



# New Hope Outreach Ministries

## New Hope Outreach Ministries (NHOM)

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*Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the Fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. James 1:27*

2006 Spring Sri Lankan Addition



*John, Evelyn & Elya Shane Invite You To Join Them On a Trip To Russia, Ukraine or Sri Lanka.*

### ***War & Peace***

The Bible tells us that in the last days there will be wars and rumors of wars and if you look at our world and you know the signs of the times mentioned in scripture you will see we are so very close to the end. I am not a doomsday person but I personally believe we must be stepping up the pace to reach our world with the good news of the Gospel.

In Sri Lanka wars and rumors of wars are a daily way of life as are peace talks and negotiations. In the Jaffna area of Sri Lanka while I was there in February there was a soldier positioned every 100 yards in full combat ready military gear. There was such a tenseness in the air you felt at any moment a military skirmish would break out between the Singhalese army and the terrorists and that is the way people in this country have lived for over 40 years as no resolve to the civil war has happened.

The battles of the past have left this nation battered, bruised, beaten and defeated. Life is difficult with Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam battling each other and having a common hatred for Christians. The battle goes beyond people against people for truly this is a Spiritual battle between good and evil.

In war there are always innocent victims. Many of these victims are the widows and orphans. Tens of thousands of widows and orphans without any source of income or support. They live in displacement camps with no running water or electricity. Their mud huts are empty of furniture and when they cook a meal they cook on an open fire usually outside. They sleep on the ground and have no hope of a future.

There is a caste system in Sri Lanka and the lowest one in the caste system is the widow. She is treated as an outcast and usually will not have the opportunity to re-marry because she has no dowry to pay for a husband and a future for her and her children is bleak at best. Many times even other family members treat the widow as less than human or as property that belongs to them only to serve. Twenty per cent of a widows time is simply hauling water from the well to her place of residence.

We began our widows sponsorship program about three years ago whereas anyone can sponsor a widow and her family for \$25 per month so that she can be taught skills that make her productive in her society.

Currently we are only working with Christian widows that are in the local churches. We have seen tremendous results. To give just a few examples: One of our widows is skilled at sewing but had no money for a sewing machine. We bought a treadle sewing machine (there is no electricity in her area) so that she could sew. She now has a contract with a company to make clothes for them. Another lady was good with poultry so we bought her some chicks and now she sells the meat and eggs to help her family. One widow whose hus-



*Pictured above are the widows who attended our first (and hopefully many more) annual Widows Conference in Jaffna.*

band was murdered had a small farm but she had no way to irrigate it to grow crops. We bought a pump for her well so that she could siphon the water to her crops of bananas and other fruit. Another lady buys the produce from her and sells it at a local kiosk and on and on the success stories go. Maybe you would like to help a widow and her family? If so please contact us and we will get you started. We even have pictures so that you can pray for them.

### ***Crusades***

While in Jaffna we held outdoor crusades. We simply took the Gospel right into the Hindu and terrorist camps. Hundreds were saved. We prayed for the sick until our voices were hoarse. One child who was deaf from birth was miraculously healed. Another child who had never spoken was given a beautiful and powerful voice and many others were touched by the hand of God. We must take the Gospel to the lost for many have no way to come to us.



*Just some of those who got saved at the crusade near Jaffna, Sri Lanka.*





When I first visited the church in Jaffna above some five years ago it had been blown up by a bomb. Many of the people that had attended were killed, fled the area or scattered into displacement camps but as you can see you may knock down the building but you can not stop or destroy the church of God.

It has been rebuilt and has exploded with revival and must be expanded to hold the newcomers that are getting saved, healed and delivered from demonic forces. My friend, Pastor Jason Silveraja and his family, whose own house was destroyed by militant bombs, has suffered much over the years but he has a vision that Jaffna and his nation of Sri Lanka must be saved.



### Tea Plantations

While in Kandy Pastor Mohan Blessing and his family treated me to a visit to a tea plantation. Most of America's tea (Lipton, Red Rose, Ceylon tea) comes from Sri Lanka. Pictured above are two ladies who pick the tea leaves. They work long hours each day and are paid the equivalent of \$1.75 a day.

This is a way of life for these ladies and their families and is a generational job. Whole families for generations have picked and processed the tea leaves. They usually live on or near the plantations in simple mud or adobe type houses. There are no windows in the houses only places where windows should be, no running water, no electricity, no refrigerator or appliances, no stove or oven, no radio or TV and usually no hope. No one has told them about the Hope of God and it is sad to look into their faces and see the blank emptiness in their eyes.

### Success Story

Another of the success stories of our widows is a lady pictured to the right. She has a large family but her husband was killed. When we interviewed her she told us that she was skilled with cattle and knew how to care for them but had no money to purchase even a calf.

