

NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION www.nsdadventist.org

NEWS&VIEWS



September / October 2024



Called to be Faithful

Kim YoHan
President,
Northern Asia-Pacific Division

“Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus” (Revelation 14:12).

After the fall of Adam and Eve, God has always sent His faithful people to deliver His message to the world and to call people to live a faithful life to Him. “By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous” (Hebrews 11:4). By faith Noah stood firm as a servant of God during a time when evil and sin filled the whole world. And by building the ark, he demonstrated his faith to all. Abraham, when called by God, went forth not knowing where he was going, and he bore witness in a foreign land (Genesis 12:1-9). We also know of many other faithful servants of God mentioned in the Old Testament, who set an example of obedience and delivered the message urging people to live faithful lives to God.

In the New Testament era, we see how people were called by God to live faithfully and be a witness, even risking their lives. John the Baptist, who was sent to prepare the way for the coming Messiah, proclaimed the message, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” and was martyred by beheading. Likewise, most of Jesus’

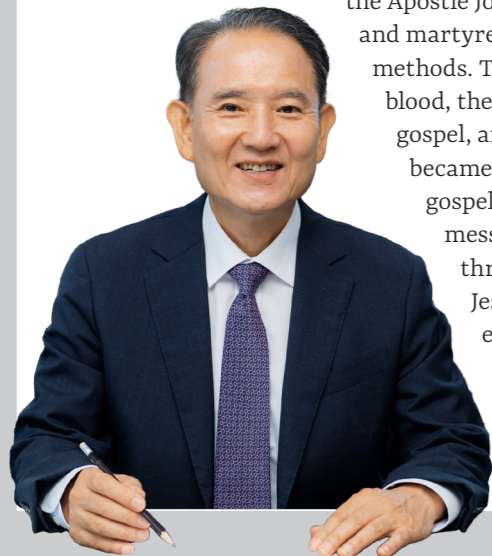
twelve disciples, except for the Apostle John, were killed and martyred in various methods. Through their blood, they testified of the gospel, and their blood became the seed of the gospel, spreading the message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ to the entire world.

This year, 2024, marks

the 150th anniversary since Pastor John Nevins Andrews became the first General Conference missionary and was sent for mission work in Europe. Pastor Andrews was a minister, writer, editor, and scholar in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He also served as General Conference president from 1867 to 1869. In 1872, his wife Angeline passed away due to a stroke, and two years later, on Sept. 15, 1874, he took his two children, Charles and Mary, and went to Switzerland as the first official missionary of the Adventist Church. There, he established a publishing house and published *Les Signes des Temps* (1876), the first French-language Adventist periodical. Sadly, in 1878, his daughter Mary contracted tuberculosis and passed away after returning to the United States. Pastor Andrews continued his missionary work, but he also contracted tuberculosis and died in 1883 at the age of 54, being buried in Basel, Switzerland. Notably, his grandson, John Nevins Andrews, also became a medical missionary and served in Sichuan province in southwest China. The lives of Pastor Andrews, his family, and his descendants continue to inspire us deeply.

God has called all of us to be His faithful servants. We must first live lives that are faithful to His commandments. We must also believe in Jesus Christ with genuine faith and entrust our lives to Him.

The territory of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division has expanded, now including Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Nepal, which adds Buddhist, Hindu, and Muslim nations to the region. God has entrusted us with a great mission. Like the faithful servants of God mentioned in the Old and New Testaments, we must become His faithful servants. Even if it costs us our lives, we must remain faithful to His commandments and press forward to proclaim faith in Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. When we do this, we will soon hear Jesus Christ’s welcoming words: “Well done, good and faithful servants! come and share your master’s happiness!” (Matthew 25:21).



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NSD Mission Statement

The mission of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division of Seventh-day Adventists is to call all people within its territory to become disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the Three Angels’ Messages (Revelation 14:6-12) and to prepare them for Christ’s soon return.



On the Cover
113 leaders gather in Nepal for 2024 Global Mission Leadership Development Conference.


**Seventh-day
Adventist Church**
NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

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2024 Global Mission Leadership Development Conference – Nepal

Kim SunHwan
NSD Adventist Mission Director

Global mission is the last commandment of Jesus on this earth. According to Matthew 28:19, Jesus commanded His disciples to make disciples of all nations. And according to Luke in Acts 1:8, Jesus again told His disciples to start where they are and go to Judea, Samaria, and “to the ends of the world” when the Holy Spirit comes to them. In this sense, it is understandable that the last event before Jesus comes will be the gospel propagation to all nations as is recorded in Matthew 24:14. How then will we prepare ourselves to accomplish the last command of Jesus?

On August 13-17, 2024, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, for the first time in cooperation with three Global Mission centers, held the “Global Mission Leadership Development Conference” in Nepal. The location of this conference was intentionally chosen since four new countries have recently been added to NSD, Nepal being centrally located among those four countries. Moreover, Nepal is the second largest Hindu country

in the world after India. It was timely and meaningful for NSD to convene this conference collaborating with the Centers of Adventist Muslim Relations, South Asia Religion (Hinduism), and Adventist Buddhist Relations because the new NSD countries are primarily made up of these three religions.





