

COMPASSION



March-April, 1972

Compassion in India



All smiles for the camera. These children have come from Chinese Tibet and are receiving education and other assistance from Compassion in Bangalore, India.

INDIA

Compassion joins hands with Partnership Missions, Inc.

Compassion is reaching out to more needy children of India.

We are now seeking sponsors for children of the Hmar tribe and other hill children in northeastern India . . . in a program of support in cooperation with Partnership Mission, Inc., headquartered in Wheaton, Illinois.

Compassion has been helping Indian children and Tibetan children living in India, since 1968. (See report, this issue).

To initiate the new program, we have received 20 case histories from Partnership Mission.

Rochunga Pudaite, President of the Mission, and also a descendant of the Hmar tribe, says that more than 80% of the Hmar people of India profess faith in Christ. More than 200 churches

dot the countryside and valleys of Assam and Manipur. The Mission operates 65 village schools, serves the medical needs of the Hmars through a modern hospital at Sielmat, has 600 children enrolled in a Christian high school, and supports 500 deprived children through its Partnership Parents program.

More than 300 national missionaries have been trained as pastors, teachers, evangelists, and Christian workers during the past 50 years that the mission has been in existence. In that period of time, more than 25,000 students have received a Christian education.

Headhunters once roamed the area where the Partnership Mission ministers. In the early 19th Century, a band of 200 tribal people raided a tea plantation in northeast India and cut off the heads of 500 coolie laborers. It was a tribal custom to decorate their thatched roofs with the skulls of slain enemies. Rochung Pudaite's father, Chawnga, was the son of one of these headhunters. The elder Pudaite was converted to Christ and hence began a new Christian community in that section of India. Chawnga Pudaite is still active in the work of the mission.

During the recent war between East Pakistan and India, thousands of refugees fled into areas of east India where the Mission is operating. The needs are more urgent than ever!

Below—Water buffalo roam freely in this typical Indian village. **Bottom**—For 8-year-old Lalbawnei, the finding of food is a daily crisis.





Elsewhere in India

Since the conflict of some months ago, Compassion has had no adverse reports concerning our work with Indian children.

Ed Kimball, our Field Director for South Asia, has scheduled a visit to India during April. Later on during the year, we will report to you his observations in that section of the world.

Meantime, we have selected a few photographs with appropriate captions, which illustrate our work in India being carried on without interruption.

Compassion supports children in one large orphanage in Rajahmundry, in southern India. The Bethesda Orphanage there houses more than 100 youngsters . . . most all of them are sponsored. There are five smaller Compassion homes in the same area.

A group of selected boys and girls from Tibetan refugee camps in India

are being supported by Compassion sponsors. Now living in a hostel at Bangalore, these children are cared for by Ruth Stam, a veteran missionary and long-time friend of Compassion. The children are among the thousands of Tibetan refugees driven from their homes when the Communists overran Tibet more than 10 years ago. The refugees are nomads, farmers, businessmen, and laborers; and they all yearn for the day when their native country of Tibet will once again be free from oppression.

Ruth notes that the children at Bangalore are brilliant and promising students. They are eager to learn, and many show special talent in singing and fine arts. Opportunities for education in the refugee camps are almost nil. The children at the hostel range in age from six to eight years of age. This age group seems to fit well into the educational program in the Bangalore schools . . . which have high scholastic standings.



Left—Miriam Swanson, Ed Kimball, and Sarah Chakravarthi pause for a moment of prayer at the Bethesda Orphanage in Rajahmundry, India. **Right**—Tibetan girls at the school in Kanpur perform a native pantomime. **Below**—This girl makes a clean sweep . . . no vacuum cleaners here in central India.

The Tibetan children have obstacles to overcome. As refugees, they are considered members of an "outside" race. Furthermore, India already is overcrowded. (The problems of India were compounded recently when thousands of refugees from East Pakistan fled their country. In a country of perpetual hunger, India hardly needs more mouths to feed!)

