

News & Views

February 2005

ADRA Report - Tsunami Assistance

As the news broke December 26, 2004, of a tsunami breaking on the shores of Indonesia, the ADRA organizations in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division began an immediate response. The news reports wonderful stories of survivors as well as heart-breaking losses. The latest reports indicate that 212,000 people have lost their lives in this tragedy.

Japan has experienced the devastation from a tsunami. The people appreciate the assistance they have received in the past. So they responded to the need right away. Recognizing that Seventh-day Adventist churches and schools could be damaged or destroyed, the Japan Union Conference officials set up a response where the church members in Japan could help the churches and schools in the devastated areas. This is in addition to the \$110,000 US, given by ADRA Japan. The Tokyo Adventist hospital wired \$10,000 US, to the Penang Adventist Hospital as soon as it learned that PAH was assisting in the affected area.

ADRA Korea has responded with a commitment of \$40,000 US, and continues to collect donations to assist the affected areas. Volunteers have gone to assist in the recovery efforts.

Tsunami disaster funds from appeals to churches in Hong Kong and Macao, newspaper ads, Sam Yuk faculty and students have resulted in total donations of US\$25,014 as of this date. The Chinese Union Mission has voted a donation of US\$10,000 from the HK office, which as already been sent. Additionally, a donation of NT\$250,000 (=US\$7,750) from the CHUM office in Taiwan is being forwarded to the response center.

The staff of the Mongolian Mission Field pledged one day's salary toward the relief efforts upon hearing the news of the disaster.

Our Seventh-day Adventist institution in the affected areas responded right away. The Lakeside Adventist Hospital in Kandy, Sri Lanka opened a dry rations and collection center according to Percy Dias, hospital president. The Penang Adventist Hospital in Malaysia immediately set up a control center and holding area to assist in the relief of the victims.

Below is a summary of what the local ADRA offices are currently doing in their areas.

1. ADRA Myanmar is planning to distribute food to about 10,000 people for approximately six months.



ADRA Sri Lanka preparing to deliver potable water

Look inside

Brazilian Work



PMM Report



Book Fair



Church Planting



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2. ADRA Indonesia posted a 6,158 kg. (13,598 lbs.) shipment to the Medan Adventist Hospital. The shipment included 500 blankets, 40,000 water treatment tablets, 800 units of cereal, soya and vegetarian protein food.

3. UNICEF has asked ADRA Indonesia to take over the WATSAN component in rebuilding the school buildings, constructing housing for teachers and providing supplies for students.

4. ADRA Sri Lanka is flying in face masks and bacterial filters, body suits and blowers for the disinfection of areas where corpses and dead animals have been lying.

5. ADRA Sri Lanka has installed a water disinfection unit in a camp near Trincommalee. The unit produces 5,000 liters of water per hour.

6. ADRA India is implementing a tsunami relief effort in the Andaman Islands. The focus will be to provide shelter for 200 families, and to provide blankets, mosquito nets, water containers and health education in the relief camps.

7. A project is being proposed to enable the displaced families of Great Nicobar Island to access education, health services, and water and sanitation facilities.

8. ADRA Thailand has currently set up operations in Khuraburi, about 200km north of Phuket.

9. ADRA Thailand is repairing the existing gravity-feed, by installing 10 – 2,000 litre tanks, and creating additional outlets to the temporary shelters.

10. A team has successfully completed the pumping out of 7 shallow wells on Phra Thong Island.

Our ADRA organizations from around the world are instrumental in securing \$17.3 million US dollars funding for various projects. The funding includes money for rehabilitating infrastructures and repairing damaged institutions along with the relief effort.

You too may participate by contacting your local ADRA office or giving a gift through your local church marking it for the relief and rehabilitation effort.

Local ADRA offices are listed on the back page.



News & Views

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Brazilian Evangelism in Japan

Currently there are about 300,000 Brazilian residents in Japan. For the foreigners it is no doubt that their lives have various difficulties starting with the language. Further more, when they become an Adventist, relationships with their friends in workplaces and in secular society is very limited because in their the change of life style. In spite of these challenges, church life does give comfort to them.

They are provided with Sabbath school study guides, worship service and singing in their native language, Portuguese, every Sabbath. The church in Shizuoka-ken is a kind of Oasis in the middle of a desert. During the Sabbath school, they stand up and greet each other with smiles, hugging with patting on the shoulder. They thank the Lord and share their testimonies and experiences from the past week, and pray for each other to become unified.

