



WorldShare

# window

the newsletter of [www.worldshare.org.uk](http://www.worldshare.org.uk) • issue 2020/2

How our ministry partners are responding to the coronavirus crisis

A day in the life of Thi Yai Yawh



*Part of JKPS' food distribution*

70 years of Gospel Action in South Sudan



# Editorial

**During this present global crisis, have you noticed how new phrases like “lockdown” and “social distancing” have leapt into our language and become part of everyday living?**

I live a short journey from Eyam, the Derbyshire village that just over 350 years ago (in 1666) may have pioneered the concept of “lockdown” and in doing this kept a “social distance” from surrounding settlements. You might know the story; a consignment of cloth came from London, where the plague had already killed 30% of the population, and contained fleas carrying the deadly plague bacteria. The tailor’s assistant who brought the cloth into the village was the first victim and initially more than 50 people died. The following year, the death toll continued to rise and fearful people were about to flee the village when the newly appointed Vicar sought to implement what was probably the first “lockdown”, to prevent the disease being spread to nearby settlements. Many people died in Eyam and there is a memorial to them, but their sacrificial actions prevented the spread of the plague. Similar actions to those of the people of Eyam are being taken in our own communities, to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

**So how is WorldShare responding to “lockdown”?**

Firstly, we are able to keep in regular contact with our ministry partners through email and voice/video calls.

All are in lockdown, some with curfews, but in countries with little or no government safety net. As ever, it is the poorest and daily wage earners who are the most vulnerable.

**Secondly**, our supporters and donors have been amazing in responding to our recent appeals to support our ministry partners through this pandemic. Thank you to all those who have given sacrificially at this time.

**Thirdly**, back in late March, all the staff moved out of the office and started working from home (see the photo on the back cover). These arrangements work well, although we all miss the sense of community and the chance for a bit of banter! However, we haven’t quite worked out how to share virtual cake!

**Thank you** for standing with us at this time, whether in prayer or by giving. Please do see the information (Pages 12 and 13) about how our ministry partners are responding to the challenges in their communities. As we read in 2 Timothy 2, “God’s word is not chained” - the work of WorldShare and its partners continues in these unprecedented times.

Stay safe,  
**Alan Butler, Chief Executive**

**Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God’s word is not chained.**  
*2 Timothy 2:8-9*

# CAHAYA SUKU: Light in the Darkness



**Our ministry partner, Cahaya Suku (Light to the Peoples), is one of the largest Indonesian church-planting initiatives aimed at witnessing to unreached Muslims. With a vision to see all of Indonesia reached with the Gospel, Cahaya Suku forms independent regional ministries that are proclaiming the Good News and planting house churches.**

One of the major challenges in reaching Indonesia’s Muslims is not theological, but sociological. Many seekers fear they will have to abandon cultural traditions and family bonds in order to follow Christ. Geography is also an obstacle as Indonesia spans 17,500 islands. Yet despite the challenges, the Indonesian Church is strong, committed and growing.



Featured in the photo above is the Puja church-planting team which is split into 3 ministry bases across one of the islands. This specific island experienced violent conflict between Islam and Christianity in the year 2000, when more than 1,000 people were killed. Since then, Christians have rarely been willing to preach the Gospel to Muslims as it carries a risk of triggering conflict again. And yet, with sensitivity and boldness, between October and December 2019, this church-planting team shared the

Gospel with 152 Muslims! 15 have since put their trust in Jesus Christ and 10 have been baptised.

**Cahaya Suku is passionate about encouraging new believers to be sharing the Good News with people they know.**

At the end of last year, a new house church was started on the island, made up of newly converted Christians and their friends and family. On 17th and 18th January, the Puja team held training for the leaders of the house church so that they can be better equipped to reach out to Muslims in their community.

There are, however, many personal challenges with this kind of ministry. Isolation, persecution, burnout, financial struggles and lack of success are all difficulties these teams face. Two members of the Puja church-planting team, Adhi and Daksa, are currently finding it hard to provide for their families with the monthly income they receive. Usually, they have run out of money before the end of the month. We ask for your prayers so that they, and all the Cahaya Suku church-planters, remain strong and enthusiastic in their ministry.

