

*"The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit."*

- Psalm 34:18

ITMI
Monthly

1 OCTOBER 2022

intouchmission.org

WHAT DOES HISTORIC FLOODING IN PAKISTAN MEAN?



A Pakistani family floats to safety fleeing historic flood water 3 times the 30 year average.



Exhausted children and families attempt to sleep outdoors on a mound of dirt.

PAKISTAN

It means small, exhausted bodies attempt to get a night's rest on a large mound of dirt.

It means rainfall volumes have been three times the 30-year average. (Unicef)

It means having 10 minutes to get out of your house when water breaches nearby river banks. (UNHCR)

It means Afghani refugees being displaced - again. (UNHCR)

It means 6.4 million people are in need of shelter and basic necessities as 1.5 million homes are destroyed. (VOA News) (Aljezeera)

It means crops - or this year's income for families who subsistence farm - are destroyed.

It means water surged down the Indus River, causing dams and banks to breach, sending water surging into homes, schools, roads, bridges and public health facilities. (CBC)

It means 1300 have lost their lives since mid-June. About 1/3 of those were children. (Aljezeera)

Some of those 1300 breathed their last without knowing Jesus or His blood covering their sin.

It means hearts are breaking and people are hurting - which means our Lord's attention and compassion is directed toward the victims of the flooding.

"The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." - Psalm 34:18

It means flood victims are exposed to diarrhea, malaria, cholera and water-borne diseases. (CNN) (Unicef) They are also at greater risk for developing skin conditions and being bitten by snakes or wild dogs. (VOA News)

It means inflation on items like food and non-alcoholic beverages and medicine is high even in dry places as roads are impassable and goods get more expensive to transport - causing hardship on the very poor. (CNN)

It means 3 million children are in need of basic necessities and are now more at risk than ever for malnutrition.

(continued on p.6)

The Dark Reality of Ministering in India



Rahman* crying at Deepam Primary School



Rahman's burnt foot.



Impoverished and marginalized families living in Modi Road live in small shacks or lean-tos.



Taru Kumar teaches Deepam students to pray.



Deepam students learn to call on Jesus.

INDIA

Taru Kumar thought Rahman* was crying because he did not want to come to school that day.

Deepam Primary School is one of the ways ITMI's Taru and David Kumar minister to the families living in a slum in Bangalore, India. The slum is often referred to as "Little Pakistan" because of its high percentage of Muslim residents.

Most live in lean-tos and shanties, narrowly sandwiched between the shacks of other families.

As Taru tried to comfort the small Indian boy, his friend, also a Deepam student, approached them.

"Mam, he is crying because his father burnt his leg because he failed to go to Arabic class."

Taru felt a stab of pain sear through her heart. But this kind of report isn't all that uncommon for David and Taru to hear.

Later that day, they discovered the same had happened to another Deepam student.

These students come from families who often can't feed them 3 meals a day. Kid-centered learning activities aren't really available to these children, so their parents are so pleased when their kids get to prepare for school with Taru and her four staff members.

Two nutritious meals are included every day, and the children are so happy to receive them.

At Deepam, students prepare for grade school by learning to read, write, hold crayons and pencils and function in school, all while learning about Jesus and that they can call on Him.

**name changed for privacy*

-Summer Kelley, Steve Evers

UKRAINIAN REFUGEES' STORIES

Stories of Ukrainian refugees equipped and reached through your generosity



ITMI's Adi and Ema Ban with five of the Yatskiv family in front of their church in Romania in August. To the far left is their pastor, Pastor Sorin, who the Bans are working with to reach and serve Ukrainian refugees.

ROMANIA

On July 4, 2022, the Yatskiv family of 6 left Sibiu, Romania, where they took refuge after escaping from their home in Odessa, Ukraine when Russia attacked.

The Yatskiv family had jumped into the work of the church in their new home with fervor, helping and serving other refugees and using their van to transport refugees to church every Sunday.

On that day in July, the Yatskiv family and a few other passengers were packed into the family's 9-seater van en route to Caras Serverin, Romania, where they were planning to help put on a summer camp.

The Yatskiv children, who range in age 9 all the way down to 4 months old, must have been excited for the prospect of seeing a new place and getting to participate in a summer camp.

But the 9-passenger van never made it to camp.

The driver of the van fell asleep, allowing the van to careen into a bridge.

By the Lord's great mercy, all of the

passengers survived, but some suffered serious injuries and were taken to 3 different hospitals. Mrs. Yatskiv was in the hospital for a month and a half, but was recently able to return home, attend church and even walk with some assistance.

Several groups, including ITMI supporters and our Romanian partners, **Adi and Ema Ban**, have come together to replace the vehicle that was totally destroyed in the devastating crash for this family that had already lost so much. With it, the Yatskiv family can continue driving refugees to church when they are ready.

