



Mobilization And Partnership Strategies

mapsglobalnet@aol.com

www.mapsglobalnetwork.org

Phone: (443) 758-3662

Dear Praying Friends,

The news that I must share with you from Southeast Asia reminds us of the continuing crisis which threatens so many nations.



Cyclone Tauktae Off India's West Coast

India:

On May 17, Cyclone Tauktae made landfall in the state of Gujarat. It was the strongest storm ever to hit India's western coastline. A sorrowful irony lies in the observation that this cyclone rushed ashore on the very day when India reported the highest death toll from COVID-19 up to the present date. Even as the storm dissipated deep within the state of Rajasthan's interior, Cyclone Yaas began to form in the Bay of Bengal. It slammed ashore in the state of Odisha, some distance south of Kolkata (Calcutta). As the previous storm had devastated the north-western coastline, the second cyclone unleashed its fury on the north-eastern coast. At least fifteen states were affected heavily by the cyclones. Hundreds of thousands of souls had to be evacuated before the first ... over one million before the second.

I was in India when the pandemic began. Even during those early days of the crisis, officials warned of the catastrophe that would result if the COVID virus were unleashed in India. The pandemic within the country at the first, however, seemed to be held somewhat

in check. The crisis in recent days, however, has created much desperation. People in some regions of the country have been allowed to cremate their deceased loved ones in their backyards. Hundreds, if not thousands, of shallow graves are being found along the banks of the Ganges. The Kumbh Mela is the largest gathering of religious pilgrims on earth. In 2019, more than 200 million people attended. Although a small fraction of that number made the pilgrimage this year, who can possibly know the number of people who contracted COVID at this event and then carried the disease to every part of the country? There has never been a "super-spreader event" that can compare to the Kumbh Mela. Now diverse variants of the virus are emerging in India and spreading to other countries. Black mold infection of the lungs, has emerged as one of the hideous complications of COVID in India. A dear pastor in India who is a staff member at one of the Bible colleges wrote to us recently, saying, "Sickness is increasing day by day, and some of the graduates and pastors are gone (into) eternity, and some of them are going through great struggles."



Many among the heathen have looked to their sacred cow and idols. Some have sought refuge beneath the peepal tree (sacred fig), literally living beneath its branches. Others have added to the number of their gods. In the city of Coimbatore (state of Tamil Nadu) where we held crusades for so many years, a new temple has been built and dedicated to the goddess whom they have named Corona-Devi. We grieve to see them stepping further into darkness. Pray this time of great need will instead humble precious souls that they might realize their greatest need ... that multitudes who dwell in darkness will turn to Jesus!

Myanmar:

The military has continued to hold its grasp of control in the country. Although shootings in the streets have diminished, bombings remain frequent. As would be expected, the economy has suffered a dreadful blow. The currency has lost an enormous measure of its purchasing power.

The Jeffcoat Family:

Even during sorrowful days when our hearts are heavy over the suffering of so many, we find ourselves also rejoicing over the goodness of God toward us. In June, our daughter Elizabeth and her husband Mark will welcome another son ... Samantha and I will rejoice over the gift of another grandchild ... Paisley and Peyton will be glad to find themselves joined by their new brother, Preston.

Ministry Website: www.mapsglobalnetwork.org

Web-platform for SE Asia: www.thegreatesttruths.com

Because of HIM,

William Jeffcoat

Our Sending Church:

Emmanuel Baptist Temple

Hagerstown, Maryland

Support Received Through:

Central Missionary Clearinghouse

P.O. Box 219228

Houston, Texas 77218-9228

... details on our website

MAPS Global Network