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International Prayer Connections

March 2014

In This Issue

[Honoring Intercessors](#)

[Join us on the IPC](#)

[Journey](#)

[4/14 Global Prayer and](#)

[Praise](#)

[Iraq and Lebanon Prayer](#)

[Initiatives](#)

[Pray- Syria's War](#)

[Children in Prayer -](#)

[Congo](#)

[Ukrainian Churches](#)

[Ukraine Pastor: Interim](#)

[President](#)

[Messianic Jewish](#)

[Synagogue- Ukraine](#)

[North Korean Prison](#)

[Camps](#)

[Afghanistan](#)

[Hungary's election](#)

[European Trumpet Call-](#)

[IPC](#)

[Trumpet Call Initiative-](#)

[Transform World](#)

[Guyana Kids Envoys](#)

[Retreat](#)

[IPC Calendar](#)

[IPC Website](#)

[About IPC](#)

[Donate](#)

[Contact](#)

Quick Links

[IPC Website](#)

[Children in Prayer](#)

[WPA 2012](#)



Honoring Two Great Intercessors



Last weekend in Houston, Texas, I was privileged with others to participate in an evening of giving special honor to Barbara Byerly. She is an "ordinary woman" as she describes herself that God has used to unleash extraordinary breakthroughs through prayer around the world. The theme of the evening was "The God of Barbara Byerly" because she

and the organizers wanted to affirm that it is only His grace that enables us to be who we are and to see His wonders happen through walking with Him.

Together, we reflected on how through leading on-site intercessors at many international gatherings, Barbara has served both the prayer and mission movements in exceptional ways, including us in the IPC. We were all given copies of her inspiring book, *Miracles Happen When Women Pray*, that recounts some of the remarkable wonders Barbara, her family and colleagues have experienced.

Another outstanding intercessor, who has co-led many of these on-site prayer sessions with Barbara at international prayer events, is Derek Brant from the U.K. Derek like Barbara has traveled across the world at his own expense in order to serve the Lord and us all. He often weeps as he so empathetically and movingly prays over individuals who come for personal ministry to the prayer room. Working together, they have certainly been a dynamic duo that have encouraged and blessed us all so much!

At the launch of the IPC in November of 2002 in which 300 prayer network leaders from around the world took part, the 24/7 prayer room was charged with His presence so much that some participants testified to me that even in the middle of the night when they entered the door, they could hardly stay on their feet. Since then, in many IPC gatherings Barbara and Derek have sensitively and selflessly invited the Lord's presence and facilitated both life and ministry-transforming experiences for event participants. Indeed, the prayer room has often become the most exciting part of our IPC gatherings. This was also the case in 2012 during the World Prayer Assembly in Jakarta. Many, many attending Christian leaders from the nations were

deeply impacted by the experience of praying with Barbara, Derek and the other intercessors.

Here are some special quotes from Barbara's book to which Derek would undoubtedly also give hearty assent. Her words should encourage all our prayer lives:

"We are all called to be intercessors, for intercession is nothing more and nothing less than making yourself available to God and believing that He will hear your prayers."

"This call isn't for only a select few. We are all called to be women and men of prayer. Why? Because prayer changes everything. It can transform your life and literally change the course of a nation, a city, a church or a family. Think of it! You can actually be involved in reshaping history-even from your own home prayer closet. This is the miracle of intercessory prayer and worship."

"By studying His Word, we learn to stand alongside Jesus, the Great Intercessor, to bring about God's plans and holy purposes. He is calling all of us to intimacy with Him, pure and simple. From this place of intimacy, miracles will flow."

"When we spend time with Him in prayer and are tutored by the Holy Spirit, we get to know His heart and desires well enough that we become partners with Him. The miracles we are seeing today are simply God's reclaiming the intimacy for which He created us."

"Together, our prayers and worship can prop open the windows of heaven, so His light and glory will fall on our homes, our cities and all nations."

There are many other priceless stories and quotes in her book. She closes it with these words: "I encourage you to believe in the miraculous for your own life. Pursue intimacy with the great Healer, the matchless Physician and see your own life transformed."

John Robb
IPC Chairman.

An Appeal for Partners to Join Us on the IPC Journey



In November, 300 ministry leaders, including praying youth and children, gathered from more than 40 nations in New York to pray for the United

Nations and also for the youth and children of our world. We met with a number of ambassadors and UN officials for part of the program and prayed through the issues affecting children and youth globally as well as for the UN itself and its personnel. This initiative was one of the many follow-on efforts coming out of the World Prayer Assembly held in 2012 in Indonesia.

This third international prayer initiative for the United Nations represented a spiritual breakthrough to pray for and with people working inside this most influential human institution. It was also thrilling to see how the Lord once again used children and youth from the nations to impact this organization. For example, the former Egyptian ambassador who attended our last prayer initiative in 2009, said that after a child prayed for him during that initiative, his life has "never been the same". He now serves in a high position in Africa for the UN. A UN staff member told us that every time we hold such a prayer initiative at the UN, there is "a shift in the atmosphere". Glory to God for His wonderful works in answering the prayers of His people!

