

IMA NEWSLETTER

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

GENERAL SECRETARY'S NOTE

REV. DR. ISAC RAJA

Greetings in Jesus' precious Name!

It gives me great joy to express our sincere gratitude for your prayers, involvement, partnership and ownership in the ministries of India Missions Association. This is a great encouragement and a source of blessings from God that we are cherishing with your team of staff along with their family members.

God has clearly given us this vision, "to see that people from every people group, village, town and city to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ and be discipled so that in every nook and corner of this country, people will continue to acknowledge the One and the Only God and worship Him. This can be done with the Cooperation, Collaboration, Coalition, and Consolidation with the mission organizations and churches in India and beyond. IMA is committed to disseminate the information on the need and the challenges in doing the mission of God effectively and collectively with the values of the Kingdom and management excellence.

IMA is looking ahead for the thanksgiving celebration of God's faithfulness in the last 50 years of working with its partners fulfilling its vision, and mission in its values. There are still streets and wards in the villages, districts, towns, cities and metro cities who need to hear the Goodnews of Jesus Christ in our country. IMA is committed to its mission of disseminating such information to its partners and churches. We continue to open our eyes as watch dogs to see the changes taking place in various facets of life in the community and strive together with partners, developing a common strategy for appropriate and effective mission. We want to journey with you by providing needed assistance in your leadership and management excellence. We continue to stand with you as servant in fulfilling the vision and mission that God has given you so that 'together we fulfil the great Commission with the Great Command of Jesus Christ in our country and beyond'.

VALUES OF IMA

- To be guided by the Word and the Spirit.
- A visionary and catalyst of Indian Missions in national and multi-lingual teams.
- Strive to be a model in management excellence, financial accountability and transparent in operation and statutory compliances.
- Caring and building leaders in missions both present and future.
- Advocating excellence in ministry performance.
- Enriching indigenous leadership and finance.

MISSION OF IMA

- To be an association for organization and churches in Indian missions.
- To be a facilitator for cooperation, partnership and networks.
- To be a challenging voice in the church for increased commitment to missions.
- To be an initiator for training, workshops, consultations in new avenues.
- To disseminate information for prayers and creating awareness on main issues.
- To connect people in churches and missions both locally and globally.
- To be a catalyst in evolving in corporate vision, strategies & ethos.
- To empower missions in management excellence.
- To establish mutual accountability.

VISION OF IMA

We want to see people from every people group, villages, town and city to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ and be discipled so that they worship God in India and beyond.

In the last three months (April to June 2022) the Lord enabled us to revisit the vision, mission and the values of IMA. The detailed information of mission accomplishments are given in this newsletter April – June 2022. The following are some key highlights:

- **Leadership Team:** The functional consolidation of our team in the ministry. This results in the reorientation of each department and its purposes, and enabled us to set goals for the next five years.
- **Non-Formal Training:** The formation of a need-based training design (including the curriculum) working alongside with five mission organizations.
- **Networks:** Beginning to foresee the current mission trends in Indian missions with focused networks in addressing the challenges and disseminating the information to missions and churches.
- **Relationships:** Building relationship with the member missions has been intensified formally and informally through regional networks and personal visits.
- **Missional communities:** The vision casting ministry of IMA sees that Missional communities are formed in churches, marketplace ministry, houses and communities. It has started in Hyderabad city and will be extended in 25 cities in the next five years.

Our focus in the next three months is for the India Missions Summit to be held from 20th to 23rd September 2022 at SAIACS, Bangalore and on developing various networks addressing to the challenges in Indian missions.

The following are the six research studies that is going on and God willing the key findings of the study will be shared in this summit. We request you to kindly pray for the India Mission Summit in Sept 2022 and its preparation:

- **People Groups:** 100 unreached / least unreached people groups profile to be ready and to be presented to mission / church leaders in India.
- **Urban Mission:** 50 mega cities' zip codes identifying the presence of church / Christians in India. This will burden the mission / church leaders to address the need of reaching the people in their vicinity with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- **Neighbours:** Reaching the Neighbours in India. This study will attempt to identify the dominant presence of Neighbours in each district, town and states of India. It will

also study the unreached Neighbours among the people groups.

