

Compassion



EVERETT F. SWANSON, founder

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*"... I have compassion on the multitude ... I will not send them away."
Matthew 15:32*

Special Report:

INDONESIA



These Compassion-helped children have reason to sing with gusto. All Christians throughout Indonesia also clap their hands while singing. The combination sound and singing can be almost deafening at times, but most uplifting.

Let's Visit . . . INDONESIA

COMPASSION, INC. sponsors more than 2,000 needy children throughout tropical Indonesia. It is our second-largest area of outreach to needy children.

Miriam Swanson, our Vice-President, and your Editor, Ed Ronne, spent roughly a week traveling throughout Java and the Celebes during October, 1970. We thought it appropriate to bring you a few highlights from our



recent visit to that area . . . along with a few facts and figures to enlighten those of you who sponsor children there.

Many people are confused when we mention "Indonesia". Actually, the republic consists of five large islands and more than 3,000 smaller inhabited ones. (Another 10,000 have no one living on them!) Rest assured, we did *not* cover all of them!

From Djakarta, the largest city on the Island of Java, to Manado on the northern tip of the Celebes Islands, the airline distance is more than 3,000 miles. Garuda Airlines provided our means of transport to and from most cities visited.

In October 1970, COMPASSION opened up new Indonesian headquarters at Djakarta . . . a city with a population of about five million persons. In charge of the new office at the Karya Wisata Hotel in Djakarta is a native Indonesian, A. H. Mandey. He has two assistants, plus four persons who translate letters to and from sponsors. We are providing assistance under a family plan arrangement in Java, the Celebes, Borneo, Sumatra and Bali.

A few issues ago we told you about Lynette Walters, our new assistant for the Djakarta office. Lynette is just now settling down to her new duties as distributor of finances in that hot and humid country.

Many regions of Indonesia have experienced Christian revivals of wide significance in recent days. Despite the fact that about 90 percent of the population is Buddhist, freedom of religion is guaranteed by the government.

We found a warm and friendly spirit among the Christian people that we met in all cities there. The Indonesians are a singing people! Church activities top the list of favorite things to do in their spare time. Often entire villages will turn out when a meeting is scheduled at the local church. We recall arriving at one village in Java after our schedule had been running behind, where the entire congregation had already been waiting more than two hours for us to appear. To top things off, the meeting lasted another two hours!



This placid scene was typical of those we saw along gravel roads in the Northern Celebes. Thatched roofs erected against the driving tropical rains are serviceable for about two or three years. Everywhere, the foliage and endless variety of palm trees were a lush green. (Wish we could show you some of our color slides!)

No one left the auditorium . . . not even the little children. The singing and rhythmic hand clapping was just as vigorous at the end of the meeting as at the beginning.

As you know, Ed Kimball is our Field Director for the South Asia area. Ed traveled with us to Indonesia and supervised the itinerary and made all the arrangements. Although we couldn't personally visit all our areas of work, we were still able to meet, face to face, about half of our sponsored children. The children, and often their widowed mothers, met us at airports and churches throughout Java and the northern Celebes. To see that number of children was indeed a feat in itself.

Indonesians, by and large, frown on orphanages. Consequently, most of our work there is on a family plan basis. Widows and children in homes receive our

help. The widows have lost their husbands through revolution, disease, and accidents. As we mentioned, the social life of most Indonesians is centered around the church. It was only necessary for us to schedule a meeting at a church and then wait for the crowds to appear.

From Djakarta we flew to Solo, Pare and Surabaja, in Java. In the Celebes we spent most of our time around the Manado area, on the northern tip of the island. In the Celebes (now called Sulawesi), COMPASSION's work has been dramatically curtailed. The recent recession in the U.S., plus some difficult problems in correspondence with children, has reduced the number of sponsored children to a little more than 600, from a total high of 1,300. We ask you to pray with us regarding the need for new sponsors for these needy children.

Three-wheeled "Betjaks" are a favorite way of transport, especially in the bigger cities of Indonesia . . . such as Djakarta and Surabaya. You can "hail" a Betjak driver most anywhere . . . day or night. He'll take you a half-mile or more for 15 or 20 cents.



Wherever we went on our trip . . . and this also goes for Korea, India and the Caribbean, we emphasized the importance of letter writing by the children and their supervisory staff. Actually, after one of our meetings near Manado, Ed Kimball was presented with "the best present of all" . . . more than 400 handwritten letters from the children to their sponsors.

