

Front Cover

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Dear Praying Friends,

In our 28-year history, we have never had a *GPD* issue focusing on the East African country of Tanzania. Somehow I thought this was a miscellaneous country with a legacy of British colonialism. Though the Tanzanians have that legacy, they also carry a short-

lived legacy of German colonialism. If we trace their history still further back, we will see why there is so much Arab influence on Tanzania's east coast and islands like Zanzibar.

The British legacy left them with one redeeming thing: A strong church among most of the indigenous peoples. But the Muslim peoples who came during the days of Arab domination steered most of the peoples in the coastal regions towards Islam. These coastal peoples remain unreached along with the South Asian migrants. Pray for a complete harvest among every people in Tanzania!

For Christ's Kingdom,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Carey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Keith" and "Carey" being capitalized and prominent.

Keith Carey, managing editor, *GPD*

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Pray for a Fellowship For Every People in Tanzania



Tanzania's Past Does Not Need to Be Her Future

Tanzania is home to the famous Serengeti game reserve, Mount Kilimanjaro and three of Africa's best-known lakes. The Muslim islands of Zanzibar, Mafia and Pemba are separated from the mainland by a 22-mile wide channel of the Indian Ocean. With an astounding 140 different ethnic groupings, Tanzania's estimated population of 41 million has one of the greatest diversities of cultures in Africa. The official language is the East African trade language of Swahili, with English being used in business, administration and higher education. Arabic is predominantly spoken in Zanzibar, and there are still a number of Bantu-based languages used by ethnic groups. In mainland Tanzania, 35 percent of the people are Muslim, 30 percent Christian and 35 percent follow indigenous practices. Zanzibar and the other islands are over 99 percent Muslim. A small minority of Asian migrants follow Buddhism or Hinduism.

—By Dr. Patricia Depew

With an astounding 140 different ethnic groupings, Tanzania's estimated population of 41 million has one of the greatest diversities of cultures in Africa.

History

About 2000 years ago Bantu speaking people from western Africa began to arrive in a series of migrations. At least two of the country's tribes, the Sandawe and the Hadzabe, could claim to be the original people groups. The Sandawe are said to be the oldest of all Tanzania's ethnic groups. They speak a Bushman-like "click" language, and today they are cattle-owners and cultivators, having been influenced by neighboring tribes. The Hadzabes, however, remain hunter-gatherers, although they too are becoming absorbed into the lifestyles of those around them.

In 1525 the Portuguese began to control the entire coast, and this domination continued until the early 18th century when Arabs from Oman began to penetrate the region. The indigenous coastal dwellers, assisted by Omani Arabs, eventually drove the Portuguese out of the area. Omani Sultan Said developed trade routes that stretched as far as Lake Tanganyika and Central Africa.

In the 19th century, Zanzibar was east Africa's main slave-trading port with as many as 50,000 slaves passing through each year. In the mid 1800s, European explorers and colonialist began to

What is the Global Prayer Digest?

The *Global Prayer Digest* is a unique devotional booklet. Each day it gives a glimpse of what God is doing around the world and what still remains to be done. Daily prayer for that still-unfinished task is at the heart of the Adopt-A-People movement. Condensed missionary stories, biblical challenges, urgent reports, and exciting descriptions of unreached peoples provide a digest of rich fuel for your own times of prayer for the world.

Become a Daily World Christian

The *Global Prayer Digest* is a key tool in a movement to help fulfill Christ's commission to make disciples of all the peoples of the earth. This movement involves a daily discipline of learning, praying, and giving to help reach the world's nearly 10,000 unreached people groups. Unreached peoples are those groups which do not yet have a strong church in their own cultural and social setting.

Myanmar, Mothers and the Frontier Fellowship Movement

The Frontier Fellowship Movement is an adaptation of a custom among tribal Christians in Burma (now called Myanmar) and elsewhere. As the mother in each family prepares meals for her family, she sets aside a handful of rice in a special container, and prays for their church's missionaries to unreached people groups. Rice from families in the church is sold to support their frontier missionaries.

Loose Change Adds Up!

In adapting the Burma Plan to our culture, we have simply substituted loose change for rice and have added this educational and inspirational *Global Prayer Digest*. One person's loose change will average about \$100 per year exclusively for frontier missions! When the national goal of one million Adopt-A-People Prayer Partners is reached, that will mean \$100 million more per year for the frontiers!

Devotional Ideas

How can you make the most of this prayer digest:

- Some people use it as a supplement to their regular devotional time.
- Others enjoy reading and praying around the dinner table with the entire family.
- We encourage you to gather monthly with other Christ friends who are involved in this movement.
- Join the "Frontier Fellowship movement" (left), a version of the Burma Plan, to financially support frontier missions.

Every day at the top of the page you'll find the name of an unreached people group for which to pray. The small maps will help you locate the day's feature.

Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord.

Though the word “prosper” doesn’t always refer to material goods, that is one aspect of prosperity. Jesus told us that we should seek first His Kingdom and righteousness, and He will provide all that we need. Notice how Livingstone managed to rise above materialism, despite the poverty in which he grew up. Note how he understood that material goods had little value compared with the things of God. Livingstone definitely heeded the Lord’s instructions regarding wealth!

Pray that each of us will put wealth in it’s proper place so that we too can rise above the materialism of our cultures and commit first to the things of God.

Missionary Biography, David Livingstone

“I will place no value on anything I have or may possess except in relation to the Kingdom of God. If anything I have will advance that Kingdom, it shall be given away or kept only as by giving or keeping it I may advance the Kingdom of Him I love.” This principle David Livingstone followed all his life.

Livingstone was born to committed Christian parents in Scotland in 1813. During his youth, the family at first attended the Anglican Church, then changed to an independent chapel. Because of their poverty, David had to help support the family by working in a factory rather than getting the education he so desired. But with his first earnings he bought *Rudiments of Latin*, which he studied at night. In fact he devoured all the books he could get his hands on. His brilliant mind and insatiable thirst for knowledge often led him into the countryside in search of botanical, geological and zoological specimens.

When David was 20, he experienced the great spiritual change, which determined his future. After reading Dick’s *Philosophy of a Future State* he wrote, “... It is my desire to show my attachment to the cause of Him who died for me by devoting my life to His service.” He wanted to prepare for missionary service immediately. But his family needed help, so he delayed his education until he was 23 years old.

Pray for God to give perseverance to today’s potential missionaries.—AL

(Continued tomorrow)

Livingstone Biography, cont.

(Continued from yesterday)

In 1840, now 27 years of age, David Livingstone sailed for Africa to serve under the London Missionary Society. He was dismayed by the number of missionaries concentrated around the Cape, where he had been sent. Like Hudson Taylor later, he believed that missionaries should plant churches, train leaders, and then move on to new, unreached groups as soon as possible.

Livingstone identified with the Africans, living as they did and learning an African language. After two years he was eager to go into the interior as had his hero, Robert Moffat. He visited the Moffats. There he met Moffat's daughter, Mary, whom he married in 1845.

Livingstone loved to explore. He often went on excursions into unexplored regions of interior Africa, but his primary motive always was to bring Christ to new areas.

Unwilling to be separated from his family, he took them with him on his early journeys in spite of mosquitoes, fever and lack of potable water. After the Livingstones lost a child to an epidemic raging at the time of her birth, Livingstone reluctantly decided to send his family back to England.

With recruits from his favorite African tribe, the Makololos, he crossed the continent of Africa, exploring and preaching. His first-hand accounts of the barbarity of the slave trade stirred the conscience of the people back home and eventually helped bring about its demise.

Pray that efforts by today's missionaries will be used by God to end slavery and oppression in Sudan.—AL

(Continued tomorrow)

**Do not forsake wisdom,
and she will protect you;
love her, and she will watch
over you.**

One of the things that made David Livingstone so attractive to people around him was his wisdom. Here was a man who was courageous and bold, yet he was willing to offer his very life for the sake of the gospel. His willingness to confront the slave trade may have won him enemies, but it also came from a godly wisdom. A man with such heavenly wisdom is bound to attract people to His Master, Jesus Christ.

*Pray that you will have the
kind of wisdom it takes to
follow Christ no matter what
the cost.*

All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the Lord.

Part of what is difficult about frontier mission work is the motivation. There have been times in Church history when mission work was misused by people who used it to expand the political power of an empire. Certainly David Livingstone had mixed motives for spending 33 years exploring Africa's interior. What he did helped British colonial interests, but it also served to expand the gospel as he preached to tribes yet unreached.

Pray that today's missionaries will have innocent and pure motives as they reach out to the nations that have not yet heard that Christ came to save sinners. Pray that they will serve the redeemer of mankind first and foremost.