In follow up to this signature November event, we along with our partners in the World Evangelical Alliance and several other agencies plan to keep mobilizing prayer for the UN and its transformation through distributing regular information to praying people and arranging on-site prayer initiatives with teams coming from various nations. In this way, the presence of God will continue to saturate and affect the atmosphere and decision-making of this global body. This is extremely important and strategic since there are high-level occult organizations and ungodly individuals that seek to influence the UN towards the Antichrist agenda of a "new world order", consisting of one world government and increasing control and domination of the nations. *It is imperative that the good the UN is doing be encouraged and strengthened and the potential evil such a global organization is capable of be thwarted.*

For this reason we are now writing to you as a friend of the international prayer movement to urgently ask for your prayers and financial support. Since about 150 of the children, youth and adult participants could not afford to take part in the November initiative, the IPC had to subsidize them. We went out on the limb financially with the promised support of a foundation in Indonesia that is now unable (or unwilling) to fulfill its commitment, leaving us with a bill of over \$100,000, which we currently do not have the resources to pay.

Would you prayerfully consider providing part of this cost, both to pay off the remaining bill and to enable ongoing and future prayer efforts for the UN? We also need significant resources for a global youth and children's prayer focus through the media and Internet led by kids in April, a World Youth Prayer Assembly being planned for 2016, and various national prayer initiatives in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria and Iraq coming up over the next couple of months. Your partnership in this way would be fantastic!

United prayer is the way the Lord shapes history as one theologian said so well: "History belongs to the intercessors, who believe the future into being." It is also the way God's guides human institutions and other undertakings that are so important for the wellbeing of our world. Your generous gift will make a huge difference to the work of Christ within the UN, affecting its personnel and programs throughout the earth in favor of His Kingdom and values. It will also be vital to help the IPC continue to coordinate global prayer ministries for the future.

If you are able to join us in this crucial enterprise, you can make a contribution by PayPal at the bottom of this newsletter. Or you can send a tax-deductible contribution (U.S. donors) by cheque or a wire transfer to the Transformation Prayer Foundation (bank account information can be

provided on request). The TPF is a non-profit charity that supports the work of the IPC in its various ministries. Our address is:

Transformation Prayer Foundation/International Prayer Council
2520 Bosque Entrada Trail NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120
USA

If you would like more information about becoming an ongoing prayer or financial partner for this ministry, please contact the International Prayer Council at office@ipcprayer.org

4/14 GLOBAL PRAYER & PRAISE

A world wide call to release children and youth in prayer and praise!

Dear IPC Leaders and Networks,

The heat of the battle is intensifying in our families, churches, and nations. In this critical time of history, we believe a united call to release our children, youth, and families is a key to changing nations. Therefore, we are asking pastors, leaders, educators, and parents to unite, empower, and release the voices of the children and youth in prayer and worship.

Psalm 8:2 Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies to silence the foe and the avenger.

Global Prayer and Praise is a collaborative worldwide initiative asking leaders to empower the children, youth, and families of nations to raise their voices together for the release of God's justice. With the participation of various organizations including The International Prayer Council, Children in Prayer, YWAM, IHOPKC, 4/14 Window Movement, Global Day of Worship, Transform World, TheCall, Arise International, and numerous others, we believe this is a God movement.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them"
(Matthew 19:14). Will you let them come?

For 24 hours, on the weekend of April 13 - 14, 2014, there is a worldwide call for all children, youth, and families to unite in prayer and worship of Jesus our Lord. We invite local communities to gather together to pray, knowing that they are joining countless others around the world.

HOW TO PARTNER AND HELP THIS INITIATIVE

1. Visit the Global Prayer & Praise website for more information: globalprayerandpraise.com
2. Get the word out to all believers, organizations, denominations, and networks, especially those who focus on children and youth. (Please feel free to forward this email)
 - Ask those with current ministries to children and youth to gather and host prayer & praise events however big or small.
 - Include an announcement in your bulletin and newsletter.
 - Announce on Palm Sunday and invite families to participate.
 - Would you extend a personal invitation to those in your network to participate?

Iraq and Lebanon Prayer Initiatives

In February, on-site prayer initiatives were carried out in Iraq and for Lebanon/Syria with local ministry leaders. Our small team of four facilitators-Sam, Elizabeth, Lucrece and I- felt the prayer support of many, and so the Lord blessed in wonderful ways.

Iraq

50-60 Christian leaders and intercessors gathered in the city of Erbil in the northern part of the country known as Kurdistan. It was a time of teaching sessions as well as authoritative and united prayer for breakthrough. Participants were so hungry to learn and to pray that they did not seem to care about taking coffee breaks or meals. We did teaching sessions on transformational praying for nations, repentance for corporate sin and reconciliation, strategic intercession, spiritual mapping and deliverance (this included praying for the deliverance of oppressed participants and others who came for counseling). Many there have been through terrible experiences of seeing others killed before their eyes, torture, kidnapping, etc.

The final Saturday was an especially strong day of authoritative praying, and I felt there was a measure of breakthrough for the development of a united prayer movement as well as for the binding of spiritual forces of darkness and the overthrow of the terrorists. Later in the day, while we worshipped and prayed at the Citadel in central Erbil, high above the city, we got news that a top commander of the Al Qaeda- related Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) had been killed. This was followed by the reports of four other mid-level commanders and then a report of 21 more who were killed as they tried to build a bomb to destroy others. We had felt led to hand over mass murderers into the righteous judgment of God. Though we never rejoice in the death of people, God knows best how to deal with those who have made themselves the devil's agents of death and terror.

