




TOGETHER
ON THE EDGE
IN GOD'S
MISSION

**Connect.
Collaborate.
Catalyse.**

From the Executive Director



A few years ago, when the AsiaCMS' core team discussed about our operational ethos and values, the buzzwords 'connect' and 'collaborate' emerged. We recognised that we are but one out of many who contribute to God's larger purposes in His mission. We are not a large organisation, but we desired to faithfully play our part in a multiplier effect to what God is already doing through the many dedicated individuals, mission organisations and churches sharing the gospel of Christ in word and deed.

More recently, as I reflected on our activities and growth in the last few years, and look to the challenges that lie ahead, I became more convinced than ever before of the need to connect and collaborate with others in ways that catalyse a multiplier effect in God's mission. It does not only make for pragmatic effectiveness. It is a biblical imperative.

Foremost, effective missions require a diversity of skills and capacities. No single person or organisation have all it takes. The diverse skills required can range from Bible-teaching to trauma counselling, agro-technology and business development to fund-raising and social media expertise. When God's people work collaboratively together – that is where the multiplier effect kicks in. Wonders do occur when God's people of different personality-types, skills and Christian traditions are united by the Holy Spirit for a common vision.

Collaborations also make for better accountability and the responsible use of resources. I saw this played out in 2021 when AsiaCMS fully implemented our internal safeguarding protocols and trainings to protect and ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults within all activities. The preparations and development of the policies and procedures was a lengthy process that took us more than a year.

It required the collaborative work of individuals from different organisations that spanned highly diverse legal and cultural contexts. But the result was well-worth the effort. It built accountability structures into AsiaCMS and partners. It now enables us to offer trainings and consultation for other groups that need to do the same for their own organisations.

Nonetheless, more than ministry effectiveness, there is a multiplier effect in our inner growth, personal perspectives and maturity when we connect and collaborate across the spectrum of diversity. This is so well illustrated in the recent [Asia Gateway](#) residential training, where participants from eleven different countries and Christian traditions lived together for a time of collective learning.

As one of the participants shared: "Diversity brings a powerful discourse that cannot be replicated in the homogeneity of any one country or people group. It also builds relationships and partnership. Over my time here, I know I have changed in more ways than I am yet to identify."

The concepts of connecting, collaborating and the multiplier effect are deeply rooted in the Scriptures. Paul's 'partnership in the gospel' with the believers in Philippi (Phil.1:1-7) conveys notions of personal relationships and affections that goes far deeper than mere functional connotations of connecting and collaborating.

The multiplier effect is intimated by verses such as Matthew 13:8 that speaks of seeds sown that produce a harvest 'some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty' and the promise in Leviticus 26:8 that states, 'five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall chase ten thousand.'

As we seek to advance the cause of the Gospel and desire that many more will personally encounter Christ in an increasingly complex world, we have to go beyond questions of our personal effectiveness. We need to ask the question: How may we connect and collaborate with other Christians and other Christian organisations so that together, we can do it better and be better people?

In His Mission,
REV. CHAN NAM CHEN (PhD)
Executive Director

About Us

Who We Are

Asia Collaborative Mission Services (AsiaCMS) is a trans-denominational mission movement based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and established in 2012. AsiaCMS is associated with the Church Mission Society in the UK and the global CMS network. We now live in a rapidly changing world. With changed realities, it can no longer be business as usual for churches, Christian organisations and Christians engaged in God's mission.

There is a need for change and adjustments to some of the traditional mission approaches and priorities, especially for Christians in Asia who seek to be both effective and faithful according to Biblical mandates.

Our tagline, *Together on the Edge in God's Mission* is formulated in the light of these realities.

To move ahead in the coming years, the breadth of God's mission and the changed global realities demand the cooperative efforts of all of God's people with all of their diverse strengths and resources. Therefore, AsiaCMS seeks to multiply the mission efforts of churches and Christian organisations in a 3-fold focus:

- [Engage the unreached and least-reached people groups with the Gospel.]
- [Engage in spheres of mission that are often overlooked, but critical for national contexts.]
- [Facilitate collaborations for fresh insights on Asian mission concerns by Asian Christians.]

Some of What We Do

CO-MISSION PARTNERS

Our Co-Mission Partner Program connects mission workers with local and national churches, mission organisations and needs in the field. We value partnerships to pioneer new missional initiatives and provide resources for those who are serving in the mission fields.

SUPPORT & TRAINING

We add to the efforts of churches, mission leaders and workers to sharpen their involvement in God's mission. AsiaCMS facilitates seminars, training programs and missions education from introductory to post-graduate levels.

God's Mission is from Everywhere to Everywhere.

Chairperson's Reflection

Into terrains we have not passed before.

The beauty of mission is in the excitement of following the Lord into the unknown, fully confident of the presence of the Lord leading and guiding. Joshua 3:1-6 suggests an exciting context that could challenge us as we seek constant rejuvenation in our mission commitment.

Almost but not yet

The Israelites had endured a gruesome journey through the wilderness; the Jordan is on the way of their reaching the promised land that they had been longing for. The days of slavery and bondage are finally almost over. Across the river is the beauty of what God has in store for them. But they are still on the terrain, wherein they are “almost there but not yet”. This could be the case in several of our lives. We are yet to cross over to the places prepared for us by the Lord for active missional engagement and living. The mission call is simple - the other side of the river is ready and waiting.

Set out, don't keep staying on.

Taking the next steps is very important in mission. God was about to create a new history of the people and a new geographical locale would now be the centre of God at work in their lives. The constant missional call is to get going into new and exciting terrains and territories. As we continue to engage together in the edges of God's mission, there needs to be more and more people reaching out to the margins. A radical re-reading of missional understanding and engagement, and an emancipatory involvement focused on justice and dignity would be essential to meaningfully work alongside our neighbours, as we transcend traditional borders and boundaries. To affirm our identity as a “community on the move”, mission partnerships would need constant re-interpretation inviting people to join in the move.

Keep following the ever-present God

The Ark of the Covenant, which represented the continuing presence of God in their midst would be travelling ahead of them and the people were called to follow the Ark so that they would know the way to go. Complete trust in the guiding presence of the Lord is essential for mission. We need to be confident that the Lord has mighty plans in store for us and through us in the lives of the people with whom we will be called to engage. This “following” calls for a life of sanctification and holiness, where the God-connect is constantly maintained. When we are tuned into the guidance of the Lord, the pathways we are called to traverse would be revealed unto us. Our journeying will be with a heart of faith and compassion.

Keep enjoying the mysteries of the unknown

Joshua reminds them “you have not gone this way before” and therefore, do not know what is in store for you. But just trust in the Lord and you will see the miracles of the Lord unfolding in your lives and through you, in the lives of many. The mystery of the pathways is the most exhilarating aspect of mission. It is into the beauty of the unknown that God calls us to journey. And the joy of totally trusting in the Lord as we await God at work is the thrill of mission.

The Church Mission Society remains relevant today because our predecessors dared to venture into terrains hitherto unknown to them. It involved faith and courage. We, at AsiaCMS are called to continue this great legacy of setting out and enjoying the adventure with the good news that is made manifest in Jesus Christ.

REV VINOD VICTOR

Chair of the Board of Trustees

AsiaCMS

Programs We Support

South Asia Christian Youth Network (SACYN)

SACYN is a network of young leaders from South Asia with a mission to build connections. It is all about inspiring, preparing and strengthening young Christian adults to cross bridges to encounter and share their faith and lives with those who are from different circumstances, languages, cultures, ethnicity, nationality, lifestyles, faiths and backgrounds.

SACYN has had trainings and meetings in various countries in South Asia, which has helped to build bridges and nurture strong personal relations between the future leadership of the Church in South Asia. It has also been a useful vessel to train and equip young people in Asia on issues and challenges that are relevant to the Church and Christianity in Asia today.

Over the past 14 years, SACYN has provided a forum for young leaders in South Asia to meet together annually. The mission of SACYN is to facilitate young people in churches to be personally challenged in their commitment to follow Jesus Christ and for each to find his or her role in being a part of God's mission.

