



Messenger

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SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION MISSION

October - December 1996



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Ninety Minutes Before Departure

In the early hours of November 4, 1996, at Wathupitiwala base hospital, doctors, and nurses were fighting a desperate battle to save the lives of three persons, the mother and her yet unborn babies. The 31-year-old mother, named Ramyalatha Rupasinghe had come into the hospital for regular prenatal care. She knew from X-rays that she was going to have twins. The X-rays and scans showed the babies' heads in different positions, not facing each other, nor were they in a horizontal direction. There was no indication that there might be anything wrong with the babies. It was only after the Caesarean operation was started that the doctor knew they were conjoint twins.

The father (D B Merril Osmond) a truck driver, handled the shock very well. He told the doctor that he makes ends meet for his family with difficulty, but he said that he was willing to sell his small plot of land and house if it would provide enough money to do the operation to separate the twins.

Since Wathupitiwala base hospital was not equipped for the care of these conjoint twins they were transferred to the Lady Ridgeway Hospital in Colombo, which is a 690-bed government children's hospital.

On November 8, 1996 one of the front-page articles in the DAILY NEWS (a newspaper in Sri Lanka) had the heading: HELP IS URGENT FOR CONJOINT TWINS. The article read: "The World's fifteenth and Sri Lanka's second conjoint twins are now at Colombo's Lady Ridgeway Hospital crying for help from some humane medical institution to save their lives."

"We are utterly helpless. We have neither the facilities nor the expertise needed for this complicated surgery," said Dr Y Kulasekera, senior paediatric surgeon of the Lady Ridgeway Hospital. "Only a kind Colombo-based ambassador, a concerned person or an organization with proper contacts with world's top hospitals could help," he said. "Help is urgent."

The sooner they are taken to a well equipped hospital the better," prodded Dr Kulasekera. He knew the urgency and delicate surgical procedure to separate these conjoint twins.

Upon seeing the article, Sri Lanka Seventh-day Adventist Mission immediately thought of Loma Linda University Medical Center. The question was: Could and would Loma Linda Hospital be able and willing to help? An e-mail was sent to Dr K Wells at Loma Linda to see if it would be a feasible procedure for Loma Linda Medical Center to separate these twins.

Dr K Wells contacted the surgical team and the president of the Loma Linda Hospital. They seemed interested but before a decision could be made, they needed first to establish the condition of the twins. Both hospitals then began an in-depth assessment. Many hours (late into the night) of tests, research, planning, and corresponding between the hospitals were conducted by both sets of physicians, through the service of e-mail at the Sri Lanka Mission.

It was first thought that the twins had one heart between them, and two livers joined. However, when Dr Y Kulasekera did an echo of the hearts, and other diagnostic tests it was discovered that the conjoint twins had separate hearts and separate livers but both sets joined. All other organs seemed to be normal. Within hours it had been decided that one or both of the children had more than a 50% chance of survival if they were separated.

Because of the expenses involved, and the parents inability to pay, Loma Linda Medical Center consulted with the board chairman, Pastor Robert Folkenberg, to seek board approval. The board chairman then contacted Pastor W D Anthony for his assurance that it would benefit the SDA Church and that it was impossible to be done in Sri Lanka. By 3 a.m. Sri Lanka Mission was informed that the board chairman and the hospital administration had given their approval to accept the challenge. Lady Ridgeway Hospital paediatric surgeon, Dr Y Kulasekera was immediately informed.

It was decided that Dr Y Kulasekera and another paediatrician would accompany the twins to Loma Linda. Now began the process of obtaining visas from the US Embassy in Sri Lanka, obtaining funding for the air tickets, and permission for the twins to be flown in their isolator. Two of the airlines refused, delaying the process by two days. However, with the help of the Sri Lankan Minister of Transport it was arranged for them to be flown to Japan by Sri Lanka Airlines and then Northwest Airlines to Los Angeles on Sunday, November 17, 1996.

About
The
Cover

Adventist youth
delivering rice
seeds to the
devastated
villagers near
Kampot.



The schedule for departure from the hospital to the airport was to be 8 p.m. in the evening. And then, very unexpectedly, **JUST 90 MINUTES BEFORE DEPARTURE**, when all the plans concerning the twins' journey seemed to say "It's a Go!" the twins died of cardiac arrest. The news sent a wave of shock, disappointment, and sorrow from Colombo, Sri Lanka to Loma Linda, California and around the world. Help had been so near.

One of the physicians at Loma Linda, Dr Karen Wells, who had worked so untiringly to make connections with the key administrators and physicians at Loma Linda in order for these twins to go, summed it up so well. She said, "When I think of all the people in Sri Lanka following their story and all the people here in Loma Linda anxious to care for them, I felt the warmth of human love reaching across all of the political and geographic boundaries. It has been a sad but meaningful attempt. It was an experience I shall treasure. I hope you will convey to Dr Kulasekera how honored we all felt with his decision to bring the twins here in spite of the other offers from other hospitals around the world.

Friend, how is it with us? Are we utterly helpless like these conjoint twins? Is there any indication in our life that we need a Saviour or are we warm and cuddly in a fetal position? Are we lying horizontally facing each other with the Man of Sin?

As the surgeon does the Caesarean operation and humanity looks in at us, does it see us joined together, breathing the heart beat of the world? Yes, **HELP IS URGENT** for us conjoint twins of sin. We need a Saviour who will separate us from sin forever.

Who is the proper contact person? Who is the "kind Colombo-based ambassador and a concerned person"? Truly, the Seventh-day Adventist Church, has been placed on this Earth as His ambassadors to warn the world of the impending judgement of God and to call all people to give glory to Him.

