2023

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

## DOOR OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL

# TOGETHER WE WERE 'A VOICE AND A HELPING HAND' IN 2023



#### UKRAINE

Acts of kindness - Christ's love in action all over Ukraine!

As the war in Ukraine rages on, getting aid to displaced families, those struggling to just put food on the table, as well as the sick, disabled and elderly is more crucial now than ever.

In the worst-hit regions of Ukraine, \**Pastor A*, who is also a medic, continues to risk his life in Eastern Donbas, bringing food to families and the elderly, as well as transporting people to safety during air raids, and providing spiritual and physical care to the suffering.

Over the past year, we have seen a record number of Ukrainians turn to the Church for hope and practical help. We are so thankful that during the coldest months of 2023 when Putin attacked the power grids, because of **your financial support** we were able to supply desperate families with wood burning stoves, cooking and heating fuel, generators and small portable cooking units that can be used in homes, churches and bomb shelters.

#### "They are alive because of the aid you give." – Pastor A, Eastern Donbas

Your generosity helped purchase a large transport vehicle vital to carrying water and supplies in the city of Nikopol, Eastern Ukraine that suffered extensive damage when a nearby dam was bombed, affecting thousands of families.

\* name removed for security reasons continued on page 2

#### Dear friends,

As I reflect back on 2023, I am thankful for God's goodness and faithfulness in every crisis and tragic story as He moved your heart to care for the suffering. Your generosity enabled us to bring emergency aid to persecuted Christians, provide shelter, food, clothing and spiritual support to refugees and victims of war, minister to children and families in desperate need, and reach out to Muslim lands with Christ's truth and hope.

I am deeply inspired by the stories from our field workers of countless courageous Christians living in nations hostile to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Throughout last year, these men and women of faith paid a high price – the loss of a job, home, family, and some even life itself – so that the truth of Christ could be proclaimed as they boldly witnessed and stood up to their persecutors.

These brave Christians are the heartbeat of the global Church and deserve our most sincere care and continued support as we look to 2024.

Your compassion and giving through-out 2023 made it possible to put Christ's love into immediate action all around the world. Thank you for being a part of our Door of Hope International team!

Wishing God's blessings on you and your family in this New Year 2024!

## UKRAINE (continued)

<u>In the midst of war Pastor Misha's church</u> provides outreach ministries to destitute Roma (Gypsy) families living in tents in the forest, men and women addicted to drugs and alcohol and young boys, ages 11-16, held in the Gorodok Juvenile Prison. His church provides families and youth a Christian education and humanitarian aid to destitute families in his community. As a result, many have opened their hearts to God and accepted Jesus as their personal Savior.

**Pastor Tyoma** continues his evangelistic football ministry, believing it is vital to bring hope to young men. Participating in a Christ-centered sport and competitions keeps them thinking positive and from drifting into despair. He offers the teams prayer, encouragement and Bible studies. Many young soldiers, former teammates, call him from the frontlines in desperation, asking for prayer. We are thankful to God that many of these soldiers have given their lives to Jesus while in the trenches in 2023!

**<u>Pastor Roman and his wife Inna</u>** invest what they call "bits of goodness" in their community. Through their youth club "Smile," many children have accepted Jesus in their hearts. Looking for the same hope they see in their children's eyes, their mothers and fathers have now also started attending church.



## ARMENIA

# "120,000 Christian Armenians need our help." – Paul Popov

One of the greatest, yet least-publicized, tragedies of last year was the ethnic cleansing of the Armenian population from their homeland of Nagorno-Karabakh (also called Artsakh) where they and their ancestors have lived for many centuries. The Azerbaijani government's ongoing hostilities, including nine months of blockades, severe starvation, military attacks, the targeted killing of civilians and the confiscation of homes and land, has caused pain and suffering to the Armenian people that is beyondw our imagination.

Through your financial support we provided shelter, food and clothing to refugees who were forced to flee their homeland into Armenia! Aside from meeting their physical needs, we continue to bring spiritual aid to these devastated people that will bring healing to their wounded hearts and the hope found in Jesus Christ to move forward.



## BULGARIA

Hurting children need to know that Jesus loves them.

Every year, children from impoverished Roma families look forward to December like no other time of year! **Your generous giving** enabled our annual Christmas program to bring the light of the Gospel message to the Roma (Gypsy) ghetto, surrounding children with Christ's love and eternal hope.

"As I stood and waited in the cold for the children to return home from school so the Christmas outreach could begin, one Roma mother approached me and said, 'You come here EVERY year! We still have the blanket you gave us last year – my little boy sleeps with it.' Those words melted my heart! I was happy to think of her little boy wrapped up in a warm blanket, and overjoyed to hear the excitement in her voice as she anticipated this year's Christmas celebration." – Teresa, DOHI staff

#### DOOR OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL

## AFGHANISTAN & IRAN

#### Reaching thousands through satellite TV.

"I am an Afghan high school student. We have satellite TV at home, and I watch ICnet. I love the shows that talk about science and the Bible. One day I want to become a scientist and travel to America and be the first Afghan in NASA! I am reading the Bible online secretly. My parents are Muslims, but I love Jesus! Please pray for me." – Hamid

At this moment, hundreds of thousands of Farsi speaking people like Hamid are flipping through channels on their televisions searching desperately to hear some good news. Though these Muslim men and women are stuck behind closed walls and isolated from the world, they can be reached with Jesus' eternal message of hope, peace and love.

