

Nalluripalem Water Supply Project

On our visit to the village of Nalluripalem earlier this year, we saw a number of children who were suffering from the effects of polio as a result of the contaminated water supply in the village.

Few problems plague the poorest of the poor more severely than a lack of clean drinking water. For the women of Nalluripalem, finding and transporting enough suitable water for their family's daily needs, has meant travelling many miles on foot. Imagine having to perform this backbreaking but vital daily routine after working in rice fields from dawn to dusk!

IREF recently launched a Water Supply Project to meet the needs of the village. Originating from a well in Repalle, the water is purified at the IREF campus, transported to Nalluripalem, and then pumped into the village tank. A truly laborious task has now been eliminated from the lives of the hardworking village people who know no luxuries or leisure. Even more important is the confidence an entire village now has that their families are consuming water free of polio, cholera, and countless other impurities.

“People praised the Lord and sang when seeing the new IREF water tank delivering clean water,” reported IREF Director, Dr Emmanuel Rebba.



A recently constructed IREF church building hosts Sunday worship services, a Sunday school, prayer fasts, and a women's Bible study for the people of Nalluripalem. IREF is privileged to provide education, uniforms, and schoolbooks for local children, and various materials for the village. Each evening, nutritious food is served to 200 children of the poorest families in the village.

Pray for further resources to become available so that the success of IREF's Water Supply Project can be replicated in other villages.

Governor of Andhra Pradesh Honours IREF with Award

Recognising the services provided by IREF in health care and child development, the government of Andhra Pradesh recently invited Dr. Emmanuel Rebba to receive the *Award of Service*. Governor Ramesh Thakur cited IREF's work in *“serving the*

poor and vulnerable” when presenting the Gold Medal to Dr. Rebba in a highly publicised event held on 12th June 2006 in Hyderabad, the capital of Andhra Pradesh. Both state and national television and newspapers reported on the work done by IREF over many years, and notably the relief IREF provided immediately following the Tsunami last year.



More than 5,000 families were helped with blankets, clothing, rice and other groceries. IREF also provided nets and repaired fishing boats for those affected by the surge that struck the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh.

Record Admissions Expected at IREF Junior College

In India, one of the best ways to help poor people better their economic situation is by providing them with an opportunity to earn the Intermediate Certificate. Those without this two-year qualification cannot enrol for a college degree or even at a vocational or technical school. IREF began to meet this need when it opened the Repalle Christian Junior College in 1997. Demand for an opportunity to take the Intermediate Certificate is high amongst IREF's High School students and those from surrounding village schools. Admissions for the first year of the course were expected to reach 500 this academic year.

IREF Nursing Student's Testimony

“I am Chandika Naga Anjana Devi. I belong to a high-cast Hindu family who are idol worshippers. Our family god is the snake. I was named after the snake (Naga). All day, we do idol worship at home. I loved my idols and no day went by without me worshipping them. I used to believe that only my god would take me to another life up in the sky.

I got admitted to the IREF nursing school in 2004. I was reluctant to attend because I had heard it was Christian. Still I came, though I brought my idol statue along with me. Students here have to attend morning and evening devotions, and Sunday church. I hated it, so when everyone was in prayer I would return to my room and take out the idol. At night, I would keep it by my side.

One day there was a college student who was possessed by an evil spirit, and she became very

weak. Emmanuel Rebba was praying for her, to cast the demon out. Before the demon left, Emmanuel asked its name. It spoke the name of my idol! At once, my eyes were opened! I realized the power of the name of Jesus Christ and that what I worshiped was only a powerless piece of wood. I threw away that piece of wood and began to pray.

Ever since, I began to listen to the Word of God. I mourned for a time that I had wasted time worshipping these gods. But God spoke to me from Romans 10:21- "All day long I have held out my hands!". Even though I did not go searching for Him, He came looking for me. I am born again now, repented of my sins. I took baptism and changed my name to Lydia. My Hindu friends say that I am lost, but I say that I have found Jesus. Please pray for my family that they too will come to know Jesus.

Testimony of an IREF College Student

Here is the moving story of a young man who is attending the IREF Christian Degree College. For three years, he heard the gospel but with little effect. But in God's perfect timing, he heard Jesus' parable of the fig tree, which led him to repent and begin a fruit-bearing life.

My name is Mangual. I was born in a remote village in the forest area. I grew up in a family that worshiped idols with great fervour. I lost my mother in childhood. Later I was subject to severe bouts of illness during my High School days. Despite this, I finished my 10th year and wanted to continue my education.



One day a friend happened to mention IREF's Christian Junior College in Repalle. That is where I went. Soon after arriving in Repalle, I found a very different atmosphere of prayers and devotions. At first, I did not like it; but like everyone else, I attended the church there. Miraculously, I found that my sickness was gone.

Having completed my coursework, my original plan was to complete my education in Hyderabad. Yet I felt I was being led to stay in Repalle. I joined the degree course at the Repalle Christian College.

One night as I slept, I saw a bright apparition. I heard a voice saying, "I brought you here according to my plan." I heard this three times. After waking, I doubted my dream. When I went home for the holidays, I once again saw the apparition, this time with Jesus on the cross. I heard a voice saying to me,

"I am the true God. Serve me." I returned to College in Repalle, but still I had no peace of mind about my dreams.

I began praying to God. On 11th September 2005, I went to church. That morning, the belief that God would speak to me became stronger and stronger. The Lord did speak to me through Dr. Rebba's sermon on Luke 13:6-9. I didn't even know I was weeping. I became a believer in Jesus Christ and repented of my sins while looking at the cross of Jesus! I was mournful of my old ways. I was transformed! I want everyone to pray to Jesus with all their heart, accept Jesus and be transformed too. I want to be a witness for Christ forever and ever. Praise the Lord!

IREF Reaches Kuwait

IREF has taken the word of God to a Muslim country for the first time. Dr. Emmanuel Rebba participated in a gospel conference in Kuwait from July 7th -14th, ministering to a community of South Asian expatriates living and working there. A Muslim woman from Sri Lanka received healing for an ailment that previous surgery could not correct. She, along with 11 others, was baptized the final day of the conference.



A growing reputation for Christian charitable work in the midst of the Iraq War has led to some easing of the restrictions on Christian gatherings in Kuwait.

For Your Prayers

Join with me in praising God for the remarkable work IREF continues to do amongst some of the poorest and most needy people of India.

Pray too for Ian Leitch, as he prepares to visit India in November once again, to conduct his New Life Seminars and give preaching and teaching as requested!

David Hunt [Chairman, IREF(UK)]