



# World Mission News

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**Sri Lanka:** After 26 years of violent religious and racial civil war, the nation is seeking reconciliation and peace. It is difficult since the majority Sinhala group are all Buddhists, and the minority Tamil group are all Hindus (except 30-40% Christians). Though but ~1% of 20 million populations are Protestant, only they have members from both ethnic groups. The Evangelicals have started projects such as “Peace train” sending Sinhalese and Tamil youth to work together on social projects, and “Young Peace Ambassadors” training youth in conflict resolution.

<Christianity Today, August/09>

**Mission:** The agency that had to stop sending missionaries due to the economic downturn, has received a surge of mission support enabling them to send 21 new missionaries to 4 continents. Among them, 18 have served short-term missions before and several couples going back for another term.

<International Mission Board, imb.org, 7/28/09>

**Bible website:** A coalition of Bible translation and mission agencies have launch a interactive website, www.findable.net, that gives easy access to 15,000 Scripture products in >3,000 languages either in print, digitally, audio or any other available format. This Find A Bible site is the most complete and current database.

<World Bible Translation Center, wbt.org, 7/13/09>

**Nepal:** The nation faces instability in its transition to democracy. But people are hungry for the gospel. Hundreds gathered for gospel events, and 200 attended a 3-day youth conference. Speakers taught from the Bible and focused on present-day issues. Christians are optimistic for the future, but weary of recent violence.

<Gospel For Asia Update, www.gfa.org, 6/24/09>

**Ghana:** A young energetic church planter rides motorcycle far into remote villages. One time he came to a village that was “incredibly dirty” and had “garbage everywhere.” A group of villagers responded to his gospel message, and in time they built a small church building. But the priest and elders burnt it to the ground one night. They decided to practice forgiveness and went out clean up the garbage serving the people. The elders saw they want what is good for the village and allowed them to rebuild. Now the church is striving with many elders coming to Christ. The culture of the village has changed.

<IN Network, www.innetworkusa.org, 7/30/09>

**US:** A Christian agency with input from scientists has made a nutritional mix of rice, vitamins, minerals, dehydrated vegetables, soy nuggets, and vegetarian chicken flavoring at only 25 cents a meal to be sent overseas.

<Global Aid Network, www.gain.org, 6/26/09>

**Chad:** Located in center of Africa, the nation has many unreached groups, especially in the north where ~99% are Muslim. From south with a strong Christian presence, an agency has turned their focus towards north and east since 2002. Last year they lost 3 members when their car was hit by a bus. The community where they served responded with more openness to the gospel. Now the government has asked them to place a medical team in the north. And Christians in the south also are willing to be trained in medical evangelism.

<TEAM, www.teamworld.org, 7/30/09>

**Rwanda:** It has been 15 years since 1 million people were killed in 100-day genocide. Ever since, the people have engaged in the hard work of reconciliation and restoration. As part of the celebration of the effort, the July 17-18 Kigali Festival at the capital was attended by >70,000 with an US evangelist as the speaker. >5,000 came to Christ. The festival was sponsored by several agencies and 350 churches with full support from city government and civil leaders.

<Luis Palau Association, www.palau.org, 7/28/09>

**UAE:** About 3 million of the 4 million people in the nation are migrant workers coming mostly from south east Asia to work in construction, engineering and health care. They live in government housing camps, some holding tens of thousands. The economic downturn impacts them greatly, many losing jobs and with it housing too. Tolerated by officials, hundreds of pastors have helped them inside and outside the camps physically and spiritually. Many have come to Christ, a significant result whether they stay or return to their home countries.

<Faith Comes by Hearing, www.faithcomesbyhearing.com, 7/31/09>

**Asia:** The continent has 50 nations, 3.7 billion people (61% of the world), thousands of diverse ethnic groups, languages and cultures; some rich nations and people, but many in grinding poverty. Christian mission has met relative success in the last century with number of Christians growing from 2.3% in 1900 to 4.7% in 1970, and 8.5% in 2000 (>300 million today). Some plans of Asian missions are exciting: Korean churches have sent out 18,000 missionaries to date hoping to send 100,000 by 2030; Indian missions have 30,000 in cross-cultural mission, mostly inside India but growing number going overseas; Philippine churches plan to send 200,000 tentmakers as migrant workers by 2010; and “Back-to-Jerusalem” movement of house churches in China plan to send 100,000 along ancient trading routes within this generation.

<LCWE Mission Report, www.lcwe.org, June/09.>