

# COME BE A PART AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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# UNDERSTANDING THE PARADIGM

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE NEW PARADIGM

The efforts of William Carey marked the beginning of a new era in missions. Historians call it the period of “modern missions”. Today we are at the threshold of a new age. God is doing new things and in different ways.

During what was called the modern missionary period, God called individuals to make great sacrifices of leaving their country and traveling great distances to countries that were vastly different from their own. They had to learn to contextualize the message, understand the new culture, and communicate the message in a manner that the people in darkness would be reconciled to God and enter into a powerful relationship with our heavenly Father.

The early years of modern missions was characterized by the individuals leaving their homeland and realizing that they may never see their families again. Many packed their belongings in caskets realizing that they would be buried in the foreign land. Many made great sacrifices and lost their spouses and children due to illness on the field. Their sacrifices however laid a great foundation for missions.

Missionary efforts of the Church found their origin of their mission on the shores of many nations. Beachheads were set up in many countries. From these beachheads, as God moved in the hearts of the missionaries concerning the unreached, they moved into the heart of the nation and the inland mission movements were born. Through this effort God evangelized the ethnic communities and brought a great awakening among its people. This era saw the focus on the need of reaching the unreached people groups of the world. Today as a result of this, we have movements all over the world reaching the unreached peoples.

1910 marked the beginning of a transition to a new tradition in missions. Mission leaders all over the world began to see the handwriting on the wall. The 200 years of British rule was not going to last much longer and the independence of nations from the colonial reign was at the threshold. Nationalism was on the rise. The message of the Lausanne Congress for World Evangelism was to prepare national leadership and get ready to transfer the same. By the middle of 1947, the nations began emerging as independence was given to one nation after the other. The church began to experience a new era. Leadership was forced into the hands of the national leaders and the Church began the process of becoming nationalized.

In 1974, the Lausanne Congress marked the beginning of a new direction for the Church. Mission leaders realized how far the church was from being independent and contextual. More than 80% of the delegates at the conference were expatriates and less than 20%

were nationals. This greatly saddened the organizers. A big push was made for national leadership and the need to contextualize the message and the Church.

In the next 15 years the Church and mission movements in every nation began to take responsibility for the mission of the Church. Efforts were made to contextualize the leadership, the message, the methods, and the resources. In a short period, by the time the Lausanne II Congress was called in the Philippines in 1985, the number had reversed. The nationals made up 80% of the delegation and less than 20% were expatriates.

Today, the Mission force from the Third World is growing. The growth of the Church is rapid and the Church outside the Western world is larger than the Church in the West. As a result of this, there is a national Church all over the world having great resources for the task of world missions. If one is to carry out missions and fails to see the national Church, they have lost sight of a great resource and opportunity to finish the Great Commission.

It was necessary for William Carey's generation to leave home, learn a language, understand the culture and contextualize the message and method. Today, the Body of Christ can strategically engage with the national Church by sending short term teams and together we can do much more.

Through this manual it is my hope to prepare you to understand this new paradigm and enable you to see how God can take you and enable you to make a difference.

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**LAYING A  
BIBLICAL FOUNDATION  
FOR THE TRIP**

**UNDERSTANDING  
THE MISSION  
OF  
THE CHURCH**

# A Biblical Theology of Missions and the Mission of the Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

## WHY SHORT TERM MISSIONS IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY IS STRATEGIC?

### 1. The Biblical Theology of Missions

#### a. The Creation and Fall of Man:

God's purpose in creating man was distinctly different from that of the rest of the universe and the earth in it. God created the entire plant and animal world for man. Man was given stewardship over all creation and provided the fruit of every tree as food. In the creation of man God had decided that he should be made in His image, with the ability to love, the ability to choose freely, the ability to will and to think. However, man was subject and subordinate to his Creator by the limitation placed on his life. In all of this, man's end purpose was to glorify God and live under his authority. Scripture also points out that man was specially created for fellowship with God and for the glory and worship of His Creator.

This unique privilege to man had only one condition attached to it. It was in the form of a command that he had to obey - "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden but must not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil ..." (Gen. 2:16 & 17). Violation of this command would result in serious consequences, the main one being total and absolute separation from the presence of God, for God had also said, "for when you eat of it you will surely die" (Gen. 2:17 b).

#### b. The Fall and its Consequences:

Man failed God when he yielded to the temptation of Satan and ate of the forbidden fruit. Sin came between God and man. The result was that man began to experience death and the consequences of being separated from God. The Apostle Paul, writing much later to the Romans and Ephesians clearly describes man's condition. He says that man is now blinded to the truth, and that he has exchanged the truth for a lie. Moreover, his heart is darkened, and he is dead in his trespasses and sin and is under the power of the evil one.

#### c. Increased Deterioration as a result of separation:

Between Gen. 3 and Gen. 12, the Bible describes the increased deterioration of man, who, separated from God, served only himself. Wickedness increased. Cain killed Abel. The righteousness of God was exchanged for the unrighteousness of man and their natural passions were perverted. They became sensuous and immoral in their behavior and God grieved because of their evil and wickedness (Gen. 6:3,5-6)

#### **d. Abraham meets God and God Covenants with him:**

It was in this context that God revealed Himself, called Abraham and promised to make him a blessing to the nations of the world (Gen.12: 1-3). The condition was that He would leave his country, people, household and go to the land God would show him. God had to take him away from his present authority before He could teach him to walk by faith. In Gen.12: 4, we read that Abraham left as the Lord told him, by faith, not knowing what God was going to do with his life. The only thing He knew was that God was going to bless him, make his name great and make him into a great nation through whom the nations of the world would be blessed.

#### **e. God fulfills His Covenant and forms Israel:**

Through the descendants of Abraham God fulfilled His promise. God did the impossible and gave Abraham a son in his old age. Sara, who was barren, conceived, and Isaac was born. The descendants of Isaac became God's instruments and they were formed into a nation that has since been called Israel. Turn of events however, took the Israelites into Egypt, where after the time of Joseph they served as slaves under Pharaoh.

After 400 years of being slaves they were called out to God and He delivered them just as he promised (Gen. 15:13-16). In Exodus 19 at Mount Sinai, God made a covenant with the descendants of Abraham. He told them, "If you will obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all the nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine you shall be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Ex 19:5-6).

#### **f. Israel, God's Instrument to Reconcile the World to Himself:**

When they covenanted with the Lord He called them Israel. They became God's special possession and He revealed His righteousness to them and confirmed His covenant with them. They were now a called out community, called to reveal God's righteousness and bring people to the knowledge of God as a kingdom of Priests. Israel, over the generations, came to understand God. He transformed them, blessed them and gave them a land. The result - all the nations of the world feared them.

#### **g. Israel Breaks the Covenant:**

As time passed, Israel forgot the covenant and instead of choosing to be under the protection and blessing of God they chose an authority like the other nations. In choosing to be under the authority of a human king they rejected God as King over them. Instead of being a people of God reconciling themselves and others to God they became like the world. They institutionalized God's revelation, bringing about bondage on themselves and the peoples of the world, and thought of themselves as superior to others and instead of being a means to bringing people to God, they made their call a religion and an end in itself.

## **Israel set aside and a New Movement formed - The Church:**

This process of going away and returning to God became a habit with the nation of Israel inspite of the warnings from God through his servants. Finally God had to say, "How often should I, like a hen gathers its chicks, gather Israel?" It was ultimately in the Incarnation of Jesus that redemption for all was made a possibility. As Paul says, "in the fullness of time He sent His son, born of a woman, under the law, to redeem those under the law, that they might receive the full rights of a son (Gal-4: 4-5)". "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life (John 3:16)". The ultimate purpose of Jesus' coming to earth was to lead people into a belief in who He is and what He has done, which leads to salvation and the formation of a new community. This is a community Jesus said He would build himself – "I will build my Church (Matt. 16:18-19)". It was to be a community that was established on the foundational confession that Jesus is Lord. Jesus called this community the church, the called out community, and the gates of Hades would never ever overcome this community.

## **II Understanding the Church - God's New Instrument:**

### **a. Peter's Understanding of the Purpose of Church:**

The New Testament is replete with teaching on the Church. Peter, in his letter to the believers expounds this concept, comparing the call of the new community to the call of Israel and uses the same words that Yahweh used to describe Israel in Exodus 19:1-6. He says "you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you might declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people but now you are a people of God. Once you had not received mercy. But now you have received mercy" (I Peter 2:9-10).

### **b. Paul's Description of the Purpose of the Church:**

Paul also brings this out very clearly in Eph. 2:11-22 where he writes,

Therefore, remember that formerly you who were Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men) - remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently,

you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow-citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

In these verses, Paul says that God took the people of Israel and the Gentiles and made them one. He broke down the wall of separation and made one new man. Through the cross he put to death their hostility and gave them access to the Father by one Spirit. As a result of this we are a very special people who are described by the use of four metaphors - "CITIZENS", "HOUSE HOLD", "BUILDING" and "TEMPLE".

In other words we are a kingdom community under the authority of Christ, formed into a family that is built around God's revelation. Christ is the corner stone and the prophets and the apostles are our foundation. In him (Christ), we are an interdependent community joined together to raise up a holy temple to become the dwelling place of God so that when the world sees us individually or corporately Christ is seen and they will glorify the Father who is in heaven.

### **c. Paul and Peter's view concerning the Function of the Church:**

Having said this in chapter 3, Paul explains the function of the church after giving His example of why he is the transmitter of the gospel. He says, "His intent was that now through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms. For according to his eternal purpose, which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord through faith, we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Moreover, Peter at the beginning of chapter 2 of his first Epistle says "As you come to him the Living Stone – rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him, you also like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ..." Peter says that we are a chosen community, selected by God and very precious in our relationship to him. We are living stones being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood. We are God's very special representatives - all of us, not just the pastor or the theologically trained. Every believer is special in Christ, and all of us form a kingdom of priests, reconciling the lost to Christ. He wants us to offer spiritual sacrifices to God. What he is saying here is that as priests we should bring not only ourselves but unbelievers as well, who are made disciples of Christ and offered as a spiritual sacrifice. As they are made disciples and brought to Christ, He imputes his righteousness to them and they become acceptable.

## **3. The Mission of the Church:**

### **a. The Purpose and Function placed into the Context of the Great Commission:**

Now take this and place it into the context of the great commission. Christ said, "when the power of the Holy Spirit is come upon you, you shall be my witnesses"

(Acts 1:8). We declare the praise of him who brought us out of darkness into the marvelous light. What both Christ and Paul are saying is that as witnesses we ought to declare what Christ has done for us. Everyone has a praise story and no one can contradict it. Everyone who has believed in the Lord Jesus Christ is under obligation to declare His praises, and not just a few. This is a responsibility that no one should close his or her eyes to.

**b. The Extent of the Great Commission:**

The question arises then, “Where are we called to exercise this?” Scripture points out that we are to be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the uttermost parts of the world. In Matthew, we read that we need to carry this message of Christ so that disciples are made in every ethnic community of the world.

**c. The Implementation of the Great Commission:**

How do you do this? By going, preaching and baptizing. But we need to realize that we do this for the ultimate purpose to make disciples. That is the end in mind. So Christ has to be incarnated into the midst of every ethnic community and geographical location of the world in order for people to have an opportunity to hear, understand and be discipled into communities of believers radiating the presence of Christ in their own contexts.

This is who we are and what we are all about. Anything short of this is a misunderstanding of our call and relationship to Christ. Obviously, not all of us are similar. God made us all different, with different abilities and personalities. We are also born in the context of many different cultures and societies of which we are products. However, when we come to Christ He transforms us. He makes us a new creation. He takes us from being conformed to this world and renews our minds, which in turn affects our way of life. In Galatians and Colossians, Paul speaks about putting off the old, putting on the new, mortifying and transforming our behavior. Without Christ this is not possible. But in Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit that indwells us; God enables us to change. It takes time but it is He who does it as we surrender our lives to him. The more we yield to the Holy Spirit we became less like the world and more like Christ. This is his hope for us and does not come without a struggle against the world, the flesh and the devil. However, praise be to God, we have victory in Jesus.

**d. Understanding Giftedness in the Context of Missions:**

One of the things that happens to a believer when Christ comes into his life is that he is gifted by Christ through the Holy Spirit with an ability to serve Christ and His church. These gifts are given to every one without exception. They are given to prepare God’s people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up in faith and knowledge of the Son of God, and become mature.

In his letters to the Romans and to the Corinthians Paul says there are many members but each have different functions. But they are all part of each other are interdependent and function in proportion to their faith. They should function in unity and for the common good of the Church. He makes the point that the gifts are given by the Spirit, the call to service is made by Christ and the empowerment for their working is given by God.

This becomes very significant both to the understanding and the working of mission by the Church. When we think of doing the work of serving the church all of us are important. All of us must get involved and take part in interdependence of each other, so that we are preparing people for the work of service to build the body up in faith and knowledge of Christ and in the maturing in their understanding of God.

Therefore each of us becomes important and necessary. When we look at missions we must not merely think of it as a task of some very specially called individuals, to go and learn a language and live their life in a culture different from that of the one they live in. Yes, there is still room for that but as we look at the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we must ask what God is doing and make changes to facilitate the vision of God to win people out of darkness into His marvelous light.

SPIRITUAL  
INVENTORY  
GIFT TEST

# **Houts Inventory of Spiritual Gifts**

**By Richard F.Houts**

A self-assessment instrument  
to help ascertain your ministry gifts and  
the related opportunities for Christian services.

The sign gifts of tongues, healing and miracles  
are not included.

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## Introduction: One Understanding Of Spiritual Gifts

What is the difference between a natural talent and a spiritual gift?

The case of a young woman I know well can help us understand this question. She aptly puts to use a God-given strength – the ability to work with “losers,” teens and others who are suffering and undeserving, who frequently fail or fall short of society’s standards of acceptable behavior. Why would such an ability, even though bestowed at birth, not be a spiritual gift?

Such an ability becomes a spiritual gift and special ability when it meets Biblical criteria through a current God-given experience. Prior to this experience the ability either lies dormant because of unawareness, or finds expression through wrong motives and self-sufficiency. One passage of the New Testament which clearly reveals spiritual giftedness tied to proper motives and a divine dynamic is I Peter 4:10-11:

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God, whoever serves, let him do so by the strength which God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (NASB).

The words underlined above indicate the crucial criteria that distinguish spiritual gifts:

1. A Spiritual gift is expressed with a servant motive, to minister to a local congregation or church.
2. A spiritual gift is expressed with a steward motive, recognizing and managing this special ability not as one’s own, but as God’s.
3. A spiritual gift is expressed as sacred worship, giving God the awe and credit due to Him.
4. A spiritual gift is expressed as strengthened “by the strength which God supplies”. A rugged individualist would neither lean upon God’s power, nor believe that “God works in you both to will and to do His good pleasure”. (Philippians 2:13 NASB).

Returning to the example of the young woman above, the Biblical criteria appear to go unmet. She shows no evidence of Biblical motives in exercising her ability, neither does she seem to rely on the Lord for its use. If she would, the spiritual gift normally attributed to her would be mercy. As it is she has a talent of mercy, but not the spiritual gift.

Richard F.Houts  
North American Baptist Seminary

## 128 Spiritual Gift Statements

The Houts Inventory of Spiritual Gifts contains 128 statements. Check the boxes after each statement to the extent it reflects your life experience; much, some, little, or none.

Please keep in mind that a spiritual gift is related to your attitude or outward behavior toward building the Body of Christ and the local church.

Mark each statement to the extent it reflects your life	(3) MUC H	(2) SOM E	(1) LITTL E	(0) NOT AT ALL
1. I am willing and able to learn executive skills such as planning, organizing, and delegating				
2. I am warm towards and cooperative in my church's foreign missions emphasis				
3. There are times I sense that a particular teaching is unbiblical				
4. I enjoy sharing the message of the Gospel as I understand it.				
5. I am accepting of persons deeply troubled or in crisis.				
6. I have assurance that God answers prayer				
7. I feel deeply moved when confronted with the urgent financial needs of others.				
8. I get much satisfaction from hosting persons who need ministry at my home.				
9. I am concerned to read, study and learn Biblical truth.				
10. I find it easy to motivate others to follow through on a ministry project.				
11. I hurt for others who are poverty-stricken, physically sick, a stranger, or imprisoned.				

















124. I have been able to reveal God’s future events in general terms through Bible teaching.

125. I am able to restore persons who have wandered away from Christian community.

126. I can assist key leaders who “pray and minister the word” (Acts 6) by taking some of their other responsibilities.

127. I can make difficult Biblical truths understandable to others.

128. My nominations for church positions often prove to be good selections.


## Spiritual Gifts Worksheet

- To complete the inventory, transfer your answers to the grid below. Be sure to follow the sequence correctly (from the top, down, then on to the next column, etc.) Each number in the grid corresponds to a statement number.

ROW									TOTAL	GIFT
Row A	1	17	33	49	65	81	97	113		Administration
Row B	2	18	34	50	66	82	98	114		Apostleship
Row C	3	19	35	51	67	83	99	115		Discernment
Row D	4	20	36	52	68	84	100	116		Evangelism
Row E	5	21	37	53	69	85	101	117		Exhortation
Row F	6	22	38	54	70	86	102	118		Faith
Row G	7	23	39	55	71	87	103	119		Giving
Row H	8	24	40	56	72	88	104	120		Hospitality
Row I	9	25	41	57	73	89	105	121		Knowledge
Row J	10	26	42	58	74	90	106	122		Leadership
Row K	11	27	43	59	75	91	107	123		Mercy
Row L	12	28	44	60	76	92	108	124		Prophecy
Row M	13	29	45	61	77	93	109	125		Shepherding
Row N	14	30	46	62	78	94	110	126		Helps / Service
Row O	15	31	47	63	79	95	111	127		Teaching
Row P	16	32	48	64	80	96	112	128		Wisdom

- To compute your scores add up the eight numbers in each row and place the sum in the "Total column."

## IV. Glossary Of Selected Spiritual Gifts

ADMINISTRATION	The special ability of working with and through followers toward achieving Biblical goals and organizational objectives.
APOSTLESHIP	A New Testament office, represented today by the Spirit-given ability to minister cross-culturally with the goal of planting churches.
DISCERNMENT	The special ability to distinguish between truth and error, good and evil, the Spirit of God and the spirit of Antichrist.
EVANGELISM	The Special ability to act as a productive instrument of God in soul-winning.
EXHORTATION	The special ability to come alongside another in need of encouragement, challenge or earnest advice.
FAITH	An unusual ability to trust in the presence and power of God and to act on this trust.
GIVING	The special ability to earn money, manage it will and wisely give for the Lord's work.
HOSPITALITY	The special ability to provide an open home to those in need of food, lodging and fellowship, of a refuge to a bruised individual.
KNOWLEDGE	The special ability to master God's revealed truth in Scripture.
LEADERSHIP	The special ability to set goals and to motivate others towards their accomplishment in the Body of Christ.
MERCY	The special ability to aid the suffering or undeserving and to spare them from punishment or penalties justly deserved.
PROPHECY	The special ability to cause the authoritative word of God's truth to shine (II Peter 1:19, I Cor.14:3). It includes congregational preaching and lay utterances which explain and apply God's revelation for correction and edification.
SHEPERDING	The special ability to effectively guide, feed, and protect a flock of followers in Christ – also known as pastoring.
HELPS	The special ability to provide timely assistance that releases other Christian workers for direct spiritual ministry.

TEACHING

The special ability to give a detailed understanding of Biblical truth to those willing to learn.

WISDOM

A special ability to use knowledge effectively coupled with a reverential awe of God.

In contrast to talents or strengths which are also marked by ease, competence and joy, spiritual gifts are further characterized by serving one another as good stewards with God's strength, and by glorifying God in Jesus Christ. (I Peter 4:10,11, NASB)

**SHORT TERM OUTREACH  
WITH  
LONG TERM IMPACT**

# Missions in a global context of the 21<sup>st</sup> century

## 1. Missions at a Glance:

Missions as we all know it, is from the modern missionary period. Prior to that we have the work of the Apostle Paul as he went about the then known world preaching Christ, establishing a community of believers and forming them into a local church. He also appointed elders and released them to the work of the Holy Spirit and moved on to another place to repeat the process.

Following that early foundation, missions became more political and institutionalized till the emergence of William Carey. He began a process that started a movement of seeing denominations taking ownership of geographical areas for the purpose of reaching the unreached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in many nations of the world. This led to the inception of inland missions and the student mobilization to further the task since the rise of the national movements that began a political fight for freedom, which led to missionaries having to leave for their home land.

With the beginning of the era of nationalist movements, Mission agencies were forced to establish a national church movement. This was not an easy transition. As early as 1910, Mission agencies saw the handwriting on the wall but made very little effort to begin the transitional process. It was not until 1974 when the Lausanne Congress for World Evangelism was called that the church realized that 90% of the mission force was still expatriates. It was at that conference that steps were taken to mobilize nationals and empower them to take responsibility for the task. Fifteen years later when Lausanne II was called, the success of Missions was visible when it was noted that about 90% of those who attended were nationals.

The task of Mission cannot remain the same. With the establishment of National leadership, the National Church and Mission movements of the Church at large had to ask the question, “how should the church be involved in fulfilling the great commission in our generation?” The methods and strategies of the last 250 years had to change. The hard reality is that if the old methods are used in the present transformed context, the task will never be finished. We have to recognize that we are all part of the same body and are seeking to complete the task of seeing a community of disciples in every people group and geographical community of the world so that there is a church in every village and colony, of every town and city in our world. This way every 1000 people of every people group will have a light house - the church in the midst of them.

We need to look at the world and find out what the Lord is doing to fulfill His mission? We need to see where God is at work, find out what He is doing and become part of it. In a world where doors for traditional missions are closing, we need to look out for alternatives.

### **a. Colonization → Nationalization – >Globalization?**

For 200 years a large part of the world was under Colonial rule. In the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century Colonial rule gave way to Nationalization. Within a short span of 50 years the world has come to realize how much it needs each other and how in a context of interdependence the quality of life can be enhanced. This gave birth to Globalization. The Church must recognize what God is doing and begin to operate in the power of a new paradigm to do mission work.

### **b. The Church in the context of Globalization:**

The greatest fear the Church must overcome in this process is to realize that it's identity is not as important as letting Christ become incarnate among the lost to reach the unreached in the context of a synergy of the whole Body of Christ. With the establishment of the national Church and in the context of globalization as a pattern, we have to see how the Church can network with national movements to mutually serve each other to fulfill the Great Commission.

In this new context the task force may not need to really learn another language and fully learn to adapt to a culture. Rather, we need to look at how we can empower each other so our strengths are complementary in a way that we are all involved in fulfilling the mission. This is how short-term missions becomes an effective means to mobilizing the church to Missions.

## **2. Short Term Teams - The Alternative for Missions in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

The short term missions team paradigm helps a church or a network of churches to build a relationship with a national church movement or network of movements. These movements are formed into consortiums. Together, they learn to work with each other and understand how to disciple an unreached people. They define the vision of the movement and develop a strategy to disciple the unreached and unevangelized. This mobilizes the community of every church within the consortium to fulfill the Great Commission.

The strategy we propose is not merely to mobilize but also to envision your church in understanding what God has called us to do and to look for a way to express it, so that we are learning to move forward in fulfilling the Great Commission in our generation.

Ralph Winter made a study on the potential of the Church to finish the task in our generation. He suggested that if every believer were to reach out to 7 persons, we could complete the task. in this generation.

The problem however is that the majority of people that are unevangelized live in what is called the 10/40 window. Most of the countries in this area are closed to traditional mission. From the Muslim countries of Africa, stretching from West Africa through the

Middle East to the Hindu nation of India, the communist nation of China the Buddhist nations of Burma and Japan to the Philippines in the East, the majority of these nations will not allow any traditional missionary to enter the nation. This calls for an alternative.

One thing that stands out is that God has built His church within all these nations. We need to see the power in networking and empowering each other, as the secular world has demonstrated in developing economics through globalization. Networking, encouraging and strategically enabling the national church for the task can change the way mission looks today.

Short Term missions is a great alternative to countries in the 10/40 region. For a long term and lasting impact, we must understand its paradigm and strategy.

#### **a. Defining Short Term Missions**

People generally view short-term missions as the process by which a group of people are taken to do a particular task within a limited amount of time. They speak of a building team going to build a church or a medical team to do medical camps.

*We see short term as an effort to mobilize the whole church to understand its responsibility to missions. It is an effort to mobilize the whole body and cause it to take that responsibility by allowing God to use their skills, giftedness and abilities.*

#### **b. A Working Methodology**

When a church commits to this task we determine the giftedness of the team and form them into ministry teams. Those teams prayerfully prepare and plan as to how they will serve the Lord.

The national movement is informed of the ministry team and their gifts, abilities and skills. They then strategically discuss how they can engage these resources to serve the mission of the Church in the task of evangelism, envisioning, equipping, emphasizing and encouraging. So when the team arrives they are not just doing one effort in serving the church but a number of different ministries to help the national movement in fulfilling the great commission.

The first trip of the team is a learning process. Whenever something is new there is much that has to be learned. During this trip the national movement will be responsible to share the vision to lead and to mobilize the church and envision them to the possibilities of service. The international team will be walking through many unknown territories and experiences and will have to trust the national movement to help prepare the team for cultural adjustments.

#### **c. Giftedness and Preparation**

The international movement can help in doing the giftedness, skills and abilities test prior to their coming. This is more than just doing a giftedness test. It needs to identify abilities and skills that will empower the national movement to plan ministry opportunities. On

one of the recent teams from Oklahoma there was a very skilled nurse that did diabetic seminars. This ability was so unique that we were able to invite all kinds of people that were interested in knowing how to cope with this physical problem. People who otherwise could not be approached through traditional methods got connected with us through this ability. Similarly, others have helped in training school teachers and in speaking to information technology communities. Doctors with various specialization were hosted and brought into relationships with national believers. Many of these efforts may serve as pre-evangelism but they open doors that would otherwise be closed.

Many such innovative efforts have been mobilized to put the unreached in contact with the national church. This effort of identifying skills and abilities is the responsibility of the international church so it increases the ability of the national church to build a strategic and powerful ministry program to reach unevangelized and unreached communities.

Once the giftedness, abilities and skills are determined, ministry opportunities are considered and the individuals are formed into teams. They inform their church on the plan so that they are covered with prayer and support to get ready for the ministry. The team begins preparing for their ministries and trip under the leadership of the team leaders assigned by the local church. They have several training weekends during which time they will cover the material that will help them to understand the country and people they will be ministering to and ministry they will be partnering with. Teaching and learning takes place in the form of lectures, reading material and videos. They are equipped with skills to building prayer support and raising funds for the project.

The various teams within the short-term mission team set times for meetings and practices so they are working on planning their ministry. If they are a building team, children's team, and/or a music and drama team, they meet as such. The teaching team connects with the national movement to prepare for their teaching assignments. This is a long but valuable process. In addition to preparing for their ministry they spend time in prayer. The end result is that a great team is prepared, bonded like never before and interdependency of the church is experienced. In addition to these activities individuals also write lists of potential prayer and financial supporters and send them letters informing them of their trip and needs.

The amazing experience of the members of the team is knowing that God can use them in His service. They are not only open to serve in the field but also in the home front. Their faith in Christ becomes real as they watch God at work in changing them, providing for them and preparing them for the ministry.

#### **d. A Great Ministry and Learning Experience**

The mission trip itself will often turn out to be a stretching experience. At the end of the day more people have been impacted with such a strategy of networking and interdependence than would be humanly possible through a National Movement alone.

