

ACMS Overview

VISION

to see people in Asia transformed by the love of Jesus Christ

MISSION

- to equip, network and resource local leaders who have a heart for mission and to transform lives through Christ.
- to offer contextual and cross cultural missions training to support national mission movements and churches.

ACMS is a faith based Asian ministry that seeks to walk alongside existing mission organizations, churches and church networks across denominations. ACMS emerged from the Church Mission Society (CMS) as an independent mission body, while continuing to be part of the larger CMS family we now serve within Asia with an Asian Board and leadership. CMS has a mission history which spans over 200 years in this South Asia region. CMS is now a multi-denominational Mission Movement. ACMS shares this heritage and commitment to mission and partnership.



this issue

Letter & ACMS overview	P.1
Building partnership across churches in India	P.2
Living out your faith in a multi cultural context & SACYN 2015	P.3
Co-Mission Partner Program & In the frontline fighting against human trafficking, drug addiction and HIV/ AIDS	P.4

Letter from the Coordinator

Dear Partners in God's amazing mission,
Warm greetings from the ACMS Family!

It is a great joy to share with you news from the AsiaCMS team in India and our mission partners serving in different parts of India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. These past months brought with them their share of challenges but we are grateful to our Lord for His faithfulness in ensuring that things move forward in accordance with His will and plan.

Since October last year, I have been almost constantly on the road visiting our mission partners and links and it's been so encouraging to see how the Lord is working in different parts of our country.

In this newsletter we share with you a glimpse into the spheres of mission work we are involved in, with the hope that you will uphold us in your prayers. Please get

in touch with us if you wish to know more on our mission partners and training.

As you are aware, the body of Christ in Asia and especially within the Middle East is going through deep waters of persecution. In India and South Asia we have growing concerns of and disturbing cases of communal violence. It is in this context that we serve alongside the wider church and mission. Let us be faithful to uphold in prayers our brothers and sisters who are suffering and continue to labour together in God's mission.

In Him

Stephen Edison
Coordinator, South Asia, ACMS
stephen.edison@asiacms.net



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS CHURCHES IN INDIA

AsiaCMS Team of Dr Tan Kang Sang, Stephen Edison & Lee Loun Ling had a blessed and fruitful time with historical church partners, mission partners and links in India. It was a travel that traversed from Kerala to Manipur meeting wonderful people of God and exploring how God wants us to come alongside in partnership. We were encouraged and blessed and excited to see the partnership paths ahead

CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA – KERALA DIOCESES

Madhya Kerala Diocese:



Dr Kang Sang and Stephen were invited by the Diocese of Madhya (Central) Kerala to be part of their annual convention. We are very thankful to Bishop Rt Rev Thomas K. Oommen and the diocese for their kind hospitality and warm welcome. Dr Kang Sang and Stephen delivered greetings and Dr Kang Sang shared from God's word in one of the sessions. We were very encouraged to visit colleges, schools, printing presses and other institutions which were founded by CMS missionaries in Mavelikara, Kottayam and Alleppy, and to see how they continue to have an impact on the lives of people through the church. It was also a blessed time of renewing relations with the diocese, and we look forward to building on our shared heritage and history, prayerfully exploring avenues to collaborate in His mission.



East Kerala Diocese:

It was a privilege for Dr Kang Sang and Stephen to be invited by the Bishop of East Kerala Diocese Dr K. G. Daniel to the Diocese of East Kerala convention. Dr Kang Sang was the main speaker. East Kerala is the fastest growing within the Church of South India in Kerala. It was a joy to see how the Lord has been working through them to reach out to the hill tribes and to see how committed the church leadership and members were for His mission. We also visited churches founded by CMS missionaries and were reminded of what is possible through God in spite of all hardship, challenges and obstacles. The leadership of AsiaCMS and Diocese of East Kerala will prayerfully explore avenues of partnership in mission.

South Kerala Diocese:

The meeting with Bishop Rt Rev A. Dharmaraj Rasalam of South Kerala Diocese was a fruitful one to explore ways forward and partnerships.

BANGALORE:

Loun Ling, training director of AsiaCMS, joined Stephen and Dr Kang Sang for the time in Bangalore. We had a blessed time of fellowship with the leadership of IEM, KERYGM, TAFTEE and Peacemakers. Dr Kang Sang took a 3-hour module on Buddhism for the contextual Theology MTh students as SAIACS.



Evangelical Churches Association (ECA)

) invited Dr Kang Sang as one of its main speakers. It was a fruitful time of initial meetings with the church leadership and an exploration of potential future partnerships. We are very happy to have a pastor from ECA joining Asia Gateway Training in Malaysia. It was a joy also to visit and spend time with the Children at Bethesda home in Manipur.



Kang Sang and Stephen at CRD, Trivandrum (South Kerala Diocese) ➤

MISSIONARY TRAINING COURSE.

The National Mission Commission of Nepal (NMCN) runs a 3-month Residential Missionary Training to equip and mobilize missionaries to the unreached areas of Nepal, India and Bhutan. We have been able to train hundreds of the native, Indian and Bhutanese missionaries and adopted them to work with their denominations to join hands to reach out to the unreached. Of the graduates, 98 percent of them have gone to the mission field.

