

NEWS & VIEWS

November / December 2006

NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

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TELLING THE WORLD

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Who Visited Today?

She was alone out on the wind-swept steppes with her willow-branch basket on her back and her little rake-like scoop to toss dried manure into it with. I needed a photo of this to show my friends how the only available fuel was collected for the ger stove. I asked my jeep driver to stop and my interpreter, Nara, and I walked over to ask for permission to take a photo. She obliged, and this “snap-happy development tourist” was soon ready to drive away.

Nara (short for Narantuya) continued to speak to the lady whose name was also Narantuya. She explained briefly to her that we were visiting nine distribution points and that ADRA was trying to assist those affected by the “dzud” that caused the death of 2.3 million of Mongolia’s livestock. I was in a hurry to move on, but decided to hear what this lady’s experience was during the “dzud”.



They had lived a fairly comfortable life before, but the “dzud” had wiped out their entire herd of 10 milking cows. This meant that there were now no dairy products throughout the summer months and none of the traditional cheese had been stored for the winter. There was no money for school, medicines or household needs. Things looked bleak as we probed into the family’s predicament. I asked where she lived, and she pointed to a ger against the side of a



Tell the World

hill about a kilometer away. Even at this distance I could see that the ger was patched and that it was not the snow-white color of the average Mongolian ger.

The ADRA truck bringing up the load of goods for distribution stopped next to us. I asked Gana, the driver, to get out two boxes of food kindly given to ADRA to distribute for the Latter Day Saints Church. They had asked ADRA to distribute two 40-foot containers of food boxes. These were nifty 13 kg boxes that contained flour, rice, noodles, milk powder, oil and even some canned goods. I also asked Gana to hand me down a canvas ger cover that we gave to poor families to waterproof their gers with. We invited the lady into the jeep and drove down through the valley and up to her ger.

I was puzzled by the youngest daughter's reaction to seeing her mother in the jeep with us. I guessed her age to be 5 years. She burst out crying and was almost hysterical. Mother tried to assure her and I dug into the jeep to find some biscuits to give her. Both seemed to help as soon the crying subsided to occasional deep sobs. I was curious to know the reason

for the child's reaction, but only found out after we drove away when Nara explained to me what I had not picked up in Mongolian. The child's last recall of her father had been when they came to take him away in a jeep never to return again. He had died in hospital during the "dzud". Now she was convinced that they had come to take Mommy away too.

I was able to take a photo of the family in front of their threadbare ger. Three of the six children were not present. I dug into my pocket and handed \$15 to the mother as we parted. I just knew it would be spent wisely. I was amazed and humbled at how we had been led to help this destitute family by my simple desire for a photo. Perhaps the parting words of the mother had the greatest sobering effect on me. She said, "It feels as if God has visited my house today."

Have you visited someone for Him today?



The author, ADRA Mongolia director Llewellyn Juby with a Kazak friend inspecting a proposed project site.

The Words of Hope

The General Conference chose the theme of "Words of Hope" for the year of 2007.

There are numerous people around us living from day to day without hope. In fact, we cannot find true hope in this sinful world. No hope means there is no reliable security and no bright future. Instead, there is only fear, uncertainty, frustration and discouragement.

"As people of God, we have a mission: to proclaim the words of hope to the world."

God has shed the light of hope on us who were living in darkness without hope. He has delivered us from this

world of darkness and has led us into the marvelous light of eternal truth. Once we were not the people of God and had not received His mercy, but now by the grace of God, we have become the people of God and have received His mercy (1 Pet 2:9-10). So now we enjoy the Christian life in the light of truth. We do not belong to this world although physically we are still living in this sinful world. In Christ, we are the heirs of salvation (Gal 3:29). We were saved in this hope. (Rom 8:24) We are waiting for the great day of the blessed hope of Christ's Second Coming. Therefore we sing, "We have this hope that burns within our hearts."



Jairyong Lee, President

The Word who has been since eternity (John 1:1-2) is our only hope, and we find this hope in the written words of God. Jesus Christ who is the Creator, Redeemer, and only Hope to this perishing world is returning to end the history of our sinful world and give eternal life to His followers. The Second Coming of Christ is indeed the most blessed hope for the people waiting for the appearance of their Savior.

As people of God, we have a mission: to proclaim the words of hope to the world. It is our mission, privilege and responsibility. Let us lift up the words of hope high in our daily life and among the people who are living in darkness with no hope, expecting a great harvest of souls by the grace of God. "We are to arise and shine. In every land we are to herald the Second Coming of Christ." (8T, 116).

