



South Asia

South Asia Partnership • Praise and Prayer Newsletter



December 9th, 2018

FROM THE SOUTH ASIA FIELD OFFICE:

God continues His work in South Asia. Every day His grace and love are experienced by thousands of Nazarenes in their daily lives. We want to praise the Lord of Heaven and earth for His constant care and love. Below we would like to share some praises for His mercy as well as some of the prayer needs for important needs we have in the field.

REASONS TO PRAISE OUR GOD AND LORD JESUS CHRIST:

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT

We continue with periodical meetings and training engaging District Superintendents (DSs) and District Advisory Board (DABs) concerning district development aimed to work in specific actions to strengthen local churches and the district administration. We have been in 7 of the districts already working with DSs and DABs. The outcomes have been very positive since radical changes are happening in most of the districts.

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN M.Div. IN THEOLOGY

As we continue with our South Asia Wildly Important Goal (WIG) of consolidating local churches and reaching 1 Million people for Christ, one of the vital needs is to train at least 10000 pastors in the next 5 years. For that we are working with each country to identify and train local teams of Pastoral trainers. We already started in Bangladesh sending 16 students to the United Bible Seminary UBS in India. Another Bangladeshi family is studying their M.Div. in Asia Pacific Nazarene Bible College. Together with the South Asia Nazarene Bible College we are working with three other districts to identify, train, and deploy teams of pastoral trainers. We want to praise the Lord for the provision of students willing to prepare and to serve God and the church in training the next generation of pastors and church leaders.

JESUS FILM MINISTRIES

Rusty and Diane Robbins are our Regional Jesus Film Ministry coordinators and are living in South Asia serving among us. Here is a praise report from them:

Our spirits are blessed by the passion we see from Sri Lanka leaders Reverend Daniel Kalaichelvan and Brother George David. Diane and I had the privilege of getting to know some of the Sri Lanka leaders, meeting with many pastors, and learning from JESUS Film (JF) team members. A solid plan for JF evangelism is in place in Sri Lanka with a focus on lasting fruit and discipleship growth. In an effort to engage more partners with JESUS Film Harvest Partners and God's work in Sri Lanka, a Partner Trip is scheduled for June 4-14, 2019. We will host this trip to allow partners to witness God's work in Sri Lanka first hand; to embrace a vision for the lost; to fall in love with the Lord's work, the country, and the people; and to be inspired by the Holy Spirit to engage tangibly in South Asia and JESUS Film work. Please email me for

CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT IN PAKISTAN

We praise our Lord Jesus because the development of the Pakistan church building project is advancing. We want to thank to all the partners, which have been helping this to happen. This year the Pakistan Nazarenes have built 13 buildings so far. We are currently in the process of building another one before the end December giving us a total of 14 buildings for 2018. The District Superintendent's goal is to build at least 20 or more buildings in the next 10 years and more if possible.

All our buildings are registered in the name of the Church and the Church itself is a registered entity. Every Church is buying the land which is about half the total cost and then finishing the constructing of the building with labor within the church.

The cost of the building worship room is about 7-8 thousand in Punjab and 9-10 in Karachi (land and building material differences) and covers the main structure, doors, windows and electrical work. Remaining work to paint, put in fans, and other cosmetics work is done afterwards by the local church.

NEW CREATIVE ACCESS AREA

This week we had a very blessed time of sharing and prayer with our first Nazarene couple in this new creative access area.

SOUTH ASIA PARTNERSHIP MEETING

On October 26-27 we had a precious time with a group of enthusiastic South Asia Partners that came to join us to share about things happening in the field as well as to dream together about the goals for the next five years. We want to praise God for the people loving, praying and investing in South Asia so the church can advance. Besides reports we also shared about the goal of reaching 1 million people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the next 5 years.

NYI EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP MOVEMENT

We just started the evangelism and discipleship movement within the South Asia field with the support of NYI. Last October there was a field NYI presidents meeting in Dhaka to start the movement. We want to praise God because we firmly believe NYI is one of the main engines of the development of the church and it will be through this ministry that we will achieve the goals of strengthening and consolidating the church in the field. NYI will also help to prepare the people to be active in sharing the Gospel with new people but also preparing disciple makers throughout the field.

