

# SNAP SHOTS OF THE RURAL BLESSING MISSION

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

From the 4<sup>th</sup> till the 6<sup>th</sup> 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...



# THE PROPOSED 48H PLAN AT RBM

[www.ruralblessingmission.org](http://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!

# SUNDAY MORNING VISIT IN SALDHARA (5<sup>TH</sup> DEC 2010)

Hello, my name is Klaus Zumbach from Germany. From the 4th till the 6th I visited the Rural Blessing Mission (<http://www.ruralblessingmission.org/>).

I asked Brother Isaac to show me the RBM work done in Saldhara.

In the following I show you my impressions in form of pictures taken in Saldhara. Look at the children, the buildings, get an impression of the work of RBM built up with individual donations only and understand why RBM started the different projects - through my eyes

Then make your own picture...



# SOME DETAILS TO SALDHARA

- ✘ Saldhara: 20 km away from Anji. In the surrounding villages has school education till 7<sup>th</sup> Grade (11-12 year old children) is available, no further education is available. Local language Marathi is taught, all belong to local tribes. The area consists of fields and forest. All are farmers with focus on milk production, agriculture and fire wood cutters. There was formerly no possibility for the children to visit the next grades, due to forest area (danger by wild animals), poverty and lack of transportation (still all valid today, Dec 2010). Children mostly went after school to work in the fields. In 2003 RBM started with Karunya Vidyalaya (= school, <http://www.ruralblessingmission.org/School.html>) and the St. Thomas hostel as one complex – a very big investment! 70 children (around 52 boys, 18 girls) stay in the hostel. The offer is that children out of close villages (7 surrounding) stay in the hostel to study from 8<sup>th</sup> till 10<sup>th</sup> grade, means till the age of 12-13 years. They get here the chance to stretch for higher education and therefore for better chances than staying as farmer in the villages. In the school they also get voluntary in touch with Jesus Christ. The children are out of 2 major tribes – Kolam and Gond – two separate tribes, only staying with themselves. In the hostel they get now the chance to get acquainted to each other. RBM gives all – food, shelter, education, clothes, medical care, hygiene articles. For college they would need to go to Anji or Wardha. Parents should visit the children only on Saturday evening, but are also invited free of cost for e.g. the Christmas Celebration and other events.
- ✘ To cover the monthly costs for the children only 70x800 (700)Rs per month – 56000 (49,000)Rs need to be raised. For 6 staff members 14800 Rs per month need to be paid. So 70000 Rs per month need to be covered by donations. Currently RBM gets NO regular support, it is always unclear where the money for the next month is coming from.
- ✘ Local initiative was started with rearing goats, blue bird(similar to Turkey), pigeons, vegetables... to save costs for buying them or gain money through selling some of these stuff in the market.
- ✘ Due to medical health care of the children a medical clinic was established. This medical support is also open to all local people out of the surrounding villages. Costs here are 5000 Rs for a doctor (9:30 till 14:30, he comes from a village which is 8 km away , by motorcycle), further 2000 Rs for a local medical nurse and around 10000 Rs for medicine, gives a total of 17000 Rs per month. Also here NO regular income, but money is only provided by individual donations.
- ✘ Special project is a well to provide the children with appropriate drinking water. Currently 100000 Rs have been paid for digging, now 50000 Rs need to be raised for building up the well properly (side walls....).
- ✘ Till Dec 2010 individual donations are given by different communities, churches, individual donors where Brother and RBM staff ask for support e.g. during their church service. A planning on budget is not possible, but the children need regular support, the clinic needs to run!

# ON THE WAY: CLEMENTINES



# AND MILK



The region around Nagpur is called Orange region – in Germany we know them as clementines.



