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*“Mr. Sam” meets the  
Prime Minister of Malaysia.*

*— see page 5 for report*

# THE VALUE OF THE PRINTED PAGE

**T**he printed page never flinches, never shows cowardice. It is never tempted to compromise. It never tires, never grows disheartened. It travels cheaply, and requires no hired hall. It works while we sleep. It never loses its temper and it works long after we are dead.

“The printed page is a visitor which gets inside the home and stays there. It always catches a man in the right mood, for it speaks to him only when he is reading it. It always sticks to what it has said, and never answers back; and it is bait left permanently in the pool.”

In 1963 literature evangelist Robert Sissing sold a copy of *Your Bible and You* to Joe Naidoo in Durban, South Africa. The more Joe read in the book, the more

impressed he was with what he read. Joe located the man who sold him the book and, as can be expected, had many questions. Before long Joe and his wife were taking Bible studies, and soon both were baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Joe was so impressed with the way the book explained the Bible truths to him and his wife, that soon after his baptism he entered the literature ministry.

Joe passed on his copy of *Your Bible and You* to Lama Moodley, whose husband Jay was a seaman. As Lama read the book, she became convinced of the Bible truths and requested Bible studies.

Lama very much wanted her husband to learn about the things she had discovered in the Bible,

but she knew it would be hard to convince her Hindu husband. But she underestimated the power of the Holy Spirit and the patience of the printed page.

Jay Moodley arrived home from one of his trips to find his wife very different from the time he left home. He could not understand it, but did not want to ask any questions. Within a few days he had to leave again. When packing his suitcase for the trip, Lama carefully hid the book that had changed her life under his clothes, hoping and praying he would discover it at the right time and read it. Oh, how she prayed that her Hindu husband would find the truths she now loved so dearly.

The ship left the Durban harbor and was soon on the high seas. Jay started unpacking his suitcase and then came across the book. At first, he thought it was a Bible and did not want to have anything to do with it. He flung the book onto the bunk while blessing it with a few unkind words. Why should he, a Hindu, bother to read a Christian book? He later picked it up and placed it on his bookshelf where it stayed for a while — quietly, patiently waiting to be read.

Meanwhile, back home in Durban, his wife was praying for him. Her prayer went something like this: “Lord, please help Jay to discover Thy truth. Lord, even if You have to make him sick to give him time to read. But, please, Lord, do something.”

Her prayer was answered, but not before three months went by. The boat on which Jay was a sailor came into the Cape Town harbor. For some unknown reason Jay

became very ill. His knees swelled up and he developed a fever. There was no way he could carry on with his work on the ship. Jay was very, very ill. Normally when the ship docked, he spent all the time he possibly could in night clubs, but this time he could hardly walk, so he went to bed instead. The next day he was taken to the Somerset Hospital for treatment. After treatment he was sent back to the ship on crutches. At four in the afternoon he arrived at the ship and went straight to his cabin and climbed into bed.

Jay now felt a little better. He decided to take a novel from his book case and do some reading. When he looked at the book case, he noticed a glow on the book *Your Bible and You*. He looked away, thinking that there was something wrong with his eyes. When he looked at the bookshelf again, the same glow was still on the book. He crawled on his bunk toward the shelf and reached for the book.

Jay started reading and completed the book the same night. He realized the condition of his life. His life of drinking, taking drugs, smoking, and partying suddenly seemed very wicked to him. The promises he read in the Bible seemed unreal, but he prayed a simple prayer that night

committing his life to the Lord. From that moment on Jay never touched another drop of liquor or indulged in of his other evil habits. The Lord gave him complete victory that very same night.

Jay signed off from the ship when it arrived in Durban the next

literature ministry in the church that Jay and his wife attended. Pastor Kerbs stressed that laborers are few. His text was Isaiah 6 verse 8: "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?"

Jay stood up that morning and made a commitment to work for the Lord in the literature ministry. On Monday he gave a week's notice at his work.

Jay has been successful as a literature evangelist from the very beginning. The Lord blessed him abundantly in his work. After canvassing for sixteen years, Jay was appointed publishing director and has been working in that capacity now for a good number of years.

It all started with one book sold by a literature evangelist to Joe Naidoo, and his sharing his new found faith with Lama Moodley, who in turn shared it with her husband Jay. As a result of that one book more than sixty souls have now already been baptized and are today

rejoicing in the truth.

This is another miracle for the Master.

2 Corinthians 2:14 — "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him."

-- A J Oberholster,  
Publishing Director, SAUM

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day. Here he was taken to hospital for further treatment, and within two days he was well again. Bible studies followed and within a short while he was baptized with his wife into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

A short while later on a certain Sabbath, the Publishing Director for the South Africa Union, J G Kerbs, preached about the

## SAUM Bid Farewell to The Koubong Family

The Southeast Asia Union Mission bid farewell to Pastor Shupinar Koubong and his family on June 9, 1993. The Koubongs have gone to the United States where Pastor Koubong will study toward a Masters of Divinity Degree.



*Pastor Shupinar Koubong at his desk at the SAUM office.*

Pastor Koubong began his work at the Union as Youth Director and Stewardship Director in May of 1988. He also served as Voice of Prophecy Director until 1990. In 1991 he became Church Ministries Director.