What will be your/my case when Jesus comes? Will we **JUST 90 MINUTES FROM DEPARTURE** give up? Just 90 minutes before departure, will we grow tired of waiting, become discouraged, become critical, or complacent and then miss out on the opportunity of life—eternal life? Jesus has offered us the hope of being separated from sin forever by the transfusion of His blood on the cross of Calvary. Let us not have "cardiac arrest".

What will be the News Headlines in Heaven? I trust it will NOT be entitled in our case "**THE LOVE THAT FAILED**". Jesus through his love reaches across all of the political and geographic boundaries to separate us from sin and to invite us to His home. Will we accept His invitation?

AWR-Asia 1996 Winter Program Schedule

October 27, 1996 Through March 30, 1997

| UTC | Local Time | Language | Frequency kHz | Meter Band |
|------|------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| 0000 | 0630 | Burmese | 17615 | 17 |
| | 0800 | Mandarin | 15225 | 19 |
| 0030 | 0700 | Chin | 17615 | 17 |
| 0100 | 0700 | Bangla | 17615 | 17 |
| | 0800 | Mandarin | 15225 | 19 |
| 0130 | 0700 | Nepali | 17615 | 17 |
| 0200 | 1000 | Mandarin* | 13720 | 22 |
| | 1000 | Mandarin* | 15225 | 19 |
| 0300 | 1100 | Mandarin* | 13720 | 22 |
| | 1100 | Mandarin* | 15225 | 19 |
| 1000 | 1800 | Mandarin | 9370 | 31 |
| | 1800 | Cantonese | 11980 | 25 |
| | 2000 | English | 7155 | 41 |
| | 2000 | Russian | 9530 | 31 |
| 1030 | 1830 | Shanghaiese | 11980 | 25 |
| | 2030 | English | 9530 | 31 |
| 1100 | 1900 | Indonesian | 11980 | 25 |
| | 1800 | Indonesian | 13720 | 22 |
| | 1900 | Mandarin | 7155 | 41 |
| | 1900 | Mandarin | 9370 | 31 |
| 1130 | 1830 | Javanese | 13720 | 22 |
| 1200 | 1900 | Vietnamese | 11980 | 25 |
| | 2000 | Tagalog | 13720 | 22 |
| | 2000 | Mandarin | 7155 | 41 |
| | 2100 | Korean | 9650 | 31 |
| 1230 | 2230 | English | 13720 | 22 |
| 1300 | 1900 | Bangla | 9370 | 31 |
| | 2100 | Mandarin | 11980 | 25 |
| | 2100 | Mandarin | 7155 | 41 |
| | 2200 | Javanese | 9650 | 31 |
| 1330 | 1900 | Nepali | 9370 | 31 |
| | 2330 | Bukhish | 9650 | 31 |
| 1400 | 1930 | Sinhalese | 7395 | 41 |
| | 2200 | Mandarin | 11980 | 25 |
| | 2200 | Mandarin | 7155 | 41 |
| | 2030 | Burmese | 9370 | 31 |
| 1430 | 0030 | English | 7395 | 41 |
| | 2100 | Chin | 9370 | 31 |
| 1500 | 2030 | Tamil | 7395 | 41 |
| | 2030 | Telugu | 11980 | 25 |
| | 2030 | Hindi | 7155 | 41 |
| | 2030 | Punjabi | 9370 | 31 |
| 1530 | 2100 | Kannada | 7395 | 41 |
| | 2100 | Marathi | 11980 | 25 |
| | 2100 | Malayalam | 9370 | 31 |
| 1600 | 0200 | English | 7100 | 41 |
| | 1800 | Arabic | 7510 | 41 |
| 1700 | 1900 | Farsi | 7155 | 41 |
| | 1900 | Arabic | 7510 | 41 |
| 1730 | 0330 | English | 7155 | 41 |
| 2000 | 0300 | Korean | 5950 | 39 |
| | 0300 | Korean | 9195 | 31 |
| 2100 | 0500 | Mandarin | 7155 | 41 |
| | 0600 | Japanese | 9195 | 31 |
| 2130 | 0730 | English | 9195 | 31 |
| 2200 | 0500 | Vietnamese | 9195 | 31 |
| | 0500 | Indonesian | 13720 | 22 |
| | 0600 | Mandarin | 7155 | 41 |
| | 0600 | Mandarin | 9370 | 31 |
| 2230 | 0530 | Javanese | 13720 | 22 |
| 2300 | 0700 | Cantonese | 11980 | 25 |
| | 0900 | Bukhish | 15610 | 19 |
| | 0700 | Mandarin | 9370 | 31 |
| | 0700 | Mandarin | 15225 | 19 |
| 2330 | 0730 | Shanghaiese | 11980 | 25 |

Broadcasts on Sundays and Saturdays only.

Youth in Action

Adventist Youth in "Camped City" (Kampot City) are eager to share their newly-found delight in Jesus. Their Pastor, Ung Chan Tha, matched their enthusiasm with requests from certain village near the sea coast. Until very recently, the area has been continuously raided by the Khmer Rouge rebels. The people's crops had been frequently stolen or destroyed. They were weak and destitute. That was the challenge the youth needed!

Armed with hoes and shovels, they set out at once to build or rebuild dikes for rice fields. The youth themselves coming from poor homes, had little but themselves to give. Somehow though, they came up with enough money to purchase rice seeds or sprouts, and proceeded to plant the rice fields.