There are more than 200,000 small villages scattered throughout India. A typical village will be made up of about 100 families. No television, of course, and often no electricity. One can almost imagine himself in deepest Africa while traveling through some of these communities. There are dark-skinned Indians who still wear loin cloths and carry spears for hunting.

One need not say much about the needs of India. It becomes a question of helping where the need is greatest. Compassion is now supporting some 500 children in India . . . plus many needy widows. Many loyal and dedi-





Top—Miss Chadra Leela Solomon, in charge of our children's work at the Mary A. Merriman School at Kanpur, examines a fine piece of cloth that Tibetan girls will sew into new clothes. **Bottom**—"Fill my cup, Lord" . . . the prayer of some Tibetan children in India has been answered—they have just had a refreshment break.

cated Indian pastors and Christian leaders help make our job easier.

We covet your prayers for the people of India. We also wish to add that we have only a handful of unsponsored children from India right now. New areas of service are presently being investigated. We will keep you informed of developments in India in future issues of Compassion Magazine.



A "mountain" of meals

A part of Compassion's ministry to needy children during 1971 was the serving of more than 25 million meals during the year!

We based our estimation on the serving of three meals daily for 365 days, multiplied times 23,000 . . . the total number of children in our care. Thanks to our thousands of sponsors and donors, these little ones are alive and well today because you cared. Compassion, of course, is not concerned only with material needs, but also with the mental and spiritual needs of the children.

As an example, all our children in Korea are given daily Bible instruction by qualified Bible teachers. They also attend Sunday School and church on a regular basis. Since Compassion's ministry began in 1952, more than 1,500 churches have been established throughout South Korea. Compassion-supported evangelists traverse the length and width of Korea, telling the "good news" of salvation.

With your prayers and help during 1972, we expect to continue the feeding of thousands of bodies, and souls in 11 countries of the world.

News from Canada

Pete McGarvey, our able newsman from Chatham, Ontario, reports that a group of 200 students at the Central Public School of Thamesville, Ontario decided to forego an exchange of Christmas gifts and convert the value of the presents not purchased, into a Compassion sponsor's fund. The nickels, dimes, and quarters have made possible another full year's support for a needy child in Korea (\$144.00). We understand that the students have been sponsoring for three years running—thank you, kids—we appreciate it!

A "Shareholders Meeting" of Compassion sponsors was held November 29 at Chatham . . . the first meeting of

its kind. It was an informal, get-acquainted gathering, which attracted sponsors from throughout the Province of Ontario. Perhaps other sponsors in other areas of Canada and the U.S. would like to see similar meetings!

Our last issue of Compassion Magazine featured a story on the Rev. James Somerville, who now is beginning a year's "term of duty" with Compassion of Canada. Jim has returned from an on-the-spot visit to the areas of the Orient where Compassion is assisting children. The entire Canadian staff will now pitch in and launch a year-long campaign to obtain sponsors in ten selected Ontario cities.

Jim is a former minister of the Victoria Avenue United Church in Chatham.

Mrs. No said "Yes" — an orphan weds

Kim Kwang Ok clutched her small bouquet of roses. Her white dress rustled as she walked. Through her veil she could see that Young Chin Chapel was filled with her friends.

It must be a dream, she thought. How could I, an orphan girl—an outcast of society, a non-person . . .

As she walked down the aisle the present faded into the past. She could barely remember the terrible way in which her parents were taken from her; however, the memories of those years spent at Home #44, Sincere Faith Orphanage, were vivid and pleasant. Here she had received love and care. After her 16th birthday she transferred to Compassion-supported Young Chin Vocational School for Girls in Seoul. Three years of diligent study paid off with a good job in a dress-making shop. Kim Kwang Ok was warm-



Mr. and Mrs. No Kyung Chool

hearted and kind to everyone, as well as an obedient and industrious worker. The owner of a nearby silk-weaving factory couldn't help but notice these qualities and became interested in the girl. One day Kim Kwang Ok was introduced to No Kyung Chool, a technician in the factory and the nephew of the owner. Soon there was talk of a wedding.

