the kids.

**From the desk of the President of HOPE House International:**



Dear Friend,

God doesn't expect your ability but your availability.

The idea of Helping Orphans was given birth in January, 2005. Contrary to popular belief, we started to raise funds prior to developing our organization. . To our surprise, we were amazed by the support and encouragement which came from our friends and family. God blessed us financially in the year 2005. We had enough money to operate an Orphanage in India for about 18 months.

Ruby, Thomas and I have been talking about helping orphans for a while. Now, it's time to make it happen. In December of 2005, we started The Hope House, India and Hope House International in California. The Nakka family (Ruby, Sam-Vinodhini, Lydia and Lilly) moved to India in February of 2006. The Nakkas lived in the US for about 14 years. They spent most of their stay in Lubbock, Texas. Please keep them in your Prayers. Ruby Nakka is functioning as the Executive Director of The Hope House, India. He is the founder of Hope House International and The Hope House, India.

Why did we pick the name “Hope House International”? We want to help children globally. Hope House International has been generously supporting The Hope House, India. By God's Grace and Mercy the Nakkas are doing well.

The board of Directors was finalized in February, 2006 and I take pleasure in introducing them to you.

- Manoah Jeyachandran Mohanraj, President – Manoah lives in Chico, CA. Works as an Area Manager for a Physical Rehabilitation company.
- Thomas Mathew, Secretary – Thomas lives in Houston, TX. Owns a Physical Rehabilitation business.
- Terri Wilson, Director – Terri lives in Chico, CA. Works as a business office manager for a Healthcare firm.
- Vineet Johnson, Director – Vineet lives in Vancouver, Canada. He is completing his doctorate in Physical Therapy.
- Sam Surendran Mohanraj, Director – Sam lives in Bakersfield, CA. He works as a software consultant for an IT company.

We at Hope House International believe that God is still in the business of caring for people. We applied for Tax exempt status (501 C 3) from the IRS in the month of April. The IRS granted the same within a month. Miracles happen everyday.

My sincere thanks to the board members for their support and wise counsel. Thanks to Sam Mohanraj for creating a web site. Please visit us at <http://www.hhinternational.org> Thank God for giving us an opportunity to serve children fearfully and wonderfully created by Him.

God bless everyone.



Manoah J. Mohanraj