



World Mission News

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Microfinance: Since two Christians in 2005 set up a website allowing people to make donations of \$25 to \$200 with credit cards, they will have made loans totaling \$110 million through field partners in 49 countries by the end of 2009. They have systems of accountability, ratings and assessment for its loan partners as well as partners' faith backgrounds for donors to examine. Some ministries have also partnered with them to raise loan funds through its site.

<Christianity Today, December/09>

USA: More and more campus student Christian leaders realize that the gospel is both personal evangelism and justice. Besides the concerts and pizza parties for outreach, students are just likely now to encounter the homeless, discuss human trafficking or some other social issues. Students now want to see the gospel in action, love of God demonstrated.

<Christianity Today, December/09>

Gospel Broadcast: Restriction by one of the two Arab-operated satellite systems to be used by Christian broadcast has been relaxed recently. This allows them to secure two channels and opens up to 80 millions more Arabs to hear the gospel, more than doubling their previous potential viewing audience overnight. News has come in already of people finding them, sometimes accidentally, and the impact on their lives.

<SAT-7, www.sat7.org, 10/8/09>

India: A Christian couple was bitterly angry against God after they lost their entire family including a son and two daughters in the tsunami 5 years ago. But having compassion on many orphans, they began to adopt and care for them first with 4 now up to 20. They also have now 2 sons born after the tsunami. All their children have personal relationship with Christ presenting a great testimony to others.

<International Mission Board, imb.org, 12/1/09>

India: To combat illiteracy, an agency in India hosts 10-day training of indigenous women in biblical storytelling, small group formation, and ministry outreach. These women have amazing storytelling ability, and they are very enthusiastic, putting their training into action right away and encourage others to follow them. They even ask for training in discipleship. In one province this has become a movement spreading like wild fire.

<Partners international, www.partnersintl.org, 12/11/09/09>

China: A mega-church in Shanxi province with 50,000 worshippers was shut down by hundreds of police and hired thugs who smashed doors and windows, seized Bibles and sent dozens of people to hospitals with serious injuries. The co-pastors are in jail. The church complex is locked and guarded by police armored personnel vehicle. It appeared that

the officials are responding to rapid house church growth in cities and rural areas by harsh crackdowns particularly aimed at large churches. In October, they locked out 2 churches in Beijing each over 1,000 members.

<Associated Press, 12/10/09>

China: Henan province has a population of 100 million with 14 million Christians today, more than any other provinces in China.

<Asia Harvest, www.asiaharvest.org, September 2009>

Algeria: Despite an anti-conversion law in 2008 prohibiting efforts to convert Muslims to another religion, the church is growing incredibly, especially in the Kabylie region where all 2,000+ towns and villages have Christians and churches. Many are baptizing 120-150 every year, and are packed 2 1/2 hours before meetings. In one town there are more churches than mosques. They still face persecution by Muslim fundamentalists. And they need training.

<Operation Mobilization, www.omusa.org, 12/10/09>

Pakistan: On October 9, 2008 a father and daughter pair were arrested under the "blasphemy law" of tearing pages out of the Koran. The law can charge Christians for crimes committed against Islam and held for extended period without evidence or a trial. After dozens of rescheduled hearings, the case finally went to trial. The judge dropped all charges, declared them innocent and set them free. Often this law is used for people to lash out against Christians to settle personal disputes. There has been some recent talk of reforming the law, but, so far, it is only talk.

<Voice of the Martyrs, www.persecution.com, 12/15/09>

Peru: Ten year ago, a missionary couple started an evangelistic ministry and saw great success. Sensing the need, they began a discipleship program that has 2,600 people enrolled now, 8 years later. Their "Kid's Club" ministry has 850 children every week with 48 leaders leading 12 groups in parks/open fields all over the nation. They host many short-term mission teams. Last month, 16 members from an US church helped with a medical campaign in a small town deep in the jungle. In 3 days 1,008 people were served, 182 came to the Lord, and 25 recommitted their lives.

<The Mission Society, www.themissionsociety.org, 10/14/09>

10/40 Window: After a decade of evangelistic focus and effort, churches have been planted throughout this region of 2/3 of world population and half of them unreached. These new churches are sending back missionaries to Europe and USA though still facing fierce opposition at home.

<Global Advance, www.globaladvance.org, 4/17/09>