

HABITAT FOR
HUMANITY CANADA,
GLOBAL VILLAGE

Global Village Voice

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Cambodia Calling

Cambodia is a charming, unspoiled country with a future waiting to be shaped. Located in the heart of South-east Asia, it borders Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos. Despite the beauty of its landscape and the unfailing spirit of its people, Cambodia remains one of the poorest countries in Asia. Much of the population lives on less than \$2 USD a day, and its economy trails those of other countries in the region. After the fall of the communist Khmer Rouge regime in 1979, mass migration to the capital, Phnom Penh, occurred, resulting in overcrowding and improvised shelters. Decent housing in Phnom Penh remains unattainable and unaffordable for most people, and slums abound. There are 564 slum areas, housing approximately 300,000 people: a 10 fold increase in the past decade.

That is one quarter of the city's population. The people



Photo courtesy Ewen Bell, HFHI

are forced to live in makeshift houses without access to basic infrastructure and services such as running water, sewage systems, electricity, and waste removal. Moreover, recent urban developments in Phnom Penh have forced families to relocate and find shelter in inhospitable areas, such as landfills and dumps, on the city's outskirts.

Habitat for Humanity International in Cambodia was established in 2003 and believes that, "every Cambodian has a right to a simple decent home". HFHI Cambodia has worked over these past 5 years to make affordable home ownership a reality for poor families and have built, rehabilitated, and repaired over 400 homes, mainly in slum areas in and around Phnom Penh. They welcomed their first Global Village volunteer team from Australia in July 2006, and have since hosted volunteers from Canada, the US, Australia, and Singapore.

This year the Canadian Global Village program will be sending two teams of volunteers to Cambodia.

The first trip is from May 31 to June 11 and the team will be led by Christian Petrenko. They will build in the eclectic capital city Phnom Penh and will also visit Cambodia's Ancient Temple city of Angkor Wat. Global Village volunteers will be able to experience the beauty and culture of Cambodia and at the same time will have the opportunity to work hand-in-hand with community members to help families in desperate need of adequate housing. Please feel free to contact Christian at cpetrenko@onefinancial.com if you would like to learn more about this trip or apply now at <http://habitat.ca/tripschedulec235.php?PJID=126>

Jane Pak will be leading a team this fall and her trip will be posted on our website soon. In the meantime, if you can contact Jane at janee.pak@gmail.com



Photo courtesy Mikel Flamm, HFHI



Photo courtesy Steffan Hacker, HFHI

Hope for Roma Families

Just ninety minutes outside of Bucharest, the largest most prosperous town in all of Romania, is the small village of Baltesti where Roma families are living in homes built of hay and clay.

Currently around 150 people are living in seriously overcrowded conditions in "Ursarie" the Roma community, with as many as three or four families (up to 30 people) living in a single home. Most of these families use wood and debris for fires to cook and heat their homes because they cannot afford to buy natural gas. The main source of income is the minimum amount of social support provided by the govern-

ment, possibly supplemented by selling apples and watermelons, milling salt from a nearby mine, or manufacturing aluminum vessels.

These families are caught in a vicious cycle of poverty. Lack of education limits opportunities for families to learn a skill and earn a decent wage. Without a decent wage, families are forced to live in poor living conditions. Poor living conditions leads to health problems such as tuberculosis, skin disease, and lung and heart problems, which further limits a family's earning potential. As a result of the poor health conditions and low incomes,

the dropout rates for Roma children are high, resulting in the lack of education of yet another generation and the process starts all over again.

Habitat for Humanity Romania, the Soros Foundation and the village of Baltesti want to help break this cycle of poverty through the construction of 10 new homes over the next two years. YOU can be a driving force in breaking the cycle of poverty by volunteering your time and energy as a Global Village volunteer on this project.

For more information about the Roma community build in Baltesti, please contact Tanya McMurdo at tmcmurdo@habitat.ca

Featured GV Trips

There are still opportunities available to get involved in trips departing in the summer and fall of 2009.