SACYN seeks to strengthen and renew regional churches in their faith and their commitment to make Christ known in their engagement in practical mission for the Kingdom of God.

SACYN is committed to help a generation to fully live the kingdom experience and enable them to transcend all possible boundaries that separate people from people. Their vision is to encourage, motivate and enable South Asian young people from the region's churches to link up, overcome barriers and work together for the Gospel and Kingdom of God - a vision for a future South Asia that is different.

Over the course of the pandemic, SACYN continued to provide an avenue for fellowship and friendship between Christian youth leaders, through monthly webinars. These webinars allowed leaders to gather virtually to encourage and learn from each other through a range of topics such as: peace and security, social media and responsible online presence, substance abuse, artistic expressions, and many others.

Asia Gateway Training

This intensive one-month programme lays a firm foundation for intercultural mission that combines practical experience with theological reflection. With lecturers and students from different nations, it further equips for intercultural impact. This programme is a partnership that includes the Methodist Church of Malaysia, the Anglican Diocese of West Malaysia, OM, OMF, Interserve, STM, SIM and Asia CMS.

In addition to dialogues with leaders from other faith traditions, participants are exposed to models of how God's people can engage missionally with people in need, in ways that are practical and holistic.

The Modules taught includes:

- **A Missional Hermeneutic of the Old and New Testament**
- **Gospel, Culture and Integral Mission**
- **Gospel in the Pluralistic Society**
- **Trends and Challenges in Contemporary Missions**

There are also other learning activities outside the classroom such as a 2-day visit and ministry at a Refugee/Migrant Centre, sharing and preaching opportunities in local churches, and also a dedicated time for personal development through an assigned mentor in prayer & reflection.

Mekong Indigenous Mission Initiative (MIMI)

This initiative began in 2019, offering missiological training program. This initiative is focused on churches in the Mekong Region. Designed to transform the missional paradigms and mission practices of churches in the region, it will accelerate indigenous missions and cross-cultural church-planting by local churches.

In 2019, we took a step of faith in initially allocating US\$17,000 for this new thrust, in order to support an annual missions conference for key pastors and leaders (that was held in the first quarter of 2019 with nearly 100 participants), six missional training modules, and networking with local churches. This initiative has expanded from its beginnings.

MIMI has the following components:

- Missions conferences to inspire and teach key pastors and leaders for indigenous cross-cultural missions.**
- A training program that consists of 6 modules for cross-cultural church planters.**
- Support of local initiatives.**

AsiaCMS Safeguarding

Restoring God's Intended Purpose for Mankind

BY ESTHER JOHN

Safeguarding Manager

The story of creation portrays mankind as God's masterpiece, made in His own image and intended to flourish within a perfect creation. However, the entry of sin disrupted this divine purpose, leading to a fallen world and thus, a significant impact on human wellbeing. Today, we witness numerous acts of violence, abuse, and injustice upon men, women and children.

These actions have marred the original intention for human flourishing. As followers of Christ, it is our responsibility to spread the good news and work towards reinstating the wellbeing of all creation and restore God's image in mankind.

Recognising the importance of the issue, AsiaCMS has prioritised safeguarding within its organisation since 2021. Over the past year, significant efforts have been made to engage churches and partner organisations in safeguarding-related activities.

AsiaCMS has created awareness and encouraged the implementation of safeguarding policies and systems by walking alongside Co-Mission Partners and collaborating with CMS Britain's partner organisations in Asia.

One of our initiatives involved conducting a webinar in 2022 for church leaders across Asia, with the focus on ensuring a safe space for children and vulnerable individuals within the church. The webinar also explored biblical, legal, and practical aspects of safeguarding, attracting participation from over 30 representatives from diverse churches and faith-based organisations in Asia.

In July 2023, another webinar on the topic 'Safe Storytelling and Safe Use of Images' was conducted in collaboration with the Communications Manager of AsiaCMS. The content of the webinar focused on safeguarding and mission sensitive standards when photographing children and vulnerable persons, safe use of images, as well as best practices when writing and sharing stories.

We were delighted to have 49 participants from across Asia and other countries participate in the webinar. The recording can be accessed [here](#), whilst key points and content of the presentation can be accessed on the AsiaCMS website: **Safe Storytelling and Safe Use of Images**.

Moving forward, AsiaCMS envisions reaching out to churches and other institutions situated in the most vulnerable communities across Asia. The aim is to provide the necessary expertise for implementing safeguarding measures and to foster a proactive approach to preventing safeguarding incidents. AsiaCMS has also formed partnerships with other regional organisations, such as APBAid to extend its reach and impact, particularly in these vulnerable communities.

Restoring God's creation and promoting human wellbeing require concerted efforts to address the issues that have eroded the original purpose of flourishing. Through its commitment to safeguarding, AsiaCMS is taking significant steps to equip churches and institutions across Asia with the knowledge, resources, and support necessary to create safe spaces for all individuals, especially the vulnerable. By doing so, AsiaCMS aims to play a transformative role in reinstating the intended purpose of wellbeing, in accordance with God's plan for His creation.

For more information on our Safeguarding policy or to enquire about our Safeguarding consultation and training for your church and organization, please email

Esther John: safeguarding.manager@asiacms.net

AsiaCMS CoMP

Empowering Asia's Unreached through our Co-Mission Partner Program

BY ELEENA THOMAS

Co-Mission Partner Program Manager

The Co-Mission Partner (CoMP) program was developed to address one of the fundamental objectives of AsiaCMS, which is to engage with unreached people groups in Asia. The program operates within a defined six-year duration, during which AsiaCMS offers partial assistance for the partner's personal allowance. This designated period allows the partner to concentrate on their ministry efforts and establish a foundation of sustainability for the future.

The ministry role of our CoMPs, along with their unwavering commitment and selflessness, serve as the backbone of our efforts, enabling us to achieve our mission objectives and plans. We are grateful for their sacrifice and dedication, which inspire us to pursue our goals with passion and purpose. Without their support, we could not fulfil our mission of serving the marginalized communities of Asia and we are honoured to work alongside such amazing partners.

In 2023, a key initiative was to ensure training and capacity building of our CoMPs. In June, 11 of our partners and associates had the opportunity to be fully funded and participate in the [Asia Gateway Training \(AGT\)](#). This is a month-long residential program was held in Malaysia and the primary objective of the program was to equip participants for cross-cultural missions in Asia.

In July, AsiaCMS' Communications Manager and Safeguarding Manager hosted a zoom webinar on the [secure practices of storytelling](#) and the responsible utilization of images. The aim was to assist our partners in improving their report creation process and reporting skills.

Currently, we have 26 CoMPs spanning across AsiaCMS' three regional hubs: South Asia, Nusantara and Mekong. As we move forward, our desire is to expand the scope and reach of the program by partnering with six additional CoMPs, who are involved in various areas of ministry that align with our goals.

Furthermore, we are planning to collaborate with a selection of project partners to offer our support and walk alongside them to further their ministries.

Our regular meetings for prayer and fellowship have allowed me to hear firsthand about their experiences, and the stories they share about changed and transformed lives in the face of challenging circumstances have been a great source of encouragement.

It is truly inspiring to witness the impact that their work is having on communities and to see the dedication and passion that they bring to their mission. Through our united partnership and collaboration with our CoMPs, it is our prayer that we will continue to make a positive impact on the lives of those we serve as we journey- together on the edge in God's mission.



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AsiaCMS CoMP

Our Presence

Our Co-Mission Partners are spearheading initiatives in building national capacity and providing leadership in critical spheres of mission.

These include building theological and leadership capacity, reaching least-reached people groups, church planting, engagement with the rural and urban poor through community development, education and ministry thrusts in arenas of child protection, peace and reconciliation, anti-human trafficking and sex trafficking and drug rehabilitation.



