



@BRBC_Horsham

Mission Lines

“Every one who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” ...

“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news”

Romans 10:13, 15

18th Aug 2019

An occasional newsletter of mission news and activities

No.46

GUERA PROJECT UPDATE

The Guera Project is the translation and literacy project in Chad that we support through Wycliffe Bible Translators. There are five translation projects going on, two of which are nearing completion. We are asked to pray that people will be ready to receive God’s word in their own language and that the gospel can be shared with an increasing number of non-Christians. One way of doing this has been through oral story telling. Another way of sharing God’s word has been through audio recordings which enable people to listen to Scripture in their homes.

Haya* is one of those now engaged in sharing the gospel by story-telling. From an early age, the stories of Jesus were life-changing for Haya. As a child he lost his sight. Although a member of another religion, he was allowed to attend a local Christian school to learn Braille and there he first heard stories from the Bible.

Haya later came to believe in Jesus. Then risking his own life, he returned to his village and began sharing his faith by telling the Bible stories he had learned. Despite persecution, he persevered and people came to faith.

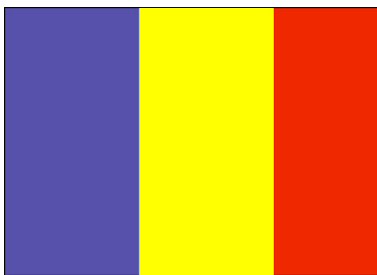
As H says:

‘The word of God needs to be in your heart and not just on a piece of paper.’

To have its deepest impact, that word needs to have been translated into the language that speaks best to a person’s heart. And as stories speak to the heart, translating stories from the Bible is usually one of the first stages in the translation process.

Also, for many cultures, such as those in the Guera area, Bible stories are the most effective – and sometimes the only – form of evangelism. People have come to faith and churches have been planted in some areas as a result of regular story-telling sessions.

*Pseudonym



Haya telling stories



Men listening to God’s Word

NEWS FROM CAMBODIA HOPE ORGANISATION

Cambodia Hope Organisation (CHO) is working with churches to help them change the communities around them. They help churches start programmes addressing issues including health, food security, livelihoods and domestic violence. While these programmes have a material effect, they also have a spiritual effect on people's lives.

These are two personal stories of people who have found Jesus through the work of CHO.

DARITH

Darith (66) was a highly respected member of his community. A few years ago, some Pastors began visiting his village. At first, he did not like Christianity, he thought that it was not worth his time believing in another God.

But over time, his attitude changed. Darith became good friends with one of the pastors and they would talk a lot. Darith also saw the programmes the church was doing in his community. He began to realise that Jesus' teachings were true and made a lot of sense.

Eventually, Darith became a Christian. He said that many people who had respected him were not happy. But over time, it became clear how God was transforming him from the inside. As people saw the change in Darith, they began to respect him again.

"I am thankful I became a Christian. I want to encourage all Christians... around the world to be faithful and to trust that God will always be there for you."

KIMBAP

Kimhap is another person who found a new spiritual fulfilment. When she was first introduced to Christianity, Kimhap wanted nothing to do with Jesus.

Every year she would hear about the local church's Christmas celebrations. She would see how happy people were - full of joy and singing together. After her friend had invited her along, she decided to go and see what it was all about. "It was the best decision I ever made." Kimhap shares. She experienced the kindness and the warmth of the church members, so she started to join the Sunday services.

"Now I come to church and learn more about Jesus. I am very happy to be a part of my church and God's kingdom."



ANANDABAN HOSPITAL UPDATE

Anandaban is a Christian Leprosy Mission Hospital, near Kathmandu in Nepal. They are in the middle of a fund raising project following the devastating earthquakes of 2015. BRBC took up the challenge and committed to a 3 year commitment towards Rebuild Nepal. A very big thank you for the £2250 donated. The hospital offers a wide range of services for around 30,000 people a year, but treatment of leprosy has always remained its central focus. It is the national specialist leprosy referral hospital for the whole of Nepal, providing patients access to services such as reconstructive surgery and specialist reaction care, as well as counselling support, prosthetics and orthotics. It has an exceptional reputation and people travel from across Nepal, and even from India, to access its services.

