

## Operation Christmas Child - Fiji

A total of 51,906 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes were donated to children in need in Fiji in 2011.



Visiting an Operation Christmas Child shoe box distribution in Fiji last Christmas, Judy, a Samaritan's Purse Australia volunteer, found herself in the middle of a church filled with hundreds of young children – all eagerly awaiting their own shoe box.



It was quite a scene as each child ripped open their box to discover the treasures inside. That is, each child except a little boy named Ajay, who sat at the end of one pew with his head down and his hands in his lap. Judy soon learned that Ajay was almost blind, and not only that, his mum had recently died. Ajay had a lot to be sad about.

When Judy sat down beside Ajay and helped him open his shoe box, tears filled her eyes. Right on the top was a perspex magnifying glass. Judy knew that God had guided the gift-giver when they packed their box months before.

Judy took the magnifying glass out of the box and held it up in front of *The Greatest Gift* booklet that was under the shoe box.

Thank you for supporting Operation Christmas Child. Each shoe box is a unique opportunity to transform the world of a young child like Ajay.

## Fiji at a Glance



**Population:** 883,125 (July 2011 est.)

### Religions:

Protestant 55.4% (Methodist 34.6%, Assembly of God 5.7%, Seventh-Day Adventist 3.9%, Anglican 0.8%, other 10.4%)

Hindu 27.9%

Roman Catholic 9.1%

Muslim 6.3%

Sikh 0.3%

Other or unspecified 0.3%

None 0.7% (2007 census)

### Ethnic Groups

Fijian 57.3% (predominantly Melanesian with a Polynesian admixture)

Indian 37.6%

Rotuman 1.2%

Other 3.9% (European, other Pacific Islanders, Chinese) (2007 census)

### Languages

English (official)

Fijian (official)

Hindustani

### Flag