CAMBODIA
INDIA
INDONESIA
LAOS
MALAYSIA
NEPAL
PAKISTAN
SRI LANKA
THAILAND
VIETNAM



Our Aspirations and Vision

We aspire to extend our presence to walk alongside national churches and indigenous movements in furthering God's mission. We seek to establish strong regional hubs in South Asia, South-East Asia, East Asia, China and Central Asia to facilitate God's mission in these countries:



AFGHANISTAN
BANGLADESH
CHINA
MYANMAR
PHILIPPINES
SOUTH KOREA

SOUTH ASIA HUB 

South Asia's Christian Landscape: Challenges and Faith Amidst Uncertainty

BY STEPHEN EDISON
South Asia Hub Leader

“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”
- 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

A key theme in Paul’s second letter to the Corinthians is the relationship between suffering and the power of the Spirit in his apostolic life, ministry, and message. This resonates with the experience of Christians across South Asia today.

Countries in South Asia are going through a season of suffering, violence, and uncertainty in recent years. Myanmar and Afghanistan are back under oppressive rule; minorities including Christians in countries such as India, Pakistan and to some extent Nepal are experiencing varying levels of persecution.

Sri Lanka is going through an ongoing phase of economic crisis and political uncertainty. Amidst these realities, our Co-Mission Partners, project partners and links continue to serve with courage and faithfulness, which is an encouragement and inspiration to the South Asia hub team.

As I write this, a predominantly Christian ethnic group in the state of Manipur in India continue to face atrocities. The province of Punjab in Pakistan still simmers with unrest after churches were ransacked and people assailed when a Christian man was accused of blasphemy. In the face of these trying circumstances, we also witness God’s presence and His hand of protection over His people.

A Co-Mission Partners from Manipur recently shared about the extent of violence, the underlying causes, and vested interests - both economic and political, which led to so much death and suffering in the predominantly Christian Kuki ethnic group.

Amidst this, she shared about the many ways in which God had protected them and about a growing revival of faith and unity within the community, where nominalism, addiction and disunity are major challenges.

Similar testimonies are shared by our partners in other parts of India, Nepal and Sri Lanka facing varying levels of persecution. We rest assured that God is at work and is in control no matter how troubling the circumstances.

The year 2023 has been quite eventful for the ministry and development of the South Asia hub.

This year we initiated and saw progress in our hub communications. A growing list of people now receive our updates and prayer points. It is our hope that as the Lord leads, some would also walk alongside in supporting the ministry in the region.

We are encouraged to see the missional community in Nepal playing a more proactive role in the growth of AsiaCMS ministry in the country.

With Esther John joining the hub team and taking on the role of Country Coordinator for Sri Lanka, we are working towards knitting together a similar missional community in Sri Lanka.

Our strategic projects this year have been instrumental in supporting training and capacity building ministry of our Co-Mission Partners in the region, as well as initiatives with our wider links, which enable missional engagement in the region.

AsiaCMS helps coordinate the South Asia Christian Youth Network (SACYN). The SACYN 2023 training module and core group meeting will bring together youth leaders from churches across South Asia for four eventful days of interactive sessions, workshops and discussions around the theme ‘Leadership for Change: Inspiring Youth Led Good Governance’.

They will draw lessons from the life of Joseph and address issues of good governance, financial sustainability in youth ministry and integrity in the face of real challenges contextual to South Asia today.

We value your continued prayers for the team, our partners and the situation in South Asia.

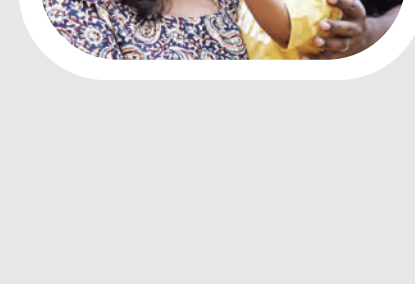
Co-Mission Partners

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others" - 2 Timothy 2:2

AsiaCMS focuses on partnerships and supporting indigenous Asian mission movements. Our Co-Mission Partners across Asia are co-sent; they are selected and placed by either a local mission agency or church, and we walk alongside them in partnership to offer resource, training and support. We believe in supporting local mission and want to support what God is doing in the region through our co-mission partners. These are just some of our people out in the field and the ministry they are involved in. AsiaCMS also has several other Co-Mission Partners who serve in more security-sensitive countries, who are not featured here.

South Asia Hub

India



PETER CHRISTOPHER & VASANTHA PETER - INTEGRAL MISSION: VALUE EDUCATION AND COUNSELLING

Peter and Vasantha have a heart to share kingdom values to school children in a systematic way - through films that are thought-provoking, contextual, and relevant to the times. They believe in the idea of rebuilding their nation with biblical values.

Based in Bangalore, Peter conceptualises, directs and produces thematic films and video series. He has also directed several films, documentaries, video series and educational videos for NGOs and colleges. Vasantha provides individual counselling, teaches counselling psychology for colleges and leads a team of counsellors for India's first pregnancy helpline.

Their vision is to create a systematic and adaptable video platform for schools to subscribe and use as part of their mandatory value education curriculum. The thematic series of video lessons along with worksheets can be used to engage children to reflect, think and take action to become responsible citizens with the foundations of Kingdom Principles.

South Asia Hub

Nepal



RABIN CHAUDHARY - THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Rabin works as the Registrar in Sarwangin Aguwa Nirman (SAN) Kendra, a wholistic training centre in Nepal that provides theological education opportunities to pastors and leaders who are otherwise deprived from receiving formal theological education. This centre works as a bridge between ministry and ministers, offering Certificate, Diploma and Bachelor's in Theology in Nepali language.

As the Registrar, his primary responsibilities include maintaining the profiles and academic records of both teachers and students, managing financial records, supervising the online classes, responding to the needs and feedback of all students, monitoring exams, conducting site visits to all the centres, and editing course materials for the online classes.

Rabin accepted Christ in 2001 and shortly thereafter, he began assisting his pastor in ministry work. He then decided to pursue his theological education in Kerala, India and subsequently obtained his M.Div. in 2014. A year after his graduation, Rabin joined the Nav Bharat Mission. He worked as a Bible teacher for one year, after which he got married. He went on to teach in a private boarding school but was not happy in the job.

Rabin felt that there was a great need to educate Nepali church pastors and leaders with quality theological education. He thought that although they have been doing very good ministry, a proper theological education would elevate their ministry to greater heights. This was what led Rabin to pursue a ministry in theological education. He continues to serve his church in youth ministry, leading Bible studies, preaching and in-house fellowships.

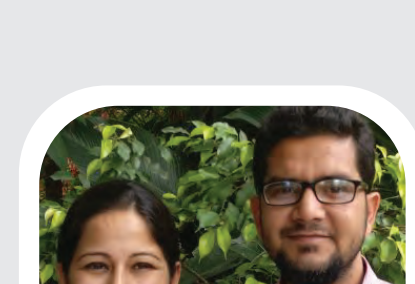


DHANA LAMA - UNITED MISSION TO NEPAL

Dhana was raised in a Buddhist family and later accepted Christ when she came to know that God loves us and created us in His image. It was a paradigm shift for her and this truth still motivates and excites her today. It is with this love that Dhana's heart was moved to serve the poor and marginalized. She has a passion to help create an enabling environment that unleashes the potential of her Nepali people.

She is the Executive Director at United Mission to Nepal (UMN), an organisation that strives to address root causes of poverty as it serves the people of Nepal in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ. Dhana's main role is to provide overall organisational leadership and management to ensure fulfilment of the mission and vision of UMN. Her key responsibilities include ensuring UMN maintains its identity and culture as a Christian organization centred on its core vision, mission, and values. She oversees to make sure that UMN's work holds together strategically.

Dhana also guides the leaders within the organisation so that each person leads effectively and manages their responsibilities well. When needed, she also engages with government, funding and sending organisations, other INGOs, networks, and Nepali churches at large. Maintaining good levels of trust and open communication with the Board is also a priority within her scope of management, ensuring there is always healthy boundaries and good relationship between the organisation and the Board.