- **Indian MKs:** The need for Boarding schools for Indian Mks. This will attempt to find out the overall need for the education of Indian Mks.
- **Finance Management:** In the current financial crisis in Indian missions, a study will be made analysing the best practices of financial management in Indian Missions.
- **Media & Missions:** We are making an attempt to study the need for the utilization of Media in Indian Missions.

The key results of these studies will be shared to mission / church leaders for effective strategies to be designed for implementation.

The outcome of this summit will result in:

- Fellowship and networking among the participants.
- Each participant will prayerfully adopt one unreached/ least unreached people group.
- The gospel of Jesus Christ will be preached to the people in the nearby streets where the church / missions are located.
- The participants will be passionate to reach the Neighbours with unique strategy and training.
- The Indian missions will be geared to the maximum utilisation of media.

IMA is committed to journey with member missions and churches in the follow up of Summit manifesto in the next three years (2022 – 2025) so that concrete strategies are developed and implemented in Indian missions.

To God be the glory...great things He has done. Looking forward for your continuous fellowship, partnership, prayers and support in the ministries of IMA.



SAMA LINK

South Asian Missions Advancement (SAMA Link) is a network of people from South Asian countries who wish to expand the missions in South Asia through cooperation and resource sharing apart from empowering and equipping the south Asians in the global missions. As a practice, SAMA Link concentrates on a country for three years and helps in satisfying the missional need identified by the native churches and organizations in the respective country. The key members of SAMA Link have identified Sri Lanka as the next country for its involvement. Two consultations were thus planned and conducted in Srilanka: one for the national leadership at Colombo on 22nd April and another for the regional leaders at Ape Kedalle retreat center from 22nd April evening till 23rd April mid evening. The focus on Sri Lanka is with two-fold purpose which is reflected in these two consultations:

- To help reaching its least reached people within Sri Lanka.
- To empower Sri Lanka as a mission base for the region.

India Missions Association along with its some of the member missions like GEMS, IEM, has been journeying together to facilitate SAMA link in missions and churches of the respective countries. Sri Lankan Focus Inauguration and Consultation with National Christian Leadership
The Sri Lankan focus of SAMA Link was inaugurated on April 22nd morning at Peoples Church, Colombo. The event started with a platter of Sri Lankan delicacies which was a delight for the eleven South Asian delegates who graced the event representing their organizations and missional initiatives. Around forty leaders representing various denominations and organizations within Sri Lanka gave an ecumenical thrust for the inauguration.

Rev. Ebenezer Joseph, the President of Methodist Church Sri Lanka and Rev. Chrissokumar Handy, the Chairman of Assemblies of God Ceylon gave an update about the current status of the Sri Lankan church and the way forward. Yamini Ravindran, Head of the Religious Liberty desk of Evangelical Alliance shared the statistics from a persecution perspective. All the sessions were converging on one single point – Empowering the Laity. Honorable Eran Wickramaratne, Member of Parliament too spoke during the event. The sessions included what and how of SAMA Link by Premkumar and the importance of focusing on Sri Lanka by Christie Samuel. While the initiatives of SAMA Link would be on reaching the whole country, during the three-year engagement, the primary attention will be on three least reached districts, Killinochchi (Northern Province), Monaragala (Uva Province) and Trincomalee (Eastern Province). A special thanks to People's church for hosting the meeting and sponsoring the expenses.

Regional Leaders Consultation

The regional leaders consultation started with a High Tea at Ape Kedalle Retreat center on 22nd evening and concluded on the evening of 23rd April. Apart from the South Asian delegates, forty-three leaders, from various parts of the country participated in the consultation excluding the SAMA Link National Team and the volunteers. A special mention has to be made as the team came for the consultation in a situation when there was no regular public transport, road blockades and when the supply of fuel for the vehicles were not available.



...Regional Leaders Consultation

The resource persons were Dr. Aby Alexander (Christian Institute of Management), Daniel Caleb (Lamad Technology Solutions), M. John Daniel (Missionary Upholders Trust), Rev. Dr. Isac Raja (India Missions Association), Dr. Mark Muniappa, Dr. Rajesh Duthie (Tentmakers International), Sheriff Daniel (Partners), Rev. Suresh Rajan and Rev. Grace Rajan (Wycliffe Associates).

