

MINISTRY

Great Commission Media Ministries

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Great Commission Media Ministries
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Everyone knew that there could be opposition. But it was still a surprise to see a unit from Russian special forces armed and wearing antiterrorist masks show up on day one.

MORE THAN EVER CHURCHES ACROSS RUSSIA RISE UP TO FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION

A personal report from GCM President, Hannu Haukka

Dear Ministry Friend,

Much has been happening in Russia this past summer.

I recently returned from the Crimean Peninsula, South Russia. This is Ukrainian territory under occupation by Russian forces.

In Russia, newly introduced restrictive laws first signed by President Putin in July 2017 and then again in July of this year severely limit the activities of Russia's Evangelical churches.

But, in a show of "force" two thousand youth from all over Russia descended on the Crimean Peninsula to

attend a ten day Christian youth retreat to study the Bible and attend seminars on Biblical values, ethical living, respect for parents and the elderly, but most of all to learn how to evangelize, present the Gospel to fellow Russians.

Everyone knew that there could be opposition. But it was still a surprise to see a unit from Russian special forces armed and wearing antiterrorist masks show up on day one. The purpose was to cause fear among the youth. A better description might be to "terrorize."

On the days following, local authorities paid 18 visits to the youth

camp. They issued fines amounting to a punishing sum of \$30,000 USD.

But newly introduced laws restricting worship mixed with persecution have galvanized churches to stand up like never before and keep on preaching the Gospel to their countrymen.

What we see is a sorrowful trend. In the past year there have been 150 court cases opened against evangelical churches. In all cases the target is Church leadership. 74 pastors have been arrested with some being sentenced to short prison terms.

Further amendments to the recent

prohibitive law now require all churches of 50 or more members to hire a secret service agent (KGB) to be present in all worship services and to install metal detectors at the expense of the Church.

Many churches simply cannot afford the cost. Also, few can accept the idea of having a KGB agent sitting in on all Church activity.

A senior lawyer for The Slavic Center For Law and Justice in Moscow complained to the Central Prosecutors office about the ongoing persecution. He was told: "Do not complain! This

is only the beginning. Once we get into autumn you will see what is to come!"

Amidst all the negative news we at GCM have been busier than ever printing evangelistic material for the churches of Russia including New Testaments, Gospels of John and Power to Change books which consist of powerful transformation stories and a road map to new life in Jesus.

I cannot express how grateful we are for your partnership in making this possible while we still have a window of opportunity. Please see insert at the bottom of page 4 for more details.

IRAQ – SULAYMANIYAH

Today I got back from Sulaymaniyah in northern Iraq, which is Abraham's Chaldean Ur, his home country before he left for the promised land. Sulaymaniyah has been spared the destruction that is a result of the ongoing war in many cities of this country and in neighboring Syria.

The city lies near the Nineveh plains of Abraham, the Chaldean Ur, mentioned in Genesis. Sulaymaniyah is a city of almost 2 million. GCM was invited by Church leaders of the city to discuss the possibility of a media outreach. Our first campaign in Iraq was the



TOP PHOTO: BISHOP GRABOVENKO TO Gcmm PRESIDENT HANNU HAUKKA : "These youth camps provide teaching for youth on biblical values, morals, family life. They are taught to love God, love their own country, respect the older generation, respect those in authority and most importantly to carry out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ to His Church, everywhere across Russia."

PROGRESS REPORT ON LITERATURE PRINTED IN RUSSIA

This past summer Great Commission Media Ministries has printed 1.1 million pieces of literature for the churches of Russia. Here is the break-down:

- 500,000 Gospels of John/large print
- 500,000 Evangelism books
- 100,000 New Testaments
- 50,000 Prison Evangelism books

• 20,000 Evangelism books in the Yakut language, a largely unreached people group in Siberian Russia.

To date, total expenditures is \$320,000 USD.

While we are relieved that printing is ongoing in printing houses. Siberia and Belarus have raised tariffs throughout the summer.

Our target before this Christmas is to do additional printings for churches across Russia.

