



Partnership: Bringing Hope to the Hopeless

Kent Odor – ACS Board Chairman

Jesus said, "I will be with you always, even to the end of the age." Heavenly partnership in world evangelism was declared and recorded in that first century AD for all of us to affirm and hold dear. The Holy Spirit has been a partner with believers from then until now to draw all men and women of the earth to the forgiveness of sins and the hope of Eternal Life. The amazing work we know about in SE Asia highlights the spiritual fruit of the tribal evangelists directed by the Holy Spirit who were often fueled by the support of others – both within the country and from outsiders.

An army of native evangelists has diligently expanded the gospel in Myanmar for over 50 years. It was native evangelists who nurtured the believers who had become Christ followers and solidified the churches. It was native evangelists who pioneered new evangelism efforts into new areas with new tribes that spoke a different language and had a different culture. Normal faithful donors like you and I became part of a partnership process that was established as US Christians faithfully supported Asian tribal pioneer evangelists.

Over time our ACS financial partnerships have established Bible Colleges, trained and funded professors both in Myanmar and in the USA and given scholarships to students to be trained and sent out to begin new works. Many churches have been planted. New tribes with new languages have been reached. Medical works, children's ministries, radio broadcasts, Bible translations into new languages, literature translation and production have added to the harvest of souls. Large conferences for fellowship and further training, in addition to crisis relief through natural disasters all happened because of partnerships between US Christians and native leadership.

This edition of UPDATE is to encourage you with reports of some of the ongoing works that are bringing spiritual fruit because of your partnership with native evangelists through ACS. It is just a sampling of current victories bringing hope to the hopeless. Thank you for being faithful. We want to express special thanks for your generosity through the difficulties of the Covid-19 pandemic. Your financial gifts have been steady and some special gifts to the general fund were especially needed for unique requests from Asian workers during this time. God has provided and given guidance to our team in Asia, and we give Him all the glory for what has been accomplished. All has been possible because of our partnership together. We will continue to persevere until the work is done and everyone has heard the hope we have in Jesus. Thank you and may the Lord bless you all! -Kent Odor, ACS Board Chairman



Min Bai Yohan and New Believers



Displaced in a Monsoon

Covid Assistance in Northern Myanmar

Recently ACS received a special request from an evangelism committee at Putao in Northern Myanmar for assistance to reopen their gatherings for worship. The local government granted them permission to regather if there were no more than 30 people in a group, if they wore masks, if they provided hand sanitizer and if they took everyone's temperature upon their arrival. Over the last six months of shut down in that area, there has been very little commerce, and the crops have not provided the food necessary to eat and sell. The impact of the Covid pandemic has decimated the members. The offerings in the church during this time have not been enough to even provide for the pastor's food, and so, anything more than that is totally out of reach financially. ACS presented this need to our partner **FAME** which specializes in meeting medical needs. **FAME** graciously provided the funds needed which were immediately passed on to the committee, and this is the report we received in return....

"Yesterday, the Mularshidi Evangelizing Committee called and shared with me that they have done the project well....



Sharing for Zi Bi Di Christian Church

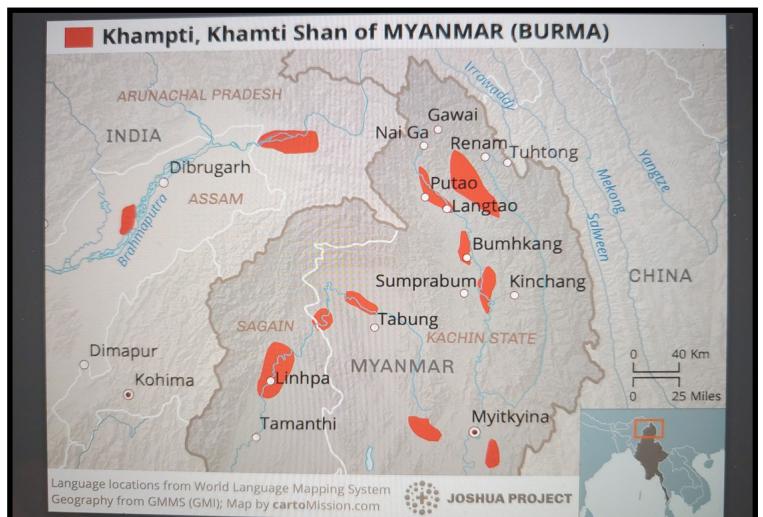
season and it is the season that the people in our country most suffer from various kinds of illness and diseases. They are very thankful to ACS for the donation. So, thanks again for finding the donor for this donation. Thank you very much for everything. God bless you." - Manasseh Fish



