

# HAND in HAND made!

HAND<sup>in</sup>HAND e.V. [www.handinhand.info](http://www.handinhand.info)

NEWSLETTER TO OUR INDIAN FRIENDS | NO. 23 | APRIL 2018



## „25 years HAND<sup>in</sup>HAND“: dear friends, who would have thought that?

I remember in 1986 when Elmar Jung came back from India for the first time and told... Then his call for the „four-to-one“ action, i.e. the fourth part of what I spend for things that are not essential to life, to give for a time also to people in need, i.e. to let the poor participate in my very personal little happiness to a quarter, aroused in me at the age of 17 the motivation to share something of my money with the poor. The first pictures from India and their fates affected me, made me cry, made me grateful that I am so much better, that I am allowed to live so much better...

**T**hese pictures of completely different people, the laughing children's eyes and faces captivated me and have not let me go until today, are still an incentive and fascinate me. The naturalness of the people there,

their beauty and their colourful everyday life exert a charm on me that I cannot escape.

Again and again people gave money on Elmar Jung's travels, in order to be able to help a little there.

Then we needed a structure to better provide the help: Questions arose about money transfer, the issuing of donation receipts and which projects should be supported there. Therefore the time was ripe for an association foundation. On 31 October 1992 the time had come. We met in a small hall with about twenty like-minded people. It was my 24th birthday. Why was I there? Suddenly thoughts like: „Share your wealth, help the world's wealth to be distributed more fairly, there is too much poverty in the world“ had an effect in me. Images of famine catastrophes in Ethiopia and Africa had already burrowed deep into my consciousness in

the past. Now fates of people from India came to me very closely. The possibility of being able to help immediately fascinated me, because I knew the „money-bearer“ personally, because I could be sure that my money would arrive, directly and without detours. I wanted such help to become possible. Through me too.

Today, 25 years later, the motivation to share, to contribute and to help to the best of my ability is still there. But she's grown up, so to speak. The world has changed, but the wealth is still unfairly distributed! Our help in India is still necessary, because we look where others are looking away... But the years have also changed me and our small club. Today I bear responsibility for what is so important for the people of India: to be able to build on us, to value each other and to be loyal to each other. We have been able to help improve human lives and familiarize them with us, as in the Little Prince's book... Many bridges have been built between our distant lands...

The development of a pupil who donated pocket money, who was involved in campaigns for India, who then got married, now has two grown-up children, became secretary and later deputy chairwoman and has now been involved for 25 years, supported four godchildren and one pupil in her nurse training, who herself came to India with Elmar Jung in 2013 - all this was not foreseeable, but it is part of my life.

And so we invite you from the board to go on a journey through time with us in this new newspaper. We greet you all from the board: grateful, happy and fulfilled,

Claudia van der Beets

## Help is wanted !

At this point we would like to address to young people who have a passion for technology and a little time and also the necessary expertise to support us in the further development and expansion of our homepage or simply to take on a small job and get involved...

Send a mail to

[info@handinhand.info](mailto:info@handinhand.info)

# PAVAN's young life (2006-2018)

Pavan was born in 2006 in very poor circumstances. His father died when the boy was 3 years old. Since his mother did not care enough for Pavan and simply ran away, the leprosy grandmother took care of him.

They both now lived in the leprosy colony of Peddapuram on the east coast of India. When the boy was 6 years old, he slipped while playing and hit his head on a big stone. At that time he was treated in a state hospital and released again. His head injury had healed well again, but the doctors did not take an x-ray of the inside of the head. Pavan was now in 7th grade and received financial support for his school education through **HAND-in-HAND**. Together with his grandmother we provided him with



Poster on the death of PAVAN: Invitation to the Death Prayer for PAVAN

“The death of his saints is precious in the eyes of the Lord.”  
Ps.116,15

food and school clothes. In January 2018 Pavan got severe, long-lasting headaches. When no medicine helped, his grandmother took him to the nearest hospital at night with our help. There his condition became more and more critical until he even went into a coma. Next morning, February 17, 2018, Pavan was scheduled for surgery. He died an hour earlier. His grandmother is in her deep sadness and now completely alone... The next day all the inhabitants of the leprosy colony and friends and acquaintances came together for a death prayer and buried the 12-year-old Pavan in the nearby cemetery. May Pavan now be at home with God forever.