*\*We have changed names and hidden faces in this article to protect the work of our ministry partner\**

# 5 ways to support WorldShare during the coronavirus crisis



**1 CONNECT** - Many of us are feeling the need to connect with others using technology during the lockdown. Perhaps you have joined Facebook in order to stay in touch with family and friends or have connected with them using Zoom or Skype. Whether your preference is Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, we would love you to connect with us.

**2 PRAY** - If you already pray for WorldShare, thank you! If you need inspiration, we produce a monthly Prayer Calendar which is available to view and download from our website. If you are meeting virtually with others to pray, please would you remember our ministry partners in your prayers as they adapt how they respond to the needs of their communities. See page 14 for more information.

**3 GIVE** - This is a difficult time for many people financially and our ministry partners are no exception. During this pandemic, when the poorest and most vulnerable end up suffering the most, they need your help more than ever. Our website is the easiest place to donate and you can choose whether to give a single or regular gift, whichever suits you best.

**4 SHARE** - Recently one of our child sponsors shared her experience with a friend and as a result that friend decided to sponsor a child too! Perhaps you can share what WorldShare means to you with your family and friends at this time. This could simply be by chatting to a friend on the phone, liking and sharing our inspiring Facebook posts or buying one of our Freedom Gifts as an alternative birthday present while shopping options are restricted.

**5 REMEMBER** - Sadly, some of us will be experiencing the loss of loved ones at this time. In the last issue of Window, we celebrated the life of Maisie Clark, a young lady who passed away suddenly in 2019 aged 28. Her cousin Esther decided to fundraise in her memory, raising over £1,300 for one of our ministry partners, HEAL Africa. What a wonderful way to remember and celebrate Maisie's life.

**IS THERE ONE NEW WAY IN WHICH YOU COULD SUPPORT WORLDSHARE TODAY?**  
Imagine how much more could be achieved if each of us found one new supporter during this difficult time.

# Bible Faith Mission: Reaching the 'Untouchables'



**Our ministry partner, Bible Faith Mission, works in Southern India and ministers to the Dalits (or the 'Untouchables')- the lowest in the Hindu caste system.**

Most of the people they reach out to are illiterate: more than 95% of them are ignorant of the value of education and they receive no motivation to strive for success. They therefore do the most menial jobs and experience very difficult lives. Yet, Bible Faith Mission believes in the holistic transformation of each individual and will not let their status define their lives. Through a variety of programmes, Bible Faith Mission is providing Dalits with opportunities to both hear the Good News about Christ and build a better future for themselves.

One such programme is their English Medium school, which opened in 2003. It provides quality education to those in society who are struggling and would not normally have access to education. They are now seeing adults who attended the school as children becoming doctors, engineers, scientists and other professionals. They have seen great signs of transformation in their community through the work of this school.

Abhijith is one of the students studying at the English Medium school. He comes from a very low economic background and could not even dream that he would one day go to school. Thankfully, due to organisations like WorldShare contributing towards his education, he has climbed the ladder and is now in 12th grade. Abhijith says,

*This year I was selected as a house captain. My parents did not receive much education, but they always had a desire for me to study. When they saw me becoming a house captain, they were in tears. I know they were tears of joy. I am so grateful to God for helping me to study at such a great school. My aim is to become a physiotherapist.*



**It is only by Jesus' blessing and your generous support that Abhijith has been able to get to where he is today.**

**Please pray for more children to be able to gain an education through the brilliant work of Bible Faith Mission, leading them to a future full of hope and success.**

# Celebrating & Remembering

Are you finding it hard to buy special presents for people now the shops are shut?

**FREEDOM GIFTS** 2019/20

Why not buy one of our charity gifts and give hope to someone in need? You will receive a gift card that you can personalise and send to your loved one showing the donation you have made in celebration of their birthday or anniversary.

