



The Bridge Report

HAITI — A CRY OF DESPAIR!



The anguish, pain, and despair reflected in the eyes of the little girl pictured above - trapped in the rubble, surrounded by injured and dead bodies, while someone is trying to dig her out, epitomizes the depth of horror and suffering millions Haitians are experiencing in the aftermath of the massive earthquake on January 12th that struck Haiti's capital city of Port-au-Prince.

Horrific images, accompanied by staggering statistics, have been pouring in through the world news media: an anticipated 100-300,000 dead, five million homeless, untold masses injured. The world community has responded with an unprecedented outpouring of compassion by emotional support and financial contributions through effective international relief aid organizations prepared for calamities like this. These NGOs, in cooperation with government agencies and the US military, have put "boots on the ground" in Haiti and are racing against time to find and rescue those buried under the rubble, bury the dead, and provide basic supplies to the survivors. It is a daunting task!!

The main focus of relief organizations is to meet the immediate physical needs of people and rebuild destroyed infrastructures in the various areas of the world where natural disasters occur. They do not, however, permit their workers to openly express or practice their personal religious views among the victims. This applies to individuals and organizations funded by the UN and world governments, whether Christian or secular.

The Bridge's primary function is to reach the unreached with the Gospel and serve the indigenous church. Practical expressions of compassion and mercy are intrinsically interwoven into the faith of the believers, thus are extensions from The Source: God's love through Jesus Christ! Although The Bridge does not directly work in Haiti, we have through the years helped resource others who serve among the people on a grassroots level there.

Relief funds collected through The Bridge will be funneled through a network of trusted partners who freely share the Gospel. The funds will be applied in full, directly toward the spiritual and physical needs of the earthquake victims in Haiti!

FROM R.K.'S CORNER

It is our custom to feature the Annual Report of finances and activities from the prior year in the first Bridge Report of the new year. I was in the middle of writing this report, when the earthquake calamity in Haiti took place, which eclipsed my writing. I felt it was right to give you an opportunity to express your love and concern for the victims by contributing finances to them through our ministry.

Although presented in a prior issue, the centerfold (pages 2-3) consists of pictures and short descriptions of each of the missionaries and their projects we financially helped support in 2009. The list of people with whom we partner in the nations is far more extensive; here we feature only those who received funds within the last twelve months. Through the years, we have helped many launch their ministries and then sponsored them for a number of years till they became fully self-supported; others received funding for their ministries during specific time periods or for various projects (Bible training schools, micro businesses, drug rehabilitation centers, etc.).

The Kingdom of God keeps expanding in the nations through the labor of love by these people! **Please keep this issue and pray for each of them by name as the Lord reminds, as they are increasingly paying a higher price for their faith as elements within world governments grow in hostility against the Gospel. Please mark your gift to Haiti: 8010 Haiti Relief Aid**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT IN 2009!!

Steve and I are aware that the epicenter of Haiti's earthquake lies app. 700 miles (app. 1,000 km) away from our home in South Florida - practically in our back yard! When I first met Steve, he owned and operated a 20 acre commercial nursery. Through the years, he employed over a hundred legal Haitian workers. They were reliable, hard-working, and self-motivated in making a good life in America for themselves and their families. Sitting in Steve's car in the middle of the field, surrounded by his 23 Haitian workers, at his bidding, I began sharing the love of Jesus and telling them about the suffering church behind the Iron Curtain (my French was doable, then). God gave me a love for this beautiful people, and since then I have come to know many Haitians; some of them I count as personal friends! They have continually suffered throughout their 500 year history under slave masters, wicked foreign rulers, corrupt local governments, and natural disasters. Yet, the problem in Haiti is not socio-economical ... it is SPIRITUAL!! Voodoo doctor, elect President Duvalier, declared in 1971, voodoo—religious witchcraft—the official national religion. This was affirmed in 1990 by President Aristide. Therefore, Satan has a legitimate claim on Haiti! Please pray that the Lord will send His Spirit of comfort and revelation of truth to set the captives free, and strength and boldness for the Haitian believers to share the love of Jesus!



