

# TO INDIA WITH LOVE

*Reporting From Darjeeling  
October 19, 2007*

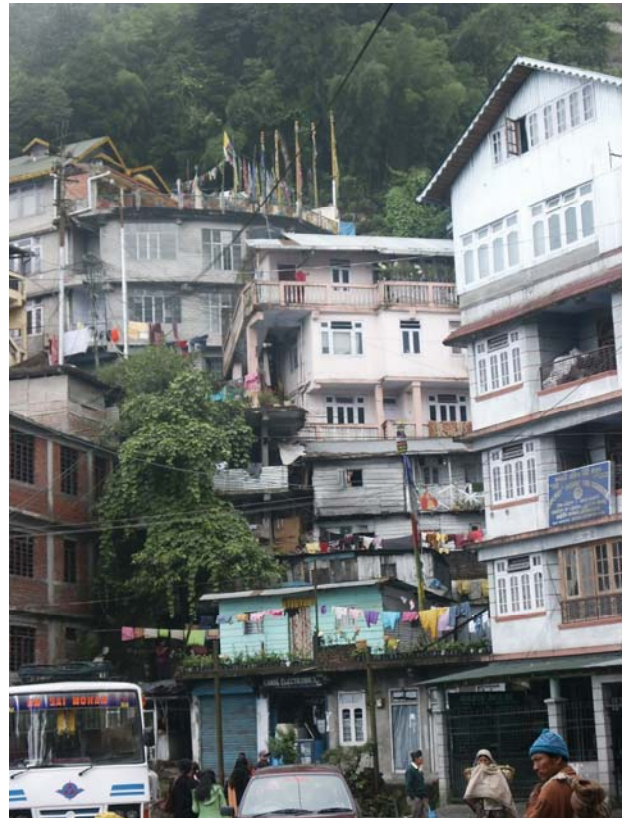
**OCT.13-NOV.8, 2007**  
**Christian Life Relief International**

## To the Himalayas

We now leave Kolkata for the mountains. The experience of traveling first by train to Siligury, then by jeep up the mountains to 7,000 ft. elevation is one never to be forgotten. First the 'coolies' to transport your luggage, then the sleeping car with four bunks, then the arrival in Siligury and the beggar children with their pregnant mother persistently asking for money. It is all quite overwhelming. Rev. Miccolis bargains for a jeep, which is a difficult task. The ride up the mountain, with all its' twists, turns, and pot-holes was quite the experience! But the views were spectacular! The roads are very narrow, making it almost impossible at times to pass another vehicle. We drive by mountain villages with its little shacks and shops which are inches from the road. We both take notice of the small children being enjoyed by parents or siblings. There are so many people just hanging out, relaxing. Such beauty in the midst of survival.

## Darjeeling - Tea Capital of the World

We arrive at the home of Pastor Barua and his wife, Indera. He graciously tours us through this interesting city at 7,500 ft. elevation, cut into a mountain range, with its' many layers of homes, winding street paths and bazaar shops. Early the next morning, Cynthia and I went for a walk to see the white caps of the mountains, and then were surprised to see monkeys swinging from the trees. The Hindi festival of Puja is on and so, the chanting is bellowed across the loud speakers for long periods of time. We spend some time shopping at the bazaar, and found out that the shop owners can be very generous to visitors. We then head a ways down the mountain to The House of Joy and The House of Peace. The drive is again very interesting, twisty, windy, narrow, but beautiful.



## House of Peace Dedication

It was an honour and privilege to be a part of this dedication ceremony. This home for the elderly in the Himalayas region was built two years after the House of Joy, a home for orphaned children. Both of these homes were a result of a dream that God put in the heart of a pastor here in Darjeeling, India. And God made it happen through the support of Christian Life Television International. Present were many visitors from surrounding churches, the architect and builder, as well as the village councilor. Cynthia and I were invited to deliver greetings from Canada. We were awed at God's faithfulness and His favour on this place and these people. Joy and Peace certainly fill this place!

## Pottery at the House of Joy

Cynthia presented her pottery presentation to the children who live at the House of Joy, through an interpreter. The children listened so intently and it seemed that they were truly affected by the message that each one of them was created by God for a purpose. And that in spite of their situations, God was re-creating them into new creations! And then we gave each child a ball of clay and invited them to create a pot that represented them. It was such a precious sight to watch their faces as they created something out of this lump of clay.



Tomorrow we head back down the mountain to Siligury and then back to Kolkata for many revival meetings. Pray for God to work in the hearts of many, for strength and energy for us to keep up as the intense schedule begins!

Proclaiming God....the Creator and Re-Creator