Measuring Temperature

Paul Mann Han

Sao (Paul) Mann Han is of the Khamti Shan tribe in Northern Myanmar. Years ago he lived on the Putao Plain in the area where the Morse family had formerly lived. The Khamti Shan people worship idols of Buddha and practice black magic. During the years of the Morse family in that area, this tribe completely refused to hear the gospel. The Lisu and Rawang tribes had become Christians and their churches and communities flourished all around the anti-Christian Buddhist Shan villages. The Lisu and Rawang Christians in that area sent out many missionaries to other parts of Myanmar and over time intensified their efforts to send missionaries to Khamti Shan Buddhists in the Putao Plains area.



Map of Khamti Shan

Sao Mann Han was a young man steeped in Buddhist worship and practices, but when he heard the gospel of Christ, he believed and was baptized. His father, being the Great Chief of all the Khamti Shan was greatly distressed and angry because his son had become a Christian. However, Sao Mann Han persevered as a Christian through times of physical abuse and being disavowed by his tribe. He decided to go to Bible College at MBI-Myanmar Bible Institute in central Myanmar. His schooling costs were covered by US partners. He was a student of outstanding Rawang Professors including the College founder, Dakupi Graham, R. James and Yohan Mana. He also met a young Christian woman named May Ram of the Rawang tribe, and they married.



Paul and May Ram

After graduating, he took on the name Paul Mann Han. He and his wife became missionaries to the Khamti Shan tribe. From his small house in northern Kachin State, he trained leaders and sent new Christians to Bible College. He also began working on literature for his people. There was not an existing orthography, or written alphabet in their language. He worked with SIL and created one with a Primer to teach his people to read. He then translated the New Testament into his language and also Genesis.

Here is a recent Letter in September. He is one with whom we have partnered for many years.

Dear Sir,

Thank you so much for your prayer for Khamti Shan, the 99.7 % unreached people. This is the situation of our people and what we are doing in these days.

A. Population.

In Myanmar 10,000
In India 25,000

Christians both in Myanmar and in India are 120 people.

B. Bible translation. We work with S.I.L.

1. New Testament; We are printing it and we hope we will receive it this coming November.
 2. Old Testament; We have designed to translate only Genesis and Psalms for now. I have translated Genesis and now I am translating the book of Psalms. I have drafted 10 chapters of it.

C. Bible audio recording

I organized my Khamti Christians and I'm helping them read our Khamti scripts so that they can read fluently our Bible when we record it. As soon as we are free to travel after Covid-19 we will start our recording in Myitkyina.

D. Khamti Shan Christian fellowship

I went to Putao last month to organize our Khamti Shan Christian fellowship. I visited many villages to see them and invited to Khamti Shan Christian meeting. We held the first Khamti Shan Christian meeting in Longmudam Khamti Shan Church. Several Khamti Christians attended and we encouraged each other. We decided to have Khamti Shan Christians fellowship twice a month.

Purpose:

1. To draw together all Khamti Shan Christians who are disconnected to any Khamti Shan Christians and feel lonely even might lose their faith.
 2. To help them grow in faith and help them to share the gospel in their own village.
 3. To pray together for mission and for individual problems.

E. Future plans:

1. To share gospel with our own Bible and audio on phone after printing Bible and recording.
 2. To open a Khamti Shan discipleship education boarding school in Putao. There we will teach the school children God's word and train them to become disciples beside education.
 3. To build self support mission by raising God's kingdom builder economists.
 - We have experience that to share the good news by working together is more effective than go to their home.
 - In their house if they believe in Jesus they will be driven from family and from village then they will be homeless and jobless.
 - But if the unbelievers come to work with us under our area, we can share them gospel freely and humbly. Then they will not be homeless or jobless when their family abandon them. The place we work together will become their home and the job will become their profession.

