

Streams of grace

Transforming Graveyard to Vineyard



**Celebrating
40 Years of
God's Faithfulness**

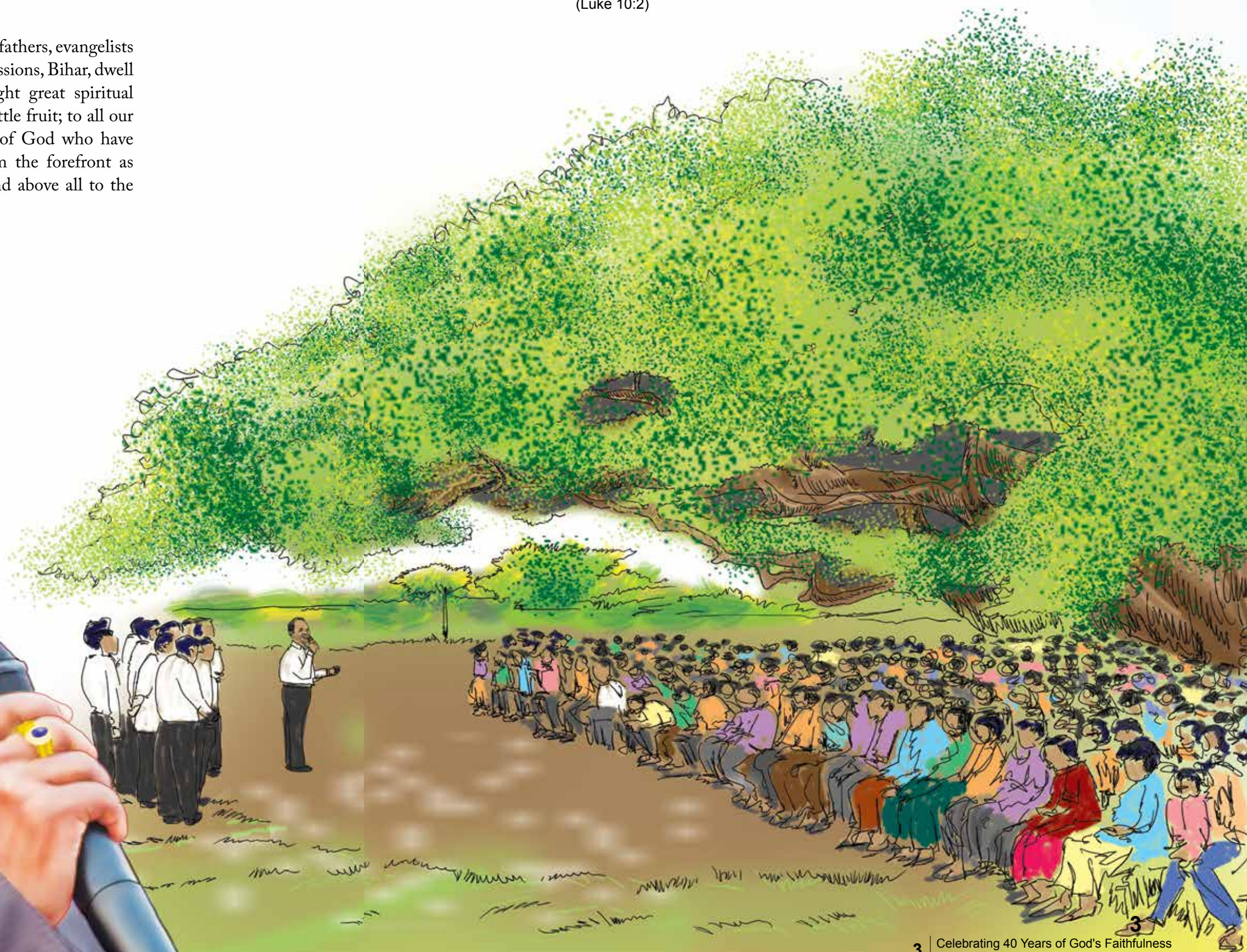


**HONORING
OUR PAST,
CELEBRATING
OUR PRESENT AND
EMBRACING
THE FUTURE**

**“The Harvest is Plentiful,
But the workers are few.”**

(Luke 10:2)

DEDICATED to our departed forefathers, evangelists and laities in the Graveyard of Missions, Bihar, dwell in the heavenly abode, and who fought great spiritual warfare in this land in spite of seeing little fruit; to all our mentors and loving men and women of God who have led the North Indian evangelism from the forefront as a glowing source of spiritual fervor; and above all to the Holy Trinity.





HOPE INDIA MISSION

Hope India Mission (HIM) or Emmanuel Christian Fellowship Center (ECFC) as it is known in India, is a missionary organization founded in 1984 by pioneer missionary Rt. Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham. From Bihar State, the expanding body of ministry grew out to the neighboring states like West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Ladakh. HIM seeks to lift the name of Jesus in one of the very least reached and historically antagonistic regions for the Gospel. God has blessed HIM'S efforts so that today more than 300 full-time staff are engaged in various departments of Hope India Mission. It has an expanding body of 58 central churches, hundreds of House Churches, two orphanages, one Bible College with 17 branches in four states, five mission schools, and many other social and compassion projects across nine States.



STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in the Holy Scriptures, composed of sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments as originally given by God; inspired, infallible, entirely trustworthy, and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

We believe in one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, active in the works of creation, providence, and redemption.

We believe in the full deity and humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His vicarious attainment, providence, His bodily resurrection and ascension, and His ministry in the world as the only Savior and final judge of mankind.

We believe in the dignity of man created in the image of God, his subsequent fall and universal sinfulness, and his need for justification and regeneration appropriated through personal repentance and faith in Christ.

We believe in the Holy Spirit by whose work of sanctification and indwelling the believer is enabled to live a Holy life, witness, and work for the Lord, and serve responsibly in the contemporary world.

We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in Christ visibly composing the church, the body of Christ, visibly expressed in worship and service in society.

We believe in the personal return of the Lord in power and glory, resulting in those who are saved to eternal life, and those that are lost to eternal death.





Aneesh Joseph
Editor



Robert Krahn
Associate Editor



Kathy Krahn
Associate Editor



Princy Abraham
Associate Editor

Editorial Board

The 40th Anniversary Souvenir editorial board congratulates Hope India Mission on its noteworthy milestone accomplishment. God's wonders and faithfulness were evident throughout the years despite a ton of challenges and obstacles. God is truly faithful!

This is our humble effort to present the second Souvenir of Hope India Mission to show the faithfulness of our Lord Jesus Christ. We feel honored to have been granted this significant task. We want this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our missionaries, friends, and other content providers who assisted in making sure the contents are not only precise but that the titbits will survive throughout the generations. This souvenir may not be content-rich as it is supposed to be due to several reasons such as lack of time, effort, and budget. However, we have attempted to cover all the vital data related to history, progress, testimonies, and supporting photos.

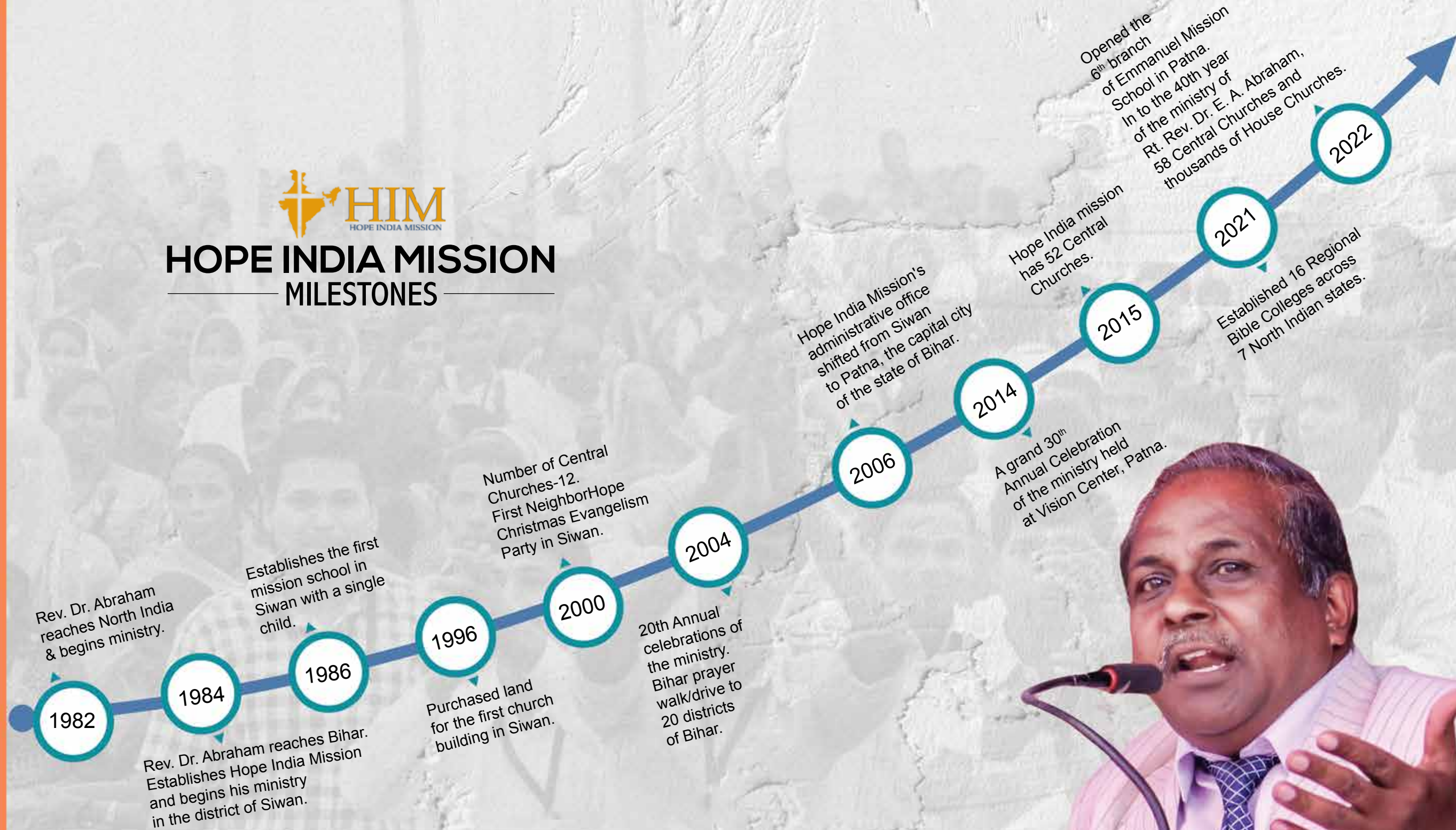
As you read this souvenir, we have faith that you will be blessed in every way possible and are curious to know more about North Indian ministry outreach approaches. Allow yourself to laugh, cry, and worship God as you reflect on or learn more about our 40-year journey. The 40th Anniversary Committee congratulates Hope India Mission leadership for continuing to work tirelessly toward the Lord's chosen goal.

Contents

Hope India Mission - milestones	6
Commendations	15
The Mission & Vision	26
The Board Members	27
Gospel is transforming this village	28
Rt. Rev. E. A. Abraham, a man with a vision	32
Can persecution destroy our faith?	35
Sapling to sandalwood	36
HIM Motto - Evangelize	39
The Hope India Mission way of church planting	40
Ladak (Kashmir), yet another Graveyard of Missions	42
Christmas Evangelism	44
The backpack presentation system	45
Education Ministry	46
Youth Ministry	48
Nisha- a living testimony	49
Children Ministry	50
Women Ministry	52
Ministry continued during the lockdown period	53
HIM Motto - Equip	55
The discipling process	56
Emmanuel TheoTech College - the training department	56
HIM's 16 Regional Bible Schools	58
Online Bible Study Club	59
HIM's Annual Conference	60
Regions & Regional Conferences	62
Social Work Department	64
Priyanka, a victim of sex discrimination	65
Freedom Centre	66
Feed the Hunger Program	66
Reaching the lepers	68
Project corona survival	70
Annual floods & disaster management	72
Akshara - nonformal education	73
HIM Motto - Enlarge	75
The Church Multiplication Process	76
Project-1 - Build a Community Bible College & a Holistic Developmental Model in Chhattisgarh	79
Project-2 - Build a City Church & Bible College in Rajgir - Bihar	82
Project-3 - Patna City Church	83
HIM Motto - Establish	85
Central Churches	86
Hope India Mission finally has an administrative space of its own!	88
When the dream of a church building becomes a reality	90
Chronology of God's faithfulness in the life of Rt. Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham and his ministry	92



HOPE INDIA MISSION MILESTONES









THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
GOVERNING BOARD OF EDITORS,
AND
PUBLICATIONS BOARD
OF
THE AMERICAN BIOGRAPHICAL INSTITUTE
DO HEREBY RECOGNIZE THAT

E. A. Abraham

HAS BEEN CHOSEN FOR DISTINGUISHED STANDING
AND HAS BEEN CONFERRED
WITH AN HONORARY APPOINTMENT
TO

THE
**RESEARCH
BOARD OF ADVISORS**



MEMBER SINCE 2003

H. C. Collins

H. C. Collins
Director, Research Board of Advisors

National Church of India

CENTRAL METROPOLITAN ARCHDIOCESE
18, DEFENCE ENCLAVE, VIKAS NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110009

Certificate of Consecration



We the undersigned, Hereby Certify That
The Right Reverend Dr. Elavatta Abraham Abraham
has been Consecrated upon the recommendation of
The Synod of National Church of India as per the Constitution
and Canons & Rules and Acts of Government of India
Given under Our Hands and Seals at **Diocesan Union Church of Patna**
Bihar State of Indian Union
on this 27th October In The Year Of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Two Thousand Twenty One For **The Bihar Diocese of National Church of India**



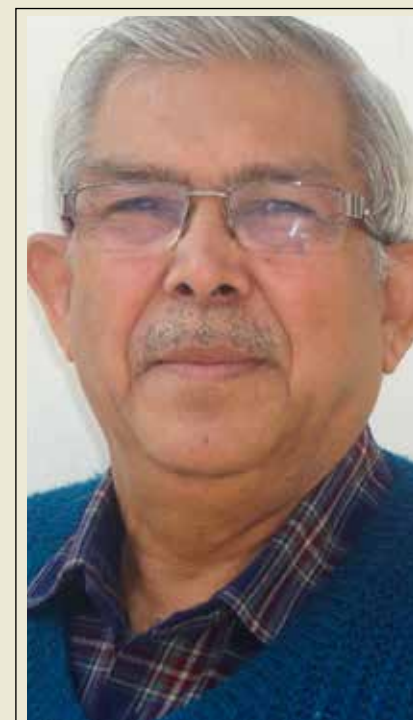
Dr. Elavatta Abraham Abraham
Archbishop of Trincomalee & Ceylon Archbishop
National Church of India
Chief Consecrator



Dr. Elavatta Abraham Abraham
Bishop of Trincomalee
National Church of India
Chief Consecrator



Dr. Elavatta Abraham Abraham
Bishop of Trincomalee
National Church of India
Chief Consecrator



Message

Rt. Rev. Rolly Singh

Zion Church, Lucknow
Chairman, ECFC

Dear Rt.
Rev. Dr.
E. A.
Abraham

It gives me immense
joy to write a few

lines congratulating you, your wife, and your
team for completing 40 years of ministry
through E.C.F.C. in Bihar.

I always remember when we met for the first
time in Lucknow and prayed together as God
was calling you to serve in Bihar, the State that
was once called the 'Graveyard of Missions.'

I praise God and thank Him that He helped
you to begin the ministry by faith, Lord
honored your faith, saw your commitment,
hard work and passion for souls in Bihar.

Now I am also thankful for the privilege which
I got to serve along with you in E.C.F.C. as
one of the Board Members as well as its Chair
Person.

As you celebrate the 40 years of ministry,
we also rejoice with you and give glory to
God. We give all the blessings for your future
ministry and pray that the Lord may help you
& your family along with your team. We also
pray that Lord may fulfill all the needs with
the promise as we see in Is.45:2 & 3.

I praise God and thank
Him that He helped you to
begin the ministry by faith,
Lord honored your faith,
saw your commitment,
hard work and passion for
souls in Bihar.



Message



Rev. Dr. I. Wati Longkumer
General Secretary

India Missions Association,
The National Federation of Mission Organisations in India
Administrative Office: IMA Vision City, # 5-47,
Kundanpally, Keesara, Hyderabad 501301, India

Registered Office: 38 Langford, Bengaluru, 560025, India
Society Registration: # 2/79-80, Karnataka, India
ima@imaindia.org www.imaindia.org

Dear
Bishop
E. A.
Abraham
and all the workers
of ECFC,

Warm greetings from India Missions Association in the blessed name of our Saviour and Lord Christ Jesus.