Among the villagers was an older couple who were impressed with the unusual interest of the youth group. They begged the Pastor to come to study the Bible with them. When Pastor Ung Chan Tha went to their home, he found that the wife had been sick and unable to walk for over three years. The Pastor, who has had considerable medical training, gave the woman some simple treatments with hot water and charcoal, and within a few days the woman was able to get up and walk!



The youth from Kampot City rebuilding padi field dikes for villagers

Now, because of the kindness of the youth and the Pastor, the interests in the village are tremendous. There is a need of a small chapel and project area for them to meet in. The young people have again solicited donations and made very sacrificial contributions themselves in order to buy a piece of land so they can build a church. They found a building supplier who has been willing to supply materials on credit—the youth call it "faith".

Some more rice seeds; some more Truth seeds; and the "Camped" youth are anticipating a good harvest of rice-fed souls eager for more Truth feasts.

*Daniel Walter
Mission Director*

Bible Studies for Former Khmer Rouge

One Hundred Khmer Rouge rebel soldiers were defecting to the Cambodian Royal Government. One of the Government leaders who had negotiated the defection, is a close friend of the Adventist Pastor for that Province. The Government man came to our Pastor and invited him to accompany him to meet the rebels as they surrendered to the Government.



Our pastor and Adventist youth distributing clothes to former Khmer Rouge rebels

The encounter was impressive as 100 rebels, accompanied by their pitiful families, emerged from the forest. They surrendered their implements of war to the Government soldiers, and put their lives into the hands of the ruling Government.

The Official who had invited the Adventist Pastor, turned to the Pastor and said, "I want you to teach these people about the Bible! They need some real moral training!"

That statement was also impressive, coming from a member of the National Religion, Buddhism. He had seen the fruits of the Pastor's teaching and life, and he knew who could help these former rebels the most.

The Pastor, seeing the condition of these people, quickly returned and brought bundles of clothing obtained through ADRA, and clothed their wounded and weakened bodies. Now he is presenting to them the robe of Christ's Righteousness.

*Daniel Walter
Mission President*

Note: Names withheld by request.

Upper Columbia Conference Volunteers Built a Church

Twenty-five volunteers from Upper Columbia Conference spent their school break in Tatau to build a beautiful church for the villagers of Tuai Rumah Dot, Pasir Nangka. The group was led by Ray Hall, a teacher and Bill Vixie, a contractor. The volunteers brought along two medical doctors and a dentist who gave free medical and dental clinics to hundreds of people.



The Ladies leveling the church floor

This is the eighth church that the Upper Columbia Conference volunteers built from the year 1991-1996. It involved not less than 240 volunteers. The churches that have been built by the volunteers include Kedumpai, Ibol, Kepadang and Isu-Semabang churches in Simunjan District, Nanga Ejit church in Julau District, Menawa and Skarok churches in Lubok Antu District and Pasir Nangka church in Tatau District. Each year new volunteers came with the anticipation to gain new experiences as well as to learn new cultures as they share their lives with the people of Sarawak.

We would like this to be a yearly event," Ray said. "This is to help the American youth to look beyond themselves and to share their lives and their means with others," he concluded.

Kuching City Evangelism

Kuching city evangelism was conducted on August 11-24, 1996 in the Sunny Hill College auditorium. The theme for this effort was, "Berita yang Menggembirakan". Pastor Robert Wawondatu, the Ministerial Secretary from East Indonesian Union

Conference, and Dr Abdulmussin S Abdulmajid Associate Ministerial Secretary at Asia-Pacific Division, were the evangelists during this evangelistic meeting.

There were about 200-250 regular attendants who turned up at this meeting. The result of this evangelism was the baptism of 51 souls for the Lord. The baptism was held on the Sabbath afternoon of August 24, 1996 at Sungai Rayu, Matang Wildlife Centre, Kuching.

A Message in a Loaf of Bread

Mrs Joyce Kinchang, Home and Family Ministries Director, demonstrated how to make bread to the ladies of Pasir Nangka, Tatau. After the demonstration, each lady was asked to knead her own dough and bake her own bread. To the surprise of the ladies, their first experience of making bread proved to be successful. "There is a message in a loaf of bread," Mrs Anyau explained to the ladies. "The yeast is to be mixed with the dough, and unseen to our naked eyes, it causes the dough to rise and gives the bread the beautiful shape.



The ladies display the bread that they have baked

It has to be heated up in the fiery furnace before it comes out baked. So it is with the power of the Holy Spirit in making the lives of a person become a powerful witness for Christ."

*Pastor Edmund Liah
President, SAK*

Literature Ministry OUTREACH Program

On November 2, 1996 the OUTREACH program was launched in Bangkok. Excited church members got involved in making books available to be put into the hands of people in prisons, hotels, drug rehabilitation centres, etc. The enthusiasm of our church members is very encouraging.

On Monday, November 4 more than sixty Great Controversy in Thai and English, as well as Steps to Christ, and a number of other titles, were purchased. The books will be placed in hotel rooms, prison libraries, etc. Who knows what the results are going to be! With this OUTREACH program many souls may be reached who perhaps would never be reached in any other way. On each of the books is a sticker with a contact address for readers of the books to write to.

Since the OUTREACH program started in Singapore early in 1996, books had been placed in one prison, more than a dozen hotels, and in one drug rehabilitation centre. The number of souls reached will double and triple as more funds for books are received. "We thank our members for their support and prayers as we reach out to souls in spiritual darkness, and we invite more of you to become actively involved. Through OUTREACH program every church member can be a literature evangelist for God," the writer concludes.



The picture shows books bought after the OUTREACH program was launched in the Bangkok Thai Church.