About 40 members attend the church regularly every Sabbath. The youth group meets monthly. They also have a joint camp in the summer. To make church activities more delightful, after church they have fellowship programs to get know each other and share opportunities to evangelize non-members who join them sometimes.

There are three Brazilian groups: Kakegawa shi, Hamamatsu shi in Shizuoka-ken, and Chiba shi in Chiba-ken. They need encouragement and support for evangelizing their brothers and sisters. So far, their church building is rented monthly for 150,000 Yen. They dream of the day when they can worship in their own church building in near future. (Contact Tel. 81-537-21-3338, Pastor Moises Da Silva)



***News Source from "Adventist Life January, 2005, by Kawasaki Katsutoshi, company leader, Kakegawa Shi, Shizuoka-ken"*

New Secretary: CHUM

On January 25, 2005, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division Executive Committee appointed Elder Tsui, Man Yuen (Terry) as Secretary of the Chinese Union Mission.

Elder Tsui comes to the Chinese Union Mission with a wide background of experience which he gained from his years of service in the Hong Kong-Macao Conference, from 1993 to 2004, as church pastor and chaplain, and more recently as Executive Secretary from 2002 to December 31, 2004.

Tsui, Man Yuen (Terry) is a Hong Kong citizen by birth and grew up in Hong Kong. However, he studied Electrical and Electronic Engineering in England from 1985 to 1987. In 1993, when Elder Tsui came under strong conviction that the Lord was calling him to the gospel ministry, he studied Theology at Hong Kong Adventist College and received a BA degree in Theology. In the year 2000, Elder Tsui was awarded an MA degree in Ministry at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies in the Philippines.

As the Lord has abundantly blessed Elder Terry Tsui's ministry and administrative abilities in Hong Kong up to the present time, we are confident that Elder Tsui will provide strong leadership in the Secretariat Office of the Chinese Union Mission as he takes up his new responsibilities.



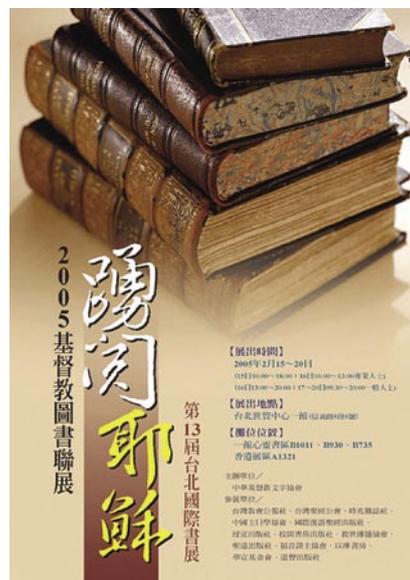
By Stanley Ng, Secretary, Northern Asia-Pacific Division.

2005 Taipei International Book Fair

- Christian Book Exhibition

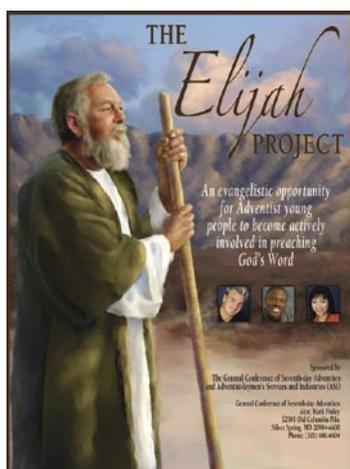
From February 15 to 20, 2005, Chinese Christian Publishers Association in Taiwan will hold the Christian Book Fair in connection with the 13th Taipei International Book Exhibition (TIBE) in Taipei World Trade Center. Taipei International Book Exhibition organized by the Taipei Book Fair Foundation is currently known as the biggest and foremost international book fair in the Asia Pacific region, and one of the four big book fairs in the world. This event will bring about 439,000 participants, including international and domestic publishers and booksellers, as well as book-loving readers. This year exhibition focuses on Korea following last year's focus on Italy.

During the six-day fair in the Capital of Taiwan, the Christian Books and Publications will feature the theme, "Come and Read Jesus (踴躍耶穌)." Many Christian publishing organizations will participate in the event, including "Signs of the Times Publishing Association sponsored by the Adventist Church," "Taiwan Church Press," "Taiwan Bible Society in Taiwan," "China Sunday School Association," "Chinese Bible International Ltd.," Baptist Mission Publisher (浸宣出版社), "Campus Evangelical Fellowship," "ORTV (Overseas Radio and Television Inc.)," "Christian Communications Inc.," and four others.