The anecdotes by Sheriff Daniel and Rev. Grace Rajan gave way for the audience to align with the program and the final challenge by Remo Paul of Reaching Hands Society led the people to commit their next three years to walk alongside with SAMA Link initiatives. Hon. MA Sumanthiran, Member of Parliament too graced the event by speaking on the importance of laity becoming the influencers in the society. A big thanks to the **National Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka** for hosting the Sri Lankan delegates for the consultation and sponsoring their expenses.

Both the consultations were spearheaded by a team comprising of Rev. Arun Thevamani, Fr. Devadasan Sengan, Mahesh DeMel, Napoleon Pathmanathan, Premkumar A, Savithri Sumanthiran and Rev. Stanley Nelson led by Christie Samuel. This national team would continue to lead the three years initiatives of SAMA Link within Sri Lanka. A follow up team comprising Christie Samuel, Mahesh DeMel, Premkumar A and Sumith Peiris was also formed for framing missional strategies in Sri Lanka in partnership with India Missions Association. Chisel Ministries, Gethsemane Church (Negombo), Infinity Centre for Higher Studies and Youth for Christ also helped at various capacities to make the consultation a success.

Member Missions Visit, Bangalore

The General Secretary, IMA visited some of the member missions in Bangalore on May 19, and had a fruitful time of discussion and planning. There were 19 participants from 14 member missions. Keeping the IMS in mind, a core team was formed under the chairmanship of Rev. Dr. Raja Singh Elias along with coordinator for various sub- committees.

- Pastor Nuwera Eliya- The consultation opened up my eyes to think that there are more ways to do ministry apart from pastoring a church.
- A sister from Gampaha- It helped me to think that we can use our church members to reach out in their workplaces.
- Pastor from Ratnapura- Until this day, I never knew there was a ministry to care for the pastors.
- Pastor from Gampaha- We want the Biblical stories in our languages.
- Pastor from Trincomalee- I used to join the local fishermen often while they go for fishing. I was always thinking if it was right. During the conference, I have decided to make it regular.
- Pastor from Colombo- I came as a volunteer but during the consultation, I have decided that my church would involve in Bible Translations.



Rev. Paul Radhakrishnan, Rev. Dr. Raja Singh Elias & Rev. Dr. Isac Raja



Time of Praise

STATIONS OF GENEROSITY

Stations of Generosity Workshop is designed to inspire biblical generosity in all kinds of learners. God is the first giver and we need to reflect on how much He has given. We cannot help but respond with joyful and obedient generosity. Biblical generosity has to make inroads into churches and missions, so that our understanding of generosity will transform our lives. Instead of asking what I can receive, we should say, how can I be part of this generosity to express my gratefulness for what the Lord has done. We have had four Stations of Generosity workshops held in May & June 2022.

Our methods include hand motions, dramas, interactive activities and facilitated conversations. Together, we reflect on relevant passages from scripture. We share modern day stories of people in Uganda, India, Vietnam, USA and other places who have experienced the power of biblical generosity.



11 leaders who attended the workshop from 12- 13th May at the Vision City



13 leaders attended the workshop from 16- 17th May



6 leaders attended the workshop from 30th - 31st May

Some of the **responses** from the leaders who participated in the Workshop:

- One of the Senior Pastors testified, "I have taught and preached many times regarding giving, but it took place only in my mind. Through this workshop, God has broadened my understanding of Biblical generosity."
- This workshop was an eye opener.
- We conduct various workshops and trainings, but this was unique from all the others that I have ever attended.
- It was wonderful to see the way it was facilitated, not teaching or preaching but everyone actively participating. I found the methodology of the facilitation very meaningful.



8 leaders attended the workshop from 22nd- 23rd June

**"God uses men who are weak and feeble enough to lean on him."
-Hudson Taylor-**

GLOBAL MISSIONS STATESMAN DR. K. RAJENDRAN HAS COMPLETED HIS EARTHLY RACE!