Braam Oberholster
Publishing Director, SAUM

The Blind Shall Lead

Mr. Khor Tai Wing was born blind. He became interested in God's truth, received Bible Studies, and was recently baptised into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. With encouragement from Jaime Bolipata, Khor Tai Wing became a literature evangelist. He is now selling God's "printed pages" to the spiritually blind.



Khor Tai Wing

During the Annual Publishing Council held in Singapore on October 21-22, it was reported that for the first nine months of 1996, 90 souls were baptized in the Union as a direct result of the work of the literature evangelists. One person who was recently baptized, although blind since birth, started the day after his baptism to work for the Lord as a literature evangelist. Could it be that the blind sees opportunities where those with eyes cannot?

ADRA Professional Leadership Institute (APLI)

The Andrews University/ADRA Professional Leadership Institute (APLI) held the first off-campus intensive classes in Asia on September 9-26 at Chiangmai, Thailand, with 72 attending. The aim of the APLI is to produce workers who possess up-to-date management skills and reflect Christian service values. Dr Rudi Maier, Andrews University Seminar faculty and Director of APLI says, "Spiritual vision and technical expertise needed to make a difference in today's world is our goal."

The APLI is as joint venture between ADRA and Andrews University to offer the Masters of Science in Administration in International Development to those who qualify in an intensive off-campus format. The next APLI session in Asia will be April 21-May 6, 1997. For more information please contact the Union ADRA director or Kenneth Flemmer at ADRA Asia-Pacific Division.

(FAPDP News)

First Pathfinder Clubs Organized in Cambodia

The Youth Director of Cambodia Attached District, Pastor Van Thorn Nhem, started organizing Pathfinder clubs in Cambodia during the second quarter of 1996. Pastor Lawrence Banyie conducted the first Induction Ceremony for the first Pathfinder Club on October 10, 1996 at the Phnom Penh Church. Twenty-two Pathfinders including their leaders took their pledge of allegiance to the club at the Induction ceremony. Pastor Yel Deravuth, the assistant Church pastor, is the club director.

The second Induction ceremony was held on October 11 for the Takhmao Pathfinder club in the Kandal Province, some fifteen kilometres south of Phnom Penh. Twenty-one Pathfinders including the church pastor, Pastor Pen Chenda, took the pledge of allegiance to the club. Pastor Chenda is the club director.



First Phnom Penh Pathfinder Club members with SAUM Youth director, Lawrence Banyie (left)

More Pathfinder clubs will be organized by next year as they have plans to train more Pathfinder leaders in the Mission. "We solicit your prayers and, where possible, financial support towards the purchase of uniforms, for the leaders and youths of Cambodia," appealed Pastor Banyie, the Union Youth Director.

Cambodia Lay-Pastor Training

Two former pastors from another church joined forty six SDA lay workers for five days of training in Battambang, Cambodia. This was one of ten such programmes organized jointly this year by the Ministerial and Personal Ministries Department of the Southeast Asia Union Mission.

In the evenings the lay people in training ran the evangelistic meetings. In Battambang the preaching was done in a newly constructed church which is one of many being built.

John Duroe, Ministerial Director



The lay members pose in front the newly constructed church

First VOP Graduation

Since Civil War broke out in the early 1970's, in Cambodia, the work has been zero except what was done in the refugee Camps in Thailand. With the newly opened Mission, the Lord has opened many new opportunities and many hearts are being touched by God's love.

The first VOP Graduation since the War to be held in Cambodia was conducted in Kompong Thom City, September 14, 1996. Pastor Im Chum Ro had over 35 graduates waiting for this climactic occasion! Some of them also received their baptismal certificates at the same occasion.

Pastor Samuel Money, VOP Director from Singapore, presented the candidates their certificates for the Way of Life Lesson series, and Pastor Daniel Walter, Mission Director,

presented the baptismal certificates. Witnessing the occasion were the official representatives from the Provincial Governor's Office, the Religion Ministry, and friends from the community.

At present, only the Way of Life, Bible Speaks and Glad Tidings lessons are available in translated form for Cambodia. None of these are really appropriate for working with Buddhists, so the Mission currently has a project under way to produce a series of Bible Studies appropriate for working with Buddhists. When completed, these will be available through the VOP or directly from the Cambodia Mission.

*Daniel Walter
President*

SDA School Gospel Week and Gospel Camp

The Seventh-day Adventist School organised two Gospel Weeks and two Gospel Camps for the year 1996. The first Gospel Week was held from March 25 to 29 with Mr Kenneth Flemmer, ADRA Director of the Asia Pacific Division as its speaker. The theme was "How much are you worth?" The emphasis was on the fact that we are worth more than we think because the Son of God gave Himself for us. The first Gospel Camp was held at Camp Christine, Singapore, from April 4 to 7 with Dr Lily Wong, Education Chairperson of the Southeast Asia Union College as the speaker. This camp was the first where both the SDA School and the San Yu High School combined together for a gospel camp. This camp had an understandable theme, "Friends Forever", indicating that true friends are made during the camp, and that our ultimate Friend is Jesus.



The campers responding to the call of the Shepherd

The Second Gospel Week was held from August 19 to 23 with Dr Wong Yew Chong, Academic Dean of the Southeast Asia Union College as the speaker. The theme this time was "Baa Baa Black Sheep." An interesting study of the sheep and shepherd helped many to understand what Jesus has done for each student. This was followed by the Gospel Camp from September 1 to 3 held at the Mutiara Resort, Johore, Malaysia, with Pastor George Johnson, Ministerial secretary of the Asia-Pacific Division as the speaker. The theme "Have You Any Wool?" was a follow-up of the Gospel Week. Pastor Johnson concluded the meetings with how our response should be in view of what the Shepherd, Jesus has done for us.