M+POWER

M+Power is the Eurasia Region Mission ministry whose main goal is to prepare and deploy regional volunteers in missions. On the South Asia field, M+Power trainings have been conducted in Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. We praise God because thanks to this training; young South Asians are now ready to go and serve in other districts in the field as well as to enter new areas and people groups. Praise God we have young people from Bangladesh in the process of being sent to Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Prayer Requests for South Asia:

- Please pray for our District Superintendents for wisdom as well as for honesty and integrity in the management of the resources God is giving us to manage. South Asia is a field where there is the potential for high levels of corruption and we understand that sometimes there is the temptation to misuse funds and we are very aware about this as a constant prayer request.
- We also need prayer for our new systems of accountability and administration that our field office is implementing in each district aimed to ensure the proper management of the resources and good stewardship for the Lord.

- We also ask for prayers for the changes we are trying to do in order to strengthen the districts and ministries. It is not easy since sometimes people are scared to leave old models and to embrace new ways to do ministry.
- Please help us to pray for the students enrolled in the M.Div. classes and for the Lord to provide us with the necessary resources to achieve our goal which is to have a team of at least 5 pastoral trainers in each country in the next three years.
- We need help to equip our Education office in Bangladesh. Presently we have 6 centers (2-4 more centers will be open shortly in the two new districts; Thakurgaon and Rangpur districts) in Bangladesh with lots of students. We need to buy computers and printers as well as office desks and cabinets. There is also the need for stationary, course books, library books (such as English Bibles, Open Bibles, Bible dictionaries, Commentaries and Concordances for the centers). Prayer is needed as well as support to buy the needed items.
- Please pray for more than 150 Jesus Film teams on our field showing the film in new communities and planting new churches. We need the teams to be more effective in the church planting and consolidation of these churches.
- We also need prayer and support to print new Discipleship Booklets in different South Asian languages. Please contact Rusty Robbins - RRobbins@EurasiaRegion.org for more information about how to help with the printing of discipleship materials.
- Keep Diane and Rusty in your prayers as they navigate their way in South Asia and India visiting and doing follow-up with the Jesus Film teams.
- We continue praying to God for the provision of funds to support the Church of the Nazarene in Pakistan and the ministry of buildings they are developing. God is answering our prayers and continues providing funds little by little for this purpose. They need funding for 7 more buildings now.
- Keep praying for the security and protection of our Nazarene family in Pakistan and especially for our pastors and leaders. May God give them wisdom and grace to do ministry among many limitations and challenges.
- We request prayer for brother and his wife as they continue searching for a small house in the capital of the creative Access areas we just entered last September. We also pray for the JF equipment we just sent to reach its destination safe. We also pray for: 1) grace and protection to our starting church and 2) the translation of materials in local languages and that God will bless the person doing the job.
- Please keep South Asia NYI in your prayers and its leaders to continue the ministry of evangelism and discipleship among the churches. We ask God for wisdom and for motivations so young leaders believe and embrace the movement of personal evangelism and discipleship as their core ministry. God has incredible plans for this ministry on our field.
- Please keep praying for the provision of local resources for the M+Power volunteers willing to go and serve in other districts on the field.
- On our field we continue praying for the Partners that generously support our ministries with their constant prayers and investment. We pray for their blessings and abundance as well as we also pray for the more people to join the partnership so together we can achieve our Wildly Important Goal (WIG) of reaching 1,000,000 people in the next five years. We want a vibrant Nazarene family in south Asia with 1 million members!
- Please keep our leaders in Nepal and Sri Lanka in your prayers as they continue

with the vision of planting new churches in communities where Jesus needs to be known.

- We also pray for the changes in administration and resource management we have been doing in South Asia for the last year and half. Please pray for Rev. Ramesh Pathara and his family that God will give them strength to continue with the task of helping to set systems and standards in order to keep clear accountability and management records.
- We ask special prayer for Rev. Amitava and Rosemary Chatterjee serving as education and leadership development coordinators in Bangladesh. They have been going through many attacks from Satan trying to destroy the work they are trying to do to help the development of leaders in this country. Until now God has been taking care of them. We need to keep them in our prayers for protection and grace with the local leaders.

Thank you for your interest and support of the South Asia Field. God is moving and thank you for wanting to be a part of it. Please contact me if you want any additional details at tdiehr@comcast.net



Sri Lanka



Bangladesh



Nepal



Pakistan

