



House of Hope Myitkyina

## Asian Gospel Outreach

Spreading the Gospel in Southeast Asia

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### Good Morning from Myitkyina, Myanmar!

It is good to come back to this capital city of Kachin State and recalled many good memories. Travelled with my beloved mentor Chuck Fordyce and Bob Holstene of Bux-mont Christian Church back in 1996 and saw the airfield where the American Flying tiger land and flew out to China. Lisu people under the teaching of American Missionaries J. Russell Morse and friends had brought the Gospel to many remote villages in China and then to this State of Kachin and later on to India and Thailand. Thanks to the Churches of Christ in Myanmar that invited me to come to speak to 400 leaders of Churches in 10 regions of Myanmar. Some people traveled for six days to come to the gathering. The sermons was great and the fellowship after each session was so good. In the past Lisu were helping and rescuing people in the Second World War.

Today here we have different war--The spiritual war. Many people are losing their children to drugs. Many young people are sold to China. We heard stories of young girls being taken to China to be a forced wife. We heard stories of young men being forced into modern slavery. The land of Kachin, the home of Lisu and many other ethnics is very rich land with wide flat land, green mountains, and rivers. But people live in poverty and constantly fear. Because there is nonstop civil war since 1960 when the country became socialist. There are many anti-government armed groups in the country. The fighting broke out in many villages. Multitude of people became inland dislocated people. Some people called refugees. Many people had left the country to go to new countries as refugees-- America, Australia, Canada, and Norway, but most of the people are stuck in their homeland.

On top of this civil war, drugs trafficking is becoming major problem. Many people addicted to drugs. Then from that there is crime related to drugs. Then from that many people are taken into human trafficking. Asian Gospel Outreach has the heart to reach out to the People with God's love. We opened the House of Hope home in the major location so we can help the children with better hope. One is the capital city of Kachin state, House of Hope Myitkyina. Joseph Gwa and His wife Ahnyi Dahphulu and their sons Ahpu Joele Gwa along with his wife, and their son Ahdi along with his wife. They are taking care of 50 children from first grade to high school. There is also Tanai House of Hope. This is the small city right on the Lido road, the historical road in second world war. There are 10 children with brother Mark and his wife. The needs for the building is great because the orphans and the children of broken villages and families are crying for help in the area. Tanai and the Hugawng valley has been the major combat field. Even though the peace talk has been going on and the tendency for cease fire may come to reality but the villagers will not be able to go home. There are many level of issue between Myanmar and freedom fighters. Lisu people are un-armed tribe in Myanmar. Never raise an army to fight any body in Myanmar or in any country. Most of their villages are taken over. As some people said that they were refugees within their own country. Please pray for brother Mark, for the building, for the kids. The building for boys and for girls with restrooms inside.

House of Hope (HOH) Kingdom Workers



Joseph &amp; Ahnyi, Myitkyina HOH



Mark &amp; Chama Sae, Tanai HOH

Jolee Gwa & Nasadwe,  
Myitkyina HOHBarak, wife Ahna, son Ahpu,  
Hteebaw HOH

My visit to Myanmar this time was a real blessing trip for me. I met many evangelists including Brother Saitun and His wife AhDu. They travelled all the way from Golden Triangle area of Shan State, Myanmar to come to Northern Myanmar where we are having Church of Christ convention. They are with us at the convention and they went on to Putao, the top north Myanmar to do evangelism work. The work among the Tai people is still very urgent. Because the Tai people are very hard to become Christian with the culture rooted deep in Buddhism and animism. There are red Shan or Khamti Shan in Putao and the northern Part of Myanmar that many of them still have not heard the gospel. Brother Saitun and sister Ahdu take their time during the school break to evangelize to their neighbor tribe. Brother Barak Wayasha was also there. We had spent quality time together to pray and discuss about the needs of Hteebaw House of Hope. Hsibaw or Hteebaw is the name of the town on the way to China. This town is also known the Junction of Northern Shan State for human trafficking, drugs, and wars. There are Palaung army, Kachin Independent army, Kokang Army, and Northern Shan State Army. There are 44 children at the House of Hope Hsipaw. Older kids step up to help the work. Brother Barak and Sister Ahna are the key leaders here. With their son Ahpu. Ahdi is graduating and maybe some day will come back to help with the work.

### Health and Other Updates

Brother Joseph and family were facing with many health issue. Joseph's wife was ready to go to Rangoon for her kidneys treatment. Her face was swollen due to the bad kidneys failing. The doctor said that only 30% of her kidney is working. She is very careful with her diet now. We pray for her. While we were at their house, we pray for a lady who travelled very far away up north on China border. They travel on truck to China, and then traveled on bus from the district of Fugong to Tenchong and then cross the border to come into Myanmar again. People in North still have to do that to come to hospital. If they did not do that, they had to walk about 15 days. The lady looked very sick and said she was very tired. She had still had her winter jacket on. Up in her village it was cold, but where we were it was about 90 degree. We asked her to take her jacket off and we pray for her and fed her, but she did not want to eat, no appetite. Please keep this sister Ah Cha Nu and her sickness in your prayers.