Livingstone Biography, cont.

(Continued from yesterday)

Hoping to have time with his family while on furlough in London in 1856, Livingstone found he was a national hero, in demand as a speaker everywhere. All too soon he returned to Africa, joined there by Mary once the children were all in school. But their time together was short; Mary died in 1861.

Lonely, Livingstone explored even deeper into the heart of Africa, preaching to the African chiefs wherever he went. For months on end, the world watched while Mr. Stanley, a New York reporter, searched for, and eventually found, the "lost Livingstone" far in the interior. Sometime later, on May 1, 1873, his faithful workers discovered Livingstone kneeling at his bedside, head buried in his hands. He had died in the act of prayer.

His body was buried at Westminster Abbey in London, but his heart remained in Africa, where he had given 33 years to exploration so that the gospel might come to all tribes.—AL from "*The Personal Life of David Livingstone*," by W. G. Blaikie, and "*From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya*," by Ruth A. Tucker, Zondervan, 1983.

Pray for today's African missionaries as they go to those most needing to hear the gospel.

Ndengereko People of Tanzania



A group of missionaries drove into a Ndengereko village in Tanzania. They got out of their jeep and people stared at the strange men. “We’re looking for Christians,” said one of the missionaries. “There are none here,” replied an old man. “Why don’t you try the next village?” The old man pointed down the dirt road. The missionaries returned to their jeep and drove down the road, past a mosque, as they left the village. In the

next village the missionaries did find a church, but it had been burned down. Nothing was left except a pile of rubble. The Christians that had worshipped here had been forced to flee into the bush.

Today the Ndengereko people of Tanzania are 98 percent Muslim. In recent years medical missionaries have led Ndengereko people to the Lord and started some small churches. Not too many years ago there were no followers of Christ among the Ndengerekos. Now these new believers face persecution. Missionaries have had problems maintaining contact with the people they had won to the Lord.

Ask God to break the hold that Islam and animism have on the Ndengereko people of Tanzania. Ask God to help missionaries relocate the people they had led to the Lord, so they can be taught Scripture and grow in faith. Pray for God’s Kingdom to grow within the hearts of Ndengereko leaders.—WK

The Lord works out everything for His own ends—even the wicked for a day of disaster.

We live in a fallen world. There are some, like Paul, who will respond to the Lord’s promptings. Perhaps some of the people who are persecuting Ndengereko believers fall into this category. But it’s also very possible that they aren’t. In such a case, they will face a day of disaster, just as David describes many times in the Psalms. Yet it is right to pray for our enemies, and those who are now the enemies of our Lord.

Pray for a holy fear of the true and Risen Lord among those who are persecuting believers.

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, “Come back later; I’ll give it tomorrow.”—When you now have it with you.

It’s both inspiring and challenging to hear of missionaries working among those dying of AIDS in Tanzania. Such people are acting out of the love Christ gave them for those dying of a dreaded disease. Notice that these workers are also bringing the eternal gospel to the Ndorde people. Such actions are pleasing to our loving Lord.

Pray that God will raise up many to regularly provide medicine and the life-changing gospel to the unreached peoples of Tanzania.

Ndorde People

Groups of young men hid in the bush in the most dangerous part of Tanzania, hoping lions wouldn’t find them. They had AIDS, but the disease was in its early stages. Off in the distance stood the huts of a Ndorde village. The men didn’t dare go anywhere near those huts. The Ndordes, like many other people groups of this region, cast out those who have AIDS. The men knew they would be beaten to death if they ever set foot in a village.

Then several missionaries got out of a nearby jeep and walked over to the young men. “We have medicines to heal your bodies. We know a man named Jesus who can heal your souls.” One by one the young men stepped out of their hiding places, figuring they had nothing to lose. No one had ever tried to help them before.

Like many people groups living on Tanzania’s Indian Ocean coast, the Ndordes are predominantly Muslim. Rampant immorality has made AIDS a serious problem for this people group. In recent years survey teams have gone from village to village to ask the Ndorde people about their health needs. Doctors have participated in the survey and are now gathering a database that missionaries will one day use to tell the Ndordes about Jesus Christ.

Pray that the Ndorde people will soon realize that only the Holy Spirit can give them the strength to resist sexual temptation. May the Great Physician one day be worshipped by many from among the Ndorde people.—WK

Zaramo People

Day 6

Proverbs 16:25

“Allah won’t mind,” thought the middle-aged father as he brought the sacrifice to the cave. He was from the Zaramo tribe of Tanzania, and his people had worshipped both Allah and a nature spirit named Kalero for generations. The man set the dead goat down at the entrance of the cave and started to walk back to the village. Believing that the spirit of Kalero often takes the form of blowing wind, he paused, hoping to feel this spiritual presence. Today there was no wind, so the man walked back to his hut disappointed that his sacrifice was rejected.

Although medical missionaries had won some members of the Zaramo groups to the Lord, there are many villages that have not yet heard that Jesus is the only true source of salvation. Less than one percent of the Zaramo people have come to a saving knowledge of Christ. The few who have are young in faith and still need to be taught the Bible. Only then will they be able to take the message of salvation to their own people.

Ask God to send missionaries to disciple the Zaramo believers who have recently accepted the Kingdom of God. May they be taught Scriptures and grow in faith. May Zaramo pastors and evangelists be raised up. Pray for the formation of strong churches among the Zaramos.—WK

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

Like the man we just read about, it’s too easy to think that God won’t pay any attention to our sin. The Zaramo people mistakenly believe that they can make offerings to fallen spirits, and it will escape the notice of the creator. After all, isn’t the creator too busy to notice? This way seems right to human reasoning, but it leads to spiritual death.

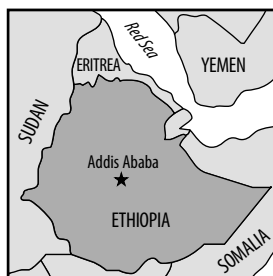
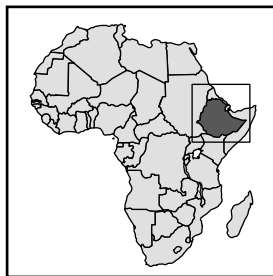
Pray that the Zaramo people will soon understand that they cannot trifle with the One who created them. Pray that they will embrace Christ’s work on the cross as payment for sin.

It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way.

Zeal is a good thing, but it is not enough. Notice that the Ethiopian had some kind of zeal, or at least some interest in God. But he knew so little. The TapeTalk helped bring him further along to having the knowledge of Christ that he needed. How many people are out there in places like Ethiopia and Tanzania who don't have access to the knowledge that Christ came to save sinners?

Pray for GRN workers as they attempt to take "gospel knowledge" to people still unreached.

Global Recordings Network Work in Ethiopia



Do you remember the account in the book of Acts about the Ethiopian Eunuch traveling home from Jerusalem? He encountered Philip who shared the good news with him. Almost exactly the same thing happened recently as reported by Global Recordings Network (GRN).

“A national missionary was walking down the road carrying his TapeTalk cassette player when a rider on a horse started walking beside him. The missionary, thinking this may be God’s appointment, started playing the GRN messages and then asked him if he would like to listen to the words on the player that were in his own language. The man listened intently and then said, “Will you come to my house? I want my family to hear this good news.” The missionary visited the home, and the man and his whole family accepted Christ, and a church now meets in their home.

Serving In Missions (SIM) is having wonderful success in Ethiopia, and due to their work there are now 4500 Word of Life Churches with 3,500,000 members. These churches are supporting 1000 itinerant traveling evangelists who carry with them the hand wind TapeTalk players made by GRN and sets of recordings in Ethiopian languages. Recordings are now in 90 of the languages and dialects of Ethiopia. So far only 50 of the 1000 traveling evangelists are equipped with recordings and players.

Pray that the other 950 men will soon be supplied through the local churches. Pray for these Word of Life Churches to continue to multiply.—JS

Swahili People

Swahili can refer to both an ethnic group and to Swahili-speaking people. It is one of Tanzania's official languages, but not all of its inhabitants are ethnic Swahilis. The name, Swahili, means coastal dwellers, and is the name given to several people groups along the east coast of Africa. Originally Swahilis were mainly composed of Bantu-speaking people, but because of their coastal dwellings and trade with people of the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, they have been influenced by, and in some cases, have intermarried with Arabic people.