It is difficult to convince the Indonesians that they should write letters, for it has not been a part of their culture. Indeed, many of them cannot write — it has not been a part of their education to learn to read and write! The older children are now learning to read and write in school.

In the Celebes, we have one full-time and one part-time employee . . . again, both are natives. On the Island of Sumatra, we have one full-time and three part-time helpers.

Ed also makes an occasional trip into Borneo, where we also are assisting the needy. Much travel in Borneo has to be done by motorized canoe. The rivers are too shallow for large boats, and there is only one road on the

island which is about 100 miles long. The roads in Java and the Celebes, by the way, are not the best; however, we had no difficulty getting through by car. The rickety 1956-57 variety of American-made taxi cruised along at about 60 mph, slowing down only for dogs, chickens, and water buffalo pulling heavy loads of produce and other agricultural products.

All along, one is practically driven insane by the constant blowing of the horn. Drivers in Asia seem always to be leaning on their horns. However, it does seem necessary to do so . . . the roads there are occupied with all sorts of creeping things that sometimes do not move even though they are practically blasted out of the road.

There remains much one could say about Indonesia. We'll have to leave the rest till another time. Meantime, maybe the photographs will help to explain what we saw and did during that busy week. The warm Christian fellowship and beaming faces of happy children more than repaid the muggy nights and heavy down-



Our taxi driver was kept busy dodging the carts and water buffalo at every turn of the road. One breathes a prayer before entering an Indonesian taxi!

Remember the old hand-operated gas pumps of the thirties? They were last seen "alive and well" and pumping gas in Java and the Celebes Islands!



pours of tropical rains.

Indonesia is a worthy cause . . . worthy of our continued prayers and tangible assistance for many years to come. ■



We visited these impressive ruins of an ancient Hindu temple while passing through the city of Solo in Central Java.

Almost life-like stone carvings of monkeys on the Hindu temple ruins. A Hindu believes that his caste in the next life is determined by his actions in the present life. If he behaves himself and does good, he will be "reborn" into a better caste hereafter. If he does evil, he may become a monkey or other animal in his reincarnation.



PHOTO REPORT ON INDONESIA



Miriam Swanson poses amidst the ruins of the Hindu temple. Hinduism was the chief religion of Java for many centuries. When Islam swept the island in the 15th century, the followers of Hinduism moved to Bali, to the east of Java. The Balinese even today are primarily Hindu in religion and culture. (Compassion supports children in Bali . . . Ed Kimball makes routine visits to that island to survey our projects there.)



The grotesqueness of this temple carving is dramatically outlined in this close-up photograph. Like any world wonder, this temple must have required the blood and sweat of thousands of laborers. The Indonesian National Archeological Institute is responsible for the preservation of archeological remains.

CONTINUED—



Compassion's Indonesian office has just been moved to the Hotel Karya Wisata in Djakarta.



A traffic circle in downtown Djakarta. At right is a modern international hotel.



These youngsters carry their own tune. Home-made marimbas, such as this one, are played with professional excellence in Christian churches. The music is up-tempo and highly spirited.



"Man of letters", Ed Kimball displays "the best gift of all" . . . correspondence from the children of the Celebes to their sponsors!

Typical congregation that greeted us along the way. Crowds of 500 or more persons, young and old, gathered an hour or two before the start of our meetings. They sang Gospel hymns and songs while waiting, at all stops. We were expected to deliver short sermons. Mrs. Swanson also explained to all the children and adults the details of our assistance program — especially the importance of proper correspondence with their sponsor.



Ed Kimball, lower left, works with the Compassion staff to distribute funds to children in the Northern Celebes. Standing is Ronny Wangke, our representative at Manado in N. Celebes. At right is W. T. Kalemouw, based in our Djakarta office. He also serves as Ed's interpreter and financial assistant.



This is Ronny Wangke, in charge of our work at Manado, North Celebes Islands. Both he and his wife operate this radio station from their home. They broadcast Gospel music and short sermons beginning at 4:30 AM each morning! Not only is the signal heard in many areas of neighboring Borneo, but also throughout Ronny's entire neighborhood. A public address system sends forth the Gospel message good and loud for all to hear! Dozens of conversions have been reported as a result of this radio outreach.



Garuda "prop jets" faithfully transported us throughout Indonesia. It was our experience that most airlines along our route used American-built aircraft of the most reliable kind.

Your editor's shoes easily won "hands down" the prize for the largest shoes in Indonesia. Asians generally have small feet . . . our pair of size 13 shoes had to be touched to be believed!



