

Hi, Hi, Hyderabad: The City of Relaxation

Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India - February 8, 2008

Amy:

In the morning, on the train from Mumbai, we read and looked out the window. Our breakfasts (omelete sandwiches) arrived at around 8:30 a.m., and we devoured them. I tried to nap, but couldn't.

Tapas met us at "Begumpet Station," which is one stop before the final station in Hyderabad. Although he wasn't carrying a sign, we were still able to locate him, and vice-versa. We drove through Hyderabad back to Tapas' apartment. The apartment building itself is lovely marble tiles, doorman, beautiful. Tapas' apartment is also beautiful, spacious, with marble floors and enough room for his daughter, Akanksha, to run around and play. Brent and I were shown to the guest room (usually known as "Akansha's bedroom"), with a huge bed and our own bathroom! (the best place we've stayed yet!) We told Tapas and Madhumanti that we may not go on to Kerala, or go back home, for that matter :)



For the rest of the day, we were pampered completely. We showered in our own bathroom (with a wonderful high-pressure shower), took naps, did our laundry (we were

beyond dirty by that time), and used the internet. We chatted for most of the day with Tapas and Madhumanti, and told them stories of our journey. We played with their daughter, Akanksha, and gave her a Dora The Explorer coloring book and stickers (fortunately, she likes Dora and is a great colorer!). Brent got to talk computery-stuff with Tapas, which was fun.

We ate a delicious lunch and dinner that Madhumanti had prepared, and were treated to typical Bengali food, which we learned is sweeter and not as spicy as Hyderabadi cuisine (or Rajasthani, for that matter).

Madhumanti's parents sent her a care package of sweets from Kolkata, so we were treated to some Bengali sweets.



Delicious! They were made of cottage cheese and had a delicious filling! Brent and I had to restrain ourselves from not eating the entire box. Then we learned that the candy wouldn't be much good after a day so it became our fortunate duty to eat as much as we could.

We slept like logs in our new apartment. I mean, Tapas and Madhumanti's apartment....

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