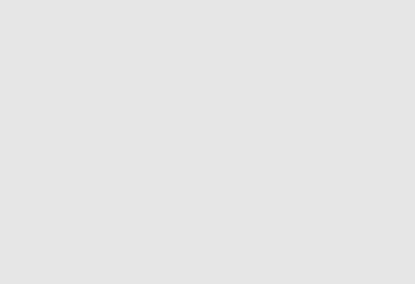


ASHISH & KARUNA - THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Ashish and Karuna both serve on the faculty at the Nepal Theological College. They have a similar call to minister for the Kingdom of God through teaching, preaching, counselling and music ministry.

Ashish has completed his B.Th., Bachelor of Divinity and M.Th. in Missiology. He has a deep interest in cross-cultural mission and believes that higher education or professional skills will bring more quality to cross-cultural mission. He is currently involved in teaching and preparing youth for future ministry. He conducts workshops, seminars, and gatherings for churches and uses Music and Media as a tool to promote missions.

Karuna has completed her B.Th., Bachelor of Divinity, and M.Th. in Christian Counselling and is currently pursuing her PhD studies from The Oxford Centre for Mission Studies in the UK. She is also involved in developing the counselling field, teaching methods of counselling, providing trainings as required, conducting seminars and workshop for leaders and organizing follow-up meetings for sharing and reflection.



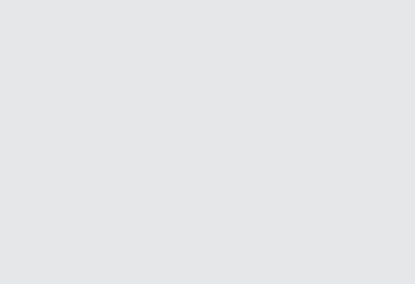
INDIRA THAPA - LEADERSHIP & MISSIONAL TRAINING

Indira is leading NMCN, which is a national Christian indigenous, interdenominational, and non-profit social organisation based in Kathmandu. Indira grew up in a Christian family but personally accepted Christ as her Saviour when she was 14 years old. Since then, she committed her life to God and became involved in various spheres of God's mission through different works.

She began working in NMCN in 2005, and it was there she first felt that her missional journey for the new kingdom had truly begun. She became inspired to do something that would make a difference in the lives of people and for them to know Jesus. This led her to go to Bible College with her husband for further theological education.

They both attended the International Graduate School of Leadership (IGSL) in Philippines for three years. After graduating from IGSL, together with her husband, Indira started to teach in a Bible College and began conducting Bible study and discipleship with young people.

She helps in their local church ministry, all the while experiencing God working through them to reach out to others. Indira is grateful for God's faithfulness in every step of her life, which gives her strength to keep working for God's kingdom and being a part of God's mission.

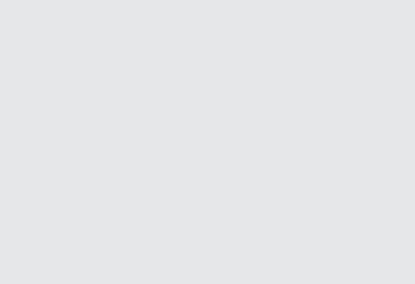


GOPAL & SUSMA TAMANG - LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Gopal and Susma work with LTD which is the Training Department of NCFN. Gopal heads the LTD Training Centre in West Nepal in a strategic market town which is linked to hill districts in the region. West and far West Nepal are still least reached areas in the Nepal context and economically more at risk. It is also difficult to access missional and theological training in these parts of Nepal. As the Head Training Coordinator, Gopal is actively involved in planning, organizing, and conducting training sessions to equip local church leaders to make their ministry more effective.

Susma assists her husband during trainings sessions and is also involved in personally staying engaged with the students, providing them guidance and counsel.

The couple networks with church leaders across all denominations, keeping them informed about available training courses. They also oversee the process of selecting students for the training programs and coordinate the schedules and teaching sessions. Besides training local church leaders, they also have training sessions with focus on Christian family life and women in Christian leadership.



KUMAR & KATHRYN ARYAL - THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Kumar is a Nepali and Kathryn is a Filipino-Chinese who have been married for 9 years now and have three sons - Kevin (6), Kyle (4) and Kurt (16 months). After teaching at International Graduate School of Leadership (IGSL) in the Philippines as full-time faculty members for almost a decade, they moved to Nepal during the pandemic in April 2021, obeying God's call to serve in Nepal.

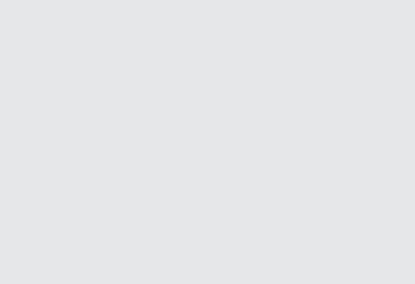
Kumar holds a Bachelor of Theology, Master of Divinity in Community Transformation, and PhD in International Development, and Kats has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Master of Divinity in Leadership Studies with Education emphasis. Their training and experience of teaching at a graduate school for almost a decade prepared them well for their mission role in Nepal.

They currently teach and train pastors and leaders using the Four-fold Bible Study Method, which is an in-depth study of Bible that is easily replicated. The duo meets with pastors and leaders on a regular basis for mentoring and collaborating in community projects such as, medical camps, school projects, etc. within poor communities. They conduct Bible study training, teaching, mentoring PhD cohort, and conducting community development projects.

They believe that God has placed them in Nepal to help equip pastors and leaders during this time when the Nepali church needs more training and discipling. With over 150 people groups in Nepal that are still considered "unreached", Kumar and Kats are stirred to do their part in reaching out to these communities.

South Asia Hub

Sri Lanka



RUSSELL DE ALWIS - INTEGRAL MISSION AND CHURCH RELATIONS

Russell began working with LEADS as a Child Protection Officer. He is passionate about bringing children freedom from abuse and oppression, whilst educating and creating public awareness on how children should be better protected.

He has always had the heart to serve God through missions - serving communities who do not know Christ. During his theological education and learning more about Integral Mission, Russell gained more depth and understanding on how he can do this. Since 2018, he has been serving as the Church Relations and Training Coordinator at LEADS.

Russell's work involves building connections and establishing a network of church and seminary leaders across Sri Lanka. He teaches and encourages local church leaders to engage in Integral Mission, such as demonstrating God's love through helping people who are in need in their respective communities.

God is Always Faithful

Our Co-Mission Partner Bro T and his team in South Asia, work to develop leaders within unreached people groups, establish house churches, disciple new believers with Bible Studies and strengthen local believers through house visits and community support in remote communities.

With the caste system still prevalent in most villages in South Asia, high castes will never marry a lower caste. However, recently, the team, alongside the local leader in a village, conducted a small wedding for two new believers – who were from different castes – all by the grace of God alone!

Anita* accepted Christ through this local ministry and her question always was, “who will marry me as I can’t go back to the Hindu belief nor can I marry a non-believer?” The team encouraged her to pray and soon, she met and thereafter became engaged to Krish*, a high-caste Brahmin, who became the only believer from his entire family.

They decided to marry but as expected, the groom’s parents and relatives were totally against it. Nevertheless, Krish decided to go ahead and marry Anita. They set the date for the wedding and sent out invitation cards and soon they heard that the groom’s entire village people were coming to stop the marriage. All the while, the church community began to pray for a peaceful ceremony.

Bro T and his whole team made plans to attend the wedding but they were warned to be prepared, as anything could happen. It was quite a risk for everyone but by faith, the team drove to the village for the ceremony. When they arrived, preparations were still underway in the bride’s village, as they all waited for the groom to arrive.

After an hour or so, the groom arrived with his pastor and other believers but none from the groom’s family came. God was faithful in providing for all the needs for this wedding and they were able to conduct the wedding ceremony peacefully in the village – becoming the first Christian wedding conducted in the village.

The ceremony was contextualized for their culture and according to their custom, and everyone celebrated joyfully, praising God for the peaceful union.