It is with great joy that I express my gratitude to God for what has been achieved by Emmanuel Christian Fellowship Centre under the leadership of Bishop E. A. Abraham during the past 40 years. We feel privileged and proud that ECFC is a member of IMA since June 2004, and has collaborated in various ministries over the years.

God has called you out from your own land Kerala to spread His gospel to the land of Bihar in 1984. Though there was not even a single person who came to the Lord in your first ten years of ministry, you never gave up of your commitment but carried on with the vision. I am glad to know that now you and your co workers has already reached out to many states of our nation beyond Bihar like, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, UP, West Bengal, Odisha and Ladak by establishing a Bible College, 17 Bible Training Centre and schools. I also appreciate your NGO for doing so many social activities like, informal schools, tailoring centre, educational scholarships, flood relief, covid relief kit, ambulance and oxygen concentrators, etc.

Such a record is worth celebrating. Let me, then, convey to you and to all your co workers

Though there was not even a single person who came to the Lord in your first ten years of ministry, you never gave up of your commitment but carried on with the vision.

who have laboured all these years in the field. May God's blessing in abundance be on each one of you.

"Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them." (Ps 126:5&6)



Message



Rev. Vijayesh Lal
General Secretary, EFI

Charter Member of World Evangelical Alliance
805/92, Deepali, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110 019
Tel : 91-11-26431133
Fax : 91-11-26285350
Email : mail@efionline.org

Dear Rev.
Dr. E.A.
Abraham,
Warm
greetings from
Evangelical Fellowship of India!

It is such a pleasure to be a part of the 40th anniversary celebration of the Hope India Mission. The Lord has been good, faithful, and generous in guiding and providing you with the needed resources for the last 40 long years. May He continue to lead you, equip you and use you for the extension of His Kingdom.

We will continue to pray for you as your spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the unreached in North India and beyond.

"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:8

The Lord has been good, faithful, and generous in guiding and providing you the needed resources for the last 40 long years.



Message

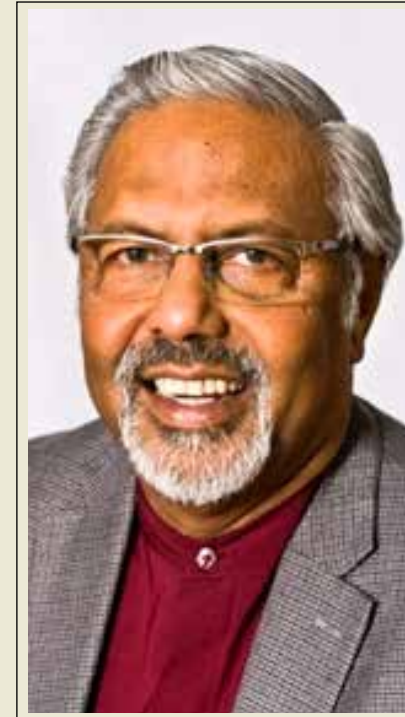
Love and grace from our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all as you celebrate your

40th ministry year in India and beyond. May this milestone be a great occasion to honor your past, celebrate your success, and embrace provisions that God has planned for you.

This milestone reveals the growing presence of Hope India Mission and the relevance of your ministry in these changing times. The inextinguishable faith that bonds your Fellowship Centers, House Churches, Village Churches and Central Churches, despite the daunting challenges of persecution, makes your church cohere and grow in the likeness of the Creator God and the person of our Savior Jesus Christ. Your anniversary theme, "Honoring our past, celebrating our present and embracing our future" declares the steadfast assurance of God's love, provision and protection. Blessings of love, immense joy, and peace on your 40th anniversary. As you celebrate your church anniversary may you revitalize your personal and collective relationship with Jesus and one another to embrace your future to bring life and hope to more unreached people groups in these Graveyards of Missions.

Most Rev. John Satya Kumar
Suffragan Metropolitan Archbishop -
Anglican Church of India

Your anniversary theme,
"Honoring our past,
celebrating our present
and embracing our future"
declares the steadfast
assurance of God's love,
provision and protection.



Message

My heartfelt commendations to Bishop E.A. Abraham and HOPE INDIA MISSION team for 40 years of fruitful ministry impact.

Bishop Abraham and his wife, Sara have proven the following biblically undergirded truths in their lives and service for the Kingdom.

- Those God calls He qualifies - and those He qualifies He uses.
- The person who humbly bows before God will work upright before Him.
- The will of God will never lead you to where the grace of God cannot keep you.
- The STOPS of a good man are ordered of the Lord as well as the STEPS.
- If one allows God to guide, He will provide.
- With the empowering of the Holy Spirit on the inside, one can stand any kind of battle on the outside.
- Faith is the simple confidence God IS and that He will do what He has promised.

Despite the profound restrictions that the COVID pandemic has brought HOPE INDIA MISSION has continued engaging innovative outreach strategies, launching new mission fields, establishing new congregations and adapting ministry and training to digital platforms etc.

Rev. Dr. T. V. Thomas
Chairman
Lausanne Global Diaspora Network.
Director, centre for evangelism and world mission
Regina, Canada.

Despite the profound
restrictions that the
COVID pandemic has
brought HOPE INDIA
MISSION has continued
engaging innovative
outreach strategies.

May the Kingdom advance and expand
as Graveyards of Missions turn into the
Vineyards of the Lord Jesus Christ!



Message

Jim Walters

President, Servants of Christ
Denver, Colorado, USA.

Hello Brother
Abraham,

What a privilege to

partner with the amazing E. A. Abraham and his people. I have known this man in USA and also in India. All of us who spend our lives investing in the Great Commission of Jesus are inspired by Rev. Abraham's tireless dedication and costly sacrifices over decades. Much fruit has come into the kingdom of heaven through his efforts and church planting, pastor training, children education, and pioneer missions.

We BLESS all of ECFC and the wonderful people involved, today - in the name of Jesus our Lord.

Much fruit has come into the kingdom of heaven through his efforts and church planting, pastor training, children education, and pioneer missions.



Message

Norman and Becky Wretlind

Co-Founders of NeighborHOPE
Ministries International
Hickory, NC, USA.

We fully rejoice with you in all that God has chosen to do through you and for you these past 40 years! To God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ be the Glory!

We will never forget your faces and smiles over these years we have visited you in Siwan and in Patna. You are "family" to us. We fully rejoice with you in all that God has chosen to do through you and for you these past 40 years! To God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ be the Glory! AMEN!

We especially celebrate the amazing quality of the Emmanuel Schools and the teachers and administration, both in Siwan and in Patna. We know that many children will give thanks to you for their future success in life.

We also humbly celebrate the new churches that have formed recently, to the honor of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior. All this has been made possible by the God-honoring administrative staff in Patna. We thank God for YOU and your faithful service to Him.

Finally, our greatest treasure has been the God-given love of Rev. E. A. Abraham, sister Sara, and loving daughter Princy and son Prince. These have truly become our "Forever Family" in this beloved land of India.



Message

Roger, Naomi, Sarah, Mark and David Muselman Berne, Indiana
Roger C. Muselman, Chairman

DRG Holdings, LLC Berne, IN 46711
Roger_Muselman@Muselman.com
DRGNetwork.com, Muselman.com

Congratulations, Pastor Abraham, on your 40th anniversary. It has been our huge privilege to

know you and support you for the past 22 years. Knowing you, praying for you and seeing you every year has been one of our greatest blessings. Know that we pray for your daily and are excited to see how God blesses your ministry in the future.

Knowing you, praying for you and seeing you every year has been one of our greatest blessings.



Message

Rev. Dr. S. D. Ponraj

Emeritus, Bihar Out-Reach Network
Author & Publisher of Mission Educational Books
Blessing Training Center, Punpun, Patna, Bihar

Bishop E. A. Abraham was one of the few missionaries from South India who

came to Bihar in the early 1980s and stayed on despite the spiritual dryness and non-receptivity to the gospel. His first mission field Siwan District in North Bihar was a hard ground for the gospel due to socio-political and spiritual factors. However, his strong faith in the Lord and deep commitment to the Great Commission enabled him to continue the mission work hoping that the Lord would open the door for the gospel one day. His missionary training and early ministry with the Friends Missionary Prayer Band also contributed to His faith and sacrifice to hold on to the ministry in Bihar. When the door for the gospel was opened in Bihar in the early 1990s he was quick to catch the vision and follow the movement of the Lord along with other leaders.

I remember him participating in the Bihar State Consultation on Unreached Peoples conducted in Patna in July 1998 by BORN Movement in partnership with North India Harvest Network and AD2000 Movement. He was quick to see the move of the Lord and to identify himself along with other Church and mission leaders in Bihar. That made all the difference as we see the growth of his mission work both in church planting and social service.

When the door for the gospel was opened in Bihar in the early 1990s he was quick to catch the vision and follow the movement of the Lord along with other leaders.

I rejoice with Bishop Abraham for the tremendous growth of the Hope India Mission that is spread across several states in North India. I congratulate his leadership as Bishop, on the new responsibility that he has been given. I appreciate his commitment to evangelism, training leaders and social activities. I wish him and his family God's blessings as they celebrate the completion of 40 years of ministry in Bihar.



Message

We rejoice in God's grace at work in you to enable and empower a vibrant harvest

ministry from Bihar through the last 40 years! We see the Father's wisdom and hand in your journey as a family, setting you apart as a faithful witness of His love and hope to many. As you mobilize prayer and people for mission frontiers in the Buddhist world, we bless you to see a fresh outpouring of great grace for a new season of Spirit-filled movements!

So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the Lord of hosts. 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel, you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of "Grace, grace to it!" (Zechariah 4:6-7)

Paul Khoo
CEO, Raison Media, Singapore.

This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the Lord of hosts.

Me and my family will serve the Lord!





HOPE INDIA MISSION MISSION & VISION

Mission Statement:

Hope India Mission (ECFC Ministries) is a nondenominational Missionary Organization dedicated to bringing the message of Jesus Christ to the un-reached 504 million people of North India. We strive to glorify God and aim to touch others through evangelism and church planting, discipleship programs, educational projects, care for the orphans, widows, and downtrodden, social upliftment projects, etc.

'REACH THE UNREACHED AND TELL THE UNTOLD'

Hope India Mission is a Christ-Centered ministry committed to 4 E's

1. EVANGELIZE

Reach out to everyone who is spiritually hungry; developing a witness for our Lord in every tongue, tribe, and ethnic group by planting House Churches throughout North India.

2. EQUIP

Pioneer Workers are trained and equipped for ministry through Bible Colleges, Leadership Training Courses, and Pastoral Internship programs that prepare eligible men and women to be dedicated church planters. As a result, sending the approved men and women with the Gospel to individuals who are yet to hear the name of Jesus and planting churches that preach the Gospel.

3. ENLARGE

Strengthening the evangelization cycle in mission centers by upgrading Fellowship Centers to House Churches, and village churches, and again to central

churches, serving widows, the poorest of the poor, orphaned and at-risk children, and restoring their broken lives by meeting spiritual, emotional, educational, and practical needs, and training them to do the same in their villages by bringing the Gospel to those who have not yet received it.

4. ESTABLISH

Transforming newly built churches into lighthouses in communities. The well-established churches and the church buildings will serve as places of fellowship, resource centers, and role models for the newly formed daughter churches. Hope India Mission has its believer base in 58 of its Central Churches and thousands of House Churches spread across the towns of Bihar, U.P., Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Odisha, Ladak and Madhya Pradesh.

OUR PASSIONATE QUEST

Hope India Mission has been working to realize our dream of forming at least one mission field in every unreached village in North India, educating and developing thousands of children with a sense of patriotism so that they can serve their country with zeal and enthusiasm. As a result, a new generation of leaders will emerge to make our country great in the world.



BOARD MEMBERS

Hope India Mission is primarily led by 3 Mission Boards.



Emmanuel Christian Fellowship Center Board (ECFC) in India



Hope India Mission Board in the USA



Hope India Mission Society Board in Canada

A Mission Coordinator and seven Regional Coordinators oversee an expanding body of 125 full-time evangelists and hundreds of mission volunteers that minister in North India's remote and unreachable areas. Sunday school teachers, youth and children ministry leaders, and church elders are assisting them. In Bihar's capital city Patna, a few full-time employees are working in our India administrative office. Our Board in India and abroad is made up of a varied group of nondenominational leaders who are united in their desire to 'Reach the Unreached.' More than 150 teaching and non-teaching staff members work in our mission schools to shape the next generation.



GOSPEL IS TRANSFORMING THIS VILLAGE



NO ONE IN THE VILLAGE KNEW JESUS BEFORE 2008!

Hope India Mission's Bible Training College (TeoTech College) is responsible for Missionary and Leadership Training and is the heart of HIM'S pastoral formation. It was from here that Evg. Sivadas Masih, the first missionary to Wadar was appointed by Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham, the President of Hope India Mission. As a devoted and enthusiastic missionary, Sivadas began to preach the Gospel in the village. With assistance from our end, he was successful in reaching the unreached and becoming a witness for Christ in the village.

GOSPEL HAS TRANSFORMED THE VILLAGE!

Change is evident in the spiritual and physical aspects of the life of locals following 14 years of our presence. Many souls were saved and that lead to the establishment of a worshipping community. Those who saved became models to others. The children who used to roam around and waste away their time were enrolled in schools. In addition to this, they wore clean clothes and looked healthier

WADAR, A HOSTILE LAND

Located on the western border of the state of Bihar, Wadar (Name changed for security reasons) was a village similar to any other backward North Indian village. The plight of people especially the children who were not attending school was very sad. They wore dirty, stained clothes. Children always had runny noses with flies fluttering around their faces. Most of them looked underfed. They talked to each other in filthy languages. There was litter scattered around everywhere in the village and even in front of their huts. Without any sewage systems in place, dirty black water circled the houses and became a primary cause of infectious diseases. And no Christians existed there!



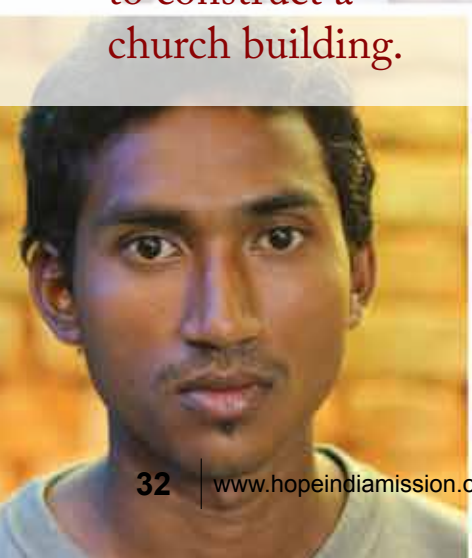


than previously. It was amazing to see their surroundings no longer littered with trash but neat and clean. The instruction received via our missionaries had already made a big impact on these families' self-image and cleanliness.

THEY ARE NOW PRAYING FOR A CHURCH BUILDING

The worshipping community in Wadar that grew out of nothing now consists of more than 350 believers among which 200 are already baptized. Being a poor but emerging community, the believers in Wadar are praying to the Lord for a permanent home to worship. And with this intention, these poor people gathered a sum of money and also with little help from our end, they purchased 3 decimals of land to construct a church building. With no other investments in our hands, we, along with the community in Wadar, are praying and seeking for Lord's men to fulfill their dream of having a church building built over this land.

Being a poor but emerging community, the believers in Wadar are praying to the Lord for a permanent home to worship. And with this intention, these poor people gathered a sum of money and also with little help from our end, they purchased 3 decimals of land to construct a church building.



Rt. Rev. E. A. Abraham A man with a Vision



The call to be a missionary

Because Abraham's poor parents could not afford to support his higher education, one of his relatives invited him to Bangalore. He boarded the train intending to obtain a bachelor's degree there. But nothing went as planned. Instead, he fell into a state of severe depression that forced him to attempt to end his life by lying in front of a moving train. However, a mysterious voice drove his attention to read from the Bible while he was composing a suicide note. As he obeyed the voice, Ecclesiastes chapter 7 verses 16-18 fell open before his eyes, which stated, *"Why destroy yourself and why die before your time? Don't be a fool. It is good to grasp and not to remove your hands. One who fears God will avoid all extremes"*. This incredible divine intervention encouraged Abraham to pray, cry, and repent for his utter stupidity. Later, he was able to attain a job in the Bangalore Postal Department. And then after six months, in a vision, the Lord spoke to him again and commissioned him for the Lord's work. Abraham did not want to be an evangelist, but the Lord gave him the strength to obey His command through another vision.

