

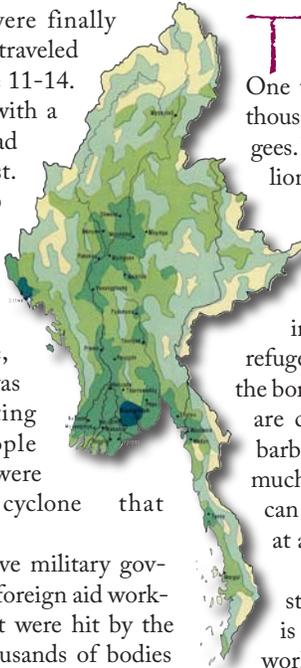
BURMA

After 3 weeks of trying to get permission from the government to travel to Burma, we were finally given visas. Jeff Lange traveled with me to Yangon June 11-14. We were able to meet with a national pastor there I had worked with in the past. The purpose of the trip was two-fold. I needed to check on how the work is going on the research and revision of the Burmese Bible, and also to see if there was any possibility of getting some help to the people in the delta area that were the hardest hit by the cyclone that stuck there May 3.

The highly repressive military government is not allowing foreign aid workers into the regions that were hit by the cyclone. There were thousands of bodies that were never identified or buried. Almost half of those killed were ethnic Karen tribesmen.

Yangon was full of foreign aid workers, but they were not being allowed to leave the city. Check points were set up and no foreigners were able to get through. However, at that time, they were letting Burmese citizens through. It was evident that we would not be able to go to the disaster zone, so came up with another plan.

I had been entrusted with around \$900 to help people after the tragedy. These funds were given to a pastor who had been in and out of the delta region a few times since the cyclone. Using these funds locally, he was able to purchase basic food items to feed 47 families in one village for a month.



THAI/BURMA BORDER

The border towns of western Thailand have many Burmese people in them. One town is 65% Burmese, consisting of thousands of illegal Burmese as well as refugees. It is estimated that there are 2 1/2 million Burmese people in Thailand mostly migrants or illegals. Many of them are along this border region.

In addition to this, around 160,000 who have fled the violence in Burma are officially recognized as refugees and live in 9 refugee camps along the border. Unlike the Hmong refugees who are closely monitored and kept behind barbed wire, many of these people have much more freedom of movement. Some can leave the camps for up to 2 weeks at a time.

Much of the commercial infrastructure of several of the border towns is held together by the Burmese who work there for small wages. Deport all the illegal Burmese and commerce collapses. Many of these people are very open to the Gospel, unlike the Thai. Within the refugee camps are several Baptist churches, however they are weak doctrinally because of the mixing of the other denominations within the camps. Some of those denominations are Charismatic and that mixing has caused many of the Baptist to be very weak.

There are opportunities to teach in some of the camps, and also with some of those who come out for 2 weeks at a time. With the illegals, the migrants, and the refugees there is differing access to them but most present a tremendous opportunity for ministry.

We have rented a facility on the border for this purpose. It is a 3 story shop house with room for living quarters as well as storage of literature and a

large undivided room that can be used as a training center. There is a kitchen and 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and it can accommodate quite a large number.

There is opportunity and room to set up a publishing facility also. Many ethnic languages are spoken in Burma and this is a great place to find translators and language helpers for these languages.

Even before we signed the lease on the house, funds had been given to pay the first year rent! Working in and out of there will still be expensive however as it is several hours drive from our place in Bangkok. Please pray that the needs will be met as we undertake this important task. Plans now call for us to spend around one week out of each month there.

God has also raised up a young couple to come from the USA for a period of around two months. They will be here by the time many of you read this. We plan to have them stay that time in the rented house on the border.

HMONG

In May, there was a lot of unrest in the refugee camp. During that time, a series of fires burned over half of the camp to the ground. Things went from bad to worse a month later as nearly 5,000 people were living under tarps. Leaders convinced many of the 5,000 to try marching to Bangkok, nearly 300 miles away!

Needless to say, the military stopped them and after a night in the open, somewhat over 800 were gathered up and sent back to Laos.

The group sent back included around 30 of the families of NamKhao Baptist Church who were swept up in this demonstration. We are sad to hear of this but are delighted to report that many more knew this was not the way that Christians handle things and never were involved in it.

The military has kept the church from meeting as a group for several months now but the next time they met, well more than 350 were in attendance.