Cambodia
May 31 – June 11, 2009

Romania
June 20– July 3, 2009

Mongolia
June 29 – July 11, 2009

Paraguay
July 5 – 17, 2009

Macedonia
July 12 – 26, 2009

El Salvador
July 11–22, 2009

Honduras
July 18 – Aug. 2, 2009

Zambia
July 25–Aug. 10, 2009

Hungary
July 25 – Aug. 8, 2009

Romania
August 7–16, 2009

Honduras
August 8–17, 2009

Hungary
October 11–25, 2009

Armenia
October 18–31, 2009

Kyrgyzstan
October 17–31, 2009

For more information about any of these trips, please visit our website at www.habitatglobalvillage.ca

Pakistan Earthquake Reconstruction with CIDA

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is providing significant funding to Habitat for Humanity Canada for the HFH Pakistan project “*Pakistan Earthquake Reconstruction Initiative*.” This 2-year project is providing training and support to earthquake-affected households to aid them in the strengthening and reconstruction of their permanent housing. The project is located in the very mountainous

Mansehra District of northern Pakistan, one of the areas that was hardest hit by the earthquake. The Government of Pakistan assigned HFH Pakistan to 5,600 households who needed help, training and advice with the repairing or rebuilding of their severely damaged homes. Mobile training teams are visiting each household several times to monitor their progress and ensure that the homes are properly built. HFH Pakistan is also training local

masons and builders on earthquake-resistant construction techniques, which will benefit the whole district in the future. The long-term impacts of this project will include the improved physical security, health and well-being of families and communities, and increased resistance of permanent housing to future earthquakes. HFH Canada is proud to be able to support this project, and very grateful for the generous support of CIDA.

Healthy Travel

If you are planning to travel internationally, you should consult a physician or travel medicine clinic at least three or four months before travel in order to allow enough time for any immunizations that may be required. This is especially true for those planning travel to tropical areas or developing countries.

A health professional will be able to assess your individual needs for immunization or preventative medication depending on your health situation, previous immunization history and your travel itinerary.

The following link provides a list of travel medicine clinics that has

been compiled by the Public Health Agency of Canada, using multiple available listings. This listing is by no means complete and this listing does not imply that the Public Health Agency of Canada endorses the standard of practice for any of the travel medicine clinics listed. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/tmp-pmv/travel/clinic->

Open Teams vs. Closed Teams

The Global Village program works with two different types of teams: Open teams and Closed teams.

Open teams are led by team leaders who have previously participated on at least 1 Global Village trip as a team member and have successfully completed the Team Leader training workshop. Open teams will be posted on the Global Village website for the general public to apply.

Closed teams come in the form of schools, churches, corporations, and family & friends traveling together.

Closed team leaders are encouraged to participate in the Team Leader training workshop so that they have a complete understanding of the responsibilities of being a team leader, however, it is not mandatory for them to attend the team leader training workshop.

When participants go to the Global Village website to complete their online application, they will have the choice of selecting “[Click here to apply for a trip from our trip schedule](#)” which is for participants

applying for Open teams, or, “[Click here if you are preselected to a team \(e.g., school group, church group\)](#)” which is for participants who are members of Closed teams. If you have been “pre-selected” to an Open team, you still need to go into the application through the “[Click here to apply for a trip from our trip schedule](#)” option.

For further information on applying for a trip, please contact our office.

JRCWP – Mekong Build

The Mekong River, one of the world's great rivers, flows more than 2,500 miles from the Tibetan highlands to the South China Sea.

Some of the poorest people in Asia live in the countries that the Mekong touches. Nearly one-third of the population (80 million out of 250 million) live in poverty, many on less than a dollar per day, despite rapid economic growth in the last decade.



Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter,
Photo courtesy HFHI

“The need for affordable housing is immense in the Mekong region,” said Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity International.

The Mekong is one long river with the character of two different streams: the path of the upper river through China to Laos winds with rapids and a dam; the direction of the broad, muddy lower Mekong in Cambodia and Vietnam is, at times, inverted by tides. For a week of working together, the Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project

will unite volunteers and families in need of decent, affordable housing in these countries of the Mekong region: Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and the Yunnan Province in China.

“Together during the week, we will help hundreds of families into decent housing and bring attention to an area where many people live in deplorable poverty.” President Carter said.

The week-long building project will build with an estimated 300 families. It also will begin a five-year Habitat for Humanity initiative to work with 50,000 families across the five countries.

Habitat for Humanity has a strong and growing presence in all the Mekong countries. Richard Hathaway, vice president for Habitat for Humanity International's Asia/Pacific region, said, adding, “This project will provide a significant

boost to those programs to serve even more families in need of decent shelter.”