We have seen this phenomenon over and over again as short term teams have visited and ministered along with us.

Returning to their country is another learning experience. When teams go back the members are never the same. In fact, if we, as a national movement do not prepare them to re-enter, the members can become judgmental and burn many bridges. This is because God gets a hold of them and they experience God in a way that causes them to experience change not at the superficial but at the core. Their values are challenged and they make commitments to the Lord.

#### **e. Networking with the National Team**

The national team also prays and prepares to meet new friends from the Body. The movement receives the team, takes them through orientation and networks the ministry teams to their national team members. Together they learn how they can serve the Lord in the best possible manner. During their stay of a period between 10 to 12 ministry days, the team has the opportunity to minister to anywhere between 5000 to 30,000 people. Together they watch the Lord at work in pre-evangelism, evangelism, equipping national leaders and missionaries as well as envisioning and mobilizing the church. Can all this be done? The answer is, “Yes and more!”

#### **f. The Results**

Life will never be the same again at the end of their two week ministry period after they have seen and experienced God’s ability to use them in His effort of building His church. Most of them are ready to return. Some catch a vision of how they can do this in other parts of the world. Yet others learn their limitations but recognize how significant it is for them to be involved in prayer and releasing resources. Pastors learn the importance of mobilizing their churches to be involved in serving the Lord.

The greatest thing that happens is that a foundation has now been laid and developed. Once the international church has been through this process it can facilitate the process in a better manner the next time around. It also develops a foundation to discuss the second stage of the strategy to be adopted in a region, people group or generation. In the second stage of the strategy the church shares its experiences with other churches. They build around the vision that Christ has put in their hearts and they now begin building a strategic team around the adopting of an area. This in turn will lead to discussions with national movements and a formal partnership in reaching a specific location or people group is made. With each growing experience the network of churches is strengthened and they are ready now to discuss a strategic plan to reach the targeted people group.

Short term is a strategy that looks at the obstacle, understands the potential and engages the resources into a synergetic effort to accomplish the impossible. It is our hope that as we begin this process, God will help us build a partnership that will keep our hearts focussed on the vision and call so that we can together fulfill the mission of the Lord.

## THE BENEFITS OF A SHORT - TERM MISSION PROJECT

### ➤ TO THE VILLAGE / TOWN / NATION WHERE YOU MINISTER

- The Gospel is communicated through your life and testimony
- Non-Christians are won to the Lord.
- A holistic ministry is modeled which communicates love towards people
- The visibility of the Body of Christ as a whole is increased.

### ➤ TO THE HOST CHURCH

- They are encouraged simply by the team's investment of time and love
- Together they experience the power of cross-pollination.
- They are stimulated to consider new ministry opportunities
- They learn how to improve their ministries and gain new resources
- They are encouraged, enabled, motivated and empowered by the partnership.

### ➤ TO THE SENDING CHURCH

- They are challenged to evaluate their own paradigm to missions.
- They are challenged to adopt the lifestyle of a "sending" church.
- They gain a new vision of how their church can impact the world.
- They are stretched in their faith as they see God use them through prayer, finances and encouragement to reach out to the world.
- Missions is personalized.
- God uses the vision and training of the team to benefit the ministries and outreach of the church.
- The effort of the team becomes the extension of the local church.

### ➤ TO THE SHORT-TERM MISSIONARY

- They meet God in a new and intimate way.
- They are challenged to adopt the sacrificial lifestyle of a World Christian.
- They are encouraged and receive direction in discovering their role in World Missions.
- 11As character flaws are confronted God uses this intense experience for personal growth, value transformation and new commitments.
- A new level of faith is realized as they choose to leave their comfort zone and trust in God's provision.
- They learn first-hand the sacrifices and blessings of being a missionary
- Home evangelism opportunities become available as they discuss the trip with non-Christian friends and family.
- They understand the complexity of discipling cross-culturally.

**Giftedness,  
Skills and abilities  
Turned into  
Ministry Opportunities.**

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Since 1990 HBI Global Partners has been working in partnership with the North American Church and the ministries of Hindustan Bible Institute & college, located in Chennai, India. Each year, a growing number of churches have furthered both the vision of their churches and the ministries and HBI through the paradigm of short- term mission.



This new paradigm of identifying giftedness within churches, forming them into ministry teams and fielding them into nations that are perfectly set to partner with the churches is revolutionary. In just two weeks, each team member experiences God using them in so many different ways. What is most exciting is the fact that what they do in two weeks enhances the national movement and together they do much more than anyone can on their own.

In this section of the manual, we want to introduce you to the various ways God uses the members on the team to do evangelism, encourage the Body, equip the saint and empower the Church, so that progress is made in fulfilling the Great commission.

You may be wondering, “Can I really be used by God?” Or you might be thinking that missions is for one who dedicates his life to the ministry, goes to Bible college/seminary, gets equipped, finds a mission society, raises his support, bids farewell to the family, spends two years in language school and commits a life time to missions to reach a people group.

Times and paradigms have changed! Now in just two weeks, God is doing incredible things through individuals in a team that strategically prepares and engages in missions on a short-term trip in partnership with a national movement.

### **How can I make a difference in two weeks?**

*Here is an example. God helped us to partner with **World Help** in the month of March 2000. A team of 40 members was here for 8 days to work with the ministries of HBI.*

*In partnership with World Help,*

- *the Church Mobilization department hosted two pastors conferences for the state of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka where 1322 pastors were mobilized and equipped through these pastors conference.*
- *The teaching team taught 80 lay leaders and 36 Bible Women from INEC churches. They were able to share the Word of God with 14,677 people*

*through 8 church services and 1,005 people committed themselves for mission work, and 120 made a first time decision to follow Christ.*

- *The music team called “MISSION” ministered to 18,272 children, Bible students and young people through their singing and sharing God’s love.*
- *354 children in 6 homes received personal attention, love and, care from the Children’s team.*
- *The Medical team had a wonderful opportunity to minister to 987 people in 5 villages and 159 of them accepted Christ when the Gospel was shared with them.*
- *We connected with a total of 226 professionals and executives through two programs and shared the Gospel with them.*
- *The computer personnel taught 10 HBI staff MS Word and MS Power point and trained 12 secretaries of HBI on office Management.*

***One team made an impact on 35,976 people in just 8 days!***

**Can God use you?**

**Yes, He can!!**

There is no end to the list of avenues for service; **the primary requirement is a committed and surrendered spirit.** Year after year, the Lord has proved that in His hands, ordinary people using their giftedness, abilities and skills can accomplish the extraordinary.

# TYPES OF MINISTRY TEAMS

## TEACHING TEAM

The teaching team is comprised of pastors, Sunday school teachers, cell leaders and others skilled at teaching Biblical subjects and also pastoral, evangelistic missionary, and leadership skills. The teaching team equips grass root level missionaries and students in the school of evangelism programs and the theological students in the Bible school. The teaching team also conducts special seminars and training programs for women and leaders from different churches and organizations.



**a) The grass root level missionaries** go through a seven-year non-formal training program. They come from all over India to attend a two-week course, four times a year. They are at various levels in the training either as evangelists, church planters or missionary pastors. Many of them coming from the field have very little education. Most have never had any theological education and almost all of their training has come through a non-formal learning process. Their training has come in small increments of 5 to 10 days. God has used them as He will use you to build His church.

Short-term teams have been working with this group since 1989. The first team began with a class of twenty missionaries. Currently there are over 500 missionaries in this program. Today, some of those in that first group, serve as mentors and supervisors to other young missionaries.

*These five hundred missionaries have pioneered and established over 1,950 rural churches and have seen over 93,000 people come to Christ.*

**b) The students in the Schools of Evangelism** are equipped as church planters and help their organizations to start a church planting ministry. They are taught various subjects such as Evangelism Explosion, how to start and sustain a Cell group ministry, Church planting methods, Purpose of the Church, Leadership development, Strategic Planning and other types of ministry.

**c) The students in the formal theological program** are equipped as Theological leaders through the Master of Theology, Master of Divinity program and Master of Arts in Biblical Studies. The members with skills at teaching Biblical subjects equip these students to become theological and church leaders.

**d) Members of the teaching team may also share the Word during Chapel Services and Church Services on campus.**

Teaching teams minister to the HBI students, faculty and staff each morning at their regular chapel services for about 30 minutes. They may also preach in three campus congregations and other churches in the city on Sunday.

**e) Special seminars/ training programs:**

Special Seminars are conducted for men and women from different walks of life on topics such as discipleship, building relationships with non-Christians, how to handle anger, forgiveness, going the extra mile etc. We have also presented the challenge of Christian living to several “For Women Only” seminars.

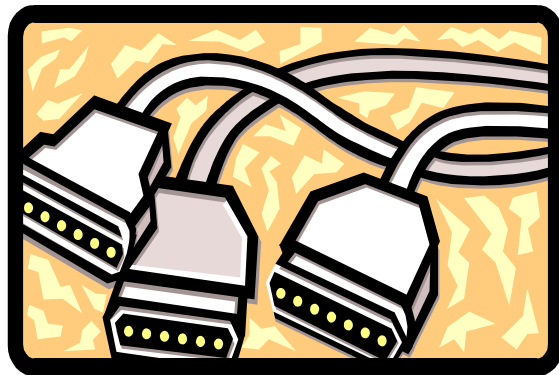
With the special talents, skills or abilities that God has given, teams have conducted special dinner programs for Bankers, Business Executives, Doctors and Computer Professionals.

## COMPUTER TEAM






The Computer team story is one of how God can take people who would have never considered themselves useful in ministry, and blessed their efforts beyond comprehension of their own capabilities. It is also the story of how God orchestrated the efforts of several groups of people working independently but with a common purpose to reach the unreached, to succeed where multinational organizations with millions of dollars in resources have failed.

Pentium Workstations, Gigabyte hard-drives, CD-ROMs, Networks, and Internet Communications etc., are part of the everyday conversation in an organization where teams marveled at the fact that thousands of tracts were printed on equipment originally designed by Benjamin Franklin, and that thousands of responses to the radio ministry were handled manually.

God has used short -term teams to bring technology to the mission field. Over the last 15 years their skills and experience in hardware, software and training have been used to expand an original set-up of three 286 PC's - one which was barely working and only two people who could use them, into a system of over 60 machines and state-of-the-art hardware and software.



The first project took nearly three years to accomplish because we were primarily working alone with limited resources, and had to develop the foundation from which the other projects were developed.

-  The first project provided the Radio Ministry with a network of computers to respond to the thousands of inquiries received each year from the weekly programs. The system allows the radio program staff to counsel, reach and disciple these individuals until they can be part of a local church. The data from the radio ministry is now also given to the Missions Department to target areas for new churches. On an average, every year, about 50,000 responses are received and handled by the follow up department.
  
-  The potential impact of the second project is almost too large to measure. Critical information compiled from the Government's census data, catalogued and computerized, is now available to all Christian organizations, leaders strategists, and missionaries. The information now available, both in computerized and printed form, helps the church define and target specific people groups, and to locate Christian communities near these groups to mobilize their efforts to reach the nation.
  
-  Working from the equipment set up by the first teams, the succeeding teams combined this information, along with other data available in the public sector, programmed and organized data on media such as CD-ROMs, and made the information available to organizations working in the field.
  
-  Communications between field workers, mission headquarters and the rest of the world are now effective and efficient. A personal computer, a modem and a telephone link can now tie missionaries from the most remote regions to their resource centers. Short-term teams were involved in setting up Internet connections between India and the World. For a few cents we can now instantly transmit messages or data.
  
-  Training local users has now become critical, and in some instances we have more demands than we have facilities. One of the teams has now set up a new Computer Learning Center at HBI with twelve computers to equip students, staff and children from the orphanages and give hands on experience.

Team members with computer skills in hardware, software, network, web designing and others could be utilized to empower the nationals to effectively carry out the ministry. Today, at HBI there is a department called "Information Technology Service Center" which is involved in training, upgrading, maintaining, web designing and networking. There are great needs and opportunities for computer skilled people to teach, assemble & upgrade computers, do LAN, help in web designing, consult in future development and opportunities such as convergent media and other new developments in the information technology industry. You can have a part and enable us make a difference!

## CONSTRUCTION TEAM

This team is made up of Christian men and women who are willing to work with their hands. Extending the hand of Christ through this ministry, members on the team serve by providing skilled and unskilled labor. The members often feel that they could never be real missionaries, and yet in the next few weeks God reshapes their lives. **He takes**

**their hands, their hearts and their lives and converts them to real live missionaries.**

The projects involve brick and masonry construction, carpentry, electrical work, plumbing, and roofing. The foundations are usually laid prior to the team's arrival. Construction teams are involved in building under conditions somewhat different than traditional American construction. It requires the use of local materials, hard work, and some Yankee ingenuity.

Short term teams have been involved in projects such as building medical quarters for medical personnel at a rural clinic, building housing for training staff, building orphanages and constructing several church buildings for rural congregations.

One team built the first-ever beds for the orphans who used to sleep on cold, hard, stone floors which often led to sickness. Another team built an entire intermediate wooden floor for the Library in just 14 days. Yet another team built cubicles in the reading area of the Library.

**“If God can create the universe in seven days, I’m sure He can help us build a little tiny church building in a week...”**

Sometimes, in as few as seven days, teams have built from the foundation to the roof, a church building that would provide a worship space for about a 100 people. While they work, they witness to the masons and laborers whom they are working with. They confirm to the village congregation and its pastor that God can move resources and people from the ends of the earth to bless them. They demonstrate God's love and Christian values all of which witness to the true and living God.

We hope to be able to raise additional “construction missionaries” to invest a portion of their lives in India.

## CHILDREN'S TEAMS

Each children's team works with about 200 children in 6 orphanages to demonstrate the love of Christ. Impressions of India that short-term teams bring back with them are often varied. Some remember the dirt and the poverty, others the exotic costumes and food, and some the darkness and the impossible task. But **no matter who you are, everyone remembers the children.**



According to UNICEF statistics, there are about 350 million children under the age of sixteen in India, of them thirteen million are homeless. They grow up in the most inhumane conditions, deprived of food, shelter and health care. Four out of five children in India never enter school and 70 percent of children drop out of school before the fourth grade.

As Christians we have to come to grips with the reality that more than one third of India's unreached billion are children, and in fact, they will be the fastest growing group of non-Christians today.

These children are truly a mission field with virtually no opposition, and with the potential to change the next generation. If we reach them now and in significant numbers, we will not only make in-roads to reaching the unreached billion in India, but also will begin to sow the seeds for the spreading of the Gospel in the next generation.

Short term teams and churches have invested significantly in the lives of these children. The children's team works to truly love the kids one on one, to touch, pray with, and hold each child in their arms. A lot of prayer and effort goes into putting the program together. The children are blessed with a time of songs, stories, and crafts to reinforce that they are precious, valuable and loved by Jesus. All the children hear the story of our Heavenly Father who loves them and are invited to ask Jesus into their life. We close each day with a time of devotions with them and, of course, a lot of hugs.

All the children receive "goody bags" filled with toys and candy from the visiting teams. Sometimes a team will take the children out to spend an afternoon at a circus.

The children's team helps us to fill a great need. More than anything they need love. We confess that we are unable to provide them with the level of love they need. But our weakness is enhanced by your strength. Each member of the team playing with the children, speaking to them, hugging them, crying with them and/or laughing with them are sharing the love of Christ. **You help us fill the gap and make a difference. 'Short term makes this possible'.**

## MUSIC AND DRAMA TEAMS

In India, we have the opportunity to take the Gospel into Hindu and Islamic homes by ministering to children in elementary and high schools. In a two-week period, the Music and Drama teams typically minister to over 10,000 elementary and high school students ranging in age from 5 to 15. The school children are blessed with songs and skits on Biblical stories. Performances are tailored to the age of the children, with little ones often actively participating in the songs.



The team travels with everything they need for a great show: sound equipment, puppets, sets and stages. After the show, the team is often honored with special recognition by the school. The event ends with the team praying with the principal for any special personal needs and the Lord's will for the school.

One of the hardest working teams, the Music and Drama team starts their day early trying to schedule in as many school assemblies as possible, and then end their nights supporting the village church teams, in the local villages and medical centers.

If there is a music band, they not only minister to the children in schools, but students in city colleges and young people through musical concerts. The worship teams conduct seminars for both worship leaders in the city churches and perform musical concerts.

A few years ago, a new Christian administrator took the risk and invited one of the short term teams to minister to children in a Juvenile home. The team told the story of the Prodigal Son through a skit. The school authorities were impressed enough to invite the teams back. They even asked for Bibles. One member of the team was led to provide the money for the Bibles. We returned the next day with 100 Bibles in the local language.

## MEDICAL TEAMS

The medical teams are involved in carrying out the "Great Commission" by ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of the sick in communities where medical assistance is distant and sometimes not available, along with providing yearly medical check-ups for the orphans, rural pastors and their families.

*Through the medical teams' contacts in 1996, they were able to secure a commitment for support from the Northwest medical team. This organization represents a group of Christian Medical Professionals who have been donating their time working in third world countries usually in response to disasters such as an earthquake. Their resources include donations from major pharmaceutical companies and medical equipment manufacturers.*



Most teams include physicians, nurses and other trained medical personnel. A few years ago, we were able to set up a consortium of local

Christian Doctors and Hospitals who will work with North West Physicians to coordinate the delivery of supplies and equipment. Their initial commitment is for about \$500,000 in medicine, supplies and equipment. After five years of preparing the soil and watering, it is awesome to see God bringing forth growth in this ministry.

“The most important event happening here today, is that it has awakened discussion among our local Christian doctors about our role in the Great Commission. There has never been this type of discussion in this community before...” – A comment made from the Indian doctor during an organizational meeting.

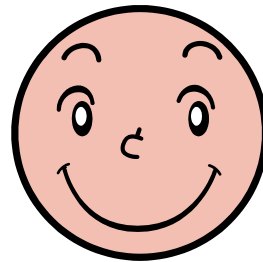
*Can God use your giftedness, skill or ability?*

**Yes! He can!!**

**Come be a part of the great thing God is doing in India.**

Maybe you have an ability or skill that has never been explored for Missions. Give open yourself to the opportunity to see how God can take it and use it to build bridges, enable the Church, equip the Body and empower the Church to reconcile the lost to Christ.

**YOU CAN MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE!**



# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**UNDERSTANDING  
OUR HOST COUNTRY  
INDIA**

INDIA



## States

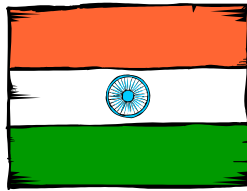
1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Arunachal Pradesh
3. Assam
4. Bihar
5. Chattisgarh
6. Delhi
7. Goa
8. Gujarat
9. Haryana
10. Himachal Pradesh
11. Jammu & Kashmir
12. Jharkhand
13. Karnataka
14. Kerala
15. Madhya Pradesh
16. Maharashtra
17. Manipur
18. Meghalaya
19. Mizoram
20. Nagaland
21. Orissa
22. Punjab
23. Rajasthan
24. Sikkim
25. Tamil Nadu
26. Tripura
27. Uttar Pradesh
28. Uttaranchal
29. West Bengal

## Union Territories

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Chandigarh
3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli
4. Daman and Diu
5. Lakshadweep
6. Pondicherry

## Some interesting Facts

- Emblem** – Ashoka’s lions
- Anthem** – “Jana gana mana...” written by Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore
- Song** – “Vande Matharam...” composed by Bankim Chandra Chatterji
- Flag** – is a horizontal tricolor of Saffron at the top, white in the middle



and dark green at the bottom in equal proportion. In the center of the white band is a wheel in navy blue.

**National Bird** – Peacock

**National Animal** – Tiger

**National Flower** – Lotus

### **Important days in the national calendar:**

- August 15<sup>th</sup> - Independence day
- January 26<sup>th</sup> - Republic day
- October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Gandhi Jayanti, Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi
- January 30<sup>th</sup> - Martyrs day. Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi
- May 1<sup>st</sup> - Labor day

## HISTORY

There are three distinct people who live in India. The Dravidians are the native Indians who lived all over the country but were pushed down to the south and some pockets in the central part of Indian by the Aryans who are the North Indians. The Dravidians are short and have dark skin color. The Aryans are tall, broad and are light colored. The people who live in the North east part of the country are of Mongolian origin. They are short, stocky, with yellowish skin and slanting eyes.

Many kings and emperors have ruled India. In 326 BC Alexander the Great came in to India and conquered the Indus valley region. When Alexander retreated from the region, Chandra Gupta Maurya took advantage of the confusion and lead a national movement to drive out Alexander's garrisons. The Maurya dynasty was founded in 323 BC and lasted for one hundred and fifty years. The notable emperor in this dynasty was Ashoka who is recognized as a great figure in world history.

The fourth century B.C saw the rise of the Gupta dynasty. The Gupta reign was a period of prosperity and is often called the 'Golden age of India'. Much of the rock temples and mural paintings found in India are from this period.

At the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> century, a new Islamic state rose in the highlands of Afghanistan. Sultan Mahmud started a hit and run campaign to ransack the Hindu temples along the border. In the process, he annexed a great part of land on the Indian side. For 150 years they did not trouble India but in 1192 Mohammad Ghori under took an expedition which may be considered the beginning of the attempt of Muslims to conquer and hold India.

In 1526, Babur the Mughal, descendant of the Mongol conquerors Timur and Genghis Khan invaded India and defeated the Afghan rulers at the Great War of Panipat. It took the Mughals thirty years and the grandson of Babur, Akbar, to finally in 1560 bring about total Mughal rule in India. Akbar was an able ruler who abolished taxes and tried to bring harmony among the Hindu Kingdoms and rulers in the country.

There were some significant revolts by the Rajputs in Rajasthan and the Marathas in Maharashtra during the reign of the Mughals. There are many stories of valor and sacrifice during this period.

Aurangzeb, a Mughal emperor was the first to sign a peace treaty with the British. The British came into India initially for trade. They saw the riches India had in store for them and gradually started spreading their hands around. They followed the principle of 'divide and rule'. They did this well and stayed on in India spreading a reign of terror. On August 15<sup>th</sup> 1947 India got her independence after many lives were lost fighting a non-violent war. Significant people in our freedom struggle were Mahatma Gandhi also known as the 'Father of the Nation', Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Sarojini Naidu and others. India became a Republic on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 1950. The first Prime Minister of India was Jawaharlal Nehru.

## NEW DELHI

### *The Indian capital*

History is alive and throbbing in Delhi, the capital of India. It is often said that the history of India is the history of Delhi. New Delhi, the capital of India, has always occupied a strategic position in the country's history, as Hindu and Islamic dynasties have ruled from here, leaving their imprint in the form of relics, which recapture those bygone times. Delhi is one of the fastest growing cities of India. Here, remnants of the past survive along with skyscrapers, residential colonies and bustling commercial complexes. Some of the city's houses are the finest museums in the country. Its boutiques and shopping arcades offer access to a wealth of traditional and contemporary crafts, from all over the country. It has specialty restaurants to please the gourmet, open parks and gardens ablaze with flowers, and in winter months, particularly, an amazing plethora of cultural events.

Geographically, Delhi forms an enclave inside the eastern frontier of Haryana in North India, while sharing an eastern boundary with Uttar Pradesh. Its dry climate is a result of its proximity to the Rajasthan desert, and the Gangetic plains of Uttar Pradesh.

Delhi's history dates back to the first millennium B.C., when it was known as Indraprastha. The Tomar Rajputs built Lal Kot, the core of the first of Delhi's seven cities. It was annexed by Prithviraj Chauhan, who extended it to create the Qila Rai Pithora. Qutub-ud-Din-Aibak made Delhi his capital in 1206, and built Quwwat ul Islam Mosque, which is a fine example of Indo-Islamic architecture. He also built the towering minaret, the Qutab Minar, one of Delhi's great landmarks.

Around 1311, Allaudin Khilji established Siri, the Second City, north east of the Qila, and dug a vast reservoir at Hauz Khas. The Tughlaqs who ruled the city after the Khiljis, built the third city of Tughlaqabad to the extreme south of Delhi. The fourth city of Jahanpanah has practically disappeared now, but the fifth city Firoz Shah Kotla rises off Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, and is famous for its Ashoka pillar. When the Mughals replaced the Tughlaq dynasty in the early 16th century, Babur concentrated on developing Agra, and made it his capital. But his son, Humayun, constructed a new capital in Delhi, on the banks of the river Yamuna, and called it Din Panah. Shah Jahan created Shahjahanabad along the river, as the well - planned, seventh township of Delhi. It remained the Mughal capital until 1857. The monument that remains as a proud reminder of their glorious rule, is the majestic Red Fort.

Delhi was ruled by the Rajputs and the Mugals before it came under British rule in 1857. In 1911 the British decided to make it their capital. The area south of Shahjahanabad, was chosen as the site for the imperial capital, that was built on a regal scale by January 1931. Lutyens and Baker designed much of the architecture along the stretch between India Gate at one end, and Rashtrapati Bhavan (the President's residence) at the other; with the adjoining administrative buildings of North and South Block, Parliament House and Connaught Place nearby.

Delhi was made a Union Territory on November 1, 1956. With the 69th Constitutional amendment, Delhi got a Legislative Assembly when the National Capital Territory Act was enacted in 1991. Delhi, besides being the seat of the Central Government, has an economy supported by agriculture, tourism, commerce and a growing industry. With the development of infrastructure facilities, Delhi plays host to a number of national and international events including sports - related events, conferences and seminars.

## RELIGIONS

In India, religion is a way of life. It is an integral part of the entire Indian tradition. For the majority of Indians, religion permeates every aspect of life, from commonplace daily chores to education and politics. Secular India is home to Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and other innumerable religious traditions. Hinduism is the dominant faith, practiced by over 80% of the population. Besides Hindus, Muslims are the most prominent religious group and are an integral part of Indian society. In fact India has the second largest population of Muslims in the world after Indonesia.

### HINDUISM

The underlying tenets of Hinduism cannot be easily defined. There is no unique philosophy that forms the basis of the faith of the majority of India's population. Hinduism is perhaps the only religious tradition that is so diversified in its theoretical premises and practical expressions as to be called a "museum of religions". This religion cannot be traced to a specific founder nor does it have a "holy book" as a basic scriptural guide. The Rig Veda, Upanishads and the Bhagwad Gita can all be described as the sacred text of the Hindus.

Unlike most other religions, Hinduism does not advocate the worship of one particular deity. One may worship Shiva or Vishnu or Rama or Krishna or some other gods and goddesses or one may believe in the 'Supreme Spirit' or the 'Indestructible Soul' within each individual and still be called a good Hindu. This gives an indication of the kind of contrasts this religion is marked by. At one end of the scale, it is an exploration of the 'Ultimate Reality'; at the other end there are cults that worship spirits, trees and animals.

There are festivals and ceremonies associated not only with gods and goddesses but also with the sun, moon, planets, rivers, oceans, trees and animals. Some of the popular Hindu festivals are Deepavali, Holi, Dussehra, Ganesh Chaturthi, Pongal, Janamasthmi and Shiva Ratri. These innumerable festive occasions lend Hinduism its amazing popular appeal and make the Indian tradition rich and colorful.

### Hindu Mythology and the Living Gods

Heroes of epics like the Mahabharata and the Ramayana are immortalized and are still alive in the day-to-day existence of the common people. The gods of Hinduism are at once super-human and human and there is a distinct feeling of warmth and familiarity towards them.