Tell the World the words of hope of His coming! Christ will soon appear to take His people to their heavenly home.



News from Mongolia

The dream started in 2004 when Cabolture church members from Australia came to hold evangelistic meetings in Bulgan. They planned to buy a property there. After much prayer and deliberation the dream became a reality in 2005.

On their return in 2005, the leader of the group discussed the possibility of building a church on the property with the leadership at the Mongolian Mission Field (MMF). After the initial plans were laid, fundraising began and the Lord blessed with donations from Korea, Australia, Mongolia and the USA. Peter Koolik, a builder from Australia was in charge of construction and brought people from Russia, Ukraine and Mongolia to help build the church. Construction itself started in May 2006 and by God's grace the church celebrated its inauguration on September 02, 2006.



The building seats up to 200 people and there is an apartment for the pastor at the back. Pastor Michael Porter from "The Quiet Hour" started an evangelistic campaign on the same day which reaped a great harvest. MMF praise God for His many blessings and continue working on new projects that will help many people learn about the everlasting gospel.

Mongolian church members were very excited about the donation of 1000 Bibles and Hymnals by a church member in Korea on September 7, 2006. In Mongolia, many new members of the church are young people and many are poor and so, it is not easy to buy a Bible or hymnal. There are a lot of people who go to the church without their own Bible. A devoted church member in Korea donated US \$ 6,000, a great support for mission work in Mongolia. MMF director Pastor Kotanko said, "May we all see the fruit from the reading of the Word and praising God."

Congratulations! Sahmyook University

The year is 1906, the missionary to Korea, W.R. Smith realizes the need for an educational institution. Uimyung School is founded on October 10 of the same year. Classes begin in a little cottage divided into seven classrooms in Pojoeng-ri, Soonan, which now belongs to North Korea. Byungyeo, Kim is called to teach the children. Later the school moves further South first to Hoegi where the Adventist Hospital currently is located. The move to its current location occurred in 1949.

October 10, 2006, exactly 100 years later, dignitaries from far and wide, attend celebrations marking the establishment of Sahmyook University. Presidents from our Adventist Institutions in Thailand, Ghana, India, Trinidad and Tobago, Philippines, South Africa and the United States, to mention but a few, join to celebrate this historical moment. Amongst the dignitaries are also former Presidents of

Sahmyook University some recent and some as far back as 40 years, each with their own memories. "We lived here a hundred years ago", jokes one, "When I was here we had the dairy just over there", explains another. Long past are its humble beginnings and Sahmyook has grown to become the largest educational center within Adventist Education.



Amidst greetings from the General Conference President Dr. Jan Paulson, and the Mayor of Seoul, dignitaries listen to the congratulatory remarks mingled with some of the history. At the end of the official ceremonies a helicopter flies overhead spraying colorful smoke as fireworks crackle, blue and white balloons billow into



100 Years!

the sky and confetti showers the onlookers. But the celebrations do not end here and the day is far from over.

In front of the library, where once stood the aviary, an enormous wooden bowl has been constructed and filled with rice and vegetables to make the world's largest bibimbap in an attempt to enter the Guinness Book of World Records. Bibimbap is a traditional Korean dish made of rice and various fresh vegetables spiced with chili paste and soy sauce.



While the students are celebrating the presidents have gathered to discuss "The Role of Adventist Colleges and Universities in the 21st Century". The focus is no longer on history but rather the future. Dr. Chek Yat, Phoon, Director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division and former President of the South East Asia Union College in Singapore challenged the leaders with his key note address. The question was raised whether the education we provide is still on track with the mission and values of our educational institutions or whether we have lost our focus. The reality of our situation was a hard pill to swallow but certainly necessary to admit if we want to improve in the future. We thank God not only for how He has lead us in the past but we ask for His guidance as we look towards the future.



Tell the World

First All Korean Satellite Series

The first all Korean Satellite Evangelistic Series was held September 15 to 23. Pastor Myeong-Kwan, Hong, President of the Korean Union Conference spoke nightly to more than 20,000 people at more than 600 downlink sites. To date almost 1,000 precious souls have followed their Lord in baptism. This series was broadcast throughout Korea and abroad. Korean speak-

ing people from Japan, Taiwan, the USA and other countries gathered together at their local churches and listened as Pr. Hong revealed the beautiful truth of salvation through Jesus. His focus was on the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation and explored Jesus Second Coming as it is revealed to us through the Word of God.