Through ICnet satellite TV, we are reaching directly into the homes of Muslims in Afghanistan and Iran with God's Word. The spiritual education, training and support provided by the programs and the 24-hour call-in help lines are key to leading many searching Muslims to Christ. Many isolated Christians, with no access to Christian fellowship, are also strengthened in their faith. Your generous support enables these life-changing programs to continue.

## PAKISTAN

#### Lighting the way through the darkness of hatred and fear.

Months after hundreds of radical Muslims attacked and set fire to 26 churches and nearly 200 Christian homes, in Jaranwala, Pakistan, affected families continue to struggle to rebuild their shattered lives.

Immediately after that night of terror, DOHI field workers visited the city to access the damage and needs. Their discussions with the survivors and pastors of the burned churches led to the first of many amazing outdoor church services where Christians from all denominations gathered together to worship the Lord and begin their healing process.

One highlight for our team was gifting Bibles, hymnbooks and a new keyboard to Pastor Rizwan to replace what was destroyed in the flames. The joy he expressed was priceless! He is so **thankful to you** for your generousity, that his congregants and Bible school students will again hold the Word of God and that worship music and singing will once more fill their gathering place!



## INDIA

#### Providing life-sustaining gifts to impoverished and persecuted Christian families.

Anti-conversion laws in India make life difficult for Christians. When brave brothers and sisters share their faith in God with neighbors, aggression often follows. Hostility quickly turns to violence. After hearing of Pastor Chauhan's brutal murder in Varanasi, Northern India, our DOHI staff reached out to his widow. We learned that during the attack on her husband, the family home had been destroyed. In her time of need, we visited and provided finances to help rebuild her home and cover some of the schooling costs for her children.

Flooding in 2023 affected many poor Christians living in rural villages. **Your generosity** provided emergency aid and rescue by boats to Christian families whose homes were flooded. We also purchased farm animals for the elderly and needy families with small children. The milk from goats and cows and eggs from hens will provide food for these families and well as supplement their income by selling eggs, milk, homemade cheese and yoghurt at local markets.

We appreciate your generous giving and kindness.



www.dohi.org/donate

## SYRIA

#### Rebuilding lives: Christ – the only unshakeable, eternal hope.

The horrific Turkey/Syria 7.8 magnitude earthquake devastated thousands of lives. As the world turned its attention to Turkey, sending large amounts of humanitarian aid, Syrian victims were left struggling to fend for themselves, forgotten by the world. Our ministry partners in Syria pleaded for help for emergency relief.

For years DOHI has ministered to Syrian refugees. We have seen their hardships and witnessed their pain. Through our Godcentered help, many have turned to Christ. With workers directly in the field we were quickly able to bring aid to families suffering this new tragedy.

Partnering with a local church in the city of Jermana **your generous giving** provided shelter, food, clean water, clothing, blankets and hygiene supplies to hundreds of hurting Syrian refugees. As the humanitarian aid was distributed, our fieldworkers invited refugees to the church where they provided prayer support and gifted families with Bibles. We also presented 120 school children with new backpacks filled with school supplies for the 2023-2024 academic year.







## ERITREA

#### Smuggling solar Bibles.

"Thank you for the Bibles!" – A previously imprisoned pastor and leader in the Underground Church in Asmara.

Eritrea is a closed country. It is a great offender and abuser of human rights, imprisoning hundreds of Christian brothers and sisters yearly.

When we ask our persecuted family what their greatest need is, they quickly respond, "pray for us!" Then they add, "bring us more Bibles!" They know that having God's Word is central to remaining strong in faith and to withstand whatever persecution lies ahead.

With your help, we smuggled solar powered Bibles into prisons and gave to leaders in the Underground Church. These audio players are small, easy to conceal, and convenient for distribution in lands hostile to the Gospel. Owning a Bible while imprisoned is both a source of great encouragement to Believers and allows them to share the reason for their hope with fellow prisoners. We also provided financial assistance to release Christian families from debt and supplied them with clothes and vital medication.

## 2023 RECAP: WITH YOUR HELP, TOGETHER WE...

Distributed humanitarian aid to thousands of victims of war, natural disasters and refugees in Ukraine, Syria and Armenia. Reached thousands of Iranians and Afghans with the Good News through satellite-TV broadcasts.

Provided Bibles and life-sustaining gifts to hundreds of persecuted Christians in Pakistan, India and Eritrea.

Shared the Gospel message with the unreached in Pakistan and distributed Bibles and copies of Tortured For His Faith in Urdu.

Supplied hundreds of impoverished children with food and clothing and gave them a special Christmas gift with a personalized card that said, "Jesus loves you!"

Your support in 2023 provided help through many crises and support for our ongoing ministries. **Thank you!** 

## YES PAUL,

I want to help alleviate the pain of suffering, persecuted Christians and their families. I will continue to pray for them.

□ Use my gift where most needed. □ \$50 □ \$75 □ \$150 □ \$500 □ \$1,000

□ Other\_\_\_\_\_



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#### DOOR OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL

A Voice... A Helping Hand

#### Yes! I want to make a contribution to

Door of Hope International to help those in need around the world.

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