Rama, the hero of the Ramayana, represents qualities such as honour, courage and valour and is held up as a model of manliness. His wife Sita is the prototype Indian wife who is carried off by Ravana, the king of Lanka, while Rama and Sita are in exile. Sita's eventual rescue by Rama, his brother Lakshmana, and Rama's faithful monkey-general Hanuman are all woven into this engrossing tale. Stories from this epic have been passed down orally from one generation to the next. Religious fairs, festivals and rituals have kept these legends alive, and there is never an occasion that does not offer an opportunity to retell the old stories.

The stirring verses of the Mahabharata tell the story of the dynastic struggle between the Pandavas and the Kauravas, who were close cousins. Lord Krishna plays a very important role in this Great Epic. He is a friend, philosopher and guide to Arjuna, one of the Pandavas, and helps Arjuna overcome his hesitation to kill his close relatives in the battlefield. The wise philosophy of Krishna and his teachings have been embodied in the Bhagwad Gita. Although the popular image of Krishna is that of a god who steals butter as a child, and who, as a youth, plays the flute and entices cows and cowherd girls alike; in his mature years he is depicted as the wise philosopher with a more serious side to his nature.

There are numerous gods and goddesses worshipped by Hindus all over India. Among these, the most fundamental to Hinduism, is the trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva - creator, preserver and destroyer respectively. Brahma has four heads corresponding to the four directions of the compass. He is the creator of life and the entire universe. Vishnu is the preserver who guides the cycle of birth and rebirth. He is also supposed to have taken many incarnations to save the world from evil forces. Both Rama and Krishna are believed to have been incarnations of Vishnu. Shiva, usually seen with a coiled cobra around his neck, destroys all evil and also has many incarnations.

The invisible deities are represented by a complexity of images and idols symbolizing divine powers. Many of these idols are housed within ornate temples of unparalleled beauty and grandeur. The Hindu gods are very much alive and live in temples on snow-capped peaks, in rivers and oceans and in the very hearts and minds of the Hindus.

## **SIKHISM**

The Sikh religion emerged during the early 16th century in the state of Punjab in North India. The founder of this faith was Guru Nanak, who from his childhood was attracted to both Hindu and Muslim saints. Born a Hindu, but also inspired by the teachings of Islam, he began to preach the message of unity of both religions. According to him, the basic teachings of both faiths were essentially the same. Nanak attracted many followers and came to be known as a Guru or a teacher. His disciples came together to form a new religious tradition called Sikhism.

The Gurus who followed Nanak contributed to the consolidation and spread of Sikhism. The teachings of Guru Nanak were incorporated in the 'Guru Granth Sahib', the Holy Book of the Sikhs which became a symbol of God for Sikhs. The fifth Guru, Guru Arjun built the Golden Temple at Amritsar which became the holiest of Sikh shrines. The tenth

Guru, Govind Singh imparted military training to the Sikhs to help them defend themselves.

On Baisakhi day of 1699 at Anandpur, Guru Govind Singh ordered his Sikhs to assemble before him as was customary and created a new brotherhood of Sikhs called the Khalsa (Pure Ones). Five men selected for their devotion to the Guru were called Panj Pyares and given nectar (amrit) for initiation into the brotherhood of Khalsa. Later the Guru himself received initiation from Panj Payares as did others.

The members of the new brotherhood were instructed to wear the five symbols (the five Ks ) - uncut hair, a comb, a steel wrist guard, a sword and breeches. The initiated men took the name Singh (Lion) and the women Kaur (Princess). The Guru also decided to terminate the succession of gurus and was thus the last of the Sikh Gurus.

Sikhism propounds monotheism, i.e. worship of one God. It also opposes the caste system and believes that all men are equal. However the ideas of karma and rebirth from Hinduism are accepted. Today, many Sikh practices are common to Hindus. Inter-marriages between the two communities are also common. However the Sikh community has its own unmistakable identity. Though the Sikhs constitute less than 2 percent of the Indian population, they have become a distinct element in the configuration of the Indian religious tradition and the Indian society.

## **ISLAM**

The Arab traders brought Islam to India in the early 8th century, but it was not until the 12th century that it became a force to reckon with in the Indian sub-continent. Unlike Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism which emerged as offshoots of Hinduism, the concept, customs and religious practices of Islam were unique to this faith which professed universal brotherhood and submission to Allah - the God Almighty.

The Muslim invaders in the 12th century and the Mughal rulers in the 16th and 17th centuries helped in the spread of Islam in India. In its first phase, Islam was aggressive. But the mystics of Islam, or the Sufi saints, helped in spreading the message of peace and universal love.

The spirit of brotherhood propounded by Sufi saints and preachers like Kabir and Nanak helped in loosening the rigidity of the caste system. The interaction of the two faiths led to a synthesis of Hindu and Islamic elements in almost every sphere of life and culture. After an initial period of conflict and confrontation, today the two religions have accommodated and enriched each other.

## **BUDDHISM**

Buddhism originated as an offshoot of Hinduism in India, but eventually it became popular all over Asia. The personality and teachings of Gautam Buddha, the founder of this faith, have illumined the lives of millions of people in Japan, China and Southeast Asia.

There are strong lines of similarity between Buddhism and the basic teachings of Hinduism. Buddhism is based on the principle or the law of impermanence. According to this, everything is subject to change, although some things may last longer than others. The other basic principle of Buddhism is the law of causation, according to which nothing occurs due to pure chance. Besides natural forces, it is the karma which leads to the occurrence of all events. The popular notions of the indestructible soul and the cycle of rebirth emerge from these two basic philosophies.

Buddha advocated the Middle Path, in which he offered a balanced, harmonious way of life, steering between two extremes of self-indulgence and total abstinence. Buddhism rests upon four Noble Truths: (i) suffering is universal, (ii) it is caused by desire and yearning (iii) suffering can be prevented and overcome and (iv) eradication of desires can lead to removal of suffering. To prevent suffering one has to conquer craving and desire and this conquest leads to the attainment of nirvana or complete enlightenment

## **JAINISM**

Jainism as a religious tradition was established in India about the same time as Buddhism. Mahavira, one of the jinas (conquerors) preached the Jain philosophy around the same time that Buddhism began.

Like Buddhism, Jainism rose against the corruption in the interpretation of Hinduism prevalent at the time. The underlying philosophy of Jainism is that renunciation of worldly desires and self-conquest leads to perfect wisdom. This faith believes in total abstinence and asceticism as practiced by the Jinas and the Tirthankars ("crossing-makers"). The "crossing" refers to the passage from the material to the spiritual realm, from bondage to freedom. Followers of this faith accept the popular gods of Hinduism but they are placed lower than the Jinas.

The focus of this religion has been purification of the soul by means of right conduct, right faith and right knowledge. This faith also enunciates complete non-violence and the Jain monks can be seen with their nose and mouth covered by a cloth mask to ensure that they do not kill any germs or insects while breathing. Today, Jainism has more than 3 million adherents in India and finds wide acceptance because of its philosophy of sympathy for all living beings.

## **CHRISTIANITY**

By tradition, Christianity is said to have arrived in India with Saint Thomas, one of the apostles of Jesus Christ, who spent some years in South India and possibly died there. However, others believe that the first missionary to arrive in the country was Saint Bartholomew. Historically, Christian missionary activity started with the advent of Saint Francis Xavier in 1544. He was followed by Portuguese missionaries at first and eventually by missionaries from other countries like Denmark, Holland, Germany and Great Britain. Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries Catholic as well as Protestant missionaries preached Christian doctrines in India and also made important contributions to social improvement and education in India.

Much of the modern influences in the Indian society can be attributed to the role of Christianity in India. Christian missionaries helped in setting up schools and colleges all over India and also spread the message of faith and goodwill in the country. Christianity and its teachings influenced a number of intellectuals and thinkers in India, including Mahatma Gandhi.

Today, the Christians in India number about 30 million and consist of people from every denomination of Christianity.

## **ZOROASTRIANISM**

The first Zoroastrians to enter India arrived on the Gujarati coast in the 10th century, soon after the Arabian conquest of Iran and by the 17th century, most of them had settled in Mumbai. Zoroastrian practice is based on the responsibility of every man and woman to choose between good and evil, and to respect God's creations. The religion's founder, Zarathustra, who lived in Iran in 6000 BC was the first religious prophet to expound a dualistic philosophy, based on the opposing powers of good and evil.

Most Zoroastrians can be seen in Mumbai today where they are known as Parsees. They have no distinctive dress and few houses of worship. Five daily prayers, usually hymns uttered by Zarathustra and standardized in the religious text Zenda Avesta, are said in the home or the temple, before a fire, which symbolizes the realm of truth, righteousness and order.

## CLOTHING

To the foreign traveller, one of the powerful attractions in India is the colourful and diversified attire of its people. The silk saris, brightly mirrored cholis, colorful lehngas and the traditional salwar-kameez have fascinated many a traveler over the centuries.

For a single length of material, the sari must be the most versatile garment in existence. It is only one of the many traditional garments worn by women, yet it has somehow become the national dress of Indian women. A sari is a rectangular piece of cloth which is five to six yards in length. The style, color and texture of this cloth vary and it might be made from cotton, silk or one of the several man-made materials. The sari has an ageless charm since it is not cut or tailored for a particular size. This supremely graceful attire can also be worn in several ways and its manner of wearing as well as its color and textures are indicative of the status, age, occupation, region and religion of a woman. The tightly fitted, short blouse worn under a sari is a choli. The choli evolved as a form of clothing in 10th century AD.

Another popular attire of women in India is the salwar-kameez. This dress evolved as a comfortable and respectable garment for women in Kashmir and Punjab, but is now immensely popular in all regions of India. Salwars are pajama-like trousers drawn tightly in at the waist and the ankles. Over the salwars, women wear a long and loose tunic known as a kameez. One might occasionally come across women wearing a churidar instead of a salwar. A churidar is similar to the salwar but is tighter fitting at the hips, thighs and ankles. Over this, one might wear a colorless or mandarin-collar tunic called a kurta.

Though the majority of Indian women wear traditional costumes, the men in India can be found in more conventional western clothing. Men from all regions in India wear shirts and trousers. However, men in villages are still more comfortable in traditional attire like kurtas, lungis, dhotis and pajamas.

The traditional lungi originated in the south and is today worn by men and women alike. It is simply a short length of material worn around the thighs rather like a sarong. A dhoti is a longer lungi but with an additional length of material pulled up between the legs. Pajama-like trousers worn by the villagers are known as the lenga.

Indian dressing styles are marked by many variations, both religious and regional and one is likely to witness a plethora of colors, textures and styles in garments worn by the Indians.

## CUISINE

The food available in India is as diverse as its culture, its racial structure, its geography and its climate. The essence of good Indian cooking revolves around the appropriate use of aromatic spices. The skill lies in the subtle blending of a variety of spices to enhance rather than overwhelm the basic flavor of a particular dish. These spices are also used as appetizers and digestive.

Although a number of religions exist in India, the two cultures that have influenced Indian cooking and food habits are the Hindu and the Muslim traditions. Each new wave of settlers brought with them their own culinary practices. However, over time they adopted a lot of specialties and cooking methods from the Indian cuisine and blended the two to perfection. The Portuguese, the Persians and the British made important contributions to the Indian culinary scene. In fact it was the British who started the commercial cultivation of tea in India.

The Hindu vegetarian tradition is widespread in India, although many modern Hindus are non-vegetarian. The Muslim tradition is most evident in the cooking of meats. Mughalai food and preparations from the clay oven or tandoor are all important contributions made by the Muslim settlers in India.

A typical North-Indian meal would consist of chapatis or rotis (unleavened bread baked on a griddle) or parathas (unleavened bread fried on a griddle), rice and an assortment of accessories like dals, fried vegetables, curries, curd, chutney, and pickles. South Indian food is largely non-greasy, roasted and steamed. Rice is the staple diet and forms the basis of every meal. It is usually served with sambhar, rasam (a thin soup), dry and curried vegetables and a curd preparation called pachadi. Coconut is an important ingredient in all South Indian food.

A special/ traditional meal is rounded off with the after-dinner paan or betel leaf which holds an assortment of digestive spices like aniseed, cloves, betel nut, and cardamom.

## ECONOMY

India is the seventh largest and second most populous country in the world. A new spirit of economic freedom is now stirring in the country, bringing sweeping changes in its wake. A series of ambitious economic reforms aimed at deregulating the country and stimulating foreign investment has moved India firmly into the front ranks of the rapidly growing Asia Pacific region and unleashed the latent strengths of a complex and rapidly changing nation.

India's process of economic reform is firmly rooted in a political consensus that spans her diverse political parties. India's democracy is a known and stable factor, which has taken deep roots over nearly half a century. Importantly, India has no fundamental conflict between its political and economic systems. Its political institutions have fostered an open society with strong collective and individual rights and an environment supportive of free economic enterprise.

India's time tested institutions offer foreign investors a transparent environment that guarantees the security of their long term investments. These include a free and vibrant press, a judiciary which can and does overrule the government, a sophisticated legal and accounting system and a user friendly intellectual infrastructure. India's dynamic and highly competitive private sector has long been the backbone of its economic activity. It accounts for over 75% of its Gross Domestic Product and offers considerable scope for joint ventures and collaborations.

Today, India is one of the most exciting emerging markets in the world. Skilled managerial and technical manpower that match the best available in the world and a middle class whose size exceeds the population of the USA or the European Union, provide India with a distinct cutting edge in global competition.

## SPORTS

The history of sports in India dates back to the Vedic era. Physical culture in ancient India was fed by a powerful fuel--religious rites. There were some well-defined values like the mantra in the Atharva-Veda, saying, "Duty is in my right hand and the fruits of victory in my left". In terms of an ideal, these words hold the same sentiments as the traditional Olympic oath: "... For the Honour of my Country and the Glory of Sport." There is a fascinating link between Greece and India which stretches back to 975 B.C. The zest for chariot-racing and wrestling was common to both the countries.

In India, *dehveda* or the body-way is defined as "one of the ways to full realisation." In the day and age of the Rig-Veda, Ramayana and Mahabharata men of stature and circumstance were expected to be competent in chariot-racing, archery, horsemanship, military tactics, wrestling, weight-lifting, swimming and hunting. The guru-shishya (teacher-pupil) relationship has always been an integral part of Indian sport from time immemorial. Indian sport reached a peak of excellence when Buddhism held sway here. In Villas Mani Majra, Tiruvedacharya describes many fascinating games, namely, archery, equestrian, hammer-throwing and chariot-racing. In Manas Olhas (1135 A.D.), Someshwar writes about *bhrashram* (weight-lifting), *bhramanshram* (walking) and also about *Mall-Stambha* (wrestling).

It is more than likely that many of today's Olympic disciplines are sophisticated versions of the games of strength and speed that flourished in ancient India and Greece. Chess, wrestling, polo, archery and hockey (possibly a fall-out from polo) are some of the games believed to have originated in India.

Today India is in the forefront in the world of Cricket, weightlifting, wrestling and chess.

## INDIA CUSTOMS & CULTURE

- The traditional greeting in India is: the palms of the hands are pressed together in a praying position and held about chest high, then accompanied with a slight bow forward.
- Men customarily do not touch women in either formal or informal situations.
- A western woman should not initiate a handshake with a man.
- Near temples, holy places, and tourist sites, street salespeople will approach you, hand outstretched. Please do not give them money or you will be swamped with beggars.
- Showing anger will usually create greater hurt in India than in the U.S.
- Whistling in public is considered very impolite.
- Here, as in many places in Asia, public displays of affection are neither common nor considered proper, even among married couples.
- If an Indian smiles and jerks his head backward, it could signal “yes.” However, if a person moves his head quickly back and forth it signals, “Yes, I understand what you are saying.”
- The head is considered a sacred part of the body. Therefore, don’t pat youngsters on the head or touch an older person’s head.
- Women may need to cover their heads when entering a mosque or church.
- As in the Middle East, where the feet and soles of the shoes are considered the lowest and dirtiest part of the body, the same is true in India. Therefore, try not to touch anyone or point at anyone with your shoes or their soles.
- When you wish to point, use your chin, the full hand, or maybe the thumb, but *not* a single finger. Pointing with a single finger is used only with inferiors. The chin is not used to point to people who are considered superiors. The best way to signal attention toward something or someone is with the full hand.
- Remove shoes before entering a temple or a mosque. Once inside, don’t touch paintings or statues.
- The standard way of beckoning another person is with the arm extended, palm down, and with a scratching motion inward with the fingers.
- When dining, ask to wash your hands before and after the meal. If utensils are not offered, the fingertips (right hand only) are used. Transfer food from the communal dish to your plate with a spoon, not with your fingers.
- Hosts will often serve you, and to refuse food could be an insult. Leave food on your plate to respectfully signal that you have had enough food. Only refuse food if you think your life will be in danger.
- Don’t use your left hand; pass gifts or other articles with the right hand, eat with the right hand, and point with the right hand.

**GETTING ACQUAINTED  
WITH  
OUR PARTNER**

**Hindustan Bible Institute & College**

# ***HISTORY***

Hindustan Bible Institute founded in 1952 by Dr. N. Paul V. Gupta, has now developed into a strategic program to train and serve the Indian people in an effort to fulfil the Great Commission, Matt. 28:19.

Dr. Paul N. Gupta was born in a Hindu family in 1920 and became a disciple of Christ in 1937. As a young evangelist, he proclaimed Christ across the country. In the forties, he surrendered to God's call to reach India by developing nations to reach the unreached.

He was called home on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November 1977. His vision to reach the unreached is being carried on through the lives of the many individuals who were influenced and touched by his undying passion for souls. The work continues all around the world. Praise the Lord!

## **The Purpose statement of HBI**

Hindustan Bible Institute exists

**to give every Indian an opportunity to hear, understand and respond to the Gospel and be discipled into a community of believers, so that a church will be planted in every village and colony of every town and city of India.**

HBI accomplishes this above vision through several strategies under the following structures.

**Leadership Development program:** equips and mobilises for the Church through both formal and non formal program Theological leaders, Administrative leaders, Emerging leaders, cross cultural leaders, missionaries, grass root level leaders, evangelists, church planters and rural pastors. HBI has so far equipped over 8600 young men and women who are serving the Lord all over India and also other parts of the world.

**Missions program:** is involved in equipping and mobilising grass root level church planters and cross cultural missionaries to incarnate Christ into the midst of the unreached people of our nation through the mobilisation of national missionaries and strategic Church planting programs. Since 1987, through the Missions program, 2870 churches were planted, which has a membership of over 125,000 believers by mobilising a task force of 553 missionaries.

**Evangelism and Follow up Ministry:** proclaims the Gospel through radio, literature, children and youth ministries. It looks after the follow-up of the responses received through the above ministries. Since 1975 through this ministry, over 100,000 people have accepted Christ as their personal Saviour through Radio, Television, Child Evangelism, Youth ministry and Literature ministry.

**Networking Ministry:** co-ordinates teams from different countries and networks their abilities and giftedness to compliment the efforts of HBI in proclaiming the Gospel. Since 1989, over 850 short-term missionaries have visited and worked in India through HBI. Through their efforts, they touched the lives of 220,328 people and saw 46,996 people coming to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

**The Church Mobilization Department:** It is involved in vision casting, mobilizing prayer, equipping of pastors to mobilize God's Church to disciple the unreached by multiplying churches. Since the strategy was developed in 1987, God enabled us to envision 72,000 workers in 17 states of India who have a commitment to plant over 600,000 churches. They have developed over 300 district movements that are involved in a district level strategy to disciple the whole district. In 1987, it was estimated that India has 25,000 in the task force serving less than 100,000 congregations but after the mobilization effort by Church mobilization department, God began to move His church and in the next 13 years the Church saw the task force grow over 125,000 and the total number of churches in the nation increased to over 358,000 churches.

**Leadership Development through Regional Centers:** This strategy recognizes the need to decentralize the training of pastors, evangelists, church planters, lay leaders within the context of their own region. This develops a sense of ownership, enables regional trainers and contextualizes the training. The center uses the formal, non-formal and informal methods of training to maximize the use of the building and prevent the trainees from being dislocated from the context and community he lives. We presently have 5 centers and by 2005 we will have 10 centers and will train 2,000 individuals a year through these 10 centers.

**Social Development Department:** serves the concerns of people. It cares for the physical, spiritual, social, emotional and economic concerns. It runs and manages orphanages, sewing schools, day care centres and medical care. Through our Development programs we are touching the lives of hundreds of children, women and dropouts from school, giving them an opportunity to hear the Gospel, respond and be discipled. When discipled they are also equipped and mobilised to effect society, the church and missions with Christian love.

India is a very large country. It is a country with the second largest population in the world. It has 25 states, 600,000 villages with a billion people in the country. It is estimated that the complexity of this nation in size, culture, economics and religion is like having over 200 different countries in India.

Can you imagine if we were to finish the task in India and have a church for every 1000 persons, we should have a million churches. In 1987 it was estimated that we had less than 100,000 churches but over the last 13 years God has blessed India and we now have over 350,000 churches. There is a great response and a movement to complete the task in our generation. God is blessing India and we believe in our generation, we can reach India for Christ. Now is the time we must harvest the receptive and disciple the unreached.

### **Our GOALS for 2020:**

1. To equip more than 20,000 of the best and most effective transformational leaders to reconcile the lost, disciple the unreached into Christ communities that will influence and have a transforming power over all segments of peoples in the society.
2. To develop a taskforce of 2,000 powerful missionaries to plant a total of 10,000 life transforming churches that are committed to discipling 1,000,000 people to be God's most effective instruments in the unreached villages, colonies and peoples of our nation to revitalize and bring new light and hope to all the people around them and the world
3. To envision, equip and mobilize 200,000 of the most committed pastor leaders to mobilize their church owning a vision of each one planting 5 dynamic churches and developing 5

powerful leaders to see One million churches planted and reach 4000 unreached people groups and be God's most powerful instrument so we experience the lifting of darkness and the liberating power of Christ to transform our nation.

India is a very large country. It is a country with the second largest population in the world. It has 29 states, 600,000 villages with over a billion people in the country. It is estimated that the complexity of this nation in size, culture, economics and religion is like having over 200 different countries in India.

Can you imagine if we were to finish the task in India and have a church for every 1000 persons, we should have a million churches. In 1987 it was estimated that we had less than 100,000 churches but over the last 13 years God has blessed India and we now have over 300,000 churches. There is a great response and a movement to complete the task in our generation. God is blessing India and we believe that in our generation, we can reach India for Christ. Now is the time we must harvest the receptive and disciple the them.

We will be glad to give you further information on each of our strategies, to join with us in the great task of reaching Indians for Christ.

**REQUIREMENTS  
OF  
TEAM MEMEBRS**

## **COMMITMENT TO CHRIST AND THE CHURCH**

Each team member must be a born-again Christian committed to serving Christ. Team members must be active participants in the local church and involved in some ministry, small group or outreach and accountable to another person or group.

### **PRAYER PARTNERS**

Each team member must have at least ten prayer partners committed to pray for them as they prepare for the mission, and during the time they are on the field. The prayer partners form must be completed and submitted along with the application.

### **TIME COMMITMENTS**

Each team member must be willing to commit the time required by the Team Leader for preparation for the mission. Time requirements include sufficient time in prayer, team meetings, homework assignments, and ministry preparation. Please make sure you bring your training notebook to each training session.

### **READING REQUIREMENTS**

Each team member is required to read “Vacations with a Purpose,” “God of The Untouchables,” “Culture Shock India,” “My Right. My God” by Robin Wells and “Ministering Cross culturally” by Sherwood and one autobiography or biography of the missionary person of your choice in preparation for your mission.

### **TESTIMONY**

Each team member must prepare a written testimony about their salvation and explain why Christ is the center of their life. Team members must be prepared to present their testimony during the mission trip.

### **APPLICATIONS, FORMS AND DOCUMENTS**

Each team member must complete the following forms:

- ◆ Application and References
- ◆ Emergency Form
- ◆ Waiver and Release of Legal Liability
- ◆ Parental Consent (if applicable)
- ◆ Indian Visa Application
- ◆ Inoculation Certificate
- ◆ Must also have or obtain a valid passport and 5 passport size photographs.
- ◆ The signed covenant

## **— INOCULATIONS, VACCINATIONS, AND MEDICAL INFORMATION**

Each member is required to obtain the following Inoculations/Vaccinations and provide the team leader with a medical certificate indicating that the immunizations have been obtained or contraindicated by your physician.

- ◆ Cholera
- ◆ Tetanus
- ◆ Hepatitis A
- ◆ Malaria Pills (optional)

Each member is required to provide the Team Leader with any medical information necessary to assist in providing emergency medical aid.

## **— FINANCIAL**

The estimated cost for this mission trip is \$2560 per individual. These costs include air travel expenses, room and board, and related ministry expenses. Each team member is responsible for raising the necessary funds.

## **— SUBMISSION TO TEAM AUTHORITY**

Each member is required to submit to the authority of the Team Leader, and the leadership of our hosts on the mission field.

## **— SUB TEAMS AND SUB TEAM LEADERS**

Special teams will be created for the ministry. Each team creates their own schedules to discuss, create, and fashion what they will do for their team while in India. Team members must work with their sub teams to lend the necessary support and help.

— Read, sign and turn in the ministry team covenant

— Complete and submit all assignments and surveys

## **— OUR COMMITMENT REGARDING GIFTS:**

When you are here and when you are involved in certain ministries you will not be able to meet all the staffs of HBI. So please do not give any personal gifts to the staff who is involved in your ministries. If you like to give any gifts please give it as Christmas Fund so that, at the Christmas time it will be shared equally among the Staffs and the missionary pastors

And this is called as Christmas Fund Policy.

# **FINANCIAL POLICIES**

## FINANCIAL POLICIES

### Financial policies and arrangements:

Each member of your team will need to raise \$2,560 towards the cost of the trip. Our experience suggests that each church has a different approach to funding mission trips. In some churches the entire \$2560 per team member is provided from the missions budget, in others the church contributes a portion and the individual raises the remainder. There are some churches that require the team member to raise their funding entirely on their own. Your church will have to establish its own policy.

At the beginning of each program we develop an estimate of potential expenses. These expenses include airfare and related transportation costs, team training and administration costs, board and lodging expenses, and ministry expenses. Every effort is made to minimize costs without jeopardizing the quality, effectiveness, or safety of the ministry. Based on last year's information, we estimate that each team member will have to raise \$2560 each.

In understanding the Team's budget there are several factors that must be taken into consideration to determine the individual team member's financial objective.

- X First, **it is a mission** not a trip. A mission, whose stated objective is **to enable the church to fulfil the Great commission to reach the unreached, in partnership with national organizations**. The scope of its funding requirements is greater than the total dollars spent in airfare, food and accommodations and a few incidental expenses.
- X Second, it is sometime difficult for us to determine the average cost to each team member far in advance because cost factors such as quantity discounts for airfare are determined by the number of members, and ministry expenses to degree are determined by the gifts and talents of the team.

### ELEMENTS OF HBI GLOBAL PARTNER'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS:

The HBI Global Partner team's expenses each year fall into five specific categories:

#### MISSION PREPARATION & TRAINING:

About six months before the team departs we begin the process for preparation and training. Included in these expenses are:

- X Preparation and printing of informational and advertising material, and application kits for the trip.
- X Travel and related expenses to conduct orientation and information meetings.
- X Producing training materials and other information.
- X Travel and related expenses to conduct training sessions

X Communications cost for long distance telephone, faxes, and material shipping charges  
Approximately, \$200/- or 8% of the \$2560 is spent in preparation and training expenses.

#### TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS:

By far the largest expense includes travel and transportation expenses. Each year we plan on spending \$1500/- (or 60% of the \$2560) per member for travel and transportation costs. We estimate on the high side of the discount ticket prices, because we have found that costs can increase dramatically when team members drop out in the last minute, and the team will have to cover the costs for higher priced tickets.

Cost of the ticket is related to the season of the travel and it ranges from \$1100/- to \$1500/- During high season tickets are more expensive. Any additional cost to the ticket will be the only factor that will increase the budget of the project.

#### BOARD AND LODGING:

Costs for board and room for each member per day per person will be **\$30/- with air-condition housing** and \$25 for non-air-condition housing. These food costs include three meals per day catered either on the campus or at the ministry site. This cost is about 12% of the \$2560.

#### MINISTRY EXPENSES:

About \$500 per member or about 20% of team funds are spent in ministry projects such as:

- X Transporting missionary pastors from the fields to the training centers, housing and feeding the missionary pastors.
- X Purchasing computer equipment, radio equipment and other equipment used and installed in the field. We are maintaining pace with changing technology over the years and now must purchase most of the equipment.
- X Purchasing construction supplies to build churches and fund the other construction team projects.
- X Arranging, planning ministry in locations outside of Chennai, in Southern India and transporting the team to ministry location by train or van.
- X Co-ordinating the efforts of the Music and Drama team and transporting them to schools, colleges and juvenile homes.
- X Co-ordinating the efforts of the Children's team and transporting them to orphanages and Juvenile homes.

X Arranging Musical concerts for 800 to 1000 people

X Arranging Church meetings, special training programs, professional dinners, seminars etc.

**IN SUMMARY, OUR COSTS APPROXIMATE:**

Mission Preparation and Training	\$ 200.00	8.00%
Travel and Transportation	\$1,500.00	59.00%
Food and Housing*	\$ 360.00	14.00%
Ministry Expenses **	\$ 500.00	19.00%
	-----	-----
Total	\$2,560.00	100.00%
	-----	-----

\*Calculated on 12 days with Air-conditioned room @\$30/-

\*\* For 12 days or two week ministry \$500/-  
For 5 days or one week ministry \$ 300/-

**EXPENSES NOT INCLUDED IN \$2560 COST:**

- ❖ Air travel costs in India (if your ministry is planned outside Chennai)
- ❖ Personal expenses, which can vary widely for each individual, are not included.

These expenses include:

- Costs to obtain passports
- Printing and mailing prayer letters
- Medical exams and immunizations, medication.
- Personal meals separate from the team.
- Tourist-type events / sightseeing

**IF I DECIDE TO CANCEL MY INVOLVEMENT IN THE TRIP, CAN I GET MY MONEY BACK? M**

In the event that a team member is unable to make the trip, the funds that they have raised to that point generally will be held by the church to be used for other team members or towards the team ministry's expenses. In many cases the costs may have already occurred, and these expenses will have to be met regardless of the individual member's participation. Refund policies are not recommended.

These who have donated monies to your account have the choice of having their moneys refunded to them or transferring their moneys to another team members' account. The remainder of the moneys is refunded on the cancellation schedule noted below. The reason for the varied refund percentages is due to airline policies, training costs, and supplies that have been purchased on your behalf.

## **Refund for cancellations 16 weeks before trip: 100%**

Refund for cancellations 12 weeks before trip: 75%

Refund for cancellations 8 weeks before trip: -0-

### **INSURANCE:**

You should be aware that the HBI Global Partners does not maintain or provide any additional insurance for its members. It is important that we discuss this issue and determine your team's specific insurance needs. These expenses are not included in the \$2560 estimate of costs, but are available for an additional cost.

### **METHODS TO RAISE MONEY:**

HBI Global Partners does not determine the method you use to raise funds. Each individual must make that determination based on their own financial circumstances, and your local church's policy and guidelines related to fund raising.

We encourage team members to raise funds primarily through their prayer letters. Raising funds through prayer letters expands the group of family and friends who will be praying for you, and gives a wider group of people to participate in the ministry. We have found in most instances about fifty to one hundred prayer letters send out timely will bring in the necessary funds.

### **FINANCIAL DEADLINES:**

The deadlines are vital. Usually the deadline is determined based on a major payment for airlines, visas, housing accommodations, special projects, or vehicle rental deposits. Therefore, every effort must be made to make payments on time. If through unforeseen circumstances, this is not possible, let your team leader know as soon as possible.

### **FUNDS IN EXCESS OF \$2560 FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEMBER:**

Through this ministry you will be functioning as a part of a team. Your effectiveness is determined not just from an individual standpoint, but also as a team. Also each person's ability to raise funds varies depending on who they know, how many people they know, their ability to communicate effectively, etc... Therefore, since the goal is to fund the entire team, any moneys given beyond what you need may be used to support team members struggling with their funds be used to fund greater ministry opportunities.

## **IS THIS TRIP TAX DEDUCTIBLE?**

Yes and No. For each person who gives support to you as long as the check made to the local church, your personal moneys are not deductible as a charitable donation, but may be deductible as a charitable travel expense. You would need to speak with your tax accountant to verify that.

## **WHAT IS THE PROPER WAY TO EXPLAIN TO PEOPLE HOW TO GIVE MONEY TO MY MINISTRY?**

The explanation should contain the following information:

- ⌘ It should be above and beyond faith promise/tithe made by them.
- ⌘ The check must be made out to the church.
- ⌘ Your name should be on the memo section of the check and on the outside envelope.
- ⌘ Contributions should no be mailed directly to HBI Global Partners. They should be given to the coordinator/leader who will photocopy the receipts of your records, and turn them in to the church office.
- ⌘ All funds must be in by the final deadline

## UTILIZATION OF MINISTRY FUND

The ministry fund is given as a donation to HBI India to facilitate the plans of the various ministry activities of each team.

It is utilized for pre team expenses like planning and co-ordinating the teams ministry; and post team expenses like follow up expenditure to the ministry activity of each team; Sometimes the expenditure exceeds the ministry funds and sometimes it is within the ministry funds. Our commitment is to implement the plan, co-ordinate and facilitate the ministry opportunities for each team so that we jointly work towards the discipling of our nation.

In general, the ministry fund is utilized to implement the plans that have been discussed with each team for the following as per the giftedness of each team:

\* **Teaching team:** Transporting pastors from the fields to the training centers, providing housing and meals for the pastors, contacting different translators and bringing them to the sessions for translation; translating the material, production and copying of material (DTP, copies, and collating in binders or folders)

\* **Teaching Team outside Chennai:** Planning ministry in locations outside Chennai – locate place for a common place for training; make initial visit to contact the person responsible. Rent a place; book hotel for the team, make travel arrangements. Arrange with local caterers to provide food for the participants and the team, renting PA system and lighting, paying travel allowance for the participants, and the like. Send invitation and information letters, identify translators; translate the material into regional languages, prepare the needed sets bound, and transport the team to ministry locations by train or van.

\* **Computer Team:** Visit shops, getting quotes, negotiate, purchasing the parts and assembling them. Print invitation/hands bills for special training programs, co-ordinate the training program with our staff and people from different churches and Christian organizations.

\* **Construction Team:** Draw plans, estimate the materials required, get best quote for best material, purchase supplies. Arrange for local laborers to work with the team, transport the team to the construction site if it is not within the campus of HBI, etc.

\* **Music & Drama Team:** Visit Principals of various schools and explain the nature of the program and team, seek permission to host the team, make appointments for Bible colleges and making appointments for the team to do chapel hour. Co-ordinate the efforts of Music and Drama team and transport them to schools, colleges and juvenile homes. If it is appropriate to distribute candy/goodies in Juvenile homes the Networking Department will help.

\* **Musical Concerts:** Plan musical concert and worship seminar. Contact local bands to play with the team, printing hand bills and posters, distributing the hand bills, printing

passes, sending it by mail to the contacts that are on our data base; renting PA system and lighting, renting furniture, transporting the local bands and the team to the venue, transporting equipment to the venue and the like.

\* **Children's Team:** Contacting different home parents and discuss with them the dates of the team's ministry in the homes, getting gifts which the team desires to distribute to the children, arrange for translator to go with the team; transporting the team to various orphanages, juvenile homes and old age homes.

\* **Medical Team:** Co-ordinating medical camps in various villages, contacting local village head and obtaining permission, selecting a common venue in the village and renting the place, printing hand bills and distributing in the villages about the camp, purchasing medicines if need be, contacting local doctors or nurses to help with the team, arrange for translators to be with the team, hiring of Television set, Jesus Film and making shelters for people to sit and watch, printing of tokens for people to visit the doctors.

\* **Special teams:** Hosting a professional and executive dinner program - forming a local committee, planning the program, printing invitation cards and response cards, distributing invitations, booking a hotel, providing food for the participants, inviting a chairperson, co-ordinating music band, getting a gift – (book/ CD/Audio cassette) for the participants.

\* **Pre & Post team efforts:** Meeting with the planning committee consists of various leaders from the different departments, planning each team's ministry opportunity, after the team leaves do follow up with those who respond, gathering the contact addresses and building a data base, sending regular literature and follow up material, sending thank you letters to the participants, translators, Principals; those who respond positively take them through a systematic follow up - 7 stages from seeker level to disciple level, starting Bible clubs and prayer cells in schools and colleges, co-ordinating follow up meetings with local committees to plan on follow up for those who attended professional and executive dinners, meet with the planning committee for review and recommendations.

Many of the above efforts involve a lot of our staff's efforts and time for implementing plans for each team and follow up. We look at this as a partnership to accomplish the efforts. We may not have the resources to do all of these but in partnership we bring our people, their giftedness and time to co-ordinate the efforts.

The strategy is not about money; it is about bringing Christ to people in many ways by networking giftedness from both the national church and the short-term team.

# **DEVELOPING PARTNERS**

## **THE MINISTRY OF RAISING SUPPORT**

### **WALTER L. SHEARER**

Almost all mission agencies require those who serve with them to raise all of their personal prayer and financial support. Many thousands of missionaries down through the years have effectively raised their support, experiencing God's faithfulness again and again. God is the same yesterday, today and forever! It will not necessarily be easy, but with prayer, work and time it can be done.

Support raising is fundamentally a matter of three relationships. God's Word declares, "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken" (Ecc. 4:12)

#### 1. Your Relationship With God Who is Faithful

If you are entering a certain ministry for God, it is important that you be convinced that God has indeed called you to serve Him in that particular ministry and He will provide all your needs. You begin your support raising ministry by first asking the Lord of the Harvest for His provision.

- ❖ "Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him" (Matt 6:8)
- ❖ "... The One who called you is faithful and He will do it" (I Thess 5:24)
- ❖ "He who did not spare His own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will He not also, along with him graciously give us all things?" (Rom 8:32)
- ❖ And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus" (Phil 4:19)

#### 2. Your Relationship with certain God's People

God provides through our interdependence with His People. Such people will certainly be on your "mailing list" of family, relatives, friends and individuals who are particularly interested in you on the work God has given you to do. The special people are most likely to be faithful "prayer warriors" and financial supporters. Sometimes God uses single a individual, even nonbelievers to meet a need. It is not always clear in the NT if support came from an individual or the church.

- ❖ Jesus and His support team Mary, Joanna, Susanna, et al. (Luke 8:1-3)
- ❖ The Apostle Paul's support team (I Cor 9:14; Phil 1:3-5)
- ❖ Paul urges a friend to care for the needs of a coworker. (Philemon 8-10)
- ❖ Ezra and Nehemiah accepted support from the King.

#### 3. Your Relationship with the Body of Christ, The Local Church

Paul was one of the first to encourage and teach about church giving. At a time when he was "tentmaking" to provide his own support, he specifically taught that God's

workers have a right to have their physical needs supplied at the church's expense. Such support should be consistent and regular.

- ❖ Don't we have a right to food and drink?" (1 Cor 9:3-6)
- ❖ "...the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel" (1 Cor 9:13-14)
- ❖ On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income....." (1 Cor 16:2)

## DEVELOPING PARTNERS

Now that you have decided to become a part of a short-term missions team, you are faced with the next step – how to raise the necessary money. The most important and effective way to raise support is through a prayer letter.

The first step in making a prayer letter is to put together a mailing list. There are several groups of people that your list must include:

- \_ Close family, friends and relatives
- \_ Individuals in your home church who might like to contribute to your support
- \_ Members of your Sunday School class
- \_ Individuals in other churches with whom you are acquainted
- \_ Prayer groups at your church
- \_ Bible study groups

Do not be shy or embarrassed about sending someone a letter asking for support. Raising support is something that every missionary must do, and it is an important part of the missionary experience.

What can be done to make sure that your letter will be read from beginning to end? The answer is simple .... WIN and KEEP ATTENTION!

### HOW TO WRITE A PRAYER LETTER

Two basic factors are involved – **appearance** and **content**.

**Appearance** is important for only one reason: to gain attention for the content. Your letter must meet that first “acid” test when a man or woman is opening a stack of mail, deciding what to discard and what to read. If the reader is a personal friend of yours, your name only will attract him/her. But the vast majority of prayer letters do not go to really “personal” friends, so our letter will have to compete for attention with lots of other attractive materials. It is important as well to realize that every form letter is easily identified as such, and is never mistaken for a personal letter no matter how hard you try to disguise it through printing or some other form of duplication. Nor will a first class stamp make much difference.

The easiest way to make your letter attractive is to put it on **colored stock**. This will catch the reader’s eye much quicker than a standard “black and white” letter. You may even want to draw a map of the area you plan to visit. This will further interest the reader. Remember that an interesting, attractive layout will get the reader started.

Next, it is time to determine what the **content** of your prayer letter should be. As you do this, remember that your

- Letter must be informative
- Describe the short-term mission project and God's leading in your life.
- Avoid beginning your letter with a Scripture verse – the unsaved are not interested and the saved pass over it assuming that they already know it. Scripture verses can be used more effectively within the body of your letter, when necessary.
- Keep your letter from sounding like a form letter. Make the letter personal as though each one of your readers were the only ones receiving your letter.
- Try to make the reader understand and share the burden that God has placed on your heart for being a part of His work overseas.
- Be sure to include your name and address as well as the church's name and address at the bottom of each letter. This is important for those who wish to contribute to our ministry.
- Remember to state in your letter that the church is authorized to issue tax-deductible receipts for any contributions made to your support.
- As you mail your prayer letters, ask God for a miracle and expect one.

You will be amazed at the response you will receive. You will receive contributions from the most unexpected places, and you may hear nothing from many that you were sure would support you. As time passes, the process of raising support will change from a tough chore into one of the most exciting experiences you have ever had.

Please indicate in your prayer letter that the deadline to receive donations is one month before departure.

**ALL PRAYER LETTERS MUST BE APPROVED BY  
THE TEAM LEADER BEFORE BEING MAILED**

## WAYS TO KEEP YOUR PRAYER PARTNERS INFORMED

- \_ Plan a dessert to share your ministry and prayer requests
  
- \_ Make up picture prayer cards
  
- \_ Call each one at least once a month during your training
  
- \_ Distribute maps of the country and area you will be serving
  
- \_ Give them some coins or paper money from the country you will be serving (if possible)
  
- \_ Give your partners a daily trip schedule
  
- \_ Mail postcards from first layover point on the trip
  
- \_ Buy a small gift for each one
  
- \_ Send out a prayer report letter upon your return

## **Short Term Mission Trips - INDIA**

### **Prayer Requests**

#### **Trip Planning Phase:**

<b>VISION</b>	Pray that God would reveal His purposes for this outreach and that we would plan accordingly.
<b>PLANNING</b>	Pray for wisdom for the leadership in planning and for leaders of the individual ministry teams.
<b>TRAINING</b>	Pray that training would be appropriate for our mission. Pray that the necessary areas will be covered.
<b>TEAM</b>	Pray for team unity and a commitment to team work.
<b>PRAYER</b>	Pray for team members to be devoted to personal prayer and to seek growth in this area.
<b>MINISTRY</b>	Pray for a personal discovery of spiritual gifts and your specific work in the body.
<b>TRAVEL</b>	Pray for travel arrangements, fares, and reservations.
<b>VACATIONS</b>	Pray for cooperation from employers to grant time off.
<b>SUPPORT</b>	pray for willingness to raise needed support, and for boldness and humility to invite others to participate in the outreach and missions through their support.
<b>SUPPORTERS</b>	Pray for prayer and financial supporters to be raised up. Pray for those supporting you.
<b>WITNESS</b>	Pray for your continuing witness for Christ in word and actions. Pray for sensitivity to use the outreach as a means of sharing your faith.
<b>WARFARE</b>	Pray for protection and that we would continually seek the Lord for ways to penetrate the spiritual darkness.
<b>HBI</b>	Pray for good communication and for preparations of your stay. Pray for the staff, children in the orphanage, and students. Pray for the ministries of Hindustan Bible Institute

**INDIA**

Pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare the way for us. Pray for the political unrest throughout India.

**CHURCH**

Pray that the outreach would be supported by the whole church. Pray that God would use us to spread the vision of the Great Commission. Pray for our leadership.

“For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.” (2 Chron 16:9)

“Ask of me and I will make the nations your inheritance the ends of the earth your possession.” (Ps.2: 8)

**Personal Prayer Requests**

(Sample)

1. Pray that I will be prepared with all the sermons, stories and drama so that I can glorify God with all that I do.
2. Pray that God would give me wisdom in all I do and say and patience to trust in Him.
3. Pray that my walk with God would be constantly growing. My walk is always being watched and India will be no exception. The integrity of what I say and what I do is very important.
4. Pray for my health. In the last few weeks I have thrown out my back and harbored the flu. I recently had my traveling immunizations as well. I will not have much opportunity in India to stay down if I get sick, so pray that I would not be hindered in this way from His work.
5. Pray for the Ministries I am involved in here. Since I am preparing for long-term with HBI, I have a lot of homework to do and will be Illinois for 5 days for training classes in late January. This ministry is important and needs my full attention as well at this time. Pray that God would show me the time and keep me safe.
6. Finally I ask you to pray for my finances as I cover bills for the time I am gone and cover supplies I will need to take.

## Team Prayer Requests

### Final Preparation

For all the shots, medications, supplies and equipment needs as well as the preparation of teaching materials.

### Training

For the teams as they do their best to be ready to fill the role God has set aside for them.

### Team

Continue praying for unity, and for those who will join us from other churches that we will be able to quickly come along side of them to minister together.

### Finances

Pray for the provision of the remaining \$18,000 that the team needs.

### Holy Spirit

Pray that in all ways we would see the Lord and listen for the prompting of His Spirit. I believe that the Lord has set lives aside that will be greatly affected by our team either while we are there or after we return. It would be a tragedy if we were too busy doing “our work” that we missed His.

If the Lord is laying it on your heart to contribute financially to this ministry, please send all checks to the address below. In the message portion of your check write “India Team”. However, please make this above and beyond your regular giving so as not to compromise your tithe and Faith Promise offerings.

Put your Name and Address here:

*Dear Friends and Family,*

*This is Sangeetha, one of the orphans that stole my heart in India. As you know, God has placed missions on my heart and practically every year He has provided the opportunity for me to go to Chennai (aka Madras), India. Again this year, I have the privilege of sharing Jesus Christ with the Indian people – a nation that will surpass China next year in population! In Matthew 28:18-20, the "Great Commission," Jesus tells us to go to all nations and tell them about Him. That is a desire He has imbedded in my heart, and sends excitement coursing through my being. With His help we will reach not only India, but also the entire world. The actual mission dates are January 27 – February 12, 2000.*

<i>Teaching:</i>	<i>teach pastors and Bible women</i>
<i>Medical:</i>	<i>care for physical as well as spiritual needs</i>
<i>Children:</i>	<i>work with the orphans</i>
<i>Construction:</i>	<i>build churches and make repairs</i>
<i>Music &amp; Drama:</i>	<i>work in Juvenile Homes</i>
<i>Computer:</i>	<i>trains staff and update computer systems</i>

*Each year I am responsible for raising my share of the expenses, which is \$2,500.00. Would you prayerfully consider supporting me financially? No amount is too big or too small. If you would like to contribute, please mail your check to me:*

*Susan Wright  
PO Box 3464  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277*

*Make it payable to "Your church name" to facilitate receipt of tax deductions, with a notation at the bottom for: Susan Wright/India Outreach. Our financial deadline is November. In addition to your financial support I am also asking for your prayers. Prayer is vital, the key element in a successful mission trip. I cannot count the times God has blessed our teams of missionaries because of faithful prayer partners like you.  
Prayer Requests:*

- For the Holy Spirit to prepare people's hearts to accept Jesus as Savior; for the harvest to be ripe and plenteous.*
- For Spiritual and physical protection; team unity.*
- For God to prepare me in every way to serve Him and India.*

*Thank you each and every one. May God add to your storehouse of treasures in heaven because of the exquisite gifts of your financial and prayer support on my behalf!.*

*Joyfully serving Jesus,  
Susan*

*INDIA OR BUST!!!*

*August 15, 2005*

*Dear Friends and Family:*

*I have been blessed with the opportunity to travel with a team from Hope Chapel to India in February 1998. We will be staying in the city of Madras in Southern India.*

*India is a country of over 1 billion people. The vast majority of the people 82% are Hindus and 11% are Muslims. Since less than 5% are Christians. India has great spiritual needs.*

*Members of our India Outreach Team will be involved in work with orphan children music and drama gospel presentations, puppet shows, computers, and teaching. We will be visiting schools, churches, orphanages and rural villages.*

*You can share in our ministry by your prayers/support.*

*Prayer Requests:*

- Pray for protection, health and safety of the team and myself.*
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare us and use us.*
- Pray for the people of India to respond to the gospel and follow Jesus Christ.*

*You can also share in our ministry by your financial support. I am responsible for raising my share of the expenses, which is \$2,400. If you would like to help make all offerings out to "Your church" (for tax deduction purposes) and designate the check towards "India Outreach / Ada Vail" in the memo section of check. Also, it is very important that the offering be sent out to me for proper accounting.*

*Thank you for your support.*

*God Bless you!!*

*ADA C.VAIL  
2021 Marshallfield Ln # 4  
Redondo Beach  
CA 90278*

*November 11, 1997*

*Dear friends and family,*

*I am very excited to share with you the incredible opportunity that I have to be involved with a short term mission trip in February of the coming year.*

*Our church will be sending out a team of around 40 people to minister to the people of India, by providing medical care, building homes and churches, and working with children in nearby orphanages. Our job is to be servants and to carry out God's purposes.*

*I want to be obedient to God's call and to help fulfill His purpose that no one should perish, as He sent His apostles to go and preach to all nations in Matthew 28.*

*I would like to ask your support through prayer for the safety and health of the team. Your prayers are also needed for the most important task of reaching the unbelievers with the word and love of God.*

*The total financial cost of this trip is \$2,500.00, due by December. If you would like to help in this mission, please make your donation payable to: YOUR CHURCH – INDIA OUTREACH. Please include my name on the memo section of the check, and send it directly to me at the following address:*

*Glenda Gibbs  
2704 Ruhland # 1  
Redondo Beach CA 90278*

*The church will offer a receipt to you for tax deduction purpose.*

*Thank you for your prayers and support*

*By His grace,*

**GLEND A GIBBS**

*Dear Friends and Family,*

*I can't believe it's been almost a year since my last trip to India, it seems like only weeks. All the wonderful memories are still fresh in my mind and in my heart. Reflecting back. I see just how vital both your prayers and financial support have been without which, we could not have accomplished what we did. I want to truly thank you for that in addition to your continual love and encouragement. God sends me and used me as His vessel, but it's because of you that the hungry are fed, the despondent find hope, the naked are clothed and the orphans are treated as family. The word "orphan" in Tamil means without value, worthless. But we go there to give these children love and attention and show them that they're more valuable and precious than all the gold in the world, which they are!*

*India now has population of over a billion people, surpassing the population in China. As the country grows, the needs there grow as well. God has heard my prayers and has given me confirmation to go back this year. Our team from HBI ministries will be returning to do what we can to help meet those needs. We will be taking teams for construction, medical attention, computer needs, teaching, music and drama, and children's needs.*

*Last but not least, the evangelism team. India is a very oppressed, dark and hopeless country. It is an honor to be a part of this team. We go out to many villages and preach the truth of the gospel boldly. We sing praise songs, share our testimonies and our faith in God! The one and only true God, Jesus Christ. Our crusades saw almost 2,500 decisions for Christ in one month. Praise Jesus! Seeing the power of the Holy Spirit many were eager for prayer. I prayed for almost 100 people. Whew! We saw the Lord move, heal and deliver. As a team we felt like the disciples witnessing miracle after wondrous miracle. God is good!*

*My heart is with the Indian people, especially the children. I love them very much and I promise you that I will put my all into this trip, so that through God and with all your prayers and support, I can make a difference in their lives.*

*You too can share in this ministry in two "equally" important ways:*

*Prayer support  
\$\$ Financial support*

*Prayer Requests:*

- For the people in India to respond in a positive way to the gospel and come to follow Jesus*
- Protection and health for myself and the team*
- That the Holy Spirit prepares us and works through us*
- Team unity.*

*Financially, I am responsible for raising my share of the expenses, which total \$2,400. Thus, I ask you to prayerfully consider giving whatever God puts on your heart. No amount is too big or too small. If you are able to make a contribution, please respond ASAP, the deadline is December 31 and my preparation time is short. God bless you!*

*Much love in Christ!*

Yes, I would like to personally share in this India Project 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclose is a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to support the Team with prayer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to “NAME OF THE CHURCH”  
and designate it towards **“India Project 2001: name of the member.”** All  
gifts

# **HOME WORK ASSIGNMENTS**

# ASSIGNMENT SHEET

All assignments are to be turned in  
To your team leader when completed

	LEADER	DUE DATE
INITIAL		
<p><b>1. INNER LIFE PREPARATION</b></p> <p><b>A. Maintain a daily quiet time (Bible reading and prayer) for at least 14 consecutive days. Read one chapter each day and complete the Bible reading highlight record.</b>                      ..... First year participants, Acts 1-14                      ..... Second year participants, Acts 15-28</p>		
<p><b>B. Memorize one assigned verse each week. When all verses are quoted at one time, the assignment is completed</b>                      ..... First year participants: (1) Matt. 5:48 (2) Jn. 1:1, 14                      (3) Rom. 3:23 (4) Rom. 6:23 (5) I John 4:8 (6) Is. 53:6                      (7) Ex 34:7 (8) Eph. 2:8-9</p> <p>.....Second year participants: (1) II Cor 5:17 (2) Gal 2:20 (3) Jn. 14:21 (4) II Tim 3:16 (5) Rev 3:20 (6) Acts 16:31 (7) Jn. 6.47</p> <p>.....Third year participants:                      (1) Josh 1:8 (2) Jn. 15:7 (3) Phil 4:6-7 (4) Matt 18:20 (5) Rom. 1:16 (6) Heb. 10:24-25 (7) Matt 4:19</p>		
<p><b>C. Read the assigned book and type one page (8 ½ X 11) on “How this book affected my life.”</b></p> <p>..... First year participants read “God of the Untouchables” by Dave Hunt                      .....Second year participants read “Through Gates of Splendor” by Elizabeth Elliott                      .....Third year participants read “Unveiled at Last” by Bob Sjogren                      .....Fourth year participants read “6 Dangerous Questions” by Paul Borthwick                      .....Fifth year participants read “Missionary Anthropology” by S.D.Ponraj</p>		

<p>II. PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT</p> <p>A. Enlist ten prayer partners and turn in a written list of their names and addresses. Arrange two meetings, one before and one after (within one month) the trip. The meetings are to inform and excite your prayer partners with your ministry</p>		
<p>B. Each team member should prepare and mail two prayer and financial support letters (50 copies each). This letter must be approved by your team leader before mailing</p>		

## Book Report

### **"Through the Gates of Splendor"** **Dean Christensen**

While I was familiar with the story of Jim Elliot and his four co-workers, I had never read the book before. The book filled in many of the details that I had never known before. I especially appreciated the background on how God had worked in each of the men to bring them together in that place to bring the Gospel to the Auca people.