She said if she could just have one cow that she could begin to sell the milk and dairy products. We bought her a cow and she has saved her earnings and purchased another cow that recently had a calf. Her and her family are so proud of the opportunity that has been given them through the NHOM sponsorship program.

As she tends to her herd she is also telling others about the Lord and how God cares for His widows and orphans. We at NHOM are so blessed to be a part of this very special ministry. Won't you join us in caring for those who can't care for themselves? Widows and orphans are so special to God and God expects us (the Church) to take care of them.



### Atchala

Pictured to the right is our newest worker at NHOM, Atchala. She lives in the Jaffna area and is a graduate of Bible school and is very active in Pastor Jason's church. Pastor Jason highly recommended her for the position of helping the Christian widows in the Jaffna region. She had been working with us for sometime but only had a bicycle to ride the many miles daily to visit the widows. Our sponsorship program has increased and so we bought her a motorbike to travel with.

She helped us pick it out and when I asked her if she would like it she just grinned from ear to ear and said it was just what she needed. She has a love for widows and their families and ministers to them and sees to their needs. She keeps us informed as to the needs for the ladies we support as well. Her work is difficult and she goes into areas that are saturated with terrorism. Wild elephants, cobras, water buffalo, leopards and other critters are just some of the hazards she might encounter on her travels. Land mines are common in this part of Sri Lanka and danger is ever present. Please pray for her and our other team members in Russia, Ukraine and America.

Many times she has to stay overnight with those she ministers to because of the distance she must travel. Road conditions are terrible but she loves her work and we are thrilled to have her as part of our team. She is also taking time to learn English because she wants to communicate with our American teams that come and visit.

Pastor Jason and his wife have all but adopted Atchala. She lives with their family and has been a tremendous help in the work that they do. She has been invaluable to the church because of her serving, teaching, ministering and loving those with such great needs. We are blessed to have workers like Atchala and others on our team at NHOM.



### Special Prayer Request

Last year at Christmas time I had to say no to buying Christmas gifts for several thousands of orphans. Please consider helping with Christmas gifts this year. For a couple of dollars we can put a present together for an orphan. We are working with many thousands of orphans. I don't want to have to say no to our workers this year and with your help we can get a present into their hands for the kids.





*In the city of Kandy we provide some help to the ministry of children. It is always my privilege to minister to these enthusiastic youngsters. The outreach of the Kandy church to areas around it is such a blessing. In a Tamil village not far from Kandy over 60 kids are reached with the Gospel and a full time Pastor is now established and pioneering a work.*



### **Alfie & Sharmini**

Along lives path I have met some wonderful and exceptional people. The Pastors I work with, staff of NHOM, lay people, our supporters and many more but Alfie and Sharmini rank amongst the highest.

Against all odds they saw a need in their country to help orphans. Their determination through some of the mightiest attacks of Satan they have developed an orphanage outside of Kandy that not only houses some 60 plus orphans but teaches them skills that are useful to them for the future.

I met them six years ago and have watched the love of Jesus in them minister to the needs of some of the most

difficult of circumstances. They had no money only a strong faith in God that they were called to help the most needy of there war-torn country. They never quit and today their orphanage is the best in the country and would rival any orphanage I have ever visited.

The children who live at the "Home of Hope" know they are loved. To the left are pictures of Alfie and Sharmini and the new open air arts building that they built. I was so impressed with this building that we decided to build one like it on our property in Jaffna to be used as our base for the ministry to widows.

The dorms where the children live in, the care of the staff and the ministry of love by Alfie and Sharmini are a sight to behold. They are also ministering to many of the widows and women that live in their community by teaching them skills that will help supplement a dismal income.

I am glad to call them my friends. If you want to help these folks you can pray for them. I know they would appreciate that. If you want to donate funds send them directly to NHOM and we will see that they get these funds. I know they would be grateful.

***A Great Big THANK YOU for all of you who helped load the container for Ukraine. We were so blessed as it truly was an international loading job with Russians, Ukrainians, Samoans and Americans taking part in the loading job. Thank you who sent us supplies and money to help get all the merchandise to the orphanages.***



***Here we are putting the finishing touches on the 40 foot container full of supplies for the orphans and elderly in Ukraine. What a blessing for all who took part in helping. We are blessed.***

### **Prayer Requests**

1. Pray that God would give me wisdom at the possibility of opening a whole new region in Russia to minister to thousands of more orphans.
2. Pray for the work that is taking place in building a new church, Bible school and widows center in Jaffna, Sri Lanka for widows and their children.
3. Pray that God would grant traveling mercies for all of our teams as they encounter some of the vilest of road and trail conditions.
4. As prices continue to escalate at home and overseas pray that God would continue to provide for essentials in the need of our teams and the ministry.
5. Pray for an additional worker to help Igor in the Ekaterinberg Region.
6. Pray for open doors, health, finances and great wisdom.

