

July/August 2022

## Reaching across Regimes, Reunification in Christ

Any worship other than that of the supreme leaders is deemed as a threat.



North Korea used to be nicknamed the "Jerusalem of the East".

The "Jerusalem of the East". A national leader who was a part-time missionary. This was North Korea, the nation that has been the world's most dangerous place to be a Christian for 20 years.

Before the end of World War II, North Korea had more Christians than South Korea. There were 2,850 churches. The current leader, Kim Jung Un's great-grandfather, was a part-time missionary. His great-grandmother's name, Kang Pan-sok, was the Korean translation for Peter, Jesus' disciple.

Yet today, North Korea's supreme leaders demand God-like worship. The country is cut off from the world. Anything not state-sanctioned is swiftly and violently suppressed. Around 50,000 to 70,000 Christians are imprisoned. Capture or death is a mistake away for North Korean Christians.

But the love of Christ will not be silenced. Secret handwritten letters somberly fill a wall in FEBC's South Korea office, crying out for hope and testifying of hope received.

One reads, "... Please throw a

lifeline to save us ..."

Another reads, "FEBC Korea is the lighthouse that lit up my heart. My family was led to the Lord's way of truth through the broadcasting of FEBC Korea."

Since 1956, FEBC South Korea has trod where no missionary could freely go. Through its radio broadcasts, the Gospel has been heard in communist Russia, China, and North Korea.

Radios used to be smuggled into North Korea or floated in helium balloons across the border. Today, a 250,000-watt "superstation" on Daebu Island just south of the demilitarised zone can reach the entirety of North Korea.

Within FEBC Korea, North Korean defectors help develop programs for their citizens. North Korean

hosts share personal experiences and the Gospel in a way that is relatable to their regime-indoctrinated people. Broadcasts also include vital information on COVID and other current affairs.

It would be the first time many North Koreans hear about the radical love and humility of Jesus and His sacrifice for them. For someone who has only known



A wall in FEBC South Korea's office is lined with letters from secret North Korean and Chinese listeners.

## Reaching across Regimes,

## Reunification in Christ cont'd

oppression from dictators, this is truth that transforms!

This quote from a handwritten letter says it all: "In North Korea, I was brainwashed that there is no God. However, the more I listened to FEBC Korea, the more I became inclined to know about Jesus Christ and to have peace in my heart."

With FEBC Korea reaching across regimes, North Korea will hopefully be reunified with its Christian heritage!



Click here to watch a past FEBC report on North Korea.



Click here to access North Korea's demographics.

## The Urban Unreached

Minus 0.4%. This is the confronting negative growth rate of Christianity in Japan. More than 97% of the population remains unreached. The wealthy Asian country is in a spiritual deficit.

Animistic Shinto and Buddhism are deeply entrenched in the Japanese culture. Christianity is commonly viewed as a foreign, Western religion. In a communal society, the stigma of shame that many believers carry is heavy. It can be a very lonely road for a Christian in Japan.

But the alternative for pre-believers is worse. The nation ranks 18th in the world for the greatest number of suicides.

Ms. R.N. knows this intimately. "I am blind. When I was in my early 30s, I was tired of living and wanted to die," she shares. "But one day, I suddenly remembered the FEBC that I heard in my youth. So, I listened again. And Jesus saved me."

For 70 years, FEBC Japan has been making inroads with the urban unreached. Through 20 different on-air and online broadcast programs and pastoral counselling helmed by local Japanese, FEBC Japan is changing mindsets



about Christianity. The main broadcast station receives over 300 handwritten letters daily. Many are from Christians who are unable to attend church and are desperate for a community. FEBC becomes their community.

Ms. S. W. writes, "My husband opposes my belief in Jesus. My dream is to go to church and be baptized. I secretly read the Bible and write letters to FEBC so that my husband can't notice it. I also go to my postbox every day to look for FEBC's reply."

Ms. S. A. shares, "When I talked to my parents about going to church, they said they would 'cut the family ties'. So, I wished I had an online church. I found FEBC. I listen to the worship, pray, and take a Bible correspondence course. Keiko's Mail Bag is my favorite program."