Another Ukrainian couple in their mid-60s left Odessa and ended up in Sibiu, Romania. The couple heard about the Baptist Church in Sibiu that Adi and Ema Ban are partnering with to minister to Ukrainians in need. The couple began attending that church, which provides live translation of their Sunday services for Ukrainian refugees. Through the ministry of this church, the couple received Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

These are just two of the stories of how ITMI partners have used their proximity to the crisis in Ukraine to equip believers for service and outreach in this new reality, and how the faithfulness of believers to welcome and serve refugees (even if they are refugees themselves!) has led to Ukrainian refugees giving their lives to Jesus!

Adi and Ema continue to manage logistics for transporting supplies to the Ukrainian refugee centers they partner with. These centers are run by churches in two Ukrainian cities.

Overall, with your support, Adi and Ema raised funds for and organized donations of food that helped feed over 22,000 people from February to May (June to September numbers are not in yet), donations of supplies that helped over 21,000 people in need, and helped evacuate 2,120 people. They sent 196.1 metric tons of food and 37.8 metric tons of goods, which required the organization of 25 transports from Romania to Ukraine. These numbers represent many, many stories of individuals' needs being met in Jesus' name.

But while the chaos in Ukraine isn't dropping off, the Bans notice that the interest and funding is. The Ukraine crisis is no longer as shocking or head-line grabbing as it was earlier this year.

But the needs are still intense. ITMI partners were never participating in the Ukraine relief efforts because it's the "popular" or "trendy" thing to be involved in, or because it was getting mass media attention.

From the start, ITMI identified the great needs that were being created in Eastern Europe as golden opportunities to be Jesus' hands and feet, demonstrating and declaring the Good News. Our partners are right

WITH YOUR
SUPPORT ADI AND
EMA:

HELPED
FEED **22K**
PEOPLE



PROVIDED
SUPPLIES
FOR **21K**
PEOPLE

HELPED
EVACUATE
2120
PEOPLE



there to share with the hurting that although your world may be literally crashing in around you, Jesus is faithful, He sees your needs, and He wants to forgive your sins and lead you a life of obedient Biblical freedom. Our partners in Eastern Europe are in prime locations with the proper networks in place to be especially effective at leading and equipping the body of Christ in Eastern Europe to serve the suffering faithfully in Jesus' name.

These open doors to reach people during this crisis have not closed. There are still opportunities to get involved and to declare the Gospel in Eastern Europe amid crisis.

Our partners in Poland and Romania continue to be active in ministering to Ukrainian refugee families and providing for basic needs until they can get back on their feet. There are many different ways and services that our partners are working on to do this, but they are all aimed at demonstrating and declaring the Gospel to this new demographic that has come knocking on their doors.

If the Lord is leading you to get involved in spreading the Gospel and helping those in need because of the Ukrainian crisis, there are still many opportunities!

STUCK IN DEEP MUD

On the Floodplains



Stuck in deep mud on the remote Luvale floodplain.



The Luvale people live in small, extremely remote villages.

ZAMBIA

Mid-September, Johan updated us that the drilling team arrived in Chavuma with their heavy truck overflowing with the supplies and tools needed to drill and install 8 new boreholes in strategic locations.

About a week later, he reported that drillers truck had gotten stuck in deep mud on the Luvale plains, far from civilization or any heavy machinery that could pull it out.

The Luvale plains are isolated from the rest of Zambia by the Zambezi River to the east and the Angola border to the west. They are isolated from infrastructure, services and stores. The Luvale people live in small villages that dot the plains, surviving from the land as they can.

Without access to clean water, the villagers must spend large portions of their day to haul water from great distances on foot, or dig holes that quickly become soiled, causing water-borne disease.

The free gift of clean, safe water that drastically changes life in their village opens doors for Johan and his teams of trained local evangelists

to explain the free gift of living water that Jesus wants to offer them.

The Lord provided the funds for Johan's field vehicle to be repaired and the vehicle is back in service again, just in time for this important project on the plains.

Eventually, two tractors were able to pull the truck out of the mud and and able to proceed to its destination.

Johan says, "Lesley and I and our team out here and the Luvale people want to thank In Touch Mission International. You have, to date, put in 22 boreholes [water wells]. We're going to do another 8, which means there will be 30 boreholes we've done together out here bringing much relief to the folk out here on the plains."

Johan is also rejoicing that 305 leaders in 3 different locations are clamoring for Johan and his team to equip them for leadership, so they can teach the SALT material in remote areas! Thanks to your support, this will begin in the near future!



From the Director



DEAR TEAM: Unspeakable Gratitude

This way of seeing our Father in everything makes life one long thanksgiving and gives a rest of heart, and, more than that, a gayety of spirit that is unspeakable.

-Hannah Whitall Smith

It's tough to believe that the mere sight of a 2-ton flatbed truck with gravel and casings in the back can cause a community to erupt in riotous dancing and jubilation. The shrieks of joy and awe shatter the mundane sounds of the village that experiences the imprisonment of generational fear and sadness.

This celebratory reaction is precisely what happened in seven barren, remote Zambezi plains villages last month. That truck was one of the most beautiful sights any of the villagers had ever seen.

It means two things to these simple yet valuable souls; 1. a promise was kept and 2. cool, fresh, safe water will be easily accessible in their village, bringing with it a measure of hope.