Swahilis historically have been a merchant class, trading spices, slaves, ivory, gold, and grain. They are mainly urban dwellers who adhere to a literate, Islamic civilization. As coastal merchants, the Swahilis face toward Africa and toward Arabia and Asia. Their culture has observed very strict Muslim practices, especially with the seclusion of women and the religious schools for boys. However, the Swahilis have recently demonstrated an interest in Western culture. For instance, in addition to attending Islamic schools, most children also attend non-religious schools to acquire a Western-style education. Also, modern medicine is now replacing traditional folk remedies. Opening up to Western culture may provide an opportunity for Swahilis to hear the gospel message.

Pray that the Swahili Muslim culture will soon embrace the Savior. Pray for believing teachers and health professionals to set up schools and ministries among the Swahilis.—JS

“The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge; and the ears of the wise seek it out.”

The Swahili-speaking Muslims of East Africa have had some knowledge of a God of Creation for many centuries. However, they have always rejected the obvious that such a Holy God cannot allow sinful man into His kingdom. They have spent centuries living under the rules of Islam, hoping that their good deeds will outweigh their bad ones. Without Christ's payment for sin, they have no hope for forgiveness.

Pray that this year, Swahili Muslim leaders in Tanzania will discern that they must seek out the only Savior who can fill in the gap between Holy God and sinful man.

The Name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

There are many Jewish people who have given up on God because of what they suffered during the Holocaust. Such people don't believe that He is a reliable strong tower. But even these Jews would have to admit that God gave them a new home in Israel. The Jewish peoples in Tanzania and other parts of Africa know deep inside that the Lord is a strong tower, and they can run to Him for safety. Will they, like King Solomon, run to Him, or will they settle for the false safety of traditions?

Pray that the Jewish communities of Africa will find that the only strong tower is Jesus Christ.

Jewish People in Tanzania and South Africa

There are Jews in Africa, and they have demonstrated their historical resiliency; both adapting to the local culture, yet fiercely retaining their Jewish faith and customs. The immigration of Jews into South Africa began in the early 1800s when South Africa was given freedom of religious expression. The Jews have played a large part in the development of South African trade and industry. The South African Jews are affluent, well educated and have a strong pro-Israeli bent. Yet they have resisted accepting Jesus as their messiah, just like their counterparts in Tanzania.

There are only a few dozen Jews in Tanzania. The African Jewish Congress (AJC) helped the small community in Dar es Salaam come together for Rosh Hashana, a Jewish holiday, but they have never formed a minyan. In 2001 the AJC co-sponsored two Lubavitch rabbinical students to travel to Dar es Salaam where they organized the first Friday night service in at least 30 years in the city.

To be effective in witnessing to Jews, it is important that the gospel not be viewed as anti-Semitic, but rather as a fulfillment of the work of God promised Abraham centuries ago.

Pray for sensitive, loving Christians to work among the Jewish communities in Tanzania and South Africa. Pray that God will grant Jewish believers favor as they share their faith in the Messiah with their own people. Pray for Jesus to reveal Himself to Jewish leaders in Africa.—JS

Aramanik Bushmen In Tanzania

Imani sat beside her mother, feet stretched toward the raging campfire. Chanting and clapping while the village men danced around the women, Imani watched as the yellow-skinned men danced first in a clockwise, then counterclockwise direction. Faster and faster they danced, soon bending at the waist as their stomach muscles contracted and their noses started to bleed. Imani's mother whispered, "Now they are in the spirit world. They are pleading with the spirits for the healing of your brother." Imani recognized the dance from rock paintings in the areas surrounding their nomadic camps. She huddled closer to her mother and the hair on her back tingled.

The Aramanik Bushmen only number about 3200, but because of their wandering lifestyle, they have remained fairly pure in their heritage, customs and beliefs. Only lately has the modern world encroached upon them, causing territorial disputes and land problems with other people groups, especially the Maasai tribe.

Pray for a place that the Aramaniks can call their own where they won't be in continual dispute over land rights. Pray also that they be loosed from the bonds of their traditional beliefs and that God will call willing workers to bring them the good news. Pray for many believers to be harvested from the Aramanik people in Tanzania to one day offer their sacrifice of praise to the living God.—PE

The first to present his case seems right, till another comes forward and questions him.

Using human reasoning, this puts the frontier missionary at a great disadvantage. How can the missionary convince ancient peoples like the Bushmen that there is One worthy of their undivided devotion, who lived thousands of miles away 2,000 years ago? It's humanly impossible! But we rely on the Holy Spirit, the One who takes us beyond whatever is humanly impossible. With God all things are possible!

Pray today that the Holy Spirit will draw the unreached Bushmen beyond what they have always believed when they hear the Word of the Lord.

He who mocks the poor shows contempt for their maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished.

In regards to material wealth, the Bushmen tribes are among the poorest on the planet. Ironically, these people can live in places where no one else could survive. Never the less, there are those who will try to take their land. Many will take advantage of them as the Bushmen adapt to a new world that they don't understand.

Pray that God will be glorified by faithful believers who will help them adjust to the modern world.

Mosiro Bushmen

Taye squatted beside his father watching every move, for the next time they steamed the bees to take the honey it would be his job. There! – The prize is won! – Enough honey to last most of the year. Taye jumped and laughed with the men, looking forward to real honey instead of the maize they sometimes had to rely on now that other tribes were encroaching on their longstanding nomadic route.

The Mosiros are nearly the last group on the African Savanna who still make their living primarily by hunting and gathering. Taye's mother found some roots and melons while his brother brought back a rabbit for today's meal. It had been a while since they had camped at this point on their never-ending 25-mile circle of travels. Berries and nuts had begun to form on the vines and trees, so the next time they camp here there should be plenty to eat.

Pray for the 5,500 Mosiro Bushmen as they adapt to the difficult and confusing times in which they find themselves. Land disputes, shortages of former dietary staples and the modernization of Africa all place tremendous pressure on these people, recognized as a remnant of Africa's oldest cultural group. Pray that hard spiritual ground would be broken up and softened, that culturally sensitive missionaries would tell them about the Savior. Pray for the Mosiro people to be open to the love and lordship of Jesus.—PE

Digo People

“Tell me the story again, Papa.” All children begin to make sense of the world around them through stories, but for Digo children, storytelling is a lifeline to their past, provides understanding of the present and serves as a map for the future. With a rich oral tradition shared with other Digo tribes outside of Tanzania, stories are the primary way information as well as history is communicated.

This is of particular interest for those seeking to present Christ in primarily oral cultures. We are not only presenting information about a man from Nazareth and his teachings, but we are re-telling the “greatest story ever told.” Surely the Digo people might better understand their own history better by hearing where their people fit in the story of God.

Yet missionaries must proceed with caution. In a not too distant past, the Digos were forced to sell their children into slavery for temporary collateral or a loan of food during a famine. Freedom for these children could be granted, but with one condition: acceptance of Islam. As a result, many Digos practice a form of folk Islam, blending their traditional animist beliefs with a veneer of Islamic teachings. Missionaries would do well to note that this is a people rightly suspicious of help with strings attached.

Pray that the God who gives of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts (Rev. 21:6) is recognized, received and worshipped among the Digo people, with no other debt incurred than the debt of love (Rom. 13:10).—MB

Who can say, “I have kept my heart pure; I am clean and without sin”?

We have read today about why the unreached Digo people are suspicious of outsiders. They have been exploited and their children have been taken away. Outsiders from Muslim communities have offered them “help” if they accept Islam. It’s no surprise that the Digo people expect the same jaded behavior from Christian missionaries who come to them!

Pray for purity of heart and holiness of motive for missionaries working among the Digo people of Tanzania.

Barabaig Datooga People

Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

The Lord's purpose will prevail, but will it be His first, second, third, or fourth choice? It's very easy to allow our plans and ambitions to get in the way of what the Lord really wants for us. Do you have any "non-negotiables" that can get in the way of the Lord's first choice?

Pray that we will allow the Lord to be Lord over all aspects of our lives, so that His purpose will prevail. Not our wills, but His be done!

A nervous excitement ran through Nilo, a Barabaig youth. Today was the day he would become a man, by joining the hunt with warriors he had looked up to since childhood. To prove his manhood, he was to kill an "enemy of the people," which could be another person not from his people, or in his case, an animal dangerous to his tribe: the lion. Crouched behind the bush with his face low to the ground, he blended in with the earth perfectly by wearing the traditional reddish brown dress and beaded jewelry. With a sudden movement and a loud cry, the spear left his hand and his weapon found its mark. Today his strength and courage was proven to his peers and elders. Today Nilo became a man.

The Barabaigs, the largest sub-group of the Datooga, are nomadic cattle herders in addition to fierce warriors. In fact, they have so perfected the technique of migratory herding in search of pastures that, until recently, they supplied much of Tanzania's beef. They are also a people still living in darkness, seeking to appease the spirits of their ancestors by divination, witchcraft and sorcery. They do believe in one creator God, Aseeta, but think him cold, distant and impersonal. Yet might their belief in one God be a way the True and Living God has already placed the idea of eternity in their hearts?