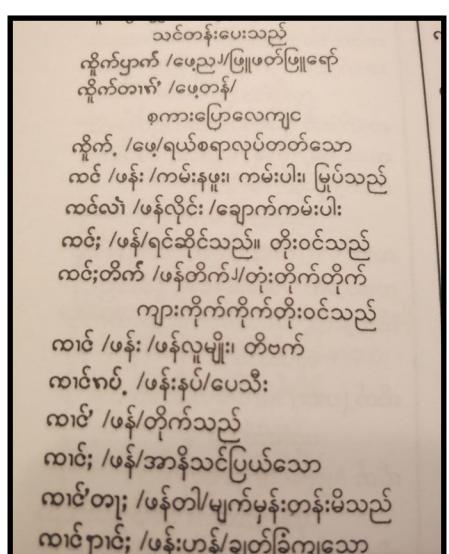
4. We also decided

- Prayer Request:**

 - a. To be able to record our New Testament effectively.
 - b. To have Khamti Shan Christian fellowship successfully to continue.
 - c. To be open Khamti Shan discipleship education boarding school in Putao.
 - d. To be able raise Khamti Shan God's kingdom builder economists



Khamti Shan Christians and Missionaries



Khamti Dictionary



Discussing for Future Plan

Manasseh Ngwa—Naga Ministry Reports . . .

- Naga Evangelism** - Today, I am sending you good news from our two Naga students, Ba Tin and Mariam that they got 13 baptisms of the Naga new converts yesterday. Praise the Lord! As I shared with you, the Naga area is a very remote area and there are not many transportations especially during the rainy season. So, the churches are located in thick forests like Amazon and thus, the local authorities don't lay much of the restrictions of the covid-19. Therefore, the churches are free to have worship services and the evangelists are free for sharing the gospel. So, this is the fruit of their hard labors and also our investment.
- Miss Kim Wan** - Today, I received a good news from Miss Kim Wan, one of our five Naga students who are sharing the gospel among the Naga people in Lehe area. She said they got seven baptisms of the Naga new converts on last Sunday. She sent me some pictures of their giving baptism to the new converts. Now, she is serving as a children teacher at a Naga Christian church named Tuu Law Christian church which is a day of walking on foot from Lehe. Her village is a very remote village and thus, there is not electric power and no phone service is available. Our Naga students and the Naga evangelists are serving the Lord in very difficult situation and thus, they are very much in need of our encouragement and support. Please remember our Naga students in your prayer. Thank you very much for everything. God bless you.

- Khamti Training Center –**

Kent writes - Manasseh and Gideon, a former student at Taunggyi Bible College had a vision to start a training center near the very northwest region of Myanmar. It is one of three regions where the Naga Tribe resides. This is a very "occultish" tribe that until not long ago cut off the heads of their enemies and kept head houses in their villages to ward away evil spirits. They have had missionary workers through the years, but the area is so poor and so distant that Biblical leadership training is a major challenge. The Naga speak many different dialects and often cannot speak to each other even from nearby areas of the region. Some Naga converts have been trained to some level through the years, but more training is needed. The overall education level is very low. Gideon dreamed of building a training center at the edge of the region--a location reachable by Naga leaders and also reachable by strong Bible teachers from within the country who could assist in training Naga leaders for years into the future. Just before Covid, land was purchased and a new center began construction. The USA partners that funded this project included a grant from the **SOLOMON FOUNDATION** and 3 other donors. Here is a brief construction report. Be inspired. The building will have an upper floor dormitory for men to stay one to three months depending on the seasons and their ability to be gone from their families and work. The lower level will be a training facility. On the property, a bamboo kitchen, toilets and a women's dorm will also be built. God is going to do mighty things through this project and the biblical teaching that will go out from here.

To begin, Gideon formed a building committee with leaders from several area churches. After the land was purchased, they hired a builder and then the churches started supplying people from the local churches to assist with the labor. Many people from the villages nearby are also helping. Some of the workers are not Christians and are just curious about this group. Some are joining in because this is the most significant thing to happen for a long time in their region. Manasseh gave these reports. Enjoy the story of this project:



Naga Baptism



Kim with her Naga Sunday School Class



On the bank of Chindwin River with Manasseh, Gideon and the Committee Members

February 12 - Through the Lord's grace, Mr. Aung Moe and I have done our mission buying the land for Khamti Biblical Center successfully. Thank you very much for your prayers. We went to find the land at "Leh Pan Thar" village and finally, we found the best land and the surface is good for the construction. It is 1.25 acres wide.



