



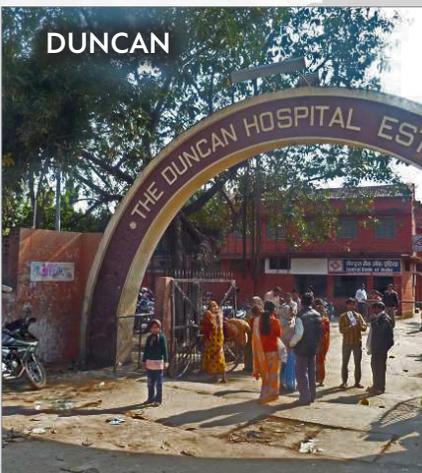
MADHIPURA



NAV JIVAN



PREM JYOTI



DUNCAN



# Focus on the EASTERN REGION

## SERVING THE MARGINALIZED

This issue of our newsletter focuses on the four EHA hospitals in the Eastern Region of India: **Madhipura Christian Hospital** and **Duncan Hospital** in the state of Bihar, and **Nav Jivan Hospital** and **Prem Jyoti Community Hospital** in Jharkhand.

These four hospitals are located in a humid, subtropical area, with significant yearly flooding in the north and average temperatures of 80 degrees Fahrenheit. In the heat of the summer, they suffer through temperatures up to 120, and in the winter, nighttime temps can drop close to freezing. They experience a rainy season in July and August.

In all four of these locations, EHA's hospital staff and community health teams serve people in the surrounding areas faithfully, providing medical care and community development. We hope these stories encourage and inform you about this part of India.



INDIA

DUNCAN

MADHIPURA

BIHAR

PREM JYOTI

NAV JIVAN

JHARKHAND



# The joy of **HEALING** and reconciliation

The **Madhipura Christian Hospital** staff had traveled to a village to conduct a health camp. There, they got a call about a neglected woman with significant abdominal swelling. On a cot outside her hut, they found an emaciated young woman named Nilmuni. Her abdomen was huge and they feared cancer.

As they brought Nilmuni to the hospital and examined her, she shared her story. She had spent all her money going to doctors for three years, but no one could give her a diagnosis. Her husband didn't understand Nilmuni's condition and thought she had been unfaithful to him and was pregnant with another man's child. He left her, and she had since been harassed and beaten by nearby villagers. Everyone wanted to get rid of her because they thought she had done something evil and should die.

Nilmuni endured it all because she feared what would happen to her only son if she died. While she looked like she was pregnant with twins, the Madhipura doctors determined it was a huge growth in her abdomen. They were not sure if it was benign or malignant. Even though the case looked very complicated, Dr. Susanna was convinced she should operate. During the surgery, she removed Nilmuni's bloated uterus, which weighed 28 pounds. Nilmuni had some post-surgery difficulties, but made a miraculous recovery.

When Nilmuni returned home, her husband accepted her again. Now she lives to raise and educate her son, and she is immensely grateful to have received such high-quality care at zero cost to her. The staff at Madhipura were thrilled for Nilmuni's healing and reconciliation and were grateful for the opportunity to play a role in it.

*Because of her condition, Nilmuni's husband left, and she was harassed by the villagers.*

## A CLOSER LOOK: EHA'S EASTERN REGION 2022-2023

HOSPITAL	DUNCAN HOSPITAL	MADHIPURA CHRISTIAN	NAV JIVAN HOSPITAL	PREM JYOTI COMMUNITY
Year established	1930	1954	1961	1996
Incorporated into EHA	1974	1974	1974	1996
Number of beds	200	100	100	30
Outpatients	137,000	37,400	54,800	8,750
Inpatients	12,000	3,900	5,600	1,100
Babies delivered	3,050	1,200	1,860	230
Surgeries	2,150	1,100	1,600	180
Doctors	7	15	6	3
Nurses	150	80	60	26

This month we are featuring one large hospital, two medium-sized facilities, and a small one that started as a simple community health program in 1996. Today, Prem Jyoti Community Hospital is the sole hospital within a 37-mile radius that has 24-hour emergency and critical care facilities. At each of these hospitals you can see how hard the staff works when you look at the number of patients served per doctor or nurse.