# GETTING CLOSER TO SALDHARA, THE FOREST REGION AND THE FORREST PEOPLE



# THE SCHOOL STAFF

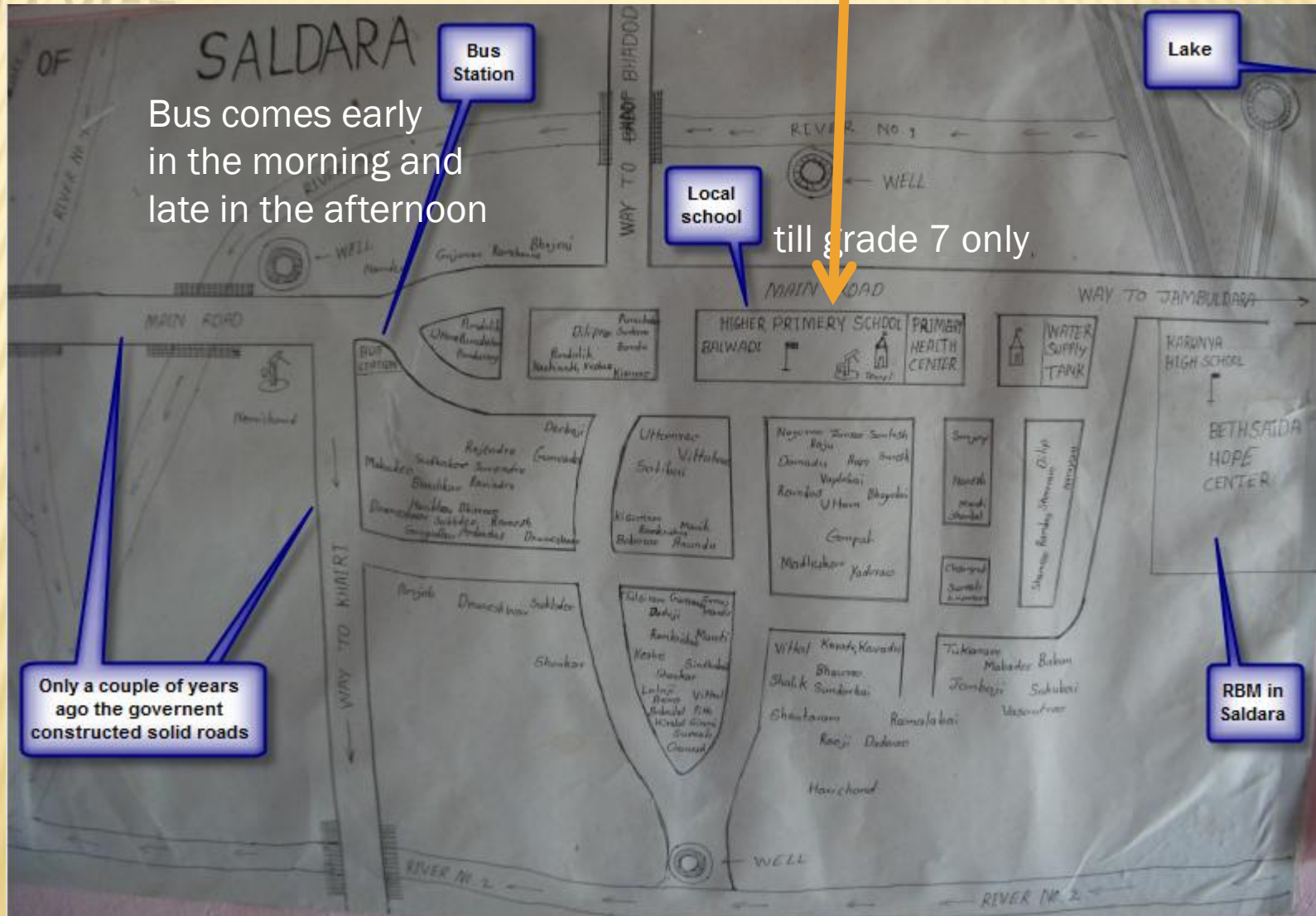
Staff only & monthly salary in indian rupees:

- |                    |             |                   |               |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1) B. Y. Hathajare | (Principle) | Marathi & History | - Rs. 3,650/- |
| 2) S.G. Bhonsale   | (Teacher)   | Maths             | - Rs. 2,650/- |
| 3) G.L. Pachare    | (Teacher)   | English           | - Rs. 2,550/- |
| 4) G.I. Dabhane    | (Teacher)   | Science           | - Rs. 2,650/- |
| 5) M.D. Mesharam   | (Teacher)   | Hindi & Social    | - Rs. 2,200/- |
| 6) Gyaneshwar      | (Attender)  |                   | - Rs. 1,100/- |