He saw the faces of malnourished people everywhere he looked. Wherever he tried to share the Gospel he was treated spitefully.



Great move from Bangalore to Bihar

Young Abraham informed his Pastor about the vision and burden, and he directed him to the Bangalore office of Operation Mobilization, where he became a member of the team OM. There the Lord trained and used Abraham in numerous ways, and he was given more opportunities to study God's Word systematically. Before the Lord commissioned him to preach in North India, Abraham also had the opportunity to work with FMPB (Friends Missionary Prayer Band). Abraham arrived in Bihar as a young bachelor without researching any facts about this State, but with a vision from the Lord for the unreached.

Ten years of waiting and burden to harvest the first fruit

Abraham traveled for three days and 1650 miles by train to the far edge of North India. He was subjected to several



Abraham being ordained as a pastor in 1998.



hardships and trials when he first arrived in the small Bihar town (Siwan) in 1984, all the way from Bangalore. When he arrived in Bihar, Abraham was still in his twenties. For him, the new place was challenging. Their clothing, language, and eating habits were completely foreign to him, and their living spaces were filthy. Bicycles and rickshaws had a major road presence. Garbage covered the streets, while cows and piglets roamed freely, feasting on garbage piles, and causing traffic congestion. Harming a cow, which was regarded as 'sacred,' would result in swift punishment according to local Hindu norms. The streets were congested with pedestrians and people riding bicycle-pulled rickshaws, which had become Bihar's icon. The number of vehicles available for transportation was quite restricted. The primary means of transportation were carts drawn by ponies and oxen. He saw the faces of malnourished people everywhere he looked. Wherever he tried to share the Gospel he was treated spitefully. Abraham began his outreach by distributing Gospel booklets in and around Mairwa, a village near the Siwan area. He traveled everywhere on foot. Bihar is known for its caste hierarchy, and Christians are still considered to

be among the lowest. As a result, people looked down on Abraham and treated him with disrespect. Abraham was repeatedly denied drinking water because he was considered a lower caste in their eyes, and once had to escape for his life after requesting a glass of water. Throughout his ministry in North India, he was subjected to humiliation and death traps. Pages are insufficient to contain all his painful experiences. Many of those who came to attack him later accepted Christianity. Devdas, a

Bihar, it was notoriously referred to as the 'Graveyard of Missions'. Winning three souls in ten years in Bihar was the equivalent of winning three thousand souls in another state. Several missionaries, both foreign and native, worked for years without yielding any results. This is how difficult evangelism was in this part of the world in the 1970s and 1980s.

Education as a tool to share the Gospel

In India, there has long been a close

It was through this school that Hope India Mission's 58 Central Churches (Emmanuel Fellowship Churches) and hundreds of House Churches were grown out. As a result, thousands of people in Siwan heard the Gospel and accepted Jesus into their lives. A town that was formerly known for all kinds of crimes and trouble became a hub of learning, community transformation, and Gospel sharing. And this led to the establishment of six more schools giving a further boost to



A town that was formerly known for all kinds of crimes and trouble became a hub of learning, community transformation, and Gospel sharing.

Good Samaritan, joined Abraham and followed him on his mission visits to the remote communities. Abraham gathered his followers in small huts, with only a kerosene lamp as a source of light. He would spend the nights in smelly barns where animals and buffalos were kept. The nights appeared longer for him because electricity was unknown and unheard of, but he never felt lonely because one million mosquitoes kept him company all night!

Such was the opposition that Abraham even considered quitting the ministry many times but continued in obedience to His call as the Lord finally opened doors for him. All of this, however, came at a cost. He sweated for ten years merely to see the first fruit as three souls were added to the church. Ever since missionaries landed in

relationship between educational institutions and the church. Schools can support indirect evangelism, as it allows people to communicate Christ's love while also serving the children and community around them. Bihar has consistently ranked as one of the poorest Indian states, with the lowest literacy rates. Bihar's literacy rate is significantly lower than the national average. Taking all these factors into account, Abraham started the first-ever English Medium School in Siwan, where the ministry's head office was located. This institution drew a lot of interest from individuals of all faiths in the area, including rivals of the Gospel. And this school proved to be the most effective way for him to make relationships and continue with his ministry. The school provided resources, staff, space, contacts, vehicles, and much other support to the church planting ministry.

the ministry.

Present ministry & Gratefulness

In 2011, Abraham moved from Siwan to Patna, the capital city of the State of Bihar which helped to expand the ministry from Bihar to more States like West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Ladakh. Today, more than 300 full-time staff are engaged in various departments of the ministry: 58 Central Churches, hundreds of House Churches, two orphanages, five mission schools, one Bible College with 17 branches in four states, etc. Through every difficulty and adversity, the one who chose him has been his guide, guardian, and faithful to each of His promises.



Can persecution destroy our faith?

THE REALITY

Surrendering temporary security for a permanent peace

A part of the world where persecution is normal

Persecution of Christians is not a new phenomenon in human history. Jesus' followers who refused to condemn Him were murdered about 2,000 years ago in ancient Rome. Persecutions did not surprise the church planters. Because Jesus himself was persecuted to the point of death, Christians continue to endure open hostility in several parts of India, particularly in north India where the Hope India Mission is located. Several series of events have been happening throughout our mission fields causing physical injury to church planters and believers, even murder attempts. Church articles have often been destroyed as

well. For a very few people, persecution is like a way of life in this part of the world. Although there is official religious freedom in the country, that freedom is little more than a written paper.

Showing forgiveness to persecutors

Interestingly, whenever our churches witnessed persecution, there used to be miracles happening in those locations, and the Word of God would be preached more effectively as a result. Tensions might persist for months, a year, or two, or three. But almost on every occasion, the people responsible for the deed, as well as other people in the area, have encountered God's forgiveness first-hand. On some other occasions, the rivals of the Gospel expect that the Christian community would file complaints with the police station and have them arrested. However, the Christian community stays calm. The persecutors find it astonishing when they learn that the community had not filed any cases. This way other members of the community also come to know the great values of forgiveness and love.

And in some places, it just continues without any hope of subsiding. Because some of these communities endure such severe persecution regularly, their depth of faith is often much greater than those of us who might take our faith for granted. So, without any doubt, one can say that there are not many lukewarm Christians in such parts of our vineyard.

They even came to harm Dr. Abraham & family

The rivals of the Gospel came to kill the Hope India Mission founder twice, but the Lord miraculously saved him both times. Once they held him at gunpoint and another time held a knife to his abdomen. His daughter and son were sent away to a secret location in South India for further studies following a kidnap threat to his daughter. But our Lord's provision and protection helped him to reach the unreached by winning more souls for Lord's Kingdom.

Rt. Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham

SAPLING TO SANDALWOOD

CELEBRATION OF GRACE AND GROWTH OF 40 YEARS

“Give thanks to the Lord and do not forget any of His benefits.”

“How dare you a Christian, ask for water from this house?”

This was the response of a man when I asked for a glass of water.

On a bright and hot summer afternoon, I was returning from my visit to a nearby

village. My mouth and face were dry. The intense thirst forced me to knock on the door of one of the houses on the way. A young man opened the door and thoroughly looked at me. He harshly enquired, “What do you want?” “Sir, a glass of water please, I am so thirsty.” “What

He harshly enquired, “What do you want?” “Sir, a glass of water please, I am so thirsty”. “What caste do you belong to”? The young man asked. “Sir, I am a Christian” I responded. Anger busted through his eyes that turned red.

caste do you belong to”? The young man asked. “Sir, I am a Christian” I responded. Anger busted through his eyes that turned red. He began to yell with abusive words. Sensing danger, I ran as fast as I could, till I could see him no more. I had no idea about the hierarchies of castes in Bihar, nor did I speak or understand Hindi fluently. It was later that I understood the reason behind his furious anger was that by me, an untouchable in his thought, touching his door, his whole house was now impure.

In another incident, I was invited by a Brahmin teacher to show a Gospel film in a village. Brahmins are the topmost in the Indian caste hierarchy. We carried the projector, generator, and other equipment on our heads to the village. The film was well appreciated by the locals. It was midnight when the show

finished. Exhausted and hungry after the show, we could barely stand on our feet. As we packed everything, the Brahmin, who had invited me, urged us to have a meal. Before serving the meals, I saw him arguing with someone. The problem I realized later was that they didn’t know how to serve the food to an untouchable, and in what kind of vessel, plate, or leaf.

Pages will not be enough to hold all the discriminations I’ve had in the past and continue to have. In fact, in the first 10 years of ministry, I had seen only three saved souls. That is one of the most unforgettable days of my life. Shortly after that excitement, some of the villagers came and held a huge knife close to my abdomen. I was persistent and very sure about my future because the Lord has assured me that the very hairs of my head are all numbered!

More than 180 million people in India are considered “Untouchable” – people tainted by their birth into a caste system that deems impure, less than human. Human rights abuses against these people are legion. A random sampling of headlines in mainstream India newspapers tells their story: “Dalit boy beaten to death for plucking flowers”; “Dalit tortured by cops for three days”; “Dalit paraded naked in Bihar”; “7 Dalits burnt alive in caste clash”; “Dalit women gang-raped, paraded naked” etc.

Christian love and good educations are the only way to bring them back into the mainstream of society. ECFC is pledged to do both ministries with your love, care, and support.

THE MINISTRY DEPARTMENT

After an intense barren period of 10 years, our Lord enabled the ministry to grow with three souls. The ministry crossed Bihar's boundaries to reach eight more North Indian states to grow in numbers and anointing. Now it has thousands of believers in these states with more than 125 full-time mission staff, 58 Central Churches, and hundreds of functioning House Churches.

The Hope India Mission's Ministry Department creates and promotes initiatives that help in the establishment of churches, and House Churches, organizes workshops, seminars, and conferences on the significance of evangelism and the church's social mission at the central, regional, and local congregational levels. The department is responsible for the appointment, transfer, and follow-up of pastors, evangelists, and volunteers to the various mission fields. It also prepares guidelines and declarations on important social, political, and moral concerns by making sure the congregations implement and adhere to such guidelines.



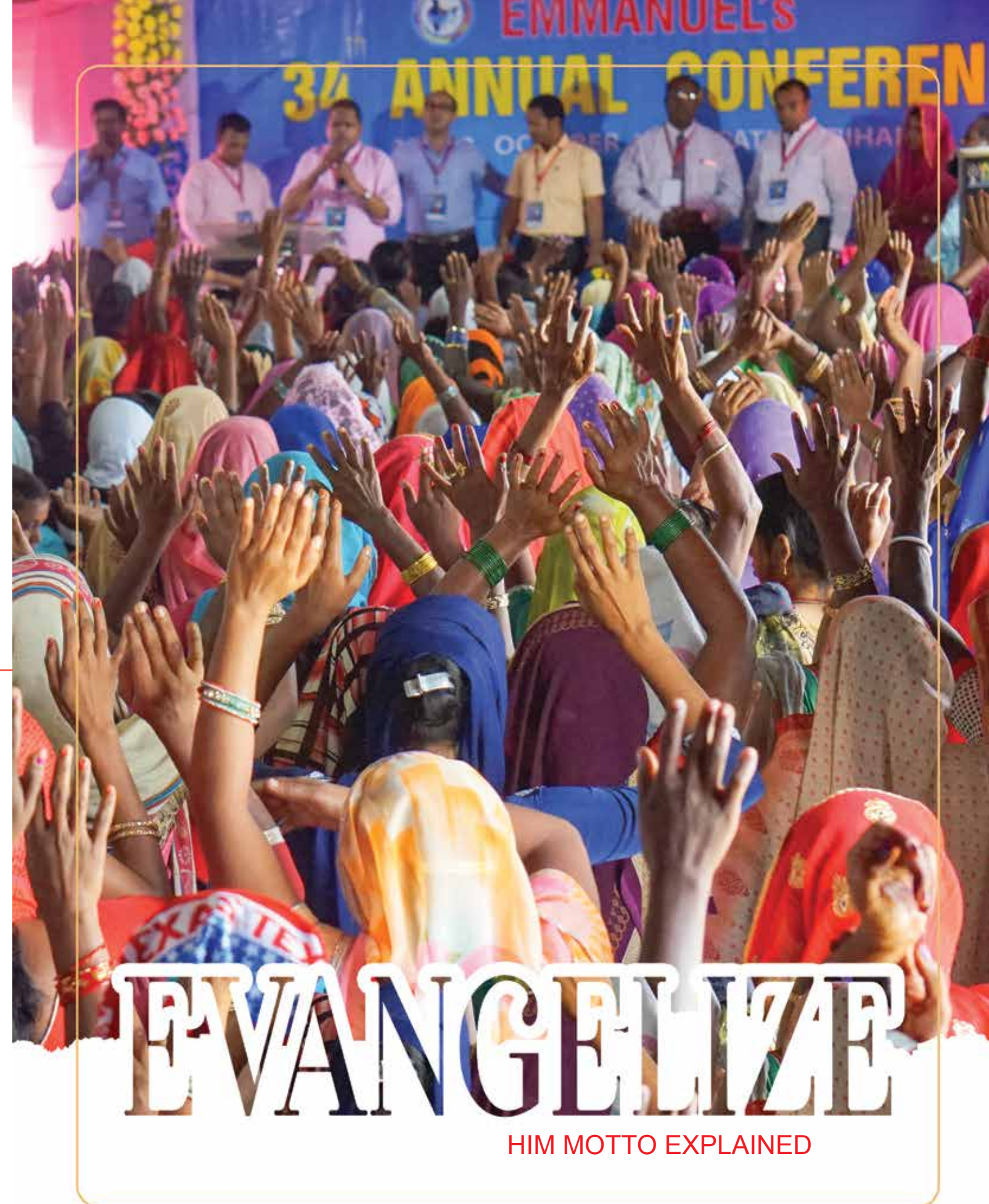
MOTTO

EVANGELIZE

EQUIP

ENLARGE

ESTABLISH



EVANGELIZE

HIM MOTTO EXPLAINED



The Hope India Mission way of Church Planting

We believe that church planting is the best way to access and disciple the precious natives around North India for our Lord Jesus Christ.

Church planting starts with forming House Churches. Thousands of our House Churches make the backbone of our ministry. One might be curious to know how House Churches are formed. There is a Hope India Mission church planter or a pastor in charge of a central church, who goes to a remote village or town to gather two or three families and congregate to become a church family that meets in a home. They set out and reach among their social circles to draw more people into their house

church. The person with the most theological training or knowledge of the Bible is more the 'father of the fellowship' than a trained church planter who is only an occasional visitor. At times, 'the father of the fellowship' may be a newly disciplined believer.

Gradually, leaders begin to emerge as discipleship is promoted within the house church. This is the time when the church planter lowers his profile and goes on to form the next nucleus of families into a house church.

House Churches help Hope India Mission to enable a cycle of evangelism that has

multiplied into churches, daughter churches, and central churches across our mission fields. Just like an organism under the right conditions, it can reproduce rapidly and adapt to new conditions. The house church is intended to be a church for itself only and not meant to be the church for a larger group. On rare occasions, the church reproduction process can turn inward diminishing the multiplication process.



When the Gospel reached this tribal village in Chhattisgarh for the first time!

The Indian state of Chhattisgarh has more tribal populations than any other Indian States. And half of them remain unreached. Hope India Mission as part of its Vision 2020 outreach program, carried out two conferences in Chhattisgarh to share the Good News. Places where the Gospel of our Lord Jesus had never been heard is now listening to the Gospel of Salvation through us. The new believers will receive Gospel literature and Bibles to help them grow in faith. Also, our team of evangelists in Chhattisgarh shall perform regular follow-ups.

Praying for a Church building

A believer family in Kuberpur Village donated this land (on the left) for the construction of a church building. Their dream has now been fulfilled which is seen below.





LADAK (KASHMIR)

YET ANOTHER GRAVEYARD OF MISSIONS

Ministering to the neighbors in the far north of the country

Ladak is another Graveyard of Missions. Ladakh's natural features consist mainly of high plains and deep valleys. It is situated 13,500 feet (4100 meters) above sea level and borders China. Ladakh was a part of the state of Jammu & Kashmir until the government bifurcated the state to form the Union Territory of Ladakh. With no churches or any form of active evangelism, nomadic Buddhist tribes make up the majority of the population with a few other native Muslims ethnic groups. Because there existed a 'Graveyard' like situation, Hope India Mission started ministry in 2019. HIM's cycle of outreach initiatives has made a ripple effect here as it is seen in translating into souls.