Mrs. Pramila Rajendran

A thought-provoking, inspiring and far-sighted strategist, visionary and global missions' leader with prophetic insight, Dr. K. Rajendran, a well-sought after speaker around the world for his catalytic impetus in moving missions whether globally, regionally, nationally or across specific communities, has returned home to be with the Lord in heaven on 22nd May 2022, after running his earthly race with great perseverance and distinction! A people builder, author, trainer, encourager of innovation and mentor, the WEA Missions Commission leadership have succinctly described him as an 'alongsider' who saw potential, trusted people with God's vision for their lives and made space for others to grow through doing. In these things and much more, he modelled Christ-like leadership for generations of leaders that follow. Indeed, whilst his home-going is a great loss here on earth, Dr. K. Rajendran has always been empowering many younger leaders to pass the missions baton so that they may go forth with God's purposes even as many are uplifted and touched with the love of Jesus! He was the Chairman of the World Evangelical Alliance Missions Commission (WEA-MC) for several years and also served as Vice-Chair of the Great Commission Round Table (GCR). World Evangelical Alliance [WEA] is a global network working with local churches in 128 nations and over 100 international organizations to give a worldwide identity, voice and platform to more than 420 million evangelical Christians to live and proclaim the Good News of Jesus in their communities.

Joining IMA, the largest missions association in the world, in 1997, after his 27-year stint with Operation Mobilization where he had also served as Training & Personnel Director for the ship Logos & Training Director of OM India, Dr. K. Rajendran in 1999 was appointed the General Secretary of IMA which has 55,000 missionaries and many active networks which address the evangelistic and social needs of India. He served for the next 12 years as the General Secretary of India Missions Association [IMA].

In 2017 Dr. K founded GIVA Global Movement. GIVA is a network of Entrepreneurs, Writers, Thinkers & Media. He was also involved in many International movements to input into modern missions and member care of missionaries together with his wife Pramila. He played a very critical role especially when we had so many nations right here at our doorstep!

His passion is global leadership development as well as evangelism to the contemporary world and peoples to reach them.

Thanking God for his life and looking forward for more innovative dialogues in heaven with him in the future!

TRIBUTE TO REV.DR.K. RAJENDRAN

We are deeply pained and saddened to learn about the untimely passing away of Dr. K. Rajendran, Former General Secretary of IMA. Dr. K. Rajendran will always be remembered as one of the great Mission Leaders of India. He was a person endowed with wisdom and a passion to reach various Indian communities for the Lord Jesus Christ. His valuable words, precious thoughts and heart for Missions will be forever be etched in our hearts.

It is our prayer that God grant His comfort to the family especially during this time of grief. **Dr. Saji K. Lukos (Founder/President of Reaching Indians Ministries International and Mission India)** and the entire staff of RIMI, Mission India and the Mission India Theological Seminary, Nagpur convey our deepest condolences to Mrs. Pramila Rajendran, son Pradeep and daughter Preethi.

A Tribute to our former chairman

We deeply mourn the passing away of Rev. Dr. K. Rajendran and convey our deepest condolences to his wife Mrs. Prameela Rajendran & children, Preethi & Pradeep. Dr. Rajendran was closely associated with our founder Emil Annan and Network chairman Selvaraj Annan in both national and international forums. He was also the chairman and member of the Vishwa Vani Board till his retirement. Dr. Rajendran was a visionary and a statesman who truly lived up to his calling to serve the Lord faithfully till his last breath. He served on Operation Mobilization ships, OM India and was the General Secretary of India Missions Association. He authored two books "Heart to Heart- Letters to Leaders" and "Which way forward India Missions."

Dr.K. Rajendran always appreciated the systematic ministry of Vishwa Vani in villages of India & enjoyed reading every detail of how God is leading the ministry to greater heights from strength to strength in reaching the lost to the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Reaching 100,000 villages by 2030 was always on his heart.

We lost a friend, prayer warrior and mentor in the passing away of Dr.K. Rajendran. But we praise God for his life well lived for Christ & his purposes. Let us continue to pray for his family and the legacy he left behind.