## Mobile Medical Clinic

£20

The JKPS medical van provides healthcare for poor communities in the most remote areas of West Bengal, India. This gift will provide care for one family.



## Mercy Fund

£50

This gift will go towards providing free healthcare in the Democratic Republic of Congo to those in need and unable to afford it.



To see the full range of gifts, take a look at the Freedom Gifts catalogue, or you can browse and purchase online at [www.worldshare.org.uk/freedomgifts](http://www.worldshare.org.uk/freedomgifts)



## LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL



After you've provided for your loved ones, remembering WorldShare in your will can help provide vital support to our ministry partners in their efforts to make a lasting change among their communities.

Legacies can have a huge impact on our work and allow you to do something really significant for a cause you believe in.

Your gift, whatever the size, can make an incredible difference to how we support our ministry partners.

For more information contact [jenny.hunt@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:jenny.hunt@worldshare.org.uk) or call 01302 775209

# 70 years of Gospel Action in South Sudan



Our ministry partner, African Inland Church (AIC), has been on the ground in South Sudan for the past 70 years, bringing the good news of the Gospel to the people living in this poor and war stricken African country. Under the leadership of Bishop Arkanjelo, their ministry is one of evangelism and humanitarian aid, both speaking of and demonstrating the love of Christ in their communities.

That ministry is sorely needed in a country that has been ravaged by violence, famine and political unrest, leaving 4.2 million people, a third of the population, displaced. Much of the humanitarian work carried out by the Church is in these refugee communities. Thanks to you, our supporters, WorldShare has been helping to feed, clothe, give shelter to and sustain thousands of needy families and individuals both in South Sudan and also in nearby refugee camps in Uganda.



The Covid-19 pandemic has seen partial lockdowns across South Sudan, who saw their first cases in early April. Although there are currently only a handful of cases confirmed, there is grave concern

for the vast numbers of people living in temporary camps. Lack of access to clean water and sanitation facilities, along with crowded living conditions, mean that should Covid-19 enter these populations, its spread will be almost impossible to contain.

Whilst the pandemic has not created the difficulties already faced by these people, it has exacerbated them. Work and food, which were both already in short supply, are even more hard to source and afford, making a dire situation desperate for many.



AIC have been there for the people of South Sudan through the many crises that have faced them over the years and continue to be there for them now. Although there are some restrictions on gatherings, AIC have been able to take vital supplies to those who need them and have also been able to give much needed advice and guidance to the refugees on how best to protect themselves should the camps be affected in the future.

Thank you for being part of this amazing ministry. Let us pray that, through God's great grace and blessings, AIC will continue to minister to those who need to hear of the hope that Christ brings for another 70 years and more!

# HEAL AFRICA: How you have helped!



In January of this year, we launched an appeal raising funds for our ministry partner HEAL Africa in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It focussed on two of their programmes: the Mercy Fund, which covers medical and associated expenses for the most needy patients presenting at the hospital, and Chaplaincy, which provides spiritual care in hospitals, prisons, schools, churches and rural communities across the region. Many of you were inspired by the amazing stories of Moise, Ketya and Didier, whose lives were transformed by the compassionate work of the hospital staff.

**We are so grateful, as are HEAL Africa, for your prayers and financial support – the appeal has so far raised an incredible £13,000!**

Since January, we have received encouraging updates and stories of how the funds we send are being used to impact even more lives. Here is one story which stood out to us and which gives another insight into how important the Mercy Fund is.

*Shabani, aged 8, was the victim of a terrible crime committed by children in his neighbourhood. The group were upset that Shabani had not shared with them the doughnuts his grandmother would buy for him. So, while he was out playing one day, these children poured petrol on Shabani's head, lit a match and threw it on him. He was severely burnt all over his body. The children fled.*

*He was saved by some people passing by who took him immediately to the local health facility. Unfortunately, it was not equipped to offer proper care for burn patients. This resulted in many complications and several infections. Shabani was left fighting for his life. Tragically, his grandmother was afraid to bring him to one of the bigger, more equipped hospitals as she could not afford to pay for treatment.*

