

Research

Research into the causes and consequences of leprosy is a crucial part of TLM's work; the more we know about the disease, the more success we will have in eradicating it for good



Sep-Oct Week 40



Mon 27 Sep

Training: The goal of research is to look for better ways of treating and curing people with leprosy, the development of Multi Drug Therapy (MDT) – the cure for leprosy – being a great example. Pray for the efforts being made to train TLM staff in research methods, so that opportunities for useful research can be taken up.

Tues 28 Sep

Staff: Pray for the **Mycobacterial Research Laboratory** at Anandaban Hospital in Nepal and its Director, Dr Deanna Hagge. Pray also for the **Stanley Browne Laboratory** at Shahdara Hospital in New Delhi and its Director, Dr Rupendra Jadhav. Pray for wisdom in developing new ideas for research, and in applying the results of research projects.

Weds 29 Sep

Connection: Research nowadays is often done by groups of researchers from around the world, each contributing different skills; TLM centres provide the crucial link to people affected by leprosy in endemic areas, enrolling them in various research studies. Pray for **successful collaborations**, and

for the witness of TLM staff in this tough environment.

Thurs 30 Sep

Projects: Many TLM centres, whether hospitals or community programmes, are engaged in a whole range of research projects, both large and small. Pray for perseverance to complete the work and for easy communication with colleagues and with officials.

October

Fri 1 Oct

Stigma: We often think of research in a medical context, for example, the search for better treatment. Please pray for those developing new areas of research, such as studies of how we could reduce the stigma of leprosy, or how we can empower people who are disabled by leprosy.

Sat 2 / Sun 3 Oct

Wisdom: The International Research Committee is chaired by Dr Warwick Britton and Dr Paul Saunderson is TLM's Director for Research. Pray for wisdom and insight for the members, so that the research we do will be worthwhile and of consequence in the fight against leprosy.

Central India

Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra

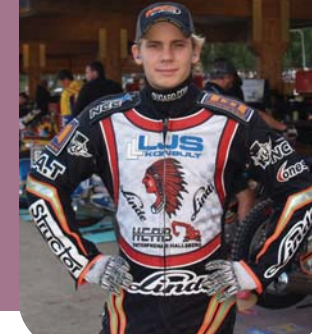
'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go,' Joshua 1:9



Ritu is being helped through school by the Catch them Young scheme

Promotional Work

'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future,' Jeremiah 29:11



Simon Gustafsson, TLM Sweden's ambassador

October Week 41

Mon 4 Oct

Surgery: Each year, **Richardson Leprosy Hospital** in Miraj provides medical services to around 2,000 leprosy patients. Pray for the reconstructive surgery camp which will benefit 150 patients with leprosy-related disability, restoring movement and giving them greater independence. Thank God for the work this hospital does in changing people's lives.

Tues 5 Oct

Stigma: Pray for the outreach workers at **Mure Memorial Hospital**, Nagpur, who do an important job of identifying those with leprosy in the community and counselling them; many people here are afraid of leprosy and do not seek treatment quickly. Thank God also for all the staff at the hospital who take such good care of those in need.

Weds 6 Oct

Travel: Remember the staff working for the **Self-Help group project** in Chhattisgarh. Pray for their safety as they travel long distances, often in remote areas. Pray also for the communities they work with, that God will give the villagers and leaders wisdom and understanding for the development of their society.

Thurs 7 Oct

Resources: Pray for **Kothara Community Hospital** in Maharashtra State. Pray for the continued availability of resources so that staff can sustain the high quality, compassionate healthcare provided to all the patients. Pray that staff vacancies will be filled by qualified and committed individuals.

Fri 8 Oct

Staff: Dr Ajit Barkataki is the superintendent of **TLM's Poladpur hospital** in Maharashtra. Pray for him, and all the staff here, that they will work with wisdom, compassion and love. Pray also for good relationships and unity among the staff.

Sat 9 / Sun 10 Oct

Support: Remember the students at **Nashik Vocational Training Centre**. Pray that, when they finish their courses, they will all be able to find work and make a decent living so that they can support their families.

October Week 42

Mon 11 Oct

TLM Hungary: Rev Marta Risko wants to approach Christian secondary-schools, inviting principals and teachers to introduce the work of TLM. Pray that this initiative will be enthusiastically accepted and implemented, and a new generation will be recruited to support leprosy work.

Tues 12 Oct

In September, **TLM Finland** wrote to all Protestant parishes in the country, explaining about leprosy work and World Leprosy Day, and requesting their support. Pray that many churches will take part – especially ones who have not done so before, and that there will be a tremendous response and an increase in giving and praying for people affected by leprosy.

Weds 13 Oct

TLM France thanks God for new opportunities to involve young people with TLM's work in India through Scout Groups. They want to recruit more young people both as donors and voluntary helpers with their regional committees. Pray too for the right people to start promotional work in two remaining French regions.