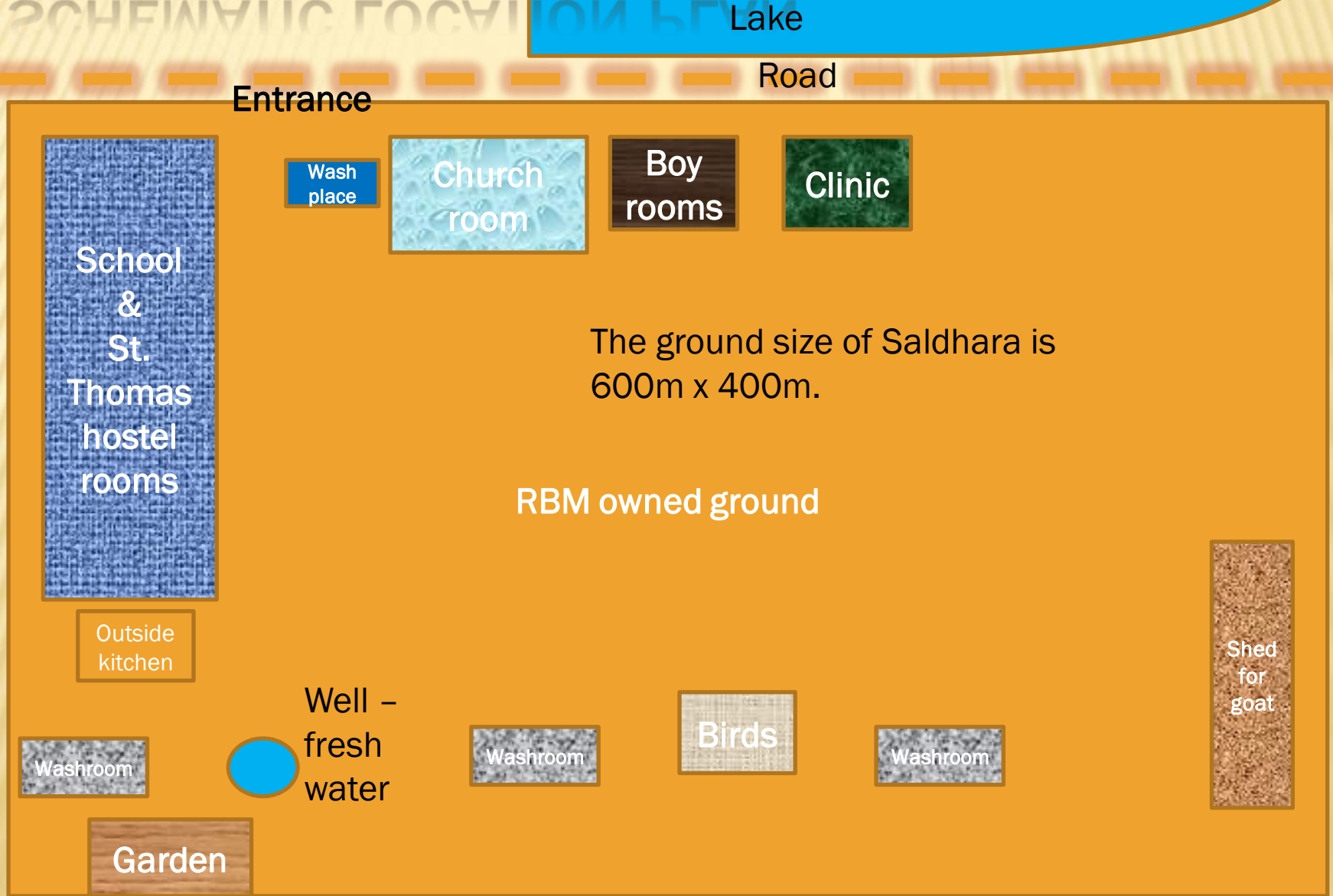
# MAP OF SALDHARA VILLAGE

Higher Primary School is up to 7<sup>th</sup> grade and primary health center provides emergency first-aid and delivery.