I guess it's like God is bringing a team of 20 plus people together to minister to the Kazaks.

I think that the most powerful part of this story is that these men who were so intent on reaching the Auca's truly did not consider "giving everything they had" for the Gospel too high a price. I believe that we live in a culture where it is possibly the most difficult to serve God with that same abandon. We are so ingrained with our selfish materialism that it is difficult to give up even a little, let alone "everything".

As we look to Kazakhstan, I tend to think that I'm giving up quite a bit to leave my family and my comfort zone for three weeks. It seems I have bought into the "doctrine" of our western materialism to a greater degree than I would like to admit.

Another big point in this story is that while these men gave their all, and served God faithfully, God did not allow them to reap or even see fruit from their work. God doesn't ask us to win souls, he asks us to faithfully proclaim the Good News to all peoples. The thought occurred to me that God could choose to call us to hard, back-breaking work for three weeks and not see a single person come to Christ. What would my response be? Would I be disappointed? Would I feel that I had wasted my time. If so, I've missed the whole point, faithfulness. It's God who calls, and God is faithful. He will accomplish His good plan in His perfect timing.

While we are not going to a "hostile" people on this mission trip, the book was compelling in its message. If we believe that God has called us to do this, then we must do it with all our might. Let's Go!

# God of the Untouchables

John Sparks

SAMPLES  
OF  
REPORTS

*This was a very significant book for me.*

Living in America, we do not get a lot of teaching on the truth of sacrifice, we get very little as it regards trusting in Christ for much more than forgiveness of sins. Sometimes what we believe is trusting Christ, is more begging for things of this world without regard to God's plan for our lives.

In the book, the faith and trust of Dr.Gupta is well demonstrated. More importantly, the truth of God's promises and the fulfillment of His ministry through Dr.Gupta is well demonstrated.

I found several of the instances related very important. When their first child died, they looked to God as to how they may not be proceeding in His perfect will. We know that God does not punish one person for the sin of another but we do know that God works through all things for His glory. When something happens in my life I need to seek after God, to discover this should affect me. If it is something good, does it deter me from doing that which God has commanded me to do? If it does, then I need to lower its priority in my life. If something bad happens in my life, I need to access whether this is discipline from the Lord, or is this helping me to see God's priorities for me, or is this God allowing me to experience tribulation that my faith may grow. Remembering, again that all things work together for good.

Another instance that touched me was the stories where God supplied financially, sometimes over time, but often times in immediate response to prayer. The instance where he was catching the ship to the States, and the instance where God supplied passage for him and his wife as they prayed in the train station, very awesome. I must learn to trust more fully.

II Timothy 1:7 says; I' have not given you the spirit of fear but of power and love and self discipline. I am learning in life that this verse works in reverse. That as I exercise self discipline, it is easy to show others love. As I show others love, then the power of God becomes evident through His work in my life. A life of purity, holiness and Christ's righteousness is necessary before His love can show through. Until I show His love in significant ways I cannot expect His power to show me either.

**GETTING  
PREPARED  
TO GO**

# FORMS TO BE COMPLETED AND TURNED IN

- ρ The Ministry team covenant pg.
- ρ Emergency form with medical information to aid in emergency
- ρ Waiver and release of legal liability
- ρ India visa application
- ρ Inoculation certification for cholera, tetanus, mepatitis
- ρ 5 passport size photographs
- ρ Reading report
- ρ Cross Cultural questionnaire
- ρ Copy of all approved prayer and support – raising letter.
- ρ List of personal prayer partner on form supplied
- ρ Testimony based on guidelines provided
- ρ Bible. Reading high list record
- ρ Expectation check list
- ρ Ministering cross cultural
- ρ Cultural personality profile analysis
- ρ A close look at India
- ρ Conflict resolution exercise

# TEAM COVENANT

# HBI GLOBAL PARTNERS TEAM COVENANT

## **Overall Purpose:**

To send a team that will work in partnership with other ministries to advance the work of the Kingdom. This will be accomplished through building relationships, character development and the involvement in strategic ministry projects.

“If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any fellowship with His Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make any joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:1-5

## **TEAM POLICY**

As a member of this team I purpose to adhere to the following covenant:

### **Focus of the Ministry**

I will see this ministry as more than just a task. I understand that the most important things to happen on this trip are the characters we develop and the relationships we build. I understand that God accomplishes His work through people.

### **Unity of the Team**

Phil. 2:1-4; Heb. 10:24, 25 I will strive to be one in spirit and purpose in order to make Christ's joy complete by considering others better than myself and spurring one another on toward love and good deeds. I will help the team to accomplish this by meeting together daily, holding each other spiritually accountable, accountable in our ministry, and encouraging each other to grow in our character and walk with the Lord.

John 17:18, 20-21 I also recognize the unity of our team has a profound impact on our ability to reach the world with the Gospel. Therefore, I will not allow doctrinal differences to create tension and lose the overall purpose of our team.

### **Relationship with the Opposite Sex**

I Tim 3:2,3 I will make an effort to minister to those of the same gender as myself. I will use discretion when relating to members of the opposite sex so as to be above reproach in all that I do. I will do my best to understand any cultural issues that would have an impact on relationships.

## **Conflict Resolution**

Within the Team: Matt 18:15 I will be receptive toward any constructive criticism and advice from others. I will keep an attitude of learning.

I will commit to pray about all grievances or complaints. God is my most important resource. If unrest continues, the grievances will not be announced publicly, but will be taken up with the fellow team member privately. If there is unrest about approaching the individual or still an unresolved spirit after confrontation, then the team leaders will be consulted.

I will not argue over a decision in a public setting. Discussion over the issue will be taken up privately.

## **Spiritual Accountability**

Psalm 37:4-6; Psalm 111 I will set aside time daily to be with the Lord in order to bring all concerns and decisions of the day before Him. I will seek the Lord's guidance first on all issues before bringing it to another team member.

## **Politics**

Colossians 4:6 I will avoid talking about American and / or national politics with or in the presence of non-team members. If I am asked their opinion about politics, I will try to emphasize a biblical perspective concerning the relevant issues. I will try to use any such discussion as a stepping stone to share the Gospel.

## **Priority of the Team**

If I have the opportunity to minister in the country before or after the team's ministry, I will give 100% of my energy to the team when in the country.

## **Food**

Understanding that food is a central part of a person's culture; I will make every effort to accept offers of food so as not to be an offense to people, unless I believe that in so doing it will risk my health.

## **Time and Flexibility**

In order to express God's love and humility towards our team members and others, each team member will be punctual to all team and national events unless excused by a team leader.

I will be flexible about unexpected changes in schedule and / or events at all times.

## **Security and Protection**

While becoming acquainted with the culture and surroundings, no one will go out without another team member unless approved by leadership. Females should not go out without at least two other people, one of which should be a male. Team leaders should know of my whereabouts.

In ministry, I agree to adhere to 11:00 p.m. curfew in order to be physically rested and effective.

## **Relationship with Hosts**

I Thess. 5:12, I will be willing to submit to their leadership and instruction. I will “hold them in highest regard in love because of their work.”

## **Finances and Shopping**

Luke 16:11, Proverbs 3:9 I will honor the Lord with my personal finances by not exploiting wealth in front of nationals.

## **Illness**

James 5:14 If a team member becomes ill, I will purpose to pray for their healing. I will not use minor illness or discomfort as an excuse not to participate and will be wise in protecting my body.

3 John 2 - I will pray for the health of the team prior to departure.

## **Short - Term Policy**

Candidates participating on short-term trips are reminded that they are ambassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ. As I go overseas, I not only represent Him but the United States and my church. This is a tremendous responsibility. Consequently, I should strive to be above reproach in my actions and attitudes. I must submit to the team leaders' authority. If at any time while overseas my behavior constitutes a problem, the team leader has the authority to ask me to return home. Any additional costs incurred, as a result of this action will be at my expense.

## MINISTRY TEAM COVENANT

As a member of this team, I agree to abide by this covenant during my mission trip.

Name -----

Date:-----

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

NAME:	PASSPORT NUMBER:
ADDRESS:	HOME PHONE:
	WORK PHONE:

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY PLEASE NOTIFY:

NAME:	NAME:
ADDRESS:	ADDRESS:
RELATIONSHIP:	RELATIONSHIP
WORK PHONE:	WORK PHONE:
HOME PHONE:	HOME PHONE:

<b>EMPLOYER NAME:</b>	SUPERVISOR
ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE:                      EXT:

<b>MEDICAL CONDITIONS:</b> (DIABETES, ALLERGIES ETC)	<b>DOCTOR:</b>
	ADDRESS:
BLOOD TYPE:	PHONE NUMBER:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ the undersigned, being of lawful age, for the sole consideration of being allowed and permitted to be a member of ..... Team hereby and for my heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, waive all rights, demands and claims whatsoever and releases, acquits and forever discharges, \_\_\_\_\_, ..... Church and Hindustan Bible Institute and its agents, employees, servants and successors of all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, rights, damages, costs, loss of service, expenses and compensation whatsoever, which may hereafter accrue out of all India Outreach activities.

I recognize that the conditions in some places to which I will travel are not the same standard as the conditions to which I am accustomed (i.e. political environments and judicial systems). I realize further that there are certain health and detainment risks as well as other risks to my property, and me and I enter into participation in this trip with knowledge of those risks.

I understand that this document constitutes a full and complete waiver of all possible claims, including claims for negligence in personal injury or property damage, arising out of my participation in this trip.

I further understand and agree that all rights under Section 1542 of the Civil Code of any state or territory of the United States and any other nation or countries are hereby expressly waived. Said Section reads as follows:

“1542, Certain claims not affected by general release. A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release, which if know by him must have materially affected his settlement with debtor.”

I further declare and represent that no promise, inducement or agreement not herein expressed has been made to the undersigned, and that this Waiver and Release is contractual and not a mere recital.

**THE UNDERSIGNED HAS READ THE FOREGOING WAIVER AND RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS IT.**

Signed, sealed and delivered this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Team Member (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Team Member  
(Legal Guardian if under 18 yr. old)

PART C: (TO BE FILLED BY ALL APPLICANTS FOR VISA)

I, Mr./Mrs./Ms/\_\_\_\_\_ hereby undertake that I shall utilize my visit to India for the purpose for which visa has been applied and shall not arrive in India, try to obtain employment or set up business or extend my stay for any other purpose. I fully understand that if any of the particulars above are found to be incorrect or if any information is found to have been withheld, the visa is liable to be canceled at any time.

DATE:

PLACE:

(SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT)

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE VISA APPLICANTS**

**A. PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS OR TYPE**

**B. MODE & TIMINGS:**

1. **APPLICATION AT COUNTER** – VISA APPLICATIONS FILED TILL 10.30 ARE SERVICED AND DELIVERED AT 1.30 PM AND THOSE FILED BETWEEN 10.30 AND 2.30 PM ARE SERVICED AND DELIVERED AT 4.30 PM.
  
2. **APPLICATIONS THROUGH OVERNIGHT MAIL** – EFFORTS ARE MADE TO SERVICE AND RETURN THE PASSPORT THE FOLLOWING WORKING DAY PROVIDED APPLICATIONS ARE ACCOMPANIED BY OVERNIGHT MAIL FEE OF \$14.00 FOR RETURN. (FOR DELIVERY TO HAWAII OVERNIGHT FEE IS \$19.00) IN ADDITION TO VISA FEE. THE OVERNIGHT MAIL FEE CHECK SHOULD ALSO BE PAYABLE TP CPMSI; ATE GENERAL OF INDIA. ACCOUNT NUMBERS AND COD'S ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.
  
3. **APPLICATIONS THROUGH ORDINARY MAIL** – NORMALLY VISA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED THROUGH ORDINARY MAIL ARE PROCESSED AND RETURNED WITHIN FIFTEEN DAYS OF THEIR RECEIPT. PLEASE SEND SELF ADDRESSED AND STAMPED CERTIFIED MAIL ENVELOPE WITH RECEIPT AND FORM FOR CERTIFIED MAIL DULY FILLED IN OR SEND \$3.00 TOWARDS MAILING CHARGES.

## D. TYPES OF VISAS, VISA FEES & REQUIREMENTS:

TYPE OF VISA	VISA FEE	REQUIREMENTS/REMARKS
	US\$	
1. THREE MONTHS VISA (MULTIPLE ENTRY)	40.00	THE THREE-MONTH VISA PROVIDES FOR ENTRY INTO INDIA WITHIN 3 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE AND STAY IN INDIA FOR THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF FIRST ENTRY. ALL OTHER VISAS ARE EFFECTIVE FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE.
2. SIX MONTHS VISA (MULTIPLE ENTRY)	60.00	SIX MONTHS VISA VALID FOR SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE
3. ONE YEAR VISA (MULTIPLE ENTRY)	70.00	ONE YEAR VISA IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE
4. ONE YEAR STUDENT / BUSINESS VISA (MULTIPLE ENTRY)	70.00	BUSINESS VISA APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE AND SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY (A) 2 PHOTOGRAPHS & (B) LETTER FROM BUSINESS ORGANIZATION WHICH THE APPLICANT REPRESENTS. VISA TO BE VALID FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE.
5. VISAS WITH VALIDITY BETWEEN ONE & FIVE YEARS	120.00	SUCH VISAS ARE VALID FOR PERIOD INDICATED FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE
6. TRANSIT VISA	25.00	TRANSIT VISA IS ISSUED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF ENABLING THE HOLDER TO TRAVEL THROUGH INDIA TO REACH HIS ULTIMATE DESTINATION AND CAN NOT BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF TOURISM/BUSINESS, ETC. (Confirmed air-tickets for onward journey out of India must be produced for getting a transit visa).
NOTE:		
➤ THE ABOVE FEES INCLUDE A VISA PROCESSING CHARGE OF \$20.00 INTRODUCED W.E.F. NOV.1,1994.		
➤ FEES ARE DIFFERENT! NEED TO CHECK INTERNET.		

**TYPE OF VISA TO BE APPLIED IS  
TOURIST VISA**

**VISA FEE PAYMENT MODE:** ALL VISA FEES AND MAILING CHARGES ARE PAYABLE BY CASHIER'S CHECK OR MONEY ORDER. FEES FOR APPLICATIONS FILED AT THE COUNTER CAN BE PAID IN CASH ALSO. VISITING CONSULAR TEAMS RENDER AN ADDITIONAL OUTSTATION PROCESSING FEE OF US\$10.00 IS CHARGED WHEN VISAS AND OTHER CONSULAR SERVICES OUTSIDE SANFRANCISCO. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH WHEN YOU SEND YOUR APPLICATIONS THROUGH MAIL.

- C. REQUIREMENTS FOR TOURIST VISA: 1. APPLICATION FORM DULY FILLED IN 2. ONE 2"x2" PHOTOGRAPH 3. VALID PASPORT.
- D. REQUIREMENT FOR APPLICANTS OTHER THAN U.S. CITIZENS: A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR RESIDENT ALIEN/TEMPORARY RESIDENCE/EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION CARD OR A COPY OF APPROVED U.S. VISA PETITION.
- E. 5 YEAR VISA: PERSONS OF INDIAN ORIGIN CAN BE GRANTED 5 YEAR MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS. OTHER VISITORS WHO HAVE FREQUENTLY VISITED INDIA CAN ALSO GET 5 YEAR MULTIPLE ENTRY TOURIST VISA.
- F. IN CERTAIN CASES SUCH AS VISITS TO RESTRICTED /PROTECTED AREAS, LONG TERM STAY, RESEARCH PROJECTS, STUDIES (FOR STUDENT VISA PROOF OF ADMISSION AND APPROVAL FROM CONCERNED DEPARTMENT ARE ALSO REQUIRED) VISA TAKES AROUND 3 MONTHS. ADDITIONAL FORMS (IN TRIPLICATE WITH THREE PHOTOS) HAVE TO BE FILLED IN FOR OBTAINING PERMIT FOR RESTRICTED/PROTECTED AREAS.
- G. APPLICANTS SHOULD NOTE THAT IF ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION IS WITHHELD OR IS INCORRECT, THE VISA IS LIABLE TO BE REFUSED OR CANCELED, IF ALREADY ISSUED.
- H. FEE ONCE RECEIVED CAN NOT BE REFUNDED, EVEN IF THE APPLICATION IS WITHDRAWN OR VISA IS REFUSED. THE FACT THAT AN APPLICATION FOR VISA HAS BEEN MADE DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT VISA WILL BE GRANTED.

PLEASE ENSURE TO SEND YOUR VALID PASSPORT WITH THIS APPLICATION FOR THE STAMPING OF VISA. (INDIAN VISAS ARE NOT ISSUED ON SEPARATE VISA SHEETS).

**Contact address at Chennai, India:**

**Dr. Paul R. Gupta, 86 Medavakkam Tank Road, Kilpauk, Chennai 600 010**

**Mr. Peter Asirvatham, 23A South Thirumalai Nagai, Villivakkam, Chennai 600 010**

# INOCULATION CERTIFICATE

This certifies that \_\_\_\_\_, has received the following inoculations.

Tetanus

Hepatitis A

Hepatitis B

The following are contraindicated for this patient:

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DATE

PHYSICIAN \_\_\_\_\_

P.S. If you already have, please attach the certificate.

**PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS  
FOR  
SURVIVAL**

## HOW TO STAY SAFE OVERSEAS

1. Make sure you have a photocopy of your passport.
2. Make sure you are insured.
3. No matter where you are, watch your belongings.
4. Work in pairs when sending your luggage through x-ray machines.
5. Always lock your rooms.
6. Never walk at night unless your team leader approves it and you should never be by yourself.
7. Always avoid accident scenes.
8. Always avoid political and religious rallies.
9. Always secure passport and airline tickets
10. Always watch what you say in public.
11. Be cautious about answering questions from strangers regarding the team.
12. Only use transportation approved by the team leader.
13. If traveling to other ministry locations overnight, make sure you have your passport.
14. If stopped by the police, even if they are in uniform, ask for identification.
15. Any others ?

# EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING LIST

## 1. BAGGAGE CONSIDERATIONS

### A. LIMITS

Weight limit and sizes are always changing. Check with your Airline to get updated sizes and weights.

In light of this, please watch your weight limits and the number of suitcases you bring.

The lighter you travel, the happier you will be. Plan to bring no more than 8 days of clothing. (Remember. You'll need to leave room for souvenirs).

### B. Packing

1. Pack all liquids in plastic bags.

### C. Tags

1. Put Teams luggage tags on all baggage, including carry-on, portfolios, musical instruments, etc.
2. Include a label inside your luggage that has your name and church address.
3. Do not switch luggage tags, as each suitcase has been assigned a specific number.

## II. WHAT TO WEAR

The first impression that people have of us is formed when they see what we look like. Our dress gives them an idea of what and who we are. Proper dress will compliment our Christian testimony. Do not wear clothes that draw attention to you or set you apart. Above all, be neat and clean at all times. The climate will be hot and humid. Wash and wear clothes will save you time and trouble.

Since the dress standards for women in other countries are extremely conservative, our lady team members will need to dress accordingly. Dresses or skirts and blouses will be worn whenever ministering to people. In hot climates, light cotton dresses will be preferable. In some situations, sleeveless attire will not be appropriate. Skirts will be knee length, or below. Swimsuits must be one-piece, and should be very conservative. Please wear a dress or skirt and blouse when you arrive in the country. In some cases, pants are acceptable for work projects. Please check this with your team leader. (see article on women traveling alone).

Men, shorts, and "T" shirts can only be worn during construction or sports.

Beards and mustaches need to be trimmed in an extremely conservative manner, and earrings or bandannas will not be appropriate. Ties will be appropriate for all church meetings but not compulsory.

### III GENERAL EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING

\* Avoid anything that has a lot of fragrance. This attracts mosquitoes.

\*\* All prescription medications need to be in a professionally labeled container.

Towels and washcloth} not necessary, if available	Permethrin
Bed sheets } we would be glad to have some	Sunscreen
Antiseptic hand wipes	Small water bottle
Antiseptic Soap	Small day pack (optional)
Baby powder or cornstarch	Fanny Pack
Bath Soap & Container	
Deodorant	Bible
Kleenex personal packs	Pens and pencils
Shampoo	Calculator (optional)
Toilet paper 2-3 rolls	Address list of supporters and friends
	Journal
Small mirror	Passport
Comb and / or brush	Green Card
Blow dryer/curling iron	(for non-US citizens)
	Camera, film in carry on
Electrical converter	Flashlight (essential)
Travel iron (optional)	Extra batteries
Alarm clock	Pocket knife in checked bag
Ear plugs	Extra eye glasses
Cold/flu medication	Sunglasses
Throat Lozenges	2 Watches
Hydrocortisone cream	Spending money for souvenirs
Vitamins, aspirin	
Motion sickness medicine	50 clothespins and 30 foot line
(Bonine, Marezine, etc.)	Coat hangers
Personal medications	Laundry Soap
(Allergies, diabetes, etc.)	
Stomach/Intestinal Meds (some of each)	Plastic bags for laundry
• Ciprofloxacin	Hat
• Imodium	Swimsuit
• Pepto Bismol	
Insect Repellent (2 cans)	

#### IV CLOTHING (WOMEN)

Dress Shoes  
Walking Shoes (tennis shoes)  
Casual Dresses / Skirts & Blouses-  
(light weight, not see through)  
Sunday Dresses / Skirts & Blouses –  
if Indian outfit is not available

Cosmetics  
Women's Personal items  
  
Simple jewelry  
  
Sleepwear  
Bathrobe Underwear

#### V CLOTHING (MEN)

Dress Shoes  
Walking Shoes (Tennis shoes)  
Work Pants and Shirts (for construction only)  
Socks  
Casual Pants and Shirts (short sleeves)  
Dress Pants and 4 Shirts  
Belt

Underwear  
Shaving Equipment  
  
Sleepwear  
  
Tie (optional)

#### VI CARRY – ON BAGS

Based on previous experience (delays of several days in the arrival of luggage), it is recommended that you take a carry-on bag (both coming and going) with the following items:

Address List  
Alarm Clock  
Bible  
Camera, Film,  
Change of Clothes  
Comb and / or Brush  
Deodorant  
Drinking Water  
Earplugs

Ministry Supplies  
Motion Sickness Medicine  
Passport  
Personal Medications  
Shaving Equipment  
Sleepwear  
Snacks  
Soap/Shampoo/Hand-wipes  
Swimsuit

Hand Towel  
Kleenex  
Skin so soft

Toothbrush / Toothpaste

## VII MINISTRY SUPPLIES

In most cases team members will have ministry supplies assigned to them. Each specific area of ministry determines this. **ALL MINISTRY SUPPLIES WILL BE PACKED AT THE PACKING PARTY.**

## VIII PACKING PARTY

- All ministry supplies are to be packed at the packing party.
- No packing or changing of inventory of the suitcases can be done the day we leave.

### ***NOTE:***

- Radios and cassette players (i.e. Walkman, etc.) not used in ministry and playing cards should only be used in-flight or in the privacy of your room.
- Your personal belongings are not covered by any church insurance. This includes any cameras or musical instruments. Please leave valuable rings and unnecessary credit cards or I.D. cards at home.
- Any musical or sound equipment that you borrow is covered, but must be listed on our policy.
- All camera or electronic equipment (including computers) with a cumulative worth of over \$1,000 should be registered with U.S. Customs at the airport before departure.
- All laptop computers and video cameras need to be approved by the team leader before transporting overseas.

For customs and insurance purposes, please make a list of all photographic and computer equipment with serial numbers.

## MONETARY EXCHANGE INFORMATION

For international teams, there is always the question of “How do we get our US dollars exchanged into foreign currency?” The following notes (based on past experience) should help minimize problems:

- In most cases, you will not need to exchange money before you leave the US. American Express Checks in small increments (\$20, \$50) are easier to cash overseas. In many cases, if you are only taking \$100-\$200, it is easier to take cash rather than traveler’s checks. (All currency must be 1990 or newer and in good condition) Cashing traveler’s checks in many countries can be a hassle – if not impossible in some places.
- Before exchanging money in a foreign country, check with your host or team leader first. There are times when exchange rates between banks and hotels will vary substantially.
- American Express Traveler’s Checks are usually easiest to exchange. We have had some trouble with other Traveler’s Checks. If you wish, US dollars can be exchanged to most foreign currency in advance at most major banks.
- NEVER exchange your money on the streets with a person who approaches you with an offer to “help you out” because:
  - You might end up with counterfeit money.
  - You might get a very poor exchange rate.
  - You might be unknowingly dealing on the “Black Market” which can result in a lot of trouble.
  - If you use a credit card overseas, make sure the rate of exchange is clear before you sign. You could end up paying much more than you intended.
  - Do not exchange all of your money at once, if possible. The fluctuation of exchange rates, plus the danger of carrying too much cash, makes it a lot wiser to change money in smaller amounts all during your trip.
- DO NOT bring home large amounts of foreign currency intending to exchange it when you return. The fluctuation of other countries’ economies makes this an unwise idea. Your foreign currency, which originally cost \$100 US dollars, may only be worth \$40 when you get home.
- Make sure to carry your money in some sort of money belt or fanny pack.

## Women travelling alone

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A word to women travelling in India, particularly without men; it can be quite a hassle, although southern India is less of a problem than the north. At any rate, the best thing is to always cover your upper arms (not go sleeveless) and to cover your calves (not wear skirts). You will be hassled the least when you wear the Pakistani-style tunic with pants outfit. Hassles often consist of being grabbed and having elbows, hands, etc. “accidentally” brush against your private areas. This isn’t just due to crowded streets. Men may follow you back to your hotel and try to get into your room; keep it locked, even when you are there. On the whole, don’t let this discourage women from traveling alone or without men to India; it won’t ruin your trip.

The best suggestion to avoid this problem is to do as Indian women do in India. The problem is India has different value systems than the Western world. It is not an accepted practice in India to show skin above knees, a large portion of your back (from shoulders to hips), the area between neck and breasts in addition to women’s private parts. Also wearing clothes which are slightly translucent (which show bra or outline of panties) is a no-no. Clothes which fall under this category are shorts, thin T-shirts, skirts which fall above knees, and going around bra-less. Also, all actions by women which expose the above mentioned skin should be avoided – e.g. sitting in manner which exposes knees and calves, moving arms around which exposes area just below armpits (junction of back and side of breasts) even while wearing a bra, leaning over and giving a view down neck etc and kissing in public. As you can see clothing, actions and etc., should be done keeping the above in mind. Perfectly innocuous actions and normal clothing becomes translated into come-ons, “loose women” etc.

To quote an Indian national: “Yes, travelling in India by a single woman is UNUSUAL. I should say that you should NOT attempt to do so without sufficient precautions. My wife has had pretty tough experiences travelling in Indian being an educated and enlightened Indian herself. People look ‘funny’ at single ‘foreign’ female ...even though we have millions of tourists from all over the world, people in India still haven’t gotten over it, I suppose. You just CAN’T AVOID it...To avoid men brushing against you, harassing you ...DON’T SMILE at people; this encourages them!”

