**SINCE 1975** 

# Mission Outreach

## **MONTHLY REPORT**

nzmo.org

## **JUNE 2022**

## **A Church Under Pressure**

The Iranian revolution of 1979 established a hard-line Islamic regime. During the next two decades, Christians faced increasing opposition and persecution when missionaries were kicked out, evangelism was outlawed, bibles were banned, and pastors were killed. The church came under huge pressure and many were concerned it would die.

The Good News is that the exact opposite has happened! Despite unrelenting hostility, Iranians have become more open to the Gospel than any other Muslim nation.

Two factors have contributed to this openness. (1) violence in the name of Islam has caused disillusionment with the regime and led many to question their beliefs. (2) Despite persecution, many Iranian Christians have continued to boldly tell others about Christ. As a result, more Iranians have become Christians in the last 20 years than in the previous 13 centuries! Everything the enemy has thrown at the church in Iran has backfired – Banning the bible, closing churches, censoring television and the internet, killing and imprisoning believers. All these did is make them more curious and determined to seek Jesus and tell others about their Saviour.

Although we glorify God for what He is doing in Iran, the pain of persecution remains as lives have been lost, homes and livelihoods stolen and families torn apart. Some will carry the physical and emotional scars of their suffering for the rest of their lives. Yet they are determined to rejoice and not shrink back, as the Apostle Paul declares, "We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (Rom. 5:3–5)

God's renewing is so beautifully evident in the following testimony of a transformed life:

Hamed was a smuggler and drug dealer who was violent and unkind towards his wife for many years. But after reading the New Testament and giving his life to Christ, he began to change. Seeing the transformation in Hamed's life, his wife also gave her life to Jesus. Today they are being trained to serve as evangelists.

Please support the Iranian church by praying for continued openness to the Gospel, perseverance and genuine faith among believers. And by Partnering with us for PEARL 22 for the supply of Iranian New Testaments to help grow this "Church Under Pressure!"

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## **Restoring Cambodia**



Cambodia has long been associated with the "Killing Fields" civil war era of the 1980s. An estimated 2 to 3 million people perished under an extreme Marxist-style government that seized control at the end of the Vietnam War. This resulted in the nation being taken back to "Year Zero".

The late MO founder Eddie Cairns and current director Neil Mossop were among those who journeyed through this land praying and ministering to the surviving remnant church. It had grown through revival in the neighbouring refugee camps even while the feared Khmer Rouge was still active. A new generation of national leaders has emerged to disciple the growing young church, now numbering in the hundreds of thousands in a predominantly Buddhist nation.

One ministry that has helped in restoring this nation and many other nations back to its identity and dignity through the work of Christ is Prison Fellowship International (PFI). PFI was introduced in last month's MO report in the article "Healing and Redemption". Carlos' powerful story demonstrated a precious ministry that offers prisoners hope, repairs broken lives, protects children and ignites change to transform lives. Prison programs such as "The Prisoner's Journey" and "Sycamore Tree", along with "Resiliency of Spirit" class, Bible teaching and practical re-education, and "The Child's Journey" for the children of prisoners are enriched by the supply of Bibles to the prisoners and their children.

Kiwis have played a major part in building the ministry of PF Cambodia up as a nationally-run organisation. Former Faith Bible College graduate Adam Hutchinson and his wife Colleen became managers of PF Cambodia's rehabilitation program in 2005 before Adam became Executive Director for several years during which he developed and then handed over to local leadership.



In 2013 Adam and Colleen began a new role with PF International to take their knowledge and expertise into the global ministry by extending the capacity of national ministries to run a Children of Prisoners' program that had its roots in the ministry in Cambodia. Adam now serves as Senior Director of Global Capacity overseeing the continued building of chartered Prison Fellowships to run PF International's life-changing proven programs in more countries. PF has become a movement of 118 affiliated indigenous ministries world wide and has an ambitious goal to reach 2 million prisoners every year – 20% of the world's prison population.

PF Cambodia works in most of the provincial prisons, even being able to build a dedicated church building in Phnom Penh's main "CC2" prison for Bible teaching and spiritual resilience programs. PFC has earned the respect and key partnership role with the Government's Corrections service through the witness of changed lives and improved behaviour of prisoners.

Many children of prisoners in Cambodia live in rural areas where it may be difficult to access education. PFC, along with international child sponsors, helps protect children of prisoners who are often stigmatized for having a parent in prison by providing food, clothes, safety, spiritual and emotional care, and assistance to stay in school.

Executive Director of PFC Sabun Ou has advised us of the need for around 700 Bibles each year particularly for two Bible classes: The "Resiliency of Spirit" class that runs in the prisons, and also the "The Child's Journey" program which is for the children of prisoners. He says he counts it a privilege and honour to serve prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families.

Partner with MO in Pearl 22 to lend strength to the growing church of Cambodia in supporting the supply of Bibles to prisoners and their children.

