

FARMS Update

October 2010

“Doing Good That Is Good”



Joseph Richter - Executive Director

Dear Friends of FARMS International,

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus!

In this update I will share a short report on several situations that impact those you graciously help through FARMS. We work in some very difficult places of the world; difficult physically, economically, and certainly spiritually. The courage of those we have the privilege of serving is inspiring! It is important to remember that we are “*one body*”, we are connected, and we need each other! In addition, I will share some of the exciting ongoing projects that we trust will help FARMS International become better known. *JR*



This is a letter (edited), from one of the missionaries we partner with in Nepal. It illustrates clearly the dangers many of the believers we work with face. Read and pray.

Dear brother *****,

Our pastor S. and I had been getting threats on our phones to give money (\$16,000) to an underground terrorist group. We stopped answering the phone. Then they started sending us horrible text messages, threats of kidnapping and murder. We then changed our cell numbers. Then they started threatening our other Pastor N.

Pastor N. and S. had been staying in a secret place for safety. This past Saturday, they needed to go to their churches for services. Their wives and family were crying and did not want to let them leave. They went and the Lord protected them.

Since we did not respond to their extortion request, they sent a message to the three of us that at any time we would be killed. We are going in hiding now. I am thinking of letting my pastors flee to another district where our other churches are. Usually when they can not find you for a while, they will move on to other people and other places. It is a very difficult time for us so have everyone be praying diligently for us.

Blessings, B.



The following is the wonderful answer to prayer!

Dear brother *****,

Thank you for praying. God has again delivered us from the mouth of the Lion!

D. and I have been in Nepal for the last 18 years and this was our sixth death threat and the Lord delivered us again!

We found out that the man(K.) doing the threats, was one who was close to following the Lord about five years ago, but something happened in his life and he joined the “Terai Tiger” rebel group. Many traps and ambushes were planned for us, but the Lord delivered us from all of them.

On August 18th, our church leaders prayed, pouring out their hearts to God for many hours until they got a release in their spirits at 9 p.m. Then at 10 p.m., they heard on the radio that the police had raided the “Terai Tiger” hideout in R. The police had captured two of the main rebel leaders.

We then confronted K. and he was ashamed of his behavior and told everyone at the meeting yesterday that there would be no more threats against us and that if anything happened to Pastors S., N. or B. or their families, he would be responsible.

Thanks to all of you, who love us so much and prayed so diligently for us! We truly appreciate it. God is able to deliver. (**Please remember to pray for our partners in Nepal: we are contemplating a visit.**)

Blessings, B.

Another inspiring story of courage!

Sister H. lives in a south east Asian country where radical Islamists threaten stability. She is trained as a teacher and could have easily continued teaching in a government school, but chose instead to go into the mouth of the lion! She is teaching preschoolers, all of them Muslim! Pray for many open doors through her courageous outreach. Sister H. is the eldest among her siblings, and when her father passed away she assumed the care of her elderly mother and youngest sister. Her local ministry support only covers her basic needs, so she applied for a FARMS loan. With her loan from FARMS she was able to start a cow project that will improve her income.





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Bangladesh Update: The terrible flood waters that displaced 20 million people in Pakistan have now flowed into Bangladesh. We do not hear much about this, but the situation is terrible. About 60% of the country is under water. The believers are especially affected because local governments give priority of relief to those of the “majority religion”. We have received news that the children of Christian families are going without food and families and are sleeping without shelter on the elevated roadsides and have lost everything. Others have lost their babies to snake bite and drowning, and still others are suffering severe diarrhea. Because of the flood there is not even a place to bury their dead! The churches we work with are doing all they can, but are very limited in their ability to respond to this disaster. **Please pray for them.** (Note: If you want to send support, please contact us for that information.)



Joshua Tsujimoto, shown here in Bangladesh with Joe Richter, served as a missionary for many years in this difficult land. He helped establish a FARMS program within a large people movement where tens of thousands have come out of darkness into the light! They now have 1000's of income generating projects within the movement. Recently, Joshua served in Ethiopia! He is a precious brother and friend, inspiring many. We are so thankful for his help over the years. Joshua, is in his late 80's, and is in critical condition with lung cancer and other complications. He resides near Buffalo, NY. **Pray for him and his family.**

Thailand: FARMS program survey.

FARMS had a team conduct an extensive field survey of over 100 families in NE Thailand representing 450 projects among the Hmong and Mien tribes. We have been working in this region for over 10 years. Preliminary results confirm the beneficial impact, spiritually and economically, the FARMS program has had on families and their churches. We will be reporting on this survey in future newsletters. **Pray as we analyze this data and produce reports detailing the success of the program.**



New DVD for FARMS:

FARMS is nearing completion of a new series of videos. Included in the package will be two six minute videos detailing ministry of FARMS that can be used in church services. In addition, a 20 minute video was produced that gives an in depth look at the ministry of FARMS. This segment features several on site interviews. These video DVDs will soon be available. Please use the enclosed reply envelope to request a copy. **Pray that many hearts would be stirred to help the poor around the world through these tools.**

What can you do?

FARMS international needs your continued support, but even more **we need your prayers.** We are developing a prayer team to ensure consistent prayer for the ministry. If God is leading you this way, please let us know. We will update you with prayer requests that come from the field as well as other prayer opportunities by e-mail.

What we need from you is an e-mail address. Please let me know of your interest at, pat@farmsinternational.com or use the enclosed envelope to send me your information.



Love in Christ,
Pat Richter