Pastor Koubong especially enjoys working with young people. During his time as Youth Director he led out in youth rallies, congresses and meetings in each of the missions. In 1992 he attended the first mission-wide youth congress in Vietnam in many years.

Susan, his wife, was a teacher in Sabah prior to coming to Singapore, and took on the role as secretary at the SAUM office. Her pleasant and helpful manner was greatly appreciated.

Pastor Koubong has taken up studies at Andrews University. The Koubong's children, Roymond and Finola, are also enrolled at Andrews, taking undergraduate classes. Susan will be working to help support the family during their schooling.

The Union staff, and people in all the missions, will miss the Koubong family's ministry. We wish them

God's blessings and strength as they enter upon this new endeavor.

— *Debby Wade, Secretary, CM Department, SAUM*

## Voice of Prophecy News

**Kuantan VOP Rally:** On June 25 - 27 a VOP Rally and two nights of evangelistic meetings were held in Kuantan with Pastor Janssen New coordinating the work. Total attendance was about 40 people each night. There was a graduation held during the rally. A total of 9 souls responded to a call for baptism during the meetings. During the meetings a number of gold pins were given to the active youth of the Kuantan Chinese Church for enrolling numerous VOP students.

**Kuala Lumpur English Church:** With the help of Mrs. Tai, our lay member there, approximately 50 VOP students are taking Bible lessons from her and the church pastor, Pastor Sunny Khoo. Mrs. Tai, a former student of the VOP, is enthusiastic about spreading the gospel through the VOP Lessons.

**Kuching VOP Rally:** On June 20, 1993, a VOP rally was conducted during the opening night of the two weeks of evangelistic meetings conducted by Pastor Ken Wade. About 15 VOP gold pins were given away to the active members of Kuching churches. It is now reported that 50 souls were baptised at the end of the series.

— *Samuel Money, Director, VOP*

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## ■ PENINSULAR MALAYSIA ■

### Health Fair — Penang

On Thursday, July 1, a group of 30 young people from the Penang Adventist Hospital Ministries departed early (5:00 a.m.) in three vans and one car for the city of Kota Bharu, the capital of the beautiful Malaysian State of Kelantan. The purpose of the trip was to

conduct a two-day health fair in one of the shopping malls. The idea was conceived by Dr. Chew Yu Gee, a staff pediatrician at Penang Adventist Hospital, and the founder of the hospital ministries team. The project was coordinated with the District Pastor, Janssen New,

the lay pastor of the Kota Bharu Church, Tan Kok Chin, and Pastor Rodney Siew, a pastor of the Gospel Church who is very interested in the Seventh-day Adventist message.

Halfway through the six-hour journey to Kota Baru the group stopped at a beautiful lake to eat breakfast, and to have the first session of four spiritual emphasis talks on "Unity in God's Service" by Dr. Bill Laspe, president of Penang Adventist Hospital. Upon reaching Kota Bharu, and after a quick lunch, the group changed into their uniforms and headed for the Hankyu Jaya department store in downtown Kota Bharu to set up for the health fair which was to begin at 4:00 p.m. The opening ceremony was officiated by the Mayor of Kota Bharu with short speeches by Dr. Laspe, Pastor Janssen New, and Pastor Tan Kok Chin.

The health fair was conducted on Thursday afternoon to late evening, and again on Friday from noon to just before sundown. The response by the community was very good. The team worked very hard to try to keep up with the demand. Visitors filled out a health questionnaire and then had their blood pressure and other key health indicators checked. Dental exams and consultation were given by two dentists from the hospital. All the visitors that participated were encouraged to discuss their results with the two medical doctors that accompanied the team.

All in all, 183 people were screened. We were able to share, in brief, with the many people who asked the reasons why we were conducting a health fair. In addition many people were signed up for the Voice of Prophecy Health Correspondence Course.

The story does not end with the Hospital Ministries

team just conducting a successful health fair. At the request of Pastor Rodney Siew, the team conducted the church worship service at his gospel centre on Friday morning. (Pastor Siew conducts his services on Friday instead of Sunday because Friday is the day off for the State of Kelantan). So, in this Protestant Evangelical church a Seventh-day Adventist service was conducted. Dr. Laspe preached on the "Old and New Covenants" in which it was clearly shown that the Ten Commandments are not the old covenant, and that they are still in effect today and the fourth commandment is just as binding today as it was in Old Testament times. The hospital ministries team was warmly accepted and had a good time sharing and fellowshiping with this non-Adventist church.

Everyone that participated in this outreach was blessed. We hope that those whom we touched were blessed also.

— William Laspe, President, PAH

## Adventists Participate in Heart Week

**"The principles of health reform are found in the Word of God. The gospel of health is to be firmly linked with the Ministry of the Word. It is the Lord's design that the restoring influence of health reform shall be a part of the last great effort to proclaim the gospel message" (Medical Ministry, p. 259).**

With the above instruction by Ellen G. White in mind, the Adventist Health Education Service (AHES) of the Peninsular Malaysia Mission under the coordination of Mr. Chay Fook Wing, participated in a week long health program organized by The Heart Foundation of Malaysia August 12 through 19. The program was conducted at one of the leading shopping malls in Kuala Lumpur.

With the theme "Protect your Heart," the project was officially launched by The Prime Minister of Malaysia, Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Bin Mohamad. Several other government officials and VIPs, including the Health Minister and the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, also attended the opening ceremony.