There are people at House of Hope Myitkyina all the times. Not just the kids but older people. Every one of them has some kind of need. Some have big health issues and some have trauma in life. Sitting with Joseph and ministering to different people while I was with him. Through the years of serving the Lord together and going through the training together. He understood and wise in the spiritual knowledge. He was a good listener. I pray for Joseph as he ministers to people every day.

While I was in Myitkyina I was able to visit and pray for the drugs rehab center runs by our brother Simon. He came to our training in Thailand. Now he is reaching to the drugs addicted people and the work is very effective in changing the life of the young people and return to the family with a new heart and new goal for life. Many young people lost their lives because of drugs. We were happy that we could support the work there. We are sorry that we cannot help much. Our funds is very limited now.

Brothers and sisters: we are very thankful to you all for your prayers and your financial support. Your prayers for our health is very appreciated. Leah and I both have to deal with high blood pressure and I have diabetes, prostate enlargement, and cyst on my liver and kidney (about one centimeter). Leah is seeing doctor every two months and taking medicine for preventing liver infection. She get tired very easily. Please continue to keep us in your prayers. Pray also for me as I travel a lot to villages to preach and teach. Pray for wisdom and safety.

## Conventions and Projects

**First Church of Christ Convention in Northern Myanmar.** There were over 400 people came to this convention. Very good fellowship and very powerful message. All speakers were Lisu preachers. Some are from Bible Colleges and most of them are preachers from the villages. The brothers and sisters agree to have the next Churches of Christ convention in Putao. Everybody is aiming to see each other in the month of October 2020 in Putao for great messages and great fellowship. This year with very short notice, there were over 400. Next year there will be over 1000 people. They already asked me to come back to preach. I am looking forward to that great event.

Rejoice with the evangelists in Naga Hills with the new souls being won to Christ. Brother Um Pia (Philip) is working hard to reach out to the Buddhist and animist Nagas. We are so happy there are five accepted Christ and were baptized. Pray for their new walk with the Lord. We are happy and thrilled with what is going on with the brothers and sisters there. Many new converts and many new leaders are produced. Under the leadership of brother Um Pia Philip many young people are sent to three months Bible school. They return home to serve and help with the Churches. Our little support going to them is very fruitful.

I want to thank my former professor at Chiangmai Bible Institute. Doug Umbanhowar for sponsoring me to go to World Without Orphan forum. There were over 400 people coming from over 70 countries around the world. Many of them are from South Asia and Southeast Asia. We live in the world that 1 billion children have orphan spirit. One out of 2 children face serious physical, emotional or sexual abuse every year. 153 million have ORPHAN Status, one or both parents dead. Asian Gospel Outreach realized the need to have home for children, especially children in the area that have high risk of human trafficking.

I spent many hours praying for our Children of House of Hope in Myitkyina, Hteebaw, Tanai, Golden Triangle, and at Still Water. We want to follow the will of God as the Bible said in James 1:27 "Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world". Our children are children of below poverty level parents that could not give their support for schooling, villages are destroyed and abandoned, some children lost parent and some lost both. There is one case that his very sad. The two boys lost their father to sickness after working in the jungle and their mother was sold in China. The brother's name is Kyaw Se and the younger brother's name is Ahsi. They came from Northern Shan State. Now they found new home at House of Hope Myitkyina.

Joy in serving the Lord together with you all. May God continue to keep you all in His protection, love, and blessings. We love you and long to see you all in face to face.

Ahtapa, Leah, and family



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### Pray for...

1. Our political situation, civil war
2. Spiritual war: salvation, drugs/crime, slavery/trafficking, poverty/fear
3. Health: Joseph Gwa & wife (kidney treatment), Ahtapa (high blood pressure, diabetes, prostate enlargement, cysts on liver & kidney), Leah (high blood pressure, frequent doctor's visits, medication to prevent liver infection).
4. Ahtapa's travels, wisdom, and safety



House of Hope Hteebaw

### Give generously as God leads you...

1. Tanai House of Hope building (needs expansion for more children and restrooms inside)
2. Myitkyina Drug Rehab Center (changing hearts & lives, but AGO can't help much due to low funds)
3. Light Shine Project: Many villages do not have electricity and use kerosene lanterns for church meetings. It is costly and hard to walk down to town to get it. We would like to bring each mountain village church a Christmas gift and buy them a set of solar panels and light bulbs. Each set has a solar pad, battery charger and save, 4 light bulbs with 5 power cords. It can be used anywhere that has sunlight and will be fully charged in 6 hours. Each set is \$57 and there are 50 mountain village churches. **Would you consider sponsoring one or more of these churches to provide them with electricity?**