Due to its proximity to China, mountains, forests, and unpredictable weather conditions, Ladakh is politically and geographically unrest. Its mountainous landscape and sub-zero climate make it harder for any church planter to reach or survive for a long time. Join us in prayer and partnership to eliminate darkness and to kindle a candle, because this land needs more prayers for a breakthrough.

Hope India Mission is now exploring opportunities to make these unreached ethnic communities into solid believers of Christ. We already have formulated a mission strategy for Ladakh. The aim is to reach and help communities grow in practical Christian life based on the Word of God. And as communities come to Christ, help them with their social and emergency needs. And finally, to lead the communities who have left traditional faiths to follow Christ to the mainstream of the society, and not to let them backslide concerned of their security. We are hopeful that through prayer, fellowship and family retreat, they would become devoted children of God.



We are hopeful that through prayer, fellowship and family retreat, they would become devoted children of God.

Christmas Evangelism

The Birth of NeighborHope Ministries

About 35 years ago in the USA, Pastor Norm and Sister Becky Wretlind discovered that hosting a Christmas party in their neighborhood was the perfect way to create a bridge for the neighbors to meet Christ in Dallas, TX. Various additional parties led to home Bible studies, and over three years, more than 60 neighbors accepted Christ as their Savior! Even whole families came to faith. It was like living in the Book of Acts! Soon a church developed, and today, over 4,000 'neighbors' gather weekly to worship the Lord. The organization Neighborly Evangelism Ministry was born. Norm and Becky then created a curriculum to help other neighborhoods develop relationships and bring others to Christ throughout the United States and even the world.

NeighborHope India – The ripple effect

HIM founder Dr. Abraham met Pastor Norm in Amsterdam in 2000 and Dr. Abraham adopted this strategy and brought it to India where it caught fire opening doors that once seemed completely closed to the Gospel. Dr. Abraham himself visited Pastor Norm and Sister Becky to learn about conducting Christmas parties. He was able to take back much of this new knowledge about hosting NeighborHope Christmas parties throughout congregations in India. Every Christmas season, Hope India Mission adapted its strategy to successfully conduct various Christmas celebrations with the neighbors of its existing believers, government officers, and village people. Christmas carols, sharing the true meaning of Christmas, and praying together are some of the special services that will be held each day at different locations. Each person in attendance will receive tracts as well as a Bible. More than 1,00,000 NT's



Christmas is one of the best times to take the outreach to the max because it is the perfect time when people are found to be more open to any form of Christian activity.

distributed and 35,000 pastors trained all across the Indian sub-continent.

614 Christmas evangelism parties despite pandemic restrictions in 2021!

Throughout the fields, our missionaries and staff begin Christmas outreach by sharing the story of Christ. Christmas is one of the best times to increase outreach because it is the time when people are found to be more open to any form of Christian activity. Each group of our missionaries creates their program and chooses a venue for sharing the Christmas story. At every location, they usually present a song and a dance



about Jesus and preach the true message of Christmas in a way that they will never forget. They also perform skits portraying the birth of Christ, giving the audience a greater awareness of the importance of Jesus' life. At the end of the outreach, a Jesus Film is shown, which makes many people cry! During the Christmas season, we spent time serving the poor and encouraging others to do the same. Some of the acts of compassion include blanket and winter coat distribution. To sharpen the outreach into a more personalized manner, we have door-to-door outreach and carols at night. The 2021 Christmas season was the toughest one to conduct due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Despite the lockdown situation, Hope India Mission was able to have 614 parties all over India. The ripple effect of Pastor Norm's & Sister Becky's ministry is impacting thousands of people throughout the world.



THE BACKPACK Presentation System

(Jesus Film Project)

Films and documentaries on the life of Jesus have proven to be one of the best ways to let people in Asia know about the sacrificial love of God. Countless people have been touched by the love of Christ as a result of watching films about Jesus. In some of the villages in Bihar, for some people watching a movie is like a once-in-a-lifetime experience. In most of the locations, the team travels hundreds of kilometers to reach their destination. Villagers flock around to see why a team of people has come to visit them and what message have they brought. And for many who have seen a film on the life of Jesus, it is an experience that changes their lives for all eternity.

Jesus films are perfect ENTRY POINTS too. As a result of the film show, our missionaries get several new contacts from the local villages. These contacts are then followed up later by our missionaries through personal evangelism. Gradually they are welcomed in the local church and the cycle of evangelism continues! Each year, many more people are touched by the love of

Christ after viewing the film. Sharing this amazing story with others requires an LCD projector kit, which includes a movie about the life of Jesus and other equipment needed to show it.

The Backpack Presentation System is a great assist to our Field workers and an added boost to the kingdom of God. Since Hope India Mission received its first backpack projector, our outreach ministry witnessed a swift makeover and upgrade. After we gave a basic demonstration of the presentation system, our Field Workers were happy to include and utilize the system in their respective departments. Apart from conventional projection systems, this backpack project is more convenient, handy, and small. The product is reliable even in remote villages where no electricity is available, and that is the biggest advantage of the backpack project. Jesus Films and videos provided in regional languages are of great help as we no longer need to search for relevant Gospel videos.

The presentation system is helpful in many ways and is especially needed during the Christmas Evangelism Outreach. We are grateful to our Lord for the provisions received through our sponsor CRU.



EDUCATION MINISTRY

Education is one of such methods of indirect evangelism, as it gives them the freedom to share the love of Christ while also serving the children & the society around them towards life transformation.



Formal education

In contemporary times, every approach to direct evangelism has several limitations of its own. While we are ready to die for Jesus, missionary organizations do look for indirect evangelism approaches to avoid being swiftly persecuted at the hands of these rivals of the Gospel. Education is one of such methods of indirect evangelism, as it gives them the freedom to share the love of Christ while also serving the children and the society around them at the same time. This is a great entry point for North Indian evangelism where we get many contacts as the result of community outreach. Through children, the parents and their relatives are reached. Bihar has been at the top position as one of the poorest Indian States and the bottom for its literacy statistics. The average literacy rate in Bihar is far below that of the rest of the country. In 1986, our Lord gave Rev. Abraham the vision to start a Mission school in Siwan where the ministry's head office was located. A Muslim landlord gave his building for rent to start the school and the first student was his child! The Lord then enabled us to buy the same building where our school has been functioning since then.

It was through our first school, in the small town of Siwan that Hope India Mission's 58 Central Churches and thousands of its believers have grown and come from. As a reason, thousands heard the Gospel in Siwan and accepted Jesus in their lives. A town once famous for all sorts of crimes and mischief became the center of learning, community transformation, and a place of sharing the Word of God. And it is with this intention in our minds that we have opened five of our other branches in Bihar.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

We greatly acknowledge that it was from this school that our network of

- 58 central worshipping communities were born
- Thousands of house churches commenced
- 125 full-time missionaries were grown out
- Hundreds of volunteer leaders, youth leaders, pastors and evangelists were equipped and raised.

A school that transformed the town of Siwan

Thousands of students have graduated since the year 1986 and have become renowned and



responsible citizens of the Indian community. As the first mission school in the town, our school has made a tremendous contribution to the local society, and the once crime-ridden town is now transforming. Crime and poverty rates have declined. We thank the Lord for making our education ministry at the helm of this great transformation. And later, one more building was bought in the same town and a new branch was opened.

In 2011, before Hope India Mission moved to Patna from Siwan, we opened another branch in Patna, the capital city of Bihar. As usual, we opened our school in a rented building, and later God's provisions for a school, two orphanages, Bible Training School, and a church were fulfilled! We named the campus 'Vision Center'.

And now the 6th branch in a rented building has been opened nearby the Vision Center in Patna.

In recent years Indian parents are realizing the need for quality education through English medium schools. In our school in Siwan, we were unable to enroll some of the admittances due to the lack of space. This has mainly been due to improved academic performance in recent years. The discipline and code of conduct have earned an immense reputation from the general public. Hence, schools run by missionaries have always gained recognition from people of all religions and castes of this locality. Although Bihar is known for its lowest literacy statistics, people nowadays have begun to realize that education is inevitable for them. Also, Bihar is known for its population explosion which has now crossed 103 million.



A donation from Kids Around the World

YOUTH MINISTRY

Mission

To reach out to native unreached youth and transform them from the clutches of evil by teaching them about Jesus Christ's pure love.

To equip them as pillars of the church.

To raise mission awareness among church youths and urge them to make a full-time commitment to become fishers of men.

To train the chosen youth aspirants to theologically train through TheoTech College, Hope India Mission's Leadership Training Centre.

Method of Approaches

1. Youth Camps and Youth Conventions serve as turning points in their lives, guiding them to salvation.
2. Youth meetings at local church levels to explore their hidden talents through competitive events for the exaltation of His name.
3. Committed young people receive training as youth volunteers and are encouraged to carry out God's mission full-time or part-time as catechism teachers, VBS leaders, and youth volunteers on various mission events.



Nisha

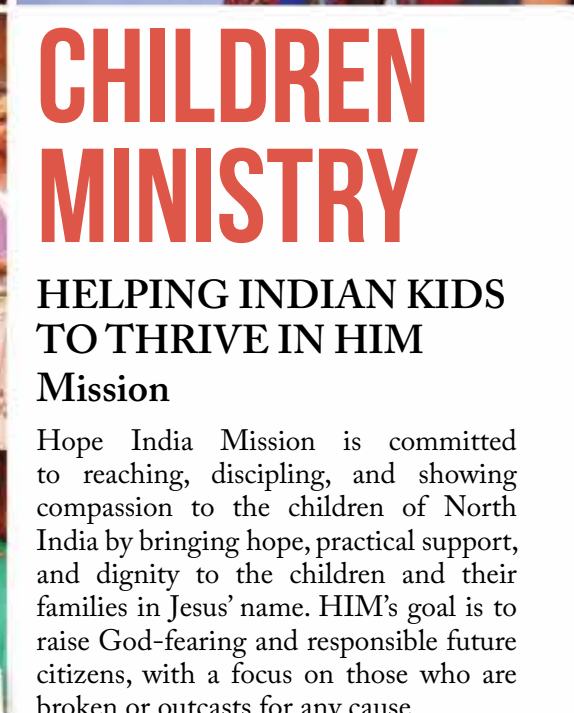
A Living Testimony

Once she was bedridden without hope,
now a leader of Online Bible Study Fellowship

Observing her anxious college classmate who couldn't afford a place to stay at night, Nisha welcomes her home after somehow convincing her opposing parents. Even though her friend Puja was a contact for merely a few weeks, it was an act of compassion from Nisha. They both studied and attended college together. When Puja got into bad company, Nisha could no longer defend her friend before her parents. She wanted to counsel her friend, so she took her out to the terrace to chat privately. Puja's reaction was so unfortunate that in her annoyance she pushed Nisha forward, causing her to fall off the three-story building. The unintentional incident caused Nisha to fracture her spine, become permanently bedridden, and suffer pain. Her friend was nowhere to be seen again. Her inactivity resulted in bedsores which doubled her agony. It was at this time that our Patna church community happened to visit and comforted her with the love of Christ Jesus. Frequent visits by the Youth Team were a great relief to Nisha and her family members. With the help of her mother and brother, she attended prayer meetings and the church on special occasions. Her faith in Jesus and our fellowship helped to minimize her sufferings greatly. Finally, on October 11, 2016, Nisha accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior.

She is now representing EFC Patna church as the leader of 'Bible Study Fellowship - Online Class' under Hope India Mission President Rev. E. A. Abraham. She has completed the study in all the Gospels and leadership. Nisha was able to influence many of her friends and the networking has brought several youths to our Patna church as well as this online Bible study platform from different parts of India.

According to Indian census figures from 2011, youngsters account for 28 percent of the entire Indian population and provide more than 35 percent of the country's GDP.



CHILDREN MINISTRY

HELPING INDIAN KIDS TO THRIVE IN HIM

Mission

Hope India Mission is committed to reaching, discipling, and showing compassion to the children of North India by bringing hope, practical support, and dignity to the children and their families in Jesus' name. HIM's goal is to raise God-fearing and responsible future citizens, with a focus on those who are broken or outcasts for any cause.

Approaches

1. Children's clubs
2. VBS
3. Sunday Schools
4. Orphanages
5. Non-Formal education centres
6. Free formal education
7. Awana Training

Emmanuel Children's Movement is HIM's ministry working with Children around eight states of North India. The primary goal of the movement is to strengthen native children spiritually and individually, therefore transforming them

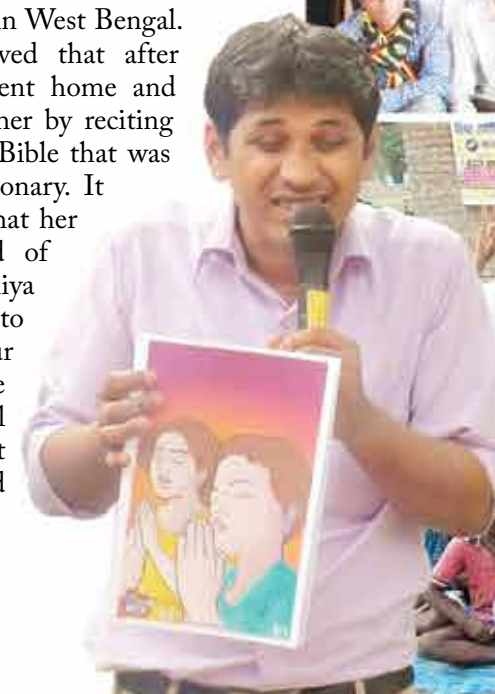


into true disciples of Jesus, healthy citizens of society, and integral performers in their local church. Every week hundreds of children participate in our ministry, eager to learn and hear about the truth and love of Jesus Christ. It helps in multiple ways to serve these precious children and their families. Whether it's teaching a Sunday school class, serving in one of our schools, or helping in our orphanage, there is a place for all committed men and women to serve.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It is one of the best and most practical approaches to reaching children in North India.

Jisniya is an eight-year-old Buddhist girl now passionate for Jesus! The VBS teachers in Ambik, West Bengal were amazed by this little girl's passion for Jesus. This was because her family had never heard of Christianity nor attended any form of Christian services before. Jisniya voluntarily came forward and she was found to be the most active participant at a VBS held in one of our fields in West Bengal. It was later observed that after the VBS Jisniya went home and prayed for her mother by reciting a passage from the Bible that was gifted by our missionary. It was also observed that her mother was healed of her sickness and Jisniya taught her how to pray at home. Our missionary is quite sure that Jisniya will become a perfect witness for our Lord in the future.



WOMEN MINISTRY

Whatever be the cause for their anxiety, many North Indian women feel more at ease speaking up in a group of other women.

Unlike the women in western countries, North Indian women have special demands and obstacles in their Christian lives. As we consider these concerns, we realize how critical it is to establish a strong women's ministry in local churches. They require emotionally secure surroundings and like-minded friends to do outreach or any other form of ministry. When women are around other women, they typically feel secure sharing their hearts, asking questions, requesting prayer, and speaking up or participating in an outreach ministry. This occurs for a variety of reasons. In India, it is occasionally taught that "keeping mute" in the presence of men is polite and respectful. Some women remain mute because they misunderstand, while others are simply shy or embarrassed to

share in front of men. This behavior is also especially typical among women who have experienced violence in the past. Many of these women are illiterate as well.

Whatever be the cause of their anxiety, many North Indian women feel more at ease speaking up in a group of other women. That's why Hope India Mission has a separate mission for women – "Women Ministry".

Women require opportunities to communicate their prayer requests privately and to be prayed for. A women's ministry is a wonderful location for women to form bonds that lead to sincere prayer for one another. A women's ministry is not only a great location to ask for prayer, but it's also a great place to learn how to pray effectively and develop self-confidence and spiritual strength.

A women's ministry is not only a great location to ask for prayer, but it's also a great place to learn how to pray effectively and develop self-confidence and spiritual strength.

