



Jesus' Call, July 7, 2020



# Nepal Food Assistance Project Report

● Current status of Nepal (as of July 5)

Due to the spread of the new Coronavirus, restriction measures have been placed in countries and towns around the world. In Nepal, the number of people infected with the new Coronavirus reached 15,784 (update July 5 2020) and the death toll increased to 34.

More than three months have passed since the national lock-down which started on March 24. The number of infected people has increased and the national restriction measure has been extended to July 22. At the same time, some of the lock-down measures have been eased and economic activities are gradually resuming with the condition of social-distancing.



Chitwan village in mountain region



Bro. Salomon, preparing rice bags



Distribution of the food at the church



20kg rice, some potatoes, oil and salt



People giving thanks

The new regulation allowed private clinics, grocery stores, and takeaway restaurants to resume operations immediately. However, all airports, educational institutions, entertainment centers, etc. are still closed, including churches. Meetings are still prohibited.

Furthermore, in Nepal, 2 million locusts have invaded the county, which has affected crops of over 1,000 ha. In addition, day laborers have been greatly affected by the national lock-down. Kathmandu is said to be the home to 29,000 day laborers and these households are facing economic hardship. A study by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) found that three out of five workers in the informal sector are unemployed. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has also warned that if the lock-down continues, 4000 children could die in the next six months.

Also, according to Nepal's mental health experts, another 20% of increase in suicides followed after one month of lock-down. There was an increase in mental illness problems such as anxiety and depression. In addition, as the nationwide lock-down continues, the price rate increased in the food sector has reached 9.68%, putting pressure on people's lives. (See: Republica, Kathmandu Post July 5, 2020)

● –For Nepalese families-Support project in food crisis

In early May, when Covid-19 was spreading even more, we received an urgent prayer request for food shortages from our friend, Brother Salomon, the leader of the church in Nepal. Many people were unable to work or leave the house because of the national lock-down. Villagers, especially in the mountains, faced a serious food crisis.

We prayed and immediately requested prayers and donations from the three churches in Jesus' Call, and arranged for urgent action. Brother Salomon distributed food the day after the donation. He departed at 5 a.m. to finish before the curfew at 10 a.m. It took him 3 hours to bring 1 ton of rice bags to the church in the mountain. 50 families were provided for 1 month through our donation.

Even in Japan, many people are facing a crisis due to a sharp decline in income and unemployment since the “declaration of emergency”. However, it is very meaningful to support Nepal from Japan. Japanese people spend around 1500 yen (about \$14) on one person's meal, with the same amount, brother Salomon could pay about one month's worth of rice for one family in Nepal. How could we not give while we are able.



With the donations made for this project from Japan and abroad, including our churches, we have been able to send a total of 435,000 yen till now. It has provided about 2.2 tons of rice, about 1200 people's supply for a month. God is good.

Brother Salomon is a diligent and loyal worker. He immediately arranged food and trucks the day after receiving the donation and delivered food to more than 10 towns and villages through the churches. We thank him so much. He sent us a short clip of a few people joyfully pushing an overloaded truck full of rice bags on a muddy, rainy road. The villagers were very pleased to see their desperate prayers to God was answered, and they thanked the Japanese Christian family for their dedication.



**“But whoever has this world's goods and sees his brother having need, and shuts up his bowels from him, how does the love of God dwell in him? My children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. ” 1 John 3:17-18**

I want to thank each and every one of you for your prayer and giving. May God's love dwell in you richly!

Many people in the mountain areas are generally poor and tend to have food shortages. Even through this food assistance, Hindu people in the neighborhood are seeking for help in Christians who received support from the church. While they are still in such a need, we would like to support as much as possible as a family in Christ in Japan.



Nepal is a country in Asia same as Japan, and the political change of 1990 made Hinduism no longer a national religion, and religious freedom has come. Since then, the Gospel has been preached though evangelizing is restricted, it is said that the number of Christians has increased from zero to even 5% of the population within just 20 years, making it one of the fastest-growing countries in Asia concerning Christianity.



*Church worshipping the Lord*

Even in this Corona-period, there was not only bad news. According to Brother Salomon, the government, which had been still persecuting the church, became too busy to persecute the churches for now because of the handling of the Corona crisis in the country. He says that people are able to come together to worship the Lord more freely than ever before. What's more, he and his church people started to join in the Sunday morning service of Jesus' Call online! They always thank us for the message as soon as the message is over.

We thank God's family that we can worship the Lord together. Hallelujah!

It is a great blessing and privilege to be able to help each other as a family in Christ in such a time of emergency. Let's continue to pray for the food crisis in Nepal and for spiritual breakthrough.

☆ Short clip about Nepal project

→ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBUYzH2gjWk>

☆ Account for support → <https://www.jesuscall.net/give>

**Jesus' Call Church**

**Pastor Rosenkranz Christian & Naomi**