From left to right: Grandmother Sudhakar, Brother Lakshi and Pavan

“We are so sad that PAVAN had to die so suddenly on 17.02.2018. We pray to God for peace of mind. Your family members: Lakshmi (Grandmother), Sudhakar (Pastor of the leper colony Peddapuram and all inhabitants of the colony)”

## Statements and Answers...

...from thankful people who shaped HiH and for what they themselves are active today.

### Bala from Gudur

In April 1993 I met Elmar Jung in Taizé, France, where many young people meet and live together in solidarity. It is a place of hope. As a representative of my village I was allowed to participate in the meeting. Elmar came to Taizé with 30 students. I invited him to my village after he told me that he had often been to India. Already in December 1993 he came to my village. At that time our HiH work was like a baby in the hands of the mother or like a bud that has not yet blossomed.



“HiH is like a big tree on which thousands of birds live. HiH is like an oasis where people quench their thirst. HiH is like a lamp that gives light to people in the dark.”

I remember our first visit to Malapurtanda. There we found the burnt hut of a poor family and helped to build a new house. This gave the family hope to start a new life because they had lost everything through the fire. Later Elmar bought arable land in our

area to support young people and the poor. There were no real roads and no real electricity. The people had no education. At the

beginning they were quite sceptical about us. For strangers also meant a different religion to them. At first they feared that they would no longer be allowed to practice their own religion. Only slowly they realized that HiH did not interfere in religion. Much has been done in our area: houses have been built for the homeless and a small infirmary has been opened to treat the sick. Our large farm must be worked continuously to yield. Today many people work on our farm and earn their living with it.



HiH is like a big tree on which thousands of birds live. HiH is like an oasis where people quench their thirst. HiH is like a lamp that gives light to people in the dark.

We often pray for the welfare of HiH, for the sponsors and members and their founder Elmar Jung.

Many thanks to my beloved organization HiH, congratulations and all the best.

With Love Bala



## Ganesh from Thalaburidi

“ I joined HiH in 2008 after hearing about the organization from a friend of my father. I met Elmar Jung in the children’s home Prem Viswasam in Bobbili, where I was allowed to live as a half-orphan for many years. HiH has completely changed my life. Since then I have learned so much: what “life through sharing” means and that helping people makes you happy. ”



## Naidu from Seethampuram

### How did you get HiH?

Before I first met Elmar Jung, I heard about the HiH work from the people in my village.



spoke English so well, which I had taught myself. After my skin was healed, I continued my studies with HiH-Help. In between I went with them to people who urgently need help. That’s how I got to know the HiH work. My first job was to collect the installments for the loans granted by HiH. Later I also helped to distribute rice rations to old and poor people.

### What is your motivation to be with HiH for so many years?

It is the joy that through the distribution of rice, the education of orphans, medical measures, etc.. Making it possible for people to have a better life.

### What are your wishes for the future of HiH?

I hope that HiH will continue to exist and that aid to the poorest of the poor can always be continued.

“ My first job was to collect the installments for the loans granted by HiH. Later I also helped to distribute rice rations to old and poor people. ”

### How and where did you meet the founder of HiH and how did your first meeting go?

My meeting with Elmar Jung in October 2002 was like a miracle in my life. After the 10th grade I dropped out of school because of financial problems. At that time, Elmar came to my village with other visitors. All the villagers wanted to see him, so I went to the market place, too, because I wanted to know what foreigners look like. At that time I had a bad skin disease and stood under a tree with a simple towel around my shoulder. When he saw me, he told the helpers to take me to the doctor soon. He was surprised that I

## Raja from Mumbai

### When did you join HiH and how did you join the organization?

I joined HiH in 2004. I met the founder by chance at the station. We went to Bobbili together and during the trip I learned a lot about this organization.

### When did you start at HiH and where did you meet the founder and how did your first meeting go?

I joined HiH in 2004. I ran into the founder at the station. I remember the date exactly: on 19.11.2004. Together with two friends I waited at the station of Bobbili. Elmar Jung was also waiting for the train. We exchanged a friendly smile and talked for five minutes. He invited me to visit the children’s home in Bobbili. The next day I was there and was very impressed with the work HiH is doing here. So a smile was the bridge to establish this long friendship with the founder and HiH.