For women going to India, it helps a lot to dress conservatively: covering legs, loose clothes, etc. Remember also that in places there are separate queues for men and women, and take advantage of that. Local buses in some cities, such as Hyderabad, have women getting in and remaining in the front of the bus, while men use the back. Trains usually have women-only carriages, and you may want to ask for them. This will certainly help reduce the number of unpleasant experiences. One basic rule is to be very considerate to an Indian custom: women (and even men) keep their bodies covered. Don’t wear shorts, or sleeveless shirts. Jeans are OK (though a bit risqué in some parts. Especially the eastern states – like Bihar). Your best bet might be to wear a Salwar-Kurta, an Indian dress that some American women tell me is very comfortable, and –very Indian.

You will meet all sorts of men, some very courteous and helpful, and some downright nasty. Being a single woman is not normal in India, don't be surprised to be asked why you are alone. A family is a very important thing in India, especially for a woman. If you don't have one to show, you may be treated as a failed human being, or simply a weirdo. You may find men who will try to feel you (especially if you are "scantily" clad), so always be very feisty if you suspect someone did that. Complain loudly, and clearly. Generally, -most-Indians treat a woman traveling alone with respect, and will be helpful. Some are downright nasty. But I suspect that this changes a little to the worse for a 'white' woman traveling alone. Not much worse, but noticeably so. It is well known that 'western' culture is sexually more permissive, and this is misinterpreted by Indian males far too often.

Delhi is very bad for women – in general eastern India (Bihar and UP) is bad for single women of any race. Southern India is better for the most part. Some large cities are surprisingly safe (even for a lone woman late in the evening, though you don't have to test this!), like Bombay and Calcutta.

Please remember that Indian men are not all nuts. Most are actually very decent people, who will treat you with the respect you deserve. However be prepared for a few bad eggs. You being a foreigner will bring them out faster than anything else will. On the whole, I think you will have a great time. In Indian culture women are regarded with great respect, but there are many, many, many rules, and too often some frustrated man will decide to dump it all anyway. So be prepared.

In situations in which you anticipate unwanted attention, cover your hair with a scarf or light shawl. This is a sign of modesty used by many Indian women; in fact, very traditional Indian women will sometimes cover their faces as well when in the presence of male strangers. The clueless sort of man who believes the usual myths about western women may be tuned in to this bit of Indian body language and leave you alone. This practice may help the single female traveler get on better with the local women as well.

## **Philosophy of travelling in India**

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Keep an open mind, and enjoy the experience; India can't be described, it must be experienced! It seems to be the sort of country that people either love or hate.

Good advice in a country like India is to take it-slow-. Don't try to see a ton in a short period of time; that can be stressing even in the easiest of countries, and India is not an easy country. A favorite method for getting around towns is to just wander; India is the perfect place for this because you continually run into surprises. There are endless things that you will see that you can't even begin to understand and that is half of the pleasure – the small day-to-day activities that go to make up the culture.

The main thing you should know about India is that the notion of personal space is very different there. Once you step out onto the street, people will immediately begin to approach you offering to sell you things, perform services, etc., or just to ask for money. People will not go away if you say “no”. If you're not prepared for this (and even if you are), it can be a very tense experience.

Indian queues can be amazing – you have to abandon all courtesy in queues if you ever want to be served. If you want to buy a ticket at the railroad station, you have to “actively queue” – defend your position or else someone will simply shove his money into the little counter window before you, and there will be someone next to him with money in hand trying to do the same. On the other hand, you may sometimes receive a little more respect than local people do because you “look different”; this can be useful at times, and distressing at others.

Also, don't complain too much – it bothers Indians to the point where they become unfriendly

## **TRAVELING OVERSEAS**

### **Passport, Visa, Departure and Arrival in Host country**

In a matter of days you will be leaving on a short-term missions trip, and I'm sure the anxiety level is growing. There may be a number of questions going through your minds, and I would guess that a number of them have to do with the trip itself.

In some ways, you share an experience that is common to any traveler, however, in many ways, traveling as a short-term missionary is unique. There may be differences in how you dress, what you are carrying in your suitcase, and certainly the purpose for which you are traveling.

Hopefully, the following information will help you to understand the process, the documents, and all the lines of people you encounter as you begin your trip. International travel has been described as "hours of boredom interspersed with moments of chaos." – Enjoy.

#### **A. Departing for the Airport**

Your team leader will determine your departure time based on distance to the airport, time for documents to be processed, and time for luggage/cargo to be checked. Often, your team will be arriving at the airport before anyone else on the flight. Please take the initiative to look for ways that you can help (i.e. carry luggage, hold the door for someone, guard the carry-on luggage, etc.). Relatives and friends are welcome to come to the airport, but please keep in mind that from the time you arrive at Village for departure, and throughout the trip, your attention must be on your team leader.

#### **B. Shuttle**

A lot of the time, an airport shuttle will be transporting you to the airport. This is to assure that all team members and luggage will arrive at the same time, and at the right airline. HBI takes us when we return home.

#### **C. How to Check in**

Upon arrival at the airport, a designated team member will take your passport and ticket and go to the airline counter on your behalf. At the same time, the rest of the team will be unloading the luggage. The designated team member will tell the team how the luggage will be checked in (either all luggage at once, or two-by-two). We check in individually.

#### **D. Passports and Visas**

First-time travelers are often unclear as to the differences and purposes of these documents.

1. **The Passport**  
This is the booklet that you received from your own government giving you permission to leave your country and return.
2. **The Visa**  
This is usually a stamp in your passport that you received from the government of the foreign country you are going to visit. Most airlines will want to see both of these items before you get on an International flight. Keep your passport/visa and ticket available at all times while travelling, and at the same time, secure. India Visa is in your passport.

#### **E. Security**

Since September 11, airport security worldwide has been strengthened significantly. Sometimes security measures are intimidating, but remember that it is there for your safety. All your suitcases will be X-rayed, and always your hand luggage will be X-rayed, and you will go through a metal detector. In most cases, Security is looking for weapons (i.e. guns, knives, and explosives). Please do not joke about hijacking or weapons anywhere in any airport. In the U.S. such joking is a Federal Offense. Please make note that going through security in some airports can take as long as 45 minutes. Plan accordingly.

#### **F. General Guidelines in Airport**

1. Stay with your team leader.
2. Don't even go to the bathroom unless your team leader knows where you are.
3. In developing countries be very careful with purchasing food which may be unhealthy.
4. Never leave luggage unattended. This is always true in order to prevent your luggage from being stolen. (NOTE: In some airports, security is concerned about unattended luggage, for obvious reasons.)
5. When your team leader is dealing with airport employees, if things don't happen as expected, please hold your concerns until your team leader is in an isolated location where he can discuss them with you.
6. If passengers ask you why you are traveling to a particular restricted access country, be cautious with your answer.
7. If you need to walk across the tarmac to reach the plane, it is very important that you watch for taxing aircraft. Also, when near the airplane make sure to stay clear of the engines. This is particularly true of propeller aircraft.

#### **G. Enjoying the Flight**

If this is your first international flight, you will be tempted to treat the flight as a “big party in the sky.” If you are on a night flight, please repress those feelings. To better enjoy flying, follow these suggestions:

1. Try to rest and even sleep.
2. Headaches will occur at times while flying. These can be caused by airplane noise, dry airplane air, cigarette smoke, not enough sleep, not enough food, etc. To reduce this possibility, try to sleep, use earplugs for noise, drink plenty of fluids, eat at least every 5 hours while traveling, etc.
3. Periodically walk the aisle or do some isometrics exercises to keep your legs from cramping.

## **H. Arrival**

As your arrival time draws near, there are several things you can do to prepare:

1. Put away everything you got out during the flight, and find your passport.
2. You should have been handed a Disembarkation form from the flight attendant, or your team leader. Please make sure this is completely filled out.
3. If at all possible, our team will try to be some of the first passengers off the plane. If there are 600 people on a flight, being first gets you through customs sooner.

## **I. Immigration and Customs**

Upon arrival, you always go through Immigration before Customs. Immigration wants to see your Passport/Visa and will ask you:

1. What is your final destination?
2. Why are you traveling?
3. Where will you be staying?

Customs is interested in what you have in your suitcases (i.e. illegal drugs, large Quantities of liquor, dead endangered animals, etc.). When you are asked, “Do you have anything to declare”, your answer is “no”. In most cases plan on opening all suitcases and carry-on for the inspector. If you appear cooperative and polite it usually speeds this process, though Customs normally takes a very long time. Be patient.

It is important that you remember that standing in line can be a very Western concept. In many developing countries you will notice that there tends to be more “mob activities” than lines. Be sensitive to the appropriate times to be assertive in your actions and recognize that initiative on your part may make the difference between you getting through the line or standing motionless indefinitely.

There are times when going through immigration or customs that the officers present may indicate that you are liable for a “fine”. This may be because you have unknowingly violated

some customs rule or you may have simply been the one selected at random to pay a “fine” that day. If this situation arises, your team leaders or ministry leaders will be more than happy to help you with this situation.

#### **J. Ground Transportation**

If there will be an extended layover at an arrival point, many times the airline will provide a hotel for you. Also, they may have a bus or van to transport you to the hotel.

#### **K. Hotel**

The purpose of the hotel is to give you a chance to rest. You will be tempted to see the sights, but your body will be happier if you rest. If you do leave the hotel, remember that you need to be back to the hotel about 3 hours before flight departure. Also, if you are in a developing country, watch the food. Usually the safest place to eat is in the hotel – but even this is no guarantee. Use precautions: eat hot foods when they are hot, and cold foods when they are cold. Don’t drink anything with ice cubes. Don’t eat fruit you cannot peel. Don’t eat raw vegetables or drink un-pasteurized milk. Please be polite about choosing not to eat something. It is not acceptable to yell across the restaurant to ask your team leader if something is safe or not. Also, please be sensitive to the “dress code”. In many cases the “dress code” is somewhat nicer than we are accustomed to. That is usually the case in the four star hotels we stay in and the patrons are the business class of that culture.

#### **L. Overbooked Flights**

Occasionally while travelling, you will arrive at an airport and your flight will be full. Airlines do this to keep from losing money on half-full flights. In many cases, the airline will offer passengers the option to stay behind in exchange for free hotel and a free flight coupon. This usually alleviates the overbooking problem. However, in some developing countries, airlines overbook by 1,000% and do not offer to compensate you in any way. Therefore, arrive at the airport very early. First come, first get on the plane!

# OHSU International Travel and Health Clinic

## Travel Advice

### Locating Physicians Overseas.....

International Association for Medical Assistance to Travelers, 417 Center St., Lewiston, NY 14092; Tel: (716) 754-4883 (IAMAT is a nonprofit organization that does not charge for its information. Voluntary donations are appreciated). This organization maintains a list of physicians in various locales overseas.

Contact the U.S. Department of State, Citizen's Emergency Center (telephone recordings of travel advisories) (202) 647-5225 or contact the local U.S. embassy.

Centers for Disease Control, International Traveler's Hotline (telephone recordings of country and disease-specific information): (404) 332-4559.

### Precautions while Traveling

Food and Water: "Boil it, peel it or forget it."

All Food on HBI Campus is safe to eat!

### DO

Eat fruit that you peel yourself

Eat meal well done

Avoid eating milk products (unless Pasteurized)

Assume all water in developing Countries is unsafe

Drink tea, coffee or bottled drinks

Treat potentially unsafe water by either Boiling for at least 10 minutes (at high Altitudes boiling should be for 20 minutes Or longer) OR by chemically treating Water with chlorine (one halazone tablet Or 2 drops of chlorox to one quart) OR

### DO NOT

Do not eat raw vegetables, salads or leafy greens; the water used to wash them may be unsafe.

do not eat raw seafood

do not eat custards, mayonnaise, cream pastries or salad dressing (risk of food poisoning)

do not eat food from street vendors

do not drink tap water, ice water, cloudy water, or water that has been in bulk storage (trains, planes, etc.)

do not brush your teeth with tap water in developing countries

Tincture of iodine 2% solution (5 drops  
To one quart) OR by filtering with  
Portable filters. Let stand for 30 minutes.  
If water is cloudy, double the iodine or  
Chlorine. Warm very cold water before  
Treatment.

Do not swim in fresh water in areas of  
schistosomiasis (Caribbean, South America,  
Africa, Asia, South China, Philippines,  
And Southeast Asia). Ocean water is safe  
Unless polluted.

Avoid stray or wild animals while  
Traveling (rabies risk)

do not approach or pet stray or wild animals  
(inquire regarding appropriate use of rabies  
Vaccine prophylaxis)

## Illness Abroad

**As in most areas of medicine, prevention is preferable to treatment. Illness rates for those traveling are estimated at 25% to 50%. The traveler, who plans ahead, with the help of the physician, can easily treat many minor ailments without seeking professional medical care.**

The following medical kit is symptom-oriented and is designed to help travelers treat themselves.

### Symptom-oriented Traveler's Medical Kit

Pack all ingredients in a self-sealing bag for organization, neatness, and protection against humidity; use plastic, rather than glass or bottles.

**Pain Relief:** Aspirin, acetaminophen, or ibuprofen, codeine if severe pain is anticipated. (Keep all drugs, especially narcotics, in their originally labeled containers to avoid problems at borders.)

**Cold Symptoms:** Antihistamine (available over the counter as brompheniramine). Dimetane for runny noses and rhinitis, a topical decongestant (available over the counter as oxymetazoline) which may relieve nasal congestion. Use for 2-3 days only.

**Patient-specific:** Any medications or supplies that are used on a regular basis.

**Prescription medication:** take along extra amounts in addition to anticipated needs. Also include a written prescription with the generic drug name in case extra supplies are needed.

Eyeglass or contact lens prescription as well as an extra pair of glasses.

Hearing aid batteries (may be difficult to find abroad).

Spare parts for repair of external prosthetic devices may be appropriate (strap, fasteners, hardware).

The patient using injectable medication (insulin) should carry a letter from the physician authorizing the possession and use of hypodermic syringes and needles. Some older pacemakers and some implanted metal hardware may set off airport metal detectors. Carry a letter from the physician identifying the implanted object and its effect on the metal detector.

Dental Kit:

First aid supplies for common dental emergencies.  
Oil of cloves for dental pain, Floss

First Aid Supplies:

These can be packed individually or purchased in kit form.  
Adhesive bandage  
Sterile gauze, Tape, Pins/needles  
Fine tweezers (to remove splinters, ticks)  
First aid manual

Destination-specific:

Sunscreen for tropical or sunny destinations (#15 SPF, with oxybenzone for additional UVA protection).

Insect repellent; permethrin for clothing, polymer deet for skin. Permethrin aerosol 0.5% is applied to clothing; one application remains active for up to 4 or 6 weeks or longer including laundering.

New polymer deet formulations such as Ultrathon (35% deet) (3M, St.Paul, DEET Plus (25% deet mixture) (Sawyer Products, Inc., Safety Harbor, FL), and Skedaddle (10% deet) (Little Point Corp., Cambridge, MA) allow for much lower concentrations of deet without much skin absorption. As little as 25% deet mixture provides excellent anti-insect protection. The combination of permethrin on clothing and polymer deet on the skin may afford up to 99% protection against mosquito and other insect bites, including tick bites. Lower concentrations of deet are probably desirable, as neurologic toxicity (seizures) has been reported after application of deet. The relationship between deet application and seizures has not been proved, however.

**Skin Care:**

In addition to the products mentioned above for treatment of skin infections, consider the following products for care of injured skin:

Stokogard (stockhausen, Inc., Greensboro, NC) cream applied to the skin for protection against plant dermatitis (poison ivy and others). Provides 86% protection against plant dermatitis when applied before exposure (Personal communication, Stockhausen, Inc., October 1991).

Calamine lotion for relief of mild dermatitis and itching

Steroid cream for more severe dermatitis

Talcum powder to dry damp skin and prevent chafing, friction blisters.

## THERE ARE OTHER THINGS IN DIRT...BESIDES DIRT

### I. Water

- Tap
- Filtered
- Bottled-Mineral Water

### II. Toilets

- Style
- Availability

### III. Showers

- Style
- Temperature
- Bacteria
- Availability

### IV. Dirt and Worms

### V. Laundry

- Style
- Availability
- Security

### VI. Housekeeping

### VII. Electricity

- Irregular
- Fluctuates
- Surge Protectors
- Converters

### VIII. Travel Hygiene

- Airline/Airports
- Hotels
- Carry Hand-Wipes, Kleenex, Pepto Bismol

## IX. Bugs and Rodents

- Fragrance attracts mosquitoes
- Repellent

DIARRHEA: is usually the result of food poisoning, occasionally from contaminated water. There are various causes – viruses, bacteria, protozoa (like amoebae), salmonella and cholera organisms. It may take one of several forms, coming on suddenly, or rather slowly. It may be accompanied by vomiting or by severe abdominal pain and the passage of blood or mucus when it is called dysentery. How do you know which type you have and how do you treat them? All kinds of diarrhea, whether or not accompanied by vomiting respond favorably to the replacement of water and salts taken as frequent small sips of some kind of rehydration solution. There are proprietary preparations, consisting of sachets of powder which you dissolve in water or you can make your own by adding half a teaspoonful of salt (3.5 grams) and 4 tablespoons of sugar (40 grams) to a liter of boiled water.

- If you can time the onset of diarrhea to the minute, then it is probably viral or bacterial and/or the onset of dysentery. The treatment, in addition to dehydration, is Ciprofloxacin 500 mgs every 12 hours. The drug is now widely available.
- If the diarrhea has come on slowly or intermittently, then it is more likely to be protozoanal, i.e. caused by amoebae or giardia and antibiotics will have no effect. These cases are best treated by a doctor, as should any diarrhea continuing for more than 3 days. If there are severe stomach cramps, the following drugs may help: Loperamide (Imodium, Arret) and Diphenoxylate with Atropine (Lomotil).

Thus, the lynch pins of treatment for diarrhea are rest, fluid and salt replacement, antibiotics such as Ciprofloxacin for the bacterial types and special diagnostic tests and medical treatment for amoeba and giardia infections. Salmonella infections and cholera can be devastating diseases and it would be wise to get to a hospital as soon as possible if these were suspected. Fasting, peculiar diets and the consumption of large quantities of yogurt have not been found useful in calming traveler's diarrhea or in rehabilitating inflamed bowels. Oral dehydration has, especially in children, been a lifesaving technique and as there is some evidence that alcohol and milk might prolong diarrhea, they should probably be avoided during and immediately after an attack. There are ways of preventing traveler's diarrhea for short periods of time when visiting these countries by taking antibiotics but these are ineffective against viruses and, to some extent, against protozoa. This technique should not be used, other than in exceptional circumstances. Some preventives such as Entero-vioform can have serious side effects if taken for long periods.

## **Additional Food Guidelines**

1. You can trust our team's host
2. Be willing to try new foods
3. Don't eat from street vendors
4. If you are the guest in a home, be very cautious about not accepting food.
5. Taking Pepto Bismol before each meal will help to insulate your stomach.
6. If you are not sure what to eat, watch your team leaders. Be very careful of voicing any concerns that may be overheard by your host.

**UNDERSTANDING  
TO  
WORK  
CROSS CULTURALLY**

# EXPECTATION CHECK

Think through your expectations. See what you really think of your upcoming adventure.

Complete the following sentence 15 ways by choosing one ending for each numbered group. Or make up your own sentence endings.

There are no right or wrong answers. Actually, we are just trying to stimulate your thinking. Be honest with yourself. Try to get in touch with some of what you are anticipating and assuming.

On my short-term mission, I will be .....

- \_\_\_\_\_ eating bugs raw.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gorging on feasts of native foods
- \_\_\_\_\_ not eating much at all.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ the best friend of every national I meet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ cannibalized
- \_\_\_\_\_ both
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ returning much more mature and confident.
- \_\_\_\_\_ coming home with my tail between my legs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ never coming home.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ preaching and teaching 20 hours a day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ spending most of my time lounging around.
- \_\_\_\_\_ not much busier than I am at home.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ living and working with super-saints.
- \_\_\_\_\_ trekking the jungle along like David Livingstone.
- \_\_\_\_\_ squabbling with my teammates
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ sleeping on a dirt floor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ living in the marriott of Morocco.
- \_\_\_\_\_ having to buy my own bed.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ seeing hordes come to Christ through me.
- \_\_\_\_\_ wandering around, afraid to talk with strangers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ developing a few good evangelistic friendships.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ without a bath for two months.
- \_\_\_\_\_ clean, comfortable and content.
- \_\_\_\_\_ dealing with not having hot water or electricity.

- \_\_\_\_\_ bringing home a great slide show.
- \_\_\_\_\_ having my camera stolen.
- \_\_\_\_\_ publishing my journal when it's all over.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ enjoying the flight overseas.
- \_\_\_\_\_ hijacked and murdered by terrorists.
- \_\_\_\_\_ enduring a near-terminal case of jet lag.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ able to eat everything, do and see everything.
- \_\_\_\_\_ suffering from malaria, hepatitis or "the revenge."
- \_\_\_\_\_ dying.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ losing my entire luggage.
- \_\_\_\_\_ on a fun-filled vacation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ getting to tour a couple of cities with my team.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ gaining the respect of all my friends and family.
- \_\_\_\_\_ making a fool of myself.
- \_\_\_\_\_ having a good, though humbling experience.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ sharing the gospel with dozens everyday.
- \_\_\_\_\_ known as the best short-termer in history.
- \_\_\_\_\_ getting my job done, and getting tired.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ noticed by missionaries and invited to come back.
- \_\_\_\_\_ glad when it's over.
- \_\_\_\_\_ isolated as a radical by the missionaries.

## **b. A Working Methodology**

When a church commits to this task we determine the giftedness of the team and form them into ministry teams. Those teams prayerfully prepare and plan as to how they will serve the Lord.

The national movement is informed of the ministry team and their gifts, abilities and skills. They then strategically discuss how they can engage these resources to serve the mission of the Church in the task of evangelism, envisioning, equipping, emphasizing and encouraging. So when the team arrives they are not just doing one effort in serving the church but a number of different ministries to help the national movement in fulfilling the great commission.

The first trip of the team is a learning process. Whenever something is new there is much that has to be learned. During this trip the national movement will do much of the leading. They will be responsible to mobilize the church and envision them to the possibility. They

will be responsible to share the vision and extend the invitation and lead in preparing the team. The international movement will be walking through many unknown territories and experiences and will have to trust the national movement to help prepare the team for cultural adjustments.

### **c. Giftedness and Preparation**

The international movement can help in doing the giftedness, skills and abilities test prior to their coming. This is more than just doing a giftedness test. It needs to identify abilities and skills that will empower the national movement to plan ministry opportunities. On one of the recent teams from Oklahoma there was a very skilled nurse that did diabetic seminars. This ability was so unique that we were able to invite all kinds of people that were interested in knowing how to cope with this physical problem. People who otherwise could not be approached through traditional methods got connected with us through this ability. Similarly, others have helped in training school teachers and in speaking to information technology communities. Doctors with various specialization were hosted and brought into relationships with national believers. Many of these efforts may serve as pre-evangelism but they open doors that would otherwise be closed.

Many such innovative efforts have been mobilized to put the unreached in contact with the national church. This effort of identifying skills and abilities is the responsibility of the international church so it increases the ability of the national church to build a strategic and powerful ministry program to reach unevangelized and unreached communities.

Once the giftedness, abilities and skills are determined, ministry opportunities are considered and the individuals are formed into teams. They inform their church on the plan so that they are covered with prayer and support to get ready for the ministry. The team begins preparing for their ministries and trip under the leadership of the team leaders assigned by the local church. They have several training weekends during which time they will cover the material that will help them to understand the country and people they will be ministering to and ministry they will be partnering with. Teaching and learning takes place in the form of lectures, reading material and videos. They are equipped with skills to building prayer support and raising funds for the project.

The various teams within the short-term mission team set times for meetings and practices so they are working on planning their ministry. If they are a building team, children's team, and/or a music and drama team, they meet as such. The teaching team connects with the national movement to prepare for their teaching assignments. This is a long but valuable process. In addition to preparing for their ministry they spend time in prayer. The end result is that a great team is prepared, bonded like never before and interdependency of the church is experienced. In addition to these activities individuals also write lists of potential prayer and financial supporters and send them letters informing them of their trip and needs.

The amazing experience of the members of the team is knowing that God can use them in His service. They are not only open to serve in the field but also in the home front. Their

faith in Christ becomes real as they watch God at work in changing them, providing for them and preparing them for the ministry.

#### **d. A Great Ministry and Learning Experience**

The mission trip itself will often turn out to be a stretching experience. At the end of the day more people have been impacted with such a strategy of networking and interdependence than would be humanly possible through a National Movement alone. We have seen this phenomenon over and over again as short term teams have visited and ministered along with us.

Returning to their country is another learning experience. When teams go back the members are never the same. Infact, if we, as a national movement do not prepare them to re-enter, the members can become judgmental and burn many bridges. This is because God gets a hold of them and they experience God in a way that causes them to experience change not at the superficial but at the core. Their values are challenged and they make commitments to the Lord.

#### **e. Networking with the National Team**

The national team also prays and prepares to meet new friends from the body. The movement receives the team, takes them through orientation and networks the ministry teams to their national team members. Together they learn how they can serve the Lord in the best possible manner. During their stay of a period between 10 to 12 ministry days, the team has the opportunity to minister to anywhere between 5000 to 30,000 people. Together they watch the Lord at work in pre-evangelism, evangelism, equipping national leaders and missionaries as well as envisioning and mobilizing the church. Can all this be done? The answer is, "Yes and more!"

#### **f. The Results**

Life will never be the same again at the end of their two week ministry period after they have seen and experienced God's ability to use them in His effort of building His church. Most of them are ready to return. Some catch a vision of how they can do this in other parts of the world. Yet others learn their limitations but recognize how significant it is for them to be involved in prayer and releasing resources. Pastors learn the importance of mobilizing their churches to be involved in serving the Lord.

The greatest thing that happens is that a foundation has now been laid and developed. Once the international church has been though this process it can facilitate the process in a better manner the next time around. It also develops a foundation to discuss the second stage of the strategy to be adopted in a region, people group or generation. In the second stage of the strategy the church shares its experiences with other churches. They build around the vision that Christ has put in their hearts and they now begin building a strategic team around the adopting of an area. This in turn will lead to discussions with national movements and a

formal partnership in reaching a specific location or people group is made. With each growing experience the network of churches is strengthened and they are ready now to discuss a strategic plan to reach the targeted people group.

Short term is a strategy that looks at the obstacle, understands the potential and engages the resources into a synergetic effort to accomplish the impossible. It is our hope that as we begin this process, God will help us build a partnership that will keep our hearts focussed on the vision and call so that we can together fulfill the mission of the Lord.

THE CHALLENGE  
OF CULTURE  
IN  
FULFILLING  
THE GREAT COMMISSION

# The Challenge of Culture in Fulfilling the Great Commission

Dr. Paul R.Gupta  
President  
HBI Global Partners

- Understanding Culture  
What is Culture?

Culture is not universally the same: There are no two cultures alike.

Culture is not inherently bad: There is evil in every culture, but the foundation of its

Corruption is not in the culture.

Culture is not inherently good: Culture is a prison of disobedience.

- Understanding Culture

The usage of the word

The Early usage of the word:

Refers to the opposite of nature. Nature was given to us Culture was constructed by man.

The term was used to describe Elite and High culture concepts in Europe

- Understanding Culture: How do we Define Culture?

