

Mission Sonlight- 4Q08-Northern Asia-Pacific Division Overview Traditional

Narrator: Welcome to Mission Sonlight. During the fourth quarter of 2008, we will be reporting from the Northern-Asia Pacific Division. This Division was formerly known as the Far Eastern Division. In 1997, the territory was divided and renamed.

Today this vast division includes the countries of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong and Macao, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan.

If you were to travel to each of these countries you'd discover many similarities and just as many differences. There ARE bustling major cities like Beijing, Taipei, Hong Kong, AND Seoul. By contrast, you will find THE sparsely populated steppes of Mongolia, just outside the capital of Ulaanbaatar. Languages spoken vary with the landscape.

You would witness some Adventist churches where there are members who come from several generations of practicing Seventh-day Adventists. In contrast, there are those who are first generation Adventists and struggle to find their place in a society which rejects their beliefs.

Today, Seventh-day Adventist Christians in these countries face the daunting task of telling the story of Jesus to a population of MORE THAN ONE AND HALF BILLION people.

Currently there are NEARLY 579,000 baptized Seventh-day Adventist who worship in 1,820 churches plus smaller groups and companies. The division recognizes the need for missionary couples to aid in planting churches among this large and often unreached population.

Akeri Suzuki: (3:51-3:59) Currently, we have forty-seven pioneer mission movement pastors and their families throughout our division territory. **(5:01-5:05)** Their mandate is to plant a new church in their new territory.

Narrator: Reaching out to friends and neighbors is accomplished through the work of schools, hospitals and medical clinics, publishing houses and food industries as well as Bible correspondence schools. There are English Language schools throughout the division, which provide an avenue to meet non-Adventists who wish to study English. Many times these encounters result in friendships, which lead to baptism.

Samhyook University provides undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate programs that are preparing future Adventist leaders.

Daegeuk Nam: (00:32-1:13) Samhyook University, now it is here but the university itself was founded some 100 years ago. It began in North Korea before the Second World War ended. After the liberation of the Japanese regime the university came down to the south in this area. So our university began here in the year 1947.

Narrator: The university has grown to a student population of approximately 6,000 students and a full-time faculty of 170 teachers and more than 200 staff members. The curriculum is varied and includes 30 different Bachelor's degree programs, 15 master's level and numerous doctoral degree programs.

Daegeuk Nam: (1:14-1:30) Now we have here one university and seven colleges under the umbrella of the university.

Narrator: Taiwan Adventist Preparatory Academy or TAPA provides a unique service to the youth of Taiwan. Through Griggs University, TAPA is able to offer a 4-year high school diploma that is recognized by colleges in the United States.

Steve Adams: (1:00-1:43) We have no Adventist students and very few Christian students here at TAPA and so we really expect our teachers to live their FAITH and we want to be a witness in

everything that we do through our lives and of course with the curriculum that we use, which is a full Griggs curriculum. We do teach a Bible class to every student.

Narrator: One of the major challenges is to reach the urban Chinese-speaking segment of the population. This quarter there will be two projects specifically targeted to Chinese within the division territory.

Akeri Suzuki: (1:37-1:46) NSD has sent a pioneer missionary movement pastor to raise up a new Chinese church in Tokyo, Japan. **(2:53-2:59)** The 13th Sabbath offering will be used to construct a church for this new congregation.

Narrator: This quarter you will hear of the amazing plans to reach Chinese-speaking persons around the globe through video on demand on the web.

James Wu: (1:05-1:16)-The project that we are supporting is the Chinese Hope Channel on video on demand as well as the satellite. (1:17-) We know that the Chinese community worldwide is connected to the Internet and is growing very fast. Through the Internet as well as the satellite broadcasting, the Chinese Hope Channel will reach by the millions, especially the billions of Chinese that are getting online to hear the gospel through this very important ministry.

Narrator: You'll travel with Mission Sonlight to the country of Mongolia where you will meet Pastor Bold, the first ordained Mongolian Seventh-day Adventist pastor. See your Mongolia brothers and sisters worship in a traditional ger on Sabbath morning. You will also learn of a very young Seventh-day Adventist population.

Paul Kotanko: (5:10-5:36) Mongolian society itself is very young and young people tend to be more open to the gospel. They have seen that Communism has not really been the answer. It has

failed. The traditional religions don't really offer anything so the young people are really open to Christianity and the message of God.

Pastor Ganaa Ganbapral: (will need a voice over 3:54-4:39 and probably longer) Seventy percent of the members are under 35 and this makes for a very young church. Many of them have no Christian background. Working with the youth to help them understand Christianity is a very fundamental work. Every year a large number of students come from the countryside to study. I can see that it is easier for them to be strong when they are united and easier for them to keep their beliefs. I know many students who experienced abuse and other hard things when they were living in other places.

Narrator: These young Adventist Christians face difficulties and persecution, particularly if they choose to continue their education in the public university. Part of the offering this quarter will be used to provide housing and a consistent worship environment for these young adults.

Akeri Suzuki: (7:12-7:22) On behalf of the Northern Asia Pacific Division, thank you very much for your generous support of the 13th Sabbath Offering.

Narrator: Think of it. Over 1 POINT 5 billion people to reach. How will we ever accomplish such a task AS the birth rate climbs? God has ways. All He asks is that we be faithful with the blessings and funds that He places in our hands. As you contemplate your offering for December 27, think of how different your life would be if no one had ever told you the story of Jesus.

Reporting from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, this is Mission Sonlight.