During the Heart Week we not only gave detailed



Participants of Penang Health Fair.

demonstrations and lectures on how to protect your heart through not smoking, we also had the opportunity to enroll more than three hundred people in the Voice of Prophecy Health courses. We not only protect the physical hearts, but also we are preparing spiritual hearts to meet our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Ellen G. White counsels us that this type of ministry is an important key to soul winning:

**“As a means of overcoming prejudice and gaining access to mind, medical missionary work must be done, not in one or two places only, but in many places where the truth has not yet been proclaimed.**

**“We are to work as gospel medical missionaries to heal the sin-sick souls by giving them the message of salvation. This work will break down prejudice as nothing else can.” (Testimonies, Vol. 9, p. 211).**

Members from both the English and Chinese Churches cooperated with the Publishing Department and trained Health Educator Miss Irene Tan to provide this service. We really feel that “this work bears the signature of heaven and will open doors for the entrance of other precious truth” (*Evangelism*, p. 263).



*“Look Mr ‘Mayor’, No Smoking? Clean lungs and healthy heart,” explain Pastor John Ng and Lim Hoong Fatt.*

After such a great success our spirits are high and we are aiming to participate in more exhibitions, seminars, and talks. “There is a great work to be done in bringing the principles of health reform to the notice of the people. Public meetings should be held to introduce the subject, and schools should be held in which those who are interested can be told more particularly about our health foods.” (*Evangelism*, p. 534).

— Ray Liam, Pastor,  
Kuala Lumpur English Church

## Opening Doors with Health Presentations



*A happy and grateful group after the health lectures.*

Recently the Publishing Department of Peninsular Malaysia Mission has been encouraging and supporting a health education program for the public. So far about ten of these programs have been held. Health talks on high blood pressure, heart attacks, diabetes, counsels on diet, bread making have been conducted. The response has been heartening. The National United Plantations Workers (N.U.P.W.) are very much favor of this program. They have invited us to visit their territories where this program can meet their great need in the area of health. We know that the health message is an entering wedge for gospel work. At the end of every meeting we enroll the people in Voice of Prophecy courses. On the 12th of July the program had an attendance of 150 and those enrolled in the Voice of Prophecy were 110. Praise the Lord for these opening doors.

— Sam Govindasamy, Publishing Director, PEM

In the area around the Bangkok Seventh-day Adventist Hospital three new Christian homes have been established. We must pray for Tanong and Kanjanda Tariya, Christian and Sakhravedee Gramaticu, and Kiichi and Somsri Saito that their lives may be a blessing to each other and to those around them.

— Bo Morton

*If you have any special prayer requests please send them to SAUM Communication Department.*

## ■ SABAH ■

### Third Sabah-Wide Youth Congress

Sabah Mission headquarters campus became the venue for the third Sabah-wide Youth Congress, which took place from August 25-28, and six hundred youth delegates between the ages of 16 and 30 participated in the program that offered a variety of activities geared to inspire and challenge the youth to go and tell the world. The theme, "It's About Time!" conveyed a sense of urgency regarding the soon coming of Christ. The youth even sported the logo on their T-shirts as a constant reminder of their mission to evangelize Sabah *now*.

Reports of Youth in Action told of persistent efforts by individuals as well as youth groups to reach the "hard-to-convince" and the "impossible" people in their own districts or zones. AY Zone 9, for instance, set a baptism target of 10. By congress time they had already reached 18. Youth soul-winning efforts have



*Pastor R. D. Riches releasing balloons at the opening ceremony of Sabah Youth Congress.*

had good results since the youth can easily relate to other young people.

Mr. Nelton Bingku, Director of Youth Ministry, had painstakingly organized the program to include plenty of music, singing, and seminar presentations covering four topics: Friendship and Love; Religious Music in a Secular World; Adventist Eschatology; The latter Rain and the Remnant Church.

Among the speakers for the seminar were Dr. Edmund Siagian, Associate Church Ministries Director of SAUM, Pastor Nelver Sikul, Church Ministries Director of Sabah Mission, Pastor Francis Lajanin, Publishing Director of Sabah Mission, and Connie Gaban, Associate Church Ministries Director, Family Life, for Sabah Mission.

The youth also participated in two community service projects: building a small house for a lonely old man, and cleaning up Tamparuli town.

Elder R. D. Riches, the new president of Southeast Asia Union Mission, was on his initial visit to Sabah, officiated at the opening ceremony, and later led out in a solemn dedication service at the close of the Congress.

From his lighted torch other lights were lit and passed on — symbolizing the urgency of spreading the truth to others. As hundreds of candles flickered under the night sky, two youths ignited a specially made banner on which blazed the phrase, "MEET YOU IN HEAVEN."

"But will I be there?" To this unspoken question, Sabah's youth responded with the song, "I'll meet you in heaven, We'll sing songs together..." Pray God we all will be there!

— *Connie Gaban, Communication Director, SAB*

### A Time For Reaping

Dr. Jonathan Kuntaraf, Associate Church Ministries Director of the Far Eastern Division, conducted an evangelistic effort in Sabah's heavily populated Goshen district from May 9-21, 1993. A number of district pastors assisted in the nightly meetings which, despite occasional heavy rains, attracted an attendance of more than 1000 adults. Separate meetings were also held simultaneously for some 400 children and youth.

