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Reflections from Long Time Board Member Pr. Paul Knudson

While it has been much too long since we, as leaders of New Hope Mission Society, have put together a newsletter sharing the vitality of the mission in southern India, we trust you, who faithfully support this witness to our Lord Jesus Christ, will rejoice with us in the ongoing vital witness of our partners out of the Bishara Center and Shaliach's Bible College. Abdul Messiah's reporting here can't help but encourage us to continue to work together.

New Hope Mission Society has been blessed over these 25 years of standing with our partners in southern India, who

boldly continue to reach out to Muslims with the good news of Jesus Christ. You will see in the following articles both the joys and concerns for these witnesses that too often face threats on the front lines of preparing witnesses and going out in direct witness.

We are privileged to be able to support our partners in prayer and through financial support. The Board of New Hope Mission Society thank you for all you have done and pray that you will both continue in your support and invite others to join this effort.

Witness That Gives Cause for Rejoicing in Face of Challenges

Abdul Messiah, who is the principal leader of the mission, has recently reported, encouraging stories of witnesses going out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to Muslims. He shares that "during a recent home visit in a Muslim neighborhood, a Muslim father quietly asked, 'Can you tell me why you are not afraid to speak about forgiveness with such confidence?' That conversation taught him about sin, grace, and the assurance we have in Christ. Now, his family has started reading the Gospel regularly."



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He shared another story that is important for us to hear in face of our often bitter anger towards Muslims. He shared: “We also met with a small group of Muslim young men who are curious and searching. One of them said, ‘We have always heard about Jesus, but we never understood who He truly claimed to be.’ Abdul concludes: “Moments like this remind us why we are here. Seeds are being planted, sometimes quietly and sometimes boldly, but always with lasting significance.”

Abdul added: “Christians in India continue to face targeting by Hindu fundamentalists at a national level. Locally, our team recently faced aggression from a group of violent Muslim men when we entered their village.” He asks: “Please keep praying for us that we would remain faithful in sharing Christ clearly and humbly.”

Shaliach Bible College Joys and Challenges

It is vital for long-term witness to prepare young witnesses to reach out to their generation and beyond. The Shaliach’s Bible College presently has 56 students and 14 students recently graduated.

Abdul notes that graduates are commissioned to serve in ministry in some of the most difficult places in India. He shares this: “Several of our students come from Odisha’s tribal communities, a region where Christians have faced many challenges. There was violence a few years ago in Kandhamal after the killing of a Hindu

priest, which resulted in the destruction of hundreds of churches and homes, forced thousands to leave, and led to many deaths. Recent reports show that some districts still face problems like social exclusion, targeted violence, and forced ‘reconversion’ efforts, especially among tribal communities. Despite these ongoing challenges, our graduates from these areas responded to God’s call with courage and strong faith. We ask you to continue praying for their safety, boldness, and faith as they serve in places where sharing the Gospel is difficult.”



**New Hope Mission Society desires to bring
the love of Jesus Christ to the Muslim world.**



New Facility Dedicated to Serve Multiple Needs



You see here a new facility that was recently dedicated to provide housing for new believers facing challenges to their safety. It also will be a significant help in providing housing for some staff members. NHMS has provided funds for this facility’s construction.

The picture to the right shows Joel Otten cutting the ribbon in the dedication ceremony.

Joel, a faithful leader on the NHMS board, has, with his family of origin, a long history of direct witness to Jesus Christ in India. Near

to the Bishara Center is the Otten School named after his parents. The board of NHMS is thankful to Joel for his servant leadership.



K.K. Alavi and His Dear Wife Celebrate 50 Years of Marriage



The New Hope Mission Society rejoices with K.K. and Jasmine in this major milestone. NHMS has had the honor of standing with them for approximately half of those fifty years. We thank God for their marriage, family, and all those who have stood with them throughout these wonderful year of marriage and for their witness to Jesus Christ for all this time.

Expressing Our Gratitude and Request for Faithful Ongoing Support

Over approximately 25 years of NHMS generously supporting witness to Muslims through the Bishara Center in southern India we have continued to meet our commitments. It is only through you that this continues. The leadership of NHMS thanks you for your trust and generosity and pray that God will enable this Spirit empowered support to witness to continue.