It must be a dream, she thought—an orphan girl marrying a young man with living parents and two brothers.

Her thoughts were interrupted. She heard her name called.

"Kim Kwang Ok, do you take this man to be your lawful wedded husband?"

She heard her own voice answer weakly, "I do."

This was reality. Mrs. Chin Hee Lee, Superintendent of Young Chin had taken the place of her mother and according to Korean custom had prepared silk quilts, Korean socks and dresses for the bride, and a suit for the groom. The Rev. W. H. Erickson, Compassion Field Director for Korea, had taken the place of her father . . . and according to Western tradition, had given the bride away. The Chaplain of Young Chin was performing the ceremony. No Kyung Chool, her bridegroom, was slipping a ring on her finger. Kim Kwang Ok was now a member of a family unit—the greatest treasure of Korean culture.

It was a dream come true. She had gained a husband and a family in one day. Kim Kwang Ok now BELONGED.

—Story by Mary Erickson

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Compassion, Inc. Founder,
the Late Everett Swanson
President, Henry Harvey
Vice-President, Miriam Swanson
Canadian Representative,
Janet Forsyth
Editor and Chief Correspondent,
Ed Ronne
Artist and Layout, David Olson

An essay on Christian enthusiasm by Ed Ronne

There is nothing more exciting to read about, or actually participate in, than a church meeting where the people are enthusiastic to the "nth degree". Compassion, Inc., a world-wide interdenominational child-care agency, is privileged to share in a most exciting ministry throughout the fifth largest country . . . Indonesia.

During 1968, Compassion, Inc. was asked to help widows and their children with basic assistance for food, clothing, shelter, and Christian education. The agency cares for 2,000 children and about 500 widows in Java, Borneo, Sumatra, the Celebes Islands, and Bali. (World-wide, Compassion cares for 23,000 children in 11 countries).

During the past three or four years, Indonesians have been experiencing a number of Christian revivals. The renewed people, most of them with a Pentacostal (spelled with a "k" instead of a "c" in Indonesia) background and upbringing, practically raise the roof with their enthusiastic animated singing and general participation. Their new faith in Christ, especially among the children, causes their faces to glow. The zest of their singing and hand-clapping, accompanied by homemade musical instruments, is enough to give one a foretaste of heaven.

Hinduism was the religion of the huge island of Java for several centuries; but when Islam swept over the country in the 15th century, Hinduism moved east to Bali, where even today the Balinese have remained Hindu.

Compassion's Field Director of South Asia reported recently that two dozen Moslem widows were converted to Christ. They joyfully gave public testimony of their new faith, and consequently, were stoned by their Moslem neighbors.

In many areas of Indonesia, all social activity is centered around the church. When a meeting is announced, residents of the entire village will converge on the church and take an active part in the service. Not only is the singing in up-tempo style, but the preaching matches the exuberance.

The year of 1971 marked the 50th anniversary of the Christian witness to Indonesia. In 1921 missionaries from Seattle, Washington landed on the hot and humid shores of Indonesia and paved the way for the abundant harvest of today. Today there are 1,700 churches that are a part of the "Gerjeda Pentakosta Di Indonesia."

A Christian worker serving with Compassion, Inc. in the Northern Celebes signs on his radio station each morning at 4:30. His enthusiastic Gos-

pel message penetrates not only the Celebes Islands, but skips across to the giant island of Borneo, several hundred miles away. Letters of conversion cross his desk regularly . . . outward signs of his positive witness.

Not only is the message transmitted by short wave, but it also serves as the "alarm clock" for the entire village of Manado. His public address system carries the messages and music for all to hear.

One wishes that this warm Christian message and the people whose lives have been permeated, would spread beyond the regions of the Celebes Islands and Borneo to the far reaches of the world . . . hopefully throughout North America in particular.

A genuine Christian conversion makes a difference in a person's life . . . not only in his singing and preaching, but also in his everyday relations with his fellowman.

