

# Reaching Unreached People Groups

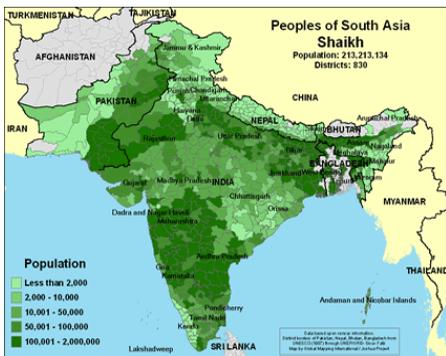
Each month we want to try to focus on a different unreached people group of the world. As you know White Fields wants to reach all the unreached of the world. We ask that you join us in prayer for the people group we highlight each time.

## What is a people group?

"For evangelization purposes, a people group is the largest group within which the Gospel can spread as a church planting movement without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance" (Source: 1982 Lausanne Committee Chicago meeting.) In most parts of the world lack of understandability acts as the main barrier and it is appropriate to define people group primarily by language, with the possibility of sub-divisions based on dialect or cultural variations. Such a list may be referred to as an ethno-linguistic list of peoples. In other parts of the world, most notably in portions of South Asia, acceptance is a greater barrier than understandability. In these regions, caste, religious tradition, location, and common histories and legends may be used to identify the primary boundary of each people group. Language can be a secondary boundary.

## Muslim Shaikh People

The word Shaikh means "elder" or "venerable old man." There is a people group named Shaikh, but that word can also apply to a community, family, or individual. Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, a known terrorist, seems to have added Shaikh to his name. Muslim men sometimes place Shaikh before their names to signify their wisdom, so it is difficult to identify those who actually belong to the Shaikh people group. They also intermarry with other Muslim groups, which makes their identity even more complex.



The estimated number of Shaikh people is about 132,000,000, according to India Missions Association's "Unreached Mega Peoples of India." Shaikh people live in various South Asian countries and work at diverse occupations. Some have converted from Hinduism and maintain Hindu practices.

God knows and loves each one. He desires to adopt them into His family, although at this time no known Shaikhs have trusted Jesus Christ as Savior. May the Shaikh people learn about Jesus and His grace.

## Immersion in 2008



**5,323 have been immersed into Christ during 2008. White Fields world wide ministries now assists 310 native evangelists in 33 different nations. These evangelists, along with our American and Australian team members, report 5,323 souls immersed into Christ for the remission of sins in January thru May. It is a great victory and we give all praise to God. Thank God for His victory and for the souls won to Christ through the power of His gospel.**



# WHITE FIELDS



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Reggie Thomas~ Founder/Director

July 1, 2008

# Reggie & Blythe Traveling To Cuba



## A CRACK IN THE DOOR

In January of 1996 President Bill Clinton amended the US law and permitted Preachers of the Gospel to go to Cuba. Reggie Thomas applied to the US government as an Evangelist of WHITE FIELDS and after nearly one year of negotiations he obtained a license and in December of 1996 he and Esther traveled to Havana and began the work of the Christian Church in Cuba. Although this trip was made legally according to US law, it was illegal according to Cuban law.



Since that "crack appeared in the door" White Fields has sponsored more than 40 trips to Cuba during the past 12 years. We are grateful that John Bliffen and his ministry through TEAM EXPANSION, Victor Knowles and his ministry through POEM, and Dr. Dennis Pruett and his ministry through HASTEN have been partners with us in this ministry. We have also been assisted constantly by Bob and Mary Marsh, Don Ott, Ronnie Hoyer, Phil Casey, Joe Garman, Boyce Mouton, Alberto Gonzales and numerous other Christian Preachers and Evangelists.

## GOD MAY BE OPENING THE DOOR

In Acts 14:27 the word of God says: "And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how He had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles."