Since returning home, we have heard from leaders in Erbil and Baghdad about the continuing impact of the initiative and their attempts to bring others together to continue the prayer of deliverance for the nation. A leading pastor from Baghdad writes: "I have just returned from a combined meeting for many churches gathered together to pray for the nation, the presence of The Lord was awesome and powerful."

The leaders in Erbil who arranged the initiative ask us to pray for the following:

- 1) To start a small prayer group (the nucleus) in Erbil, and connect with leaders in other cities such as in Baghdad and one couple from Duhok who attended the prayer training.**
- 2) A strategy for local and outside prayer networking.**
- 3) For two bishops who are hindering the Lord's work in their churches. Pray for open doors and favor.**
- 4) Above all, let's pray for a strong and well-connected prayer movement to arise in Iraq so that full deliverance and transformation can come.**
- 5) Let's also continue to pray for the overthrow of terrorists and their attempts to destabilize the nation and that His shalom/ salaam will be upon this battle-scarred, bloodied country.**

Lebanon

Our small team drove the breadth and length of this small, but captivatingly lovely nation, celebrating communion along with our intercession a number of times for the healing of the land and spiritual breakthrough. We went out to visit the Syrian refugees in the Bekaa Valley and prayed at the border with Syria. We also met with local intercessors in various places and had strong times of agreement in prayer at massacre sites and places of ancient

idolatry. We believe such places still empower the principalities and powers to bring war, violence and division to nations today since they give the devil a legal right to be present.

As we were praying in Tripoli, a northern city that has been increasingly infected by the war in Syria through the same factions who also live there, a grenade went off not far from where we were praying. We continued to pray with His authority against the violence and the attempts by terrorists to cause confusion and harm in the country. The next day it was reported that four terrorists were captured with over 200 lbs. of explosives before they could detonate it, praise the Lord!

As we drove across the rest of the land, we sang His praises, claimed His promises and interceded with all our hearts joined by the local people. We felt like spiritual commandos on a mission and had the shared sense that the Lord was listening and answering throughout. One of the things we all prayed for was rain since the country was in a dry spell for more than a month. The last day of the initiative, clouds gathered and cool breezes began to blow in from the Mediterranean. Raindrops appeared on the windshield followed by a gully-washer of a downpour a couple hours later. What a cause for joy!

We also prayed with our Lebanese friends about the lack of a working government and the political intrigue that has paralyzed the nation for more than a year. On Saturday, the day we departed, our wonderful hostess, Nuna, sent this message: "This is no less than a miracle after 10 months of no being able to form a government, this Saturday after a very hard and long night the prime minister finally announced the new government. Now we're praying that the parliament will approve it. God is on the move!"

1. **Let us continue to pray for the prayer movement to be strengthened and connected. Recently, eight churches in Beirut met to pray together, but this needs to continue and to expand to include the traditional churches as well as the evangelical and charismatic ones and go right across the country.**
2. **Pray for an honest, good, effective government to be agreed to by parliament and established.**
3. **Let's pray also for heart unity among the churches and their leaders.**
4. **For Syria, pray that a cease-fire will be agreed on that enables those in many besieged cities to evacuate and for relief shipments to get to desperate people needing help all across the nation. May the government and the opposition also come together to negotiate what form a transitional government will take.**

Thanks so much for praying for these troubled nations and their people that the Lord loves so much.

Yours in Christ,
John Robb

Praying for the End of Syria's War

Praying for the End of Syria's War

Use this link to find excellent articles with pictures to use in your prayers for the healing of the conflict in Syria which has now claimed well over 100,000



lives, men, women and children. Please continue to pray for His peace to cover this land and for negotiations to end it.

Click [here](#) for more details!



Children in Prayer Developing in the Democratic Republic of Congo!



We thank God for his assistance; we have succeeded in organizing our second session with children, church leaders and Sunday school teacher, 15th February 2014. In total 275 participants (255 children, 5 church leaders and 15 Sunday school teachers). We have succeeded this meeting, with our small grant. For now, we have 500 children and Youth who already know what is the CIP.

Désiré Kajabika
desirekajabika@gmail.com

(They have a need for funding to get an LCD projector if anyone would like to help. If so, please write to Desire at the email address above.)

APPEAL OF THE UKRAINIAN CHURCHES ON THE OCCASION OF THE FOREIGN AGGRESSION



Sunday, 02 March 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters! In this difficult time when military units of the Russian Federation, violating international and bilateral agreements, entered the sovereign territory of Ukraine and the Soviet of Federation by

presentation of the President of Russia has given its permission to use employment of the Russian troops in Ukraine - we, first of all call all of you and all the people of the good will to solidarity with us, to prayer for Ukraine and Ukrainian nation.

We call the Russian authorities to come to senses and stop its aggression against Ukraine, and immediately pull out Russian troops from the Ukrainian land. All the responsibility before God and mankind for irreparable consequences fully falls on the leadership of Russia. There is no oppression by the language, nation and denomination in our country. Therefore we witness that all the efforts of the Russian propaganda to represent all the events in Ukraine as "fascist coup d'etat" and "extremists' victory" do not correspond to reality absolutely...