A faithful listener shares, "I am 85 years old, and I have been listening to FEBC for 20 years. The Word shines, and I feel like you have opened the jewel box in my turbulent life. I have been convinced that Jesus is the true Saviour. I know that there are people in small country towns here who are so excited to listen to the broadcast. May everyone be saved by this FEBC broadcast at such times in the world today."



Click here to access Japan's demographics.





## Dear friends,

My passion is that people in every nation, tribe and tongue may hear (in their own heart language) the Good News. My heart desires for them to know of God's great love, and receive His shalom. While much has been done, there is still much to do.

Over a third of the world or an astonishing 3.2 billion people are unreached with the Good News of Jesus Christ. They have little access to the Gospel, face persecution, and in many cases have never heard the name of Jesus.

Many are marginalised, oppressed aural communities that are denied access to information, education and other services. They are also often geographically hard to reach. Yet one of the biggest reasons is that only 1% of mission funds throughout the world are channelled towards reaching the unreached.

**But the mission of God is still to be completed. That is why we say, "Let them hear" and "Until all are reached".**

The barriers are many, but God's enabling is greater. In fact, it immensely encourages me that Christ's Great Commission, to all of us, is backed by all authority in heaven and on earth and His presence.

*"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* (Matthew 28:18-20)

With your support, FEBC is uniquely penetrating the barriers to the Great



Kevin Keegan, National Director, FEBC Australia

Commission. Programs led and spoken by locals across the world broadcast the Gospel in multiple languages in their own country (145 languages worldwide). These reach the different ethnic groups, the imprisoned, refugees, and isolated; no matter how small in size they are. Across Southeast Asia, hope is broadcasted in over 40 languages. In Mali, there are seven languages. Multiple language broadcasts are also in China. Where the Good News is restricted and believers persecuted, Jesus' love still reaches hearts in unexpected ways through FEBC's broadcasts.

I pray this edition of Skywaves will stir your passion to share, to pray, to give, to partner – so that those yet to know Jesus may find the source of true life; life in all its fullness.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Keegan".

**Kevin Keegan**

National Director, FEBC Australia

## Get Together

We are getting together online for a prayer meeting!  
Join us for the first of many gatherings.

**4 August, 2022**  
**Thursday, 7-8 pm (AEST)**  
**via Zoom**

Scan the QR code to register for the prayer meeting.

An email will be sent out after registration and a Zoom link sent closer to the date.



Yemen – a nation in the desert remains unreachable.

## Once Excluded, Now Embraced

It's tough to be a Yemeni. An eight-year-long conflict has crippled the desert country. One of the world's greatest humanitarian crises is still ongoing. Thousands are displaced, malnourished, and suffering from the lack of basic medical care. Only 0.02% of the population are evangelical Christians. More than 99.7% of the population have not heard about the hope in Christ.

In this harsh landscape there is a people group who have it even tougher. Existing in the shadows of the shunned in society, the Muhammasheen have found themselves in supposedly abolished caste-based isolation long before the pandemic ever occurred.

The minority people group, also known as the Akhdam (servant), call themselves Al-Muhammasheen or “the Marginalised”. Yemenis call the Muhammasheen “unclean”. They are the untouchables of Yemeni society and, in missional terms, a closed people group.

The persecution is severe and pervasive. They are often refused schooling and jobs. Even hospitals and legal systems reject them. Many are in constant displacement from their homes in the slums. Marrying outside of their community is violently prohibited.

Without belonging to a tribe in tribal Yemen, the Muhammasheen are left defenseless. It is as if they are left to die because they are treated as less than human. “We are naked, we are nothing,” one Muhammasheen chokes up.

But God hears the cries of the Muhammasheen in the desert. He wants each to know they are valuable, worthy and loved.

For 30 years, FEBC has partnered to produce radio programs in Yemen that broadcast God's love. Now a project has started for the unreachable Muhammasheen. A daily 60-minute program aired on shortwave radio across the country communicates how each individual is born equal and worthy of Jesus' endless love.