## FROM ONE CHURCH TO FORTY FIVE CONGREGATIONS

The growth of the Christian churches in Cuba is something wonderful to behold. In 1996 when Reggie and Esther first went to Cuba they started with one small house church. Since that small beginning it has been wonderful to witness the growth of New Testament Christianity in this island nation. Today the work has increased to 45 "house churches" where the Lord's Supper is served each Lord's Day and the Gospel is proclaimed with power.

## My Trip To Haiti by Lacey Darnell



I haven't been to Haiti in 6 years and this last spring I got to go and I was so excited! When I got off the airplane in Haiti, I could feel the heat just rush over me and I could smell the smell of Haiti that I love so much. I was so excited to see Sainsurin again. I did not like the car ride up to Gonaives because it seemed like the car ride was never going to end!

We finally got to the hotel and when I saw my mom's and my room, it looked really nice compared to the hotels I've stayed at in Haiti. Mostly every night at the hotel my mom and I would go out on the balcony and read or play a game!

The next day in Haiti, we got to go to the orphanage and I couldn't believe that the kids I saw 6 years ago still remembered me! I took some pictures of the kids and then all the kids saw that I was taking pictures they started to huddle around me wanting their picture taken. I got to teach some of them how to play volleyball with the basketball, which was very fun.

The third day in Haiti, we went to the orphanage and gave all the kids Swedish Fish (the candy). They really liked the extra treat. After they ate their candy they were teaching me their language, Kreyol. That was fun too except they laughed at me!

The kids are all so cute! I was so excited to see them. They all looked clean and healthy & they were all smiling & joking. I want to raise more money for them to stay in school & for them to be able to eat more food.

The last day we were in Gonaives, we got to go to the orphanage one last time to say goodbye and then we were off to Port au Prince. I was sad and excited at the same time because I was sad to be leaving the orphanage & the children, but then I was excited because we were going to get to go to Moulin Sur Mer. It is so pretty there and ocean is very beautiful. The one thing I didn't like was the souvenir people coming up to me while I was trying to enjoy the moment. After we left Moulin Sur Mer, we drove the rest of the way to Port au Prince. We got to our hotel and got settled in and then went out to the souvenir place. When I finally got my souvenirs for my friends, we headed back the hotel, but then we got lost someplace and had no clue where we were at. So papa stopped the car and got out to figure out where to turn to go to the airport and then we finally figured it out and made it safely to the hotel! Then it was the finally day of Haiti and we went to the airport and got on the plane went home. I kind of wanted to stay in Haiti, but then I wanted to go home and see my friends and my dad!



## Ministering in the Philippine Islands

Immediately upon arrival in the Philippines Becky and I were met with a warning sign regarding "Bird Flu." We found security guards with military rifles and shotguns everywhere because of threats of Muslim attacks. At the 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Philippine Convention, I made three presentations, which were well received. A word for word copy of my message "The Meaning of Intimacy with God" is available upon request. After the convention we traveled to the island of Cebu. Here Becky and I overhauled the Cebu Bible Seminary Library, adding and disposing of hundred of books. I took part in the dedication services of the Talisay Church adjacent to the Seminary. Later I preached a Sunday message and Becky taught the Ladies class. At the Peace Valley Church I preached a funeral message on the Resurrection at a "Wake" service of a young lady who had died shortly after the Convention. Later I returned to this Church for Sunday service and preached an evangelistic message with the casket present. This may have providentially accounted for the fact that we had a couple of responses.



Dramatically Becky was robbed right before my eyes and I could do nothing to help. Her purse was stolen, containing passports, hundreds of dollars, airline tickets, wedding rings, watch, Visa and bank cards. You can imagine what this did to Becky and the problems that ensued. After being greatly upset she got sick and lost her voice just before leaving to minister on the island of Negros Oriental where she was to teach the ministers' wives while I provided training in Evangelism to the men. This turned out to be far more successful for both of us than we had imagined.

