Awana India Celebrates 20 years of ministering to Church to reach Children & Youth for Christ

The year 2012 has been a blessed year for AWANA INDIA. God enabled and blessed us with many landmarks, such as:

- 100th LBM in June 2011 (presently 144 LBMs conducted, most in Awana worldwide.
- 5000th active CLUB (presently over 7000 registered Clubs), largest number after the US.
- 40,000 Clubbers and over, in one of 12 languages.
- 17,000 Leaders and over, trained to date.
- God's Word planted in the hearts of Kids and Youth, live changed and now praising God!

The highlight was our 20th Anniversary (1992 - 2012) Celebration on Oct 27th, at the Apostle’s Methodist Church, New Delhi. Delegates from all of Delhi and from and from India from Jammu to Kerala, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and the US, honoured us with their visit and participation.

October 27th will be a day etched in our memories, with the enthralling Kids Choir, recitation of Scriptures, Skit, Children's Festival, culminating with Service recognition Awards and the congregational worship in songs led by the Sparks Music Group. The family and the team spirit generated through this will be remembered, with gratitude to God. Your wholehearted, sincere and happy participation and hard work,, has enable us to achieve this.

Mathew 19:26, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible”.

So, in the year and years ahead, “Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes” (Isa. 54:2). Also, “let us consider how we may spur one another… and all the more as you see the Day approaching” (Heb. 10:24,25).

God Bless you.
Mohan & Lata Kadambavanam
Director of Development and Ministry Advancement, Awana India
Party, Prizes & Praises

Awana Missionary Santosh Humbre reports from Mumbai

Re redeeming the time and grabbing the every possible opportunities, these holiday season which is filled with festivals, we had a full blast partying around the corners of suburbs Mumbai. Taking the advantage we grab this opportunity and plan something beautiful for our children before we loose them to the wild and ungodly celebrations.

So, why not some meaningful celebrations for our children during this festive season? Thus, with lots of prayer we planned for a good party that is spiritual and Godly. The party included, teaching Children from the Bible using visual lessons, competitions for memory verse recitation, songs, stories and many fun games.

We had this program which is similar to Vacation Bible School at three different locales. The spirit and the enthusiasm of Children during the events overflowed, so also the prizes for their performances and praises to God through the mouths of children all through the programs. The leaders from all three centers played a vital role to get this program done one after another without any problem. When God is in the program there sure is His blessings.

We the leaders are very much honored to be instrument in His hands for His use and for His glory.

**Bethesda Church, Ulhasnagar.**
This Church has Awana program and the Clubs time is conducted at the residence of Pastor Moses Magar. 25 Children learn God’s word each week from the Awana Cards.
The combined effort of parents, leaders and pastor of this Church have made this group an ideal club.

We are praying and planning to focus more on the neighbors children this year and to bring them to the fold.

**Karuna Bal Vikas, Vasai Thane.**
We had a five days of Vacation Bible School from Dec. 26th—30th at Karuna Bal Vikas (Children Home). 45 boys and girls were present and all from home.

Some of the topics we taught, shared and discussed were, Christian integrity, Christian discipline, One’s character and diligence, God’s wisdom and our conviction.

We let the children sit in groups according to their age and had a good and fruitful team time. During the program, *24 boys and girls surrendered their lives to the Lord by acknowledging Him as their personal Lord and Savior.*

**Badalpur Baptist Church, Badalpur (IN 005902)**
We conducted yet another VBS for this Church. In all 40 children gathered for 5 days starting, Nov. 12—17. We had prepared lesson plans to teach them through visuals and workshops. I also had a privilege of helping them by taking few visual lesson and teaching action songs.

All these children are exposed to the Christian environment and God’s planted in the hearts which certainly will take roots in them and the day will come when they’ll surrender their lives to the living God to love and serve Him.
Awana Missionary Aashish Abraham reports from Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

**EVENT:** One Year Celebration of 23rd Leader Based Strategy
Seed Planters training event of Indian Christian Revival Mission, Junargarh, Orissa.

51 Leaders from 28 Churches, all under ICRM, got together last November to celebrate ministry and share God’s goodness over the years. **Today, 1780 Clubbers attend weekly Club. 850 Clubbers have acknowledged Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.**

**Pastor S. Jawahar Arul (IN01901)** testifies, *I never thought seriously about ministry among children and youth until I and my wife attended the 5days Seed Planters training. Those 5 days of training was remarkable in my life and ministry. We trained 5 more leaders as were taught but those leaders were not able to commit for long time. We were personally benefited by Awana and we’ve seen children enjoying the story of Uncle Peter, Carol and John. We use Awana Games to attract Children and conduct outreach program in and around the villages. Every Saturday evening we have our Awana Clubs*

**EVENT:** Three Months Follow-up of 115th Leader Based Strategy’ Seed Planters program of St. John ELC, Betul, Madhya Pradesh.