Photos courtesy of PFC. For more information on Prison Fellowship go to <u>www.pfi.orq</u>

"For the word of God is living and active and full of power [making it operative, energizing, and effective]. It is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as the division of the soul and spirit [the completeness of a person], and of both joints and marrow [the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and judging the very thoughts and intentions of the heart." - Hebrews 4:12 (AMP)



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## **PROJECTS IN FOCUS**

## **PEARL 22**

## **Uganda Bibles**

The need for Bibles in Uganda is greater than ever to bring encouragement, give instruction, direction and transformation for individuals, couples, families and communities. What an honour to be able to meet this need. Price per bible is currently \$15.

## Pearl22 Project Goal: 50,000

## **Chinese Bibles**

Project Pearl in 1981 was significant for Eddie and the many others who helped with this epic delivery of Chinese bibles. As the need for these has not diminished, we believe bibles for China are as important now as they were then. The price per bible is \$4.50.

Pearl22 Project Goal: 100,000

## **Telugu Bibles for India**

We have several contacts for India who all have a need for bibles in the churches they work with. The church in this nation is growing rapidly, as fear and persecution have opened the door for the Lord's people to reach out and share the gospel of Jesus. The cost per bible is \$5.30. Pearl22 Project Goal: 50,000

## **Bibles for Pakistan & Afghanistan**

We are excited to have another contact to distribute bibles into Pakistan and Afghanistan who are able to purchase them for \$5.30 each.

## Pearl22 Project Goal: 10,000

## 600 New Testaments for Bhutan - COMPLETED!

We are delighted to report that this project has been completed. Thank you and blessings for your help.

## **Bibles for Iran**

Despite Government efforts to ban bibles in Iran, their actions made the people more eager to have one. Demand for New Testaments also soared and many say they have been searching for years for a copy. Help us help our brethren in Iran to have their own New Testament. Cost per bible is \$7.60 Pearl22 Project Goal: 5,000

## New Testaments with Q&A for Nepal

As part of our Pearl 22 One Million bibles, MO has committed to help supply 10,000 Nepali New Testaments with Psalms, Proverbs with approximately 240 Questions & Answers. These are common guestions and biblical answers with references. This is extremely valuable for the young people and those who have converted from Hinduism. Cost per New Testament is \$3.80 Pearl22 Project Goal: 10,000

## **Bibles for Cambodia**

The Executive Director of PFC explained to MO of the need for around 700 Bibles each year particularly for two Bible classes: The "Resiliency of Spirit" class that runs in the prisons, and the "Child's Journey" program which is for the children of prisoners. He says he counts it a privilege and honour to serve prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families. Cost per bible is \$8.50.

Pearl22 Project Goal: 700

## **Ukrainian New Testaments**

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has forced 6.48 million people to flee the country. In cooperation with VoM we wish to help feed these hungry souls with New Testaments. Cost of these is \$4.80 each. Pearl22 Project Goal: 10,000

## **RESPONSE COUPON**

## **JUNE 2022**

		Pakistan/Afghanistan Bibles (PKAFPRL22)	\$
Name:		Cambodian Bibles (CAMPRL22)	\$
Address:		Ukrainian Bibles (UKPRL22)	\$
Post Code:		Bibles for Iran (IRNPRL22)	\$
Email:		Pearl 22 Where Most Needed (WMNPRL22)	\$
Phone or Mobile:		Nepal Radio Programme (NEPRAD)	\$
Pearl 22:		Nepal CMTC Bible College (NPBC)	\$
Chinese Bibles (CHPRL22)	\$	Tibetan Leaders Support (TIBLDRAH)	\$
Uganda Bibles (UGPRL22)	\$	China Pastors (CHPSTR)	\$
Nepal NT with Q&A (NPNTPRL22)	\$	Where Most Needed: (WMN)	\$
Telugu Bibles, India (INDPRL22)	\$		

Payments can be made from our website at: nzmo.org or via online banking to our BNZ bank Account number: 02 0466 0034018 00. Please specify your preferred project or funds will be allocated to 'Where Most Needed'.



## **PRAYER CALENDAR**

## **PEARL 22**

1 Praise God for His blessing in the release of finances and the generosity of MO supporters for Pearl 22. Declare blessing, prosperity, health and covering over all MO supporters, their families, businesses and works unto the Lord.

2 Praise God that His increase knows no end, that our steps are directed by Him, that His resources will meet every need. Ask for divine strategies for fruitfulness and multiplication.

**3** Give thanks for the doors He is opening into many nations to partner with leaders to facilitate the supply of Bibles. Ask for wisdom, empowering grace and protection for leaders and contacts in Uganda, China, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Tibet, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Ukraine.

### GLOBAL

**4 & 5** Pray that the poor are not defined by their poverty but rather by their belonging to the Faithful God.

6 Pray for women abducted and forced into unwanted marriages. Pray that they would know the supernatural love of God that would overcome their experiences and enable them to shine. Pray for God's intervention into their situations and daily life.

#### PERSECUTED CHURCH

7 Pray for those imprisoned and suffering for their faith. Pray for a covering of grace, strength, courage and boldness.

8 Pray for the encouragement of Church leaders and a fresh anointing on them to lead and that more will be trained and maturing in faith.