According to Pastor GwangSoo, Park, Chairman of the Satellite Evangelism Committee, the number of the local sites where people gathered to join the Evangelistic Series via Satellite downlink exceeded their expectations. About 2,000 people visited the Korean website daily participating in the big event. On the last day of the series 789 people expressed their desire to be called God's children and give their lives to the Lord through baptism.

On the board of the official website for the satellite evangelism series (www.AD2006.co.kr) hundreds of articles were uploaded. People expressed their feelings and shared their wonderful stories and the things that happened to them during the series. Moonmahk Church of the East Central Korean Conference said, "we praise God for the graceful message given by Pastor Hong and the precious souls we saved during this Satellite Evangelism".



PMM Evangelism

Japan

On two Sabbaths, September 2 and 23, 2006, three precious souls were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ by PMM pastor KwangSung, Kim in Japan. Ms. Sasaki Tatsu first decided to be baptized on September 2. After Ms. Tatsu's baptism which her classmates, Miyazato Keiko and Oshiro Mieko attended they decided to give their lives to the Lord too. Their baptism followed on September 23. Ms. Keiki and Mieko are diligent students of the Korean Class which is run by Pastor Kim and his wife. From September 17 to 23, Yomitan Church, where Pastor Kim is serving, held a week of evangelistic meetings. They invited Pr. Tadaomi Shinmyo, PMM director of the Japan Union Conference, to be the speaker. The Golden Angels supported the evangelistic series. The two ladies faithfully attended the meetings and were touched by the Gospel message. They decided to be baptized on the very Sabbath they finished the series. Pastor Kim said, "I thank God that we see the fruit of the seeds we spread in the name of our God. Please pray for these newly baptized members."



Taiwan

A mission team from Korea including a professional health food chef, the Golden Angels singing group and a few church members from other parts of Taiwan came to support and help out at a series of evangelistic meetings in Taiwan's Douliou Church. The meetings went from June 25 to July 1, 2006. A lot of hard work was put into these evangelistic meetings.

Pastor DaeBok, Jung, the pastor of the church, is also a part of the Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM). Pastor Jung and his family moved from their home in South Korea to Taiwan. They spent their first year in language training before going into the mission field. He put a lot of effort into the preparation of the meetings. In Douliou, he made friends with many of his neighbors. He did house visits almost daily and met with 1,000 residents in the area, talked with them in their own language, and also passed out 3,000 flyers and invitations two weeks before the meetings. One young man came to the meetings every night, but on the last night, he didn't show up. Janece Tsi explained, "The pastor asked me to call him. His parents said he is tired and sleeping. But Pastor Jung did not give up. He found his address, drove to his house, picked him up, and drove back to church. That evening, this man decided to accept Jesus Christ."



Departmental

Grace Link Trials and Victories

While we all feel a sense of accomplishment with the first primary Grace Link quarterlies that have rolled off the press in Mongolia just a few months ago, the uphill task of training teachers how to teach the children in the Grace Link way continues.

The Children's Ministries Director from Mongolia, Cleidi Kuhn reports that they held yet another training session on August 21 and 22 for the Mongolian teachers. The main challenge is to change their mindset and give them the Biblical background and understanding that these young Christians lack.

Shirley Allen from South Africa, who had accompanied her husband who was the speaker for the camp meeting, trained the group of 33 people in using the new curriculum. She also included topics on class discipline, teaching from nature and teaching the children how to pray. Having worked as a children's ministries director for the Portland Conference and currently an associate church pastor, Shirley could not be more qualified to address the audience. While the training was excellent, we sometimes wonder how much was actually comprehended.



The first formal training for using the Grace Link curriculum was held in the Japan Union Conference from September 30 to October 1, 2006. About 70 Sabbath School teachers for children and Children's Ministries leaders came from as far north as Hokkaido and as far south as Okinawa to the Tachikawa Church for this event. The Children's Ministries Director of the General Conference,





Dr. Linda Koh, and Dr. Sally Lam Phoon from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, led the group in an understanding of the philosophy behind Grace Link that underlies the exciting and creative approach to teaching the Bible.