Those of us who claim to be renewed in Christ and led by the Holy Spirit should not only say so . . . but we also should share the Gospel willingly and with heartfelt enthusiasm. Perhaps if all of us told it like it is to our many contacts day to day, and also exercised our "born again behavior," the Christian message would be received with joy and excitement.



Compassion's man on a motorcycle

The Rev. Sam Suk Lee, an ordained Korean minister, covers two huge provinces in the southern area of Korea delivering funds for Compassion-sponsored evangelists. Rev. Sam, who is based at the Presbyterian Mission in Soon Chun, makes regular rounds on

his motorcycle to visit about 85 evangelists who are preaching God's Word in the area. Standing behind him in this photograph, is Mr. Seo Gum Suk, a recent Bible school graduate. Rev. Sam wants us to convey his thanks to all those who make possible his "motorcycle ministry."

Note: Compassion's policy is to support evangelists for a period of three years. At the end of that time period, it is expected that the evangelist's ministry should be self-sustaining.

Love by long distance



Mr. Sverre Sonju and Kim Yung Ae have never met . . . and they probably never will. It's a long way between the "land of the midnight sun" and the "land of the morning calm." Hence Mr. Sonju, a former resident of Crystal Lake, Illinois now living in Aamot, Norway, sends his regular support for Yung Ae through our Chicago office. Since 1964, their "love by long-distance" has been carried on via letters.

Sverre Sonju is one of a number of Compassion sponsors that live outside the North American continent. We have other sponsors who reside in Europe, South America, the Philippines, and Australia.

Mr. Sonju recently paid an informal visit to our Chicago office . . . while passing through the area. It was a joy to share with him some refreshing moments of Christian fellowship.



Short news items

Haiti—Termites have caused the termination of a number of buildings at the House of Hope in northern Haiti. Pray that funds might be provided to build new structures. Handicapped children at the hospital are being supported by Compassion sponsors.

Also Haiti—A new one dollar a day minimum wage law is now in effect throughout Haiti . . . more strained budgets for those who care for Compassion children.

Central India—Sarah Chakravarthy, Director of our family helper plan in India, is a new mother. Cable from her husband read: "Blessed with son January 11 . . . 4:30." Henry Harvey, Compassion President, has known Sarah since her childhood. He served as a missionary in India for a number of years prior to his appointment at Compassion.

Singapore—The Chen Su Lan Orphanage has been given a plot of land adjacent to the institution. More living quarters for the boys will be built on the property. There are now 22 children living at Chen Su Lan and attending school. A three-year-old child has come to the orphanage . . . both her parents were given life sentences for murder. Her mother has become a Christian since imprisonment.

Chicago—More than 130 pounds of Christmas cards were processed in our office during the past holiday season.

The cards came from children overseas and were distributed to their sponsors. Our hard-working staff was able to get all the cards into the mail . . . before Christmas!

Thailand—A change of government administration will have no adverse effects on Compassion's outreach throughout Thailand. The new government, which retains a number of key men, is strongly anti-Communist.

Afghanistan—Dr. Christy Wilson will return to Kabul in September after a year's furlough in the States. He reports that many blind patients are learning Braille and occupational therapy at the Blind Institute of Noor. Many also are receiving sight through cataract operations and corneal transplants. Compassion sends funds to Dr. Wilson for blind children at Kabul.

Special gifts for blind children

The girls at the Immanuel Home for Blind Girls in suburban Seoul, Korea have received two special gifts that have been provided with money from Compassion supporters. A new guard rail has been erected outside of their home . . . without it, the pathway has been rather treacherous. The girls now can come and go without fear of slipping down the steep incline. A gift of \$50.00 paid for the railing with enough left over for a special treat for each of the girls.

Right—Grace Jordan and Lenore MacAfee are shown producing radio spots for Compassion's outreach. Below—Arnold E. Johnson.