Churches of Ukraine are with the Ukrainian people. We know for sure: God is not in might, but He is in the truth. The truth is on the side of the Ukrainian people. Therefore we shall win. May the Lord protect all of us!

Ukraine: Pastor named interim President

Reported in Joel News International

"We reported on the role Christians played in the massive protests in Ukraine. Last week saw an escalation of violence and police opening fire on the crowds, leading to the death of 88 protesters.

In the weekend the corrupt President Victor Yanukovich fled the capital Kiev. Journalists and Ukrainian citizens stormed his private mansion and surrounding grounds, closed off to the world for nearly a decade, to discover their President had lived in incredible opulence. The new government has charged Yanukovich with murder and has issued a warrant for his arrest.



Former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, considered a hero of a 2004 Orange Revolution against Yanukovich, was released Saturday after 2½ years behind bars. The court case against her was widely considered politically motivated. Just hours after her release, in a wheel chair, she addressed the jubilant crowds on Independence Square. Tymoshenko sees the crisis in Ukraine as primarily spiritual. For this reason she proposed spiritual education in all Ukrainian schools. In 2010 she participated in a national prayer meeting organized by the churches in which she confessed the sins of the government. "I want to ask the Lord for forgiveness to be given to all the authorities and to me personally, for all unjust and dishonest things done," she said.

On Sunday, Oleksandr Turchynov, a well known Baptist pastor and top opposition politician in Ukraine, was unanimously named interim President by the Parliament in a bid to fill the political void and to end the three-month-long crisis. The choice of a Baptist pastor as acting president in Ukraine does not come as a huge surprise to Sergey Rakhuba, head of U.S.-based Russian Ministries. "He is well-known in political circles as a principled, honest leader. It is great that Turchynov is calling for unification and healing of the nation."

Ukrainian evangelicals are calling for national prayer, forgiveness and reconciliation in the wake of the traumatic recent violence. Valery Antonyuk, vice president of the All Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Churches, issued the following statement:

A Message of Reconciliation

"During this time of fateful change in the life of the Ukrainian nation, the Church and each Christian individually cannot remain spectators on the sidelines of the battles and losses. The Church serves society and mourns together with it. We went through difficult days together with the nation - we served through prayer, evangelism, volunteers, medical help, clothing, and food. Today a time has come for a ministry of active reconciliation, which will help maintain unity in our country and nation.

We supported the nation's demand to put an end to the tyranny of the authorities and repressions by the police. Now it is important to restore justice and due process of law in the country, to form a government that has the people's trust, and provide fair presidential elections. We believe that those guilty of crimes against the people will be justly judged, and that peaceful citizens will be protected.

But on behalf of the Church we must say more, we must speak the whole truth; we must say that which is still hard to accept and fulfill; that, which is a precondition for a better future.

Therefore the Church calls the Ukrainian nation to more than just feelings of human justice - to Christian forgiveness, grace, and reconciliation. We pray to God for repentance for the guilty. However at the same time we ask victims to forgive those who are already repentant as well as those who are still lost. In order to unite the nation, in order to reconcile its various parts, its various social, cultural, and political groups, laws and justice are not enough. Without repentance, grace, forgiveness and reconciliation, the country will remain divided and in conflict. This is the precondition for a deep spiritual transformation of Ukraine...

We call on the Evangelical churches of Ukraine to serve to bring peace between people and healing to the wounds of war. We do not call black white and do not justify crimes or even mistakes. But we, as Christians, forgive, because we have been forgiven by God. He reconciled us to Himself, and gave us a message of reconciliation. This grace-giving Word to our whole nation should be heard from Lvov to Donetsk, from Kiev to Simferopol.

We also call upon the international Christian community asking for prayer and intercession for the Ukrainian nation and for help with peacemaking. We mourn for the victims, and thank God for His grace toward Ukraine, and pray for peace and spiritual revival in our nation."

The Parliament has set new national elections for late May.

Let's pray with our Ukrainian and Russian brothers and sisters for the resolution of this crisis in Ukraine and Crimea during this pivotal time in this nation's history.

Appeal for Prayer from the Pastor of the largest Messianic Jewish synagogue in the world in Kiev, Ukraine

For the last three months we have seen a series of events in Kiev and Ukraine in general which can't be called other than God's miracles. Now we feel God's hand over Ukraine despite of the fact that situation here is still tense. Our economic and public administration systems are in a weakened state but we can see how God is lifting Ukraine up. Menaces from outside,

situation in Crimea etc., strange as it may seem, solidified the majority of people in Ukraine (Ukrainians, Russians, representatives of other nationalities and of course Jews).



We ask you kindly to pray for our new authorities, new governmental system, protection of wholeness of Ukraine, unity of believers in Yeshua as well as for there would be no divisions in the Body of our Messiah. Please pray for God's protection for Ukraine and of course for a real revival that would cover millions of people, Jew

You can also pray against the Assyrian spirit, against intimidation and corruption of any kind as well as for smashing of the darkness and its complete march-back from Ukraine and inside Ukraine.s first (Romans 1:16).

Anti-Semitism.