The first Grace Link lessons in Chinese (one set—children’s and teacher’s copies—for Kindergarten and one set for Primary) have just rolled off the press! Mrs. Serene Chong-Yau, the Children’s Ministries director for the Chinese Union Mission



(CHUM) and her assistant, Mrs. Joyce Ng-Sham labored long and hard to get this important task completed in good time. Trying to accomplish this on a shoe-string budget has kept these two ladies working long hours on editing the translation done by college students. Another faithful volunteer, Ms. Asa-Ann Wong, has helped with the editing of the final manuscripts.

The next steps that CHUM will take will be to promote, distribute these quarterlies and more importantly, train teachers to use this new approach to teaching the Bible to ensure that children not only know the Bible at a cognitive level but be led to translate this knowledge into lessons learned and incorporated into the fabric of their lives. Also, Grace Link encourages and challenges children to

witness and share what they have learned every Sabbath with their friends, family and significant others they come into contact with.

Now that these lessons are in print, they will not only benefit the territory of the Chinese Union, but will be available to Chinese-reading people world-wide. Let’s remember to pray for the Holy Spirit to work mightily on the hearts and minds of our Sabbath school teachers as they put into practice what they have learned. We need to pray that the children will be blessed with a fresh understanding of God’s grace and love, concepts very foreign to the culture they are in.

To order the Chinese lessons or find out more about them, contact Mrs. Serene Chong-Yau at the Chinese Union Mission. Her email is: chong_serene@chumadventist.org.



1000 MM 28th Group Commencement

“To love the Lord our God is the heartbeat of our mission~~” Hundreds of young missionaries sang this song with solemn purpose each holding a candle in their hand. As one candle gave light to another candle, numerous lights became one. The darkness was totally dispelled. Tears were flowing down their cheeks. One missionary to another, they couldn’t bear this holy moment.

On the night of September 22, dedication service by candlelight was held for the 137 missionaries at the 1000 Missionary Movement campus in the Philippines before they were sent to their respective mission fields. It was the commencement of service for 28th Group of missionaries.

“As this small candle burns and spends itself to brighten the world, we need to sacrifice our lives to lighten the world by spreading the gospel as missionaries” Pastor Joo, Min Ho, director of 1000 Missionary Movement, encouraged the group.



The solemn atmosphere continued into the next day. On Sabbath afternoon, Communion Service was held for the young missionaries. Before going into the world to spread the gospel mes-

sage, they needed to be equipped with the humility of Jesus. They need to be totally surrendered to Jesus. The presence of the Holy Spirit filled the hearts and minds of these young missionaries with almighty power to go forth.

“Go, Go! Be My Witness!” This phrase was proclaimed to all the attendees on commencement night, September 23. “I believe that hundreds and thousands of people will be saved in the Kingdom of God when Jesus comes again, because of the faithfulness of our missionaries” said Northern Asia-Pacific Division President, Dr. Jairyong Lee who initiated the 1000 Missionary Movement in 1991 while he was the dean of the Theological Seminary at AIAS.

“God has started this holy movement, because He wants to use young people to finish the gospel work”, Dr. Lee said at the commencement ceremony. Since the 1000 Missionary Movement was introduced, nearly 3,700 young people have been inspired by the Holy Spirit to join this great movement, consecrating their whole lives to the Lord as missionaries.

The increasing numbers of young missionaries necessitated the opening of more missionary training centers in various countries. Myanmar, Bangladesh, Russia, Irian Jaya, Mongolia, Malaysia, amongst others number eight branches in total. More than 34,000 souls have been baptized, 353 churches constructed and 596 congregations or companies established. The Lord has truly blessed their work and continues to do so.



Guidelines for Seventh-day Adventist Church Web Sites

The presence of Seventh-day Adventist churches, offices, and institutions around the world has established a global recognition for the Church. Public perception concerning the worldwide family of Seventh-day Adventists is influenced by the lives of members, by the actions of each organization, by denominationally-identified services and programs, and by the maintenance of aesthetic appeal at all physical properties. The Church has adopted and registered, as a trademark, its official name and logo. All denominational organizations listed in the current *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* are authorized to use, for non-commercial purposes, the registered trademarks (“Seventh-day Adventists,” “Adventist,” “SDA,” or any derivative of such; see GC BA 40 40) and logo, of the Church. The right to use the official name and logo of the Church is accompanied by an obligation to protect these against misuse and misrepresentation.

Technological advances have made it possible for a local entity of the Church to exhibit a global presence through a Web site. It is in the interest of the worldwide Church to provide guidance regarding how the Church is portrayed, and thus perceived, through a Web site. All denominational entities choosing to establish an online presence are expected to develop their Web sites within the scope of the following guidelines. Division executive committees may adopt additional guidelines respecting the content and operation of Web sites within the division territory.