Many successful evangelistic efforts have been conducted in the past by English-speaking evangelists. But Dr. Kuntaraf did not need a translator. He delivered his presentations in the Indonesian language, 99 percent of which could be understood by everyone. The 1 percent comprised words unfamiliar in the Malaysian vocabulary but not impossible to learn.

A total of 361 persons were baptised at the close of the campaign, and many more are still taking steps toward making the important decision. Ten pastors assisted during the baptism. Dr. Kuntaraf provided a personal touch when he stood by the riverbank and offered a prayer for each batch of candidates. That's a lot of prayers! But prayer is something everyone needs a lot of today!

The Lord has continued to bless other evangelistic efforts in this mission. Plans are afoot to hold another effort this year at Kota Kinabalu. Since city-evangelism is a very difficult task, a lot of prayers will indeed be needed.

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— *Connie Gaban, Communication Director, SAB*

## Seminar of Single Adults

Sabah Mission held a seminar for singles from August 29-31, at the Seventh-day Adventist Mission Retreat Center near Mount Kinabalu. The program, organized by the Family Life Ministry, attracted participants from throughout Sabah, as well as two young ladies from Sarawak. Many applicants had to be turned away since the maximum enrollment was only eighty.



*Dr. Nancy Bassham speaking at the Singles Seminar.*

Dr. Nancy Bassham, Family Life Director of the Far Eastern Division, and Mrs. Shirley Chapman, Family Life Director of SAUM, were the main speakers. One of the most effective methods they used to drive home important points was role-playing. The audience will long remember the right and "not-so-right" way to communicate, or to behave during a date. Lectures also covered the areas of personal development, the needs and challenges of singles, and the serious business of selecting a life partner.

The highlight of the event was a mock dating session in which participants had to accompany their "dates" to a specially prepared banquet. The event was a great learning experience for the singles. No doubt some serious friendships will be formed through the Singles Retreat. One of the aims of the Family Life Ministry and also the Youth Ministry is to get Adventist young people acquainted with one another in the hope that they will choose life partners of the same faith.

Sabah Mission has approximately 9,000 youth, so the task of assisting them in making good choices is great.

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— *Connie Gaban, Communication Director, SAB*

## Sabah Students at Andrews University

Sabah Mission President, Dr. Charles Gaban, and his wife spent time visiting their children in Texas, USA, during June and July. They also drove to Missouri, Nebraska, Illinois, and Michigan to meet with students from Sabah studying in the various universities there.

The largest group of Adventist students from Sabah is at Andrews University, Michigan. On the afternoon of July 17 a potluck lunch organized by Pastor and Mrs. Geoffrey Pauner was held at a nearby park. Students, their families, and friends from the Sabah Mission and other missions in the Southeast Asia Union Mission attended. It was a time of renewal of friendship, of getting acquainted, and of enjoying the fellowship together.

Dr. Gaban updated the group on the progress of the work in the different missions in Southeast Asia, especially in the Sabah Mission. He also commended the students for their positive attitude despite the fact that most of them had to study as well as work hard to make ends meet.





Dr. & Mrs. Charles Gaban (at left) with SAUM students and friends at Andrews University.

Many students, particularly those from other missions, expressed their disappointment over the fact that when some leaders from "home" visited Andrews University, they didn't even bother to take time to meet with the students. Instead, they just made a "flying stop" and seemed to be in a great hurry to leave.

"It would be nice if they could meet with us. We want to have some contact or news from home too," a spokesman expressed the sentiment of the group. "We would be so grateful if copies of the *Messenger* could be sent to us, so we would know what's going on around the mission fields in our Union."

Some students have graduated. A few are making plans to return home. Others who wish to return feel apprehensive, mainly due to the fact that there is uncertainty about getting jobs or just not knowing what job vacancies are available in the mission fields.

Many of the students are on self-supporting basis, so besides struggling with heavy class loads they also have financial worries. Thus, a pot-luck get-together provides not only relief from mental and physical week-day stress, but also spiritual encouragement and refreshment.

— Connie Gaban, Communication Director, SAB

## ■ SARAWAK ■

### First Evangelistic Campaign in a Decade

Thirty-three people were baptized at the culmination of Kuching City evangelism on Sabbath morning, July 3, in the Kuching English Church. Pastor Kenneth Wade, the evangelistic speaker, conducted two weeks of nightly meetings. Pastor Wade using the Title, "Beyond 2000 Prophecy Seminar" attracted an audience with an average of two hundred and seventy two people — the highest attendance being three hundred and seventy-two, and the lowest one hundred and fifty people. The unique feature of this evangelistic campaign was that as the meeting progressed we attracted more and more people, with the weekend having the highest attendance.

We have generated one hundred and ninety-seven gospel seekers according to the registration record. Sixty responded to altar calls and requested baptism. Seventeen were baptized on July 24, when Pastor Wade returned to Kuching to conduct a weekend Revelation Seminar.

