

# WORDS OF TRANSFORMATION

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Dear Friend,

How do we make disciples in the present liberal world order where there is no longer a “Sensei” or “Guru” before whom you bow down in reverence. There are no teachers whose lifestyle is distinctly recognized by their piety, spiritual wisdom, and personal disciplines (1 Thess 2:10 - 12). Modern teachers are friends. And also there are no students who would flock in submission to listen and obey their teacher. Who would abandon everything and would follow the teacher selflessly (Matt 4:20). Modern world may neither have potential disciple, nor an exemplary “Sensei” or “Guru”. If you see them, you might mistake it for a cult.



However the need to “make disciple” is ever more present. I like the idea of "side by side" rather than the idea of bottom to top climb. The leadership opportunities at the top are narrower as it is often associated with position and authority. It cannot accommodate all, but if we define emerging leaders as emerging servants, there shall be room for all. Overall, the emphasis in this leadership model must be "selfless service". And such lessons are better caught than taught. Elders must live by example creating not only good soil, but also become good seeds that are willing to die to self so that it may germinate and multiply. We only need to remind ourselves of how Jesus led (John 13:12 - 17). Good leadership is contagious. And youths are looking for role models.

This is the emphasis of our ministry in India as we focus on raising the next line of servants in India. Thanks for joining us as prayer partners and supporters. Please find below some update for you to join us in praise and prayers.

Rev. Dr. A. K. Lama

## Updates from TLA-ET & HFC

**Baptism update:** In the last quarter, following four centers witnessed 142 baptism. Please pray that they grow spiritually and serve the Lord.

- ◆ In Bomdila, 16 people took water baptism
- ◆ In Guwahati, 4 women accepted Christ
- ◆ In Jehanabad, 117 people got water baptism
- ◆ In Jaigaon, West Bengal, 3 young men and a couple



**New Eleven Prayer Centres started in Jehanabad, Bihar-** Sonma; Kalopur; Amarsi Bigha; Jagarnathpur; Shivganj; Baljori Bigha; Yudh Bigha; Chandduati; Pahari Bigha; Laari and Dayalachak where 10 to 15 people are attending.

### Story of Chandra

Chandra, a Nepali Hindu daily workers who is born and brought up in Bhutan, had come to the town where our staff Jai was living. One day, while he was sitting sad in the park, our staff Jai saw him and approached to him. Chandra was moved because of Jai's gesture. He told him, “No one came and asked me how was I doing”.

During their conversation, Chandra opened up and started sharing about his life. Chandra had lost his mother few months' back which led him to depression and anxiety. He came from a family abandoned by a runaway father. Earlier, he had cried for his father a lot, but now after his mother's death he was filled with hatred for him. Jai listened to his story for almost 2 hours. It was late. So, Jai asked his number and invited him to his place. Their meeting was brief but both had developed friendship with this meeting.

Jai got a privilege to share the good news with him and also prayed for him. Once, as Jai was praying, Chandra broke down into tears. He told Jai, “I am sorry could not stop but cry while you were praying. I feel I am at peace now.”

Jai continued to follow up Chandra for more than a month. Both spent time in prayers and hours of counseling. Finally Chandra accepted Lord as his savior on 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 and went through water baptism on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

## Programs:

**Family Enrichment Seminar** (April 12—15): A seminar was held in Patna. Dr. A. K. Lama and Dr. Asangla Ao were the two resource persons. Dr. Lama spoke on The Christ Centered Home, Biblical Models for the Family and Dr. Asangla shared Parenting, Nurturing Relationship, and Financial-Management. It was a blessed time for all participants.

**Visit to Jehanabad:** On April 16, Dr. Lama and Dr. Asangla visited with the Jehanabad team. They listened to everyone about the their progress and daily challenges the staff are facing.



## Programs organized by Siliguri Centre:

- ◆ Discipleship Training (March 30—April 1): 15 people participated
- ◆ Leadership Training on April 3 at LTC, Babubasa, 15 participants
- ◆ Leadership Training on June 27 at Jalapara Bethel Baptist Church, about 60 leaders were present
- ◆ Leadership Training on Social Media (June 26 - 29): 10 people joined



## Update from Guwahati Field on Projects:

**Kikha Dwara Poriborton** (Transformation through Education): Organized the first parent-student orientation on April 5 in Chandrapur, Assam.



## Goatery Project:

The baseline survey and the agreement with the local beneficiaries at Rani, Assam completed at the month of January 2023 and distributed two goats on April 18.

## TLA Land Revenue Generation Project:

- ◆ **TLA Goat Farm Project:** Started a new project on April 18 with four female goats at TLA Land for rearing purpose. But due to goat disease, 3 goats died and only one survived. With the help of veterinary doctor and proper care and medication, she is healthy now.
- ◆ **TLA Piggery project:** TLA took another strategic step to start a piggery farm. The construction of a pig sty started with the aim to rear ten pigs.
- ◆ **Duck Farming:** In collaboration with Eco Living Pvt. Limited, TLA has signed the MOU of Agreement recently for this project. There's a high demand of duck meat in Assam and it is one of the specialties among certain communities. And moreover duck meat is flavorful, lean, and nutritious and eggs are also in demand due. Dug a waterbody in the land for this farming.

## HJC Tailoring Centre, Guwahati

organized the certification program on May 12 for the trainees of the 7th batch where Mrs. Mousumi Baruah, the Women Secretary of Guwahati Baptist Church chaired as the guest of honor and distributed the certificates to all 13 trainees.



**Update on the TLA Land Development work:** Successfully completed the slab casting of the Middle portion of TLA Training center on May 4.



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