Pray for missionaries to live among these people and tell them of their God who has already drawn near to them through His son, Jesus Christ.—MB

Kami People

Grant led the team of African medical workers through the Kami village in Tanzania where they were doing a health survey to see who needed medical care. People came out of their huts to take a look at the visitors. Grant knew he needed to win the trust of the mostly Muslim Kamis before he could tell them about Jesus Christ. Grant is a missionary working in a cross-denominational partnership with others among the Kami people.

Like many people groups in Tanzania, the Kamis suffer from a host of diseases ranging from malaria to AIDS. Doctors and hospitals are few and far between. In this part of the world, people often rely on unreliable traditional doctors. Help from qualified medical workers is welcome in Tanzania, one of the poorest countries in the world. More than 36 percent of the 37.5 million inhabitants live below the poverty line. AIDS is also having a tragic impact on the nation.

But God's Word is spreading quickly among the Kami people, with about 30 churches now planted among them. As churches are planted in villages, lives are being transformed by the power of Christ, and people are delivered from spiritual darkness. With providing medical care and new, fresh water wells, community transformation is occurring.

Pray that many of the Kamis will open their hearts to Jesus, the Great Physician who promises never to leave nor forsake them once they open their hearts to Him. He will not only keep them in this life, but throughout all eternity.—MH

A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

One of the key ways that believers glorify God is by showing genuine compassion for the poor and the suffering. When disaster strikes, it's the Christians who are most likely to respond. We don't do it to be "blessed," but to bring glory to Christ's Name. His Name is being blessed among the Kami people because of the work of medical missionaries. That is a good reason for giving thanks!

Thank the Lord for the work of these medical missionaries. Pray that such work will continue until faithful Kami believers join in the work of spreading His Name to surrounding nations.

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you.

This proverb, quoted by Jesus, shows us one of the things that makes God's Kingdom unique. In Christ's way of doing things, the believer is required to show mercy, compassion and generosity, even to his enemies. What a revolutionary idea! Such generosity can draw non-believers to Christ like words can never do.

Pray for faithful believers from among those that the Machingas consider to be "enemies" to shower them with kindness that will lead them to repentance.

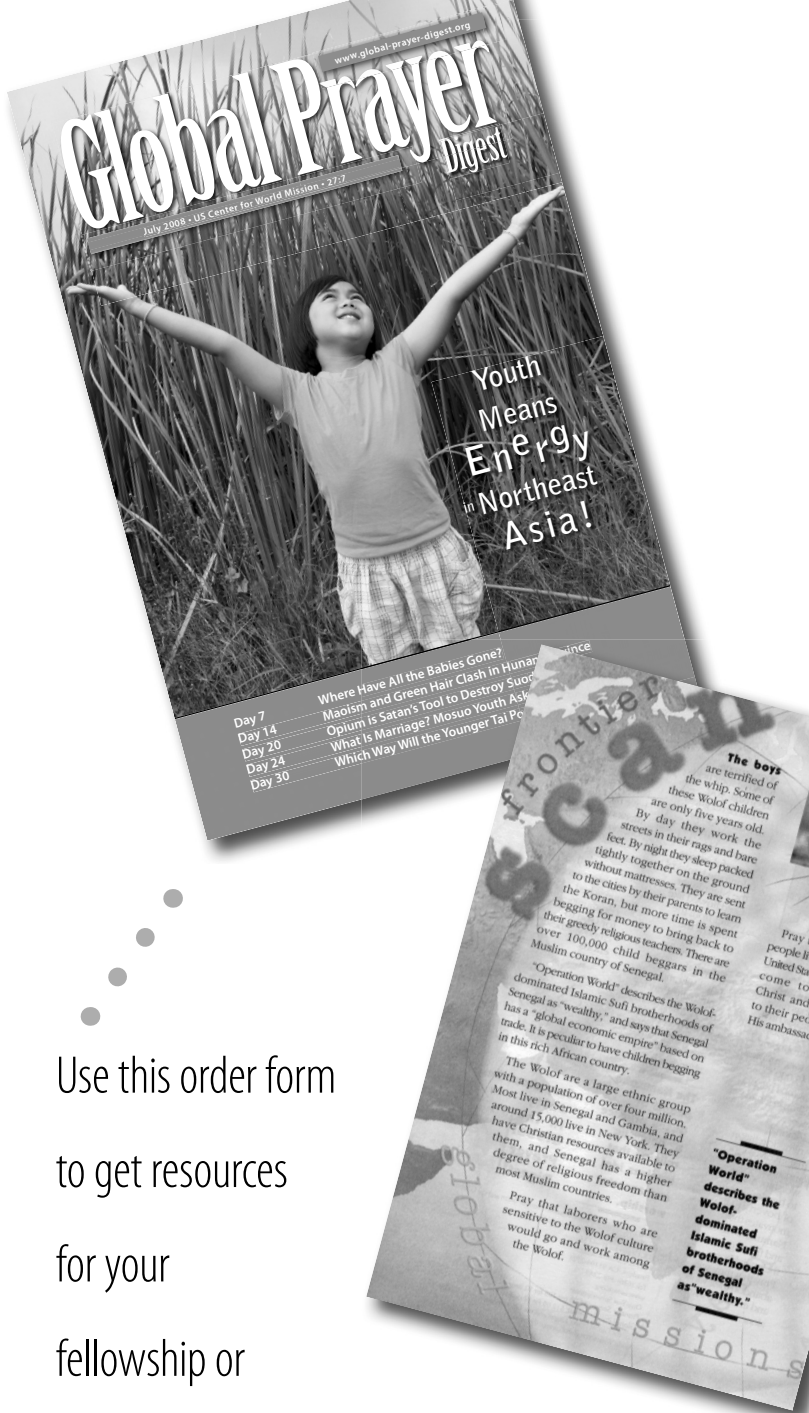
Machinga People

"I was in an old Land Rover, stalled out in the night on a hill in southern Tanzania. We had spent the day with the Machingas, an ethnic and linguistic people group on the Tanzanian coast on the southern Indian Ocean. These are a people who are less than one percent Christian, but we received some smiles and handshakes that said, "Thank you for the message of freedom you bring." But even now 99 percent of the Machingas do not understand there is a freedom in Christ that only He can give: freedom from sin." Thus commented a worker who went to the Machinga people.

The Machinga people are almost 100 percent Muslim, with little Christian witness. The economic liberalization of Tanzania in recent years has brought a rapid influx of imports to their area. These include second-hand clothes and items that have already opened new economic opportunities for the urban poor. The Machingas are street traders and hawkers who sell these imported goods.

There is a Christian witness among the Machingas, but pray that God's Word will be made available in both oral and written form in the Machinga language. Pray that God will embolden those who know Christ to lovingly share the gospel and encourage the timid and fearful. Pray that God will raise up long term medical workers and others who will build bridges of understanding, expressing God's love in tangible ways. Such ministries of compassion become those bridges by which God's love is shared and the people reached for Jesus.—MH