For a decade or so, we did not hold any big public

effort in Kuching city. Pastor Chai Mien Seng of Kuching English Church read a passage in Evangelism, page 37, that stated that "seven men should have been chosen to be united with the President, to set in operation a work in the great cities for those who are perishing without the truth, while no determined efforts are being put forth to save them." Pastor Chai then approached the Mission President, Pastor Edmund Liah to discuss



Baptismal candidates of the Kuching City Evangelistic Campaign.

the counsel of Mrs White. Pastor Liah agreed to the counsel of Mrs White. As a result, the Commission on Evangelism for Kuching city was formed on December 16, 1992. Pastor Liah was elected as the Chairman and Pastor Chai as Secretary. The committee members consisted of all pastors of the three congregations in Kuching, the departmental heads of the mission, and three lay members representing the three congregations. During the first meeting we identified the target territories and agreed to establish cell groups in those areas. The Spirit of Prophecy counsels us that "the formation of small companies as a basis of Christian

effort has been presented to me by the One who cannot err." (*Testimonies Vol. 7*, p. 21-22). Prior to the opening night of our meeting we had eleven cell groups in the city. Thanks to our generous church members to open their homes for cell groups meeting. A large portion of the evangelistic attendance was from these cell groups. Most of baptismal candidates were members of the eleven cell groups.

The organizing committee would like to thank all who participated in the evangelistic thrust.

— Chai Mien Seng, Pastor, Kuching English Church

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## ■ SINGAPORE ■

### Health Program Enhances Church Image in Singapore

On May 16 the national newspaper, the *Sunday Times*, published a full-page story of the health program conducted by Youngberg Adventist Hospital's Wellness Center. This outstanding article covered the background and teachings of the church together with an excellent write-up of the health and educational work of the church. It described the Adventists as a people who preach what they practice.

This has been a special year for the hospital. The Singapore Ministry of Education is sponsoring all the 420 primary, secondary, and junior college principals to a three-day health program run by the hospital's Wellness Center. Twenty school principals attend each session. The program began in March and will end in November. The mass participation of school administrators in this health program has helped to heighten public awareness of the health education programs run by the hospital. Extensive news reportings in both the English and Chinese newspapers plus television programs have helped to create a more favorable public image of the hospital and the church in the community.

Another interesting exposure took place on June 23, 1993, when the *Asiaweek* Magazine carried an article entitled, "Affairs of the Heart" with a write-up of an extensive interview with Dr. Clarence Ing, the hospital's

Specialist-physician in preventive medicine. Dr. Ing is also the director of the Wellness Center. We praise the Lord for all these public exposures. Indeed the hospital's health programs have enhanced the public image of the church in Singapore.

— Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director, Youngberg Adventist Hospital

### "Using Your Talents for the Lord"

The Women's Ministry Department of the Singapore Mission held its second meeting on July 25. Mrs. Shirley Chapman, Women's Ministry Director for SAUM, conducted the meeting which focused on the "Using Your Talents and Gifts for the Lord." Forty women were present. The first speaker was Dorothy Massengill. She spoke on the Gift of Creativity, sharing ideas of how women can use craft work to attract other women's interest and lead them to Christ. Then followed a practical demonstration in which all those present participated.

Lamorna Riches spoke on "Christian Hospitality" and told experiences where two people were led to Christ through hospitality. Sandie Golles spoke about "Home Schooling Ministry." She teaches her three sons at home, and has become active in a support group for parents who home school their own children. This



*Mrs. Dorothy Massengill demonstrating a craft at SAM Women's Ministries meeting.*

gave her the opportunity to witness to many people not of her faith. In Canada she organized a support group of young mothers, and in this way she was able to witness for Christ.

Sharon Chaffer, a visitor to Singapore, spoke about her involvement in prison ministry. Through her visits to a woman in prison she was able to lead her to Christ.

Beulah Manuel spoke of her experience in the classroom which gives her the opportunity to talk to her

students about Jesus Christ.

May Ing told how being involved in The NEWSTART program has enabled her to lead people to Christ. She invited other people to join in and help her with this ministry.

The writing ministry is one of the ways that Marilyn Johnson is able to use her talents and gifts for the Lord. She encouraged her listeners to try writing articles if they felt called to use their talents for the Lord in that way.

Lilian Ho was honoured by a presentation of flowers to acknowledge her quiet but important role in carrying many responsibilities in her church — leading out in Sabbath school departments, supporting different functions, and generally supporting her pastor husband.

The next Women's Ministries meeting will be held November 4-6. The topic will be "The Role of Women in the Church Today."

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— *Sheila Fanwar, Coordinator,  
Women's Ministries, SAM*

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## ■ THAILAND ■

### He Came, He Saw, He Joined

Last year, under the auspices of Bangkok Adventist Hospital, a group of people from the hospital drove to Mission Health Promotion Center (MHPC) to participate in the production of a health program for broadcast on Bangkok's channel 9. They were joined by a staff of photographers, video producers, and TV technicians. It took two nights and two days to do the shooting required for the TV presentation of MHPC's health promotion program.

Bright lights and cameras followed participants to early morning walks, worship exercises, various physical therapy treatments, vegetarian meals, fun time activities with the patients, medical lectures, health-related seminars, food preparation instruction, and lessons on home care for sick patients. The group was even caught trying the exercise pool and jacuzzi. When night fell everyone was ready for a good night's sleep in MHPC's comfortable air conditioned guest rooms.

While the technicians were working on the production of this TV presentation, they also had a chance to observe the personnel of MHPC. Several were impressed. One young man, Prakasit Lekasawan, the assistant manager of the company, asked many questions about the staff, their work, why they seemed so eager, willing, and friendly. He wanted to know what a Seventh-day Adventist was. Why were they called by that name? Of course everyone was eager to tell him all they could. Despite his busy program he continued to come to MHPC whenever possible. He became well acquainted with the people there.

