

July 2003

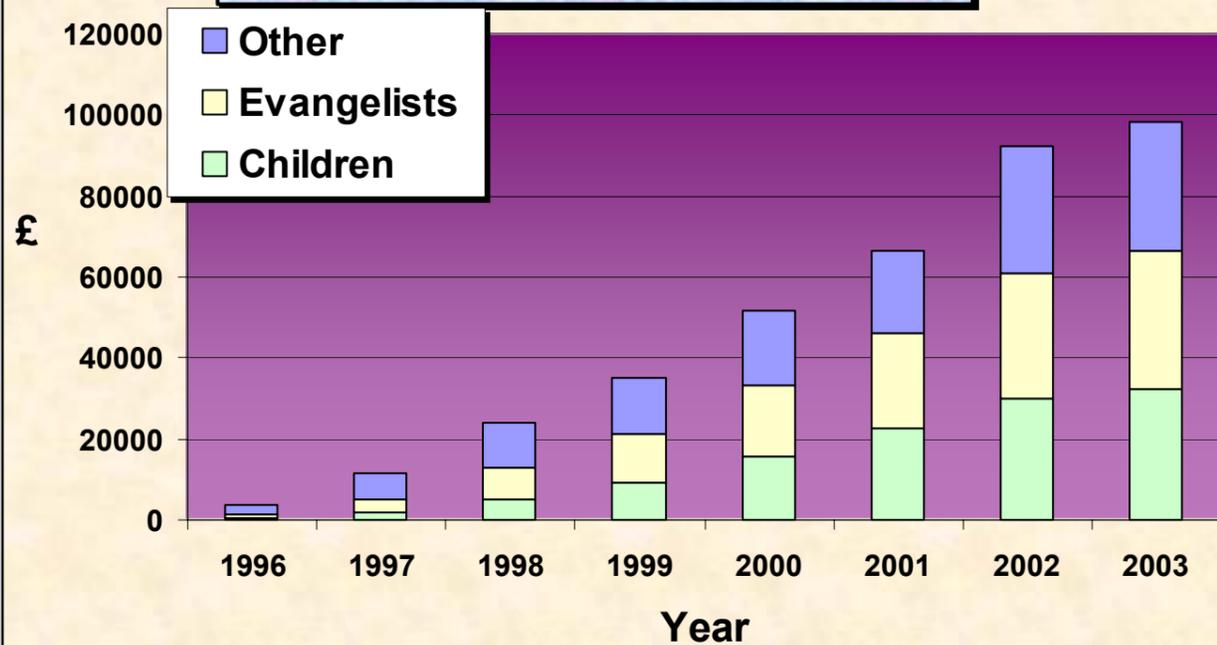
INDIA 2003



UK giving nears £100,000

Since its creation in 1996 IREF(UK) has now sent nearly £100,000 to India for use in the ministry

Giving to IREF(UK): cumulative



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IREF Prayer Letter

Welcome to the latest IREF prayer letter.

Youth Conference and 2003 Evangelistic Rallies

More than 4000 young people from over 500 villages attended IREF's annual Youth Conference in January. Some came from as far as 300km away to participate in the five days of Bible teaching and training. Over 700 made a response to Jesus Christ, with 30 going on to be baptised during the conference.

Normally IREF's main Repalle Rallies are held within their own grounds, but this year the meetings moved out to a central location in the town. The results were thrilling! 15,000 people attended the meetings each night for the five days of the mission, and over 13,000 made a response to Jesus Christ. 107 new believers were baptised during the accompanying Conference. Please pray for the effective discipling of so many new Christians as they return to the sometimes hostile environment of their own villages.

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For all the latest news/pictures & the US prayer letter
www.IREFUSA.org



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Latest News from

Child Development Centres - a new development from IREF

For many years, IREF has been seeking to meet the needs of children from poor and deprived backgrounds by offering them education in one of their four boarding schools. Some 1500 children are being cared for in this way. But it is becoming increasingly difficult to provide sufficient accommodation for the large number of children whose parents want them to join an IREF hostel-based school. So IREF is proposing to establish a number of village-based schools. Children will be able to benefit from all of the advantages of a fully-rounded and Christian-based IREF education whilst continuing to live at home with their own families. This new initiative will be pioneered in villages where IREF already has established a worshipping community with its own church building. The building will double-up as a school during the week and be used for services each Sunday. The day schools (or Child Development Centres) will have many advantages, not least the fact that a strong emphasis will be placed on the home as the ideal setting for each child's personal development - physically, morally, educationally and spiritually.

The start up cost for each village school will be about £600. Already, IREF(UK) has received gifts enabling one such school to be started and further groups have committed themselves to raise funds to establish a further two. At least some of our undesignated giving will be directed towards this new initiative. Earmarked donations will also be welcome! The ongoing support for each child's education will be met through normal sponsorship means (at £200 per year).

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A new Teacher Training College

Following five years of intense negotiations with local government officials, IREF has just received the go-ahead to establish the Repalle Christian College of Education. Training will be available to up to 100 teacher trainees a year, some of them graduates of the Repalle Christian College, which opened its new buildings earlier this year.

IREF(UK) developments.

IREF(UK) is now an official charity (Recognised Scottish Charity no. SC033100). This means donations can be made via the Gift Aid scheme. Appropriate forms both for one-off payments and on-going gifts are available from the Treasurer, who is able to reclaim the tax element directly from the Inland Revenue. We will continue to use Stewardship Services for our current sponsors who give tax efficiently in that way. But if any wish to change to give directly to IREF(UK) via Gift Aid, our Treasurer will send you the relevant form to fill in, on request.

Currently, 20 evangelists/Bible Ladies and 42 children are being sponsored from the UK, representing an annual of income £16,400.

Sponsored Spelling Test

Last summer, Dame Allan's School in Newcastle (where David Hunt's wife works) raised £844 through a sponsored spelling tests to help provide school uniforms and games equipping for IREF's school in Nizampatnam, a fishing community near the mouth of the River Krishna. The school was established in 1996 in a very deprived tribal colony on the outskirts of town. It began meeting in the thatched church funded from IREF(UK), but now has its own purpose built facilities.

Treasurer:

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