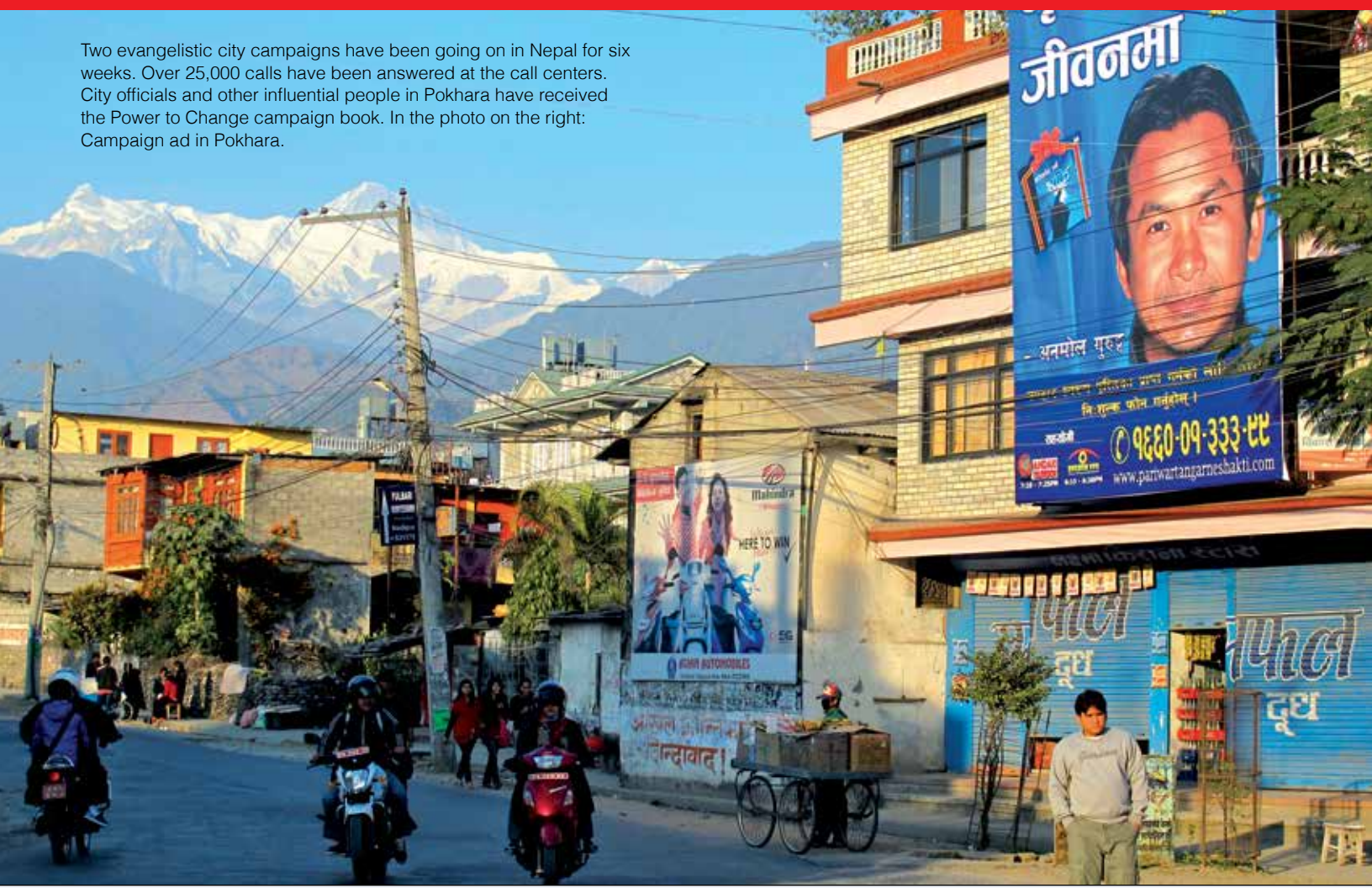


Two evangelistic city campaigns have been going on in Nepal for six weeks. Over 25,000 calls have been answered at the call centers. City officials and other influential people in Pokhara have received the Power to Change campaign book. In the photo on the right: Campaign ad in Pokhara.



GCM Ministries Partner Letter

February 2013

The Gospel Penetrates Strongholds in Nepal and Iraq

The Spirit of God is blowing in the Himalayas. Two simultaneous mega city campaigns in Pokhara and Biratnagar in January have touched almost 5 million people with the Gospel.

The Gospel has the power to change lives. So it does in the most Hindu nation on earth where over 85% of the nation adheres to Hinduism.

The campaign has been extended into February with high visibility in daily newspapers, on billboards and flyers. As a result, thousands of phone calls and books orders have been received. Still over 100 calls are logged daily at the call centers in Pokhara and eastern Nepal. Over 24,000 calls have been received so far, an astounding number considering the Kathmandu campaign of 2011 (with 5 time the population) produced 40,000 calls for the entire campaign. Fruits from the Kathman-

du campaign are still being reaped.

Hindu Activists Seek to Obstruct

Campaign manager, Bijay tells of receiving a book order by phone. "Our supervising pastor and his friend went to meet the caller to deliver the campaign book," he says. But the person didn't show up at the arranged location and consequently their meeting place changed several times in a row.