Habitat for Humanity kicked off the 26th Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project the week of February 19, 2009, with a ground-breaking ceremony at Moo Baan Nong Kan Kru in Chiang Mai, the northern capital of Thailand. Attending the auspicious event with members of the local community were Eric John, U.S. ambassador to Thailand; Wiboon Sanguanpong, governor of Chiang Mai; Richard Hathaway, vice president of the Asia Pacific office for Habitat for Humanity International; and Dr. Chainarong Monthienvichienchai, chair of Habitat for Humanity Thailand.

For more information about the 2009 JRCWP, please visit <http://www.habitat.org/jcwp/2009/>.



2009 Ground-breaking Ceremony, Photo courtesy HFHI

Millard Fuller Tribute

Habitat for Humanity is deeply saddened by the death of Millard Fuller, the visionary whose ideas and tireless work created Habitat for Humanity.

Mr. Fuller led Habitat from its founding in 1976 until his separation from the organization and his founding of the Fuller Center for Housing in 2005. He died early today, February 3, following a brief illness. He was 74.

“Millard Fuller was a force of nature who turned a simple idea into an international organization that has helped more than 300,000 families move from deplorable housing into simple, decent homes they helped build and can afford to buy and live in,” said Jonathan Reckford, chief executive officer of Habitat for Humanity International. “The entire Habitat family mourns the loss of our founder, a true giant in the affordable housing movement. Our prayers are with the entire Fuller family.”

The idea for Habitat for Humanity was born at Koinonia Farm, a Christian farming community founded in 1942 in rural southwest Georgia to be a “demonstration plot for the Kingdom of God.” Millard and Linda Fuller made their way to that demonstration plot in 1965.

By the time Millard Fuller turned 29, he had earned his first million dollars as an entrepreneur and attorney. But as his finances flourished, his health and marriage crumbled. To save their marriage, the Fullers decided to begin anew. They sold all they owned, gave the money to the poor and in their searching, landed at Koinonia where they began soaking up the teachings of farmer, theologian and community founder Clarence Jordan.

In time, Jordan and Fuller launched a program of “partnership housing,” building simple houses in partnership with rural neighbors who were too poor to qualify for conventional home loans. The first house was dedicated in 1969 and others soon followed. In 1973, the Fullers took the concept of partnership housing to Africa. Within a few years, simple concrete-block homes were replacing unhealthy mud-and-thatch homes ... and Millard Fuller had a bold idea: If partnership housing could improve lives in Georgia and Zaire, why not the rest of the world?

In 1976, the Fullers returned to the United States and launched Habitat for Humanity International. By the organization’s 25th anniversary, tens of thousands of people were volunteering with Habitat and more than 500,000 people were living in Habitat homes.

Millard Fuller was a prolific writer, authoring 10 books. He had received more than 50 honorary degrees and in 1996 received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor. In presenting the medal, President Bill Clinton said, “Millard Fuller has done as much to make the dream of homeownership a reality in our country and throughout the world as any living person.” Jack Kemp, former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and former HFHI board member agreed, adding, “When I’m asked about housing success stories from our inner cities, the first group that comes to mind is Habitat for Humanity.”

Among numerous other awards, Fuller was named to the National Housing Hall of Fame and had received the World Changer Award, the World Methodist Peace Award, the Norman Vincent Peale Award, the John W. Gardner Leadership Award and the Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award.

“Millard Fuller’s drive and relentless commitment to affordable housing captured people’s imagination and changed lives around the world,” said J. Ronald Terwilliger, chair of Habitat for Humanity’s International Board of Directors. “His inspiration lives on in Habitat’s work and through its employees, volunteers, partner families and supporters. We extend our sincere condolences to the Fuller family and are keeping them in our thoughts and prayers.”

The public are cordially invited to join a live, worldwide web broadcast of a celebration honoring the life & work of Millard Fuller, the founder of Habitat for Humanity International & The Fuller Center for Housing. The celebration can be watched live on FullerCenter.org on Saturday, March 14th, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. EST (GMT-4:00). The broadcast will be from the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga., where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a co-pastor. For more information or updates, please visit: www.FullerCenter.org

Good Morning Vietnam!

