

NEW GENERATION CHURCH 2008-2009

For New Generation, the last one and a half years has been an exciting time with God! He is on the move and has called us to move with Him. Here is a brief summary of what has happened so far!

SAHAITHA

There have been several changes in Sahaitha during 2008-2009; new teachers, new classes, closing of one school and two new work's starting in other areas!

SAIDULAJAB

Saidulajab continues to be our main school with about 50 regular students. Ruth, Harsh and James take care of the teaching and are sometimes joined by volunteers who are a great help. This year, 11 students appeared for the National Open School examinations for class 3, 5 and 8. It is exciting to see that many students have begun to dream about their future; they want to become doctors, policemen, nurses, social workers and the list goes on.

Last year, we saw the need to provide education for adults who have not completed school due to difficult circumstances. The school is now running an afternoon adult literacy class in Hindi and English with young men and women. The school attracts quite a few well wishers in the area; the landlord has not increased the rent for a few years (there is usually a 10% increase every year).



A person sponsored school lunch for two months, and a young girl we know sold all Her toys and gifted the money to the school so we could buy a lot of art material. In the beginning of the year Ruth (responsible for the work in Sahaitha) was devastated when two of her students got very sick and died. Soon after, she moved into Saidulajab to take care of children with medical needs. Since then, many children have stayed with her to be nursed back to health. Besides sicknesses, several children have been given the chance of physical restoration. One boy has been operated for club foot and is now able to walk normally. Another child met with an accident as he was chopping vegetables. His finger broke and he had to have an operation. His finger is now well again.

NEW WORK!

This year, a little boy's hand was deformed by fire. For a long time his parents refused to let Ruth take him to the hospital since he was the only one bringing money into the family. After much persuasion he was taken for two surgeries; his hand is almost healed now. His father, though annoyed, seemed to also be touched by Ruth's commitment and recently asked us to start a school in Devni Village (where he lives). Surprisingly the landlord of the village has offered facilities to establish the school. God's favour!!! Ruth and Rajan are investigating the needs in the village. We will start something here soon!

BENGALI BASTI

Rajan began a new work in a slum area called Bengali Basti; located in the southern outskirts of Delhi. After much interaction with the slum dwellers we decided to move our school from Sangam Vihar to the Bengali Basti. The people living here are Muslim migrants from the borders of West Bengal. They live in a slum with 90 huts made out of card board boxes; their primary source of income is garbage collection. About 80% of their children do not go to school. Our school here is a cardboard hut built especially by the villagers for this purpose.



In the beginning, the attendance of the students was irregular, but from April 2009 it has stabilized to around 30 students. Six of the older students have been enrolled with the National Open School system for Class 3. The others are divided in to two; Beginners (Nursery) and Class 1. There are also a few older students (adults) out of which two are planning to give their Class 8 exams in the National Open School next year. This is a great encouragement and we are glad we can help them prepare for this. An adult literacy programme has started here as well and five students come every day to learn English.

A few months ago, Rajan was approached by the Pradhan of the Madrassa (a Muslim school in the Basti) who wanted Rajan to start adult English classes in his place; he offered Rajan Rs 2,500 a month. Rajan asked for rooms for the school instead. The team is now running English classes in these rooms.

The team working in the Bengali Basti consists of Rajan, his daughter Betsy, Jaipal, Awmta and Faijan. They hope to expand the work during the year, build relationships with the people in the area and be open gateways to the Kingdom.

RAFA - God is our Healer

The Rafa home for boys with HIV/AIDS is now a home for young men! Three of the seven boys are now teenagers and the others are between 7 and 12 years old. The youngest and newest member of the family is Tabrez; he came to the house in July 2008 and quickly made his way into everyone's heart with his very colourful personality and very loud voice.

Last year, Rafa moved from Neb Sarai to a 4-bedroom flat in Sangam Vihar. Though this reduced their expenses it also presented a number of challenges as the water supply and electricity were not in place. After some chaos the family has finally settled and the house is well-functioning. Now, the house will expand by renting a second flat on the same floor, to give more space for the Rafa School and also for James & Esther's growing family.



Esther is responsible for the boys' education with Sarah H and Jemmy (carers in Atulya home), and Soniya (former girl in Atulya), as well as different short term volunteers. Rakesh and Gulshan are now in Class 7, Pankaj and Chaman in Class 5, Mohit and Mitesh in Class 4 and Tabrez in Class 1. Though there was no National Open School Examination this year (only for Class 3, 5 and 8), the Rafa School had in house exams with official scorecards and graduation diplomas.