### What motivates you to be around for so many years?

For me it is a good principle, as HiH does, to help the poorest of the poor. HiH brings a change in people’s lives through education, home building, medical care, etc. After the HiH team has intensively examined the application together with Elmar, a decision is made on the type of assistance. This process enables HiH to help people who are really in need and thus the donations are optimally used. The hard work, the passion of the founder, the people in Germany who support India through donations are the motivation for me to work for HiH.

### What is your expectation of the people HiH has helped?

Everyone who has been helped should then support HiH themselves to continue this help for many others. It is our moral responsibility to promote this work for a better future.

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Raja with his wife

# Actual projects

Concrete examples of the actual HIH work – support us!

## Area 1 Family and Home

### PNR 1-0167 A house for a family per house 1.250€

Every year we receive many requests for the construction of a house or a house renovation. From our own point of view in India these individual fates touch us very much. Many live in bad huts, which can hardly do justice to the Indian weather extremes, let alone offer protection, safety and security for a family. In addition, construction costs exploded enormously in 2017: the cost of a brick alone has increased sevenfold (from 2 cents to 14 cents). We can build a simple house in India for about 1250€. Again and again there are donors in Germany who want to give up gifts due to a round birthday party or another event and share them with an Indian family. Talk to us, we will be happy to arrange for you the opportunity to build a house there. Currently, more than fifteen families, some under dramatic living conditions, are waiting for our help for the construction of a new house.

## Area 2 Health and Hygienic

### PNR 2-0005 Promotion Eye View per OP pro Patient 48€

In 2017, more than 90 people had the opportunity to get their sight back after cataract or glaucoma surgery at the eye camp in Thalaburidi on the east coast of India – all of them were able to return to their daily lives in a completely new way. With your donation you can help to cover the costs (medical examination, travel to and stay in hospital, surgery, food and medicine) for further operations.

### PNR 2-0200 Juliet needs medicine 440€

22-year-old Juliet from Malayankulam in southern India was successfully operated on her heart in September 2017. Now she needs special medicine regularly for 8 months. Her father, who runs a small tea shop, can hardly bear the costs with his family. We want to help the family and cover the costs. Who donates here? A partial amount also helps.

## Area 5 Bare survival

### PNR 5-0008 Feeding the elderly and the poor Bobbili every gift helps

Many of India's old people, once alone, can only fight their way through life with begging. There is no chance for them in the battle for jobs. There is no such thing as a pension in India. **HAND↔HAND** has set up a care service for more than 100 elderly and sick people in the town of Bobbili and its surroundings. With a monthly generation of rice and vegetables, old people no longer need to worry about their old age. More people join us every day. With only 5€ an old person can be helped sufficiently per month. With 60€ for one year. What better way to protect a person's dignity than to protect them from misery, begging and fear of survival?

## Area 4 Agriculture and Handicraft

### PNR 4-0246 Goats for poor widows per goat couple 90€

In the southern tip of India, in the farming village Malayankulam, we help a group of poor widows or single women to make a living with two goats each. Milk and cheese sales and goat rearing improve livelihoods.

### PNR 4-0242 rickshaws provide a living for each rickshaw 210€

Four families in and around Bobbili on the east coast of India asked us for a new rickshaw. The fathers earn their living by using the rickshaw to transport people and goods in the streets of their city. The wear is high, the old rickshaws are often mended, only extremely difficult to drive and hardly suitable for everyday use. We want to buy a new vehicle for every family. With a small regular repayment to **HAND↔HAND** the fathers help then that with this money further Rickshaws for other needy families can be acquired. This is true "life through sharing" and "help for self-help" in the sense of our relief organization. Who helps to improve the livelihood of a family with a rickshaw?

## Area 3 School and Education

### PNR 3-0000 Training Sponsorship per year 300€

Again and again we receive inquiries from young people who cannot bear the costs of their own training as electricians, computer specialists, carpenters, mechanics after graduating from school. As orphans, they have no financial support from home. Depending on the training, these costs are incurred for 3-5 years and are around 300€ per year. For this purpose, we are looking for donors who are willing to accept a training sponsorship for a few years and thus help a young person to obtain a vocational qualification and then receive a secure income for their own life.

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