A few months after the wedding, the church team received the wonderful news that Anita had been received with honour by Krish’s family, who were once against this union. God is so good. All praise to Him alone.

Please pray for Krish and Anita, as they start their family life – that they may remain strong in their faith and grow spiritually. They have also recently decided to step into the mission field to evangelise and share their faith.

**names changed to protect privacy*

MEKONG HUB



Revolutionizing Vietnamese Theological Landscape

BY REV PETER NGUYEN (PhD)

MEKONG HUB LEADER

Raising mission engagement among churches through the Vietnam Indigenous Mission Initiative

Since this Vietnam Indigenous Mission Initiative (VIMI) initiative started in 2018, hundreds of church workers and leaders have been impacted. The goal is to inculcate perspectives and practices of mission in churches in the Mekong region that are contextually relevant to their cultures and political realities to accelerate indigenous cross-cultural church-planting across the nation, especially among the least-reached and unreached peoples in the region. Trainees who complete six training modules are awarded a Certificate in Mission by the Vietnamese Theological School and a Certificate of Completion by AsiaCMS.

Youth for Christ in Vietnam

In November 2022, the Mekong hub experienced growth with Brother Minh, who joined the Hub to work alongside the hub leader. Through his involvement, AsiaCMS' Mekong hub has played a catalytic role in fostering a Christian youth network in Vietnam. The network will provide a platform for fellowship among young people and the young leadership generation among churches and denominations in the country. The hope is that this network will collaborate with other youth networks and fellowships in the region and Asia.

Fostering Theological Excellence and Leadership in the Heart of Vietnam

Vietnamese Protestantism has witnessed remarkable expansion in recent years - a testament to the faith and dedication of its adherents. Yet, alongside this growth, there exists a pressing need to nurture a generation of leaders who possess the knowledge, maturity, and adaptability required to navigate the complexities of contemporary society. This is the hope of the **Vietnamese Advanced Theological Initiative (VATI)** - *a new initiative recently conceptualized that is envisioned to reshape the theological landscape of Vietnam* through the development of an innovative curriculum and comprehensive training programs.

A Collaborative Approach

The core of the project involves the collaboration of four Vietnamese theological educators, dedicating their time and expertise to the development of a curriculum catering to ThM (Master of Theology) and PhD levels. Their commitment, both part-time and voluntary, exemplifies the profound dedication to empower their faith communities. This collaboration spans not only geographical boundaries but also bridges the gap between the homeland and the Vietnamese diaspora.

The Mission Field

The primary mission of VATI is to revitalize theological education in Vietnam. As Vietnamese Christians seek to establish a firm footing in contemporary society, the need for educated and visionary leadership becomes increasingly apparent. The project hopes to infuse emerging leaders with critical reflection skills and cultivate practical ministries that can effectively address the challenges faced by churches within Vietnam.

Project Objectives

The core objective of this new initiative is to develop a comprehensive ThM and PhD program. This program is being designed to provide students with an in-depth understanding of theology, equipping them for leadership roles within religious institutions, academia, and related fields. The curriculum's uniqueness lies in its contextualization - tailored to the cultural and social milieu of Vietnamese students.

The program will encompass core courses in theology, biblical studies, and the history of Christianity in Vietnam. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to delve into elective courses that align with their specific interests. The culmination of the program involves the completion of 30 credit hours and a thesis, encouraging students to engage in scholarly research.

Contextualized Curriculum

The core courses are being designed to be thought-provoking, addressing crucial subjects such as the History of Protestantism in Vietnam, Theology of the Vietnamese Protestant Church, the intersection of theology and Vietnamese culture, and contemporary issues within Vietnamese Christianity. This contextual approach ensures that students will not only comprehend their faith deeply but also apply it meaningfully in their diverse roles.

Empowering Future Leaders

Upon graduation, students will emerge as torchbearers of theological knowledge, poised to impact Vietnamese society positively. They will possess a comprehensive understanding of Vietnamese Christianity, the Protestant Church's history, theology, and modern challenges. Furthermore, students will hone their ability to engage critically with theological concepts, channelling this understanding into pastoral ministry, academic research, and other relevant spheres.

Even as plans are underway, VATI hopes to stand as a beacon for the growth, maturation, and continued relevance for Vietnamese Christians. By nurturing a new generation of leaders armed with theological prowess and cultural acumen, this initiative anticipates paving the way for a faith movement that resonates deeply with the complexities of modern society. As this visionary project slowly unfolds, it hopes to redefine theological education and leadership in Vietnam, sparking a transformation that will echo through generations to come.

Co-Mission
Partners

Mekong Hub

Cambodia

**POLINE YEAN – CROSS-CULTURAL MISSION TRAINING**

Poline accepted Jesus during his last year of high school and felt called to ministry soon after. He began with involvement in the youth ministry at his church and later, as a translator of leadership training books and materials. As he grew in his faith, he sensed the Lord guiding his heart to serve the rural churches in Cambodia, revealing what their needs were and steering him towards equipping and training the people there. While serving as a trainer to church leaders, Poline felt led to study Missions abroad for two years.

Upon returning home, his ministry launched the Antioch Institute for the purpose of equipping and training local missionaries through collaboration with local churches. They have trained leaders from across denominations, both men and women, in discipleship, evangelism and church planting. The institute also provides training for rural churches within remote communities. Since its inception, several thousand church leaders have graduated from Antioch Institute through its carefully designed training curriculum.

Based in Phnom Penh, Poline also collaborates with local churches to send local mission workers to reach unreached people groups in Cambodia. He connects, mentors and networks with key church leaders in different parts of Cambodia to fulfil one vision: to see Cambodia come to Christ.

One of Poline's key role is to facilitate a network of like-minded church leaders in evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. He also trains and equips core trainers, who will in turn, train local missionaries to reach the Unreached People Groups of their areas.

Mekong Hub

Thailand

**HELEN AVADIAR-NIMBALKER – INTEGRAL MISSION: TRAUMA COUNSELLING AND REHABILITATION**

Helen is a Malaysian based in Northern Thailand, with a heart to see God's people live an abundant life free from oppression and bondage. Helen has been an advocate against human trafficking for many years and was involved with various projects related to the cause in Malaysia, including organising Malaysia's first Walk For Freedom in 2017, in partnership with A21. Her passion is to now delve deeper in human trafficking and exploitation providing rehabilitation and trauma counselling to survivors.

Since beginning her ministry in Chiang Mai in 2018, Helen has spent much of her time equipping herself in learning the Thai language, understanding the local culture, establishing a community of intercessors to pray for the cause of human trafficking, whilst completing her higher certification in Trauma Counselling. She has also been building friendships with many of the women who are trapped in the sex industry.

Along with her husband Vincent Nimbalker, Helen developed a Transformation Program and opened Baan Romyen - a Center for Women that provides employment opportunities for women who are at risk, vulnerable, exploited or impacted by trauma and for those who choose to leave the sex industry to start their lives over.

Mekong Hub

Vietnam

PS T – MINISTRY AMONGST HEARING IMPAIRED COMMUNITY

Our Co-Mission Partner Ps T serves and reaches out to the hearing-impaired community within the Mekong region. He was born into a Buddhist family, but they subsequently accepted Christ whilst living in a refugee camp, after the whole family fled their home due to civil unrest. The family eventually returned to their home country and endured continual religious persecution. Nonetheless, the intensity of the persecution intensified his faith and Ps T considers that season in his life to be a real blessing and time of growth.

He eventually heard the call of God when he was a freshman in university and enrolled in Bible School. Upon his graduation, Ps T was sent to a church located in a rural area for 16 months as a trainee pastor. After he was ordained, he was assigned to a church with several members who were deaf and mute.

When he realised that communicating with these members was next to impossible, Ps T began learning sign language. He believes that God gave him that gift to quickly comprehend and master sign language. Soon he became proficient enough to use sign language to teach the Word of God to his hearing-impaired congregation. Since then, his one congregation has grown and he now oversees churches in four different provinces – all focusing on the hearing impaired community.