In this situation besides provocateurs from inside (who try to rouse and provoke inner confrontation in Ukraine) there are no strong political forces that would propagate anti-Semitism or would put pressure on Jews. But inside, of course, this spirit has deep roots in Ukraine. At the moment we have some fringe groups who used to be distinct in their anti-Semitic rhetoric and now they hide their negative attitude towards Jews.

We thank you very much for your participation, support, prayers and active faith in general.

(Assyria as you, probably, know was ancient state on the northeast Israel which was the enemy of Judea and tried to capture him at all the time. For Ukraine - Assyria is a spiritual image which tries to bring fear and division and as it is possible to see it influence of this spirit goes to Ukraine from the northeast). (Isa.7:1-9, 2Chr.32:7-8)

Other Prayer Concerns:

Dr. Peter Kuzmic: "This threatens the stability and peace in Europe and marks the beginning of a new Cold War era with the potential to turn into a more disastrous global conflagration."

Please pray:

- 1.) For the right mix of wisdom, vision, and boldness for all of those engaged in preventative diplomacy and peacemaking between Ukraine and Russia.**
- 2.) Pray especially for the leadership of the European Union, USA, and United Nations that they will find an agreement for an unified and effective approach to curtail Russian ambitions to enlarge their territory and bring Ukraine under its control.**
- 3.) Pray for the leadership of Christian churches in both Ukraine and Russia not to give in to nationalist euphorias, but to exercise spiritual discernment and prophetic boldness in speaking the word of truth to**

power and to be constructively engaged in building bridges of reconciliation across the dangerous divides of antagonistic camps.

4.) Pray that the churches on all sides will credibly witness to the unity of the body of Christ and joyfully announce the Gospel as a message of hope, forgiveness, and reconciliation in their vulnerable and despairing contexts.

On Sunday, March 16, there will be a Crimean "referendum" that ultra-nationalists want to use to have Crimea annexed by Russia. Pray for the binding and overthrow of the spirit of division (the devil) who also wants to bring violence and war through this to this region and to our world. May His peace and deliverance prevail and may there be transforming revival and the development of a strong united prayer movement among His people in the midst of this crisis!

NORTH KOREA: Dozens detained, 33 to be executed

A call to pray for the traumatized, remnant Church in North Korea

On 27 February South Korean Baptist missionary Kim Jung-wook (50) fronted a North Korean press conference in Pyongyang to 'confess' to his crimes and plead for mercy. For seven years, Kim Jung-wook had been providing food, clothing and sanctuary to North Korean refugees and job-seekers in the Chinese border city of Dandong. Kim was arrested in North Korea on 8 October



2013, a day after crossing into the state, although a source in China told South Korea's Chosun Ilbo that Kim was kidnapped by North Korean agents in Dandong. In the press conference, Kim confessed to conducting 'anti-State' crimes with funding and assistance from South Korea's intelligence agency. When arrested, Kim reportedly had Christian literature and DVDs that allegedly he was going to use to set up 500 underground churches to spy on and overthrow the regime.

When Hong Kong-based Australian missionary, John Short (75), was arrested in North Korea in mid-February, he confessed to his 'crimes', apologised and was expelled. As an Australian, Short was of little value to the regime in Pyongyang. The situation is more serious for Korean-American missionary Kenneth Bae. Arrested in late 2012 while leading a tour, Bae gave a similar press conference confession in April 2013 before being sentenced to 15 years' hard labour. In August 2013 Bae was transferred to a hospital due to his deteriorating health. However, on 20 January the regime returned Bae to the labour camp to protest American B-52 bomber flight drills around the Korean Peninsula. As an American, Bae is a pawn of great value.

There is no word yet as to what punishment Kim Jung-wook will face. According to Radio Free Asia, 'dozens' of people have been detained, accused of assisting Kim. Border guards who let Kim slip through security, North Korean believers, new converts and the families of the accused are amongst those banished to labour camps upon Kim's 'confession'. Now South Korean news agencies report that 33 of the accused have been sentenced to death, charged with conspiring with Kim to overthrow the regime. It is reported they will be executed in a secret cell at the State Security Department. Doubtless these 33 are predominantly Christians, probably significant Christians who may or may not ever have been in

contact with Kim but whose ministry is deemed an existential threat to the regime. This will be a terrible and traumatising blow to North Korea's remnant Church.

As noted in RLPB 248 (18 Feb 2014), the regime's main concern is managing the state monopoly on information in the face of severe challenges posed by new communication technologies, while endeavouring to raise living standards so as to ward off revolt. In response to pressure, the regime is ramping up repression, spreading darkness and stoking fear. Security on roads has reportedly doubled, making it more difficult for North Koreans to travel around the country. Furthermore, North Korean security agents now have new signal detectors, enabling them to intercept mobile phone signals in real time. Now people using cellphones smuggled in from China can be arrested within minutes. The recent wave of arrests will ensure that people stop using their cellphones.

