

Emergency Bulletin



India Rural
Evangelical Fellowship

May 2008

Fire Overtakes Four Villages around Repalle



People must live in makeshift tents until their homes can be rebuilt



Families returned home to find everything they owned was destroyed.

Fire has destroyed the thatched houses and the few belongings of many in the villages of Balijepalli, Chennupallivaripalem, Nizampatnam, and Sajjavaripalem, near Repalle. The fires occurred in separate incidents May 15-18.

IREF volunteers have visited the villages to assess damage and determined that 105 families have lost their houses and belongings.

IREF has moved to provide these families with rice and other groceries, cooking utensils, clothing, financial assistance for temporary housing, and help for constructing permanent housing (along with government assistance-matching grants).

Dry, hot, and windy conditions, with temperatures reaching 118 degrees have caused the downed electrical wires and the open cooking fires to become much more hazardous.

Heartbreaking is the news that Christians in particular were unable to defend their homes from the fires in one village. Many were attending Sunday services in a nearby village when the fires broke out. With no one home to put out the flames, Christian households suffered more extensive losses that day.

Please Help:

We earnestly ask you to consider joining IREF in providing emergency relief for the families impacted by the fires. Please designate your giving as "FIRE RELIEF". Thank you for your help during this crisis.

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