

SNAP SHOTS OF THE RURAL BLESSING MISSION

My name is Dr. Klaus Zumbach, born 1970 in Germany.

From the 4th till the 6th of December 2010 I got the chance to visit the Rural Blessing Mission (RBM) in India, Maharashtra State in Anji.

,Brother' Mr. Isaac Israel (RBM founder) was so friendly to welcome me and guide me together with our driver Ravi & car through the different villages & projects where RBM is working.

As I only had a slot of 48 h we had a tight time schedule. All impressions I saved as pictures – therefore snap shots of RBM.

I invite you as reader to see all through my eyes...



READING THE WORD OF THE LORD

As I was fighting with myself if I shall go to the RBM mission field, I was reading following word in the bible (**King James Bible**) - 1. John 3, 16-18:

- ✘ {3:16} Hereby perceive we the love [of God,] because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down [our] lives for the brethren.
- ✘ {3:17} But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels [of compassion] from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?
- ✘ {3:18} My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

I got 3 commands of God through the bible, his words ;o) – 1. Give my life for my brothers in faith, 2. Share my goods and 3. Act.

This gave me the strength and confirmation to go.

THE PROPOSED 48H PLAN AT RBM

www.ruralblessingmission.org

4th Dec 2010

5th Dec 2010

6th Dec 2010

Time	Topic	
12:50	Arrive at Nagpur Airport	RBM staff will pick you at the airport
15:30	Reach Anji	
15:30 – 16:00	Lunch / Snacks	
16:00 – 18:00	Visiting villages around Anji	Going around and seeing the villages where we work.
18:00 – 19:30	Ebenezar Girls Home	Prayer time with children, hear testimonies, speak to them.
19:30	Dinner	
20:30	End of Day	

Time	Topic	
7:00 - 7:30	Breakfast	
7:30-8:30	Free slot	
8:30	Leave for Saldhara	
9:30 – 11:00	Sunday Service	Attend the regular Sunday service
11:00 – 12:00	Meeting with missionaries	Speaking to the missionaries and understand the work that they carry.
12:00 – 12:30	Visit - Clinic, Goatry, Birds, Garden, Well	Clinic is closed on Sunday, but we get a chance to see the facility.
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	Lunch served at Saldhara, together with the missionaries
13:30	Leave for Anji (it takes 40 mins)	
14:30	Mid-day Tea	
15:30	Visit to any of the Prayer Group locations (Waghdhara)	
18:00	Dinner at Wardha (Gulshan Restuarant) with the 5 main persons	You get a chance to meet all the 5 managers in the Organization.
21:00	End of Day	

Time	Topic	
7:00-7:30	Breakfast	
7:30-8:30	School Bus Trip	
8:30 – 11:00	Lonsavali Daycare center visit	
11:00 – 12:00	Anji School visit & meeting the RBM staff	Some words of encouragement from your side.
12:00 – 12:30	Lunch	
12:30 – 13:30	Discussion	Needs of RBM – by Bro.Isaac Observations/Fee dback –by Klaus
14:00 - 14:30	Visit Seloo school (enroute to Airport)	
15:30	Reach Nagpur Airport & check-in	RBM staff will drop you back.
17:05	Fly back to Bangalore	

Thanks a lot to Eppie Pratap Issac who organized it so nicely!

VISIT TO THE CHILDREN FROM THE EBENEZAR HOME IN ANJI

Anji is the ,headquarter‘ of RBM. In the building RBM locates the Ebenezar children home, the community/church room, the home of Brother and Sister (including guest room where I stayed), the RBM administration offices and a school.

Below I will show you my impressions about the [Ebenezar children home](#) and the children.



SOME INFORMATION...

All girls sleep in the headquarter building , the boys sleep in a rented room. Both are located in Anji, [Wardha district](#) in the Maharashtra state in western India.

Older Children get up a 4:00 am, start to study. All Children get up with the first cock cry at 5:00 am, start to wash themselves, have breakfast.

Afterwards they start with their rotating tasks – one group starts the clean up work (rooms, yard...). One group participates in the cooking and serving the food to the others. The older children wash their clothes by themselves, for children below 10 years a laundry lady is coming.