Executive Director & Vishwa Vani Family

"I will call you as Amal and not by your first name John since my baptismal name is also John Samuel" said Dr. K. Rajendran the very first time we met at the India Missions Association (IMA) office in Chennai in June 1998. Those were prophetic words as I am now known as "Amalraj" or "Amal" among the Indian missions and not by my first name. We became colleagues, partners, and friends in the vision we shared for Indian missions. Pramila, Preeti, and Pradeep became close family friends as we prayed for one another in our challenging journey in Indian Missions. It was my privilege to become one among hundreds of others whom he mentored. Observing that I was hesitant to go in the front he pushed me forward to lead many seminars, leadership training programs, and national conferences across the country and even speak and write at international forums. I had the honor of co-editing the IMA Conference Compendium *Where are the Indian Leaders?* (2000) through which I learned foundational leadership principles from him as we jointly edited the contributing articles from mission leaders.

Which Way Forward Indian Missions? (1998) was the million-dollar question that no one before him dared to ask the growing Indian mission movement. Behind this question of Rajendran stood years of his frontline mission experience across India and many other nations, hundreds of books he read, and thousands of conversations that included grassroots mission workers, regional, national, and global mission leaders along with the common people on the streets, cafes, railway stations and airports. India Missions Association provided the most appropriate national platform for a global vision that was at one time seen as impossible. This question "Which Way Forward?" (WWF) and the solutions he recommended in the form of a holistic vision for the Indian mission movement changed the profile of missions in India influencing the global scenario. David Bosch, one of the greatest missiologists wrote about "paradigm shifts in the mission" for the academicians while Rajendran cast the vision of "paradigm shifts in Indian missions" on the mission fields. Rajendran's key innovations included Advanced Leadership Training, Think Tank Strategy meetings, national networks, mentoring missionary kids, and member care for mission CEO's, their spouses, and missionaries. "Heart to Heart" letters published in IMA magazines continues to remain a rich source of his missional thoughts or blabber as he calls it. Rajendran never hesitated to take risks with young people and delegated responsibilities and authority while helping them to learn from mistakes.

As a charismatic mission leader, he was at home whether in the North, South, West, or Northeast of India, and could count on friends across all cultural and linguistic barriers. This was key as IMA membership grew from being less than 100 members and breached the 200-membership mark during his tenure. One mission leader commented that it was the "golden period of the Indian missions." Rajendran's role in the global missions through the World Evangelical Alliance Mission Commission as the Chair for many years and later as the Associate Director was critical as Indian missions emerged as a global influencer. He changed Indian missions' global conversations from being a mission recipient to making significant contributions to global missions. He cast the vision not just to serve the Indian diaspora but beyond to send out Indian workers across the globe. He encouraged emerging missions' networks in newer sending countries in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Rajendran's clarion call was to address the "mega confusions and mega challenges in missions" by redefining and contextualizing mission in today's context. He was always building bridges, reconciling relationships, and thinking "out of the box" solutions for all mission issues. He earned the respect of global and national leaders as he challenged both Western and majority world mission leaders on diverse international platforms to re-think missions for the 21st Century. Rajendran's spirituality was very simple and never put on display but reflected in interpersonal relationships. He had his own unique form of long prayer walks where conversations with whoever was his walking partner included God. His passion for communicating the Gospel meaningfully in a pluralistic society reflected in one of his favorite scriptures he often quoted to me "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Rom 1:16). Rajendran's voice was not a lonely *kryvoice* in the wilderness as his email addresses reflected. He was the champion voice for WWF in the world of missions for the glory of God and the multiplication of the followers of Jesus Christ across generations, cultures, and languages. May Rajendran's voice continue to reverberate in the national and global mission forums to fulfill God's purposes in our generation. I am grateful to God for His gift of brother Rajendran as my leadership mentor, prayer partner, family friend, and an innovative global mission leader.

John Amalraj K.

Mission Partner Interserve India, former
India Missions Association Staff

Dr. K. Rajendran was born in a Hindu family in Tamil Nadu. After accepting Jesus Christ as his Saviour, he joined Operation Mobilisation and went to various places. During that time, he came under the leadership of Dr. Ebenezer Sunderaraj. He married Pramila from north India and they have two children. When later, Dr Ebenezer became the second General Secretary of the India Missions Association (IMA), he worked under him. He then studied in Southern Asia Institute of Advanced Christian Studies (SAIACS) and earned his doctorate with his thesis, "Which way forward Indian missions". He became the third IMA General Secretary, while I was chairman and developed IMA in Hyderabad. At first, the office was in a rented building and later moved to the farm house in its large campus near Keesara on the outskirts of Hyderabad. There he built two buildings before his retirement at the age of 60. After that he joined the Missions Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance till his second retirement. Then he started a business people missions enterprise, called "GIVA Global". Dr Rajendran developed into a forward looking mission leader, both in India and around the world. We in India will miss him and his activities.

