March 2021



### Globalization: Mobilizing 500 Global Missionary Partners

THE LORD IS ANSWERING YOUR PRAYERS TO SEND OUT MORE LABORERS INTO THE HARVEST. MORE MISSIONARIES ARE BEING SENT OUT FROM LATIN AMERICAN, ASIAN, AND AFRICAN NATIONS THAN EVER BEFORE! KEEP PRAYING AS IMB HELPS PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION OF MISSIONARIES WHO WILL TAKE THE GOSPEL TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

#### East Asian Baptists send the first group of local missionaries through their new mission agency

When the IMB sent its first missionaries to East Asia over 175 years ago, the thought of the area becoming a missionary sending force seemed like a distant dream. But the church in East Asia has grown tremendously since then, and cross-cultural mission sending efforts from East Asia to the world are beginning.

In response to God's work among East Asian Baptists, the first East Asian global Baptist mission sending agency was established in partnership with IMB. The agency is called Huayu International Missions. They dream for East Asian churches to send more locally supported missionaries than ever before! The first class of local missionaries have been selected and trained, and they are being sent to other parts of the world that desperately need the gospel. These East Asian Baptists are serving alongside IMB teams and are learning valuable skills to become more effective cross-cultural witnesses.



People pray at Huayu International Missions Board's first sending ceremony.

Another part of the vision for this new mission sending agency is for current mission fields of unengaged, unreached people groups (UUPGs) to eventually send out their own missionaries. When missionaries boarded ships and sailed to East Asia over 175 years ago, they faced what seemed to be an impossible task. But God provided a great harvest. Today, IMB is excited for these new East Asian missionaries as they face what also seems to be an impossible task in reaching UUPGs. Together, Huayu International Missions and IMB believe that the Holy Spirit will penetrate the hearts of the lost with the gospel, and today's mission fields will become missionary sending forces too!



**GLOBALIZATION.** Pray for the IMB Globalization Team as they help global missionary partners (GMPs) build a firm foundation for sending and sustaining their own cross-cultural missionaries by involving their local churches in praying, giving, going, and sending.

## 2 RUSSIAN-SPEAKING JEWS OF RUSSIA, ISRAEL AND BEYOND.

A family's young daughters join the adults for worship and listen closely to the Bible stories. They can retell the stories well and give great insights. Ask that God will use them to be a light in their schools and with their friends who are not yet believers.

PEOPLE OF TAIWAN. The Hui, a Muslim minority group, are one of East Asia's most unreached peoples. About 12,000 Hui live in Taipei, Taiwan. Ask God to open doors for believers to build relationships with them, and that many Hui will understand God's love and trust in Jesus for salvation.

**DEAF PEOPLES.** A worker shared the gospel with Ben\* in South Asia many times over years. Recently, he accepted Jesus! He thanked the worker for praying and not giving up on him. Pray for Ben who is a leader in his community and has six Deaf siblings. Ask that more will trust in Jesus.

GLOBALIZATION. Pray for Uruguayan Baptists as they prepare to send missionaries to join IMB teams. Ask the Lord to provide the financial resources through their giving.

#### **EUROPEAN PEOPLES.**

IMB representatives met with like-minded church leaders about communicating the gospel in Europe. Pray for wisdom as they seek to faithfully share the gospel, possibly via a website. Ask for unity and encouragement as many of them live in cultures that oppose God's truth.

PAMIRIS OF CENTRAL ASIA. Most Pamiri homes have a picture of Aga Khan IV, a Muslim imam whom they believe is divinely inspired and without sin. Pray that Pamiris will hear the gospel and understand that Jesus is the only perfect one without sin and is the only true path of salvation to God.

**GLOBALIZATION.** Malagasy Baptist leaders recently realized that few churches existed in the northern part of the island. They knelt and asked God to send them to those places where there is no gospel witness. Pray for those whom God is sending to penetrate the darkness in those areas.

PEOPLES OF WEST BENGAL, INDIA. Birbhum, a district in West Bengal, is rich in music and poetic history. Ask God to send laborers to share the gospel with compassion for the harassed and helpless there. Pray for healthy, reproducing churches and that people of Birbhum will make art that glorifies God.

**ANGOLA.** Angola's capital has many unemployed young men who lack direction and face many temptations. Few have had any godly guidance in their lives. Pray for them as believers regularly share the Word with them, guiding them to find purpose through a relationship with Christ.

**GLOBALIZATION.** God is opening doors for Baptist churches in Cuba to send missionaries. Pray for Cuban missionaries who are going out to reach Northern African and Middle Eastern peoples. Ask that they will learn the heart languages of refugees to share the gospel effectively.

12 LASA OF COCONUT ISLAND, SOUTHEAST ASIA. The illegal status of most Lasa is a barrier for workers to reach them with the gospel. It's hard to know where they are because they don't want to be found. Ask God for opportunities for workers to engage the Lasa. May His light pour into hidden Lasa communities.

GLOBALIZATION. Pray for the Huayu International Missions board members to grow in knowing how to select, support, train, and send their missionaries well. Pray for their first class of missionaries to have wisdom, learn the languages of their people group, and boldly share the gospel.

### **14** AMAZON PEOPLES OF THE AMAZON RIVER BASIN.

Pray for a girl with recurrent demonic manifestations. Her mother desperately reached out to workers and local pastors. She let them pray and share the Bible in her home. Pray that this family will continue meeting with workers and pastors and will trust in God's power.

BARCELONA, SPAIN. A Muslim man dreamed that he was lost in the ocean, cried out for help, and Jesus saved him. Then he told a believer, who had once shared the gospel with him before, that he now wants to follow Jesus! Pray for this new believer as he is being discipled.