This means the following amounts per title:

- 500,000 Gospels of John/large print
- 500,000 Evangelism books
- 500,000 New Testaments



Two thousand teen-agers attended the ten-day youth camp to study the Bible and to attend seminars on biblical values, ethical living, respect for parents and the elderly and to learn how to evangelize, present the Gospel to fellow Russians. Meals were served in a joint dining area under a huge canopy. "Crimea 24" evening news showed up to do a report on the camp. In the portable military kitchen, bishop Eduard and Hannu check the "status" of morning porridge.

city of Erbil in 2013. No one thought it could be possible then. But, we saw the Lord bless it mightily. Now Iraqi churches have asked us to consider "Mission Sulaymaniyah." Mosul has also urgently requested that Gcmm consider a campaign there. An envoy from Damascus has contacted Gcmm asking for a similar campaign. The son of the president of Northern Iraq, among many others came to know the Lord as his Savior.

CALCUTTA, INDIA
Calcutta is one of the last "safe havens"

in terms of reaching whole cities with the Gospel in northeastern India." Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee effectively rules West Bengal, resists the Delhi government and has not targeted the Church in her State.

Thanks to the firepower of the media, a comprehensive media package will take the message of "God who has the power to transform lives" to 15 million Calcuttans in the months of October and November. Television media will cover all of Greater Kolkata with a population of 20 million as well as the whole State of West Bengal, population 90 million).

SOUTH SUDAN

Bishop Dr. Isaiah Dau visited Gcmm Finland and invited us to consider South Sudan as a target city for a media campaign. The campaign would be most timely.

"The South Sudanese started on a march to the 'Promised Land' after gaining independence from Islamic North Sudan," said Bishop Dau. "But when we arrived, it was not the promised land. We are engulfed in war, suspicion, hatred, killing. Our land needs a message of forgiveness and reconciliation. Please come and help us!"

IRAQ, THE UNKNOWN FRONTIER

MEGA CITY MEDIA CAMPAIGN PLANNED FOR SULAYMANIAH



Pictured: Sulaymaniyah in northeastern Iraq seen from a mountain top. Sulaymaniyah has been spared the destruction that is a result of the ongoing war in many cities of this country and in neighboring Syria. The city lies near the Nineveh plains of Abraham, the Chaldean Ur, mentioned in Genesis. Sulaymaniyah is a city of almost 2 million. GCMM was invited by Church leaders of the city to discuss the possibility of a media outreach. Our first campaign in Iraq was the city of Erbil in 2013. No one believed that it could be possible then. But, we saw the Lord bless it mightily. Now Iraqi churches have asked us to consider "Mission Sulaymaniyah." Mosul has urgently requested that GCMM consider a campaign there. And, an envoy from Damascus has contacted GCMM asking for a similar campaign.

EAST INDIA CALCUTTA MEDIA CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES IN OCTOBER



The situation for churches in Northeastern India is very tense because of Prime Minister Modi's BJP ultra nationalist Hindu party. Calcutta is one of the last "safe havens" in terms of reaching whole cities with the Gospel in northeastern India. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee effectively rules West Bengal and resists the Delhi government, has not targeted the Church in her State. Thanks to the firepower of the media, a comprehensive media package will take the message of "God who has the power to transform lives" to 15 million Calcuttans in the months of October and November. Television media will cover all of Greater Kolkata with a population of 20 million as well as the whole State of West Bengal, population 90 million). Television media will touch over 100 million people living across the border in Bangladesh. The prayer of the churches is for a greatly multiplied harvest of souls. The BJP ultra nationalist Hindi Party also understands the firepower of media and is using social media to propagate its message.

Confidential Letter to Indian Prime Minister Calling For Action Against The Church

Letter No 0876

Save Hindustan

Respected Mohan Upadati
National Director RSS

Greetings all the District Presidents, Secretaries, Treasures and RSS workers (Male and female)
Save India Campaign

Brothers,
We request you to protect our Hindu heritage/culture by working diligently and create awareness through local RSS branches. We request you to assist the workers. Our RSS workers are ready to cooperate with you at all times and assist you.

Brothers, we are giving you an important responsibility.

1. Foreign religious leaders come to India and by deceitful allurements are destroying our Hindu religion by converting Hindus. They are eliminating our Hindu culture in its entirety.
2. Currently, the Hindu demographics show a steep decline. In future there is a possibility that our entire religion will be wiped out. Therefore, educated Hindu pundits have come together and started a secret Movement for the following causes:
 - Endeavour to reconvert those who have accepted other religions and bring them back into the Hindu fold. We offer you our fullest cooperation.
 - Please do willingly come and we can fulfill our aims through 2021.
 - Let us work industriously to spread the Hindu religion by 2021 in the land.
 - Let us focus on working together to convert those leaders who are involved in converting Hindus.