The primary purpose of this conference was to understand the people to whom we deliver the everlasting gospel. In many places, especially in many Asian countries, religion is not a personal option that everyone can choose. Religions are given from their birth and understood as their destiny until they die. People accept their religions just like they admit the families they belong to. Their religions become the most integral part of their values and even worldviews. In a word, we need to know their religions to understand who they are. When we understand who they are and what their worldviews are, we can discover how to properly approach them and bring them to Jesus Christ, who is the Way, Truth, and Life to all mankind.

The curriculum of the conference was designed to fulfill this purpose.



Selected speakers, such as Global Mission Centers' directors and other specialists, presented on three themes: 1) Understanding the three religions; 2) Theological Approach to the religions; and 3) Methodologies in the mission to the religions. The attendees saw brief pictures of the three religions and differentiated them by comparing them. Workshops were also held in the afternoons by all religious groups. Nine workshops were provided every day, presented in dynamic styles so that participants could learn not only about the religions of their countries, but also about the other religions in that part of the world.

Attendees also enjoyed a close connection with Global Mission leaders who serve in other parts of the world—alongside NSD, six Divisions, as well as the General Conference, joined the meeting. Many Adventist gospel workers who are advocating for their areas were able to realize that they are not alone. Through group chats there was information-sharing, prayer requests, and encouraging words that brought people together. Relatively long break-times and evenings provided opportunities for deep spiritual relationships, and the sharing of stories with how-to suggestions.

Global mission is not an option for Adventists. This is the priority among all the things we are to do. Twenty percent of the world's Muslim population has just become a part of NSD. North Korea, the most restricted country in the world, is in our territory. NSD has become the “ends of the earth” where the gospel of the Kingdom needs to reach people groups. Let us go together to the end of the harvest field. Jesus is coming soon. Maranatha!



Discovering Wholeness: Bi-Division Health Professional Summit in Jeju



Park GeonGyoo
NSD News Reporter



The Bi-Division Health Professional Summit was held at the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) Leadership Training Center, Aug. 7-10, 2024. The Northern Asia-Pacific Division and the Southern Asia-Pacific Division co-hosted the event, which was held for the first time in three years. Under the theme “In Christ Alone: Discovering Wholeness in Brokenness,” this second summit saw the participation of over 100 people from 10 countries. The event commenced with a parade of nations, where representatives from each country marched with their flags, introduced themselves, and shouted their prepared slogans.

Following the parade, Kim TaeSeung, treasurer of NSD, delivered the welcoming address. He warmly welcomed the participants by saying, “I sincerely hope that through this summit, many people in the medical field where you serve will be blessed not only with the healing of their physical illnesses but also through eternal salvation.”

The keynote speaker was Zeno Charles-Marcel, associate health director of the General Conference, who led the audience with his sermons and lectures. Dr. Zeno shared his experiences and research, emphasizing that



1. Participants from PKU.
2. Jacob Ko, NSD Health Ministries director.
3. Participants from Malaysia Union Mission.

“Different healthcare disciplines and ministries serve unique but complementary roles.” He continued to stress the importance of health ministries by stating, “We have to stress that all roles in health ministry and the church are vital, regardless of perceived status.”

Other professionals in the medical field were also invited to give lectures. Kim ChulWoo, Director of Daniel Village Healing Care Center and Church, presented various healing cases through the NEWSTART Healing Program implemented in Korea. Seo SeonWha, Manager of Yeosu NEWSTART Hospital, explained the importance of lifestyle interventions, supported by evidence in the lives of cancer survivors. Additionally, Edward Nathan from the Public Health department explained how to work with a mission-oriented attitude in the workplace and presented his personal experiences. Attendees actively participated in the event, taking notes, capturing photos, and even sharing the lectures in real time through live broadcasts.

During the health ministry report session, countries shared their ongoing health ministries and exchanged ideas. Small group activities, including icebreakers and topic-based discussions, were also organized, allowing participants to get to know each other more deeply. The sightseeing trip to Jeju Island was one of the most popular programs, where attendees visited Saryeoni Forest Path and Seongsan Ilchulbong, took photos, and enjoyed local cuisine.

Participants concluded the summit with a Sabbath worship service and an evening commitment service, dedicating their hearts to the Lord. Jacob Ko, NSD Health Ministries director, shared his reflections on the event and expressed his gratitude, stating, “The Health Ministries workers from various countries deeply inspired me. The lectures and the reports from each country were profoundly meaningful. It was also a valuable time to learn many things.”



ACA International Summer University Brings Global Students to Korea

Ha HongJun
Sahmyook University Communication



Sahmyook University hosted the “ACA International Summer University,” for the first time this year, welcoming Seventh-day Adventist students from around the globe.