All check on their proper studies. From Monday till Saturday two groups are going to School, the first starts at 7:00 am to 11:30 am to a governmental school in Anji (local language is [Marathi](#)). The second group starts at 12:00 till 17:30 to the same school. Vice versa the groups are studying.

Mrs Jyoti (caretaker) takes care of all the children.

The location: In the front part of the headquarter building, the hostel is in the ground floor and in the first floor (top) **Mr. Isaac Israel and his wife Mrs. Santhy Isaac (called Brother and Sister) - founder of RBM** - are living; also a bigger community/church room is located. The children have a safe playground within the walls of the RBM head quarter. In the back part of the building the school and the RBM offices are located.

4 buses start each day from this location to pick up school children and drive them to the Good Shepherd English School at Anji. School starts at 10:40 and goes till 15:40, children get lunch during mid-day. After school the buses bring the children back to their villages.

Sundays the children have first a service and then the Sunday school goes on till lunch. After lunch – free time. Sometimes the children are taken out by bus to the nature for playing. On Sunday evening they get to see a film.

Even though the hostel is run on Christians values, nobody is forced to be a Christian and to join e.g. service.

THE CHILDREN IN ANJI EBENEZAR HOME

The hostel Anji takes care of 35 Boys and 106 Girls, supported by the [partner Caruna Bal Vikas](#). 3 orphans and 7 semi orphans. All others are very poor and destitute. The children visit from 5th grade up to 12th grade and graduation level. Currently 71 Children (69 Girls and 2 boys) live directly in the Ebenezar Home, others live with their families near the Home. They come for meals, clothes, studying etc.



DINNER IN ANJI



The menu is changed over the week. Here rice, egg, roti and an vegetarian meal.

MENU		
DAY	MENU	OTHER
MONDAY	→ BARBATTI-RICE-VEG	SWEET
TUESDAY	→ KHICHALI-MOT- VEG.	FRUIT
WEDNESDAY	→ VEG-PULAO-BARBATTI	EGGS
THURSDAY	→ BARBATTI-RICE-VEG	SWEET
FRIDAY	→ KHICHALI-MOT-VEG.	FRUIT
SATURDAY	→ VEG-PULAO-BARBATTI	EGGS



THE ROOMS

Example of one girls room.
Shelves to store the only property of the childs.
One bag, suitcase or something similar.
As bed serves a floor mat and a cover.
Room to sleep, eat, study and play.
This is their home.
This is everything for them.



HOMEWORK FOR SCHOOL



No chair, no desk.
All material provided
By donations for RBM.

Studies are important. They help to get an own future, a job to earn own money, to break the cycle of poverty & dependency on aid.

GET UP AT AROUND 5 AM AND WASH YOURSELF



Older Children get up a 4:00 am, start to study. All Children get up with the first cock cry at 5:00 am, start to wash themselves, have breakfast, start the cleaning up work (rooms, yard...).

The pump for drinking water and a well for the rest...



THE CHILDREN HAVE ROTATING TASKS

Besides school work the children have rotating tasks:

- Support cooking and serve the others
- Clean the community room, the own rooms, toilets
- Older children carrying for younger (e.g. taking a bath)
- Wash the clothes
- Watering the plants
- Clean the yard
- Dog care

Children are taken in responsibility, they learn to stand on their own feet and help themselves and the others.



LEARN TO TAKE CARE OF THEIR OWN



I woke up at around 5 am. The noise I heard came from the laboriously children.



FREE TIME - PLAYING, SINGING, DANCING



The playground, the dog, cricket and singing & dancing.



WHAT DO THE CHILDREN GET?



Shelter, food, clothes, all needed material, medical care, education and where possible financial support till they earn their own money.



3 times a year clothes – here the clothes for some girls for Christmas; sizes still need to be adapted.

CHILDREN OF THE ,FIRST' GENERATION

24 children are studying in the college /university, but still come to the Home to get their supplies monthly (which includes toilet items, clothes and pocket money) – two of them you see below.



The entrance to the hostel & school ground on the left.

