

# Mudpaths

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

Children's  
Relief  
International™

Taking the light of Christ to the poor.

## When His graces finally fall...

*This summer one of CRI's missionaries, Anita Frederick, led a small team to visit Smriti and her ministry in Kolkata. Here Anita shares a story of God at work through Mudpaths Ministry. With deep gratitude, we thank you for your faithful prayers and support that enable the children of Mudpaths to experience God's grace.*

The rain fell in sheets outside the window. The oppressive heat slowly lifted. We had been waiting for the rains to come. As they finally did, people rushed into the alleyways to wash their dishes and clothes and revel in the coolness. We, too, were grateful, but stayed inside with the children waiting for the dangers of flooding to pass.

As my teammate, Cathy, shared the Bible lesson, I noticed a little girl sitting in the corner of the classroom, her eyes vacant. She did not smile or interact with the other



children. I asked the teacher about her. She replied that the little girl, Ankita, was "mental," meaning mentally handicapped in her broken English. In areas of deep poverty, mentally handicapped children are at a much higher risk of exploitation from those who would prey on their weakness. I felt my chest tighten at the thought.

The teacher asked us to pray for Ankita. Cathy and I laid hands on her and prayed that God would protect her and bind all evil. As we prayed, a shudder passed over her. Not thinking much of it, Cathy returned to the lesson and I to observing. But almost immediately, Ankita got up and joined the other students. She laughed and played and cuddled with us freely. Life entered her eyes.

Though I can't say that her mental handicap was healed, something changed in that little girl. As the rains had brought freedom and relief from heat, so too Ankita had experienced freedom from an oppressive burden.

On these trips, we wait upon the Lord to see His activity among us. The eager anticipation gives way to wonder and relief when His graces finally fall. Thank you for praying for the poor and vulnerable like Ankita. Our God is faithful to the cry of the hurting. When we wait on Him, He will answer. The rains of His grace and mercy will come.

Sincerely,

*Anita Frederick*

Missionary

Children's Relief International



## Light in the Darkness...

This October, Hindus in Kolkata and around the country will celebrate many of the gods they worship through festivals. One of the most notable happens in Kolkata October 15-19. The Durga Puja festival celebrates the warrior goddess Durga who defeated the demon king Mahishasura. Thousands and thousands of idols will be installed in podiums throughout the city. On the last day of the festival, Hindu worshipers bid farewell to the goddess and plead for her to return the next year. They parade the statues of Durga around the city and then submerge them in the river.

Smriti, our project leader, asks for your fervent prayers. Especially at this time of year, Christians in the city feel the political and religious pressure of living as Christ followers in a Hindu country. They feel an atmosphere heavy with the darkness of spiritual warfare. Please pray for God's protection over Smriti and her staff as they seek to shine Christ's light in the darkness.

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