Currently, there are around 2.5 million deaf people in the country he serves and he considers that to be a big mission field in need of God's Word. Ps T is married with two children.



Growing Nusantara

REV. TONY CHUANG, PhD
NUSANTARA HUB LEADER

"We trained our Micah interns and trainees and sent them to villages to conduct financial literacy program for 3 month. By [the] end of the training in December, 3 trainees decided to commit in full time ministry." Isaac Goh, principal of Micah Training Centre, shared this encouraging report about his work in East Malaysia.

His mission is to raise up more people to serve the indigenous people there. Isaac is one of the Co-Mission Partners (CoMP) in the Nusantara hub who is continuing his mission to the unreached and least reached of the world. He knows that long term effectiveness must come from multiplying the number of workers involved in this mission.

Like many important activities, Isaac's work is not without challenges or difficulties. Isaac had to deal with slow post-pandemic enrollment rates in the past year. Another CoMP in Indonesia deals with financial sustainability of his education centers. Still others struggle with raising enough financial support for one's own salary and ministry. In other words, money remains as a key challenge among the CoMPs in Nusantara, if not in most mission efforts globally as well.

To tackle the financial challenges faced by the people she serves, one CoMP decided to start a "Business as Mission" (BAM) venture this year. HY is a CoMP working among refugees in Malaysia, and the leader of this initiative. She approached me with this idea back in 2022. I connected her to a BAM specialist from Canada, who provided valuable training to HY's entire team. She was also connected to a baker who helped train her team in the art of making delicious cookies and other baked goods.

In partnership with a local migrant ministry and with seed money from a government grant, HY started a bakery from the refugee home. The young mothers and older children all help in the baking. Of course, they share in the profits as well.

This business is enabling the refugee home to be able to raise some level of support. It is also empowering the refugees toward self-sustainability and teaches good work ethics. In addition, it gives a level of dignity to these refugees. This business shows that they too are contributing to society, bringing gastronomic delight to the world. HY is insistent on taking 0% of the profits and instead wants her precious refugee girls to earn as much as possible. This is despite her own work in baking, marketing, and customer relations.

HY is overcoming the challenge of money, but she is now struggling with the challenge of time even more so than before. Our CoMPs are all high-capacity leaders who we foresee making a bigger impact in the kingdom of God through their own organisations and with some extra guidance and support from AsiaCMS. Nevertheless, burnout is a real danger in mission work. AsiaCMS already has programs such as Asia Gateway that promote their growth through wonderful theological training and interactions with other mission leaders.

In 2024, we plan to create other events that bring the CoMPs together for physical recreation and spiritual refreshment. We hope these breaks amidst the busy schedules of our CoMPs will help facilitate the long-term effectiveness of all our Co-Mission Partners.

Co-Mission
Partners

Nusantara Hub

Indonesia

PS J - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ps J works amongst an unreached people group in one of the Indonesian islands. Whilst studying in Singapore for his Masters in Missions program, he received a revelation from God that he will serve and reach out to the unreached ethnic group.

He had a vision of a fisherman in a boat and on top of the fisherman there were seven lights, which spoke of the perfection of the Holy Spirit. This vision really encouraged him and strengthened his calling to reach the unreached ethnic group. His ministry helps poor people in rural areas within the island and they help the community by providing education - starting from kindergarten, with a free tuition centre.

With so many children who are orphaned around them, they also adopt these children and provide them with accommodation and free education. Annually, they provide scholarship for 40 children to attend their kindergarten, which includes free uniform, school fees, books.

Nusantara Hub

Malaysia

**ISAAC GOH - CROSS-CULTURAL MISSION TRAINING**

Isaac and his wife were sent to Sabah from their island hometown in Penang, Malaysia to begin Micah Centre - a cross-cultural mission training school. The focus is to mobilize urban churches and equip young people to empower the rural indigenous community in Sabah through transformational development.

As the principal of Micah Centre, Isaac recruits, trains, and sends trainees out for various mission work within the rural indigenous community. He connects with local churches, particularly urban churches to give support and resources for community development projects.

Isaac also preaches and teaches in the local churches during his visitations to the rural community, especially in leadership empowerment. Along with his team, Isaac also provides the rural community with education, as well as economic and spiritual empowerment.

**JESUTHASON SELLADURAI - MISSIONS MOBILISATION**

Raised in the small town of Taiping in Malaysia, Jesuthason moved to a larger city at the age of 17 to pursue his studies. Growing up in the city taught him many things about life and he was exposed to the local missions and several pioneer mission workers. He soon joined in two short-term mission trips that changed his life and after much prayer, Jesuthason decided to commit his to a life in missions.

He went on to pursue cross-cultural trainings in the Philippines and eventually, spent 15 years in Thailand as a mission worker reaching out to a minority unreached people group. Witnessing life-changing experiences in the field filled him with so much joy in his call to continue to faithfully to serve God and His people.

Jesuthason is passionate about bringing the message of the Gospel to unreached people groups and to mobilise and bring awareness to the churches. He also has a heart to provide member care, support and supervise field mission workers. Currently, he serves as a Missions Director for Malaysian Missionary Movement (MMM) to serve, assist, and mobilize 54 churches to participate in the Great Commission.

He is also in charge of training, equipping and leading mission teams from churches to nine ministry fields, as well as to network and foster connections for long-term ministry commitment. Jesuthason also works on creating sustainable livelihood projects to help the community, bringing in holistic trainings to empower local leadership and raising up new resident mission workers and pastors.

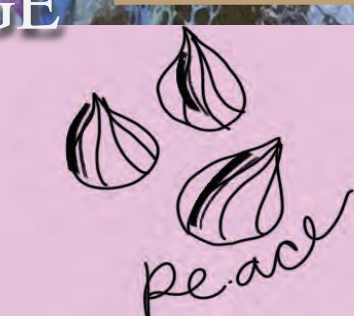
H.Y. - INTEGRAL MISSION: EDUCATION

HY was raised in a strictly Buddhist home and did not know Jesus until her first year of college when she moved from her small hometown to the big city. Watching her college roommate read her Bible everyday made HY curious and she began to ask questions. She was introduced to another friend, a staff at Campus Crusade for Christ, who shared the gospel with her, and HY accepted Christ.

She then began to join in all the fellowships, prayer meetings, discipleship, trainings and mission trips. However, her family knew nothing about her conversion. After a year, she told her family who did not favour HY's choice. Nevertheless, she continued to pursue Christ and her love for serving Him in the mission field grew.

After four years, HY graduated university and subsequently began working with refugees. She is currently a secondary school teacher, field worker and home guardian at a centre for refugees.

She takes care of the girls at the home, buying the groceries, accompanying and caring for them, praying for them, and guiding them in their homework. She also maintains contact with refugees in different areas, through home visitation and food distribution.



Life2Life Bakery:

BUSINESS AS MISSION



Restoring dignity, purpose and a steady income among refugee women

Jolene,* 28, is a young Malaysian on a mission. Having worked with refugee families in Malaysia for several years and women in particular, she has observed heart-breaking trends.

Many refugees are unable to afford rent, basic necessities or school fees for their children simply because they lack a stable income. Refugee women are also vulnerable to exploitation, violence and sexual abuse with little to no means of seeking justice.

“With legal challenges and other factors, many do not enjoy a sustainable and dignified income,” Jolene shared. These women also face the responsibility of caring for the upkeep of the home in addition to looking for income.

It was the heavy dreariness of such a future that caused Jolene, who has been working as a teacher and support staff at a women’s shelter, to ask herself, **“What positive impact can I make in the lives of these refugee women?”**

Business as mission goes beyond band-aid solutions, creating opportunities for sustainable change

Looking to empower refugee women in a sustainable way, Jolene began toying with the idea of developing a social enterprise. **“Business as part of my mission,”** as she calls it.