A total of 76 students indicated their desire to accept Christ during these two Gospel Weeks and two Gospel Camps, resulting in more than 10 having Bible studies presently. It is hoped that some of these Bible students will indicate their desire to be baptised into the family of God in the near future.

Samuel Siew, Chaplain, SDA School

Singapore Mission-Wide Adventurer/Pathfinder Induction/ Investiture Service



The Bales-tier Pathfinders "singing" in sign language

There was an invasion of uniformed youth in SAUC Church on September 21, 1996 for this was the day the Pathfinders and Adventurers of Singapore Mission held their Induction and Investiture. The program for the day began with the Pathfinders taking over the Sabbath School program followed by the Divine Service where Pastor Lawrence Banyie, Southeast Asia Union Mission Youth Director was the speaker. Special songs and skits were presented by the Bales-tier, Jireh and Eagles Pathfinder Clubs during the whole service.

After a sumptuous lunch, the Induction and Investiture Service was held in the afternoon. A number of Adventurers and Pathfinders were inducted, thus making them full-fledged members. It was interesting to note that about one-third of the Pathfinders attending the

Service were inducted, indicating that during the last year, a number of new members were recruited. After the Induction was over, the Investiture Service saw many Adventurers and Pathfinders presented with their hard-earned awards, honours and pins.

It is indeed a blessing to see the young people, many of whom are non-SDAs, coming together to build up the Pathfinder movement in Singapore.

*Samuel Siew, Pathfinder Director
Singapore Mission*

Pastor Geoffrey Pauner Defended Doctoral Dissertation

October 30, 1996 marked a great milestone in the work of Pastor Geoffrey Alfred Pauner for the Church and for his personal achievement in life. It was on that day that he successfully defended his dissertation entitled "Marketing Seventh-day Adventist Higher Education in Southeast Asia" at Andrews University, thus completing his last requirement for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in educational administration and supervision. After serving the Church and society in many different capacities in the past 38 years, he is at present serving the Lord as the principal of the Seventh-day Adventist School in Singapore. We salute Dr Geoffrey Pauner and his family for his accomplishment, and wish them continued blessings from the Lord in the years ahead.



Dr Geoffrey Pauner

*Edmund Siagian
Education Director, SAUM*

APPLICATION FOR CMC (CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE)

(to be completed between November and March)

Applications for the yearly single-seat quota to study Medicine at CMC in 1997 is open, and interested young people are invited to apply and vie for this prestigious seat and privilege.

Main guidelines for Applicants

- a. *Adventist in regular standing*
- b. *Malaysian citizen*
- c. *Had applied for candidacy to CMC (To be done personally)*
- d. *Holds a full Higher School Certificate in Science Stream (including Biology, Chemistry, Physics) or equivalent, and proficient in English*
- e. *Has attended SAUC, an Adventist secondary school, or has worked at Penang Adventist Hospital*

Procedure for sponsorship application

- a. *Apply to PAH through writing or interview*
- b. *Complete sponsorship application forms and submit to local Mission Committee for recommendation (Forms may be obtained from local Mission or SAUM)*
- c. *Local Mission will submit to SAUM for final approval*
- d. *Communicate with SAUM Education Director*
- e. *Pass Entrance Written Examination in May*
- f. *Pass well the Interview Examination in June*

For further information, write to
SAUM Education Director
251 Upper Serangoon Road
Singapore 347688
(Tel. 284-7281, Fax No. 284-7757)

BACS Alumni Meet Success

Bangkok Adventist Church School (BACS), a multi-grade school, was started as BOCS by the Bangkok Adventist Hospital to school the children of missionaries to Thailand. From a humble beginning with a handful of students and one teacher then, it has now become a full-fledged school from Kindergarten to Grade 10 with over seventy students and six teachers. BACS now educates and trains children of expatriates as well as children of local workers, church members, and others.

Mr William Dickerson, Principal, and his staff have worked hard, not only to train young people to excel intellectually, but also to train them to become leaders of tomorrow, intellectually alert, mentally sound, and spiritually strong.

BACS becomes the envy of many other students and parents. However, limited class-room space prevented many potential students from being accepted. Musically-talented students brought joy, pride, and tears to parents as they presented performances for Christmas and church functions.

In spite of the many extracurricular activities teachers were able to keep the standard of education high. Many alumni, who transferred to other schools, are doing well and are excelling academically. During the recent 12th grade graduation of the Ekamai Adventist School, all three BACS alumni graduated with honors, one golden cord, Frederick Lee, and two silver cords, Daniel Chutinaton, and Shirley Lin, indicating exceptionally high grade averages.

Many previous alumni are in the medical or dental professions, teachers, PhD's, musicians, and in private businesses. BACS can be justly proud of each one for whom the school has provided the foundation for their success.

Lee Chin Beng, Parent

Mini-MBA Program

The Mission College is launching an ambitious mini-MBA program geared for the health-care personnel in Thailand. It is a ten-day, sixty-hour course to be offered in January and February 1997. The purpose is to introduce and train middle management personnel, such as head nurses and supervisors, in the health-care industry, into the art of

effective management, using modern techniques and methods. Dr Siriporn Tantipoonvinai, President of Mission College, has been personally promoting this project. Many inquiries have been received. This program will fill the need for a place to upgrade and train workers who can bring new ideas and impetus into their work, as they serve a society that demand nothing but the best.

