

PRAYERPOINTS

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS: A PRAYING PEOPLE IMPACTING A LOST WORLD

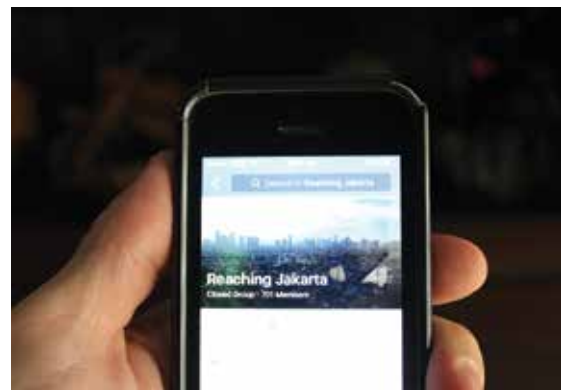
Southeast Asian Peoples Affinity is comprised of approximately 825 million people in all or a portion of 11 countries. Among the largest population pockets are the cities of Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok. While the cultures, traditions and religions of these cities vary, there are some commonalities: technology-dependent lifestyles, young families and university students.

Social media as evangelism tool

JAKARTA, INDONESIA, is the second largest metropolis in the world, with a population of more than 30 million people. In this city there are 12 million Facebook users and more than 250 million tweets each month. The average smart phone and tablet user spends two to three hours online every day.



So what do a Bible and a smart phone have in common in Jakarta? They are both a solution to a great need. While believers cannot possibly visit every home, village and city in Indonesia, they do have access to the masses through social media and technology. The Jakarta team has developed a strategy and will soon implement new ways to use social media to share the gospel and introduce discipleship training.



A website will be completed soon, promotional strategies are in place, and hundreds of field workers are prepared for face-to-face follow-up in Jakarta and throughout Indonesia. The fields are ripe for harvest! Pray for a mighty movement of God through social media strategies.

Breaking bread together

HOSPITALITY IS VITAL when connecting with non-believers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. A couple of years ago, and after several months of casual friendship, some workers invited a family from an unreached Muslim people group to dinner. The workers prayed for an opportunity during the meal to share the gospel.

During the meal, the workers mentioned their children were attending a local preschool run by a church. One of the guests remarked excitedly, "Yes, we know church! We just went to one last Sunday!" After further questioning, the workers realized this family had been invited to church by a believer from their own people group, whom they had met at a restaurant.

The guest continued, "And last Thursday night, we went to a Bible study, and our whole family became Christians!" Astounded, the workers marveled at how God was already ahead of them.

For the past two years, the workers have been privileged to disciple this new family of believers. Pray that workers will have even more opportunities to reach their neighbors through acts of hospitality.



Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples (1 Chronicles 16:8, NKJV).

1 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Last month's Lunar New Year, or "Tet" holiday, is the most important annual holiday for the Vietnamese. Pray for times to reconnect with seekers and new believers in Ho Chi Minh City this month following the holiday break. reachingvietnam.com

2 DIGO OF KENYA AND TANZANIA (DEE-goh). The Kisima Rehab Center is a place where heroin addicts can come and learn of the Living Water. Kisima means "well." Pray that addicts will come, drink and be changed through the power of Christ.

3 CHINESE OF WESTERN NORTH AMERICA. Many Chinese immigrants in western North America are successful business people. Ask God to lead them to repentance. Pray that they will use their business knowledge and connections to spread the gospel throughout the world.

4 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. In Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, a city of 10 million people, a lost person dies every 10 minutes and goes to a Christ-less eternity. Pray that God will raise up laborers to win the lost, disciple believers and start churches in this city.

5 MUSLIMS OF ANDHRA PRADESH AND TELANGANA, INDIA. Lift up the Sheik Muslim communities along the coast of Andhra Pradesh. There are many who have placed their faith in Jesus. Pray that they will be bold to follow in baptism and tell others of their faith.

6 TATARS OF CENTRAL ASIA (TAH-tars). Ansar* has a goal of distributing tracts to every mailbox in his region of Central Asia. He desires for all of his people to receive the gospel. Pray for boldness for Ansar and other Tatar believers as they share truth with their people.