Robin Williams spoke this familiar phrase as he began his radio broadcasts in the movie of the same name. What else do we know of Vietnam? Certainly, we know of the atrocities of the Vietnamese War (which, incidentally, in Vietnam, is called the “American War”). We may know that Vietnam is benefiting from great economic growth and is rapidly becoming a place to visit, with historical sites, excellent cuisine, and breathtaking scenery.

But who is Vietnam (actually, that’s Viet Nam) and who are her people? What role does Habitat for Humanity play in Vietnam’s growth and (yes, still...) recovery? Viet Nam is a country of many contrasts. On my 2007 visit there, I dodged motor-



Photo courtesy Joan Spares

cycles in the bustling and chaotic streets of Hanoi in the north, and then traveled by train and bus past tranquil rice paddies to the scenic and peaceful vistas of Halong Bay. I toured the Vinh Moc tunnels (in the DMZ, or “demilitarized zone”) where the villagers lived for several years

through the heavy wartime bombings. In amongst the fields and huts, I could still see the evidence of the war: bomb craters that now serve as watering holes for livestock and irrigation. War is nothing new to Viet Nam. For centuries, her people experienced repeated invasions by China and then in the mid 1800s, French and Spanish-led forces stormed Danang. Soon after, Saigon (now the city of Ho Chi Minh) was seized and by 1867, France had created the colony of Cochinchina in what was southern Viet Nam. Under the leadership of Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese fought French domination and declared independence in 1945. Violent confrontations continued between the two forces until 1954, when the French were defeated at Dien Bien Phu.

In October 2001, Habitat for Humanity International established a branch in Viet Nam; it’s actually known there as “Habita”. The first project, in Danang, assisted 20 families. Since then, Habitat has made a difference to more than 4000 families. While providing decent housing is still a priority, Habitat also aims to provide families with water and sanitation. Do you know that 4 million Vietnamese still live in sub-standard housing and only half of those living in the rural areas have access to safe water and sanitation?

Most of the Habitat work involves partnership with the Vietnamese government. Their goal is to help 10,000 households improve their standard of living by December 2010.

Habitat homes in Viet Nam are brick and mortar homes. Habitat volunteers work on existing home renovations as well as complete home construction. They may be involved in transporting materials; filling foundations with dirt stone and sand; compacting floor; mixing mortar; laying bricks; cleaning and painting windows and doors.

In March 2005, Habitat Viet Nam started a pilot project to reduce poverty levels in four districts in the province of Kien Giang, a province located in southwest Vietnam. Sharing a border with Cambodia, Kien Giang lies on the Gulf of Thailand and includes 105 islands. In December 2009, Canada will be sending its first Habitat team to Viet Nam and to Kien Giang. I am very excited to be returning to Viet Nam and to be leading this team! The build will be posted in July; check the website at that time and contact me for more information!

Keep an eye on our trip schedule for upcoming trips to Viet Nam.

Courtesy of Joan Spares

Argentina says “Bienvenidos, GV Canadá!”

GV Canada is thrilled to be sending our first Canadian team to work with HFH Argentina! The team members are from all across Canada, and will be working with Habitat Argentina from May 17-31, 2009. They will be building in the city of Luján, 1 hour from Buenos Aires.

Team Leader Mathieu Cléroux has previously lead trips to Dominican Republic and Mongolia, and has also travelled to Europe, China, and Mexico. He is looking forward to helping a family in need in the land of Tango dancing and wine-making.

Argentina is located in South America and shares the Andes Mountains with Chile to the west. It also borders, Bolivia, Paraguay, Brazil, Uruguay, and the Atlantic Ocean.

HFHI’s website describes how the housing crisis worsened when, “In December 2001, Argentina suffered a severe economic collapse that left 50% of the population below the poverty line. Today, almost one-third of Argentinean families live in inadequate housing conditions.” <http://www.habitat.org/intl/lac/9.aspx> Argentina’s population is approximately 40 million.

Since its founding in 2002, HFH Argentina has developed a wide range of housing and community projects to not only build new homes, but assist with renovations, securing land or rental units, and educating new homeowners about housing finances.

Watch www.habitatglobalvillage.ca for future Canadian trips to Argentina as soon as this fall 2009!