Prakasit was highly appreciated and esteemed by his employers at Denver Entertainment Company. In fact, he had just received a promotion. After thoroughly investigating the Sabbath question, he decided that he could no longer conscientiously work on Saturdays. Since his current work had been his chosen profession in life and something that he had always wanted to do, the conflict became severe. Was he doing the correct

thing? His whole career was at stake. For a short time he stopped attending church on Sabbath. But the Holy Spirit did not leave him.

Finally, because of his decision not to work on Sabbath, he was no longer welcome at his job. He continued to attend church regularly, either at BAH or MHPC. For many weeks he regularly took Bible studies. He was offered work in the public relations department at the hospital and he gladly accepted. On August 22 he was baptised by Pastor Somchai Chuenjit. We are happy to welcome Mr. Prakasit Lekasawan into our church family.

— *Bo Morton, BAH*

## Training For Young Pastors

From the seventh to the seventeenth of June eleven new pastors met at Thailand Adventist Mission in Bangkok for a series of training meetings. These pastors are from a variety of backgrounds, some having graduated from Mission College recently, others having joined our church from other Christian denominations or from Buddhist backgrounds. Many of these new pastors are working in Global Mission areas in Thailand.

These pastors represent the future of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Thailand. Among them was the first pastor specifically called to work with the Akha people of northern Thailand, as well as the only pastor we have among the Kamu. Pastors of various Karen, Lahu, and Thai churches were also at the meetings. Eight Global Mission areas were represented.



*Young Thai pastors attend a training program.*

The meetings covered many areas in Adventist doctrine and history, discussing what are often considered "basics" and following on to more detailed study of what we as Adventists believe. Union and Mission policy was also reviewed.

One of the most serious needs here in Thailand is for deeper understanding of the Bible. If our members do not have a solid foundation under them, when confronted with problems and questions in their lives, they do not know where to find the answers. Continued growth in understanding is essential to a strong faith. The June meetings were part of an effort to meet this need. As these pastors carry on their ministry they will have a chance to share the knowledge they have gained from the meetings with people they minister to.

— *Yvonne M Terry,*  
*Global Mission Correspondent, TAM*

## Thailand Literature Evangelists

Thailand literature evangelists under the leadership of Pastor Chamee Atakit and Wanlop Intachai met on August 24-30 at Jomtien Hotel, Pattaya, for their Mission-wide Institute. Three pastors of the Thailand Mission, who are engaged in the literature ministry one day every week, also attended. Two of the full-time literature evangelists present were pastors of Sunday-keeping churches before they accepted the truth and became literature evangelists.

Thailand Mission literature evangelists have had 27 of their customers baptized so far this year. This is understandable when you see their dedication and spirit. They accepted the challenge to sell more books and win more souls during the last four months of this year than they did in the first eight months.

Dr. Steve Bassham, President of the Thailand Mission, on Sabbath greatly encouraged the group with an outstanding and inspiring study on prayer. Other visiting speakers were Howard Faigao, Associate Publishing Director of the Far Eastern Division, and A.J. Oberholster, Publishing Director of SAUM.

We need many more dedicated men and women to join the team of literature evangelists in Thailand. The millions of souls in this vast country need to be reached with God's message before it is too late. Our aim is to soon have a team of forty full-time literature evangelists



Thailand Literature Evangelists Mission-Wide Institute.

in Thailand. We invite the readers of this article to pray with us for more LEs.

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— A J Oberholster, Publishing Director, SAUM

## Shopping For Souls in Bangkok

One of the largest challenges of Global Mission in Thailand is the area closest to home. In the neighborhood around the Mission office; just outside the gate at Bangkok Adventist Hospital; on the streets surrounding Ekamai International School. Bangkok itself, a city of ten million, has only three Seventh-day Adventist churches. Two of the three are located on the compounds of church-owned institutions. The hospital church ministers mainly to hospital staff and students at the nursing school.

Bangkok is full and overflowing with people who have never heard of Jesus, let alone the Three Angels' Messages. The hospital, the nursing school, the overseas church school, and the international school all play a part in making the gospel available to Bangkok, but all of these operate on the basis of people coming to us to hear the gospel.

One Global Mission project for Bangkok is seeking to change the pattern. If you follow Pastor Vierendra Arora during his daily Global Mission work, you might at first think that all he does is go shopping. That's because he is assigned to work among the Indian

merchants in Bangkok. But follow him into the shops and you'll find that what he's really shopping for is souls.

As he goes from place to place, he greets one merchant after another, and when he finds one who has time to visit, he stops. Most of these people are Sikhs, and many are open to spiritual discussions. They seem happy to sit and talk, sometimes for hours at a time, about spiritual things. But it was not always this way. First, Pastor Arora had to find a way to befriend them.

"When I was first given this mission," he says, "I spent a lot of time in prayer, trying to think of how I could make effective contact with these people. Finally, I decided that health work could be the opening wedge."

Pastor Arora armed himself with brochures from the Mission Health Promotion Center and went from shop to shop encouraging people to take advantage of the services offered there. He has taken several groups to the Center, and it was while he was speaking to a group there that one woman asked him if he would please teach them some things from the Bible.

That invitation opened the door, and since then he has found many more people who are interested in the Bible's message.