For us the most amazing part of our ministry was the astounding Providence of God following our robbery and the difficulties in just getting back home. God worked great wonders through the wonderful people of the Philippines. A detailed report of these events is available upon request.



## Rick & Della Deighton



Rick spent the month of May in the Ukraine. Here are some of his email messages on his work there

4/28/08

“Yesterday was a wonderful celebration of praise for the resurrection of Jesus, and we got great responses to the message, “Many Infallible Proofs”. When I told them that it was also good to be back in my other ‘home congregation’ in Kharkiv, they clapped.”

“After the message one elderly lady shook my hand vigorously and said in Russian, ‘Very good! Thank you.’ Another lady named Masha had Natasha translate for her, and she said the message was very strengthening and inspiring for her. I did not recognize her, so I asked her if she had recently started coming to Christian Life Church, but she said, ‘No, about seven years, but not very regularly.’ I told her that I hope she will now attend regularly. Downstairs a couple (Vladimir and Natasha), who faithfully attend and work in the church, talked to me. She told me that it was an inspiration to have me come because she recently dreamed that she saw me giving big chocolate bars to the children at Dyetskii Dom. I told her that is interesting because this trip I have a big offering to take to Dyetskii Dom. (I also learned that ‘Dyetskii’ means ‘children’.) She also said that when I first came six years ago, she thought I was a scientist or professor and that my messages would be over their heads, but she said my messages are very clear, understandable, practical, and consistently follow the theme with helpful illustrations.” (Praise to God!)

“Today is Easter Monday and a holiday here, so the youth meeting was designed to be an outdoor cookout, but the weather was stormy and wet, so we were crammed into a small room about ten feet square, but we had a great time together anyway. I taught them briefly about the contrasting worldviews of creationism and evolutionism before focusing on the meaning of the cross and how to approach different people with the message of the cross, which is to them that perish, foolishness.”

“On Saturday evening when we passed out lots of literature and books at the city square of a town outside of Kharkiv and showed the movie, ‘Jesus’, one man named Andrei repented and asked for prayer. I spent quite a lot of time witnessing to two talkative drunks named Sergei and Dima, so please pray for them too.”



## Ivory Coast West Africa

Kouame faithfully presents the truth of the Word of God, and equips the churches and church leaders to serve Jesus. The political situation in the Ivory Coast has made life difficult – one major way is financially. About 35% of the country’s land area was under the control of the rebels. That area didn’t pay for electric or water services, the remainder of the population had to make up the difference. Food and fuel prices have increased. The rebels have laid down their arms and the country is preparing for a re-unification and presidential election (the end of November). Yet, many ex-rebels have become marauding bands of thieves. Needless to say, life there is a struggle, but the Christians remain faithful. The Adjoumani family is safe, and perseveres.



Kouame has served the Lord for over 20 years. His faithfulness is paying great dividends. Many of the African people around him (even ministers from other denominations) are coming to him for help and advice. They are asking him to teach them the scriptures. They are very interested in the concept of locally autonomous, independent Christian Churches / Churches of Christ. Kouame carefully teaches the truth of scripture, the importance of following Jesus with the heart and allowing the Holy Spirit to change one’s character.

Opportunities to preach in prison have opened. Kouame has been asked to go and help re-energize churches that were in the areas controlled by the rebels. He has been asked to evangelize in a new area near the Liberia border. No question about it, he has the respect of the African people who know him.

Mr. Adjoumani is assisted by three faithful young men: Yao, Renee` and Eric. The Christians have relied on the goat program to provide for benevolence needs, and to finance evangelistic efforts.

Your support still matters more than ever. I know that things are getting financially tight here in the states. Gas prices have increased in the Ivory Coast, also. And with the falling dollar, the exchange rate has dipped, decreasing the amount of money Kouame receives in his salary.