"Elijah Project" - Youth Evangelism 2005

This year, 2005, there is a special focus on youth evangelism. "By Youth for Youth Evangelism" will be started by a new initiative throughout the world, called "Elijah Project". It is a collaborative effort between the Center for Global Evangelism, the World Youth Department, Personal Ministries/Sabbath School and Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries to involve Seventh-day Adventist youth in the presentation of a full-scale, Christ-centered, doctrinal evangelistic series.



The project aims to hold 7,000 to 10,000 evangelistic meetings in the world by youth during 2005. The GC has assigned a goal for each Division (250 evangelistic meetings in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division within the year 2005). The Elijah Project is an evangelistic opportunity sponsored by the General Conference and the Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries for Adventist young people to become actively involved in preaching God's Word.

As the NSD Annual Council 2004 voted for the Elijah Project, the NSD youth Department (Director Joshua Shin) will endorse the General Conference (GC) goal of 250 assigned meetings during 2005. The youth evangelistic teams will be organized and assigned to 250 series in the NSD territories including Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Mongolia and Taiwan etc.

According to research, when young people are active participants in the evangelistic mission of the church, they remain in the church. Youth involved in sharing the gospel such as "1000 Missionary Movement," ASI Youth for Jesus, and many other youth evangelistic programs around world can play a significant role in revitalizing the church.

Every youth member can join this evangelistic project with various outstanding service, witness, volunteering and student missionary programs. Furthermore, parents, relatives and friends can be actively involved in supporting their youth, and through these young people, evangelistic outreach activities.

With the great expectation of youth evangelism for this year, the Elijah Project will be funded by all church levels, including GC, Divisions, Unions, and Conferences or sending organizations.

Another Best Brands - SDA Language

The SDA Language School (President Kim, Si Young) was credited with the best brand, "SDA," again following last year's award. On January 11, it received first place for the best brands in English language schools for 2005 in Korea. The award event was held by Hankook KyungJae Newspaper and Brand Stock Inc. at the newspaper company hall in Seoul. The brand, "SDA" was selected as one of the 25 best brands from the 239 candidates of the private educational institutes or companies. The Brand Stock evaluates the value of each candidate brand by the BSTI (Brand Stock Top Index) model involved by customers.

Receiving this public recognition, the SDA Language Institute was introduced as "The language school sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church" through the news media in Korea. They say that the Adventist language school strategy of lower tuition, more dedicated teachers, and systematic education works better than other for profit academies, and has been achieving the goal and continually getting good marks in the process.

Since starting its business in 1969, the SDA Language Institute has been leading the foreign language education market in Korea. As of January 2005, there are 35 schools and an internet cyber school (www.sda3605.com) teaching English, Japanese, and Chinese, operated by the language institute in Korea. The first term of this year records more than 47,000 students enrolled.



The Third Group in PMM Training

After the PMM dedication service, the third group of PMM missionaries began their 100 hours training program in preparation for being sent to foreign countries. The first program began last September. This session included lectures in the areas of culture, history, geography totalling 16 presenters in all. This second session from December 19-21, 2004, was for the PMM missionaries to Japan and Mongolia and the third program from December 21-23, was for those going to Taiwan and other Chinese Union Mission territories.

The main program for the first series focused on equipping the PMM's to be able to use "Healing Ministries." Brother Michael Welch and his wife have been the preseters in charge of the training service. The Welch family invited the PMM families to their home and shared how to invite and entertain guests in the mission fields.

The last program, focusing on spiritual training, church planting, and mission planning, was conducted from January 16 to 19, 2005 in the Adventist Training Center in Wonju, Korea. Dr. John McGhee, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries (SSPM) Director of the NSD, was invited as the special speaker. Pastor Kwon JohngHaeng, PMM coordinator of the NSD, Hong, Sung Sun, Ministerial Association director of the KUC, Pastor Hong, Kwang Eu, president of the Adventist Training Center, and Chun, Kwang Soo, secretary, served as major speakers during the four day session.



The third group of PMM families will depart for Japan, Mongolia and Taiwan, etc. between February 14 and March. They will have one year language training in the foreign countries and then serve five years in their mission fields.