### **Shane's Schedule**

#### **April**

2 Ferndale, WA  
9 Post Falls, ID  
23 Malone, WA  
30 Warden, WA

#### **May**

2-9 Ukraine  
9-24 Russia  
28 Post Falls, ID

#### **June**

4 Vancouver, WA  
4 Centralia, WA  
11 Kettle Falls, WA  
11 Loon Lake, WA  
18 Newport, WA  
25 Ephrata, WA

#### **July**

2 Lynden, WA  
9 Forks, WA  
16 Yakima, WA  
16 Ellensburg, WA  
18 thru August 3  
North &  
South Dakota







### **Fishing in Sri Lanka**

The fishing industry in Sri Lanka has bounced back following the tragic tsunami of last year. NHOM bought two fishing boats to help a couple of Christian brothers who lost everything in the tsunami get back on their feet and back to work. Untold thousands lost their lives and the grief remains but life has gone on. We also bought a truckload of pots and pans to help those Christian brethren who lost everything so they could cook and carry water.

### **Cleared of Land Mines**

My friends Pastor Jason and Pastor Robert stand at the entrance to NHOM's property, nearly an acre, near Jaffna. Through their efforts our property was cleared of land mines, brush and trees and we are now ready to build our "Widow's Center." A multi-purpose building (see page 3) that will train widows for a future. It will also be used as a church for the community. We are thrilled at the opportunities and challenges God has placed before us.

We would like to also purchase another couple of acres adjacent to our property to build temporary housing facilities for widows and their families to live while they are being trained for a future. We are trusting God for the finances to do this. Our property is right in the heart of Hindu and Muslim and terrorist people groups. We want it to be a lighthouse and refuge for those who are so needy.

### **Russia & Ukraine**

Recently someone asked me if we were putting more emphasis on Sri Lanka and less on Russia and Ukraine? My answer is emphatically no. God has graciously expanded our territory by including Sri Lanka in our NHOM. It is a country in desperate need as so many are.

Our work to the orphans in Russia and Ukraine are so very important. Our teams that work in these areas are the finest folks available and are so valuable in reaching orphans, orphanages and communities.

Each year I dedicate one of our four newsletters to the work in Sri Lanka and try to keep you updated as to what is going on in other areas of our ministry as well throughout the year. If you are a supporter of this ministry you receive an updated letter of what is happening in various parts of the ministry each time you send us a donation.

We want to keep you informed as to what is happening so that you can pray with us.

Our teams in Perm, Ekaterinberg, and Odessa have been diligently working and reaching orphans and whole communities with the Gospel. We are receiving good reports from them. There is never enough space in a newsletter to share all that is going on. Also, in newsletter format I am unable to share some of the sensitive items we are involved with. Just recently we have been involved with seeing Muslims giving their hearts to the Lord but we can not show pictures or necessarily even tell you their stories to protect those who have come to the Lord because their lives could possibly be threatened. Just know we are involved in much more than what is printed and please, please pray for us.

### **Sri Lanka 2007 February / March**

This continues to be a trip for the hearty. We visit areas that are difficult and sometimes dangerous. The need in this war-torn area is overwhelming. We will visit displacement camps, orphanages, churches, widows and see the jungles and beauty of this nation.

### **Ukraine / Russia 2007 May / June**

A whole new ministry has opened to us in the Ukraine. Orphans, widows and the elderly are in great need of our hugs. This trip is a combination trip. We will only be spending a short time in Ukraine and then go on to meet the team in Russia or vice versa.

### **Russia 2006 May-September-December**

We continue to expand into more and more orphanages. Currently we are working with many thousands of orphans and the work continues to expand. Come and hug these that are so desperate for love. Visit the fatherless and widows with us.

***To Hold Your Seat On Any Of Our Trips, Mail Your First Deposit Of \$400.00 As Soon As Possible To:***

For special groups or individuals we can schedule other trips to Russia, Ukraine or Sri Lanka on dates different than above. Contact us

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**Costs vary from trip to trip. Usually between \$2,350 and \$2,500 for Russia and Ukraine. Sri Lanka will be more.**

All prices based on Seattle, WA departure and return. Costs may vary per trip but do include all visas, plane, rail and ground transportation, housing and an average of two meals per day except in Moscow, Odessa or Colombo. Souvenirs, offerings and gifts to the churches and individuals are at your own expense. We do limit our trips to the first 15 people. Sri Lanka is limited to the first 5 people.

**Deadline for any of our trips we must receive your first deposit (\$400.00) four months prior to leaving.**

Our trips are usually 14 to 15 days in length. A complete refund less \$100.00 handling fee of the unused portion of your deposit will be returned should circumstances keep you from going on the trip. For more information call or write the above address or phone number. To save time and expense for you, I would encourage you to **begin now to get your Passport.** We can not process you until I have that in hand.