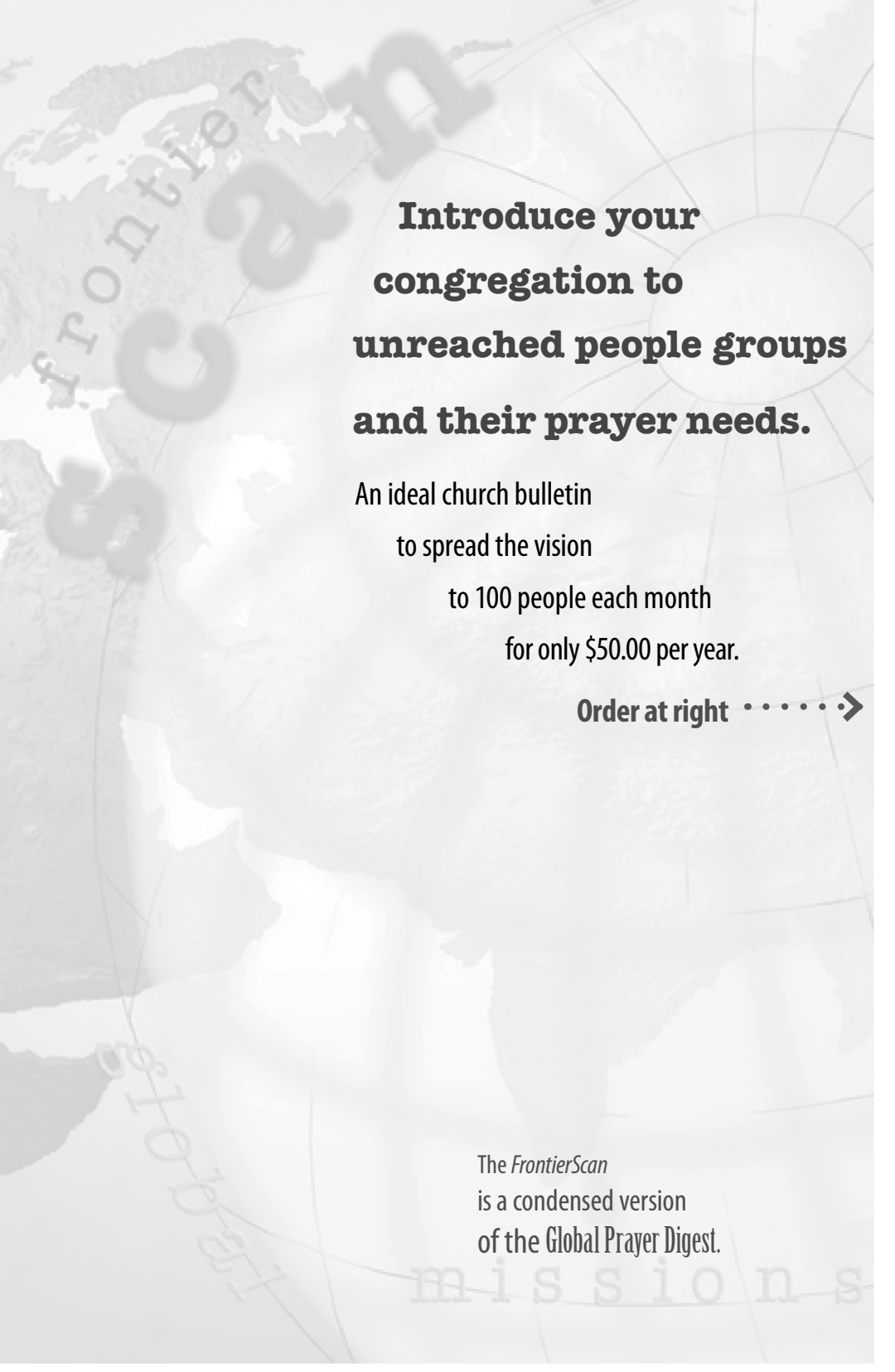
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Ngindo People

In centuries past, the peoples of Tanzania were subject to slavery and the international slave trade, due to their placement along the coast of the Indian Ocean. For many years, Tanzania was the poorest, most aid dependent country in Africa, thanks to forced relocation, government collectivization and so-called African Socialism.

Placed in the midst of these conditions, both past and present, are the Ngindo people, living in the coastal area south of the Rufiji River. Along with the poverty, the Ngindos have also dealt with malaria. A perennial malaria belt runs along the coast of Tanzania. In this area, malaria is the leading cause of death. In response to this plague, 47 health care facilities have been established in their coastal district to combat the effects. The greatest defense the Ngindo people have is the insecticide-treated net. These nets are in great demand.

There is also a serious spiritual need among the people. They are Muslim by profession, but quite often they will seek the aid of traditional animistic healers. There has been some church-planting work carried out among them, but it was stopped a couple of years ago.

Pray that God would burden His people to start new works among the Ngindo people, especially in the area of health care. Pray that greater, more effective efforts would be carried out to combat poverty and malaria by those who want to see Christ's Name glorified among the nations.—JR

“Rescue those being led away to death. . . . If you say, ‘But we knew nothing about this,’ does not He who weighs the heart perceive it?”

For centuries, the peoples of Tanzania were being led away to slavery, first by Muslim Arabs, and later by “Christian” Portuguese. With this kind of “ambassadors” for Christ, it’s no wonder that many of the peoples of Tanzania won’t give Christ a chance.

Pray that God will raise up believers who will be freely used of God to set the captives free from sin by introducing them to Christ. Pray specifically for Christ’s ambassadors to go to the Ngindo people.

Better is open rebuke than hidden love.

Has God ever rebuked you? We all have had this unpleasant experience. He warns even the best of His servants, like Peter, a fisherman who had the constant taste of leather in his mouth. God may rebuke us through His Word, or through His servants, but there is a reason for it: He loves us!

Pray that when Christian teachers rebuke or scold Rufiji children, that they will do so in love and help them grow towards Christ.

Rufiji People

The largest mangrove field in the world, according to wikipedia.com, is found at the delta of the Rufiji River in Tanzania. The banks of the 375-mile long river are home to the Rufiji people. Their homes are constructed simply, many with mud walls, others built conventionally with concrete blocks. In the flood valleys, homes are built on stilts.

Most Rufijis make their living by farming along the river and taking advantage of the flood seasons. Families will be separated for up to four months a year in order to plant and harvest the crops. Mangoes, oranges, pineapples, papaya, and jackfruit are grown typically and make up a majority of their diet.

Education is available for grades 1-7 throughout the villages. Beyond this level, there are regional secondary schools and a technical school located elsewhere in Tanzania.

Spiritually, the Rufiji people are entirely Muslim, with the mosque serving as the center of their daily lives and spiritual activities. The village imam quite often serves also as the elected village chairman. Significantly, though, many of the teachers in the primary schools are non-Rufiji and are Christian. There are several churches along the main road, but most attendees are from other parts of Tanzania.

Pray that those involved with these churches and schools will form significant friendships with the Rufijis. Pray that God would use the schoolteachers to reach Rufiji students for Christ. Pray that more of God's people would be stirred to go to the Rufiji people.—JR

Segeju People

Elih, an old Segeju man, sits cross-legged in the shade of a palm tree. His eyes half-closed, he drums his gnarled hands on his bony knees. Elih is tapping out a rhythm only he can remember. Two young men walking by roll their eyes and shake their heads. Elih is the only elder who can still remember the rhythms he used to hear at weddings and funerals. He remembers the old days when his people were the best drum makers and the most skilled drummers in the country. Today the art of drum making is lost. The men of the village now spend their time fishing, selling fish and building fishing boats. Times have changed.

Elih's grandchildren barely understand the Segeju language. They learn their school lessons in Swahili, a trade language used throughout East Africa. Their heart language is passing from use and is even threatened with extinction. It has no written form, and so Eli's people's history has never been recorded.

One thing hasn't changed in generations: their religion. They are virtually all Sunni Muslims. They have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pray for brave believers to settle quietly among the Segeju people in northeast Tanzania. Pray that God would enable the missionaries to learn the language and create Christian recordings and radio broadcasts for these lost people. Radio broadcasts can reach areas inaccessible to Christians.—JWS

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

This verse is like the gospel message in one sentence.

The only way to be forgiven is to confess and renounce our sins. Unreached nations like the Segejus must either deny sin exists or cover them up with rituals or good works. Shouldn't they know the truth, so that it can set them free?

Pray for the Holy Spirit to go before missionaries among the unreached Segeju people so that they can understand that they need to confess and renounce their sins against the Almighty One.

Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public square?

Though the context of this proverb is faithfulness to one's wife, it's an excellent analogy that water-needy peoples like the Sonjos can understand. Like many other peoples who must conserve this precious resource, the Sonjos can understand from this proverb why it's so important to remain faithful in marriage. By extension, they can also understand how unfaithfulness in marriage has parallels with unfaithfulness to the One True God.

Pray that the Sonjo people will soon understand how crucial it is to be faithful to the God who created them.

Sonjo People

For centuries, thousands of Sonjo people have farmed the same area of land in northeast Tanzania. How do they manage to produce crops year after year from the same land with unreliable rainfall? They rotate the crops, they allow fields to rest on alternate years, and they carefully manage their small amount of annual rainfall with a primitive but effective irrigation system.

The Sonjo people view rainfall as the overflow from a heavenly irrigation system; they consider natural springs sacred. Proof lies in the predictability of their flow. Springs have never been known to fail and are thus conceived of in a different category from unpredictable blessings such as rain or health. Farmers voluntarily join together to repair and maintain the irrigation system after the annual flood season. Maintenance of the system requires no sophisticated tools, spare parts or great sums of money. Their dependence on irrigation creates unity of purpose and helps to preserve their traditional way of life.

They practice forms of folk religion, primarily animism. Christian missions have worked among the Sonjo people for 60 years. Despite their efforts, few have put their trust in Jesus. Intent upon preserving their traditional way of life, the Sonjos have simply merged elements of Christianity into their folk religion.

