

Internet address: www.anian.net/fh&cs.html

Friendship

Homes and Schools

A non-profit 501(C)(3) organization



Friendship Homes and Schools children at the Luoji Mtn. Primary School perform for visiting guests from the USA.

Autumn 2001
Newsletter

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See this newsletter in color on our web site, along with:

- Photographs of the children
- Information about the children
- Sponsorship details
- Information about traveling to visit the children

Heartfelt Letter from the FH&S Kids Regarding the 9-11 Tragedy

The following letter was sent to us in September from our orphans at the Xining Middle School:

“Dear Ms. Lois and Sponsors,

How are you?

We are the students supported by you.

In the morning of Sept. 11th, we heard the terrible news that the terrorists hijacked the planes and destroyed the World Trade Center, the highest buildings in New York city. We all feel astonished, we are very angry.

We love peace, while the terrorists make your country in grief, all of us talk about this all day, we all show the deepest sympathy to the people died in this accident.

How we wish all the people in the world could like peace, kindness without wars, fights or any invasions. But the extremists try to break the peaceful life we hope. They are the people's common enemies in the world. They are doomed to be punished.

Here, we give our regards to all the people suffered in this accident. Hope they can get rid of the shadows of the mishap and regain a happy life.

Also, we show our hearty thanks to you and wish you are safe and well for ever.

All orphan students of Xining Middle School, Xichang.”

The FH&S Kids Help the Children of Afghanistan

Our children answered President Bush's call to help the children of Afghanistan. A donation of \$80 (\$1 from each of our eighty children) was sent to The White House in October.



FH&S Web Site Now Ready to Receive Automatic Payment of Donations

If you prefer to have your donation charged automatically to a credit card on a recurring basis, please visit the "Sponsorship" section of our web site. There you will find options for setting up monthly or annual donations. You can also make single credit-card donations on the web site as well.



A drawing by A Niu Re Re

Eighteen New Children Brings Total Supported to Eighty . . .

Thanks to your support Friendship Homes and Schools is now helping eighty children of several ethnic backgrounds. The most recent children to enter our family, a group of eighteen, has been adapting well to their new

environment and schooling since they came under our care a few of months ago. During the process of verifying the orphaned status of the children, we received documentation regarding the difficulties they had experienced prior to gaining our support. Here are some excerpts:

Help Our Children Receive 5% Donations from Amazon.com

Amazon.com has agreed to donate to us 5% of the cost of orders that originate from Friendship Homes and Schools. If you shop at Amazon.com, please use one of the following methods to visit the Amazon.com web site: 1) Go to the "Sponsorship" section of the Friendship Homes and Schools web site and click on the link to Amazon.com:



or 2) put the following link in the bookmarks/favorites of your web browser and use it as your usual link to Amazon.com: <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/redirect-home/friendshihome-20>



A drawing by Ji Mu You Se

Once you arrive at the Amazon.com web site there is nothing else that you need to do regarding the donation - Amazon will take care of that automatically. There is no difference in your purchase costs.



A drawing by Ji Ze Ci Ga

My father died of illness in 1992, due to my father's death, my mother was too sad to think over and took farm chemical to death, now I had to live with my aunt.

My father fell into water to death, and then my mother was mental patient, she can not take care of herself and lost living ability, I had to live on myself.

My father died of illness, and then my mother was out of mind, finally she suffered amentia, she can not take care of herself, now I had to live on myself.

My father was a hardened gambler, he owed a gambling debt, so he left home and ran away, his present whereabouts is unknown, my mother has died of poison, now I had to live with my grandfather.

My father died of a kind of endemic disease, my mother was dead in 1998, now I had to live with my uncle.

In the evening of July 25th 1995, my home was buried by mud, rock flow. Nobody was escaped out except me in my family, because I reviewed my textbook in the school, now I had to live with my brother-in-law.