PLEASE PRAY SPECIFICALLY THAT GOD WILL --

- ***'lift up his hand' to 'break the arm [instrument] of the wicked' and 'call his wickedness to account'. Pray Psalm 10 for North Korea.***
- ***'spare the lives of the 33 who are to be executed. However, if that is not to be, then sustain and comfort them so that instead of being overwhelmed with fear, they will know 'the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding' (Philippians 4:7 ESV) as God himself encompasses them. 'And he will become a sanctuary [Hebrew: miqdas, the place where God dwells] . . .' (from Isaiah 8:11-14a ESV). [For more on this subject, see: The Promised Presence, by Elizabeth Kendal.]***
- ***comfort and encourage the North Korean remnant Church; may they know 'the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding' (Philippians 4:7 ESV). 'When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory.'" (See 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 ESV.)***
- ***take this evil event of the executions and use it for his glory to effect the exact opposite of the regime's intent. May the news of these executions spread through all the country, establish not terror, but the link between Christianity and freedom. May interest in the transforming gospel of Jesus Christ and in his power and grace to spring up all across the nation. 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.' (John 12:24 ESV)***

'Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.' (Psalm 24:7 & 9 ESV)

By

Elizabeth Kendal

Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin (RLPB) 251

Special to ASSIST News Service

HORROR OF NORTH KOREAN PRISON CAMPS

Trapped in cages built for animals. Beaten, chained and forced to stand in torturous poses. Left to subsist on snakes and rats. The damning UN report on North Korea's crimes against humanity contains shocking allegations, but its message of misery is driven home even more powerfully by eight sketches drawn by a man who survived more than two years in Pyongyang's hell on Earth. The drawings, released as part of the 400-page report, lay bare the brutality of a regime that has practiced torture on its people,

undeterred, for years.

"This was the first thing that I saw: there it said that 'if you run, you die,'" Kim Kwang-II, the 48-year-old artist and one of some 300 witnesses the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights spoke to in compiling the report. Kwang-II's sketches offer a rare glimpse inside a prison camp, where photographs are forbidden. Some depict the torturous poses inmates are compelled to assume for hours at a time, under threat of beatings by chains and ropes. "We are supposed to think there's an imaginary motorcycle and we are supposed to be in this position as if we are riding the motorcycle," he said, describing one such torture. "And for this, we pose as if we are airplanes ourselves. We are flying. And if we stand like this there's no way that you can hold that position for a long time. You are bound to fall forward. Everybody in the detention center goes through this kind of torture," said Kwang-II, who now lives in South Korea.

Another heart-wrenching sketch shows a starving inmate trying to catch a rat.

"Because we starved so much and did not have enough to eat, we would find snakes in street," said Kwang-II, who now lives in South Korea. "How do you eat a snake in the street? But for us the first one to find it was the person who got to eat it. Everybody raced to catch those snakes and that's because we were so starved."

The UN report castigated the Hermit Kingdom for its ruthless treatment of people, depicting a brutal nation "that does not have any parallel in the contemporary world."

"Crimes against humanity have been committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea pursuant to policies established at the highest level of the state," the U.N.'s high commissioner on human rights stated in a report released Monday. "These crimes against humanity are ongoing because the policies, institutions and patterns of impunity that lie at their root remain in place."

Kwang-II served 29 months in a North Korean labor camp after he was caught smuggling pine nuts across the border. Other survivors told the UN panel during its yearlong investigation of conditions in the secretive communist dictatorship. One witness described how a female inmate gave birth inside a camp. When a guard heard the baby's cries, he beat the mother as a punishment. And when she begged him to let her keep the baby, he forced her to drown the newborn.

Experts say it is common for prisoners in North Korean camps to lose up to half their body weight, or starve to death altogether. Many who survive are permanently disfigured from being chained to walls for days or even weeks at a time. The cruel regime not only punishes those it brands as criminals or disloyal, it also imprisons and tortures members of that person's family and succeeding generations, according to those who made it out of Pyongyang's gulags alive..

Human rights groups, including Amnesty International, estimate that more than 200,000 North Koreans are being held in camps similar to the one depicted in Kwang-II's sketches. Other activist groups, like Open Doors USA, estimate that number to be even higher, reporting that the secretive nation has detained about 400,000 of its citizens -- many of them Christians. In North Korea, the practice of Christianity is illegal. Owning a Bible is a crime, and any person caught with one is sent - along with three generations of his or her family - to prison.

Pyongyang refused to cooperate with the investigation and denied the commission of inquiry access to North Korea. Last May, North Korea sent a letter saying it "totally and categorically rejects the Commission of Inquiry,"

said Michael Kirby, the chair of the UN Commission of Inquiry.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay pressed Tuesday for North Korea to be prosecuted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) following the report.

"We now need strong international leadership to follow up on the grave findings of the Commission of Inquiry. I therefore call on the international community, in line with the report's recommendations, to use all the mechanisms at its disposal to ensure accountability, including referral to the International Criminal Court," Pillay said in a statement.

Please continue to cry out to the Lord for the plight of suffering people in North Korea. This has got to stop and this wicked regime must be reformed or removed so that the two Koreas can be reunified and these horrors are ended.

Afghanistan

There will be an on-site prayer initiative in Afghanistan, March 25-30. An international team of six or seven ministry leaders will join with local and expatriate believers, focusing on the national elections happening the first week of April. This is a very crucial time for the nation. Please pray for His anointing and protection on the team and those they meet with and for the right person of God's choosing to become the new president.



Additional prayer concerns from believers in the country:

The situation with President Karzai has not been solved yet. In each of our prayer meetings we bring this up to the Lord, but we feel that more prayer is needed that Karzai signs the agreement between his and the US Government.