*As the wounds got worse, people advised her to bring him to the HEAL Africa hospital. Shabani was burnt on February 6th 2019 and yet he was only brought to HEAL Africa on October 11th 2019; 8 months after the crime, even though the*

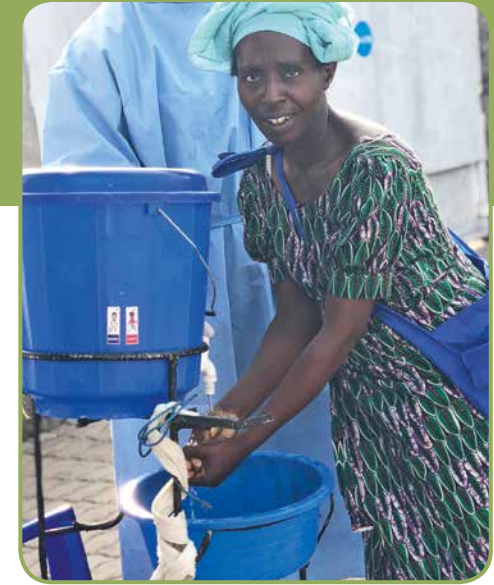
*neighbourhood where they live is only 15km from the hospital.*

*Fortunately, HEAL Africa's Mercy Fund project was there to save Shabani, giving him free, quality healthcare and saving his grandmother from any financial burdens.*

*He received proper wound care on his head to treat the severe infection and then underwent a successful operation to help his neck to turn. He was released from the hospital in December 2019 but regularly returned to receive wound treatment. His second operation in March of this year, to allow his left arm to move, was also a great success. The total invoice for his two-month hospital stay, two operations and various treatments was £1,800, yet his grandmother did not have to pay a penny! Praise the Lord!*



As well as their normal challenges, HEAL Africa staff are now faced with new hurdles to overcome due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Much effort is being put into prevention, as they just do not have the equipment they need to be able to cope with a large influx of coronavirus patients. This quote from HEAL Africa shows just how incredible their attitude is, despite the difficult situation:



*“ If there is one word to describe our team, it is resilient. We operated through many uncertainties - from wars, a volcanic eruption that buried our hospital, the loss of [our co-founder] Lyn Lusi and a couple of rounds of Ebola. We expect that this pandemic will challenge our faith and our supporters. But we are certain that this too, will pass. Please hang in there with us, in prayer and support. ”*



As they ask, please keep HEAL Africa in your prayers. But also, praise God with us! WorldShare has already been able to send them funds to go towards purchasing emergency equipment that will help them deal with whatever the future holds.

**We are so grateful for all your support of this amazing ministry partner and we look forward to standing alongside them until this challenge passes.**

# CHILDAID: A Day in the Life of Thi Yai Yawh...



Welcome to our regular spotlight on ChildAid. In each issue of our magazine, we will focus on a particular ministry partner that we work with. So today, an insight into the work of Word of Hope in Myanmar.

## A Day in the Life...

Hi! I'm Thi Yai Yawh, I am eight years old and I live at the Word of Hope Orphanage in Yangon, Myanmar. I come from Sumara Myo. My father has passed away and my mother is unable to care for me. So, I live here. In the orphanage, there are 30 boys and 22 girls. Esther (the house mother) looks after us.

My day begins early. I get out of bed, wash, brush my teeth and then we have a morning devotional time. Afterwards, we eat breakfast together, before going to school.

We arrive home in the early afternoon to eat lunch together. During the afternoon, we study for about two hours. Then, my favourite time of the day – games! I really enjoy playing football outside with my friends. After playtime, we bathe and have dinner.



The evenings are quieter - we have a time of prayer and reading the Scriptures. If we have time, we study for a while before going to bed.

On the weekends there is no school. We get to have a lie-in! We attend church on both Saturday and Sunday. During the weekend, we have time to wash and iron our clothes and work together to keep our rooms neat and tidy. But most of all, I like to watch TV and play games with my friends.