Adventist Colleges Abroad (ACA) is a consortium of Seventh-day Adventist institutions, coordinated by the North American Division’s education department. It offers international exchange programs that place students at Adventist colleges in various countries. Sahmyook University joined ACA last year.

The program offered international students an immersive experience in Korean language and culture, featuring a 6-week intensive Korean course, student exchange activities, Korean cooking classes, pottery, Taekwondo, K-POP dance, and visits

to prominent sites like Jeju Island, Gyeongbokgung Palace, Myeongdong, and Hongdae.

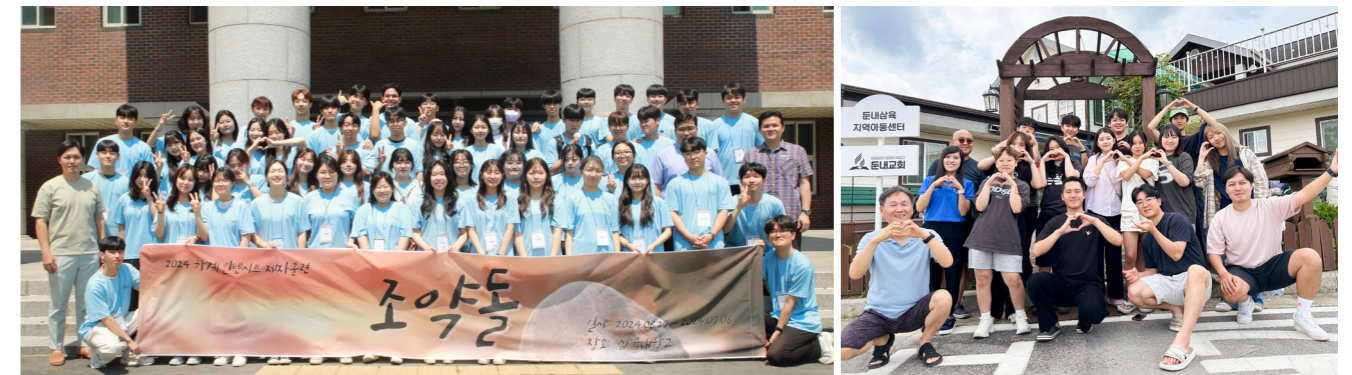
Penina Bairinjiro from Kettering College said, “The programs exceeded my expectations, and the genuine hospitality from the staff was deeply touching.” Lucas Park from La Sierra Academy said, “Experiencing my ancestors’ cultural heritage for the first time was both enjoyable and meaningful.”

Shin JiYeon, director of the International Education Center, stated, “We will continue to invite Seventh-day Adventist students from around the world every summer, providing rich experiences and promoting cross-cultural understanding. We are committed to realizing ACA’s vision of ‘Learning without Borders.’”



SAY Wraps Up ‘Summer Intensive Discipleship Training’

Ha HongJun
Sahmyook University Communication



Sahmyook Adventist Youth (SAY) at Sahmyook University has wrapped up its “2024 Summer Intensive Discipleship Training,” which took place June 17-July 14, 2024.

This intensive program aimed to foster a mission vision and train student missionaries through residential training and practical mission activities during the summer and winter breaks.

This year’s training saw 69 participants, including 11 pastors, 7 organizers, 10 coaches, 14 shepherds, and 27 disciples. They engaged in a variety of activities over the course of the month, including preparation meetings, leader training, educational sessions, and practical fieldwork, making for a vibrant and productive summer.

The educational sessions were held in a residential setting on campus and covered a range of topics tailored to the needs of the youth and the mission at hand. This

included core curriculum, Bible studies, evangelism, lifestyle, and personal spiritual growth.

Practical training was carried out across various locations nationwide, such as Yeongnam Sahmyook Middle and High School and several churches. Participants conducted door-to-door evangelism using eight key topics, resulting in 13 baptisms and numerous new seekers.

In the final phase, SAY youth gathered Aug. 24-26, 2024, for a Leader Training Retreat to review and assess their achievements and to plan the mission strategy for the upcoming semester.

Pastor Soh SeongHyeon, in charge of the discipleship training, remarked, “The students who underwent this one-month training will take on leadership roles in spiritual missions for the next semester. We look forward to a revival on the Sahmyook campus and appreciate the ongoing support and prayers from our community.”



Sahmyook University Chinese Church Summer Retreat: Two International Students Take the Plunge!

The Sahmyook University Chinese Church hosted an uplifting summer retreat at the picturesque Sahmyook Pyeongchang Prayer Center in Gangwon-do July 26-28, 2024.

Twenty-one attendees, including international students, gathered for a weekend filled with worship and Bible study, deepening their faith in the Second Coming. They also enjoyed local sights like Odaesan, taking a refreshing break from the summer heat and embracing the beauty of nature.