Breaking News

Pastor Kwon JohngHaeng and his wife and Pastor Glenn Mitchell are currently visiting the Japanese sister churches of the PMM church plants. The Northern Asia-Pacific Division is honoring the support given the PMM families by these churches by presenting a plaque to the church pastor. As we go to press, Kamenokoyama and Nagano churches have been visited.

Shown here: Pastor Kwon with PMM Pastor Park translating for the presentation. See www.nsdadventist.org for more breaking news. A full report will be given in the next issue of News & Views.



Church Planting Seminar: Mongolia

From January 20-25, 2005, the Church Planting Seminar for volunteers was held at Darhan, 180 kms from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. In spite of the severe cold the enthusiastic pioneers came from six locations to dedicate themselves to becoming involved in the training seminar. It was designed to prepare those who will plant six new churches in Mongolia in the next 12 months.

The church planting seminar conducted by Dr. John McGhee, Sabbath School and Personal Ministry Director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), was divided into two sections; the first one for 36 volunteers from six different areas and the second one for six coaches who are district pastors involved in church planting.

The seminar is unique, because it is the first time volunteer church planters have not been paid. They will plant cell churches using a “ger,” a Mongolian traditional round tent, as the worship center.

Although it was 35 to 40 degrees below zero at night, and minus 32 degrees day time, the church leaders and volunteers participated in the training seminar. Pastor Kwon Johng-Haeng, Global Mission and Pioneer Mission director of the NSD, gave support to the program and Pastor Elbert Kuhn, Ministerial Association Director of the Mongolia Mission Field (MMF), worked together with Dr. McGhee.

There were a lot of amazing stories shared during the seminar. Participants mentioned one young lady who is only 23 years old. She is like a spiritual mother to people there. She is very mature and full of wisdom, and when they have problems they come to her to talk.

Dr. John McGhee, said, “80 percent of the Mongolian church members are under 25 years of age. They are running the church and the church is growing because of young people’s leadership, and God is blessing them. In fact, they have a lot of difficulties: money is very limited, it is extremely cold, and alcoholism is rampant. Their parents are Buddhist and often don’t allow them to have meetings at their home. I found they sometimes have meetings at train stations, libraries, and even outdoors. But they don’t worry about the situations. They are full of optimism.”

“Driving back from Darhan, I saw some shepherds riding tough Mongolian horses while pasturing flocks in -40 °C temperature. Though the ground is covered with snow and ice, the sheep still find grass to eat. “If our young leaders can do just like those shepherds, they will be tough, but gentle. They will not give up easily,” added Dr. McGhee.

Mongolia: AWR 1,000 Short Wave Radios

Since October 2003, the three angels’ messages have been broadcast through the short waves throughout the Asia in Mongolian language to give hope to the Mongolian people. According to director Dale Tunnell, the radio programs are produced in the Mongolia Mission Field, and are broadcast from the AWR Guam station every day for those who cannot access the gospel directly.

Recently, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division took the 1,000 radio distribution project into action for people in Mongolia. A lot of church members contributed donations to support this project. It is expected that 1,000 radios will greatly enable the people in Mongolia to listen to the gospel. These radios will be distributed to the far flung areas of the country. Our church members will encourage groups to gather around these radios to listen to the AWR broadcasts.

Mongolia, well-known as a nomadic country, has a population of 2.6 million. Until the Soviet Union ceased to exist, Mongolia had closed the door to evangelism for 70 years because of communism. In early 1990s, Christian evangelism began to be allowed and Adventism entered in 1992. In 2001, there were 67 members, and the numbers of baptisms has increased rapidly every year. In November, 2004, 703 baptisms took place, showing the great potential and mission in Mongolia.



Retired Pastor's Dedication to the PMM in Japan

Heart-warming news greatly encourages the Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) Missionaries in Japan, as well as our Adventist members in the world. By September, 2004, Suzuki Sigeharu, a 77-year-old Japanese retired pastor, has donated 3 vehicles to the PMM pastors serving in Japan.



First, Elder Suzuki gave one vehicle to Pastor Ko, Ki Rim who is from the first PMM group in Japan, now pastoring in Fukui Church. Second, when Elder Suzuki saw Pastor Lee, Jin Hwan traveling by public transportation to evangelize people in Kawasaki region, Japan, he gave money to Pastor Lee to purchase a van. In fact, Elder Suzuki had been saving his money for his funeral.