R. Theodore Srinivasagam

Second General Secretary of the Indian Evangelical Mission (IEM) and Fifth General Secretary of IMA.

Dr. K. Rajendran, a genuine people builder, trainer, encourager of innovation and truly a mentor. He empowered many leaders to pass the missions baton to the generation next leaders so that they may go forth with God's purpose.

After serving 27-years with Operation Mobilization (OM India) as Training & Personnel Director for the Logos Ship Ministry & Training Director of OM India, he was appointed the General Secretary of India Missions Association (IMA) in the year 1999. IMA has 55,000 missionaries, the largest mission association in the world, and during his 12 years of tenure with IMA, member missions increased from 100 to 200+. He was genuinely interested to see the member missions being relevant in their approach in taking the gospel.

He was always passionate to see that leadership is created in the missions who will think out of box, and have the capacity to take the mission forward for the next 20 years. During his 12 years stint in IMA, he created many active networks which addressed the evangelistic and social needs of India. He introduced IMA in the global platform, and also gave exposure to younger leaders in global platforms.

Indian Missions has truly lost a visionary, a profound mission thinker, a motivator in Dr. K. Rajendran.

IMA Staff, Vision City Hyderabad

OBITUARY



DR. K. RAJENDRAN
1952-2022

Synod Mission Board (SMB) Mizoram Synod recognises and remembers Late Dr. K. Rajendran's invaluable contributions to the partnership between India Mission Association and Mizoram Synod. He will be remembered as one of the greatest ecumenical leaders from India.

SMB conveys sincere condolence to the members of the bereaved family and India Mission Association.

May his soul rest in peace and memory be eternal.

I met Dr.K Rajendran in 2001 in Chennai during Transformation Congress-1, organised by Seva Bharat. After his preaching, I approached him and he introduced me to the ministry of IMA, whereby he explained clearly the vision and mission of IMA, and in 2003 we became member of India Missions Association. Since then, he became my mentor and I attended many seminars and had the opportunity to listen to many of his teachings. He was the one who recommended my name for Lausanne forum in the year 2004. He has immensely contributed in my life to grow as a leader and for my missional understanding. I learned to take daring steps from him. He invested so much in my life to build me for which I am grateful and will be thankful till my last breath. He encouraged, inspired and mentored me and he was always prepared to meet people for partnership. I cannot forget one thing he said to me, "Pranab, give my name as reference for anything to any one". When he left IMA I was thinking that he should have led Ima for another 3 years.

I am blessed by HIM.

Pranab Kishor Kumar (New Life for India)

Life is a journey. In this journey we meet many people. Some journey with you for a long distance, some do not. Dr. K. Rajendran is one of those, with whom I had the privilege to journey with. I was doing my MTH in Missiology from the Hindustan Bible Institute, where he came to teach one modular course. He found me asking several questions and giving new perspectives, that he asked me to come and meet him in his office, India Missions Association. I joined IMA. It was wonderful to work with Rajendran as he trusted people, delegated authority and gave freedom to innovate, experiment and fail. That is what I exactly needed.

Rajendran created platforms for others. In many places, where he was supposed to speak, he sent me. Each time it was baptism of fire. I had to step in the pulpit addressing stalwarts, seniors and experts. Once, he quietly asked me to speak in his stead during a conference in Singapore.

If I sum up my experience with him, here are the three words: **Speak, Write, and Connect**. He encouraged me to speak as voice of the voiceless, truth and new ideas for missions. Not just speak, he encouraged me to keep on writing. After several years he said: "Mano, whatever you write I read. Keep writing". That was one of the reasons for writing over dozen books. Connect was his third advice. He was a great networker and was always willing to connect people with his friends. It was a great learning to network from his model.