“I believe that business can be a powerful tool for creating social and environmental impact, and by leveraging market mechanisms and business models, I hope to not only provide the women with valuable skills and income-generating opportunities but also help them grow in their faith and offer them a sense of community and support,” Jolene explained.

A bakery seemed the ideal project to kickstart this initiative, and so Jolene spearheaded the establishment of **Life 2 Life Bakery**. The bakery makes and sells all sorts of baked goods, from pineapple tarts to cream puffs, cookies, buns and cakes. The treats aren’t just on the sweet side; savoury bakes are part of their repertoire too.

By employing refugee women, **Life 2 Life Bakery** seeks to provide quality baking training, basic business management knowledge and an entrepreneurial spirit.

“This project will not only help to alleviate their poverty, but it will also help to reduce their chances of being oppressed or exploited if they can make a living from a skill recognised by society,” Jolene says.

Her zeal and determination are evident, and rightly so, for she has heard first-hand the raw and painful experiences of refugee women in Malaysia.



In the midst of floury counters and hot ovens, women are finding space to heal and regain their dignity

Lily*, 15, hails from Indonesia. Unlike others her age who spent their days in school, doing homework or hanging out with friends, she worked with her mother at a mamak stall. Her life had its rhythm and the days rolled by, until a tragic event last year.

*“At 14 years old, Lily was raped by a co-worker. She became pregnant and is now living in a shelter for protection, but is determined to support her new born. As she finds joy in baking and spending time in the kitchen with other single mothers, joining **Life 2 Life Bakery** has been ideal,”* Jolene shares.

Another baker, Sheera* is living in a women’s shelter with her toddler. The 27-year-old fled from her husband after being sexually abused. Jolene further reveals that Sheera has also been diagnosed with gall bladder stones, causing sudden and intense pain in different parts of her body. This medical condition has prevented her from being able to work as a cleaner, but the workload and hours at the bakery have proved more manageable for the young mother.

“Sheera is not just supporting her child and herself; she also has other children living with their grandmother in Somalia, and she hopes to be able to financially support them as well.”

Through the bakery project, women like Lily and Sheera learn skills in baking, food preparation and hygiene which would increase their employability in the F&B industry. When the women come together, the physical space becomes a safe haven for them to gather, fellowship and work.. Through the interaction, many women have developed meaningful relationships that have brought about healing and growth.

“We hope to provide a space for mentoring and discipleship programs, to support the spiritual, emotional and psychological well-being of refugees. The goal is for them to be self-sufficient and able to overcome challenges they face,” she explains.

Expanding the meaning of missions by following Jesus’ way of giving hope to the vulnerable

For Jolene, her pivot from teaching to business stemmed from an unrelenting desire to see refugee women build a brighter future for themselves and their families.

“Business as mission is an opportunity for projects to become financial sustainable. When that happens, growth can take place and greater impact can be made,” she explained.

Life 2 Life Bakery hopes to show how financial inclusion benefits local economies, even though this initiative only represents a fraction of the whole picture. Jolene’s personal desire is for refugees to be legally allowed to participate in the workforce and talent pool and be an official contributing member of society.

At present, refugees are not recognised in Malaysia as the country is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention.

“Overall, my desire to pursue business as mission is driven by a combination of social, environmental, financial, and spiritual considerations, as well as a belief in the power of the private sector to create meaningful impact,” Jolene said.

This article was first produced and published on <https://www.faithour.com>. Faithour is a Malaysian digital platform that is faith and impact-focused with a vision to propel Christ-followers to live out their faith in relevant ways. Through inspiring stories and data-driven information, Faithour challenges Christians to be informed, get equipped and take action. In 2022, AsiaCMS became the platform’s first official donor to kickstart this vision.

Faithour

Life 2 Life Bakery is an initiative by one of AsiaCMS’ Co-Mission Partner in Malaysia, who works with the refugee and migrant community.

**Names have been changed and photos have been withheld to protect privacy*

AsiaCMS

Board of
Trustees

AsiaCMS Berhad is a company limited by guarantee in Malaysia. Its board of directors comprise Rev. Pax Tan, Andrew Khoo and Francis K. Tsui. They manage the legal and regulatory requirements to comply with Malaysian laws. We have a group of trustees to preserve, protect and promote the values, vision and principles of AsiaCMS. They have wide skills and missions experience, and provide guidance and governance for AsiaCMS to fulfil its mission and purpose. They are led by Rev. Vinod Victor as Chair.

**REV. VINOD VICTOR (CHAIR)**

Rev. Vinod is an ordained minister in the Church of South India. He has long been involved in social outreach and mission work in India and further afield. His church is actively involved in social ministry and runs several homes for children. He is presently the Chaplain of the Anglican Church in Freiburg, Germany.

**ANDREW KHOO (VICE CHAIR)**

Andrew, based in Malaysia, is a practising Barrister specialising in human rights law. He is also a Lay Canon in the Anglican Church.

**FRANCIS K. TSUI**

Francis was born and raised in Hong Kong. Francis works in finance but also has been actively involved in mission across Asia for many years. Prior to joining AsiaCMS, he served as International President of Asian Outreach.

**REV. PAX TAN**

Rev. Pax pastors a local Baptist church. He has a long history of involvement with social action and leadership with the Malaysian charity Malaysian Care.

**DR HAROON LALDIN**

Dr. Haroon is a medical doctor, based at a mission hospital in northern Pakistan. He is also pursuing a doctoral studies in mission with a particular interest in engaging with other faiths.

**JULIATE KEYA MALAKAR**

Juliate is the Executive Director of Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB), the lead ecumenical development agency of the nation. She has hands-on operational experience and expertise in managing different kinds of interventions in the developmental and humanitarian sectors.

**REV. DR LEE II HO**

Rev. Dr Lee Il Ho is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church of Korea in South Korea. He began his ministry as a Senior Pastor of a church in Busan. Dr Lee comes on board with a rich experience as a grassroots mission worker.

**MARGARET LOY**

Margaret is the CEO of Community Transformation Initiative Bhd (CTI), an NGO based in Malaysia working amongst the urban poor.

**BISHOP ANDY SHIE**

Bishop Andy is the Vicar of an Anglican church in the capital city of Brunei Darussalam. He also serves as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Kuching, in East Malaysia

Introducing

The
AsiaCMS
Team**REV CHAN NAMCHEN (PHD) - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

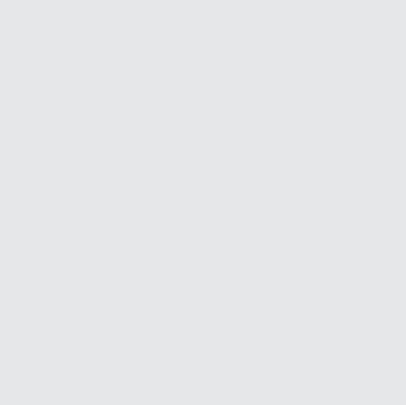
Dr Chan is the Executive Director of AsiaCMS. He holds a PhD in Intercultural Studies with a focus on Missions and Leadership in cross-cultural situations. He has been in ministry in the past as a cross-cultural church planter, trainer, senior pastor and denominational leader. Dr. Chan desires that churches, Christian organisations and Christians from diverse backgrounds collaborate to fulfil God's mission – the unreached engaged with the gospel, churches planted and the love of Christ demonstrated in practical ways.

**STEPHEN EDISON - REGIONAL HUB LEADER (SOUTH ASIA)**

Stephen heads the ministry in South Asia. He has an M.Div., an MA in International Relations, a Post Graduate Diploma in Human Rights and International Humanitarian and Refugee Law, and a BA (Hons.) in History. He has worked extensively in the area of peace and reconciliation, and has a breadth of mission experience, including development. Stephen is based in Delhi, India.

**REV PETER NGUYEN (PHD) - REGIONAL HUB LEADER (MEKONG)**

Peter is an ordained minister who is experienced in mission, pastoring, and church planting within the context of Vietnam. He has a PhD in Mission Theology and has served the church in the areas of mission theology, contextual theology, contextualization, East Asian religions, Vietnam and East Asian Christianity. He currently works with AsiaCMS to advocate a catalytic missiological training for the Church in the context of Asia, whilst also collaborating missional services among churches in the Southeast Asia region.