The training centre has served as a national body to train and equip missionaries from Baptist, Pentecostal, Assemblies of God, Evangelical, Independent, Believers Churches, Friends Mission and several other independents for co-sending to plant churches. At the mission training we focus on Cross-cultural Mission, Holistic Mission and church planting besides several other missiological subjects.

The NMCN ministry is led by Ram Prasad Shrestha, a Co-Mission Partner of AsiaCMS.

LIVING OUT OUR FAITH AUTHENTICALLY IN MULTI-FAITH CONTEXT

On 7th February 2015 ACMS organised a one-day seminar at UTC on Living out our Faith Authentically in Multi-Faith context. Rev Noel Kotian (EFI) and Rabbi Jayakaran (Peacemakers) who are Co-Mission Partners of ACMS and Rev Anilal M. Jose (UTC) were the local coordinators of this program. Dr Kang Sang, Stephen and Loun Lin were in Bangalore for this program. The one-day seminar gave an introduction to our major religions and examined the elements vital to genuine encounters with followers of different belief systems and

worldviews. The 20 people who participated in the sessions have gone back inspired to invest in friendship and fellowship with people from other faiths.

Dr Kang Sang shared on key elements of engagement and also on engaging with Islam. Chitra and Rabbi Jayakaran shared on engaging with Hindus authentically. The participants expressed the need for more such programs so that more people from the Church could get trained in such a crucial aspect of living our faith out in a multi-cultural context. We prayerfully look to plan ahead.



SACYN DUBAI 2014 DISCIPLESHIP ON THE MOVE



South Asia Christian Youth Network (SACYN) with AsiaCMS as coordinating partner has a vision to identify and work with key Christian youth leaders from major regional churches who can impart vision and motivation, extend the network, provide leadership and be catalysts. Each year we bring together church youth leaders from major denominations from South Asian countries for a time of growing in fellowship and training on issues key to Church and society in the region.

A total of 48 youth leaders from 9 countries attended this unique training. The participants comprised 30 men and 18 women leaders from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, UK,

Malaysia and Singapore.

SACYN 2014 was an opportunity to reach out and experience the lives of the often forgotten South Asian Diaspora community. The training, the exposure visits, and local church fellowships provided the youths an opportunity to understand the unique context of South Asians outside South Asia. The information shared, the learning imparted and the knowledge acquired will empower the leaders to be efficient and effective in their respective positions and assignments. The friendships made, the connections established, the relationships built during the event will definitely continue to strengthen the future leadership of South Asian churches.

IN THE FRONTLINE FIGHTING

AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING, DRUG ADDICTION AND HIV/ AIDS



HIV/AIDS, girl child trafficking and drug addiction are huge challenges faced by the local communities in Nepal. Bhibin Shakya is creatively engaging in raising awareness on these issues and supporting those affected by them.

His key areas of work include empowering HIV infected and affected families, raising awareness in the community on HIV & AIDS, girls trafficking, drug addiction and teaching holistic mission for church leaders.

His work involves extensive travel to remote needy areas of Nepal. He supports and encourages the tremendous job carried out by their part-time staff on the border areas against girls trafficking and other issues. He is also involved as a deacon in the Church and continues to give leadership to various activities of the Church.

Here is what Bhibin says:

“There are more than 30 orphaned children whose parents died of AIDS, who need care and support for their education. At the moment, they are using their day time in our day care centre but need parental care and education. It has become a challenge for me to address their needs. The Lord spoke to me to help these poor and orphaned children. I am committed to this challenge because it

has encouraged me to fulfil His commandment through serving these people. I am trying to share with my friends and relatives to pray for and support them.

Another challenge is to start a counselling and training centre in Butwal, west region of Nepal. I am really encouraged as local pastors, leaders and young people felt an acute need for the centre but funds have become a challenge. However, I have been praying and sharing with prayer partners and God's people since last year and hope to see this dream the Lord gave fulfilled in the coming days. Do pray and stand with me.”

Pray for Bhibin and his team, their challenging areas of work and their dreams for a better tomorrow for the people of Nepal. If you would like to support in prayer or giving to Bhibin, do write back to us.



Bhibin Shakya
AsiaCMS co-Mission Partner
Kathmandu, Nepal

CO MISSION PARTNER PROGRAM (COMP)

AsiaCMS partners with local mission movements in supporting and equipping local leaders to engage in mission.

The CoMP Partners are serving in

challenging places bringing the hope of Christ to people in difficult circumstances.

We are privileged to partner currently with churches and mission organisations across South Asia to send out 20 co-mission partners serving in different parts of India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

They are doing amazing work, making Christ known through

evangelism, discipleship, drug rehabilitation, counselling for abused children, training church leaders, equipping first generation believers,

HIV-AIDS rehabilitation and more. Alongside here is a glimpse of one such Co-Mission Partner's work.

Support the Mission:

Cheques in favour of Asia Collaborative Mission Service India can be sent to: Post Bag No.13 , Patel Nagar , New Delhi 110008.

for Bank Transfer

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Contact Details

email: asiacmsindia@outlook.com