

# 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)	
1530	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!

## 5 GOOD SHEPHERD BUSES, A SCHOOL BUS TRIP FROM- AND-TO-ANJI(ROUNDTrip), HEADQUARTER' SCHOOL

Anji is the ,headquarter' of RBM. In the ,headquarter' building RBM locates a school.

On the ground 4 buses are parked and used to collect the school children, one bus parked in Sindhi (another village).

I took the chance to join Monday morning (6.12.2010) a school bus on his first trip through following villages: Anji – Anoli – Amgaon – Madna – Madni – Anji.

Below I will show you my impressions about the bus trip and the school children.





# ,HEADQUARTER' SCHOOL IN ANJI & BUSES



# THE 5 SCHOOL BUSES OF RBM

## Why has RBM school buses?

- ✘ In rural areas children need to walk a couple of hours to the next elementary school. In many villages there is NO transportation.
- ✘ Normal transportation of the children (e.g. 3-wheeler) is expensive for parents, one more reason for parents NOT to send their children to school.
- ✘ School buses offer parents a care free transportation at low cost.
- ✘ **Due to the need RBM started to offer with the help of donations school buses to provide children school education, where otherwise they would not have a chance for.**

## How are the 5 buses used?

- ✘ 4 buses are for Anji, one bus is for Sindhi school. More information about the schools can be found [here](#).
- ✘ The first bus trip starts at 8:30 till 9:30, the second at 9:30 till 10:30, than again at 15:40 till 16:40 and at 16:40 till 17:40 for return. 1 h per bus trip, school starts immediately in a kind of 2 waves.
- ✘ The bus in Sindhi is taking by 2 trips (in a row) 90 school children for the Sindhi school (also Good Sheppard School).
- ✘ For Anji, each bus drives two routes in a row. Altogether they drive in 4 directions. E.g. one bus takes up in 5 villages school children.
- ✘ In the Good Sheppard School in Anji of 590 school children 475 are transported with the 4 buses. 115 of 590 are local Anji children.

## What are the costs for the buses?

- ✘ RBM collects from the parents a fee for the diesel & maintenance only. Below 5 km 100 Rp, up to 7 km 140 Rp, up to 10 km 160 Rs more km means 200 Rs per month.
- ✘ The complete costs for the buses are paid by donations for RBM only.

## Maintenance for 5 busses - credit contracts and the monthly obligations for RBM:

- ✘ Chalamandalam – 10348 Rp per month – 2005 till last due date Sep 2011
- ✘ Kotak Mahindra bank – 10350 Rp per month – June 2008 till April 2012
- ✘ Chalamandalam – 21064 Rp per month – June 2008 till April 2012
- ✘ Kotak Mahindra – 20675 Rp per month – July 2009 till April 2013
- ✘ Magma Finance cooperation – 28370 Rp per month – July 2010 till May 2014.



# STARTING WITH THE EMPTY BUS, GET FUEL



# THE FIRST STOP – FIRST SCHOOL CHILDREN





# BUS TRIP – SECOND STOP





# BUS TRIP – THIRD STOP





# AND THE FOURTH STOP





# BUS TRIP – THE FIFTH STOP





# ON THE ROAD - IMPRESSIONS





# THE SIXTH BUS STOP





# CHILDREN AND A TEACHER GET INTO THE BUS





# SEVENTH STOP – ONE CHILD & ONE TEACHER





# THE EIGHTH BUS STOP





# PASSING THROUGH THE RURAL AREA



# FIELDS, A RIVER, BANANA PLANTS





# 9TH STOP





# TATA - BYE





# THE TENTH BUS STOP





# AND BUS STOP NUMBER 11





# THE BUS IS FULL, 3 CHILDS ON ONE BENCH





# AFTER 1H COMING BACK TO ANJI SCHOOL



Anji headquarter – now serving  
As school ;o)



Play ground for  
School breaks ;o)

RBM  
administration

School  
rooms



Kitchen

School rooms



# GETTING OF THE BUS, INTO CLASSES





# PREPARING FOR SCHOOL LESSONS



School grades in India:

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

The school children we picked up with the bus  
Have reached now the school, they prepare to  
Start with the school lessons.

Also the teachers are getting ready (top mid).<sup>26</sup>





# SCHOOL STARTED







Father brings  
child to class



The school buses waiting for the children.



One school front, behind the class rooms







Due to missing space,  
classes are also con-  
ducted in the church  
room (right) of Anji  
headquarter.





**MORE  
CLASS  
ROOMS  
WITH  
CHILDREN  
AND  
TEACHERS**





# SUMMARY

The 1h bus trip showed me clearly why the buses are needed.

-> Without bus, no easy possibility for parents to send their children to get a nice education. I guess most parents would/could not send the children to higher education.

-> Without bus, no easy possibility for children to come in time into school.

My bus ( ;o ) was very punctual – the round took one hour over many good and bad roads – just check the pictures.

Every acceptable space in the bus was used, the conductor took care of security of the children.

The school buses of RBM are perhaps an expensive investment – but without them most children would not be able to get higher education!!!

It is a fundamental investment to enable in this poor area the higher education for parents and children normally having NOT this possibility.

**Investment in buses means investing in education, investing in the future of the children, giving them a chance at all, giving the parents the support to give their Children the best they can – THROUGH DONATIONS only.**

And keep in mind, at least till end of 2010 all donations were coming from local supporters in India!!!