



# PNG Soul Harvest Mission Inc. (PNGSHM)

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## Prayer Update 7

*Nagaland, India Feb, 2017*



Hebrews 12:2 “Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God,” interceding on our behalf as our Great High Priest.

Faith is a decision and journey of a lifetime. Jesus tasted and endured this journey and finished well and set the foundation and a mark for us to follow. Let us not fix our eyes on anyone or any earthly thing or situation to determine the course of our faith. In all seasons find comfort in Christ by fixing undivided attention to the Founder of our faith. Christ joyously endured the weight of sin and shame of all humanity to the cross. There is not a test or a trial Jesus cannot endure.

### The Statewide Bandh in Nagaland

The February 2017 has been a very challenging month for us. Beginning 30<sup>th</sup> January all main roads linking to Nagaland were announced closed and all internet services were disconnected. This was due to statewide bandh called by the Joint Coordination Committee and Nagaland Tribes Action Committee requesting the Chief Minister of the State to step-down and resign as minister. The State minister, T. R. Zeiliang was reluctant to step-down prolonging the period of bandh to end of February. Three young men (protesters) were shot death near our colony at the premises of the minister after exchanging open gun fire with the state police.

With above situation, we were unable to travel to the school and we were few weeks behind the schedule. While waiting for bandh to be lifted, we had opportunity to share God’s Word and prayed together every evening with a young family in our apartment at the city. Thankfully the bandh was relaxed for few days and we hurriedly moved out from the city on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February, 6:00 AM and safely reached 4:00 PM at Eden Mission School. We saw God’s faithfulness and hand in this journey. A Christian couple avail their truck free of charge to carry all our cargoes and food ration for a month for hostellers and they have arranged a taxi to pick us at our transit station.

### FIRST FEW WEEKS AT EDEN MISSION SCHOOL

#### EMS HOSTEL



First day at EMS. Teachers helped unload hostel rations and our cargoes.



My first contact with these precious children. They left their home faraway to reside at the hostel to go schooling. They burn leaves to warm-up from cold.



We have 16 students currently admitted to EMS hostel. All of them come from a poor background family. The average yearly income of their family range from K250-K1000.

There are more students from far villages and poor family background requested to admit and we are couldn’t accept due to not enough space. Since hostel makes a suitable place to impact and impart into the lives of these children with Biblical Principles and Godly Character, Nancy and I are planning to extend the rooms and invite more poor students to the hostel.

The activities in the hostel after school hours:

1. Monday – Friday: starting every 5:30 AM they wakeup say their morning prayers together, fixing their bed neatly, out for morning charge, each student fetching water using his or her small bucket, for kitchen use and for themselves. Every morning and evening they have rice with substitutes. Lunch they only have black tea with sugar. Every evening we get them through short devotion and supervise and assist them through their study.
2. Saturday & Sunday: Saturday they work on their backyard vegetable farm, collecting firewood and carrying water for us and cleaning up the chapel. Every Saturday evening Teachers and hostellers have combines fellowship and Nancy and I get them though series of Bible stories. We learn new songs with actions together and children are selected to present choir at chapel every chapel. On our first Sunday worship children presented two beautiful choirs lead in prayer and Bible reading and I shared the Bible story of baby Moses God saved and made him a prince of Egypt and a deliverer of Hebrews/Israel. Every Sunday Nancy and I take pastoral duties and lead staff and students at the chapel.

#### EMS SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We have had some struggles but we thank God that by His strength we were able to endure with the responsibility of managing both the EMS hostel and school. We have no other sources of funding apart from admission fees and tuition fees. We are expected to have deficit budget of K10, 000.00 and more at the end of the year. We thank God for sponsors like PNGSHM, VRNCC, Mt Zion Lutheran Church, St Mathews Lutheran Church and faithful individual supporters. Your contributions have come a long way and helped us to start the school and hostel well. We make sure that your investments benefits poor children here in all aspects of their lives.

The Head Master is leading the students to say their morning prayers during assembly. This happens every Wednesday to Friday.



Nancy is leading the students through devotional thoughts before students going for class on Mondays and Tuesdays in the students hall.



Teachers having briefing in the staffroom with Paul and Nancy discussing issues pertaining teaching and management of EMS beginning 2017.



Eden Mission School was established and managed by Zeme Baptist Association since 1996.

The MOU have been signed between leaders of the Association and Nancy and Paul in 2016 that beginning 2017 academic year and for the next ten years, Nancy and Paul will be the administrators, directly in charge of the operation of the EMS school and hostel. The school is located in a place where tribal people there have been recently converted from Hindu religion and they are young in their faith and Christian living. Seeing the need the association allowed us to use their church to conduct Bible study at the end of each month which most youths are willing to attend as well as teachers.

During our staff orientation week Nancy and I facilitated the program taking the nine teachers through effective teaching and lesson planning, rules and regulations of the school and teachers code of conduct. We ended the program well with time of prayer and meal together. None of these teachers are qualified and we would need more volunteer missionary teachers from PNG in the future.

