



Jeff & Diane Brown ..... working to lengthen the list of tribes, peoples, and languages that worship God

## From India ~

**Jeff, Diane, and Alyssa** went to India this summer for two months of Urdu study (the trade language of the "Angus" people we work with in Central Asia, and also the language most widely spoken where we live in Sharjah, UAE). Well, Alyssa didn't study Urdu – she played with new friends, with us when we weren't studying, and co-wrote part of a book with one new friend.

Jeff is still in India, until the end of August, but Diane and Alyssa have returned to Sharjah.

They were very happy to reunite with **Daniel**, who spent the summer in the US, most of the time with friends in Lincoln. He had a great time! After a week working the lavender harvest in California with one of Diane's sisters and her family, he went to a Boy Scout camp in Nebraska and a youth camp in Minnesota with the youth group from our home congregation.

Alyssa missed Daniel, and, from what Jeff's mother said about watching Daniel talked to Alyssa in India on the phone, Daniel missed Alyssa, too. Jeff witnessed their first international phone conversation with each other from Alyssa's end. Both grandma and dad had smiles on their faces and tears in their eyes as they listened in. Dad/Jeff finally had to step in and tell Alyssa she would have to wrap it up. They are, indeed, great friends.

## Happy Anniversary ~

On July 29<sup>th</sup> we had our 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The celebration was a bit of a bust, owing to some ignorance of the lifestyle here, but it's the thought that counts. At the guesthouse near the language school, where we spent most of the summer, the staff made an anniversary cake for us, which we shared with the rest of the guests after supper. Most of the guests at this guesthouse (from where Jeff wrote this newsletter) stay for a number of weeks or months to study language, and form a community of sorts, eating all meals together and socializing in the common areas and in the town.



## One of the Seven Wonders of the World ~

During our weekend in Delhi, before Diane and Alyssa left India, the three of us took a day trip to Agra, home of the Taj Mahal. It truly is a wonder. Twenty-two years to build – by thousands of workmen – it is basically a tomb that the conquering Mughal (Muslim) ruler built for his third wife – the one by whom he had children. It is inlaid with untold numbers of semi-precious stone. And, it's huge! But not too large but what Alyssa couldn't lift it off the ground with one hand and set it back down again – as you can see in this action shot.



## Photos from India ~



Jeff in Urdu class



Alyssa and one of the thousands of local cows  
Below: Alyssa took hurkaa drum lessons...



## Translation Work ~

We live over here in Asia to office this semi-nomadic Muslim people group, the "Angus" the opportunity to know God by following His Son, the necessary-and-only Savior. One important aspect of that is to give them an opportunity to listen to (or

read, for those few who are literate in their language) the Bible, not only in the own language, but in their language translated from the original in a way that makes sense to this people group, with their particular world view. We are

helping those "Angus" (some of the few who do follow this Savior) who are directly working on the translation, with financial and prayer support. This continues to go on while we are in India.

## School Project ~

Previously, we described another of our projects, a school run by an "Angus" headmaster and "Angus" teachers, (under-) funded by a poor, local "Angus" NGO, and attended by "Angus" children, up to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Currently, we are trying to get the school some "Angus"-language readers, to help with literacy in their own language.

*As we mentioned in a previous BROWNEWS, we have adopted the use of the nickname "Angus" for the group of tribes we work with, for security reasons.*

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