Pray that spiritual seeds planted by earlier missionaries will be watered by a new generation of culturally-sensitive workers, and that the Sonjo people will grow to know, love and obey Jesus Christ.—JWS

Outreach in Tanzania

Day 20

Proverbs 25:25

By praying today, you can help mission minded churches and pastors in Tanzania to network with one another, equip them to do research on the local unreached people groups, send, evangelize, plant churches, and make disciples.

As you read this, there are committed believers in that country that are saying, “I’m ready for outreach!” Last May, some of these people went on a medical outreach to the animistic Sonjo people. Many of the Sonjo people said that they wanted to receive Jesus, and they knew His message was truth.

One Sonjo woman was eager to accept His lordship, but her husband was reluctant at first. As often happens in the developing world, people take great risks if they make such life changing decisions without the approval of family leaders. Her husband surrendered to Jesus a couple of days later. Now the door is open to Christ in their family.

One of the traditional enemies of the Sonjo people is the Maasai tribe, a group that has had a strong church for many years. Within the last two years, two Maasai pastors committed to taking the gospel to the Sonjos.

Pray for pastors Elijah and Robert to have God’s anointing in this effort. Pray for God to empower and protect Tanzanian missionaries, and give them the tenacity to fulfill their tasks. Pray for the Holy Spirit to move in the hearts of Sonjo elders so that they will accept Christ’s ways for their people.—KC

Like cold water to a weary soul is good news from a distant land.

As mentioned in yesterday’s reading, the Sonjo people must be careful to conserve their water supply for their farms. They understand the value of good, clean water. Outsiders are taking the “water of life” to these people, and some of these outsiders are from the hostile Maasai tribe. Thank God that He moves in mysterious ways!

Pray for the Sonjo people to be receptive to Maasai pastors who are committed to bringing them the good news of Christ, the water of life.

“(God) has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.”

Author Don Richardson has employed the phrase “eternity in their hearts” as the title of his thrilling account of God’s redemptive activity among the peoples of the earth.

Richardson has discovered evidence of the knowledge of the One True Creator God in the ancient stories and legends of people groups from every continent on earth. Yet these stories, and the yearnings for eternal truth they express, are not sufficient to lead men and women to saving faith in Jesus Christ. “How can they hear without a preacher?”

Paul asks. “And how can they preach except they be sent?”

Pray that the Lord will raise up and send those who will go to the lost in Tanzania, just as he did in the early days of the Africa Inland Mission.

Africa Inland Mission (AIM) Work

In 1895, Peter Cameron Scott arrived on the coast of East Africa with a team of four men. His goal was to set up a string of mission stations that would stretch across the continent and eventually reach every unreached people group in inland Africa with the gospel. It was a seemingly impossible goal given the primitive conditions and the fact that Scott and his team were on foot. But he believed God could accomplish the impossible.

One year later, he died of black water fever and the number of missionaries on the team dwindled to one. It was at that point that God accomplished what only God can do. From that tiny, nearly aborted beginning, God gave birth to Africa Inland Mission (AIM). Today, AIM has nearly 800 missionaries in 14 African nations. More than four million people worship in churches planted by AIM.

In Tanzania, there are still 33 people groups waiting to hear the good news, according to the Joshua Project. AIM is dedicated to reaching those groups and planting Christ-centered churches among all African peoples.

Pray for God to continue doing the impossible through the AIM missionaries serving in Tanzania. Ask Him to equip them to faithfully seek out every unreached village and people group still waiting to hear that Jesus Christ has conquered sin and death. Pray for the realization of the AIM goal to establish His church among all African peoples.—CL

Serving In Mission (SIM) Work

Serving in Mission (SIM) has a simple motto: “By prayer.” It is by prayer that the organization began in 1893.

That was the year Walter Gowans, Rowland Bingham and Thomas Kent arrived in Logos, Nigeria. Their intention was to “evangelize the ‘Soudan’ region of Africa.” Despite much prayer, Gowans and Kent quickly died of malaria. Bingham went home, regrouped, and returned, only to contract malaria. He did, however, manage to send a third team that planted a base in 1902.

What took nine long years, untold hours of prayer, and the lives of several missionaries to establish has since mushroomed under the power of God’s Spirit. Today, SIM has 1800 missionaries from 37 nations serving in 43 nations on five continents.

In Tanzania, SIM is targeting nine of the unreached groups living in the south. After centuries of Christian work in Africa, there remain people who have not heard or responded to the gospel. Many people groups continue to be steeped in spiritism, animism or Islam. Some practice a combination of all three. But by prayer, this will soon change!

Pray for SIM’s work in southern Tanzania. Ask God to give them new methods for rescuing those who are still imprisoned in the dominion of darkness. Pray for Holy Spirit filled indigenous leaders to be raised up to help plant churches. Pray for the Christians of Tanzania to be given a heart and passion for reaching their unreached countrymen with the good news of Jesus Christ.—CL

There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins.

This is politically incorrect, but so very true! Despite what “religions” teach, all of humanity is sinful by nature. It’s as natural for us to sin as it is for us to breathe. We cannot ever completely stop sinning, but we can be forgiven. The missionaries that will be sent out by Serving In Mission will be proclaiming the bad news that we need a savior because of our sins, and the good news that there is a savior who paid for our sins and nailed them on a cross. What good news that is!

Pray for God to anoint SIM missionaries to preach this crucial message to every people group to whom He sends them.

Somalis in Tanzania

“Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but blessed is he who keeps the law.”

Where there is no revelation of God’s law, people cast off the restraints that govern social behavior. Where God’s Word and Christ’s Church are not resident, the uninhibited forces of sin and selfishness ravage peoples and societies, like they are among the Somalis. But where messengers of good news have come to proclaim and demonstrate the way of love, and where men and women have congregated in believing fellowships, salt and light combat the decay and darkness.

Pray for His holiness to prevail among the spiritually-needy Somalis in Tanzania. Pray for the unreached Somalis to be drawn to His revelation, so that sin will be cast off, and they may be set free to obey Him.

It was a quiet evening. The Somali families’ herds were now settled near a new grazing land in northern Tanzania. The youngest daughter noticed a tall man approaching their home. She watched her father cautiously walk toward the man.

The little girl’s father returned and told his three wives along with their children to go and sit under the nearby tree. He had agreed to watch the story of a man named Jesus. The little girl sat down and watched the story with wide eyes. Jesus was speaking in the Somali language!

Near the end of the story Jesus was nailed to a wooden cross. He was lifted up, bleeding, left to die. The little girl began to sob. At this point her father abruptly got up, brushed off his clothes and commanded his family to return to their home. As they walked away, the little girl turned back and saw her father waving his finger at the tall man. She heard him yelling, “Do not bring this story of Jesus to my family again! We believe only in Islam. This is trickery!”

Pray for the Holy Spirit to begin to touch the heart of the Somali people in northern Tanzania as they watch the JESUS Film. Pray that their elders will understand that following Him will mean taking the opportunity to trade in their tragic lives for ones that are lived to “the full.”—NW

Comorians in Tanzania

The Comorian woman lay quietly in her Tanzanian home. A deep excruciating pain pulsed through every fiber of her body. AIDS was taking its toll. She looked toward the corner of the room and saw tears falling down the cheeks of her five-year-old son. He was rocking back and forth holding his stomach. The unhealthy water they were drinking was weakening him. The Comorian mother cried; she was too weak in her sickness to hold him. Even if she had the strength to hold him, there was nothing she could do. The village they lived in had no health facilities and no clean water.

As the mother drifted in and out of sleep, she remembered a story. Not long ago her friend Fauna had visited. Fauna told her about people called missionaries. These people came to Fauna's country to help them with food and medical treatment. They taught them how to get clean water. They prayed for them when they were sick, and they got better. These missionaries shared the story of Jesus, the son of God who wanted all people to commit their lives to Him. As the Comorian woman fell into a deep sleep, she hoped that missionaries would one day come to her village.

Pray for missionaries to minister God's grace to Comorians who live in Tanzania, and also those living in their homeland, the Comoro Islands.—NW

I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

Can you imagine going through life with this mindset? Everything is meaningless! Most people throughout history have lived and died with little or no purpose other than to survive sickness and destruction. Doesn't our loving Heavenly Father want more for us? He certainly does! You have found the most important purpose of all, to glorify His Name and to expand His Kingdom. Shouldn't the Comorians know of and embrace this message?

Pray that soon the Comorians will find their purpose in Jesus Christ.

Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot wash it away. If one were to give all the wealth of his house for love, it would be utterly scorned.

This book of the Bible not only gives a verbal description of the intensity of love, but it explains the value of it. The love that one has for their spouse pales by comparison with the priceless love that God has for humanity. Yet most people, including the noble Bahais, go through their entire lives not knowing about His unique and unfathomable love.