On the right 2 ex-students with Sister(mrs.Santhy Isaac), being the first children in RBM, of Brother and Sister. Family bondage brings them to visit, chat, ask for advice. They have no other family or support. One's an engineer, the other a medical nurse. Prithi Khairkar (L), Sister (Mrs. Isaac Israel) and Jyoti Srinate (R).



Without RBM– many by heart given donations - no chance for such education and jobs! 15

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Service in the community/
church room. Participation is
free, not forced. Praying,
singing, listening to the word
of God as written in the Bible.
Children are asked to recheck
the all the teachings in the Bible.

SOME TESTIMONIES OF THE CHILDREN GIVEN TO ME

My name is Dipali Sontakke, I am studied from 3rd grade until 10th grade in Ebenezar Girls Home at Anji. I would like to Thank God and Brother and Sister for their love and care that they provided me through my childhood. I certainly believe that Jesus is the only Living God.

I am glad that God choose me out of the many others in my community, and brought me to the Ebenezar Girls Home, this was a great blessing for me. Now I am having the privilege to get educated and study very well. I have come through various difficulties in my life, like David who called on God every time he faced adversity and surrendered his life to God, I too have surrendered my life to Him. Currently I am pursuing a Diploma in Engineering, prior to joining this course, I had no idea about Engineering, but my God lead me very clearly to join this course. I had no money to pay the admission fees to this course, and never hoped that I would be offered a seat, but God told me to fill the Admission form and submit. Help came at the right time, I not only got into the course, but I am almost at the end of the course, I am now in my 3rd year of college. Gods favor is on me, along with the support from Brother and Sister, I have reached the point where I am now. I truly thank my God for lifting me.

Dipali Sontakke

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My name is Sagar Gawhane, I studied in Ebenezar Girls Home from 1st Grade to 10th Grade. Jesus Christ brought me here, I consider myself not worthy to live and study in this Home.

If brother and Sister did not admit me in English school, I would not have come so far in life. I thank Brother and Sister for this. Today because of them and with God's grace I am pursuing ITI course in Electronics branch. This is because I worked hard and scored good marks in 10th Grade. I don't have a father, but my God is everything for me. Being in this Home for 10 years has increased my faith day by day, I did not know who Jesus was before I came here, but now I have full faith in Him which grows day by day. I even tell my friends about Jesus, I even discuss Bible with them, I know even they will believe Jesus one day. God helped me in every walk of life. I thank God for this.

Sagar Gawhane

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My name is Geeta Sahare, I am studying in 12th grade. I am staying in the Ebenezar Girls Home from 1st Grade (from Six years old). From my childhood I have endured a lot of hardship. I remember once my mother's health was in a bad shape, I prayed to God to protect my mother, and he saved her. But after a while both my parents passed away. I didn't have anyone in this world, except my brother, who also abandoned me by moving. During this time I had only my God with me. Really God is great. He sent me to this Home, Brother and Sister gave me more love and care than my parents.

I am sure that God will lift me higher. I would like to become an Air-hostess one day . I would like to help others. I know that my God will help me in every situation of my life.

Please pray for me

Geeta Sahare

NIGHT – TIME TO SLEEP



Children sleep in their room on the ground, A kind of carpet (floor mat) and a blanket form the bed. Some still try to read or learn.

A farmer - delivers Milk to the home in day time, sleeps outside the home and takes care of security, e.g. a snake is in the rooms...he is called to take it away.



GET READY FOR SCHOOL (MONDAY MORNING)

Children get ready for school, for us all - time to say good bye – ,tata‘ in the local language Marathi..



SUMMARY

The children are well dressed, educated, get regular meals fitting to their needs and enjoy staying together with each other. They are a big community, helping and supporting each other, they are equal.

Their parents – if they still have - need to work from early morning till late afternoon on the fields, due to missing education they cannot support their children in learning, due to poverty they cannot afford to send the children to a better school.

Both parents and children get here unexpectedly the best with the support of donations and RBM.

Following need - when children finish school they could go to college and learn a nice job, here RBM would need supporters to pay the usual fees.

BUT what a great improvement to the lives of the children and their families, provided by donations through RBM. For each child individually this is a great chance!!!