

PRAYER FOCUS

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BANGLADESH

HARD WORK PAID OFF

“Our father has passed away. Please come and bury him in a Christian way since he loved you and even donated his land to you.” The sons and daughters of Popla Mru, headman of Chimbuk Para village, who had died, came and informed our country team. Although they were not Christians, the family wanted a Christian ceremony to honor their father. He had been very interested in providing education for his people, so he donated his land, where the Chuan Chung Hilltop School was constructed.

Many came that day, including a headman from another village. He witnessed the ceremony where the Christians sang worship songs, prayed together and shared testimonies of God’s goodness, honoring Popla Mru. “Do you do this every time somebody dies?” he asked. He took an interest in the ways of the Christians and invited them to come to his village to share their beliefs.

Brother David (not his real name) was then commissioned to the headman’s village, a Mro ethnic community composed of 30 families. There were no Christians, only Buddhists and Kramadi, who believed in guardian spirits. Although he was invited to go there to share the Good News, he met some opposition. He regularly visited them but without much result.

Less than a year later, Ethnos Asia Ministries conducted a Sow for the Harvest (SowH) Training. Brother David was among the trainees. The presence of



SowH trainings are continually conducted in Bangladesh to equip workers for the harvest.

the Holy Spirit was very strong during the training and all of the participants were deeply touched. They graduated from that training with much zeal and excitement to proclaim God’s Word among the heathen. With renewed passion for the lost and equipped with the lessons learned from the SowH training, Brother David moved to live with the Mro community. Soon, the villagers’ hearts were opened. They received Jesus as their Savior and started to proclaim, “We will worship the Living God that you worship.” Praise God!

After a year of ministering to the Mro tribe, Brother David won 33 converts. The new

converts clearly understood the meaning of their salvation and decided to be baptized in water. On their baptism day, they brought all their Buddha statues and other pagan images and paraphernalia, piled them up and destroyed them. They also destroyed the places where they used to offer animal sacrifices.

Today, 75% of the village are Christians; a total of 130 church members. A new church building has been built in the village. Brother David trained the church members using the SowH materials. He has found it very effective to equip and establish them in the Word. A local leader is now pastoring the church he has started. Brother David’s hard work has paid off. He has now moved to another Mro community to start work there. Let us pray that more will be brought to God’s Kingdom as he faithfully proclaims God’s Word.

Our country team believes in the strategy of using the SowH materials to equip more workers for the harvest. More trainings have been lined up until December this year. Pray for successful training.



And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.” Mark 16:15-16 (NKJV)

Prayer Calendar October 2023

1 (SUN) BANGLADESH 300 local Pastors and leaders from 49 denominations are coming together this month for the Bangladesh Prayer Conference. Pray for a fruitful meeting.

2 (MON) BANGLADESH Pray for the Bangladesh Prayer Movement to raise more intercessors for their nation.

3 (TUE) PAKISTAN Pray for comfort and provision upon the victims of the recent traumatic Jaranwala incident, where at least 500 Christian homes were damaged or set on fire by angry Muslim mobs.

4 (WED) PAKISTAN Pray for the Sow for the Harvest (SowH) training that started on 2 October until the 5th. Pray that these trainees will catch the burden for the lost.

5 (THU) PAKISTAN Pray for safe travel as our country team visits churches in the northwest to cast the vision for the harvest. Pray for open hearts to understand the vision.

6 (FRI) CAMBODIA Praise God for the thirty-five new enrollees at our Functional English Center. Now, we have a total of 115 students. Pray that these students will encounter Christ as Christian principles are included in their English classes.

7/8 (SAT/SUN) CAMBODIA Pray for God's favor upon our Functional English Center that they will not be relocated and allowed to continue to serve the Angkor Wat community.

9 (MON) BHUTAN Pray for the government as they address the youth's problem of drug and alcohol dependence. The youth comprise 26% of Bhutan's population.

10 (TUE) NEPAL Pray for Christians to encounter the Holy Spirit as our country team conducts revival meetings in Northwest Nepal from today until the 16th of this month.

11 (WED) KAREN BORDER COMMUNITIES Pray for provision and protection for the IDPs (Internally Displaced People) in Papun, Karen State. They still experience air strikes and bombing, and food supplies are not enough. Fighting with the military junta continues.

12 (THU) NE INDIA Pray for churches where persecution is intense to stand strong during a crisis.

13 (FRI) NE INDIA Pray for the women who were empowered in the Deborah training last week. May they serve as catalysts to spread good tidings to women in their communities.

14/15 (SAT/SUN) NORTH KOREA Pray for poor families to find hope in Christ. Some have decided to commit suicide as a family due to severe poverty and starvation.

16 (MON) SRI LANKA Pray for our head trainer to train someone who can help him with the SowH program, as he caters to more churches that need training nationwide.

17 (TUE) SRI LANKA Pray for the 50 SowH Basic Course who graduated last month. May they remain zealous in applying what they learned.

18 (WED) CHINA Pray for safety and boldness upon believers who make the Gospel known despite restrictions.

19 (THU) LAOS Two Christian families' houses were destroyed last month by angry villagers unhappy about their Christian conversion. Pray for God's comfort as our country team helps them.

20 (FRI) LAOS Pray for the Bru pastors as they prepare for a two-week Discipleship and Leadership training next month.

21/22 (SAT/SUN) LAOS One of our Bru Core Team, who has been in jail since the end of June, is now discipling his nine converts in jail. Pray that these converts will have a clear understanding of their new faith. Pray for comfort upon our Bru brother.

23 (MON) AFGHANISTAN The nation has become a major producer of methamphetamine. Drug seizures in Afghanistan rose from 100 kg in 2019 to 2,700 kg in 2021. Pray that the authorities will give priority to solving this problem.

24 (TUE) AFGHANISTAN Close to 20 million Afghans suffer from hunger, and nearly 6 million survive on less than 1 meal daily. Pray for them to receive help.

25 (WED) VIETNAM Praise God for successfully distributing 3,000 Vietnamese Full Bibles. Pray as we continue to make these precious books available for the Vietnamese and other tribes.

26 (THU) VIETNAM Pray for over 500 water-baptized believers in south-central Vietnam. Most of them do not have Bibles. May they grow deep in faith.

27 (FRI) INDOCHINA Pray as Indochina leaders gather together to consult on the Church Empowerment Program (CEP) relaunching in Indochina.

28/29 (SAT/SUN) MYANMAR Young people are fighting the present government because they do not want the next generation to suffer the same fate. Pray that these young people will encounter Christ and see their lives change.

30 (MON) MYANMAR According to reports, the Sagaing division in northwest Myanmar has the highest number of internally displaced people (IDP) of all the states and regions. Pray for comfort, safety, and daily provisions for these IDPs.

31 (TUE) MYANMAR Many lives and properties have been destroyed since the military junta took over the nation in February 2021. Nothing has been resolved to date. Pray that the people will