7 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Pray for the Jakarta team that is focusing on social media as an evangelism tool: Kevin, Brad, Lanny, Dora, Steve, Adam and Zeke. Pray for the other like-minded teams and hundreds of partners who are involved.

8 RIF BERBERS OF NORTHERN AFRICA AND EUROPE (reef BER-bers). Malik* recently believed and is now being insulted continuously by his family for his choice to follow the Lord. Pray that the worries of this world will not choke out the new life Malik has in the Father.

9 RUSSIAN-SPEAKING PEOPLE OF UFA, RUSSIA. Praise God for calling several teenage and young believers from Ufa to be on mission with Him. Pray for them as they go on short-term trips and serve abroad. Pray for others to hear and answer God's missional call on their lives.

10 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Workers are available in Jakarta, but it can be difficult to find those willing to step outside of cultural and traditional norms. Pray for the Jakarta team as they train and mobilize believers, churches and leaders to be involved in their project.

11 DEAF PEOPLES. Recently workers began teaching Deaf nationals, Phillippe* and Jean,* Bible stories describing who Jesus is and what He does for us. Phillippe and Jean responded enthusiastically. Pray that they will understand the stories and teach them to others.

12 EK PEOPLE OF COLOMBIA. Flower* was the first to become a believer in her EK family, then her husband, then her brothers. Now her parents are attending chronological Bible storying times. Pray for this family to continue to grow in faith and to become Christian leaders in their community.

13 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. There are several cultural and socio-economic groups in Jakarta, but they are all connected through social media. Pray that the Jakarta team will have wisdom in the development and maintenance of their website, videos and disciple-making processes.

14 LAST FRONTIER. Praise God that the families involved with a non-governmental organization (NGO) have started receiving one-year visas. Continue to pray that workers will find favor with the government in order to do the work the Lord has for them.

15 NGONDE OF NORTHERN MALAWI (N-gone-day). God has called Mr. Ray* to a struggling Baptist church in Kaunde village, one of the first churches started among the Ngonde people. Pray that Mr. Ray* will lead this church with wisdom and stand firm when people mix traditional beliefs with Christianity.

16 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. There are few believers among the unreached people groups living in Kuala Lumpur, and many are afraid to witness because of the potentially high cost. Pray for boldness and hearts to see their own people to come to Christ.



People of
Malaysia

17 UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN SEOUL, KOREA. Recently, a key partner from an area closed to a gospel witness spoke on the radio about doing evangelism among his people. The responses from listeners and Korean churches were overwhelming. Pray that this experience will lead to future broadcasting opportunities and projects.

18 SOUTH ASIANS OF CANADA. Janraj* leads a large Sikh "gurdwara," a house of worship. He recently received a Bible, and the gospel was explained to him by a believer. Praise God for this open door, and ask Him to open Janraj's eyes to the truth as he reads the Word.

19 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. The church of Kuala Lumpur consists largely of middle-class Chinese Malaysians. Sharing the gospel with Muslims is illegal, and many believers are reluctant to risk evangelizing the lost. Ask God to convict them and give them courage.

20 TURKS OF THE BLACK SEA COAST. Pray that workers among the Turks of the Black Sea coast will grow in language competency and in the ability to explain complex beliefs that often come up in conversation. Ask God to give those with whom they speak ears to hear.

21 HADRMAUT YEMENI ARABS OF YEMEN. Pray for a generation of students who are missing out on an education as their schools are used for refugees and war-displaced people. Pray for peace in Yemen. Pray that these children will hear they are loved and valued by God.

22 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. The urban poor of Kuala Lumpur are almost invisible to other city inhabitants who are busy seeking "the good life" as cycles of sin and poverty claim generations. Ask that

hope would come to many as Christians live and speak God's truth in the city.

23 ARMENIAN PEOPLE OF ARMENIA. Join the women of a Bible study group in praying for their husbands, sons and sons-in-law, who have not shown an interest in spiritual matters. Praise God for the recent salvation of one of their sons. Pray that the men of Armenia will be drawn to the gospel.