# More than MEDICINE

One of the most amazing aspects of EHA's ministry is that it covers so much more than medicine. The community projects address myriad issues such as safe drinking water, advocacy for government benefits, and job skills. Another significant area is education—both for adults seeking healthcare jobs as well as for area schoolchildren.

The staff at **Nav Jivan Hospital** recently started a school for community children, staff and missionary kids, and marginalized and physically disabled children. They desire to instill strong values in a generation that is growing up in a world with deteriorating morality. They also want to give parents a better option than sending their children off to boarding school.

The first year, they offered grades K-2, and were amazed to have 150 enrollees. Local associates helped them find teachers. They are using the old nursing school building but hope to raise \$750,000 to build a K-12 school.

Madhipura Christian Hospital has started almost 20 non-formal schools in nearby villages, teaching hundreds of children with no other schooling options. Most of these are Mahadalit kids of the lowest caste. Last summer Madhipura offered a summer camp in a new village. Children got intensive instruction for a month to help them catch up with their peers from the cities. The teachers come up with fun ways of learning from songs to skits to crafts to games.

In one smaller group, a teacher was instructing the older students, and one of the boys did not show up. She sent some children to look for him, and he said he only had one set of clothes and they were being washed. With enthusiasm, the kids got him to come, dressed in a towel.

The faithful teaching and entertainment provided by EHA staff and volunteers has opened up a whole new world for these children. As one staff member put it, "They don't have anything. Unless somebody helps them, they will continue without hope in a vicious cycle of poverty and oppression. If you give them money, someone can steal it. But if you give them an education, no one can take that away from them."



*"If you give children an education, no one can take that away from them."*

## THE LIFE OF A DOCTOR VERSUS AN UNTOUCHABLE

Consider these words from an EHA doctor:

"In my upbringing and luxury, how do I understand a Mahadalit (poorest social group) man whose life is so different than mine?

- When I was going to elementary school, he was taking care of his younger brothers and sisters.
- When I was going to high school, he was working in the fields.
- When I was going to college, he was migrating to the city to find work to feed his wife and three children.
- When I was starting my post-graduate education, he was already a grandfather.
- When I was at the peak of my career, he was retired because he had done physical labor for 20 years.
- When I was considering retirement, he was already dead because his lifespan is 20 years less than mine.

"We want to be part of their community and understand how they live and think. Only in mutual give and take can we understand their needs."



## *A peaceful* **PASSING**

Sunil was dismayed when his cancer returned. Suffering from a debilitating cheek ulcer, he sought out the palliative care team at **Prem Jyoti Community Hospital**. Despite a grim prognosis, the staff guided him through crucial end-of-life decisions. They provided Sunil with essential medications, emotional support, and discussions on closure.

Watching Sunil's last breaths, his family was grateful for his peaceful passing and for the profound impact the team had on their lives. Sunil's legacy is a testament to the transformative power of compassion and palliative care.



## **CARING HANDS** *on the road*

Mr. Kumar, a long-distance truck driver, was on his way to Nepal when he became ill. He was severely breathless, so the man traveling with him brought him to **Duncan Hospital**. His blood pressure was through the roof, and he had pneumonia, acute injury to his kidneys, and pulmonary edema (fluid in the lungs). Mr. Kumar was intubated and admitted to Duncan's ICU. He spent a week there and then gradually began to improve.

After a few days, his wife and brother came to be with him, and he was soon able to be discharged. Mr. Kumar was grateful to have found such good care so far from home.

## **THANK YOU** *for your support*

As you've seen in these stories, EHA staff at these four hospitals are touching the lives of many patients in Eastern India. They not only provide medical care but look after other aspects of their patients' well-being. We are grateful for the support you provide to make this care possible. Go to <https://ehausa.org/donate/> to support any one of EHA's hospitals and projects.

*Mr. Kumar  
was grateful to  
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