



BAPTIST CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL
A Unit of Emmanuel Hospital Association, New Delhi
Tezpur, Assam, Estd.- 1954

BAPTIST CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

Focus on the NORTHEAST REGION

SERVING THE MARGINALIZED

EHA is dedicated to serving those most in need of care, those who are marginalized and on the edges of Indian society. This issue focuses on one of the more remote areas of India. Take a close look at the map below. Many don't know that part of India juts out to the east. Three of EHA's hospitals are in the state of Assam—**Baptist Christian Hospital** in Tezpur, **Burrows Memorial Christian Hospital** in Alipur, and **Makunda Christian Hospital** in Makunda.

Seven Indian states and the two countries of Bhutan and Bangladesh surround Assam, which is also close to India's international borders with China and Myanmar (Burma). Geographically, Assam contains fertile river valleys surrounded by mountains and hills. The area is largely used for agriculture, and one seventh of the world's tea is grown there. Assam has historically been a tribal state, and EHA's three hospitals care for these underserved tribal people.

EHA's faithful hospital staff and community health teams serve the people of Assam. The pages of this newsletter feature stories of medical care as well as significant impact on the general well-being of patients. We hope they open the eyes of your heart to this corner of the world.

BURROWS MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL
For Compassionate Christian Care
Since 1935

MAKUNDA
CHRISTIAN LEPROSY &
GENERAL HOSPITAL
P.O. - BAZARICHEHRA, DIST. NAGALAND (ASSAM) PIN- 785727
(AN INCORPORATED UNIT OF BURROWS HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION)
মাকুন্দা খ্রীষ্টান লেপ্রসী ও জেনারেল হাসপাতাল
প.ও. বাজারিচেরা, (দিস্ট্রিক্ট) নগাল্যান্ড (অসম) পিন: ৭৮৫৭২৭

INDIA

ASSAM

TEZPUR

ALIPUR

MAKUNDA



STUDENTS

SCHOOL *opens opportunities*

One unique aspect of **Makunda Christian Hospital's** campus is their school taught in English. Started in 2004, the school began with 150 students and 6 teachers. In 2015 they added secondary classes, including tracks in arts and sciences. Now it boasts classes for over 1,200 students from kindergarten (ages 3 and 4) to high school. The Makunda Christian Higher Education Secondary School serves students from 20 surrounding communities who speak various languages at home.

The staff at this school deal with many issues we do not face in the US. Many girls in India are married off at 13 or 14, and continuing their schooling is not a priority. At this particular school, 70 percent of the students—boys and girls—are the first in their families to get an education, so the families are often not supportive. They would rather see their children working and contributing to the meager family income.

Hiring teachers is not easy for a school in such a remote area—the only hope is finding instructors who are committed to serving the marginalized and are willing to work in a challenging place. One solution they've found is to sponsor student graduates to attend colleges in various parts of India, who then return to teach at the school upon graduation.

The staff hope to introduce a new commerce track for the high school students, with courses in economics, business, and computers. They would like to enlarge their facilities to accommodate more students as well. This school is making a huge difference in the lives of these children, and the education they receive will open many doors in life that would otherwise be closed to them.



STAFF

SEEKING *refreshment*

Knowing the importance of slowing down for refreshment, the leaders at **Burrows Memorial Christian Hospital** organized a retreat for their staff and students. They were thankful to have Mr. Victor Emmanuel and Mrs. Sarah Victor as their speakers.

First, they tackled leadership training, and then they had a special meeting for all the married couples on staff. It was a time of reflection, sharing, and learning with a lot of fun. The last day of the retreat was a wonderful time of community that was very enriching for all.



FLOOD VICTIMS *receive help*

In June and July of last year, millions of people were affected by unprecedented flooding in the state of Assam. Almost 200 people died, and hundreds of thousands of homes were damaged or ruined. The need for assistance was staggering, and **Burrows Memorial Christian Hospital (BMCH)** staff stepped up with EHA's Disaster Team (DMMU) to deliver relief materials through the floodwaters.