Recently I followed Pastor Arora through the side roads of one of Bangkok's main tourist shopping areas. We entered a tailor shop and spoke briefly to a young man, then made our way to the back of the shop. The proprietor stood to greet us and instructed one of his helpers to bring water for us to drink. Then he sat down to talk with us. Even though there were customers and workers all around, he did not hesitate to open up and share his spiritual needs with us. He had been experiencing difficulties in his personal life, and wanted counsel. And he was seeking it from two Christian pastors.

There is a hunger and thirst for the way of righteousness among these people. Some have even expressed a desire to become Christians. But of course there are obstacles to be overcome. The Indian community is very tight knit, and those who would like to make a change must face many family and social pressures.

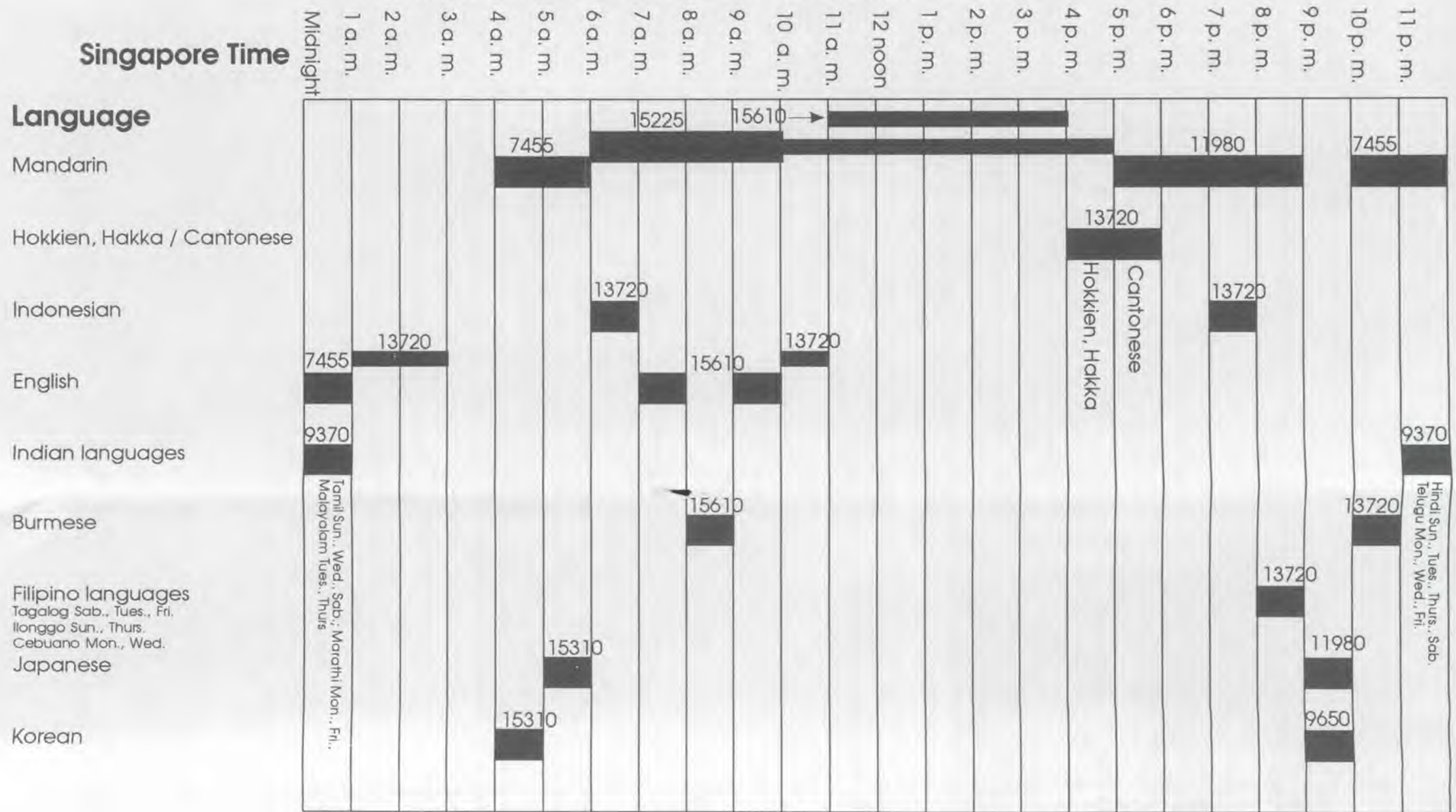
It is challenging to open a new work like this, particularly among the wealthy merchants in a busy city. But Pastor Arora is confident that God, who has helped him begin a good work, will also bring it to fruition.

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— Kenneth R Wade,  
SAUM Global Mission Coordinator

# Adventist World Radio - Asia

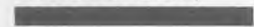
Broadcast Schedule, September 26, 1993 through March 27, 1994



Seven days per week



Weekends only



Adventist World Radio-Asia broadcasts Christian programming 24 hours per day from two high-power short-wave transmitters on the island of Guam. Many of these programs reach parts of Southeast Asia. If you have a short-wave radio, or have friends who do, why not tune in or suggest that your friends tune in when your favorite language is being broadcast. Broad lines represent broadcasts heard every day, narrow lines denote weekend-only broadcast times. Short-wave frequencies are shown above or beside the time lines.