# RBM IN SALDHARA – BETHESDA HOPE CENTER SCHEMATIC LOCATION PLAN



# RBM IN SALDHARA - BETHESDA HOPE CENTER SCHEMATIC LOCATION PLAN



Lake

Road

Entrance

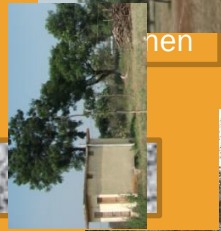
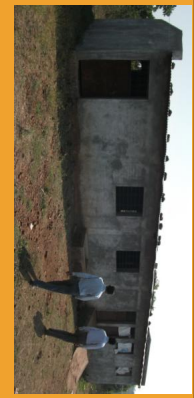


View from school



View from Goat pens

ground



men

Well -  
fresh  
water



# STARTING THE ROUND TRIP WITH THE SCHOOL & ST. THOMAS HOSTEL BUILDING & CHILDREN



# THE SCHOOL & HOSTEL BUILDING

Mid part



Children & staff at the entrance

From the other side with the outside kitchen



From the lake

Different views of the building.



# LUNCH FOR THE CHILDREN

The St. Thomas Hostel children get regular meals, here they all eat Sunday lunch in the big room. 3 women cook, some children have the task to serve the others with food. No table, chairs, only water.



# SUNDAY - LUNCH TIME



Drinking water out of the well

RBM provides children with regular food, changing meals and fresh water out of an own well.

Menu for Anji and Saldhara: early morning Tea & Bread, noon-meal is Chapati – Rice & veg-curry and evening tea-biscuits/ snacks, and for dinner - Chapati – Rice and vegetable-curry. On Sunday they have chicken and fruit. Thursday they have sweets.

# RICE, SAUCE AND BREAD (ROTI)



Caretaker (miss Preethi) –  
She takes care of the  
Children, Behind the door is the big  
eating room.

## OUTSIDE & INSIDE KITCHEN



Inside kitchen –  
Gas for cooking, but for saving costs  
the fire wood in the outside kitchen is used.



Outside kitchen –  
3 women bake Roti for  
the children.



# KARUNYA VIDYALA SCHOOL AT SALDHARA

The school has its head office is at Anji.

The School in Saldhara village is special in the sense that it is the only high school which is available in the radius of around 20 km from Anji.

The medium of instruction in this school is Marathi.

It provides residential facilities to some children from remote villages who come to study here.

There are around 70 children (both girls and boys) who live here and study. They choose only the most under privileged children to avail for them the residential facilities.

Some of the children studying in this school would never get a chance to get educated if they were not able to stay here.

# SCHOOL (FIRST FLOOR) – HEAD AND CHILDREN...



School grades in India:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 5-6 years
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 6-7 years
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: 7-8 years
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 8-9 years
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 9-10 years
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 10-11 years
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 11-12 years
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 12-13 years
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade: 13-14 years
- 10<sup>th</sup> Grade: 14-15 years



Of course it was Sunday and the school was closed, but the head Arun® showed me the school bell and the classes and the time schedule board.

# SCHOOL CLASS ROOM (FIRST FLOOR) AND STUDENTS



A typical class room of grade 8 in the first floor of the building. Girls are standing at the door of their class room.

# BIG RBM EVENT ROOM & TEACHER ROOM



The room on the left is used by RBM for bigger events.

On the top teachers in their room, on the back a computer. The computer is not connected to internet, due to the coverage problem.

# ADMINISTRATION...



DISTRIBUTION				REGISTER		
MONTH <u>November</u>		NAME OF THE ITEMS DISTRIBUTED		YEAR <u>2010</u>		
LED No.	NAME OF CHILD	ITEMS	Date	Soap	Hair Oil	Shampoo
0101	David Salhore		7-11-10	✓	✓	
0102	Ashok Patil		Date "	✓	✓	
0103	Shrikant Gaurhi		Date "	✓	✓	
0104	Rubali Dhade		Date "	✓	✓	
0105	Rupali Sapkal		Date "	✓	✓	
0106	Ryan Karpate		3-11-10	✓	✓	
0107	Shubham Sathre		Date 2-11-10	✓	✓	
0108	Ayankar Katar		Date "	✓	✓	
0109	Krush Gaitwad		Date "	✓	✓	
0110	Shrey Dhade		Date "	✓	✓	
0111	Ashay Madavi		Date "	✓	✓	
0112	Mitha Galat		Date "	✓	✓	
0113	Shantkar Thorkar		Date "	✓	✓	
0114	Pankaj Masaram		Date "	✓	✓	
0115	Ajay Lawane		Date "	✓	✓	
0116	Rubal Gathe		Date "	✓	✓	
0117	Vaibhal Wike		Date "	✓	✓	
0118	Sacali Kirzadkar		Date "	✓	✓	
0119	Varsha Sapkal		Date "	✓	✓	
0120	Petha Rangade		Date "	✓	✓	
0121	Mangala Bhutane		Date "	✓	✓	
0122	Sushkar Pathade		Date "	✓	✓	
0123	Ravindra Avghade		Date "	✓	✓	
0124	Rupali Wike		3-11-10	✓	✓	
			Date			
		Purchased quantities - 210	Date			
		Issue quantities - 210	Date			
		Balance quantities - Nil	Date			