Setting out with buckets and bags of essential foodstuffs, the relief team visited village areas with 100 to 350 families and gave assistance to everyone. Over the course of almost two months, they gave out provisions to 2,500 families. In addition to food, several times they gave out health and hygiene items as well as disinfecting supplies. Besides the desperately needed practical help, the families gained the encouragement of being cared for by others.

As the floodwaters waned, the team continued to stand by these suffering people by going back to check on those they had helped.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to conduct follow-up meetings with the beneficiaries of the flood relief materials from BMCH and DMMU," said Johnson Singson, Senior Administrative Officer of BMCH. "We were happy to discover that the relief materials were very useful for the beneficiaries. Many of them have also experienced other challenges since the flooding. We hope they will be able to recover well with the assistance they have received."

When all was said and done, BMCH even received a certificate of appreciation from the National Board of Computer Education and Information Technology and Research Training in Collaboration with the International Human Rights Council for helping the victims of the devastating flood.



A CLOSER LOOK: EHA'S NE REGION 2021-2022

It is easy to glance at these figures and not really comprehend them, but take a deeper look:

- In one year at Burrows Memorial Christian Hospital, just 5 doctors and 34 nurses treated and cared for 1,800 inpatients and 16,200 outpatients. That's 360 inpatients and **3,240 outpatients per doctor**.
- Doctors at Makunda Christian Hospital delivered 6,700 babies—an average of **16 babies each day**. In January, they had a record-breaking 750 deliveries.
- Just 21 surgeons at Baptist Christian Hospital performed over 2,000 surgeries, which is more than **5 surgeries per day**.

HOSPITAL	BAPTIST CHRISTIAN	BURROWS MEMORIAL	MAKUNDA CHRISTIAN
Year established	1954	1935	1951
Incorporated into EHA	2004	2000	1992
Number of beds	130	70	205
Outpatients	80,000	16,200	118,000
Inpatients	7,500	1,800	15,000
Babies delivered	260	720	6,700
Surgeries	3,000	850	8,000
Doctors	21	5	20
Nurses	99	52	141



RELIEVED *of shame*

Nilam was just 34 years old when he began to struggle with fatigue, upper abdominal pain, and difficulty eating. His wife and teenage daughter were concerned about him. He went to **Baptist Christian Hospital (BCH)** to be examined, and they found a 12-inch growth in his esophagus. Since he needed advanced treatment, Nilam was referred to a specialized facility.

At the cancer center, Nilam was confirmed to have a malignant tumor, and he began chemotherapy treatments. However, after three cycles, treatment was discontinued due to Nilam's fatigue, poor nutrition, and poor response. The oncologist explained the disease's progression and the fact that Nilam's body wasn't responding to the chemotherapy. His family brought him back to BCH for supportive end-of-life care.

After spending time with Nilam, the palliative care team recognized the overwhelming shame, fear, and hopelessness he was experiencing. He recognized that his struggles with alcohol had likely contributed to his illness, and he hated being a physical and financial burden on his family. Nilam and his family spent time in counseling with the palliative team members, and Nilam's shame was relieved. His family was very supportive, and they wanted Nilam to have the best of care.

Several family meetings were arranged, and each of Nilam's family members was able to say goodbye to him, including his aged parents. The whole family was grateful to have the palliative care team by Nilam's side during his final days, and Nilam died peacefully in the hospital. The family invited the palliative care team to their home, and the team members were able to provide support and encouragement in the midst of the family's bereavement.

Nilam received counseling from the palliative care team and his guilt was relieved.



THANK YOU *for your support*

As you've seen in these stories, EHA's staff are working hard at these three hospitals to touch the lives of many patients in Northeast India. They not only provide medical care, but look after other aspects of their patients' well-being. We are so grateful for the support you provide to EHA to make this care possible. Go to <https://ehausa.org/urgent-needs/> to learn more about the equipment and upgrades these hospitals desperately need.



215 N. Arlington Heights Road #102
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
v: 1.847.345.8355 t: 1.888.893.2654
E: info@ehausa.org w: www.ehausa.org