## Tune In and Find a Blessing

Included in this issue of *Messenger* is a chart showing the broadcast times and shortwave frequencies on which you can hear Adventist World Radio (AWR). AWR broadcasts Christian programming from two powerful shortwave transmitters on Guam. The station there is called AWR-Asia, and uses the call letters KSDA. Most programs use the title "The Voice of Hope." Reception is usually better at the night than during the day, so the station does not broadcast from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Singapore time except on weekends.

Among the languages commonly spoken in SAUM, Mandarin gets the most air time, with 108 hours per week. The General Conference Global Mission office estimates that there are 827 million Mandarin-speaking people within broadcast range of the transmitter! One of the chief missions of AWR-Asia is to carry the gospel to the people of China. Studios at the Eastern Asia Committee office in Hong Kong churn out three to four hours of new Mandarin programs every day. The programs are then sent to Guam for broadcast.

AWR-Asia receives many letters of appreciation from mainland China. Here are excerpts from just a few:

"We are college students in the northwest part of China ... Not long ago, by coincidence, we turned on the radio and heard your Voice of Hope programs. We really enjoy the health and religious programs and have recently started discussing religious matters before we go to sleep. We would like to have some religious materials to read but have been unable to find any in the book store. I hope you can help us."

"I have come to know God these past three months while I have been listening to your programs. They have enriched my life so much."

While there are no programs produced in Bahasa Malaysia, there are 14 hours per week of programs in Bahasa Indonesia. These are heard at 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tamilians can hear broadcasts in their language on Sunday, Wednesday, and Sabbath from midnight to 1 a.m. (All times are Singapore/Malaysia time).

There are several large gaps in AWR coverage of Southeast Asia. At present no programs in Thai, Khmer, Vietnamese, or Lao can be heard. But the SAUM Communication Department has proposed a plan that should remedy that lack within the next few months. The first language to be introduced will be Vietnamese (50 millions potential listeners). Thai (30 million) will come next, and then Khmer. Although there is no plan to begin production in Lao (14 million), that language is quite similar to Thai, so the Thai programming may be of some benefit to Laos as well.

Shortwave broadcasts have tremendous potential for reaching people, particularly in rural areas where not many local radio stations can be heard. Please pray for AWR-Asia, and ask the Lord to guide us as we begin producing more programs for Southeast Asia.

— Kenneth R Wade, Communication Director, SAUM

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## SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION COLLEGE



**Walla Walla College Faculty Visit SAUC.** One of the advantages for students of SAUC, because of the affiliation with Walla Walla College, is regular association with Walla Walla College (WWC) faculty visiting the SAUC campus to teach. During the June Quarter, three faculty members from WWC taught on the SAUC Campus, bringing the total number of faculty from WWC who have taught at SAUC to twenty-one.

**Dr. Ernest Bursey, Professor of Biblical Studies,** taught several religion classes and contributed to various college programme through the quarter, speaking regularly at dorm worships and local area churches. Dr Bursey obtained his Master of Philosophy and Ph.D degrees from Yale University. He has been recognized for his excellent teaching at WWC as a recipient of the Zapara Excellence in Teaching Award, and he continued that tradition here at SAUC last quarter.

**Dr. Susan Dixon, Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at Walla College,** taught two biology classes at SAUC. Dr. Dixon travelled extensively during her time at SAUC and has an avid interest in local cultures. While teaching at SAUC, she was also a student in the class "Conversational Chinese." Dr. Dixon received her M.A. from WWC and her Ph.D from Oregon State University. She was accompanied by her daughter, a lab instructor, and a lab assistant.

**Dr. Wong Yew Chong, Chair of the Business Department at WWC,** also spent a part of the third quarter at SAUC. Dr. Wong previously served as the Academic Dean at SAUC and considered his time on the campus a return home. His education was obtained in several different countries, including Singapore and the United States, where he completed his doctoral degree at Andrews University. Dr Wong's recent experience in the field of investments provided a rich background from which he could draw as he taught the upper division business course on investments.

**Curriculum Development.** Recently three chief executive officers from multi-national businesses visited the SAUC campus and provided background information and lectures to over 30 students enrolled in an international business class. This introductory class in international business was one of three new courses added to the SAUC curriculum in 1993. The course, International Business, which included lectures from current executives from international businesses serves as the corner stone for additional courses in international marketing, international finance, and international management that will be added to the curriculum in the coming year. These courses will supplement the Business Administration curriculum, provide for the student's exposure to issues in international business, and serve as a core of courses available to students coming to SAUC from North America to study through the Adventist Colleges Abroad programme.

The ACA programme offered at SAUC focuses on international business, but also includes coursework in Asian Cultures and Asian languages. Two additional courses were added at SAUC last quarter supplementing the courses in business.

A course focusing on Asian cultures through literature, festivals, music, and language was taught by **Dr Linda Koh.** The course Conversational Chinese, also provided a basis for understanding Asian Cultures and customs.

SAUC, while initially established to provide workers for the church, has expanded its mission to meet the complex needs of a growing church and an increasingly diverse student body. It also provides an international education experience for students from SDA colleges and universities in North America.

Today, SAUC, offers a general curriculum of liberal arts with several professional courses. If you have an interest in knowing more about SAUC, or are aware of someone who is interested in a college education, please contact:

**The Registrar  
273 Upper Serangoon Road  
Singapore 1334**