MEET W. H. M. KAUNANG

Mr. Kaunang, age 38, is our COMPASSION interpreter, manager of correspondence, and assistant to our Indonesian representative. His office is in Djakarta, Java. Mr. Kaunang began working for COMPASSION in May, 1968, after resigning his position in public relations with a leading Djakarta-based oil company.

Originally from the Island of Manado in the northern Celebes, Kaunang graduated from a teachers college on a nearby small Indonesian Island. Before accepting the public relations position in Djakarta, he taught a variety of subjects in primary school.

Before his conversion to Christ, Mr. Kaunang was thoroughly opposed to Christianity. He was known for "poking fun" at the



name of Jesus Christ. His life was dramatically changed in 1961 when he experienced conversion. Mr. Kaunang and his wife have five children . . . three boys and two girls. We had wonderful fellowship with Mr. Kaunang on our recent trip throughout Java and the Celebes. He is an excellent interpreter and truly a great asset to our work in Indonesia.

THE "CHILDREN OF COMPASSION" TOUR ...WELL UNDER WAY

Our six talented tykes from Korea are singing their way through many areas of California at this printing. From February through April, they have been scheduled to present special programs in churches around the Los Angeles and San Diego areas, and also around Fresno to the north.

From April 19 through May 3, the children will be in the Chicago area. For the remainder of May into the early part of June, the children will be in Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Iowa and Minnesota, and some sections of Canada. A final swing into Chicagoland will put the finishing touches on their schedule for the year.



Making a "return engagement" as a member of a Compassion tour group is 10-year-old Billy. Practically nothing is known about Billy's background. He is blessed with a pleasing personality and special singing talent.



Eleven-year-old Lori, member of the 1971 "Children of Compassion" tour group, performs a native pantomime. Lori lives at Compassion's Good Brethren Christian Orphanage in Taegu, South Korea.

Watch for the special appearances of "The Children of Compassion", and make an effort to attend one of the free programs.

We regret that the group will not be able to make personal appearances in all states and in all the churches represented by Compassion sponsors. Such an undertaking would be physically impossible. Hopefully, there will be another team in 1972.

Meantime, continue to pray for strength and endurance for Miriam Swanson, the Tour Director, and all the children as they make the rounds, "singing up a storm" and presenting their winning ways to thousands of persons.

SPONSORS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Seven-year-old Lanto Linarno Murtiono wants to say "Thank you!" This Indonesian boy wants his thanks to go to his sponsors for making possible the happy transformation you can see in these pictures. Lanto is sponsored by the Shadle Park Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons, of Spokane, Washington. Lanto's story dramatically underlines for all Compassion sponsors this truth: What you are doing really does help.

Miles and mail, language and age, make it hard for Lanto to tell his story directly. To help him communicate his gratitude, we will use a small boy's way of story telling. His story is based on the correspondence we received from Ed Kimball, our South Asian Field Director. Here then is Lanto's story:

When I was in kindergarten, I was not happy. I was hungry a lot and I had a hard thing — like a little ball — on the back of my head by my ear. It hurt when I touched it, and when I tried to hold my head up straight, I didn't look nice, and sometimes children laughed at me.

Then this man came to take a picture of me with a box he had. He said some people wanted to see what I looked like and that they would help me so I would have more food and so my head wouldn't hurt.

I liked this man because he was nice to me. But I was afraid, too, because he talked to my mom about my going to a hospital to make my head better. I didn't know what a hospital was then, but I had heard some grownups say that you go to a hospital to die. I didn't want that!

After that I felt like hiding every time I saw our pastor because he would tell me that I should go to the hospital. He would say I shouldn't be afraid because Jesus would take care of me. But one time when I saw our pastor I forgot about being scared, because he gave me some mail that had my name on it! He told me it was from the people who had my picture. He said they lived far away, but they were helping us to have more food. I knew he was telling the truth because I didn't feel hungry so much anymore. The pastor said that these people



Lanto — before.



Lanto — after.

wanted to help take care of me at the hospital.

So one day I did go to the hospital. It was a big place and it smelled funny. I got scared sometimes, but the doctors and nurses were nice to me. They got rid of that hard thing (the doctor called it a cyst, I think) on my head. It took a long time for it to stop hurting, though. I had to take lots of medicine to make it get better.

When that nice man (I know his name now — Mr. Kimball) came to take my picture again, my head was almost all better. I held my head up real high when he took my picture. I bet I looked better in that picture than I did in the first one!

I told Mr. Kimball I wanted to

say "Thank you" again and again to those people who wrote to me and who helped me to get my head better. He told me that he wanted to thank them too and that there were other people like them who help boys and girls all over. I felt good about that.

