



GBBM Monthly Newsletter (May 2023)

“Owe nothing to anyone except to love another; for he who loves his neighbour has fulfilled the law.” *Romans 13:8*

Dear Brethren in Christ, greetings from India!

We hope that our friends in the US are enjoying a pleasant summer. In India, the heat wave continues causing hundreds to die in northern India. We live in South-Central India where the monsoon season has begun. So far, the rain has been scattered, and most have not received the normal amount of precipitation.

The Banjara people are very dependent on rain for their crops. Most are still waiting for sufficient rainfall so they can sow seeds. Most Banjara farmers have experienced difficult farming conditions for many years and hope for a better crop each year. Please join us in prayer as we ask our Father to provide for their basic daily needs.

Christian persecution in India seems to increase monthly. Attacks, destruction of church buildings, and arrests of pastors and leaders continue to increase. In the northeast state of Manipur, the government reported that 115 Christians have been killed, hundreds injured, 250+ churches burned, and 275 villages burned. More than 60,000 people are homeless due to these acts.

GBBM CPPs are exercising good judgement as they conduct ministry activities in the villages. The CPPs have focussed on training believers to witness to their neighbours. We thank God for His protection during these trying times.

We praise the Lord for May's results as the GBBM team: shared the Gospel with 6,463 people, hosted 3,890 children in programs, rejoiced as 180 people accepted Jesus, and 10 were baptized. Aletheia Banjara School reopened June 12th, 2023.

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	May
01	Villages Served (Monthly)	403
02	New Villages Reached (Updated Quarterly)	-
03	People Hearing the Gospel (Total Gospel Presentations)	6,463
	a. People Hearing the Gospel (First Time)	3,842
	b. People Hearing the Gospel (2 or More Times)	2,621
04	People Accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	180
05	Active Bible Study Groups	76
06	Children Being Ministered To (Monthly)	3,890
07	House Churches	160
	a. House Churches (< 10 Baptized Believers)	96
	b. House Churches (> 10 Baptized Believers)	64
08	Believers Attending Worship (Weekly)	1,778
09	Offering Collection (Indian Rupees - Monthly)	46,754
10	Pastor Assistants/Leaders in Training	137
11	New House Churches (Updated Quarterly)	-
12	Baptisms	10

We remember and praise God for Masru Yaadi:

Sister Masru went home to be with the Lord May 27th, 2023. Her church family affectionately called her Masru Yaadi (Yaadi means Mom in Banjara). Masru was



the only believer in her village. Despite having to walk 2 miles to catch a bus for

church, she never missed a Sunday service unless she was very sick. Masru's faith was genuine, her love for Jesus was great, and her passion for sharing the Gospel was unending. Masru first heard about Jesus from people in her daughter's village. GBBM Pastor Laxman first visited her village in 2008. Masru met Pastor Laxman in 2010, accepted Jesus; was baptized the same year. She stood faithful to the Lord despite trials and opposition from other villagers. She always depended on Jesus for spiritual and physical strength. Masru was a very prayerful lady, always praying for her children and the villagers' salvation. She shared the gospel with everyone she met including Susheela (pictured on the right). By God's Grace, Susheela placed her faith in Jesus. Then God saved her father, Bikshapathi, and their entire family. Bikshapathi then shared the Gospel with his brother-in-law, Hariya Naik, and God saved this family and the chain continues. At least four families have come to the Lord after God saved Susheela. All of them believe the Grace of God, and the prayers of Masru caused their salvation.

Pray for Peace in Manipur: Please continue to pray for the believers in Manipur. The Indian government is not intervening to stop the violence against the Christians. Many Christian leaders believe this extreme violence may spread to other



parts of the country if the present party remains in power after 2024 elections. Under the leadership of Pastor K S Naik, the Banjara Tribal Pastors of Hyderabad

participated in a Solidarity Prayer & Protest meeting in Hyderabad (photo above and below)



Pray for CPP Sakram Naik: Sakram joined GBBM's first Pastor Training class in 2003. He has been faithfully serving the Lord for 20 years among Banjara villages. Sakram married Anasurya in 2008, and they were blessed with two sons.



Sakram was recently diagnosed with the failure of both kidneys and was immediately placed on dialysis in the Hyderabad City Hospital. Doctors are monitoring his situation and have advised that he might need a kidney transplant. Please pray for the Lord to intervene and heal Pastor Sakram.

ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL UPDATE

Praise God for His Grace: Aletheia Banjara School reopened June 12th, 2023, for its 15th Academic Year. Due to the ongoing heat wave and dangerous heat, the school is only meeting in the morning for half-days until the rain cools



the temperature. ABS has 34 people on staff this year. One Academic In-Charge, one Principal, 20 teachers, and 12 non-teaching staff members.

Mrs. Caroline Michael, a retired Christian college teacher and the General Secretary of Evangelical Teachers Fellowship, conducted a Joy of Teaching workshop for the ABS teachers to inspire, motivate, and encourage them. This workshop reminded all the teachers that God has called them to serve the ABS students. We thank God for providing these Christian leaders to disciple, teach, and love the ABS students.