The Rafa Home has been on some exciting outings; in June 2008, the whole home left the heat of Delhi and went to Ambala and Chandigarh (neighbouring cities of Delhi), where they visited different places, and rode bicycles out in nature.

November 15 2008, was a very exciting day for the boys when they performed a dance in front of almost 400 people at a school event organized by Commotion in India Habitat Centre.

In December the boys took part in the Shalom Hospital Advance Christmas celebration where they performed song and dance.

In April this year, the boys had a great day at the Fun and Food village outside Delhi, and in the last week of April they had an Activity Week where they did everything from going to the zoo to painting t-shirts.

In the beginning of last year, Gulshan, Mitesh and Chaman, had to start a second line of ARV. All of them are in good health though they have been hospitalized during the year at different times due to infections and viruses.

The boys are growing, not only in age and stature, but also in their faith. Their desire for God is increasing. It is good to see them develop their own individual relationships with God.



In January 2008, after a difficult pregnancy and miraculous delivery, Esther and James were blessed with a baby boy, Nivedan. He is now walking around quite confidently, and playing with his older sister Krippa, now 3 years old. James and Esther's eldest Anand goes to a school in a nearby area.

ATULYA - Beauty for Ashes

Much has taken place in Atulya! Atulya has now been separated into three parts; the Hope Home, the Production Unit and the GB Road work. Sarah Paine, who was heading the home, moved out in February and Sarah Hill took on the leadership. The home is now called HOPE Home.

In February, Uzma, Soniya, Sheetal and Renuka graduated from the Atulya programme! The four girls have been with Atulya for over 3 years and are ready for new challenges and independence. It was a beautiful ceremony; friends from the community came to celebrate and pray with the girls as they were released into all the good things God has in store for them. Soniya and Stuti returned at the beginning of this year after having left Atulya to spend time with their family. Soniya is now working fulltime in the Rafa home, teaching as well as looking after the boys. After Uzma graduated, she decided to return to Mumbai, her home before Atulya. She is now starting a cooking course and getting settled into living in Mumbai.



Renuka and Sheetal have just left Hope Home to settle into their own apartment. Sheetal continues to work in the production unit until she begins her fashion design course in July. Renuka has just started working as a housekeeper; it is a good, well paid job, and she enjoys it. Her long term dream is to work with women who have been rescued from the sex trade.

At present, the home is being prepared to take in 8 new girls in July!

GB ROAD

Since moving out of Hope home, Sarah P has started visiting the Red Light Area: GB Road, which is by the railway station in Delhi. There are many women and children living here. Some are prostitutes voluntarily but many are forced into this through trafficking rackets.

The vision for G.B Road is to see the women in this area complete in Christ, that they would have an encounter with God that would transform their lives, to see them healed and set free to be all they are created to be. Our desire is to eventually establish a church in this area.

A small team from New Generation has been visiting the brothels every week, getting to know the madams and the ladies and finding out what they need. One of the ladies expressed a need for medical facilities. So now we plan to set up a community health care programme here. This will give us a legitimate reason to be there, will help us to build relationship and trust amongst the women, as well as help them medically.

Sarah recently found a two-bedroom apartment, which we will rent from the 1st of June. A health unit will be set up in one room and the other will be used as a meeting place to invite the women for chai, meals, meetings etc. The medical unit is being developed and will open in July. We are looking for doctors and nurses who will serve there.

COMMOTION - Sound in the City

Commotion is a new work in the church! It has been developing since end of 2007; was registered as a separate Trust in August 2008; and is becoming much busier in 2009!

Commotion wants to be an open door into the Kingdom for this generation; school and college students, as well as young adults.

In 2008 our aim was to create open doors in schools and colleges. There was a lot of running around! Four different schools asked us to conduct workshops and each time was a good learning experience. In the autumn of 2008, Commotion organized three big events. The first was in September; when New Generation heard about Christians being persecuted in Orissa we wanted to respond. Sanjiv called some of us together to share that he felt God wanted us to take a stand publicly. We were in agreement with him and decided to make it a Commotion event; 'Let My Country Awake', (artists together against communalism). The response was good; 350 people came to support us.



To become known amongst school and college students Commotion planned for two big events (one for each). The theme for colleges was 'let's turn the tables' a music and dance competition centered on poverty and the underprivileged. On 14 November more than 350 people filled up the auditorium; the performances (by college students) were well done and very thought provoking.