Following are the methods that are being employed. Please cooperate with us by implementing the following activities:

1. Cow-Slaughter: Our gaumata (mother cows) are being slaughtered mercilessly. Therefore, contact the Police station immediately as possible and apprehend those who are involved in killing our gaumata. Otherwise, contact the local RSS leadership and support local Block level leaders.
2. RSS doctors have been appointed in all the states. Doctors from W. Bengal are assigned to work in Orissa while Doctors from Orissa are assigned to perform duties in Kerala. Young doctors from other states are being sent to different other states in India. Hence, they are specially instructed to administer/inject steroids to Christian patients to weaken their bodies from the inside physically.
3. Target Christian girls who are young with the help of local RSS youth and gang-rape them to take their dignity.
4. Burn all the Christian Bibles, books and other literature pertaining to their religion.
5. One Crore (ten million) rupees will be given as reward to kill Christian religious leaders: Pope and Bishops.
6. Fifty Lakh (hundred thousand) rupees will be awarded in cash for those who kill local pastors, fathers and nuns.
7. Mix pesticides in the water resources used by Christians to kill them.
8. Every Christian living in India will be given a Bar-Code and a number. If this Bar-Code is not accepted by them, they will not be permitted to buy daily necessities from the bazaars.

This letter leaves little to the imagination. Our media campaigns in Mumbai and Bangalore have been addressed and are considered a major target. Obviously, there are other targets as well as is evident in the letter. It does, however, show the effective our media campaigns. Our media campaigns have been and are specifically targeted in social media over here. Mumbai was huge on their radar. Spiritual warfare could not be more real! Thank you for praying for this unprecedented month-long Calcutta campaign, which launched on October 15th.



HURRICANE DEVASTATION

BUT HAVANA REQUESTS MORE TOOLS FOR CONTINUED HARVEST

In mid-September hurricane Irma hit Cuba as a monster Category 5 storm. The devastation was unimaginable. Three months earlier in May GCOMM, working closely with 350 churches in Havana, conducted an unprecedented evangelism campaign that shook the capital city. Churches reported 16,000 new believers in the first three weeks of the campaign. Among those receiving Jesus were witch doctors, police officers, military officers with their whole families, students, cab drivers, etc. In eight weeks over 70,000 people were in touch with church volunteers who delivered *Power to Change* books to all who had requested them. In all, 150,000 books and 400,000 *Transformation* brochures were delivered. Now Havana's churches have asked for up to 200,000 more *Power to Change* books to continue this time of unusual harvest. Church leaders are currently working on getting a needed import license.



Pray For India: Calcutta Mega City Campaign

Great Commission Media Ministries has launched an unusually large-scale media campaign in the capital city of Calcutta in northeastern India state of West Bengal. The capital city is known by many as the home of Mother Teresa.

The campaign will touch over 15 million in the greater Calcutta area. Television media will take the message to as many as 90 million others living in West Bengal and 100 million in Bangladesh.



Gujarat Textbook Calls Jesus Christ 'Demon', Minister Says Will Correct Error

Officials said that the mistake was caused by a misprint as the word "haiva", a disciple of Jesus Christ, got misprinted as "haivan", meaning a demon.

Updated on: June 8, 2017, 6:12 PM IST

Pray For The Church In India: Spiritual Warfare Increasing

The above news item shows the intensity of the spiritual warfare being waged against the Church in India. GCMM has now launched its month-long massive media campaign in Calcutta on October 15.



Christianity's Rapid Growth? Item For Prayer

Missions Frontier magazine (Sept/Oct 2017).

In spite of all our efforts over the last 30 years, non-Christians in the world have increased from 3.2 billion in 1985 to 5 billion today. The number of those without ac-

cess to the Gospel has risen from 1.84 billion people in 2000 to 2.13 billion in 2017.

We thank God for everything that is being accomplished. God is doing great things around the world.

But these statistics,

show that we must not be slack in our efforts to take the Gospel to our generation. We need to re-double our efforts.



South Sudan

Bishop Dr. Isaiah Dau visited GCMM in Finland and invited us to consider South Sudan as a target city. It would be a low budget campaign but it would be very timely. "The South Sudanese started on a march to the "Promised Land" after gaining independence from Islamic North Sudan" said Bishop Dau, "But when we arrived, it was not the promised land. We are engulfed in war, suspicion, hatred, killing. We need a message of forgiveness and reconciliation. Please come and help us!"



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