



## India Rural Evangelical Fellowship

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## Guntur Floods Bring Disaster on Thousands

Heavy rains in Andhra Pradesh have crippled the daily life of thousands of people throughout the Guntur District. The Krishna river is one of the tributaries that has risen above flood stage and is causing local areas including Guntur to be uprooted due to mass water flow. At least ten people have died so far and many have gone missing across the State. Hundreds of villages were inundated due to constant rains that have led to mass floodings.

The situation in Guntur district, which was the worst-affected area, is still grim as flood water swept away everything in its path and the Krishna River received heavy inflows. This disaster has rendered thousands of people homeless in Andhra Pradesh. Local officials are still assessing the damages to local infrastructure, but also to the food supply and crops. These are areas that have little emergency relief available during natural disasters and rely solely on the help that is distributed through relief organizations like IREF.

IREF has always been involved in emergency relief, from the tsunami of 2004 to victims of flood and fire disasters. IREF evangelists, Bible ladies and staff members continue to work diligently to mobilize and direct relief to the effected areas within hours. These faithful followers have been doing their best to assist those in need in Guntur by providing temporary housing in IREF churches. But they're also hoping to raise money to help provide the basic needs for these victims like groceries, cooking utensils, rice and clothing.

Please consider how you can lend a helping hand to these people on the other side of the world, who are in desperate need. And keep those affected by these floods in your prayers. Many IREF students' parents and families are migrant agricultural workers, the damages to crops and fields will effect livelihoods.



## A Student's Testimony



My name is T. Mounika, I am studying second year of Junior College at IREF. I came from a very far village, one my father's friend told us about IREF so they joined me here for my education. Since it's a new place I didn't want to stay in the college. I wanted to leave and go back home. I told this problem to my seniors, they encouraged me to have

a prayer life and explained God's plan being better than my own. One evening during devotion time Mr. Emmanuel preached about God's salvation. At that time realized how badly I needed salvation and I accepted Christ as my personal Savior. I was baptized this year in January during the Youth Conference, and I continue to grow spiritually.

Please pray for me as I am in my last year of Junior College but I want to come back to Repalle Christian College so that I can further my studies at IREF, and continue to be nurtured in my faith.

## Prayer Requests and Praise

- Please pray for IREF teachers and staff as they work diligently each day to make a positive impact in the lives of the children at IREF.
- Please pray for the upcoming Christmas season and that IREF would be able to promote Christianity to children and locals with the message of the Christmas story. Preparations are underway for all child and evangelist gifts. IREF is counting on God to provide the funding for this impactful time of the year for the people of Southeast India.
- Please pray as IREF staff and students prepare for the 2017 Youth Conference January 11-15 and Gospel Meetings February 1-5.



# Christmas for India

We are now collecting Christmas gifts for children, evangelists and their families. A considerable amount of planning by the IREF board and staff is required to arrange gifts and we thank you in advance for your stewardship.

Any support received now will ensure that Christmas will arrive on time.  
Please consider:

- \$25 for Children's Christmas Gift (new clothes)
- \$45 for Evangelists and Bible Ladies Christmas Gift (new clothing and food for their family)

To deliver your Christmas gift to India sooner, donate online at [irefusa.org](http://irefusa.org) and simply click "How to Help" and "Make a Donation".

We extend our warmest thanks to you, the faithful supporters of IREF who make Christmas in Repalle possible each year!

