

FOUNDATION STONE LYING FOR THE

VIJAYALAXMI MEMORIAL STONEBRIDGE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

4TH August 2009, It was not only a glorious day but the event line up too was just fantastic. But let us begin with the place, which just a couple of months back had nothing to rave about- barren it seemed!. But on Tuesday(4th), it was all glittering - yes literally. With the colored flags posted all over the place and the palm plants darting the white lime marked path ways, it was a sight to behold. You wouldn't have believed that this is the place we had purchased for starting the school. It was wiped clean and looked brilliant with flag markings around the boundaries and pathways to each of the event such as meeting place and the foundation stone for the Hostel, school and the staff quarters and even a health center.



We had over 1000 people, friends from Hyderabad, the local leaders, villagers and people who came to see just because our dignitaries and the main attraction was the speaker Bro Anil Kumar, who is the son-in-law of the Chief Minister of our state. The high profile businessmen-cum-evangelist preferred to come in a helicopter for security reasons. However, the helicopter could not land as apparently the pilot got the landing figures wrong. He hovered around at a different location and eventually made an emergency landing as he ran out of fuel!

This, however, proved to be good news for us as it caused the entire print and television media to talk about the helicopter incident. Though the Education Minister of our state arrived a little bit late, the local member of the state legislature assembly and the other dignitaries come on time and the event went off extremely well. We had to bear with so many machine gun totting security personal and police but it did not matter!! There was rain but that too did not deter us or anyone else at the venue. The program started with prayer and ended with prayer by two prominent national Christian leaders. We had the unveiling of the school model by the Minister for Education. Former Director General of Police Swaranjit Sen and his wife laid the foundation for the Hostel building and School building.



We had lot of press coverage and the television media too covered this event. I also felt that there should be a medical center and had a stone laid for the same by my sister-in-law and brother Dr David Kocherla's - who were visiting India at this time. What a joy it was to see this kick start and we made lot of connections through this event i.e. let people know that this is a spiritual center, caring for the children who are socially and economically under prevlidged. Secondly that we are not lightweights and we too have people in power. Thirdly, the publicity that was generated cannot be valued. It was a glorious event. The key people connected with the education dept of the district came and with the education minister being the guest of honor they know they cannot meddle with us and delay our license etc for any reason. Our team of pastors did hard work in getting the place to what it looked on that day!.Thank you all so very much for the prayers.

The school construction will begin from next week. We hope to have the buildings ready by April. Yes, April 2010.

God seems to have motivated some people already. One of my golf friends Sridhar Reddy has promised to install a Water purifier system which would cost over 5lakhs for the entire school and hostel complex!

Another friend, a very famous former cricketer who played for India for years and had been the national selector for some time and is currently the coach of the Hyderabad cricket team, promised to get his teammates 'cricketers' to contribute for the support of the children. And he is going to give me the cricket bat that he received as a gift from 'Sachin Tendulkar', one of the prominent cricketers of India (equalent to Micheal Jordon or some one like that of US)!, trusting that the bat will be auctioned and the money raised will be useful for the school.

I do hope God will open up several more people's hearts for their involvement in the school. It is really unique to see people marveling and I am sure God would add his people. God was glorified and His intensions displayed. Thanks again for your partnership each and every one of you! You mean sooo much to us!

In The Lord and His Mission,

Caleb

PS: I have mailed the school model and the photo's through Dr David to John Groos. Iam attaching some pictures below.

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Figure 1



Pic 1. Our beaming MLA (state parliamentarian) - Narsareddy- was all joy for the school and promised his help in every manner.

2. Dr Kockerla's laying the foundation stone for the Harvest Medical Centre that will not only cater to the children at the school but will take care of the health needs of the villages surrounds our campus.

3. Dignitaries pouring into the venue!

4. Caleb with MLA and Rev VJHS Nelson one of the key Christian leaders of the city of Hyd.

5. One of the views of the place as it looked before the commencement of the meeting.