A highlight of the retreat was the baptism ceremony on the afternoon of Sabbath, July 27, at Songjeong Beach in Gangneung. It was a heartwarming occasion as two

students took a significant step in their spiritual journeys. Liu Chaochao, one of the new baptisms, is currently studying at the Korean Language Institute and is set to transition to the Counseling Psychology undergraduate program this September. The other, Shin Yunkyeon, is also a student at the language institute and dreams of exploring various academic paths, including theology. Under the leadership of Pastors Jeong Seongcheol and Oh Seonggyu, the Sahmyook University Chinese Church continues its vibrant mission, reaching out to international students from China and Taiwan with warmth and community.



1. (From Left) Pastor Oh Seonggyu, Liu Chaochao, Shin Yunkyeon and Pastor Jeong Seongcheol.
2. Shin YunKyeon was baptized.



Sahmyook Sarang Shop Makes Generous Donation for International Student Scholarships



Sahmyook Sarang Shop, affectionately referred to as the “Mother of Sahmyook University International Students,” has made a generous contribution of 61.25 million won (\$44,000 U.S.) to support scholarships at Sahmyook University. This brings the total donations from Sahmyook Sarang Shop to an impressive 500 million won (\$360,000 U.S.).

Managed by the wives of Sahmyook University faculty, Sahmyook Sarang Shop channels all proceeds from the sale of donated goods into scholarships for international students. The organization also consistently organizes fundraising events to bolster these efforts.

International students often face challenges accessing financial support that domestic students enjoy, such as national scholarships. This is particularly true for those hailing from impoverished or conflict-affected nations, where family support for tuition and living costs is often limited.

Since its inception, Sahmyook Sarang Shop has made significant impacts: in 2020, they supported 13 students; in 2021, 25 students; in 2022, 60 students benefited from their generous donations; and in 2023, 36 students again received strong support. In total, over 180 international students have received scholarships from this charitable organization.

As news of their work spreads, support from various donors, local churches, and alumni overseas has poured in. For example, the Ansoly Flute Ensemble raised money during their 20th anniversary concert in June, while members of the Irvine Church in the United States contributed as well through the Sahmyook Sarang Shop.

One notable scholarship recipient, Dr. Eliazal Penitent, now serves as an assistant professor in the Biology department at Mountain View University in the Philippines. Another recipient, Dr. Chulmanbayar, made history as the first Mongolian to earn a Ph.D. in theology from the Seventh-day Adventist

Church and is now engaged in pastoral work in his homeland. Among the new scholarship recipients is Charles Yuppie Desbordes from Liberia, who is pursuing a combined master’s and doctoral program in Addiction Science. He dreams of returning home after graduation to help those affected by addiction issues. Joseph Janu, a Ph.D. student in theology from India, shared his thoughts: “Our goal as international students is to study diligently at Sahmyook University and learn how to serve, so we can bring that mission back to our communities. We are immensely grateful for the love and support from Sahmyook Sarang Shop and all our donors.” Cho Seunghee, the chairwoman and wife of President Je Haejong, expressed pride in the students’ perseverance: “I admire the determination of our students who are pursuing their dreams despite challenges. We remain committed to supporting your educational journeys, and I extend heartfelt thanks to all the donors who stand with us.

Bangladesh Union Mobilizes Women to #BETHEVOICE during enditnow Emphasis Day

Imran Mrong
 BAUM Communication Secretary



Women actively participated in the 2024 enditnow Emphasis Day for Bangladesh Adventist Union Mission (BAUM)—a special day in the SDA church calendar to stand against violence in all its forms.

For 2024 and beyond, the Northern Asia Pacific Division has launched #bethevoice calling leaders, church members, and students to respond to what the Bible asks us to do: *Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute (Proverbs 31:8-9).*

Through church initiatives, community outreach, and collaboration with local organizations, women have created awareness about the harsh realities of domestic violence, human trafficking, and child abuse.

For this special Sabbath they provided different activities in the local churches throughout BAUM’s territory educating church members through seminars, messages, offering support to victims, and standing for stronger legal protections. By saying “enditnow” to violence, they aim to break the cycle of silence and fear that often surrounds these issues—a voice for those who cannot speak as the Bible commands.

Enditnow is more than just a slogan. It’s a call to action for the church to be proactive in creating safe spaces where women and children can thrive. By being this voice, these women are fostering a culture of respect and equality, inspired by the teachings of Jesus, who championed the

cause of the oppressed. Their efforts are a powerful testament to faith in action, seeking to transform their communities through love and justice bringing hope and healing through Jesus’ love and compassion.

“Together, with God’s help, we can create a future where every voice is heard, and every person lives free from fear and harm,” said Mahuya Roy, BAUM WM director.



Togetherness Week for Families and Communities in Pakistan

Ruth Ashir
 PKU FM/APM Director

Pakistan Union Section successfully celebrated “Understanding Diverse Families—Growing Hearts of Welcome Family Togetherness Week” in an initiative that brought healing, hope, and spiritual growth to countless families. Through a series of thoughtfully designed programs and activities, families were equipped with practical tools to strengthen their relationships with God and one another.

