

# Transform World 2009 South Asia

December 2008



Dear friend,

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

We are writing to inform you about **Transform World 2009 South Asia**, a process of prayer, study and action that includes a conference to be held in **Kathmandu, Nepal, 21-24 October, 2009**.

Transform World is a movement that has its origin in the World Inquiry research that was carried out under the leadership of Luis Bush following the AD 2000 & Beyond movement transition. After collecting information from 100 cities in the world, it became apparent that the Church and missions around the world were gripped by the vision of *mission as transformation*. The Gospel transforms individuals, families, churches, communities, villages, towns, cities and societies so that the peace, presence and power of the Lord is manifest as cultures increasingly reflect the values of the Kingdom of God.

We believe that the Church of Jesus Christ in South Asia is being called to witness to the Gospel with its power to transform people by being reconciled to God through Jesus Christ and enable them to deal with many aspects of human suffering such as poverty, oppression, divisions, materialism and all else that separates them from God and from each other. It is also being called to the transformational mission of God that results in the healing and blessing of the nations beyond South Asia so that people may experience in increasing measure the rule of the King!

A series of conferences have been organized and run already, including TW Indonesia (May 2005), TW Bihar (January 2006), TW India (October 2006), TW USA (November 2007), TW Philippines (December 2007), TW Burundi (January 2008).

Please see the Transform World website for more details. [www.transform-world.net](http://www.transform-world.net)

With this background a steering group has been planning **Transform World South Asia 2009**.

## Aim

Transform World South Asia 2009 seeks

1. To praise God for His transformational initiatives among the nations.
2. To facilitate transformational connections among national and global servant catalysts for national and global transformational streams and focus group and sphere development.
3. To provide information, inspiration and constructive interchange on transformational initiatives around the world.
4. To form a community of servant catalysts for the transformation of the nations in South Asia and beyond, through
  - fostering a regional identity for South Asian Christians
  - building relationships, networking, sharing good practice, highlighting problems and challenges, so that we can go on supporting one another
5. To facilitate mutual learning and interaction between global and South Asian leaders.

## Through this conference we seek to

- **discover** what God is doing in the different regions of South Asia.
- work together to **develop** new initiatives both locally and across the region.
- ensure that what God has given us is being **deployed** efficiently (implemented) for building His Kingdom.

## Country profiles and focus groups

The conference will include participants from the South Asian countries and the South Asian Diaspora. We will share news of what God is doing in each **country** so that we can build up a situation analysis, learn from each other, network and draw on resources from each other.

We will also spend much of the time in **focus groups**, based on spheres of ministry and issues that concern us. In these groups we will pray and discuss together how to bring transformation across the region in that particular

sphere. We would like to excite each other, learn from each other and help each other to have new perspectives through this strategic focus. As we see how God has placed us in situations of responsibility and influence, we have a unique role as members of the church to pray for each other, speak prophetically into each other's lives, and protect each other by becoming accountability partners together. We will seek a balance of participants in each group. There will also be opportunities to meet others with similar concerns and backgrounds in informal **synergy** groups.

See the list of **focus groups** on a separate page below.

### **Venue and Costs**

The conference will be held at the Hotel Himalaya, Kathmandu. Participants will stay either in the hotel or in guest houses and homes. Costs will be as follows:

\* **Registration: US\$ 30**

) *or equivalent in local currency*

\* **Accommodation and meals:** Minimum contribution of **US\$75** ) *these amounts must be paid by 31 January 2009*  
(this includes all meals and transport from Kathmandu airport or bus station)

\* Participants will need to pay for their **travel to Kathmandu**.

The above costs are the **minimum** and those who can pay more, either to cover the cost of their accommodation, or to help others to come, will be invited to do so. Full details of costs are given on the registration form (attached).

### **Preparing for transformation**

During the next 10 months we plan a process of prayer, study and action to study God's word and examine models of transformation in each area of focus. As we share these in the conference next October we believe that God will lead us to plan further projects of transformation, local, national and wider. And we will be seeking ways in which we can build relationships, share good practice and identify problems and challenges, so that we can go on supporting one another and be more faithful and effective in united witness and service.