Pray for the Bahais in Tanzania to embrace His love. Pray that soon they will use the gifts God has given them to bless the nations and extend His kingdom.

Bahais in Tanzania

Tanzanian culture stresses education for boys, but not for girls. There are, however, those who rise above the culture. Sohaila Loftus, a representative of the religious community that founded the Ruha secondary school for girls stated their purpose: It is essential for the child to interact face to face with an educated, intelligent, loving, caring mother who will give this child the moral and spiritual grounding he/she needs in order to grow into an effective adult.” These caring leaders founded the school in 1986, and now educate some 400 girls. They have also provided funding for a health outreach project and a printing operation in Zaire that produces low-cost educational materials.

Who then are these caring ones who are concerned about the “moral and religious grounding” that children need? They are the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais of Tanzania.

What is their view of “spiritual grounding?” They claim to honor Jesus. However, they also honor their founder, Baha’u’lla’, Abraham, Krishna, Moses, Zoroaster, Buddha, and Mohammed. Do these eight shepherds all guide the flock to one heavenly pasture? No! Jesus said, “I am the gate for the sheep. All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved” (John 10:7-9 NIV).

Pray that the Bahais in Tanzania will find the One true shepherd, Jesus Christ.—CH

Gujarati People in Tanzania

Sujana left Mumbai, India for the first time at age 25. Fresh out of university, she arrived in Dar es Salaam, eager for her first “real” job. But along with the excitement came worry about learning a new culture and becoming acquainted with new foods. She need not have worried. She joins a community of almost 300,000 where all her Gujarati customs continue.

The Gujarati people, whether Hindu or Muslim, pride themselves in their industry and ambition. Importing and exporting over the centuries has led them to many varied regions. Today they find home-like communities literally around the world. With the shores of eastern Africa lying directly across the Indian Ocean, this business-oriented ethnic group arrived and settled here before Vasco da Gama arrived 500 years ago. They came in enough numbers that their culture remains significantly similar to their homeland of South Asia.

Most Gujaratis practice Hinduism. With their Diaspora, they have built Hindu temples, including one in Tanzania. However, it should be noted that Hindus do not need a temple to worship their gods. They can create a shrine right in their home. It should also be noted that though many Christian ministries exist in eastern Africa, there are few if any missionaries working among South Asians in Tanzania.

Pray that God will call Indian expatriates to bring the message of Christ to the Gujaratis. Pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal the Christ of all nations to the Gujaratis of Tanzania.—GC

“‘Meaningless! Meaningless!’ says the Teacher. ‘Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless!’”

If anyone could ever affirm the truth of this statement, it was the author, Solomon, King of Israel. He had it all—power, wealth, honor, glory, wisdom, and a large family. Yet he proclaimed it all worthless. Why? Solomon had forfeited the enjoyment of God’s blessings by his disobedience. Even though he was used of God to bless the Queen of Sheba, Solomon encumbered God’s plan to bless “all the families of the world” because of his sin of idolatry. With the channel of blessing diverted to personal pleasure, Solomon evaluated life as vain empty, and futile.

Pray that the Gujaratis in Tanzania will learn from King Solomon, turn from their idolatry and materialism, and seek first the Kingdom and His righteousness.

I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that men will revere Him.

Though the Memon peoples understand that God controls eternity, they also hope to see better days ahead. They abandoned the fatalistic thinking of many of their neighbors and helped to bring about greater freedom and prosperity both in their native India and also in their adopted Tanzania. It is all too easy for such capable people to forget that they have a purpose that goes far beyond satisfying their needs.

Pray that the Memons in Tanzania will soon abandon their relatively small ambitions and embrace the task of advancing His Kingdom.

Kachchi Memons in Tanzania



“We always strive for freedom.” This could be the motto for the Kachchi Memon people group. They taught Gandhi the principle of non-violent resistance, which indirectly led to overthrowing British rule in South Asia. As Pakistan became its own country, Muslim Memons struggled to build their indus-

try and economy. Meanwhile their kinsmen along the shore of eastern Africa followed suit. Colonial rule in Africa faced a similar foe, namely Memons yearning for freedom. The struggle in Tanganyika and Zanzibar led to independence and then the merger of the two, forming Tanzania in 1964.

All the while, Indian businessmen and industrialists, including Memons, formed the backbone of the Tanzanian economy. In the colonial era their presence in the business community went unnoticed at first. As long as their endeavors remained small, they posed no threat to colonial enterprises in the 1800s. But as these enterprises grew, colonial attitudes shifted. Threats and intimidation grew. Throughout the 1900s, justice progressed. Often Memon businessmen led the way.

Though the Memons once were divided between Hindus and Muslims, most of them now practice Islam. Few if any have found freedom from sin in Christ.

Pray that freedom seekers will find the freedom that comes from Christ. Pray that the Holy Spirit will draw leaders from the hunger for material goods to a hunger for righteousness.—GC

Hindi Speakers in Tanzania

Generally speaking a Hindi speaker equals a Hindu practitioner. Hinduism is more a lifestyle than a religion. We in Western society tend to view religion as an optional component of society. The Hindu sees the two as inseparably interwoven. What he eats, where and how he eats; what he wears; how he speaks and acts—all reflect his Hindu worldview. To a greater or lesser degree this can be said of any Hindu anywhere. And as magnificent, breathtaking Hindu temples rise around the world, the Hindu finds it increasingly easy to practice his lifestyle/religion anywhere.

This certainly proves true in Tanzania. While the Joshua Project lists only 42,660 Hindi speakers in Tanzania, there are about 300,000 Hindus in Tanzania, according to *Operation World*. Not all Hindus speak Hindi.

In Tanzania, a country with a long history of Christian contact, we find 300,000 Hindus who believe in a pantheon of gods. This is a growing community with no targeted outreach. Here is a group who believes that their gods demand sacrifices and offerings to appease them.

Pray that followers of Christ in Tanzania will recognize the mission field at their doorstep and act upon it. Pray that the Holy Spirit will create a hunger and thirst for the One who has already paid the sacrifice and has given the offering to reconcile us to God.—GC

Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

All over the world, there are people like the Hindus who fear gods and keep their commandments. They know very little about the only One who has the right by way of creation, to expect obedience. Billions of people have wasted their lives by obeying gods that aren't God. Don't we owe them a chance to know and embrace the only One who has the right to command them?

Pray that missionaries will find those among the Hindi speakers of Tanzania who fear God, and are willing to join His Kingdom.

Arabs in Tanzania

O daughters of Jerusalem,
I charge you—if you find
my lover, what will you tell
him? Tell him I am faint
with love.

Can you even imagine being
“faint” with love for the Lord?
Wouldn't this be the ultimate
experience, to love Him so
much that you cannot contain
yourself? Do we love the Lord
Jesus Christ, our heavenly
bridegroom, with the passion
and purity of the love this
bride has for her husband?
Do we truly regard His love as
the most precious of all forms
of pleasure and satisfaction?
Do we honor His longing for
a bride who is both beautiful
and complete?

*Pray that the Muslim Arabs
in Tanzania will become so
“faint with love” for Jesus
that they will not be able to
contain themselves, but will
proclaim His Name to Arabs
everywhere.*



Create International

Arab Man

The descendants of Ishmael, Abraham's first-born son, believe they are God's chosen people. The Qu'ran teach-

es it. Yet Ishmael came from a human endeavor to “help” God, rather than from faith. Isaac came from God's supernatural power, and God chose to send the Messiah through Isaac's line. However, God still loves the Arabs and invites them to receive salvation through this Messiah.

Today, the Arab cultures vary considerably, though some things remain common even among Diaspora Arabs. For example, names are very important to an Arab. An Arabic child receives three names, which females retain after marriage. The first is a religious name (for example, Mohammed or Khadeeja), the second is their father's name (ibn Abdul), and the third is the town where they live (al Arusha).

Early in the seventh century, Mohammed taught Islamic tenets to the Arab people. Though there are Christian Arabs in other parts of the world, Arabic people who have migrated to Tanzania are 98% Muslim, and most identify being Arab with being Muslim. These deeply entrenched beliefs will not change easily. The Holy Spirit must supernaturally touch the Muslim Arabs who live in Tanzania. Let us pray fervently for their salvation.

Pray that God will soften the hearts of Arabs in Tanzania and that followers of Christ will display His love to them. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to them as the only way to God.—AK

Chinese in Tanzania

Pride! We all struggle with it. Pride turned an angel into the devil. Pride caused the fall of Adam and Eve.

