



Lutherans in Mission Working Around the World... Fall 2024



A Word from Dr. Abdul Messiah, Director

I come from India, a country with 33 million gods and goddesses, but as Christians we confess there is one living and eternal God. His love is unwavering, not withdrawn based on my actions. Being called into this marvelous light is a privilege. I am deeply grateful to the Lord for making me a part of the Bisharah Ministry, working with my father, Rev. K.K. Alavi.

Our call is to share the Gospel with unreached people throughout India. We seek to prepare witnesses through the Shaliach's Bible Institute to return home to preach the Gospel, form house churches, plant churches, and witness inspiring life change. To stand alongside people as they find purpose and identity in Jesus Christ our Lord is truly fulfilling. My heart is for every person who walks through the gates of Bishara and the Shaliach's Institute. I hope they feel safe and we build trust so God can speak to their hearts and a complete life transformation can occur.

Faith is more than personal; it is communal. When we share our stories of God's faithfulness, we can encourage others in their walks with God. Maybe you have grown in your faith through hearing someone else's testimony. Our pastor in charge, Rev. Bimal, shared an incredible story from one of our house churches in northeast India. I trust this story will encourage you in your faith.

He spoke of brother Peter (he had a previous name), who came from a tribal village. I was shocked to hear that some 50 miles from our house church,

there is a place where they practiced human sacrifice in this tribal village. Peter for some reason got into a fight with his tribal people. They were chasing him to kill him. He ran into a dense forest, hiding on a tree branch. From a far distance he heard a Gospel song. He heard about a man called Jesus who loves him, who can forgive his sins and there is hope in this Jesus. Peter jumped from the tree and walked toward the sound coming from where people had gathered that Sunday. He walked into the shed, finding the people afraid because they knew what this man was capable of doing. The pastor, however, was bold, came to Peter, hugged him, brought him forward, shared with him the Good News of Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins and hope in the cross. Then and there Peter knelt and gave his life to Christ.

Peter later learned about the Shaliach Institute's training program, where the pastor himself had graduated. He showed up at our center; we took him in, trained him, and now he is back in his village and tribe, preaching and starting a house church. There are many challenges in preaching the Gospel, but it is a joy and a privilege to do so in our context. There is great joy to discover our Lord is with us every day, and we and our students experience this joy in our witness.

At our Shaliach's Institute, students spend three years studying the Scriptures, participating in our outreach literature ministry, sharing the Word, and interacting with people of other faiths. Presently, we have students from 14 states in India. There are some 500,000 villages in India without the Gospel, not knowing Jesus Christ.

New Hope Mission Society is the American ministry that supports us. It indirectly supports 40 house churches, 42 Bible college students, and many more Muslim converts. Your prayers and support have been integral to our success. We treasure our partnership in bearing witness especially to the unreached. Thank you!







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"And You Will Be My Witnesses...

As Abdul notes in his article, the Shaliach Bible Institute, in the last years, has contributed in very special ways to how our New Hope Mission Society is now able to expand the witness of the mission to Muslim people in India. To have 42 students coming from 14 states studying to prepare them for witness is wonderful. This is a costly endeavor, but the board of NHMS is thankful for the support from so many churches and individuals to keep preparing witnesses.

Devastating Floods Take a Huge Toll in the Loss of Lives, Destruction of Property, and Demand for Support

There was a massive landside that buried two towns, which included a school, mosque, temples, and a Lutheran Church. Over 500 people lost their lives. The regional government assessed the Bishara mission that NHMS supports a contribution of some \$2,400 for relief work caused by the flood. Special directed giving raised a major portion of that obligation. NHMS is thankful for those special gifts.



Dr. Abdul Messiah Is in the U.S. Through Mid-November

Leaders of NHMS are working with our partners to get Abdul out to tell the story of this mission. He is presently in South Dakota and will be in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and other states beginning in October. If you are interested in inviting him to your church, pastors' gathering, or other group so that he can share the story of Bishara and Shaliach Bible Institute, please contact Pastor Paul Knudson at Faith Lutheran Church in Hutchinson (paulk@faithlc.com) or call 320-455-7054. Abdul and Pastor Paul will also at the LCMC Annual Gathering, Sept. 29-Oct. 2, and would love to connect with you there.





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SHALIACH BIBLE COLLEGE "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." - III John 4

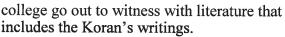
Literature Ministry Remains a Significant Witness of the Mission

Evangelical witness in a hostile environment continues to call for special ways to overcome challenges to that

witness. Pastor Alavi has learned from his own Muslim past that Muslims will not throw away literature that includes portions of the



Koran. Over the years he has always included writings from the Koran in the literature witnesses handed out to Muslims. As part of their training, students at the Bible





Dr. Christoph W., An Expert in Islam, Is Thankful for the NHMS Partnership

Dr. Christoph from Germany joins with us in supporting evangelical outreach to Muslims. He also stands with us in the Bishara Mission. He recently spent time there encouraging other Lutheran pastors in that area of India to be faithful in witness. NHMS has a small partnership with his mission organization in supporting the leadership of Brother Titus in Nigeria in his daring witness to Muslims in that country. Dr Christoph is meeting with NHMS leadership soon to see how we can work effectively together. It is a joy to have such an amazing partner.

NHMS Leadership Asks for Strong and Faithful Financial Support

Thank you, faithful and generous supporters, for your faithfulness in giving. We trust that together we will end 2024 with the funds needed so that the witness reported here is able to continue. Our Lord is gracious and faithful to us, and living under His call we will be generous for this witness to the Great Commission of making disciples of all nations.





New Hope Mission Society desires to bring the love of Jesus Christ to the Muslim world.



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You can support the New Hope Mission Society and these faithful ministries by mailing your check to the address noted below. You can also give on-line by using the QR Code on the right. This will allow you to set up a login to give regularly or to send a one-time gift. Thank you for your generous and faithful support!



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