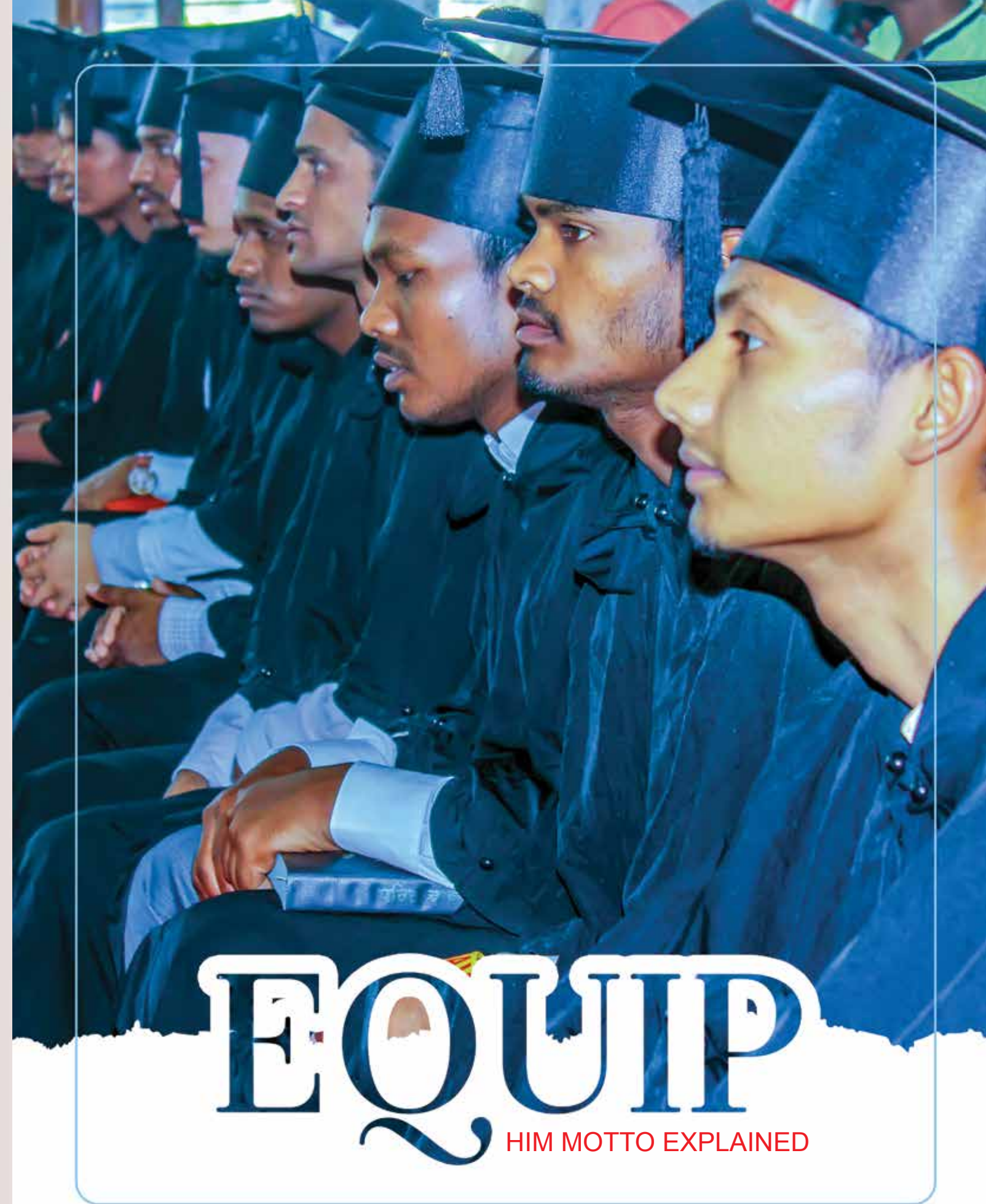
MINISTRY CONTINUED DURING THE LOCKDOWN PERIOD

...the online medium helped Hope India Mission to coordinate mission activities...

During the lockdown period, Hope India Mission found time in empowering its churches, daughter churches, and House Churches to face the challenges in their communities while they shared the Gospel. Its missionaries, staff, Bible trainee students, and believing volunteers formed Response Teams. These teams focused on training, awareness, promotion of good personal hygiene, and distribution of masks and hygiene materials while also dealing with the flood situation in the Ganges River basin. Missionaries were busy counseling the believers via phone calls. Several poor people were under severe stress and uncertain about their family's future. Although not used this much before, the online technology helped Hope India Mission to coordinate mission

activities like Youth Ministry, VBS, women's meetings, Sunday Services, and other meetings effectively during the lock-down period. About 75% of the ministry activities were delivered through online platforms. Unfortunately, this technology was limited only to people who can afford smartphones. Hope India Mission launched a Facebook page (Hope Media International) and a YouTube Channel (Hope Media International) to encourage and reach more people, specifically the younger generations that are more active on social media. Every day, several programs targeted at various groups are being streamed through these platforms.





The Discipling Process

The central purpose of the church is to reach the unreached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Most of the native believers that attend our churches regularly are strong in their faith. But what about the people that are new to the faith? If they are not well cared for, their faith may either fall apart or become stunted in growth. As per the scripture, new believers grow by acquiring spiritual milk as seen in 1 Peter 2:22 and they have a responsibility to do so. The church leaders must provide spiritual nourishment for them as they carefully and compassionately encourage them to attend church and small prayer gatherings. Frequent meetings with mature believers and several prayer activities like Bible Study and weekly house meetings provide the spiritual nourishment the new believer needs. Timely discipleship training for both the Missions Leaders and the believers adds not only to ministry growth but is also the spiritual backbone of Hope India Mission.



EMMANUEL THEOTECH COLLEGE -THE TRAINING DEPARTMENT

It is a surprising reality to say that there are so many remote villages and communities in North India that haven't heard the Gospel yet. Amazing things happen when you bring a community to Jesus! The TheoTech College, our training and formation house is responsible for making our vision of Reaching the Unreached into reality.

The harvest is plenty, but the laborers are few

One of the hindrances Bihar evangelism experienced was the lack of native missionaries in its vineyard. While most of the missionaries that came from South India were not fully accepted by North Indian people, a few of them tried to mingle with their culture and language and were successful in their mission. Hope India Mission Founder Rt. Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham was one of them. Realizing the need, he prayed unto the Lord, and He opened the way through 'The Emmanuel Leadership Training Centre' which was later renamed TheoTech College, the missionary training institute of Hope India Mission.

Still more reasons - A few outside Missionaries

As we discuss the future of North Indian evangelism, the modern-day socio-political scenario is expected to be more hostile than it already is. Steps taken by the current ruling party are a clear indication of



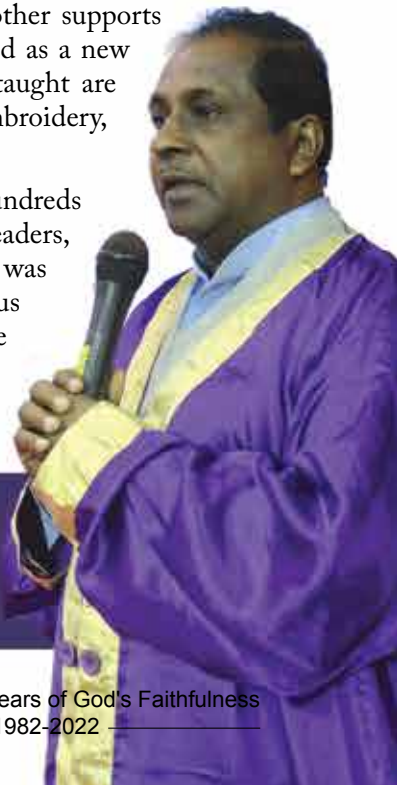
the unfavorable future. Yet the Gospel is still being preached and more people are coming to the Lord every day. South Indian missionaries, who are at the helm of North Indian evangelism are the primary targets of this unfavorable future. This is because rivals of the Gospel find that non-native missionaries are easier targets than the native missionaries. However, as more and more native missionaries get trained and set out from centers like ours, the prospect of North Indian evangelism is expected to be safer.

TheoTech College helps prepare eligible men and women in each of the four areas of formation: human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral. It is through these four areas that the students are equipped for the great call of God. In the human and spiritual areas, this is accomplished through community life, mentoring from qualified faculties and other staff members, the discipline of personal and communal prayer, attending conferences, and other programs of spiritual enrichment and regular spiritual direction. Intellectually, candidates are trained for six months in theology studies comprised of 19 supplementary subjects. In the pastoral area, a candidate, if willing to serve the Lord as a missionary, is assigned to one of Hope India Mission's fields where he is trained under the local pastor/missionary in charge.

Life skill Training along with Theology

Currently, we have a six-month intensive Bible course to train, equip, and launch leaders into outreach ministry. Along with the six-month Bible and leadership training, these students undergo life-skill training to make them self-supported while doing ministry. When they set out as church planters, one of these life skills can help them survive on their own. Tithes and other supports are minimal and cannot be expected as a new church planter. Courses presently taught are Desktop Publishing, tailoring, embroidery, driving, business as mission, etc.

As of March 2022, apart from hundreds of volunteers and House Church leaders, Emmanuel TheoTech College was instrumental in training 535 zealous Bible graduates, many of which are already serving the Lord in the various mission fields of Hope India Mission.



HIM'S 16 REGIONAL BIBLE SCHOOLS

The TheoTech College in Patna has been elevated to BTh. level and 17 branches in four States that offer diploma in theology have been added to it. These centers have many enrolments from adjacent local churches. As of March 2022, these centers had a total enrolment strength of 350 students for the academic year.



ONLINE BIBLE STUDY CLUB

During the Corona lockdown period, when everything was closed and people couldn't move, God gave Dr. Abraham a vision to train a few teenagers via call conferencing. The call conference network began with just two teenagers and quickly grew to ten in a matter of days. 110 youths have already studied the Gospels of Mark and Luke as of February 2020. And, as of March 2022, 140 youths divided into 12 teams are studying the Bible via call conferencing. About 95% of them are either non-Christians or have never attended a church before. Praise the Lord for opening this new ministry approach

despite there being a pandemic. Mr. Abhishek, who is described in the following testimony oversees the call conferencing program. He is also joined by Miss. Nisha, another native youth leader from Bihar who looks after the women's department. (Lady on wheel chair)

God gave Dr. Abraham a vision to train a few teenagers via call conferencing. The call conference network began with just two teenagers and quickly grew to ten in a matter of days.

Abhishek (third from left) was one of those youth who cannot even be termed a nominal Christian. He never opened the Bible, had only been to church a few times at Christmas, and was a devoted follower of another faith. Living his worldly life, Abhishek was reluctant to attend a regular church or any other prayer services. However, the pandemic has changed it all! {Long story in short} He prayed to receive Christ and was a student of 'Online Bible Study Fellowship' under Hope India Mission founder Rev. E. A. Abraham. He was one of Rev. Abraham's 50 students, he has completed the Gospel of Mark, Luke and John, and is now an active member of our local church in Patna. Abhishek could influence many of his friends and the networking has brought several youths to this online Bible study platform functioning under the TheoTech College. This new online Bible study platform is becoming an enormous success specifically among youths like Abhishek.

When Meenu Kumari attended HIM'S 2015 conference, she was just like one of the non-believer participants – she did not know the Lord's plans for her. Our Lord touched her deeply, and she accepted Him as her personal Savior. Meenu's decision to follow Jesus brought her much trouble when her father discovered Meenu praying to a 'foreign God'. He brutally beat her and locked her up. However, such was the level of her faith in Jesus that through prayer she was not only set free, but it gave her strength to keep on praying. And she was finally granted permission to attend our local church. Despite severe opposition from her parents, she decided to get baptized. Finally, Meenu's parents couldn't resist her decision to marry a born-again man. The Lord fulfilled her wish and Meenu got married on July 6, 2016, at our local church where Rev. Abraham officiated the wedding ceremony. They are now leading a happy married life. Praise the Lord for Meenu Kumaris' transformation which happened during an Annual Conference.

The mega outreach event of Hope India Mission

Every year, great preparation is made for the three-day conference at our 'Vision Center' in Patna. This conference is an important part of Hope India Mission's outreach ministry. It's so important because several new believers, believer representatives, and even many lukewarm believers, (more than a thousand people) attend the conference arriving from eight North Indian States. A few people will hear 'the Good News' for the first time in their lives. Each year many souls are saved and added to the church more than any other ministry initiatives. The conference is a great time of joy for our prayer



HIM'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FELLOWSHIP & SPIRITUAL REJUVENATION



partners as they see their prayers getting answered. The conferences are a time of joy for our missionaries as they witness their yearly hard work bearing fruit.

Different casts & classes – one body in Christ

The venue for the conference is Vision Center, Patna, Bihar. Renowned preachers from India and abroad lead the sessions. The guest speakers and counselors who are anointed and gifted, also have a lot of knowledge of the developments in mission fields. Most of the people who attended the conference came from the lower castes and classes that were reached by our missionaries from eight North Indian states. While winning several souls for the Lord, the existing believers' representatives are motivated to commit to feeding others with the Word of God once they are back

home. Many also felt that God called them to take on the responsibility of giving materially to those in need.

Participants arrive from eight States

Another reason to have the Annual Conference is Hope India Mission's multicultural believer community that spans eight states. There may not be any other country where the caste system has such a bad reputation as found in India. Hope India Mission, in a special way, is committed to breaking the caste system within the existing believers and beyond, as it says in Galatians 3:28 that we are one in Christ. This is so that every believer may see beyond caste, creed, and color and love one another as we who are one in Christ Jesus. The annual Conference is such a platform for all these people, where they will come together in one spirit to pray and exalt His name. Conferences give them opportunities to hear and share testimonies of how they came to the Lord and how it transformed their lives while becoming stronger in faith.

A great time to meet your preferred life partner!

Yes! The heading reads right. One might find it amusing that 90 percent of the marriages in India are arranged ones! And marriages among our believers, especially for new believers is a very difficult process to get through. This is because once a family accepts Jesus, their community casts them out and separates them from having any relationship with the people of that village or community. This results in many young adults finding it difficult to find a suitable life partner willing to marry them from their community. As a plan B, they do not have contacts with other Christians where they could look for a match. This is another reason why our annual conference is so important. It allows the believers to meet with many new and old fellow Christians, which leads them in building relationships and eventually finding Christian mates for their children within their castes or others.

Regions & Regional Conferences

The Hope India Mission family has branched into seven regions for better administrative/ outreach support. Regional coordinators are directly responsible for the coordination and development of the daughter churches in their region. These Regional Conferences are held across all seven regions to boost and rejuvenate the spiritual growth of their believers. Every year, people from all HIM

churches gather at one suitable location for the three-day regional conference. The Regional and Family Conferences are unique because some people of other faiths are welcomed, and they get to hear about Jesus Christ for the first time in their lives. These conferences are therefore carefully coordinated and strategically implemented.



Workshops & Seminars

There are a lot of difficulties and joys in sending leaders to the field. Our leadership and volunteer workshops cover the fundamentals of raising support, preparing for missions, presentations, locating support contacts, and above all being a Holy child of God.





SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

CARE FOR THE VULNERABLE



Barnabas Home & Esther Home: A secure abode of orphans & rescued children in Patna

Saraswathi Devi and Bablu, a couple from Bihar have been enjoying a happy married life. They were poor, landless, and homeless, and lived in a tiny, rental house. To overcome poverty, the couple came up with the idea of migrating to Patna City, the capital of Bihar where they dreamt of securing a prosperous future and proper education for their small children. Once arriving in Patna, Bablu hired a cycle rickshaw which was found to be the best source of income to feed his family. It was like a dream come true for this couple, as Bablu

managed to earn for his livelihood through this small venture.

But all that joy didn't last for long. Bablu's cycle rickshaw collided with a truck, which overturned right on top of the rickshaw, killing Bablu instantly. Shocked by the sudden death of her husband, Saraswathi Devi became mentally unstable and physically weak. She began to roam



around the streets forgetting to care for her two little children. Sadly, she never returned after leaving the home in early 2011 and is still traceless today.

No one cared for the little children, except for the landlord of the house in which Saraswathi Devi and Bablu had resided. He felt sympathy and nurtured them, but he barely had any information about the tenants and failed to track their source of origin, relatives, or neighbors.

The landlord, Mr. Birendra Kumar Singh, struggled to handle the situation. The older girl, three years old and named Priyanka, and the toddler kept on crying for their mother. The landlord's wife was resistant to his plan of keeping the children in their own home, so she hardly ever cared for or fed them properly.

A couple approached Birendra Kumar requesting to adopt the toddler because they were barren. Most Indian adopters prefer baby boys. This is an unhealthy practice with many Indian parents discriminating against their daughters merely for the sake of a few bucks of profits when they get married. According to Indian custom, the parents of the bride must give property, or a fair number of jewels to her intended partner as dowry. As a result, the boy child is respected in the family as the future income earner. Therefore, India witnesses one of the highest female feticide and female infanticide rates in the world. This is the reason that the above couple preferred the baby boy, leaving Priyanka alone.

However, the Lord, the one who never forgets the 'forgotten', had plans for Priyanka and her future. It was one of Hope India Mission's believers, who mentioned Priyanka to Rev. E. A. Abraham. On the 31st of March 2014, following all the legal formalities, Priyanka was welcomed into Esther Home as its youngest member.

