



## ***Prayer & Praise***

***Strengthening the Leprosy Mission  
Family through Prayer***

**February 2024**

***‘Bear one another’s burdens,  
and so fulfil the law of Christ.’  
Galatians 6:2***

**Timor Leste**

### **Thursday 1 February**

Please pray for the Chairman and the Board members of the local board of The Leprosy Mission Timor Leste (Misaun Lepra Timor Leste). Pray for wisdom as they provide oversight to the work. Please pray that the work of the Board and the staff of Misaun Lepra will bring change to the lives of people affected by leprosy and disability in Timor Leste.

### **Friday 2 February**

Thank God for the Misaun Lepra strategic plan 2023-2027. Please pray that the implementation processes of the Preventative Health and

Community Empowerment Programme (PHACE) will bring sustainable solutions for the communities. Give thanks for the commitment of all staff and volunteers to the communities they serve.

### **Saturday 3 February/ Sunday 4 February**

Give thanks for and pray for God’s blessing on the country and on the government. Pray for continued, strengthening commitment to support communities and people affected by leprosy and disability.

### **Research**

#### **Monday 5 February**

The Leprosy Mission is well known as a leader in the world of leprosy research. Give thanks for the research centres in India, Nepal and Bangladesh and for an emerging research hub in Nigeria. Please pray that the innovations being researched will result in a world without leprosy.

#### **Tuesday 6 February**

There is still a lot unknown about how leprosy is transmitted. TLM research centres are conducting research to improve understanding of leprosy transmission. Please pray for wisdom as they develop studies, collect data, analyse results and publish findings. Give thanks for the universities and research organisations across the world that partner with The Leprosy Mission.

#### **Wednesday 7 February**

Because of research to find a treatment for leprosy in the 1920s, when Chaumoogra Oil was used, The Leprosy Mission began to refer to its centres for people affected by leprosy as hospitals, rather than asylums. Give thanks for the advances made in the treatment of leprosy since then and that thousands of people have received the cure, care and restoration provided through the hospitals. Pray a blessing on everyone currently undergoing treatment for leprosy and its complications and on the staff and volunteers who serve them.

#### **Thursday 8 February**

In the last two years, The Leprosy Mission Bangladesh was part of a group of researchers who discovered that a single preventative antibiotic administered to close

contacts of someone affected by leprosy could reduce leprosy transmission by up to 60%. Give thanks for this discovery and pray for clear results of the clinical trial being carried out to see if adding a second drug will improve its effectiveness.

### **Friday 9 February**

The treatment of leprosy ulcers has also been the subject of research. Teams of The Leprosy Mission in India, Nepal and Nigeria are conducting various studies on innovative ways to treat ulcers. Please pray for the success of this work, that it may bring relief to the many people who suffer from leprosy ulcers.

### **Saturday 10 February/ Sunday 11 February**

An innovative, culturally appropriate process of learning was carried out by teams of researchers in Nepal and Bangladesh. This has shown that while the global average has women representing 39% of the global leprosy caseload, 51 to 55% of cases found in these gender-based programmes were women. Give thanks that this research has been carried out and pray that more research into this issue can be undertaken in the years to come.

### **Bangladesh**

#### **Monday 12 February**

The Leprosy Mission Bangladesh is becoming a self-governing organisation. Registration of the new local organisation has been filed with the Bangladesh government and registration is expected to be obtained some time in the next 6-9 months. Please pray that the local registration process goes smoothly. Give thanks that a talented Advisory Board of seven committed individuals has been recruited and inducted.

#### **Tuesday 13 February**

In a new era thank God that the work of The Leprosy Mission Bangladesh is being guided by a new Country Strategy and their identity as a locally based organisation. Give thanks for those who have developed the strategy towards achieving zero transmission, zero disability and zero discrimination through a resilient and research-friendly organisation.

**Wednesday 14 February**

Give thanks that the new Country Strategy, begun in 2023, required a new organisational structure. Please pray for the changes that have already taken place and for those to come. Pray that the changes will mean growth in the excellent quality of care provided for people affected by leprosy and disability.

**Thursday 15 February**

National elections were recently held in Bangladesh. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina won her fourth straight term amidst some controversy. The main opposition party alleged that the election was a sham. Voter turnout was about 40%. Please pray for peace and stability in Bangladesh as tension remains high. Please pray that the staff and patients of The Leprosy Mission can continue their activities so that many people can be cured and receive the care and restoration they need.

**Friday 16 February**

Give thanks for DBLM Hospital in Nilphamari, northern Bangladesh, which is committed to managing leprosy complications. Short, medium and long-term approaches will be applied to services so that quality services can be maintained at this centre of excellence. The aim is to retain and improve expertise related to leprosy and other conditions.

**Saturday 17 February/ Sunday 18 February**

The aim of the advocacy initiatives of TLM Bangladesh is to ensure effective implementation of the government's leprosy strategy throughout the country. Please pray for divine wisdom and guidance, as advocacy and partnerships are vital in order to see leprosy policy implemented and organisations of people affected by leprosy become sustainable.

**Myanmar****Monday 19 February**

Give thanks for the work of The Leprosy Mission Myanmar which aims for zero leprosy transmission and to ensure that people affected by leprosy and with disabilities can take part in Myanmar's society. Give thanks for the strong partnerships with churches and other organisations across Myanmar.

**Tuesday 20 February**

Pray for the partnerships with many mainstream organisations whose teams receive training from TLM Myanmar to help them become inclusive of disability in their everyday work. Pray for fruitful outcomes from these partnerships so that people affected by leprosy and disability can receive the services they need.

**Wednesday 21 February**

Mawlamyine Christian Leprosy Hospital is also a partner of TLM Myanmar, offering quality medical care and rehabilitation services. Please pray for the people responsible for reforming the governance and management structures of the hospital. Pray that the reforms will bring about a stronger, more community-based medical centre.

**Thursday 22 February**

Please pray for the safety of the staff of TLM Myanmar as they work and serve amongst the communities. Pray that the political instability in which they live will not cause harm to them and that God will protect them from violence. Please pray that TLM Myanmar will be able to keep reaching out to people in great need.

**Friday 23 February**

Part of the care provided to people affected by leprosy is the provision of artificial limbs and orthopaedic shoes. There are rehabilitation centres in Taungoo, Sittwe and Pakokku. Give thanks for these centres and pray that prostheses and orthopaedic shoes will be available for people who need them.

**Saturday 24 February/ Sunday 25 February**

Please pray for Myanmar. Pray for an end to the conflict and for the release of political prisoners. Please pray that people who have been displaced in Myanmar can return to their homes to live peacefully.

**Nepal****Monday 26 February**

Please pray for the Counselling Support Structure that is in place to support students studying for Bachelor's degrees under the Tertiary Student Education Project. Please pray that students will feel supported and that the project can help them find formal job opportunities when they graduate.

**Tuesday 27 February**

Sustainable livelihoods are vitally important for lives to be transformed after leprosy. Please give thanks for all employers who have employed people affected by leprosy and pray that the people employed will thrive in their working environment.

**Wednesday 28 February**

Give thanks for all the people working to defeat leprosy and see lives transformed in Nepal. Pray that they will develop empathy, sensitivity and wisdom in their relationships with the people they support. Please pray that through these relationships and the treatment they receive people affected by leprosy will find hope and healing.

**Thursday 29 February**

The Leprosy Mission Nepal is in the process of rebuilding the Mycobacterial Research Laboratories at Anandaban Hospital. Please pray for God's provision of the funding to replace the building and the equipment needed to continue the research programmes..