When they finally succeeded in meeting, they were surprised to discover group of 5 or 6 people waiting for them. As the pastor shared the message in the book with the group they began threatening him. They claimed to be part of a Hindu organization investigating the evangelistic media campaign.

The group summoned more members and soon, the



Thousands of calls and messages have come in during two weeks of the city campaign in Erbil. Campaign ads are posted in the busiest intersections of the city in Arabic and Kurdish. Most of the Muslim population is Kurdish.

Pastor was surrounded by 14 people.

The pastor and his friend did their best to respond to all their questions. In the end the extremist Hindus accepted the book and allowed the pastor and his friend to depart unharmed. The Lord had come to their rescue amidst significant danger.”

Ministry to Nepalese Officials

On Christmas Day several of our team leaders took part in a meeting with top city officials with the police chief, religious leaders, and members of the chamber of commerce among those invited.

The mega city media campaign was at the top of the

agenda, and many questions were raised regarding the campaign. Our campaign leaders explained the message of the campaign in detail. It was a Gospel presentation on the highest level. There was no negative feedback.

As the meeting adjourned, 60 campaign books were distributed to those present. Let us pray that everyone in that meeting would experience God’s power to change in their lives by accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord.

In addition, our team members have distributed campaign books to many local government officials, the media, and other religious leaders. Many plan to visit a campaign church in the near future, something the churches have not witnessed before.

Media Campaign in the Heart of Islam

GCM Ministries in Finland produces evangelistic programming daily in Arabic, and weekly in Farsi, Somali, Sudanese Arabic, Amharic as well as Turkish on a project basis.

The television programs are on seven satellites and watched by over 150 million viewers in the Islamic world daily. It is difficult to appreciate the firepower of these telecasts merely by reading these lines. Yet, there is still a time and place for media

campaigns beyond the air waves and on the ground as the Lord opens doors.

We assumed it would be impossible to hold a mega city campaign in the Islamic world. We also assumed that the only exception to this would be our campaigns in the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza. We were wrong!

This February, a first ever mega city media campaign was



Forgiveness is very much needed in this country of hatred, revenge, hostility and bitterness. Kurds and Arabs have ordered the book, where Iraqi Christians tell their story of Jesus' forgiveness in their life and how it changed them.

launched in Iraq, in the heart of the Islamic world. The response has been nothing less than amazing. Over 20,000 people have been in touch with us by Facebook. Over 12 million “impressions” on the web have been logged using specially installed counters. (Impressions means any mention or quote on the web regarding the campaign.) Professors, teachers, doctors, engineers, members of Parliament, and the military are calling and requesting the book with powerful stories of changed lives.

Mahir, our local senior manager, exclaimed, “We will see some things we never experienced before. The call center is buzzing. We received over 100 emails today, most from Muslims. Many calls are from Baghdad, Sulaimaniyah and many, many other cities. The churches in Baghdad have strongly expressed their desire for a campaign.”

Syrian and Kurdistan TV React

Then there were unexpected surprises. The Iraqi churches and campaign team on the ground anticipated opposition. That has not happened. In fact, the exact opposite seems to be unfolding. Syria State Television called the campaign office in Erbil to request permission to do a report on the campaign. Kurdistan Television and Radio summoned our managers to do a 30-minute interview on the campaign for evening news.

for the campaign book are being aired on popular TV and

radio channels. Billboard ads are up in areas where there is heavy traffic, in both the Kurdish and Arabic language. The ads tell stories of how God changes lives.

Campaign workers proficient in Kurdish and Arabic work at the call center and deliver the books and meet with people. Potentially dangerous situations may arise when team members go out to meet and distribute books to Muslims. Your prayers are coveted.

Power To Forgive

The original campaign theme, Power to Change, was tweaked for this sensitive region. We are using the slogan Power to Forgive—possible only through Jesus. Forgiveness is sorely needed in this country, which has such a history of hatred, revenge, hostility and bitterness.

In the campaign book, people share their stories of how God forgave them and gave the power to forgive those who had caused them incomprehensible pain.

It was this theme of reconciliation and forgiveness that prompted Iraq's Internal Intelligence Service to give the green light to this mega city campaign.

Erbil's congregations have awakened as well. Now there are more volunteers than we thought we could find—despite the potential danger posed by extremists.

One Million Campaign Books in Russia

There is some good news from Russia as well. One million Power to Change campaign books are now in print and on their way by truck across Russia to regions where churches engaged in evangelism will use them as tools in evangelistic outreaches.

The book contains powerful stories of changed lives and a guide to the first steps of faith in a new life in Christ.

Four hundred thousand have already been distributed to ministry teams in Russia. The remaining 600 thousand are now on their way.

Currently it is not possible for the church in Russia to access newspapers, major television, and radio channels. So churches have requested for distribution one million books containing stories of changed lives along with the four spiritual laws.



Photos above: Some of the one million Power to Change books that have been printed and distributed to churches in Russia for use as an evangelistic tool.

Photo to the left: Phone lines at the call centers in Nepal have been ringing "off the hook". Over 25,000 calls have come in. People from all walks of life have called for the campaign book.