Hope India Mission's child sponsorship program provides for the urgent care of impoverished children around North India. The program cares for orphan and semi orphan children who can't go to school, children who don't have enough to eat, children in desperate need of medical care, and children who have never heard of Jesus. These children come to



Priyanka,

a victim of
sex discrimination

us through the outreach ministry of our missionaries and volunteers from various fields. Many of these needy children are being supported by generous sponsors. The children and families that we work with would never be able to lead a quality life and achieve high levels of education without these generous sponsors.

Rescuing – sheltering – transforming

The sponsorship provided resources for Priyanka to survive for eight years in our orphanage while also receiving value-based education. She is actively participating in all the activities of the local church and learns in the discipline of our Lord. That's an incredible life changed from nothing. Some of our children have graduated and are busy with their jobs while some are undergraduates. Mission organizations like 'Forgotten Children' became major supporters of this project and in the rescuing and sheltering of many orphans and semi orphans.





Freedom Centre

Ending generational poverty with a sewing machine

Two years ago, worrying and wondering about her family's financial difficulties, Pooja Devi once again asked herself. *How can I do my part for my family?* Having two growing kids, Pooja eagerly wanted to help her husband to provide for the family but didn't know what to do. Her husband's very little income from manual labor wasn't enough for their daily bread. There were always disputes between the couple over their income. Meanwhile, someone told Pooja about Hope India Mission's Freedom Center which offered a tailoring course. During our six-month training, Pooja eagerly learned

tailoring. Amazingly she began to show interest in spiritual matters like reading scripture and other prayer activities. After four months of attending, she became a class monitor and began to help in teaching tailoring and explaining scriptures to her classmates in the absence of the tutor.

Pooja was regular in each activity and an active first respondent in every task we assigned. After graduating from our center, she bought a new sewing machine and began to work from home. Her small but initial income

became a big help towards their family's survival. Within a few months, they managed to come out of financial stress while helping many other poor ladies learn to tailor and sending many of them to our Freedom Center.

After observing her hard work and dedication we provided Pooja an opportunity to teach tailoring in our newly opened center

among leper women. Untouchability is strictly practiced, and lepers are always kept away in North Indian societies, especially by non-Christians. But our Gospel-oriented teaching and positive attitude shaped and transformed her to work among the lepers' community.

Now she is actively teaching leper women and sharing the compassion of Christ Jesus in the Leper's Colony in Patna. She has even joined the Online Bible Study led by HIM founder Dr. E. A. Abraham and she is growing in God's word and prayer. Now Pooja is the prime bread earner of her family and they have enough to survive and save for later. On 1 January 2022, a HIM staff visited and witnessed the family living a peaceful and happy life.

During a typical friday prayer meeting in a House Church in Walmi, Patna, a

confident lady stands up to speak: "Hello, my name is Rama Kumari. I use my sewing skills and my machine to make garments as per people's requirements". Many other women gathered in the House Church have also heard her story. Because they belonged to the so-called low caste, they have been secluded from the rest of the community. Now though, they have found new hope and courage through these micro-businesses. Hope India Mission has been equipping its leaders and volunteers like this to empower vulnerable women and men for many years. With this initiative, members like Rama Kumari began training and sharing her knowledge with her neighbors.

As a major outcome of the center, every Wednesday, many ladies gather here to pray. As a result, ten women accepted the Lord in their lives.



Feed the Hunger program

Mahima Rani is an ultra-poor woman who received a few chickens through our FEED THE HUNGER program. She also received training on how to raise and properly reproduce these chickens. She then passed this information on so that other poor ladies can afford a few chickens and repeat this cycle. Through this program, they



have learned that God has greater things in store for them. Hope India Mission's micro poultry farming business provides some of the ultra-poor farmers with an extra income from the sale of eggs and chicken. For women in developing nations like India, these requirements of empowerment can be difficult to come by. However, when women can reclaim their dignity and take control of their life, often with the help of their chickens, their lives — and the lives of those around them — are transformed.



REACHING THE LEPERS

HIM'S efforts to mainstream the alienated lepers and their children

Being a Christian organization that proclaims the compassion of Christ Jesus, the members of Emmanuel Fellowship Church, Patna, were saddened to hear about the bad state of lepers that reside just ten kilometers away. They were kept isolated from other houses. The government provided them with a space on the outskirts and it began to be known as Leper's Colony on official records. Hundreds of lepers fled to this place, and most had started their lives on the roadsides and in makeshift shelters. In Bihar, for thousands of years, stigma,



discrimination, and social exclusion have been like an infectious disease in the lives of people affected by leprosy (although leprosy isn't contagious). We have helped them several times, but major support was given during the Corona lock-down period.

The church's efforts have made a huge difference in the lives of several lepers. Most importantly it has helped us to convey the message of love and compassion of our Lord Jesus to many more. Sonal Ram (Pictured) is one such man (65 years old). His wife passed away

ten years ago and does not have children or anyone to look after him. We have helped him many times but the major support that we gave was during the lockdown period. Sonal resided alone in a mud thatched house, but government authorities demolished it for trespassing on their property. Fortunately for him, another leper was kind enough to accommodate him on his veranda. Sonal is unable to do any physical work because he lost all his fingers on both hands. He had only one option to earn his daily bread – and that was to beg on the streets. On his peak days, he earned as much as Rs 60 to 70, (\$1), but still, it was not enough to cover his daily needs.

Since he belonged to a lower caste community and due to leprosy, Sonal faced extreme discrimination in society and was a victim of untouchability. Life was full of confusion, exclusion, and anxiety as he tried to sustain his life in this society just like other lepers in the colony.

And then came the corona lockdown! He never imagined that such a time of suffering would be placed before him during the Corona lockdown. Unable to beg in the streets and with no resources left, Sonal felt he would soon die of starvation. But then we came like Angels!

He said the members of the church were like 'Angels sent by God' as they came with

dry rations and other sanitary items. He said the rations were plentiful for a couple of months. As he thanked us, we enlightened him of the generous people of God who made the support possible. Currently, he is living with another leper.

Our social work department's mission is to provide innovative social initiatives that reveal measurable care for the needs of our congregants, neighbors and the community in which they live, especially among the marginalized people groups. HIM's mission to reach the unreached people groups led to the formation and expansion of this ministry. We are committed to providing emotional, physical, and financial support to the congregants and the community at times of a social need or during the occurrence of an emergency.





00 This project allowed us to take the love and compassion of Christ Jesus to thousands of people.



PROJECT CORONA SURVIVAL

Following the implementation of the Corona lockdown, about 5.26 million Bihar migrant workers (all of them daily wagers) across India attempted to leave major cities and return home.

They arrived home by walking hundreds of miles across the states in the middle of the lockdown. This influx of people left them without jobs or income. Many people starved at home while some people even died of thirst and diseases along the way. To comfort the returning migrant workers who were deprived of necessities like food and sanitary items due to this emergency, the church's members volunteered themselves to fight hunger. Above all, they wanted to show them the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We were able to supply dry rations and other essentials to more than a thousand needy families in Patna during the 2020 and 2021 lockdown. It supported them for about three months. In many places, as we arrived, people were begging for food since they hadn't eaten for days.

This project allowed us to take the love and compassion of Christ Jesus to thousands of people. Under the visionary guidance of its founder Rev. E. A. Abraham, the church members identified the ultra-poor families and distributed food packets. During the initial days of the lockdown, people were begging for food and many of them hadn't eaten for days. We were able to help them avoid prolonged starvation that could lead to a cycle of despair and even death. Awareness and counseling given by our missionaries have helped to improve the living standards of some of these people. As they were supported for three months, now they had enough time to look for a job or small business. The church members have been regularly following up with these family contacts and making sure that the project is still on track.



ANNUAL FLOODS & DISASTER MANAGEMENT

HIM'S efforts in flood-affected regions

Some of the annual floods in America are so massive that even the Indian media will report on them. Although nothing can match the loss of precious lives and belongings, we are thankful to several charities and government organizations that help to support people in the occurrence of such floods. The situation here in India is similar. The North Indian states of U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Uttarakhand are affected by annual monsoon floodwaters from the river Ganga (Ganges). This can happen at any time from July to November annually across the Ganges River basin. Every year, thousands of people lose their homes to raging waters while millions of houses get submerged. This has been the situation ever since mankind set foot on the Ganges River basin, the most populous river basin with 650 million population. Studies by government agencies are being

done to find remedies but it may take years to achieve results. And the situation will remain unchanged as unpredictable flash floods are released from Nepal and enter the Ganges River.

Many of the villages of our believers get submerged in flood waters every year, and a few of them even lose their lives to floods. When we find the floods to be massive, a rescue team is formed under the leadership of our founder. We immediately instruct the missionaries to assemble people and leave the village in search of higher grounds. As they flee their village, they take only what they can hold in their two hands. Because highways are built above the floodwater level, they usually find shelter on highways and railway tracks. For some of our poor believers, the loss is so severe that they lose almost everything to

the floods - their livestock, stored grains, utensils, and even their clothes. We comfort them with dry rations and other necessities to survive for a month or two, which is a great opportunity for us to show the compassion of Jesus Christ.

Hope India Mission's Disaster Response Department provides training and mobilizes rescue, medical and counseling professionals to help in the wake of any possible natural disasters in North India. In recent times, the team has responded immensely to help people during the Corona lockdown period. Our volunteers assist with medical, spiritual, and construction needs after a disaster strikes, hoping to use the opportunity to establish relationships and support church planting.



AKSHARA – Nonformal Education

ADULT & SCHOOL DROPOUT LITERACY PROGRAMS

It is estimated that about 20% of North Indian youngsters between the ages of six and fourteen are not enrolled in schools. Even among enrolled children, attendance rates are low, and 26 percent of primary school students drop out before the fifth grade. The situation is worse in segments of the population, especially those residing in such states as Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh. Most of the parents have also not been to school. The major reasons for the situation are extensive poverty, shortage of schools, low quality of government education, social exclusion of parents, illiteracy, ignorance of parents, gender discrimination, working parents, child labor, and remote villages. To help these poor and needy children in all these categories, Hope India Mission has commenced several non-formal literacy centers across our mission fields. Unlike formal schools, these schools are easily accessible for children as well as adults.

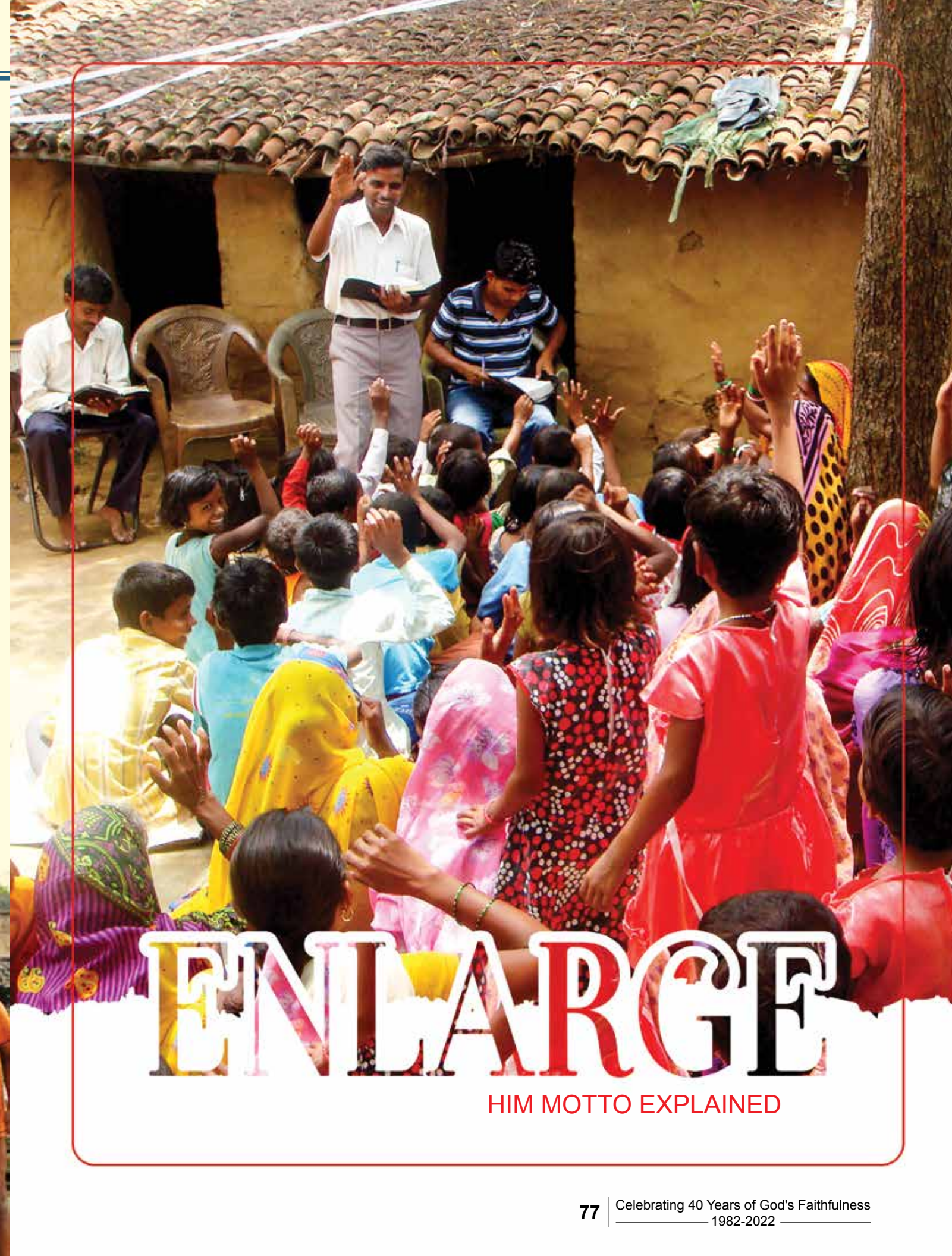
We visited one of the fields to have some fellowship with them and to see their progress. We were pleasantly surprised at the various age groups seated there, and to see their excitement to show what they had learned. We listened as they bragged about their teacher, and sweetly shared their excuses as to why they miss classes occasionally. Everyone knew the alphabet thoroughly, and most of them can read fluently. Some others can read too but are a bit slower, and some of them even have reached the point where they are confidently writing the words dictated to them.



When Rekha Devi was a child, she begged her parents to let her go to school, but they refused her wish. The only thing she could do was watch as some of her friends went to school and wipe the tears off her eyes. According to her, the reason why her parents refused her schooling was both funny and sad -their particular Dalit community had a routine of restricting education to a girl child!

Thanks to the supporters of Akshara, Rekha is now able to read the newspaper and write whatever is dictated to her. She is eager for the classes, does the homework well, and wants to improve her skills to the maximum. She is happy that she can read name boards, signboards, newspapers, etc. and doesn't need to rely on strangers before boarding her bus back home. Akshara, Hope India Mission's adult literacy program is effectively progressing through four centers in Bihar. Teaming with Dalit families, these villages are home to hundreds of poor, unschooled men and women who primarily rely on agriculture for their living. Women are more prone to the consequences of illiteracy as some evil people lure them with false hope of financial aid but trick them into huge financial losses. Most importantly, the inability to read degrades their standard of living while keeping them in the darker side of the world.

We work with several people in rural and slum areas. One of the groups is locally known by the name 'Mushahars' or 'Rat Eating Community' which falls under the category of the Dalit caste. The people we work with among the Mushahars are mostly ladies and children. The rural areas of the Indian state of Bihar have the lowest literacy rate in the country at a rate of 53.9%, and only a literacy rate of 20% among women. And the Dalit community has the lowest literacy rate in Bihar at less than 10%.



ENLARGE

HIM MOTTO EXPLAINED



The Church Multiplication Process

Planting new House Churches and Training New Leaders

A church that isn't growing is lifeless in all its form. The best way for it to multiply is to help plant daughter churches through whom its life can continue. And that is why Hope India Mission takes it seriously. One of the important approaches we follow to keep the cycle of evangelism going is to equip the new and existing leaders. Emmanuel TheoTech College plays a key function here.

Fellowship Center - House Church - Village Church - Central Church

After the church planter has planted a House Church,

he goes to plant a new one. The person with the most theological training or knowledge of the Bible is more the 'Father of the Fellowship' than a trained church planter who is only an occasional visitor. At times, 'the Father of the Fellowship' may be a newly disciplined believer. As more and more House Churches emerge at a particular location, the birth of a Village Church becomes a reality.