The focus on loving people as Jesus loved helped foster unity and understanding among families from diverse backgrounds, encouraging them to embrace their unique differences while growing together in faith. By exploring how to love, forgive, and support one another in a Christ-like manner, many families experienced personal and relational breakthroughs and as a result of this effort 58 precious friends accepted Jesus.

Testimonies from the event reflected how the week touched the lives of many, inspiring families to prioritize their spiritual journeys and deepen their connections with others in the community. “We are grateful for the support and participation that made this a transformative experience, and we look forward to continuing this vital ministry in the future as we declare ‘I Will Go with my Family,’” said Ruth Ashir, PKUS Family Ministries director.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and encouragement as we strive to build stronger, Christ-centered families in our region.



God First Creates Awareness for Tithing in Pakistan

Farzan Yaqub
PKU Children's Ministries Director



Teaching children to offer and return tithes is a powerful way to instill values of generosity, responsibility, and faith. By encouraging them to set aside a portion of their allowance or gifts, they learn the importance of giving back to their community and supporting their faith. This practice helps children understand that their contributions, no matter how small, can make a difference. As they grow, the habit of tithing can lead to financial discipline and a deeper connection to their spiritual journey, bringing blessings not just to their lives, but to those they help support.

“By the grace of God about 250 children are practicing paying tithe. I met a couple in Mehran Town Church, they do not have children now but have decided to pay tithe on behalf of their future baby,” said Farzana Yaqub, PKU Children's Ministries Director.

Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6).



Pakistan Union Section's Parent Guide School Fosters Spiritual Growth

Farzan Yaqub
PKU Children's Ministries Director

Parents play a crucial role in guiding their children to grow in fellowship with Jesus, and Sabbath Schools can be valuable partners in this journey. By fostering a strong relationship between home and the Sabbath School, parents and teachers can work together to instill Christian values in children as they mature.

By doing so, children see how faith is woven into the fabric of everyday life, not just something reserved for Sabbath.

In the Parent Guide School parents learn how they can teach their children to model Christ-like behavior at home, engaging in regular prayer and Bible study with their children, and encouraging them to participate in church activities.

As a result of this initiative, combined with the hard work of local church pastors and CHM local coordinators, the Sabbath School children are accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Savior in Pakistan. “By the grace of God, 65 Sabbath School children have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior and Friend,” said Farzana Yaqub, PKU CHM director.



Spiritual Revival for Pastors' Spouses in Taiwan

Echo Wu
President of Pastor's Spouse of the Taiwan Conference



The Pastor's Spouse Association organized a three-day "Spiritual Life Revival" Sept. 13-15, 2024, at the Taiwan Adventist College Health Center. This event was specifically tailored to meet the spouses' physical, mental, and spiritual needs, providing them with a much-needed opportunity to recharge and shine anew. The program also included the graduation ceremony for the "Pastor's Spouse Certification Program," where certificates were awarded to honor their hard work and accomplishments.

The theme of this event, "We Are Made to Flourish," aimed to help every spouse rediscover their inner strength and confidence, radiating the fullness and glory that comes from Jesus. On the first day, the hall filled with laughter and warmth, marking the joyful start of the gathering.

Sundown Worship: Gifts of the Heart, Spiritual Connection

The first day's "Welcoming Fellowship," held during sundown worship beneath the evening glow allowed everyone to become more acquainted by exchanging small

gifts and sharing their favorite Bible characters. In this warm and intimate atmosphere, participants experienced genuine interaction and care, offering prayers to bless one another. This heartfelt moment set the tone for the rest of the journey as everyone prayed together and extended blessings to each other.

At the following evening meeting, Joyce Chen, director of the Pastor's Spouse Association, delivered a keynote session on "The Emotions of Pastors' Spouses," guiding everyone through the complexities of emotional management in a clear and relatable way. In the subsequent group discussions, participants opened their hearts and shared their challenges and insights. The discussions created deeper connections and mutual support.

Spiritual Nourishment and Certification Ceremony on Sabbath

On Sabbath, Phillip Koh, the executive secretary of the Taiwan Conference, delivered a sermon titled 'We are made to Flourish,' encouraging each participant to pursue spiritual growth and reclaim their inner value.

The highlight of the afternoon was the certification ceremony for the Pastor's Spouse Certification Program. After four months of dedicated study, the participants' efforts were formally recognized. Clark Koh, president of TWC, was present to personally award certificates to those who completed the program, encouraging them to continue serving with passion in their future ministries. A particularly touching moment came when six pastors' spouses shared their reflections on the program, moving the audience with their heartfelt testimonies and stories of growth.

Two young volunteers cared for the children during the sessions, allowing participants to fully engage in the activities and enjoy more time for rest and reflection.

In the afternoon, a hike up to Hutou Mountain was scheduled. Although it rained, this did not dampen the group's spirits. Instead, as they stood on the viewing platform gazing out over the mist-covered town and mountains in a serene atmosphere and a closeness to God. Everyone looked forward to another day when they could return to the summit and enjoy the beautiful sunset.