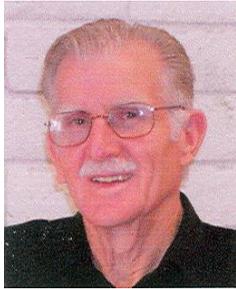
Your prayers are vitally important. The kingdom will advance, your African brothers and sisters will be strengthened and the Adjoumani family will be blessed in answer to your prayers.

Thank you for your faithfulness to pray and give. May you experience the joy of Christ in your heart.

For Jesus’ sake,

Tom & Laura Mullenix

## Home From China



### My Earthquake Experience in China

How saddened we all have been at the sudden lost of so many lives in China over the past week. The Quake hit suddenly, unexpectedly and without mercy. Of course many lives were saved and many amazing rescues took place. Out of this tragedy could come China's finest hour. The Premier has led the way showing great compassion; giving comfort and encouragement to the victims. His stirring words of encouragement will live long in my memory, "While there is 1% of hope, we will give 100% of effort." As the church seeks the lost she would do well to put his words

into practice.

Other earthquakes that occurred in the spiritual realm include the following: Registered Churches in this **county** where I have been working number 80. There are estimated to be more than 80 unregistered 'House Churches', much smaller in size. In this province there are 1,500,000 who profess Christianity. There are over 70 counties in this province of Anhui where 5% of China's population live. There are 23 provinces in China, plus 11 other administrative areas, some with huge populations. If this county and province is typical for all of China it would mean that there are approx. 120,000 registered churches with 30,000,000 members. If there are more house churches than registered, although with less members per church, there could be another 30,000,000 who profess Christianity. This would mean that about 8% of China's population professed Christianity, with about 4% in church on a given Sunday. This is not that much different to Australian church attendance.

The Government figure is a total of 4%, or 16,000,000 Christian. The ECNU estimates 40,000,000. Other Western estimates are much higher. I would say it has to be at least 60,000,000, and could even be as high as 100,000,000. Bibles are printed in China. Some Christians have more than one copy and there is no restriction or seeming shortage to those who can afford a copy.

There is freedom of religion, which is governed by 15 laws. There are the normal restrictions for any public gathering and for denying other people their rights. The government does not interfere with what is taught or practiced in the churches as long as they remain under one central control.

The law forbids one from preaching in a public place in Birmingham, England and I have been told similar laws now exist in Victoria,



## Home From China

Australia. Public meetings in houses are also illegal in Australia because of health and fire concerns. Since in China people live in apartments this concern would be even more real.

So why are Christians imprisoned in China? Because minority groups are protected they can use the law to prevent Christians from witnessing to them. Some Christian workers recently received an 18 month sentence for witnessing to Muslims. Also, in providences and counties where there is antagonism between the registered churches and the house churches, members of registered churches can report house churches to the authorities for breaking the law for house use. These things can also occur in Australia.

On the basis of what I was told the issue is not so much communism as it is denomination-ism. The registered churches follow the denominational beliefs and practices of their founders. The house churches consider that the registered churches are breaking God's commandments by holding to their denominational traditions. The registered churches consider that the house churches are more open to heresy. In the county where I was we were told by the Chairman of the County Council of Churches that they held communion six times a year, but were considering conducting it monthly. They practice both sprinkling and immersion.

As a result of my visit our student was encouraged and several of his teaching friends and students had the gospel presented to them. Literature was given to them, including three Chinese/English Bibles. Three said they would like to become Christians '*someday*'. I intend to follow up this work by email contact and God willing possibly plan another visit. Before leaving the city I was once again '*captured and interviewed*' on TV. This time it was concerning my thoughts on the earthquake.

Again, thanks for your prayers and concern.

- A New Testament church has commenced in Lae, PNG.
- We are planning to go in September for preaching and teaching seminar.
- We are considering invitations to West Bengal, India, Nepal, South India, West Africa, Darling Downs, QLD, and Tasmania.
- Your prayers and support are much appreciated.
- We mourn the passing of Tom Huffman of Texas, ex minister to Wollongbar and Thornlie Churches, NSW

In Christ, Doug