The land we bought

February 13 - The villagers are so happy to have the school in their village. The villagers actively volunteered in putting a bamboo fencing around the campus. There are also many bamboo groves growing on the land and thus, we don't need to buy the bamboos from outside.



Seeing the new Bamboo Fencing

March 5 – The materials have arrived. We carried the timbers to the land.



Carrying the Timbers up the bank



Carrying the Timbers from the River



Notching the Timbers

May 12 - They have done smoothing and notching the woods as far as now. Next Thursday or Friday, they will raise the wooden poles. Please keep praying for the project.

May 14 - Before raising the wooden poles, they made a prayer.



Raising the Timber Structure

May 23 - They have done putting the zinc roofing for the Training Center building successfully today. But we need to do a lot for the inside of the building. Please keep praying for them. This year, I would say that the rainy season comes early but having done putting the roofing is a great success for us because we don't need to worry about the rain. Under the roof, the construction of the inside part of the building can be done. Praise the Lord. Thank you very much.



Finishing the Roof

...The Monsoon began and Gideon became ill with gallstones, so construction paused....

Sept 9 - The contractor and his men have done smoothing the timbers. The timbers are not completely dried yet and they spread them on the upper floor to get dried.



Drying The Floor Boards

Gideon said during this time, the contractor and his men are making the two wooden ladders. I sent some pictures including shipping the door sheets by boat.



Bringing the Doors

Fortunately, through the Lord's grace, till now, no Covid-19 case is being tested in Khamti and Lehe areas. So, our Naga students are working hard in spreading the gospel. I thank God for that. Please remember us in your prayers. We are also praying for you.



Working to Make the concrete Floor

Sept 18 - Gideon called and shared with me that they could finish only 35 ft out of 60 ft of the concrete floor because the sand they got during last summer was not enough. And also, he said at the present, the riverbank is being flooded and it is impossible to get the sand. But he said the water level usually goes down from next Oct and so, probably they can finish the whole floor in next Nov. He said being laying the concrete floor is a big work that couldn't be done by a few people and so he asked the churches for the church labor and each church sent 8 or 9 members. They worked for the floor for three days from last Tuesday till yesterday with the church labor. Today the church members have gone back to their churches. There are five Christian Churches in Khamti township. Of them, three are smaller churches. Each has only 15 to 20 families. The rest two churches are a little bigger and each church has between 30 to 40 families. Gideon is staying with the contractor and his workers at the construction site and supervising the work closely. ... The work is progressing well. Your Brother in Christ, Manasseh Fish

We expect this project to be completed this fall. Please pray for a wonderful conclusion to building the property and for its future use in training Naga leaders and others. This is a beautiful result of partnership. May God get all the glory!

Simon Thaung Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We all are doing well under our Lord's care in this pandemic time.

1. RESCUE AND RELIEF MINISTRY -

The fighting between Myanmar Army and Arakan Army are continuing and many villagers had to escape into Safe zone. Our team continued shipping 15 tons of food and helping emergency food and distributed to 30,000 IDPs Internally Displaced Persons. They left their homes, animals, farms, barns and fled to safe zone. 600 families traveled 700 miles and arrived in Yangon.

(*Simon secured food from within the country for this situation. Some of these resources were from Buddhist and secular*



Displaced Families Traveling to Camp

agencies. FEDWELL FOODS provided much of the food. However, ALL the relief workers are from the Christian community and have included many well-trained evangelists.)



Sharing Clothing

A. ESTABLISHED 3 IDPs CAMPS IN YANGON. (IDP is Internally Displaced Peoples or refugees from Myanmar that are still within the country of Myanmar) - As many refugees fled into Yangon and we established 3 IDPs (REFUGEE) Camps in Yangon area. Our team was able to build bamboo tents for them. They all stay in the hall together before finishing the bamboo tents. We collected used clothes, food, blankets, bed nets and water from friends and distributed to them.



