

Translation of Sowmya's Kannada letter

15.4.2013
Balehonnur

Sowmya M: 29670.

My dear Aunt Bara,

It is your loving Sowmya writing to you and sending warm greetings to you, your children and my student friends. We are all keeping fine and happy. Hope you too are enjoying good health. I felt happy when your letters were translated to me. Thanks for the photo, for the nice drawing and paper flowers.

Our place is known as Balehonnur which is in Karnataka State of South India. Ours is a small village surrounded by coffee and tea estates and in few areas paddy fields. It looks beautiful with greenery all around. We grow rice, areca nut, coconut, mangoes, jack fruit and other vegetables.

From November to February we have cold (winter) season, from March to May summer season, from June-July to October we have rainy season. Now we have hot summer. Our people are busy growing rice (paddy) coffee seeds, tea leaves, areca nut, coconut etc. Near our village we have a river named Bhadra flowing. All around there are forests. The weather in the estate and forest area is very pleasant.

At home we cook mostly rice and rice products, vegetables and greens for our meals. Sometimes we use wheat to prepare chapathi and ragi balls. We drink mostly tea and coffee. In our place, people of different religions and caste live together. Each religion and caste have their own festivals, languages, food pattern, dress pattern etc. In the school and in the villages we have play grounds where people, especially young people play cricket, throw ball, volley ball, shuttle cock. We play kho kho (team game) in the school. We rear domestic animals such as dog, cat, cow, oxen, goat, sheep, chicken etc. Our people are very good and loving.

On 9th March my birthday was celebrated. Now I am 9 years old. On that day I got a new dress, went to the temple for prayer, my home people and my teachers and class mates wished me well. I felt very happy. I study well in the school and also at home. We had several celebrations and festivals in the school, at home and in our village. I got a prize for dancing during Christmas at School. Thanks for the nice Christmas dress as gift from you. By March 27th we finished our annual examination. I did well and scored good marks. Now I am promoted to class 4.

Now we have summer vacation of nearly two months. During summer vacation, I will be visiting our relatives along with my family members. I will go to the temple to pray. I will play a lot and also help my mother at home. You have helped me a lot to study. In return, I will try on my part to study hard and remain grateful to you. My parents too are grateful to you. Thanks again.

Wish you Happy Easter,

Your ever loving
M. Sowmya.