The theme for schools was 'like us but on the streets (let's turn the tables)'. There were almost 400 people (students, parents and teachers) in the audience and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

2009 SO FAR

For Commotion, 2009 started slowly but has begun to get busier and busier. We worked with two schools before the summer. Our most recent venture was with British School; a 3 day workshop in their Art Festival 'Next to Nature'. During these days our students learnt about how something that is waste for someone, can be a source of income for someone else.

As part of the festival, Commotion also wrote and performed our first Musical Drama; 'Mind the Gap' about child labour in the fashion industry. Several people within New Generation and some from outside were engaged as actors, singers and musicians.



Commotion has been given the opportunity to lead devotions in a girls' dormitory every week. Though this is a Christian school many of the girls don't know God. Sara, Shruti and Eunice have been there 3 times so far and are very excited about this new open door.

Recently Commotion organized a music hangout in the Barista Café. After a successful evening, Barista is interested in Commotion doing this in partnership with them (every second weekend) for a year.

NEW DEVELOPEMENTS

Besides the above activities Commotion has been planning for schools and colleges after the summer holidays. In July a Youth City Council will be established in Delhi by us. Each participating school will send four representatives from their Class 11 and we are aiming for 15-20 schools to be part of this. There will also be a number of events organized by us in the city during the fall, both for schools, colleges and young professionals. Commotion will begin to establish church amongst college students after the summer holidays.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

New Generation seeks to develop, equip and release people into their destinies and inheritance. During the year, regular teaching sessions have been held on Wednesday for English speakers, and Thursday for Hindi speakers. The number of people on Wednesday has increased to more than 30 and we are beginning to see an increase in the Hindi group as well.

In March 2008 a group of 22 women left Delhi for a Women's Retreat: 'Glorious Liberty', lead by Sushila. For three days they worshipped, sought God's heart and the essence of being free; and came back on fire!

New Generation has also organized workshops in partnership with other organizations in the city. In April, a Prophetic Art Workshop was organized with an NGO called S.A.L.T. This focused on how to be prophetic in creative expressions such as art, poetry and music. In October, a seminar on how to minister to people with sexual problems was organized with the Biblical Counselling Trust of India.



From October 31 to November 2, we had our yearly retreat in Delhi. Nearly 80 adults participated, from New Generation, Central Hope Church in Sailakui and a few others from different churches around the country (and from outside!). The theme was 'being a holy habitation for God'. It was an amazing time as we felt God restoring us to Him in a new way.

In February 2009, we organized a seminar in our meeting hall-The Upper Room, called 'The Kingdom of God and the Emerging Church'. It is difficult to get people to participate in Delhi, especially churches. We prayed and prayed! We aimed for a 100 people and a 100 people came from all over the city. The New Generation community hosted the time by serving food and drinks through the day while Sanjiv Ailawadi, Martin Hannington, CB Samuel and Finney Philip spoke on the theme. It was a significant time of churches coming together. The teachings were inspired and inspirational!

MORE NEW WORKS

There are many new works emerging amongst the New Generation Community. We are excited about:

THE NEPALI COMMUNITY

Tara, a girl in our community, has been feeling she is called to reach out to the Nepali community in Delhi. Together with other Nepali speakers in New Generation she has begun to build relationships with people in her neighbourhood. In March they hosted a party in the Upper Room, to celebrate the Nepali New Year. Fifteen families and fifteen people from New Generation came together for a lovely evening with good food, music, dance and many conversations.

SANGAM VIHAR

Jaypal and Jyoti, a couple in our community, are building significant relationships with many people in their neighbourhood. They are also holding regular meetings with Jyoti's relatives, who are all Catholic. We keep seeing new faces in our church meetings and many of them are because of Jaypal and Jyoti. They are planning to move to Sangam Vihar to start a church there.

MUNIRKA

Awmtea and Sylvie closed the Ujala home for boys during 2008 as they were ready to move on. These boys are now part of the community, living independently, with regular jobs; some are also pursuing studies through the National Open School system.

As the boys moved out, Awmtea and Sylvie sought God for the next step. They began to pray and visit an area called Munirka, which is in the southwest of Delhi. There are many desperate young people living here; drug addiction is a very common problem. In the beginning of May they shifted into a new apartment in Munirka. They want to start a church here.

THE CITY!

We believe Sanjiv and Sushila are meant to move out on a city level. Many different organizations, networks and individuals outside the community are beginning to seek their advice and wisdom. Our community stands behind them; we believe it is time to partner with them and share their responsibilities.