A Shelter for Sleeping



Bamboo Houses



Helping with a new roof



The French Ambassador

B. FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO IDP CAMP - The French Ambassador in Myanmar visited to our Refugee camp and gave European Food. (An accidental opportunity allowed Simon to connect with the French Ambassador to Myanmar. Simon led a small delegation from the French Embassy to a camp where the French Ambassador himself and several aides distributed food for 600 refugees.) Simon continued... We are also Ambassadors for Christ. 2 Cor. 5:20. Let's work and help our destitute brothers. (These refugees are not Christians. They are primarily Buddhist and animists. They have all come from the Rakhine State Civil War area.)

C. MA THEIN PHYU'S JAW OPERATION - Ma Thein Phyus jaw was broken and her three brothers died by bomb blast at her home. (Her Mro Tribe village was the site of a new church plant by an ACS evangelist.) Our team rescued her and transferred her to a Yangon hospital. Her jaw surgery was well



Mro Girl Jaw Surgery

done by your prayer support. She went back to the same IDP camp after surgery. Her family deeply appreciated our help. (IDES funded the reconstruction surgery of her jaw. An ACS supported evangelist is working with her family within the IDP camp in Rakhine State where his family are also residents.)

D. NEEDS: The refugee children do not have opportunity to go to school as they don't have transcripts. There are no medicines and medical care. They just have one toilet for 20 families. (Here is roughly what items on Simon's list would cost. Simon's team would initiate and coordinate these projects with the funds we would supply. These needs are immediate and the opportunity to reach these lost people is available to us right now.)

1. Classroom for children (\$700 would build a two-room wood/bamboo structure for school)
2. Need support for 2 Teacher Evangelists. (\$100 each month for 2-3 years. There are evangelists that have already been trained and would move from other places in Myanmar to do this missionary work if they were called.)
3. 2 Wells (\$1000 each)
4. Chapel Hall (\$1000 would build a temporary wood/bamboo structure in the camp to establish church services)

5. Medicines (\$500 dollars would empower evangelists to secure basic medical supplies to begin evangelistic work)
6. Chicken, Piglets, seeds for self-sustaining Projects (\$2000)
7. Stationaries for children for schooling (\$500 would begin the process)



Refugee Children needing School Supplies

8. Solar Lights, (\$200 each. There is no electricity in the camp or batteries for flashlights)
9. Toilets (\$200 each) would allow for a number of out house type toilets to be built.)



A Family with no home

RESULT OR IMPACT - Our love action and help are greatly impacting to the lives of refugees and get the best result. Many of them come to know God's Love through us as we shine like stars. Our team already baptized 17 new converts, and many are learning about God's Grace. We already established worship services at IDP refugee camp.

2. 3 NEW CHURCH BUILDINGS

We are building 3 new churches on the Myanmar/Thailand border by the help of STADIA. (Stadia's partnership with ACS has funded these three new buildings in Buddhist areas with a children's ministry component built in for outreach. We will give a full report in our next Update.)

God's Kingdom is tremendously expanded by your partnership and prayer support. Thank you for your Love to God and the Lost souls.

CHALLENGE - God wants us to HELP three Groups: 1. Strangers/ Refugees, 2. Widows, 3. Orphans. Let's try our best to help them by God's gifted talents, and blessings.

Thank you very much for your continual prayer support, May God continue to bless you all. Your fellow servant in expanding God's Kingdom. - Simon and True Family



Simon Praying for Displaced Families

Honors and Memorials

In honor of:

Don and Sharon Noah
Given by
John and Nancy Johnson

In honor of:

George and Elaine Breuer
Given by
Vernon and Cheryl Prostler

In memory of:

Ruth Boyd
Given by
John Boyd

In memory of:

Paul Howell
Given by
Karen Howell

In memory of:

Ivan C. Odor
Given by
Doris Odor

In memory of:

Barbara Thacker
Given by the
Stock Insurance Agency

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For the latest news and updates from
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Contributions may be sent to:
Asia Christian Services

9378 S Mason Montgomery Rd, Ste 326
Mason, OH 45040-8827

For more information:
phone: 513.923.0928 or
e-mail: kent.odor@gmail.com