Farewell to the Muirs

An emotional farewell ceremony took place at the BAH Church recently to bid good-bye to Pastor Wellesley and Mrs Evelyn Muir. The Muirs have been in Thailand for two years serving as pastor to the Bangkok Adventist Hospital Church. In spite of the language barrier, they have performed their duties admirably. Dr Siriporn, President of Mission College, stated that they had been a role model of what Christianity is, and have exerted a strong influence in upholding the values of the church to the students. Mr T Y Billones, President of the Bangkok Adventist Hospital also stated that they had been spiritual parents to all the hospital family, and their presence will be greatly missed. We wish them God's blessing as they go back to their homeland in California, USA.

Mrs. Chareonsri Banhansupavat Honoured

Mrs Chareonsri Banhansupavat is one of the first graduates of the BAH School of Nursing. She graduated in 1950, and has since been continuously working for the Bangkok Adventist Hospital. Mrs Chareonsri was honored for serving the institution for 45 long years. She was awarded with a plaque bearing the picture of the beloved King Chulalongkorn of Thailand.

Mrs Chareonsri was not only an outstanding student in her nursing class, but also known as an outstanding individual blessed with gracious personality wherever she went. Her illustrious record shows a long list of accomplishments for both our institution and for the community as a whole.

Right after graduation, Mrs Chareonsri was appointed as a supervisor in the Nursing Service, working side by side with the then Nursing Director, Miss Gertrude Green. Mrs Chareonsri was always alert and would take any challenges and opportunities that came her way. She was much

appreciated by all patients and administration alike for her initiatives. She also assisted Miss Green as a translator in teaching the Surgical Nursing class at the School of Nursing. A few years later, Mrs Chareonsri was transferred to the OPD to help doctors and administrators in handling the influx of patients that regularly came to the hospital.

Mrs Chareonsri's enthusiasm in work, her contagious smile and friendliness, and good sense of business, caught the attention of the then President of the hospital. She was assigned to work in the Business Office as the Credit Manager in 1965, a position she still holds today. She was also asked to carry other responsibilities, including the important position as Liaison Officer of the hospital. She represented our hospital with many Ministries of the government, maneuvering through the delicate legal maze as no other can. Bangkok Adventist Hospital is very much thankful of her negotiating skill and wisdom in solving many legal problems that confront the Administration. Mrs Chareonsri was presented with a Meritorious Service Award in 1993 for her dedication and faithful service to the hospital.

Mrs Chareonsri is also known in the community for her contribution to society. She has received many citations and awards for her outstanding and untiring effort to better the standard of living of the poor and the deprived. Among the important honors presented, and positions held by Mrs Chareonsri, are the following:

1. A Diamond Pin (Kanchip) from the Thai Royal Army.
2. A plaque from the Thai Royal Police Headquarters.
3. A citation from the Metropolitan Police Bureau.
4. Appointed as an executive member of the National Council of Women of Thailand, serving as Treasurer.
5. Appointed as an executive member of the Council of Social Welfare of Thailand under the Patronage of His Royal Majesty, the King of Thailand, serving as Secretary.
6. Appointed as an executive member of the Thai Red Cross Society.

Mr T Y Billones, President of the Bangkok Adventist Hospital also praised Mrs Chareonsri for her long years of service, and for her dedication to our institution. She has become a pillar that brings stability to the hospital. Mrs Chareonsri, we honor you and salute you for your untiring and unselfish dedication to the Bangkok Adventist Hospital.

*Mr. Lee Chin Beng, Business Manager
Mission College (Bangkok campus)*

Thailand Publishing House Open Sales

In the Thailand Publishing House Board of Management meeting on 29 August 1996, an action was taken to sell current book inventories produced in the house at a reduced price. Pastor Pairote Phookjit, TAM Publishing director and the writer took advantage of the action. They wrote letters and sent the discounted price lists to all literature evangelists, church members, church pastors and everybody they thought were interested in their books and publications. The responses were overwhelming. Orders for the books began to come from schools, hospitals, health Centres and other institutions and individuals from all over Thailand. The Home Health Education Centre operator, Jur Saefa, was kept busy every day selling books. If he was not selling, he was busy packing and sending books out. The climax of the campaign was the Thailand Publishing house open sale on 3 November, 1996. Books, computers and canned foods were sold. It was a success. The break down of different books ordered and sold were:



Pastor Phookjit loading the books into the Pickup

| Book Description | Amount |
|--|----------------|
| Trade Books | Baht 3,916.00 |
| Subscription Books | Baht 14,474.00 |
| Magazines | Baht 454.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | Baht 18,844.00 |
| Two used computers and printers sold for | Baht 29,000.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total sale of | Baht 47,844.00 |

Present and participating in the sale were Elder A J Oberholster, SAUM Publishing Director, Pastor Pairote Phookjit, TAM Publishing Director, Mr Emmanuelito Ligsay, TPH Accountant and Mr J Rueh, TPH Manager.

Many Church members, students and friends were not able to come to the sale on 3 November, so they asked to have another sale before the end of the year. To meet their requests, a sale on 13 December 1996 was planned.

*Johnny Rueh, General Manager
Thailand Publishing House*

School Re-opens after Twenty-two Years

The people of Marabau Village and its surrounding communities have every reason to be happy now, that their children can go to school again in their own village. Twenty-two years ago, Marabau Adventist Primary School had to close down due to lack of facilities and finance. Thanks to ADRA for providing the funds to build a two-classroom school, complete with tables and chairs as well as a teacher's office. Now, the school is up and going again. "We thank you so much," says community leader Mosuta Ombiryan, speaking on behalf of the villagers at the handing-over ceremony.