13762 State Road 84, Suite 423
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33325
USA

Ragnhild K. Ulrich ("R.K.")
Executive Director

Tel 1-954-916-0521
Fax 1-954-916-8740
E-Mail:

TheBridge@BridgeInternational.org

**LINKING GOD'S PEOPLE TO
REACH THE UNREACHED**

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8309 ANDAMAN ISLAND WORKERS

Mathew Varughese founded and runs **Calvary Mission** in the **Andaman Islands**, located in the Indian Ocean between Indonesia and India. Mathew and his wife focus on evangelism among Hindus and Muslims, training and commissioning of pioneer missionaries to outlying islands, and caring for orphans. The long term effect of the Tsunami (the epicenter was close to their island) is still lingering. The rest of the world has long forgotten the victims, but Mathew and his team have not!

8322 CHINA WORKERS

George Chen, a Chinese pastor who endured 19 years in prison under Mao Tse-Tung's dictatorship, has been traveling extensively for decades between towns and villages in the mountainous region of the **Yunnan** province near Burma's border. He serves in an apostolic role by teaching, training, commissioning and helping minority ethnic evangelists and pastors care for their flocks.



8337 GEORGIA WORKERS

Stephen and Sophia Schmalz live in the capital of **Tbilisi, Georgia**, one of the poorest countries in the region. They regularly visit a number of evangelical pastors, most of whom are persecuted and ridiculed by the strongly Orthodox population, for encouragement, prayer, and distribution of much needed basic staples and good Bible-based teaching material. They also regularly visit orphanages with relief while they spend time loving on the children.

8323 HISPANIC WORKERS

Jorge Urra and his wife, **Magdalena**, are from **Cuba** where they have done an awesome apostolic work in church planting and training, facilitating, and encouraging hundreds of pastor and their churches cross denominationally. Jorge now lives in Miami where he continues to pastor, minister into Cuba, and direct his mercy ministry which is bringing love and relief to orphans in the poor countries of **Haiti**, the **Dominican Republic**, and other countries in **Central- and South America**.



8338 ISRAEL WORKERS

Due to security considerations, we are not identifying the name or face of the individual with whom we partner in **Israel**. Suffice it to say, she is an American gentile who has for more than thirty years been a light-bearer for Messiah in the Land. She has been honored with Israeli citizenship. Now, retired from her job, she is determined to remain in Israel to continue her love and prayer ministry, for Messiah to be revealed in the hearts of her people.



8005 DESERT STREAM

Piet and Ina van Walsem in the **Netherlands** are among several of our partners who have effective ministries among **Muslims**. Their ministry, **Desert Stream**, works with **Iranian and Afghan refugees** living in the Netherlands.



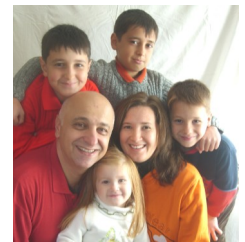
8335 FAMILY MINISTRY WORKERS

Peter and Solvei Stohl have been Bridge partners abroad for twenty two years. We have watched them remain faithful to their call as counselors in helping believers in Russia and Kazakhstan be set free from bondages of their past, and experience the freedom of life in Jesus. They now live in **Kaunas, Lithuania** where they counsel and work in conjunction with a counseling center.



8341 KAZAKHSTAN WORKERS

Kazakhstan is a fruitful field! For twenty years, we have been supporting a wide network of apostolic individuals, pastors and evangelists, mercy ministries, and various micro-business projects in the country. We rejoice that so many of them have become self-supporting and keep growing in grace and knowledge of God. In 2009, we continued to sponsor **Sargon Daniali**, an Assyrian Iranian with a vision to reach **Muslim nations along the Silk Road from Almaty, Kazakhstan**.



8356 NORTH KOREAN WORKERS

Through our network partnership, we have had the privilege of helping sponsor several indigenous pastors and their studies at a three month Bible Training Center in a neighboring country of the most oppressive nation in the world, **North Korea**, where people risk torture, imprisonment, even death - for simply believing in Jesus!



AFRICA WORKERS — from left to right

- **Sabet & Suzy Kuj - Tonj, South Sudan.** Founders of a medical clinic, serving a population of 30,000 and a Bible Training School for local pastors.
- **Paul & Marcia Cowley - Nairobi, Kenya.** Founders of a Discipleship Training Center for local pastors in **Mathare Valley**, one of Africa's largest slums.
- **William & Hannah Levi - New Sudan, South Sudan** — Founders of a large, comprehensive Christian community among returning refugees from camps in Kenya and Uganda.
- **Mathew & Simon - Nazareth, Israel.** Two young Sudanese refugees caring for app. 300 fellow Sudanese believers in Israel. Attending Bible College in preparation of going home.