A Facebook campaign with taglines ‘Who Am I? Am I Yemeni? Am I African? Am I nobody?’ successfully reaches those who have been made to feel less than human all their lives. The silenced Muhammasheen are encouraged to find their own voices by being involved in the programming.

The seed is sown and watered. The love of Jesus is touching the untouchables. May the Muhammasheen run into the loving embrace of Jesus, and their true identity as “God's beloved”.



[Click here to access the demographics of the Muhammasheen in Yemen.](#)



A Muhammasheen family living in a slum in Yemen.



# Reaching Every Tribe and Tongue

Stateless, impoverished, and marginalised. Many ethnic groups in Southeast Asia and southern parts of China are shamed for their heritage by the dominant culture. But this is not God's truth about them.

In God's eyes, each ethnic group is precious, valued, and beloved, in all their glorious array of colours, cultures, and languages. FEBC has been conveying this truth, reaching each people group with the love of Jesus in their own unique language.

Within FEBC's Ethnic Languages team, staff from Thailand and the Philippines run a ceaseless relay to bring that message across in more than 40 languages, 24 hours a day. Producers from each ethnic group create the programs. These are then sent to engineers who line them up accurately on the servers for shortwave broadcast in Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, and China.

Radios are distributed on foot or via small motorbikes to the Pale, Nahom, Lahu, Mon, Hmong, Mien, and Kim Mun living in small hillside villages. For villages without power or access to batteries, villagers are given FEBC's solar or wind-up radios. On Facebook, Mien broadcasts go out live daily. Hmong Bible study happens three times a day via zoom. More content is also shared on YouTube, WeChat and other new media platforms, reaching 20 million. Through the support of FEBC supporters, FEBC also met the needs of many without food and other basic necessities during COVID, ministering God's love in a tangible way.

The operations are massive. The rewards are eternal.



Reaching the unreached ethnic groups with God's love. Pictured here: Lahu, Pale, Hmong and Kim Mun ethnic groups.



Multiple ethnic languages are broadcasted on shortwave from FEBC's Philippines facility to all across Southeast Asia and China.



## In the Heart Languages

How do you say "Jesus loves you" in the heart languages?

**Korean:** 예수님은 당신을 사랑합니다  
(Yesunim-eun dangsin-eul salanghabnida)

**Japanese:** イエスはあなたを愛しています  
(Yesu wa anata o aishite mas)

**Hmong:** Yexus Hlub Koj (Jesus lu kor)

**Arabic:** كبحي عوسي (Yasue yuhibuk)



Water baptism for Kim Mun listener.

"Thank you, teacher, for sending us the programs through WeChat regularly. Teacher, you really encouraged me a lot. My family is poor and we struggle. Yet the Lord invites us to part of His Kingdom. We live in X\*. In this area, there is not really a teacher that explains the Bible to us. We listen to you, teacher, and we are really happy." – Mien listener, Yunnan, China



Nahom listeners gather for online Bible study.

"I did not know about Jesus. I respect the spirits of our ancestors. Yet I like to listen to the radio program in our language. I kept listening regularly. People in the village were also listening. Later on, people started to accept Christ. My husband and I later accepted Christ."

– Mien listener, Vietnam

"97% of people in this village are believers because of FEBC Hmong Radio." – Hmong Church Leader, Luang Prabang, Laos

*\*Name changed for security reasons.*



Click here to access the demographics of the Mon people group.

## Heart-to-Heart

Karen W. first heard about the impact of FEBC from a lady in a weekly prayer meeting. "Often, she would describe the little, simple radios that can penetrate even the deepest, darkest borders, where feet on the ground can't go," Karen shared. Eventually, Karen was moved to support the work of FEBC as a monthly donor. "FEBC provides a path that I can use to send support out of God's own provision to us." Her advice? "Please, pray over FEBC, and give. A little bit from a lot of people adds up!"



Representative Image

## Let Them Hear

Every tribe, tongue and nation deserve to hear the Gospel. Together, let's let them hear.



**PRAY**

[febc.org.au/prayer-guide-sign-up/](https://febc.org.au/prayer-guide-sign-up/)



**GIVE**

[febc.org.au/2203-n-dg/](https://febc.org.au/2203-n-dg/)



**TELL**

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