## Teachers' Orientation Day



The board members of EMS, ZBA leaders and members and willing hearted elders and church leaders from around Nsong town have come together and we spend the whole day together completing maintenance of the classrooms walls and benches.

## Classrooms' Renovation



During the School's Sports Week, Paul was invited as a chief guest to present a speech and to officially inaugurate the sporting programs. Teachers have come up with different forms of games and sports that suits every age group and students were enjoying.

## Eden Mission School Sports Week



We ask your continuous prayer and support in our new role as administrators over the school and the hostel. It is our prayer to see every staff and student here to live and experience a fully transformed Christian life.

**Highlights of Participation in Phom Tribal Fishing Festival at Yachem Village, Anghoo Dhok 23-25 Jan 2017. The traditional tribal fishing festival (Angoo Dhok in Yachem dialect) falls on the last month of every fifth year.**



**DAY ONE: Baskets Making & Fruit Picking**  
All the elderly men were making baskets and picking fruits while all the young men are sent to river side to prepare the crushing site and fishing camping places according to their family line.

**DAY TWO: Platforms and Folks Dance**  
Early morning the elderly men each carrying his own basket filled with bitter fruits walking in queues in their traditional attires to meet with young folks by the riverside. Young folks cut trees and bamboos needed to build platforms. The elder folks quickly take the measurement and lead the young folks to move big logs and tag them firmly across fast moving river. Then purely used the bamboos making frames and finally splitting the bamboo and make a nice platform that can carry more than fifty men.



**Lesson learn**

The task of the Great Commission can be achieved with the unity of faith and heart for mission possible with one goal. That is to make disciples. Every Christian should be a player in accomplishing the Great Commission. I was amongst the team of men who make ribbon and made five of them. There is no spectator in God's Kingdom business.



**Within in 4-5 hours time two unshakable platforms were built eight big strong baskets filled with fruits stationed along the platforms. Then elderly men were getting in their full traditional attire started their traditional folks dances and songs rhythmically along with many gun fires to end the day's work.**

**Highlights of Participation in Phom Tribal Fishing Festival at Yachem Village, Anghoo Dhok 23-25 Jan 2017. The traditional tribal fishing festival (Angoo Dhok in Yachem dialect) falls on the last month of every fifth year.**



**DAY THREE: Fruit Crushing & Fishing**  
 By dawn falls every family foot walking with torch lights down 3km from the top of the mountain to the riverside. We also started out by 4:30 AM and reached our camping place by 6:00 AM. All the young folks were singing folks songs and started crushing fruits by that time many miles upstream. Each family started preparing morning tea using bamboos serves using bamboo cups. After three hours of excitedly waiting the color of the river changed and fish began to die and afloat down the river. Men and woman both young and old carrying their nets and baskets searching up and down the riverside collecting dying fish.



After few hours of fishing everyone bring their catch to the camp to distribute accordingly to their custom. Their customary distribution law requires that the elder or oldest in the family receive the bigger and better portion of the share. After that we all walk slowly up the mountain and reached home by late afternoon.



Something that I admired in this fishing festivals is the attitude of **PRAYER** toward the festivity. At the Church, in every household and every prayer group have been praying a month ahead.



Before basket making and fruit picking they have mass prayer, before building the platforms they have mass prayer led by senior pastors and church elder, before fishing every family spend time praying together in their camps.

*Making God the Center of the tribe and community of hundred diverse families makes one tribal family upholding their well blended traditions and diverse culture accordingly to biblical principles. The Yachem village of Phom tribe of Nagaland is a well structured and organized community of people ever visited and has experienced the true meaning and function of a community.*

# Prayer Need



1. Pray that each one of these children will receive a good sponsor from PNG families to sponsor their education. Most of these children come from family who earn less than a K1, 000.00 each year.
2. Pray that each student and staff will come to encounter and know the Lord personally.
3. Pray for God's wisdom to guide and direct us as Nancy and I take up the administrative roles of school and hostel.
4. Pray for our Sunday English Service that more teachers and students and youths from surrounding may join us. Pray for our monthly Bible study program that more youths and church leaders will develop good understanding of the Bible.

*We covet your faithful prayers and grateful for your faithfulness in partnership with us in God's mission. All praise, honor and glory due to HIS Name.*

## **NOTICE BOARD**

- ✓ For those who have signed the sponsorship cards with your email address, the detail of each student will be directly sent to your email. For those who do not have email address and given phone number, one of our country coordinator will contact you to deliver details of student(s) to you.
- ✓ The names of the sponsor and details of students will be announced at various churches in Port Moresby, Goroka, Simbu, Jiwaka and Western Highlands Province.
- ✓ If any family or individuals willing to sponsor a child for K200 each year for his/her education are welcome to contact us. We have more students who need your help.

*Thank you!*

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