“.....Culture is both the means and Values which arise among distinctive social groups and classes, on the basis of their given historical conditions and relationship, through which they handle and respond to the conditions of existence.....” (Hall quoted in McQuail, 1994:100)

- Understanding Culture: Definitions

- ◆ Fisher: “It is shared behavior, which is important because it systematizes the way people do things, thus avoiding confusion and allowing co-operation so that the group of people can accomplish what no single individual could do alone. And it is behavior imposed by sanctions, rewards punishment for those who are part of the group”.

- ◆ Kim: “The collective life patterns shared by people in social groups such as national, racial, ethical, socio-economical, religious and gender groups....”

- ◆ Paul Hiebert: “....Culture is the integrated system of learned behavior, ideas and produce characteristic of a society.....”

- Understanding Culture: Definitions

- ◆ Charles H Kraft: Culture is “the integrated systems of learned behavior patterns, ideas and products characteristic of a society”.

- ◆ A total life way of a people, the social legacy the individual acquires from his group”

- ◆ A people’s primary grid in terms of which they perceive reality...”

- Understanding Culture: The Concept
  - ◆ So how do we understand Culture?
  - ◆ We use the term “Culture” to designate the frame of reference with in which human beings operate.
  - ◆ It’s non-biological in nature.
  - ◆ It observes the effects in the frame of reference on human beings.
  
- Understanding Culture: Its Nature
  - ◆ Culture is a way of life.
  - ◆ Culture is a Total design for Living
  - ◆ Culture is an Adaptive system
  - ◆ Culture is learned
  - ◆ Culture makes sense to those who live in it
  - ◆ Culture is constantly Changing
  - ◆ It is integrated around worldview and values
  
- Dimensions or Layer of Culture
  - ◆ Behavior Layer: What is done?
  - ◆ Values Layer: What is Good or Best?
  - ◆ Belief Layer: What is true?
  - ◆ Worldview Layer: What is real?
  
- Elements where Cultures differ:
  - ◆ Basic National Character: French from American
  - ◆ Perception: Faces, Feelings, Smells
  - ◆ Time concept: Linear vs Circular/Event Vs Time
  - ◆ Space concept: Private space
  - ◆ Thinking: Abstract Vs Concrete
  - ◆ Language: Form and Meaning
  
- Elements where Cultures differ:
  - ◆ Non Verbal communication: Body Language / eye contact / touching
  - ◆ Proxemics: Space around one self
  - ◆ Appearance: Biological and Acquired
  - ◆ Values: Evil, Good and Neutral
  - ◆ Behavior: Norms, Rules, Manners
  - ◆ Social structure: Individual vs group
  
- Missions and Culture
  - ◆ Luzbetak says, “...The concept of Culture is ...the anthropologist’s most significant contribution to the missionary endeavor.... A failure to grasp the nature

of Culture would be a failure to grasp much of the nature of Missionary work itself...”

- Three Challenges Missionaries Must Confront
  - ◆ Personal Adaptation and Inculturation: How does one acquisition into a new culture?
  - ◆ Communicating across cultures: How does one communicate a message and be understood?
  - ◆ Transformation: How to introduce change without dislocating the integrated system?
  
- Dealing with the Challenge of Acquisition
  - ◆ A mono-cultural Myopia
  - ◆ Absolute ones own culture
  - ◆ Equate ones own reality as reality
  - ◆ Our views are superior
  - ◆ No respect for other cultures
  - ◆ Evaluates others customs and behavior by ones own assumptions and values
  
- Other mono-cultural Positions
  - ◆ Electric Mono-cultural: There is truth in other cultures occasionally
  - ◆ Reactionary Mono-cultural Position: Our culture is all bad other culture is good.
  - ◆ One World Culture: We are all headed in the same direction anyway.
  
- Recommendation for an effective Ministry
  - ◆ Begin with a Cross-cultural view of Culture
  - ◆ There is right and wrong in every culture
  - ◆ There are valid approaches in every culture to solve life’s problems.
  - ◆ Recognizes and respect the relative validity of every culture, though imperfect.
  - ◆ Understand the other culture’s perspective before recommending any change.
  
- Recommendation for an effective Ministry
  - ◆ Move to the Biblical View of Culture
  - ◆ God is not against or above Culture
  - ◆ God created Culture
  - ◆ God was within Culture
  - ◆ Culture effected by disobedience to God
  - ◆ God is looking to transform Culture
  
- Transcending the Communicational Barriers
  - ◆ Verbal and Non verbal communication involve transfer of symbols with meaning.
  - ◆ Forms have Meaning and we must move from form to meaning.
  - ◆ Communication requires us to be receptor driven.

- ◆ Understand the decision making process. Individual or group
- Implementing Change in a new Culture
  - ◆ Secular Model: Change with Shock-Move from Romance to Reaction to Recognition to Acceptance to Implementation
  - ◆ Ethnocentric Model: Our way is the best way
  - ◆ Technical Assistance Model: Takes the receptor culture in to account but Ethnocentric.
  - ◆ Incarnation Model: Innovator and Advocate
- Incarnation Model
  - ◆ Every Missionary is an Agent of Change
  - ◆ Change must be receptor based.
  - ◆ All cultures make changes.
  - ◆ Determine the barriers for change and understand the implication and dislocation.
  - ◆ Identify innovators, equip and empower them.
  - ◆ Implement change at the Worldview level.
- Recommending a Strategy
  - ◆ Strategy of the past: Internationalization.
  - ◆ Strategy of the present: Globalization.
  - ◆ Strategy of the church: Contextual transformation through the incarnation of Christ and His message in every people group of the world in the context of Globalization.

The Challenge of Culture in Fulfilling the Great Commission.

## Questions for "A Closer Look at India"

1. What do we need to understand about India before we begin ministering to the people?
2. What are some distinctive about the Hindu worldview?
3. Definition of a people group.
4. How many unreached people groups are there in India with the Gospel?
5. What strategy is suggested in order to reach India with the Gospel?
6. How does YOUR CHURCH outreach contribute to this strategy?

## CROSS CULTURAL EXPERIENCE EVALUATION

1. What ethnic group(s) does the church consist of?
2. What is the predominant economical standard of living among the congregation and what clues tell you this?
3. What was the standard of dress (formal, casual) and why do you think they value it?
4. List 3 things done differently in the service from your church.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
5. How did the church respond to you as visitors?
6. In what ways were the congregation involved in worship?
7. What types of music were used in worship and what do you think influences their choice of music?
8. What was the major emphasis of the service (praise, Bible study, evangelism, and personal growth)? Were there any indications that it was a consistent theme for the church?
9. What role did women play in the service? Did any women sit on the platform or speak from the pulpit?
10. What emphasis was placed on the offering and why do you think it is done that way?
11. List 2 expectations you had for the church before you attended the service and how they were met.

# DEALING WITH THE DIFFERENCES

## How Do We Determine What Is Important?

### ❖ REASONS FOR NEEDING TO RECOGNIZE THE DIFFERENCES

- ❖ To be a more effective witness (I Cor 10:31)
- ❖ To eliminate stumbling blocks (I Cor 10:32)

### ❖ A REVIEW OF THE DIFFERENCES

- ❖ The Visible Differences
- ❖ Differences in Relationships
- ❖ Differences in Values
- ❖ Differences in Beliefs

### ❖ AREAS FOR POTENTIAL MISUNDERSTANDING

- ❖ Time vs Event Orientation
- ❖ Dichotomistic vs Holistic Perceptions
- ❖ Crisis vs Non Crisis Orientations
- ❖ Task vs Person Orientations
- ❖ Status vs Achievement Focuses
- ❖ Concealment vs Exposure of Vulnerability

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❖ MINISTERING IN A CULTURE THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM YOURS?

❖ IF WE RECOGNIZE THE COMMON NEEDS OF ALL MEN FIRST

- ❖ We will have a basis for real ministry
- ❖ We will be less concerned about the differences

❖ All Humans Have the Same Needs for Physical Survival

- ❖ Air, food, water, shelter, clothing

❖ All Humans Have the Same Emotional Needs

- ❖ To love and to be loved
- ❖ To be part of a community
- ❖ To be considered someone of value

❖ All Humans Have Spiritual Needs

- ❖ A void that demands to be filled.
- ❖ A void that only Jesus can fill.

❖ MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD OF MINISTERING IN A CROSS CULTURAL SETTING IS LIFTING UP JESUS

- ❖ In our words
- ❖ In our attitudes
- ❖ In our lives

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But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself. John 12:32

## MINISTERING CROSS CULTURALLY QUESTIONNAIRE

Determine to what extent each of the following statements describes your thinking and approach to life. If the statement is not at all descriptive of you, write the number 1 in the blank space. If it is very descriptive of you, write the number 7. Write the number 4 if the statement describes you only somewhat. Use the number 2 or 3 for items that are less descriptive of you, and the number 5 or 6 for those that are more descriptive. Respond to all statements with a number 1 to 7.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. I would not feel comfortable working for a large company because I would never see the whole picture of what I was working on.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. I seek out friends and enjoy talking about any subject that happens to come up.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. I avoid setting goals for fear that I might not reach them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. I am more concerned about what I have accomplished than I am with the position and title of my job.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. I seldom think much about the future; I just like to get involved in things as they turn up.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. I feel things are either right or wrong; discussion of “gray” areas makes me uncomfortable and seems to compromise the truth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. When making a decision, I feel that more than one of the options can be a right choice.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. When I set a goal, I dedicate myself to reaching that goal, even if other areas of my life suffer as a result of it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. I am always one of the first to try something new.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. I tend to associate only with people of the same social status.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. I feel strongly that time is a scarce commodity, and I value it highly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. When my car needs tuning, I go to the dealer rather than let my neighbor who works out of his garage do the job. With professionals I know it will be done right.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. I like performing before an audience because it pushes me to perform better.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. My primary criteria for buying a car are low price and a record of quality and reliability; I do not let family or friends influence me to spend more for a “name brand.”
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. My desk or work area is very organized. There is a place for everything, and everything is in its place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. I attend lectures and read books by experts to find solutions to issues of importance to me.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. If offered a promotion which entailed moving to another city, I would not be held back by relationships to parents and friends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. I find it difficult to relate to people who have a significantly higher occupational or social position than mine.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. I always wear a watch and refer to it regularly in order not to be late for anything.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. I feel very frustrated if someone treats me like a stereotype.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. I tend not to worry about potential problems; I wait until a problem develops before taking action.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. When waiting in line, I tend to start up conversations with people I do not know.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. I hate to arrive late; sometimes I stay away rather than walk in late.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. I get annoyed at people who want to stop discussion and push the group to make a decision, especially when everybody has not had a chance to express their opinions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. I plan my daily and weekly activities. I am annoyed when my schedule or routine gets interrupted.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. I do not take sides in a discussion until I have heard all of the arguments.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. Completing a task is almost an obsession with me, and I cannot be content until I am finished.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. I enjoy breaking out of my routine and doing something totally different every now and then to keep life exciting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. When involved in a project, I tend to work on it until completion, even if that means being late on other things.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. I only eat in a few select public places outside of my home, where I can be sure the food is the best quality and I can find the specific items I enjoy
- \_\_\_\_\_ 31. Even though I know it might rain, I would attend a friend's barbecue rather than excuse myself to repair the damage a storm has done to my roof.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. I always submit to the authority of my boss, pastor, and teachers, even if I feel they are wrong.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 33. I feel that there is a Standard English grammar and that all Americans should use it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 34. To make meals more interesting, I introduce changes into the recipes I find in cookbooks.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 35. I argue my point to the end, even if I know I'm wrong.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 36. I do not feel that anything I have done in the past matters much; I have to keep proving myself every day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. When starting a new job, I work especially hard to prove myself to my fellow workers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. When introducing people, I usually include their occupation and title.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 39. I talk with others about my problems and ask them for advice.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 40. I avoid participating in games at which I am not very good.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 41. Even if in a hurry while running errands, I will stop and talk with a friend.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 42. I have set specific goals for what I want to accomplish in the next year and the next five years.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 43. I like to be active with many things so that at any one time I have a choice of what to do.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 44. When shopping for major items, I buy the first one I like rather than compare the options.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 45. I enjoy looking at art and trying to figure out what the artist was thinking and trying to communicate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 46. I feel uncomfortable in discussing topics that are not susceptible to definite conclusions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 47. I resist scheduled life, preferring to do things on the spur of the moment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 48. When leading a meeting, I make sure that it begins and ends on time.

## ANALYSIS

To determine your personal profile, fill in below your responses to each of the corresponding statements in the questionnaire. (If, for example, your response to statement 1 was 5, enter 5 in the first space after “Holistic Thinking.”) Then add the five numbers in each line and divide the total by five to obtain your average score for each trait.

					Total Average		
1.	Time Orientation	11	19	23	25	48	
2.	Event Orientation	5	24	29	31	47	
3.	Dichotomist Thinking	6	11	15	33	46	
4.	Holistic Thinking	1	5	20	26	45	
5.	Crisis Orientation	6	12	16	30	44	
6.	Non-crisis Orientation	7	9	21	34	43	
7.	Task Orientation	8	12	17	27	42	
8.	Person Orientation	2	13	22	31	41	
9.	Status Focus	10	18	32	33	38	
10.	Achievement Focus	4	14	20	36	37	
11.	Concealment of Vulnerability	3	23	32	35	40	
12.	Willingness to Expose Vulnerability	9	13	28	34	39	

## Personal Profile

Find on each axis your average score for that orientation. Then plot on each grid the point where the two average scores intersect. This point indicates your basis tendency. The personal profile of basic traits is an approximate representation of the motivations behind the individual's actions within his or her culture. It will prove useful to compare the individual's profile with that of others. The matrix form presents the contrasting traits as concurrent forces pulling in different (but not necessarily opposite) directions. The scores on each matrix indicate the relative strength of each particular trait as one makes decisions and interacts with others. A score of 2.6 on the first grid (i.e., event has a priority rating of 2, times a rating of 6) suggests that the constraints of time exert a far stronger pull on the decisions and actions of the individual than does commitment to completion of the events in which one participates. A score of 2.2 probably means that neither trait is exerting a strong influence.

The personal profile of basic values can be applied in several ways:

1. It can serve as the basis of a judgement against a person who does not behave, as we would wish.
2. It serves as a radar signal that we are headed for conflict with another person and thus should avoid confrontation.
3. It can serve as an insight that will help us achieve maximum intelligent interaction with another person.

# TIME AND EVENT ORIENTATIONS

## TIME ORIENTATIONS

1. Concern for punctuality and amount of Time expended
2. Careful allocation of time to achieve maximum within set limits
3. Tightly scheduled, goal directed activities
4. Rewards offered as incentives for efficient use of time
5. Emphasis on dates and history

## EVENT ORIENTATIONS

1. Concern for details of the event regardless of time required
2. Exhaustive consideration of the a problem until resolved
3. A “let come what may” outlook not tied to any precise schedule
4. Stress on completing the event as a reward in itself
5. Emphasis on present experience rather than the past or future

## DICHOTOMISTIC AND HOLISTIC THINKING

### DICHOTOMISTIC THINKING

1. Judgements are black/white, right/wrong - specific criteria are uniformly applied in evaluation of others
2. Security comes from the feeling that one is right and fits into a particular role or category in society
3. Information and experiences are systematically organized; details are sorted and ordered to form clear pattern

### HOLISTIC THINKING

1. Judgements are open ended; the whole person and all circumstances are taken into consideration
2. Security comes from multiple interactions within the whole of society – one is insecure if confined to particular roles or categories
3. Information and experiences are seemingly disorganized; details (narratives, events, portraits) stand as independent points complete in themselves

## CRISIS AND NONCRISIS ORIENTATIONS

### CRISIS ORIENTATION

1. Anticipates crisis
2. Emphasizes planning
3. Seeks quick resolution to avoid ambiguity
4. Repeatedly follows a single authoritative, preplanned procedure
5. Seeks expert advice

### NONCRISIS ORIENTATION

1. Downplays possibility of crisis
2. Focuses on actual experience
3. Avoid taking action; delays decisions
4. Seeks adhoc solutions from multiple available options
5. Distrusts expert advice

## TASK AND PERSON ORIENTATIONS

TASK ORIENTATION	PERSON ORIENTATION
1. Focuses on tasks and principles	1. Focuses on persons and relationships
2. Finds satisfaction in the achievement of goals	2. Finds satisfaction in interaction
3. Seeks friends with similar goals	3. Seeks friends who are group oriented
4. Accepts loneliness and social deprivation for the sake of personal achievements	4. Deplores loneliness; sacrifices personal achievements for group interaction.

## STATUS AND ACHIEVEMENT FOCUSES

STATUS FOCUS	ACHIEVEMENT FOCUS
1. Personal identity is determined by formal credentials of birth and rank	1. Personal identity is determined by one's achievements
2. The amount of respect one receives is permanently fixed; attention focuses on those with high social status in spite of any personal failings they have	2. The amount of respect one receives varies with one's accomplishments and failures; attention focuses on personal performance
3. The individual is expected to play his or her role and to sacrifice to attain higher rank	3. The individual is extremely self critical and makes sacrifices in order to accomplish ever greater deeds
4. People associate only with their social equals	4. People associate with those of equal accomplishments regardless of background

## CONCEALMENT VERSUS EXPOSURE OF VULNERABILITY

### CONCEALMENT OF VULNERABILITY

1. Protection of self image at all cost; avoidance of error and failure
2. Emphasis on the quality of performance
3. Reluctance to go beyond one's recognized limits or to enter the unknown
4. Denial of culpability; withdrawal from activities in order to hide weakness and shortcomings
5. Refusal to entertain alternative views or accept criticism
6. Vagueness regarding personal life

### WILLINGNESS TO EXPOSE VULNERABILITY

1. Relative unconcern about error and failure
2. Emphasis on completion of event
3. Willingness to push beyond one's limits and enter the unknown
4. Ready admission culpability, weakness, and shortcomings
5. Openness to alternative views and critics
6. Willingness to talk freely about personal life

## DEALING WITH THE DIFFERENCES

US VALUE SYSTEM	INDIAN VALUE SYSTEM	AREAS FOR POTENTIAL CONFLICT
TIME ORIENTED	<b><u>EVENT ORIENTED</u></b>	Start Times, Ending Times, Schedules. We want to start on time when we arrive. They start when everyone has arrived. We end when the scheduled time has elapsed. They end when all the events that were necessary have been completed.
DICHOTOMISTIC	<b><u>HOLISTIC</u></b>	We tend to be very black and white, correct or incorrect, no gray. We are frustrated when all facts do not point to the same conclusion. They tend to view a broader picture and the impact of multiple interactions within the whole. Will discuss endlessly and arrive at conclusion only when everyone has been heard. No.100% right answers.
CRISIS ORIENTED	NONCRISIS ORIENTED	We expect crisis and continually plan to avoid crisis to be prepared. They seek ad-hoc solutions when the crisis is at hand.
TASK ORIENTED	PERSON ORIENTED	We focus on task, satisfaction from achievement of goals, they focus on relationships, satisfaction in interaction
ACHIEVEMENT ORIENTED	<b><u>STATUS ORIENTED</u></b>	Our identity is determined by personal achievement, For them it is determined by birth, we associate with people of equal achievement regardless of status, they only associate with their social equals
EXPOSE VULNERABILITY	CONCEAL VULNERABILITY	We are willing to discuss personal fears and failures. They are not as open. We are willing to try new options; they are less able to approach the unknown.

## DIFFERENT VIEWS OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP

### ASIAN VIEW

1. Children are extensions of parents
2. The family makes decisions for the child.
3. Older children are responsible for their siblings.
4. Children should remain dependent on the family for most needs
5. Children should submit to structure
6. Young children do not have well-formed feelings or individual needs.
7. Children should not express anger, frustration or contempt.
8. Punishment for discipline problems includes shaming, withdrawing of love
9. Questioning adults or asking why is not accepted
10. Parents provide authority

### AMERICAN VIEW

- Children are individuals  
The child is given many choices  
Each child is responsible for his or her own actions.  
Early independence is encouraged.  
Children should think about what is right for themselves  
Young children have well-defined feelings and personalities.  
It is better to vent anger and frustration than let it sit inside.  
Punishment for discipline problems should have logical consequences  
Curiosity and individualization are encouraged.  
Parents provide guidance, support and explanations.

# CONTRASTING CULTURAL VALUES

## COLLECTIVE CULTURES

1. Being
2. Family/Group Emphasis
3. Inter-dependence
4. Co-operation
5. Authoritarian Orientation
6. Hierarchy, Rank, Status
7. Extended Family
8. Rigid Family/Member's Roles
9. Favoritism Toward Males
10. Formality
11. Indirectness/Ritual/Face
12. Suppression of Emotions
13. Fate
14. Tradition
15. Patience, Modesty, Harmony
16. Personal Interaction Dominates
17. Spiritualism

## INDIVIDUALISTIC CULTURES

- Doing
- Individual Emphasis, privacy
- Independence
- Competition
- Democratic Orientation
- Egalitarianism
- Nuclear Family/Blended Family
- Flexible Family Member's Roles
- Increasing Female Roles
- Informality
- Directness/Openness/Honesty
- Expression of Emotions
- Mastery of One's Own Future
- Change
- Assertiveness
- Time Dominates
- Materialism

# AMERICAN CULTURE

## A. American Values

- American values were forged in a new country full of opportunity
- 1. Equality
  - Equal chance at success
  - Weak at the expense of others
- 2. Future Outlook
  - Many cultures look to the past for guidance
  - Most people see life as cycles of good times and bad, we see ours as one of constant improvement
  - We believe the present can be improved, that's why we are always in a hurry
- 3. Future Shock
  - Change in "high-tech"
  - We must become more adaptable which can result in loss of identity
- 4. Independence
  - Self reliant, tough, risk taking and masculine
  - Self reliance is the fundamental virtue
  - A person serves society by living up to their potential
- 5. Authority
  - We do not have an automatic respect for authority
- 6. Land of the "To Free"
  - Innocent until proven guilty
  - We resist regulation

7. The Puritan Tradition
  - Values well-suited to survival in a new world – self – reliance, hard work, frugal living and guidance of the individual conscience
  - Earthly success is a sign of God’s favor
8. Efficiency: Time is money
  - Efficiency warms the heart of Americans
  - We have little patience for wasted time
9. Time Waits For No Man
  - Sticking to the schedule is top priority
  - Only practical and profitable activity is truly valuable
  - Many Americans lack the capacity to enjoy their achievements
10. The No-Status Society
  - Assert themselves
  - On-going dissatisfaction
  - Change means that he never fully identifies with any group
  - Ideal for the oppressed
11. Discontent
  - Equality is deceptive – no success is good enough
  - Fear of failure
12. The Status Seekers
  - Our class system is fluid
  - Money will buy status
  - Most change happens at different levels of the middle class
  - Correct English is vital
13. Conformity
  - To an American, what the world thinks of him is extremely important
  - Guided by the opinions of others – no conscience

## B. How to Tell an American

1. The Famous Friendliness
  - Openness to strangers
  - Belief in equality
2. Friendly – No Friends
  - Friendship still takes a lot of effort
3. Emotions
  - Enthusiasm
  - Happiness
  - Expressing sadness is difficult
4. Touching
  - Non-contact people
  - Strong sense of private space
  - Children and pets are touched
5. Talking
  - Loud talking is assertive
  - Loudness is not anger
  - Limited anger is accepted
  - Communication is tonal
  - Look into people's eyes
6. Etiquette
  - Formality seems undemocratic
  - Easy integration for foreigners
  - Often at a loss for words
  - Informal does not mean manner-less
  - The flag is sacred
7. Politeness
  - Polite to all people
8. Taboos

- Do not belch
  - Do not spit
  - Do not make noise with chewing gum
  - Do not stare
  - Do cover your mouth
  - Do not whistle at women
  - Men take their hats off indoors
9. The Casual Life
- Informality pervades our culture
  - The top layer is very open but the inner layers are hard to crack
10. Relaxed? No!
- Unproductive activity is useless, meaningless and immoral
  - Time represents opportunity
  - Our leisure activities are equally demanding
  - Drugs and alcohol
11. The Well Planned Life
- Plans for self-improvement often take precedence over the social ones
12. Self- Improvement
- We believe that people can change their natures
  - People become very critical of themselves
13. Therapists
- Americans see therapists in situations when other people would talk to friends or family
14. Exercise
- General lack of health
  - Health clubs
  - Dieting
15. The Youth Cult
- We are primarily interested in the new
  - Tradition is not valued
  - Forever young

# Male/Female Relationships

Consider your response to these scenarios:

1. Men: if your wife/girlfriend was being approached by a man from another country, in a touchy/flirtatious manner, how would you respond?
2. Women: If a scantily dressed woman from another country greeted your husband with a hug and a kiss, how would you respond?

If your response was anger, animosity and distrust toward the foreigner, just think how our hosts might feel if we did something that is perceived to be equally as offensive in their culture.

## *I. Understanding Biblical principles in male/female relationships*

- A. Be wise with your time and space (Genesis 39:7-18; 2 Samuel 11)
- B. Be aware of the local customs and stereotypes (Proverbs 6,7; I Timothy 2:9-15; I Corinthians 11:2-16)
- C. Seek purity in all relationships, avoiding even the appearance of evil (I Thessalonians 4:1-8, 5:22)

## *II Potential Pitfalls*

- A. Dangers of relational misunderstandings
    1. Potential to hinder or terminate our ministry
    2. Potential to shame or alienate certain members of the host culture
    3. Potential to threaten our lives
  - B. Do's and taboos (general) and how to avoid them
    1. Touching
      - a. Latin
      - b. Asian
      - c. European
      - d. Middle East
    2. Looking
    3. Talking
    4. Body Language / Gestures
- a. Husbands and wives
1. Learn what is appropriate PDA (do they hold hands or kiss in public?)  
No!
  2. Avoid lengthy interaction with opposite sex exclusively

3. Know the married woman's role and status in society

b. Singles

1. Cross-cultural courtship (Dating – this is an American cultural practice which is completely foreign and dangerously misunderstood in non-western cultures.)

2. Learn appropriate boundaries for cross-cultural friendship between men and women

3. Learn the single woman's role and status in society.

c. Learn from an expatriate of your target culture how people interact in:

1. Male to male relationships

2. Female to female relationships

3. Male to female relationships

d. Gather information from books and periodicals addressing these issues in your target culture. – Where is more information? List it here.

V. Conclusion

We should prepare ourselves to understand our host culture and maintain our witness to sexual purity by constantly asking ourselves. “Is my behavior toward the opposite sex displaying honor, respect, and purity toward God, and toward those of my host culture?”

# PRESCRIPTION FOR OVERCOMING CULTURE STRESS

## I INTRODUCTION

- A. What is culture shock?
- B. What is culture stress?
- C. Four stages of culture stress?
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.

## II RESEARCH TARGET CULTURE(S) BEFORE DEPARTURE

- A. Ask nationals from that country, who now live in the US, the difficulties he/she experienced in adjusting to American culture.
- B. Ask a returned (and sympathetic) expatriate to that country what difficulties you could expect to encounter in adjusting to the host culture.

## III PREPARE TO RESPOND APPROPRIATELY

- A. Understand that your feelings and attitudes are normal responses
- B. Remain a learner and resist the temptation to judge all “strange and different” behaviors as “wrong and evil”.
- C. Constantly try to see things from their perspective
- D. Beware of making your own culture core a universal absolute and standard.
- E. If you just cannot understand any certain behavior at any given time, pray for grace to endure and to entrust it to God’s care.

## IV ACCENT THE POSITIVES

- A. Make a list of all the positive things you can identify about the host culture. And avoid trashing your own culture (reverse culture stress) in the process.