Village churches usually emerge in villages and small towns. Village churches are also the results of constant evangelism follow-ups and meetings done by Hope India Mission's evangelists and volunteers. This is

achieved by several disciplines approaches like VBS, Jesus Film Ministry, Christmas Evangelism, tracts distribution, and other forms of social development projects. People in villages strongly believe in supernatural powers and as they experience God's miracles in their lives, they put their trust in the Lord and the Gospel. As village churches emerge, their believer base experiences a gradual increase in inviting people from all walks of life.

House Churches and villages churches help Hope India Mission to enable a cycle of evangelism that has multiplied into Central Churches and daughter churches across our mission fields. Just like an organism under the right conditions can reproduce rapidly and adapt to new conditions. The house church is intended to be a church for itself only and not meant to be the church for a larger group.

The Proposed Church Multiplication Projects

- (1) Proposed regional campus in Chhattisgarh State that includes a church, Bible College and a school.
- (2) New city church in Patna (For professionals and officials in the city)
- (3) A church and a Bible Training Center in Rajgir, Bihar, at the birthplace of Buddhism aimed to reach the Buddhists locally and globally.
- (4) Aiming to expand the ministry to a total of 10 North Indian states by 2024.



PROJECT-1

BUILD A COMMUNITY BIBLE COLLEGE & A HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENTAL MODEL IN CHHATTISGARH

Why this project?

This project will transform the targeted community with Christ-centered holistic project approaches and set a new model for others to follow. The project is expected to boost the church planting ministry among the tribals in Chhattisgarh and beyond. Theologically and technologically trained pastors, missionaries, and evangelists shall be a blessing, especially among the disadvantaged believers and people that reside in the remotest regions of the state.

Beneficiaries

Several tribal communities in and around Ambikapur in Chhattisgarh, India.

The tribals in chhattisgarh require special attention.

About 44.21% of the land of the state is a forest that has some of the remotest and most isolated villages in the country. About 31.8 percent of the total population of the State are disadvantaged tribal communities living in these dense forests. Many of them are completely cutoff from the rest of society without electricity and road connectivity.

The Project

Establish a holistic development model among the tribal community in Chhattisgarh.

Some of their Major Challenges

i) Poverty

Hope India Mission has 14 emerging Central Churches in the state of Chhattisgarh. It's missionaries are fully supported by Hope India Mission. All the believers who make up these churches are poor tribals who depend solely on what the natural climate offers them as rainfall for growing agricultural products. They grow rice, wheat, and pulses when the annual monsoon favors them. Very often the heavy monsoons flood and spoil their crops. They have no insurance on what they produce which always leads to famine and poverty.

NEW PROJECTS- NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST



*To donate and
know more,
please visit our website
[www.hopeindiamission.org/
tribaldevelopmentproject](http://www.hopeindiamission.org/tribaldevelopmentproject)*

ii) Caste system and Exploitation

Tribal communities are forced to remain at the bottom of the caste hierarchy which exposes them to be exploited by evil people. Moreover, many of their communities live in or close to jungles, far away from cities and towns. However, industrialization and poverty have forced many of them to move to towns and cities where they also face severe exploitation.

iii) Illiteracy

Chhattisgarh is one of the Indian States where the average literacy rate is far below that of the country. The tribal societies are extremely closed and isolated living in dense groups and the quality of available education is poorer. This leads to a perpetual state of poverty and isolation in the tribal communities.

iv) Decelerated agriculture growth

Centuries-old agriculture practices and lack of scientific knowledge reduce agriculture productivity to its lowest level. Farmers must wait for the annual monsoon season to start growing. For the rest of the season, the land is unusable for cultivation. By adopting modern agriculture practices like borewells and micro-watersheds, livestock development, promoting vermicomposting and other scientific methods, the land can be made available for cultivation throughout the year, resulting in sustainable agriculture.

Our Solution

Develop a Vision Campus Model

This project will transform the targeted community with Christ-centered holistic project approaches and set a new model for others to follow.

1. TheoTech Community Bible College

For any challenge, the Gospel of Christ Jesus is the solution. Hope India Mission is eager to expand its existing ministry among the tribal communities of Chhattisgarh. The 14 existing churches are the result of our church planting initiative over the past few years. A Bible School will help equip the future leaders and missionaries required here and our existing church will supply the necessary enrolments for it. The missionaries who work in this part of the world, not only require mere Gospel knowledge but most importantly he/she must be self-sustained and be able to earn for themselves and their family as well. Due to the poor financial status of its believers, a missionary cannot expect a regular flow of tithes or gifts from the believers. Emmanuel TheoTech Community College is set up in such a way to build self-sustaining missionaries. Having a part-time job will not only offer them some income to survive but also will create contacts for his outreach ministry. The TheoTech Community College is designed in such a way to provide IT education, modern life skill, and theological training to native missionaries under a single umbrella. This Bible College will equip missionaries and believers to earn and stand for the Lord.



Benefits

- ➔ After the graduation, they can immediately start Tent Making wherever the Lord leads them.
- ➔ Gives them a better wide opportunity to connect with general people.
- ➔ In the unfortunate event of possible persecution or emergency, these trained missionaries can use their life skills at another place and immediately start their ministry.

Project Impact

The project is expected to boost the church planting ministry among the tribals in Chhattisgarh and beyond. Theologically and technologically trained pastors, missionaries, and evangelists shall be a blessing, especially among the disadvantaged believers and people that reside in the remotest regions of the state.

2. Mission School - A Primary School

The proposed plan is to build a primary school within the campus. A few classrooms and an office room are the initial requirements to start with. Within one year of the implementation of the primary school, the entire project is expected to become self-sustainable.

While providing quality education, a minimal fee can be collected which would be enough for the operational expenses. The primary school will help impart value and Christ-centered education in an English Medium environment to children residing in the neighboring villages.

Scope & Feasibility of the Primary School

In recent years, mission schools started by missionaries have experienced tremendous growth in terms of enrolment. At our mission school in Patna, Bihar,



we were unable to enroll some of the students due to the scarcity of spaces. The discipline and the code of conduct in mission schools have earned an immense positive reputation from the general public. Although Chhattisgarh is known for its lowest literacy statistics, people now are realizing that education is inevitable for them. Despite a major portion of land being forest, the State is known for its population explosion which has now reached over 30 million. These facts are an absolute assurance of the feasibility of this project. More grades can be added to the project in future academic sessions.

3. Sustainable Argi Farm Project Model

Job loss due to the COVID pandemic and the followed economic crisis compelled many migrant tribal populations to return and focus on agriculture. Most of the farmers in tribal areas are still using old methods of farming that result in a very low yield. The promotion of modern techniques in agriculture is currently an urgent need. Establishing a model farmhouse in Ambikarpur will have the following benefits:

Impact

It will be a model farm project for the tribals, imparting modern agriculture techniques for sustained farming. It will create new job opportunities for several locals. Most importantly this project will support the 'DAYCARE HOME' for its operational expenses.

4. Day Care Home

A big part of the tribal population in Chhattisgarh still lives below the poverty line and many of the parents are struggling to feed, care and give a primary education to their little children. And life is too hard for many of the one-parent families in Chhattisgarh.

The proposed campus will have a Day Care Home. Primary education and healthy nutritious food will

be served to the children. These children will grow up in a safe environment and receive the attention they deserve.

5. Income Generation & S.H.G

Despite agriculture and dairy farming being the major income-generating sources in rural Chhattisgarh, these are not women-friendly jobs. Village ladies, especially widows and marginalized ones need some projects that they can operate from their houses and use their free time to earn something to support their families. A separate project wing will be commenced at the campus to train them in important life skills. Some of the like-skills that will be taught are making carpets, doormats, tablecloths, candles, soaps, chalks, knitting, tailoring, etc. Collection and marketing of the finished goods are also a part of this project and project sustainability. Self Help Group is a successful way to strengthen the local women.

Expected Impact

1. A boost to future church planting ministry. Quality and Christ-centred education delivered through the creation of student-friendly learning will help liberate the next generation from the bondage of caste-based discrimination.
2. This school will be an absolute ENTRY POINT for the nearby local churches (to be planted) to spread the message of love and fellowship of Christ Jesus. The salvation of abundant souls is expected, thereby erecting the local church into a well-established central church and a midpoint for its neighboring daughter churches.
3. Schools begun by missionaries were a great success and blessing for certain rural villages. It was evident that in villages where the language of instruction was English, people's quality of life improved, and reduced caste sentiment was observed.



NEW PROJECTS- NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST



PROJECT-2

BUILD A CITY CHURCH & BIBLE COLLEGE IN RAJGIR - BIHAR

Reaching out to Buddhists, Jainists locally and globally.

As missionaries arrived in Bihar with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the little town of Rajgir was left out. No one was interested in ministering in Rajgir because they considered it as a mere Buddhist and Jainism tourist destination. Rajgir (means House of the King) is an ancient city in the district of Nalanda in the Indian state of Bihar. Rajgir and the surrounding areas are important Jainism and Buddhist pilgrim destinations. Gautama Buddha spent 12 years in Rajgir before attaining 'Enlightenment' and establishing Buddhism in Bodhi Gaya, 70 km away. It was the birthplace of the 20th Jain Tirthankar Munisuvrata, and is closely associated with the Mahavira and Gautama Buddha. Both Mahavira and Buddha taught their beliefs in Rajgir during the 6th and 5th centuries BC.

Hope India Mission does have a small congregation in Rajgir with a full-time missionary. Since the new missionary took charge, the outreach ministry witnessed a swift makeover. Hope India Mission managed to conduct several conferences and prayer meetings recently in and around Rajgir resulting in the congregation observing an intense flow of believers to the church. Our believers are poor and dependent on agriculture and tourism for survival. A holistic transformation is evident following four years of our presence. Many souls were saved and became models to others. The children who used to roam around and waste away their time were now enrolled in schools. In addition to this, they wore clean clothes and looked healthier than before. It was amazing to see their surroundings no longer littered with trash but now neat and clean. The instruction

A city church will be an attraction and a holy place for many of these pilgrims. So please pray for this dream project to come into reality.

received via our missionary had already made a big impact on these families' self-image and cleanliness in a few of the surrounding villages.

The small congregation and the missionary in Rajgir are fully supported by Hope India Mission. All the people who make up the church are poor and depend solely on what the natural climate offers them (i.e., rain for growing crops). They grow rice, wheat, and pulses when the annual monsoon favors them. Very often the heavy monsoons flood and spoil their crops and they have no insurance on what they produce. This often leads to famine and poverty. The congregation in Rajgir is an emerging one that is financially supported by Hope India Mission as they cannot raise funds currently.

The dream - A City Church & Bible College

A church and a Bible College will equip many local people to reach the Buddhists locally and globally. Being the Birthplace of Buddhism, thousands of Buddhist pilgrims visit Rajgir and nearby places. The Bible College will produce enough leaders to reach their community which is expected to create a cycle of evangelism locally and globally.

*To donate and
know more,
please visit our website
www.hopeindiamission.org/
reachbuddhists*



NEW PROJECTS- NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST



PROJECT-3

PATNA CITY CHURCH

A growing central church near the ministry headquarters and the Airport

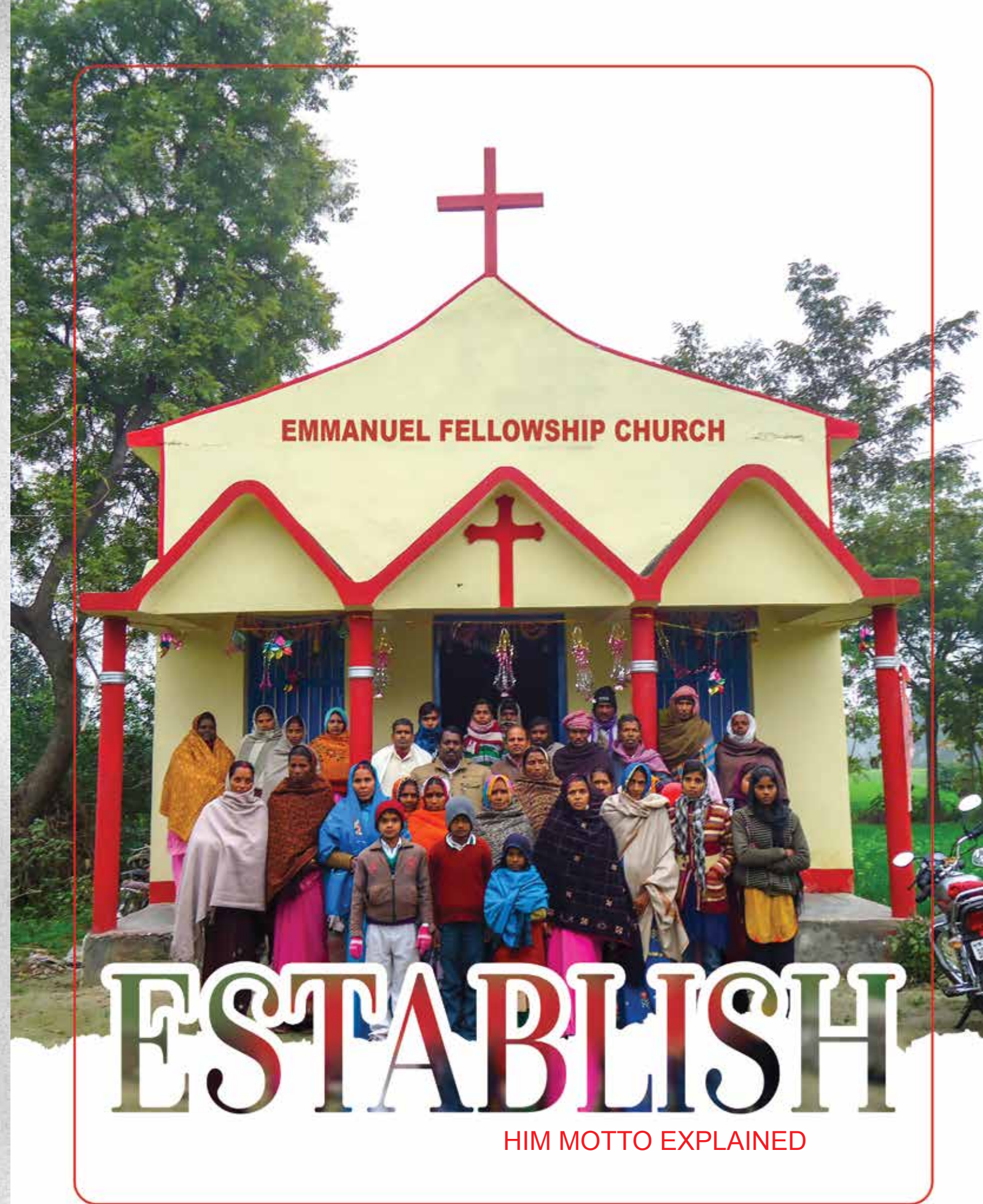
HIM'S Patna congregation is an established and growing church near the ministry headquarters in Patna, Bihar that has outgrown its current rented building.

THE GOAL - The goal is to target and reach the high caste and high-class community, the least reached groups in Patna City by any missions.

REASON - About 95% of North Indian believers belong to lower castes and classes while only a few belong to high class and upper caste communities. There is a common belief that all Christians are lower castes, and one should keep away from them. People belonging to lower caste communities have a sense of inferiority complex due to suppression from upper caste communities. North India needs a breakthrough.

Unlike HIM's other churches, Patna city church will give more focus to high-class and high-caste communities around the city, some of the least reached groups in the city by any missions. Being the capital city of the state of Bihar, this proposed church is expected to welcome government officials, diplomats, professionals, businessmen and people from all avenues of life. A parking area, a cafeteria and a recreation hall be an added attraction. This church will be the first of its kind in our ministry and probably in the entire state of Bihar and a model church for other ministries as well. The location of the proposed church will be closer to the city airport as well as the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, one of the top medical colleges in India where thousands of employees from various states work.

*To donate and
know more,
please visit our website
www.hopeindiamission.org/
projectpatnacitychurch.*





CENTRAL CHURCHES

At Hope India Mission, Central Churches mean an established church (not financially) in terms of spiritually mature believers. Central churches are in communion with many House Churches and Village Churches around it. At Hope India Mission, these churches are primarily located in towns, city suburbs, and a few villages. Some of these churches do not have a permanent space, instead, they function from rented spaces.

KNOW A CENTRAL CHURCH

GEOGRAPHY: Sabaya is a small village located in the western district of Gopalganj in Bihar. The district is mostly plains and agricultural land. The major languages spoken are Bhojpuri, Urdu, and Hindi.

In 2006 the Indian Ministry of Panchayati Raj named Gopalganj one of India's 250 most backward districts (out of a total of 640).