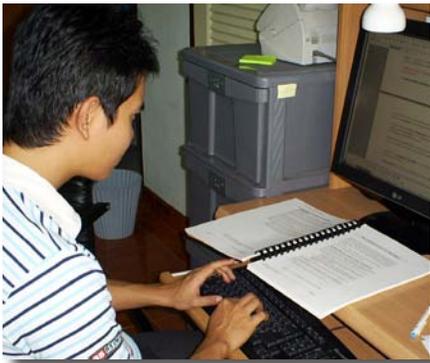


Longneck Karen lady with
Burmese Bible

Please keep praying for the Hmong refugees in general and the brethren of NamKhaio Baptist Church in particular. Pray that they stand firm and proclaim Jesus in the midst of these difficulties.

THAI PUBLISHING

As it stands now 6 books have been translated and are in proofing stage. This work is being done with permission of Bible Baptist Church Publications in Oak Harbor, WA. Our goal is to translate and have available their entire curriculum for training preachers for the ministry.



This work is so very important as solid doctrinal materials are virtually nonexistent in Thai. Every person who has seen the work thus far tells us there is nothing else as thorough or as fundamental available. It will have an impact for many years in the future as men are trained for the ministry.

We would like to see this work expanded as it will take the one translator we have now probably most of one year to complete the curriculum only. Many more things need to be put into print in Thai.

A very important milestone (from my perspective anyway) was reached this past week when a Thai church gave us an offering of around \$60 to be used in the publishing work. This church has recently started a missions program and has been collecting offerings for missions. Please pray for them and for other Thai churches to catch a vision for missions and more specifically, for owning the work of publishing in their own language.

MISC NEWS:

We are doing a significant amount of traveling through the region. Since our last letter, we have not only traveled to the USA and back, but made several trips inside of Thailand and at least three regional

countries. All of this is necessary to sustain the publishing work going on now in nearly 80 languages! Krinny and I are not getting any younger. Please pray for our health and for co-workers to accomplish what the Lord has put before us.

By the time you read this we will have already unloaded another 40' container full of literature. These items are in at least three languages. Some of it immediately will be sent to other regional countries. We praise the Lord for the sacrificial spirit of the donors who have provided the literature and others who have paid for the shipping. God's Word is priceless but it is not without cost to those who publish it!

FROM KRINNY...

When we came back to Thailand from America this time, we brought with us several bigger and better video cameras. I think this is good, but I am not sure about that yet. I do not learn the intricacies of new gadgets very quickly. However, Tom would like for me to make a new video, so I am learning how to film stuff in HD. High Definition. This means that there are a lot more lines per square inch on your stuff. My new camera is very small and the shots are so clear. I don't see any lines, but because they are there someplace, the video is very sharp and beautiful.

Right now, I am in the process of learning how to use the camera.

Day One: I took it to the mall and sat in the Starbucks for an hour while Tom was doing the banking. In that hour I learned how to turn the camera on, how to put the film cassette in, how to push the record button. I filmed intriguing stuff; moving film of people going up and down on an escalator. Wow the adrenalin is really pumping!

Day two: Tom and I went to one of the ponds near our house and filmed water. Be still my heart, I think I may be getting too old for this much excitement.

Day three: I went to the camera bag and the camera was gone. Tom borrowed it. Can't learn anything today about making blockbusters, but I need to rest up from yesterday anyway.

Day four: By the time you read this, day 4 will have come and gone. As for me, as I am writing this, day 4 of the video education

process has not happened yet. If the Gaudet family ever puts out another video, you will see for yourself if I ever learned how to use the camera.

If you do not like the videos, you might consider sending someone over here to be the videographer. We can also use an accountant, a cook, an electrician, a plumber, and a few big, strong guys who can carry heavy bags and equipment up and down hills, stairs and across rough terrain while drowning in sweat. Send us your resume. Whiners need not apply.

PRAYER & NEWSLETTERS

We are able to get 3-4 of these printed *Prayer & Newsletters* sent in the course of each year. In between each one we send a large number of e-mailed updates called *Gaudet Family Updates*. It may not be the best way of handling correspondence but it seems to work for us. To subscribe to these e-mailed updates, you may go to our web site www.gaudetfamily.org and click on [Sign up for our E-mail Newsletter](#) to be automatically subscribed. Or you may send me an e-mail requesting subscription.

Thank you for your intercession, support, and concern for the Gaudet Family and the work He has entrusted to us. We would not want to attempt ministry without your intercession. Thank You!

For Souls Still Waiting,
Tom and Krinny Gaudet

Tom and Karin (Krinny) Gaudet
Missionaries since 1979

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