**REV TONY CHUANG (PHD) - REGIONAL HUB LEADER (NUSANTARA)**

Tony was born in Taiwan, is a citizen of Canada, and earned a PhD in the USA. He is an international preacher, ordained pastor, and published writer. Together with his wife, Dr. Esther Shin, they have travelled to multiple countries across four continents, training local leaders and reaching non-Christians. He lectures at Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary and serves on the executive committee of Academy for Evangelism in Theological Education. His research interests include missiology, Chinese folk religion, and homiletics. Tony has two children who make life unpredictably interesting.

**MINH THAI - ASSISTANT HUB LEADER (MEKONG)**

Minh is an ordained church elder, serving as a leader and assistant pastor in the Mekong region. He is also a businessman outsourcing construction materials to the American market. Minh joined AsiaCMS to assist the hub leader since 2022. He coordinates VIMI trainings and works alongside VEA youth coordinators around Mekong.

**ELEENA THOMAS - CO-MISSIONS PARTNER PROGRAM MANAGER**

With a background in Human Resources, Eleena enjoys meeting people and building long-term connections. She has a passion for children's ministry and was actively involved with her local church in teaching, coordinating, and supporting this ministry. Eleena is also musically inclined and a long-standing member of her church choir. Having lived and studied in other countries, she has a good understanding of interacting with people across cultures. Eleena has recently relocated to Sydney from Bangalore and is looking for ways to continue serving God and His people in the place where she is.

**PRISCILLA SUGUMAR - COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER**

Priscilla is the newly-appointed Communications Manager. She holds a BSc Hons. in Information Systems (Business Analytics) and is currently pursuing a few online courses for personal growth and learning. She is also a freelance writer and an entrepreneur with a second-hand books business. Priscilla is a cancer survivor by God's grace and miracle. She serves at her local church on the ushering team and enjoys growing, and building a deeper connection with her church community.

**ESTHER JOHN - SAFEGUARDING MANAGER**

Esther's heart gravitates towards the wellbeing of children. She is a Mental Health and Psycho-social practitioner with expertise in Child Protection and Safeguarding. Based in Sri Lanka, Esther is also an independent consultant for the non-profit sector in Sri Lanka.

**EDDIE LEONG - FINANCE MANAGER**

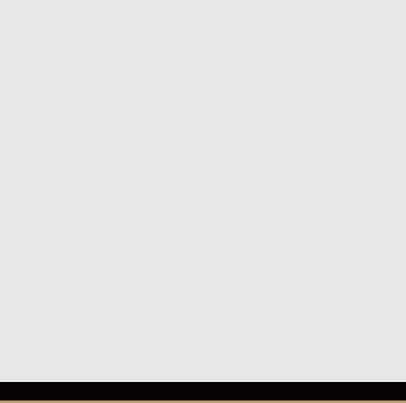
Eddie has been working in the field of accounting for more than 25 years in the commercial sector. He also serves as an assistant treasurer of a local church in Kuala Lumpur.

**LOW CHEE TENG - FINANCE COMPLIANCE OFFICE**

Chee Teng's primary role in AsiaCMS is to assist within the Treasury and Compliance functions. He graduated from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand with a Bachelor's in Commerce and Administration. He is a member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants and the Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand. He holds an MBA with Distinction from IMC, U.K. He has served in a local church as a parish leader, and in committees including Missions, Membership & Evangelism. He has over 30 years of working experience, including serving as CFO of a public listed company.

**DANIELLA VARGHESE - COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR**

From a very young age, Daniella has loved working with children. Over time, this grew into a calling to work in special education. She consistently seeks to learn new things and seizes every opportunity possible, knowing that each challenge is an opportunity for growth and in time, God can and will use it in one way or another. This also gives her a variety of skills that enable her to adapt and work in different contexts.

**SUZANE CHRISTIE - EDITORIAL CONSULTANT**

Suzane has over 20 years of experience in the publishing and media industry, both as a writer and editor. She holds a BSc in Communications and a Certificate in Christian Ministry & Theology. Prior to joining AsiaCMS, she was a freelance writer and editor. She has authored a devotional book and contributes to several Christian publications, both locally and in the United States. She heads the Online Bible College program at her local church. Suzane is also an artist and enjoys creating vibrant paintings.

AsiaCMS

History

The origins of the Church Mission Society (CMS) go back to 1799 in London, UK, when a small group of Anglican evangelicals with a passion for worldwide outreach met to pray. They included John Newton, who wrote Amazing Grace, and William Wilberforce, who was a leader in abolishing the slave trade in England.

They founded the society with a purpose of sending missionaries to Africa and the East, with some early missionaries going to Sierra Leone, Kenya, China, India and Japan.

When CMS was founded, China was closed to all missionaries, yet this didn't stop CMS from sending Robert Morrison as its first missionary to China in 1807. Travelling in defiance of the Chinese authorities, he distributed tracts wherever he could, but it wasn't until after the Opium War that five Chinese ports were opened to European missionaries in 1842 that mission began in earnest in China, setting up schools, founding dispensaries and appointing church leaders.

“We are a community of people in Mission”

When CMS began work in India the British East India Company would not allow missionaries in the areas which it administered. William Wilberforce (the first Vice President of CMS and famous campaigner for the abolition of the slave trade) led a movement for the revision of the East India Company charter to enable missionaries to preach the Gospel to the Indians.

By the time a Charter Bill was passed in 1813, CMS already had missionaries training for work in India and by 1814 the first two CMS missionaries arrived in Madras. CMS subsequently worked extensively in India establishing schools, printing Bibles and appointing church leaders.

CMS has a strong legacy of evangelism, church planting, mission schools and hospitals across Asia and Africa. Today CMS UK is still involved in sending mission partners overseas but also pioneering church work in the UK. CMS is committed to seeing indigenous CMS missions established globally - enabling local mission leaders to follow God's leading.

In 2008 it established CMS Africa as an autonomous mission movement based in Nairobi, Kenya. In 2012 AsiaCMS was established as an autonomous mission movement based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia under the first Executive Director, Dr Tan Kang San.

AsiaCMS seeks to draw on the experience and wisdom of the CMS community, but also has the freedom to evolve and develop an authentic Asian mission movement as we follow God's leading and respond to the needs within the Asian context.

Leaders of the global CMS community meet regularly for “Interchange” to encourage, network and support each other. The global CMS network consist of CMS Britain, CMS Africa, CMS New Zealand, CMS Australia, CMS Ireland, SAMS-USA, as well as AsiaCMS.

We are grateful for you!

The AsiaCMS family is a sacred space for mission workers, churches and organisations to connect, collaborate and catalyse new initiatives and new movements that further God's Mission in Asia.

We thank each and every one of you for walking alongside us thus far, and as we move forward, we welcome you to come partner with us – both through prayer and financial support - as we journey alongside others, Together on the Edge in God's Mission.

To give via a bank transfer:

Bank Name – HSBC Bank
Account Name – AsiaCMS Berhad
Account Number – 359-418407-101
Branch – Damansara Heights,
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
SWIFT Code – HBMBMYKL



If you reside in Malaysia, you can also donate via your Touch n Go app by scanning the QR Code.

www.asiacms.net



TOGETHER
ON THE EDGE
IN GOD'S
MISSION

Connect.
Collaborate.
Catalyse.

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Cover Design and Concept

This painting is titled "Crash" and it serves as a silent narrator of our journey - of pushing boundaries, of embracing uncharted territories, and of relentlessly pursuing our divine call.

As the waves crash against the unseen, it is a reminder that we, too, often stand on the edge and precipice of discovery, as we carve new paths in God's mission in the hopes of transforming lives beyond our imagination.

*Credits: Paintings by Suzane Christie
Design & Layout: Ad&Web Design Consultant*