ABOUT THE CHURCH:

Despite being in one of the most backward and poorest districts in the country, Hope India Mission's congregation in Sabaya is so active that it is being backed by more than 400 devoted believers (300+ Baptized).

AN EMERGING CONGREGATION:

After the construction of the church building and

Pastor Srikanth Prasad was appointed as in-charge, several people began to come to the church. We then conducted several conferences and prayer meetings in and around Sabaya. Recently, the church observed an intense influx of believers but the scarcity of spaces in the building is now becoming an issue.

Total number of believers in this field - 400

Baptized believers - 300+

Number of enrolments for Bible training in 2017 - 3

Total number of House Churches - 10



Hope India mission finally has an administrative space of its own!

Having a permanent administrative office is a necessity for any missionary organization. Ever since the establishment of the Hope India Mission back in 1984, the ministry operated from rented spaces. Despite being a growing ministry and expanding our presence to six North Indian states, we have had several relocations. In 2012, we made

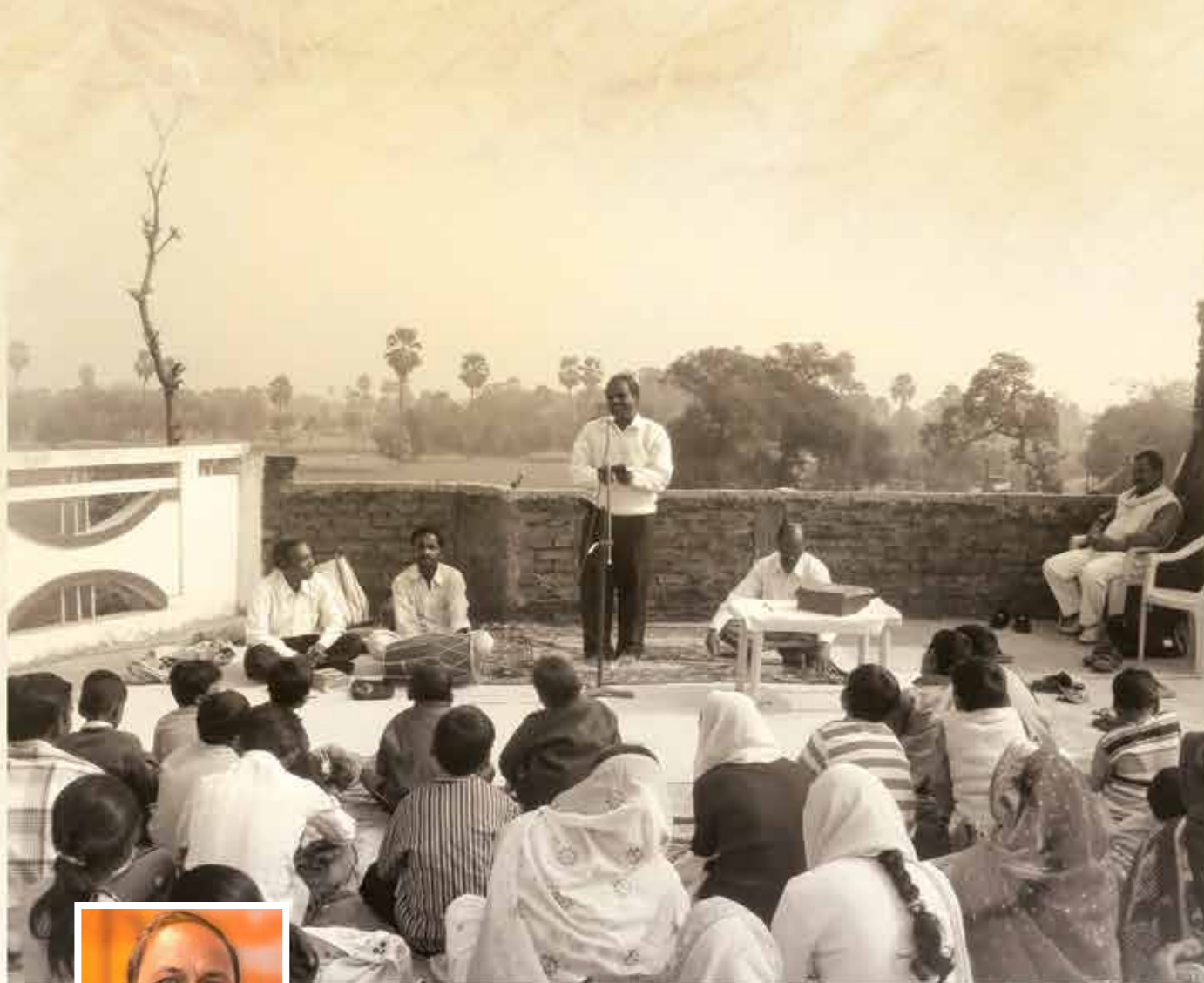


a move to the present building in Patna, the capital city of the State of Bihar. As the headquarters of an emerging North Indian Ministry, we were almost settled in the new space. Being the capital city, the recent real estate boom has increased land prices dramatically across the city. As an answer to our prayer and the sacrificial contributions of our prayer partners, the Lord helped us to purchase the building on June 21, 2017. We greatly remember and thank all the prayer partners and sponsors for making this dream into reality.

WHEN THE DREAM OF A CHURCH BUILDING BECOMES A REALITY



The HIM church building in Nedeem in West Bengal was built and dedicated to God's glory on August 18, 2017. Northern districts of West Bengal are considered the gateways to North-Eastern Indian states and are mostly inhabited by migrants from Nepal. They are also famous for thick forests, Himalayan Rivers, a spectacular range of mountains, and Tea Gardens. These districts connect Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh with the North-Eastern Indian states where HIM has now two worshipping communities. Its believers are poor coolies (low-wage laborers) working in the tea gardens, but a few have gone out in search of more suitable jobs. Their houses are thatched and built using bamboo and wood collected from the wild. Languages spoken are Hindi, Nepali, and Bengali. People here are found to be more responsible, sincere, faithful, and open toward the Gospel.

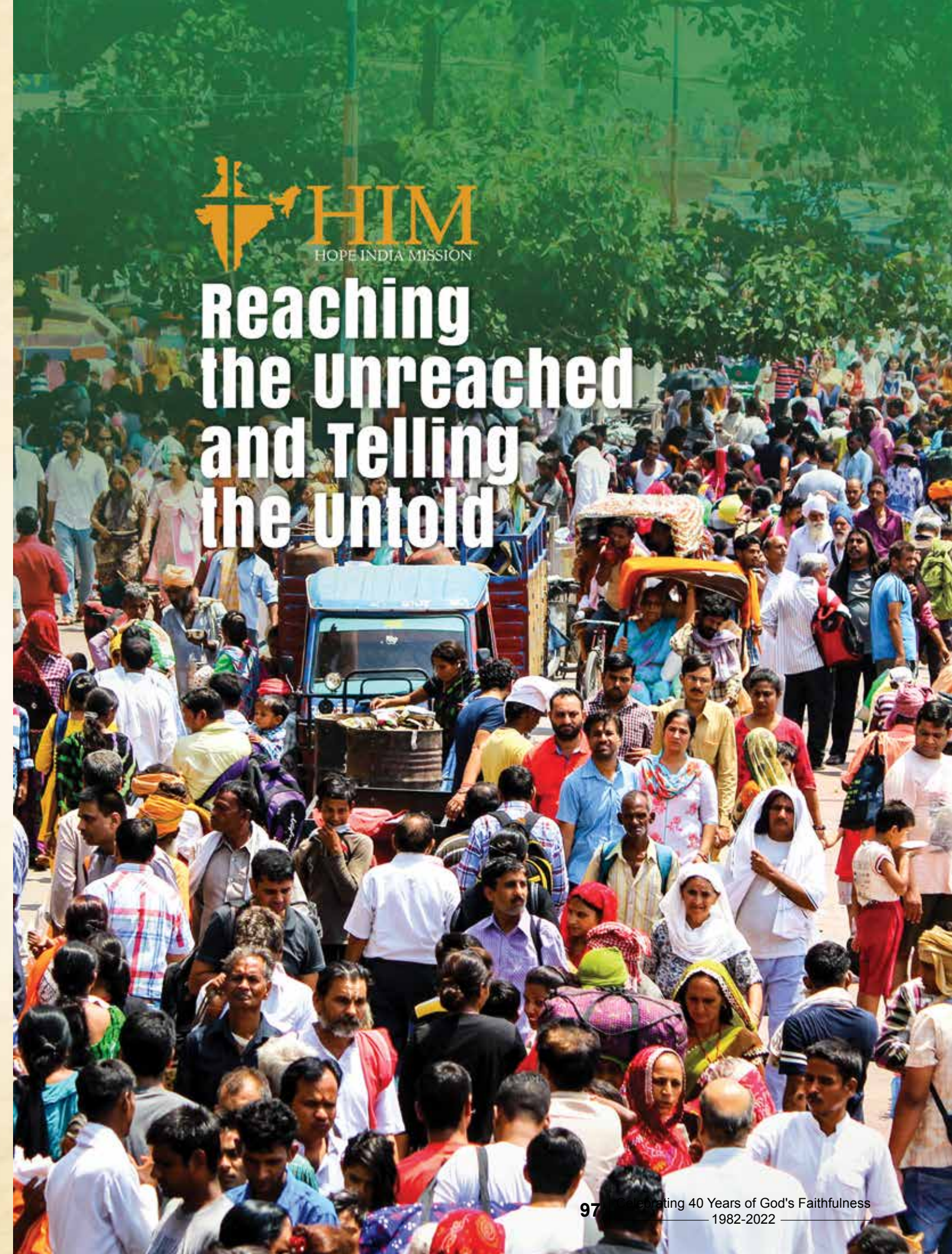


Chronology of God's faithfulness in the life of Rt. Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham and his ministry

- 1984 Abraham reaches Bihar. Begins his ministry in the district of Siwan.
- 1985 He runs away from failure, like Jonah, to Uttar Pradesh.
God Almighty warned him to return to His original call in Bihar. (Jer. 42: 10-11)
- 1990 Emmanuel Mission School's first branch school opened at Ander
- 1996 Emmanuel Leadership training Centre, a Bible training initiative for the native missionaries started in Siwan on March 2.
- 1998 Attended Haggai International Leadership Seminar in Hawaii in February.
- 2000 Attended Baptist World Congress in Melbourne, Australia in January.
Pastor Abraham attends 'Billy Graham's Amsterdam Conference 2000'
Conference in Amsterdam- Meets Norman and Becky Wretlind and Steve Fernald of Neighborhope International.
Prayer walk program in spiritual stronghold areas with the team from Singapore in September.
First Christmas Evangelism party held in Siwan, in partnership with NeighborHope.

- 2001 Total Mission Churches: 50
Emmanuel Mission School opens its third Branch in January.
Kidnapping threat to Pastor Abraham's daughter, Princy. She is sent away for security.
Bless Bihar Mission Conference October 25-28.
- 2002 Total Mission Churches: 90
Abraham miraculously escapes from a motorcycle accident on January 2 but breaks his arm.
- 2003 Total Mission Churches: 130.
ECFC opens its fourth School in Patna, the Capital city of Bihar on January 6.
Broadcasted Christmas Album (VCD)
Christmas Party outreach in Bihar and all over India through TV programs.
'Year to Reach Youth'- 2000 youth reached through all mission stations.
- 2004 The 20th Anniversary celebration of ECFC.
'God Bless Bihar' prayer walk/drive to 20 districts of Bihar. Confronting satanic barriers to evangelism.
The 1st Christmas Evangelism Seminar with NeighborHope Ministries in Delhi, Calcutta, Patna and Trivandrum. Hundreds of Christmas parties were held.
- 2006 Pastor Abraham's family and ECFC Administrative office moved to Patna.
Emmanuel Leadership Training Centre moved to Patna.
Christmas Evangelism Seminar trains another 1000 pastors and conducted thousands of parties.
- 2007 NeighborHope India is formed, and Pastor Abraham as National Director. Over 3600 pastors were trained and tens of thousands of Hindu and Muslim neighbors attended parties in eight different states.
- 2008 5000 Christmas Parties were held all over India.
Siwan Child Care Project started in partnership with Compassion International.
Partnered with CANA Ministry - Dubai, and Help for Brethren Ministries, Germany.
NeighborHope India continues to train over 3800 pastors in 11 states, with over 5000 parties.
Over 160,000 neighbors attended the parties.
- 2009 ECFC's Silver Jubilee Year, with regional celebrations in 11 locations across five states.
ECFC Silver Jubilee 'Family Retreat' at Bodhgaya from September 22 - 24.
The land was purchased for a Bible College in Patna in April.
Published the Biography of Rev. EA Abraham on May 16 in Malayalam and English.
- 2010 FMPB handed over two churches to ECFC.
50000 Christmas Parties celebrated all over India with more than 1 Million people.
- 2012 Added 90 more children to the Compassion International project, totaling 187 children.
Conducted 13 'Bless India' seminars.
'Kids Around the World', in partnership with Taylor University and the Bridge Church, built a large children's playground at Emmanuel Mission Public School Patna in July.

- 2014 The 30th year celebration
30th Annual Conference, October 30 - November 2, was held in 'Vision Centre' Nihura. More than 1000 people consisting of staff and church representatives attended. `
- 2016 32nd Annual Conference held on October 10-12. During our 32nd Annual Conference, 50 energetic youth dedicated themselves to full-time ministry from their respective locations. Praise the Lord! The theme was 'FEED THE 5000'.
NeighborHope India, by training and equipping about 35,000 Pastors and lay-leaders all over India for Christmas Evangelism Parties all over India.
- 2017 Administration office building purchased in Patna. As an answer to our prayers and the sacrificial contributions of our prayer partners, the Lord helped us to purchase the building and register it on June 21.
Persecutions in March: As the persecution rises, the revival continues. Christianity has been under attack following the change in governance at the central level. This year witnessed several outbreaks of anti-Christian violence in the states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh.
EMMANUEL THEO-TECH COLLEGE (Formerly 'Emmanuel Leadership Training Centre) commenced the 36th class with 30 students.
- 2018 Joining of new staff: Mr. Prince Sam Abraham, (Business Administrator) Rev. Sibu P. Alex and family (General Co-coordinator), Pr. Sabu Chacko and family (Nihura campus supervisor)
Online Theology Training Centre opened: In March, the Lord enabled us to start an Online Theology Training Center in association with LUCENT UNIVERSITY, U.S.A.
AWARDED: Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham was awarded:1) the title of 'Missionary Hero' on October 2 by an online newspaper, "Kristava Yezhuthupura" for completing three decades of ministry in Bihar, North India.2) the 'Certificate of Excellence' This is presented for outstanding contribution to the development of education in Bihar by Dainik Jagaran, a leading newspaper. (Dainik Jagran is the second-most circulated newspaper in India).
- 2020 TheoTech38th class graduation held on March 9.
TheoTech39th class graduated on September 27.
Reached 7540 children through VBS.
Online Bible Study Fellowship Classes started.
- 2021 Emmanuel Fellowship Church building at Amgavu, C.G. dedicated on September 13.
Emmanuel Fellowship Church building at Pandopara, C.G. dedicated on September 14.
Emmanuel Fellowship Church building at Parsoudi, C.G. dedicated on September 15.
Ministry expanded to the State of Odisha.
380 Gift boxes distributed to the poor and needy children in partnership with Samaritan Purse.
Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham's Bishop Consecration was held on October 27.
- 2022 In to the 40th year of the ministry of Rt. Rev. Dr. E. A. Abraham,
58 Central Churches and thousands of House Churches.



COMMITTED TO INDIA AND BEYOND...



HIM's expanding body of ministry
is present in the above states.
(as on 2022)



HOPE INDIA MISSION
Staff and Volunteers with Families

“So in Christ we, though
many, from one body, and
each member belongs to all
the others.” *Romans 12:5*



USA ADDRESS

HOPE INDIA MISSION

📍 1403, Winchester Road
Decatur, IN 46733 USA

✉️ naomi_muselman@muselman.com

🌐 www.hopeindiamission.org

📺 hopemediainternational

📺 HopeMediaInternational

CANADA ADDRESS

📍 Hope India Mission Society
1872 Bradner Road
Abbotsford, BC V4X 1C3
BC Canada

✉️ aarc2@shaw.ca



INDIA ADDRESS

Emmanuel Christian Fellowship Center (ECFC)

📍 H# 648/2, Sastri Path, Paharpur, Anisabad,
Patna, Bihar - 800002. INDIA

☎️ +91 9431218243

✉️ eaabraham9@gmail.com