My father died of TB in 1989, my mother was dead in 1990, now I had to live with my aunt.

My father committed a crime to be put into the prison for 20 years, from then on my mother divorced and remarried, now I had to live

with my grandfather.

My father got schistosomiasis to death, my mother suffered epilepsy, in a traffic accident, her left limbs and trunk are paralysis and is confined to bed, she can not take care of herself and even the family, she lost living ability, now I had to live on myself.

My father died of cholera when I was 3 years, my mother was dead when I was 5 years, now I had to live with my uncle.

Your continued support is as necessary as ever as we continue to care for these eighty children as well as work towards our goal of welcoming twenty new **Tibetan orphans** into the FH&S family in 2002, bringing the total number of children supported to one hundred. We are currently working with officials in the Muli Tibetan Autonomous County to determine which orphans are in the most urgent need of care. Our next visit with the children in May, 2002 will include a visit to Muli, and we hope that there will be orphans to greet us by that time. However, this will depend on the level of sponsorship we receive, so please help **spread the word!**

The Naming of "Luoji" Mountain

The primary school aged children supported by Friendship Homes and Schools live and study in the Himalayan foothills at the base of Luoji Mountain (14,289ft/4355m). "Luoji," which means "downed aircraft," was named because of a US pilot who was forced to land his aircraft on the mountain while fighting the Japanese during World War II. The local people (now the local elders) helped this pilot in his recovery and he in turn assisted them in their war efforts. So there is a history of international cooperation and friendship in that area that stands as a reminder to our children who can see Luoji Mountain from their classroom windows.

Quarterly Profile: Mr. Wang Changjin

Since 1998 Wang Changjin (shown in photograph at right), Director of the Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture Foreign Affairs Office, has been instrumental to the success of Friendship Homes and Schools. A

humble and dedicated volunteer, Mr. Wang visits with the children often and helps to ensure that funds are administered properly. He regularly



inquires with the teachers and housemothers regarding the needs of the children to make sure that they are healthy and happy in their studies and lives. Mr. Wang is also a wonderful host who oversees the special hospitality that FH&S guests receive during visits with the children.

Visit the Children in 2002

Enclosed with this newsletter is a flyer regarding our May 16 - 31, 2002 trip to visit the children. The last trip in July, 2001 was very successful, yet we have also learned from experience and have revised the itinerary of this trip to allow for spending even more time with the children as well as visiting with more ethnicities: Tibetan, Yi, Lisu and Han. We will also visit Muli, a Tibetan area that has only recently been opened to foreign visitors. It is truly going to be a fantastic trip, completely beyond what one would experience traveling to China as a tourist. Given our charity work, we are special guests to the local folks, and they arrange very special events for us. Whether or not you are interested in coming along, please help spread the word ... the trips really are a tremendous lift to the kids who only get to have us as "parents" for the few days each year that we are with them.

Many of you may not be currently considering travel given recent events. We are determined to not let international terrorism have a negative impact on the local lives of these small children. We are confident that the trip to visit them next year will be safe and successful due to people's determination in the face of current challenges. We will of course issue advisories if any concerns for safety arise between now and next May, but this trip will take us to a stable part of Asia (in fact FH&S Executive Coordinator Michael Cherney just returned from western China and confirmed that the area is safe for visitors) - and we are confident that the light for travel will stay green

through next May and beyond. We encourage you to come along.

The "Travel" section of our web site also contains information about the trip, including an online registration form.

Season of Caring

The outpouring of generosity from both within the US and outside the country for those affected by recent tragedies has been particularly inspirational to those who struggle daily to make a bit of difference in alleviating suffering in the world. We ask that you, our supporters, also continue to remember our children and their ongoing daily needs of food, shelter and schooling. It is around the holiday season that we work to replace clothing, bedding or other basic necessities that might be in poor condition.

From all of our children and volunteers, we wish you a happy holiday season -- a season that brings us greater understanding and peace.

