

Northern Asia-Pacific Division



NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 2, Number 10

Review and Outlook Part 1



Significant Events in 1997

I am not talking about the Adventist Review magazine or the Asia-Pacific Division's official organ, but I am going to make a 1997 review and 1998 outlook.

The year 1997 will be recorded as a year of transition. The Northern and the Southern Asia-Pacific divisions were officially begun as of January 1. The new twin divisions moved their headquarters offices to Korea and the Philippines in June and in November respectively. The significance of the bifurcation of the APD is far more than an addition of another world division. In the long run it will contribute to the enhancement of our Global Mission activities in Asia. China and Mongolia also became a part of the Northern division organization.

One of the biggest events of 1997 is the transfer of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty. China already had a sufficient number of people and territory. Hong Kong population is less than one half of one percent of China's total population and .001 percent in territory. But the transfer has great significance. Hong Kong became a British colony through the series of British invasions and treaties imposed by military force. Hong Kong and Macau have been the last European colonies in Asia. When Macau returns to China in 1999 all of Asia will be under Asia sovereignty.

We do not know how much impact this transfer will have on the Adventist work in Hong Kong and China. We cannot sense any significant impact on China or on Hong Kong yet. However careful watching and monitoring are necessary. I believe the Lord is not only in control but also He has a plan to bring a positive impact on our Global Mission through the

transfer. We have to be ready to capitalize upon every opportunity He provides for us.

The year 1997 was great year for the Mongolian Adventist Church. They attained at least three milestones. The first one was the registration of the SDA Church with the Mongolian Government. It was achieved by the tenacious efforts of our church leadership, especially Mr. Munkjargal, who is taking a Master of Divinity course at Andrews University. Thus the Adventist Church now has legal standing in Mongolia. The second milestone was the tripling of its membership. In October they added sixteen new members by baptism and profession of faith. The third milestone was the organization of the first and only church with 26 members in Ulaan Baatar on October 11. Within a few months the first official missionary family will arrive in Mongolia. An ADRA expatriate worker and two Adventist Frontier missionaries have been working in Mongolia to establish an Adventist presence in this formerly un-entered socialist and land-locked country.

Many of the Asia-Pacific region countries have experienced very serious economic and financial turmoil in 1997. Probably Korea is undergoing the most severe difficulty. It is unlikely that the Korean Adventist church and its institutions will not be affected by the nationwide economic turmoil. The NSD will probably undergo difficulties as well because the Korean church is the major financial contributor. Church leaders on every level of organization should be vigilant and manage the finances carefully in order to prevent vital damage. We have to wisely face this crisis so that it does not deter us from the accomplishment of our mission. I earnestly solicit your prayers for the Korean church and the overall operation of the NSD.

- to be continued in the next issue -

Pyung Duk Chun, *President*


Experience the Power of God's Word

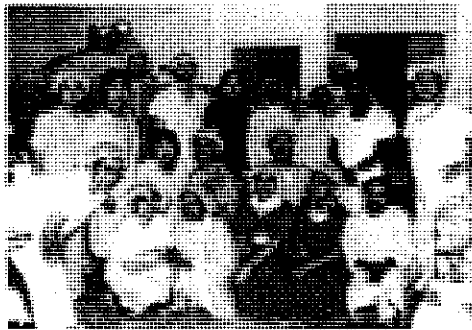
ADRA JAPAN Sent Medical Team to Nepal

52 Free Mouth Surgeries

From November 16 to December 3 in 1997, Stephano Tsukamoto, Director of ADRA JAPAN, organized and sent a 29 member medical team for surgery and treatment of abnormal mouths (harelip and palate) with children in the Kingdom of Nepal. Altogether they performed 52 surgeries at the ADRA Center in Nepal in 18 days under the theme, "Give a Smile to the Nepalese Children."

Nepal is a small country which exists beside the Himalaya Mountains and which is located between two big countries, China and India. The population of the country is about 21 million and 90% among them are Hindus. Most of the people are living in mountain areas and 90% of them engage in agriculture. However, only 30% of the land is possible for cultivation. Consequently, the life of the people is not easy and this fact makes death rate of babies in Nepal very high. It is said that 109 of 1000 new born babies die within one year in Nepal and 197 of 1000 die within 5 years.

The ADRA JAPAN medical service team was composed of 10 medical doctors who are professionals in plastic surgery and anesthesia, 15 nurses, 1 dietician, and 3 others. Regarding the 10 medical doctors, 9 of them are participants from non-Adventist hospitals or universities. On the other hand 8 of the 15 nurses are from 3 Adventist hospitals in Japan. And all are volunteer workers.



The medical team sent by ADRA JAPAN to Nepal on Nov. 16 - Dec. 3, 1997.

The medical team gave a psychological survey to each patient who received surgery. In the survey many patients expressed that they had experienced discrimination or shame because of their mouth



Before Surgery



After Surgery

problems in their childhood. From now on, however, they are convinced that they will be able to begin a new life after surgery by the Japanese medical team. All the Nepalese patients who received treatment were very happy and left the team with big smiles, which became the best souvenirs for the Japanese volunteers.

For this humanitarian project, the Foreign Ministry of Japan gave 4,500,000 yen (about US \$ 37,500) from the NGO fund to ADRA JAPAN. During their service in Nepal, Mr. Yanase who is the ambassador of Japan to Nepal visited Tsukamoto and his team, and he showed a great interest in their work. Furthermore, he talked about cooperation between the Japanese government and ADRA JAPAN in the future.