The Walla Walla College volunteers posing with ADRA director, James Lai and his wife in front of the school



The completed school building

ADRA^{south east asia}news

Nine volunteers from Walla Walla College USA under the leadership of Professor Gordon Johnson came in July this year to help build the school together with the villagers. It took only twenty working days to complete the

whole building. To express their appreciation, the villagers treated them with Rungus Cultural Dance at the closing and farewell ceremony. This is the third time Walla Walla College has sent their volunteers. Their services have been a great blessing to many people in Sabah.

*James Lai, Communication/ ADRA Dept
Sabah Mission*

APD Assists Victims in North Korea

Republic of Singapore--The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Asia-Pacific Division signed a contract with Sahmyook Foods on October 24, 1996, to purchase 80,000 packets of instant noodles for immediate delivery and distribution in North Korea. An intent to purchase an additional 140,000 packets for a December 1996 delivery was also signed.

The delivery is a needed result of various factors affecting the country over the last two years. In 1994, several hail storms during the harvest time cut food production and left large amounts of land and irrigation infrastructures severely damaged. Very heavy rains and flooding in 1996 have again put a very negative impact on food production.

"As a result of the flooding and loss of crops, the food rations have been cut in half," says Maitland DiPinto, director for international administrative support. "These noodles are going to be programmed at nursery schools for children in order to ensure they are getting adequate nutrition."

The noodles will be transferred to the World Food Program in Pyongyang who will collaborate with the Flood Rehabilitation Committee to distribute the noodles to the needy families in selected areas of North Korea.

The ADRA International Network over the past years has provided close to US\$2 million worth of food and medicines for North Korea flood victims.

Cuddly Babies & Toys

In March 1995, Ms Tan Hong Ee, a supervisor at Penang Adventist Hospital, and her team of nurses and staff of OB Ward, decided to embark on a project to raise funds for the new hospital extension. Their target group--the newborn babies! Cuddly toys which vary from bunnies to polka-dot puppies and charming birdies were made.

Some of the staff designed, cut and stitched the toys while others promoted and sold them. The price of each toy ranges from RM5.00 to RM30.00, depending on the size.



OB ward staff with toys they made for the building fund

Things were not always smooth sailing; there were difficult times but the staff's true grit, excellent team spirit and their burning desire to do something for the hospital saw them through. On 15 April 1996, a cheque of RM20,000.00 was proudly presented to Dr Ronald Brody, president of the Hospital.

This is not the last we will hear from them. The department plans to raise another RM20,000.00 for the building fund by the end of this year. This should encourage and motivate all of us at PAH to emulate their noble aspirations and exemplary spirit.

Andy Wee, Penang Adventist Hospital

BAH Honoured on World No-Smoking Day

The Bangkok Adventist Hospital Health Education Department has been promoting smoking cessation for many years. Hundreds of people have been helped to stop their smoking habit. Many articles have been written in the newspapers and magazines about this program. Special

program and interviews have also been aired over the radio and television. Members of the hospital staff have been invited by numerous schools and business concerns to promote smoking cessation in their establishments. The staff of the Health Education Department have also been invited and appointed to serve as resource persons and committee members by the Ministry of Public Health in their activities to draw plans and to map out strategies in promoting smoking cessation nationwide.

The Health Education Department, with Mrs Krissana Chuenjit as Department Head, has been the pride of the Bangkok Adventist Hospital, and all the SDA members in Thailand.

The culmination of honors, however, was the presentation of a plaque of honor by the beloved H E Princess Sirinthorn of Thailand. This was received by Bangkok Adventist Hospital on the World No-Smoking Day. The hospital was also honored and commended for its unceasing effort in promoting smoking cessation. The plaque was received by Mr Gayln L Bowers and Mrs Jongkolnee Chareonthaitavee, Vice-Presidents of the Bangkok Adventist Hospital.

A Grateful Heart

Mr Kazu Namiki, owner of Namiki Precision Jewel Co., Ltd. (Japan) was operated at the Phuket Adventist Hospital. He was so impressed with the excellent service received that a big donation of US\$30,000 was given by his representative, Mr Nagatomi Ichihiko, as a pilot donation for the building of an intensive care unit and operating room. Dr Rapeepan Wangchumtong, Phuket Adventist Hospital president, received it with heartfelt thankfulness and deepest gratitude on October 30, 1996.



Mr Nagatomi Ichihiko (left) and Dr Rapeepan at the presentation ceremony

Quotes

Facts About AWR

Languages used: 43

Hours of broadcasting per week: 1,000+

Estimated potential audience: 4 billion

Mission assignment: Languages with more than 10 million speakers

Broadcasting locations: Costa Rica, Guam, Guatemala, Italy, Russia, Slovakia

Total transmitting power: 16 shortwave transmitters, 1.445 megawatts

Studios producing programs: About 50

Adventist Review, 12.9.96

Adventist Life. During a recent Sabbath School program put on by children, a 6-year-old girl completely forgot how her memory verse began. Her mother, seated in the front row, mouthed the words of Jesus: "I am the light of the world." The little girl relaxed and radiated with confidence. Then, in a voice like a cheerleader's, she called out, "My mother is the light of the world!"

Adventist Review, 19.9.96

Bible Information On-line on Internet: The Upper Columbia Conference has made the resources of "The Bible Information Line" available on Internet at <http://www.bibleinfo.com>. Visitors find six choices:

- 1) Topics, where visitors can read about 316 Bible topics;
- 2) Questions, where Bible questions are answered;
- 3) Prayer, where visitors share prayer requests with staff;

- 4) Information, where information about the Seventh-day Adventist Church is provided;
- 5) Gift, where a visitor may request "Your Bible and You" and/or the "Discover" Bible course, and
- 6) Resources, where other Adventist web sites are listed.