During the school holidays, we have Summer School where we do lots of different activities like learning English, playing music and learning handicrafts. We also go on a week-long Church camp which is a lot of fun! Plus, each year we have a day trip and sometimes we have a time of socialising with children that live in other orphanages nearby.



**Could you support a child like Thi Yai Yawh in Myanmar?**  
Please get in touch for more details or visit our website.  
Tel: 01302 775209 or email [clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk)  
[www.worldshare.org.uk/childaid](http://www.worldshare.org.uk/childaid)

## Latest News ...



Back in early March we had the privilege of engaging with church leaders at the New Wine National Leadership Conference in Harrogate. We appreciate that each church has different needs when it comes to global mission, so why not talk to your church and contact us to explore opportunities? We can connect with you online - perfect for the current situation.

Unfortunately, our plans to exhibit at Word Alive and Keswick have had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. We are obviously disappointed and trust that we will find alternative ways of reaching more potential supporters as well as connecting with existing ones.

**We are so excited to be partnering with a new ministry:** Christian Fellowship Ministries.

They share the Gospel of Jesus and support vulnerable people in Uganda in a variety of ways.

We will be focussing on their work with children and orphans through our child sponsorship programme, ChildAid. Keep your eyes out for more info coming soon!



**Due to current circumstances, WorldShare and Up Mountains have decided to cancel the June 2020 Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge.**

However, we will be looking to reorganise the event in 2021. Thank you so much to those who signed up to take part.

## Set up a fundraiser for WorldShare on Facebook

Did you know that by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/fund/WorldShare/> you can set up a fundraiser for WorldShare on Facebook?

So if you have a birthday or anniversary coming up and would like your friends and family to have the opportunity to celebrate with you by supporting the important work of our ministry partners, why not encourage them to give in this way. It's simple and safe and will make a huge difference!



# The impact of Covid-19 and how our ministry partners are responding



**WorldShare partners with indigenous Christians in some of the poorest countries around the world. Like us, they are adapting their approaches, reaching out to their communities in the best way they can, within the restrictions imposed in their respective countries. Here are some examples of how they are responding to their local needs.**

## Evangelical Mission for Assistance to Fishermen (EMAF), Brazil:



The death toll from Covid-19 in Brazil is the highest in Latin America. People living in remote coastal and riverside communities in Brazil are facing starvation. Disruptions to regular trade due to Covid-19 are interfering with their access to necessary food supplies. Vessel traffic to these regions has stopped, and food is no longer available. Shortages have doubled and tripled the prices of basic kitchen staples. Families are struggling to survive with the loss of income. The lack of hygiene items also poses a problem. Without access to things like soap, people are more exposed to propagating the virus. EMAF has already identified more than 1,000 families who need assistance and are desperately waiting on resources to enable them to respond with food rations.

## Hope For Africa Mission, South Africa:



Bishop Hendrick, leader of Hope for Africa Mission, has asked for prayers for the continent of Africa as cases of Covid-19 sharply rise. Some African states seem prepared and are working according to WHO guidelines in fighting this pandemic, whilst others face serious challenges in coping.

One such country is Zimbabwe who seem to have no clear outlined measures to assist the affected and combat the spread of the disease. Zimbabwe is also struggling with a water crisis.

Running water has been unavailable in urban areas for months so women and children have been queuing daily at public water sources, making social distancing impossible.

**JKPS, India:** JKPS have been reaching out to families of sponsored children, bible students, community development workers and volunteers with dry ration kits and small monetary assistance.



With the government lockdown order and social distancing guidelines in place, many families of India's informal workforce have been sleeping hungry. Responding to the need, their team, over a two-week period, have fed 3,970 children, elderly and beggars across Kolkata's slums with cooked meals, provided dry rations kits to 837 families of daily wage earners and distributed 6,050 surgical masks at 32 hospitals in the city. While they continue to reach out to the needy with cooked food and dry ration kits, JKPS are going to start distributing hand gloves and sanitisers at hospitals as part of their next relief support drive.