### IRAN

9 Praise God for bold evangelists like Nasrin who despite imprisonment and interrogation, continue to serve Jesus. Praise God for believers who have bravely given out New Testaments and shared their faith. Declare God's honour and favour over them. Pray against any hindrance to the Kingdom endeavours of these believers, and that the Holy Spirit in them would bring salvation, healing and deliverance to many.

<u>CAMBODIA</u> 10 Praise God for Prison Fellowship giving hope and life to prisoners and their families. Pray for blessing and favour on the workers to carry the Father's heart to the broken. Pray for Bible supply and every provision for this ministry. Pray that the prisoners would encounter the God of grace and be filled with joy.

## **UKRAINE/RUSSIA WAR**

11 & 12 Praise God that He is using troubled times as an opportunity for His people to anchor into Him. Pray that believers would rest in Peace, free from fear and grow in intimacy with Jesus. Pray for others to cry out to God in their despair and find Him.

13 With the supply of wheat to the world through Ukraine being severely threatened due to the war, pray for a turning to and trusting in the Lord for His sustaining power, for only in Him do all things hold together (Col.1:17). Pray for a humbling and seeking of Him, repentance from relying on human endeavours apart from Him, and a joy in coming into divine order.

## MUSLIM WORLD

**14** Praise God for multiple reports of visitations of Jesus in dreams and visions to Muslims during Ramadan this year. Ask God for more of this revelation of Himself to people in restricted nations. Ask for divine connections for the seekers with Christians who can answer their questions and lead them to Jesus. Celebrate the transforming power of Truth and Life.

#### AFGHANISTAN

15 As the enemy seeks to further suppress women with the Taliban enforcing that women cover up, pray for the spirit of Esther to be on the women to stand in their identity and dignity that only comes through Christ. Declare God's Holy Spirit fire on them to rise up in purpose and destiny to lead their nation. Pray for boldness, courage and the spirit of prophecy and wisdom.

16 Ask that God raise up men of integrity, righteousness and wisdom like Mordecai to lead the nation in courage and strength. Declare righteousness be exalted in this nation.

17 As Bibles are brought into this nation, pray that seeing eyes made blind, for the protection and blood of JC over those bringing bibles and literature in to this nation.

## PAKISTAN

18 & 19 Pray for Bible distribution from Pakistan into Afghanistan and Iran. Pray for seeing eyes to be made blind, for a covering over every operation.

#### UGANDA

20 Pray that Pastor John would not be weighed down by responsibilities but would let Jesus carry them, and in turn receive His lightness, grace and refreshment. Pray that as John rests in the shadow of the Almighty, he would flourish and prosper in the work of the Lord. Pray for abundant resources, more than enough for every need. Pray that Pastor John and

Ruth would beacons wherever they are placed, where people would be drawn to Jesus in them. Praise God for His victory!

#### **BHUTAN**

**21** Pray that the deception of Buddhism would be exposed and eyes would be opened to see the Way, the Truth and the Life. Pray that God would use dreams and visions to reveal himself, and that gospel bearers would hasten.

#### NEPAL

22 Pray for the preparation of teams from MO going to help with 'Body Builders for Christ' to train over 600 pastors and leaders in church empowerment and discipleship later this year. Pray that these 600 pastors and leaders will be able to achieve the goal of training and discipling 12000 believers in the months following their training.

23 Declare a release of finances for the printing of 40000 copies of teaching material for the 'Body Builders for Christ' training.

24 Pray for Emmanuel school students for grace and blessing on their education and that they and their families would also come to know Jesus. Pray for divine wisdom and blessing over the teachers as they teach.

USA 25 & 26 Praise God for steps taken towards the establishment of MO USA, including registration with Arizona Corporation Commission and the first board member recruited. Praise God for connections made and ask God for more. Pray for more divine appointments and open doors for Warren to share the vision of MO and Pearl 22.

**27** Pray for Warren and Joelene's good health, blessing, and provision as they stand as pillars of faith and banners for God's purposes in the earth.

28 Praise God for the connection with a Nepali church in USA. Praise God for the unfolding of his purposes. Pray blessing on this church.

### **NEW ZEALAND**

29 Ask and thank God for wisdom for the MO Board in being directed by Holy Spirit in every decision.

30 Praise God for more radio towers being installed for LifeTalk radio to Hindi speaking people. Praise God for His Word going out farther and wider and accomplishing His purposes. Pray a blessing on the families who have been willing to have the antennas set up on their property for this purpose.



## Weekly Prayer Meeting: Join us on Monday nights to pray for the nations at 'The Sanctuary' 159 Durham St, Tauranga at 7:30pm or via ZOOM. Email: <u>alan@nzmo.org</u> for an invite. Legacy Giving:

A bequest to Mission Outreach in your will is a way to leave a lasting impact of eternal value - contact <u>wendy@nzmo.org</u> for more information.

## **JUNE 2022**