Arnold E. Johnson and Associates join the Compassion family

We would like our many friends to know of our new association with Arnold E. Johnson Associates, Inc., Compassion's advertising agency in Chicago.

The agency is assisting us with the production and placement of ads, radio and television promotion, and other public relations-type activities. Mr. Johnson and his fine staff bring many years of experience to us. We are indeed pleased to work closely with this fine Christian organization on behalf of needy children around the world. Welcome aboard, Arnie, Grace, Lenore, and all the good people on your staff!

Kavuri James... a little live wire!

How would you like to step on a live 220-volt power line . . . in your bare feet . . . and live to tell about it?

That's precisely what happened to eight-year-old Kavuri, who lives in a Compassion home in Musamanda, South India. Kavuri lost his right thumb and paralyzed all the fingers on his right hand while in the process of freeing himself from the wire.

Our South Asian Field Director appended a note to Kavuri's sponsor after the accident . . . it read:

"Your boy is healthy and happy, and I have received good reports on him from both his pastor and our staff member, Sarah Chakravarthy. Thank you again for your support . . . your regular help was used to partially pay for the added medical expenses. Kavuri should have been electrocuted on the spot, but God, in His mercy, has allowed him to live! Praise the Lord!"



Eight-year-old Kavuri James

Christ transforms "beggar girl"

Thirteen-year-old Ngatijem (we don't know her last name) is now a happily sponsored young lady. It was not always that way for her . . . and her family. Ngatijem was a child beggar in her native village of Klaten on the Island of Java. In a letter to her sponsor, she told about her daily assignment . . . to escort her mother from shop to shop and house to house begging for money. After many years of begging, things changed. One day she heard about Jesus Christ and His Power to change lives. She was born again, and now the "habit" of begging has left her. Her mother also has become a Christian, and they both are active in church affairs in their area. Ngatijem would like to become a seamstress—going to sewing school is one of her ambitions. She sends her thanks to her sponsor for the pretty clothes that were provided her . . . and she thanks the Lord for all He has done.



This is what the children say...

Northern Celebes—"I am growing hens who are laying eggs . . . and I grow flowers."

Java—"May God give us an eternal relationship. Have a nice sleep and have a good day of work."

Java—"My dress is indeed a new one and when I was taken to be pictured, I was getting heart-beat."

Northern Celebes—"I have been thinking all the time about whatever I can do in return for so much loving kindness from papa and mamma and I only have a couple of empty hands, but I will always fold those empty hands in my prayers to God."

Kam Kwang, Korea—"It is very cold here now. During Christmas time we sang 'Rololp rednes' with my room-mates."

Java—"Do you like repairing engines? I like to ask you something else but I can't make good sentences about them."

Java—"I'm clever now. I can pronounce 'R' well and I don't pronounce it as 'L' anymore."

Java—"Especially now that I have a pretty shirt, pants and shoes, I am sure to look amazing."

Dominican Republic—"I am going to kindergarten and I like it very much. I like to play and use the chalk to write on my blackboard . . . my notebook is a mess!"



An "impossible dream" for Jafet Maidangkai

Among the hundreds of letters that pass through our Chicago office from the children overseas to their sponsors, there are some that warrant a bit of special attention. The following comments by little Jafet of the city of Manado in the Northern Celebes were too good to pass by.

Here is his condensed letter:

"Yes, I have the ambition to meet you, father, mother, and the family, but it is impossible as I do not have enough money to cover the trip to America. Probably father and mother will start smiling while reading this letter of mine, as I am pretending to force father and mother to come and pick me up in Manado and then escort me to America. I'll come either by plane or by boat, it is entirely up to you!"

Editor: We're sorry, Jafet, but we cannot make your wish come true.

Even if your sponsor or someone else wanted to bring you here . . . it could not be done. Your Indonesian government does not allow the adopting of children. In addition, Compassion is not in the business of adoption. However, we are most grateful for your sponsor who makes it possible for you to receive regular help. You look like a wonderful little boy . . . and all of us at Compassion wish you God's richest blessings day by day.