We don't need to remind you of the significance of South Asia, with its 1.3 billion people and the opportunities and challenges it faces in every dimension. We also see the South Asian Diaspora as having a key role in this process, bringing in its resources to serve together with those living in South Asia. This is a significant time when we need to work together with boldness and vision for God's purposes in South Asia and in our world. We urgently need to pray for each other for faithfulness, vision, boldness, and humility, openness to learn, and above all love.

If you know people who should be invited, please send us their names for consideration.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

### **Steering Committee**

Ram Gidoomal (UK), *Chair*, Dr Alex Philip, *Facilitator*, TW India Connections, Dr Raju Abraham (India), Eshban Ayub (Pakistan), Fatima (Central Asia), S P Kalaunee (Nepal), Sonam Lhendup (Bhutan), Prem Nair (Dubai), Farid Qayoom (Central Asia), Elgin Saha (Bangladesh), Tirtha Thapa (Nepal), Robin Thomson (UK), Godfrey Yogarajah (Sri Lanka).

### **Enclosed**

- Registration form
- Focus groups and criteria for selection of participants



**Transform World 2009 South Asia  
Kathmandu, Nepal, 21-24 October, 2009**

**Registration Form**

***Part A: Please return by post or email by 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Thank you.***

**Return to: melanie.leech@southasianconcern.org**

Thank you for the invitation to attend Transform World 2009 South Asia

I plan to attend and will confirm this with payment by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2009

I regret I am unable to attend

I would like to be part of **Focus Group No** , as invited

I would prefer to be part of Focus Group No \_\_\_\_\_

My experience in this area is as follows:

**Name**

**Title**

**Postal address**

**Tel:**

**Fax:**

**Email:**

**Church:**

**Ministry/responsibilities in church:**

**Organisation:**

**Position/responsibilities:**

Signed

Date

***Part B: Please return by post or email by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2009. Thank you.***

I confirm that I plan to attend **Transform World 2009 South Asia**. I enclose

**US \$30** / equivalent in local currency for the **registration fee** by cheque/cash

**US \$75** / equivalent in local currency **towards accommodation** by cheque/cash

I request the following room:

Hotel single room (US \$80 per night)

Hotel double room (US \$65 per night)

Hotel triple room (US \$50 per night)

Guest house (US \$44 per night)

Private home (US \$25 per night)

I will pay the **full balance** for accommodation on arrival

I can pay **US\$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards the balance** on arrival. I request help to cover the rest (see details of my situation attached)

I enclose a donation towards the costs of other participants

I would like to stay additional days before/after the conference at my expense. Please reserve as above for the nights of \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

Name

Title

Signed

Date

## Transform World 2009 South Asia Kathmandu, Nepal, 21-24 October, 2009

### Focus Groups

1. Governance
2. Persecution and discrimination
3. Church Growth, Church Planting, new forms of church
4. Market place, business, micro-finance, resource mobilisation
5. Conversion, proselytising, social, cultural and ethical issues
6. Development and wholistic transformation as part of mission
7. Media and communication, literature and translation
8. Church and Mission agencies: relationships, division, unity
9. Arts, music, new forms for praise and worship
10. Prayer
11. Bible teaching and leadership development

### Criteria for selection of participants.

Participants in the conference will be invited on the following basis:

1. *Commitment to the vision*

Participants are expected to subscribe to the 'vision for transformation' – to see God's purposes affected in every stream of society towards the fulfilment of the Great Commission. This vision is summarised in the 'Transformational Covenant'.

2. *Focus group expertise*

Participants are expected to be currently actively engaged in contributing towards one or more of the focus group streams outlined in the invitation letter. They will be expected to bring their expertise and experience to discussion in the focus groups and the larger conference.

3. *Commitment to facilitation and wider ministry*

Participants should already have demonstrated their commitment to facilitate others' ministries and to serve as catalysts in bringing people together for joint initiatives beyond their own particular ministry.

4. *Commitment to the local church*

Participants should have a clear base in the local church and be committed to strengthening the local church as the base for mission in their region.

5. *Track record of ministry*

Participants should have demonstrated their commitment to ministry over a sufficient period of time.

6. *Commitment to on-going involvement*

Participants should be committed to on-going prayer and working together after the conference in order to take forward its goals and continue supporting one another between the different countries and regions of South Asia.

7. *Participants should represent a cross-section of age, gender and regional distribution.*

8. *Participants should be able to converse in English.*