52 New Leaders (second line) were trained by the Seed Planters who underwent 5 days of training. **Today, in all the 39 Clubs around the district have 1950 Clubbers. These Clubbers follow the lesson plan from the Awana Cards and know by now they are very much familiar with the story. It’s so much exciting listening to the leaders the happenings in the field and Churches because of the Awana program. Here’s one interesting story from the field.**

**Mr. Rajesh (IN6129 Emmanuel Fellowship Church)**
*After Starting Awana in our church, the children are more excited to memorize the Scriptures. They are also excited to play Awana Games and each week children are inviting their non-Christian friends to Sunday School. We are greatly blessed to have such a wonderful program for the growth of our church.***

**EVENT:** 138th Leader Based Model Seed Planters Training Program, Dallirajhara, Chattisgarh.

Altogether, **One hundred six leaders from 50 different Churches assembled, representing 4 denominations, with a sure sense of urgency and purpose - to learn to reach the little ones for Christ.**

Due to unavailability of facilities to accommodate 100 and above delegates, we had to conduct the training event at two different locations, one at Dallirajhara and the other at Balod. This arrangement was much better and was easy to accommodate and handle the trainees.

These leaders are the life line for the growth of Church and what a joy to see them coming forward to serve the Lord despite of their school and college engagements.
Madgaon. Thirty-five leaders from eleven Churches come for the Leader based model seed planters training last December. This training is the 142nd event of Leader Based Strategy.

These leaders are the driving force to take the ministry to the next level of accountability and stewardship. In running the Clubs and keeping it active solely depends on the faithfulness of these leaders. So, we do all we can to install in them the need of the hour and the urgency of making children know the seriousness of God and His plan of salvation, for one soul is precious than the whole world.

Tinsukia. Awana leaders, Dharam Sona & Rupesh Sona from Dehing Baptist Church, are the product of 139th Leader Based Strategy Seed Planters training program at Tinsukia last December. These leaders work very hard and like many other leaders, they are agents of change. This is what they had shared about a particular clubber.

This is a story of “Keshav Garh, who is from the Dehing Tea Estate and comes from a non-Christian family, is one among 80 Clubbers in our Church. Like Keshav, there are many other boys and girls in the Club whose lives are transformed and in being transformed during the Clubs time within few weeks time since starting using the Truth seekers materials.

Keshav, is 12 and reads in 6th standard. He comes from a non-Christian family but loves to mingle with his Christian friend and follow them to the Church. And, that’s how he landed at our club. He is very enthusiastic and have a zeal to learn. Recently, during the clubs time, Keshav received Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior. He is now a living testimony to his parents and other friends.

**EARLY BIRDS:** The Power of Seed Planters Program - Clubbers of Calvary Fellowship, Jalpaiguri (IN 006473). The prayer and target of the leaders from LBS 135 is to reach 1000 Boys & Girls for Christ. And, in this endeavor, these clubbers too have joined their little hands and hearts together to bring their friends to the Clubs so that they may also hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ! *That is what we call mission possible.*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- Oct. 8th - Abishek Abraham
- Oct. 28th - Richard Chhetri
- Nov. 4th - Ajita Sukhadeve
- Nov. 9th - Mohan Kadambavanam
- Nov. 19th - Simeon Shah Shankar
- Nov. 23rd - Arpana Paudyal
- Dec. 4th - Sharon Blessing
- Dec. 11th - Sharon
- Dec. 13th - Priya Grace
- Dec. 15th - Anugrah
- Dec. 23rd - Amos Paudyal
- Dec. 25th - Aradhana Abraham

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

- Oct. 7th - Richard & Suman Chhetri
- Oct. 12th - William & Shirley Gordon
- Oct. 30th - Simeon & Anita Shah Shankar
- Nov. 18th - Ahokhe & Otoli Awomi
- Nov. 18th - Shiva & Jaya Blessing
- Nov. 24th - Amos & Sarita Paudyal
- Dec. 6th - Ruban & Gethzial

**Wishing God’s Blessings**

**Today & Always**