Brother talks to a school boy, doing administration.

Top right the book where the donations to the children are documented, e.g. getting soap, hair oil...

Rules to take up a child in the hostel and school:  
The child should have completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade, no transportation for schooling to a nearby village/ city, and is poor and needy.



Currently 2 children join the hostel with no parents - orphans. What would happen to them without valuable donations and RBM?

# THE PLAYGROUND AND WIDE SPACE – VIEW FROM FIRST FLOOR OF THE SCHOOL



# ST. THOMAS HOSTEL ROOMS (MAIN BUILDING)



Sleeping & learning & living room of the children



The only door



Each suitcase with the belongings of a child, learning material, books, clothes...



Children storing belongings

# OTHER HOSTEL ROOMS



Below bed of a Caretaker – adult taking 24h care of the hostel children.



# GIRLS IN FRONT OF THEIR ROOMS



# THE HOSTEL CHILDREN – BOYS AND GIRLS



In the back the girls clean their plates at the wash place. The boys check on what I'm doing.

# WASH PLACE



Talking in the shadow of a tree

After Sunday lunch – washing their plates. There's a water dam behind

# CHURCH BUILDING, DIRECTLY BEHIND FURTHER ST. THOMAS HOSTEL ROOMS & CLINIC



Entrance to the church building

Building with boy rooms, part of St. Thomas hostel. Arrow shows entrance door.

Clinic building

# SUNDAY MORNING CHURCH IN SALDHARA



Below on the right – the church room from outside.

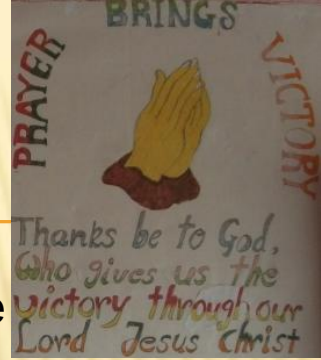


Inside, the ladies are seated to the left, gents are seated on the right during the Sunday Service.

They pray, sing and read in the Bible.



# SUNDAY CHURCH



Left: the choir, a boy doing the offering collections.

Below: girls & women following the service,

Brother following the missionaries preach in the bible. Around walls, a roof and the sunlight & fresh air coming in.



# SUNDAY CHURCH



Mr. Shyamlal Thedkar ,  
the responsible missionary  
for Saldhara village (seated)

Local missionary



The main missionary  
telling the gospel.  
Visitors follow in the  
bible's - because  
they learned to read!

# MISSION – PREACH THE BIBLE AS WORD OF GOD



Bible written in Tamil read by Brother



Main Missionary teaching the children



Missionaries and school Head (Arun)



# THE CHURCH VISITORS

View from the front to the back, as I was introduced to the school staff, the hostel children and the missionaries.

It was a very nice and warm welcome, as the first European in Saldhara.



# BOYS IN FRONT OF THEIR ROOMS



One class ;o)



House of the boys



One class ;o)



Currently 52 Boys and 18 Girls are in the Saldhara Hostel. The children are between 14 – 16 years old. The parents cannot support them for school education. They visit the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

# THE CLINIC BUILDING



The door closed on Sunday, but a hope for getting at least first aid for many children and village people.

Due to medical health care of the children a medical clinic was established. This medical support is also open to all local people out of the surrounding villages. Costs here are 5000 Rs for a doctor (9:30 till 14:30, he comes from an 8 km close village by motorcycle), further 2000 Rp for a local nurse and around 10000 Rs for medicine, gives a total of 17000 Rs per month. Also here NO regular income, but money is only provided by individual donations.