24 AMAZON PEOPLES OF THE AMAZON RIVER BASIN. Pray for Julio,* who is a leader among his people. He has experienced some recent health problems. Ask God to restore his health and to use Julio to bring about a church-planting movement among his people.

25 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Pray for the dozens of volunteers who make annual trips to work in the Baptist Student Center in Bangkok where teaching English is a bridge to share the gospel. Pray that God will use the simple act of talking to draw many Thai to Himself.

26 LAST FRONTIER. Give thanks to God for a new believer from a Last Frontier people group. Pray for this new believer as he shares the Good News with his relatives and others in his hometown. Ask that the Father's grace will open up many doors for him.

27 SOKOTO FULANI OF NIGER (SOH-koh-toh fu-LAH-nee). For years, missionaries have shared the gospel with Sokoto Fulani in the bush of Niger. The Fulani in one area seem to be especially receptive to the gospel, but none have chosen to follow Jesus. Pray for a mighty harvest among this people.



People of Vietnam

28 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Pray that many lost people will come to faith in Christ through the Baptist Student Center in Bangkok. Pray that believers will grow as disciples, make disciples and start churches. Pray that the leaders will grow closer in their walk with God and bear lasting fruit.

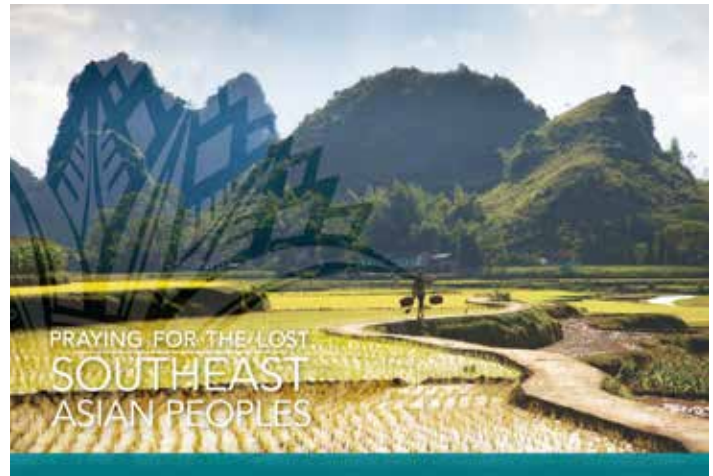
29 PEOPLE OF TAIWAN. Pray that as believers in Taiwan go about their normal, everyday lives, they will be compelled to share their testimony. Ask God to remove the complacency in their walk and infuse them with the resurrection power to make Christ known.



People of Thailand

30 SOUTH ASIAN DIASPORA. An estimated 7 million Bangladeshis live outside of Bangladesh. Nearly 3 million reside in Saudi Arabia alone, but significant pockets can be found in Asia, Europe and North America. Pray that Bangladeshis will encounter believers who will share the gospel with them wherever they are.

31 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. The City English Project is an outreach that mobilizes English-speaking believers to teach conversational English classes and Christian worldview to the Thai in Bangkok. Pray for open doors in universities, vocational schools and businesses. Pray for U.S. volunteers who will help teach the classes.



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*Name changed

Multiplying young believers

BANGKOK, THAILAND is a world-class city of 15 million people where less than one-half of one percent are Christians. One key way to impact this predominantly Buddhist city with the gospel is to multiply young believers who grow as disciples, then reach and teach others the Scriptures, so that they in turn grow, reach and teach even more people.

The Baptist Student Center in Bangkok is a place where unbelievers are being reached with the gospel through volunteers, Thai believers and IMB missionaries. New believers are discipled and given opportunity to get involved in evangelistic Bible study groups.

As they grow, they begin to start their own groups at the center and at other places throughout Bangkok. Pray that this multiplying effort among students will result in many new groups and churches being started. Ask God to draw many Bangkok residents to Himself through these volunteers, Thai believers and IMB missionaries.



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