- B. Avoid joining other Americans in “complaining sessions” or “trashing” the host culture. Especially avoid those who are in a permanent state of culture shock
- C. Resist making jokes and denigrating comments about the host culture. It feeds a false sense of superiority and has potential to offend our hosts.
- D. Work at maintaining a healthy sense of humor. Be ready to laugh at yourself, rather than at the hosts.

## V FIND TEMPORARY RETREAT CENTERS

- A. When overwhelmed, spend a couple hours or a day at a five-star hotel lobby, order coffee and read an English newspaper (if any of these are available in your area.)
- B. Be determined to block out one or two hours a day for Scripture meditation and prayer.
- C. Find an American who has been there longer, has gone through culture shock, and has a positive attitude toward the host culture.

## VI CONSCIOUSLY DEVELOP NECESSARY COPING SKILLS

- A. Consistent devotional life
- B. Tolerance for ambiguity
- C. Low goal/task orientation
- D. Understanding
- E. Empathy
- F. Flexibility
- G. Freedom to fail
- H. Sense of humor!!!!

## VII BEWARE OF REVERSE CULTURE SHOCK WHEN YOU RETURN HOME

- A. It is good to recognize the problems in your own culture
- B. Remember to search for the positive aspects of any culture, even your own.

Kay Scriptures to remember when dealing with culture stress:

- Psalm 42-43
- Proverbs 18:1-2
- Philippians 4:4-9

## **COPING WITH CULTURE SHOCK**

By Stephen Hoke

For a few days, or weeks everything looks fresh and exciting. Then quite suddenly, you want to chuck it all and head for home. No matter how flexible you are, it's hard to cross national boundaries without experiencing culture shock.

I can't really describe what happened to me. I hadn't been in this place for more than two months when I had a compelling urge to return home. It wasn't just the homesickness, which I'd expected to feel, but it was a kind of rejection of the people and a compulsion to escape." This person was experiencing culture shock, one of the major "occupational hazards" of living overseas. If it sounds like fun, you are either a glutton for punishment or your emotions originated on the planet Vulcan.

We are all creatures of our own culture. As we grow up, we nail together a raft of familiarity that helps us ride the waves of change in our own society. Year after year, plank by plank, we have unconsciously hammered out a coping strategy for life. It may be a rough-hewn vessel, but we have each mastered the cultural cues for our own sea of life. We even enjoy scanning the broad horizons of this sea as long as our feet are firmly planted on the raft of what we know as "normal".

"Culture shock" sums up all the complicated emotions that we feel when the planks of our raft begin to separate. The familiar slips out from under our feet. Up until this time, the planks of the familiar were so firmly fastened together that we were unconscious of them. Now, as they float away, we look longingly after each splinter of wood.

### **STAGES OF CULTURE SHOCK**

Culture shock can make the most committed missionary feel like quitting, but it can also be a positive learning experience. Most people experience a similar pattern of four progressive stages. Understanding each stage is vital because if we know what to expect, we can creatively deal with our own feelings and the new world that confronts us.

### **ROMANCE**

At first adjusting to a new culture looks easy. In the first weeks, there are a few discomforts, but nothing a little flexibility can't handle.

You're mainly an enthusiastic spectator, absorbing the sights and forming impressions. You find yourself saying things like, "This raw fish isn't so bad – you just have to have a positive attitude." And you almost believe you're telling the truth.

This is the time of glowing prayer letters detailing the exciting and exotic new life. This period of romantic euphoria may last from a week or two to a month, but the letdown is inevitable. Soon it dawns on you that you must learn hundreds of social curs just to get along. Like the final straw that breaks the camel's back, you find yourself in one embarrassing situation too many. The honeymoon is over.

## **REACTION**

The second stage can best be described as a reaction to reality. It is a time of growing – growing irritation and hostility, that is. Daily activities that you used to take for granted now seem like insurmountable problems. I remember one refugee worker in Thailand who became exasperated when it took him close to six hours just to send one letter and a small package home for Christians.

The frustration leads to a potential crisis when you realize that it's not "just like home." You have come to a fork in the road: you can either cling blindly to your own cultural ways or you can "go native" and recklessly renounce your culture and values. Neither response is helpful. But the difficulty of seeing a third alternative at this point just adds to your frustration.

## **RECOGNITION**

The first sign of your recovery from the second stage of culture shock is when your sense of humor returns. As you enter the third stage, you begin to recognize communication cues such as people's faces, actions and tones. Developing some language facility, you can communicate more effectively. As you begin to build a new raft of familiarity and knowledge, you find yourself making it through every day with greater ease.

While you still don't like some things in the new culture, you now like more things than you did a few months ago. Not everyone, you admit, is a crook! Having become more accustomed to the food, sounds, and non-verbal behaviors, you have fewer headaches, less upset stomach, confusion, uncertainty and loneliness.

## **RESOLUTION**

The fourth stage of culture shock is one of nearly complete recovery and adjustment. Some call it "bi-culturalism." I call it resolution. Now you are able to function in two cultures with confidence. You may even find that there are many customs, sayings and attitudes that you enjoy, and in fact call your own. Let's face it. When you pack up to go home, you'll miss the Japanese gardens or the Latin siestas. Now you have an awareness of how another culture feels from the standpoint of the insider. Sometimes you almost forget that you were once a foreigner.

In stage three you may have sighed, “It’s starting to make sense.” In stage four, you can confidently exclaim, “I understand!” This final stage will carry you through your stay abroad, now that you are willing to adjust to the new culture. You can accept it as “just another way” of living. It does not mean you are enthusiastic about everything the people do or the way they do it. But it does mean that you can accept and understand the differences. For Christians it means that we have come to the point of realizing God’s “foreign policy” is characterized by accepting and enjoying the richness of cultural diversity. And maturity means realizing that all that is good in other cultures of the world is a result of the creative genius of God himself. Reaching this perspective is in itself an obvious indicator of growth.

## **PREPARING FOR THE SHOCK**

Understanding what’s happening to you is important as you go through culture shock, but there are valuable strategies for coping with the stress.

- ❖ Learn as much as you can before you go. Start now to read everything you can get your hands on pertaining to the country, land and people. Studying the blueprint for a house is a far cry from actually living in it, but it does instill confidence when you can walk in for the first time and say, “Ah yes, and there’s the living room.”
- ❖ Copy a reliable model. After you arrive, you can learn many important social cues by patterning your actions after someone who is more at home in the new culture. This may be a host national, neighbor or another sojourner who is sympathetic and understanding. Ask questions about taboos, etiquette and appropriate dress. Talk with them about specific situations and about your feelings.
- ❖ Act on your best insights. Become a careful, but not detached, observer. Don’t be afraid to act on your “gut feelings” – there will be plenty of time for analysis later. Whether it wriggles or reeks. “Try it ... you’ll like it” is an appropriate motto to have. Only after you’ve finished drinking your first cup of what they call “tea” will you be in a position to observe the cultural significance of your action. “Why does this woman beam from ear to ear when I drink her ‘tea?’ Does she expect a compliment on the flavor (ugh!) Or is she proud of the little glass in which it is served?” You might not have even thought of the question if you had refused the tea to begin with.
- ❖ Accept culture stress and accept yourself. Culture shock won’t go away even if you try to pretend it isn’t there. Accept your strengths and human limitations and don’t try to play Superman or Superwoman. When you get tired, rest. When you are lonely, admit it and seek the friendship of others. If you know who you are in Christ, you will not feel the need to try to prove yourself invulnerable.
- ❖ Be creative in developing your own unique coping strategies. There are two avenues to explore here. First, you can head some difficulties off at the pass if you maintain certain crucial disciplines. Daily intake of the Word, prayer, regular exercise, letter writing and keeping a journal will go a long way towards regulating emotions before they get out of hand. Take time to maintain your physical, emotional and spiritual health.

Second, develop temporary escape mechanisms. Let's face it, the pressure will just be overwhelming at times. An afternoon siesta, an early morning walk, late evening reading or just a conversation with a friend are activities that allow your system to recuperate and relax. Let your team leader know when the pressure becomes too much.

- ❖ Enjoy learning. Part of the joy of growing and learning is the ongoing process of adapting – not just reaching the final product. Let yourself thrill to the discovery of new information, new people, and new insights about yourself and your surroundings. Don't despise the garden just because you cannot yet hold the ripened fruit in your hand. Wycliffe missionary Joyce Park says, "I am learning not to expect or demand satisfaction from any specific object or event. Rather, I am learning to recognize joy when it comes and to accept the joy of each event as complete in itself."

You can't get a shot to prevent culture shock, but you can learn to recognize it and stretch with it. The amazing thing about moving into another culture is that it can be done. Culture shock doesn't kill you, though you may dispute that point while you're in the process. Going through culture shock is like running an obstacle course that doesn't appear to have a definite finish line. But sooner or later, you will look over your shoulder and the joyful realization will strike you that you've made it. You have become bi-cultural for the sake of the gospel.

# DEALING WITH THE DIFFERENCES

## Serving Those Who Are Different

### ❖ MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD OF MINISTERING IN A CROSS CULTURAL SETTING IS LIFTING UP JESUS

- ❖ In our words
- ❖ In our attitudes
- ❖ In our lives

### ❖ DEFINING OUR ROLE – SERVANTS FIRST

- ❖ Laying down your rights
- ❖ Authority & obedience
  - Examples
  - Safety
  - Cohesiveness
- ❖ Setting an example
  - As teachers
  - As students
- ❖ In all things “Love”

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❖ **AMBASSADORS OF JESUS CHRIST AND HIS KINGDOM**

- ❖ Good guests start with good manners. You are a reflection of the One who sent you.
- ❖ You are representing the values of the Kingdom of God, not the values of the United States
- ❖ While there is room in the Kingdom for honest differences in opinions, it is shameful when we portray ourselves as denominations that cannot share the same space together. Our purpose in India is to build the Church, not divide it.

❖ **WALKING AS HE WALKED**

- ❖ God who became man with no special privileges or rights
- ❖ Taught his disciples by washing their feet
- ❖ Prayed constantly for their growth
- ❖ Laid down His life for them
- ❖ Loved them even when they failed Him

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# DEALING WITH STRESS

Write how you would react to the following circumstances. Realistically take into consideration your own personality and how you react to stress.

1. It is the first day of the trip and you are boarding the plane. You've just discovered that you have the only seat assignment that's not with the rest of the team.
2. Your luggage was left at the last airport because it could not be carried on the plane you were on. They say that it will be 2-3 days before your luggage will catch up with you.
3. You've gotten 80 mosquito bites in 3 days and now your legs are getting infected.
4. It's your first Sunday in church. The Sunday school opening has just finished and the pastor has just informed your team leader that he was expecting the team to teach all the Sunday school classes in the church. No one has come prepared to teach anything.
5. Your backyard club finished 30 minutes ago and the van is nowhere in sight. It's the hottest, most humid day of the trip and its starting to rain. To top things off, the nearest shelter is 1 ½ miles away.
6. Your roommate's personality clashes with yours. They are never prepared for their ministries, they flirt with the nationals, and they are always complaining.
7. The elders of the church prefer that the team wear skirts and long pants at all times. You're playing volleyball with the youth and they all come in shorts.
8. It's the second to the last day of your backyard club and no children have accepted Christ. All the other clubs have had at least a dozen decisions.
9. You've finished your first week. You've been ministering since 6:00 am now it's 10:00 p.m. You are at your host's home and even though you're exhausted, they want you to stay up and talk.
10. You've been doing the youth program each evening for a week now and you find yourself romantically attracted to a national!

# CONFLICT RESOLUTION

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Consider situations in which you find your wishes differing from those of another person. How do you usually respond to such situations?

On the following pages are several pairs of statements describing possible behavioral responses. For each pair, please circle the “A” or “B” statement that is most characteristic of your own behavior.

In many cases, neither the “A” nor the “B” statement may be very typical of your behavior, but please select the response which you would be more likely to use.

## THOMAS-KILMANN CONFLICT MODE INSTRUMENT

1.    A.    There are times when I let others take responsibility for solving the problem.  
      B.    Rather than negotiate the things on which we disagree, I try to stress those things upon which we both agree.
2.    A.    I try to find a compromise solution.  
      B.    I attempt to deal with all of his/her and my concerns.
3.    A.    I am usually firm in pursuing my goals.  
      B.    I might try to soothe the other’s feelings and preserve our relationship.
4.    A.    I try to find a compromise solution.  
      B.    I sometimes sacrifice my own wishes for the wishes of the other person.
5.    A.    I consistently seek the other’s help in working out a solution.  
      B.    I try to do what is necessary to avoid useless tensions.
6.    A.    I try to avoid creating unpleasantness for myself.  
      B.    I try to win my position.
7.    A.    I try to postpone the issue until I have had some time to think it over.  
      B.    I give up some points in exchange for others.
8.    A.    I am usually firm in pursuing my goals  
      B.    I attempt to get all concerns and issues immediately out in the open.

9. A. I feel that differences are not always worth worrying about.  
B. I make some effort to get my way.
10. A. I am firm in pursuing my goals.  
B. I try to find a compromise solution.
11. A. I attempt to get all concerns and issues immediately out in the open.  
B. I might try to soothe the other's feelings and preserve our relationship.
12. A. I sometimes avoid taking positions that would create controversy.  
B. I will let the other person have some of his/her positions if he/she lets me have some of mine.
13. A. I propose a middle ground.  
B. I press to get my points made.
14. A. I tell the other person my ideas and ask for his/hers.  
B. I try to show the other person the logic and benefits to my position.
15. A. I might try to soothe the other's feelings and preserve our relationship.  
B. I try to do what is necessary to avoid tensions.
16. A. I try not to hurt the other's feelings.  
B. I try to convince the other person of the merits of my position.
17. A. I am usually firm in pursuing my goals.  
B. I try to do what is necessary to avoid useless tensions.
18. A. If it makes other people happy, I might let them maintain their views.  
B. I will let other people have some of their positions if they let me have some of mine.
19. A. I attempt to get all concerns and issues immediately out in the open.  
B. I try to postpone the issue until I have had some time to think it over.
20. A. I attempt to immediately work through our differences.  
B. I try to find a fair combination of gains and losses for both of us.
21. A. In approaching negotiations, I try to be considerate of the other person's wishes.  
B. I always lean toward a direct discussion of the problem.
22. A. I try to find a position that is intermediate between his/hers and mine.  
B. I assert my wishes.

23. A. I am very often concerned with satisfying all our wishes.  
B. There are times when I let others take responsibility for solving the problem.
24. A. If the other's position seems very important to him/her, I would try to meet his/her wishes.  
B. I try to get the other person to settle for a compromise.
25. A. I try to show the other person the logic and benefits of my position.  
B. In approaching negotiations, I try to be considerate of the other person's wishes.
26. A. I propose a middle ground.  
B. I am nearly always concerned with satisfying all our wishes.
27. A. I sometimes avoid taking positions that would create controversy.  
B. If it makes other people happy, I might let them maintain their views.
28. A. I am usually firm in pursuing my goals.  
B. I usually seek the other's help in working out a solution.
29. A. I propose a middle ground.  
B. I feel that differences are not always worth worrying about.
30. A. I try not to hurt the other's feelings.  
B. I always share the problem with the other person so that we can work it out.

# SCORING

Circle the letters below that you circled on each item of the questionnaire.

	<u>Competing</u>	<u>Collaborating</u>	<u>Compromising</u>	<u>Avoiding</u>	<u>Accommodative</u>
1.				A	B
2.		B	A		
3.	A				B
4.			A		B
5.		A		B	
6.	B			A	
7.			B	A	
8.	A	B			
9.	B			A	
10.	A		B		
11.		A			B
12.			B	A	
13.	B		A		
14.	B	A			
15.				B	A
16.	B				A
17.	A			B	
18.			B		A
19.		A		B	
20.		A	B		
21.		B			A
22.	B		A		
23.		A		B	
24.			B		A
25.	A				B
26.		B	A		
27.				A	B
28.	A	B			
29.			A	B	
30.		B			A

Total the number of items circled in each column:

\_\_\_\_\_

Competing (forcing) (The shark)	Collaborating (problem-solving) (The owl)	Compromising (Sharing) (The Fox)	Avoiding (withdrawal) (The Turtle)	Accommodating (Smoothing) (The Teddy Bear)
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# RESOLVING CONFLICT

1. When you have a problem with someone or something – DON'T complain to someone who can't do anything about it! (If you commit yourself to this everything will flow easily).

Ask yourself when voicing a complaint, “Am I recruiting agreement for my position or am I taking steps to solve the problem?”

When someone comes to you to complain about something you can't solve, don't support him or her by listening to their gripes – rather, direct them to a person who can address their complaint.

## BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPPORTING COMMUNICATION – NOT FACTUAL DISSENSION

2. Deal directly with the person you are having a problem with.
3. Be honest, open, and flexible. This will allow others to be the same way with you.
4. Active listening – “Are you empathizing with their point of view, or are you just waiting quietly until you can have your say?”
5. Laugh at yourself, don't take things too seriously.
6. Remember other people have valid points of view.
7. Send “I” messages whenever possible. “I would like you to consider this...” “I hear what you're saying.” – Own your communications.
8. Justification of your position or having to be right leads to one way communication. Think in terms of win/win.
9. Validation of your existence or position by constantly reminding people of what you do leads to people tuning out. Your best commercial is your performance. It is what we do not what we say that people remember.
10. Once you have done everything you can to work it out with that person and it is not resolved, then go to your ministry leader. If they can't resolve it then they will take it to the team leader. The team leader has final authority on all issues.
11. Keep the big picture. Is God aware that this problem was going to come up? Is there a Christian way to handle this? What is the most important thing – accomplishing tasks or being a person of character?

**GUIDELINES  
FOR  
MINISTRY TEAMS**

# HOW TO PREPARE A PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Any subject matter can be presented more effectively by careful organization. A carefully prepared testimony, empowered by the Holy Spirit, can be of immediate and effective use in nearly every witnessing situation. It should be our desire to present Christ in such a clear, attractive, yet simple way, that those who hear will not only want to know Him too, but they will also know “how to know Him personally”.

## “DO'S AND DON'TS”

### DO:

1. Ask the Lord to give you wisdom and guidance as you write (James 1:5,6)
2. Follow a three – point outline: “My Life with Christ.”
  - a. Life before knowing Christ
  - b. How you came to know Christ (be specific)
  - c. Life after you received Christ (changes He has made – what He means to you now)
3. Emphasize point “c” above if you became a Christian as a small child.
4. Begin with an interesting, attention-getting sentence and close with a good conclusion. Include relevant, thought-provoking, secular facts and experiences.
5. Write in such a way that others will feel associated with you in past and present experiences.
6. Give enough details to arouse interest.
7. Use at least one, but at the most two, scripture verses.
8. Edit carefully and rewrite as necessary before final draft.

An important portion of your testimony will be what seems to you fairly simple, positive changes in your life, but these day-to-day things communicate to people.

### Don'ts

1. Use Christian jargon. Words such as “saved, convicted, converted, born again, and sin” do not communicate truth to the average non-Christian. Though these words and phrases are precious to us, they are so often misunderstood and consequently ridiculed by non-Christians.
2. Be too wordy, beat around the bush, or emphasize how bad you used to be
3. Speak in glittering generalities. Avoid words like “wonderful, glorious, etc.”
4. Mention church denominations
5. Speak critically or negatively about any other individual or group
6. Give the impression that the Christian life is a “bed of roses”

## WHEN YOU ARE ASKED TO SHARE YOUR TESTIMONY, BE SURE TO:

1. Share it with loving enthusiasm in the power of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)
2. In a large group, speak loudly and clearly in a natural, relaxed tone of voice (avoid ministerial “twang”).
3. Avoid mannerisms when you speak, such as rubbing your nose, jingling coins in your pocket, swaying, clearing your throat, and using “uh’s” and “ah’s”.
4. Avoid arguing and other high-pressure methods of getting a “decision” for Christ.
5. Remember that men are “born of the Spirit”, not through the persuasiveness of logic of men, though God may use both.
6. Avoid preaching at people. Present your testimony, not a “preachimony”.
7. Smile often! Ask the Lord to give you a happy, radiant face.
8. Memorize your testimony and practice it until it becomes natural.

## MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY

1. Opening
2. Life before receiving Christ
3. How you came to Christ
4. Life after receiving Christ
5. Closing

## HOW NOT TO GIVE A PERSONAL TESTIMONY

I received a blessing when I became a Christian. I received deliverance through the sinner's prayer. I was unsaved and needed to be saved. My conversion happened when I put my faith in Jesus Christ, my Savior who died for the sins of those who trust Him. Praise the Lord! Hallelujah! Amen! I received salvation when I believed the gospel and was washed in the blood of the Lamb. I was born again when the Holy Spirit spoke to me at the altar of God. I lost all my friends and my job. The devil has been after me ever since. Praise His name! The trails and tests are unbearable. I just hope I can hold on until the end. Then may be I'll be able to go to heaven.

**PREPARING  
FOR  
RE-ENTRY**

# Preparing for Re-entry

- I. ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:
  - A. Changes in self/others/home culture
  - B. Self concept/identity/worth
  - C. Closure
  - D. Grief
  - E. Expectations
  - F. Relationships
  - G. Support group
  - H. Reintegration
  
- II. ANTICIPATE THE FOLLOWING FEELINGS
  - A. Joy in being reunited with family and friends
  - B. Strong desire and need to communicate the international experience
  - C. Loss/sadness/grief
  - D. Discouragement, isolation, loneliness even depression
  - E. Superiority towards home country's values/lifestyle
  - F. Confusion of identify
  - G. Insecurity and uncertainty in interpersonal relationships
  - H. Frustration and discouragement
  - I. Impatience over a different perspective and pace of life
  - J. Anger towards home culture, institutions, church or other people
  - K. Pride and spiritual superiority
  - L. Hurt and disillusionment
  - M. Pleasure over new discoveries, areas of personal growth and acquisition of new competencies
  
- III. ATTITUDES TO CULTIVATE
  - A. Humility in heart, words and demeanor (I Peter 5:5,6)
  - B. Teachability - have a learner's posture
  - C. Acceptance of people and careful in making judgments and comparisons.
  - D. Servanthood (Philippians 2)
  - E. Patience and tolerance for ambiguity

IV. APPLY THE FOLLOWING PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS:

(From Think Home by Lisa Chinn, P.52 and "How to cope with reentry stress," a handout by Miriam Adeney)

- A. Give yourself time to readjust; be patient with yourself and others
- B. Expect the same areas of culture stress as you experienced in the host culture
- C. Recognize and accept that you are in transition and that "reverse culture shock" is a normal process of reentry.
- D. Consciously apply your theology of culture (seeing both the patterns of exploitation and idolatry and patterns of loveliness and kindness) to your home culture.
- E. Find a support group of people who have been overseas and who are growing in their commitment to Christ
- F. When you want to talk about your international experience more than they want to hear, put your message in "I need" in frames: "I need to work on my tendency to compare..." and often they will listen, not because they care about your information, but because they care about you.
- G. Recognize that your family and friends may be under a great deal of stress themselves. Be prepared to counsel, comfort, pray and bless them, as much as to receive their attention, care and counsel.
- H. Appreciate and celebrate the "new" you. Keep in mind the importance of balancing between readjustment and maintaining new values.
- I. Maintain a grateful heart and a good sense of humor.

Lisa Espineli China  
International Ministries Fellowship  
10523 Main Street #34  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
USA

# **BIBLE READING HIGHLIGHTS RECORD**

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Sunday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

Monday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_  
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How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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Thursday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

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Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_  
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How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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Friday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

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Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_  
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How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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Saturday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

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Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_  
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How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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*“Happy are those who keep My ways. Hear instruction, be wise, and do not refuse it. Happy is the man listening to Me, watching at My gates, keeping watch at my doorposts.” Proverbs 8:32-33*

Sunday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

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Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

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How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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Monday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

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Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

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How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

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How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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Wednesday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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Thursday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

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Saturday Date \_\_\_\_\_ All I read today \_\_\_\_\_

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Best thing I marked today: Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Thought: \_\_\_\_\_

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How it impressed me: \_\_\_\_\_

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HBI Global Partners  
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DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

**I**

The Bible, consisting of all the books of the old and new Testaments, is the Word of God, a super naturally given revelation from God Himself, concerning man, his nature, need, duty and destiny. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are without error or mis-statement in their moral and spiritual teachings and record of historical facts. They are without error or defect of any kind.

**II**

There is one God, eternally existing and manifesting Himself to us in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**III**

Our Lord Jesus was supernaturally conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, linear descendant of David. He lived and taught and wrought mighty works and wonders and signs exactly as is recorded in the four Gospels. He was put to death by crucifixion under Pontius Pilate and was buried. God raised from the dead His body that had been nailed to the cross. The Lord Jesus, after his crucifixion, showed Himself to His Disciples, appearing unto them by the space of forty days. After this, the Lord Jesus ascended into Heaven, and the Father caused Him to sit at the authority and power and dominion and every name that is named; not only in the World, but also in that which is to come; and put all things in subjection under His feet and gave him to be head over all things to the church.

**IV**

The Lord Jesus, before His incarnation, existed in the form of God, and of His own choice laid aside his divine glory and took upon Himself the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men. In His pre-existent state, He was with God and was God. He is a divine person possessed of all the attributes of Deity and should be worshipped as God by Angels and Men. “In him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.” All the words that He spoke during His earthly life were the Words of God. There is absolutely no error of any kind in them; and by the words of Jesus Christ the words of all other teachers must be tested.

## V

The Lord Jesus became, in every respect, a real man, possessed of all the essential characteristics of human nature yet without sin.

## VI

By His death upon the cross, the Lord Jesus made a perfect atonement for sin, by which the wrath of God against sinners is appeased and a ground furnished upon which God can deal in mercy with sinners. He redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse in our place. He who Himself was absolutely without Sin was made to be sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. The Lord Jesus is coming again to this earth personally, bodily, and visibly. The return of our Lord is the blessed hope of the Believer, and in it God's purposes of Grace toward mankind will find their consummation.

## VII

The Holy Spirit is a person and is possessed of all distinctly divine attributes. He is God.

## VIII

Man was created in the image of God, after His likeness, but the whole human race fell in the first Adam. All, until they accept the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior are lost, darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, hardened in heart, morally and spiritually dead through trespasses and sins. They cannot see, nor enter the kingdom of God until they are born again of the Holy Spirit.

## IX

Men are justified on the simple and single ground of the shed blood of Christ and upon the simple and single condition of faith in Him who shed and blood and are born again by the quickening, renewing, cleaning work of the Holy Spirit through the instrumentality of the Word of God.

## X

All those who received Jesus Christ as their Savior and their Lord, become children of God and receive eternal life. They become heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ and confess Him as Savior and Lord before their fellow men. We believe that a child of God is kept by the power of God sealed by the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption. Salvation is based upon the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ, the completed work at Calvary, and therefore salvation is all of God and that a Christian is kept by His power. At death, their spirits depart to be with Christ in conscious blessedness, and at the second coming of Christ, their bodies shall be raised and transformed into the likeness of His glorious body.

## XI

All those who persistently reject Jesus Christ in the present life shall be raised from the dead and throughout eternity exist in a state of conscious, endless torment and anguish.

## XII

The church consists of all those who, in this present dispensation, truly believe on Jesus Christ. It is the body and Bride of Christ, which Christ loves and for which He has given Himself.

## XIII

There is a personal devil, a being of great cunning and power, “The Prince of the power of the air, “the Prince of this world, “ the god of this age.” He can exert vast power only so far as God suffers him to do so. He shall ultimately be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone and shall be tormented day and night forever.