



ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AMONG THE BANJARA



GBBM Monthly Newsletter (November 2024)

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, under the law, to redeem those who were under law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.” Galatians 4:4-5

Dear Brethren in Christ,

I am excited to share the good news of the release of the complete Bible in the Banjara/Lambadi language December 5th, 2024, at my home church in Hyderabad. I served as the Chairman of the Banjara Old Testament Translation Review Committee of The Bible Society of India. The translation work for the Banjara Bible started in 1968; the New Testament was released on 25th October 1999. We thank God for allowing the Banjara People to have the Bible in their heart language though the language has no own script. A Banjara language Bible will cost about \$7; GBBM needs about 2,000 Bibles.

Sujatha and I enjoyed spending the Christmas season in the US. We thank God for allowing us to meet numerous individuals, small groups, organizations and churches during our trip. We are grateful to God for the time worshipping with partner churches. We are so thankful for the groups and individuals who responded to the GBBM presentation and prayed for the ministry and sponsored ABS students and pastors.

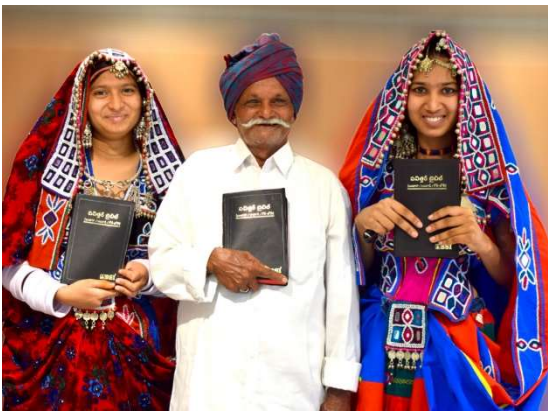
During our meetings, I was blessed to meet with several brothers in Christ who provided wonderful counsel for me and the GBBMI ministry. An important decision was made to not accept additional students at ABS until all current students are sponsored. The goal is to have 400 sponsored students and then expand the numbers of students to the school's capacity of 500. The 400 scholarships will allow ABS to maintain the school, make repairs and pay our teachers and staff a decent salary while providing a 1st class education in a Christian environment. Likewise, our plan is to not expand the number of Church Planting Pastors (CPPs) until the current 35 are sponsored as most currently live below the poverty level.

While Sujatha and I shared what God has done among the Banjara people through GBBM over the past 20 years, the GBBM team shared His Good News. During November, the team shared the Gospel with 6,920 people, rejoiced as 360 people accepted Jesus, and 8 people were baptized.

The CPPs have been busy with Christmas celebrations in the villages where they minister. Pray that the Lord protects them from the opposition and open the hearts of the people hearing the Good News of Christ's coming to earth to save the mankind.

Thank you for your prayers and support for the GBBMI CPPs and staff. The prayers and gifts of God's people allow our staff to share the Good News among the Banjara people in the remote villages of India.

Pastor K S Naik



Christmas celebrations started in the Banjara villages the last week of November 2024.



Church Planting Pastor Activity Update

	Key Growth Areas - 2024	October	Nov.
01	Villages Served (Monthly)	261	280
02	New Villages Reached (Updated Quarterly)	-	-
03	People Hearing the Gospel (Total)	7,978	6,920
	a. People Hearing the Gospel (First Time)	4,599	40,37
	b. People Hearing the Gospel (2 or More Times)	3,379	2,883
	c. Number of Gospel Presentations	2,458	2,141
04	People Accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	463	360
05	Active Bible Study Groups	45	52
06	Children Being Ministered To (Monthly)	1,535	1,447
07	House Churches	80	80
	a. House Churches (< 10 Baptized Believers)	19	19
	b. House Churches (> 10 Baptized Believers)	61	61
08	Believers Attending Worship (Weekly)	1,510	1,506
09	Offering Collection (in USD - Monthly)	\$1,635	\$1,372
10	Pastor Assistants/Leaders in Training	80	95
11	New House Churches (Updated Quarterly)	-	-
12	Baptisms	15	8

Testimony of GBBM CPP Bheema Naik:

Childhood and Life: My father was the village head, his main source of income was manufacturing and selling illegal liquor. I was always a problem child and known for my bad habits and behaviour. I ran away from home and became friends with thieves, and violent people. I engaged in robbery, violence, and other crimes. I was arrested several times; police identified me as a habitual criminal. I had friends killed and barely escaped death. Because of fear, I returned home but did not change my behaviour. My parents arranged a marriage hoping that I might change. I did not and eventually my wife left me, took our child, and went back to her village. My bad habits continued; I was depressed, disheartened, and cursed myself for being a dreaded person with no hope.