One more legend fades away from the horizon. He has gone ahead of us as a great model, inspirer, hand-holder, and a ladder to climb great heights. Grateful to God for blessing my life and our country with such a leader.

J.N. Manokaran

Dr. Rajendran was undoubtedly a visionary, able leader, approachable and a daring maverick of his day. He always wore "futuristic thinking" on his sleeve. While most youth ministries were traditional in their approach, he stood by us encouraging us in our walk down the creative path and even awarded Kerygma "the IMA award for creative and innovative ministry". Such was his nature and passion.

**Jacob and Sheela Isaac, Kerygma
Bangalore**

The Great Commission Movement and Grace Assembly pay honourable tribute to Dr. K. Rajendran. A faithful brother, wonderful mentor and a sacrificial model who shall be missed by all of us.

**Dr. Chandrakant Chavada
Great Commission Movement Trust, Gujarat**

A matriculate lad became a missions federator. It was in the year 1970, I was leading the OM Team in Tamil Nadu. We were working in Trichy district. Some local leader introduced to me a lean young lad of 19 years age and suggested that I try him on my travelling team for a few days. I did.

I found him very enthusiastic and active. But he damaged my old tape recorder that I used for dictating my letters. I prayed to the Lord to know if it was really His will that this lad should join ministry.

We left him and moved on to Thanjavur district. He came all the way to Thanjavur for formal interview. Our Team admitted him with some reservation. But he soon disproved our reservations. He persevered on for 27 years and became one of the very senior leaders of OM India.

Rajendran, along with (now Bishop) Joseph D Souza and Dr. Praveen Moudgil in partnership IMA, started in the eighties, Leadership Training for the second line leaders of member missions of IMA, in order to prepare them for the CEO responsibilities. This great vision, along with the Management Training effort of EFI, laid the foundation for the formation Christian Institute of Management 15 years later.

Rajendran was self-taught. From matriculation he moved up and completed his Doctoral study in Missiology. When I stepped down from IMA, Rajendran was selected by the Society to head IMA. I had the privilege of mentoring him for a year in that responsibility.

While heading IMA, he saw the need for reaching the urban middle and upper class and upper caste India and did extensive survey of cities, conducted seminars and training programs for reaching them.

Hailing from a family of difficult spiritual background, Dr. K. Rajendran rose up to national level responsibility. He also served as Chairman of the Missions Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance for several years. He mentored many second line leaders, built networks, wrote books and articles, spoke for the unreached, and was always active in the work of the Lord.

I Corinthians 15:58

May his life and work inspire many in the younger generation for missions.

Ebe Sunder Raj
ebesunderraj@gmail.com

Non - Formal Training

We praise God for enabling us to continue facilitate the Non - Formal Training for rural church planters with the missionaries of Asia Evangelistic Fellowship (AEFI) India and the Gilgal Prayer Fellowship Ministry (GPFM). This is the **third phase of training program with 16 missionaries** participating in the training. The training began on 21st June till 23rd June 2022 at **Gilgal Prayer Fellowship Mission campus, K C Patti**. The training dealt with the following specific topics:

1. Basic Doctrine

Holiness & Righteousness of God

2. Bible Knowledge

Inspiration & Structure of the Bible

3. Spiritual Enhancement

Call & Righteous living

4. Character enhancement

Missionary heart & commitment to the ministry

5. Ministry enhancement

Understanding people group, goal setting and understanding receptiveness of the people.

It was 29 hours of learning facilitated by five experienced resource persons in their area of specialisation with practical inputs. The participants were encouraged to give their input in various process of debriefing such as large group debriefing, small groups debriefing and personal time for reflection. This is an ongoing training process for the church planters, and it is encouraging to hear the impact of this training in the lives and ministries of the participants. A training assessment is also done with the trainees, where the findings enable the respective member mission organisation to retrospect on the various aspects of the impact of the training both in the life of the missionary and in his/ her ministry. It also helps us to see the entire training design and its process in the light of the objectives.

We thank God for His grace, wisdom, and guidance to continue invest our time, resources and efforts in facilitating this training. Both our member missions AEFI & GPFM are encouraged by their missionaries to continue facilitate the training as it is effectively impacting the life and growth of missionaries and their ministry. Let us continue to uphold this training in our prayers.