Surprises, Challenges, and Breakthroughs

On the third day, they featured an experiential camp designed by teachers from Taiwan Adventist Academy, which included two activities: one low-altitude and one high-altitude. To everyone's surprise, the participants displayed remarkable courage during the high-altitude tree-climbing activity, with each one making it to the top amidst cheers and laughter. The second activity, a low-altitude ground game, further fostered teamwork and unity, allowing participants to reconnect with themselves and gain valuable spiritual insights from the challenge.



ADRA Mongolia Celebrates 30 Years!

ADRA Mongolia successfully concluded its 30th Founding Anniversary Celebration on July 26-27, 2024, with the theme, Celebrating HOPE @30! held in the capital city, Ulaanbaatar. ADRA Mongolia has been sustained by God's faithfulness and leadership throughout the years of its operation with its theme and purpose of serving humanity so that all may live as God intended.

Mongolia opened its doors to ADRA in 1994, working these 30 years while partnering with individuals, communities, organizations, and governments to improve the quality of life for Mongolians. The different projects implemented from 1994 up to the present are in the following areas: education, disaster, emergency management, economic development/livelihoods, health, and food security. To date, there have been a total of 194 projects implemented amounting to around 34 million U.S. dollars in fund grants.

Since 1994 in post-communist Mongolia, ADRA was the first international non-government organization (INGO) to be invited to register under the Office of the Prime Minister as an active country office doing development and humanitarian work.

During the anniversary, Windell M. Maranan, country director of ADRA Mongolia was awarded the Golden Star of Peace from D. Zagdjav, president of the Peace and Friendship Organization Mongolia, the highest award given to an expatriate working in the INGO sector in the country for his outstanding contributions to development and the fostering of traditional friendly relations and cooperation between the people of Mongolia and other nations.

Also, Enkhtur Jambajav, senior driver of ADRA Mongolia was awarded the Order of the Polar Star, the highest state award given to a Mongolian citizen for his loyalty and dedicated service working for an uninterrupted 26 years with ADRA Mongolia.

There were also foreign and other guests including representatives from diplomatic posts who attended the above event including Michael Kruger, president of ADRA International; Frank Reimann, regional director of ADRA Asia; Tapan Mishra, resident coordinator of United Nations in Mongolia; Pastor Eui SikYang, president of Mongolia Mission with Kim YoungSik, MM treasurer; Christian Molke, executive director of ADRA Germany; Llewelyn Juby, former country director of ADRA Mongolia; T. Jambaltseren, state secretary of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry; and Brendon Irvine, ADRA Asia technical lead - Agriculture, Climate Change & Livelihoods.

The keynote speaker - Michael Kruger, president of ADRA International gave a heartfelt celebratory message to the ADRA Mongolia team and the attendees. He also delivered a message centering on living with hope in Jesus during the Sabbath Thanksgiving celebration that took place in the Ulaanbaatar Central Seventh-day Adventist Church followed by a Thanksgiving luncheon.

We praise God for His goodness and faithfulness in not only blessing the work of the Seventh-day Adventist church in Mongolia and ADRA but also continuously extending the ministry of compassion through the work of the agency since its inception for the last 30 years with justice, compassion, and love.



Mongolia Mission Hosts Event for Seniors

Raquel Arrais
NSD Children's/Family/Women's Ministries Director

On September 30, 2024, the Family Ministries Department of Mongolia Mission organized an event called Passing on the Value of Faith, in which 73 seniors gathered for fellowship, encouragement, and spiritual enrichment. This gathering allowed older adults to reflect on the significance of faith in their lives and explore ways to pass it on to future generations.

The celebration featured heartfelt testimonies, worship sessions, and discussions, during which attendees shared their experiences and encouraged one another. These interactions deepened their bonds as a community of faith.

Special moments of prayer, music, and messages emphasized the importance of staying rooted in faith

throughout life. The seniors left feeling uplifted, inspired, and empowered to continue sharing their wisdom and spiritual experiences with family, friends, and church communities.

The event's success highlights older generations' vital role in nurturing faith and their lasting impact on those around them. Raquel Arrais, Family Ministries director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, expressed the importance of caring for the elderly in church congregations, stating: "Caring for the elderly in our congregations is a meaningful way to express love and compassion. It honors their dignity, recognizes their life experiences, and meets their physical and emotional needs. Through acts of kindness, patience, and support, we show that they are valued and cherished in their later years."



Building Faith Foundations for Children in Sri Lanka

Raquel Arrais

NSD Children's/Family/Women's Ministries Director

On September 21-28, 2024, the Sri Lanka Mission strengthened children's faith through teaching the 28 Fundamental Beliefs during their Week of Prayer.