# GOATRY



**Goatry at Saldhara:** RBM employed local youth persons to take care of the Goatry in Saldhara. The Project started with 5 goats, today there are around 40 goats. The young persons learn how to take care and raise them. In the future, RBM plans to support these boys to start their own goatry (maybe with 3-4 goats each). The money of the selling the animals is used as donation for RBM. This is handled as [Community development project](#)



Mother goats

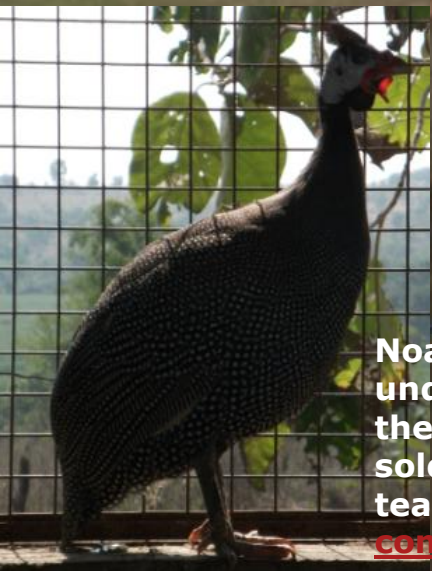


New born goats

# WASH ROOM – BIRD SHED – WASH ROOM



The birds are breed and sold to earn additional money for Saldhara

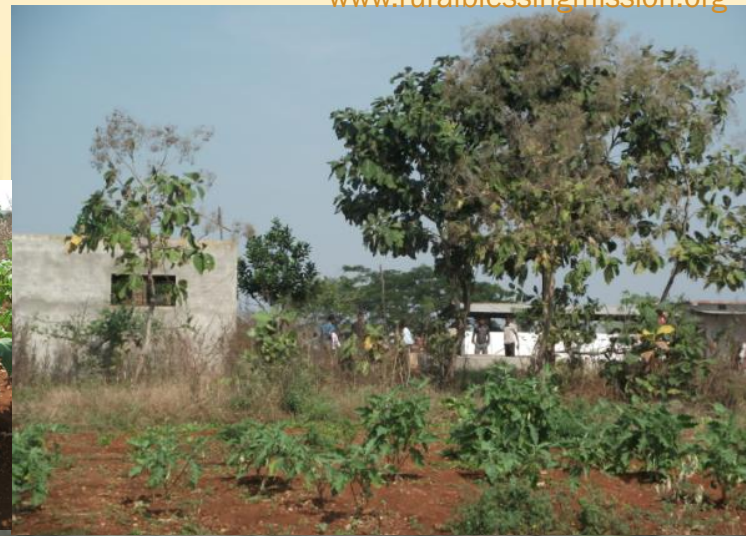


Dog puppies found in front of bird shed.



Noah's Ark project: RBM is rearing birds like pigeon, blue birds under this project. The children from St. Thomas home take care of the birds. There is a lot of demand for pigeons as pets, which are sold in pairs – chance for children for taking responsibility and teach them poultry, perhaps an own farm after school... This is a **community development project.**

# THE GARDEN



The garden is a project to grow some vegetables – e.g. tomato, chili pepper - on the own ground for the self-use of the Saldhara kitchen. Mr. Dilip takes care of the garden. The garden is possible because of the well water and rain in mansoon(July to September). It also teaches children on how to grow plants. <sup>38</sup>

# THE DRINKING WATER WELL

Special project is a well to provide the children with appropriate drinking water. Currently 100000 Rs have been payed for digging, now 50000 Rs (approx 900 EUR) need to be raised for building up the well properly (side walls....).



# WASH ROOM & TOILETTS



Children, staff and visitors of Saldhara are using the toilets and wash rooms. One needs to get water in the bucket for both. For washing one pours the water with a bigger cup over oneself. There is no running water provided. Mr. Waghmare maintains the toilet and washroom.





# THE LAKE – BUFFALO'S GIVE THE BEST MILK



It looks nice with the buffalo's in the water, but the water of the lake is not really usable as drinking water. Therefore RBM needed to dig a well for fresh drinking water.

# SALDHARA VILLAGE IMPRESSIONS



L: The house of a milk farmer.

R: The bus stop, woman and child.

Below resting buffaloes.



Farmers living of selling  
the milk of buffaloes.

# SALDHARA