To God be the glory great things He had done!



Vision Casting

We praise God for enabling us to initiate the Vision Casting Ministry in IMA from April 2022. We thank Pastor M. M. Prasad for his motivation and encouragement to see that the vision casting team emerge in IMA. This ministry is also named as The Missional Community and it will be established in all the cities of India beginning with Hyderabad in the next five years (2022 -27). The vision and the mission of the vision casting ministry is clearly defined and focused. The first vision casting meeting took place on 28th May, 2022 at Emmanuel House of Worship Church, Amsri Building, Secunderabad, where 19 church leaders from various Christian organization / churches attended this meeting. We praise God for this blessed meeting which also enabled us to form a core team for the vision casting ministry in Hyderabad. The team hopes to achieve the following action plan this year at Hyderabad.



Strategies

Vision Casting in the churches- 40 Churches- Mainline Churches- Charismatic churches-
Prayer Mobilisation- Small Groups- Prayer Walks- Chain of Prayer-
Missional Programs- Missions Retreat- Mission Exposure- Music for Missions-
Missionary Care- Christmas Get together- Member Care Retreat- Mission sale-

Responsible Persons

Rev. Don Bosco
Grace Nallaraj & Hannah Anandraj
Bishop Ravi Paul
Joshua John



IMA staff with the Pastor and friends from MCF

The second Vision casting meeting took place at Hyderabad Mizo Christian Fellowship on June 19, 2022. The General Secretary shared the vision and objectives of the Vision Casting Ministry. This fellowship supports one of our IMA staff- Elavarasan as one of their missionaries.



General Secretary, IMA addressing the MCF Congregation

New Staff

B. Suneetha joined the office of IMA in the month of May to assist the Program, Finance and is also part of the Vision Casting ministry. Suneetha is not new to us at the IMA office, as she is the wife of our Campus Supervisor, Sagar Bandela. We are happy to have her and we warmly welcome her to IMA family.



UNREACHED PEOPLES GROUP

Namdeo People are a community found in Madhya Pradesh, who derive their name from Nama Deva, a great saint. They migrated from Uttar Pradesh and are now distributed in the districts of Raisen, Vidisha, Sagar, and Bhopal of Madhya Pradesh, and have formed an endogamous group. They are Hindus predominantly following the Saivaitic sect. Their primary language is Hindi with some groups speaking Marathi. This people group is an Unreached and Unengaged group where Christian percentage stands at 0.01%. These people normally live in temporary houses/ shanty houses/ ghettos, and they mostly depend on daily wages to meet their livelihood.

Key Statistics

- Population- Approx 75, 00, 000
- Primary State- Madhya Pradesh
- Primary Districts-Raisen, Vidisha, Sagar and Bhopal
- Primary Religion- Hinduism
- Languages Spoken-Hindi, Marathi
- Christianity Percentage- 0.01%

*Let us continue to pray for the unreached peoples group, that the favor of God may rest upon them.

Praise

- We praise God for his continuous leading in our lives and for all the successful meetings and fellowships we could have till date.
- We praise God for Mizo Christian Fellowship who has come forward to support one of our staff as the missionary of their church.

Vision city campus is now open for facilitating training, conferences, consultations for the member missions at subsidized costs and we encourage the member missions to make use of these facilities for their staff retreat and other meetings.

We are also opening up for the CEOs of the member mission organisation to spend time with their families for rest and recuperation.

For more details, kindly contact Bro. Sagar (Campus Supervisor) +91-9618505378



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- **Bandhu Seva** - Four Trainings to take place this year, most probably in Udaipur, Rajasthan from 13th- 16th September, and in Mumbai, Maharashtra from October 18- 24, 2022.
- **Advanced Missions Leadership Training-** IMA Vision City from 16th- 20th August, 2022 and 20th- 25th Feb, 2023.
- **India Missions Summit-** SAIACS, Bangalore 20th - 23rd September 2022 (hosted by SAIACS).

Continue to uphold the ministry of IMA and all the staff who are working towards the glory and extension of God's Kingdom.



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