1. Only official churches, organizations, and entities administered by organizations listed in the *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* are entitled to use the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s corporate identity symbols (logo graphic and text) as described in the Church’s corporate identity standards manual.
2. Domain names used by Church entities should be owned and registered in the entity’s name, or in the name of another denominational entity, such as a conference, union, or division, that has granted use of its domain name; and a business plan should be established to preserve the domain name for future use by the entity.
3. Every denominational Web site should display appropriate trademark and copyright notices and symbols.
4. Seventh-day Adventist Church beliefs and teachings are to be upheld in content published on all denominational Web sites. Promotional material and information provided through the Web site must be consistent with the beliefs and ethical values of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
5. Widespread public access to a Web site requires that communication and information originating from a site must reflect the courtesies of public discourse. The Church’s message can be communicated in ways that acknowledge diversity of viewpoints while avoiding hostile or offensive remarks and caricatures about other people, groups, or organizations.
6. Seventh-day Adventist Web sites must respect intellectual property rights when posting audio, video, pictures, text, and all other content.
7. All Web sites should display professional appearance, including design, choice of colors, graphics, and layout. It is recommended that Web sites be tested for usability before being made public. Divisions may identify preferred Web site hosts and/or software platforms in order to facilitate connectivity among denominational entities and to maintain technical quality of denominational Web sites.
8. Adventist internal language, jargon, acronyms, and abbreviations are to be used with care on denominational Web sites as they are available to all Internet users, many of whom will have little understanding of such terms. Web site content is to be checked for spelling and grammar.
9. The board or executive committee of the entity having a Web presence is ultimately responsible for the maintenance, content, and operation of the site. Therefore, each entity is expected to establish a system for monitoring and oversight, including the appointment of personnel who are entrusted with responsibility for managing the Web site and its content. Care should be exercised in selecting types of information that is made available for global access.
10. In the context of the Internet culture, Web pages which include time-sensitive information should be updated on a regular basis. It is recommended

that a monitoring system be established to measure unique visitors or page views.

11. Care should be exercised when selecting links to other Web sites. Information portrayed on Web sites linked to a denominational entity's site should be supportive of the Church's mission, message, and values. Legal counsel should be obtained as to whether or not commercial activity facilitated by the Web site will jeopardize the organization's status as a religious, not-for-profit organization.
12. Denominational entities sponsoring Web sites are responsible for ensuring that the operation and content of the site is in compliance with applicable laws,

including requirements for the privacy protection of children who may access the Web site or whose picture may be placed on the Web site.

13. A feedback option for visitors to leave inquiries and comments is recommended.

These guidelines were voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee at the Annual Council Session in Silver Spring, Maryland, October 10, 2006.

Help in a Mongolian Prison

I'm from Khentii Aimag (Province). I was adopted when I was a baby, but then abandoned with my grandmother to raise me. I was just seven years old when she died. Then I started wandering between my relatives. I never attended mainstream school.

On 7th October of 2004, I was arrested and imprisoned to Gants Hudag Pre-detention Center. At the time of my arrest I was illiterate. I was lucky that the ADRA Mongolia was running literacy classes at the PDC and I was involved in the training. Now I can read and write. I attended the ADRA training classes for more than a year while awaiting trial. During that time I learnt many new skills such as reading, writing, counting, Mongolian language, health and life skills.

The crime which I committed gave me no chance to avoid punishment and the minimum penalty according to the Criminal code, was eight years of imprisonment. I was sentenced to 8 years and 10 days of imprisonment. I was very lucky to have Ms. Munkhbayar, ADRA officer, as my teacher. She was shocked by the heavy sentence and promised me to help. Thanks to my two teachers and all the UPTP project staff I was released as ADRA hired an advocate for me who did her best to free me from sentence. ADRA paid the damage charge of 249,000 MNT (US \$210). They gave me the freedom because they trusted me and believed in my personal qualities. I feel guilty for what I did in the past, but thanks to the good ADRA staff I realized that it wasn't the right path to choose in my life.



Now I'm free and I live with my relatives. At the moment I'm unemployed, but I'm eager to work and I will do any job as soon as I get my documents ready. I need some vocational basic skills and ADRA has involved me in its Youth Enterprise Project training in hair-dressing. My life is now meaningful and I have goal in life. I feel so good about myself.

Ganbaatar ALTANABAGANA
PDC student