



*Transform World seeks to engage in the transformational mission of God that results in the healing/blessing of the nations so that the presence, power, and peace of God may be experienced by all.*

*Transform World Connections exists to serve communities of servant-catalysts engaged in God's mission of transformation by catalyzing and connecting them together in consultation with people and communication resources, to equip the body in motivating the whole Church to bless the nations through prayer and collaborative action to see all nations redeemed, restored, and transformed, as cultures increasingly reflect the value system of the Kingdom of God the value system of the Kingdom of God.*

## **Report of the Transform World: Kerala State-wide Conference, Trivandrum, India. (Nov 5-8, 2007)**

### **Introduction**

Termed as “God’s Own Country” by tourist guides, Kerala state witnessed a special gathering of servant catalysts from every region for the recently held Transform World: Kerala 2007. Representing a broad section of denominations- Church Bishops, leaders, missionaries, businessmen, authors, medical professionals and scientists over a 150 gathered to consider *Mission as Transformation* in a gathering termed as “historic” by many present at the conference. Interfacing with national and international leaders this conference achieved its intended outcomes by catalyzing the initiation of a wave of transformational activities in the state.

### **Significant Happenings**

“The Church is ready for such a movement and is prepared” said former Bishop Y. Yesudas of the Church of South India in his inaugural remarks alluding to the challenges facing the state today. While Kerala has a legacy of welcoming the early apostle Thomas nearly two thousand years ago and within this state of nearly 20 percent Christian population, of significant importance is the fact that northern regions of this state have less than 1% Church population making it a mission field in itself! Kerala the only state in India to achieve a hundred per cent literacy rate also sadly claims to have the highest suicide rates in the nation today. The Church therefore is in a critical phase of re-defining her God given mission within the local context and positioning herself to serve the larger needs of the nation as well.

Twelve Focus Groups met to consider the challenge of Kerala within the context of this conference. Marketplace executives brought to the table plans to network among Christian businessmen over the next two years as reported by VJ Wilson from Coimbatore. Tony Samuel of National Resource Centre, New Delhi shared models of missionary research and left behind plans on ongoing engagement of churches in the state to reach every block/county with the Gospel in a systematic manner. Ivan Kotska facilitating the Literature group brought encouragement to Christian writers in Kerala to participate in India’s Christian Literary Renaissance movement. Siga Arles facilitated the group on Christian Higher Education.

Prayer networking towards the Global Day of Prayer, Youth group plans to engage with the young of today in the changing environment and the group’s readiness to both understand and implement *Mission as Transformation* were heart warming to see. It was clear that delegates were being prepared of the Lord to serve their state, as evidenced one morning as God moved powerfully among all present who found themselves on the floor in obedience and reverent submission to His call for sacrificial service.

### **Outcomes**

Firstly, this conference witnessed a “historic and significant” gathering of servant catalysts across denominational and societal lines to come and learn on principles of Transformation. Secondly, the en masse enthusiasm of delegates committing themselves to provide ongoing servant-leadership towards the transformational process in their state and in the various regions was exemplary.

Thirdly, catalytic events planned in the next two years involving all focus groups to engage their focus groups including media, health care, literature, family, church, missions, marketplace, youth etc were significant

### **Ongoing Steps**

A few decisions have been made for ongoing momentum in the state as a result of this gathering.

1. Plans

### **Prayer Points**

1. Kerala state.