Stephano Tsukamoto, Director of ADRA JAPAN

PEOPLE OF HOPE

Seventh-day Adventists will communicate hope by focusing on the quality of life that is complete in Christ.

그리스도 안에서 이루는 참된 삶,
제철일 안식일 예수재림교회는
그 희망을 전합니다.

セブンスデー・アドベンチストは、
キリストにあって完成する人生の
質に焦点を合わせて希望を伝えます。

基督復臨安息日會傳揚希望,是在
基督裏所達成有品質生命的希望

We Expect for 1998

From Departmental Directors

1. Expectations 2. The Biggest Events 3. What I would like to say to all our church members.



Communication/ PARL

Director : Tadaomi Shinmyo

1. This year can be a great time for expanding religious liberty (religious freedom) in NSD territory in accordance with the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in which Article 18 defends religious freedom and promotes the respect for human dignity.

2. Religious Liberty Special

Part 1 Symposium of International Religious Liberty Association (One Day IRLA Congress)

Date: June 12 (Friday), 1998 Time : 9:30 - 15:00

Venue: Korean Sahmyook University

Part 2 Festival of Religious Liberty

Date : June 13 (Saturday), 1998 Time : 14:00 - 16:00

Venue : Seoul Adventist Hospital Church

3. We can freely worship God because we have religious liberty. If we do not have religious liberty, we cannot worship God freely. Evangelism is very difficult or almost impossible in those countries where there is no religious liberty. We need to maintain and to expand religious liberty as much as we can.

Education

Director : Masaji Uyeda

1. I expect peace and safety, status quo and advancement of our SDA education operated by our schools in the NSD to prepare our students for the job of wider service in this world and in the world to come.

2. (a) Tri-Union Educational Council

Date: July 27 - 30 Venue: Cheju Island, Korea

(b) Institutional Accreditation Visits

Date: March - November

Venue: Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macao, Korea, Japan

3. Please continue to pray and support SDA Education. Our teachers are working day and night, sometimes having sleepless nights to care for the children and students! May the Lord keep His Face shining upon you, parents of our students, and students studying in the public schools and in our church schools and give you peace and prosperity!

Family/ Women's/ Children's Ministry

Director: Mary Wong

1. We hope to awaken in the women of NSD a greater consciousness of their potential and to encourage them



to play a more active role in the ministries of the church. More programs, materials, and projects will be designed to strengthen the family unit and to provide religious training and nurturing for the children within the church. Efforts will be made to initiate women's, children's and family ministries in areas that do as yet have such ministries.

2. The Bi-divisional Women's Congress in Chiangmai, Thailand (July 2 - 5)

3. Your support for our ministries in 1997 has meant a great deal to us, and we look forward to your continued support in 1998. Many are the challenges that face us as a new division. May we work together to make this year a great beginning for NSD.

Ministerial/ Global Mission/ Health & Temperance



Director : David Parks

1. Ministerial Association Pastoral Training and Satellite Evangelism will be the two areas of special interest in the activities of the Ministerial Association for 1998.

Global Mission Approximately US \$ 767,000 will be channelled into the many Global Mission projects currently going on in the NSD.

Health Ministries The training of Health Directors and non-church employed health professionals will be the top priority for 1998.

2. Ministerial Association (1) World Ministers Council for the Pastors in KUC at the Deer Mountain Retreat Center (June 22- 26). (2) Net '98 Satellite Evangelistic Program, with Dwight Nelson from Andrews University as the speaker, will be conducted at many sites across the NSD (October 9 to November 14).

Health Ministries (1) Workshop on the Adventist Youth to Youth Temperance program will be held at the KUC office (March 15 - 18). (2) A bi-division (NSD & SSD) Health Professionals convention will be held at Chiang Mai, Thailand (April 27 - 30).

3. The best and most exciting days for evangelism in the Seventh-day Adventist Church are just ahead. For many months the General Conference has been developing plans and equipment for a world-wide satellite communication system to be known as the Adventist Global Communication Network (AGCN). The goal is to broadcast Adventist programming in 40 languages, twenty-four hours a day around the world.

One of the major activities of AGCN during 1998 will be the broadcast of Net '98, a satellite evangelistic series originating at Andrews University with Dwight Nelson, pastor of the Pioneer Memorial church as the speaker. This will be our first truly world-wide evangelistic crusade and will be downlinked to approximately 8,000 sites around the world. The series will be conducted from October 9 to November 14.



1998 NSD Events

Youth Leaders' Retreat, Council & Summit
January 28 - February 7
USA

Pan-Asia ADRA Council
February 23 - 26
Chiangmai, Thailand

1000 MM Celebration
March 7
Manila, Philippines

Bi-Division ADRA Leadership Institute
March 9 - 26
Chiangmai, Thailand

Workshop for AY2Y
March 15 - 18
Seoul, Korea

Division Publishing Advisory
March 30 - April 1
Ilsan, Korea

Division Trust Service Certification
March 23 - 30
Seoul, Korea

SS/PM Director's Certification
April 13 - 16
Hong Kong

Bi-Division Health Professional Convention
April 27 - 30
Chiangmai, Thailand

Division Midyear Committee
May 4-6
Hong Kong

Division Religious Liberty Special
June 12, 13
Seoul, Korea

Bi-Division Women's Congress
July 2 - 5
Chiangmai, Thailand

Tri-Union Education Council
July 27 - 30
Cheju Island, Korea



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Tadaomi Shinmyo

Education, Language Schools
Masaji Uyeda

Family, Women's, Children's,
Shepherdess Mary Wong

Health & Temperance, Ministerial,
Global Mission David Parks

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