Article courtesy Allison Donahue



Photos courtesy HFHI

Mongolia: The Land of Genghis Khan

Build in the land of Genghis (Chinggis) Khan!

My name is Virginia Stites and I am leading an open team to Darkhan, Mongolia, from June 29 to July 11, 2009. Darkhan is a city about 220km from Ulanbataar, the capital of Mongolia. Like the rest of the country, the economy of Darkhan was greatly affected by the dissolution of the Soviet Union in the 1990s as Mongolia was part of the Soviet Bloc. At least one third of the Mongolian population lives below the poverty line and there is a great shortage of adequate housing.

HFH Mongolia was set up in 1999 to address the need for decent and affordable housing. There are four affiliates: Ulaanbaatar, Darkhan, Erdenet and Khangai. Habitat has rolled out a variety of housing microfinance models to help families to build, renovate or repair their homes. One is Habitat's Save & Build model where families form groups to save for their new houses. Habitat and its partners match their savings to enable a few houses to be built at a time. Habitat home partners also contribute sweat equity, or their own labour, to build their own houses as well as those of others in the savings group. A related Save & Renovate model enables home partners to make specific home improvements. These programs have allowed for the construction or



rehabilitation of 1248 homes by HFH Mongolia since 1999.

A typical Habitat home measures up to 36 sq. m. in size and is constructed with bricks or concrete blocks, wood, concrete roof sheeting and Styrofoam for insulation against the harsh winter. Toilets are built separately. Construction usually takes about 20 days. Because of the weather conditions, building is only possible from May to October each year. Sponsorship of a house is US\$2510, with the average loan repayment period being about four years with home partners repaying about US\$24-50 a month.

Mongolia is known for the breath taking beauty of the plains, the steppes and the Gobi Desert. We will have the opportunity to take in the beauty of Mongolia as we travel from Ulanbataar to Darkhan during our rest and relaxation (R&R) days. One R&R night will be spent in a ger, the traditional Mongolian tent. After the build we have been encouraged to stay on in Mongolia to celebrate Independence Day and to enjoy the national festival of Naadam (July 11-13) which showcases the skills of wrestling, archery and horse riding.

I look forward to hearing from you! For more information, please contact me at mongolia-canada2009@gmail.com.

Courtesy Virginia Stites

Photos courtesy Habitat for Humanity Mongolia

India: Rich in Color & Diversity

GV goes to awe inspiring India, July 25-Aug 6, 2009.

India, the land richest in color, diversity, and spiritual nourishment on earth! Sadly, packaged with this are other grave realities; namely extreme poverty, caste rigidity, and vulnerability to natural disasters.

Join the Awesome India team and help build homes with the tsunami victims of 2004. The Asian tsunami of December 26, 2004 hit Tamil Nadu and, in particular Puducherry [also known as Pondicherry or 'Pondy' for short] where an estimated 8000 lives were lost. The official toll for the southern region is 11,000, with *ten times this left homeless!* Even though much of the commercial seafront and the tourist infrastructure in Pondy have been restored for regaining livelihoods, housing is still, four years later, in a desperate state. *They need our help.*

If you were part of the vast number of people unable to assist these victims in the wake of the storm, and felt disappointed not to have been offering a helping hand, *it is not too late.* Believe it or not, the suffering, the needs and the work are not over. Faced with so many homeless in the Pondy area, the helping hands of GV volunteers are not only appreciated but gravely needed. To help a family build a house means far more than assembling four walls and a roof, it means establishing a home and giving a family a tangible hand up and hope for a better future. It is the first step in a chain of social change for these families that will ripple through the whole community. It means protection, security, and a measurable difference in health, education, and livelihood.

For example, during my recent service trip to the slums of Kolkata, there was a minor rain storm in the night, of little notice or consequence to those in the nearby hotel. However, to those families living in the plastic-roofed shanties with paper and straw walls, it was a source of misery, anxiety and loss. Awake all night, these families huddled together, frightened as they heard and felt their plastic roofs blow away. The parents worried about scavenging plastic to replace the roof, what they would do without that day's rupees by work time missed to repair their home; the children, exhausted and wet, cried and were afraid to leave for school, scared of what further devastation might occur to their home during their absence. As you have read, to maintain even the basics of a shelter is a constant and continuous struggle for the destitute. This was just one night, imagine living this way since 2004! However, this is the likes of the tsunami victims we can help in Puducherry. Join the team as we travel there to make a fundamental difference.