The Han Chinese are proud people. They believe their culture is superior to all others. That deeply ingrained worldview causes them to retain their Chinese customs, foods and language even among their people who have lived in Tanzania for many generations. They value education and put it to good use, seizing opportunities most Tanzanians ignore. Their industrious nature makes them successful entrepreneurs. Nationals envy them. Yet, temporal achievements will not earn eternal life for the Han Chinese.

Disputes are difficult, because “saving face” is a high priority. Therefore, they seek harmony and look to religions that promise peace. The traditional Chinese religion blends many philosophies, such as Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism. They also practice ancestor worship and maintain various superstitions. Though the Bible is available in their Mandarin language, few Chinese in Tanzania have placed their trust in the work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Prayer can rip the blinders from their eyes, so that they see their need of a Savior.

Pray that pride will not keep the Tanzanian Chinese people from the Savior. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the Truth to them. Pray that Christians will display peace that passes understanding. May our Lord raise up strong local churches among the Diaspora Han Chinese.—AK

When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Let's face it; the Chinese in Tanzania have a lot for which to be proud. They are among the best businessmen in the country, and many have become rich. But any culture is on the wrong track when they fall into pride. Traditional Chinese religion does not focus on the God of creation; and thus they have no way to measure how small they are compared to Him. The tragic results, according to this proverb, is disgrace, something the Chinese avoid at all cost.

Pray that the Chinese in Tanzania will soon gain the humility and wisdom to focus their spirituality on the One who created them.

I am my lover's and my lover is mine.

When we gaze upon the beauty of our Savior, who loves us with an everlasting love, the significance of Solomon's words comes home to us: He is ours and we are His. He claimed us as His "bride" before we claimed Him as our "groom." We did not choose Him, but He chose us and loved us, and then set us free to love Him in return. His love has overcome the resistance of thousands of people groups throughout human history. He is persistent in His desire to have some from every nation willingly join His kingdom.

Pray that this very year, some from the Shirazi people will respond to our Savior's tenacious love and willingly join themselves to Him.

Muslim Shirazi People

It was the year 975, and a Persian prince had a dream that would change the course of Tanzanian history. In the dream, a giant rat with jaws of iron was devouring the foundation of his palace. His interpretation? Evil was about to destroy him, and it was time to move on! Together with his family and close associates, Prince Ali ben Sultan Hasan hastily attempted to navigate their escape through a violent storm. The effort resulted in seven boats landing in seven different locations, one of which was Zanzibar and another Tumbatu, two islands off the coast of modern Tanzania. Life surely would have been easier had the prince not eaten too much baklava!

These Persian settlers were the progeny of the Muslim Shirazi people. Their troubles were far from over. They were attacked some time in the 1300s, and all that was left were ruins. But these resilient people survived, and today there are 613,000 of them in Tanzania. They still practice Islam. Only about one in 1,000 of them have put their faith in Christ.

Pray for a movement of the Holy Spirit in Zanzibar and other Muslim regions of Tanzania that will lead the Shirazis and other Islamic ethnic groups to put their faith in Christ alone. Pray that Shirazi leaders will have dreams and visions that will inspire them to seek out and embrace Jesus as lord.—KC

penetrate that area. They named the mainland “Tanganyika” referring to the eastern country around the lake. One of these explorers was David Livingstone, (1813–1873) a Scottish Congregationalist pioneer medical missionary sent by the London Missionary Society. Livingstone made geographical discoveries for European knowledge. He inspired abolitionists of the slave trade. He estimated that 80,000 Africans died each year before ever reaching the slave markets of Zanzibar. He opened up central Africa to missionaries who initiated education and health care for Africans. African chiefs and local people held him in high esteem. Sir Henry Stanley wrote a detailed book about his experience with Livingstone.

In 1885, Germany established a protectorate that was named German East Africa. In 1905, the nationals rebelled against the Germans in what was named the Maji Maji Rebellion. This was followed with improved programs in education and medicine. After the WWI defeat of Germany in 1918, German East Africa was divided. England received Tanganyika. The country became independent in 1961 and Zanzibar soon followed in 1963. In 1964 these countries combined to form the United Republic of Tanzania. Julius Nyerere, a devote Catholic, was elected president, and he served until 1985. He transformed the country through numerous reforms. He promoted Christian teaching and attempted to suppress Islamic activity. One famous quote of his was, “A nation which refuses to learn from foreign cultures is nothing but a nation of idiots and lunatics, [but] to learn from other cultures does not mean we should abandon our own.” Tanzania’s current president is Jakaya Kikwete, a Muslim who desires unity among Christians and Muslims. Zanzibar was granted a constitutional right to maintain its own President, First Minister, Cabinet and House of Representatives. They have Islamic courts that handle Muslim family matters.

Tanzania’s Economy

Poverty is a serious problem and Tanzania is struggling to meet its developmental goals. However, this country once nicknamed the ‘man-eat-nothing’ society by its east African neighbors has still outperformed both Kenya and Uganda in its economic progress.

Agriculture provides more than 60 percent of its GNP and 80 percent of its employment. Most export earnings come from coffee, tea, cotton, cashews, cloves, and insect repellants. The supply of milk

Poverty is a serious problem and Tanzania is struggling to meet its developmental goals.

products has increased because some farmers are crossbreeding Tanzanian goats (which before only provided meat) with Norwegian dairy goats. Industries such as tourism and the manufacturing of cotton cloth had been doing fairly well until the current global downturn. Drought and poor management of their hydroelectric dams have crippled the economy. In 2008, several wind turbines (a machine which converts wind into electrical energy) were set up by the Wind East Africa company as an experiment. This is proving hopeful for improving Tanzania's energy needs.

Using small loans, some women have been able to succeed in small businesses. Tanzania opened an all-women's bank on July 28, 2009, making them the first country in Africa to do so. In the first month, over 500 women opened accounts. (<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908101173.html>) It has been difficult for women to handle business transactions and this is providing the support they need. Many children work in Tanzania's mines, enduring appalling conditions. World Vision has started a program that is helping these children and others.

Current Challenges

Tanzania has 548,000 refugees, Africa's largest number. Most of these refugees are from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Almost two-thirds of them reside in formal refugee camps. In August 2009, some 162,000 Burundian refugees accepted the government's offer to apply for citizenship after the decision to close two camps.

Recently, a petition was signed by 64 leaders from the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) and Pentecostal churches against the demand of Muslims on the mainland to have their own Islamic courts to handle their affairs, like those in Zanzibar. The Christians feel this will create religious tension in a country that is proud of its religious and social tolerance. Up to the present time the Tanzanian government has also prevented Muslims from joining the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). There have been increased attacks against the minority of Christians (including converts from Islam) in the three Muslim islands. These attacks have included the burning of churches, beatings and the arrest of Christians.

AIDS has taken its toll on Tanzania. Over one million people are infected and nearly one million children have lost one or both parents due to AIDS. Positive steps with medical treatment have reduced the number of people suffering from tuberculosis and malaria.

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Tanzania is launching a nationwide program urging the public to identify those behind dozens of horrendous murders of Albino people. Witch doctors have sold the Albino body parts as potions for healing and to bring prosperity, according to a July 21, 2008 article in *BBC News*.

Such practices stem from animism and folk religion. Such beliefs are varied but most involve a belief in an eternal god and spiritual forces, which are often ancestral spirits, who assist in day-to-day life. Many Tanzanians will give their children a name from a grandparent or great-grandparent in addition to a Christian or Islamic name, which reflects a relationship with the ancestral spirit world. Furthermore, many Tanzanians seek the help of diviners and traditional healers in cases of sickness and misfortune. (www.frommers.com/destinations/tanzania/3862020893.html#ixzz0OVUUZYTT)

Christian efforts

There are over 110 missionary agencies working in Tanzania including those from the U.S., Germany, UK, Finland and Korea. The primary weaknesses of the church involve the critical need for Bible teaching, training leaders and revival directed toward solid church growth.

Wycliffe Bible Translators has announced that three million people in Tanzania will receive Scriptures in their own languages for the first time by autumn of this year. (<http://www.christian-today.com/article/first.native.bible.translation.for.three.million.tanzanians/22210.htm>) Faith Comes by Hearing has provided solar-powered audio Bibles for the people in the farming villages. One of these outreaches is among the Chigogo people. Over 5 million people listen to Christian radio stations and Christians now run one of the three national TV channels.

Let's Pray!

Pray that God will meet the many physical and spiritual needs in Tanzania. Pray that the Church will grow spiritually strong. Pray for the fruit of the Holy Spirit to empower Tanzanian believers in such a way that they will extend His Kingdom among the Muslim and animistic peoples.GPD

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