Thurs 14 Oct

TLM Sweden has a unique relationship with a well-known local speedway club. They collect money during the race, with a special focus on leprosy work in India. Pray for this and other fundraising activities – that more and more people in Sweden will learn about TLM and want to support the work.

Fri 15 Oct

Thank God for **TLM Italy's** Council. Pray that new and enthusiastic people will join them this year in strengthening support for TLM's leprosy ministry. Pray that Council members will bring energy and enthusiasm to their meetings, that they will support new initiatives that promote regular giving, and will experience God's blessing as they pray and plan together.

Sat 16 / Sun 17 Oct

TLM Spain: Pray for God's blessing on this small, enthusiastic support group. Remember Mario Escobar, Miguel Torralba and the Council as they seek to raise awareness and support. May God open doors to the message and motivate church groups and individuals to take up the cause of people affected by leprosy.



Champa hospital pharmacy

Bangladesh

'When I started work in leprosy 30 years ago, people did not allow us to enter the tea shop to take tea as we were leprosy workers. Now I am happy to see the changes taking place over time in the community. People are taking tea with leprosy patients in the tea shop,' Mr Sumantra Chowdhury, who retired in 2009 after 30 years of leprosy service in Nilphamari



Practicing self-care at DBLM Hospital in Nilphamari

Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste

'But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint,' Isaiah 40:31



Learning self-care in Timor Leste

October Week 43

FACTFILE
38% OF THE
POPULATION OF
BANGLADESH ARE
UNDER 15

Mon 18 Oct

Children: CREAD (Children's Rehabilitation through Education and Development) provides educational support to children with a leprosy background in Dhaka. Pray for the 156 children who are currently receiving help with school fees and equipment. And pray for Rosline Mitu Corraya, the programme organiser.

Tues 19 Oct

New projects: Dr David Khan is the new programme director for **Gaibandha Jaypurhat Leprosy Care project (GJLCP)**, pray for God's guidance for him. Two new projects began in 2009 as part of GJLCP – Food Security for the Ultra Poor and Vulnerable Group Development for the Ultra Poor – both supported by the European Union. Pray that these new initiatives will provide wider support for leprosy patients.

Weds 20 Oct

Women: The Extreme Poverty Initiative project works with people disabled by leprosy and living below the extreme poverty line. Some of the beneficiaries are living in the Hagar home for destitute women. Pray for these vulnerable, neglected women, as the project provides them with a safe place to live and helps restore their dignity.

Thurs 21 Oct

Income: The Salvation Army Urban Health and Development project works in Mirpur, Dhaka. Pray for a good relationship between the community and project staff. Also remember a small women's group as they save money together. Pray that they will establish economic security in tough financial times.

Fri 22 Oct

Disability: Thank God for the project staff working for the **Chittagong Sustainable Development** project as they take on the challenges of enabling people to achieve economic independence and be reintegrated back into their community. Also pray that disabled people in Bangladesh will enjoy the same rights as everyone else.

Sat 23 / Sun 24 Oct

Health care: Give thanks for the growth in reconstructive surgery at the Christian Leprosy centre in Chandraghona; it improves the lives of patients enormously. Pray for Dr Stephen Chowdhury, the new medical director, as patient numbers are growing steadily. Pray that CLC continue to provide a high standard of care.

October Week 44

FACTFILE
ABOUT 16 INDIGENOUS
LANGUAGES ARE
SPOKEN IN TIMOR
LESTE

Mon 25 Oct

Integration: In Timor Leste, there is a lack of co-ordinated response to the needs of people with disabilities. Often they are not well accepted or integrated into the community and access to services is inadequate. Pray that there would be a national agreement on disability and that access to services would improve.

Tues 26 Oct

Partners: In Papua New Guinea, the National Department of Health is in the process of introducing community health posts to replace the current aid posts. **TLM** works closely with these aid posts, which provide basic medical services to communities. Pray that the new model will complement the work of TLM, and for good relationships to be established.

Weds 27 Oct

Collaboration: Pray for the **Capacity Building Project** in Timor Leste, and in particular for the collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organisation (WHO). On a local level, the project is seeking to engage with churches, looking at how they respond to people affected by leprosy or disability.

Thurs 28 Oct

Surgery: TLM started a reconstructive surgery programme last year. A physio and surgeon from PNG were given training in Nepal in leprosy-related corrective surgery and after-care. This means people with disabilities can now be referred to hospital for treatment to restore some movement. Pray for TLM staff as they roll this programme out to other districts this year.

Fri 29 Oct

Staff: The Capacity Building Project in Timor Leste appointed a footwear technician in 2009. Pray that the technician will respond effectively to the footwear needs of the leprosy-affected beneficiaries. Give thanks that many government health staff work with TLM Timor Leste staff in prevention of disability activities.

Sat 30 / Sun 31 Oct

Detection: Give thanks for improved case detection due to promotional activities, including the use of a promotional DVD, used by the **Capacity Building Project**. Pray that there will be greater awareness of leprosy as a result of this visual tool.



TLM Bangladesh helped Nurvanu receive tailoring training