When your address is in a hot, desolate Zambian village and your life has been a struggle to survive day after day, generation after generation, you live with a shortage of hope. When you exist with little food and even less water, and you believe your spirit ancestors are watching and angry most of the time, there is a shortage of any thought of a better or different future.

Combine this existence with being promised over and over again for as long as anyone can remember by self-serving politicians that they will provide your village with a coveted well only to be disappointed. Now you can begin to imagine the excitement generated when that truck inches its way from the eastern horizon, over the plains, and toward your home village.

ITMI, **Johan Leach** and his team have provided twenty-two such causes for thankfulness in the before-forgotten Luvale floodplains created by the Zambezi River in western Zambia. The reactions and gratitude are always the same. As you read this, eight more water wells are being bored and installed (seven in remote villages and one at the home of a faithful pastor in Chavuma) for the glory of God and His merciful provision. Please pray with us that as water sustains the body, the truth of God, as shared by Johan's local evangelists and pastors, will be used by God to redeem the hearts and souls of these dear people.

Johan is not content to provide just water wells to the Zambezi plains villages. His passion is to evangelize and disciple this corner of Zambia in obedience to God's calling. By partnering with ITMI and Harvesters Ministry, which provides a comprehensive pastor training curriculum in the local language, Johan has trained 30 hub leaders and 40 student pastors.

The success of this program has crossed denominational lines and created a deep desire within other pastors in Zambia. In the town of Solwezi and surrounding areas, 160 pastors and leaders are eagerly awaiting this training. Another 100 in the Chongwe area and 45 in the Kitwe area are keen to be thoroughly trained in Biblical theology and ministry principles.

These towns are anywhere from 8 hours to 12 hours drive from Chavuma, yet the good news is spreading deep and wide.

The impact in the churches is palpable. Johan said, "...it feels like a revival is coming to Zambia." Please pray with us that God will empower Johan and Lesley, Pastor Davy and Pastor Teddy, and all the hub leaders and pastors for the work He's set before them. Pray that these villages, with their new fresh, clean water for the body and living water for the soul, would be faithful to follow Jesus. Thank you for helping us create this cause for gratitude in Zambia.

In His Service,



In a village where a water well has paved the way for Johan and his team, a woman responds to the Gospel.

(continued from p.1)

It means God's people in Pakistan have a historic opportunity to help people in need, giving them the opening to gently ask, when the moment is right, "Do you know Jesus?"

It means that as His people take care of each other and open their arms to those in need, the light of Christ will shine all the brighter.

It means the resources of Pakistani believers are already depleted, and they need their brothers and sisters around the world to rally to their aid so they can keep helping the hurting and extending the reach of the Good News.

It means one ITMI donor has already pledged \$10,000 so that our contact in

Pakistan, Abid, can provide food parcels, blankets, and help rebuilding their lives.

Who is Abid?

Abid, whose last name we will probably never reveal publicly for his protection, is a Pakistani math teacher, father, and husband who is following Jesus in one of the most difficult places to do so. Abid and his fellow believers face persecution, severe lack of opportunity, and often violence because they follow Jesus instead of Mohammed.

Abid is being discipled by ITMI's **Steve Evers** through Zoom meetings and phone calls. Steve and Abid are working their way through the SALT material together.

As Abid learns the Biblical principles,

he is teaching them to others.

Abid tells Steve that the Biblical principles taught in the SALT material are revolutionizing the lives of young people and adults in their discipleship-starved country.

He is also working with ITMI's Richard and Brooke Nungesser, to demonstrate and declare the Good News through Bread of Life outreaches in Pakistan. (Bread of Life is the organization co-founded by Richard and Brooke.)

Would you consider joining other ITMI supporters in reaching the hurting in Pakistan for Christ? Your donation will help Abid demonstrate and declare the Gospel in Pakistan by providing for physical and spiritual needs.

-Summer Kelley, Steve Evers



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FOR PRAISE

1. Ukraine - Bans - Refugees receiving Jesus through the relief efforts of believers in Eastern Europe!
2. Zambia - Leach - Eight more water wells (30 total!) opening the doors for preaching the Gospel in Zambia.
3. South Sudan - Lazarus - Sports-based outreach to gang members expanding to include girls' teams.
4. Zambia - ECA and Spring of Love - New believing teachers hired for the school year and ready to minister.

FOR PRAYER

1. Pakistan - Abid - Comfort for those suffering and displaced from their homes by flood waters.
2. India - Kumars - The families of Modi Road to receive Jesus through the Kumars' ministry and experience hope, health and flourishing through obedience to His Word.
3. Ukraine - Bans - Continued healing for the Yatskiv family and the many other hurting refugees from Ukraine.
4. Zambia - Ruben Mwale - Provision for the finishing of his village church's meeting place.
5. South Sudan - Lazarus - Many suffering due to flooding, inflation and disease in South Sudan. Flooding caused a room in Lazarus' house to fall.
6. Poland - Jim La Rose - The Spirit to move and provide healing for a hurting couple and wisdom for Jim as he interacts with them.



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