

## GBBM Monthly Newsletter (January 2023)

*“Whoever keeps His Commandments abide in God and God in him.” 1 John 3:24a*

*“Do not love the world or the things of the world; if anyone loves the world; the love of the Father is not in him.” 1 John 2:15*

Dear Brethren in Christ, Greetings from India!

We praise God for starting the new year with a blessed ministry month. GBBM's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration (January 14<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>) was filled with the Spirit and Love of God. Some highlights from the celebration:

- 10 international visitors from 4 partner churches celebrated with GBBM.
- Dr Grant Kaul led a 2-day Pastors and Leaders Conference.
- Dr Kerry Relihan (Global Assist Lincoln, NE) and Pastor Grant spoke powerfully to the gathering for three days.
- Bro. Jim Etter and Bro. Russell Daws (Harvest Church Memphis) exaltation the name Jesus and encouraged pastors and leaders.
- Sisters Yvonne Honeycutt (Fellowship Church Round Rock) Karrie Fulton & Ashley Carter (Fellowship Bible Church Waco) led a women's conference.
- 850 delegates attended from four states of India. Over 50 accepted Jesus, 29 were baptised, and about 85 people committed to win souls for Christ.
- A team from Fellowship Bible Church Waco hosted a Medical Camp at ABS and screened 368 students and others.

The GBBM team will trust in God during 2023 as we focus on equipping and training our leaders. GBBM hopes to train over 150 Second Generation (G-2) Leaders to master “The Growing Disciple” module. We hope they teach this module to 400+ Third Generation (G-3) Leaders. GBBM is hoping it is God's will that we take the Gospel to 200 new villages and are blessed to plant 100 new churches this year for His glory. We thank God for his blessings and for leading GBBM over the past 20 years.

Thank you for joining hands with us as we share the Good News with the lost Banjara people in the remote villages of India.

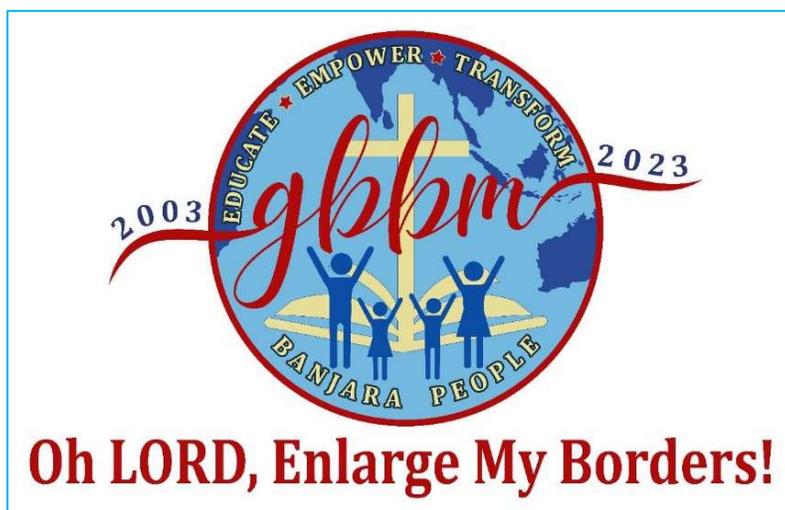
Pastor K S Naik

# Church Planters Activity Update

	Key Growth Areas - 2023	January
01	Villages Served (Monthly)	394
02	New Villages Reached (Updated Quarterly)	-
03	People Hearing the Gospel (Total Gospel Presentations)	5,660
	a. People Hearing the Gospel (First Time)	3,305
	b. People Hearing the Gospel (2 or More Times)	2,355
04	People Accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	364
05	Active Bible Study Groups	128
06	Children Being Ministered To (Monthly)	4,748
07	House Churches	158
	a. House Churches (< 10 Baptized Believers)	94
	b. House Churches (> 10 Baptized Believers)	64
08	Believers Attending Worship (Weekly)	1,966
09	Offering Collection (Indian Rupees - Monthly)	47,201
10	Pastor Assistants/Leaders in Training	142
11	New House Churches (Updated Quarterly)	-
12	Baptisms	51

The Banjara people are predominantly idol worshippers who believe in many gods and goddesses and offer blood sacrifices to appease their deities. Illiteracy, alcoholism, child marriages, and other evil habits and practices are rampant in the Banjara villages.

Global Banjara Baptist Ministries (GBBM) was established January 16, 2003, to 1. Reach the unreached Banjara people; 2. Plant reproducing churches and 3. Uplift the dignity of Banjara people. GBBM believes human beings are special to God and His unique creation. Without God and faith in God, man is incomplete which leads to atheism. GBBM has been instrumental in transforming hundreds of lives of alcoholics, depressed, grief-stricken and those suffering from life-challenging situations by sharing the Good News, the love of Christ, and through training and other activities.



## GBBM's Praise & Prayer Request

## **Praise God for: Multiplying Food at a Wedding:** Devika (Bride), her mother



and brother are believers but not their father who has persecuted them for many years. Sathyam (the groom) is the only believer from his family. The couple was married January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Pastor Srinivas Naik solemnized the wedding and many GBBM pastors and their wives attended. The wedding went well, the GBBM member had lunch and left for another event. That evening the bride's uncle called and shared information about a miracle the Lord performed. Before serving the food, the bride's uncle (not a believer in Jesus) asked Pastor Naik to pray for the food. He heard Pastor Naik during the prayer say, "Lord, bless the food and make it sufficient for everyone". The bride's father invited many friends and relatives but prepared food for only 150 people. When they counted, they realised that 300+ guests and about 20 serving crew ate lunch; and still food was left over. Many non-Christians attended the wedding and the "food" news spread throughout the event and brought glory to God Almighty. The newly wedded couple was thrilled to see this miracle happen at their wedding and God softening the hearts of the bride's father as he and others marvelled at this miracle and the goodness of God.