Anandaban Hospital is also recognised as a disaster response centre by the Government of Nepal. Following the 2015 earthquakes, The Leprosy Mission played a vital role in emergency relief efforts. The hospital was central to this; staff helped to provide crucial medical care, emergency shelters and relief packages for more than 18,000 earthquake victims.

The Rebuild Nepal project will redevelop the campus at Anandaban Hospital to:

- repair and replace the buildings that were damaged in the 2015 earthquakes;
- modernise the hospital and make it more economically and environmentally sustainable;
- expand the hospital's facilities and the services it provides;
- make the campus fully accessible for people with disabilities.

It is planned for all three phases of the campus redevelopment to be completed by the end of 2020, subject to funding:

- **Phase 1** – the construction of temporary buildings to maintain the hospital's current level of service provision while the main rebuild takes place, provision of a new guest house for visiting medics and researchers, and new staff housing replacing those damaged in the earthquake – **This is now funded and under construction.**
- **Phase 2** – construction of a new Trauma Centre which will spread across three floors. It will become the main heart of the hospital and will contain the Trauma Department, Emergency Department, Maternity Department, and patient wards. A number of the latter will be private wards for paying patients, contributing to the hospital's income.
- **Phase 3** – construction of new wards, redevelopment of the Training Centre and refurbishment of damaged buildings. The new ward building will house additional beds. It will separate male, female and children's wards to increase privacy, whilst integrating leprosy and non-leprosy patients to reduce stigma. The building will be linked to the Trauma Centre via covered walkways so patients can be quickly and safely transported to the wards.

BRBC folk also made donations towards Heal Nepal in 2019 totalling £1826.55. After adding government match funding, this achieved £3253.10. Again a very big Thank You to all at BRBC!



Earthquake damage at Anandaban Hospital

Continue to pray for our other friends involved in mission work overseas:-

Cally Magalhaes – The Eagle Project, Brazil – Pray for Cally now back in Brazil after her visit to UK, including Horsham. Praise God that she has been in contact with several of the boys who were released recently and they are doing well. Pray for the new groups starting this month in the youth and the women's prisons. Pray for Ben remaining in UK to start University in Bournemouth next month. Praise God for a scholarship awarded him that will help pay for his first year of study. Also pray for Emily from Burgess Hill who has gone out to help in various ways in the project for 6 months.

Tapiwa Mugoronji – Student at Domboshawa Theological College – Praise God that Tapiwa is doing well with his studies and is heavily involved in a Youth Ministry at a local Baptist Church. Pray that God will continue to supply all he needs to continue his studies and prepare him for his future ministry in Zimbabwe. Continue to pray for the country of Zimbabwe experiencing drought conditions in some places and other problems.

Bench Translation Team – Pray for the team experiencing internet and computer problems at the moment, especially that they will be able to get the help they need very soon.

Nathan and Rose - Pray that their time in the USA and UK will be beneficial and that they will be able to return to their adopted homeland refreshed and encouraged. Pray that the projects they have begun amongst internally displaced people will continue well while they are away. Come and meet Nathan and Rose at BRBC on Tuesday, 20th August at 7 pm. It will be a good opportunity to meet a family we are supporting and to hear about life and work in a sensitive part of the world.

Claire Bedford - now rejoicing that the rains have come in Chad to dispel the intense heat. (See her latest blog and prayer letter on the BMS website). She is also thankful that funds have been secured to enable the hospital to buy some new equipment. She is presently having to train new pharmacy staff as one has left, as well as continue to keep the department functioning well. In September and October she will be in UK on home assignment visiting various supporting churches.

Peter and Louise Lynch in Bangladesh – Heavy monsoon rains have caused widespread flooding and landslides, including in some areas where there are Baptist Churches. BMS has given Lynches a grant so that they can provide immediate relief to the church families and their communities in four of the worst hit areas. They are now praying and working together to find the best ways to help those who have lost crops, possessions and homes. Peter and Louise also ask for prayer that their long term visas will be granted soon, as they cannot leave the country with hope of getting back before it is granted.

If you have a news item for inclusion in the next edition of Mission Lines, send it to mission@brbc-horsham.org.uk