GLOBALIZATION. Daisy is the first missionary from the Dominican Republic to join an IMB team in Colombia. She will go share the gospel where Western missionaries are not welcomed. Pray that hearts will receive the gospel and that more Latin American missionaries will go to this area.

for two families in Assam, India. In a Muslim-dominated area, these families accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior a few years ago. They have since been harassed and ostracized from their society. Ask God to comfort and protect them.

SAUDI ARABS OF SAUDI ARABIA. Although Saudi society remains very traditional, there is a growing openness to outside cultures and ideas. These changes could provide Saudis with unprecedented opportunities to hear the gospel. Pray that many Saudi families will find new life in Jesus.

# 22 SOUTHERN CROSS PROJECT (SCP), EAST ASIAN PEOPLES.

Timothy\* is a believer and a student in Taiwan. His brother, mom, and dad have not yet trusted in Jesus. An altar to their ancestors is in their home. Ask that God will open their hearts to receive the gospel and that Timothy will boldly speak as the Holy Spirit guides.

**26 KOLKATA, INDIA.** A local believer employs Muslim workers in his factory to provide them with a stable income and a safe place to work. He and his family consistently pray for the employee's salvation. Pray that through this family's witness, the employees will trust in Jesus Christ.

27 GLOBALIZATION. The International Baptist Church of Santo Domingo and IMB missionaries are working together to reach a Latin American global city with the gospel. Pray for God to call and equip many Dominicans who will go and be a light for Christ in the darkness in this megacity.

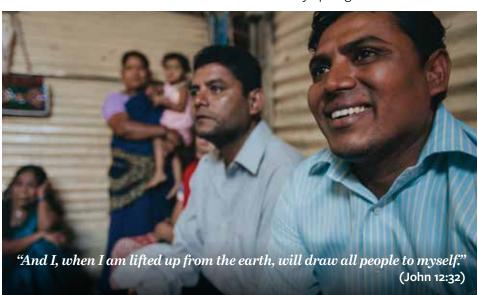
PEOPLES OF ACEH, SUMATRA, INDONESIA. There are hundreds of Gayo believers in the Gayo Highlands but still no local church. Pray that Gayo believers will overcome any fear that keeps them from meeting together and sharing the gospel. Pray that mature believers will disciple new believers and develop leaders.

### NORTHERN AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN UNENGAGED

**PEOPLES.** The Idaksahak people of Algeria are a small people group of 2,100. In this crowded world, they may seem insignificant. But they are significant to the heavenly Father. Pray that they will hear the gospel recordings available in their language. Pray for their salvation.

AHISKA TURKS OF CENTRAL ASIA. Mira\* works in a clinic with some believers. The believers have found her to be kind and hardworking. She has been open to spiritual conversations. Pray that they will have more opportunities to grow closer to Mira, and ask that she will come to know the Savior.

**GLOBALIZATION.** Many new mission sending organizations and conventions don't yet have the capacity to raise enough funds to send fully supported missionaries. Ask God to raise up generous givers who will help support GMPs through the Lottie Moon Challenge fund.



CENTRAL ASIAN UNENGAGED PEOPLES. Pray for the 400,000 Ingush people of Russia. The Ingush are known for their strength and love of homeland. Pray for many Ingush families to have access to the gospel and trust in Jesus. Ask God to raise up many Ingush to believe and become heralds of righteousness.

**GLOBALIZATION.** Rosa,\* a young missionary from Mexico, was burdened for a people group in northern Africa, so she traveled to the region to learn their language. Pray that she will share the gospel boldly there, and for other Mexican missionaries to join her.

# BAPTIST CONVENTIONS OF THE CENTRAL SAHEL (WEST

**AFRICA).** Many Christians across West Africa fall prey to the false teachings of the prosperity gospel. Pray that pastors in Baptist churches there will be faithful to "preach the word; ... reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching." (2 Timothy 4:2 ESV).

**GLOBALIZATION.** Although receiving global missionary partners on IMB teams is a globalization goal, blending workers from different cultures brings unique challenges. Pray for the Globalization Team as they work with IMB leadership to develop and send effective multicultural teams.

**24 KYIV, UKRAINE.** Only 2% of Kyiv's 3 million people are believers. Ukrainian believers are strong and faithful but face challenges to reach young people. There has been some fruitful church planting, and some Ukrainian missionaries have been sent. Pray for the church and the lost in Kyiv.

wiwa of colombia. Pray for wisdom for two believers who each want to start a business. Pray that the businesses will provide financially for their families. Ask God to provide many opportunities for evangelism and discipleship as they make business relationships in their communities.

#### IMB helps mobilize the global church to reach the nations

As IMB continues to send missionaries to the nations, there are still 4,920 people groups with no gospel witness and 154,937 people who die daily without Christ. That's two people every second. Thankfully, God is raising up a missionary force from His global church. "There are 140 Baptist entities around the world that are the fruit of 175 years of work," Dr. Paul Chitwood said. "We want to

encourage those partners to send their own missionaries. By strategically inviting 500 global missionaries to IMB teams, we can push forward not only the task, but the globalization of the task."

Christians around the world are hearing God's call to obey the Great Commission. They see that after being a mission field for so long, they are now a potential mission force to take the gospel to lost people and places. IMB can help by sharing our experience in sending missionaries and providing opportunities to serve on IMB teams until they can sustain their own missionary efforts.



Dr. Paul Chitwood in Colombia with an IMB team leader and a Cuban global missionary partner.

#### Globalization: Mobilizing Global Missionary Partners

154,937
people dying daily
without Christ

4,920
People groups remaining with little or no access to the gospel

**2025 TARGET:** 

500

Global Missionary Partners on IMB teams by 2025 140

Global Baptist entities and networks who are potential partners

Praying for
25 of 500
Global Missionary Partners
to be sent in 2021



Every church.
Every nation.

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