## **Glorious 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations (Jan. 14-16):** The 850 attendees



began to arrive for the celebration on January 13<sup>th</sup>. GBBM pastors and church members from different parts of the country arrived via public and private buses, trains, auto-rickshaws, motorbikes, bicycles and by walking. The celebrations were invoked with



prayer by Mr. S B Stanley, and Banjara songs by the choir. Sister Sujatha Naik shared a song worshipping and glorifying God for the grace He has shown GBBM for the past 20 years. GBBM's board members, pastors, ABS Teachers and partners from USA and Chennai were honoured as very colourfully dressed Banjara ladies presented them with garland flower necklaces. Rev. Kerry Relihan (Global Assist NE, GBBM's oldest partner) shared the inaugural message by remembering the Lord's faithfulness toward GBBM for two decades. It is good to thank God all the time with joyful noise, gladness, and thankfulness (Psalms 100).

**Pastors and Leaders Conference:** During the celebration, GBBM had a conference



for pastors, their wives, and G-2 leaders. Dr Grant Kaul, Lead Pastor of Fellowship Bible Church, Waco-TX was invited to lead the conference. Pastor Grant taught from 2 Timothy for two days. God used him mightily for His glory. Pastor Grant shared a powerful message focused on discipleship and making disciples. The hunger for the Word of God was very evident as meeting rooms were overflowing with believers actively listening to the teaching. More than two hundred leaders renewed their commitment to serve God faithfully like Paul

despite the increasing hostility, opposition and growing Christian persecution in India. Pastor Grant's message to the general gathering from Mark 4 discussed the storms in life, fear and how to face and overcome them; many were blessed by this encouraging message. On the second night Pastor Grant shared from Luke 15 and 31 people were saved! During the closing sermon Pastor Grant challenged everyone to reach the unreached. Approximately 85 people committed their lives to win souls for Christ. We praise God for using Pastor Grant to bless us and thank FBC for sending him to India for this celebration.

**Women's Conference:** Special Sessions for ~ 80 women leaders and the pastor's wives were conducted by Yvonne Honeycutt from Fellowship Church Round Rock and Carrie Fulton and Ashley Carter from Fellowship Bible Church Waco. Yvonne taught for two days and encouraged the women by sharing stories about 2 women: 1) Hagar and how God met her needs and 2) the Samaritan woman; the women were challenged to be an evangelist like her. Sister Carrie shared information about her role in her church, and the importance of teaching the word of God to Children. Sister Ashley worked hard in the medical camp and encouraged the women to serve others, especially children both physically and spiritually.



**Baptism Service for the Glory of God:** On the second day of celebrations (Sunday), 29 people were baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. What a blessing to witness so many



new brothers and sister baptized on the same day, we believe the host in heaven were rejoicing with us as the Word proclaims. This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalms 118:24).

**Partnering Churches and Families:** GBBM praised God and thanked Him for the faithful GBBM ministry partners. GBBM presented a souvenir to all guest, staff, and partner church attendees. Global Assist (GBBM's first US partner) sent a beautiful plaque to celebrate the anniversary. Pastor Kerry Relihan from Nebraska, and Mr. Srinivasa



Moorthy from India represent GA at the conference and shared the word of God. Harvest Church Memphis, a partner in the Church Planting ministry and ABS school, were represented by two elders during the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. We were blessed to have these two brothers from Harvest join us during this special time.



Fellowship Bible Church Waco, a supporting church since 2009, sent their lead pastor, missions director, a doctor, nurse, photographer and children's minister to participate in the anniversary events. Willie Gomez, GBBMI President, is a FBC member. FBC is very supportive of GBBM and provides scholarships for many ABS students. We also praise God for new partner, Fellowship Church Round Rock TX, for sending a missions team member to attend the event and teach the women leaders.

## **PRAY to GOD for:**

**Jangibai and Vaishaali:** GBBM ministers invited friends, family members and



seekers to attend the anniversary celebrations. A mother and daughter, Jangibai and Vaishaali attended and accepted the Lord as their saviour. Jangibai's son (influenced by Hindu fanatics) got mad and severely beat both his mother and sister when he heard of their acceptance of Jesus. Now they cannot

attend church or meet with their pastor. Please pray for their safety and that God will help them to grow in their faith and that their hope, faith, and love will impact others for the Glory of God.

## **ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL UPDATE**

ABS is doing well; teachers and students are busy with classes as the academic year ends in April. ABS teachers, current students and ABS graduates worked hard assisting with GBBM's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary events. One ABS alumni and one current student were saved during Pastor Kaul's sermon discussing the prodigal son. Three ABS graduates and four current students were baptised during the celebration. We praise God for His wonder working power among our students.





**Medical Camp:** A medical camp was conducted at Aletheia Banjara School (ABS) for students, teachers, their families, and local participants attending the anniversary. Dr Stephen Chakmakjian, senior nurse Ashley Carter and FBC team members Carrie Fulton, Peter Younger and few nationals screened Aletheia students. Three hundred sixty-eight people were screened for health ailments, and a few of them were identified with minor health problems. Handful were found suffering from hearing and vision problems. Overall, the general health of the children is satisfactory. Required medicines and vitamins were dispensed to the students.



Mr. Willie Gomez, President of GBBMI, along with a board member, two sponsors and a ministry partner from Cowboy Churches visited ABS January 19th -25th. We had a wonderful time them and will provide an update in the next news letter.

Please send any questions to: [gbbmi.abs@gmail.com](mailto:gbbmi.abs@gmail.com)

To support GBBM visit: [www.gbbmi.org](http://www.gbbmi.org)