P.S. Lanto's sponsors "helped his head get better" by paying for the hospital, doctor, and medicine fees which Lanto incurred at the Southern Baptist Hospital at Kediri in East Java. Ed Kimball took the first pictures of Lanto in October 1969, when Lanto was six years old, and the later photograph in October 1970. What a difference a year and a sponsor can make!

COLOR TV OR NOT COLOR TV THAT WAS THE QUESTION

When the Benjamin Hatch family of Byrn Mawr, Pennsylvania decided it was time to replace their old television set, it became a question of color, or another black-and-white one.

Of course, for most persons and certainly children included, a color set would have been the happiest choice . . . assuming that the cost would not be prohibitive.

Actually, a new black-and-white set was purchased by the family. Here is what happened! The Hatches are the parents of three boys . . . 12-year-old Stephen, 8-year-old John, and Andrew, not quite two.

After much serious contemplation and discussions with the boys, it was unanimously decided that the TV set would be a black-and-white set. This is where COMPASSION came into the

picture. It was decided by the family that the money saved would go toward the support of a Compassion child. Said little Johnny, in a cute note to us, "We figured out how many months we could support a child with the money that we saved if we didn't buy the color TV set, and it came to about 17 months' worth. I would be happy to receive some food and clothing and a cozy bed if I were one of the children."

Editor's Note: We think the Hatches carried through an excellent idea! Compassion, of course, is not against color TV . . . we are simply *for* children. We are glad the "tint of the tube" matters not to the Hatch family. Their thoughtfulness will be rewarded in blessings that are as sure to come as the next commercial!

SOME WORDS FROM OUR SPONSORS

— Gleanings from our Mail Bag

From Vista, California: "We would like to know how much a cow would cost in Indonesia . . . We would like to buy one for the family of our child."

Answer from Ed Kimball, our man-on-the-spot: "A cow in Indonesia will cost between \$60 and \$75."

From Webster Groves, Missouri, a 16-year-old daughter of a missionary on furlough writes: "Enclosed is my gift to Compassion for \$1.00. I know it isn't much . . . I do not have a job and don't earn anything, but God will supply my needs as He does yours!"

(We rejoice in such a letter! We covet not only those who supply large gifts, but a note like this indicates real sacrifice on the

part of a teenager. It brightened our day!)

A sponsor in New York told us: "Because you make it possible for a person such as myself to help homeless children and give them a Christian education . . . the money is *thrice* blessed. It blesses those who receive it, it blesses us who are able to help, and it blesses Compassion . . . the people who make our part possible."

A Compassion friend in Ackley, Iowa wrote us: "I am sending you 1/3 of the amount I earned selling my hand-made aprons this past year. Your share is \$72.00. I make aprons and sell them at hobby shows. I'll be 72 my next birthday."

LET'S
GO
FLY
A
KITE!



This "free-hand" drawing was sent us from South Korea . . . it was made by a child of Compassion for his American sponsor. The card is symbolic of the season and of the kind of fun that children can enjoy wherever they

are. As we anticipate Spring, we wish a full measure of merriment to you and yours. May the care-free spirit of a child instill in us new zest and vitality for the tasks that our Lord has laid before us!

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR POSSESSIONS AFTER YOU DIE?

by Rev. Donald J. Smith
Director of Stewardship and Promotion

Regardless of how much or how little you own, some thought should be given to what is going to happen to your worldly goods when you die. Will your possessions then benefit those you wish to help after you die?

Probably not, if you fail to leave a properly prepared will.

Will your estate be assessed unnecessary probate costs and excessive taxes upon your death? Will those you wish to bless with your possessions fail to receive all you want them to have?

Probably yes, if you have not carefully planned your estate.

Your estate includes every-

thing that you own — such as jewelry, household items, stocks, bonds, money, insurance, automobiles, real estate, collections (stamp, coin or art), etc.

Whether you have much or little, why allow a substantial portion of your possessions to be lost in court costs and unnecessary taxes?

If you would like to have capable and confidential assistance in planning your estate, the finest professional service is available through COMPASSION, INC.

Write us today for free information concerning our estate planning service.

COMPASSION, INC.

7774 West Irving Park Road, Chicago, Illinois 60634

Dear Reverend Smith:

Please send me free information concerning Compassion's estate planning service. Also send me a copy of:

- () "The State Has Made Your Will"
() "Giving Through Your Will"

NAME (Mr., Mrs., Miss) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____