Well over 500 of the 3,000 visitors from 25 countries who have logged on to the Web site have requested a free book, Bible lessons, or asked questions about the Bible. Telephone responses continue at the rate of 1,000 per month. Over 23,000 people have called; 4,750 gift books have been mailed; 375 requested the "Discover" Bible correspondence course, and 10 baptisms have been reported as a direct result of the "Bible Information Line."

From the GC President, 8.7.96

Hong Kong's Post-1997 Church. Religious freedom will be guaranteed in Hong Kong after the Crown colony is returned to China, the People's Republic of China says. The promise was made in the July 31 edition of the Chinese-language magazine *Bauhinia*. The government-funded magazine quoted an official from the Chinese State Council's Religious Affairs Bureau, who said that "all kinds of religious activities will continue . . . without intervention from the central government" in Beijing.

The Adventist Church's Hong Kong-Macao Conference has some 18 churches and 4,100 adult members. It operates four schools and a college, one 118-bed and another 94-bed hospitals. The church work began in Hong Kong in 1888 with the arrival of Abram La Rue, who opened a seamen's mission there. The first baptism occurred in 1902.

Record, 17.8.96

FM 105.5

It's the station with a
difference

Gema Harapan. The Echo of Hope.



Adventist-Laymen's Services & Industries

What is ASI?

ASI is a fellowship and service organization of Adventist lay businessmen and professionals united in their enthusiastic commitment to creative witnessing in their professional lives and business.

Its history traces back to Madison, Tennessee in the United States, when some self-supporting workers were seeking ways and means to serve the church and the world in a crucial time. Initially, ASI stood for "Association of Self-Supporting Institutions" and its objective was to encourage a "concerted effort to marshal the lay members to all-out conservation of their time, strength, money and devotion to gospel work."

The same spirit and rich heritage of Madison is alive and well today! The ASI has gained its momentum and broadened its scope and objective. In 1947 it was organized as "Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries" under the sponsorship of the General Conference.

ASI is never intended to siphon resources out of the church programs and institutions but to add more resources to them through the works and contacts of our lay businessmen and professionals.

What does ASI do?

The idea of ASI caught on with some people in the then Far Eastern Division in the mid-80s. The first local ASI chapter was organized in Central Luzon Mission in the Philippines in 1985. One of the earliest and largest ASI chapters was organized in Korean Union Conference in 1986.

The Korean Union Conference ASI hosted the first Division-wide ASI convention near Seoul in 1988 with 84 people signing up as charter members of FED ASI. Since that year, local chapters have been organized in Taiwan, in several districts in South Philippines, Central Philippines, North Philippines, in Manado, East Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and Guam.

What do ASI members do?

Mr Oh Soo Jong is an outstanding lay businessman in Korea. He served as the first president of Korean Union Conference ASI and later as the first president of FED ASI from 1988 to 1990.

All the workers of his high compression cylinder manufacturing company have been involved with missionary activities for the past several years. They have entered into a dozen of unentered towns, successfully organized churches, built church buildings and donated the buildings to conferences. His church planting works keep advancing from one town to another. So far he has built 12 churches.

The ASI members in Taiwan have taken over the responsibility of running a farm project on the mountain school ground when operation was temporarily suspended by the Mission.

ASI members of Zamboanga City in South Philippines raised 12,000 Pesos and held crusades resulting in 148 baptisms.

Mr Shigeru Tsukayama of Japan directs Mt Akagi Institute. The institute produces whole wheat bread, but Mr Tsukayama shares the Bread of Life with the people in his community.

It goes without saying that ASI members in all walks of life share Christ in the marketplace from day to day.

What can ASI do in Global Mission?

Global Mission is the main thrust of evangelism in the SDA church. Its objective is to reach the unreached and to enter the unentered areas. ASI has come into focus for reaching these people through their given professions and business.

The closed doors often open for businessmen and professional people first. ASI members can very well be our "Ninja" evangelists in some difficult areas. Some ASI members are

standing by the neighbouring closed countries watching for the first opportunity to open their doors.

We are now living in an economically and politically turbulent time that calls for intrepid laymen to spearhead a lay movement to penetrate into new areas as the apostle Paul and pioneer Abram La Rue did.

What can ASI offer you?

ASI puts you—an Adventist businessman, a professional or a self-supporting worker—in touch with your fellow Adventist businessmen and professionals for fellowship, inspiration, exchange of information, sharing of technical know-how, instruction in professional growth, mutual support and joint business and missionary endeavours.

Union and Division ASI further put you in touch with a wider circle of fellow members across the Division and provide inspiring meetings, instructive seminars, heart-warming fellowship, overseas mission programs and business contacts.

A wider circle of fellowship is spreading all over the Division territory with friendly hands clasped across the seas and joined together for prayer and for joint mission projects.

Who can join ASI?

Any Seventh-day Adventist church member of good and regular standing, who has and operates a well-established business, an institution and a profession is welcome to join. SAUM has organized three local chapters in Singapore, Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia.

Where there is no local chapter, you are encouraged to meet fellow Adventist businessmen and professionals to organize a local chapter. Assistance will be provided by duly appointed ASI coordinator of the local Mission.

Come and join the happy throng of modern tent makers!

The pen of inspiration says: "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work with those of ministers and church officers." (GW 352)

Therefore, an Adventist businessman, a professional, and a self-supporting worker like you can shape up ASI, and ASI in turn is shaping the future of the church.

So, get INVOLVED today!

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