As a matter of fact the relationship between the two is getting worse. Now president Obama tells Karzai that the US is planning for a full pull-out of the country <http://m.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-26346115>.

Please pray for patience for the American government. If they go ahead with the "zero plan" it would be disastrous for our country. But our prayer can and will make the difference.

Every day that the treaty is held back is a lost day for Afghanistan. The weekly incident list reports a total of 568 separate incidents in the country, that is 113 incidents more than the week before! We need your prayers that the security situation will not raise in face of the upcoming election and that president Karzai signs the paper. That would definitely bring more stability to the country which the people are longing for.

At the same time we need your prayers for the neighbouring country where the peace negotiations with the Tal... terrorists took place during the last weeks. We praise Him that instead of reaching an agreement they began fighting each other. This is a good opportunity to pray that the Government comes to realise that covenants with people on jihad (holy war) mean nothing to them. They only succumb

as long as they get their way. If this "peace" talk would be taken up again it would mean a total set-back for both of our countries. Please pray fervently that the opposite will happen and the present situation of confusion between both sides will last.

Thank you so much for standing with us in your prayers,
Anonymous Christians in Afghanistan

Please pray for Hungary's elections.

Our parliament and governmental elections will take part on Sunday, April 6th, followed by the local elections in the Autumn. There is a governing mid-right coalition, with a more and more autocratic and over-controlling policy. There is a quite weak wide-left coalition, heavily attacked and mocked by the government-controlled media. We have a strengthening far-right party with great slogans and self-confidence. None of them seem to meet the people's need and care for God's will.



Lately some evangelical Christians formed a political movement, that last summer founded a new party, called "ANSWER", that put on its banner the reformation of Hungarian politics on Biblical basis, willing to serve the nation in a godly way. So far they could stand up candidates in 15 electoral districts out of the 200.

- 1. Please pray for these new Christian electoral candidates and their movement, as they face strong political pressure in this totally new situation.**
- 2. Pray also for more experienced and skilled candidates to join to this movement and change their political views according to God's will.**
- 3. Please pray for Hungarians during the electoral campaign to be sober and wise to protect and favors those candidates, who are the most suitable and willing to use political power according the will and ways of Jesus Christ, who has the supreme power over Hungary too and is willing to come back soon to rule over the whole created world.**

Szabolcs Szatmari
Budapest, Hungary

EUROPEAN TRUMPET CALL - IPC

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

We are writing to you on behalf of the International Prayer Council to invite you to Skopje Macedonia in June this year to take part in the European Trumpet Call to be held there on June 18-21. Our brothers and sisters in the Balkans have put out a call to the rest of Europe to come together to pray for the Balkans and our Continent.

To help with administration we are asking everyone to make their own arrangements. A website has been established <http://europeantrumpetcall.org> more information will be on the website in the coming weeks.

We look forward to seeing you in Skopje. This is an important time for the church across Europe to stand in the gap on behalf of our nations and the

Continent. Please pass this information on to other National prayer leaders that you know.

Praying God's blessing on your life and ministry,

Ian Cole, Birmingham England
Ioan Peia, Bucharest Romania

Trumpet Call Initiative for the Transform World Movement

Sounding the trumpet for a "set time!" "Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain!" Joel 2:1

We are writing to invite your prayerful participation in a key prayer and worship initiative during Passover and Easter this year, April 11-21st. Significant timing issues are converging during Easter this year requiring our attention as follows:

- The Christian church's Palm Sunday-Easter week (April 13-20th) and Jewish Passover Feast (April 15-21st) coincide this year.
- On the Sabbath just prior to Palm Sunday, Friday-Saturday 04/11-12/2014 the scripture reading for Jewish synagogues around the world is Amos 9:7-15 which includes Amos 9:11 and the call to restore the "Tabernacle of David," i.e. houses of prayer that God is raising up and connecting.
- 04/13-14 is a 24 hour global day to pray for the 04/14 window (age group 4-14?the largest unreached people group in the world).
- 04/15 Passover starts and is the date of one of 4 red moons scheduled to appear on Jewish feast days (passover and feast of tabernacles) over the next two years.

What is God saying in the midst of these converging signs? We believe that He is calling His people to converge for spiritual breakthrough, both individually and corporately. The power of agreement in intensifying times is vital for breakthrough and Kingdom advance. When we agree with God and with each other, heaven will come to earth. We are writing to engage you in agreement to help build bridges between houses of prayer, regions, and nations with a common focus. The strategy is very simple and can be engaged by families, small prayer groups, churches, to larger regional efforts. With such convergence, we are encouraging mobilization for the following:

Vision: Mobilize corporate gatherings in your houses of prayer, groups, churches, cities, regions and nations that inspire worship, prayer with Passover dinner/fellowship.

Purpose:

- Honor God on His timeline
- Inspire unified focus
- Encourage building of relationships, bridging of cities, regions and nations in common purpose.

Plan:

- Encourage corporate prayer/worship with celebration of the feast of Passover/Lord's supper, preferably weekend of April 11-12th or during the April 11-21st time-frame.

