



World Mission News

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Billy Graham: The crusade last June in New York City was his last, but his messages live on via modern technology. Since 2002, a 30-minute TV program of recorded crusade sermons of Graham and his son Franklin plus the film Road to Redemption all dubbed in local languages has been shown in 12 countries in Central and South America plus Russia and Moldova. The response has been dramatic. Nearly 1.9 million people have made decisions for Christ after viewing.

<Christianity Today, February/06>

India: The tiny state of Nagaland in northeast India is known as the 'Most Baptist state of the world.' Some 60% of its 1.9 million people are Baptists. In 1872 the people there were head-hunters when the first American Baptist missionary couple arrived. They served faithfully in the hill country for 21 years and helped established a lasting Christian influence. The church grew slowly at first, then in great spurts during revivals in 1956, 1966 and 1972. People used to live in fear steeped in animistic belief turn to Christ for peace, hope and love. The churches are self-supporting, self-propagating and also quite enthusiastic in cross-cultural mission especially among the youth. They have developed mission fields in other Indian states like Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Manipur and Assam, as well as neighboring Cambodia, Thailand, Nepal and even farther away in Burundi, South Africa, Hong Kong and Japan.

<Christianity Today, February/06>

Latin America: 40% plus urban people live in 50 cities of over 1 million. Trans World Radio plans to reach these people in the next several years. They will be in partnership with other US and Latin American agencies and churches.

<LCWE Mission Report, www.lcwe.org, February/06>

South Korean: There were 93 missionaries worldwide in 1980. By 1991 that number had reached 1,200. Today it is more than 13,000, second only to the USA. Lately they have been sending out 1,100 new missionaries every year. 47% of Korean missionaries are working throughout Asia, and about 25% in Muslim countries. They have a plan to send 100,000, one out of every 300 Christians, by 2030, and 1 million tentmakers into restricted-access nations by 2020.

<Christianity Today, March/06>

Oral Majority: 70% of people in the world cannot, do not or would not read. Mission experts now call for a return to Jesus' method to reach them. Last year 22 mission agencies formed a partnership bringing various gifts to this strategy: Wycliffe, Southern Baptist, Campus Crusade, YWAM, Trans World Radio, etc. A campaign of showing 4,000 Jesus film followed by weekly Scripture-listening and dis-

cussion groups in Africa last year was very successful. 10,000 made decisions for Christ and 7,900 joined listening groups in Nigeria. 6 months later, 42 of the groups had become churches. Even on campuses where many become used to storytelling from the TV screen, students are enthusiastic in discussions following telling of biblical story.

<Christianity Today, March/06>

Muslim: Even hard-line Muslim nations make accessing Christian websites difficult, these sites are making incredible impact for Christ. It is reported that they are getting 9 million hits a month from Mid East alone and nearly 2 million Arabic Bibles are downloaded. One agency says they have 20 decisions for Christ each month.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 1/25/06>

China: Recently, an increasing number of house church leaders have been imprisoned. A ministry leader expressed concern that officials have learnt this to be an effective means to discredit the church by charging its leaders with some heinous crime. The long detention also hinders greatly the ministry of the church.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 3/3/06>

Bhutan: The king announced that he would step down as ruler in 2008. One Christian leader says a new constitution is in process and expects the nation will change from a monarchy to constitutional monarchy and democracy, hopefully, with increased religious freedom. Currently there is a crackdown on Christians.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 2/28/06>

Turkey: Early January this year, Christian TV debuted. It started with twice weekly broadcasts featuring 2 hour-long programs for a wide-ranging audience. Church leaders are responding enthusiastically to the programs produced by both in-country and outside sources.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 1/17/06>

India: There is a mass movement to Christ among the untouchables, the poorest people. This has worried the extremist Hindus so they push re-conversion back to Hinduism and call for national anti-conversion law. One of the reasons that there have been some re-conversions is that new Christians have not been disciplined. One Christian agency is stressing literacy training. But they have 100,000 people waiting due to lack of resources.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 1/19/06>

Portugal: There are 46 counties with no evangelical church. National leaders met last March to plan planting them in each county by 2015.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 2/28/06>