And now a word from our sponsors...

Edina, Minn.—"Dear Uncle Ed: You could never imagine what a thrill I have in my heart knowing that I am supporting a sweet little girl like Gee Yun Kim. I have never done anything like this before and it sure is exciting!" (Editor's note: This sweet sponsor is 13-year old Sandee Jill Murray. We are indeed pleased that Sandee Jill has taken on such a responsible job. May God bless you and your dear Mom and Dad!)

Post Falls, Idaho—"I am already sponsoring two of your children, but I would like four more . . . two boys and two girls. I have lived through many years of patience, prayer, and preparation, and I believe I am ready to let God use me by pouring His love and compassion through me to the children. Compassion, Inc., is completely in God's hands . . . and so am I. I am so very thankful for the opportunity that is being given me to love and serve these children."

New Castle, Penn.—"I have been a Compassion sponsor since 1961 and I feel without this blessed privilege my life would be practically worthless. I am now retired and I pray that as long

as the Lord permits me, I may be able to keep on sponsoring a needy child."

Twin Lake, Mich.—"I have great and exciting news! The Lord has given me a special project in which I will be raising funds for my Choon Ok's tuition for Middle School. I have completed a small booklet which is now at the printers. It wouldn't surprise me if God blessed this little booklet . . . thus enabling some other child to go to school too!"

"WE SAW YOUR PROGRAM ON TV..."

Bakersfield, Calif.—"I feel that the good that comes from this program (Compassion's Pat Boone Special) should be made known to the viewing public. My feeling comes from the fact that I work for a TV station and am aware of the bad publicity the industry receives while the good goes unnoticed . . ."

Shady Spring, W. Va.—"We are a family of eight and we want to share with another nationality . . . please send us information on sponsorship."

Mary Esther, Fla.—"I have been wondering how I could make my life really mean something . . . I would like to see if I could be a sponsor for two children. I would love to write to them and have them be able to write back."

Anadarko, Okla.—"My best friend just left for New York and I was very sad . . . until I tuned in to your program with the Korean children. Seeing the children made me very happy."

Roanoke, Va.—"After seeing your program I checked with our local Better Business Bureau and found only good information in their files. I am sure this comes as no surprise to you, but it was reassuring to me."

*Paper is scarce in the Caribbean . . . the children generally use the blackboard for their lessons.

COMPASSION, INC.
7774 Irving Park Road,
Chicago, Illinois 60634



Address Correction Requested

Will you put it off too long?

By Donald J. Smith, Director of Stewardship

Why don't people make wills? They simply procrastinate. As you know, when this happens, the State takes over and makes the final determination of the deceased person's estate. In some cases huge and **unnecessary** costs are levied against such an estate in the form of taxes and probate expense. Seldom would the State's decision satisfy the desires of the deceased or the deceased's family. Never would the State direct any of the deceased's estate to his religious, educational, or charitable interests.

Your will is very important to your family, especially if your children are minors. The State must arrange for their guardianship if provision has not been made through your will. In our day of high

speed travel, both parents may be lost in a common disaster.

These are only a few reasons why you should not take the "line-of-least-resistance" and procrastinate further concerning the making of your will.

At least 4 attitudes are part of the decision to put off making a will. These are:

1. There is plenty of time. (But is there?)
2. I don't know how. (We can help you.)
3. I haven't any estate to leave. (Everyone has.)
4. It costs too much. (Leaving no will costs more.)

COMPASSION can help you overcome all of these obstacles. Write today concerning this free service available through COMPASSION, INC.

Compassion, Inc.
7774 W. Irving Park Road
Chicago, Illinois 60634

Dear Mr. Smith:

Please send me information to assist me in the preparation of my will—() "Making Your Will" () "The State Has Made Your Will" () "Better Estate Planning"

Name (Mr., Mrs., Miss) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Remember—PROCRASTINATION in making your Will is an enemy of God, your family—and yourself!