## Christian Foundation (CHRIFON), Pakistan:



ChrisFon staff in Pakistan are full of passion to reach the unreached. They are managing to go out to comfort their beneficiaries, give them advice and pray for them despite the whole country effectively being at a standstill. One of the biggest challenges is enforcing the government's restrictions as agricultural labourers are still going to work in the fields. As these labourers are daily wage earners, if they don't work, their families don't eat. ChrisFon also work closely with bonded labourers in the brick kilns who earn a meagre daily wage. Food parcels have already been distributed to some of the communities they serve and, with additional finances, they will be able to do more.

## Beginning of Life (BOL), Moldova:



The team at Beginning of Life have made all possible adjustments to their programmes and projects to comply with government restrictions in order to continue reaching people in need. The Early Learning Centre and Psychological Art Studio have started to provide online classes in combination with special weekly toolkits which families can use at home.

There have been Zoom meetings with leaders and trainers who are starting to work with their groups of beneficiaries online in different communities. For most people it is a very new way of leading ministry.

Educational projects related to schools and communities have continued through social media and streaming platforms (YouTube, Zoom) which require creativity in order to adapt to this new form of communication with youth and teens. For some of the most deprived families, Beginning of Life has prepared and delivered 390 food parcels and hygiene kits for mothers with infants.

**Thank you for standing with our ministry partners at this time, whether in prayer or by giving. Your support is greatly appreciated.**

# Thank you for your support . . .

On behalf of our ministry partners around the world, we would like to thank you all for your generous giving, both financially and in prayer. Since the beginning of this year, we have launched the following appeals which have so far raised...



## Over £13,000 for HEAL Africa

Your kind gifts are helping our ministry partner HEAL Africa to bring physical and spiritual healing to some of the most vulnerable people of the Democratic Republic of Congo.



## Over £20,000 across our recent Covid-19 Appeals

The incredible funds you raised have already had a big impact on needy communities affected by this global pandemic: sinks have been installed, food parcels delivered, medicines and protective equipment provided and hospital machinery purchased. Furthermore, your generosity will allow the crucial work of our ministry partners to continue, as people face the long-term effects of this crisis. Thank you!

# Pray with Us . . .

Did you know we have a monthly prayer calendar with daily prayers for WorldShare's ministry partners around the world?

You can download the calendar and sign up to receive it monthly at [www.worldshare.org.uk/pray](http://www.worldshare.org.uk/pray).



We are also on PrayerMate, where you can add our prayer requests to your personalised daily prayer feed. To find and subscribe to WorldShare's feed, scan our QR code using your mobile app or look for us in the World Mission category.



# WorldShare

To give to WorldShare, please fill out this form and return to us, using the enclosed Freepost envelope or post to WorldShare, Armstrong House, First Avenue, Doncaster DN9 3GA.

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WorldShare where most needed

No need to acknowledge my gift (please save postage)

Others (please specify)

I enclose my cheque/postal order/charity voucher made payable to **WorldShare**

Please debit my debit card/credit card/CAF card:

(We are not able to take American Express)

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Valid from

Expiry Date

Signature

Date

## I want my gift to be worth 25% more

*giftaid it*

I would like to Gift Aid my donation\*

\*I want to Gift Aid this donation to WorldShare and all donations I make in the future. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. WorldShare will claim 25p for each £1 I've given. I will notify WorldShare if I want to cancel this declaration, change my name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on my Income and/or Capital Gains.

## My details

Title \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

We would love to share with you information, updates and appeals for the amazing work of our partner ministries around the world. Please tick to let us know how you would like to receive communications from us.

(please tick)  Email  Post  Phone  SMS WIN202

We will not pass on your details to any third party organisations. Your consent will last for five years. You can unsubscribe from communications at any time by contacting us. [info@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:info@worldshare.org.uk), 01302 775209, [www.worldshare.org.uk](http://www.worldshare.org.uk). Registered charity 803575.



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Fill out the form  
inside this magazine  
and return to us.



Jenny



Alan



Vanessa



Emily



Clare



*Our virtual office as we have  
our daily time of prayer*



**WorldShare**

## Contact Us . . .

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