



BY FAITH MINISTRIES

India Report 2007

Having been in India 18 months prior this trip allowed a first hand look at the progress that is being made in the various ministries there.

Kolkata

Pastor Kaushik continues his very practical and effective hands on ministry in Kolkata. He has increased the number of people being reached through his slum ministry by 100%. Muslim and Hindus are being born again. Poor children are receiving basic schooling. He has received a welcome boost of support through a strategic alliance with a large church in Nagaland.

Nagaland is an Indian state in the extreme north-east. It is bordered on the west and north by Assam state, on the east by Myanmar (formerly known as Burma).

90% of the Nagaland people are Christian. Kaushik has two graduates from a Bible school in Nagaland working with him fulltime. They are ministering very effectively to the people in the slums. He is also actively involved in a church plant from Nagaland. His long term plan is that they will plant many churches in Nagaland. The Nagaland are receiving people from Myanmar (formerly known as Burma) into their Bible school. These people are then going back to Myanmar and discretely planting churches there. **This is a significant opportunity as it extremely difficult and dangerous for Western people to share the gospel in Myanmar.**

Kaushik continues to operate a school, church, kid's church with over 90 children in attendance, sewing centre and other outreaches.

The sewing centre is till training ladies in sewing techniques. It is expected that the Jute machine (see below) should be fully operational by the end of February 2008. It will be used to make very fashionable ladies bags. These bags look quite classical and will be a high profit return item when sold.



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The ladies at Kolkata are also involved in making hand made greeting cards (see below)



We are exploring ways to help market these cards as a further means of funding the ministry endeavours of Pastor Kaushik.

Very exciting news to come out of Kolkata is Pastor Kaushik is engaged to be married. His bride to be, Kate is an English lady who has lived for an extensive period of time in India. She works fulltime setting up micro-industries to offset the poverty; and is a great asset to Kaushik. They are madly in love and both share the same passion to reach India for Christ.



Guntur

Pastor Enosh continues to minister effectively in Guntur. The chicken farming industry there has encountered many difficulties but we are working out a way forward. The sewing centre is still in operation and plans are being put into place to expand our operations in the Guntur area with new projects. These projects and concepts will be borne out of our relationship with TENT ministries which is detailed further in this report.

While in the Guntur area the team preached at a rally in a rural area. Virtually the whole town came to listen, including many Muslims. Even those villagers who chose not to come still heard the sound of the gospel as the meeting was held outdoors using a very big PA system.

One of the most unusual events of the trip happened on the way to this meeting. We were well aware that the territory we were in is Naxalite country. These communist insurgents conduct killings and other terrorist activities and even the day after we left Guntur 12 policemen were murdered by them. Driving to the village to preach we were far from any inhabited areas and it was extremely hard to see anything because it was at night and there were no lights anywhere to be seen.

Suddenly the car stopped, Pastor Enosh hopped out and then instructed us to get out. Our first thoughts were that we were being kidnapped by Naxalites as we could just make out shadowy figures in the darkness. Then all of a sudden people started yelling and we were being showered by

something. We realised to our relief they were yelling “welcome” and we were being showered with flower petals. Then they stopped and we were told to get back in the car and started to drive again. It was quite bizarre but a very warm welcome none the less.



Hyderabad

Fantastic things are happening in Hyderabad. It was so gratifying to go back to orphanages that were visited last time and to see significant changes in the faces of the orphan children there. Children who previously looked so sad and broken were now smiling and seemed to have a new found hope. Equally gratifying was to hear how the equipment purchased by By Faith Ministries on the previous trip has been such a blessing to them. No longer are clothes for 50+ children washed using rocks but the large washing machine is proving a very welcome blessing. Also water tanks mean water no longer has to be carried long distances for bathing.

We visited a slum area where Pastor Solomon is ministering very effectively amongst a Muslim population. Facing extreme poverty these people are desperate for a change in their life and the gospel message is providing that life line they need. Working in three different slums Pastor Solomon is also operating sewing classes, a school as well as other practical ways of loving people to Christ.



School held in the slums



Church building in the slums

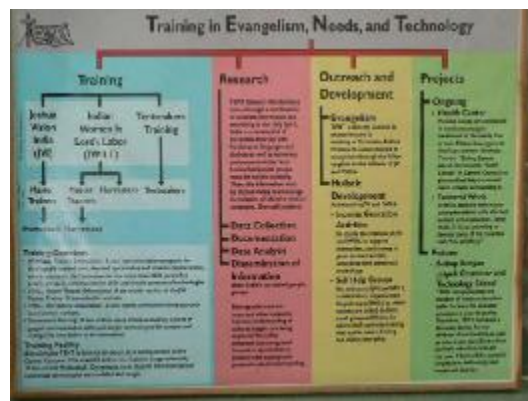
Pastor Milton continues to minister on many fronts. He is reaching over 500 children a week with a school operating in a slum area. They are guaranteed of receiving one nutritious meal a day. He is also involved in planting 3 other churches, providing housing for elderly people, operating his own orphanage and evangelising in many different areas of Hyderabad.

Tent Ministries is perhaps one of the most exciting discoveries to come out of the visit. TENT (Training in Evangelism Needs and Technology) was founded in 1985 to equip Indian Pastors to cross-cultural communication of the gospel and to help them use technology for income generation. TENT has been doing for many years what By faith Ministries is seeking to do and they have a wealth of information and experience. Having heard about TENT late in the trip we phoned and asked for a short notice visit and perhaps a short meeting. We spent nearly six hours with them. They were exceedingly generous in helping us. They have over 150 different micro- industries they are promoting.

For example we ate lunch there. The organic chickens were raised on their farm; the vegetables were organically grown there. The chicken was cooked using gas generated through special composting means and all of our table scraps will be recycled into natural fertiliser for growing fruit and vegetables on their farm.

Pastors are given training in simple gospel communication skills and the following land-based technologies:

- Kitchen Gardening,
- vermiculture,
- mushroom,
- grafting,
- animal husbandry (goats, sheep, chicken, oxen, turkeys, and rabbits),
- candle making,
- screen-printing,
- soap powder making,
- and lamination, etc.



TENT have agreed to assist us with future projects to ensure that we get maximum return for our investment and maximum results for the Kingdom.

As far as India is concerned. The best is yet to come.