- Encourage building of altars in regions with corporate prayer/worship and celebration of Passover. It is a simple means to re-consecrate the land to the Lord
- Continue gatherings on Passover and Feast of Tabernacles 2014 and 2015 with key focuses to be established to encourage agreement and building of relational strength

Please RSVP (fsrowe@sbcglobal.net) if you intend to participate or have any questions. More information is available, guidelines and Christian Seder, for those who would like them just contact us at fsrowe@sbcglobal.net. We are available to assist and encourage and will have conference calls to mobilize this effort. Gatherings do not need to be large and complex, but with focused intent on honoring the Lord on His timeline and building into relationships in your regions (following the great commandments of Jesus Matthew 22:37-40). We look forward to hearing from you! It is time for the healing of the nations and honoring God on His timeline.

On the wall and building,
Fred and Sue Rowe
Transform World Celebration Challenge facilitators

GUYANA KINGS ENVOYS RETREAT



I attended the IPC conference in November in New York and returned home all excited to share how God can use children in Prayer and Spiritual Warfare. I reported to my National body and was encouraged to share what I received with the entire Assemblies Of God, which is the denomination I am a part of. January 31st I had my first meeting with one of the sections. A number of children were filled with the Holy Spirit.

I am the National Sunday School Director Of this denomination and we have a group of children drawn from most of our sections, whom we encourage to live for Christ daily and share the Gospel. This group is known as the KING'S ENVOYS so on FEBRUARY 15TH ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE (125) of them met and we shared with them about prayer and how God can use them to pray for others.

The tables were turned as three children came forward and prayed for the Superintendent and the Executive Presbyter. Just as we were about to close the C.E.D. Director Rev. Lynette Smith who was at the Conference in

November arrived and closed in prayer. She later told me that there was such a great Presence of God in the building that could have caused an explosion of The Holy Ghost!

Tessa Smith tessapsmith@yahoo.com

IPC Calendar

Worldwide Call to Youth and Children to Pray!
Global Youth and Children's Prayer Focus, April 13-14, 2014
<http://globalprayerandpraise.com/>

Trumpet Call Initiative for the Transform World Movement, April 11-21, 2014 fsrowe@sbcglobal.net

May 1st, 2014 - National Day of Prayer
Lisa Crump - lisa.crump@nationaldayofprayer.org

European Trumpet Call, Skopje, Macedonia, June 18-21, 2014
<http://europeantrumpetcall.org> (More information will be on the website in the coming weeks.)

October 1-5, 2014 - Hollywood Prayer Network - Prayer Summon
Lisa Crump - lisa.crump@nationaldayofprayer.org

The IPC Website

The website consists of the following sections, and we would appreciate it if you could assist us in the following ways:

1. Home: Please send us news of *international prayer-related* interest such as upcoming initiatives and conferences. We will update our calendar regularly with such dates.
2. Regions: Please send us strategic prayer requests and alerts for your nation or region.

Please send your suggestions to the IPC administrator Amazing grace at office@ipcprayer.org

About International Prayer Connect (IPC)

OUR VISION:

"Compelled by God to seek Christ's glory worldwide for the blessing, healing, and transforming of the nations, International Prayer Connect exists as a coalition of prayer networkers and mobilizers working together to motivate, develop and equip national movements and local churches to fill all nations with prayer for the fulfillment of the Great Commandment and the completion of the Great Commission."

HOW WE OPERATE:

The IPC is not an organization as such. We are a fellowship of people involved in mobilizing prayer throughout the world. We function as an international "network of networks", connecting international, regional, and national prayer ministries and networks. We also arrange or support special prayer initiatives that bring prayer leaders together from time to time to pray for matters of regional and global concern to the Body of Christ. Regional prayer summits have been arranged or supported by the IPC in most regions of the world as well as international prayer initiatives for the United Nations, Hollywood, and other issues.

The IPC is led by an international leadership team, now called the International Prayer Council, is composed of twenty leaders who coordinate regional prayer networks or international prayer initiatives of various kinds. We seek to be catalysts and connectors within the global prayer movement towards the fulfillment of Habakkuk 2:14- that *"the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."*

We do not have an official membership but connect with individuals and networks through *IPC Connections*, a periodical newsletter distributed via e-mail to give prayer information to interested people. Please share this newsletter with prayer coordinators, prayer network leaders, and others who have an interest in the global prayer movement so that they can be informed about different prayer initiatives, existing prayer networks, and how to participate in them.

Donating to IPC Through PayPal

PayPal is an online banking service that can receive donations from over 30 currencies worldwide through automatic draft and credit cards. It is safe and secure. International Prayer Connect is a non-profit ministry funded through the Transformation Prayer Foundation and relies on individual donations to keep the work going. If you are willing to provide support, please click below. Thank you for your sacrificial gift to IPC! [Click Here to Donate](#)

Contacting the IPC Office

Email:

office@ipcprayer.org

Amazing grace, IPC Administrator

IPC Website (free resources and information for all ages):

www.ipcprayer.org

NOTE: Constant Contact is our mass e-mail service. If you have unsubscribed from the newsletter through Constant Contact, you will not be sent other information you might be expecting from IPC. To get back on specific database mailing lists, you will need to sign up again at www.ipcprayer.org

. You may choose from 3 e-mail lists (IPC Connections Newsletter, Children in Prayer, and International Prayer Alerts). You can unsubscribe at any time by contacting the office or hitting the "unsubscribe" link at the bottom of the newsletter.

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