"A comfortable house is a great source of happiness. It ranks immediately after health and a good conscience." [S. Smith]

Let's go there and *make a difference.* Joining a Habitat GV team is more than volunteering services. You also are making a donation to the local HFH affiliate and helping HFH India achieve their milestone of *50,000 homes by the end of 2011.* During the last 20 years, Habitat in India has built over 17,000 houses for families, irrespective of caste, creed and language. Structurally, they operate through the four Habitat Resource Centers located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Bangalore. They have

4 satellite offices and numerous partner NGOs across the country. As they build partnership with the homeowners to provide decent shelter, they also responded to victims of natural disasters, like the earthquake in Gujarat and Tsunami on India's southeast coast. Jimmy Carter Work Project (JCWP) was a prime event of the year 2006.

Another very important aspect of a GV trip is the cultural exchange that occurs amongst team members and, more importantly, between each participant and the community. We may be that family and community's first contact with Canadians and our culture. As humans we all have the same physical needs for survival. But it is working side by side with community members and the on-going opportunities to learn from and share with each other that allow us to understand each other and bridge differences. Connecting at the inner most level melts divisions and creates common understandings. In turn, this experience *leads to a sense of balance and heart-felt harmony.* For most, this is the most rewarding aspect of being part of a GV team and why so many GVers repeat this *priceless experience.*



Photo courtesy Kim MacDonald, HFHI



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Habitat for Humanity Canada is a national non-profit, faith-based organization made up of 70 affiliates and over 30,000 volunteers who are mobilizing communities, to build safe, decent and affordable housing in partnership with those in need.

The organization was founded in 1985 and is a member of Habitat for Humanity International, which spans 100 countries, has built over 200,000 homes, and is now building a new home every 24 minutes.

We are on the web:
www.habitatglobalvillage.ca

India: Rich in Color & Diversity (cont'd from pg. 9)

Apart from the immediate community interactions, there will be time set aside for those who wish to explore this fascinating region for a few days. Tamil Nadu, the Tamil-speaking state is the heartland of Dravidian Hindus. Numerous temples dedicated to Shiva and Vishnu dot the landscape whilst their high gopuras compete with towering palms to break the skyline. Hymns devoted to Tamil saints, written one to two thousand years ago are still sung. In fact, much of the Dravidian classical culture is still intact, making this region of India distinct from the rest of the subcontinent. Music and dance are performed and celebrated here with reverence; for they are considered to be the hidden languages of the soul.

Traveling south from chaotic Chennai, Puducherry is a beach town with a main market area. Recently famous for being the home of Sri Aurobindo ashram, it has a long history dating to at least the second century when it was the main staging post for marine trade between Rome and the Far East. Later it became the capital of French India and Catholic churches built by French missionaries in the early 1700s

still stand. It was relinquished by the French as recently as 1954.

With such a varied past, Puducherry is somewhat of an anomaly in the midst of Tamil culture and situated on the main temple visitation circuit between Chennai and Madurai. Some of the notable day/overnight destinations range from ancient temples, boulder carvings, and textiles are *Mamallapuram, Kanchipuram, Thanjavur, Marurai and Srirangam* amongst others. In Pondy you will be able to enjoy coffee and baguettes whilst also enjoying the delicious lemon rice and tandoori brochettes. Local foods are predominately rice-based and vegetarian dishes have preference to meat. It is customary here for the people to eat with their hands, believing that feeling the food is equally important to tasting it. [Generally cutlery is available for those who so desire.] Monsoons are not an issue in the summer months here as it can be in other parts of India. The southern region tends to keep a steady tropical weather pattern of approximately 30C, receiving most rain in the Oct-Dec typhoon season.

Every day most of us have the choice of whether we feed the soul of others or selfishly retreat. So, please consider joining the Awesome India team to help break the cycle of poverty for at least a few. Guaranteed: you will be changed and will gain far more than you give. Why not give it a try?

“What people say you cannot do, you try and find that you can.”— Henry David Thoreau

For more information about upcoming trips to India, visit our Trip Schedule at <http://habitat.ca/tripschedulec235.php>



Photo courtesy Kim MacDonald, HFHI