The third vehicle was given to the second group of PMM's. He contributed his own car, then purchased another one for himself. His vehicle is a secondhand station wagon he is paying for by installments over a 2-year period. He said, "Now, I can visit the PMM missionaries all throughout Japan. I can drive with my wife and sleep in this car in order to save hotel costs."

The story continues as Elder Suzuki supports the Saga, with his offerings. One of PMM pastor serves this church. In November, 2004, the Korean Union Conference celebrated the Centennial. Elder Suzuki saved about 500 dollars for the trip to participate in this ceremony, but instead he decided to contribute the money to the Saga Church.

When the PMM missionaries and church members found out about Elder Suzuki's dedication, they began a campaign to collect money to assist him in visiting Korea. Many people, both, in Korea and Japan, supported this event. He was given 1,400 dollars to enable him to participate in the celebration.

Pastor Kwon JohngHaeng, Global Mission and Pioneer Mission Movement coordinator of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, said, "First, I thank Elder Suzuki so much for his warm-heart love and contribution to the PMM. I also thank the PMM missionaries' responding in action to the warm-heart contribution of Elder Suzuki. This is very beautiful story showing a kind of both-side exchanging love."



Elder Suzuki said, "I thank the Lord for helping me meet the most thrilling young people, the PMM missionaries, in 70 years of my life. My goal for what is left of life is to support missionaries." Now he is promoting the PMM wearing a shirt with embroidered letters, "PMMS Suzuki." "PMMS" means "PMM Supporter."

Elder Suzuki Sigeharu was born in 1927 in an Adventist Family where his mother and grandmother were Adventists.

During World War II, he was trained as a Kamikaze pilot for the Japanese Air Force. In 1944, while he was in training, he didn't drink and kept himself from immorality, following his mother's teaching. Also, he cleaned the shoes of his fellows every night using his extra time, remembering his mother's saying "Help your friends in difficulty." Later, he found that he survived the war because Captain Kobayashi continued to put Suzuki's name on the last line of the list of those who were to fly the Kamikaze planes on suicide bombing raids, after Captain Kobayashi saw Suzuki shining shoes.



Seventy-nine year old Pastor Suzuki, though retired, has continued in his support of the PMM's. During January he and his wife, only a year younger, undertook a week long 3,100 kilometer trip to visit the pastors in the field. During this winter trip 5 nights were spent in the back of their station wagon that was purchased to save motel bills on such a trip. When asked if they

got cold, they replied, "Oh, we just put on a couple of extra blankets. The joy of ministry shines from their faces as they think of what they can do to support the PMM pastors. Now they have a new project. They are raising money for two additional vehicles to support the PMM's who will finish their language study in March of this year. Pastor and Mrs. Suzuki are determined to do all they can to support the ministry of these pastors in Japan.

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News & Views Information

News & Views has an email address now. You may send articles directly to the News & Views desk.

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NSD Web Site

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division's Communications department is happy to invite you to visit the division web page at www.nsdadventist.org. The



web page is designed to bring you the latest news of activities and events within our division territory. This is accomplished in two different ways. First, breaking news is generally found on the front page. However, you just might be interested in the everyday happenings within one of the departments. For this, you would want to read the departmental bulletin board. The bulletin boards are set up so the departments can quickly write a quick note sharing their activities, including pictures of what is happening.

On the front page you will find links to the Pioneer Mission Movement and Golden Angels bulletin boards. These two boards contain some of the most exciting happenings. The Pioneer Mission Movement pastors in the field are encouraged to share events happening within their district, so you can keep track of the progress they are making. The Golden Angels bulletin board is where you should be able to find the latest on their travels and concerts. Departmental staff are encouraged to quickly post the news, therefore you may see a note posted in one of the various languages of our division. We attempt to translate the most significant items into English. We do this to encourage the sharing of departmental news items. These are just two

of the bulletin boards available. Access to the other departmental bulletin boards is through their department's page.

You may also access past issues of this publication. Thanks to the work of Song Sung Sub (Paul), issues dating back to June of 2003 are available. Current issues are posted to the web before they are mailed, so you can check the first of each month for the latest offering.

The site is not complete and will always be expanding and updating. We encourage you to visit often. Also we would welcome suggestions and/or corrections.



Please visit www.nsdadventist.org often.

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