



**REPORT ON SOUTH-EAST ASIA
PRAYER CONSULTATION
9-12 SEPTEMBER 2008
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA**

Introduction

This year's Consultation drew about 120 delegates from every nation in South-East Asia (SEA), India and New Zealand. Key intercessors from every nation in this region were present, a miracle in itself. Many local Christians signed up at the last minute, having heard about the Consultation at the Malaysian National Prayer Conference at the end of August (over the National Day weekend).

Theme

The theme for this year's Consultation was "Breakthrough Harvest!" The Council members had a meeting in February to seek the Lord for the next seven (7) years until 2015. From the testimonies shared then, we realized that indeed the harvest is coming soon. Stories of breakthroughs were slowly being seen in each nation. Hence, we chose this theme to accurately reflect what God is doing in our midst.

Programme design

After the CiP Global Consultation in Chennai, India, in July, Ann Low (Treasurer and Malaysia representative) and I felt that we should incorporate some of the elements of the CiP programme into ours. We then fit in "Steps to Preparing our Hearts for Prayer", "Soaking in God's Presence" and "Listening to the Lord" into the morning sessions after the devotions. Each of these was very well received by everyone. Some even felt that the quiet time in God's presence was one of the best times of the whole Consultation.

The main part of the programme was listening to the Country Representatives from each nation share what God is doing in their respective nations and five major challenges they are facing now, so that we could pray. Much time was spent praying over the delegates and their nations, which is what we set out to do in the first place.

The last evening of our programme was the City Night Prayer, an evening open to all local Christians and dedicated to blessing our host nation, Malaysia. About 300 of us had an awesome time in God's presence. We opened with the blowing of the shofar, calling everyone to worship. The moment the shofars sounded, the presence of God came down in a powerful way. That set the tone for the rest of the evening.

The message that night, delivered by a local pastor who has a heart for missions, challenged us to "see the unseen, and to act on the seen". Using the story of Elijah praying for rain after challenging the prophets of Baal, he said over and over again, "The rain is coming! The rain is coming!" We must see and be prepared for rain, or we will not be able to move with God in what He is doing.

After that stirring message, each nation of SEA prayed a prayer of blessing over Malaysia. Then 11 Malaysian pastors gave each Country Representative a basket to symbolize the harvest that is to come. In each basket was a word received by the youth of a local Baptist church for that nation. Each pastor read the word and prayed over each Country Representative, as an act of blessing the nation.

Following the prophetic act of blessing the nations, we sang "God of the City", a song by Christ Tomlin, to declare that He is the God and King of the city. We blew the shofar and declared God's sovereignty over each capital city of each nation in SEA. By then, the atmosphere was so charged with the



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awesome presence of God that we could not stop the shouts of victory from the people. The offering taken that night was a sizeable amount that will be used to sow into next year's meeting in Bangkok.

What is happening in SEA?

Daniel Pandji from Indonesia put it plainly: "South-East Asia is a strategic region. The biggest revival will take place in this region. We are going through shaking. It is time to strengthen one another and constantly help each other. We will experience the greatest awakening, but first, the shaking: in government, economy, etc."

This is the sixth Consultation we have held. It is only now that everyone sees what God is doing in our region. We no longer baulk at bad news of political upheavals, natural disasters, or oppressive regimes. We understand that the shakings are a result of concerted, united prayer, especially of the local intercessors in each nation. We know that our lands are being cleansed, so that the King of Glory can come and make His dwelling place among us. It is therefore with great excitement that we come together to seek God's face. We are ready to obey His Word. Ann Low from Malaysia said it at the opening of the Consultation, "We are not here to pray; we are here to obey."

Some miracles

Philippines

From 2005 – 2007, the Philippines had one lone representative each year. Ps Ronnie Magpayo faithfully came alone annually, sometimes with one other person from his church. Each year, he would return, trying very hard to connect with the big prayer networks, but no success.

Because of GDOP this year, the door swung wide open for him to connect with all the prayer networks, movements and mega churches in the Philippines, not only to explain what he had done in past years' GDOP, but also to introduce SEAPC. His efforts were greatly honoured by the Lord this year: seven Filipinos came, each representing a prayer network or a movement. The team is now preparing themselves to host SEAPC in 2010.

Thailand

I had done all I could to encourage Thai intercessors to come. The week before, the news I received was that they were still praying. Three phone calls over five days later, we received confirmation that three (3) delegates would be coming from Thailand. The news was received two days before the start of the Consultation. It was vital that Ps Sangwien Duangkham, head of the Prayer section of the Bless Thailand Network, come this year. It was he who coined the phrase: "South-East Asia belongs to Jesus!" It was also he who agreed to host SEAPC 2009. If he did not come, it would be like a vital part of the body was missing.

Laos

Months of e-mails to one lone local contact received no responses. I sent one short, direct, e-mail three weeks before the start to press for confirmation of attendance. A few days later, I got a reply saying that she was living in the US and may be able to come in two years' time. A few days later, I received an e-mail from a local lady who had come before saying they could send four persons but on full sponsorship. Due to budget constraints, we agreed to sponsor only two. They took the offer and booked the tickets. Two days later, they confirmed another person who had managed to raise half the ticket cost in two days. They were also blessed to have the Thai delegates translate for them, since their English was limited.



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Timor Leste

For the last few years, we have been working through missionaries who have done all the communication and logistics for the team to come. Again, language was a hindrance, along with the lack of e-mail knowledge among the local pastors. The missionaries were very careful each year to choose only locals who have a heart for prayer and unity, and not foreign connections or reputation. This year, they found a local who can speak English, is used to communicating with foreigners, and uses e-mail daily, as he works for an NGO. This man has now been handed the responsibility for his nation in the Council. He is the answer to the prayers of many.

The year ahead

After listening to the Lord, the following decisions were made by the Council:

- Advisors appointed:
 - Bishop Moses Tay – Singapore
 - Rev Heng Cheng – Cambodia
- 24/7 Prayer to be established in every nation
- Prayer calendar – focus on one country per month
- Training of children to pray on request basis
- On-site prayer journeys in each nation
- 2 e-brochures to be produced:
 - Introduction of SEAPC and vision
 - History and background of SEAPC
- Youth and children to be an integral part of SEAPC 2009

Council Leaders' Meeting

The Council leaders will meet in February 2009 in Olongapo City, Philippines, to seek God's face for our region. It will be a time to get away and get to know one another better. This meeting will set the tone for the next Consultation in 2009.

SEAPC 2009

The dates for the South-East Asia Prayer Consultation 2009 are 10-13 November 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand. The programme will end on 15 November 2009, which is Thailand's National Prayer Day to mark the end of their annual 40-day fast and prayer for their nation.

Conclusion

We sensed very strongly in the weeks leading up to the Consultation that God was going to move beyond our experience and imagination. Indeed He did. One of the worship leaders who was present in 2005, said to me that the sweet presence of God was there, better than before. We are ready to obey our Master.

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