

BMS World Mission - Transforming lives



The Douglas family are rejoicing - the wonderful latest news is that India has lifted the border blockage and trucks are now freely moving into Nepal. Praise the Lord, this is absolutely fantastic. It will obviously take time for the backlog to be cleared but there is now more gas, kerosene and fuel available (email 18th February).

Spring has started to show itself and the weather is warming up. They say it's lovely to shed the thermals and even think about getting the sandals out! The sports site at KISC has now been dismantled and much of the equipment is being stored in what will hopefully be the new School Site. Angus is overseeing plans for the new school, please Pray that this all comes together and a contract signed before they come on Home Assignment in May. They are finding it difficult to realize that they are coming to the end of their first four year term with BMS World Mission.

It's been a long hard winter, especially for those badly affected by the earthquakes and living in temporary shelter, and for the whole country as supplies were minimal due to the Indian blockade. Over 400,000 people lost their jobs, thousands of businesses had to close and most people had to do without heating, and cooking had to be done on open fires. It's been especially hard for the elderly and frail and in their Church Fellowship a number have died.

Helen shared about an elderly lady, she only knew her as Aunty, and she lived in their compound with her son and daughter in law. At 86 years old she had lived through two major earthquakes. She welcomed Helen to share in her Didi – bahini Bible Study Group sitting on the floor singing, praying and reading the Bible (Aunty had never learned to read or write). She was the only Christian in her Hindu family and was often isolated from family events. When her brother died last year she was unable to join in the family Puja ceremonies and rituals, so left to mourn him alone. She asked Helen why God hadn't taken her home yet; Helen encouraged her, said that she was still here to share the light and the Good News of Jesus with her family, but bless her she said "They just don't listen." Aunty died at the beginning of February, and Helen and Angus went to share with the family as they mourned. They were all frightened and scared, especially her grand-daughter, of what would happen to Aunty as she had not done the required Hindu Puja. They tried to encourage them with the Good News that Jesus said He would never turn away anyone who came to Him.

It has been a hard time for them as a family as they have shared in these hardships with their Nepalese neighbours, they are feeling weary and fatigued but they want to end this last term well. They ask for our Prayers for health and stamina for themselves and Caleb, Charis and Esther.

AIM International – Sharing Jesus in Africa.



News from the Tjiwana family has been 'mute' as Zeka describes it because of the slow or lack of internet they experience at Tsumkwe. They are praising the Lord as the remaining five TEAM Members arrived safely plus three little girls, Isabelle 5, Emma 3 and Alana 2. They are truly an International TEAM and have been warmly welcomed by The San People.

They have received very good and unexpected gifts for Christmas of solar panels from an anonymous donor. These were delivered by special friends who drove over 20 hours from South Africa to Tsumkwe. As a TEAM they shared an early Christmas lunch together as on Christmas day they went to celebrate with The San People in different villages; they have ALL now been given San names!

Zeka, Anita and the twins were in Windhoek at the end of January as he needed eye surgery; the rest of the TEAM went into Kenya for the ABO (Africa based orientation training course). This is the mandatory training that every full time missionary with AIM is required to attend on arrival in Africa. These orientations are helpful because they give a broader picture of what the missionary can expect as they begin life in Africa (Mary Bennett did this before she went to work in Rundu with AIM). Although Africans themselves Zeka and Anita attended an ABO in 2013 and learnt a lot about themselves and Africa!

Our Prayers must be that Zeka has made a good recovery and that they have all returned safely to Tsumkwe, and that God is equipping and using them; there are many massive opportunities but also lots of opposition from the enemy.

Rosemary Croft