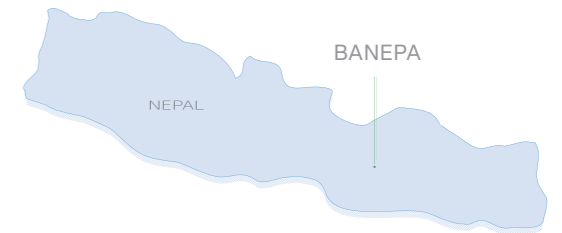
This special week provided valuable opportunities for children to grow spiritually while deepening their understanding of core biblical teachings. Through engaging lessons, interactive activities, and moments of prayer, the children explored key doctrines such as the Sabbath, salvation, the Second Coming of Christ, and Christian living. The Mission seeks to fortify their faith, helping them build a solid foundation to guide them as they grow.

By presenting these beliefs in an accessible, age-appropriate manner, the Week of Prayer encouraged children to ask questions, develop a personal relationship with God, and embrace Christian values. The program aimed to educate and inspire a lifelong commitment to following Christ, empowering the next generation of believers in Sri Lanka.

"Teaching children to follow Jesus is our primary mission, guiding them in faith, love, and understanding of His teachings," said Alice Emerson, Children's Ministries director of the Sri Lanka Mission.



Pathfinder Day Celebration and Master Guide Graduation at Banepa SDA Church



Nepal Section—Saturday, September 21, 2024, Banepa Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated Pathfinder Day with the theme, "Jesus Camps with You." The day was filled with joy and fellowship as the Pathfinder Club led the church service, emphasizing their connection with Jesus and the values of the Pathfinder ministry.

In conjunction with the Pathfinder Day, a special Master Guide graduation was held, celebrating the achievements of 14 dedicated trainees. This marked the second batch of Master Guides to be graduated in Nepal, making the occasion even more momentous for the Adventist community.

The event was attended by key leaders, including Pastor Shree Krishna Koirala, Pathfinder director for the Nepal Section, Pastor Keshab Kumar Rai, Youth director for Nepal, and Pastor Daniel Lee, who congratulated the graduates on their spiritual journey and leadership training.

The day not only honored the Pathfinder movement but also highlighted the growth of the Master Guide program in Nepal, as these newly graduated leaders are set to make an impact in their communities by mentoring younger Pathfinders and participating in church leadership.

Banepa SDA Church continues to inspire and encourage youth leadership, helping to mold young people into

vessels of service for God. The celebration of Pathfinder Day and the Master Guide graduation are testaments to the vibrant and growing youth ministry in Nepal.



Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital Earns Gold Award

Hector Jr Gayares

Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital Chief Executive Officer



On August 29, 2024, Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital (SMAH) in Banepa, Nepal, was awarded the prestigious Gold Winner Award in the “Best in Community Involvement” category at the Hospital Management Asia Awards 2024. The award ceremony, which took place during the Hospital Management Asia 2024 convention at the Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center, recognized the hospital’s outstanding contribution to community healthcare.

This year’s competition featured 307 entries from 113 hospitals across 15 Asian countries, with 37 finalists

selected across nine categories. SMAH, represented by Angela Basnet, Vice President of Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, secured the gold award in the Best in Community Involvement category, standing out among strong competitors from Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines.

The award-winning initiative, the Comprehensive Women’s Health Project—SMAH Experience, was developed in response to Nepal’s critical women’s health challenges. According to the Safe Motherhood Network Federation, around 600,000 women were suffering from uterine prolapse as of 2005, while cervical cancer remains the leading cause of death among women in the country, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Although Nepal’s Supreme Court declared uterine prolapse a human rights issue in 2008, and the government pledged support for free surgeries, many women continue to struggle to access these services.

Additionally, the cervical cancer incidence rate in Nepal is 16.4 per 100,000 women, which is significantly higher than the WHO’s target of 4 per 100,000, highlighting the urgent need for an effective national HPV vaccination program.

In response to these pressing issues, SMAH collaborated with the Women for Women Foundation (WFWF) from the Netherlands and the Community Services Academy of Nepal (COSAN) to launch the Comprehensive Women’s Health Project. The program centers on three key areas: mass screening for uterine prolapse and cervical cancer, training local healthcare workers for early detection, and

providing free surgeries for pelvic organ prolapse (POP).

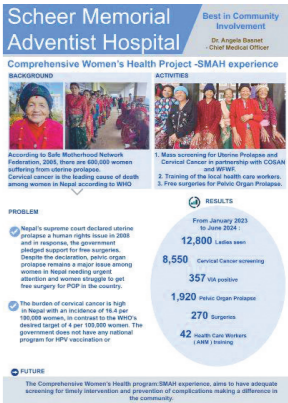
From January 2023 to June 2024, the program made remarkable progress. During this period, 12,800 women received care, and 8,550 underwent cervical cancer screening. Of those screened, 357 tested positive for Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (VIA), and 1,920 cases of pelvic organ prolapse were diagnosed. Additionally, 270 surgeries were performed, and 42 auxiliary nurse midwives (ANMs) were trained to enhance early detection capabilities in the local community.

The Comprehensive Women’s Health Project aims to continue expanding its screening and intervention efforts, ensuring timely care and preventing complications in women’s health across the region.

Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital, founded by Adventist missionaries in 1960, has been serving the

people of Nepal for the past 64 years. As a tertiary-level healthcare institution, SMAH remains dedicated to providing compassionate, patient-centered care of international standards to all patients, regardless of their financial status.

This international recognition highlights SMAH’s deep commitment to improving the health and well-being of women in Nepal and its ongoing mission to serving the community with excellence.



“Understanding Diverse Families – Growing Hearts of Welcome” Reaches Every Local Church in Nepal

Shanti Pokharel
Himalayan Section FM Director

The Family Togetherness Week of Prayer, Sept. 1-7, 2024, was observed in all the churches under the Nepal Section (previously Himalayan Section).

The Family Ministries Department of the Nepal Section organized the online Week of Prayer for all the churches to actively take part. Participants totaled more than 400 via Zoom. Each day different guests spoke (Mrs. Shanti Pokharel, Pastor Kim HeaSeong, Sundar Thapa, Pastor Keshab Kumar Rai, Mathew Lee, Pastor Charles Shultz, and Rakesh Lamichhane).

On Sabbath, all the churches conducted different programs focusing on family worship – back to the altar and explaining the importance of understanding diverse

families. The community was also invited to participate in the Sabbath program, creating an opportunity for the families to know more about Jesus.

These important programs initiated by the General Conference Family Ministries Department focus on family affairs in the context of Understanding Diverse Families. The Seventh-day Adventist church is a worldwide church comprised of diverse families that can include single parents, foster parents, adoptive parents, and blended families, as well as traditional families. “The church needs to understand this diversity, helping church members to approach these groups with love and compassion knowing that the church is not a building but people,” said Shanti Pokharel, Nepal FM Director.

Event topics included: God loves

diversity; Jesus welcomes children and adults; Jesus welcomes women and men; Jesus welcomes people from every culture; Jesus welcomes people with disabilities; Jesus welcomes rich and poor; and lastly, growing welcoming hearts.

The challenges in families can be traced back to the fact that we are living in a sinful and cursed world. People are turning away from God and living without His guidance. Programs like this can help our families reconnect with God. The Family Together Week has been eye-opening for many of our church leaders, members, and attendees, renewing their commitment to the Lord.



1000MM of Pakistan Celebrates Commencement Ceremony

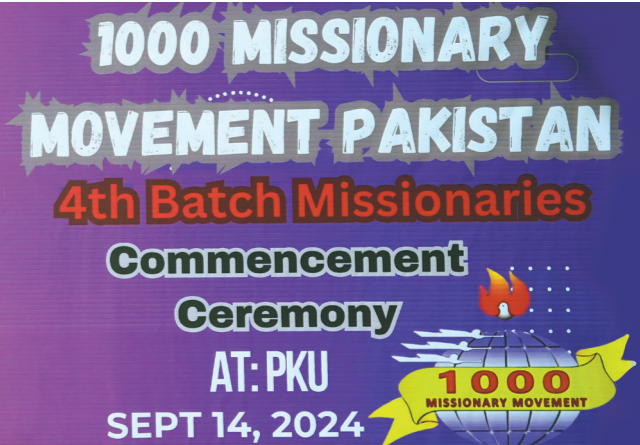
Kim BeomTae
KUC News Reporter

The 4th batch of missionaries from the Pakistan 1000 Missionary Movement completed their mission on September 14, 2024. The nine missionaries dispatched last year served in their assigned mission fields for ten months, conducting over 6,000 visits and baptizing 135 souls, a miraculous achievement in a Muslim-majority country.

At the commencement ceremony, Lee MyunJu, president of Pakistan Union, highlighted the impact of the 1000 Missionary Movement. He said, “The movement is not only keeping young people in the church, promoting evangelism, and revitalizing local church missions, but also becoming a cradle for spiritual training, giving hope for the future of the church.”

Han SukHee, director of the 1000MM Training Institute, encouraged the missionaries by saying, “I hope that, with the spirit of once a missionary, always a missionary, you will now live your lives carrying the mission of lifelong missionaries.”

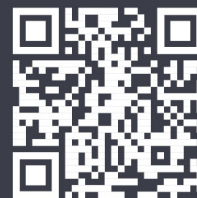
The Pakistan 1000MM began in 2022 and has dispatched its 5th batch of missionaries. So far, over 50 young people have participated, baptizing 644 individuals. The absence of leaders who are both spiritual and competent is one of the greatest crises facing the mission work in Pakistan. In this context, 1000MM is becoming a crucial cornerstone in preparing future leaders. In fact, out of the 20 missionaries from the 1st and 2nd batch,



nine have entered the theology department to become pastors, and three have entered medical school. There are also young people studying in the education and counseling psychology departments. Some have been sent as overseas missionaries, while others have secured jobs at IT companies in Korea.

Nam KyungWon, director of the Pakistan 1000MM Training Institute, said, “All of these individuals found the meaning of life through the 1000 Missionary Movement and decided to dedicate their lives to God,” adding that “investing in them will cultivate evangelists and help revive the Adventist Church in Pakistan.”





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