Introduction to Jesus: July 29, 1998, I saw a digital sign on a church that read: “Come to me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, I will give you rest” (Matthews 11:28). I read the verse again and again. I thought why I should carry all my troubles, sufferings and burdens, starving, and restlessness. I went inside, and the person who met me noticed my terrible condition. They provided a bath, clean clothes, and a meal. The Pastor comforted me and gave me some books of testimonies of godly people and a New Testament Bible. I could not understand why these Christians extended compassion and love to me, which my fellow-villagers and even my village goddesses never did. It was amazing to know how people in Christ love others. Because of this



love, I was fully convinced that Jesus Christ is the real God and is very compassionate toward sinners, even a sinner like me. After I accepted Jesus, I asked for forgiveness from my wife, parents, and relatives for all the terrible things I had done. They looked at me in disbelief and watched me closely as they noticed a dramatic positive change in me. I told them it is because I accepted the

Lord Jesus Christ, and he changed my life. They were unhappy that I became a Christian but accepted me as they witnessed God's transformation of me. Gradually, my change and the Word of God made them believe in and accept Jesus Christ.

Baptism: Pastor Chandu advised me to attend Bible College, I was baptized 12/19/1999.

Calling: I believe God saved me from physical death on two occasions, because He chose me to serve Him.

PRAISE GOD FOR:

Opening Doors for Evangelism in Bhilya Thanda: When CPP Kumar shared



the gospel with Mothiram and Mounika in their village of Bhilya Thanda, the villagers opposed this activity and chased CPP Kumar out of the village. CPP Kumar continued to meet them outside of the village and share the word of God with them. Mothiram's first wife died of HIV/AIDS, he then married Mounika who was HIV positive. God blessed the couple with two boys. Mothiram and Mounika both placed their trust in Jesus for their salvation. They also prayed for healing from AIDS. This November, Mothiram, Mounika and both boys were found HIV/AIDS free after their blood test. This news gave them great joy and the news amazed the entire village. CPP Kumar is no longer opposed when he visits this believer family and conducts prayers for them. The couple recently glorified God through water baptism. We praise God for this new family in Christ, and the openings created to this village. Please pray that a church is planted sooner in this village.

PRAY TO GOD FOR:

CPP Support and New Churches: The GBBM Church Planting Pastors spend the majority of their time in the field evangelizing to the lost Banjara people. The CPPs and our church members are praying that God will work through the CPPs, that each CCP will plant 10 House Churches in next 5 years in villages without a church. Please join us in praying for God to move in these unreached villages. Also, please prayerfully consider financially supporting the

GBBM CPPs and their families. These men and their wives have given up family relationships, friends, etc. to answer the Lord's call to share the Good News with the Banjara people. \$500 per month provides the financial support for the ministry work done in 8 -10 Banjara villages through a CPP. Please visit GBBMI.com to learn more about the Banjara people and the CPPs.

ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL (ABS) UPDATE

Aletheia Banjara School is doing well. All the teachers and students are busy with their teaching and learning of second term lessons. ABS celebrated Children's Day on 14th November. The day involved special games and literary competitions for the students with prizes were awarded to the winners.



At ABS, worship services are conducted every Sunday for the teachers and students who live on Campus. Every morning and evening prayers and devotions are conducted. Students love singing and praying for each other's needs and families.



GBBM's goal for 2025 is to have 400 sponsored students. The cost to sponsor a student is \$30 per month. This amount covers a meal, books, school uniform and all school operating cost. More importantly, a sponsored student experiences the love of Jesus from our staff daily and many of our students become believers and are saved. These saved children then share the Gospel

at home and other family members come to know Jesus. Please consider sponsoring an ABS student. To learn more about ABS please visit GBBMI.com.

Please join us in praying that the Lord provides His protection to ABS staff and students. We pray that our students experience the love of Jesus and accept Him as Savior.

GBBM will appreciate any year-end gifts.

Donations can be made online at: www.gbbmi.com or sent via US mail to:

**GBBM International,
PO Box 1854
Collierville, TN 38027**

