



Seventh's Story

Seventh Kandulna lives in the village of Khunti (/kʊn-tēe/). He makes a living as a tailor, who is a person who makes, repairs, or alters clothing. He works out of a small shed-like structure, sewing on a bright, silver sewing machine. He is skilled at making suits, uniforms, and lots of different items for people.

When Seventh was a child, his family became Seventh-day Adventists. They were so dedicated that his parents donated land to build a new Adventist church. But not everyone was happy about this news. The Adventist religion was unfamiliar to most people in town, and they were suspicious of the faith. People were mean to the Kandulna family--just because they were Adventist--and eventually Seventh and his family were forced out of town.

The Kandulnas settled in a new place called Khunti, where there was a small but growing Adventist group. There was even an Adventist school for Seventh to attend! It was just starting and still in the process of being built. Seventh remembers his father helping to construct some of the campus. Most of the materials had to be brought in from the city of Ranchi, which was more than 30 miles away. Back then, there were no trucks to haul in the construction materials; everything had to be brought in a cart that was pulled by animals.

"My father used to go to Ranchi at night and load the cement, then bring it here," says Seventh. "The wood was brought from the jungle by cart. So the school building and the cafeteria and this and that was all built by wood from the jungle."

With lots of hard work, the Khunti Adventist School continued to expand. Seventh was delighted to go to a school where he got to learn about Jesus. He also noticed that there were many kids at the school who did not know Jesus at first, but slowly they began to learn about the God who loved them.

Today, Seventh is still an Adventist, and he is glad that his school is thriving with 1,300 students! He is also happy to hear that Maranatha will be building new classrooms at Khunti. He knows that a bigger school will lead to more children hearing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And this is good news for all.

With your help, children at the Khunti school will get brand new classrooms that are bright and clean with lots of space for them to learn in. Your donations will help Maranatha build a large building--big enough to fit all the elementary school students for classes. Plus it will give them a large auditorium for worships and assemblies. But you'll be doing more than building classrooms. You'll also be helping more kids learn about Jesus. Thank you for being missionaries right where you are!