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### Treasure Preschool Opens in Central Myanmar City

Asian Children's Mission latest school recently opened in a Pwin Oo Lwin, in central Myanmar. With 11 students, the school is meeting in the home of Joel, an ACM staff member, and his wife Nan-gram. Already a college graduate, Nan-gram took additional courses to be licensed by the government to become a preschool teacher. This outreach to children builds bridges of trust between Christian and Buddhist families.



### "Jonah" Finds Mission in Remote Delta Village

By Maeram, ACM's Educational Coordinator

I would say that Deeram (left) is one of the present day Jonahs. From the beginning (five years ago), he wanted to teach, but he was offered a job in the government. He told me he would not go to the village, but to Myanmar's new capital. We discussed this, and I finally

said, "It is up to you. If you want the devil to win, go to Naypyidaw (the capital city of Myanmar.)"

He disappeared for one week, and then called me. He decided to go to the village to teach. That was four years ago. Now is even thinking about living in the remote area all his life.

Deeram says, "We have no time to miss our home. We teach day and night. There is no electricity, so we use diesel for the lamp. The children are very much fun. They always like to learn something from us."

In addition to teaching in the elementary school, Deeram and the other Christian teacher in the village have started a children's church. The school and the church presented the Christmas story to the village, much to the delight of the parents.

The stars on the Myanmar map below represents areas of the country where this month's updates come from. Asian Children's Mission works in these areas, as well as other regions of the country.



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Protecting and educating children is the primary work of Asian Children's Mission Above — children at Hope Children's Home near Yangon celebrate birthdays and Christmas. We join with them in celebrating the beginning of our 5th year working in Myanmar!

## ACM High School Students Study Despite Famine

Note: This high school is in the far north of Myanmar, in a region known as Putao.



By Kono, Head Teacher

Most of our 40 high school students are from remote areas. Some walk more than two weeks to get to the school. They have no food or money. For us teachers it is impossible to get food for all of them. So we are all suffering at the same time. But the students do well in classes. They learn to trust God in the hard times. Even when they are hungry, they fill their stomachs with water. The students are often sick. Most have malaria. They also suffer from not getting enough nutrition. They have diarrhea and skin rashes.

**(Note: Kono has a masters degree and is regarded as one of the outstanding women in the region. She was offered a better job, but chose to stay in the area to improve the education of Putao youth.)**



By Jonathon, Assistant Teacher

We are grateful for your faithful support.

We teach our students to upgrade the life of the people and to educate the younger generation. Our students are eager in learning. Some have never read the Bible until they come to Leading Star. We believe the Bible is important as well as teaching secular subjects, so we start our day with Bible reading, memorization and explanation of the meaning.

Students are often sick. We think that the cause is lack of nutrition. We would like to request help with medicine, food and vitamins.

## ACM—Entrenched in Myanmar!



Sometimes the best fence is a trench — one that cows cannot cross! These two local farmers, and others, dug a deep trench around 20 acres in northern Burma — land that ACM purchased from the Myanmar government to increase food production — and food security — for local Christian farmers. The cost of this beautiful and pristine land was only \$500 but local people must develop it.

[Asianchildrensmision.org](http://Asianchildrensmision.org)

## Faith's Substance and Evidence

By Joana T. Jones, Founder and Director

Asian Children's Mission became a 501c3 non-profit corporation in 2008. More than half of non-profits fail within the first five years. ACM is NOT part of that sad statistic of good intentions that somehow didn't quite work out.

From my first trip to Myanmar in 2007 when I promised to open two orphanages, ACM has operated by faith. When I made that promise, I had no organization, and no money to support the 35 children we expected to house. But I believed God led me to make this promise. I planned to come out of retirement, find a job, and support those children.

I never had to do that. Enough money was donated to open the orphanages.

In 2008 I made my third trip to Myanmar. It was just a few weeks after a cyclone had killed more than 100,000 people in southern Burma. Although foreign aid workers were kept away from the region, incredibly I was allowed in. The devastation prompted me to make more promises — we would provide care for 20 new orphans AND we would

provide a total of 30 Christian school teachers in villages where the teachers and the schools were swept away by the storm. Again, I had no on-going financial support to rely on.

The current monthly budget is \$3500—which supports 15 schools and 2 orphanages. I have promises of less than \$2000 a month from churches and individuals. Short term grants and special gifts have made up the difference.

I have moved to the Pacific Northwest, and have no established network of churches and friends to ask for funds. It takes time to build up a level of trust for people to be confident to give money for a particular mission.

Hebrews 11:1 tells us that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen." We have come this far by faith, and I hope you will continue this adventure with me to care for vulnerable children half a world away.

You can give securely online at [asianchildrensmision.org](http://asianchildrensmision.org) and send a check to Asian Children's Mission, 352 S 28th Ave., Cornelius, OR 97113.